

The following is the text of an announcement made today by Hang Seng Bank, a 62.14 per cent owned subsidiary of the HSBC Group.

4 May 2010

HANG SENG ANNOUNCES FIRST INTERIM DIVIDEND FOR 2010

The Board of Directors of Hang Seng Bank today declared a first interim dividend in respect of the year ending 31 December 2010 of HK\$1.10 per share.

The first interim dividend will be payable on Thursday, 3 June 2010, to shareholders whose names appear on the Register of Shareholders of the Bank on Wednesday, 19 May 2010.

The Register of Shareholders of the Bank will be closed for one day on Wednesday, 19 May 2010, during which no transfer of shares can be registered. To qualify for the first interim dividend for 2010, all transfers, accompanied by the relevant share certificates, must be lodged with the Bank's Registrars, Computershare Hong Kong Investor Services Limited, Shops 1712-1716, 17th Floor, Hopewell Centre, 183 Queen's Road East, Wanchai, Hong Kong, for registration not later than 4:30 pm on Tuesday, 18 May 2010. Shares of the Bank will be traded ex-dividend as from Monday, 17 May 2010.

The results of the Bank for the first half of 2010 will be announced on Monday, 2 August 2010.

The proposed timetables for the second, third and fourth interim dividends in respect of the year ending 31 December 2010 are:

Second Interim Dividend for 2010

Announcement date 2 August 2010
Book close and record date 17 August 2010
Payment date 1 September 2010

Third Interim Dividend for 2010

Announcement date 1 November 2010
Book close and record date 16 November 2010
Payment date 1 December 2010

Fourth Interim Dividend for 2010

Announcement date 28 February 2011
Book close and record date 15 March 2011
Payment date 30 March 2011

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Hang Seng Announces First Interim Dividend for 2010/2

Founded in 1933, Hang Seng Bank operates over 220 service outlets, of which 104 are branches serving both personal and business customers. The Bank also maintains a branch in Shenzhen for foreign currency wholesale business, branches in Macau and Singapore, and representative offices in Xiamen and Taipei.

Established on 28 May 2007, wholly owned subsidiary Hang Seng Bank (China) Limited operates a mainland China network of 38 outlets in Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Shenzhen, Dongguan, Fuzhou, Nanjing, Hangzhou, Ningbo, Tianjin, Kunming, Foshan and Zhongshan.

With consolidated assets of HK\$826 billion as at end of 2009, Hang Seng Bank reported a profit attributable to shareholders of HK\$13,221 million for 2009. Hang Seng Bank is a principal member of the HSBC Group, one of the world's largest banking and financial services organisations. For further information on Hang Seng Bank, please visit the bank's website at www.hangseng.com.

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Note to Editors:

HSBC Holdings plc

HSBC Holdings plc, the parent company of the HSBC Group, is headquartered in London. The Group serves customers worldwide from around 8,000 offices in 88 countries and territories in Europe, the Asia-Pacific region, the Americas, the Middle East and Africa. With assets of US\$2,364 billion at 31 December 2009, HSBC is one of the world's largest banking and financial services organisations. HSBC is marketed worldwide as 'the world's local bank'.

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