

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**FTSE All-World and FTSE/ Hang Seng Indexes Welcome
Bank of China Hong Kong (Holdings) Limited**

Hong Kong 18 July 2002: FTSE Group today announced Bank of China Hong Kong (Holdings) Limited will be added to *FTSE All-World Index*, *FTSE World Index Ex-Multinationals*, *FTSE/ Hang Seng Asiatop* and *FTSE/ Hang Seng Asian Banks Index*.

Following the initial public offering and subject to the listing of shares, expected to commence 25 July 2002, Bank of China Hong Kong (Holdings) will be added to the FTSE/ Xinhua China 25 Index with a shares in issue total of 10,572,780,266 and an investibility weighting of 30%. The changes will be applied from start of trading on 26 July 2002.

With the inclusion of Bank of China Hong Kong (Holdings) Limited in FTSE/ Hang Seng Indexes, Asustex Computer will be deleted from the FTSE/ Hang Seng Asiatop Index.

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Notes to the editors

About FTSE

FTSE Group is a world-leader in the creation and management of equity indices. With offices in London, Paris, Frankfurt, Madrid, New York, San Francisco and Hong Kong, FTSE Group services clients in 77 countries worldwide. It manages and develops globally recognised indices ranging from the FTSE All-World Index to the real time FTSE Eurotop series, the FTSE 100 and the recently launched FTSE4Good index series. The company has collaborative arrangements with the London, Amsterdam, Brussels, Norex, Cyprus, Euronext, Athens, Luxembourg and Madrid stock exchanges, as well as with Nikkei of Japan (Nihon Keizai Shimbun, Inc) and the JSE Securities Exchange South Africa.

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FTSE indices are used extensively by investors world-wide for investment analysis, performance measurement, asset allocation and for creating a wide range of index tracking funds. Committees of senior fund managers, derivatives experts, actuaries and experienced practitioners independently review all changes to the indices ensuring that they are accurate, timely and without bias. Real time FTSE indices are calculated on systems managed by Reuters. Prices and FX rates used are supplied by Reuters.

About the FTSE/Hang Seng Indexes

FTSE's free float methodology has been applied throughout the FTSE/Hang Seng Indexes. Constituent stocks are adjusted to reflect the shares that are available to investors in the market. Liquidity rules based on FTSE's criteria are also applied in the selection of the constituent stocks. The weighting of a constituent is capped at 25% of each Index.

Although HSBC Holdings plc is considered a UK company in the FTSE All-World Index, it is included as a constituent in the FTSE/Hang Seng Indexes to reflect its significance in the Asian market.

Cross-holdings of shares in the constituents; significant long-term holdings by founders, families or directors; government holdings and stocks allocated to employee share schemes are excluded from the calculation of free float weightings, while foreign ownership limits are also taken into account.

About FTSE/Hang Seng Asiatop Index

The FTSE/Hang Seng Asiatop Index consists of the top 30 companies which are selected from the eligible Asian markets based on their full market capitalisation. The weightings of each constituent in the Index are then calculated based on FTSE's free float methodology.

About FTSE/Hang Seng Asian Sector Indexes

The eligible candidates for the constituents of each FTSE/Hang Seng Asian Sector Index are selected and ranked according to full market capitalisation. The number of constituents required to meet 95% of the full market capitalisation of each Sector is arrived at by selecting the companies in descending order. The free float methodology is then applied to calculate the weightings of the constituents in the Indexes.

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