

NEWS > Hong Kong > Content

Published: 20:13, October 18, 2024

Hong Kong unveils fast-track IPO process to boost listings

By Zhang Tianyuan in Hong Kong



People walk in front of Exchange Square, which houses the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, in Central, Hong Kong, on Jan 5, 2024. (SHAMIM ASHRAF / CHINA DAILY)

Hong Kong financial authorities on Friday announced plans to introduce a fast-track option for eligible Chinese mainland firms and streamline the IPO application review process for all applicants, in a bid to cement the city's position as the region's [premier listing venue](#).

Under the new framework, eligible A-share companies with a minimum market capitalization of HK\$10 billion (\$1.28) can benefit from an accelerated IPO application process, reducing the review period to up to 30 business days, according to a joint statement published by the city's bourse operator, the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Ltd (HKEX) and the Securities and Futures Commission (SFC).

READ MORE: [Horizon Robotics seeks \\$696m in HK IPO, would be city's largest in 2024](#)

A-share companies seeking the fast route must provide legal advisers' opinions confirming their regulatory compliance with all applicable A-share listing laws and regulations for the preceding two financial years.

The new rules also stated that for all applications meeting requirements, regulators will complete their assessment within 40 business days, after a maximum of two rounds of comments. Applicants are expected to address regulators' comments within 60 business days, with the entire process designed to be completed within a six-month window.

HKEX's Head of Listing Katherine Ng said the new policy, including the introduction of the Accelerated Timeframe for eligible A-share listed companies, "will provide greater clarity and certainty in the application process for New Listing applications, thereby assisting potential applicants and their advisers in formulating their listing plans, and further elevating Hong Kong's attractiveness as an international financial center."

Hong Kong's capital markets”.

ALSO READ: [Deloitte: Hong Kong set for 4th place in global IPO rankings](#)

Hong Kong's financial experts lauded the new IPO policy with its potential to enhance transparency and certainty in the listing process, touting that it injected fresh momentum into the city's role as an international financial hub.

Mofiz Chan, chairman of the Hong Kong Securities and Futures Professionals Association, noted the initiative could particularly benefit listed companies and investors.

“A fast-track review timeline for companies listed on the A-share market... clarifies regulatory responsibilities, fostering standardization, and reflects an openness to market feedback,” Chan said.

“However, some concerns remain. The fast-track criteria are stringent, potentially excluding smaller A-share companies,” he noted.

Financial sector lawmaker Robert Lee Wai-wang echoed Chan. He said, “These measures... enhance overall transparency and facilitate potential issuers' listings in Hong Kong.”

Lee added that the optimized review process timeline would assist applicants and their advisors in formulating listing plans, further enhancing Hong Kong's attractiveness as an international financial center.

READ MORE: [Midea IPO breathes new life into HK stock market](#)

The regulatory reform came as the city's leader John Lee Ka-chiu delivering his third annual Policy Address on Wednesday, which highlighted “striving for more listing of enterprises in Hong Kong” and encouraging “large-scale mainland enterprises to list here”.

The Hang Seng Index ended a four-day losing streak on Friday, [advancing 3.6 percent](#) to close at 20,804.

Contact the writer at tianyuanzhang@chinadailyhk.com

Share

ALSO READ

CHINADAILY

Bacterial infection behind deaths of nine monkeys in HK zoo

CHINADAILY

HK's tourism, 'silver economy' working groups to start work by year-end

CHINADAILY

CHINADAILY

HK ramps up efforts to attract skilled workers

HKMA launches five measures to support SME financing

CHINADAILY

CUHK-Shenzhen hopes to attract more HK students through DSE

CHINADAILY

Master goldsmiths blend tradition with modern elegance

CHINADAILY

Celebrating the legacy of Chinese gold artistry

CHINADAILY

Officials dispel concerns about rental hikes as subdivided-unit rules loom

CHINADAILY

NEWS

- Hong Kong
- Nation
- Asia
- World
- Business
- Science
- Sports

FOCUS

- Life & Art
- In-depth China
- Quirky
- Photo
- Graphics
- Data
- Culture HK
- Global Weekly
- Eye on Asia
- Special

OPINION

- Editorials
- Columns**
- Grenville Cross
- Tu Haiming
- Richard Cullen
- Lau Siu-kai
- Tony Kwok
- Ho Lok-sang
- Quentin Parker
- Henry Ho
- Xiao Ping
- David Cottam

GBA

- GBA Guide
- GBA Life
- GBA in Figures
- GBA Pulse

VIDEO

- Girl City
- Drone and Phone
- Asia Featured
- China Daily DOCS

VISUAL NEWS

- Readable News
- The Gold
- Beats of Taiwan
- 90 Sec Doc

Peak Talk

The 50th Anniversary of China-Malaysia Diplomatic Relations

EPAPER

Hong Kong Edition
Global Weekly

MORE

Roundtable
Campus News Awards
Newsletter
Lifestyle Premium

COMPANY

About Us Services & Products
Advertise on Site Contact Us
Subscriptions Join Us
Accessibility Statement Privacy Policy

Follow Us

Download Our App



Google Play



Android (APK)



iOS App Store

CHINA GLOBAL EDITION

Copyright 1995 - 2024. All rights reserved. The content (including but not limited to text, photo, multimedia information, etc) published in this site belongs to China Daily. Without written authorization from China Daily, such content shall not be republished or used in any form.