

## Trust Fund in Support of Reconstruction in the Sichuan Earthquake Stricken Areas established

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At a special meeting today (July 18), the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council approved the Government's proposal to inject \$2 billion into the Trust Fund in Support of Reconstruction in the Sichuan Earthquake Stricken Areas, which is set up under the "Secretary for Home Affairs Incorporated Ordinance".

The Trust Fund welcomes public donations to support the reconstruction work. Starting from July 21 (Monday), the 20 Public Enquiry Service Centres (PESCs) of the 18 District Offices and all post offices (except mobile post offices) will receive donations from citizens and organisations during office hours to support post-quake reconstruction work in Sichuan.

"Hong Kong people and relief organisations have been very supportive of the emergency relief operations related to the earthquake and the post-quake reconstruction work. It was two months since the massive earthquake and the emphasis on support work has been shifted to reconstruction," said a spokesman for the Home Affairs Bureau.

Given that post-quake reconstruction is a colossal task lasting for at least several years, the spokesman appealed to Hong Kong people to continue to donate money generously through the following channels:

For cheque donations:

\* The 20 PESCs and all post offices (except mobile post offices) starting from July 21 (Monday).

For cheque and cash donations:

\* Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Ltd. (HSBC) account number "004-808-424154-001"; or

\* Bank of China (Hong Kong) (BOC) account number "012-875-0-039990-0".

Cheques should be made payable to "SHAI – Donations for Sichuan Reconstruction".

Ends/Friday, July 18, 2008