

Banking Supervision Department

Our Ref.: B10/1C B1/15C

27 January 2012

The Chief Executive All authorized institutions

Dear Sir/Madam,

Guideline on Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorist Financing

I am writing to inform you that, following consultation with the two industry associations, the HKMA is issuing today the Guideline on Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorist Financing by notice in the Gazette under section 7(1) of the Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorist Financing (Financial Institutions) Ordinance (AMLO), Cap. 615 and section 7(3) of the Banking Ordinance, Cap. 155.

The Guideline, which provides guidance in relation to the requirements on anti-money laundering and counter-terrorist financing controls, including customer due diligence and record-keeping measures under the AMLO, will come into operation on 1 April 2012, and will assist authorized institutions to meet their legal and regulatory obligations.

This Guideline supersedes Guideline No. 3.3 "Guideline on Prevention of Money Laundering" (revised in July 2010) and "Supplement to the Guideline on Prevention of Money Laundering and Interpretative Notes" (revised in July 2010) issued by the HKMA, with effect from 1 April 2012.

On-line access to the Guideline is available under the icon of 'Circulars and Guidelines' in the HKMA's public (http://www.info.gov.hk/hkma) and private (http://www.stet.finnet.hk) web-sites.

If you have any questions relating to this letter, please feel free to contact Mr Stewart McGlynn on 2878-1095 or Ms Joyce Chan on 2878-8281.

Yours faithfully,

Vincent Lee Acting Executive Director (Banking Supervision)

c.c. The Chairman, The Hong Kong Association of Banks The Chairman, The DTC Association FSTB (Attn: Angelina Kwan)