

**Exchange Fund Abridged Balance Sheet
as at 30 November 2012
(Expressed in millions of Hong Kong dollars)**

	Notes	30 November 2012	31 October 2012
ASSETS			
Foreign currency assets	1	2,484,366	2,463,698
Hong Kong dollar assets	2	<u>163,879</u>	<u>148,646</u>
Total Assets		<u><u>2,648,245</u></u>	<u><u>2,612,344</u></u>
LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY			
Certificates of Indebtedness	3, 7	280,408	278,550
Government-issued currency notes and coins in circulation	3, 5, 7	9,866	9,829
Balance of the banking system	3	183,968	163,005
Exchange Fund Bills and Notes	3, 6	659,200	659,028
Placements by banks and other financial institutions		-	33,312
Placements by Fiscal Reserves		671,833	635,239
Placements by HKSAR government funds and statutory bodies		160,209	151,224
Other liabilities	4	<u>67,376</u>	<u>74,489</u>
Total Liabilities		<u>2,032,860</u>	<u>2,004,676</u>
Accumulated Surplus		<u>615,385</u>	<u>607,668</u>
Total Liabilities and Fund Equity		<u><u>2,648,245</u></u>	<u><u>2,612,344</u></u>

Notes:

1. These include US dollar assets for backing the Monetary Base, which amounted to HK\$1,234,995 million at the end of November 2012 and HK\$1,210,506 million at the end of October 2012.
2. These include lending collateralised by Exchange Fund paper under the Discount Window. There were no such advances at 30 November 2012 and 31 October 2012.
3. A component of the Monetary Base.
4. These include interest payable on Exchange Fund paper and accounts payable under Currency Board operations.
5. Commencing September 2002, ten dollar currency notes issued by the Government are included in this item.
6. In accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in Hong Kong, for the purpose of balance sheet presentation Exchange Fund Bills and Notes held as assets of the Exchange Fund are applied to offset the corresponding liabilities. Exchange Fund Bills and Notes thus extinguished amounted to HK\$2,000 million at the end of November 2012 (HK\$2,000 million at the end of October 2012). As a result, the Exchange Fund Bills and Notes on the Abridged Balance Sheet are smaller by this amount compared with those on the Currency Board Account.
7. In accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in Hong Kong, for the purpose of balance sheet presentation Certificates of Indebtedness and Government-issued currency notes and coins in circulation are stated at cost, which are the Hong Kong dollars equivalent of the US dollars required for their redemption at the exchange rate ruling at the balance sheet date. As a result, the figures for the Certificates of Indebtedness and Government-issued currency notes and coins in circulation are different from those shown in the Currency Board Account, which represent the Hong Kong dollar face value.

Exchange Fund Currency Board Account as at 30 November 2012 (Expressed in millions of Hong Kong dollars)			
	Notes	30 November 2012 (Market Value)	31 October 2012 (Market Value)
MONETARY BASE			
Certificates of Indebtedness		282,215	280,345
Government-issued currency notes and coins in circulation		9,930	9,892
Balance of the banking system		183,968	163,005
Exchange Fund Bills and Notes issued	3,4	661,200	661,028
Interest payable on Exchange Fund Notes		485	428
Net accounts (receivable)/payable	3,6	(1,907)	(1,733)
Total	1,3	1,135,891	1,112,965 (a)
BACKING ASSETS			
Investment in designated US dollar assets		1,233,862	1,224,521
Interest receivable on designated US dollar assets		1,133	1,532
Net accounts receivable/(payable)	5	-	(15,547)
Total	2	1,234,995	1,210,506 (b)
BACKING RATIO [(b) / (a)] * 100%	7	108.72%	108.76%

Notes :

1. Movements in the Monetary Base during the period were as follows:

	<u>HK\$ million</u>
Balance brought forward	1,112,965
Increase/(decrease) in Certificates of Indebtedness	1,870
Increase/(decrease) in Government-issued currency notes and coins in circulation	38
Net issue/(net redemption) of Exchange Fund Bills and Notes	24
Accrued interest on Exchange Fund Notes	117
Settlement of accrued interest on Exchange Fund Notes	(60)
Amortised discount/(premium) on Exchange Fund Bills and Notes	73
Revaluation losses/(gains) relating to Exchange Fund Bills and Notes	75
Settlement of accrued interest income/(expenses) on interest rate swaps	37
Net interest expense/(income) on interest rate swaps	(34)
Revaluation losses/(gains) relating to interest rate swaps	(177)
Increase/(decrease) in balance of the banking system other than due to Discount Window Operations	20,963
Balance carried forward	<u>1,135,891</u>

2. Movements in the Backing Assets during the period were as follows:

	<u>HK\$ million</u>
Balance brought forward	1,210,506
Increase/(decrease) on issue/(redemption) of Certificates of Indebtedness	1,870
Increase/(decrease) on issue/(redemption) of Government-issued currency notes and coins in circulation	38
Interest from investments	597
Revaluation gains/(losses) relating to investments	1,020
Increase/(decrease) in balance of the banking system (other than due to Discount Window Operations and interest payment/issuance of Exchange Fund paper)	20,964
Balance carried forward	<u><u>1,234,995</u></u>

3. Discount Window Operations:

- (i) Discount Window Operations involve Hong Kong dollar overnight advances made to banks by way of crediting their accounts maintained with the HKMA (which is part of the balance of the banking system) on discounting Exchange Fund Bills and Notes. In accordance with generally accepted accounting practice, the Exchange Fund Bills and Notes discounted with the HKMA are not accounted for as reductions in the liabilities of the HKMA but are regarded as securities held against the advances so made.
- (ii) For the purpose of this Account, the advances to banks secured on Exchange Fund Bills and Notes are shown as deductions in arriving at the Monetary Base. There were no such advances at 30 November 2012 and 31 October 2012.

4. Interest payments on Exchange Fund Bills and Notes:

- (i) Starting from 1 April 1999, interest payments on Exchange Fund Bills and Notes have been allowed to increase the amount of outstanding Exchange Fund paper.
- (ii) During November 2012, the nominal value of Exchange Fund Bills and Notes increased from HK\$657.02 billion to HK\$657.09 billion. Exchange Fund Bills and Notes issued include Exchange Fund Bills and Notes held as assets of the Exchange Fund.

5. This represents the net amount of receivable and payable for unsettled transactions of investments and issuance/redemption of Certificates of Indebtedness.

6. Starting from June 2001, Hong Kong dollar interest rate swaps have been used as a means to manage the cost of issuing Exchange Fund Notes. For the purpose of this Account, interest payable/(receivable) and revaluation losses/(gains) on these interest rate swaps are shown as a component of the Monetary Base and are included in "Net accounts (receivable)/payable". At 30 November 2012, there were interest receivable and revaluation gains amounting to HK\$62 million (HK\$65 million at 31 October 2012) and HK\$1,845 million (HK\$1,668 million at 31 October 2012) respectively.

7. It should be noted that the whole of the Exchange Fund assets, not just the Backing Assets, are available for the purpose of defending the linked exchange rate.