

HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY

Briefing to the Legislative Council Panel on Financial Affairs

5 November 2001

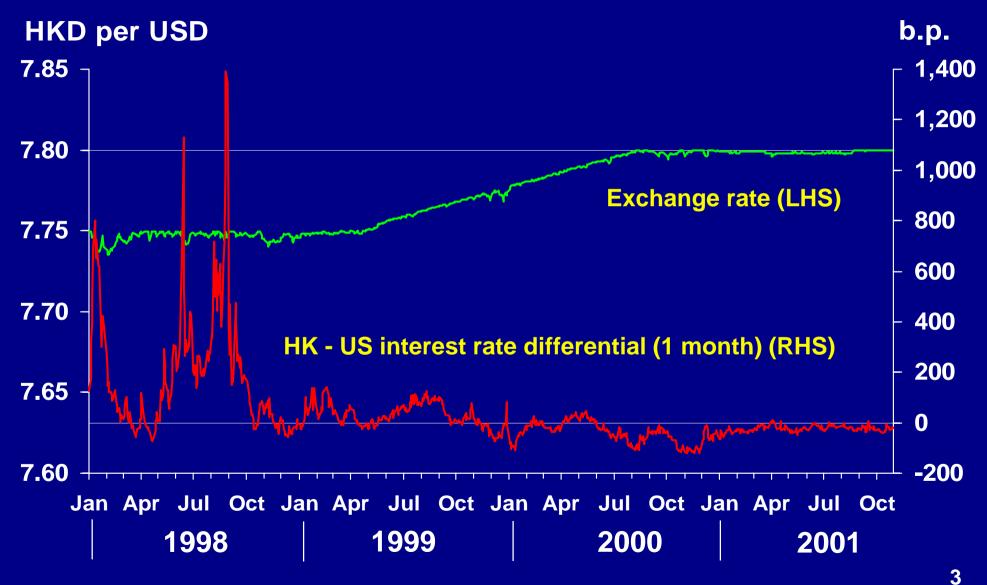


DISCUSSION TOPICS

- Currency
- Banking
- Financial Infrastructure
- Exchange Fund



CURRENCY STABILITY - FACTS





CURRENCY STABILITY - RISKS

General Risks

- Global recession
- Economic weakness in Asia
- Financial market volatility
- Exchange rate volatility
- Pressure on regional currencies

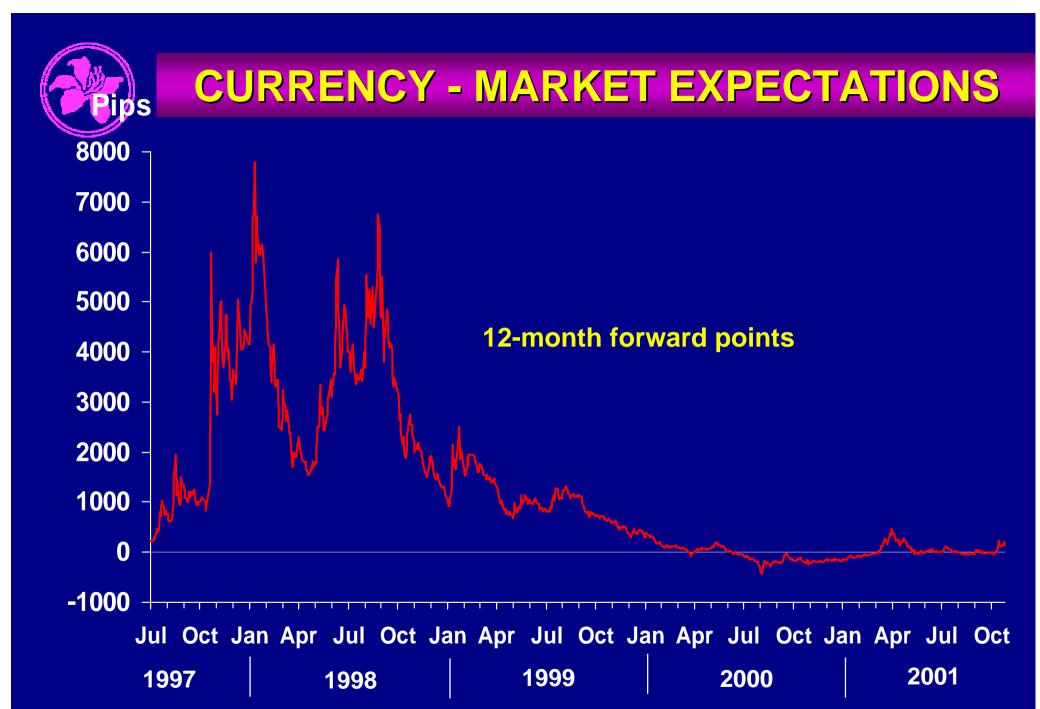


CURRENCY STABILITY - RISKS

Hong Kong Specific Risks

- Currency board of Argentina
- Hong Kong markets used for proxy hedge against Asian risks
- RMB exchange rate policy
- Public finances in Hong Kong
- Support for and confidence in the Link







CURRENCY - MARKET EXPECTATIONS





BANKING STABILITY - FACTS

Capital adequacy ratio * : 18.0%

Liquidity ratio * : 45-55%

Net interest margin * : 2.17%

Classified loans * : 6.81%

Mortgage delinquency ratio " : 1.28%

Credit card receivables - delinquency ratio " : 1.13%

- charge-off ratio ♦ : 4.75%

Growth of total Hong Kong dollar deposits * : 0.3%

Growth of total domestic lending * : - 1.7%

- ^ Figure as at end-June 2001
- " Figure for September 2001
- ♦ Figure for the September 2001 quarter
- * Quarterly change between September and June 2001





BANKING - REFORM MEASURES

- Interest Rate Deregulation
- Commercial Credit Reference Agency
- Deposit Insurance Scheme
- Banking Consolidation
- Three-building Condition
- Consumer Protection





BANKING - CURRENT ISSUES

- Terrorist Financing / Money Laundering
- Negative equity
- Bankruptcies
- New Capital Accord
- Banking (Amendment) Bill 2000
- Banking (Amendment) Bill 2001





FINANCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Functioning smoothly

- Hong Kong's payment systems continued to function smoothly in the aftermath of 11 Sept
- The event highlights the importance of Hong Kong's US dollar clearing system in the reduction and diversification of risks
- We will encourage greater usage of the US dollar clearing system



FINANCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Projects

- Upgrade of CMU into an International Central Securities Depository (ICSD)
- Money settlement for CCASS items
- Joint cheque clearing with Mainland cities
- Development of the retail bond market through Hong Kong Mortgage Corporation debt issues



FINANCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE

- Retail Payment Systems Review: results indicate that Hong Kong's retail payment systems function well
- Recommendations on : cash, cheques, credit and debit cards, stored value cards, and epayment and e-legal tender
- Progressive approach to improve regulatory oversight for stability, efficiency and competitiveness of Hong Kong's retail payment systems



EXCHANGE FUND BALANCE SHEET

(HK\$ million)	31 Dec 2000	31 Mar 2001	30 Sept 2001
ASSETS			
Foreign currency assets	856,680	911,880	901,312
Hong Kong dollar assets	<u>166,683</u>	<u>131,883</u>	90,921
Total Assets	1,023,363	1,043,763	992,233
LIABILITIES AND ACCUMULATED SURPLUS			
Monetary base*	215,140	216,469	231,858
Placements by other Hong Kong Special			
Administrative Region government funds	417,162	439,228	381,342
Placements by other institutions	45,049	81,853	69,253
Other liabilities	<u>38,913</u>	<u>10,315</u>	<u>13,528</u>
Total Liabilities	716,264	747,865	695,981
Accumulated surplus	307,099	295,898	<u>296,252</u>
Total liabilities and accumulated surplus	1,023,363	1,043,763	992,233

^{*} The monetary base includes interest payable on Exchange Fund Notes and net accounts receivable which are not included here.



EXCHANGE FUND PERFORMANCE

	2000	2001	2001	2001
(HK\$ billion)	Full year	Jan-Mar	Apr-Sep	Jan-Sep
Gain / (Loss) on HK equities*	(7.3)	(20.4)	(19.6)	(40.0)
Exchange gain / (loss)	(11.2)	(11.8)	5.4	(6.4)
Total return on bonds, etc	<u>63.6</u>	<u>17.6</u>	<u>22.6</u>	<u>40.2</u>
Investment income	45.1	(14.6)	8.4	(6.2)
Other income	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2
Interest and expenses	<u>(11.0)</u>	<u>(2.8)</u>	<u>(5.1)</u>	<u>(7.9)</u>
Net investment income	34.3	(17.3)	3.4	(13.9)
Treasury's share	<u>(18.1)</u>	<u>6.1</u>	<u>(3.0)</u>	<u>3.1</u>
Increase / (decrease) in EF accumulated surplus	16.2	(11.2)	0.4	(10.8)

^{*} including dividends





EXCHANGE FUND - HK Equity Portfolio

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Investment in August 1998

118.1

Income from Disposal and Dividends (end-Sep 2001) 138.4

Size of remaining portfolio (end-Sep 2001)

74.2

Disposal

24.6

Long Term Investment *

49.6

^{*} Including HK equities transferred from the Land Fund in 1998 (valued at HK\$9 billion in 1998)



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EXCHANGE FUND BALANCE SHEET

(HK\$ million) ASSETS	31 Dec 2000 3	1 Mar 2001 30	0 Sept 2001	31 Oct 2001
Foreign currency assets	856,680	911,880	901,312	894,979
Hong Kong dollar assets	<u>166,683</u>	<u>131,883</u>	90,921	90,882
Total Assets	1,023,363	1,043,763	992,233	985,861
LIABILITIES AND ACCUMULATED SURPLUS	215,140	216,469	231,858	225,217
Monetary base*				
Placements by other Hong Kong Special	417,162	439,228	381,342	375,572
Administrative Region government funds	45,049	81,853	69,253	67,173
Placements by other institutions	<u>38,913</u>	<u>10,315</u>	<u>13,528</u>	<u>14,574</u>
Other liabilities	716,264	747,865	695,981	682,536
Total Liabilities				
	<u>307,099</u>	295,898	296,252	<u>303,325</u>
Accumulated surplus	,	,	,	,
-	1,023,363	1,043,763	992,233	985,861
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Total liabilities and accumulated surplus

^{*} The monetary base includes interest payable on Exchange Fund Notes and net accounts receivable which are not included here.

EXCHANGE FUND PERFORMANCE

(HK\$ billion)	2000 Full year	2001 Jan-Mar	2001 Apr-Sep	2001 Jan-Sep	2001 Jan-Oct
Gain / (Loss) on HK equities*	(7.3)	(20.4)	(19.6)	(40.0)	(37.8)
Exchange gain / (loss)	(11.2)	(11.8)	5.4	(6.4)	(8.9)
Total return on bonds, etc	<u>63.6</u>	<u>17.6</u>	<u>22.6</u>	<u>40.2</u>	<u>52.8</u>
Investment income	45.1	(14.6)	8.4	(6.2)	6.1
Other income	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2
Interest and expenses	(11.0)	(2.8)	<u>(5.1)</u>	<u>(7.9)</u>	<u>(8.7)</u>
Net investment income	34.3	(17.3)	3.4	(13.9)	(2.4)
Treasury's share	<u>(18.1)</u>	6.1	<u>(3.0)</u>	3.1	<u>(1.4)</u>
Increase / (decrease) in					
EF accumulated surplus	16.2	(11.2)	0.4	(10.8)	(3.8)

^{*} including dividends

EXCHANGE FUND - HK Equity Portfolio

Investment in August 1998		(HK\$ billion) 118.1
Income from Disposal and Dividends (end-Oct 2001)		139.7
Size of remaining portfolio (end-Oct 2001) Disposal	25,9	75.2
Long Term Investment*	49.3	

^{*} Including HK equities transferred from the Land Fund in 1998 (valued at HK\$9 billion in 1998)