

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Hong Kong Corporate Governance and ESG Excellence Awards 2021 Accepts Nominations

Newly-created ESG Awards Category to Reflect ESG as Key Corporate Performance Yardstick

(Hong Kong, June 23, 2021) “Hong Kong Corporate Governance and ESG Excellence Awards 2021”, organised by the Chamber of Hong Kong Listed Companies (CHKLC) and the Centre for Corporate Governance and Financial Policy of the Hong Kong Baptist University, is now open for nominations until August 31 from all companies listed on the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong.

Previously known as “Hong Kong Corporate Governance Excellence Awards”, the Awards Programme is renamed “Hong Kong Corporate Governance and ESG Excellence Awards” from 2021. The change and emphasis on ESG (Environment, Social and Governance) reflects the rising prominence of ESG as a key corporate performance yardstick as well as a benchmark of responsible corporate behaviour and investment value.

“The Awards programme is one of the most established and recognized of such programmes in Hong Kong,” said Mr. K.L. Wong, Chairman of CHKLC. “We are pleased to organise the programme to continue to enhance the standard of governance and overall quality of the Hong Kong market.”

“Despite the damages inflicted upon our economy by COVID-19 since 2020, our stock market has performed orderly and well. And that underscores the strength and resilience of our market and individual companies. I welcome listed issuers to participate in the Awards to share their respective experience and demonstrate how solid corporate governance and ESG have helped them weather the latest “black-swan” event,” said Mr. Wong.

Organised since 2007, the annual Awards Programme aims to establish a benchmark for the highest level of corporate governance and ESG of listed companies in Hong Kong. It encourages companies to come forward and showcase their policies, strategies and best practices in corporate governance and ESG, celebrate success and set an example for other companies to follow.

All companies listed on the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong can nominate themselves for one of the two Categories: Excellence in Corporate Governance or Excellence in ESG, or both, and under one of the following six sub-groups:

1. Hang Seng Index Constituent Companies
2. Hang Seng Composite Index Constituent Companies

3. Hang Seng China (Hong Kong-listed) 100 Index Constituent Companies
4. Weighted Voting Rights and Pre-revenue Biotech Companies
5. Others & GEM Companies
6. Newly-listed Companies

Commenting on the newly created Category of Awards of Excellence in ESG, Mr. Philip Tsai, Chairman of the Judging Panel said, “In the wake of COVID-19, ESG takes precedence as an investment criterion. To many investors, the ability of a company to take swift actions to respond to health hazards, take care of employees and the public, and devise effective strategies to deal with climate change is of paramount importance. Under the ESG Awards category, companies are able to direct market attention to their efforts in undertaking socially and environmentally responsible corporate actions.”

“We look forward to hearing the success stories of companies in pursuing excellence in corporate governance and ESG,” remarked Mr. Tsai.

This year, the Awards Programme receives the support of Tricor Services Limited as Title Sponsor. “Good governance is particularly important for listed companies. In recent years, the rise of ESG investing is also a major factor as asset managers and investors call for better corporate governance by exercising their voting rights and allocating their capital to companies that have higher ESG standards. Tricor has been working with more than 50% of listed companies in Hong Kong. As a leading corporate services provider, we help listed companies better manage corporate governance both internally and externally. We are very pleased to be the sponsor of the Awards Programme this year, and will continue to support this initiative moving forward,” said Joe Wan, CEO of Tricor Hong Kong.

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For media enquiries, please contact:

Karina Leung, The Chamber of Hong Kong Listed Companies
Tel: (852) 2970 0886 / Email: karinaleung@chkcl.org

About the Chamber of Hong Kong Listed Companies

Incorporated in September 2002, CHKLC is a non-profit organization serving listed companies in Hong Kong. The Chamber strives to promote sound corporate governance, function as an effective communication channel between listed companies and regulatory authorities, strengthen the commercial linkage and foster co-operation among listed companies from Hong Kong and China and uphold Hong Kong’s position as an international trade, commercial and financial centre. Since 2007, the

Chamber organises the annual “Hong Kong Corporate Governance Excellence Awards” jointly with the Hong Kong Baptist University to advocate best practices of corporate governance and recognize excellence.

About the Centre for Corporate Governance & Financial Policy of Hong Kong Baptist University

The Centre aspires to be a “Centre of Excellence” on corporate governance in the region. It promotes quality policy and academic research on corporate governance and related financial policy issues covering Hong Kong, China and the Asia-Pacific economies, with the aim to improve the quality of corporate governance practices. Additionally, the Centre provides professional executive education activities to disseminate knowledge and advance the highest ideals of responsible business leadership. Through consultancy projects, the Centre also assists organizations to design, improve and assess their corporate governance systems and structures.

Notes to Editors:

About the Hong Kong Corporate Governance and ESG Excellence Awards

The “Hong Kong Corporate Governance and ESG Excellence Awards” is formerly known as the “Hong Kong Corporate Governance Excellence Awards” which has been conferred annually by the Chamber of Hong Kong Listed Companies and the Centre for Corporate Governance and Financial Policy, Hong Kong Baptist University since 2007. The Awards Programme is designed to promote and award excellence in corporate governance and ESG of listed companies in Hong Kong. It provides recognition and prestige for listed companies in achieving outstanding commitments to shareholder rights, compliance, integrity, fairness, responsibility, accountability, transparency, board independence and leadership, and ESG.

The Awards Programme is supported by Tricor Services Limited as Title Sponsor, China Tonghai International Financial Limited as Gold Sponsor, BDO Limited as ESG Awards cum Bronze Sponsor, MioTech as ESG AI Evaluation Partner. Media partners include Hong Kong Economic Times as Sole Chinese Newspaper Sponsor; Metro Finance as Exclusive Radio Partner; irasia.com, Quamnet, Moebius Asia, Wisdom Investor Relations and Finet.HK are Online Media Partners.

The Awards Programme is also supported by the Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau of HKSAR Government, Securities and Futures Commission, HKEX, Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants, and The Hong Kong Chinese Enterprises Association as Supporting Organisations.

The Chamber of Hong Kong Listed Companies

Room 3710, 37/F, Hopewell Centre, 183 Queen’s Road East, Wanchai, Hong Kong
Tel: (852) 2970 0886 Fax: (852) 2970 0555 Email: info@chklc.org Website: www.chklc.org