

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**On a Steady Course though Unexciting for Business Firms  
Company Directors Commented on Budget**

In response to the 2007-2008 Budget presented by the Financial Secretary, Peter Wong Shiu-hoi, Chairman of The Hong Kong Institute of Directors, spoke on behalf of the Institute, “With a sizable fiscal reserve, the Budget has extended apt gesture in offering some benefits to the community, particularly looking after the middle class and the under-privileged. It has charted a steady course for the forth-coming year.”

The Institute found that the Government shows good signs of returning excess reserve to the community, but is constrained in this action. Peter Wong Shiu-hoi further commented, “While the Institute is pleased with the offerings of tax cut and discount in various areas of the community, it is observed that they are one-off sweetening due to narrow tax base.”

The Institute expressed that while various areas have been addressed, long-term vision in facilitating business development such as profits tax is notably missing. Apart from the incentive to scrap old diesel trucks and to buy environmental friendly vehicles, there was no plan in addressing major environmental issues. The Institute urges the Government to continue to review these two major areas for the long-term development of Hong Kong.

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Released by: The Hong Kong Institute of Directors.

The Hong Kong Institute of Directors is Hong Kong’s premier body representing professional directors working together to promote good corporate governance and to contribute towards advancing the status of Hong Kong, both in China and internationally.

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