

**WAIVER::EXTENSION OF TIME TO ANNOUNCE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019**

## Issuer &amp; Securities

## Issuer/ Manager

HONG LEONG ASIA LTD.

## Securities

HONG LEONG ASIA LTD. - SG1F76860344 - H22

## Stapled Security

No

## Announcement Details

## Announcement Title

Waiver

## Date &amp; Time of Broadcast

22-Feb-2020 16:31:00

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New

## Announcement Sub Title

Extension of Time to Announce Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

## Announcement Reference

SG200222OTHRNLQ7

## Submitted By (Co./ Ind. Name)

Ng Siew Ping, Jaslin

## Designation

Company Secretary

## Description (Please provide a detailed description of the event in the box below)

Please refer to the attachment in relation to the extension of time to announce Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2019.

## Attachments

[Extension%20of%20Time FS%20FY2019.pdf](#)

Total size =98K MB

**EXTENSION OF TIME TO ANNOUNCE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019**

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The Board of Directors of Hong Leong Asia Ltd. (the "**Board**") ("**HLA**" or the "**Company**", and together with its subsidiaries, the "**Group**") wishes to announce that the Company had applied to Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited ("**SGX-ST**") for a waiver from compliance with Rule 705(1) of the Listing Manual and for an extension of time to announce its financial statements for the full year ended 31 December 2019 ("**FY 2019 Results**") ("**Waiver**").

On 21 February 2020, SGX-ST advised that it has no objection to the Company's application for the Waiver, and has granted the Company an extension of time to release its FY 2019 Results by 31 March 2020, subject to the following:

- (a) the Company announcing the Waiver granted, the reasons for seeking the Waiver, the conditions as required under Mainboard Listing Rule 107 and if the Waiver's conditions have been satisfied. If the Waiver's conditions have not been met on the date of the announcement, the Company must make an update announcement when the conditions have all been met; and
- (b) submission of a written confirmation from the Company that it is not aware of any information that will have a material bearing on investors' decision which has yet to be announced by the Company ("**Written Confirmation**").

The reasons for seeking the Waiver are as follows:

- The Group has major operations in China, with more than 80% of its revenue contributions coming from its business units in China. Due to the outbreak of COVID-19 in China, the Company had been informed that the Chinese government had extended the Lunar New Year holidays to 10 February 2020 in various Chinese cities where the Group operates, and put in place various measures, including city lockdowns, travel restrictions and quarantine measures to contain the spread of COVID-19.
- The financial records of the Group's key subsidiaries in China ("**China Subsidiaries**") are kept at the offices of these subsidiaries which operate mainly in China. Employees (including key financial personnel) of the China Subsidiaries are facing logistical difficulties and significant delays in returning to their offices after the Lunar New Year holidays, and they may be subject to further quarantine measures upon their return depending on the actions taken by local governments in China to reduce the movement and concentration of people. As a result of this, finalisation of the Group's FY 2019 Results will be delayed.
- Due to the travel restrictions and quarantine requirements, the external auditors of the China Subsidiaries are similarly facing issues in arranging visits to the offices of the China Subsidiaries to perform the necessary audit procedures. Completion of the audit process, in accordance with the original planned timeline, will therefore not be possible with these disruptions.
- In view of the foregoing, the Company requires more time to finalise its FY 2019 Results. Hence the need for an extension of time to announce the Group's FY 2019 Results.

Pursuant to a further query from SGX-ST as to whether the Company and/or its employees are able to remotely access the soft copy of the financial records, the Company had responded as follows:

- Our principal subsidiary company in Yulin, China commenced limited operations only on 10 February 2020. Attendance at the factory is limited to employees who have not travelled out of Guangxi province during the Chinese New Year holidays in China. Those who did so were required to be self-quarantined and only permitted to return to work on or after 25 February 2020, provided they are not unwell. This limited staffing has affected the ability of the principal subsidiary to complete updates on financial transactions for purposes of closing the financial statement for FY 2019.
- Due to cyber-security concerns and internal controls measures, only a handful of senior management staff of our principal subsidiary company has restricted remote access to the SAP accounting system and these staff are not allowed to input transactions of any nature to the system. Most of the finance and accounting teams require physical access to their offices and computers to update financial information and do not have remote access to the same.

The Company also confirms that:

- (a) the Waiver does not contravene any laws and regulations governing the Company and its Constitution;
- (b) it is not aware of any information that will have a material bearing on investors' decision which has yet to be announced by the Company;
- (c) it has provided the Written Confirmation to SGX-ST in its application for the Waiver; and
- (d) it has satisfied all of the conditions for the Waiver.

By Order of the Board  
HONG LEONG ASIA LTD.

Ng Siew Ping, Jaslin  
Yeo Swee Gim, Joanne  
Company Secretaries

22 February 2020  
Singapore