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27 November 2008

Ms. YUE Tin-po Clerk to Panel on Commerce and Industry Legislative Council Building 8 Jackson Road Hong Kong

Dear Ms. YUE

Panel on Commerce and Industry Special Meeting on 1 December 2008

Thank you for your letter dated 21 November 2008. We understand from the letter that the special meeting of the Panel on Commerce and Industry on 1 December 2008 will cover the Special Loan Guarantee Scheme recently introduced by the Government. HKAB and its members welcome this new Scheme of the Government in supporting the SMEs.

Based on details of the Scheme learned from the public domain and their close contact with customers, our members had, through HKAB, channeled their views to the Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development on 13 November 2008 on how details of the Scheme might be enhanced to better meet the working capital and trade financing needs of the target SMEs. Relevant members of HKAB had subsequently met the Trade and Industry Department on 19 November 2008. This was a useful session for members to learn the progress made with the Scheme and the preliminary views of the Government on the comments made in our submission. The information helps members' preparation for the Scheme, pending receipt of the formal documentation to be released by the Government.

A number of our members have confirmed to us that they would be pleased to attend the special meeting on 1 December 2008 to learn the progress update on the support measures for SMEs. Please find attached a list of the members which will be participating in the special meeting, along with details of their representatives.

Yours sincerely

Eva Wong Secretary

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