

PRESS RELEASE

ASIFMA'S FIFTH ANNUAL OFFSHORE RMB MARKETS CONFERENCE CREATES TIMELY DIALOGUE AROUND RECENT MARKET DEVELOPMENTS Professor KC Chan, Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury, delivers opening key note

Hong Kong, 28 April 2015 - ASIFMA, the financial industry's leading regional trade association, is today holding its 5th Annual Offshore RMB Markets Conference, one of its signature events. Attracting over 400 participants, the industry-wide conference provides a timely platform for policy-makers, central banks and leading market practitioners from both the buy and sell side and corporate users of RMB to discuss the development of the offshore RMB markets as a key aspect of RMB internationalization in the region and globally. This year, the conference features over 40 speakers and eight panels with topics covering a range of issues from Funds Passporting to RMB Bonds to Stock Connect.

"Now in its fifth year, ASIFMA's Offshore RMB Markets Conference has grown to become an important annual event for the financial community in Asia. We have continued to expand and enhance the program to reflect the key issues and trends of interest for the market and look forward to a day of interesting debate and discussion," said Mark Austen, CEO of ASIFMA.

"Given recent market developments, our event this year is particularly timely and relevant. The surge in the Hong Kong market was made possible by the Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect and the possible extension of the Stock Connect to other markets such as Shenzhen and the inclusion of other asset classes such as commodities would be positive developments. Our event will provide expert views and facilitate debate around these issues by the key industry players," continued Mr. Austen.

Other current topics such as Mutual Recognition, the quickening pace of liberalization of access programs, the launch of CIPs, discussions around the inclusion of RMB as a currency in the IMF's SDR basket and the recent launch of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), also contribute to making the conference timely.

"We are very honoured to have the opening keynote this year delivered by Professor KC Chan, Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury. We are also pleased to be holding the event in Hong Kong this year as a reflection of its status as the major RMB hub in the region," Mr Austen added.

Among the over 40 confirmed speakers for the conference are Vincent Lee, Executive Director (External), Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA); Esmond Lee, Executive Director, Financial Infrastructure Department, Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA); Francis Ho, Director - Group Treasury, CLP Holdings Limited & Convenor, The Hong Kong Association of Corporate Treasurers (HKACT); Peter Matza, Engagement Director, The Association of Corporate Treasurers (ACT); Sherry Madera , Minister Counsellor and Director, Financial, Business and Professional Services and Technology , UK Trade and Investment (UKTI); Tae Yoo , Head of Client Business Development & Fixed Income and Currency Development, Global Markets Division , Hong Kong Exchange and Clearing Limited (HKEx); Rebecca

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Unit 3603, Tower 2 Lippo Centre 89 Queensway Admiralty, Hong Kong Tel: +852 2531 6500 www.asifma.org Brosnan, Managing Director, Head of Asia Commodities, Global Markets Division, Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited (HKEx); Janice Kan, Senior Vice President, Head Derivatives Product Development & Management, Singapore Exchange (SGX) and Shaun Roche, Resident Representative in Hong Kong SAR, International Monetary Fund (IMF).

The daylong event will be attended by over 400 delegates from around the region.

More information can be found at http://www.asifma.org/rmb2014/.

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About ASIFMA

<u>ASIFMA</u> is an independent, regional trade association with over 80 member firms comprising a diverse range of leading financial institutions from both the buy and sell side, including banks, asset managers, law firms and market infrastructure service providers. Together, we harness the shared interests of the financial industry to promote the development of liquid, deep and broad capital markets in Asia. ASIFMA advocates stable, innovative and competitive Asian capital markets that are necessary to support the region's economic growth. We drive consensus, advocate solutions and effect change around key issues through the collective strength and clarity of one industry voice. Our many initiatives include consultations with regulators and exchanges, development of uniform industry standards, advocacy for enhanced markets through policy papers, and lowering the cost of doing business in the region. Through the <u>GFMA</u> alliance with <u>SIFMA</u> in the United States and <u>AFME</u> in Europe, ASIFMA also provides insights on global best practices and standards to benefit the region.

More information about ASIFMA can be found at: <u>www.asifma.org</u>.

