<u>Press Release</u>

20th Anniversary of Deposit Protection Scheme

The Deposit Protection Scheme (DPS) is marking its 20th anniversary on 25 September 2026.

Over the past 20 years, the DPS has served the vital role of helping to bolster confidence in the banking system, with significant enhancements in coverage, operational efficiency and public awareness. In particular:

- **protection limit** increased from HK$100,000 in 2006 to HK$500,000 in 2011, and further to HK$800,000 in 2024. These increases exceeded cumulative inflation over the corresponding periods, thereby enhancing the real value of deposit protection;
- **total amount of protected deposits** increased by seven-fold, from HK$452 billion in 2006 to HK$3,656 billion in 2025. Currently, 92.5% of depositors are fully protected, which is in line with international standards;
- **gross payout approach in determining compensation** has been adopted since 2016, and this has substantially shortened the target payout timeframe from 42 days to seven days;
- **electronic payment channels** (including the Faster Payment System) for disbursing compensation have been added since 2021, which can further shorten the payout process by one to two days as compared with the use of paper cheques alone; and
- **public awareness** of the DPS increased from 67.2% in 2006 to around 80% in recent years, and **public confidence** in the DPS reached a record high of 86.7% in 2025, as a result of continued efforts of the Hong Kong Deposit Protection Board (the Board) to promote understanding of the DPS.

Ms Connie Lau Yin-hing, SBS, JP, Chairman of the Board, said, “As the Guardian of Deposits, the Board has worked earnestly over the past two decades to ensure that depositors can save with confidence. With DPS entering its next chapter, I look forward to further reinforcement of its role in providing protection to depositors and supporting Hong Kong’s banking stability.”

Mr Donald Chen, Chief Executive Officer of the Board, said, "Having an effective and efficient DPS is key to maintaining public confidence in the banking system. We will keep up our efforts in ensuring that the Scheme continues to perform its important function efficaciously amid evolving financial developments."

Riding on the 20th anniversary of the DPS, the Board has been launching a number of publicity and community education initiatives to enhance public understanding of and confidence in the DPS. The Board's website has also been revamped to enhance user experience and make information on the DPS more readily accessible to the general public and other stakeholders.

Mr Christopher Hui, the Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury (centre), Ms Connie Lau, Chairman of the Board (fourth from right) and Mr Donald Chen, Chief Executive Officer of the Board (fourth from left), together with members of the Board, at the launch of the DPS's 20th anniversary promotional video.

DPS's 20th anniversary promotional tram travelling across Hong Kong Island.

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Hong Kong Deposit Protection Board
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20 Years of Deposit Protection
Committed to a Secure Future