<u>Suspicious website related to DBS Bank</u> (<u>Hong Kong</u>) <u>Limited</u>

The following is issued on behalf of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority:

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) wishes to alert members of the public to a press release issued by DBS Bank (Hong Kong) Limited relating to a suspicious website, which has been reported to the HKMA. A hyperlink to the press release is available on the <u>HKMA website</u>.

The HKMA wishes to remind the public that banks will not send SMS or emails with embedded hyperlinks which direct them to the banks' websites to carry out transactions. They will not ask customers for sensitive personal information, such as login passwords or one-time password, by phone, email or SMS (including via embedded hyperlinks).

Anyone who has provided his or her personal information, or who has conducted any financial transactions, through or in response to the website concerned, should contact the bank using the contact information provided in the press release, and report the matter to the Police by contacting the Crime Wing Information Centre of the Hong Kong Police Force at 2860 5012.

LCQ6: Administration of estate of late Mrs Nina Wang

Following is a question by the Hon Judy Chan and a reply by the Secretary for Justice, Mr Paul Lam, SC, in the Legislative Council today (February 19):

Question:

The Department of Justice issued a statement last month, formally appointing Nina Wang Charity Management Limited as the trustee of the charitable trust of Mrs Wang's estate. There are views that as it has almost been 10 years since the Court of Final Appeal handed down its judgment on the estate of over \$140 billion, coupled with the high management fees of the charitable trust while yielding no social benefits, the trustee should release the estate for charitable purposes as soon as possible, particularly when the Government is facing a deficit and needs the support of the business sector to promote charitable causes. In this connection, will the Government inform this Council:

- (1) whether it knows the relevant expenses incurred in dealing with the management, legal proceedings, etc, of the aforesaid charitable trust since the Court of Final Appeal handed down its judgment in 2015;
- (2) when the authorities plan to announce the membership of the trustee's board of governors, the scheme of administration for the estate, and other relevant information; and
- (3) how it supports the trustee in fulfilling its responsibilities, including assisting the trustee in manpower deployment and formulation of relevant budgets, so as to facilitate the trustee's vetting and approval of charity projects, conduct of fundraising, and preparation for setting up a "fund and a Chinese prize of worldwide significance similar to that of the Nobel Prize" in accordance with Mrs Wang's testamentary wishes?

Reply:

President,

In relation to the Estate, the Secretary for Justice (SJ) has been actively following up on the blueprint of the scheme for administration of the Estate (Scheme) as laid down in the judgment of the Court of Final Appeal dated May 18, 2015, as well as the subsequent legal proceedings, court orders and directions in the legal capacity of the protector of charities. On May 16, 2024, the court approved the Scheme submitted by the SJ. The SJ then made an application to the court to appoint Nina Wang Charity Management Limited as the Trustee of the charitable trust under Mrs Wang's Estate, with the court's approval granted on November 21, 2024. The SJ has also appointed three independent individuals, namely Mrs Rita Fan Hsu Lai-tai, Mr Joseph Yam Chi-kwong and Mr Cheng Yan-kee, as members of the supervisory managing organisation (SMO) responsible for supervising the operation of the Trustee.

In relation to the Hon Judy Chan's questions, I reply as follows:

(1) The expenses incurred by the interim administrators in managing the Estate have been prescribed by the Court in the Appointment Order and are subject to the Court's scrutiny. However, according to the court's order, the relevant terms of the order are subject to confidentiality and cannot be disclosed without the court's approval. The SJ in the capacity of the protector of charities will continue to follow up as appropriate so as to ensure that the interim administrators' expenses are maintained at a reasonable level.

Regarding the expenses incurred in the related legal proceedings, we are unable to provide such information at this stage as the relevant legal proceedings are still ongoing, and the legal costs will have to be eventually taxed by the court.

(2) As to when information regarding the composition of the Trustee's board of governors, details of the Scheme and other information will be announced, according to the Scheme approved by the court, the Trustee will pursuant to

the terms of the Scheme and its relevant Articles of Association disclose related information at a suitable time later.

(3) The Trustee's main duty is to implement the Court's judgments and the relevant procedures under the Scheme. In view of the significant public interest involved, during the interim period the Department of Justice (DoJ) has been providing suitable support and assistance in respect of the preliminary work, including assisting the Trustee in forming its board of governors, so as to facilitate the Trustee to properly and expeditiously make use of the Estate for charitable purposes pursuant to the Scheme and the late Mrs Nina Wang's wishes. Upon formal commencement of the Trustee's operations, the same will be supervised, as I have mentioned earlier, by the SMO comprising three persons as provided for under the Scheme. The DoJ generally would not be directly involved with its operations unless necessary, but the SJ will, of course, in accordance with general legal principles continue to keep the matter in view in the capacity of the protector of charities, and exercise legal power to take appropriate actions when necessary.

The DoJ firmly believes that once the Trustee's board of governors is established and commences its operations, the Trustee will do its utmost in administering the charitable trust under the supervision of the SMO, including considering to conduct independent auditing of the Trust assets, launching charitable projects, carrying out fundraising and establishing a "fund and a Chinese prize of worldwide significance similar to that of the Nobel Prize", to fulfil Mrs Wang's testamentary wishes and bring benefits to the country, including different sectors of Hong Kong society.

Thank you, President.

Fraudulent websites, internet banking login screens and phishing instant messages related to The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited

The following is issued on behalf of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority:

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) wishes to alert members of the public to a press release issued by The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited relating to fraudulent websites, internet banking login screens and phishing instant messages, which have been reported to the HKMA. A hyperlink to the press release is available on the HKMA website.

The HKMA wishes to remind the public that banks will not send SMS or

emails with embedded hyperlinks which direct them to the banks' websites to carry out transactions. They will not ask customers for sensitive personal information, such as login passwords or one-time password, by phone, email or SMS (including via embedded hyperlinks).

Anyone who has provided his or her personal information, or who has conducted any financial transactions, through or in response to the websites, login screens or instant messages concerned, should contact the bank using the contact information provided in the press release, and report the matter to the Police by contacting the Crime Wing Information Centre of the Hong Kong Police Force at 2860 5012.

Fraudulent website and internet banking login screen related to Shanghai Commercial Bank Limited

The following is issued on behalf of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority:

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) wishes to alert members of the public to a press release issued by Shanghai Commercial Bank Limited relating to a fraudulent website and an internet banking login screen, which have been reported to the HKMA. A hyperlink to the press release is available on the HKMA website.

The HKMA wishes to remind the public that banks will not send SMS or emails with embedded hyperlinks which direct them to the banks' websites to carry out transactions. They will not ask customers for sensitive personal information, such as login passwords or one-time password, by phone, email or SMS (including via embedded hyperlinks).

Anyone who has provided his or her personal information, or who has conducted any financial transactions, through or in response to the website or login screen concerned, should contact the bank using the contact information provided in the press release, and report the matter to the Police by contacting the Crime Wing Information Centre of the Hong Kong Police Force at 2860 5012.

Another two new drugs approved under "1+" mechanism

A Government spokesman announced today (February 19) that two more new drugs submitted for registration under the new drug approval mechanism ("1+" mechanism) have been approved for registration in Hong Kong. These new drugs in two different dosages are used to treat patients with locally advanced or metastatic non-small cell lung cancer, bringing more treatment options for patients in Hong Kong and facilitating more good drugs for use in Hong Kong.

The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government has implemented the "1+" mechanism since November 1, 2023, for facilitating the registration of new drugs used for the treatment of life-threatening or severely debilitating diseases in Hong Kong. With effect from November 1 last year, the "1+" mechanism has been extended to all new drugs, including all new chemical or biological entities and new indications, and vaccines and advanced therapy products. New drugs that are supported by local clinical data and recognised by local experts can be applied for registration in Hong Kong by submitting approval from one reference drug regulatory authority (instead of two in the past).

The above products for locally advanced or metastatic non-small cell lung cancer have been approved by the drug regulatory authority on the Mainland and submitted for registration application in Hong Kong under the "1+" mechanism. Having evaluated the clinical data and relevant information submitted by the applicant and advice given by a local expert, the Registration Committee under the Pharmacy and Poisons Board of Hong Kong considered that the new drugs satisfied the criteria of safety, efficacy and quality, and approved the registration of the new drugs. The Department of Health (DH) has already notified the applicant of the result of the applications.

The extended "1+" mechanism serves to attract more new drugs from different parts of the world seeking approval for registration in Hong Kong, giving patients more choices and further strengthening the local capacity for drug evaluation while enhancing the development of relevant software, hardware and expertise with a view to progressing towards "primary evaluation".

Since the implementation of the "1+" mechanism, a total of 11 new drugs have been approved under this mechanism. The DH has been promoting the "1+" mechanism through different channels and so far has received more than 370 enquiries from over 100 pharmaceutical companies, including those from overseas and the Mainland. Many companies have expressed interests in submitting applications for registration of their products, including advanced therapy products, under the extended "1+" mechanism.

As announced in "The Chief Executive's 2024 Policy Address", the

Government will expedite the reform of the approval mechanism for drugs and medical devices, while the DH shall put forward a timetable for establishing the Hong Kong Centre for Medical Products Regulation and chart a roadmap towards "primary evaluation" in the first half of this year to expedite patients' access to advanced diagnostic and treatment services, to foster new quality productive forces in biomedical technology, and to develop Hong Kong into an international health and medical innovation hub.