HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY
香港金融管理局

Our Ref: B1/15C
G12/238C

19 November 2026

The Chief Executive
All Authorized Institutions

Dear Sir/Madam,

Guideline on Corruption Prevention issued by Hong Kong Association of Banks

I am writing to draw your attention to the Guideline on Corruption Prevention for Banks issued by the Hong Kong Association of Banks (HKAB) today.

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) has been working with HKAB in engaging relevant stakeholders, particularly the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC), in promoting anti-corruption controls within the banking sector. With the support of the HKMA and the ICAC, HKAB has developed the Guideline to provide guidance on anti-corruption measures with reference to past cases involving bank staff.

The Guideline serves as a consolidated reference to reinforce the existing regulations and statutory requirements. It provides practical measures and good practices in areas covering (i) governance, (ii) whistleblowing mechanism, (iii) effective operation controls, (iv) consequence management, and (v) training and education.

The HKMA expects all Authorized Institutions (AIs) to review the Guideline carefully, assess their existing policies and procedures against the good practices contained therein, and work out plans to implement necessary enhancements to their anti-corruption controls where appropriate. AIs are also expected to report to the HKMA by the end of the third quarter of 2027 their compliance status with the Guideline. The reports will be used by the HKMA in considering its ongoing supervisory activities on this area.

To ensure effective implementation of the Guideline by AIs, the HKMA is collaborating with HKAB and the ICAC to organise a briefing for integrity officers of AIs. The briefing aims to communicate the expectations set forth in the Guideline and to facilitate dissemination of these standards within their respective institutions.

We look forward to continuing our engagement with your institution in upholding the highest standards of integrity within the banking sector and ensure that Hong Kong remains a trusted global financial hub.

Should you have any questions about this circular, please contact Ms Phoebe Kwan or Ms Candice Chan at 2878 7504.

Yours faithfully,

Raymond Chan
Executive Director (Enforcement and AML)

c.c. The Chairperson, The Hong Kong Association of Banks
The Commissioner, The Independent Commission Against Corruption