

Reproduction of Hong Kong Currency Notes as Stage Money **(General Guidelines)**

Under section 103 of the Crimes Ordinance (Cap. 200 of the Laws of Hong Kong), a person who, without the consent in writing of the Monetary Authority, reproduces on any substance whatsoever, and whether or not to the correct scale, any Hong Kong currency note or any part of a Hong Kong currency note, commits an offence.

In the light that there have been cases of counterfeit notes being accepted by the public as genuine notes, it is necessary to put in place stringent control procedures for reproduction of Hong Kong currency notes to guard against the passing of counterfeit notes into circulation.

Application Procedures

Anyone intends to reproduce any Hong Kong currency notes must, in accordance with the above-mentioned Ordinance, submit a written application to the HKMA with the following details:

- (1) Name of applicant or organisation
- (2) Contact details of applicant or organisation
- (3) Purpose of the proposed reproduction
- (4) Number and denomination of notes to be reproduced
- (5) Name of note-issuing bank
- (6) Name of film or TV program

The applicant can submit his or her application to the HKMA via any of the following methods:

- Email: HKMA Public Enquiry Service (hkma@hkma.gov.hk)
- Fax: 2878 2010
- Post: 55/F, Two International Finance Centre, 8 Finance Street,
Central, Hong Kong (Attn: HKMA Public Enquiry Service)

The HKMA will reply to the applicant granting him an interim approval to prepare a sample of the stage money for review by the HKMA and Commercial Crime Bureau of Hong Kong Police Force. The HKMA, after confirming that the sample(s) and details submitted are in compliance with the requirements, will issue a written approval. Generally speaking, the processing time will take around 2 weeks. All applicants will also need to obtain the approval of the concerned note-issuing banks or the Information Services Department of the HKSAR Government (for the Government \$10 notes) for consent to use their currency note images. The contact details will be provided in the letter of approval issued by the HKMA.

**GENERAL CONDITIONS FOR REPRODUCTION
OF HONG KONG CURRENCY NOTES AS STAGE MONEY**

To prevent stage money from passing into circulation, applicants must comply with the following conditions in the reproduction and storage of the stage money and the disposal after completing the shooting:

- (1) The stage money must be smaller or larger than the actual size of the currency note by at least 20%.
- (2) The name of the film / TV company shall be prominently displayed in both Chinese and English and on both the front and back of the stage money.
- (3) The words “Stage Money 道具鈔票” shall be printed prominently at the centre and on both sides of the stage money.
- (4) The name of the note-issuing bank, the phrase “Promises to pay the bearer on demand at its office here 憑票即付” and the signature etc. shall be deleted in all the stage money.
- (5) Before the applicant commences the production of the stage money, the HKMA will forward a sample for each of the denomination(s) to the Commercial Crime Bureau (CCB) of Hong Kong Police Force for retention.
- (6) The CCB reserves the right to be present during the reproduction and processing of the stage money.
- (7) All negatives, plates and other materials, etc., including electronic files used in making the reproduction, shall be surrendered to the CCB for retention and disposal purposes.
- (8) An undertaking shall be given by the applicant to the HKMA that any test prints or mis-prints shall be destroyed immediately after printing.
- (9) Serial numbers shall be printed on each of the stage money for movement and control purposes and the stage money shall only be used as stage money in Hong Kong.

- (10) A control register of the serial numbers of the stage money must be maintained by the applicant, which should include a contemporaneous record of their issue and receipt. This should be readily available for inspection by CCB.
- (11) All the stage money should be surrendered to the CCB for destruction after filming.
- (12) The CCB reserves the right to check the computer system for the production of the stage money in order to ensure the relevant file(s) is deleted.
- (13) The HKMA may attach additional conditions as deemed necessary for the applicant's compliance.