

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Green Finance Certification Scheme Presentation Ceremony cum Forum 2019 Over 6 billion US dollars' worth of green finance certified**

*(25 March 2019, Hong Kong) Hong Kong Quality Assurance Agency successfully held the **Green Finance Certification Scheme Presentation Ceremony cum Forum 2019** today. The Hon Matthew Cheung Kin-chung, GBM, GBS, JP, The Acting Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region officiated at the event. The special guests were Mr James Henry Lau Jr, JP, Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury, and Mr Wong Kam-sing, GBS, JP, Secretary for the Environment. The speakers were Dr Ma Jun, Chairman and President of Hong Kong Green Finance Association, and Ms Julia Brickell, Regional Head of Operations, East Asia and the Pacific, International Finance Corporation, a member of the World Bank Group etc.*

The Hong Kong SAR Government has been striving to promote the development of green finance in recent years. The “Outline Development Plan for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area”, promulgated by the Central Government last month, supports the development of Hong Kong into a green finance centre in the Greater Bay Area, and the establishment of an internationally recognised green bond certification institution. With the support of Hong Kong SAR Government to the national Green Finance policy, Hong Kong Quality Assurance Agency (HKQAA) has developed the **Green Finance Certification Scheme** with reference to a number of widely recognised international and national standards on green finance. It aims to enhance the credibility of, and stakeholder confidence in, green financial instruments via independent, impartial third-party conformity assessments. Up to now, 34 cases have been completed, amounting to more than 6 billion US dollars' worth of certified green bonds and loans. Participants include organisations from the finance, property, public utility and manufacturing sectors.

### **Greater Bay Area Elite Gather to Discuss Development of Green Finance**

The Scheme's certified green finance issuers were recognised today at the Green Finance Certification Scheme Presentation Ceremony cum Forum, held at the HKEX Connect Hall. The event promoted a common understanding of green finance and recognised the support provided by professional associations, banking institutions and other organisations in the industry. HKQAA was honoured to have The Hon Matthew Cheung Kin-chung, GBM, GBS, JP, The Acting Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, as the officiating guest. Mr James Henry Lau Jr, Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury, and Mr Wong Kam-sing, Secretary for the Environment were the special guests. The speakers were Dr Ma Jun, Chairman and President, Hong Kong Green Finance Association, and Ms Julia Brickell, Regional Head of Operations, East Asia and the Pacific, International Finance Corporation, a member of the World Bank Group. Senior officials from the Greater Bay area and experts from renowned international organisations and the financial sector participated in the panel discussions, sharing their insights into developments in green finance projects and discussing the prospects for the Greater Bay Area and the Belt and Road Initiative.

### **ISO Standard for Green Bonds to be Released in 2020**

Dr Nigel H Croft, Associate Technical Director of HKQAA and Chairman of the ISO Technical Subcommittee on Quality Systems (ISO/TC 176/SC2), introduced the latest developments in the ISO 14030 standard, the first ISO standard for green debt instruments, via video presentation. The standard is expected to be released in 2020. Since 2017, the expert from HKQAA has participated in the related ISO technical committee and directly taken part in the development of this standard.

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Today's ceremony was attended by more than 400 industry leaders and experts. Ir Dr Hon. Lo Wai Kwok, SBS, MH, JP, HKQAA's Chairman, said, "I sincerely hope that today's event can encourage more Hong Kong organisations to participate in environmentally friendly investment and help speed up the pace of development of the green finance market, paving the way to a sustainable future for Hong Kong, our nation and the world."

#### **Green Fund Certification Scheme, Fintech Rating Services**

HKQAA will kick-off the **Green Fund Certification Scheme** this year to support the Securities and Futures Commission (SFC) in promoting its Strategic Framework for Green Finance. The Scheme aims to encourage more investors from the funds market to support green projects and industries, and organisations committed to making a contribution to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals. HKQAA is also developing professional rating services for fintech applications to keep pace with innovations in the financial sector.



1. The Hon Matthew Cheung Kin-chung, GBM, GBS, JP, The Acting Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (Middle), Mr James Henry Lau Jr, JP, Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Right 2), Mr Wong Kam-sing, GBS, JP, Secretary for the Environment (Left 2), Ir Dr Hon Lo Wai Kwok, SBS, MH, JP, Chairman (Right 3), Ir C S Ho (Left 3), Mr Simon Wong Ka Wo, BBS, JP, Deputy Chairmen (Left 1) and Dr Michael P H Lam, Chief Executive Officer of HKQAA (Right 1).



2. Mr Cheung Kin-chung gives the opening remarks.



3. Ir Dr Hon Lo Wai Kwok, Chairman of HKQAA gives the welcoming remarks.



4. Ir C S Ho (Right) presents certificates to certified green finance issuers.



5. Guest speakers Dr Ma Jun, Chairman and President, Hong Kong Green Finance Association (Left), and Ms Julia Brickell, Regional Head of Operations, East Asia and the Pacific, International Finance Corporation, a member of the World Bank Group (Right).



6. Officiating guests, special guests, guest speakers, members of the HKQAA Governing Council and Green Finance Certification Scheme Technical Committee.



7. Guests with representatives of banking institutions.



8. Guests with representatives of the organisations that have participated and planned to participate in the Green Finance Certification Scheme.



9. Mr Joseph H L Chan, JP, Under Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Left 2), Mr Mushtaq Kapasi, Managing Director, Chief Representative of Asia-Pacific, International Capital Market Association (Left 3), Mr Guo Zhipeng, Deputy Chief Executive of China Construction Bank (Asia) (Right 1), Mr Nie Linkun, Deputy Chief of Guangzhou Municipal Local Financial Supervision and Administration (Middle), Mr Cai Jian, Standing Member of Huadu Guangzhou, Deputy Secretary of CPC of Huadu District (Right 3), Mr He Zijun, Deputy Director General of the Authority of Qianhai (Right 2), participated in the panel discussion. Mr Alvin Cheung, Head of Social Development, Our Hong Kong Foundation (Left 1) was the facilitator.



10. Mr Jonathan Drew, Managing Director of Infrastructure and Real Estate Group, The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Ltd (Left 2), Ms Dominique Duval, Head of Asia-Pacific, Sustainable Banking of Credit Agricole Corporate & Investment Bank (Left 3), Mr Kevin Yang, Deputy General Manager of CECEP (Hong Kong) Investment Co. Ltd (Right 3), Dr Wilson Chan, Associate Director of MBA Programme, City University of Hong Kong (Right 2), Dr Chao Peng, Director, Associate Professor of Macao 'One Belt, One Road' Research Center, City University of Macau (Right 1) joined the panel discussion. Ms Chaoni Huang, Vice President and Secretary General of Hong Kong Green Finance Association, Executive Director of Green and Sustainable Finance Solutions, Natixis (Left 1) was the facilitator.



11. Secretary Lau (Middle), Mr Joseph H L Chan, JP, Under Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (Left 2), Mr Li Tengfei, Deputy Chief of Guangdong Municipal Local Financial Supervision and Administration (Left 1), Ir Dr Hon. Lo Wai Kwok, Chairman (Left 3), Ir C S Ho, Deputy Chairman (Right 2) and Dr Michael Lam, Chief Executive Officer of HKQAA (Right 1), took a photo in gong-striking ceremony to celebrate the anniversary of the Scheme.



12. The ceremony was attended by more than 400 industry leaders and experts.

**For enquiries, please contact:**

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**HKQAA Background**

Hong Kong Quality Assurance Agency (HKQAA) is a non-profit organisation established by Hong Kong Government in 1989. As one of the leading conformity organisations in the Asia-Pacific region, HKQAA is committed to providing certification and assessment services. Through knowledge sharing and technology transfer, HKQAA helps enterprises enhance management performance and competitiveness.

**Promoting Sustainable Finance through Experience and Knowledge**

As well as introducing world-class management systems, HKQAA has also launched a wide range of innovative services to cope with increasingly diversified market demands and the growing need for sustainable development, bringing benefits to the community. HKQAA has developed diverse services and has ample experience in the fields of social responsibility, environmental protection, sustainability and responsible investment:

- HKQAA has been **the only Hong Kong organisation accredited as the Designated Operational Entity (DOE)** by the Executive Board of the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to deliver CDM validation and verification services since 2011;
- HKQAA has been providing assessment and rating services on listed companies' sustainability performance for the **Hang Seng Corporate Sustainability Index Series** since 2014;
- Since 2017, our expert has been nominated by the **Innovation and Technology Commission of the HKSAR Government** and the **China National Institute of Standardization** respectively to directly take part in the technical committee of ISO/TC 207/SC 4 and the working group of **ISO/TC 207/SC 4/ WG 7** to develop **ISO 14030 Green bonds – Environmental performance of nominated projects and assets**;
- Since 2018, HKQAA has been admitted as an **Observer of the Green Bond Principles (GBP) under the International Capital Market Association (ICMA)**, taking part in the development of international standards on Green Finance;
- Since 2018, HKQAA has become an **approved verifier under the Climate Bonds Standard**;
- In December 2018, the expert from HKQAA was nominated by the Innovation and Technology Commission of the HKSAR Government to directly take part in the technical committee for ISO/TC 322, which is developing the **ISO standard for sustainable finance**.

**Strategic Partnerships to Foster Exchange within the Industry**

In order to promote the development of green finance in the region, HKQAA has signed Memoranda of Understandings (MoUs) with a number of organisations, including:

- International Finance Corporation (IFC), a member of the World Bank Group
- Shaanxi Provincial Office of Finance
- Guangzhou Municipal Local Financial Supervision and Administration
- Bureau of Financial Affairs, Huadu, Guangzhou
- The Authority of Qianhai
- Shanghai Zhixin Low-Carbon Technology Research Center
- The CECEP (Hong Kong) Investment Co. Ltd.

Please visit <http://www.hkqaa.org> for further information.

## Appendix

### HKQAA Green Finance Certification Scheme List of Certification

(As of 25 Mar 2019)

<b>Bond</b>		
<b>Pre-Issuance Stage Certificate</b>		
<b>No.</b>	<b>Name of Certified Issuers</b>	<b>Name of Green Finance</b>
1	Capital Environment Holdings Limited	ISIN: XS1867060722
2	Century Sunshine Group Holdings Limited	Century Sunshine Green Bond (PS1)
3	China Everbright Bank Company Limited (Hong Kong Branch)	ISIN: XS1866651471
4	Crédit Agricole Corporate and Investment Bank	Green Notes
5	Industrial Bank Co., Ltd. Hong Kong Branch	ISIN: XS1898122301
6	Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (Asia) Limited	5-Year Floating Rate USD Green Bonds
7	Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (Asia) Limited	2-Year Fixed Rate HKD Green Bonds
8	Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (Asia) Limited	3-Year Floating Rate USD Green Bonds



9	Link 2019 CB Limited	XS1961891147
10	Modern Land (China) Co., Limited	XS1775946285
11	New World China Land Limited	New World China First Green Bond
12	Swire Properties MTN Financing Limited	ISIN: XS1743657683
<b>Post-Issuance Stage Certificate</b>		
13	China Construction Bank Corporation, Hong Kong Branch	China Construction Bank Hong Kong Branch's 2018 Sustainability Bond
14	China Construction Bank Corporation, Luxembourg Branch	China Construction Bank Luxembourg Branch's 2018 Green Bond
15	HKCG (Finance) Limited	Towngas Green Bond HKGMTN1740-10 ISIN: HK0000375300
16	HKCG (Finance) Limited	Towngas Green Bond HKGMTN1741-10 ISIN: XS1720566790
17	MTR Corporation (C.I.) Limited	MTRCIGB_HKD_470906 HK0000362761
18	MTR Corporation (C.I.) Limited	MTRCIGB_HKD_320920 HK0000365228
19	MTR Corporation Limited	MTRGB_USD_470927 XS1690683211
20	MTR Corporation Limited	MTRGB_HKD_470717 HK0000352432
21	MTR Corporation (C.I.) Limited	MTRCIGB_AUD_270628 XS1637858546

<b>Loan</b>
<b>Pre-Issuance Stage Certificate</b>

No.	Name of Certified Issuers	Name of Green Finance
1	BW Enterprise Company Limited	BW Enterprise Company Limited Green Loan 2019
2	China Everbright Greentech Limited	China Everbright Greentech Green Loan 2019
3	China Oriental Group Company Limited	ABN & Rabo Green Club Loan
4	Full Asset Enterprises Limited	New World Development King's Road Commercial Re-development Project Green Loan
5	Leo Paper Group Finance Limited	Leo Paper Group 2018 Green Loan
6	Megaford Development Limited	Sino Land Green Loan 2018
7	On Fat Lung Innovative Resources Limited	OFL Organization Green Loan 2019-01
8	RECYCTEX Co., Ltd.	RECYCTEX Green Loan 2019-1
9	Win Hanverky Limited	Win Hanverky Limited Green Loan Tranche of Loan 2018
10	Xinyi Group (Glass) Company Limited	Xinyi Glass Green Finance Program

11	Xinyi Solar (Hong Kong) Limited	Xinyi Solar Green Finance Program
12	Yip's H C (Holding) Ltd	Yip's Chemical 2018 Green Loan
<b>Post-Issuance Stage Certificate</b>		
13	NEFIN Holding Limited	NEFIN Green Loan

*Listed in alphabetical order*

*Remarks:*

*\*Taking into account confidentiality considerations in the loan market, green loan applicant may opt to not disclosing Environmental Method Statement on HKQAA website.*

*The above list does not cover all the participating organisations due to a particular organisation's wish for non-disclosure.*