

For Immediate Release

## **HKIB and MIFS host inaugural Macao Financial Talent Development Day**

*New certificate launched to support green finance development and training in Macao*

**26 April 2024, Hong Kong** – Jointly hosted by The Hong Kong Institute of Bankers (HKIB) and Macau Institute of Financial Services (MIFS), the first “Macao Financial Talent Development Day” of 2024 was held on 12 April. The successful event attracted more than 100 Macau bankers and University of Macau students, and more than 100 Hong Kong financial professionals watched the event live. As well as recognising the contributions of senior financial leaders, members, and students, **HKIB announced the official launch of its “Specialist Certificate in Green Finance and Sustainability” (Specialist Certificate in GFS) programme in Macao**, a professional training qualification for talent development in green finance.

The vision for “Macao Financial Talent Development Day” is to facilitate the exchange of views among experts from a range of sectors and drive the financial development of Hong Kong, Macao, and the broader Guangdong–Hong Kong–Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA). The theme of the event this year was “Green Finance”. During the event, Carrie LEUNG, Chief Executive Officer of The Hong Kong Institute of Bankers, presented the title of “Honorary Certified Banker” to Dr CHAN Sau San, Chairman, Board of Directors, Monetary Authority of Macao, in recognition of his outstanding achievements in supporting the development of Macao’s financial industry over the years.

**Dr CHAN Sau San, Chairman, Board of Directors, Monetary Authority of Macao**, said, “In order to align with the Macao SAR Government’s ‘1+4’ Public Consultation on the Plan for Appropriate Economic Diversification, the industry needs to introduce certification for financial professionals. At the same time, in line with the climate risk management guidelines for the banking sector formulated by the Monetary Authority of Macao, it is also necessary to strengthen the training for talent in green finance by combining various resources. I hope that the ‘Specialist Certificate in Green Finance and Sustainability’ course developed by MIFS and HKIB will help to enhance the professional competence of financial practitioners engaged in related businesses in Macao.” At the event, Dr Chan encouraged bank practitioners to upgrade their professional qualifications and skills in digitalisation, fintech, and green finance so they can cope effectively with the changing financial environment.

**Carrie LEUNG, Chief Executive Officer of The Hong Kong Institute of Bankers**, said, “The ‘Macao Financial Talent Development Day’ serves as an important platform for bringing together leaders in the finance industry to promote professional development and facilitate knowledge exchange. We’re glad to be collaborating with the Macau Institute of Financial Services to establish a new cooperation platform for financial services in our two cities. This event gave us the opportunity to provide members and students with more options for professional development, as well as to express our gratitude to senior industry leaders for their important contributions. We look forward to making more progress towards our goal of supporting professional development in Macao’s financial industry.”

The Specialist Certificate in GFS programme in Macao was officially launched by Dr CHAN Sau San, MIFS and HKIB at the event. The programme aims to meet the local demand for professional training related to green finance.

The programme also aligns with the “Development Plan for Appropriate Economic Diversification of the Macao Special Administrative Region. (2024-2028)” announced by the Macao SAR government earlier this year, which sets “Building a green finance platform” as a key priority. The training curriculum focuses on internationally recognised green finance standards, as well as referencing principles, best practices, and case studies in green finance and sustainable development taken from Hong Kong’s banking industry and regulators. This will enable practitioners in Macao to learn from Hong Kong’s development experience, promote the transition to low carbon in the local financial services industry, respond to industry trends, and enhance Macao’s involvement in the GBA.

The event also included a graduation ceremony for students who had successfully completed the “Enhanced Competency Framework on Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Financing of Terrorism (Macao)”, “Enhanced Competency Framework on Retail Wealth Management Macao”, “Certified Banker Macao (Stage I)”, and “Certified Financial Management Planner™ (CFMP™) - Macau” programmes. LEI Ho Ian, Chairman of the Executive Board of the Macau Institute of Financial Services, Professor Jun YU, Dean of the Faculty of Business Administration, University of Macau, and Carrie LEUNG, Chief Executive Officer of The Hong Kong Institute of Bankers presented certificates to 40 graduates. Four graduates were awarded the Outstanding Student Award and received the Green Finance Scholarship sponsored by MIFS and HKIB.

In addition, in alignment with the event’s theme of “Green Finance”, HKIB held its annual membership seminar, which focused on exploring environmental, social, and governance (ESG) investment strategies for customer relationship management, during the event. The seminar featured guest speaker **Elsa PAU, Founder and CEO of BlueOnion**, an ESG analysis platform. Attendees gained a deeper understanding of why ESG is an important part of an investment portfolio, how to better understand customer values, and how to adjust portfolios to align with those values.

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Photo caption :



Dr CHAN Sau San, Chairman, Board of Directors, Monetary Authority of Macao is presented with the title of “Honorary Certified Banker”.



The Specialist Certificate in GFS programme in Macao was officially launched by Dr CHAN Sau San, LEI Ho Ian, Carrie LEUNG and Philip KAM, Chief Institute Development Officer of The Hong Kong Institute of Bankers.



LEI Ho Ian and Carrie LEUNG presented Green Finance Scholarships to graduates who achieved excellent results. This scholarship aims to encourage these graduates to continue their studies through a free place on the Specialist Certificate in GFS course.

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**Notes to editors:**

**About The Hong Kong Institute of Bankers**

Established in 1963, The Hong Kong Institute of Bankers (“HKIB”) is the first not-for-profit organisation that provides training and certification services to the banking community in Hong Kong. It is also the first professional body in the territory to offer banking qualifications equivalent to a Master’s degree level. For six decades, HKIB has been helping practitioners and young graduates to equip themselves with the essential banking skills and knowledge, playing a critical role in the banking industry’s talent and professional development.

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