

7 November 2005

HANG SENG ANNOUNCES THIRD INTERIM DIVIDEND FOR 2005

The Board of Directors of Hang Seng Bank today declared a third interim dividend of HK\$1.10 per share in respect of the year ending 31 December 2005.

The third interim dividend will be payable on Wednesday, 4 January 2006, to shareholders on the Register of Shareholders as at Wednesday, 21 December 2005.

The results for the year to 31 December 2005 will be announced on Monday, 6 March 2006. It is intended that any fourth interim dividend for 2005 that is announced on that date would be payable on Friday, 31 March 2006 to shareholders on the Register on Tuesday, 21 March 2006.

The Register of Shareholders of the Bank will be closed for one day on Wednesday, 21 December 2005, during which no transfer of shares can be registered. To qualify for the third interim dividend for 2005, all transfers, accompanied by the relevant share certificates, must be lodged for registration not later than 4:00pm on Tuesday, 20 December 2005, with the Bank's Registrars, Computershare Hong Kong Investor Services Limited, at Shops 1712-1716, 17th Floor, Hopewell Centre, 183 Queen's Road East, Wanchai, Hong Kong.

ends/more

Media enquiries to Cecilia Ko on +852 2198 4227.

Notes to editors:

1. Hang Seng Bank

Founded in 1933, Hang Seng Bank is a principal member of the HSBC Group. It operates 156 branches and automated banking centres in Hong Kong; a branch in Macau; and a network of 12 mainland China outlets, including six branches (in Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Shenzhen, Fuzhou and Nanjing), four sub-branches (three in Shanghai and one in Shenzhen) and two representative offices (in Xiamen and Dongguan). The bank also has a representative office in Taipei.

With consolidated assets of HK\$569.7 billion as at 30 June 2005, the bank reported a profit attributable to shareholders of HK\$6,045 million for the first six months of 2005, and HK\$11.40 billion in 2004. For further information on Hang Seng, please visit the bank's website at www.hangseng.com.

2. The HSBC Group

HSBC Holdings plc serves over 110 million customers worldwide through over 9,700 offices in 77 countries and territories in Europe, the Asia-Pacific region, the Americas, the Middle East and Africa. With assets of US\$1,467 billion at 30 June 2005, HSBC is one of the world's largest banking and financial services organisations. HSBC is marketed worldwide as 'the world's local bank'.

ends/all