

Hong Kong Banking Sector: 2011 Year-end Review and Priorities for 2012

Hong Kong Monetary Authority 18 January 2012



- Global economy remained highly uncertain and volatile due to continuing European sovereign debt crisis
- The banking sector in Hong Kong remained resilient despite heightened uncertainties in the external environment
- Profitability rose underpinned by growth in both interest and non-interest income
- Asset quality improved further and capital / liquidity positions remained sound



Performance of the banking sector (2)

- Loan quality improved further
- Net interest margins at historical low levels





Performance of the banking sector (3)

	Other Indicators	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
•	Total loans	+20.2% *	+28.6%
•	Residential mortgage loans	+8.0% *	+15.3%
•	Non-bank China exposures	+34.7% (first 3Q)	+60.3%
•	Total deposits	+ 10.6% *	+7.5%
•	Loan-to-deposit (L/D) ratio	66.9% *	61.6%
•	HK\$ L/D ratio	84.5% *	78.1%
•	CAR (locally incorporated Als)	15.7% (Sep)	15.8%

Notes: 1. Figures relate to all Als unless otherwise stated.2. Figures marked with asterisks are preliminary figures.



Key issues in 2012

- Surveillance of credit growth, residential mortgage lending and mainland-related exposures
- Impact of the European sovereign debt crisis on Hong Kong's banking Sector
- Basel 3 implementation
- Implementation of OTC derivatives market regulatory regime
- Continuation of credit card reform
- Investigation of non-Lehman-related banking complaints



Banking supervision (1)

For 2011

- Credit growth showed moderation since July 2011
 - Regulatory reserves and matched-term funding
- Prudential measures on residential mortgage loans
- Enhanced supervision of Mainland-related business
- Hong Kong banking sector's risk exposure to PIIGS immaterial
 - Deleveraging of European banks in Hong Kong not significant
 - Asked banks to prepare for potential shocks
- Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorist Financing (Financial Institutions) Ordinance



Banking supervision (2)

- Surveillance of banks' credit growth, asset quality, funding strategies and liquidity positions
- Monitor the development of property market
- More on-site examinations of Als' Mainland-related business
- Monitor market developments including Europe
- Guideline and workshops on prevention of money
 laundering and terrorist financing

Banking Policy (1)

For 2011

- Legislative amendments for Basel 2.5 completed effective on 1 January 2012
- Preparatory work for Basel 3 implementation
 - Industry consultation on proposed amendments to Banking Ordinance (October 2011)
 - Banking (Amendment) Bill 2011 introduced into LegCo (21 December 2011)
 - Development of detailed policy proposals in progress
- Updating supervisory guidelines (e.g. liquidity risk management, corporate governance and stress-testing)
- Public consultation on proposed regulatory regime for OTC derivatives market (October 2011)



Banking Policy (2)

- Basel 3 implementation
 - Banking (Amendment) Bill 2011
 - Policy proposals for: Banking (Capital) Rules, Banking (Liquidity)
 Rules and Banking (Disclosure) Rules
 - Drafting and statutory consultation on Banking (Capital) Rules and Banking (Disclosure) Rules
 - Implementation monitoring
- Updating supervisory guidelines (credit risk transfer, market risk management, supervisory review process and disclosure)
- Implementation of regulatory regime for OTC derivatives market

Banking Conduct (1)



- Launched positive mortgage data sharing
- Promoted reform of credit card practices
- Commenced review of Code of Banking Practice

Banking Conduct (2)

For 2011 (cont'd)

Implementation of enhanced Deposit Protection Scheme (DPS)

- Enhancements effective on 1 Jan 2011
- Protection limit increased to HK\$500,000; coverage expanded to cover secured deposits; 90% of depositors fully covered
- Various measures for improving efficiency in determination of compensation payments also became effective
- Strengthened representation requirements to enhance transparency of protection status of deposits to depositors
- HKMA is chairing a peer review of deposit insurance systems launched by the Financial Stability Board; design features of DPS in Hong Kong compares favourably with other major DIS

Banking Conduct (3)

- Consumer issues
 - Finalise with HKAB the last batch of enhanced credit card practices and time table for implementation
 - Streamline procedures for private banks to implement enhanced sales measures
 - Continue to assist the HKAB in reviewing the Code of Banking Practice
 - Assist the Government in setting up the Financial Dispute Resolution Centre which is expected to come into operation in mid-2012
 - Conduct on-site examinations on Als' compliance with positive mortgage data sharing and Code of Banking Practice

Banking Conduct (4)

Priorities for 2012 (cont'd)

- Implementation of DPS
 - Undertake a thorough review of the design of the DPS against the Core Principles for Effective Deposit Insurance Systems
 - Continue to monitor banks' compliance of the revised representation requirements
 - Continue publicity activities to maintain public awareness and develop new initiatives on public education and outreach campaigns targeted at specific groups
 - Enhance payout readiness, payout efficiency, and system capability in handling payouts

Enforcement (1)

For 2011

- Enhancement of complaint handling & investigation process
 - Shorten processing cycle the complaint handling process and assessment process has been merged
 - Reduce manpower a single team will be responsible for handling a complaint from inception to imposition of sanctions, if any
 - Enhance transparency where a complaint is found unsubstantiated, explanation would be provided to the complainant to the extent allowed by law
 - Bring convenience to complainants the Complaint Processing Centre has been established as the initial contact point for all complainants and enquiries

Enforcement (2)

For 2011 (cont'd)

- Enhancement of complaint handling & investigation process (cont'd)
 - Enhance efficiency internal operation procedures have been streamlined
 - Enhance work progress monitoring and procedural compliance - the Banking Enforcement Management System has been launched
 - Shorten interview time audio recording system has been installed in some interview rooms



Enforcement (3)

For 2011 (cont'd)

- The HKMA and the Securities and Futures Commission reached settlement agreements with two banks during the year in relation to their distribution of Lehman-related equity-linked notes and/or market-linked notes
- Achieved resolution for the majority of 21,835 Lehman-related complaint cases received

Resolved through mass settlement scheme or Enhanced Complaint Handling Procedure	18,930	86.7%	
Under disciplinary process	454	2.08%	
Cases closed because of insufficient evidence or disciplinary grounds		10.44%	
Investigation completed and pending further action		0.44%	
Under investigation		0.33%	
Disciplinary sanction already imposed		0.01%	15
Total	21,835	100%	

Enforcement (4)

- Accelerate the investigation of non-Lehman-related banking complaints
- Prepare for the commencement of the Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorist Financing (Financial Institutions) Ordinance in respect of Als
- Continue handling the remaining work in respect of Lehman-related complaints including the outstanding cases



~ Thank You ~