<u>Mainland credit rating company</u> <u>leverages Hong Kong's global financial</u> <u>hub status (with photo)</u>

Lianhe Ratings Global Limited (Lianhe Global), which is wholly-owned by Lianhe Credit Information Service Co Ltd (LHCIS), announced today (September 13) that it has now started full operation in Hong Kong to tap into the city's vibrant financial scene and take advantage of the opportunities arising from Belt and Road Initiative and Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area development.

Lianhe Global strives to provide independent, objective and fair credit rating services to investors and issuers around the globe. It currently focuses on international ratings for Chinese bond issuers, including property developers, industrials, financial institutions, local government financing vehicles and structured finance, according to the CEO of Lianhe Global, Dr Stan Ho. He also said that leveraging its parent company's status as one of the largest professional credit information service providers in the Mainland, as well as its solid and comprehensive industry experiences, Lianhe Global is capable of providing an alternative and deeper perspective on Chinese credits to international investors.

"Hong Kong is one of the major international financial centres in the world, where all the key bond market participants including investors and investment bankers are located. Hence it is a logical choice for us to set up the first offshore and international office in Hong Kong," said Dr Ho.

"With Hong Kong's strategic role in the Belt and Road Initiative as well as the development of the Greater Bay Area, we believe that our presence in Hong Kong will meet our international business expansion objectives by better serving the international bond investors and other relevant market participants," he added.

The Associate Director-General of Investment Promotion, Dr Jimmy Chiang, welcomed the arrival of Lianhe Global in Hong Kong. "Hong Kong, as one of the world's top international financial centres, is a prime location for financial services. In fact, many Mainland and international financial institutions and banks are located here. It is the best springboard for Lianhe Global from which to extend its credit rating services to the world," he said.

About Lianhe Global

Wholly-owned by LHCIS, Lianhe Global is headquartered in Hong Kong and is the regional office of LHCIS. Lianhe Global has been granted a Type 10 License by the Securities and Futures Commission of Hong Kong. For more information, please visit lhratingsglobal.com.

About InvestHK

InvestHK is the department of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government responsible for attracting foreign direct investment and supporting overseas and Mainland businesses to set up or expand in Hong Kong. It provides free advice and customised services for overseas and Mainland companies enrolled as its clients. For more information, please visit www.investhk.gov.hk.

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