

Communications and Education

Industry outreach

Roundtables and meetings

To foster a close dialogue with the securities industry, we hold regular meetings with industry associations to share regulatory updates and supervisory initiatives. In a June meeting, we discussed with broker associations the updated risk management guidelines for futures brokers and trends in the demographics of our licensees. We also invited representatives from the Hong Kong Police Force to provide tips on detecting investment scams.

Jointly with the Hong Kong Monetary Authority, we held two roundtables to facilitate communication between the banking industry and the virtual asset sector on the provision of banking services to licensed virtual asset trading platforms (VATPs).

Speaking engagements

During the quarter, our senior executives spoke at over 35 local and international events on a wide range of topics including virtual assets, sustainable finance and asset management. We were a supporting organisation for four industry events.

Our Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Ms Julia Leung spoke about the SFC's priorities at the April Bloomberg Policy Series as well as the June Caixin Summer Summit. She also shared the SFC's regulatory vision for Fintech and Hong Kong's new licensing regime for VATPs at the SEC Thailand Public Conference 2023 and at an event organised by the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Bangkok, Office for Attracting Strategic Enterprises and InvestHK. Both events were held in Thailand in June.



Bloomberg Policy Series

In the same month, she discussed the strategy to reconnect with China in the post-COVID era as well as the need for a proportionate implementation of global climate reporting standards in Hong Kong at the ASIFMA China Capital Markets Conference. Separately, Ms Leung spoke at the Hong Kong Investment Funds Association's 16th Annual Conference, along with our Director of Licensing and Head of Fintech unit, Ms Elizabeth Wong and Director of Intermediaries Supervision, Mr Anthony Wong. In her keynote speech, Ms Leung urged the fund industry to "reflect, reset and refocus" in challenging times, and laid out the SFC's four-pronged game plan to build Hong Kong into an asset and wealth management hub. She outlined strategies to promote fund onshoring, connect with Mainland markets, diversify investment products and drive innovation. She also expressed support for fund tokenisation to promote industry efficiency.

In addition, Ms Wong explained the new VATP regime at a June conference organised by the South China Morning Post. She also attended the June meeting of the Panel on Financial Affairs to discuss initiatives to support the development of Fintech in Hong Kong. Besides, our Fintech unit spoke at several seminars organised by a range of stakeholders to facilitate understanding of the new regime.



Network of Family Office Service Providers Launch Ceremony

At an InvestHK event to mark the launch of the Network of Family Office Service Providers, Mr Wilson Lo, Senior Director of Licensing, spoke about our efforts to help the industry understand the regulatory requirements for family offices. The June event was attended by over 100 representatives of family office service providers. In addition, our executives presented at a Hong Kong Trustees' Association's seminar to provide an overview of the new RA 13¹ regime for over 150 participants from depositaries and related firms.

¹ Type 13 regulated activity is for depositaries of SFC-authorized collective investment schemes.

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Also in June, Senior Director and Head of International Affairs and Sustainable Finance Ms Christine Kung discussed the latest developments in corporate sustainability reporting at the EU-Hong Kong Policy Discussion Series co-organised by InvestHK and the European Union Office to Hong Kong and Macao.

Education

We stepped up our investor education efforts on VATPs including those through televised interviews by Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK). We also launched a new round of investor education programmes with the Investor and Financial Education Council (IFEC), the SFC's wholly-owned subsidiary. Both initiatives sought to warn the investing public of the risks of trading on unregulated platforms, and that most platforms currently accessible by the public are not regulated by the SFC. A list published on our dedicated webpage provides a handy resource for the public to find information about the regulatory status of VATPs.



RTHK interview

The IFEC's annual campaign, Hong Kong Money Month, was launched in March under the theme "Be a Digital Hero". At a Money Month webinar, our Executive Director of Investment Products Ms Christina Choi spoke about the development of virtual asset products and protections for retail investors.



IFEC Hong Kong Money Month 2023

Other publications and communications

We proactively engage with a wide range of stakeholders to provide them with regulatory updates and explain our work.

During the quarter, we released the SFC's *Annual Report 2022-23* which summarised our key regulatory work, corporate developments and financial information during the year. The June issue of the *Takeovers Bulletin* featured updates relating to takeovers in Hong Kong.

During the quarter, we issued 10 circulars providing guidance on a variety of matters, including the licensing regime for VATPs, financial returns, and anti-money laundering and counter-financing of terrorism. We also published 61 posts on the SFC's social media platforms to promote awareness and alert the public of a range of matters, including updates on mutual market access schemes and our sustainability-related initiatives.

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Publications and other communications

	Quarter ended 30.6.2023
Press releases	44
Consultation papers	2
Consultation conclusions	3
Industry-related publications	1
Codes and guidelines ^a	7
Circulars to industry	10
Corporate website average daily page views ^b	65,353
General enquiries	765

a Includes updates to previous versions.

b The average number of webpages browsed per day during the reporting period.

