

**Dah Sing Financial Holdings Limited**  
(Incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability under the Companies Ordinance)  
(Stock Code:0440)



**ANNOUNCEMENT OF 2015 FINAL RESULTS**

The Directors of Dah Sing Financial Holdings Limited (“DSFH” or the “Company”) are pleased to present the consolidated audited results of the Company and its subsidiaries (collectively the “Group”) for the year ended 31 December 2015.

**CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT**

For the year ended 31 December

| HK\$'000                                                                                | Note | 2015             | 2014             | Variance<br>% |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Interest income                                                                         |      | 5,357,305        | 5,223,202        |               |
| Interest expense                                                                        |      | (1,704,012)      | (1,930,250)      |               |
| <b>Net interest income</b>                                                              | 4    | <b>3,653,293</b> | <b>3,292,952</b> | 10.9          |
| Fee and commission income                                                               |      | 1,027,774        | 971,913          |               |
| Fee and commission expense                                                              |      | (224,325)        | (226,318)        |               |
| <b>Net fee and commission income</b>                                                    | 5    | <b>803,449</b>   | <b>745,595</b>   | 7.8           |
| Net trading income                                                                      | 6    | 31,710           | 711,098          |               |
| Net insurance premium and other income                                                  |      | 2,029,310        | 2,238,790        |               |
| Other operating income                                                                  | 7    | 74,981           | 70,581           |               |
| <b>Operating income</b>                                                                 |      | <b>6,592,743</b> | <b>7,059,016</b> | -6.6          |
| Net insurance claims and expenses                                                       |      | (1,306,042)      | (2,436,101)      |               |
| <b>Total operating income net of insurance claims</b>                                   |      | <b>5,286,701</b> | <b>4,622,915</b> | 14.4          |
| Operating expenses                                                                      | 8    | (2,534,297)      | (2,389,693)      | 6.1           |
| <b>Operating profit before impairment losses</b>                                        |      | <b>2,752,404</b> | <b>2,233,222</b> | 23.2          |
| Loan impairment losses and other credit provisions                                      | 9    | (496,352)        | (472,962)        | 4.9           |
| <b>Operating profit before gains and losses on certain investments and fixed assets</b> |      | <b>2,256,052</b> | <b>1,760,260</b> | 28.2          |
| Net loss on disposal of other fixed assets                                              |      | (1,427)          | (3,198)          |               |
| Net (loss)/ gain on fair value adjustment of investment properties                      |      | (74,863)         | 93,239           |               |
| Net gain on disposal of investments in securities                                       | 10   | 43,563           | 19,051           |               |
| Loss on deemed disposal of investment in an associate                                   | 12   | (47,617)         | -                |               |
| Impairment losses charged on investment in equity securities                            |      | (10,970)         | -                |               |
| Share of results of an associate                                                        |      | 665,942          | 602,299          |               |
| Share of results of jointly controlled entities                                         |      | 21,945           | 20,657           |               |
| <b>Profit before taxation</b>                                                           |      | <b>2,852,625</b> | <b>2,492,308</b> | 14.5          |
| Taxation                                                                                | 11   | (344,815)        | (245,786)        |               |
| <b>Profit for the year</b>                                                              |      | <b>2,507,810</b> | <b>2,246,522</b> | 11.6          |
| Profit attributable to non-controlling interests                                        |      | (560,343)        | (519,635)        |               |
| <b>Profit attributable to Shareholders of the Company</b>                               |      | <b>1,947,467</b> | <b>1,726,887</b> | 12.8          |
| <b>Dividends</b>                                                                        |      |                  |                  |               |
| Interim dividend paid                                                                   |      | 107,224          | 100,523          |               |
| Proposed final dividend/ final dividend paid                                            |      | 335,075          | 318,321          |               |
|                                                                                         |      | <b>442,299</b>   | <b>418,844</b>   |               |
| <b>Earnings per share</b>                                                               |      |                  |                  |               |
| Basic                                                                                   | 13   | <b>HK\$5.81</b>  | <b>HK\$5.29</b>  |               |
| Diluted                                                                                 | 13   | <b>HK\$5.81</b>  | <b>HK\$5.28</b>  |               |

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**

For the year ended 31 December

| HK\$'000                                                                                                                                                       | 2015             | 2014             |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>Profit for the year</b>                                                                                                                                     | <b>2,507,810</b> | <b>2,246,522</b> |
| <b>Other comprehensive income for the year</b>                                                                                                                 |                  |                  |
| Items that will not be reclassified subsequently to the consolidated income statement:                                                                         |                  |                  |
| Premises                                                                                                                                                       |                  |                  |
| Reserves arising from reclassification of premises to investment properties                                                                                    | 1,393            | 36,533           |
| Items that may be reclassified to the consolidated income statement:                                                                                           |                  |                  |
| Investments in securities                                                                                                                                      |                  |                  |
| Fair value gains on available-for-sale securities recognised in equity                                                                                         | 73,114           | 297,824          |
| Fair value (gain)/ loss realised and transferred to income statement upon:                                                                                     |                  |                  |
| - Disposal of available-for-sale securities                                                                                                                    | (43,563)         | (23,707)         |
| - Disposal of investments in securities included in the loans and receivables category which were previously reclassified from the available-for-sale category | -                | 3,756            |
| - Impairment of available-for-sale securities                                                                                                                  | 10,970           | -                |
| Deferred income tax on movements in investment revaluation reserve                                                                                             | 4,689            | (35,285)         |
|                                                                                                                                                                | 45,210           | 242,588          |
| Exchange differences arising on translation of the financial statements of foreign entities                                                                    | (209,766)        | (108,599)        |
| Other comprehensive (loss)/ income for the year, net of tax                                                                                                    | (163,163)        | 170,522          |
| <b>Total comprehensive income for the year, net of tax</b>                                                                                                     | <b>2,344,647</b> | <b>2,417,044</b> |
| Attributable to:                                                                                                                                               |                  |                  |
| Non-controlling interests                                                                                                                                      | 519,690          | 554,257          |
| Shareholders of the Company                                                                                                                                    | 1,824,957        | 1,862,787        |
| <b>Total comprehensive income for the year, net of tax</b>                                                                                                     | <b>2,344,647</b> | <b>2,417,044</b> |

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

As at 31 December

| HK\$'000                                                         | Note | 2015               | 2014               |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|------|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>ASSETS</b>                                                    |      |                    |                    |
| Cash and balances with banks                                     |      | 17,631,716         | 15,063,006         |
| Placements with banks maturing between one and twelve months     |      | 7,714,421          | 5,626,019          |
| Trading securities                                               | 14   | 8,766,304          | 7,082,517          |
| Financial assets designated at fair value through profit or loss | 14   | 11,000,786         | 9,627,563          |
| Derivative financial instruments                                 |      | 1,100,710          | 831,566            |
| Advances and other accounts                                      | 15   | 120,776,773        | 118,593,929        |
| Available-for-sale securities                                    | 16   | 24,533,819         | 23,724,503         |
| Held-to-maturity securities                                      | 17   | 10,698,859         | 11,047,201         |
| Investment in an associate                                       |      | 4,099,217          | 3,746,918          |
| Investments in jointly controlled entities                       |      | 71,119             | 65,694             |
| Goodwill                                                         |      | 950,992            | 950,992            |
| Intangible assets                                                |      | 82,480             | 84,519             |
| Premises and other fixed assets                                  |      | 2,222,465          | 2,074,058          |
| Investment properties                                            |      | 886,664            | 786,703            |
| Current income tax assets                                        |      | 5,784              | 3,995              |
| Deferred income tax assets                                       |      | 83,473             | 80,591             |
| Value of in-force long-term life assurance business              |      | 2,166,695          | 2,018,068          |
| <b>Total assets</b>                                              |      | <b>212,792,277</b> | <b>201,407,842</b> |
| <b>LIABILITIES</b>                                               |      |                    |                    |
| Deposits from banks                                              |      | 1,550,911          | 1,572,467          |
| Derivative financial instruments                                 |      | 1,500,591          | 1,217,118          |
| Trading liabilities                                              |      | 6,270,630          | 5,597,614          |
| Deposits from customers                                          |      | 149,264,197        | 140,916,635        |
| Certificates of deposit issued                                   |      | 6,231,837          | 6,109,777          |
| Subordinated notes                                               |      | 5,279,340          | 5,391,357          |
| Other accounts and accruals                                      |      | 5,785,899          | 5,971,301          |
| Current income tax liabilities                                   |      | 208,046            | 213,984            |
| Deferred income tax liabilities                                  |      | 95,950             | 94,398             |
| Liabilities to policyholders under long-term insurance contracts |      | 10,695,944         | 10,205,811         |
| <b>Total liabilities</b>                                         |      | <b>186,883,345</b> | <b>177,290,462</b> |
| <b>EQUITY</b>                                                    |      |                    |                    |
| Non-controlling interests                                        |      | 5,463,846          | 5,071,933          |
| <b>Equity attributable to the Company's shareholders</b>         |      |                    |                    |
| Share capital                                                    |      | 4,248,559          | 4,248,559          |
| Other reserves (including retained earnings)                     |      | 16,196,527         | 14,796,888         |
| <b>Shareholders' funds</b>                                       | 19   | <b>20,445,086</b>  | <b>19,045,447</b>  |
| <b>Total equity</b>                                              |      | <b>25,908,932</b>  | <b>24,117,380</b>  |
| <b>Total equity and liabilities</b>                              |      | <b>212,792,277</b> | <b>201,407,842</b> |

**Note:**

**1. Statutory Financial Statements**

The information set out in this results announcement does not constitute statutory financial statements.

Certain financial information in this results announcement is extracted from the Group's statutory consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2015 (the "2015 financial statements") which will be delivered to the Registrar of Companies and available from the website of The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited in due course. The auditors have expressed an unqualified opinion on those financial statements in their report dated 23 March 2016.

**2. Basis of Preparation and Accounting Policies**

The consolidated financial statements of the Group have been prepared in accordance with all applicable Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards ("HKFRSs" is a collective term which includes all applicable individual Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards, Hong Kong Accounting Standards ("HKASs") and Interpretations) issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants ("HKICPA"), accounting principles generally accepted in Hong Kong and the requirements of the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance.

These consolidated financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of investment properties, available-for-sale financial assets, financial assets and financial liabilities held for trading, and financial assets and financial liabilities (including derivative instruments) designated at fair value through profit or loss, which are carried at fair value.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with HKFRSs requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgement in applying the Group's accounting policies.

Except as described below, the accounting policies and methods of computation used in the preparation of the 2015 consolidated financial statements are consistent with those used and described in the Group's annual audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2014.

The financial information in this results announcement is presented in thousands of Hong Kong dollars (HK\$'000), unless otherwise stated.

**(a) New Hong Kong Companies Ordinance (Cap.622)**

The requirements of Part 9 "Accounts and Audit" of the new Hong Kong Companies Ordinance (Cap. 622) ("NCO") come into operation during the financial year, as a result, there are changes to presentation and disclosures of certain information in the consolidated financial statements.

**(b) New and amended standards adopted by the Group**

The following amendments to standards have been adopted by the Group for the first time for the financial year beginning on or after 1 January 2015:

Amendments from annual improvements to HKFRSs – 2010 – 2012 Cycle, on HKFRS 8, "Operating segments", HKAS 16, "Property, plant and equipment" and HKAS 38, "Intangible assets" and HKAS 24, "Related party disclosures".

Amendments from annual improvements to HKFRSs – 2011 – 2013 Cycle, on HKFRS 3, "Business combinations", HKFRS 13, "Fair value measurement" and HKAS 40, "Investment property".

The adoption of the improvements made in the 2010-2012 Cycle has required additional disclosures in the segment note. Other than that, the remaining amendments are not material to the Group.

**2. Basis of Preparation and Accounting Policies (Continued)**

(c) New standards and interpretations not yet adopted

A number of new standards and amendments to standards and interpretations are effective for annual periods beginning after 1 January 2015, and have not been early adopted in preparing these consolidated financial statements. None of these is expected to have a significant effect on the consolidated financial statements of the Group, except for the following standards:

- (i) HKFRS 9, “Financial instruments”, addresses the classification, measurement and recognition of financial assets and financial liabilities. The complete version of HKFRS 9 was issued in July 2014. It replaces the guidance in HKAS 39 that relates to the classification and measurement of financial instruments. HKFRS 9 retains but simplifies the mixed measurement model and establishes three primary measurement categories for financial assets: amortised cost, fair value through other comprehensive income and fair value through profit or loss. The basis of classification depends on the entity's business model and the contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial asset. Investments in equity instruments are required to be measured at fair value through profit or loss with the irrevocable option at inception to present changes in fair value in other comprehensive income not recycling. There is now a new expected credit losses model that replaces the incurred loss impairment model used in HKAS 39. For financial liabilities there were no changes to classification and measurement except for the recognition of changes in own credit risk in other comprehensive income, for liabilities designated at fair value through profit or loss. HKFRS 9 relaxes the requirements for hedge effectiveness by replacing the bright line hedge effectiveness tests. It requires an economic relationship between the hedged item and hedging instrument and for the ‘hedged ratio’ to be the same as the one management actually use for risk management purposes.

Contemporaneous documentation is still required but is different to that currently prepared under HKAS 39. The Group has already commenced the assessment of the full impact and so far has not decided to early adopt the standard, which shall be effective for the financial year beginning on 1 January 2018.

- (ii) HKFRS 15, “Revenue from contracts with customers” deals with revenue recognition and establishes principles for reporting useful information to users of financial statements about the nature, amount, timing and uncertainty of revenue and cash flows arising from an entity's contracts with customers. Revenue is recognised when a customer obtains control of a good or service and thus has the ability to direct the use and obtain the benefits from the good or service. The standard replaces HKAS 18 “Revenue” and HKAS 11 “Construction contracts” and related interpretations. HKFRS 15 is effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2018 and earlier application is permitted. The Group is assessing the impact of HKFRS 15.

**3. Operating segment reporting**

Segment reporting by the Group is prepared in accordance with HKFRS 8 “Operating Segments”. Information reported to the chief operating decision maker, including the Chief Executive and other Executive Committee members, for the purposes of resource allocation and performance assessment, is determined on the basis of banking business and insurance business. For banking business, operating performances are analysed by business activities for local banking business, and on business entity basis for overseas banking business. For insurance business, resources allocation and performance evaluation are based on insurance business entity basis.

Considering the customer groups, products and services of local businesses, the economic environment and regulations, the Group splits the operating segments of the Group into the following reportable segments:

- Personal banking business includes the acceptance of deposits from individual customers and the extension of residential mortgage lending, personal loans, overdraft and credit card services, the provision of insurance sales and investment services.
- Commercial banking business includes the acceptance of deposits from and the advance of loans and working capital finance to commercial, industrial and institutional customers, and the provision of trade financing.
- Treasury activities are mainly the provision of foreign exchange services and centralised cash management for deposit taking and lending, interest rate risk management, management of investment in securities and the overall funding of the Group.
- Overseas banking businesses include personal banking, commercial banking business activities provided by overseas subsidiaries in Macau and China, and the Group’s interest in a commercial bank in China.
- Insurance business includes the Group’s life assurance and general insurance businesses. Through the Group’s wholly-owned subsidiaries in Hong Kong and 96% owned subsidiaries in Macau, the Group offers a variety of life and general insurance products and services.
- Others include results of operations not directly identified under other reportable segments, corporate investments and debt funding (including subordinated notes).

For the purpose of segment reporting, revenue derived from customers, products and services directly identifiable with individual segments are reported directly under respective segments, while revenue and funding cost arising from inter-segment funding operation and funding resources are allocated to segments by way of transfer pricing mechanism with reference to market interest rates. Transactions within segments are priced based on similar terms offered to or transacted with external parties. Inter-segment income or expenses are eliminated on consolidation. Certain comparative amounts have been revised to conform to the changes in funds transfer pricing mechanism and certain income reallocation adopted in 2015.

All direct costs incurred by different segments are grouped under respective segments. Indirect costs and support functions’ costs are allocated to various segments and products based on effort and time spent as well as segments’ operating income depending on the nature of costs incurred. Costs related to corporate activities that cannot be reasonably allocated to segments, products and support functions are grouped under Others as unallocated corporate expenses.

# Dah Sing Financial Holdings Limited

## 3. Operating segment reporting (Continued)

### For the year ended 31 December 2015

| HK\$'000                                                                                                        | Personal<br>Banking | Commercial<br>Banking | Treasury         | Overseas<br>Banking | Insurance<br>Business | Others          | Inter-<br>segment | Total              |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Net interest income/<br>(expenses)                                                                              | 1,367,555           | 1,149,755             | 377,085          | 508,611             | 314,418               | (64,131)        | -                 | 3,653,293          |
| Non-interest income/<br>(expenses)                                                                              | <u>632,469</u>      | <u>213,035</u>        | <u>190,476</u>   | <u>126,657</u>      | <u>410,193</u>        | <u>104,479</u>  | <u>(43,901)</u>   | <u>1,633,408</u>   |
| Total operating income net of<br>insurance claims                                                               | 2,000,024           | 1,362,790             | 567,561          | 635,268             | 724,611               | 40,348          | (43,901)          | 5,286,701          |
| Operating expenses                                                                                              | <u>(1,260,121)</u>  | <u>(378,778)</u>      | <u>(140,878)</u> | <u>(469,366)</u>    | <u>(280,995)</u>      | <u>(48,060)</u> | <u>43,901</u>     | <u>(2,534,297)</u> |
| Operating profit/ (loss) before<br>impairment losses and other<br>credit provisions                             | 739,903             | 984,012               | 426,683          | 165,902             | 443,616               | (7,712)         | -                 | 2,752,404          |
| Loan impairment losses and<br>other credit provisions<br>(charged)/ written back                                | <u>(230,256)</u>    | <u>(237,955)</u>      | <u>15,000</u>    | <u>(43,141)</u>     | <u>-</u>              | <u>-</u>        | <u>-</u>          | <u>(496,352)</u>   |
| Operating profit/ (loss) after<br>impairment losses and other<br>credit provisions                              | 509,647             | 746,057               | 441,683          | 122,761             | 443,616               | (7,712)         | -                 | 2,256,052          |
| Net (loss)/ gain on disposal<br>and fair value adjustment of<br>investment properties and<br>other fixed assets | (1,283)             | (12)                  | (13)             | 7                   | (89,488)              | 14,499          | -                 | (76,290)           |
| Net gain on disposal of<br>investments in securities                                                            | -                   | -                     | 16,568           | -                   | 7,992                 | 19,003          | -                 | 43,563             |
| Loss on deemed disposal of<br>investment in an associate                                                        | -                   | -                     | -                | (47,617)            | -                     | -               | -                 | (47,617)           |
| Impairment losses charged on<br>investment in equity<br>securities                                              | -                   | -                     | -                | -                   | -                     | (10,970)        | -                 | (10,970)           |
| Share of results of an<br>associate                                                                             | -                   | -                     | -                | 665,942             | -                     | -               | -                 | 665,942            |
| Share of results of jointly<br>controlled entities                                                              | <u>-</u>            | <u>-</u>              | <u>-</u>         | <u>-</u>            | <u>-</u>              | <u>21,945</u>   | <u>-</u>          | <u>21,945</u>      |
| Profit before taxation                                                                                          | 508,364             | 746,045               | 458,238          | 741,093             | 362,120               | 36,765          | -                 | 2,852,625          |
| Taxation (expenses)/ credit                                                                                     | <u>(83,868)</u>     | <u>(123,097)</u>      | <u>(75,609)</u>  | <u>(25,064)</u>     | <u>(37,391)</u>       | <u>214</u>      | <u>-</u>          | <u>(344,815)</u>   |
| Profit after taxation                                                                                           | <u>424,496</u>      | <u>622,948</u>        | <u>382,629</u>   | <u>716,029</u>      | <u>324,729</u>        | <u>36,979</u>   | <u>-</u>          | <u>2,507,810</u>   |
| For the year ended<br>31 December 2015                                                                          |                     |                       |                  |                     |                       |                 |                   |                    |
| Depreciation and amortisation                                                                                   | 58,882              | 12,246                | 6,759            | 40,746              | 15,179                | 43,041          | -                 | 176,853            |
| At 31 December 2015                                                                                             |                     |                       |                  |                     |                       |                 |                   |                    |
| Segment assets                                                                                                  | 44,238,858          | 55,906,000            | 63,141,488       | 31,842,489          | 18,638,943            | 4,851,310       | (5,826,811)       | 212,792,277        |
| Segment liabilities                                                                                             | 85,575,624          | 37,962,644            | 16,816,776       | 23,429,044          | 14,233,827            | 14,692,241      | (5,826,811)       | 186,883,345        |

### 3. Operating segment reporting (Continued)

For the year ended 31 December 2014 (Restated)

| HK\$'000                                                                                                        | Personal<br>Banking | Commercial<br>Banking | Treasury   | Overseas<br>Banking | Insurance<br>Business | Others     | Inter-<br>segment | Total       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|------------|---------------------|-----------------------|------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Net interest income/<br>(expenses)                                                                              | 1,253,240           | 986,439               | 277,843    | 537,362             | 300,287               | (62,219)   | -                 | 3,292,952   |
| Non-interest income/<br>(expenses)                                                                              | 544,320             | 202,995               | 223,943    | 121,551             | 176,166               | 120,529    | (59,541)          | 1,329,963   |
| Total operating income net of<br>insurance claims                                                               | 1,797,560           | 1,189,434             | 501,786    | 658,913             | 476,453               | 58,310     | (59,541)          | 4,622,915   |
| Operating expenses                                                                                              | (1,157,834)         | (350,022)             | (137,219)  | (486,161)           | (265,175)             | (52,823)   | 59,541            | (2,389,693) |
| Operating profit before<br>impairment losses and other<br>credit provisions                                     | 639,726             | 839,412               | 364,567    | 172,752             | 211,278               | 5,487      | -                 | 2,233,222   |
| Loan impairment losses and<br>other credit provisions<br>(charged)/ written back                                | (201,779)           | (63,223)              | 60,000     | (267,960)           | -                     | -          | -                 | (472,962)   |
| Operating profit/ (loss) after<br>impairment losses and other<br>credit provisions                              | 437,947             | 776,189               | 424,567    | (95,208)            | 211,278               | 5,487      | -                 | 1,760,260   |
| Net (loss)/ gain on disposal<br>and fair value adjustment of<br>investment properties and<br>other fixed assets | (844)               | (60)                  | (9)        | (46)                | 62,468                | 28,532     | -                 | 90,041      |
| Net gain on disposal of<br>investments in securities                                                            | -                   | -                     | 17,036     | -                   | -                     | 2,015      | -                 | 19,051      |
| Share of results of an<br>associate                                                                             | -                   | -                     | -          | 602,299             | -                     | -          | -                 | 602,299     |
| Share of results of jointly<br>controlled entities                                                              | -                   | -                     | -          | -                   | -                     | 20,657     | -                 | 20,657      |
| Profit before taxation                                                                                          | 437,103             | 776,129               | 441,594    | 507,045             | 273,746               | 56,691     | -                 | 2,492,308   |
| Taxation (expenses)/ credit                                                                                     | (70,565)            | (128,061)             | (72,863)   | 32,324              | (21,331)              | 14,710     | -                 | (245,786)   |
| Profit after taxation                                                                                           | 366,538             | 648,068               | 368,731    | 539,369             | 252,415               | 71,401     | -                 | 2,246,522   |
| For the year ended<br>31 December 2014                                                                          |                     |                       |            |                     |                       |            |                   |             |
| Depreciation and amortisation                                                                                   | 51,198              | 10,561                | 6,218      | 42,831              | 12,943                | 37,299     | -                 | 161,050     |
| At 31 December 2014                                                                                             |                     |                       |            |                     |                       |            |                   |             |
| Segment assets                                                                                                  | 41,988,779          | 54,596,171            | 55,550,630 | 33,581,542          | 17,982,755            | 4,343,972  | (6,636,007)       | 201,407,842 |
| Segment liabilities                                                                                             | 78,375,819          | 36,248,907            | 15,126,832 | 25,631,700          | 13,905,896            | 14,637,315 | (6,636,007)       | 177,290,462 |

### 3. Operating segment reporting (Continued)

More than 90% of the revenues from external customers were contributed from banking subsidiaries in Hong Kong, Macau and People's Republic of China, with major products and services including deposit taking, extension of credit, asset-based finance, securities investment services offered to customers.

The following tables provide information by geographical area, which was determined with reference to the domicile of the legal entities within the Group with business dealing and relationship with, and services to external customers.

| HK\$'000                                       | Hong Kong<br>and Others | Macau      | Inter-<br>segment<br>elimination | Total       |
|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------|----------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>For the year ended 31 December 2015</b>     |                         |            |                                  |             |
| Total operating income net of insurance claims | 4,795,271               | 492,427    | (997)                            | 5,286,701   |
| Profit before taxation                         | 2,607,896               | 244,729    | -                                | 2,852,625   |
| <b>At 31 December 2015</b>                     |                         |            |                                  |             |
| Total assets                                   | 194,868,421             | 19,569,962 | (1,646,106)                      | 212,792,277 |
| Total liabilities                              | 171,615,505             | 16,913,946 | (1,646,106)                      | 186,883,345 |
| Intangible assets and goodwill                 | 318,666                 | 714,806    | -                                | 1,033,472   |
| Contingent liabilities and commitments         | 76,227,916              | 1,862,414  | (32,000)                         | 78,058,330  |
|                                                | Hong Kong<br>and Others | Macau      | Inter-<br>segment<br>elimination | Total       |
| <b>For the year ended 31 December 2014</b>     |                         |            |                                  |             |
| Total operating income net of insurance claims | 4,175,832               | 448,092    | (1,009)                          | 4,622,915   |
| Profit before taxation                         | 2,225,375               | 266,933    | -                                | 2,492,308   |
| <b>At 31 December 2014 (Restated)</b>          |                         |            |                                  |             |
| Total assets                                   | 184,313,204             | 18,361,316 | (1,266,678)                      | 201,407,842 |
| Total liabilities                              | 162,631,043             | 15,926,097 | (1,266,678)                      | 177,290,462 |
| Intangible assets and goodwill                 | 318,667                 | 716,844    | -                                | 1,035,511   |
| Contingent liabilities and commitments         | 74,878,643              | 1,939,300  | (38,560)                         | 76,779,383  |

#### 4. Net interest income

| HK\$'000                                                                           | 2015             | 2014             |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>Interest income</b>                                                             |                  |                  |
| Cash and balances with banks                                                       | 319,266          | 358,298          |
| Investments in securities                                                          | 987,703          | 968,477          |
| Advances and other accounts                                                        | 4,050,336        | 3,896,427        |
|                                                                                    | <u>5,357,305</u> | <u>5,223,202</u> |
| <b>Interest expense</b>                                                            |                  |                  |
| Deposits from banks/ Deposits from customers                                       | 1,428,507        | 1,663,559        |
| Certificates of deposit issued                                                     | 78,234           | 72,106           |
| Issued debt securities                                                             | -                | 3,494            |
| Subordinated notes                                                                 | 195,964          | 187,441          |
| Others                                                                             | 1,307            | 3,650            |
|                                                                                    | <u>1,704,012</u> | <u>1,930,250</u> |
| <b>Included within interest income</b>                                             |                  |                  |
| Interest income on financial assets not at fair value through profit or loss       | <u>5,080,273</u> | <u>4,931,766</u> |
| <b>Included within interest expense</b>                                            |                  |                  |
| Interest expense on financial liabilities not at fair value through profit or loss | <u>1,701,380</u> | <u>1,925,314</u> |

For the year ended 31 December 2015 and 2014, there was no interest income recognised on impaired assets.

#### 5. Net fee and commission income

| HK\$'000                                                                                                  | 2015             | 2014           |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| <b>Fee and commission income</b>                                                                          |                  |                |
| Fee and commission income from financial assets and liabilities not at fair value through profit or loss  |                  |                |
| - Credit related fees and commissions                                                                     | 136,538          | 135,992        |
| - Trade finance                                                                                           | 91,987           | 73,158         |
| - Credit card                                                                                             | 292,816          | 304,195        |
| Other fee and commission income                                                                           |                  |                |
| - Securities brokerage                                                                                    | 132,145          | 89,876         |
| - Retail investment and wealth management services                                                        | 196,863          | 181,070        |
| - Bank services and handling fees                                                                         | 61,850           | 58,582         |
| - Other fees                                                                                              | 115,575          | 129,040        |
|                                                                                                           | <u>1,027,774</u> | <u>971,913</u> |
| <b>Fee and commission expense</b>                                                                         |                  |                |
| Fee and commission expense from financial assets and liabilities not at fair value through profit or loss |                  |                |
| - Handling fees and commission                                                                            | 209,813          | 212,708        |
| - Other fees paid                                                                                         | 14,512           | 13,610         |
|                                                                                                           | <u>224,325</u>   | <u>226,318</u> |

The Group provides custody, trustee, corporate administration, and investment management services to third parties. Those assets that are held in a fiduciary capacity are not included in these financial statements.

**6. Net trading income**

| HK\$'000                                                                                            | 2015          | 2014           |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| Dividend income from financial assets at fair value through profit or loss                          | 85,656        | 83,394         |
| Net gain arising from dealing in foreign currencies                                                 | 124,716       | 190,637        |
| Net loss on trading securities                                                                      | (31,654)      | (4,345)        |
| Net gain from derivatives entered into for trading purpose                                          | 57,334        | 51,481         |
| Net loss arising from financial instruments subject to fair value hedge                             | (9,201)       | (25,077)       |
| Net (loss)/ gain arising from financial instruments designated at fair value through profit or loss | (195,141)     | 415,008        |
|                                                                                                     | <u>31,710</u> | <u>711,098</u> |

**7. Other operating income**

| HK\$'000                                                          | 2015          | 2014          |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Dividend income from investments in available-for-sale securities | 26,141        | 24,670        |
| Gross rental income from investment properties                    | 26,770        | 24,270        |
| Other rental income                                               | 11,423        | 11,012        |
| Others                                                            | 10,647        | 10,629        |
|                                                                   | <u>74,981</u> | <u>70,581</u> |

**8. Operating expenses**

| HK\$'000                                                                       | 2015             | 2014             |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Employee compensation and benefit expenses (including directors' remuneration) | 1,599,360        | 1,456,456        |
| Premises and other fixed assets expenses, excluding depreciation               |                  |                  |
| - Rental of premises                                                           | 160,638          | 152,534          |
| - Others                                                                       | 141,394          | 137,890          |
| Depreciation                                                                   | 174,814          | 157,339          |
| Advertising and promotion costs                                                | 87,868           | 113,678          |
| Printing, stationery and postage                                               | 54,230           | 51,805           |
| Amortisation expenses of intangible assets                                     | 2,039            | 3,711            |
| Auditors' remuneration                                                         | 9,931            | 9,608            |
| Others                                                                         | 304,023          | 306,672          |
|                                                                                | <u>2,534,297</u> | <u>2,389,693</u> |

**9. Loan impairment losses and other credit provisions**

| HK\$'000                                                                                                      | 2015            | 2014            |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Loan impairment losses                                                                                        |                 |                 |
| Net charge/ (reversal) of impairment losses on advances and other accounts                                    |                 |                 |
| - Trade bills                                                                                                 | 3,670           | 2,070           |
| - Advances to customers                                                                                       | 508,713         | 510,339         |
| - Accrued interest and other accounts                                                                         | (1,031)         | 20,553          |
|                                                                                                               | <u>511,352</u>  | <u>532,962</u>  |
| Net charge of impairment losses on advances and other accounts                                                |                 |                 |
| - Individually assessed                                                                                       | 218,941         | 249,015         |
| - Collectively assessed                                                                                       | 292,411         | 283,947         |
|                                                                                                               | <u>511,352</u>  | <u>532,962</u>  |
| Of which                                                                                                      |                 |                 |
| - new and additional allowances (including amounts directly written off in the year)                          | 641,447         | 596,620         |
| - releases                                                                                                    | (76,697)        | (22,866)        |
| - recoveries                                                                                                  | (53,398)        | (40,792)        |
|                                                                                                               | <u>511,352</u>  | <u>532,962</u>  |
| Other credit provisions                                                                                       |                 |                 |
| Net (reversal)/ charge of impairment losses on available-for-sale securities                                  |                 |                 |
| - Collectively assessed                                                                                       | <u>(15,000)</u> | <u>15,000</u>   |
| Net reversal of impairment losses on investments in securities included in the loans and receivables category |                 |                 |
| - Collectively assessed                                                                                       | <u>-</u>        | <u>(75,000)</u> |
| Net charge to income statement                                                                                | <u>496,352</u>  | <u>472,962</u>  |

**10. Net gain on disposal of investments in securities**

| HK\$'000                                                                                         | 2015          | 2014          |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Net gain on disposal of available-for-sale securities                                            | 43,563        | 23,707        |
| Net loss on disposal of investments in securities included in the loans and receivables category | -             | (4,656)       |
|                                                                                                  | <u>43,563</u> | <u>19,051</u> |

**11. Taxation**

Hong Kong profits tax has been provided at the rate of 16.5% (2014: 16.5%) on the estimated assessable profit for the year. Taxation on overseas profits has been calculated on the estimated assessable profit for the year at the rates of taxation prevailing in the countries in which the Group operates.

Deferred taxation is calculated in full on temporary differences under the liability method at the tax rates that are expected to apply in the year when the liability is settled or the asset is realised.

| HK\$'000                                            | 2015           | 2014           |
|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Current income tax:                                 |                |                |
| - Hong Kong profits tax                             | 300,295        | 265,476        |
| - Overseas taxation                                 | 44,198         | 34,931         |
| - Under-provision in prior years                    | 813            | 1,765          |
| Deferred income tax:                                |                |                |
| - Origination and reversal of temporary differences | (424)          | (59,374)       |
| - (Recognition)/ utilisation of tax losses          | (67)           | 2,988          |
| Taxation                                            | <u>344,815</u> | <u>245,786</u> |

**12. Loss on deemed disposal of investment in an associate**

The Group's shareholding interest in Bank of Chongqing ("BOCQ"), which is the Group's associate, decreased from 16.95% to 14.66% after BOCQ completed its issuance of new H-shares by way of a placement (the "Share Placement") in December 2015.

In accordance with Hong Kong Accounting Standard No. 28, "Investments in Associates", an associate is an entity over which the investor has significant influence, including the power to participate in the financial and operating policy decisions, without controlling the management of the investee. Usually a holding of less than 20% is presumed not to have significant influence, unless such influence can be clearly demonstrated.

The Group's interest in BOCQ has been accounted for as an associate using the equity method as the Group has representation in the Board of BOCQ, and the ability to participate in the decision making process.

The reduction in the Group's shareholding in BOCQ in 2015 is treated as a deemed partial disposal of investment in BOCQ. The loss arising from the deemed partial disposal is caused mainly by the lowering in the net asset value per share of BOCQ immediately after the completion of the Share Placement, as the net proceeds per share on the new issue is lower than the net asset value per share immediately before the Share Placement. With the partial disposal of the Group's interest in BOCQ having been recognised, the reduction in the Group's share of BOCQ net assets is accounted as a deemed disposal loss.

**13. Basic and diluted earnings per share**

The calculation of basic earnings per share is based on earnings of HK\$1,947,467,000 (2014: HK\$1,726,887,000) and the weighted average number of 335,075,100 (2014: 326,670,891) ordinary shares in issue during the year.

The calculation of fully diluted earnings per share is based on earnings of HK\$1,947,467,000 (2014: HK\$1,726,887,000) and the weighted average number of 335,254,509 (2014: 326,837,953) ordinary shares in issue during the year after adjusting for the effect of all dilutive potential ordinary shares.

**14. Trading securities and financial assets designated at fair value through profit or loss**

| HK\$'000                                                                                      | As at<br>31 Dec 2015 | As at<br>31 Dec 2014 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Trading securities:                                                                           |                      |                      |
| Debt securities:                                                                              |                      |                      |
| - Listed in Hong Kong                                                                         | 58,398               | 243,944              |
| - Unlisted                                                                                    | 8,513,996            | 6,606,418            |
|                                                                                               | <u>8,572,394</u>     | <u>6,850,362</u>     |
| Equity securities:                                                                            |                      |                      |
| - Listed in Hong Kong                                                                         | 61,592               | 73,651               |
| - Listed outside Hong Kong                                                                    | 126,915              | 152,044              |
| - Unlisted, interests in investment funds                                                     | 5,403                | 6,460                |
|                                                                                               | <u>193,910</u>       | <u>232,155</u>       |
| Total trading securities                                                                      | <u>8,766,304</u>     | <u>7,082,517</u>     |
| Financial assets designated at fair value through profit or loss:                             |                      |                      |
| Debt securities:                                                                              |                      |                      |
| - Listed in Hong Kong                                                                         | 936,627              | 949,787              |
| - Listed outside Hong Kong                                                                    | 2,965,456            | 3,055,237            |
| - Unlisted                                                                                    | 3,603,684            | 2,662,318            |
|                                                                                               | <u>7,505,767</u>     | <u>6,667,342</u>     |
| Equity securities:                                                                            |                      |                      |
| - Listed in Hong Kong                                                                         | 966,514              | 564,620              |
| - Listed outside Hong Kong                                                                    | 1,075,113            | 1,286,724            |
| - Unlisted                                                                                    | 1,453,392            | 1,108,877            |
|                                                                                               | <u>3,495,019</u>     | <u>2,960,221</u>     |
| Total financial assets designated at fair value through profit or loss                        | <u>11,000,786</u>    | <u>9,627,563</u>     |
| Total trading securities and financial assets designated at fair value through profit or loss | <u>19,767,090</u>    | <u>16,710,080</u>    |

**14. Trading securities and financial assets designated at fair value through profit or loss (Continued)**

| HK\$'000                                                                     | As at<br>31 Dec 2015 | As at<br>31 Dec 2014 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Included within debt securities are:                                         |                      |                      |
| - Government bonds included in trading securities which are cash equivalents | 228,497              | 2,040,796            |
| - Government bonds included in trading securities                            | 8,343,648            | 4,809,321            |
| - Other government bonds                                                     | 396,841              | 905,012              |
| - Other debt securities                                                      | 7,109,175            | 5,762,575            |
|                                                                              | <b>16,078,161</b>    | <b>13,517,704</b>    |

As at 31 December 2015 and 2014, there were no certificates of deposit held included in the above balances of trading or fair value debt securities.

Trading securities and financial assets designated at fair value through profit or loss are analysed by categories of issuers as follows:

|                                          |                   |                   |
|------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| - Central governments and central banks  | 8,968,986         | 7,755,129         |
| - Public sector entities                 | 77,047            | 8,386             |
| - Banks and other financial institutions | 1,333,728         | 1,002,089         |
| - Corporate entities                     | 9,387,329         | 7,944,476         |
|                                          | <b>19,767,090</b> | <b>16,710,080</b> |

**15. Advances and other accounts**

| HK\$'000                                    | As at<br>31 Dec 2015 | As at<br>31 Dec 2014 |
|---------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Gross advances to customers                 | 109,625,324          | 105,230,046          |
| Trade bills                                 | 6,469,899            | 7,384,057            |
| Other assets                                |                      |                      |
| - Other accounts receivable and prepayments | 5,396,317            | 6,514,742            |
|                                             | <b>121,491,540</b>   | <b>119,128,845</b>   |
| Less: impairment allowances                 |                      |                      |
| - Individually assessed                     | (347,538)            | (238,250)            |
| - Collectively assessed                     | (367,229)            | (296,666)            |
|                                             | <b>(714,767)</b>     | <b>(534,916)</b>     |
| Advances and other accounts                 | <b>120,776,773</b>   | <b>118,593,929</b>   |

**15. Advances and other accounts (Continued)**
**(a) Gross advances to customers by industry sector classified according to the usage of loans**

| HK\$'000                                                                                                                    | As at 31 Dec 2015      |                        | As at 31 Dec 2014      |                        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
|                                                                                                                             | Outstanding<br>balance | % of gross<br>advances | Outstanding<br>balance | % of gross<br>advances |
| Loans for use in Hong Kong                                                                                                  |                        |                        |                        |                        |
| Industrial, commercial and financial                                                                                        |                        |                        |                        |                        |
| - Property development                                                                                                      | 1,909,605              | 1.7                    | 1,741,185              | 1.6                    |
| - Property investment                                                                                                       | 16,136,906             | 14.7                   | 15,752,867             | 15.0                   |
| - Financial concerns                                                                                                        | 1,118,110              | 1.0                    | 821,938                | 0.8                    |
| - Stockbrokers                                                                                                              | 965,931                | 0.9                    | 133,234                | 0.1                    |
| - Wholesale and retail trade                                                                                                | 4,144,996              | 3.8                    | 4,497,466              | 4.3                    |
| - Manufacturing                                                                                                             | 3,026,032              | 2.8                    | 2,971,483              | 2.8                    |
| - Transport and transport equipment                                                                                         | 3,713,584              | 3.4                    | 4,612,041              | 4.4                    |
| - Recreational activities                                                                                                   | 262,522                | 0.2                    | 277,832                | 0.3                    |
| - Information technology                                                                                                    | 72,019                 | 0.1                    | 22,938                 | -                      |
| - Others                                                                                                                    | 5,454,602              | 5.0                    | 5,036,198              | 4.8                    |
|                                                                                                                             | <b>36,804,307</b>      | <b>33.6</b>            | <b>35,867,182</b>      | <b>34.1</b>            |
| Individuals                                                                                                                 |                        |                        |                        |                        |
| - Loans for the purchase of flats in Home Ownership Scheme, Private Sector Participation Scheme and Tenants Purchase Scheme | 869,023                | 0.8                    | 962,720                | 0.9                    |
| - Loans for the purchase of other residential properties                                                                    | 21,260,300             | 19.4                   | 19,451,578             | 18.5                   |
| - Credit card advances                                                                                                      | 4,465,225              | 4.1                    | 3,838,208              | 3.7                    |
| - Others                                                                                                                    | 9,217,401              | 8.4                    | 8,355,472              | 7.9                    |
|                                                                                                                             | <b>35,811,949</b>      | <b>32.7</b>            | <b>32,607,978</b>      | <b>31.0</b>            |
| Loans for use in Hong Kong                                                                                                  | <b>72,616,256</b>      | <b>66.3</b>            | <b>68,475,160</b>      | <b>65.1</b>            |
| Trade finance (Note (1))                                                                                                    | <b>7,394,880</b>       | <b>6.7</b>             | <b>6,517,342</b>       | <b>6.2</b>             |
| Loans for use outside Hong Kong (Note (2))                                                                                  | <b>29,614,188</b>      | <b>27.0</b>            | <b>30,237,544</b>      | <b>28.7</b>            |
|                                                                                                                             | <b>109,625,324</b>     | <b>100.0</b>           | <b>105,230,046</b>     | <b>100.0</b>           |

Note:

- (1) Trade finance shown above represents loans covering finance of imports to Hong Kong, exports and re-exports from Hong Kong and merchandising trade classified with reference to the relevant guidelines issued by the Hong Kong Monetary Authority ("HKMA").

Trade finance loans not involving Hong Kong (including trade finance extended by the overseas subsidiary banks of Dah Sing Bank, Limited ("DSB")) totalling HK\$592,075,000 (31 December 2014: HK\$ 618,230,000) are classified under Loans for use outside Hong Kong.

- (2) Loans for use outside Hong Kong include loans extended to customers located in Hong Kong with the finance used outside Hong Kong.

## 15. Advances and other accounts (Continued)

- (b) Impaired, overdue and rescheduled assets
- (i) Impaired loans

| HK\$'000                                                                    | As at<br>31 Dec 2015 | As at<br>31 Dec 2014 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Impaired loans and advances                                                 |                      |                      |
| - Individually impaired (Note (a))                                          | 796,319              | 348,287              |
| - Collectively impaired (Note (b))                                          | 21,815               | 20,179               |
|                                                                             | <u>818,134</u>       | <u>368,466</u>       |
| Impairment allowances made                                                  |                      |                      |
| - Individually assessed (Note (c))                                          | (327,953)            | (217,744)            |
| - Collectively assessed (Note (b))                                          | (20,026)             | (18,578)             |
|                                                                             | <u>(347,979)</u>     | <u>(236,322)</u>     |
|                                                                             | <u>470,155</u>       | <u>132,144</u>       |
| Fair value of collaterals held*                                             | <u>582,726</u>       | <u>169,394</u>       |
| Impaired loans and advances as a % of total loans and advances to customers | <u>0.75%</u>         | <u>0.35%</u>         |

\* Fair value of collaterals is determined at the lower of the market value of collateral and outstanding loan balance.

Note:

- (a) Individually impaired loans are defined as those loans having objective evidence of impairment as a result of one or more events that occurred after the initial recognition of the asset (a "loss event") and that loss event has an impact on the estimated cash flows of the loans that can be reliably estimated.
- (b) Collectively impaired loans and advances refer to those unsecured loans and advances assessed for impairment on a collective basis and which have become overdue for more than 90 days as at the reporting date. The collective impairment allowance for these impaired loans, which is a part of the overall collective impairment allowances, is shown above.
- (c) The above individual impairment allowances were made after taking into account the value of collaterals in respect of such advances as at 31 December.

## 15. Advances and other accounts (Continued)

(b) Impaired, overdue and rescheduled assets (Continued)

(ii) Gross amount of overdue loans

| HK\$'000                                                                   | As at 31 Dec 2015                   |             | As at 31 Dec 2014                   |             |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|
|                                                                            | Gross amount<br>of overdue<br>loans | % of total  | Gross amount<br>of overdue<br>loans | % of total  |
| Gross advances to customers<br>which have been overdue for:                |                                     |             |                                     |             |
| - six months or less but over<br>three months                              | 229,892                             | 0.21        | 97,112                              | 0.09        |
| - one year or less but over six<br>months                                  | 260,593                             | 0.24        | 39,052                              | 0.04        |
| - over one year                                                            | 209,635                             | 0.19        | 185,726                             | 0.18        |
|                                                                            | <u>700,120</u>                      | <u>0.64</u> | <u>321,890</u>                      | <u>0.31</u> |
| Market value of securities held<br>against the secured overdue<br>advances | <u>1,196,607</u>                    |             | <u>233,734</u>                      |             |
| Secured overdue advances                                                   | 525,584                             |             | 160,454                             |             |
| Unsecured overdue advances                                                 | <u>174,536</u>                      |             | <u>161,436</u>                      |             |
| Individual impairment<br>allowances                                        | <u>213,854</u>                      |             | <u>146,562</u>                      |             |

(iii) Rescheduled advances net of amounts included in overdue advances shown above

|                       | As at<br>31 Dec 2015 | % of total | As at<br>31 Dec 2014 | % of total |
|-----------------------|----------------------|------------|----------------------|------------|
| Advances to customers | <u>243,284</u>       | 0.22       | <u>171,817</u>       | 0.16       |
| Impairment allowances | <u>15,825</u>        |            | <u>-</u>             |            |

(c) Trade bills

As at 31 December 2015, there were trade bills overdue for six months or less but over three months and for one year or less but over six months of HK\$1,975,000 and HK\$3,070,000 respectively and no trade bills were impaired (2014: Nil).

15. Advances and other accounts (Continued)

(d) Repossessed collateral

Repossession collateral held at the year-end is as follows:

| HK\$'000                | As at<br>31 Dec 2015 | As at<br>31 Dec 2014 |
|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Nature of assets        |                      |                      |
| Repossession properties | 140,163              | 69,680               |
| Others                  | 7,464                | 315                  |
|                         | <u>147,627</u>       | <u>69,995</u>        |

Repossession collaterals are sold as soon as practicable with the proceeds used to reduce the outstanding indebtedness of the borrowers concerned.

Certain other properties in the Mainland China with a total estimated realisable value of HK\$63,255,000 (2014: HK\$66,228,000), which had been foreclosed and repossessed by the Group pursuant to orders issued by courts in the Mainland China, represent assets held by the Group for resale and have been reported under "Other assets". The relevant loans had been derecognised.

16. Available-for-sale securities

| HK\$'000                            | As at<br>31 Dec 2015 | As at<br>31 Dec 2014 |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Debt securities:                    |                      |                      |
| - Listed in Hong Kong               | 12,724,190           | 11,929,660           |
| - Listed outside Hong Kong          | 9,060,290            | 9,151,353            |
| - Unlisted                          | 1,989,770            | 1,920,824            |
|                                     | <u>23,774,250</u>    | <u>23,001,837</u>    |
| Equity securities:                  |                      |                      |
| - Listed in Hong Kong               | 391,038              | 342,366              |
| - Listed outside Hong Kong          | 47,662               | 83,297               |
| - Unlisted                          | 320,869              | 297,003              |
|                                     | <u>759,569</u>       | <u>722,666</u>       |
| Total available-for-sale securities | <u>24,533,819</u>    | <u>23,724,503</u>    |

Note:

As at 31 December 2015 and 2014, there were no certificates of deposit held included in the above balances of investments in debt securities.

Available-for-sale securities are analysed by categories of issuers as follows:

|                                          |                   |                   |
|------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| - Central governments and central banks  | 3,848,200         | 2,535,358         |
| - Public sector entities                 | 500,463           | 198,916           |
| - Banks and other financial institutions | 4,158,534         | 5,187,382         |
| - Corporate entities                     | 16,024,094        | 15,800,319        |
| - Others                                 | 2,528             | 2,528             |
|                                          | <u>24,533,819</u> | <u>23,724,503</u> |

**17. Held-to-maturity securities**

| HK\$'000                                                                         | As at<br>31 Dec 2015 | As at<br>31 Dec 2014 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Debt securities:                                                                 |                      |                      |
| - Listed in Hong Kong                                                            | 2,384,910            | 2,255,635            |
| - Listed outside Hong Kong                                                       | 4,441,722            | 5,234,147            |
| - Unlisted                                                                       | 3,872,227            | 3,557,419            |
|                                                                                  | <b>10,698,859</b>    | <b>11,047,201</b>    |
| Included within debt securities are:                                             |                      |                      |
| - Certificates of deposit held                                                   | 1,177,533            | 1,947,377            |
| - Other debt securities                                                          | 9,521,326            | 9,099,824            |
|                                                                                  | <b>10,698,859</b>    | <b>11,047,201</b>    |
| Held-to-maturity securities are analysed by<br>categories of issuers as follows: |                      |                      |
| - Central governments and central banks                                          | 2,436,484            | 1,219,264            |
| - Public sector entities                                                         | 3,912                | 19,923               |
| - Banks and other financial institutions                                         | 3,673,686            | 4,993,341            |
| - Corporate entities                                                             | 4,584,777            | 4,814,673            |
|                                                                                  | <b>10,698,859</b>    | <b>11,047,201</b>    |

**18. Reclassification of financial assets**

The Group did not reclassify any financial assets in the year ended 31 December 2015.

In the year ended 31 December 2014, the Group made the following reclassification of financial assets.

- (a) Reclassification of investments in securities included in the loans and receivables category to the available-for-sale category

On 5 June 2014, the Group reclassified all investments in securities included in the loans and receivable category that qualified for recognition as available-for-sale out of the loans and receivables category.

The fair value and carrying value of these financial assets at the date of reclassification were HK\$828,504,000 and HK\$873,550,000 respectively. The fair value loss of HK\$45,046,000 generated upon the reclassification had been taken to other comprehensive income.

- (b) Reclassification of certain available-for-sale securities as held-to-maturity securities

On 26 June 2014, the Group reclassified certain available-for-sale debt securities with a total market value at the time of reclassification of HK\$4,378,815,000 as held-to-maturity securities, reflecting a change in the Group's intention on holding these securities to maturity.

## 19. Shareholders' funds

| HK\$'000                                               | As at<br>31 Dec 2015 | As at<br>31 Dec 2014 |
|--------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Share capital                                          | 4,248,559            | 4,248,559            |
| Capital reserve                                        | 18,871               | 19,535               |
| Premises revaluation reserve                           | 227,161              | 226,122              |
| Investment revaluation reserve                         | 246,192              | 213,316              |
| Exchange reserve                                       | 54,458               | 210,881              |
| General reserve                                        | 484,289              | 484,289              |
| Reserve for share-based compensation                   | 6,625                | 5,736                |
| Retained earnings                                      | 15,158,931           | 13,637,009           |
|                                                        | <b>20,445,086</b>    | <b>19,045,447</b>    |
| Proposed final dividends included in retained earnings | <b>335,075</b>       | <b>318,321</b>       |

Note:

- (a) DSB as a locally incorporated bank in Hong Kong is required to maintain minimum impairment provisions in excess of those required under HKFRS in the form of regulatory reserve. The regulatory reserve is maintained to satisfy the provisions of the Hong Kong Banking Ordinance and local regulatory requirements for prudential supervision purposes. The regulatory reserve restricts the amount of reserves which can be distributed to shareholders. Movements in the regulatory reserve are made directly through equity reserve and in consultation with the HKMA.
- (b) As at 31 December 2015, DSB has earmarked a regulatory reserve of HK\$1,528,440,000 (2014: HK\$1,481,245,000) first against its consolidated general reserve; and for any excess amount, the balance is earmarked against its consolidated retained earnings.

**FINANCIAL RATIOS**

|                                       | <b>Year ended 31 Dec 2015</b> | <b>Year ended 31 Dec 2014</b> |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Net interest income/ operating income | <b>69.1%</b>                  | 71.2%                         |
| Cost to income ratio                  | <b>47.9%</b>                  | 51.7%                         |
| Return on average total assets        | <b>0.9%</b>                   | 0.9%                          |
| Return on average shareholders' funds | <b>9.9%</b>                   | 9.7%                          |
| Net interest margin                   | <b>1.83%</b>                  | 1.76%                         |

**FINAL DIVIDEND**

At the forthcoming annual general meeting ("AGM") of the Company to be held on Tuesday, 31 May 2016, the Directors will propose a final dividend of HK\$1.00 per share for 2015 to shareholders whose names are on the Register of Shareholders as at the close of business on Friday, 10 June 2016. The final dividend is payable on or about Monday, 20 June 2016.

**CLOSURE OF REGISTER OF SHAREHOLDERS**

For determining shareholders' right to attend and vote at the AGM:

|                                                                    |                                                  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Closure dates of Register of Shareholders<br>(both days inclusive) | 27 May 2016 (Friday)<br>to 31 May 2016 (Tuesday) |
| Latest time to lodge transfers                                     | 4:30 p.m. on 26 May 2016 (Thursday)              |
| Record date                                                        | 31 May 2016 (Tuesday)                            |
| AGM                                                                | 31 May 2016 (Tuesday)                            |

For determining shareholders' entitlement to receive the proposed final dividend\*:

|                                                                    |                                                   |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Closure dates of Register of Shareholders<br>(both days inclusive) | 7 June 2016 (Tuesday)<br>to 10 June 2016 (Friday) |
| Latest time to lodge transfers                                     | 4:30 p.m. on 6 June 2016 (Monday)                 |
| Record date                                                        | 10 June 2016 (Friday)                             |
| Proposed final dividend payment date                               | 20 June 2016 (Monday)                             |

*(\*subject to shareholders' approval at the AGM)*

During the periods of the closure of Register of Shareholders, no share transfers will be registered. For registration, all transfer documents accompanied by the relevant share certificates must be lodged with the Company's share registrar, Computershare Hong Kong Investor Services Limited, Shops 1712-1716, 17th Floor, Hopewell Centre, 183 Queen's Road East, Wan Chai, Hong Kong before the relevant latest time to lodge transfers.

## CORPORATE AND BUSINESS OVERVIEW

### HIGHLIGHTS

2015 was a relatively difficult year for the global economy, with growth remaining subdued. Growth in Mainland China continued to slow, although remained well above the global average, whilst the Hong Kong economy also began to show signs of weakness, with the local retail sector and the trade business both being impacted. Market conditions remained volatile, with significant swings in local and Mainland equity markets, and in currencies, in particular the RMB in the second half of the year. The US Federal Reserve implemented its long expected first increase in short term interest rates in December. Local liquidity conditions in Hong Kong, however, remained benign during the year.

Against this relatively challenging background, we are pleased to announce that our profit attributable to shareholders for 2015 increased by 12.8% to HK\$1,947 million. The increase in profit was driven both by our Banking Group's wholly owned operations in Hong Kong, Mainland China and Macau, which in aggregate reported an increase in operating profit after impairment losses of 18.3% to HK\$1,851 million, and by our insurance business which reported an increase in net profit of 29% to HK\$325 million. Our associated company, Bank of Chongqing ("BOCQ"), delivered a stable performance, with a contribution of HK\$666 million, up by 10.6%.

### BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL REVIEW

Our Banking Group had a solid year, with improvement in both net interest income and fee and commission income. Whilst loan growth was moderate at 4.2% for the year, the improvement in net interest income of 11% in 2015 was supported by a somewhat improved net interest margin during the year, as well as the higher average balance of interest-earning assets. Fee and commission income benefited from strong performance from our wealth management business, including our local Hong Kong broking business, as well as from foreign exchange and other treasury products for both our retail and commercial customers, particularly in the first half of the year. Overall, the lower net trading income was driven primarily by mark-to-market losses in our insurance fixed income and equities portfolios, as higher market rates led to lower prices for bonds, and stock market valuations were lower especially during the second half year. Net insurance premium and other income dropped, due both to a lower increase in the value of inforce policies of our long-term life business with the rising interest rates, and to lower volumes of new business sales due to a focus on higher margin products during the year. The higher interest rates also led to a significant decrease in transfer to actuarial reserves for the liabilities to policyholders, and in turn a significant reduction in the insurance claims and expenses.

Operating expenses were well controlled growing modestly over 2014 by 6.1%, well below the growth in income over the same period, resulting in an improvement in the cost to income ratio for the year. Despite the relatively difficult economic conditions described above, overall credit quality remained benign. Whilst overall loan impairment losses and credit provisions increased slightly over the prior year, the increase was due to a lower level of write-back of bond impairment charges, coupled with a slightly lower level of loan impairment charges compared with the prior year.

Further to the announcement by Bank of Chongqing ("BOCQ") in June that it was making a placement of shares to investors (the "Placement"), it announced on 23 December that the Placement had been completed, albeit with a somewhat lower number of shares than originally anticipated. The Placement raised gross proceeds of approximately HK\$3.2 billion, and due to the lower number of shares being issued than originally anticipated, our shareholding was diluted to approximately 14.7%. Upon completion of the Placement and a dilution in our shareholding interest which in accounting terms is a deemed partial divestment, and given that the price set for the Placement was lower than net asset value, an associated accounting loss of HK\$47.6 million arising from the dilution was recognized.

There were no other material exceptional items during the year.

Return on assets was similar to 2014 at 0.9% whilst ROE of 9.9% was slightly higher than 2014. Our cost to income ratio was down slightly from 51.7% to 47.9%.

**BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL REVIEW (CONTINUED)**

As at 31 December 2015, Dah Sing Bank's Common Equity Tier 1 ratio strengthened to 12.2%, compared with 11.4% at the end of 2014, driven by slower asset growth coupled with higher retained earnings, as no additional capital raising was undertaken during the period. Total capital adequacy ratio was 16.7%, slightly higher than 16.3% as at the end of last year despite the growth in Common Equity Tier 1 mentioned above, mainly due to the phase out of a portion of the non-Basel III compliant subordinated debts as eligible Tier 2 capital base under the transitional arrangement.

**PROSPECTS**

After a relatively strong start to 2015, the volatility in the second half of the year has continued into 2016. Global economic growth is subdued, and Mainland China continues to experience lower rates of growth as it steers its economy from an investment and export led model to one where domestic consumption plays a greater part. It is likely that economic growth in Hong Kong will slow this year, and in some areas of the economy, for example tourism and retail, that slower growth is already being felt. It is too early to say whether the economy will slow further, or whether things will gradually turn around.

More positively, Hong Kong unemployment remains low and stable, and credit conditions remain relatively benign, as they do in Macau. Whilst credit quality in Mainland China is volatile we have taken action to strengthen our credit underwriting and controls over the past two years, and there are signs that this is helping us to stabilize credit quality in our Mainland and Mainland related business. However, the underlying credit trends in the Mainland remain of some concern.

Loan and deposit growth has been relatively slow, and we do not anticipate that this will change materially in the near future. We were concerned in the second half of last year that there was a possibility that US interest rates could rise relatively rapidly during the course of 2016. Whilst it is too early to say with any certainty, it seems that the likelihood of rapid US interest rate hikes this year, and correspondingly higher interest rates in Hong Kong, is becoming lower. In volatile market conditions liquidity is always important, and so far the local market liquidity conditions have held up extremely well.

Overall, we are of the view that the outlook remains slightly somewhat negative, but some of the larger possible risks that were identified last year do not seem to have materialized, and therefore business conditions are still reasonable. However, many uncertainties remain for 2016, and we will maintain a sharp focus on how we manage risk. We continue to maintain capital and liquidity at appropriate levels given current regulations and market conditions, and expect to maintain a relatively conservative position on both during the coming year.

We continue to strive to deliver good quality products and services to our customers, and will focus this year on investing in our infrastructure as part of our efforts to upgrade our product and service offerings. In these uncertain times, we will also be focusing on risk management, and the maintenance of solid levels of capital and liquidity.

## **COMPLIANCE WITH THE CORPORATE GOVERNANCE CODE**

The Company has complied with all the code provisions set out in the Corporate Governance Code (“CG Code”) contained in Appendix 14 of the Listing Rules throughout the year ended 31 December 2015, with the exception of code provision A.4.1.

Pursuant to code provision A.4.1 of the CG Code, non-executive directors should be appointed for a specific term, subject to re-election. The Non-Executive Directors of the Company are not appointed for a specific term, but are subject to retirement by rotation and re-election at annual general meetings in accordance with the provisions of the Company’s Articles of Association.

## **CODE FOR SECURITIES TRANSACTIONS BY DIRECTORS**

The Company has adopted its own code of conduct for directors’ securities dealing (“Directors’ Dealing Code”) on terms no less exacting than the prevailing required standard set out in the Model Code for Securities Transactions by Directors of Listed Issuers (“Model Code”) under Appendix 10 of the Listing Rules. Following specific enquiry, the Directors of the Company confirmed that they had complied with the required standard set out in the Model Code and the Directors’ Dealing Code throughout the year ended 31 December 2015.

## **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

The Audit Committee has reviewed with Management the accounting principles and practices adopted by the Group and discussed internal controls and financial reporting matters including a review of this financial report and the consolidated financial statements of the Group for the year ended 31 December 2015.

## **PURCHASE, SALE OR REDEMPTION OF SECURITIES**

There was no purchase, sale or redemption by the Company, or any of its subsidiaries, of the listed securities of the Company during the year ended 31 December 2015.

## **ANNUAL RESULTS ANNOUNCEMENT AND ANNUAL REPORT**

Copies of this announcement may be obtained from the Company Secretarial Division of the Group at 36th Floor, Dah Sing Financial Centre, 108 Gloucester Road, Hong Kong, or download from Dah Sing Bank’s website at <<http://www.dahsing.com>>.

The 2015 Annual Report of the Group containing all the information required by the Listing Rules will be published on the websites of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange and Dah Sing Bank in due course. Printed copies of the 2015 Annual Report will be sent to shareholders before the end of April 2016.

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

As at the date of this announcement, the Board of the Company comprises Messrs. David Shou-Yeh Wong (Chairman), Hon-Hing Wong (Derek Wong) (Managing Director and Chief Executive), Gary Pak-Ling Wang and Nicholas John Mayhew as Executive Directors; Messrs. Takashi Morimura (Eiichi Yoshikawa as alternate), Toshihide Motoshita and John Wai-Wai Chow as Non-Executive Directors; Messrs. Robert Tsai-To Sze, Lon Dounn, Seiji Nakamura and Blair Chilton Pickerell as Independent Non-Executive Directors.

By Order of the Board

**Doris W. N. Wong**

*Company Secretary*

Hong Kong, Wednesday, 23 March 2016