From:

Sent: Thursday, April 05, 2012 4:32 PM

To: response

Subject: Public Consultation on ESG Reporting Guide

Dear Sir/ Madam

I am recommending that the following additions be made to the ESG Reporting Guide:

1. Aspect A1: I recommend that the items underlined are added:

"Information on:

- (a) the policies;
- (b) compliance and material non-compliance with relevant standards, rules and regulations;
- (c) processes to monitor and address; and
- (d) highest level of management responsibility

on compensation and dismissal, recruitment and promotion, working hours, rest periods, <u>equal</u> <u>opportunity and diversity, flexible work arrangements, maternity and paternity benefits and other benefits and welfare."</u>

- 2. KPI A1.1: I recommend that the items underlined are added: "Total workforce by employment type, age group and geographical region <u>and gender</u>"
- 3. KPI A1.2:, I recommend that the items underlined are added: "Employee turnover rate by age group and geographical region and <u>by gender</u>"
- 4. KP1 A3.1: I recommend that the items underlined are added: "Description of training activities provided and if relevant, the percentage of employees trained by employee category (e.g. senior management, middle management, etc.) and by gender"
- 5. For A1: I recommend that two new KPIs are added:
  - a. "Information on Remuneration levels for male and female employees"
  - b. "Information on executive and board composition, specifically: (1) % of women at Board Level and Senior Management/Executive Committee level and (2) Ethnicity and nationality of all board directors and (3) Age profile of board directors"
- 6. KPI A3.2: I recommend that the items underlined are added: "The average training hours completed per employee by employee category and by gender"

My rationale for all of the above is that I believe that gender diversity is good for business performance and critical to Hong Kong's competitive advantage. Hong Kong employers must access the widest possible talent pool. In addition, I believe that the current percentage of women on boards of the Hang Seng Index companies, as per the *Standard Chartered Bank Women on Boards: Hang Seng Index* 2012 is too low, at just 9%.

Yours sincerely