

Calendar of Events



30 April 1999

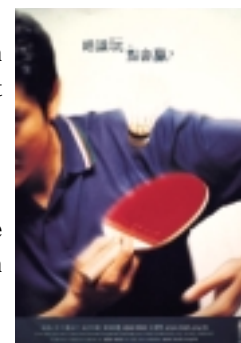
The SFC celebrated its Tenth Anniversary on 30 April 1999. Activities included a reception at Government House, the adoption of a new SFC logo and a lecture with senior securities regulators from Mainland China, Australia and the UK as speakers.

24 May 1999

The SFC issued the *SFC Code on MPF Products*, which set out its requirements for authorization of the products.

1 June 1999

A new publicity campaign was launched as part of the SFC's efforts to educate investors on the need to protect themselves. The campaign aims to communicate the message that "learning the rules" of the game is just as important in investing as in sports.



30 June 1999

The SFC issued a consultation paper seeking public comments on proposals to amend the existing law and practices governing the licensing of intermediaries providing services in respect of securities, futures, or leveraged foreign exchange.

5 July 1999

The SFC issued the *Overview Guide to the Proposed Securities and Futures Bill*.

6 July 1999

A new automated surveillance and trading analysis system, SMARTS, acquired by the SFC and the SEHK became fully operational. The system aims to increase the surveillance and analysis capabilities of the two organizations using the latest technology.

20 September 1999

The SFC invited the public to comment on proposed amendments to the Code on Takeovers and Mergers.

12 October 1999

The SFC released the *Report on Enhancement of the Financial Infrastructure in Hong Kong*. The Report recommended that Hong Kong should put together an eInfrastructure to enhance its competitiveness in terms of risk mitigation, increased efficiency and cost reduction.



14 October 1999

The CSRC and the SFC signed Letters of Exchange regarding regulatory co-operation between the two organizations for Mainland companies that will be listed on the GEM.

5 November 1999

The amendments to the *Code of Conduct for Persons Registered with the SFC* were gazetted. The amendments require registered persons to ask their clients to sign a separate risk disclosure statement in relation to securities traded on the GEM before trading.

15 November 1999

The SEHK launched the GEM.

22 November 1999

SFC Chairman Andrew L T Sheng was appointed to chair the Financial Stability Forum Task Force on Implementation of Standards to examine ways of fostering the implementation of international standards relevant to the strengthening of financial systems.



20 December 1999

The SFC published a report on the main findings in its retail investor survey carried out in September and October 1999.



26 December 1999

The TV series, *Investment Challenge 2000*, was launched. The 10-part television series, jointly produced by RTHK and the SFC, feature major changes and developments in the financial markets and economy of Hong Kong over the last century.

7 January 2000

The Nominating Committee of the International Accounting Standards Committee (IASC) named Arthur Levitt, Chairman of the US Securities and Exchange Commission, as its Chairman. The Nominating Committee, of which SFC Chairman Andrew L T Sheng is a member, would select the initial trustees to implement a new structure proposed for IASC to enhance its position in finding the best accounting solutions internationally and facilitating convergence of accounting standards to a single set of high-quality global accounting standards.

6 March 2000

The Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited was established.

6 March 2000

The SFC issued two consultation papers seeking public comment on the proposals for assessing the competence of an applicant for registration, and the introduction of a continuous professional training requirement.

11 March 2000

The SFC and the SEHK agreed to conduct the review on the GEM Listing Rules as soon as possible within six months from the launch of the GEM.

15 March 2000

The Securities (Margin Financing) (Amendment) Bill was passed by LegCo. The Bill will become effective in June 2000.

24 March 2000

The revised *Codes on Takeovers and Mergers and Share Repurchases* were gazetted. The revised Codes became effective on 1 April 2000.

