

HANG SENG ANNOUNCES FIRST INTERIM DIVIDEND FOR 2008

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.

The Board of Directors of Hang Seng Bank today declared a first interim dividend of HK\$1.10 per share in respect of the year to 31 December 2008.

The first interim dividend will be payable on Thursday, 5 June 2008, to shareholders on the Register of Shareholders at Tuesday, 20 May 2008.

The dividend as declared should not be taken as an indication of the level of profit or dividend for the full year.

The Register of Shareholders of the Bank will be closed for one day on Tuesday, 20 May 2008, during which no transfer of shares can be registered. To qualify for the first interim dividend for 2008, all transfers, accompanied by the relevant share certificates, must be lodged for registration not later than 4:30 pm on Monday, 19 May 2008, 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.

The results for the first half of 2008 will be announced on Monday, 4 August 2008.

The proposed timetables for the second, third and fourth interim dividends in respect of 2008 are:

Second Interim Dividend for 2008

Announcement date	4 August 2008
Book close and record date	20 August 2008
Payment date	4 September 2008

Third Interim Dividend for 2008

Announcement date	3 November 2008
Book close and record date	20 November 2008
Payment date	10 December 2008

Fourth Interim Dividend for 2008

Announcement date	2 March 2009
Book close and record date	18 March 2009
Payment date	31 March 2009

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