
Section 17

Suspension of Services

17.1 GENERAL

Under the Rules, HKSCC may suspend the whole or any part of HKSCC's facilities or services to deal with emergency situations. In the event of any situation arising which warrants action, HKSCC may suspend its operation and may also change the operational and service schedule as described in Section 6.

Notwithstanding HKSCC will maintain normal clearing and settlement services under severe weather conditions, there will be special arrangements which HKSCC will adopt in relation to CCASS Back-Up Centre and Customer Service Centre, CCASS Depository and nominee services when a Typhoon Signal No. 8 or above is hoisted, extreme conditions are announced by any government authority of Hong Kong ("Extreme Conditions") or a Black Rainstorm Warning is issued as described in this Section. In other cases, HKSCC will notify Participants, Designated Banks, the China Connect Clearing Houses, the Exchange and the Commission in relation to any action or procedures to be adopted, in the event HKSCC decides to suspend any other System or any other services or facilities relating to Eligible Securities and China Connect Securities or the settlement and/or clearance of Foreign Securities held by an Appointed Depository.

The procedures in relation to suspension of FINI services are set out in the FINI Terms and Conditions and the FINI User Guide.

17.2 TYPHOONS, EXTREME CONDITIONS AND RAINSTORMS

17.2.1 [Repealed]

17.2.2 Back-Up Centre and Customer Service Centre

The services and facilities of the Back-Up Centre and Customer Service Centre will normally cease fifteen minutes after a Typhoon Signal No. 8 or above is hoisted or Extreme Conditions are announced on a Business Day and will normally resume two hours after the Typhoon Signal is lowered and Extreme Conditions are cancelled (where applicable) at or before 12:00 noon. If the Typhoon Signal is still hoisted or Extreme Conditions are still in force at 12:00 noon on a Business Day, no services or facilities of the Back-Up Centre and Customer Service Centre will be available on that day.

The services and facilities of the Back-Up Centre and Customer Services Centre will remain available if a Black Rainstorm Warning is issued at or after 9:00 a.m. on a Business Day. If a Black Rainstorm Warning is issued before 9:00 a.m. and is cancelled at or before 12:00 noon on a Business Day, the availability of services and facilities of the Back-up Centre and Customer Service Centre will normally resume two hours after the cancellation of such warning. When a Black Rainstorm Warning is issued before 9:00 a.m. and remains in effect at 12:00 noon on a Business Day, no services or facilities of the Back-Up Centre and Customer Service Centre will be available on that day.

17.2.3 [Repealed]

17.2.4 Depository services

The services and facilities of the CCASS Depository will normally cease fifteen minutes after a Typhoon Signal No. 8 or above is hoisted or Extreme Conditions are announced and will normally resume two hours after the Typhoon Signal is lowered and Extreme Conditions are cancelled (where applicable) at or before 12:00 noon on a Business Day. If the Typhoon Signal is still hoisted or Extreme Conditions are still in force at 12:00 noon on a Business Day, there will be no CCASS Depository services for the day and no deposits or withdrawals can be made into or out of the CCASS Depository.

The services and facilities of the CCASS Depository will remain available if a Black Rainstorm Warning is issued at or after 9:00 a.m. on a Business Day. When a Black Rainstorm Warning is issued before 9:00 a.m. and is cancelled at or before 12:00 noon on a Business Day, CCASS Depository services will normally resume two hours after the cancellation of such warning. When a Black Rainstorm Warning is issued before 9:00 a.m. and remains in effect at 12:00 noon on a Business Day, no CCASS Depository services or facilities will be available on that day and no deposits or withdrawals can be made into or out of the CCASS Depository.

17.2.4A Depository services on the last registration day

In relation to Eligible Securities listed on the Exchange which are subject to book-close dates or record date without book closure, the last registration day (and the latest time) before book-close or record date to submit Eligible Securities for registration to qualify for corporate entitlements may be extended in certain circumstances and accordingly, the latest time by which Participants may deposit Eligible Securities into CCASS to qualify for the relevant corporate entitlements through CCASS may also be extended (as well as the period during which no further deposits or withdrawals of relevant Eligible Securities will be allowed). The position in general is explained further below:

- (i) if a Typhoon Signal No. 8 or above is lowered and/or Extreme Conditions are cancelled (where applicable) at or before 12:00 noon on the last registration day before book-close or record date (or in the case of Debt Securities in bearer form, on the CCASS Record Date imposed by HKSCC), the latest time for submission of relevant Eligible Securities for registration will, under the Exchange's Listing Rules, be deferred to 5:00 p.m. on the same day. In such a case, the time limit for deposits and withdrawals of relevant Eligible Securities by Participants will also be extended from the normal 12:00 noon to 2:30 p.m. on that day (i.e. the last registration day before book-close or record date, or the CCASS Record Date imposed by HKSCC, as the case may be);
- (ia) if only a Black Rainstorm Warning is issued before 9:00 a.m. and is cancelled at or before 12:00 noon on the last registration day before book-close or record date, the latest time for submission of relevant Eligible Securities for registration will, as stipulated under the Exchange's Listing Rules, be deferred to 5:00 p.m. on the same day. In such case, the time limit for deposits and withdrawals of relevant Eligible Securities by Participants will also be extended from the normal 12:00 noon to 2:30 p.m. on that day (i.e. the last registration day before book-close or record date).
- (ii) if a Typhoon Signal No. 8 or above is hoisted and/or Extreme Conditions are announced between 3:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. on the last registration day before book-close or record date (or in the case of Debt Securities in bearer form, on the CCASS Record Date imposed by HKSCC) but the Typhoon Signal is lowered or Extreme Conditions are cancelled (where applicable) at or before 9:00 a.m. on the next business day, then under the Exchange's Listing Rules, the latest time for submission of relevant Eligible Securities for registration will be deferred to 12:00 noon on the

following business day (or 5:00 p.m., if the Typhoon Signal is only lowered or Extreme Conditions are only cancelled (where applicable) after 9:00 a.m. but at or before 12:00 noon on that following business day). In such a case, the normal CCASS deadline of 12:00 noon for deposit and 2:00 p.m. for withdrawal on the original last registration day before book-close or record date (or on the CCASS Record Date imposed by HKSCC, as the case may be) for the purpose of participating in relevant corporate entitlements through CCASS will remain but no deposits or withdrawals of relevant Eligible Securities into or out of CCASS will be allowed until 12:00 noon on the following business day (or for the rest of the following business day, if the Typhoon Signal is lowered and Extreme Conditions are cancelled (where applicable) between 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon on that day);

- (iia) if only a Black Rainstorm Warning is issued at or after 9:00 a.m. on the last registration day before book-close or record date, then as stipulated under the Exchange's Listing Rules, the latest time for submission of relevant Eligible Securities for registration will remain at 4:00 p.m. on that day. In such case, the normal CCASS deadline of 12:00 noon on the last registration day before book-close or record date (for the purpose of participating in relevant corporate entitlements through CCASS) will remain;
- (iii) In other cases where under the Exchange's Listing Rules the last registration day before book-close or record date (or in the case of Debt Securities in bearer form, the CCASS Record Date imposed by HKSCC) is extended to 4:00 p.m. on the following business day, the normal CCASS deadline of 12:00 noon for deposit and 2:00 p.m. for withdrawal on the original last registration day before book-close or record date (or on the CCASS Record Date imposed by HKSCC, as the case may be) for the purpose of participating in relevant benefits entitlements through CCASS will also be extended to 12:00 noon on that following business day and, thereafter for the rest of that day, no further deposits and withdrawals of Eligible Securities into or out of CCASS will be allowed.

17.2.5 Nominee services

In relation to Exchange Fund Notes, Government Bonds, Specified Instruments and CMU Instruments, if at any time before the deadline on the last day for inputting Tender Instructions by Participants, a Typhoon Signal No. 8 or above is hoisted, Extreme Conditions are announced or a Black Rainstorm Warning is issued, the deadline for inputting such Tender Instructions may, at the sole discretion of HKSCC, be extended beyond the original deadline on that day. In such case, HKSCC shall notify Participants as to such extension through the Broadcast Message function via CCASS Terminals and Participant Gateways and through the CCASS Phone System and the CCASS Internet System.

Late instructions given or inputted by a Participant will result in such Participant not receiving nominee services provided by HKSCC in relation to the corporate actions or activities concerned.

In relation to Electronic Application Instructions for New Issue Shares which are affected as a result of a Typhoon Signal No. 8 or above being hoisted, Extreme Conditions being announced or a Black Rainstorm Warning being issued, the following procedures will

usually apply:

- (i) [Repealed]
- (ii) if a Typhoon Signal No. 8 or above is hoisted, Extreme Conditions are in force or a Black Rainstorm Warning is issued at any time between 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon on a business day which is a last application day, the last application day will be postponed (unless otherwise decided by the relevant Issuer) to the next business day which does not have such Typhoon Signal, Extreme Conditions and/or Black Rainstorm Warning in force at any time between 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon or such other day as specified by the relevant Issuer. If the last application day is postponed, the deadline for application on the last application day will remain at 12:00 noon unless otherwise specified by the relevant Issuer.

17.2.6 [Repealed]

17.2.6a [Repealed]

17.2.6b [Repealed]

17.2.7 [Repealed]

17.2.8 [Repealed]

17.2.8A [Repealed]

17.2.9 [Repealed]

17.2.10 [Repealed]

17.2.11 [Repealed]

17.2.12 [Repealed]

17.2.13 [Repealed]

17.2.14 [Repealed]

17.3 [Repealed]

17.4 OTHER CONTINGENCY SITUATIONS

Other contingency situations will be handled by HKSCC in a manner similar to those described in Section 17.2.

Participants will be notified of the exact arrangements in relation to any suspension of services or facilities via the Broadcast Message Service available through their CCASS

Terminals and Participant Gateways and through the Enquiry Service via the CCASS Phone System or the CCASS Internet System or if this is not possible, by other appropriate means.