

# **DISASTER RELIEF FUND**

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### Memorandum Note

On 1 December 1993 the Legislative Council established the Disaster Relief Fund by Resolution to provide a ready mechanism for Hong Kong to respond swiftly to international appeals for humanitarian aid in relief of disasters that occur outside Hong Kong. The Resolution provides that—

- (a) the Financial Secretary is the administrator of the Fund and he may delegate his power of administration to other public officers;
- (b) a Disaster Relief Fund Advisory Committee shall be appointed by the Chief Executive to advise the Financial Secretary on disbursements from the Fund;
- (c) the Financial Secretary shall make a single grant of cash for each purpose advised by the Disaster Relief Fund Advisory Committee;
- (d) the Financial Secretary shall obtain the consent of the Finance Committee for a grant in excess of \$8 million;
- (e) the Finance Committee may amend the limit for which the Financial Secretary is required to obtain their consent;
- (f) the Financial Secretary shall credit to the Fund—
  - (i) appropriations from the general revenue approved by the Legislative Council for the purpose of the Fund;
  - (ii) donations received for the purpose of the Fund; and
  - (iii) other sums received for the purpose of the Fund including all moneys received as interest or dividends earned on moneys invested for the Fund;
- (g) the Financial Secretary may expend moneys from the Fund for the purpose of disaster relief as may be advised by the Disaster Relief Fund Advisory Committee;
- (h) the Director of Accounting Services shall, under the authority of a funds warrant issued by the Financial Secretary, pay from the Fund such sums as may be required to meet expenditure from the Fund;
- (i) the Financial Secretary in his discretion may authorise the investment in the manner he may determine of any unexpended balance held in the Fund at any time; and
- (j) the Financial Secretary shall not transfer any moneys from the Fund to the general revenue.

**2** On 10 December 1993, the Finance Committee approved an appropriation of \$50 million for the establishment of the Fund.

**3** As at 31 March 2010, payments totalling about \$1,087,402,000 have been made from the Fund since its establishment.

**4** As at 17 December 2010, grants totalling \$341,797,000 have been made in 2010–11. No estimate of payment is made for the remaining part of 2010–11 and 2011–12 as calls on the Fund in relief of disasters cannot be predicted.

**5** Receipts for 2010–11 and 2011–12 are estimated at \$381,109,000 and \$3,046,000 respectively.

## DISASTER RELIEF FUND

### (Payments)

Sub-head (Code)	Actual expenditure 2009–10	Revised estimate 2010–11	Estimate 2011–12
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Head 800—Disaster Relief</b>			
236	Relief programme for cyclone victims in Bangladesh—grant to Oxfam Hong Kong .....	1,000	—
237	Relief programme for cyclone victims in India—grant to Oxfam Hong Kong .....	1,300	—
238	Relief programme for cyclone victims in Bangladesh—grant to World Vision Hong Kong .....	1,500	—
239	Relief programme for cyclone victims in India—grant to World Vision Hong Kong .....	1,500	—
240	Relief programme for flood victims in Guangxi, Guizhou and Hunan Provinces, Mainland—grant to The Amity Foundation, Hong Kong, Limited .....	3,670	—
241	Relief programme for earthquake victims in Yunnan Province, Mainland—grant to The Amity Foundation, Hong Kong, Limited .....	2,090	—
242	Relief programme for flood victims in Hunan Province, Mainland—grant to The Association of Chinese Evangelical Ministry Limited.....	920	—
243	Relief programme for flood victims in Guangxi and Jiangxi Provinces, Mainland—grant to World Vision Hong Kong .....	2,500	—
244	Relief programme for typhoon victims in Taiwan—grant to the Taiwanese Authorities .....	50,000	—
245	Relief programme for typhoon victims in Taiwan—grant to World Vision Hong Kong .....	5,000	—
246	Relief programme for typhoon victims in the Philippines—grant to The Salvation Army .....	4,800	—
247	Relief programme for typhoon victims in the Philippines—grant to World Vision Hong Kong .....	2,000	—
248	Relief programme for earthquake victims in Indonesia—grant to World Vision Hong Kong .....	4,000	—
249	Relief programme for typhoon victims in the Philippines—grant to The Amity Foundation, Hong Kong, Limited.....	520	—
250	Relief programme for typhoon victims in the Philippines—grant to Oxfam Hong Kong.....	2,800	—
251	Relief programme for earthquake victims in Indonesia—grant to Cedar Fund.....	1,410	—
252	Relief programme for earthquake victims in Haiti—grant to World Vision Hong Kong .....	8,000	—
253	Relief programme for snowstorm victims in Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, Mainland—grant to World Vision Hong Kong .....	2,500	—
254	Relief programme for earthquake victims in Chile—grant to World Vision Hong Kong .....	2,000	—
255	Relief programme for drought victims in Guangxi and Yunnan Province, Mainland—grant to The Amity Foundation, Hong Kong, Limited .....	1,400	—

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### (Payments)

Sub-head (Code)	Actual expenditure 2009–10	Revised estimate 2010–11	Estimate 2011–12
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Head 800—Disaster Relief—Cont'd.</b>			
256	—	40,000	—
257	—	40,000	—
258	—	40,000	—
259	—	2,800	—
260	—	3,420	—
261	—	1,240	—
262	—	6,740	—
263	—	4,500	—
264	—	242	—
265	—	2,640	—
266	—	1,500	—
267	—	100,000	—
268	—	7,240	—
269	—	5,000	—
270	—	300	—
271	—	296	—
272	—	299	—
273	—	5,180	—
274	—	7,000	—

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### (Payments)

Sub-head (Code)	Actual expenditure 2009–10	Revised estimate 2010–11	Estimate 2011–12
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Head 800—Disaster Relief—Cont'd.</b>			
275			
Relief programme for flood victims in Hunan and Jiangxi, Mainland—grant to World Vision Hong Kong .....	—	3,000	—
276			
Relief programme for flood victims in Jiangxi, Mainland— grant to The Association of Chinese Evangelical Ministry Limited .....	—	1,070	—
277			
Relief programme for flood victims in Yunnan, Mainland— grant to Oxfam Hong Kong .....	—	980	—
278			
Relief programme for flood victims in Shaanxi, Mainland— grant to World Vision Hong Kong .....	—	2,000	—
279			
Relief programme for flood victims in Gansu and Sichuan, Mainland—grant to The Amity Foundation, Hong Kong, Limited .....	—	3,100	—
280			
Relief programme for flood victims in Pakistan—grant to World Vision Hong Kong .....	—	3,000	—
281			
Relief programme for flood victims in Pakistan—grant to Oxfam Hong Kong .....	—	2,000	—
282			
Relief programme for flood victims in Pakistan—grant to Save the Children Hong Kong Limited .....	—	300	—
283			
Relief programme for flood victims in India—grant to Save the Children Hong Kong Limited .....	—	300	—
284			
Relief programme for mudslide victims in the Mainland— grant to Gansu Province .....	—	50,000	—
285			
Relief programme for flood victims in Pakistan—grant to The Salvation Army .....	—	4,650	—
286			
Relief programme for typhoon victims in the Philippines— grant to World Vision Hong Kong .....	—	3,000	—
	<u>98,910</u>	<u>341,797</u>	<u>—</u>
<i>Head 800: total</i> .....			
	<u>98,910</u>	<u>341,797</u>	<u>—</u>
<b>Total (Payments)</b> .....	<u><u>98,910</u></u>	<u><u>341,797</u></u>	<u><u>—</u></u>

**DISASTER RELIEF FUND**

**(Receipts)**

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	Actual receipts 2009-10	Revised estimate 2010-11	<b>Estimate 2011-12</b>
	\$'000	\$'000	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>Investment income</b> .....	2,199	3,506	<b>3,000</b>
<b>Refund of grants</b> .....	9,070	603	<b>46</b>
<b>Transfer from General Revenue</b> .....	59,200	377,000	—
<b>Total (Receipts)</b> .....	<u>70,469</u>	<u>381,109</u>	<u><b>3,046</b></u>

## DISASTER RELIEF FUND

### Movement of the Account

	Actual				Revised Estimate	Estimate
	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
Opening Balance	30	30	28	36	8	47
Revenue	3	3	5	12	4	3
Expenditure	19	272	347	99	342	—
Surplus/(Deficit) before Transfer from GRA	(16)	(269)	(342)	(87)	(338)	3
Transfer from GRA	16	267	350	59	377	—
Surplus/(Deficit) after Transfer from GRA	—	(2)	8	(28)	39	3
Closing Balance	30	28	36	8	47	50

### Revenue Analysis

	Actual				Revised Estimate	Estimate
	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
Investment Income	3	2	3	3	3	3
Refund of Grants	—	1	2	9	1	—
<b>Total Revenue</b>	3	3	5	12	4	3

### Expenditure Analysis

	Actual				Revised Estimate	Estimate
	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
Payments	19	272	347	99	342	—
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	19	272	347	99	342	—

*Note:* The 2010-11 Revised Estimates on payments reflects grants actually made as at 17 December 2010. No estimate of payment is made for the remaining part of 2010-11 and 2011-12 as calls on the Fund in relief of disasters cannot be predicted.