

# **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 2011, payments totalling about \$1,441,454,000 have been made from the Fund since its establishment.

**4** As at 6 January 2012, grants totalling \$37,760,000 have been made in 2011–12. No estimate of payment is made for the remaining part of 2011–12 and 2012–13 as calls on the Fund in relief of disasters cannot be predicted.

**5** Receipts for 2011–12 and 2012–13 are estimated at \$8,351,000 and \$44,046,000 respectively.

## DISASTER RELIEF FUND

### (Payments)

Sub-head (Code)	Actual expenditure 2010–11	Revised estimate 2011–12	Estimate 2012–13
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Head 800—Disaster Relief</b>			
256	Relief programme for drought victims in the Mainland—grant to Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region.....	40,000	—
257	Relief programme for drought victims in the Mainland—grant to Guizhou Province.....	40,000	—
258	Relief programme for drought victims in the Mainland—grant to Yunnan Province.....	40,000	—
259	Relief programme for drought victims in Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region and Yunnan Province, Mainland—grant to World Vision Hong Kong.....	2,800	—
260	Relief programme for drought victims in Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, Guizhou Province and Yunnan Province, Mainland—grant to The Amity Foundation, Hong Kong, Limited .....	3,420	—
261	Relief programme for drought victims in Yunnan Province, Mainland—grant to The Association of Chinese Evangelical Ministry Limited .....	1,240	—
262	Relief programme for drought victims in Yunnan Province, Mainland—grant to The Salvation Army.....	6,705	—
263	Relief programme for earthquake victims in Qinghai Province, Mainland—grant to The Amity Foundation, Hong Kong, Limited.....	4,486	—
264	Relief programme for drought victims in Guizhou Province, Mainland—grant to Operation Blessing Hong Kong Limited.....	242	—
265	Relief programme for drought victims in Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region and Yunnan Province, Mainland—grant to Oxfam Hong Kong.....	2,604	—
266	Relief programme for drought victims in Guizhou Province, Mainland—grant to World Vision Hong Kong.....	1,500	—
267	Relief programme for earthquake victims in the Mainland—grant to Qinghai Province .....	100,000	—
268	Relief programme for earthquake victims in Qinghai Province, Mainland—grant to The Salvation Army.....	7,240	—
269	Relief programme for earthquake victims in Qinghai Province, Mainland—grant to World Vision Hong Kong.....	5,000	—
270	Relief programme for earthquake victims in Qinghai Province, Mainland—grant to ADRA Limited .....	299	—
271	Relief programme for earthquake victims in Qinghai Province, Mainland—grant to Save the Children Hong Kong Limited ..	296	—
272	Relief programme for earthquake victims in Qinghai Province, Mainland—grant to Social Workers Across Borders Limited.....	299	—
273	Relief programme for flood victims in Guangxi and Hunan, Mainland—grant to The Amity Foundation, Hong Kong, Limited.....	5,180	—
274	Relief programme for flood victims in Hunan, Mainland—grant to The Salvation Army.....	7,000	—

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### (Payments)

Sub-head (Code)	Actual expenditure 2010–11	Revised estimate 2011–12	Estimate 2012–13
	\$'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 .....	871	—
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	—
287	Relief programme for flood victims in Sri Lanka—grant to World Vision Hong Kong .....	2,000	—
288	Relief programme for earthquake victims in New Zealand— grant to The Salvation Army .....	6,150	—
289	Relief programme for earthquake victims in Yunnan Province, Mainland—grant to World Vision Hong Kong .....	2,000	—
290	Relief programme for earthquake victims in Yunnan Province, Mainland—grant to The Association of Chinese Evangelical Ministry Limited .....	800	—
291	Relief programme for earthquake victims in Yunnan Province, Mainland—grant to Save the Children Hong Kong Limited .....	500	—
292	Relief programme for earthquake victims in Japan—grant to Save the Children Hong Kong Limited .....	1,000	—
293	Relief programme for earthquake victims in Japan—grant to Government of Japan .....	—	1,232
294	Relief programme for earthquake victims in Taichileik District, Myanmar—grant to World Vision Hong Kong .....	—	2,000
295	Relief programme for flood victims in Guizhou and Hunan, Mainland—grant to The Amity Foundation, Hong Kong, Limited .....	—	3,408

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### (Payments)

Sub-head (Code)	Actual expenditure 2010–11	Revised estimate 2011–12	Estimate 2012–13	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	
<b>Head 800—Disaster Relief—Cont'd.</b>				
296	Relief programme for flood victims in Hunan and Jiangxi, Mainland—grant to World Vision Hong Kong.....	—	4,000	—
297	Relief programme for flood victims in Sichuan, Mainland— grant to The Association of Chinese Evangelical Ministry Limited.....	—	1,400	—
298	Relief programme for drought victims in Ethiopia—grant to World Vision Hong Kong.....	—	3,000	—
299	Relief programme for drought victims in Kenya—grant to World Vision Hong Kong.....	—	3,000	—
300	Relief programme for drought victims in Ethiopia—grant to Oxfam Hong Kong.....	—	3,000	—
301	Relief programme for drought victims in Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, Mainland—grant to The Amity Foundation, Hong Kong, Limited.....	—	1,380	—
302	Relief programme for drought victims in Guizhou, Mainland—grant to World Vision Hong Kong.....	—	3,000	—
303	Relief programme for drought victims in Guizhou, Mainland—grant to Oxfam Hong Kong.....	—	1,340	—
304	Relief programme for drought victims in Yunnan, Mainland— grant to Oxfam Hong Kong.....	—	2,000	—
305	Relief programme for typhoon victims in the Philippines— grant to World Vision Hong Kong.....	—	1,500	—
306	Relief programme for flood victims in Cambodia—grant to ADRA Limited.....	—	500	—
307	Relief programme for flood victims in Thailand—grant to World Vision Hong Kong.....	—	3,000	—
308	Relief programme for flood victims in Thailand—grant to Save the Children Hong Kong Limited.....	—	1,000	—
309	Relief programme for typhoon victims in the Philippines— grant to World Vision Hong Kong.....	—	2,000	—
310	Relief programme for typhoon victims in the Philippines— grant to Save the Children Hong Kong Limited.....	—	1,000	—
	<i>Head 800: total</i> .....	354,052	37,760	—
<b>Total (Payments)</b> .....		354,052	37,760	—

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**(Receipts)**

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	Actual receipts 2010–11	Revised estimate 2011–12	<b>Estimate 2012–13</b>
	\$'000	\$'000	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>Investment income</b> .....	3,506	1,608	<b>2,000</b>
<b>Refund of grants</b> .....	603	6,743	<b>46</b>
<b>Transfer from General Revenue</b> .....	377,000	—	<b>42,000</b>
<b>Total (Receipts)</b> .....	<u>381,109</u>	<u>8,351</u>	<u><b>44,046</b></u>

## DISASTER RELIEF FUND

### Movement of the Account

	Actual				Revised Estimate	Estimate
	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
Opening Balance	30	28	36	8	35	6
Revenue	3	5	12	4	9	2
Expenditure	272	347	99	354	38	—
Surplus/(Deficit) before Transfer from GRA	(269)	(342)	(87)	(350)	(29)	2
Transfer from GRA	267	350	59	377	—	42
Surplus/(Deficit) after Transfer from GRA	(2)	8	(28)	27	(29)	44
Closing Balance	28	36	8	35	6	50

### Revenue Analysis

	Actual				Revised Estimate	Estimate
	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
Investment Income	2	3	3	3	2	2
Refund of Grants	1	2	9	1	7	—
<b>Total Revenue</b>	3	5	12	4	9	2

### Expenditure Analysis

	Actual				Revised Estimate	Estimate
	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
Payments	272	347	99	354	38	—
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	272	347	99	354	38	—

*Note:* The 2011-12 Revised Estimate on payments reflects grants actually made as at 6 January 2012. No estimate of payment is made for the remaining part of 2011-12 and 2012-13 as calls on the Fund in relief of disasters cannot be predicted.