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Asia Financial Announces 2025 Interim Results

Asia Financial Holdings Limited ("Asia Financial") announces the interim results for the first half of 2025 ending 30th June, 2025. Mr. Bernard Charnwut Chan, Chairman and President of Asia Financial, said, "Asia Financial reported a net profit attributable to shareholders of HK\$423.4 million for the first half of 2025, with 17.1% growth over the first half of 2024. Our strong performance was sustained by year-over-year growth in trading investments, which contributed significantly to earnings. Solid results from our insurance operations, along with dependable contributions from our joint ventures and associates, further reinforced this success."

"Wholly owned subsidiary, Asia Insurance Company, Limited ("Asia Insurance") reported a net profit of HK\$297.4 million for the first half of 2025, reflecting a 19.4% increase compared to the same period in 2024. Despite ongoing challenges from geopolitical tensions, economic volatility and increased competition, the company demonstrated resilience and adaptability, achieving solid growth in key areas. Though insurance revenue dropped by 11.6% year-on-year due to market softness, insurance service result saw only a slight decrease of 3.2%, highlighting the effectiveness of Asia Insurance's strategic focus and its ability to operate successfully in a challenging environment. With disciplined strategies, innovation and sustainability, Asia Insurance is well-positioned to navigate uncertainties and deliver long-term stakeholder value. Supported by an "A" S&P rating and strong financials, it is positioned to sustain industry leadership and promote sustainable growth."

Mr. Chan continued to say, "In the first half of 2025, our trading investments delivered strong performance, with gains across value-focused equities, investment-grade fixed-income bonds and alternative investments. While most markets contributed positively, challenges in Thailand highlighted the value of our diversified approach in managing volatility. Our long-term holdings continue to generate reliable dividend income, complementing trading gains."

"During the first half of 2025, joint ventures like BC Reinsurance Limited and Professional Liability Underwriting Services Limited delivered steady profitability, while Hong Kong Life Insurance Limited and Avo Insurance Company Limited exhibited incremental improvements. Asia Financial's 5% equity stake in PICC Life Insurance Company Limited ("PICC Life"), a key subsidiary of PICC Group, strengthens its strategic position. PICC Life's extensive nationwide branch and bank distribution network ensures broad market reach and financial stability."

"Our 4.8% shareholding in Bumrungrad Hospital Public Company Limited ("Bumrungrad Hospital") is our most significant listed equity investment. In the first half of 2025, Bumrungrad Hospital's share price decreased by 30.1% in Thai Baht terms. This reflects a drop in tourist arrivals caused by several factors, including a soft global economy that led to a notable reduction in international patient admissions particularly from key markets like the Middle East. Despite these hurdles, Bumrungrad Hospital remains well-positioned to adapt due to its strong brand, diverse patient base and emphasis on innovative healthcare solutions. As tourism gradually recovers, we expect Bumrungrad Hospital to regain momentum and continue being a valuable part of our portfolio."

"The Group's holding in Bank Consortium Holding Limited ("BCH"), one of our joint ventures, continues to generate stable and reliable profits. Bank Consortium Trust Company Limited ("BCT"), a wholly owned subsidiary of BCH, has established itself as a market leader in providing Mandatory Provident Fund services in Hong Kong."

Mr. Chan raised, "Our commitment to Shanghai's real estate sector remains evident,

representing 3.9% of our total assets. We hold a 27.5% stake in Qingpu District project,

comprises six residential blocks, offering a total of 468 units. We are expediting efforts to

finalise construction and ensure the timely handover of units by the end of the year."

Looking ahead, Mr. Chan said, "We remain confident in the growth potential of our insurance

business. Despite market competition and broader economic challenges, our focused and

adaptable approach enables us to refine strategies, address shifting conditions and capitalise

on emerging opportunities. We are committed to ensuring the long-term stability of our

businesses by aligning with emerging economic and societal trends. Recognising the region's

significant demographic shifts, we concentrate on expanding services that improve quality of

life, including insurance, retirement planning and healthcare."

"Despite the prevailing geopolitical and economic conditions, our long-term strategy remains

focused on maintaining core market exposure within a diversified investment portfolio. This

approach is designed to mitigate volatility, balance geopolitical risks and capitalise on growth

opportunities in transformative sectors such as generative artificial intelligence, cybersecurity

and robotics. By maintaining a flexible and well-balanced portfolio, we aim to navigate

economic uncertainties effectively while prioritising sustainable returns for our shareholders."

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