



## China CITIC Bank International The 15th Asian Dragon Boat Championships coming in October

Asia's top-level dragon boat race is returning to Hong Kong 27 years after the city's reunification with the motherland

Traditional Chinese game stalls and souvenir kiosks for members of the general public to enjoy a long weekend



*China CITIC Bank International The 15th Asian Dragon Boat Championships has been kicked off at a press conference with officiating guests including Hon Kenneth Leung Yuk-wai, JP (3<sup>rd</sup> from left), Member of the Legislative Council of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region; Dr Kwok Chi-leung BBS (4<sup>th</sup> from left), Vice President, Sports Federation & Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China; Mr Lao Kam (centre), President, Hong Kong China Dragon Boat Association; Mr Bi Mingqiang (4<sup>th</sup> from right), Executive Director, President & Chief Executive Officer, China CITIC Bank International Limited and Mr Chung Chi-lok (3<sup>rd</sup> from right), Chairman, Hong Kong China Dragon Boat Association*

(Hong Kong: 25 September 2024) Sponsored by China CITIC Bank International and organised by Asian Dragon Boat Federation and Hong Kong China Dragon Boat Association, China CITIC Bank International The 15th Asian Dragon Boat Championships (the "Championship") will be held at Kwun Tong Waterfront from 11 to 13 October 2024. Elite dragon boat teams from 13 Asian countries and regions are joining the race in Hong Kong for the highest honour in Asia's dragon boat racing scene. At the press conference today, Mr Lao Kam, President, Hong Kong China Dragon Boat Association, Mr Chung Chi-lok, Chairman, Hong Kong China Dragon Boat Association, Mr Bi Mingqiang, Executive Director, President & Chief Executive Officer, China

CITIC Bank International Limited, alongside Hon Kenneth Leung Yuk-wai, JP, Member of the Legislative Council of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, and Dr Kwok Chi-leung BBS, Vice President, Sports Federation & Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China, kicked off the Championships.

The biennial Championships is a main event in the dragon boat racing calendar. A first-time host back in 1996, Hong Kong welcomes back the Championships since its reunification with the motherland. Mr Lao Kam, President, Hong Kong China Dragon Boat Association, said: "Dragon boating originated in China. We look to the Championships to promoting dragon boat racing as an international competitive sport, with an aim also to spread the Chinese culture and promote perseverance, collaboration and sportsmanship displayed by members of the dragon boat elite teams".

Mr Chung Chi-lok, Chairman, Hong Kong China Dragon Boat Association, noted: "Held at the Kwun Tong waterfront, the Champions will draw members of the general public closer to the sport, making a contribution to the development of Kowloon East a major venue for water sports."

Mr Bi Mingqiang, Executive Director, President & Chief Executive Officer, China CITIC Bank International Limited, remarked: "A Chinese bank with a century-old heritage in Hong Kong, China CITIC Bank International embraces the responsibility to drive social progress and facilitate prosperity. Aside from contribution to the economy, the Bank has always supported the development of culture and sports in the city with an emphasis on promoting the Chinese culture and Hong Kong stories. On the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China, the Bank is honoured to sponsor The 15th Asian Dragon Boat Championships, giving Hong Kong a leg up on its way of becoming a sports events capital."

China CITIC Bank International The 15th Asian Dragon Boat Championships will see more than 800 dragon boat elite team members from 13 countries and regions, including more than 100 from Hong Kong China, compete for the championships. The races will cover 100m, 200m, 500m and 2,000m, in categories encompassing open group, mixed group and women's group with the majority of the races on 12-person small dragons and 22-person medium dragons. There will also be a 12-person dragon boat race for a U24 youth group. In celebration of the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China, China CITIC Bank International will also organise a China CITIC Bank International National Day Cup – a friendly match among dragon boat teams from Hong Kong corporations and other institutions for the enjoyment of members of the general public.

The stage and an auditorium are set at the Kwon Tong waterfront for the Championships from 11 to 13 October to welcome Hong Kong citizens who are invited to feel the vibes and cheer for the athletes. A total of 14 traditional Chinese game stalls and souvenir kiosks as well as

an exhibition of dragon boat equipment will engage visitors in the dragon boat fun. During the Championships, the venue is open from 10am to 5pm daily. Admission is free.

### **Details of China CITIC Bank International The 15th Asian Dragon Boat Championships**

#### **Participating countries and regions:**

Australia	China	Hong Kong, China	Macau, China
Chinese Taipei	India	Iran	Japan
South Korea	Malaysia	Philippines	Singapore
Thailand			

#### **Competition schedule:**

Date	Schedule
11 October Friday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opening Ceremony</li> <li>• 75th Anniversary of the Founding of the People's Republic of China - China CITIC Bank International National Day Cup</li> <li>• Asian Dragon Boat Championships 200m and 2,000m races</li> <li>• Open Group / Mixed Group / Women's Group (12-person dragon boat and 22-person dragon boat)</li> <li>• Youth Group U24 (12-person dragon boat)</li> </ul>
12 October Saturday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asian Dragon Boat Championships 100m event</li> <li>• Open Group / Mixed Group / Women's Group (12-person dragon boat and 22-person dragon boat)</li> <li>• Youth Group U24 (12-person dragon boat)</li> </ul>
13 October Sunday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asian Dragon Boat Championships 500m event</li> <li>• Open Group / Mixed Group / Women's Group (12-person dragon boat and 22-person dragon boat)</li> <li>• Youth Group U24 (12-person dragon boat)</li> </ul>

**Promotional video:** <https://youtu.be/iwbCBPZAvq8>

**Image download:** <https://bit.ly/3MSGbsd>

### **China Hong Kong Dragon Boat Association**

Since its establishment in 1991, the Hong Kong Dragon Boat Association has been committed to promoting, developing, managing, and organizing dragon boat competitions and training. The Federation is affiliated to the Sports Association and Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China. It is also a founding member of the international and regional dragon boating organizations "International Dragon Boating Federation", "Asian Dragon Boating Federation" and "Hong Kong Aquatic Sports Council". As the coordinating organization for dragon boat racing in Hong Kong, the China Hong Kong Dragon Boat Association is committed to preserving the cultural and historical traditions of dragon boat racing, actively promoting the development of local and international dragon racing activities, selecting and training the Hong Kong dragon boat team, and organizing training courses for referees and coaches, and encourage local dragon boat teams to participate in overseas international competitions.

### **China CITIC Bank International Limited**

China CITIC Bank International Limited ("CNCBI"), a major offshore platform of commercial banking business of the CITIC Group, is 75%-owned by CITIC International Financial Holdings Limited ("CIFH"), which in turn is a wholly-owned subsidiary of China CITIC Bank Corporation Limited ("CNCB").

China CITIC Bank International's footprint in Greater China includes 24 branches and two business banking centres in Hong Kong, as well as presence in Beijing, Shanghai, Shenzhen and Macau, and overseas branches in New York, Los Angeles and Singapore.

Across a century, China CITIC Bank International has grown together with its employees, customers and partners since 1922 and will continue to move towards its vision of "Agile. Professional. Simple." in adherence to the 4C (Culture, Customer, Collaboration, Cyberspace) core values while driving actively its missions to "create value for customers, seek happiness for employees, make profit for shareholders, perform responsibility for society".

More information about China CITIC Bank International can be found on its website at [www.cncbinternational.com](http://www.cncbinternational.com).

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