Changes in insurance regulation: Mainland China/Hong Kong/Singapore/Indonesia



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Changes in insurance regulation: Mainland China

Subject	Update	Key date	Link
China to allow AIA to convert its Shanghai branch into the first wholly foreign- owned life insurance company Banking and	On 17 June 2020, the China Banking and Insurance Regulatory Commission (CBIRC, the insurance and banking sector regulator in China) granted approval to AIA Company Limited for the conversion of its Shanghai branch into a wholly-owned subsidiary of AIA Company Limited and conversion of other existing branches into branches of the newly-incorporated subsidiary in additional places across Mainland China. This new subsidiary will be incorporated in Shanghai and will be the first wholly foreign-owned life insurance company approved for establishment in Mainland China. The move is part of China's drive to open up the financial sector, with the CBIRC allowing full foreign ownership of life insurance companies for the first time following recent policy relaxations.	Release date: 19 June 2020 Effective date: 19 June 2020 Release date: 3	https://www.cbirc. gov.cn/cn/view/pa ges/ItemDetail.ht ml?docId=910943 &itemId=4110≥ neraltype=1 (CBIRC's official Notice in Chinese)
Banking and Insurance Institutions' Financial Services in Response to Emergency Events Administrative Measures issued by CBIRC	 On 3 July 2020, CBIRC issued the Banking and Insurance Institutions' Financial Services in Response to Emergency Events Administrative Measures (the Emergency Events Measures), which took effect on the same day. The Emergency Events Measures require banking and insurance institutions to establish an emergency response management system. While the board of directors shall be the decision-making body for emergency responses, and bears ultimate responsibility, senior management is responsible for implementing the emergency response management policies approved by the board of directors. Key obligations of banking and insurance institutions under the Measures include: Establishing a committee composed of senior management and heads of the relevant departments for emergency responses and a corresponding command center. Carrying out emergency response drills at least once every three years. Carrying out emergency response drills on disaster backups and other key resources or important business functions at least once a year. 	Release date: 3 July 2020 Effective date: 3 July 2020	https://www.cbirc. gov.cn/cn/view/pa ges/ItemDetail.ht ml?docId=929538 &itemId=916&gen eraltype=0 (CBIRC's official Notice in Chinese)

Subject	Update	Key date	Link
	Establishing and improving the emergency response management system and reporting to CBIRC within six months after the Measures have taken effect.		
Decentralizing regulation in the industry sector	 CBIRC issued the Property Insurance Companies and Reinsurance Companies Reform Plan (Reform Plan) on 16 July 2020, aiming to launching an overhaul of insurance supervisory system to grant more power to local regulators in overseeing the insurance sector. The Reform Plan has classified the 87 property insurance companies and 13 reinsurance companies into two categories: those subject to direct supervision by central CBIRC and those subject to supervision by local CBIRC bureaus. Specifically, local CBIRC bureaus are granted power to supervise and regulate the following matters with respect to companies subject to local regulation: Changes to business premises. Changes to registered capital. Amendments to Articles of Association. Changes to shareholders that hold over 5 percent of the equity interests in the subject companies. Issuance of subordinated fixed-term bonds and capital supplementation bonds. 	Release date: 16 July 2020 Effective date: 16 July 2020	https://www.cbirc. gov.cn/cn/view/pa ges/ItemDetail.ht ml?docId=917563 &itemId=917&gene raltype=0 (CBIRC's official Notice in Chinese) https://www.cbirc. gov.cn/cn/view/pa ges/ItemDetail.ht ml?docId=917564 &itemId=917&gene raltype=0 (CBIRC's Q&A in Chinese)
Administrative measures on solvency of insurance companies	On 30 July 2020, PBOC and CBIRC jointly published the draft <i>Solvency of Insurance</i> <i>Companies Administrative Measures</i> (the Solvency Measures) and its final version was officially promulgated on 15 January 2021 and took effect on 1 March, 2021. The Solvency Measures apply to insurance companies, insurance holding companies, captive companies and mutual insurance organizations, and have superseded the existing rules of the same name. The Solvency Measures were drafted in line with <i>the China Risk Oriented Solvency System</i> (C-ROSS System). Major takeaways can be summarized as follows:	Release date: 15 January 2021 Effective date: 1 March, 2021	https://www.cbirc .gov.cn/cn/view/p ages/ItemDetail.h tml?docId=96201 6&itemId=928&g eneraltype=0 (CBIRC's official Notice in Chinese)

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	 Solvency regulatory indicators include: Core solvency ratio (ratio of core capital to minimum capital) shall be no less than 50 percent. Comprehensive solvency ratio (ratio of actual capital to minimum capital) shall be no less than 100 percent. Integrated risk rating shall be rating B or above. Insurance companies must submit solvency reports and other solvency information and data to CBIRC and its local branches. Those insurance companies whose core solvency ratios are lower than 60 percent or comprehensive solvency ratios are lower than 120 percent will be closely monitored. CBIRC may take the following regulatory measures with respect to those insurance companies whose core solvency ratios are lower than 100 percent or comprehensive solvency ratios are lower than 50 percent or comprehensive solvency ratios are lower than 50 percent or comprehensive solvency ratios are lower than 50 percent or comprehensive solvency ratios are lower than 50 percent or comprehensive solvency ratios are lower than 100 percent including: Holding supervisory discussion. Requiring plans for preventing solvency deterioration or improving risk management. Restricting grants of remuneration to directors, supervisors, and senior management members. Restricting profit distributions to shareholders. 		
	Furthermore, CBIRC may, in its own discretion, take other measures to companies whose solvency regulatory indicators decline, such as requiring a capital increase, restricting business scope or growth, requiring adjustments to its investments, and so forth.		

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Subject Specifying the rules on administrative licensing of insurance intermediaries	 Opdate On 18 August 2020, CBIRC published the draft Administrative Licensing and Filing by Insurance Intermediaries Implementation Rules to solicit public comments. These will apply to foreign-invested specialized insurance intermediaries. Key takeaways from the draft rules are set out below: The minimum registered capital for a regional specialized insurance agency and a brokerage company will be increased from RMB10 million to RMB20 million, while the minimum registered capital for nationwide specialized insurance agency and insurance brokerage companies will remain at RMB50 million. The minimum registered capital for nationwide and regional insurance loss adjustor companies will remain at RMB 2 million and RMB 1 million respectively. More documentation will be required to apply for the establishment of insurance information security protection in relation to their business and financial information systems. Imposing additional qualification requirements for senior management candidates for specialized insurance agency companies: engaging in financial work for no less than three years. 	Release date: 18 August 2020 Effective date: Not effective	https://www.cbirc. gov.cn/cn/view/pa ges/ItemDetail.ht ml?docId=923592 &itemId=916&gen eraltype=0 (CBIRC's official Notice in Chinese)
Circular on regulating the health management services of insurance companies	 On 6 September 2020, CBIRC promulgated the <i>Circular on Regulating the Health Management Services of Insurance Companies</i>, providing detailed rules concerning the implementation of the <i>Health Insurance Administrative Measures</i> issued by CBIRC in 2019. Key obligations of an insurance company in providing health management services include the following: Setting out the contents and prices of health management services in a 	Release date: 6 September 2020 Effective date: 6 September 2020	https://www.cbirc. gov.cn/cn/view/pa ges/ItemDetail.ht ml?docId=927763 &itemId=915&gene raltype=0 (CBIRC's official Notice in Chinese) https://www.cbirc. gov.cn/cn/view/pa ges/ItemDetail.ht ml?docId=927764

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	 rational manner based on its service capabilities, the clients' needs, and features of the health insurance business. Proactively informing clients of the contents, procedures, standards, time periods, matters calling for special attention, and potential risks concerning the health management services, and obtaining clients' informed consent, and informing clients of participation by any third-party service providers (if any). Obtaining clients' consent before obtaining health data. Not providing any client's personal information or health data to any third party without clients' prior consent, and protecting data security and privacy in accordance with law. Establishing a health management service evaluation, feedback, and complaint handling mechanism; Entering into a health management services with health insurance products. Not bundling health management services with health management services, health management services, and on its official website, disclosing the insurance products containing health management services, health management services provided separately, and the relevant cooperating institutions and so forth. Reporting statistical information related to health management services semi-annually. 		& item Id=915&gene raltype=0 (CBIRC's Q&A in Chinese)
Unifying regulations on insurance agents	On 23 November 2020, CBIRC issued the <i>Provisions on the Supervision and</i> <i>Administration of Insurance Agents</i> (the Insurance Agent Provisions), which came into force on 1 January 2021. The Insurance Agent Provisions regulate specialized insurance agents, concurrent business	Release date: 12 November 2020 Effective date: 1 January 2021	https://www.cbirc. gov.cn/cn/view/pa ges/ItemDetail.ht ml?docId=944049 &itemId=916&gen eraltype=0

Subject	Update	Kev date	Link
Subject	 Update insurance agents, and individual insurance agents in one set of regulations, aiming to provide a set of relatively unified regulatory standards and rules in terms of the operational rules, market exits, and legal liability. Highlights of the Insurance Agent Provisions can be summarized as follows: Raising the minimum registered capital from RMB10 million to RMB20 million for regional insurance agents. Abolishing the three-year validity period for the licenses granted to specialized insurance agents and concurrent-business insurance agents, meaning that such insurance agents 'licenses do not need to be renewed every three years. Prohibiting personnel at insurance companies and specialized insurance agents from investing in specialized insurance agents from investing in specialized insurance agents from investing in specialized insurance agents to differentiate them from personnel employed by insurance agents. Introducing a definition of a separate mechanism for regulating individual insurance agents. Strengthening regulation of individual practice licensing and requiring each individual insurance 	Key date	Link (CBIRC's official Notice in Chinese) https://www.cbirc. gov.cn/cn/view/pa ges/ItemDetail.ht ml?docId=944050 &titemId=917&gene raltype=0 (CBIRC's Q&A in Chinese)
	 insurance intermediaries, or individual insurance agents from investing in specialized insurance agent companies (to avoid conflicts of interest). Introducing a definition of individual insurance agents to differentiate them from personnel employed by insurance agents and accelerating the establishment of a separate mechanism for regulating individual insurance agents. Strengthening regulation of individual practice licensing and requiring each individual insurance 		
	 agent and personnel employed by insurance agents to conduct practice registration through one institution. Tightening qualification requirements for senior management and persons in-charge of insurance agents, including disqualifying persons owing a relatively large amount of overdue debt. Raising qualification requirements for specialized insurance agents to establish branches, including, for example, the requirement that the company must not be subject to any criminal penalties or major 		

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	 past year, and none of the company's branches established during the past two years have exited the market within one year after commencement of operations. Abolishing the RMB50 million maximum limit for specialized liability insurance purchased by specialized insurance agency companies and the RMB1 million cap on the guarantee deposit payable by such companies (a mandatory deposit required to be paid at 5 percent of the registered capital). 		
CBIRC issued new measures on internet insurance business	 On November 14, 2020, after two rounds of draft revisions were issued for public consultation, CBIRC promulgated the <i>Internet Insurance Business Measures</i> (New Internet Insurance Measures), replacing the 2015 <i>Internet Insurance Business Interim Measures</i>. Highlights of the New Internet Insurance Measures are set out below: Only licensed insurance institutions (Qualified Operators) are allowed to engage in internet insurance business can no longer be conducted via a qualified third party platform. The New Internet Insurance Measures that unlicensed entities must not conduct, including providing consultancy services on insurance products, insurance application agency services, insurance premium collection agency services and so forth. A customer protection principle is established when regulating the online and offline insurance activities involve a mix of online and offline insurance measures and existing CBIRC regulations 	Release date: 7 December 2020 Effective date: 1 February 2021	https://www.cbirc. gov.cn/cn/view/pa ges/govermentDet ail.html?docId=94 9137&itemId=861 &generaltype=1 (CBIRC's official Notice in Chinese) https://www.cbirc. gov.cn/cn/view/pa ges/ItemDetail.ht ml?docId=949135 &itemId=915&gene raltype=0 (CBIRC's Q&A in Chinese)

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	 (regulating offline activities) shall apply, and if there is a conflict or inconsistency as a result of the application of the New Internet Insurance Measures and the existing CBIRC regulations, the regulations that are more favorable to the customer shall prevail and apply. Qualified Operators are required to complete the requisite ICP filing and must satisfy other qualification requirements for internet operation in respect of themselves and their self-owned platforms, e.g. onshore- based network access, segregation of the information systems, comprehensive internet safety protection mechanisms, internet security classification mechanisms, lawful distribution models, and sound management systems, and so forth. More types of insurance products are expected to be allowed to be distributed online. Having replaced the existing "positive list" of insurance products that are permitted to be distributed online, the New Internet Insurance Measures generally provide that insurance products with "simple forms, simple terms, clear responsibilities and effective after-sales services" can be distributed online. 		
Draft revised implementing rules for opening up the insurance sector to foreign investors	Following the Further Opening Up the Financial Sector Relevant Measures (the 11 Measures) and the Decision on Revising the 'Foreign Insurers in China Regulations and the 'Foreign-Invested Banks Administrative Regulations' (the Decision), CBIRC issued the draft Foreign Insurers in China Regulations Implementing Rules (the Draft Foreign Insurer Rules) on 31 December 2020 to solicit public comments. The Draft Foreign Insurer Rules mainly reflect the policies of financial sector liberalization under the 11 Measures and the Decision, with certain sector-specific	Release date: 31 December 2020 Effective date: Not effective	https://www.cbirc. gov.cn/cn/view/pa ges/ItemDetail.ht ml?docId=954955 &itemId=917&gene raltype=0 (CBIRC's official Notice in Chinese)

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	restrictions on foreign investors being removed. Major changes have been made to the current implementing rules:			
	Removing restrictions on foreign ownership in life insurance companies.			
	• Removing the requirement that a foreign insurer must have been operating for 30 years and have maintained a CBIRC-approved insurance representative office in China for two years before it can establish a foreign-invested insurance company in China.			
	• Removing relevant provisions on establishing branches of foreign-invested insurance companies and applying the same qualification requirements as branches of domestic capital companies.			

Changes in insurance regulation: Hong Kong

Subject	Update	Key date	Link
Passage of Insurance (Amendment) Bill 2020 and the Insurance (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill 2020 Interpretation Notes relating to the Guideline on Benefit Illustrations for Long Term Insurance	The Legislative Council passed the Insurance (Amendment) Bill 2020 and the Insurance (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill 2020 on 17 July 2020. The new ordinances seek to provide for a new regulatory regime for the insurance-linked securities business, expand the scope of insurable risks of captive insurers set up in Hong Kong and enhance the regulatory framework for insurance groups where a holding company for the group is incorporated in Hong Kong. The new ordinances are expected to come into operation on 29 March 2021. The Insurance Authority (IA) issued the Interpretation Notes relating to GL28. The IA clarified various parts of GL28, including its scope and application, the signature requirements, as well as rules in regards to policy loans, customization, documentation and transitional	Key date	The Financial Services and Treasury Bureau press releases (17 July 2020): https://www.info. gov.hk/gia/general /202007/17/P202 0071700509.htm and https://www.info. gov.hk/gia/general /202007/17/P202 0071700521.htm IA circular (20 August 2020): https://www.ia.or g.hk/en/legislative _framework/circu lars/reg_matters/f iles/Circular_200
Insurance Policies (GL28) Interpretation Notes relating to the Guideline on Financial Needs Analysis (FNA)	documentation and transitional arrangement. The IA also clarified relevant requirements and rules for the various benefit illustration documents for investment-linked assurance scheme policies, participating policies, universal life (non-linked) policies, and non- participating policies. The IA issued the Interpretation Notes relating to GL30, which clarified and explained various issues relating to the FNA, including: • Only refundable insurance policies		iles/Circular_200 82020.pdf Interpretation Notes for GL28: https://www.ia.or g.hk/en/legislative framework/circu lars/reg_matters/f iles/Interpretation Notes to GL28. pdf IA circular (28 August 2020): https://www.ia.or g.hk/en/legislative framework/circu
(GL30)	not having a substantial savings component are exempted from the FNA requirements.		lars/reg_matters/f iles/Circular_280 82020.pdf

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	 Authorized insurers are responsible for ensuring that a proper and complete FNA has been conducted and that they should not solely rely on the declaration of compliance from a licensed insurance broker. The mere passing on of fund- related information issued by fund managers does not constitute professional advice. The FNA template attached to GL30 on FNA can be modified where appropriate for the purposes of proper assessment of the customer's particular circumstances, provided that such modification complies with the requirements set out in paragraph 6.5 of GL30. 		Interpretation Notes for Gl30: https://www.ia.or g.hk/en/legislative framework/circul ars/reg_matters/fi les/Interpretation Notes to GL30 pdf
Circular providing Interpretation Notes relating to the Guideline on Cooling-off Period (GL29)	 The IA issued the Interpretation Notes relating to GL29, providing further guidance to authorized institutions (AIs) and licensed insurance intermediaries on delivery and cooling-off notice as well as nominated representatives. This includes: Explanation of what constitutes sufficient proof of delivery where delivery is made by hand, registered post or couriers, and via electronic means. Clarification of the "nine-calendar day period" timeframe for AIs to deliver policy documents to the licensed insurance intermediary. Clarification that where possible, AIs should specify the exact date of the Cooling-off Period in the Cooling-off Notice, but otherwise, it can be a description that clearly informs the policy holder of when the Cooling-off Period should end. 		IA circular (1 September 2020): https://www.ia.or g.hk/en/legislative _framework/circu lars/reg_matters/f iles/Circular_010 92020.pdf Interpretation Notes for GL29: https://www.ia.or g.hk/en/legislative _framework/circu lars/reg_matters/f iles/Interpretation _Notes to GL29. pdf

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Circular providing Interpretation	 Clarification of the circumstances that licensed insurance brokers are deemed to fall within the definition of "nominated representative of the policy holder" under GL29. The Interpretation Notes relating to GL25 explain the meaning of fees, and what constitutes a discount and a rebate of 		IA circular (22 September 2020): https://www.ia.or
Notes relating to Guideline on Offering of Gifts (GL25) and the Guideline on Long Term Insurance Policy Replacement (GL27)	premiums. It further clarifies GL25's scope of application, as well as the criteria that authorized insurers or the licensed insurance intermediaries should consider in performing a reasonable assessment on the offering of gifts to customers. It also expands on what premium rebates and commission rebates cover, and how authorized insurers can inform customers of these rebates. Additionally, it explains the requirements for "robust internal procedures and controls" under GL25 and gives details of how the record keeping requirement can be complied with.		g.hk/en/legislative framework/circu lars/reg_matters/f iles/Circular_220 92020.pdf Interpretation Notes for GL25: https://www.ia.or g.hk/en/legislative framework/circu lars/reg_matters/f iles/Interpretation Notes to GL25. pdf
	The Interpretation Notes relating to GL27 clarify the scope of application of GL27 to include life insurance policies that combine long term business and additional business of the nature specified in Part 3 of Schedule 1 to the Insurance Ordinance (Cap.41) (IO). GL27 covers situations where a policy holder, who having purchased a life insurance policy, later considers purchasing another life insurance policy to replace (whether in whole or in part) the initially purchased life insurance policy, whereby, for example, surrender or withdrawal charges may be incurred. Authorized insurers and licensed insurance intermediaries are required to ensure that policy holders are fully informed of the consequences of such replacement. Authorized insurers and AIs are also reminded to provide the definition of "policy replacement" as well as the		Interpretation Notes for GL27: https://www.ia.or g.hk/en/legislative framework/circu lars/reg_matters/f iles/Interpretation Notes to GL27. pdf

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	Important Facts Statement – Policy Replacement (IFS-PR) for customers' reference, and that authorized insurers are not allowed to modify the IFS-PR. The Interpretation Notes further explains the measures that licensed insurance intermediaries should take to ascertain whether or not the customer is purchasing the life insurance policy as a policy replacement.		
Medical Insurance Business (GL31) i effected on 23 i September 2020 i I i	GL31 aims to provide guidance on the minimum standards which authorized insurers and licensed insurance intermediaries are expected to meet in order to ensure fair treatment of customers is applied across all aspects of medical insurance business. GL31 applies to all medical insurance products within the definition of "medical insurance business." The majority of the requirements in GL31 are applicable to both individual and group medical insurance policies, based on the principle of fair treatment of customers. Commitment to the fair treatment of customers should be demonstrated by putting in place measures to encourage attitudes and behavior of the insurer's staff and licensed insurance intermediaries to consider matters from the customer's viewpoint. Authorized insurers and licensed insurance intermediaries have an obligation to collect adequate information to place themselves in a position whereby they can perform reasonable assessments before making any insurance recommendations. They have to comply with the requirements of GL31 regardless of the distribution channels through which they sell medical insurance		PIBA circular (23 September 2020): http://www.piba.o rg.hk/wp- content/uploads/2 020/09/Circulars 20200923en ME MO150.pdf GL31: https://www.ia.or g.hk/en/legislative framework/files/ GL31.pdf Frequently asked questions for GL31: https://www.ia.or g.hk/en/legislative framework/files/ FAQ GL31 2020 0923.pdf

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The IA and SFC	The IA and the SFC entered into a new		IA news (28
sign new	MoU on 28 September 2020 following the		September 2020):
Memorandum of	introduction of the direct regulatory		https://www.ia.or
Understanding	regime of insurance intermediaries, which		<u>g.hk/en/infocente</u>
(MoU)	replaces the previous MoU signed in 2005.		<u>r/press_releases/2</u>
	The new MoU covers referral of cases for		<u>0200928.html</u>
	attention, joint inspections and		MoU:
	investigations, and sharing of information		https://www.ia.or
	pertaining to products and relevant		g.hk/en/supervisio
	entities or key persons. It aims to enhance		n/int_dom_coope
	the effectiveness for both the IA and the		ration/files/MOU
	SFC in discharging their regulatory		betweenSFCa
	responsibilities.		nd IA final 28Se
			<u>p2020.pdf</u>
The Hong Kong	With growing demand for individual		HKFI media
Federation of	indemnity hospital insurance plans and to		release (6 October
Insurers (HKFI)	facilitate onboarding of policy applicants,		2020):
issues Best	the HKFI has determined that there is a		https://www.hkfi.
Practice on	need for a simple and defined underwriting		org.hk/#!/media-
Standardizing	questionnaire which applicants will find		release/500
Underwriting	easy to comprehend and to respond to.		
Questionnaire	The HKFI issued the SUQ on 6 October		
for Individual	2020 with the aim of enabling a		
Indemnity	streamlined distribution process regardless		
Hospital	of channels and furnishing insurers with		
Insurance Plans	the necessary information for underwriting		
(Standardized	purposes.		
Underwriting			
Questionnaire)	The SUQ has the following key features:		
(SUQ)	• Aligns the wording of all questions		
	and defines the maximum scope of		
	questions that will be asked for the		
	purpose of underwriting.		
	• Uses layman terms and simple		
	formats – applicants are only		
	expected to answer "Yes/No" to most of the questions.		
	 Clearly specifies the information 		
	that needs to be disclosed and		
	applicants are only required to		
	provide supplementary information		
	on a need basis.		
	Shortens and caps the disclosure		
	timeframe at five years for most of the		
	intertaine at nye years for most of the	<u> </u>	

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	questions related to pre-existing		
	conditions.		
Amendments to	The Hong Kong Institute of Certified	The	IA circular (20
Hong Kong	Public Accountants (HKICPA) has recently	Amendments to	October 2020):
Financial	endorsed the Amendments to HKFRS 17	HKFRS 17 will	https://www.ia.or
Reporting	Insurance Contracts issued by the	come into effect	<u>g.hk/en/legislative</u>
Standard 17	International Accounting Standards Board.	on 1 January	<u>framework/circu</u>
(HKFRS 17)	This endorsement constitutes an adoption	2023.	<u>lars/reg_matters/f</u>
Insurance	of the Amendments to the HKFRS 17		<u>iles/Circular Ame</u>
Contracts	Insurance Contracts. The effective date of		ndments to Hon
	the amended HKFRS 17 is 1 January 2023.		<u>g Kong Financial</u>
			Reporting Stand
	To support the implementation of HKFRS		ard 17 Insurance
	17, the HKICPA continues the activities of		<u>Contracts.pdf</u>
	the Hong Kong Insurance Implementation		
	Support Group (HKIISG), a forum for		UVICDA latton (10
	members to raise and discuss questions on		HKICPA letter (19 October 2020):
	implementing HKFRS 17. HKIISG has held		-
	multiple meetings with the IA, HKFI and		https://www.ia.or g.hk/en/legislative
	other parties to foster mutual		_framework/circul
	understanding of relevant HKFRS 17		<u>ars/reg_matters/fi</u>
	issues. The IA encourages authorized		les/HKICPA_lette
	insurers to continue making use of the		r on Amendment
	HKIISG and to ensure timely implementation of HKFRS 17.		s to HKFRS 17
	Implementation of TRERS 17.		<u>19 Oct 2020.pdf</u>
Applying the	While the accounting treatment of a ROU		IA circular (29
Applying the provisions of	asset and related lease liability is set out in		October 2020):
Insurance	the Hong Kong Financial Reporting		https://www.ia.or
(General	Standard 16 Leases, having consulted the		<u>g.hk/en/legislative</u>
Business)	HKICPA on the matter, the IA understands		framework/circu
(Valuation)	that there are different interpretations by		lars/reg_matters/f
Rules (Cap.41G)	general insurers as to whether a ROU asset		iles/Circular 202
(the Valuation	is a tangible or intangible asset.		<u>01029.pdf</u>
Rules) in the	is a tangible of intangible asset.		<u>01023.put</u>
valuation of	Having considered the potential impact on		
right-of-use	authorized insurers' solvency positions as a		
(ROU) asset and	result of the application of the Valuation		
related lease	Rules to the determination of the value of		
liability	ROU asset and related lease liability, the		
	IA is of the view that for the purpose of the		
	Valuation Rules, where the ROU asset		
	arises from a lease agreement entered into		
	by an authorized insurer in respect of any		

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	premises used for carrying on insurance business, the value of such asset and the related lease liability would be determined in accordance with Rule 13 (other asset or liability) of the Valuation Rules. This approach should support consistency among authorized insurers with respect to the determination of the value of ROU assets and related lease liabilities under the Valuation Rules, and has taken effect since 1 November 2020 in respect to authorized insurers' preparation of the relevant reporting to the IA.		
Formation of the IA's Disciplinary Panel Pool (DPP)	The IA has formed its DPP which has become an important part of the disciplinary process, whereby decisions on disciplinary actions which the IA is empowered to take under the IO are to be made by three-member panels formed by persons drawn from the DPP. The DPP is composed of IA board members and other experienced professionals from the legal, financial and other sectors. Members of the DPP are appointed by the IA for a renewable term of three years from October 2020 to September 2023.		IA circular (30 October 2020): https://www.ia.or g.hk/en/legislative framework/circu lars/reg matters/f iles/Cir 3010202 0 Formation of the DPP Publicat ion of Conduct i n Focus.pdf Member list of DPP: https://www.ia.or g.hk/en/enforcem ent/Disciplinary Panel Pool/DPP.h tml

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Extension of Phase 2 of the temporary facilitative measures (TFM) to tackle the outbreak of COVID-19	The IA issued multiple circulars on 27 March, 15 June, 4 September and 2 December 2020 regarding the extension of Phase 2 of the TFM to obviate the need to conduct face-to-face meetings in order to minimize the risk of infection during the insurance policy sale process . Phase 2 of the TFM has been extended to 31 March 2021 (based on policy application date) in view of the pandemic situation, unless otherwise varied by the IA. The scope of products covered and the implementation details remain unchanged. Please refer to our <i>Asia Insurance Regulatory Tracker</i> for the first and second quarter of 2020 <u>here</u> for more details.	The IA has extended Phase 2 of the TFM to 31 March 2021.	IA Circular (2 December 2020): https://www.ia.or g.hk/en/legislative framework/circu lars/reg_matters/f iles/Circular_0212 2020.pdf

Changes in insurance regulation: Singapore

Subject	Update	Key dates	Links
Guidance on Strengthening Capital Market Intermediaries' Oversight over AML/CFT Outsourcing Arrangements	MAS has issued a guidance paper setting out its supervisory expectations for sound practices, where financial institutions (FIs) have outsourced their anti-money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism (AML/CFT) control functions. Although this paper was premised on MAS's inspections of capital markets intermediaries in Singapore, MAS has stated that the principles set out in the paper are applicable and relevant to other types of FIs (i.e. including insurers).	Issue date: 15 July 2020	https://www.mas. gov.sg/regulation/ guidance/strength ening-cmi- oversight-over- amlcft- outsourcing- arrangements
Consultation on the New Omnibus Act for the Financial Sector	 MAS consulted in Q3 2020 in respect of the proposed new omnibus act (new Act) for the financial sector. MAS intends for the new Act to incorporate existing provisions currently set out in the Monetary Authority of Singapore Act (Cap 186), and additionally include new provisions relating to: A harmonized and expanded power for MAS to issue prohibition orders. A new Part to regulate virtual asset service providers created in Singapore for AML/CFT purposes. A harmonized power to impose requirements on technology risk management. Providing mediators, adjudicators, and employees of an operator of an approved dispute resolution scheme with statutory protection from liability. 	Consultation opened on 21 July 2020 and closed on 20 August 2020.	https://www.mas. gov.sg/publication s/consultations/2 020/consultation- paper-on-the-new- omnibus-act-for- the-financial- sector
Information Paper on Enhancing Robustness of Enterprise-Wide Risk Assessment	MAS issued an information paper setting out its supervisory expectations of effective enterprise-wide risk assessment on money laundering and terrorism financing frameworks and processes, that	Issue date: 3 August 2020	https://www.mas. gov.sg/publication s/monographs-or- information- paper/2020/enha

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on Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing	the FIs should benchmark themselves against. Although this paper was premised on MAS's inspections of selected banks in Singapore, MAS has stated that the desired outcomes and good practices set out in the paper are applicable and relevant to other types of FIs.		ncing-robustness- of-enterprise- wide-risk- assessment-on- money- laundering-and- terrorism- financing
Amendments to MAS Notice 321 on Direct Purchase Insurance Products	MAS has revised Notice 321, which applies to all direct life insurers, except for those that are classified as life insurers with defined market segments in MAS's Financial Institution Directory. The amendments relate to changes in the names and definitions of certain Critical Illnesses (CIs) set out at the Annex to Appendix A of Notice 321.	Revision date: 20 August 2020 Effective date: 26 August 2020	https://www.mas. gov.sg/regulation/ notices/notice-321 https://www.mas. gov.sg/regulation/ circulars/id31_20
Guidance on Effective AML/CFT Controls in Private Banking	MAS has issued a guidance paper setting out its supervisory expectations of effective AML/CFT controls in the private banking industry. Although this paper was premised on MAS's inspections of selected private banks in Singapore, MAS has stated that the principles set out in the paper are applicable and relevant to other types of FIs.	Issue date: 4 September 2020	https://www.mas. gov.sg/regulation/ guidance/effective -amlcft-controls- in-private-banking
Guidelines on Individual Accountability and Conduct	MAS has issued a set of guidelines for FIs (Guidelines on IAC), which focus on the measures that FIs should put in place to promote the individual accountability of their senior managers, strengthen oversight over material risk personnel, and reinforce conduct standards among all employees. The board of directors of an FI and its senior management will be responsible for overseeing that FI's implementation of the Guidelines on IAC.	Issue date: 10 September 2020 Effective date: 10 September 2021	https://www.mas. gov.sg/regulation/ guidelines/guideli nes-on-individual- accountability- and-conduct https://www.mas. gov.sg/publication s/monographs-or- information- paper/2020/infor mation-paper-on-

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	The Guidelines on IAC set out specific accountability and conduct outcomes that should be achieved by FIs, and will come into effect on 10 September 2021. Although the specific guidance in the Guidelines on IAC is not strictly compulsory, FIs to whom the Guidelines on IAC apply should be prepared to justify any decision not to adopt such specific measures.		<u>culture-and-</u> <u>conduct-practices-</u> <u>of-financial-</u> <u>institutions</u>
	In conjunction with the Guidelines on IAC, MAS has also published a non- binding information paper setting out certain culture and conduct outcomes that FIs should aim to achieve, in specific areas such as governance, hiring, communication channels and performance management. The paper also provides examples of good practices for banks, insurers and capital market intermediaries.		
MAS Notice 120 on Disclosure and Advisory Process Requirements For Accident and Health Insurance Products	Paragraph 24A of Notice 120 bars accident and health insurance intermediaries from closing the sale of Medisave-approved policies over the telephone, where such policies have also been marketed over the telephone. MAS has amended Notice 120 to extend the temporary exemption granted over this rule to 30 September 2021.	Revision date: 30 September 2020 Effective date: 1 October 2020	https://www.mas. gov.sg/regulation/ notices/notice-120
Amendments to MAS Notice 307 on Investment- Linked Policies	 Notice 307 applies to all direct life insurers who offer investment-linked policies (ILPs). The Notice sets out: Mandatory requirements on notifications to MAS, valuation of units, audit of ILP sub-funds, disclosures and other operational practices. Non-mandatory standards on investment guidelines, borrowing limits, 	Revision date: 8 October 2020 Effective dates: (i) The requirement for certain ILPs to send monthly statements to policyholders has taken effect from 8 October 2020; and	https://www.mas. gov.sg/regulation/ notices/notice-307 https://www.mas. gov.sg/regulation/ circulars/id-36- 20-amendments- to-mas-notice-307

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	valuation errors and compensation, and other operational practices. Following MAS's consultation on Notice 307 in Q1 2019, this Notice has been amended to implement certain enhanced disclosure requirements for the sale of ILPs.	(ii) other amendments on single premium charges and single pricing will apply to ILPs issued on or after 8 October 2021.	
Amendments to Notice 320 on Management of Participating Life Insurance Business	Notice 320 applies to all direct insurers licensed to carry on life business. It sets out the requirements for insurers to put in place internal governance policies, governance and controls related to allocation of charges and expenses, and to make disclosures related to the management of participating life insurance business. MAS consulted in Q1 2020 in respect of proposals to revise requirements in the area of expense charging and allocation to the participating fund (Q1 2020 Consultation), in order to bring about consistent and appropriate charging of such expenses so as to safeguard policyowners' interests. MAS issued its response to the Q1 2020 Consultation on 16 November 2020 and has amended Notice 320 to implement its proposals. These proposals came into effect on 1 January 2021.	Revision date: 16 November 2020 Effective date: 1 January 2021	https://www.mas. gov.sg/publication s/consultations/2 020/proposed- requirements-on- insurers-charging- of-expenses-to- the-participating- fund https://www.mas. gov.sg/regulation/ notices/notice- 320
Guidelines on Environmental Risk Management for Insurers	Following its Q3 2020 consultation, MAS has issued the Guidelines on Environmental Risk Management for Insurers (Guidelines on ERM). These Guidelines on ERM apply on a group basis for locally-incorporated insurers, and are intended to help insurers manage the various financial and reputational risks which may arise from environmental risks.	Issue date: 8 December 2020	https://www.mas. gov.sg/regulation/ guidelines/guideli nes-on- environmental- risk-management- for-insurers

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Guidelines on the Preparation of the Actuarial Investigation Report; Amendments to Notice 133 on Valuation and Capital Framework for Insurer	The Guidelines on ERM set out MAS's expectations on environmental risk management for all insurers, and include guidelines on: Governance and strategy. Underwriting. Investment. Disclosure of environmental risk information. MAS has issued the Guidelines on the Preparation of Actuarial Investigation Reports (ID 01/20) (Guidelines 01/20), which include guidance on the information that should be disclosed when an actuary prepares a report referred to in section 37(1)(b) of the Insurance Act (Cap 142) (an actuarial investigation report). Guidelines 01/20 also set out disclosures that should be made in relation to the calculation of the policy liability risk requirement for life business, as set out in Notice 133. Notice 133 has been amended in order to refer to Guidelines 01/20 where relevant; MAS has also made certain clarificatory amendments to Notice 133, following commonly raised questions received since the implementation of the enhanced valuation and capital framework.	Guidelines 01/20 Issued on 23 December 2020, will take effect in relation to actuarial investigation reports prepared for accounting periods on or after 1 January 2020. Notice 133 Revision date: 23 December 2020 Effective date: 31 December 2020	https://www.mas. gov.sg/regulation/ circulars/id40_20 https://www.mas. gov.sg/regulation/ guidelines/guideli nes-on-the- preparation-of- actuarial- investigation- report https://www.mas. gov.sg/regulation/ notices/notice-133
Terrorism Financing National Risk Assessment	The Ministry of Home Affairs, the Ministry of Finance and MAS have jointly published the Terrorism Financing National Risk Assessment 2020 (TFNRA). The TFNRA presents an overview of Singapore's terrorism financing (TF) risk environment, and identifies key risk areas within its national counter terrorism financing (CFT) system.	Published: 30 December 2020	https://www.mas. gov.sg/publication s/monographs-or- information- paper/2020/terro rism-financing- national-risk- assessment-2020

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	The TFNRA has found that:		
	 Singapore continues to be exposed to TF threats posed by terrorist groups both regionally and internationally, in particular the propensity for individuals in Singapore to be radicalized and influenced to carry out TF activities. Certain sectors, notably money remittance (or payment service providers carrying out cross-border money transfer service) and banks, are more inherently vulnerable to TF threats, given the relative ease with which their services may be accessed, coupled with Singapore's status as a financial and transport hub and proximity to countries exposed to terrorist activities. MAS has stated that private sector entities should continue to incorporate the TFNRA findings in their risk-based 		
	approach to countering TF.		
Consequential amendments to various Insurance Regulations and MAS Notice 100 on the Licensing of Insurers	MAS has amended various insurance regulations and Notice 100 to update the billing date for annual fees payable by insurers and Lloyd's Asia Scheme Administration (for year 2022 and after). Several regulations have also been updated to provide for the manner and method of the payment of annual fees.	Amendments generally took effect on 31 December 2020.	https://www.mas. gov.sg/regulation/ circulars/id42_20
	Notice 100 has also been amended to remove the requirement that captive		

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	insurers seek MAS's approval before changing their financial year end; such insurers will only be required to notify MAS of this change as soon as possible, but no later than one month after such change.		
Updates to requirements for returns to be lodged by insurers with MAS	Certain requirements for insurers regarding the returns required to be lodged with MAS have been changed. The following MAS Notices have been updated: Notice 129 on Insurance Returns (Accounts and Statements). Notice 130 on Insurance Returns (Accounts and Statements) for Captive Insurers. Notice 131 on Insurance Returns (Accounts and Statements) for Special Purpose Reinsurance Vehicles. Notice 212 on Insurance Returns (Accounts and Statements) for Marine Mutual Insurers. Notice 213 on Insurance Returns (Accounts and Statements) for Marine Mutual Insurers. Notice 213 on Insurance Returns (Accounts and Statements) for Financial Guarantee Insurers. In addition, Notice 119 on Electronic Submission of Returns has been cancelled.	Revision date: 30 December 2020 Effective date: 31 December 2020	Notice 119 Notice 129 Notice 130 Notice 131 Notice 212 Notice 213

Changes in insurance regulation: Indonesia

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	done by way of video conferences in addition to regular physical meetings. Other than the above, POJK 58/2020 also further regulates procedures for marketing of unit-linked insurance products (<i>Produk</i> <i>Asuransi Yang Dikaitkan Dengan</i> <i>Investasi</i> or PAYDI) that is applicable to insurance companies and sharia insurance companies that have already met the requirements as stated in POJK 58/2020. Under POJK 58/2020, if the marketing of PAYDI was carried out using long-distance communication media, then the follow-up face-to-face meetings with the customers can be done through digital or electronic media. In addition to the above, the statement from the policyholder / insured / participant regarding insurance benefits that usually requires a wet-ink signature from the relevant policyholder / insured / participant can now be replaced with an		
	 participant can now be replaced with an electronic signature. The abovementioned relaxations applies during the period of COVID-19 outbreak emergency status in Indonesia, which is determined from time to time by the government. Specific to insurance brokerage companies and reinsurance brokerage companies, 		
	and reinsurance brokerage companies, POJK 58/2020 relaxes the provisions for fulfillment of equity requirements of IDR 2 billion for insurance brokerage companies and of IDR 3 billion for reinsurance brokerage companies whose business activities are affected by the spread of COVID-19.		
Alternative Dispute Resolution Institutions in Financial Services Sector	The OJK has issued a new regulation regarding Alternative Dispute Resolution Institutions (<i>Lembaga Alternatif</i> <i>Penyelesaian Sengketa</i> or LAPS) in financial services sector under OJK Regulation No. 61/POJK.07/2020 on <i>Alternative Dispute Resolution</i>	Effective as of 16 December 2020 LAPS in financial services sector is effectively	https://www.ojk.g o.id/id/regulasi/P ages/Lembaga- Alternatif- Penyelesaian- Sengketa-Sektor-

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	Institutions in Financial Services Sector (POJK 61/2020) on 14 December 2020 revoking the previous regulations regarding LAPS in the financial services sector. These regulations were previously contained in the OJK Regulation No. 1/POJK.07/2014.	operated on 1 January 2021	<u>Jasa-</u> <u>Keuangan.aspx</u>
	The OJK considers it necessary to improve the regulations to grasp the LAPS as it is more effective and efficient, and such improvement responds to the development in technology, financial products and services that are increasingly complex across the financial services sector.		
	Before the issuance of POJK 61/2020, there were 6 LAPS for each financial services sector, resulting in unstandardized services and quality provided by each LAPS in resolving disputes in the financial services sector, as well as uncertainty in dispute resolution for consumers that use the product and/or cross-sectoral services and for financial services that do not yet have LAPS.		
	In order to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of dispute resolution in the financial services sector, the OJK considers it necessary to establish one LAPS that covers all disputes in the financial services sector, both conventional, and sharia.		
Periodic Reporting for Insurance Brokers, Reinsurance Brokers and Loss Adjusters	The OJK has issued a new regulation on the scope, form, structure and procedure for submission of periodic reports of Insurance Brokers, Reinsurance Brokers and Loss Adjusters under the <i>OJK</i> <i>Circular Letter No. 25/SEOJK.05/2020 on</i> <i>Form and Composition of Periodic</i> <i>Reports of Insurance Broker Company,</i> <i>Reinsurance Broker Company and Loss</i> <i>Adjusters Company</i> (SEOJK 25/2020) on 22 December 2020.	Effective as of 22 December 2020	https://www.ojk.g o.id/id/regulasi/P ages/Bentuk-dan- Susunan-Laporan- Berkala- Perusahaan- Pialang-Asuransi,- Pialang- Pialang- Reasuransi.aspx

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	By issuance of the SEOJK 25/2020, the previous regulation governing this matter i.e. OJK Circular Letter No. 3/SEOJK.05/2018 is revoked and no longer valid.		
	Under SEOJK 25/2020, insurance brokerage companies and reinsurance brokerage companies are required to submit (i) periodic reports that consist of semi-annual reports and annual reports; and (ii) other reports that consist of, among others, business plans, business plan realization reports, and business plan supervision reports.		
	In addition, loss adjuster companies are required to submit (i) annual reports; and (ii) other reports that consists of a report on the appointment of a public accountant and a report on the evaluation results of the audit committee on the implementation of audit services by a public accountant.		
Risk Management Implementation for non-bank financial service institutions (<i>lembaga jasa</i> <i>keuangan non-</i> <i>bank</i> or LJKNB)	The OJK has issued a new regulation on risk management for LJKNB under <i>OJK</i> <i>Regulation No. 44/POJK.05/2020 on</i> <i>Implementation of Risk Management for</i> <i>Non-bank Financial Services Institutions</i> (POJK 44/2020) on 28 August 2020 which has passed into law and become effective on 2 September 2020. By issuance of POJK 44/2020, the previous regulation governing this matter i.e. OJK Regulation No. 1/POJK.05/2015 is revoked and no longer valid while the	Effective as of 2 September 2020	https://www.ojk.g o.id/id/regulasi/P ages/Penerapan- Manajemen- Risiko-bagi- Lembaga-Jasa- Keuangan- Nonbank.aspx
	revoked and no longer valid while the implementing regulations of such revoked regulation will remain valid as long as it is not contrary to POJK 44/2020. POJK 44/2020 is applicable to LJKNB which includes insurance and reinsurance companies, insurance brokerage		
	companies, reinsurance brokerage companies, lost adjuster companies,		

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	pension funds, and financing companies (e.g. leasing and multi-finance companies).		
	Under POJK 44/2020 LJKNB are required to implement effective risk management which at least includes:		
	• Active supervision of the board of directors, board of commissioners, and sharia supervisory board.		
	• Adequacy of risk management policies and procedures and determination of risk limits.		
	• Adequacy of risk identification, measurement, control and monitoring processes, as well as risk management information systems.		
	• A comprehensive internal control system.		
	Specific to insurance and reinsurance companies, risk management must be applied to: a) strategic risks; b) operational risks; c) insurance risks; d) credit risks; e) market risks; f) liquidity risks; g) legal risks; h) compliance risks; and i) reputational risks.		
	On the other hand, for insurance brokerage companies, reinsurance brokerage companies, and lost adjuster companies, risk management must be applied to a) strategic risks; b) operational risks; c) legal risks; d) compliance risks; and e) reputational risks.		
OJK Introduces New Provisions on Marketing Channels for Insurance Products	As initially mandated under OJK Regulation No. 23/POJK.05/2015 on Insurance Products and the Marketing of Insurance Products, the OJK recently issued OJK Circular Letter No. 19/SEOJK.05/2020 on Marketing Channels for Insurance Products (SEOJK 19/2020), which sets out a number of specific provisions that address various	Effective as of 2 October 2020	https://www.ojk.g o.id/id/regulasi/P ages/Saluran- Pemasaran- Produk- Asuransi.aspx

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	marketing mechanisms in relation to insurance products.		
	Under SEOJK 19/2020, insurance companies and sharia insurance companies (Companies) are only permitted to market their insurance products through one of the following insurance product marketing channels (Marketing Channels):		
	 Direct marketing. Insurance agents. Bancassurance. Non-Bank Business Entities (Badan Usaha Selain Bank or BUSB). Marketers (for micro-insurance products). 		
	Several requirements must be satisfied when using the Marketing Channels, including: 1) Companies will be held responsible for any consequences that arise in relation to any issued insurance policy, as well as for the actions of any parties who engage in insurance marketing; 2) insurance marketing must be implemented through cooperation agreements; 3) all cooperation agreements must be documented.		
	Companies, insurance agencies, banks and BUSB are allowed to market their insurance products via electronic systems (e.g. websites, social media, applications, etc.).		

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