

Hong Kong Corporate Insights

November 2020



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Contents

Equity capital markets 3

- The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (SEHK) updates guidance letters HKEX-GL55-13 and HKEX-GL57-13.
- SEHK publishes consultation paper to increase the profit requirement for a Main Board listing.
- SEHK publishes new Listing e-Forms and guideline for Main Board and GEM issuers.
- SEHK publishes the *Enforcement Bulletin*.
- SEHK publishes guidance letter HKEX-GL109-20 on continuing obligations of authorized collective investment schemes listed under Chapter 20 of the Listing Rules.
- SEHK publishes frequently asked questions (FAQ No. 072-2020) on adjustment of the exercise price of share options.

Financial services regulation 7

- Capital treatment of securitizations of non-performing loans.
- The Securities and Futures Commission (SFC) concludes consultation on changes to the Hong Kong Real Estate Investment Trusts Code.
- The SFC and Israel Securities Authority sign FinTech cooperation agreement.
- New Return of Consolidated Accounts and revised submission deadlines for selected returns.
- Treasury Markets Association's administered benchmarks are compliant with the International Organization of Securities Commissions.
- The SFC issues circular on anti-money laundering/counterfinancing of terrorism.
- Mystery Shopping Program carried out by the HKMA.
- The Government launches consultation on legislative proposals to enhance AML/CFT regulation.
- Cybersecurity Fortification Initiative 2.0.
- The SFC issues circular to licensed corporations updated technical specifications for over-the-counter derivatives trade reporting.
- The HKMA developed a two-year roadmap to promote Regtech adoption.

Data protection 12

- Privacy Commissioner issues three practical guidance notes relating to work-from-home arrangements for organizations, employees, and users of video conferencing software.
- Privacy Commissioner calls for greater vigilance when teenagers go online to be aware of swindlers of personal data.
- Privacy Commissioner comments on first doxxing case sentenced for contravention of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance.

Contacts

15

Equity Capital Markets

The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (SEHK) updates guidance letters HKEX-GL55-13 and HKEX-GL57-13

SEHK updates guidance letter HKEX-GL55-13 to reflect administrative matters in relation to new applicants using the E-Submission System (HKEX-ESS) to submit Listing e-Forms and other documents. One of the main changes is that SEHK requires certain documents that are to be submitted through HKEX-ESS to be in text searchable PDF format. For more details, please see Attachments I and II of HKEX-GL55-13.

Click [here](#) to view the latest version of HKEX-GL55-13 and [here](#) to view the marked-up version of HKEX-GL55-13.

SEHK updates guidance letter HKEX-GL57-13 to reflect the use of the Company Case Number Request Form (CN001) effective on 29 November 2020. Instead of submitting a letter from the sponsor to the listing department of SEHK requesting a company case number for a new application, new applicants should now use CN001 to do so.

Click [here](#) to view the latest version of HKEX-GL57-13 and [here](#) to view the marked-up version of HKEX-GL57-13.

HKEx, 27 November 2020

SEHK publishes consultation paper to increase the profit requirement for a Main Board listing

The proposal to increase the profit requirement for a Main Board listing aims to enhance the distinction between a Main Board and Growth Enterprise Market (GEM) listing in Hong Kong, and offer issuers clearer choice and investors greater clarity. The proposal is part of SEHK's ongoing commitment to enhance market quality, and

to further strengthen Hong Kong's role as Asia's premier international financial center.

The minimum profit requirement under Rule 8.05(1)(a) (Profit Requirement) of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong (Listing Rules) has not been changed since its introduction in 1994. Since the minimum market capitalization requirement under Rule 8.09(2) (Market Capitalization Requirement) of the Listing Rules was increased from HK\$200 million to HK\$500 million in 2018, there has been an increase in listing applications from issuers that marginally met the Profit Requirement, but had relatively high proposed market capitalizations. The misalignment of the Profit Requirement and the increased Market Capitalization Requirement has raised regulatory concerns as to the quality of companies seeking Main Board listings.

SEHK is offering two options: to increase the Profit Requirement by (1) either 150 percent, based on the percentage increase in the Market Capitalization Requirement in 2018; or by (2) 200 percent, based on the approximate percentage increase in the average closing price of the Hang Seng Index from 1994 to 2019.

SEHK proposes to introduce transitional arrangements for companies which have already commenced their listing preparations. SEHK also proposes to introduce temporary conditional relief from the increased Profit Requirement to facilitate the listing of quality companies whose financial results have been temporarily and adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and the economic downturn (each application will be considered on a case-by-case basis).

SEHK invites market feedback on the proposal. The two-month public comment period will end on 1 February 2021.

Click [here](#) to view the article and [here](#) to view the consultation paper.

HKEx, 27 November 2020

SEHK publishes new Listing e-Forms and guideline for Main Board and GEM issuers

The Listing e-Forms, which include checklists and forms, and guidelines are provided to assist Main Board issuers (MB), GEM issuers (GEM), and new applicants (NA) to comply with the Listing Rules and administrative procedures. They:

1. Highlight Listing Rules disclosure and specific compliance requirements on (i) the content of listed issuers' documents (e.g., announcements and circulars) and (ii) particular transactions which are the subject of those documents.
2. Facilitate the provision of information required by SEHK in specific circumstances.
3. Set out documentary requirements in respect of transactions and corporate actions taken by listed issuers.
4. Provide templates and forms specified under the Listing Rules.

The new Listing e-Forms and guidelines are as follows:

e-Forms	Content	MB	GEM	NA
CF006	(Filing Guide) Size Tests for Notifiable Transactions and Connected Transactions	✓		
CF093	(Filing Guide) Trading Arrangement Form	✓		
DU003M	(Filing Guide) Declaration and Undertaking with regard to Directors	✓		✓

DU004M	(Filing Guide) Declaration and Undertaking with regard to Directors of an issuer incorporated in the PRC	✓		✓
DU005M	(Filing Guide) Declaration and Undertaking with regard to Supervisors of an issuer incorporated in the PRC	✓		✓
FF004	(Filing Guide) Contact details form for Director/ Supervisor/ Authorised Representative s/ Company Secretary/ Compliance Officer	✓	✓	✓
FF005	Blackout Period Notification Form	✓	✓	
FF001M	(Filing Guide) Formal Application (for Equity Securities)	✓		
DU003G	(Filing Guide) Director's Declaration, Undertaking and Acknowledgement		✓	✓
DU004G	(Filing Guide) Director's Declaration, Undertaking and Acknowledgement (PRC issuer)		✓	✓
DU005G	(Filing Guide) Supervisor's declaration, undertaking and acknowledgement in respect of an issuer incorporated in the PRC		✓	✓
FF201G	(Filing Guide) Application Form – Equity Securities (of an issuer part of whose share capital is already listed)		✓	
CN001	Request for Company Case Number			✓
SE001	(Filing Guide) Sponsor Engagement Notification			✓

M103	Main Board – IPO – Form A1 – Listing Application Form (for Equity Securities & Debt Securities)			✓
G103	(Filling Guide) GEM Board 0 IPO – Form 5A – Listing Application Form (Equity Securities of an issuer no part of whose share capital is already listed)			✓
M201	(Filling Guide) Main Board – IPO – New listing particulars			✓
G201	(Filling Guide) GEM Board – IPO – New listing particulars			✓

Click [here](#) to view the Listing e-Forms for Main Board issuers, [here](#) to view the Listing e-Forms for GEM Board issuers, and [here](#) to view the Listing e-Forms for new applicants.

HKEx, 27 November 2020

SEHK publishes the *Enforcement Bulletin*

The Listing Enforcement Department of the SEHK publishes the *Enforcement Bulletin* in replacement of the previous *Enforcement Newsletter* to feature articles relevant to compliance with the Listing Rules and updates of the department's enforcement work.

The *Enforcement Bulletin (November 2020)* focused on better corporate governance, in particular, on the onboarding of directors of listed issuers. It also highlighted some of the key regulatory messages arising from the disciplinary cases concluded between 1 January 2020 and 31 October 2020.

Click [here](#) to view the first edition of the *Enforcement Bulletin*.

HKEx, 27 November 2020

SEHK publishes guidance letter HKEX-GL109-20 on continuing obligations of authorized collective investment schemes listed under Chapter 20 of the Listing Rules

Guidance letter HKEX-GL109-20 provides guidance to collected investment schemes (CIS) issuers on their continuing obligations under Chapter 20 of the Listing Rules.

The primary authority for regulating CISs that are offered to the public in Hong Kong is the Securities and Futures Commission (SFC) authorization and its various codes applicable to CISs. The SFC is responsible for monitoring compliance with these authorization conditions and applicable codes, while SEHK is responsible for maintaining a fair and orderly market in the trading of CIS.

Every CIS is required to sign a listing agreement (in the form prescribed in Part G of Appendix 7 of the Listing Rules) with SEHK, by which it undertakes to comply with the continuing obligations to which it will be subject as a condition of the listing of the CIS interests. The major continuing obligations for CISs include:

- (a) Disclosure of any information necessary to enable the holders of interests to appraise the position of the CIS and to avoid the establishment of a false market in the interests of the CIS.
- (b) Prompt response to enquiries made of it by SEHK including those concerning unusual movements in the price or trading volume of the CIS's listed interests or any other matters by giving such relevant information as is available to it or by issuing a "no-knowledge" statement.

- (c) Filing and forwarding of the specified number of copies of its corporate disclosure materials (e.g., circulars, notices, annual reports, etc.) to SEHK and authorizing SEHK to file these materials with SFC under the Securities and Futures (Stock Market Listing) Rules (Cap.571V).

SEHK and SFC jointly issued a "Circular to Management Companies of SFC-authorized Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) (Revised as of 17 December 2018)" to assist management companies of ETFs to comply with the disclosure obligations under the Code on Unit Trusts and Mutual Funds and the Listing Agreement for CISs.

Click [here](#) to view HKEX-GL109-20.

HKEx, 6 November 2020

SEHK publishes frequently asked questions (FAQ No. 072-2020) on adjustment of the exercise price of share options

Rule 17.03(13) of the Listing Rules permits adjustments to be made to the exercise price of share options in the event of certain corporate activities. The note to the relevant rule requires that any adjustments must give a participant the same proportion of the equity capital as that to which that person was previously entitled, but no such adjustments may be made to the extent that a share would be issued at less than its nominal value (if any).

In the event of (i) a capitalization or bonus issue, (ii) rights issue or open offer, or (iii) subdivision or consolidation of shares, the overriding principle is that no adjustments to the exercise price or number of shares should be made to the advantage of scheme participants without specific prior shareholders' approval. Thus, a straightforward proportionate adjustment

should be made for a capitalization issue, subdivision, consolidation, or reduction in share capital, and adjustments should also be made for transactions where there is a price-dilutive element, such as a rights issue or open offer. That adjustment should be based on a scrip factor similar to the one used in accounting standards in adjusting the earnings per share figures, to account for the bonus or price-dilutive element embedded in a rights issue. No adjustment should be made for an issue made at full consideration unless it also involves a capitalization issue.

Therefore, the correct formula for an issue of securities with a price-dilutive element, such as a rights issue, open offer, or capitalization issue, would be to multiply the number of shares subject to options by the scrip factor and divide the exercise price by the scrip factor. For details of the formula, please see the appendix of FAQ No. 072-2020.

Click [here](#) to view FAQ No. 072-2020.

HKEx, 6 November 2020

Financial Services Regulation

Capital treatment of securitizations of non-performing loans (NPL)

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) issued a circular in relation to the technical amendment to the Basel capital framework by the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision (BCBS) to set out the capital treatment of NPL securitizations. The technical amendment allows banks using the internal ratings-based (IRB) approach or the standardized approach of the existing securitization framework to apply a risk weight of 100 percent to senior tranches of certain types of NPL securitizations. Risk weights for other tranches determined under these two approaches must not be lower than 100 percent. Foundation IRB parameters are also not permitted to be used as inputs for risk weight calculations. The technical amendment will not change the existing capital treatment of securitizations of performing assets.

The HKMA intends to implement the technical amendment and the Basel III final reform package at the same time (currently intended to be 1 January 2023). The HKMA strongly recommends authorized institutions (AI) to, in the meantime, familiarize themselves with the technical amendment and to carefully consider any implication it may have on their business activities.

Click [here](#) to view the HKMA circular.

HKMA, 30 November 2020

The SFC concludes consultation on changes to the Hong Kong Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) Code

The SFC released consultation conclusions on proposals to provide REITs with more flexibility in making investments. Key proposals included (i) allowing REITs to make investments in minority-owned properties subject to various conditions, (ii) allowing REITs to make investments in property

development projects in excess of the existing limit of 10 percent of gross asset value (GAV) subject to unitholders' approval and other conditions, (iii) increasing the borrowing limit for REITs from 45 percent to 50 percent of GAV, and (iv) broadly aligning the requirements for REITs' connected party transactions and notifiable transactions with the requirements for listed companies.

The proposals will be implemented with modifications to clarify specific requirements such as those which apply to minority-owned properties. The revised REITs Code has come into effect on 4 December 2020. The revised REITs Code will be covered in more detail in the upcoming December 2020 issue of the *Hong Kong Corporate Insights*. For connected party transactions which were entered into before the effective date, a transitional period of six months will be allowed for REITs to comply with the revised requirements. The SFC will also provide further guidance to the industry by way of frequently asked questions.

Click [here](#) to view the SFC news and [here](#) to view the consultation conclusions.

SFC, 27 November 2020

The SFC and Israel Securities Authority (ISA) sign FinTech cooperation agreement

The SFC has entered into a cooperation agreement (MoU) with the ISA to establish a framework for cooperation on FinTech. Under the agreement, the SFC and the ISA will cooperate on information sharing, potential joint innovation projects, and referrals of innovative firms seeking to enter one another's markets.

The SFC established the FinTech Contact Point in March 2016 with the purpose of facilitating the FinTech community's understanding of the current regulatory

regime, and to enable the SFC to stay abreast of development of FinTech in Hong Kong. On the other hand, the ISA established a FinTech Innovation Hub in July 2018 with the aim of promoting common discourse between the ISA and relevant players in the field of FinTech and to promote and enable the technological and business innovation in the area of financial services.

Click [here](#) to view the SFC news and [here](#) to view the MoU.

SFC, 17 November 2020

New Return of Consolidated Accounts and revised submission deadlines for selected returns

The HKMA has developed a new Return of Consolidated Accounts (Form MA(BS)1H) with the aim to monitor developments of the banking sector in a more comprehensive manner, and to strengthen the consolidated supervision of locally incorporated AIs. The HKMA requires locally incorporated licensed banks with one or more subsidiaries, which are banks to provide information in the form of the Form MA(BS)1H in accordance with Section 63(2) of the Banking Ordinance (Cap. 155) starting with the reporting position of December 2021.

The HKMA also revised submission deadlines for selected returns, and has decided that new submission deadlines will become effective starting from the reporting position of March 2022. Annexes 1 to 5 enclosed with the circular provide details on instructions for completion of returns and the said revised submission deadlines.

Click [here](#) to view the HKMA circular. Click [here](#) to view Annex 1, [here](#) to view Annex 2, [here](#) to view Annex 3, [here](#) to view Annex 4 and [here](#) to view Annex 5 to the circular.

HKMA, 16 November 2020

Treasury Markets Association's (TMA) administered benchmarks are compliant with the International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO)

The TMA is the administrator of the HKD Interest Settlement Rates (commonly known as Hong Kong Interbank Offered Rates or HIBOR), the HKD Overnight Index Average, the USD/HK Spot Rate, and the USD/CNY(HK) Spot Rate (collectively, the Financial Benchmarks).

The IOSCO issued the Principles for Financial Benchmarks (IOSCO Principles) in 2013, which have been endorsed by the G20's Financial Stability Board. The IOSCO Principles that broadly cover governance, quality of benchmark determinations, quality of the methodology, and accountability have since been adopted widely by benchmark administrators.

The TMA appointed Ernst & Young (EY) to provide independent assurance on the statement of compliance with the IOSCO Principles by the TMA. The TMA and EY jointly issued a report, where TMA provided an overview of how it administered the Financial Benchmarks, presented a self-assessment of its compliance with the IOSCO Principles, and described the relevant frameworks and control procedures to ensure such compliance. EY concluded that the control procedures that TMA described were suitably designed to achieve the control objective, and further concluded that the requirements of the IOSCO Principles would have been achieved if the described control procedures were complied with satisfactorily.

Click [here](#) to view the report by TMA/EY and [here](#) to view the IOSCO report.

TMA, 9 November 2020

The SFC issued circular on anti-money laundering/counterfinancing of terrorism (AML/CFT)

The SFC issued a circular to draw the attention of licensed corporations and associated entities in relation to AML/CFT requirements as set out in latest statements issued by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF).

The FATF in a statement issued on 23 October 2020 advised its members to refer to the list of high-risk jurisdictions subject to a call for action adopted in February 2020, namely Iran and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and that the FATF's call for action on these high-risk jurisdictions remains in effect.

The FATF also issued an updated statement on Jurisdictions under Increased Monitoring that identified Iceland and Mongolia for significant progress that they have made in addressing the strategic AML/CFT deficiencies identified earlier by the FATF and included in their respective action plans. Iceland and Mongolia are no longer subject to FATF's increased monitoring process.

FATF also published various outcomes of the FATF Plenary that was held on 21-23 October, which may be of interest to licensed corporations and associated entities, including the adoption of the amendments to Recommendations 1 and 2 and their Interpretative Notes that require countries and the private sector to identify and assess the risks of potential breaches, non-implementation, or evasion of the targeted financial sanctions related to proliferation financing risk.

Click [here](#) to view the SFC circular.

SFC, 9 November 2020

Mystery Shopping Program (MSP) carried out by the HKMA

The Insurance Authority (IA) issued a circular with regards to the "Report on the Findings of the MSP on Selling Practices of Authorized Institution in respect of Investment and Insurance Products" (the Report). In relation to insurance products, the MSP was conducted with a focus on long term business.

According to the Report, AIs generally complied with relevant requirements for sale of insurance products, but it was noted that there was still room for improvement in areas such as conducting the financial needs analysis, suitability assessment, and disclosure of product features and risks.

The IA reminded authorized insurers, which are appointing principals of AIs as licensed insurance agencies to take appropriate follow-up actions to address issues identified in the Report.

Click [here](#) to view the IA Circular.

IA, 6 November 2020

Cybersecurity Fortification Initiative (CFI) 2.0

The HKMA completed a review of the CFI, which was launched in 2016 to raise the cyber resilience of Hong Kong's banking system. The CFI is underpinned by three pillars: (i) the Cyber Resilience Assessment Framework (C-RAF), (ii) the Professional Development Program (PDP), and (iii) the Cyber Intelligence Sharing Platform (CISP).

CFI 2.0 has been developed after extensive consultation with the banking industry. Changes have been made to reflect the latest developments in overseas cyber practices. Specifically, recent international sound practices on cyber incident response and recovery have been incorporated into the enhanced control principles under C-RAF. As

regards the PDP, the certification list has been expanded to include equivalent qualifications in major overseas jurisdictions. The HKMA has also put forward a series of recommendations to the Hong Kong Association of Banks to make the CISP more user-friendly.

Click [here](#) to view the HKMA circular and [here](#) to view the CFI 2.0 Annex.

HKMA, 3 November 2020

The SFC issued circular to licensed corporations updated technical specifications for over-the-counter (OTC) derivatives trade reporting

The SFC issued a circular to licensed corporations informing them about the Hong Kong Trade Repository's (HKTR) notice about updated technical specifications for OTC derivatives trade reporting. Specifically, in order to cope with the floating rate indices emerging from the markets from time to time, a bimonthly update to the coding scheme "FloatingRateIndex" supported in the HKTR system will be published on the HKTR information page. Licensed corporations that may be subject to mandatory reporting obligation are advised to refer to the Notice.

Click [here](#) to view the SFC circular and [here](#) to view the HKTR notice.

SFC, 3 November 2020

The HKMA developed a two-year roadmap to promote Regtech adoption

The HKMA developed a two-year roadmap to promote Regtech adoption in the Hong Kong banking sector, as laid out in a White Paper entitled "Transforming Risk Management and Compliance: Harnessing the Power of Regtech." Regtech refers to the use of

technology by financial institutions to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of their risk management and regulatory compliance activities.

Banks' evolving business models, regulatory initiatives in response, and a challenging external environment continue to drive banks to explore the use of technology to enhance risk management and compliance. Against this backdrop, the HKMA commissioned an external consultant to explore the current state of Regtech in Hong Kong, examine common practices and barriers to adoption, and outline a roadmap to accelerate adoption in the banking sector.

There are 16 recommendations that span across five core areas, namely:

- Boosting awareness by issuing practical guidance and organizing targeted events.
- Promoting innovation among the local and global Regtech community and facilitating access to infrastructure.
- Enhancing regulatory engagement with the Regtech ecosystem through ongoing dialogue and collaboration.
- Developing the talent pool by formalizing a Regtech training and skills framework.
- Sustaining adoption via continued industry engagement and effective tracking of progress.
- To implement the recommendations, the HKMA will roll out a series of events and initiatives in the coming two years, including:
 - Hosting a large-scale event to raise the banking sector's awareness of the potential of Regtech.
 - Launching a Regtech Adoption Index.

- Organizing a Global Regtech Challenge to stimulate innovation.
- Publishing a "Regtech Adoption Practice Guides" series.
- Creating a centralized "Regtech Knowledge Hub" to encourage information sharing.
- Establishing a Regtech skills framework to develop talents.

Click [here](#) to view the HKMA press release and [here](#) to view the Whitepaper.

HKMA, 3 November 2020

Data Protection

Privacy Commissioner issues three practical guidance notes relating to work-from-home arrangements for organizations, employees, and users of video conferencing software

The Privacy Commissioner of Personal Data, Hong Kong, Ms. Ada Chung Lai Ling (PCPD) issued three guidance notes under the serious "Protecting Personal Data under Work-from-Home Arrangements" to provide practical advice to: (i) organizations, (2) employees, and (3) users of video conference software, to enhance data security and protection of personal data (the Guidance Notes).

The PCPD said, "as work-from-home arrangements have become a new normal for many people, I call on employers, employees as well as users of video conferencing software, including teachers and students, to step up their guard against the new risks posed to data security and personal data privacy as a result of work-from-home arrangements."

In particular, the PCPD recommends that organizations should:

- Set out clear policies on handling data (including personal data) for work-from-home arrangements.
- Take all reasonably practicable steps to ensure the security of data, in particular when technology is used to facilitate work-from-home arrangements and when data and documents are transferred.
- Provide training and support to employees.
- Ensure security of data stored in electronic devices provided to employees.

The PCPD recommends that employees should:

- Adhere to their employer's policies when handling data.
- Use only corporate devices for work as far as practicable.
- Enhance security of Wi-Fi connections and electronic communications.
- Avoid working in public places to prevent accidental disclosure of personal data.
- Ensure proper handling of data when taking paper documents out of office premises.

On the use of video conferencing software, the PCPD recommends that users should:

- Review and assess the policies and measures on the security and protection of personal data privacy of different video conference software.
- Safeguard user accounts by setting a strong password, change password regularly, and activate multifactor authentication.
- Verify the identities of participants of video conferences to prevent unauthorized access.

Click [here](#) to view the media statement.

Click [here](#) for the Guidance Notes for organizations, [here](#) for the Guidance Notes for employees, and [here](#) for the Guidance Notes for users of video conference software.

PCPD, 30 November 2020

Privacy Commissioner calls for greater vigilance when teenagers go online to be aware of swindlers of personal data

Amid the COVID-19 pandemic and the tendency for teenagers to go online for learning and social networking, the PCPD notes from a recent survey that nearly 90 percent of parents interviewed allows their children to go online unsupervised and more than 80 percent of parents were worried that

their children would fall prey to online lewd traps. From media reports from the Hong Kong police, the PCPD notes that there have been 616 recorded online naked chat blackmail cases from January to September 2020, a threefold increase from 2019. Among these, 40 percent of the victims were students.

The PCPD noticed that some criminals devised plots to impersonate teenagers in order to become friends with them. After gaining their trust, the criminals would induce the teenagers to hand over personal data or even private photos in order to perpetrate fraud or other crimes. The PCPD urges teenagers to exercise greater vigilance when they go online or chat on internet, online social platforms, or instant messaging services.

The PCPD recommends parents and teachers to try and better understand teenagers' online habits and remind them to be more vigilant when they go online. The salient points include:

- Be careful when making friends online. Don't be too ready to trust new friends, be prudent and vigilant at all times. Do not disclose personal data indiscriminately or provide private photos.
- Turn off camera and microphone when they are not in use.
- Beware of fraudulent websites and false information.
- If a website or email looks suspicious, do not click the web links or download documents. Seek help from adults immediately.
- If there is any suspicion of naked chat fraudulent activities, report the matter to the police immediately.
- If the personal data and/or photos are found improperly disclosed on the Internet, contact the relevant social

media platforms to request removal, or contact the PCPD for assistance.

Click [here](#) to view the media statement.

PCPD, 23 November 2020

Privacy Commissioner comments on first doxxing case sentenced for contravention of the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance (Cap.486) (PDPO)

A telecommunications technician who obtained personal data of a family member of a police officer for doxxing was charged with, among others, an offence under section 64(2) of the PDPO. The defendant was convicted at the District Court, and sentenced on 3 November 2020 to imprisonment for 18 months. Together with other charges, the defendant was sentenced to imprisonment for 24 months.

The PCPD welcomed the court ruling and stated, "It is saddening that doxxing acts often lead to cyberbullying or even criminal intimidation of the victims and their family members, which in turn causes continuous distress and serious psychological harm to the persons concerned." She stressed that the cyber world is not beyond the law, doxxing acts may constitute criminal offence under the PDPO or other legislations, in addition to being morally wrong.

Section 64(2) of the PDPO states that a person commits an offence if he discloses any personal data of a data subject which was obtained from a data user without the data user's consent, and the disclosure causes psychological harm to the data subject. On conviction, the maximum penalty is a fine of HK\$1,000,000 and imprisonment for five years.

In the present case, the defendant took advantage of his employment in a telecommunications company to obtain

personal data, including the Hong Kong identity card number, of a family member of a police officer, and disclosed the relevant data to a group of social media platform for publication. This is the first doxxing case in which a defendant was found guilty and sentenced to imprisonment pursuant to section 64(2) of the PDPO.

From June 2019 up to the end of October 2020, the PCPD has written more than 200 times to request the operators of a total of 18 websites, online social media platforms, and discussion forums to remove more than 3,500 doxxing web links. The PCPD states that it will spare no efforts in combating doxxing and if necessary, will seek cooperation from authorities from different jurisdictions to combat doxxing.

If the case involves criminal elements, the PCPD will refer to the Hong Kong police for further investigation and consideration of prosecution. By the end of October 2020, the PCPD has referred to over 1,400 cases for the Hong Kong police for follow-up.

Click [here](#) to view the media statement.

PCPD, 3 November 2020

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