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(Stock code: 11)

# ANNOUNCEMENT PURSUANT TO RULES 2.07A AND 2.07B OF THE LISTING RULES

In accordance with Rule 2.07A and Rule 2.07B of the Listing Rules, Hang Seng Bank Limited is making adequate arrangements to ascertain the wishes of shareholders to receive future Corporate Communications of the Bank: (i) by electronic means through the Bank's website at www.hangseng.com; or (ii) in printed form, in English only, in Chinese only, or in both English and Chinese.

This announcement is made pursuant to Rule 2.07A and Rule 2.07B of the Listing Rules.

#### INTRODUCTION

For the protection of the environment and the saving of mailing and printing costs and as permitted under all applicable laws and regulations and its articles of association, Hang Seng Bank Limited (the "Bank") intends to deliver Corporate Communications to its shareholders (i) by electronic means through the Bank's website at www.hangseng.com; or (ii) in printed form, in English only, in Chinese only, or in both English and Chinese, after the Bank has made adequate arrangements to ascertain the wishes of its shareholders in this regard.

#### PROPOSED ARRANGEMENTS

In accordance with Rule 2.07A and Rule 2.07B of the Listing Rules, the following arrangements have been or will be made by the Bank:

1 On 20 January 2006, the Bank will send a letter (the "Information Letter") together with a pre-paid reply form (the "Reply Form") in both English and Chinese, to its shareholders to enable them to select to receive future Corporate Communications: (i) by electronic means (through the Bank's website at www.hangseng.com); or (ii) in printed form, in English only, in Chinese only or in both English and Chinese. The Information Letter will explain that if no reply is received from the shareholder by 17 February 2006, the arrangements described below will apply, where applicable:

- The printed Chinese version of each future Corporate Communication will be sent to all Hong Kong shareholders who are natural persons with a Chinese name using a Hong Kong address; and
- The printed English version of each future Corporate Communication will be sent to all overseas shareholders and all Hong Kong shareholders (other than natural persons with a Chinese name) using a Hong Kong address.

Whether a shareholder is a Hong Kong or an overseas shareholder will be determined by the address of that shareholder appearing in the register of members of the Bank maintained by the Bank's Share Registrars.

Shareholders are entitled at any time by reasonable notice in writing to the Bank's Share Registrars to change their choice of language and the means of receipt of Corporate Communications.

- 2 With respect to shareholders who have chosen to receive Corporate Communications in printed form, the Bank will send them the selected language versions of Corporate Communications unless and until they notify the Bank's Share Registrars in writing that they wish to receive future Corporate Communications in the other (or both) language(s), or by electronic means through the Bank's website.
- 3 When each printed Corporate Communication is sent out in accordance with the arrangements described in paragraphs 1 or 2 above, a pre-paid change request form (the "Change Request Form"), prepared in English and Chinese, will be attached to or printed at some prominent place in the sent out version(s) of the Corporate Communication, specifying that the Corporate Communication prepared in the other language will be available upon request, and that shareholders may change their choice of language and/or the means of receipt of Corporate Communications by completing the Change Request Form and returning it to the Bank's Share Registrars.
- 4 If receipt by electronic means is chosen, and the relevant shareholders have specified their email addresses in the Reply Form, the Bank will notify such shareholders by email on the day each new Corporate Communication is published on the Bank's website. Alternatively, if the electronic means is chosen, but the relevant shareholders have not provided their email addresses, printed Corporate Communications will be sent out in accordance with the arrangements described in paragraph 1 above.

- 5 With respect to future shareholders, the Bank will send both language versions of the first Corporate Communication to such shareholders together with a letter similar to the Information Letter and a prepaid reply form (in English and Chinese) for the use of such shareholders to indicate their preferences as to the means of receipt and the choice of language of future Corporate Communications. If no reply is received from such shareholders by an indicated deadline, the arrangements set out in paragraph 1 above will apply.
- 6 Corporate Communications in both English and Chinese, and in accessible format, will be available on the Bank's website at www.hangseng.com. Soft copies of both languages of each Corporate Communication will be filed with the HKSE no later than 9:00pm on the Business Day last preceding the day on which such Corporate Communication is dispatched to shareholders, or on such other day as required by the HKSE or pursuant to the Listing Rules.
- 7 The Bank is providing a dial-up hotline service (Tel: 2198 7887) to enable shareholders to make enquiry of the Bank's proposed arrangements set out above.
- 8 The Information Letter and the Change Request Form will mention that both languages of each Corporate Communication will be available on the Bank's website and that the dial-up hotline service has been provided as mentioned in paragraphs 6 and 7 above respectively.

## DEFINITIONS

In this announcement, the following expressions have the meanings set out below unless the context requires otherwise:

"Business Day"	any day on which HKSE is open for the business of dealing in securities
"Corporate Communications"	any documents issued or to be issued by the Bank for the information or action of holders of any of the Bank's securities, including but not limited to:
	<ul> <li>(a) the directors' report and annual accounts together with a copy of the auditors' report and, where applicable, a summary financial report;</li> </ul>
	(b) the interim report;
	(c) a notice of meeting; and

	(d) a circular
"HKSE"	The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited
"Listing Rules"	the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited
"Share Registrars"	Computershare Hong Kong Investor Services Limited of 46th Floor, Hopewell Centre, 183 Queen's Road East, Hong Kong

## DIRECTORS

As at the date hereof, the Board of Directors of the Bank comprises Mr Michael R P Smith\* (Chairman), Mr Raymond C F Or (Vice-Chairman and Chief Executive), Mr John C C Chan<sup>#</sup>, Mr Patrick K W Chan, Dr Y T Cheng<sup>#</sup>, Dr Marvin K T Cheung<sup>#</sup>, Mr S J Glass<sup>\*</sup>, Mr Jenkin Hui<sup>#</sup>, Mr Peter T C Lee<sup>#</sup>, Dr Eric K C Li<sup>#</sup>, Dr Vincent H S Lo<sup>\*</sup>, Mr Joseph C Y Poon, Dr David W K Sin<sup>#</sup>, Mr Richard Y S Tang<sup>#</sup> and Mr Peter T S Wong<sup>\*</sup>.

\* Non-executive Director

*"* Independent non-executive Director

By Order of the Board **C C Li** Secretary

Hong Kong, 19 January 2006

## Hang Seng Bank Limited

Incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability Registered Office and Head Office: 83 Des Voeux Road Central, Hong Kong

Member HSBC Group

Please also refer to the published version of this announcement in The Standard.