

## Attestation Report on Pre-issuance of Bank of China (Hong Kong) Limited's 2023 Personal Green Deposit

### To the Management of Bank of China (Hong Kong) Limited

#### Scope

We have been engaged by Bank of China (Hong Kong) Limited ("BOCHK" or the "Bank") to perform a limited assurance engagement, as defined by International Standards on Assurance Engagements, here after referred to as the engagement (the "engagement"), to examine the *Description on Bank of China (Hong Kong) Limited's 2023 Personal Green Deposit* (the "Description") (the "Subject Matter") dated 10 October 2023.

#### Criteria applied by BOCHK

The Description issued by the Bank on 10 October 2023 is prepared with reference to the latest version of Green Bond Principles - the *Green Bond Principles 2021* as published by the International Capital Market Association, covering four core components: use of proceeds, process for project evaluation and selection, management of proceeds, and reporting (the "Criteria").

#### Management's Responsibility

The management of the BOCHK (the "Management") is responsible for:

- Preparing the Description with reference to the *Green Bond Principles 2021*, and ensuring to reflect accurate and valid information for the Bank's 2023 Personal Green Deposit; and
- Preparing the Product Management Guidelines of Green/Social/Sustainability Personal Deposits (the "Management Guidelines") of BOCHK, establishing and maintaining appropriate internal controls for the Description.

#### Our Responsibility

In accordance with the agreed terms with BOCHK, we conducted our limited assurance engagement in accordance with International Standard on Assurance Engagements (ISAE) 3000 (Revised), "*Assurance Engagements Other Than Audits or Reviews of Historical Financial Information*" issued by the International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board.

Our responsibility is to express an independent limited assurance conclusion as to whether anything has come to our attention to cause us to believe that the Subject Matter, in all material respects, does not meet the Criteria.

We planned and performed our engagement to obtain the information and evidence which we considered sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our limited assurance conclusions.

## Our Independence and Quality Management

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the independence and other ethical requirements of the “Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants” issued by the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants, which is founded on fundamental principles of integrity, objectivity, professional competence and due care, confidentiality and professional behaviour.

Our firm applies International Standard on Quality Management 1, “Quality Management for Firms that Perform Audits or Reviews of Financial Statements, or Other Assurance or Related Services Engagements” and accordingly maintains a comprehensive system of quality control including documented policies and procedures regarding compliance with ethical requirements, professional standards and applicable legal and regulatory requirements.

## Our Procedures

Procedures performed in a limited assurance engagement vary in nature and timing from, and are less in extent than for a reasonable assurance engagement. Consequently, the level of assurance obtained in a limited assurance engagement is substantially lower than the assurance that would have been obtained had a reasonable assurance engagement been performed. Our procedures were designed to obtain a limited level of assurance on which to base our conclusion and do not provide all the evidence that would be required to provide a reasonable level of assurance.

This engagement is limited to reviewing the accordance of the Description and the Management Guidelines to the Criteria, it was not designed to evaluate and provide assurance on internal controls.

A limited assurance engagement consists of making enquiries, primarily of persons responsible for preparing the use of proceeds, process for project evaluation and selection, management of proceeds as well as reporting of the Bank's 2023 Personal Green Deposit and related information by applying analytical and other appropriate procedures.

Our engagement includes performing interviews and reviewing documents. Our procedures performed included, but not limited to:

- Obtain and assess relevant information (i.e., policies and procedures) established by BOCHK in relation to the Bank's 2023 Personal Green Deposit;
- Interview personnel of selected business units in BOCHK to understand relevant information for the Bank's 2023 Personal Green Deposit;
- Review the BOCHK's policies and procedures in relation to how the Management used and managed proceeds appropriately with reference to the Criteria;
- Review the BOCHK's nominated projects for the Bank's 2023 Personal Green Deposit with respect to eligibility of the Green Projects categories as defined in the *Green Bond Principles 2021*; and
- Evaluate whether there would be any findings that have come to our attention to cause us to believe that the Bank's 2023 Personal Green Deposit has not been followed with reference to the Criteria.

## Conclusion

Based on our procedures and the evidence obtained, nothing has come to our attention that would lead us to believe that the Bank's 2023 Personal Green Deposit has not been followed, in all material respects, with reference to the Criteria.

## Limitations

There are inherent limitations, for example, the engagement is based on reviewing of the information being examined and it is possible that fraud, error or non-compliance may occur and not be detected. A limited assurance engagement is substantially less in scope than reasonable assurance engagement in relation to both the risk assessment procedures, including an understanding of internal control, and the procedures performed in response to the assessed risks. Our engagement and pre-issuance attestation report will not express an opinion on effectiveness of the Bank's management system and procedures as well as performance. There are additional inherent risks associated with assurance over non-financial information including reporting against standards which require information to be assured against source data compiled using definitions and estimation methods that are developed by the reporting entity.

Our Conclusion was formed based on our interpretation of the Bank's 2023 Personal Green Deposit following in adherence to the Criteria, which is subjective, and will be interpreted differently by different stakeholder groups.

Our work is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with "*International Standards on Auditing*" issued by the International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion. Our assurance is limited to the Bank's 2023 Personal Green Deposit as of 10 October 2023, and does not include statutory financial statements. Our assurance is limited to policies and procedures in place as at 10 October 2023, pre-issuance of the Bank's 2023 Personal Green Deposit.

## Use of Report

Our responsibility in performing our procedures and reporting thereon is limited to BOCHK only and in accordance with terms of reference for this engagement as agreed with the Bank, for the issuance of this pre-issuance attestation report. This report may not be suitable for another purpose. We do not accept or assume any responsibility for any other purpose or to any other person or organization our work or the contents of this pre-issuance attestation report. Any reliance of any such third party may place on the Bank's 2023 Personal Green Deposit is entirely at its own risk.



**Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu**  
Certified Public Accountants  
Hong Kong  
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