

22 October 2020

HSBC UNVEILS THE LIONS AFTER INITIAL CLEANING

Further Restoration Work Planned

HSBC today unveiled Stephen and Stitt, the two bronze lions at HSBC Main Building, after a first round of cleaning. Maintenance and further restoration work will continue.

Peter Wong, Deputy Chairman and Chief Executive, The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited, and **Diana Cesar, Chief Executive, Hong Kong, HSBC**, officiated the unveiling ceremony in the morning.

Mr Wong said, “Stephen and Stitt have watched over HSBC Main Building for 85 years. Through good times and bad, they have been an enduring part of Hong Kong’s story. Many customers, employees and the general public told us how much they missed the lions, so we decided to put them back on display following the first phase of restoration. When the work is complete, they will look as impressive as ever.”



Stephen, the roaring one, and Stitt, the calm one, have guarded the Des Voeux Road entrance of the Bank since 1935. Experts have been unable to travel to Hong Kong due to the COVID-19 pandemic, delaying the full restoration. A comprehensive restoration programme will be conducted in phases.

As well as Hong Kong, HSBC lions also stand guard over the Bank’s main buildings in London, Shanghai, Birmingham and other offices around the world. However, the Hong Kong pair are the most iconic, with a long and rich history deeply rooted in the city. Stitt has been a key feature on HSBC Hong Kong banknotes since 1972.

For further details about the HSBC lions, please refer to the factsheet.

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Note to editors:

Photo	Caption
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The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited is the founding member of the HSBC Group. HSBC serves customers worldwide from offices in 64 countries and territories in its geographical regions: Europe, Asia, North America, Latin America, and Middle East and North Africa. With assets of US\$2,923bn at 30 June 2020, HSBC is one of the world's largest banking and financial services organisations.

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