

22 October 2019

Our Ref: MC/INT/5

To: Chief Executives of all authorized institutions

Dear Sirs,

Explanatory Note on Licensing Requirements for Banking Sector under Regulatory Regime for Insurance Intermediaries

We are writing to inform you that an Explanatory Note on Licensing Requirements for Banking Sector under Regulatory Regime for Insurance Intermediaries (“Explanatory Note”) has been issued today and is available on our website www.ia.org.hk.

The new regulatory regime for insurance intermediaries came into operation on 23 September 2019. It is an activity based regime and applies to any person carrying on a regulated activity.

The Explanatory Note aims to provide guidance on the extent to which certain banking activities related to insurance would be regarded as regulated activities under the Insurance Ordinance (Cap. 41), and thus requiring licensing of the relevant authorized institution and its staff. It contains a set of Frequently Asked Questions (“FAQs”) to illustrate the relevant requirements. The FAQs are not intended to be exhaustive, and will be kept under review and updated when necessary.

The Explanatory Note is prepared in consultation with Hong Kong Monetary Authority, the Hong Kong Association of Banks, the Private Wealth Management Association, and the DTC Association.

Should you have any queries on the Explanatory Note, please contact Mr Alan Wu at 3899 9748 or Ms Mandy Tang at 3899 9736.

Yours faithfully,

Stephen Po
Executive Director
Market Conduct Division
Insurance Authority

c.c. Hong Kong Monetary Authority
The Hong Kong Association of Banks
Private Wealth Management Association
The DTC Association

Encl.