## HKIMR joins the ASEAN+3 Finance Thinktank Network as a founding member

The following is issued on behalf of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority:

The Hong Kong Institute for Monetary and Financial Research (HKIMR), the research arm of the Hong Kong Academy of Finance (AoF), signed a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) today (September 29) to join the ASEAN+3 Finance Thinktank Network (AFTN) as a founding member institution.

The AFTN brings together 21 think tanks and research institutions (Annex), spanning Mainland China, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, Southeast Asia, Japan and South Korea to strengthen co-operation and collaboration among economic and financial think tanks across the ASEAN+3 region. The mission of AFTN is to enhance regional economic and financial resilience and stability through conducting joint research, knowledge sharing and capacity building.

Chief Executive Officer of the AoF and Executive Director of the HKIMR, Mr Enoch Fung, and Director of ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office, Dr Kouqing Li, together with representatives of 19 think tanks and research institutions, <u>signed the MoC at a ceremony</u>. Following the signing ceremony, the AFTN hosted an inaugural meeting of its steer committee among the senior representatives from AFTN's members.

About the Hong Kong Academy of Finance (AoF)

The AoF is set up with full collaboration amongst the Hong Kong Monetary Authority, the Securities and Futures Commission, the Insurance Authority and the Mandatory Provident Fund Schemes Authority. By bringing together the strengths of the industry, the regulatory community, professional bodies and the academia, it aims to serve as (i) a centre of excellence for developing financial leadership; and (ii) a repository of knowledge in monetary and financial research, including applied research.

About the Hong Kong Institute for Monetary and Financial Research (HKIMR)

The HKIMR is the research arm of the AoF. Its main remit is to conduct research in the fields of monetary policy, banking and finance that are of strategic importance to Hong Kong and the Asia region. The Applied Research studies undertaken by the HKIMR are on topics that are highly relevant to the financial industry and regulators in Hong Kong, and they aim to provide insights on the long-term development strategy and direction of Hong Kong's financial industry.