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#### **Pricing Supplement dated 20 February 2020**

## **DBS GROUP HOLDINGS LTD**

# Issue of U.S.\$1,000,000,000 3.30 per cent. Perpetual Capital Securities First Callable in 2025 under the U.S.\$30,000,000,000 Global Medium Term Note Programme

This document constitutes the Pricing Supplement relating to the issue of Perpetual Capital Securities described herein.

Terms used herein shall be deemed to be defined as such for the purposes of the Perpetual Capital Securities Conditions (the "Conditions") set forth in the Offering Circular dated 1 April 2019 (the "Offering Circular"). This Pricing Supplement contains the final terms of the Perpetual Capital Securities and must be read in conjunction with such Offering Circular. This Pricing Supplement, together with the information set out in the Schedule to this Pricing Supplement, supplements the Offering Circular and supersedes the information in the Offering Circular to the extent inconsistent with the information included therein. The Perpetual Capital Securities have not been registered under the Securities Act, or under the securities laws of any state or other jurisdiction of the United States. The Perpetual Capital Securities may not be offered, sold, pledged or otherwise transferred within the United States to, or for the account or benefit of, any U.S. person (as defined in Regulation S) unless the offer or sale would qualify for a registration exemption from, or would not be subject to the registration requirements of the Securities Act and applicable U.S. state securities laws.

Where interest, distribution, discount income, prepayment fee, redemption premium or break cost is derived from any of the Perpetual Capital Securities by any person who is not resident in Singapore and who carries on any operations in Singapore through a permanent establishment in Singapore, the tax exemption available for qualifying debt securities (subject to certain conditions) under the Income Tax Act, Chapter 134 of Singapore (the "Income Tax Act"), shall not apply if such person acquires such Perpetual Capital Securities using the funds and profits of such person's operations through a permanent establishment in Singapore. Any person whose interest, distribution, discount income, prepayment fee, redemption premium or break cost derived from the Perpetual Capital Securities is not exempt from tax (including for the reasons described above) shall include such income in a return of income made under the Income Tax Act.

Pursuant to the Monetary Authority of Singapore Act, Chapter 186 of Singapore (the "MAS Act") and the Monetary Authority of Singapore (Resolution of Financial Institutions) Regulations 2018 (the "MAS Regulations"), Subordinated Notes and Perpetual Capital Securities would be eligible instruments (as defined in the MAS Regulations). Accordingly, should a Bail-in Certificate (as defined in the MAS Act) be issued, Subordinated Notes and Perpetual Capital Securities may be subject to cancellation, modification, conversion and/or change in form, as set out in such Bail-in Certificate

PRIIPs REGULATION – PROHIBITION OF SALES TO EEA AND UK RETAIL INVESTORS – The Perpetual Capital Securities are not intended to be offered, sold or otherwise made available to and should not be offered, sold or otherwise made available to any retail investor in the European Economic Area ("EEA") or in the United Kingdom (the "UK"). For these purposes, a retail investor means a person who is one (or more) of: (i) a retail client as defined in point (11) of Article 4(1) of Directive 2014/65/EU (as amended, "MiFID II"); or (ii) a customer within the meaning of Directive (EU) 2016/97 (the "Insurance Distribution Directive"), where that customer would not qualify as a professional client as defined in point (10) of Article 4(1) of MiFID II. Consequently no key information document required by Regulation (EU) No 1286/2014 (as amended, the "PRIIPs Regulation") for offering or selling the Perpetual Capital Securities or otherwise making them available to retail investors in the EEA or in the UK has been prepared and

therefore offering or selling the Perpetual Capital Securities or otherwise making them available to any retail investor in the EEA or in the UK may be unlawful under the PRIIPs Regulation.

SECTION 309B(1)(C) OF THE SECURITIES AND FUTURES ACT (CHAPTER 289 OF SINGAPORE) NOTIFICATION - The Perpetual Capital Securities are "prescribed capital markets products" (as defined in the Securities and Futures (Capital Markets Products) Regulations 2018).

1 Issuer: DBS Group Holdings Ltd

2 (i) Series Number: 24 (ii) Tranche Number: 1

3 Specified Currency or Currencies: United States dollars ("U.S.\$")

4 Aggregate Nominal Amount:

(i) Series: U.S.\$1,000,000,000 (ii) Tranche: U.S.\$1,000,000,000

5 Issue Price: 100 per cent. of the Aggregate Nominal Amount

6 (i) Specified Denominations: U.S.\$200,000 and integral multiples of U.S.\$1,000 in

excess thereof

(ii) Calculation Amount: U.S.\$1,000, subject to adjustment following the

occurrence of a DBSH Trigger Event or the issue of a

Bail-in Certificate

7 (i) Issue Date: 27 February 2020

(ii) Distribution Commencement Issue Date

Date:

8 Distribution

(i) Distribution Basis: From (and including):

 the Distribution Commencement Date to (but excluding) the First Reset Date (as defined below), at the Initial Distribution Rate;

 the First Reset Date and each Reset Date falling thereafter to (but excluding) the immediately following Reset Date, the Reset Distribution Rate

(further particulars specified below)

(ii) Distribution Stopper (Condition

5(e)):

Applicable

**9** Redemption/Payment Basis: Redemption at par

10 Change of Distribution or Redemption: See paragraph 8 above

11 Call Options: Issuer Call

(further particulars specified below)

**12** Listing: SGX-ST

13 Method of distribution: Syndicated

#### PROVISIONS RELATING TO DISTRIBUTION PAYABLE

14 Fixed Rate Perpetual Capital Security Applicable Provisions:

(i) Rate(s) of Distribution:

(a) Initial Distribution Rate: 3.30 per cent. Fixed Rate per annum payable semi-

annually in arrear

(b) Reset: Applicable

(A) First Reset Date: 27 February 2025

(B) Reset Dates: The First Reset Date and each date falling every five

years after the First Reset Date, not adjusted for non-

business days

The determination of the Reset Distribution Rate shall be calculated on the second Business Day immediately preceding such Reset Date (the "**Reset Determination Date**") in accordance with Condition

4(f)

(C) Relevant Rate: 5-year U.S. Dollar Treasury Rate, where:

"5-year U.S. Dollar Treasury Rate" means the rate per annum (expressed as a percentage) as determined by the Calculation Agent (and notified to the Issuer) that is equal to the yield to maturity for U.S. Treasury securities with a maturity of five years as set forth in H.15(519) under the caption "Treasury constant maturities", as displayed on Reuters page "FRBCMT" (or any successor page or service displaying yields on U.S. Treasury securities as agreed between the Issuer and the Calculation Agent), at 5:00 p.m. (New York City time) on the Reset Determination Date. If such page (or any successor page or service) does not display the relevant yield at 5:00 p.m. (New York City time) on the Reset Determination Date, "5-year U.S. Dollar Treasury Rate" shall mean the rate per annum (expressed as a percentage) equal to the semi-annual equivalent yield to maturity of the Comparable Treasury Issue, calculated by the Calculation Agent using a price for the Comparable Treasury Issue (expressed as a percentage of its principal amount) equal to the Comparable Treasury Price for the Reset Determination Date. If there is no Comparable Treasury Price on the relevant Reset Determination Date for whatever reason, "5-year U.S. Dollar Treasury Rate" means the rate per annum (expressed as a percentage) as notified by the Calculation Agent in writing to the Issuer equal to the yield on U.S. Treasury securities having a maturity of five years as set forth in H.15(519) under the caption "Treasury constant maturities", as was displayed on

Reuters page "FRBCMT" (or any successor page or service displaying yields on U.S. Treasury securities as agreed between the Issuer and the Calculation Agent), at 5:00 p.m. (New York City time) on the last available date preceding the Reset Determination Date on which such rate was displayed on Reuters page "FRBCMT" (or any successor page or service displaying yields on U.S. Treasury securities as agreed between the Issuer and the Calculation Agent).

"Comparable Treasury Issue" means the U.S. Treasury security selected by the Independent Adviser as having a maturity of five years that would be utilised, at the time of selection and in accordance with customary financial practice, in pricing new issues of corporate debt securities with a maturity of five years.

"Comparable Treasury Price" means, with respect to the relevant Reset Determination Date, the average of three Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations for the relevant Reset Determination Date.

"H.15(519)" means the weekly statistical release designated as such published by the Federal Reserve System Board of Governors, or its successor, available through the website of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System currently at https://www.federalreserve.gov/releases/h15/, or any successor page.

"Independent Adviser" means an independent financial institution of international repute or an independent financial adviser with appropriate expertise appointed by the Issuer.

"Reference Treasury Dealer Quotations" means with respect to each Reference Treasury Dealer and any Reset Determination Date, the bid price for the Comparable Treasury Issue, expressed in each case as a percentage of its principal amount, quoted in writing to the Independent Adviser by such Reference Treasury Dealer at approximately 5.15 p.m. (New York City time), on the relevant Reset Determination Date and then notified in writing by the Calculation Agent to the Issuer and the Trustee.

"Reference Treasury Dealer" means each of the three nationally recognised investment banking firms selected by the Independent Adviser that are primary U.S. Government securities dealers.

(D) Initial Spread: 1.915 per cent.

(ii) Distribution Period: Each period from (and including) a Distribution

Payment Date to (but excluding) the subsequent Distribution Payment Date, except that the first Distribution Period will commence on (and include) the

Issue Date

(iii) Distribution Payment Date(s): 27 February and 27 August in each year commencing

on the Distribution Payment Date falling on 27 August 2020, adjusted in accordance with the Business Day Convention (as specified in paragraph 14(iv) below) and any applicable Financial Centre(s) (as set out in paragraph 22 below) for the definition of "Business"

Day"

(iv) Business Day Convention: Following Business Day Convention

(v) Fixed Distribution Amount(s): From (and including) the Distribution Commencement

Date to (but excluding) the First Reset Date, U.S.\$16.50 per Calculation Amount, subject to adjustment following the occurrence of a DBSH Trigger Event or the issue of a Bail-in Certificate

From (and including) the First Reset Date, the respective amounts to be determined pursuant to paragraph 14(i)(b) above and the Day Count Fraction mentioned below, subject to adjustment following the occurrence of a DBSH Trigger Event or the issue of a

Bail-in Certificate

(vi) Broken Amount(s): Not Applicable

(vii) Day Count Fraction: 30/360

(viii) Determination Dates: Not Applicable

(ix) Other terms relating to the method of calculating Distribution for Fixed Rate Perpetual Capital Securities:

15 Floating Rate Perpetual Capital

Security Provisions:

Not Applicable

Not Applicable

# PROVISIONS RELATING TO REDEMPTION

16 Call Option: Applicable

(i) Optional Redemption Date(s): First Reset Date and each Distribution Payment Date

thereafter

(ii) Optional Redemption Amount(s) U.S.\$1,000 per Calculation Amount, subject to

of each Perpetual Capital Security and specified denomination method, if any, of calculation of

such amount(s):

U.S.\$1,000 per Calculation Amount, subject to adjustment following the occurrence of a DBSH Trigger Event or the issue of a Bail-in Certificate

(iii) If redeemable in part:

Minimum Redemption Not Applicable

Amount:

Maximum Redemption

Amount:

Not Applicable

(iv) Notice period:

In accordance with Condition 6(d)

17 Variation instead of Redemption

(Condition 6(f)):

Applicable

18 Final Redemption Amount of each

Perpetual Capital Security:

U.S.\$1,000 per Calculation Amount, subject to adjustment following the occurrence of a DBSH Trigger Event or the issue of a Bail-in Certificate

19 Early Redemption Amount:

Early Redemption Amount(s) per Calculation Amount payable on redemption for taxation reasons or on event of default and/or the method of calculating the same (if required or if different from that set out in the Conditions): U.S.\$1,000 per Calculation Amount, subject to adjustment following the occurrence of a DBSH Trigger Event or the issue of a Bail-in Certificate

PROVISIONS RELATING TO LOSS ABSORPTION

**20** Loss Absorption Option:

Write-off Applicable

DBSH Write-off on a DBSH Trigger

Event (Condition 7(b))

**GENERAL PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO THE PERPETUAL CAPITAL SECURITIES** 

21 Form of Perpetual Capital Securities: Regulation S Global Note (U.S.\$1,000,000,000

nominal amount) registered in the name of a nominee for a common depositary for Euroclear and

Clearstream, Luxembourg

22 Financial Centre(s) or other special

provisions relating to Payment Dates:

London, New York City

23 Other terms or special conditions: Not Applicable

**DISTRIBUTION** 

24 (i) If syndicated, names of Managers: DBS Bank Ltd.

Citigroup Global Markets Limited

Société Générale

Wells Fargo Securities International Ltd

(ii) Stabilising Manager (if any): Citigroup Global Markets Limited

25 If non-syndicated, name of Dealer: Not Applicable

26 Whether TEFRA D or TEFRA C was

applicable or TEFRA rules not

applicable:

TEFRA Not Applicable

27 Additional selling restrictions: Not Applicable

OPERATIONAL INFORMATION

**28** ISIN Code: XS2122408854

**29** Common Code: 212240885

30 CUSIP: Not Applicable31 CMU Instrument Number: Not Applicable

32 Legal Entity Identifier (LEI): 5493007FKT78NKPM5V55

Any clearing system(s) other than The Central Depositary (Pte) Limited, The Central Moneymarkets Unit Service, Euroclear Bank SA/NV and Clearstream Banking S.A., The Depository Trust Company and/or Austraclear Ltd and the relevant

identification number(s):

Not Applicable

34 Delivery: Delivery against payment

35 Additional Paying Agent(s) (if any): Not Applicable

**GENERAL** 

36 Applicable Governing Document: Amended and Restated Trust Deed dated 1 April 2019

37 Governing Law: English law save that Condition 7(c) and the

provisions in relation to subordination, set-off and payment void and default and enforcement shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the

laws of Singapore

#### PURPOSE OF PRICING SUPPLEMENT

This Pricing Supplement comprises the final terms required for issue and admission to trading on the Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited of the Perpetual Capital Securities described herein pursuant to the U.S.\$30,000,000,000 Global Medium Term Note Programme of DBS Bank Ltd. and DBS Group Holdings Ltd.

# RESPONSIBILITY

The Issuer accepts responsibility for the information contained in this Pricing Supplement.

Signed on behalf of DBS Group Holdings Ltd:

By:

Duly authorised

Edwin Tan

Managing Director, Group Finance

# SCHEDULE TO THE PRICING SUPPLEMENT RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

The Offering Circular is hereby supplemented with the following information, which shall be deemed to be incorporated in, and to form part of, the Offering Circular. Save as otherwise defined herein, terms defined in the Offering Circular have the same meaning when used in this Schedule. For the avoidance of doubt, "DBS Group" refers to DBS Group Holdings Ltd and its consolidated subsidiaries.

# PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL INFORMATION – AUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE FULL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019 OF DBS GROUP

On 13 February 2020, DBS Group Holdings Ltd published its "Performance Summary" (the "Performance Summary") that included its audited consolidated financial results for the full year ended 31 December 2019. The Performance Summary, which is incorporated by reference into the Offering Circular, is appended hereto as Exhibit A.

## **RISK FACTORS**

The risk factor "Risk Factors – Risks Relating to the DBS Group – A global or regional financial crisis or financial instability in the countries where the DBS Group does business could adversely affect its operations, asset quality and growth" appearing on page 32 of the Offering Circular shall be deleted in its entirety and substituted therefor with the following:

"A global or regional financial crisis or financial instability in the countries where the DBS Group does business could adversely affect its operations, asset quality and growth.

The DBS Group has been, and in the future will continue to be, materially affected by geo-political, economic and market conditions, including factors such as the liquidity of the global financial markets, the level and volatility of debt and equity prices, interest rates, currency and commodities prices, investor sentiment, inflation, and the availability and cost of capital and credit.

There are a number of uncertainties ahead in the global markets. 2020 is expected to continue to see an inward-looking policy agenda in the U.S. aimed at encouraging American companies to bring back jobs, renegotiating trade pacts and stimulating the domestic economy. In China, concerns include bilateral trade relations with the U.S., and managing an economic slowdown and putting in place new legal frameworks to deal with an expected rise in defaults in its bond market amidst continued structural imbalances in the China economy (e.g. high corporate leverage). India is also in an adjustment period, having been impacted by three consecutive shocks over the past three years, namely demonetisation, GST implementation, and financial sector stress.

In Europe, the United Kingdom exited the European Union on 31 January 2020, with plans to sign a free trade agreement before its Brexit transition period ends in December 2020. In addition, geopolitical risks in the Middle East have recently risen following the death of a top Iranian General and Iran declaring its withdrawal from the 2015 nuclear agreement, with upside risk to oil prices should oil shipments from the Persian Gulf is disrupted. Any of these events could pose greater volatility to foreign exchange and financial markets in general due to the increased uncertainty.

Inflationary pressures in emerging markets and Asia are likely to ease on the back of slower global growth. Whilst this gives more leeway for an accommodative stance on monetary policy, central bankers would still have to weigh a decision to cut rates against the need to stabilise their currencies against depreciation pressures.

The implications for the world and the DBS Group are significant. First, a rise in global trade protectionism will negatively impact the trade-dependent economies in Asia. Second, the interplay

between U.S. fiscal policies *vis-à-vis* monetary policies pursued by other central banks, particularly those in the emerging markets, may lead to more volatile global capital flows. Third, while the DBS Group's direct exposures outside its core Asian markets are relatively modest, financial market volatility and increased uncertainty may have a broader global economic impact that may in turn have a material adverse effect on the DBS Group's business, financial condition and results of operations.

To the extent that uncertainty regarding the economic outlook starts to negatively impact consumer confidence and consumer credit factors globally, the DBS Group's business and results of operations could be significantly and adversely affected.

Investors should be aware that there is a recent history of financial crises and boom-bust cycles in multiple markets in both emerging and developed economies which leads to risks for all financial institutions, including the DBS Group. The 2008 global financial crisis affected the DBS Group through an increase in NPLs and mark-downs in other assets. While the DBS Group did not experience the same degree of write-downs as banks that were exposed to, or invested in, the U.S. residential mortgage market, the widening of credit spreads resulted in mark-to-market and realised losses on its investment and derivative portfolios and adversely affected its profitability. In addition, the DBS Group remains subject to the indirect economic effect of any potential tightening in global credit conditions, some of which cannot be anticipated and the vast majority of which are not under its control. The DBS Group also remains subject to counterparty risk arising from financial institutions that can fail or are otherwise unable to meet their obligations under their contractual commitment to the DBS Group.

On a geographical basis, the DBS Group's performance and the quality and growth of its assets are substantially dependent on the health of the Singapore and Hong Kong economies. The economic environment in Singapore and Hong Kong, economies which are dependent on trade and investment, may also be significantly affected by a variety of external factors, including economic developments throughout Asia and in the United States, Europe and other markets. There are also domestic factors that may affect the economic health of relevant markets, such as the large protests observed in Hong Kong in 2014 and again since June 2019. If there is another global or regional financial crisis or a severe economic downturn in the DBS Group's primary markets, this would likely have a material adverse effect on the DBS Group's business, financial condition or results of operations. Further, Singapore's economy is highly exposed to economic and market conditions in other countries in light of the interconnectivity between Singapore's economy and the rest of the world. As a result, an economic downturn or recession in the United States, Europe and other countries in the developed world or a slowdown in economic growth in major emerging markets such as China or India could have an adverse effect on economic growth in Singapore. A slowdown in the rate of growth in Singapore's economy could result in lower demand for credit and other financial products and services, and higher defaults among corporate and retail customers, which could adversely affect the DBS Group's business, financial performance, shareholders' equity, ability to implement its strategy and the price of the Notes.

Legislators and financial regulators in the United States and other jurisdictions, including Singapore, have implemented a number of policy measures designed to add stability to the financial markets and act as liquidity risk management initiatives. However, the overall impact of these and other legislative and regulatory efforts on the global and Singapore financial markets remains uncertain, and, in effect, these initiatives may not be successful in stabilising the economy. This may materially and adversely affect the DBS Group's cost of funding, loan portfolios, liquidity, business, prospects, financial condition and results of operations."

The risk factor "Risk Factors – Risks Relating to the DBS Group – The DBS Group may be subject to increased regulatory capital and liquidity requirements which could have a material adverse effect on its

business, financial condition and results of operations." appearing on pages 36 to 38 of the Offering Circular shall be amended by deleting the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>,4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> paragraphs on page 36 in their entirety, and replacing them with the following:

(i) deleting the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> paragraphs on page 36 in their entirety, and replacing them with the following:

"The MAS Notice 637 on Risk Based Capital Adequacy Requirements for Banks Incorporated in Singapore ("MAS Notice 637") incorporates the Basel III capital standards published by the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision (the "Basel Committee") into Singapore regulations. Domestic systemically important banks ("D-SIBs") are required to comply with a minimum Common Equity Tier 1 ("CET1") capital adequacy ratio ("CAR") of 6.5%, Tier 1 CAR of 8% and Total CAR of 10%. These minimum ratios are two percentage points higher than those established by the Basel Committee, and are aimed to reduce the probability of failure of D-SIBs by increasing their going-concern loss absorbency. The MAS has designated DBS Bank as a D-SIB. In addition, Singapore-incorporated banks are required to maintain a capital conservation buffer of up to 2.5% and a countercyclical buffer of up to 2.5%, both to be met fully with CET1 capital.

The countercyclical buffer is not an ongoing requirement and is only applied as and when specified by the relevant banking supervisors. The applicable magnitude will be a weighted average of the jurisdiction-specific countercyclical buffer requirements that are required by authorities in jurisdictions to which a bank has private sector credit exposures. The Basel Committee expects jurisdictions to implement the countercyclical buffer during periods of excessive credit growth. Of the jurisdictions where the DBS Bank Group has material private sector credit exposures, Hong Kong has applied a countercyclical buffer of 1.875% from 1 January 2018, which increased to 2.5% from 1 January 2019 and was recently reduced to 2.0% from 14 October 2019.

Including the capital conservation buffer and excluding the countercyclical buffer, a D-SIB is required to meet CET1 CAR of 9.0%, Tier 1 CAR of 10.5% and Total CAR of 12.5%."

(ii) deleting the 6<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> paragraphs in their entirety, and replacing them with the following:

"MAS Notice 637 also imposes a minimum leverage ratio requirement of 3% for Singapore-incorporated banks at the solo and group levels, amongst others.

In respect of liquidity standards, DBS Bank is subject to Basel III liquidity coverage ratio ("LCR") standards under MAS Notice 649 on Minimum Liquid Assets and Liquidity Coverage Ratio ("MAS Notice 649"). Under MAS Notice 649, a bank incorporated and headquartered in Singapore must maintain at all times, a consolidated Group Singapore Dollar LCR of at least 100% and an all-currency LCR of at least 100%.

The DBS Group is subject to the Basel Committee's standards on Basel III net stable funding ratio ("NSFR") requirements under MAS Notice 652 on Net Stable Funding Ratio ("MAS Notice 652"). DBS, as a D-SIB incorporated and headquartered in Singapore must maintain a consolidated all-currency Group NSFR of at least 100% at all times.

In addition, the DBS Group's overseas banking subsidiaries and branches are subject to capital adequacy and liquidity requirements imposed by their respective local regulators. As at 31 December 2019, the DBS Group was in compliance with the applicable capital adequacy and liquidity requirements of each of the jurisdictions in which it operates subsidiaries and branches.

(iii) adding the following paragraphs to the end of the sub-section appearing on page 38 of the Offering Circular:

"In particular, on 7 May 2019, the MAS released a consultation paper on "Proposed Implementation of the Final Basel III Reforms in Singapore", seeking feedback on proposed revisions to the risk-

based capital requirements and leverage ratio requirements for Singapore-incorporated banks to align with the Basel III reforms, and to implement these revisions from 1 January 2022. These proposals, if implemented can affect the way banks in Singapore calculate their exposures, which may in turn affect their capital or liquidity requirements."

The risk factor "Risk Factors – Risks Relating to the DBS Group – The exercise by the MAS of resolution powers may be beyond the control of the Relevant Issuer" appearing on pages 38 to 40 of the Offering Circular shall be deleted in its entirety, and replaced with the following:

# "The exercise by the MAS of resolution powers may be beyond the control of the Relevant Issuer.

The MAS has certain resolution powers over failed financial institutions (or financial institutions which are at risk of failure, or which have breached their regulatory obligations) and these resolution powers can be exercised by the MAS prior to insolvency of the said financial institutions. These resolution powers are set out in the Monetary Authority of Singapore Act, Chapter 186 of Singapore ("MAS Act").

The MAS' resolution powers include among other things, the power to transfer the whole or part of the business of a financial institution, the power to order a compulsory transfer of shares of a financial institution, the power to order a compulsory restructuring of share capital of the institution, the exercise of statutory powers allowing the MAS to temporarily stay early termination rights (including set-off and netting rights) of counterparties to financial contracts entered into with a financial institution over which the MAS may exercise its resolution powers (which would include Singapore licensed banks), a statutory bail-in regime, cross-border recognition of resolution action, creditor safeguards and resolution funding. The MAS also has statutory bail-in powers to write down or convert a Singapore-incorporated bank or Singapore-incorporated bank holding company's debt into equity. These powers extend to DBS Bank and DBSH. As specified under Division 4A of Part IVB of the MAS Act, the classes of instruments subject to the statutory bail-in powers of the MAS include equity instruments and unsecured subordinated debt issued on or after 29 November 2018.

If the MAS exercises its resolution powers in respect of DBS Group, this may have the effect of adversely affecting DBS Group's business, financial condition and results of operations."

The following risk factor shall be added as a new risk factor appearing before the risk factor "Risk Factors – Risks Relating to the DBS Group – Terrorist activities, natural calamities and outbreak of communicable diseases around the world could lead to higher volatility in international capital markets, which may materially and adversely affect the DBS Group's business, financial condition and results of operations and the market price of the Notes" on page 41:

## "Risks may arise from pursuing inorganic opportunities

The DBS Group may from time to time evaluate inorganic opportunities, including acquisitions, divestments, joint ventures and investments, with a view to determining whether those opportunities will enhance the DBS Group's strategic position and financial performance.

The certainty and timing (including the timeliness of any public releases) of any such inorganic opportunities are not wholly within the DBS Group's control and may be impacted by a range of factors outside of the control of the DBS Group, including the actions and/or decisions of transaction counterparties and/or regulators. Pursuit of such inorganic opportunities inherently involves transaction risks, including over-valuation of an acquisition or investment or under-valuation of a divestment, and exposure to reputational damage. Integration or separation of an acquired or divested business, as the case may be, can be complex and costly, and the DBS Group may encounter difficulties in integrating or separating businesses, including failure to realise expected synergies, combining or separating relevant accounting and data processing systems, disruption to

operations, as well as managing relevant relationships with employees, customers, regulators, counterparties, suppliers and other business partners. Integration or separation efforts could also create inconsistencies in standards, controls, procedures and policies, as well as diversion of management resources or higher than expected costs. There can also be no assurance that employees, customers, counterparties, suppliers and other business partners of newly acquired or retained businesses will remain post-acquisition or post-divestment, and the loss of employees, customers, counterparties, suppliers and other business partners may adversely affect the DBS Group's operations or results. Any of these risks and difficulties may ultimately have an adverse impact on the DBS Group's financial performance and position.

Additionally, there are risks relating to the completion of any particular transaction occurring, including counterparty and settlement risk, or the non-satisfaction of any completion conditions (for example, relevant regulatory or third party approvals and/or other completion conditions). This may adversely affect the DBS Group's ability to conduct its business successfully and impact the DBS Group's operations or results. The DBS Group may also be restricted by the terms of any confidentiality or similar agreement in connection with any opportunity being pursued from publicly disclosing details of such opportunity. In addition, where the DBS Group's acquisitions are in foreign jurisdictions, or are in emerging or growth economies in particular, they may be exposed to heightened levels of regulatory scrutiny and political, social or economic disruption and sovereign and/or reputational risk in emerging and growth markets. The DBS Group may also be exposed to disputes, litigation or other proceedings as a result of pursuing inorganic opportunities which may arise from existing stakeholders (including, for example, customers or employees, minority shareholders, creditors or investors) or in any other counterparty involved in, or connected with, the acquisition, divestment, joint venture or investment (as the case may be). The DBS Group's operating performance, risk profile and capital structure may consequently be affected by these opportunities and there is a risk that the DBS Group's credit ratings may be placed on credit watch or downgraded if these opportunities are pursued.

The DBS Group may also have ongoing exposures to divested businesses, including through the provision of continued services and infrastructure or an agreement to retain certain liabilities of the divested businesses through warranties and indemnities, which may have an adverse impact on the DBS Group's business and financial performance and position."

The risk factor "Risk Factors – Risks Relating to the DBS Group – Terrorist activities, natural calamities and outbreak of communicable diseases around the world could lead to higher volatility in international capital markets, which may materially and adversely affect the DBS Group's business, financial condition and results of operations and the market price of the Notes" appearing on page 41 of the Offering Circular shall be deleted in its entirety and substituted therefor with the following:

"Terrorist activities, natural calamities and outbreak of communicable diseases around the world could lead to higher volatility in international capital markets, which may materially and adversely affect the DBS Group's business, financial condition and results of operations.

Terrorist attacks, natural calamities and outbreak of communicable diseases around the world may affect investor sentiment and could result in sporadic volatilities in international capital markets or adversely affect Singapore and other economies. For example, the recent outbreak of novel coronavirus (COVID-19) which first emerged in Wuhan City, Hubei province, the PRC in late 2019 has continued to spread within the PRC and globally, and resulted in increased volatility in international (particularly Asian) capital markets as well as a disruption in the tourism, travel and retail segments of the countries which were more affected by the outbreak. Any material change in the financial markets or the Singapore economy or regional economies as a result of these events

or developments may materially and adversely affect the DBS Group's business, financial condition and results of operations.

The risk factor "Risk Factors – Risks Relating to the DBS Group – Increased competition could result in decreased loan margins and reduced market share" appearing on page 43 of the Offering Circular shall be amended by including the following paragraph immediately after the 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph of the sub-section:

"The MAS has also recently announced that it will issue up to two digital full bank licences ("**DFB**") and three digital wholesale bank licences ("**DWB**"). These are in addition to any digital banks that Singapore banking groups may already establish under MAS' existing internet banking framework. The digital bank licences will allow entities, including non-bank players, to conduct digital banking businesses in Singapore. A DFB will be allowed to take deposits from and provide banking services to retail and non-retail customer segments, while a DWB will be allowed to take deposits from and provide banking services to SMEs and other non-retail customer segments. Applications for the two types of licences closed on 31 December 2019. The MAS expects to announce successful applicants in mid-2020."

# MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITIONS AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS OF THE DBS GROUP

In the sub-section "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations of The DBS Group – Regulatory Change", the 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph appearing on page 219 shall be deleted in its entirety, and replaced with the following:

"The MAS has revised MAS Notice 637 to incorporate the Basel III capital standards into Singapore regulations. These took effect from 1 January 2013 and have been fully phased in from 1 January 2019. The transitional arrangements for minimum CAR requirements are summarised in the table below."

In addition, the sub-section shall be amended by deleting the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> paragraphs appearing on page 220 in their entirety. The word "holdings" shall be added after the word "TLAC" appearing in the 5<sup>th</sup> paragraph on page 220. In addition, the following paragraphs shall be added to the end of the sub-section appearing on page 220 of the Offering Circular:

"On 7 May 2019, the MAS released a consultation paper on "Proposed Implementation of the Final Basel III Reforms in Singapore", seeking feedback on proposed revisions to the risk-based capital requirements and leverage ratio requirements for Singapore-incorporated banks to align with the Basel III reforms, and to implement these revisions from 1 January 2022. These proposals if implemented can affect the way banks in Singapore calculate their exposures, which may in turn affect their capital or liquidity requirements.

With effect from 30 June 2019, amendments were made to MAS Notice 637 to: (a) allow the recognition of a qualifying on-balance sheet netting agreement for loans and deposits for credit risk mitigation purposes, (b) introduce proportionality for disclosure requirements by reducing disclosure requirements for non D-SIBs, (c) revise disclosure templates for disclosures under MAS Notice 637, and (d) implement other technical revisions."

## **REGULATION AND SUPERVISION**

The sub-section "Regulation and Supervision – The Regulatory Environment – Capital Adequacy Ratios" appearing on pages 291 to 293 of the Offering Circular shall be amended by deleting the 8<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> paragraphs appearing on page 292 and 293 in their entirety, and replacing them with the following: "

"The MAS previously consulted on proposed amendments to MAS Notice 637 on 9 January 2017 to implement requirements that are consistent with the final standards issued by the Basel Committee in relation to revisions to the standards for interest rate risk in the banking book ("IRRBB"). The proposed framework for IRRBB sets out Pillar 2 requirements for the identification, measurement, monitoring and control of IRRBB, and disclosure requirements under prescribed interest rate shock scenarios. On 13 November 2018, the MAS released a response to this consultation paper and a revised MAS Notice 637 to issue the finalised IRRBB standards, with a new regulatory submission specific to IRRBB. Public disclosure requirements are deferred to a later date. The changes became effective on 31 December 2018. The MAS had also stated that it would delay the implementation of the proposed revised Pillar 3 disclosure requirements for IRRBB until a later date, and in the interim, banks will continue to be subject to the existing Pillar 3 disclosure requirements for IRRBB.

MAS Notice 637 also imposes a minimum leverage ratio requirement of 3.0% effective 1 January 2018."

In addition, the sub-section shall be further amended with the following paragraphs added to the end of the sub-section appearing on page 293 of the Offering Circular:

"On 7 May 2019, the MAS also released a consultation paper on "Proposed Implementation of the Final Basel III Reforms in Singapore", feedback on proposed revisions to the risk-based capital requirements and leverage ratio requirements for Singapore-incorporated banks to align with the Basel III reforms, and to implement these revisions from 1 January 2022. These proposals if implemented can affect the way banks in Singapore calculate their exposures, which may in turn affect their capital or liquidity requirements.

With effect from 30 June 2019, amendments were made to MAS Notice 637 to: (a) allow the recognition of a qualifying on-balance sheet netting agreement for loans and deposits for credit risk mitigation purposes, (b) introduce proportionality for disclosure requirements by reducing disclosure requirements for non D-SIBs, (c) revise disclosure templates for disclosures under MAS Notice 637, and (d) implement other technical revisions."

The sub-section "Regulation and Supervision – The Regulatory Environment – Other Key Prudential Provisions" appearing on pages 294 to 298 of the Offering Circular shall be amended by deleting the 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph appearing at page 294 in its entirety, and replacing it with the following:

"MAS Notice 649 implements the Basel III LCR rules. Under MAS Notice 649, a D-SIB incorporated in Singapore and whose head office or parent bank is incorporated in Singapore must maintain at all times, a Singapore Dollar LCR requirement of at least 100% and an all-currency LCR requirement of at least 100%.

MAS Notice 652 implements the Basel Committee's standards on the Basel III Liquidity Rules - Net Stable Funding Ratio ("**NSFR**"). A D-SIB incorporated in Singapore and whose head office or parent bank is incorporated in Singapore must maintain a consolidated all-currency Group NSFR of at least 100% at all times.

MAS Notice 651 and MAS Notice 653 implement disclosure requirements for Singapore-incorporated banks that are consistent with the Basel Committee's revised standards on Pillar 3 disclosures under the Basel III framework. In particular, they concern disclosures of quantitative and qualitative information about LCR and NSFR respectively."

The sub-section shall be further amended by the insertion of the phrase "from 25% of eligible total capital" before the words "to 25% of Tier 1 capital" in the 9<sup>th</sup> paragraph at page 297. The 10<sup>th</sup> paragraph shall be deleted in its entirety, and replacing it with the following:

"However, instead of amending MAS Notice 639, on 14 August 2019, the MAS issued MAS Notice 656 on Exposures to Single Counterparty Groups for Banks Incorporated in Singapore, which is to take effect from 1 October 2020. Amendments will also be made to regulation 24 of the Banking Regulations with effect from 1 October 2020.

On 4 November 2019, the Banking (Amendment) Bill (B35/2019) was introduced in Parliament to (among other things insert a new section 29A to the Banking Act which enhances the monitoring and control of the risk of conflict between the interests of a bank in Singapore and the interests of certain persons, branches or head offices that are related to the bank. The new section 29A provides that the MAS may, by written notice, impose requirements that are reasonably necessary for the purposes of identifying credit facilities, exposures and transactions to or with certain persons, branches, entities or head offices that may give rise to any conflict of interest, and for monitoring, limiting and restricting such credit facilities, exposures and transactions. Among other things, the notice may prohibit the bank from granting any credit facility, creating any exposure or entering into any transaction to or with such a person, branch, entity or head office."

The sub-section shall be further amended by deleting the 11<sup>th</sup> paragraph in its entirety, and replacing it with the following:

"MAS Notice 643 on Transactions with Related Parties (dated 21 November 2016) ("MAS Notice 643") was issued by the MAS pursuant to Section 55(1) of the Banking Act. MAS Notice 643 sets out requirements relating to transactions of banks in Singapore with related parties and the responsibilities of banks in relation to transactions of branches or entities in the bank's group with related parties, which seek to minimise the risk of abuse arising from conflicts of interest in such transactions. On 30 July 2019, the MAS stated in its Response to Feedback Received on Amendments to Banking Regulations and Banking (Corporate Governance) Regulations that it is delaying the implementation date of MAS Notice 643 from 21 November 2018 to 1 October 2020, in response to banks' requests for more time to make system changes and obtain necessary approvals from their senior management, as well as to align the implementation timeline with upcoming amendments to the Banking Act and revised large exposure requirements for Singapore-incorporated banks."

The sub-section shall be further amended by deleting the 15<sup>th</sup> paragraph in its entirety, and re-inserting the same after the 12<sup>th</sup> paragraph:

"On 29 September 2017, the MAS released a Consultation Paper on the Review of Anti-Commingling Framework for Banks which proposes to refine the anti-commingling framework for banks in two key aspects, including streamlining the conditions and requirements under regulation 23G of the Banking Regulations so as to make it easier for banks to conduct or invest in permissible non-financial businesses that are related or complementary to their core financial businesses, and allowing banks to engage in the operation of digital platforms that match buyers and sellers of consumer goods or services, as well as the online sale of such goods or services."

The sub-section shall be further amended by defining the terms "high loss absorbency ("**HLA**") requirements" and "liquidity coverage ratio ("**LCR**") requirements" in the 7<sup>th</sup> sentence of the last paragraph.

In addition, the sub-section shall be amended by adding the below headers before the paragraphs as set out below:

(a) "Maintenance of cash", before the paragraph beginning with "Under Section 39 of the Banking Act and MAS Notice 758 on Minimum Cash Balance ("MAS Notice 758") [...]";

- (b) "Credit loss and provisioning", before the paragraph beginning with "MAS Notice 612 on Credit Files, Grading and Provisioning [...]";
- (c) "Exposure limits", before the paragraph beginning with "Under Section 29 of the Banking Act [...]";
- (d) "Related Party Transactions" before the paragraph beginning with "MAS Notice 643 on Transactions with Related Parties (dated 21 November 2016) ("MAS Notice 643") [...]";
- (e) "Anti-Commingling Framework" before the paragraph beginning with "A bank in Singapore is prohibited from carrying on or entering into any partnership, joint venture or other arrangement with any person to carry on any business except (a) banking business; [...]";
- (f) "Major stake and investment restrictions" before the paragraph beginning with "A bank in Singapore, either directly or through any subsidiary of the bank or any other company in the bank group, can hold any beneficial interest in the share capital of a company (and such other investment, interest or right as may be prescribed by the MAS) ("equity investment"). [...]";
- (g) "Provisions relating to issuances of covered bonds" before the paragraph beginning with "With effect from 31 December 2013, Singapore-incorporated banks are permitted to issue covered bonds subject to conditions under MAS Notice 648. [...]"; and
- (h) "Designation of DBS Bank as a D-SIB" before the paragraph beginning with DBS Bank was designated as a D-SIB on 30 April 2015. [...]".

The sub-section "Regulation and Supervision – The Regulatory Environment – Corporate Governance Regulations and Guidelines" appearing on page 299 of the Offering Circular shall be deleted in its entirety and replaced with:

"The Banking (CG) Regulations 2005, as amended by the Banking (Corporate Governance) (Amendment) Regulations 2007 and as further amended by the Banking (Corporate Governance) (Amendment) Regulations 2010 and Banking (Corporate Governance) (Amendment) Regulations 2019, define what is meant by an independent director and set out the requirements for the composition of the board of directors and board committees, such as the Nominating Committee, Remuneration Committee, Audit Committee, Risk Management Committee and Board Executive Committee.

The Guidelines on Corporate Governance for Financial Holding Companies, Banks, Direct Insurers, Reinsurers and Captive Insurers which are Incorporated in Singapore (dated 3 April 2013) (the "Guidelines") comprises the Code of Corporate Governance 2012 for companies listed on the SGX-ST and supplementary principles and guidelines from the MAS to take into account the unique characteristics of the business of banking and insurance, given the diverse and complex risks undertaken by these financial institutions and their responsibilities to depositors and policyholders. For example, the Guidelines set out the principle that the board of directors of a bank should ensure that the bank's related party transactions are undertaken on an arm's length basis.

The Code of Corporate Governance 2012 was revised on 6 August 2018. The revised Code of Corporate Governance 2018 set outs, inter alia, the principles that there should be a clear division of responsibilities between the leadership of the board of directors and the management of the company, and no one individual has unfettered powers of decision making, and that there is an appropriate level of independence and diversity of thought and background in the composition of the board of directors of the company, to enable it to make decisions in the best interests of the company. In addition, the Code of Corporate Governance 2018 sets the shareholding threshold in determining a director's independence at 5%, to align with the definition of "substantial"

shareholders" in the SFA. The Code of Corporate Governance 2018 also requires the separation of the roles of Chairman and CEO.

To further enhance the corporate governance of banks, the Banking Act:

- (a) requires a Singapore-incorporated bank to seek the MAS' approval before it appoints certain key appointment holders (including directors and chief executive officers), and in doing so, the MAS has the power to prescribe the duties of the appointment holders and to specify the maximum term of each appointment;
- (b) empowers the MAS to remove key appointment holders of banks if they are found to be not fit and proper. The grounds for removal of such key appointment holders will be aligned with the criteria for approving their appointment. A Singapore-incorporated bank must also immediately inform the MAS if a key appointment holder is (in accordance with the Guidelines on Fit and Proper Criteria (last revised on 8 October 2018)) no longer a fit and proper person to hold the appointment;
- (c) provides a provision to protect banks' external auditors who disclose, in good faith, information to the MAS in the course of their duties from any liability that may arise from such disclosure:
- (d) empowers the MAS to direct banks to remove their external auditors if they have not discharged their statutory duties satisfactorily and protect banks' external auditors who disclose, in good faith, information to the MAS in the course of their duties from any liability that may arise from such disclosure; and
- (e) empowers the MAS to prohibit, restrict or direct a bank to terminate any transaction that the bank enters into with its related parties if it is deemed to be detrimental to depositors' interests.

Under MAS Notice 643, a bank in Singapore is also required to obtain the approval of a special majority of three-fourths of its board and ensure that every entity in its banking group obtains the approval of a special majority of three-fourths of the entity's board before entering into related party transactions that pose material risks to the bank (unless otherwise exempt), in order to provide more effective oversight over banks' related party transactions. MAS Notice 643 came into force on 21 November 2018. However, MAS has stated in its Response to Feedback Received on Amendments to Banking Regulations and Banking (Corporate Governance) Regulations dated 30 July 2019 that it is moving the implementation date of MAS Notice 643 from 21 November 2018 to 1 October 2020."

The sub-section "Regulation and Supervision – The Regulatory Environment – Other Requirements" appearing on page 299 and 301 of the Offering Circular shall be amended by amending the reference of the "Deposit Insurance and Policy Owners' Protection Schemes Act" to the "Deposit Insurance and Policy Owners' Protection Schemes Act 2011". In addition, sub-paragraph (d) of paragraph 3 of the sub-section shall be amended by including the reference to "Section 77 of the Banking Act". Paragraph 5 shall also be deleted in its entirety.

The sub-section shall be further amended by deleting the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> paragraph in its entirety, and replacing it with the following:

"Currently, banks in Singapore have to maintain separate accounting units for their domestic banking unit ("**DBU**") and their Asian currency unit ("**ACU**"). On 4 November 2019, the Banking (Amendment) Bill (B35/2019) was introduced in Parliament to (among other things) and make consequential amendments to regulatory requirements following the removal of the DBU-ACU divide, including (i) to Section 62 of the Banking Act to remove references to the ACU and to provide instead that Singapore dollar deposit liabilities incurred by the bank with non-bank customers would

rank above foreign currency denominated deposit liabilities incurred by the bank with non-bank customers and (ii) to apply asset maintenance ratios on Singapore dollar non-bank deposits, instead of DBU non-bank deposits. The MAS had previously noted that the removal of the DBU-ACU divide would require significant amendments to changes in banks' regulatory reporting systems. In this regard, the MAS issued an updated MAS Notice 610 on Submission of Statistics and Returns ("MAS Notice 610") on 17 May 2018 that will take effect from 1 October 2020 providing a 30-month implementation timeline. However, the MAS Notice 610 which was issued on 17 May 2018 was cancelled and superseded by a new MAS Notice 610 issued on 16 July 2019, which will take effect from 1 October 2020."

In addition, the sub-section shall be amended by adding the below headers before the paragraphs as set out below:

- (a) "Licensing", before the paragraph beginning with "The MAS issues licences under the Banking Act to banks to transact banking business in Singapore [...]";
- (b) "Priority of liabilities in winding up", before the paragraph beginning with "The MAS may also revoke an existing licence if, upon the MAS exercising any power under section 49(2) of the Banking Act [...]";
- (c) "Privacy of customer information", before the paragraph beginning with "Unless otherwise expressly provided in the Banking Act, a bank in Singapore and its officers may not disclose customer information to any other person without the written consent of the customer [...]".

The sub-section "Regulation and Supervision – The Regulatory Environment – Resolution Powers" appearing on page 301 and 302 of the Offering Circular shall be amended by including the phrase ", whether or not a notice under section 77(2) is published that the provision has ceased to apply" after "(i) no voting rights are exercisable in respect of the specified shares except with the permission of the Minister".

The sub-section "Regulation and Supervision – The Regulatory Environment – Financial Benchmarks" appearing on page 304 shall be deleted in its entirety and replaced with:

#### "Financial Benchmarks

The SFA regulates financial benchmarks by:

- (a) setting out specific criminal and civil sanctions for manipulation of any financial benchmark (including SIBOR and Singapore Dollar Swap Offer Rate), and
- (b) subjecting the setting of key financial benchmarks to regulatory oversight. The MAS regulates administrators and submitters of key financial benchmarks and such persons are subject to regulatory requirements. To the extent SIBOR or SOR are subject to additional MAS or industry regulations which adversely affect the volatility or level of such benchmarks, Floating Rate Notes calculated with reference to such benchmarks could be adversely affected."

The sub-section "Regulation and Supervision – The Regulatory Environment – Supervision by Other Agencies" appearing on page 304 shall be amended by defining the term "Australian Prudential Regulation Authority ("APRA")" in the 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph.

# EXHIBIT A PERFORMANCE SUMMARY



To: Shareholders

The Board of Directors of DBS Group Holdings Ltd ("DBSH" or "the Company") reports the following:

#### Financial Results for the Year/ Fourth Quarter Ended 31 December 2019

Details of the financial results are in the accompanying performance summary.

### **Dividends**

For the financial year ended 31 December 2019, the Directors have recommended a final one-tier tax exempt dividend of 33 cents for each DBSH ordinary share ("FY19 Final Dividend"), subject to shareholders' approval at the Annual General Meeting to be held on 31 March 2020. Barring unforeseen circumstances, the annualised dividend will be \$1.32 per share, an increase of 10%.

Details of the proposed dividends, along with interim ones paid during the course of the financial year, are as follows:

In \$ millions	2019*	2018
DBSH Ordinary shares		
Interim one-tier tax exempt dividend of 90 cents (2018: 60 cents)	2,300	1,538
Final one-tier tax exempt dividend of 33 cents (2018: 60 cents)	845	1,535
	3,145	3,073

<sup>\*</sup> With effect from financial year 2019, dividends are paid quarterly instead of semi-annually to provide shareholders with a more regular income stream.

#### Ex-dividend Date

The DBSH ordinary shares will be quoted ex-dividend on 7 April 2020 (Tuesday).

#### Closure of Books

The Transfer Books and Register of Members of DBSH will be closed from 5.00 p.m. on 8 April 2020 (Wednesday) up to (and including) 9 April 2020 (Thursday) for the purpose of determining shareholders' entitlement to the FY19 Final Dividend.

Please refer to the separate announcement titled "Notice of Books Closure and Dividend Payment Date" released by DBSH today.

#### Scrip Dividend Scheme

The DBSH Scrip Dividend Scheme will not be applied to the FY19 Final Dividend.

...DBS/

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Tel: 65.6878 8888

www.dbs.com



# Payment Date

<del>_</del> , , ,					/ <del></del>
The payment d	late for cash	dividends	will be on 21	April 2020	(Tuesday)

By order of the Board

Teoh Chia-Yin Group Secretary

13 February 2020 Singapore

More information on the above announcement is available at www.dbs.com/investor

...DBS/

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# **Performance Summary**

Financial Results
For the Fourth Quarter ended
31 December 2019 and For the Year 2019

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# **OVERVIEW**

DBS Group Holdings Ltd ("DBSH") prepares its consolidated DBSH Group ("Group") financial statements in accordance with Singapore Financial Reporting Standards (International) (SFRS(I)). The accounting policies and methods of computation applied for the current financial periods are consistent with those applied for the financial year ended 31 December 2018, with the exception of changes as disclosed in the **Performance Summary for First Quarter 2019.** The adoption of SFRS(I) 16 Leases resulted in an impact to retained earnings of \$95 million.

	4th Qtr 2019	4th Qtr 2018	% chg	3rd Qtr 2019	% chg	Year 2019	Year 2018	% chg
Selected income statement items (\$m)								
Net interest income	2,426	2,330	4	2,460	(1)	9,625	8,955	7
Net fee and commission income	741	635	17	814	(9)	3,052	2,780	10
Other non-interest income	294	280	5	549	(46)	1,867	1,448	29
Total income	3,461	3,245	7	3,823	(9)	14,544	13,183	10
Expenses	1,600	1,501	7	1,614	(1)	6,258	5,798	8
Profit before allowances	1,861	1,744	7	2,209	(16)	8,286	7,385	12
Allowances for credit and other losses	122	205	(40)	254	(52)	703	710	(1)
Profit before tax	1,739	1,539	13	1,955	(11)	7,583	6,675	14
Net profit	1,508	1,319	14	1,629	(7)	6,391	5,625	14
One-time items	-	-	-	-	-	-	(48)	NM
- ANZ integration costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	(16)	NM
- Others <sup>1</sup>	-	-	-	-	-	-	(32)	NM
Net profit including one-time items	1,508	1,319	14	1,629	(7)	6,391	5,577	15
Selected balance sheet items (\$m)								
Customer loans	357,884	345,003	4	353,436	1	357,884	345,003	4
Constant-currency change			4		2			4
Total assets	578,946	550,751	5	580,714	-	578,946	550,751	5
Customer deposits	404,289	393,785	3	400,217	1	404,289	393,785	3
Constant-currency change			3		2			3
Total liabilities	527,147	500,876	5	529,441	-	527,147	500,876	5
Shareholders' funds	50,981	49,045	4	50,446	1	50,981	49,045	4
Key financial ratios (%) (excluding one-time items) <sup>2</sup>								
Net interest margin	1.86	1.87		1.90		1.89	1.85	
Non-interest/total income	29.9	28.2		35.7		33.8	32.1	
Cost/income ratio	46.2	46.3		42.2		43.0	44.0	
Return on assets	1.04	0.95		1.12		1.13	1.05	
Return on equity <sup>3</sup>	12.1	11.3		13.4		13.2	12.1	
Loan/deposit ratio	88.5	87.6		88.3		88.5	87.6	
NPL ratio	1.5	1.5		1.5		1.5	1.5	
ECL <sup>4</sup> Stage 3 (SP) for loans/average loans (bp)	21	25		21		20	19	
Common Equity Tier 1 capital adequacy ratio	14.1	13.9		13.8		14.1	13.9	
Tier 1 capital adequacy ratio	15.0	15.1		14.7		15.0	15.1	
Total capital adequacy ratio	16.7	16.9		16.4		16.7	16.9	
Leverage ratio <sup>5</sup>	7.0	7.1		7.0		7.0	7.1	
Average all-currency liquidity coverage ratio <sup>6</sup>	139	138		131		136	133	
Net stable funding ratio <sup>7</sup>	110	109		110		110	109	
Per share data (\$)								
Per basic and diluted share								
<ul> <li>earnings excluding one-time items</li> </ul>	2.31	2.01		2.50		2.46	2.16	
– earnings	2.31	2.01		2.50		2.46	2.15	
<ul> <li>net book value<sup>8</sup></li> </ul>	19.17	18.12		18.96		19.17	18.12	

#### Notes:

- 1 One-time items for year 2018 include a remeasurement of deferred taxes due to a change in the applicable tax rate arising from the conversion of India Branch to a wholly-owned subsidiary
- Return on assets, return on equity, ECL Stage 3 (SP) for loans/average loans and per share data are computed on an annualised basis
- Calculated based on net profit attributable to the shareholders net of dividends on preference shares and other equity instruments. Non-controlling interests and other equity instruments are not included as equity in the computation of return on equity
- Refers to expected credit loss
- Leverage Ratio is computed based on MAS Notice 637
- Liquidity Coverage Ratio (LCR) is computed based on MAS Notice 649. For average SGD LCR and other disclosures required under MAS Notice 651, refer to <a href="https://www.dbs.com/investor/index.html">https://www.dbs.com/investor/index.html</a>
  Net stable funding ratio (NSFR) is computed based on MAS Notice 652

  Net stable funding ratio (NSFR) is computed based on MAS Notice 652 6
- Non-controlling interests are not included as equity in the computation of net book value per share NM Not meaningful

Compared to a year ago, fourth-quarter net profit rose 14% to \$1.51 billion from broad-based business momentum. Total income increased 7% to \$3.46 billion from loan growth and a double-digit improvement in fee income. Compared to the previous quarter, net profit was 7% lower. Total income declined 9% due to seasonally-lower non-interest income and a decline in net interest margin from falling interest rates. Business momentum over the quarter remained healthy as loans rose 2% in constant-currency terms.

Net interest income rose 4% from a year ago but fell 1% from the previous quarter to \$2.43 billion. Loans increased 4% in constant-currency terms from a year ago. Net interest margin was little changed from a year ago at 1.86% but it was four basis points lower than the previous quarter due to lower interest rates.

Net fee income grew 17% from a year ago to \$741 million, led by wealth management and investment banking fees. Net fee income was 9% below the previous quarter due mainly to seasonally lower wealth management fees.

Other non-interest income rose 5% from a year ago to \$294 million due to higher gains on investment securities. It was half the previous quarter as quieter markets at year-

end resulted in lower trading income and gains on investment securities.

Expenses rose 7% from a year ago from higher staff costs but fell 1% from the previous quarter to \$1.60 billion.

Profit before allowances was 7% higher than a year ago but 16% below the previous quarter at \$1.86 billion.

Non-performing assets (NPA) declined 3% from the previous quarter to \$5.77 billion as new NPA formation was more than offset by write-offs and recoveries. The NPL rate was stable at 1.5%. Specific allowances were \$199 million, or 21 basis points of loans, in line with recent quarterly trends. Allowance coverage was at 94% and at 191% if collateral was considered.

The liquidity coverage ratio was at 139% and the net stable funding ratio was at 110%. The Common Equity Tier 1 ratio was at 14.1% while the leverage ratio was at 7.0%, all comfortably above regulatory requirements.

For the full year, total income increased 10% to \$14.5 billion. Net profit rose 14% to a record \$6.39 billion. Return on equity rose to 13.2%, also a new high.

## **QUARTERLY BREAKDOWN**

(\$m)	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	Full Year
Net interest income					
2018	2,128	2,224	2,273	2,330	8,955
2019	2,310	2,429	2,460	2,426	9,625
% chg	9	9	8	4	7
Non-interest income					
2018	1,232	979	1,102	915	4,228
2019	1,241	1,280	1,363	1,035	4,919
% chg	1	31	24	13	16
Total income					
2018	3,360	3,203	3,375	3,245	13,183
2019	3,551	3,709	3,823	3,461	14,544
% chg	6	16	13	7	10
Expenses					
2018	1,398	1,418	1,481	1,501	5,798
2019	1,498	1,546	1,614	1,600	6,258
% chg	7	9	9	7	8
Allowances for credit and other losses					
2018	164	105	236	205	710
2019	76 (5.1)	251	254	122	703
% chg	(54)	>100	8	(40)	(1)
Profit before tax					
2018	1,798	1,680	1,658	1,539	6,675
2019	1,977	1,912	1,955	1,739	7,583
% chg	10	14	18	13	14
Net profit					
2018	1,521	1,372	1,413	1,319	5,625
2019	1,651	1,603	1,629	1,508	6,391
% chg	9	17	15	14	14
One-time items					
2018	(10)	(38)	-	-	(48)
2019	-	-	-	-	-
% chg	NM	NM	-	-	NM
Net profit including one-time items					
2018	1,511	1,334	1,413	1,319	5,577
2019	1,651	1,603	1,629	1,508	6,391
% chg	9	20	15	14	15

Note:

NM Not meaningful

Total income and net profit were higher than the yearago period for all four quarters, with the second and third benefitting from strong growth in non-interest income.

Net interest income grew for all four quarters from loan growth and from a higher net interest margin in the first three quarters.

Non-interest income registered double-digit growth compared to the year-ago period from the second quarter. There was a high-base for fee income in the first quarter. Expenses grew less quickly than or was broadly in line with total income for all four quarters. The cost-income ratio for the full year improved one percentage point from a year ago.

Total allowances were lower for the first and fourth quarters than the year-ago period due to general allowance write-backs. Second-quarter allowances were higher due to a lumpy specific allowance write-back in the previous year. General allowances charges were also higher in the second quarter.

Net profit for the first quarter was a quarterly record.

# **NET INTEREST INCOME**

	4th Qtr 2019			4	th Qtr 201	8	3rd Qtr 2019		
Average balance sheet	Average balance (\$m)	Interest (\$m)	Average rate (%)	Average balance (\$m)	Interest (\$m)	Average rate (%)	Average balance (\$m)	Interest (\$m)	Average rate (%)
Interest-bearing assets									
Customer non-trade loans	312,058	2,514	3.20	298,307	2,496	3.32	308,458	2,606	3.35
Trade assets	46,757	365	3.09	45,961	410	3.54	45,532	394	3.43
Interbank assets <sup>1</sup>	48,707	192	1.57	46,773	209	1.77	48,860	224	1.82
Securities and others	109,010	717	2.61	103,209	675	2.59	111,730	751	2.67
Total	516,532	3,788	2.91	494,250	3,790	3.04	514,580	3,975	3.07
Interest-bearing liabilities									
Customer deposits	402,414	931	0.92	390,871	1,025	1.04	396,574	1,034	1.03
Other borrowings	86,974	431	1.96	76,479	435	2.26	91,059	481	2.10
Total	489,388	1,362	1.10	467,350	1,460	1.24	487,633	1,515	1.23
Net interest income/margin <sup>2</sup>		2,426	1.86		2,330	1.87		2,460	1.90

		Year 2019		Year 2018				
Average balance	Average		Average	Average		Average		
sheet	balance (\$m)	Interest (\$m)	rate (%)	balance (\$m)	Interest (\$m)	rate (%)		
Interest-bearing assets								
Customer non-trade loans	306,598	10,247	3.34	288,656	8,959	3.10		
Trade assets	45,610	1,574	3.45	48,471	1,556	3.21		
Interbank assets <sup>1</sup>	49,175	877	1.78	45,935	819	1.78		
Securities and others	108,223	2,894	2.67	100,328	2,464	2.46		
Total	509,606	15,592	3.06	483,390	13,798	2.85		
Interest-bearing liabilities								
Customer deposits	397,788	4,129	1.04	384,140	3,488	0.91		
Other borrowings	84,736	1,838	2.17	69,868	1,355	1.94		
Total	482,524	5,967	1.24	454,008	4,843	1.07		
Net interest income/margin <sup>2</sup>		9,625	1.89		8,955	1.85		

Notes:

Net interest income rose 4% from a year ago to \$2.43 billion. Net interest margin was stable at 1.86%. Asset volumes were higher across all categories, led by customer non-trade loans.

Compared to the previous quarter, net interest income fell 1% from lower interest rates.

For the full year, net interest income rose 7% to \$9.63 billion from asset growth and a four-basis point increase in net interest margin to 1.89%.

<sup>1</sup> Includes non-restricted balances with central banks.

<sup>2</sup> Net interest margin is net interest income expressed as a percentage of average interest-bearing assets.

	4th Qtr 20°	19 vs 4th Qtr	2018	4th Qtr 2019 vs 3rd Qtr 2019			
Volume and rate analysis (\$m) Increase/(decrease) due to change in	Volume	Rate	Net change	Volume	Rate	Net change	
Interest income							
Customer non-trade loans	115	(97)	18	30	(122)	(92)	
Trade assets	7	(52)	(45)	11	(40)	(29)	
Interbank assets	9	(26)	(17)	(1)	(31)	(32)	
Securities and others	38	4	42	(18)	(16)	(34)	
Total	169	(171)	(2)	22	(209)	(187)	
Interest expense							
Customer deposits	30	(124)	(94)	15	(118)	(103)	
Other borrowings	60	(64)	(4)	(22)	(28)	(50)	
Total	90	(188)	(98)	(7)	(146)	(153)	
Net impact on net interest income	79	17	96	29	(63)	(34)	
Due to change in number of days			-			-	
Net Interest Income			96			(34)	

	Year 20	19 vs Year 20	018
Volume and rate analysis (\$m) Increase/(decrease) due to change in	Volume	Rate	Net change
Interest income			
Customer non-trade loans	556	732	1,288
Trade assets	(92)	110	18
Interbank assets	57	1	58
Securities and others	194	236	430
Total	715	1,079	1,794
Interest expense			
Customer deposits	124	517	641
Other borrowings	288	195	483
Total	412	712	1,124
Net impact on net interest income	303	367	670
Due to change in number of days			-
Net Interest Income			670

#### **NET FEE AND COMMISSION INCOME**

(\$m)	4th Qtr 2019	4th Qtr 2018	% chg	3rd Qtr 2019	% chg	Year 2019	Year 2018	% chg
Brokerage	25	31	(19)	30	(17)	114	154	(26)
Investment banking	80	29	>100	55	45	213	128	66
Transaction services <sup>1</sup>	200	186	8	190	5	760	720	6
Loan-related	84	90	(7)	117	(28)	407	390	4
Cards <sup>2</sup>	201	202	-	202	-	790	714	11
Wealth management	286	218	31	357	(20)	1,290	1,141	13
Fee and commission income	876	756	16	951	(8)	3,574	3,247	10
Less: Fee and commission expense	135	121	12	137	(1)	522	467	12
Total	741	635	17	814	(9)	3,052	2,780	10

#### Notes:

- Includes trade & remittances, guarantees and deposit-related fees. The "Others' category has been subsumed under "Transaction services" from 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2019. The change has been applied retrospectively to prior periods
- 2 Net of interchange fees paid

Net fee income grew 17% from a year ago to \$741 million. The increase was led by a 31% rise in wealth management fees to \$286 million from higher sales across all products. Investment banking fees almost tripled to \$80 million. Transaction services fees grew 8% to \$200 million led by cash management. These increases were partially offset by declines in loan-related and brokerage fees.

Net fee income was 9% below the previous quarter. Wealth management declined due to seasonal factors. Loan-related and brokerage fees were also lower. These declines were partially offset by increases in investment banking and transaction services fees.

For the full year, net fee income rose 10% to \$3.05 billion, led by wealth management and investment banking.

# OTHER NON-INTEREST INCOME

(\$m)	4th Qtr 2019	4th Qtr 2018	% chg	3rd Qtr 2019	% chg	Year 2019	Year 2018	% chg
Net trading income	228	229	-	431	(47)	1,459	1,178	24
Net income from investment securities	45	31	45	105	(57)	334	131	>100
Net gain on fixed assets	-	5	(100)	1	(100)	1	91	(99)
Others (include rental income and share of profits of associates)	21	15	40	12	75	73	48	52
Total	294	280	5	549	(46)	1,867	1,448	29

Other non-interest income rose 5% from a year ago to \$294 million from increases in net gain from investment securities and other income. Other non-interest income was about half the previous quarter due to quieter markets at year-end.

For the full year, other non-interest income rose 29% to \$1.87 billion from broad-based increases partially offset by the impact of a \$91 million property disposal gain a year ago.

## **EXPENSES**<sup>1</sup>

(\$m)	4th Qtr 2019	4th Qtr 2018	% chg	3rd Qtr 2019	% chg	Year 2019	Year 2018	% chg
Staff	915	804	14	873	5	3,514	3,185	10
Occupancy	119	122	(2)	112	6	452	443	2
Computerisation	234	254	(8)	292	(20)	1,062	937	13
Revenue-related	94	92	2	93	1	353	360	(2)
Others	238	229	4	244	(2)	877	873	-
Total	1,600	1,501	7	1,614	(1)	6,258	5,798	8
Staff count at period-end <sup>2</sup>	28,419	26,748	6	27,872	2	28,419	26,748	6
Staff count at period-end excluding insourcing staff <sup>2</sup>	25,033	24,570	2	24,815	1	25,033	24,570	2
Included in the above table was:								
Depreciation of properties and other fixed assets <sup>3</sup>	154	87	77	158	(3)	609	331	84

Note:

Expenses rose 7% from a year ago to \$1.60 billion. For the full year, expenses rose 8% to \$6.26 billion.

The cost-income ratio for the full year improved one percentage point from a year ago.

## **ALLOWANCES FOR CREDIT AND OTHER LOSSES**

(\$m)	4th Qtr 2019	4th Qtr 2018	% chg	3rd Qtr 2019	% chg	Year 2019	Year 2018	% chg
ECL <sup>1</sup> Stage 1 and 2 (GP)	(77)	(24)	(>100)	61	NM	(58)	(1)	(>100)
ECL <sup>1</sup> Stage 3 (SP) for loans <sup>2</sup>	188	218	(14)	190	(1)	698	657	6
Singapore	91	89	2	83	10	336	253	33
Hong Kong	19	33	(42)	14	36	59	64	(8)
Rest of Greater China	-	49	(100)	27	(100)	37	53	(30)
South and Southeast Asia	79	47	68	68	16	267	271	(1)
Rest of the World	(1)	-	NM	(2)	50	(1)	16	NM
ECL¹ Stage 3 (SP) for other credit exposures	11	11	-	7	57	64	52	23
Total ECL <sup>1</sup> Stage 3 (SP)	199	229	(13)	197	1	762	709	7
Allowances for other assets	-	-	-	(4)	NM	(1)	2	NM
Total	122	205	(40)	254	(52)	703	710	(1)

Notes:

NM Not Meaningful

Specific allowances of \$199 million were in line with the previous quarter and 13% lower than a year ago. There was a net general allowance write-back of \$77 million.

For the full year, total allowances of \$703 million were 1% lower than the previous year.

Excludes one-time item.

Staff count has been remeasured to be based on full-time equivalent. Comparatives have been restated to align to the new basis. Includes depreciation for right-of-use assets of \$57 million for 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2019 (3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2019: \$59 million) and \$233 million for Full 3 Year 2019. Prior to 2019, the expenses for operating leases were reflected as rental expenses.

Refers to expected credit loss.

SP for loans by geography are determined according to the location where the borrower is incorporated.

# PERFORMANCE BY BUSINESS SEGMENTS

(\$m)	Consumer Banking/ Wealth Management	Institutional Banking	Treasury Markets	Others	Total
Selected income statement items					
4th Qtr 2019					
Net interest income	987	1,067	67	305	2,426
Net fee and commission income	417	315	-	9	741
Other non-interest income	105	114	80	(5)	294
Total income	1,509	1,496	147	309	3,461
Expenses	839	533	161	67	1,600
Allowances for credit and other losses	93	51	(3)	(19)	122
Profit before tax	577	912	(11)	261	1,739
3rd Qtr 2019					
Net interest income	1,021	1,075	43	321	2,460
Net fee and commission income	480	321	-	13	814
Other non-interest income	123	144	247	35	549
Total income	1,624	1,540	290	369	3,823
Expenses	834	521	155	104	1,614
Allowances for credit and other losses	60	183	1	10	254
Profit before tax	730	836	134	255	1,955
4th Qtr 2018					
Net interest income	999	1,100	42	189	2,330
Net fee and commission income	353	279		3	635
Other non-interest income	97	118	50	15	280
Total income	1,449	1,497	92	207	3,245
Expenses	806	481	150	64	1,501
Allowances for credit and other losses	54	204	(4)	(49)	205
Profit before tax	589	812	(54)	192	1,539
Year 2019					
Net interest income	4,037	4,309	138	1,141	9,625
Net fee and commission income	1,790	1,225	-	37	3,052
Other non-interest income	472	539	794	62	1,867
Total income	6,299	6,073	932	1,240	14,544
Expenses	3,280	2,015	614	349	6,258
Allowances for credit and other losses	242	327	(5)	139	703
Profit before tax	2,777	3,731	323	752	7,583
Year 2018 <sup>1</sup>	0.700	4.440	040	001	0.0==
Net interest income	3,596	4,116	319	924	8,955
Net fee and commission income	1,627	1,125	-	28	2,780
Other non-interest income	430	519	353	146	1,448
Total income	5,653	5,760	672	1,098	13,183
Expenses	3,031	1,839	602	326	5,798
Allowances for credit and other losses	228	550	(20)	(48)	710
Profit before tax	2,394	3,371	90	820	6,675

Consumer Banking/ Wealth Management	Institutional Banking	Treasury Markets	Others	Total
117,088	278,336	105,538	72,814	573,776 5,170 578,946
223,574	195,114	50,815	57,644	527,147
41	12	5	172	230
9	3	1	141	154
116,746	273,860	111,458	73,479	575,543 5,171 580,714
220 838	192 518	55 662	60 423	529,441
31	11	4	83	129
12	3	1	142	158
115,470	263,125	108,646	58,335	545,576 5,175 550,751
212 853	191 287	47 641	49 095	500,876
			•	220
_				87
	Banking/ Wealth Management  117,088  223,574 41 9  116,746  220,838 31 12	Banking/ Wealth Management  117,088 278,336  223,574 195,114 41 12 9 3  116,746 273,860  220,838 192,518 31 11 12 3  115,470 263,125  212,853 191,287 40 6	Banking/ Wealth Management     Banking     Markets       117,088     278,336     105,538       223,574     195,114     50,815       41     12     5       9     3     1       116,746     273,860     111,458       220,838     192,518     55,662       31     11     4       12     3     1       115,470     263,125     108,646       212,853     191,287     47,641       40     6     2	Banking/Wealth Management         Banking         Markets           117,088         278,336         105,538         72,814           223,574         195,114         50,815         57,644           41         12         5         172           9         3         1         141           116,746         273,860         111,458         73,479           220,838         192,518         55,662         60,423           31         11         4         83           12         3         1         142           115,470         263,125         108,646         58,335           212,853         191,287         47,641         49,095           40         6         2         172

#### Notes:

- 1 Expenses and profit before tax exclude one-time item.
- 2 Refer to sections on Customer Loans and Non-Performing Assets and Loss Allowance Coverage for more information on business segments.

The business segment results are prepared based on the Group's internal management reporting, which reflects its management structure. As the activities of the Group are highly integrated, internal allocations have been made in preparing the segment information. Amounts for each business segment are shown after the allocation of certain centralised costs, funding income and the application of transfer pricing, where appropriate. Transactions between segments are recorded within the segment as if they are third party transactions and are eliminated on consolidation.

The various business segments are described below:

## **Consumer Banking/ Wealth Management**

Consumer Banking/ Wealth Management provides individual customers with a diverse range of banking and related financial services. The products and services available to customers include current and savings accounts, fixed deposits, loans and home

finance, cards, payments, investment and insurance products.

Compared to a year ago, profit before tax eased 2% to \$577 million. Total income rose 4% to \$1.51 billion. Net interest income decreased 1% to \$987 million from lower net interest margin. Non-interest income increased 16% to \$522 million due to higher fees from investment and bancassurance products. Expenses were 4% higher at \$839 million while allowances were \$39 million higher at \$93 million.

Compared to the previous quarter, profit before tax fell 21% as total income declined 7%. Net interest income fell 3% from lower net interest margin and non-interest income decreased 13% primarily from lower sales of investment and bancassurance products. Expenses rose 1% and allowances were \$33 million higher.

For the full year, profit before tax rose 16% to \$2.78 billion. Total income grew 11% to \$6.30 billion. Net interest income increased 12% to \$4.04 billion from higher loan and deposit volumes and an improved net interest margin. Non-interest

income rose 10% to \$2.26 billion from higher fees from investment, bancassurance and cards. Expenses rose 8% to \$3.28 billion due to continued investment in business capabilities. Total allowances increased \$14 million to \$242 million.

### Institutional Banking

Institutional Banking provides financial services and products to institutional clients, including bank and nonbank financial institutions, government-linked companies, large corporates and small and medium sized businesses. Products and services comprise the full range of credit facilities from short-term working capital financing to specialised lending. It also provides global transactional services such as cash management, trade finance and securities and fiduciary services; treasury and markets products; corporate finance and advisory banking as well as capital markets solutions.

Compared to a year ago, profit before tax grew 12% to \$912 million. Total income was flat at \$1.50 billion. Net interest income fell 3% to \$1.07 billion due to lower net interest margin from cash management, which was offset by higher loan volume. Non-interest income grew 8% to \$429 million largely from stronger capital market activities. Expenses increased 11% to \$533 million while a general allowance write-back resulted in total allowances declining by three-quarters to \$51 million.

Compared to the previous quarter, profit before tax grew 9%. Total income was 3% lower, impacted by lower net interest margin from cash management, seasonally lower treasury customer flows, and partially offset by higher capital market activities. Expenses rose 2% and allowances declined by two-thirds.

For the full year, profit before tax grew 11% to \$3.73 billion. Total income rose 5% to \$6.07 billion from cash management, loan-related activities, capital markets activities and treasury customer flows, which were partially offset by lower income from trade finance. Expenses were 10% higher at \$2.02 billion. Allowances were 41% lower at \$327 million due to general allowance write-backs.

#### **Treasury Markets**

Treasury Markets' activities primarily include structuring, market-making and trading across a broad range of treasury products.

Compared to a year ago, total income increased 60% to \$147 million due to higher contributions from credit and equity activities, partially offset by foreign exchange. Expenses were 7% higher at \$161 million due to higher business-related expenses.

Compared to the previous quarter, total income declined 49% largely due to lower contributions from trading activities, while expenses rose 4% due to higher business-related expenses.

For the full year, profit before tax more than tripled to \$323 million. Total income increased 39% to \$932 million due to higher contributions from broad-based trading. Expenses rose 2% to \$614 million.

Income from sale of treasury products offered to customers of Consumer Banking/Wealth Management and Institutional Banking is not reflected in the Treasury Markets segment, but in the respective customer segments.

Compared to a year ago, income from treasury customer activities rose 12% to \$288 million due to higher income from sales of equity, interest rate and fixed income products.

Compared to the previous quarter, income from customer activities fell 16% mainly due to lower product sales across various instruments. For the full year, income rose 7% to \$1.28 billion mainly due to higher income from credit, foreign exchange, interest rate and fixed income products, partially offset by lower income from equity sales.

#### Others

The Others segment encompasses the results of corporate decisions that are not attributed to business segments. It includes earnings on capital deployed into high quality assets, earnings from non-core asset sales and certain other head office items such as centrally raised allowances. DBS Vickers and the Islamic Bank of Asia are also included in this segment.

## PERFORMANCE BY GEOGRAPHY

(\$m)	S'pore	Hong Kong	Rest of Greater China	South and South- east Asia	Rest of the World	Total
Selected income statement items						
4th Qtr 2019						
Net interest income	1,541	493	157	163	72	2,426
Net fee and commission income	455	169	47	52	18	741
Other non-interest income	151	52	37	31	23	294
Total income	2,147	714	241	246	113	3,461
Expenses	905	282	202	183	28	1,600
Allowances for credit and other losses	(8)	20	16	89	5	122
Profit before tax	1,250	412	23	(26)	80	1,739
Income tax expense	130	73	1	(8)	25	221
Net profit	1,109	339	22	(17)	55	1,508
3rd Qtr 2019						
Net interest income	1,560	525	151	157	67	2,460
Net fee and commission income	514	175	51	56	18	814
Other non-interest income	365	56	78	37	13	549
Total income	2,439	756	280	250	98	3,823
Expenses	949	299	176	164	26	1,614
Allowances for credit and other losses	44	59	48	92	11	254
Profit before tax	1,446	398	56	(6)	61	1,955
Income tax expense	193	64	13	30	17	317
Net profit	1,244	334	43	(36)	44	1,629
4th Qtr 2018						
Net interest income	1,469	501	160	134	66	2,330
Net fee and commission income	382	148	41	52	12	635
Other non-interest income	160	49	39	19	13	280
Total income	2,011	698	240	205	91	3,245
Expenses	872	273	177	153	26	1,501
Allowances for credit and other losses	109	31	6	36	23	205
Profit before tax	1,030	394	57	16	42	1,539
Income tax expense	117	65	9	4	16	211
Net profit	904	329	48	12	26	1,319
·						

S'pore	Hong Kong	Rest of Greater China	South and South- east Asia	Rest of the World	Total
6,140	2,012	597	604	272	9,625
•	667	194	227	64	3,052
•	250	267	138	66	1,867
	2.929	1.058	969	402	14,544
	-	740	667	104	6,258
225	102	49	292	35	703
5.323	1.718	269	10	263	7,583
-	290	59	_	77	1,154
	1.428	210		186	6,391
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,					
5 664	1 830	675	530	256	8,955
•					2,780
,	_				1,448
					13,183
					5,798
		_			710
					6,675
					974
					5,625
375,320 5,133 380,453 2,650 226,192	91,608 29 91,637 751 68,114	50,292 - 50,292 331 31,557	21,690 8 21,698 318 12,029	34,866 - 34,866 10 24,535	573,776 5,170 578,946 4,060 362,427
369,354	98,472	49,374	22,708	35,635	575,543
		40.074		-	5,171
					580,714
					4,031
223,531	69,487	30,234	12,187	22,934	358,373
0.46.044	00 500	E4 000	00.040	00.047	F 4 F 5 T T
349,941	90,523 30	51,283	23,612	30,217	545,576
	.30	-	8	-	5,175
5,137 355,078		51 222	23 620	30 217	550 751
5,137 355,078 1,633	90,553 362	51,283 145	23,620 144	30,217 4	550,751 2,288
	5,323 695 4,589 5,664 1,722 788 8,174 3,355 408 4,411 572 3,763 375,320 5,133 380,453 2,650 226,192	1,900 667 1,146 250 9,186 2,929 3,638 1,109 225 102 5,323 1,718 695 290 4,589 1,428  5,664 1,830 1,722 617 788 294 8,174 2,741 3,355 1,056 408 72 4,411 1,613 572 251 3,763 1,362  375,320 91,608 5,133 29 380,453 91,637 2,650 751 226,192 68,114	6,140 2,012 597 1,900 667 194 1,146 250 267 9,186 2,929 1,058 3,638 1,109 740 225 102 49 5,323 1,718 269 695 290 59 4,589 1,428 210  5,664 1,830 675 1,722 617 175 788 294 270 8,174 2,741 1,120 3,355 1,056 719 408 72 44 4,411 1,613 357 572 251 82 3,763 1,362 275  375,320 91,608 50,292 5,133 29 - 3,763 1,362 275  375,320 91,608 50,292 2,650 751 331 226,192 68,114 31,557	6,140 2,012 597 604 1,900 667 194 227 1,146 250 267 138 9,186 2,929 1,058 969 3,638 1,109 740 667 225 102 49 292 5,323 1,718 269 10 695 290 59 33 4,589 1,428 210 (22)  5,664 1,830 675 530 1,722 617 175 206 788 294 270 56 8,174 2,741 1,120 792 3,355 1,056 719 562 408 72 44 183 4,411 1,613 357 47 572 251 82 4 3,763 1,362 275 43  375,320 91,608 50,292 21,698 2,650 751 331 318 226,192 68,114 31,557 12,029	6,140 2,012 597 604 272 1,900 667 194 227 64 1,146 250 267 138 66  9,186 2,929 1,058 969 402 3,638 1,109 740 667 104 225 102 49 292 35 5,323 1,718 269 10 263 695 290 59 33 77 4,589 1,428 210 (22) 186  5,664 1,830 675 530 256 1,722 617 175 206 60 788 294 270 56 40 8,174 2,741 1,120 792 356 3,355 1,056 719 562 106 408 72 44 183 3 4,411 1,613 357 47 247 572 251 82 4 65 3,763 1,362 275 43 182  375,320 91,608 50,292 21,698 34,866 5,133 29 - 8 - 8 380,453 91,637 50,292 21,698 34,866 2,650 751 331 318 10 226,192 68,114 31,557 12,029 24,535  369,354 98,472 49,374 22,708 35,635 5,133 30 - 8 - 374,487 98,502 49,374 22,716 35,635 5,133 30 - 8 - 374,487 98,502 49,374 22,716 35,635 2,601 764 333 322 11

Expenses, profit before tax, tax expense and net profit exclude one-time items.
Includes investments in associates, properties and other fixed assets.

The performance by geography is classified based on the location in which income and assets are recorded. Hong Kong comprises mainly DBS Bank (HK) Limited and DBS HK branch. Rest of Greater China comprises mainly DBS Bank (China) Ltd, DBS Bank (Taiwan) Ltd and DBS Taipei branch. South and Southeast Asia comprises mainly PT Bank DBS Indonesia, DBS India Ltd (DBS India branches previously) and DBS Labuan branch. All results are prepared in accordance with Singapore Financial Reporting Standards (International).

#### **Singapore**

Net profit increased 23% from a year ago to \$1.11 billion. Total income grew 7% to \$2.15 billion. Net interest income rose 5% to \$1.54 billion from loan growth. Fee income increased 19% to \$455 million due to higher fees from investment banking and wealth management. Other non-interest income declined 6% to \$151 million from lower trading income. Expenses grew 4% to \$905 million.

Compared to the previous quarter, net profit was 11% lower. Total income fell 12% from a lower net interest margin and seasonally-lower non-interest income. Expenses fell 5%. Total allowances declined due to a general allowance write-back.

For the full year, net profit rose 22% to \$4.59 billion as total income increased 12% to \$9.19 billion from broad-based growth while expenses rose less quickly by 8% to \$3.64 billion. Profit before allowances grew 15% to \$5.55 billion. Total allowances halved to \$225 million due to a general allowance write-back.

### **Hong Kong**

Net profit of \$339 million was 3% higher than a year ago. Total income grew 2% to \$714 million. Net interest income fell 2% to \$493 million as a lower interest margin offset the impact of a 5% growth in loans. Fee income grew 14% to \$169 million due to higher wealth management and investment banking fees. Other non-interest income rose 6% to \$52 million. Expenses increased 3% to \$282 million. Total allowances fell 35% to \$20 million as specific allowances declined.

Compared to the previous quarter, net profit was 1% higher. Total income fell 6%. Net interest income declined 6% from a lower interest margin. Fee income fell 3% as an increase in investment banking and loan-related fees was offset by lower cash management, bancassurance and investment product sales. Other non-interest income fell 7% due to lower year-end activity. Expenses declined 6%. Total allowances fell 66% from lower general allowances.

For the full year, net profit rose 5% to \$1.43 billion, or 12% excluding a property gain booked in the previous year. Net interest income grew 10% to \$2.01 billion from loan growth and a higher net interest margin. Fees rose 8% to \$667 million from cards, loan-related activities

and bancassurance. Excluding the property gain in the previous year, other non-interest income rose 20% to \$250 million. Expenses grew 5% to \$1.11 billion. Total allowances rose 42% to \$102 million from higher general allowances.

#### **Rest of Greater China**

Net profit halved to \$22 million from a year ago as expenses increased 14% and allowances more than doubled to \$16 million. Total income was stable at \$241 million as an increase in non-interest income was offset by a decline in net interest income.

Compared to the previous quarter, net profit halved from a 14% decline in total income while expenses grew 15%. Total allowances fell by two third from lower specific allowances.

For the full year, net profit fell 24% to \$210 million, from a 6% decline in total income to \$1.06 billion as net interest income fell 12%, partially moderated by higher fee income. Expenses increased 3% while allowances grew 11%.

#### South and Southeast Asia

South and Southeast Asia recorded a net loss of \$17 million compared to a profit of \$12 million a year ago. Total income rose 20% to \$246 million from higher net interest income and other non-interest income while expenses increased 20% to \$183 million. Total allowances more than doubled to \$89 million.

Compared to the previous quarter, net loss halved as the third quarter results incorporated a tax charge of \$38 million from the revaluation of deferred tax assets due to a cut in India's corporate tax rate. Total income fell 2% from non-interest income while expenses rose 12%. Total allowances fell 3%.

For the full year, total income rose 22% to \$969 million from broad-based growth. Expenses rose 19% to \$667 million, while total allowances grew 60% to \$292 million. Due to higher tax charges from India, the region recorded a loss of \$22 million compared to a profit of \$43 million a year ago.

#### **Rest of the World**

Net profit doubled to \$55 million as total income grew 24% to \$113 million from broad-based growth. Expenses increased 8% to \$28 million while allowances fell four-fifths to \$5 million.

Compared to the previous quarter, net profit rose 25% due to a 15% increase in total income from higher net interest income and trading income. Expenses grew 8% while allowances halved.

For the full year, net profit grew 2% to \$186 million due to a 13% growth in total income to \$402 million. Expenses of \$104 million were 2% lower than a year ago, while total allowances rose to \$35 million from a low base.

#### **CUSTOMER LOANS**

(\$m)	31 Dec 2019	30 Sep 2019	31 Dec 2018
Gross	362,427	358,373	349,645
Less:			
ECL <sup>1</sup> Stage 3 (SP)	2,305	2,621	2,440
ECL <sup>1</sup> Stage 1 & 2 (GP)	2,238	2,316	2,202
Net total	357,884	353,436	345,003
By business unit			
Consumer Banking/Wealth Management	114,380	114,166	112,672
Institutional Banking	246,296	242,269	234,467
Others	1,751	1,938	2,506
Total (Gross)	362,427	358,373	349,645
By geography <sup>2</sup>			
Singapore	168,704	168,266	163,449
Hong Kong	55,062	57,114	54,333
Rest of Greater China	53,009	51,670	50,925
South and Southeast Asia	29,438	29,646	28,377
Rest of the World Total (Gross)	56,214 362,427	51,677 358,373	52,561 349,645
Dy industry			
By industry Manufacturing	37,635	39,792	36,868
Building and construction	85,144	81,449	76,532
Housing loans	73,606	73,340	75,011
General commerce	45,664	46,096	47,470
Transportation, storage & communications	31,574	31,264	30,549
Financial institutions, investment & holding companies	24,660	23,047	25,022
Professionals & private individuals (excluding housing loans)	34,121	33,998	30,590
Others	30,023	29,387	27,603
Total (Gross)	362,427	358,373	349,645
By currency			
Singapore dollar	144,878	142,932	141,838
US dollar	108,106	110,235	110,086
Hong Kong dollar	44,310	43,208	40,898
Chinese yuan	14,019	12,802	12,481
Others	51,114	49,196	44,342
Total (Gross)	362,427	358,373	349,645

#### Notes:

Gross customer loans rose 2% from the previous quarter in constant-currency terms to \$362 billion. The growth was led by trade loans and non-trade corporate loans. Consumer loans also grew, with housing loans rising moderately after three consecutive quarters of decline.

Compared to a year ago, gross customer loans were 4% higher in constant-currency terms from growth in non-trade corporate loans and wealth management consumer loans.

<sup>1</sup> Refers to expected credit loss.

<sup>2</sup> Loans by geography are determined according to the location where the borrower, or the issuing bank in the case of bank backed export financing is incorporated.

### NON-PERFORMING ASSETS AND LOSS ALLOWANCE COVERAGE

	31	Dec 2019		30	Sep 201	9	31 Dec 2018		
	NPA (\$m)	NPL (% of loans)	SP <sup>4</sup> (\$m)	NPA (\$m)	NPL (% of loans)	SP⁴ (\$m)	NPA (\$m)	NPL (% of loans)	SP⁴ (\$m)
By business unit									
Consumer Banking/ Wealth Management	700	0.6	153	720	0.6	142	678	0.6	140
Institutional Banking and Others	4,702	1.9	2,152	4,834	2.0	2,479	4,573	1.9	2,300
Total non-performing loans (NPL)	5,402	1.5	2,305	5,554	1.5	2,621	5,251	1.5	2,440
Debt securities, contingent liabilities & others	371	-	197	390	-	201	433	-	172
Total non-performing assets (NPA)	5,773	-	2,502	5,944	-	2,822	5,684	-	2,612
By geography <sup>1</sup>									
Singapore	3,722	2.2	1,405	3,567	2.1	1,506	3,335	2.0	1,488
Hong Kong	492	0.9	279	494	0.9	277	511	0.9	258
Rest of Greater China	357	0.7	130	400	0.8	136	411	0.8	130
South and Southeast Asia	751	2.6	463	995	3.4	658	908	3.2	521
Rest of the World	80	0.1	28	98	0.2	44	86	0.2	43
Total non-performing loans (NPL)	5,402	1.5	2,305	5,554	1.5	2,621	5,251	1.5	2,440
Debt securities, contingent liabilities & others	371	-	197	390	-	201	433	-	172
Total non-performing assets (NPA)	5,773	-	2,502	5,944	-	2,822	5,684	-	2,612
Loss Allowance Coverage									
ECL <sup>2</sup> Stage 3 (SP)			2,502			2,822			2,612
ECL <sup>2</sup> Stage 1 and 2 (GP)			2,511			2,594			2,569
Total allowances			5,013			5,416			5,181
(Total allowances+RLAR) / NI	PA <sup>3</sup>		94%			96%			98%
(Total allowances+RLAR) / ur	nsecured N	PA <sup>3</sup>	191%			181%			178%

### Notes:

es:
NPLs by geography are determined according to the location where the borrower is incorporated.
Refers to expected credit loss.
Computation includes regulatory loss allowance reserves (RLAR) of \$404 million for 31 Dec'19 (30 Sep'19: \$292 million; 31 Dec'18: \$376 million) as part of total allowances.
Refers to Expected Credit Loss Stage 3.

(\$m)	31 Dec 2	019	30 Sep 2	019	31 Dec 20	)18
	NPA	SP <sup>1</sup>	NPA	SP <sup>1</sup>	NPA	SP <sup>1</sup>
By industry						
Manufacturing	551	296	570	323	572	302
Building and construction	308	140	275	146	248	127
Housing loans	195	11	198	11	182	10
General commerce	586	313	718	372	645	268
Transportation, storage & communications	3,099	1,346	3,042	1,516	2,869	1,506
Financial institutions, investment & holding companies	65	19	91	18	48	18
Professionals & private individuals (excluding housing loans)	498	138	490	126	504	129
Others	100	42	170	109	183	80
Total non-performing loans	5,402	2,305	5,554	2,621	5,251	2,440
Debt securities, contingent liabilities & others	371	197	390	201	433	172
Total non-performing assets	5,773	2,502	5,944	2,822	5,684	2,612

(\$m)	31 Dec 2	31 Dec 2019		019	31 Dec 2018	
	NPA	SP <sup>1</sup>	NPA	SP <sup>1</sup>	NPA	SP <sup>1</sup>
By loan grading Non-performing assets						
Substandard	3,393	453	3,219	455	3,010	400
Doubtful	1,139	808	1,206	848	1,166	704
Loss	1,241	1,241	1,519	1,519	1,508	1,508
Total	5,773	2,502	5,944	2,822	5,684	2,612
Of which: restructured assets						
Substandard	660	99	706	105	744	105
Doubtful	339	184	366	181	302	126
Loss	432	432	465	465	510	510
Total	1,431	715	1,537	751	1,556	741

(\$m)	31 Dec 2019	30 Sep 2019	31 Dec 2018
	NPA	NPA	NPA
By collateral type			
Unsecured non-performing assets	2,842	3,151	3,127
Secured non-performing assets by collateral type			
Properties	1,004	818	799
Shares and debentures	162	185	185
Cash deposits	8	24	22
Others	1,757	1,766	1,551
Total	5,773	5,944	5,684

Note:
1 Refers to Expected Credit Loss Stage 3.

(\$m)	31 Dec 2019	30 Sep 2019	31 Dec 2018
	NPA	NPA	NPA
By period overdue			
Not overdue	1,110	1,154	1,271
Within 90 days	589	343	432
Over 90 to 180 days	601	616	436
Over 180 days	3,473	3,831	3,545
Total	5,773	5,944	5,684

Non-performing assets fell 3% from the previous quarter to \$5.77 billion as new NPA formation was more than offset by recoveries and write-offs. The majority of new NPA formation during the quarter was from exposures that were fully collaterallised.

Allowance coverage was at 94% and 191% with collateral taken into account.

### **CUSTOMER DEPOSITS**

(\$m)	31 Dec 2019	30 Sep 2019	31 Dec 2018
By currency and product			
Singapore dollar	162,509	162,401	158,778
Fixed deposits	19,289	21,363	17,031
Savings accounts	116,148	113,880	114,952
Current accounts	26,977	27,023	26,686
Others	95	135	109
US dollar	140,769	140,802	138,153
Fixed deposits	84,403	87,646	84,915
Savings accounts	22,893	20,806	21,280
Current accounts	32,056	30,788	30,006
Others	1,417	1,562	1,952
Hong Kong dollar	37,078	37,126	37,054
Fixed deposits	18,435	18,216	18,163
Savings accounts	8,207	7,851	8,368
Current accounts	10,259	10,890	10,345
Others	177	169	178
Chinese yuan	13,257	11,645	13,073
Fixed deposits	7,579	7,014	7,539
Savings accounts	1,169	1,098	1,134
Current accounts	3,846	2,665	3,458
Others	663	868	942
Others	50,676	48,243	46,727
Fixed deposits	32,987	30,854	31,401
Savings accounts	8,926	8,730	7,709
Current accounts	7,876	7,708	6,645
Others	887	951	972
Total	404,289	400,217	393,785
Fixed deposits	162,693	165,093	159,049
Savings accounts	157,343	152,365	153,443
Current accounts	81,014	79,074	77,140
Others	3,239	3,685	4,153

Customer deposits rose 2% from the previous quarter and 3% from a year ago in constant-currency terms to \$404

billion, with savings deposits leading the increase.

### **DEBTS ISSUED**

(\$m)	31 Dec 2019	30 Sep 2019	31 Dec 2018
Subordinated term debts <sup>1</sup>	3,538	3,573	3,599
Senior medium term notes <sup>1</sup>	11,155	12,637	11,577
Commercial papers <sup>1</sup>	25,914	25,182	16,986
Negotiable certificates of deposit <sup>1</sup>	4,562	4,317	4,147
Other debt securities <sup>1</sup>	10,291	11,006	7,734
Covered bonds <sup>2</sup>	5,206	4,570	5,268
Total	60,666	61,285	49,311
Due within 1 year	41,174	41,286	31,870
Due after 1 year <sup>3</sup>	19,492	19,999	17,441
Total	60,666	61,285	49,311

Notes:

Unsecured

<sup>2</sup> Secured 3 Includes instruments in perpetuity

### **CAPITAL ADEQUACY**

(\$m)	31 Dec 2019	30 Sep 2019	31 Dec 2018
Share capital	11,205	11,205	11,205
Disclosed reserves and others	37,369	36,946	34,658
Total regulatory adjustments to Common Equity Tier 1 capital	(5,704)	(5,739)	(5,622)
Common Equity Tier 1 capital	42,870	42,412	40,241
Additional Tier 1 capital instruments	2,590	2,599	3,394
Tier 1 capital	45,460	45,011	43,635
Total allowances eligible as Tier 2 capital	1,662	1,663	1,605
Tier 2 capital instruments	3,571	3,605	3,628
Total capital	50,693	50,279	48,868
Risk-Weighted Assets ("RWA")			
Credit RWA	252,402	253,931	242,526
Market RWA	28,696	29,960	26,170
Operational RWA	22,673	22,357	20,940
Total RWA	303,771	306,248	289,636
Capital Adequacy Ratio ("CAR") (%)			
Common Equity Tier 1	14.1	13.8	13.9
Tier 1	15.0	14.7	15.1
Total	16.7	16.4	16.9
Minimum CAR including Buffer Requirements (%) <sup>1</sup>			
Common Equity Tier 1	9.3	9.4	8.7
Effective Tier 1	10.8	10.9	10.2
Effective Total	12.8	12.9	12.2
Of which: Buffer Requirements (%)			
Capital Conservation Buffer	2.5	2.5	1.875
Countercyclical Capital Buffer	0.3	0.4	0.3

Note:

Compared to the previous quarter, capital adequacy ratios improved due mainly to net profit accretion, partly offset by dividend paid in the quarter. The Group's leverage ratio stood at 7.0%, well above the 3% minimum requirement.

<sup>1</sup> Includes minimum Common Equity Tier 1, Tier 1 and Total CAR of 6.5%, 8.0% and 10.0% respectively.

#### PILLAR 3, LIQUIDITY COVERAGE RATIO AND NET STABLE FUNDING RATIO DISCLOSURES

The Group's combined Pillar 3, Liquidity Coverage Ratio and Net Stable Funding Ratio disclosures document and Main Features of Capital Instruments document are published in the Investor Relations section of the Group's website (<a href="https://www.dbs.com/investors/default.page">https://www.dbs.com/investors/default.page</a>) and (<a href="https://www.dbs.com/investors/capital-and-other-disclosures/capital-disclosures">https://www.dbs.com/investors/capital-and-other-disclosures/capital-disclosures</a>) respectively. These disclosures are pursuant to MAS's Notices to Banks No. 637 "Notice on Risk Based Capital Adequacy Requirements for Banks incorporated in Singapore", No. 651 "Liquidity Coverage Ratio ("LCR") Disclosure" and No. 653 "Net Stable Funding Ratio ("NSFR") Disclosure".

#### **UNREALISED PROPERTY VALUATION SURPLUS**

The unrealised property valuation surplus as at 31 December 2019 was approximately \$1,483 million.

## **AUDITED CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT**

In \$ millions	4th Qtr 2019 <sup>1</sup>	4th Qtr 2018 <sup>1</sup>	+/(-) %	3rd Qtr 2019 <sup>1</sup>	+/(-) %	Year 2019	Year 2018	+/(-) %
Income								
Interest income	3,788	3,790	-	3,975	(5)	15,592	13,798	13
Interest expense	1,362	1,460	(7)	1,515	(10)	5,967	4,843	23
Net interest income	2,426	2,330	4	2,460	(1)	9,625	8,955	7
Net fee and commission income	741	635	17	814	(9)	3,052	2,780	10
Net trading income	228	229	-	431	(47)	1,459	1,178	24
Net income from investment securities	45	31	45	105	(57)	334	131	>100
Other income	21	20	5	13	62	74	139	(47)
Non-interest income	1,035	915	13	1,363	(24)	4,919	4,228	16
Total income	3,461	3,245	7	3,823	(9)	14,544	13,183	10
Employee benefits	915	804	14	873	5	3,514	3,188	10
Other expenses	685	697	(2)	741	(8)	2,744	2,626	4
Total expenses	1,600	1,501	7	1,614	(1)	6,258	5,814	8
Profit before allowances	1,861	1,744	7	2,209	(16)	8,286	7,369	12
Allowances for credit and other losses	122	205	(40)	254	(52)	703	710	(1)
Profit before tax	1,739	1,539	13	1,955	(11)	7,583	6,659	14
Income tax expense	221	211	5	317	(30)	1,154	1,006	15
Net profit	1,518	1,328	14	1,638	(7)	6,429	5,653	14
Attributable to:								
Shareholders	1,508	1,319	14	1,629	(7)	6,391	5,577	15
Non-controlling interests	10	9	11	9	11	38	76	(50)
	1,518	1,328	14	1,638	(7)	6,429	5,653	14

Note: 1 Unaudited

## AUDITED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

In \$ millions	4th Qtr 2019 <sup>1</sup>	4th Qtr 2018 <sup>1</sup>	+/(-) %	3rd Qtr 2019 <sup>1</sup>	+/(-) %	Year 2019	Year 2018	+/(-) %
Net profit	1,518	1,328	14	1,638	(7)	6,429	5,653	14
Other comprehensive income								
Items that may be reclassified subsequently to income statement: Translation differences for foreign								
operations	(265)	(37)	(>100)	234	NM	(175)	(94)	(86)
Other comprehensive income of associates	(3)	1	NM	2	NM	1	3	(67)
Gains (losses) on debt instruments classified at fair value through other comprehensive income and others								
Net valuation taken to equity	125	240	(48)	209	(40)	933	(105)	NM
Transferred to income statement	(79)	(43)	(84)	(135)	41	(403)	(151)	(>100)
Taxation relating to components of other comprehensive income	-	(19)	NM	(9)	NM	(58)	16	NM
Items that will not be reclassified to income statement:								
Gains (losses) on equity instruments classified at fair value through other comprehensive income (net of tax)	58	(96)	NM	(53)	NM	136	(154)	NM
Fair value change from own credit risk on financial liabilities designated at fair value (net of tax)	(46)	71	NM	12	NM	(63)	111	NM
Other comprehensive income, net of tax	(210)	117	NM	260	NM	371	(374)	NM
Total comprehensive income	1,308	1,445	(9)	1,898	(31)	6,800	5,279	29
Attributable to:								
Shareholders	1,298	1,435	(10)	1,889	(31)	6,761	5,201	30
Non-controlling interests	10	10	-	9	11	39	78	(50)
Nata	1,308	1,445	(9)	1,898	(31)	6,800	5,279	29

Note:

1 Unaudited NM Not Meaningful

## **AUDITED BALANCE SHEETS**

	-	The Group		The Company		
In \$ millions	31 Dec 2019	30 Sep 2019 <sup>1</sup>	31 Dec 2018	31 Dec 2019	30 Sep 2019 <sup>1</sup>	31 Dec 2018
Assets						
Cash and balances with central banks	26,362	21,538	22,185			
Government securities and treasury bills	49,729	53,563	47,278			
Due from banks	39,336	42,120	40,178	36	53	24
Derivatives	17,235	22,098	17,029	121	161	54
Bank and corporate securities	63,746	63,853	58,197			
Loans and advances to customers	357,884	353,436	345,003			
Other assets	15,424	14,904	13,418	-	-	5
Associates	835	842	838			
Subsidiaries	-	-	-	27,409	27,474	28,153
Properties and other fixed assets	3,225	3,189	1,450			
Goodwill and intangibles	5,170	5,171	5,175			
Total assets	578,946	580,714	550,751	27,566	27,688	28,236
Linkillainn						
Liabilities  Due to health	22 772	22 002	22.640			
Due to banks	23,773	22,802	22,648			
Deposits and balances from customers	404,289	400,217	393,785	40	7	40
Derivatives Other liabilities	17,512	21,944	16,692	19 06	7	18
	20,907	23,193	18,440	96	102	100
Other debt securities	57,128	57,712	45,712	3,818	3,909	4,141
Subordinated term debts	3,538	3,573	3,599	3,538	3,573	3,599
Total liabilities	527,147	529,441	500,876	7,471	7,591	7,858
Net assets	51,799	51,273	49,875	20,095	20,097	20,378
Equity						
Share capital	10,948	10,964	10,898	10,961	10,974	10,900
Other equity instruments	2,009	2,009	2,812	2,009	2,009	2,812
Other reserves	4,102	4,229	3,701	173	158	180
Revenue reserves	33,922	33,244	31,634	6,952	6,956	6,486
Shareholders' funds	50,981	50,446	49,045	20,095	20,097	20,378
Non-controlling interests	818	827	830			
Total equity	51,799	51,273	49,875	20,095	20,097	20,378
Other Information						
Net book value per share (\$)						
(i) Basic and diluted	19.17	18.96	18.12	7.08	7.08	6.88
Note:	19.17	10.30	10.12	7.00	7.00	0.00

Note: 1 Unaudited

# **AUDITED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

The Group	Group Attributable to shareholders of the Company						
In \$ millions	Share Capital	Other equity instruments	Other reserves	Revenue reserves	Total Shareholders' funds	Non- controlling interests	Total equity
Balance at 1 January 2019	10,898	2,812	3,701	31,634	49,045	830	49,875
Impact of adopting SFRS(I) 16 on 1 January 2019	•	•	•	(95) <sup>2</sup>	(95)		(95)
Balance at 1 January 2019 after adoption of SFRS(I) 16	10,898	2,812	3,701	31,539	48,950	830	49,780
Purchase of treasury shares	(114)				(114)		(114)
Draw-down of reserves upon vesting of performance shares	164		(164)		-		-
Cost of share-based payments			120		120		120
Dividends paid to shareholders <sup>1</sup>				(3,931)	(3,931)		(3,931)
Dividends paid to non-controlling interests					-	(38)	(38)
Acquisition of non-controlling interests					-	(13)	(13)
Redemption of perpetual capital securities issued by the Company		(803)		(2)	(805)		(805)
Total comprehensive income			445	6,316	6,761	39	6,800
Balance at 31 December 2019	10,948	2,009	4,102	33,922	50,981	818	51,799
Balance at 1 January 2018	11,082	1,812	4,256	30,308	47,458	2,344	49,802
Impact of adopting SFRS(I) 9 on 1 January 2018			(86)	95	9		9
Balance at 1 January 2018 after adoption of SFRS(I) 9	11,082	1,812	4,170	30,403	47,467	2,344	49,811
Purchase of treasury shares	(303)				(303)		(303)
Draw-down of reserves upon vesting of performance shares	119		(119)		-		-
Issue of perpetual capital securities		1,000			1,000		1,000
Cost of share-based payments			112		112		112
Dividends paid to shareholders <sup>1</sup>				(4,432)	(4,432)		(4,432)
Dividends paid to non-controlling interests					-	(85)	(85)
Change in non-controlling interests					-	(7)	(7)
Redemption of preference shares issued by a subsidiary					-	(1,500)	(1,500)
Total comprehensive income			(462)	5,663	5,201	78	5,279
Balance at 31 December 2018  Notes:	10,898	2,812	3,701	31,634	49,045	830	49,875

Notes:

Includes distributions paid on capital securities classified as equity (2019: \$96 million; 2018: \$74 million)

The impact was updated to \$95 million in 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2019

## **UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY**

FOR THE THREE MONTHS ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

The Group	Δ	Attributable to s	mpany				
In \$ millions	Share Capital	Other equity instruments	Other reserves	Revenue reserves	Total Shareholders' funds	Non- controlling interests	Total equity
Balance at 1 October 2019	10,964	2,009	4,229	33,233 <sup>2</sup>	50,435	827	51,262
Purchase of treasury shares	(16)				(16)		(16)
Cost of share-based payments			30		30		30
Dividends paid to shareholders <sup>1</sup>				(766)	(766)		(766)
Dividends paid to non-controlling interests					-	(19)	(19)
Total comprehensive income			(157)	1,455	1,298	10	1,308
Balance at 31 December 2019	10,948	2,009	4,102	33,922	50,981	818	51,799
Balance at 1 October 2018	10,974	2,812	3,606	30,284	47,676	839	48,515
Purchase of treasury shares	(76)				(76)		(76)
Cost of share-based payments			29		29		29
Dividends paid to shareholders <sup>1</sup>				(19)	(19)		(19)
Dividends paid to non-controlling interests					-	(19)	(19)
Total comprehensive income			66	1,369	1,435	10	1,445
Balance at 31 December 2018	10,898	2,812	3,701	31,634	49,045	830	49,875

Notes:

Includes distributions paid on capital securities classified as equity (4<sup>th</sup> Qtr 2019: nil; 4<sup>th</sup> Qtr 2018: \$19 million) Includes updated impact on adopting SFRS(I) 16 on 1 January 2019

## **AUDITED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

The Company

In \$ millions	Share capital	Other equity instruments	Other reserves	Revenue reserves	Total equity
Balance at 1 January 2019	10,900	2,812	180	6,486	20,378
Purchase of treasury shares	(104)				(104)
Transfer of treasury shares	165				165
Draw-down of reserves upon vesting of performance shares			(164)		(164)
Cost of share-based payments			120		120
Dividends paid to shareholders <sup>1</sup>				(3,931)	(3,931)
Redemption of perpetual capital securities issued by the Company		(803)		(2)	(805)
Total comprehensive income			37	4,399	4,436
Balance at 31 December 2019	10,961	2,009	173	6,952	20,095
Balance at 1 January 2018	11,092	1,812	170	6,532	19,606
Purchase of treasury shares	(303)				(303)
Transfer of treasury shares	111				111
Draw-down of reserves upon vesting of performance shares			(119)		(119)
Issue of perpetual capital securities		1,000			1,000
Cost of share-based payments			112		112
Dividends paid to shareholders <sup>1</sup>				(4,432)	(4,432)
Total comprehensive income			17	4,386	4,403
Balance at 31 December 2018	10,900	2,812	180	6,486	20,378

Note

<sup>1</sup> Includes distributions paid on capital securities classified as equity (2019: \$96 million; 2018: \$74 million)

## **UNAUDITED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY**

FOR THE THREE MONTHS ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019

### The Company

In \$ millions	Share capital	Other equity instruments	Other reserves	Revenue reserves	Total equity
					_
Balance at 1 October 2019	10,974	2,009	158	6,956	20,097
Purchase of treasury shares	(13)				(13)
Cost of share-based payments			30		30
Dividends paid to shareholders <sup>1</sup>				(766)	(766)
Total comprehensive income			(15)	762	747
Balance at 31 December 2019	10,961	2,009	173	6,952	20,095
Balance at 1 October 2018	10,976	2.812	127	6,515	20,430
Purchase of treasury shares	(76)	,-		-,-	(76)
Cost of share-based payments			29		29
Dividends paid to shareholders <sup>1</sup>				(19)	(19)
Total comprehensive income			24	(10)	14
Balance at 31 December 2018	10,900	2,812	180	6,486	20,378

Note:

<sup>1</sup> Includes distributions paid on capital securities classified as equity (4<sup>th</sup> Qtr 2019: nil; 4<sup>th</sup> Qtr 2018: \$19 million)

## **AUDITED CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT**

In \$ millions	Year 2019	Year 2018	4th Qtr 2019 <sup>3</sup>	4th Qtr 2018 <sup>3</sup>
Cash flows from operating activities				
Profit before tax	7,583	6,659	1,739	1,539
Adjustments for non-cash and other items:				
Allowances for credit and other losses	703	710	122	205
Depreciation of properties and other fixed assets	609	331	154	87
Share of profits or losses of associates	(50)	(29)	(12)	(10)
Net loss/ (gain) on disposal, net of write-off of properties and other fixed assets	26	(86)	23	(2)
Net income from investment securities	(334)	(131)	(45)	(31)
Cost of share-based payments	120	112	30	29
Interest expense on subordinated term debts	76	47	18	15
Interest expense on lease liabilities	29	-	7	-
Profit before changes in operating assets & liabilities	8,762	7,613	2,036	1,832
Increase/(Decrease) in:				
Due to banks	1,304	5,037	1,109	1,708
Deposits and balances from customers	10,908	19,598	4,807	5,988
Other liabilities Other debt securities and borrowings	1,349 11,492	1,498 5,351	(6,607) (653)	(3,821) 4,692
	,	0,001	(000)	1,002
(Increase)/Decrease in: Restricted balances with central banks	1,502	(276)	3,080	89
Government securities and treasury bills	(2,476)	(7,878)	3,518	2,810
Due from banks	678	(4,488)	2,746	(5,866)
Bank and corporate securities	(5,149)	(2,817)	107	(2,747)
Loans and advances to customers	(14,269)	(22,854)	(5,495)	(5,383)
Other assets	(2,280)	(1,176)	4,242	3,639
Tax paid	(635)	(891)	(23)	(375)
Net cash generated from/ (used in) operating activities (1)	11,186	(1,283)	8,867	2,566
Cash flows from investing activities	· ·	( , ,	,	,
Dividends from associates	29	25	7	5
Proceeds from disposal of interest in associate	21	11	7	3
Acquisition of interest in associate	-	(69)	-	-
Proceeds from disposal of properties and other fixed assets	2	105	_	6
Purchase of properties and other fixed assets	(586)	(533)	(230)	(220)
Proceeds from acquisition of business	` -	262	` -	-
Acquisition of/ change in non-controlling interests	(13)	(7)	-	-
Net cash used in investing activities (2)	(547)	(206)	(216)	(206)
Cash flows from financing activities				
Issue of perpetual capital securities	_	1,000	_	-
Issue of subordinated term debts	_	3,013	_	_
Interest paid on subordinated term debts	(76)	(56)	(30)	(32)
Redemption/purchase of subordinated term debts	-	(508)	-	-
Redemption of preference shares issued by a subsidiary	_	(1,500)	_	_
Redemption of perpetual capital securities issued by the Company	(805)	-	_	
Purchase of treasury shares	(114)	(303)	(16)	(76)
Dividends paid to non-controlling interests	(38)	(85)	(19)	(19)
Dividends paid to shareholders of the Company <sup>1</sup>	(3,931)	(4,432)	(766)	(19)
Net cash used in financing activities (3)	(4,964)	(2,871)	(831)	(146)
Exchange translation adjustments (4)	39	(109)	93	(53)
Net change in cash and cash equivalents <sup>2</sup> (1)+(2)+(3)+(4)	5,714	(4,469)	7,913	2,161
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	14,221	18,693	12,022	12,060
Impact of adopting SFRS(I) 9 on 1 January 2018	•	(3)		-
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	19,935	14,221	19,935	14,221
Notes:	•	*	•	

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> 

Includes distributions paid on capital securities classified as equity

Cash and cash equivalents refer to cash and non-restricted balances with central banks

Unaudited

<sup>2</sup> 

## OTHER FINANCIAL INFORMATION

### 1. Off-balance Sheet Items

In \$ millions	31 Dec 2019	30 Sep 2019	31 Dec 2018
Contingent liabilities	28,267	26,688	24,603
Commitments <sup>1</sup>	297,938	297,005	273,246
Financial Derivatives	2,184,839	2,270,007	2,063,378

Note:

<sup>1</sup> Includes commitments that are unconditionally cancellable at any time of \$248,258 million for 31 Dec 2019 (30 Sep 2019: \$245,847 million; 31 Dec 2018: \$230,291 million).

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

#### **SHARE CAPITAL**

(a) The movement in the number of issued and fully paid-up ordinary shares is as follows:

Number of shares	Year 2019	Year 2018	4th Qtr 2019	4th Qtr 2018
ssued Ordinary shares				
Balance at beginning of period and end of period	2,563,936,434	2,563,936,434	2,563,936,434	2,563,936,434
Treasury shares				
Balance at beginning of period	(12,320,500)	(6,303,700)	(9,314,500)	(9,120,500)
Purchase of treasury shares	(4,150,000)	(12,254,800)	(500,000)	(3,200,000)
Shares transferred to trust holding shares	• • • •	,		,
pursuant to DBSH Share Plan/	6,656,000	6,238,000	-	-
DBSH Employee Share Plan				
Balance at end of period	(9,814,500)	(12,320,500)	(9,814,500)	(12,320,500)

(b) The weighted average number of Issued Ordinary shares net of Treasury shares (both basic and fully diluted) for the full year of 2019 is 2,555,615,824.

### INTERESTED PARTY TRANSACTIONS PURSUANT TO LISTING RULE 920(1)

The Company has not obtained a general mandate from shareholders for Interested Person Transactions.

# CONFIRMATION OF DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS' UNDERTAKINGS PURSUANT TO LISTING RULE 720(1)

The Company has procured undertakings from all its directors and executive officers in compliance with Listing Rule 720(1).

# REPORT OF PERSONS OCCUPYING MANAGERIAL POSITIONS WHO ARE RELATED TO A DIRECTOR, CEO OR SUBSTANTIAL SHAREHOLDER

Pursuant to Rule 704(13) of the SGX Listing Manual, DBSH wishes to advise that there are no persons occupying a managerial position in DBSH, DBS Bank Ltd or any of the principal subsidiaries of DBSH who are relatives of a director or chief executive officer or substantial shareholder of DBSH.

The auditor's report dated 12 February 2020, as extracted from the financial statements of DBS Group Holdings Ltd and its subsidiaries for the year ended 31 December 2019 which has been prepared in accordance with Singapore Financial Reporting Standards (International), is as follows:

# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF DBS GROUP HOLDINGS LTD

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

#### Our opinion

In our opinion, the accompanying consolidated financial statements of DBS Group Holdings Ltd (the "Company") and its subsidiaries (the "Group") and the balance sheet of the Company are properly drawn up in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act, Chapter 50 (the "Act") and Singapore Financial Reporting Standards (International) ("SFRS(I)s") so as to give a true and fair view of the consolidated financial position of the Group and the financial position of the Company as at 31 December 2019 and of the consolidated financial performance, consolidated changes in equity and consolidated cash flows of the Group for the financial year ended on that date.

#### What we have audited

The financial statements of the Company and the Group, as set out on pages 1 to 81, comprise:

- the consolidated income statement of the Group for the year ended 31 December 2019;
- the consolidated statement of comprehensive income of the Group for the year then ended;
- the balance sheets of the Group and of the Company as at 31 December 2019;
- the consolidated statement of changes in equity of the Group for the year then ended;
- · the consolidated cash flow statement of the Group for the year then ended; and
- the notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

#### **Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with Singapore Standards on Auditing ("SSAs"). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Independence

We are independent of the Group in accordance with the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics for Public Accountants and Accounting Entities ("ACRA Code") together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Singapore, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the ACRA Code.

### Our audit approach

Overview



### Materiality

 We determined the overall Group materiality based on 5% of the Group's profit before tax.

#### **Group scoping**

- Full scope audit procedures were performed over the Singapore Operations of DBS Bank Ltd. and DBS Bank (Hong Kong) Limited ("significant components").
- We identified DBS Bank Ltd. Hong Kong Branch, DBS Bank (China) Limited, PT Bank DBS Indonesia, DBS Bank (Taiwan) Ltd and DBS Bank India Limited as component entities where certain account balances were considered to be significant in size in relation to the Group ("other components"). Consequently, specific audit procedures for the significant account balances of these components were performed to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence.

#### **Key audit matters**

- Specific allowances for loans and advances to customers
- General allowances for credit losses (Stage 1 and 2 Expected Credit Loss)
- Goodwill
- Valuation of financial instruments held at fair value

As part of designing our audit, we determined materiality and assessed the risks of material misstatement in the accompanying financial statements. In particular, we considered where management made subjective judgements; for example, in respect of significant accounting estimates that involved making assumptions and considering future events that are inherently uncertain. As in all of our audits, we also addressed the risk of management override of internal controls, including among other matters consideration of whether there was evidence of bias that represented a risk of material misstatement due to fraud.

#### **Materiality**

The scope of our audit was influenced by our application of materiality. An audit is designed to obtain reasonable assurance whether the consolidated financial statements are free from material misstatement. Misstatements may arise due to fraud or error. They are considered material if individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the consolidated financial statements.

Based on our professional judgement, we determined certain quantitative thresholds for materiality, including the overall group materiality for the consolidated financial statements as a whole as set out in the table below. These, together with qualitative considerations, helped us to determine the scope of our audit and the nature, timing and extent of our audit procedures and to evaluate the effect of misstatements, both individually and on the financial statements as a whole.

How we determined overall Group materiality	5% of the Group's profit before tax
Rationale for benchmark applied	<ul> <li>We chose 'profit before tax' as, in our view, it is the benchmark against which performance of the Group is most commonly measured.</li> <li>We selected 5% based on our professional judgement, noting that it is also within the range of commonly accepted profit-related thresholds.</li> </ul>

In performing our audit, we allocated materiality levels to the significant components and other components of the Group. These are less than the overall Group materiality.

How we developed the audit scope

We tailored the scope of our audit in order to perform sufficient work to enable us to provide an opinion on the financial statements as a whole, taking into account the structure of the Group, the accounting processes and controls, and the industry in which the Group operates. The Group's financial reporting process is dependent on its Information Technology ("IT") systems. Our audit scope included testing the operating effectiveness of the controls over the integrity of key financial data processed through the IT systems that are relevant to financial reporting.

In establishing the overall Group audit approach, we determined the extent of audit procedures that are needed to be performed across the Group by us or by other PwC network firms operating under our instruction who are familiar with the local laws and regulations in each of these territories (the "component auditors"). Where the work was performed by component auditors, we determined the level of involvement we needed to have in the procedures to be able to conclude whether sufficient appropriate audit evidence had been obtained as a basis for our opinion on the financial statements as a whole.

Key audit matters

Key audit matters are those matters that, in our professional judgement, were of most significance in our audit of the financial statements of the financial year ended 31 December 2019. These matters were addressed in the context of our audit of the financial statements as a whole, and in forming our opinion thereon, and we do not provide a separate opinion on these matters.

#### Key audit matter

# Specific allowances for loans and advances to customers

As at 31 December 2019, the specific allowances for loans and advances to customers of the Group was \$2,305 million, the majority of which related to Institutional Banking Group ("IBG") customers. Specific allowances refer to loss allowance for credit-impaired exposures (i.e. Stage 3) per SFRS (I) 9. Expected Credit Losses ("ECL") on non-impaired exposures (i.e. Stage 1 and Stage 2) is set out under the 'General allowances for credit losses' key audit matter.

We focused on this area because of the subjective judgements by management in determining the necessity for, and estimating the size of, allowances against loans and advances.

In particular, we focused on specific allowances for loans and advances to IBG customers because any assessment of impairment can be inherently subjective and involves significant judgement over both the timing of recognition of any impairment and the estimation of the size of such impairment. This includes:

- the principal assumptions underlying the calculation of specific allowances for loans and advances to IBG customers where there is evidence of impairment losses (including the future profitability of the borrowers and the expected realisable value of collateral held);
- the classification of loans and advances in line with MAS Notice 612 ("MAS 612").

# How our audit addressed the key audit matter

We assessed the design and evaluated the operating effectiveness of the controls over the specific allowances for loans and advances to IBG customers. These controls included:

- oversight of credit risk by the Group Credit Risk Committee;
- timely management review of credit risk;
- the watchlist identification and monitoring process;
- timely identification of impairment events;
- classification of loans and advances in line with MAS 612; and
- the collateral monitoring and valuation processes.

We determined that we could rely on these controls for the purposes of our audit.

We inspected a sample of loans and advances to IBG customers to assess whether the classification of the loans and advances is in line with MAS 612 and, where there was evidence of an impairment loss, whether it had been identified in a timely manner including, where relevant, how forbearance had been considered.

Where impairment had been identified, for a sample of loans and advances, our work included:

- considering the latest developments in relation to the borrower;
- examining the forecasts of future cash flows prepared by management including key assumptions in relation to the amount and timing of recoveries;
- comparing the collateral valuation and other sources of repayment to support the calculation of the impairment against external evidence, where available, including independent valuation reports;
- challenging management's assumptions; and
- testing the calculations.

### Key audit matter

We applied judgement in selecting samples focused on borrowers incorporated in China, India and Indonesia, and with exposures to certain sectors in view of continued heightened credit risks impacting the portfolio.

(Refer also to Notes 3 and 18 to the financial statements.)

# How our audit addressed the key audit matter

For a sample of performing loans and advances to IBG customers which had not been identified by management as potentially impaired, considering the latest developments in relation to the borrower, we challenged management's assumptions on whether management's classification was appropriate, using external evidence where available in respect of the relevant borrower.

Based on procedures performed, we have assessed that the specific allowances for loans and advances is appropriate.

### General allowances for credit losses (Stage 1 and 2 Expected Credit Loss)

SFRS(I) 9 Financial Instruments ("SFRS(I) 9") adopted in 2018 introduced a new impairment measurement framework, referred to as Expected Credit Loss. In estimating ECL over future time periods, significant judgement is required.

We focused on the Group's measurement of general allowances on non-impaired exposures (\$2,511 million). This covers both 'Stage 1' exposures (where there has not been a significant increase in credit risk), and 'Stage 2' exposures (where a significant increase in credit risk has been observed). The ECL framework implemented by the Group involves significant judgement and assumptions that relate to, amongst others:

- adjustments to the Group's Basel credit models and parameters;
- use of forward-looking and macroeconomic information;
- estimates for the expected lifetime of revolving credit facilities;
- assessment of significant increase in credit risk; and
- post model adjustments to account for limitations in the ECL models, for example the risk to the portfolio from the current geopolitical trade conditions.

We critically assessed management's assumptions and estimates relating to Stage 1 and Stage 2 ECL for retail and non-retail portfolios as at 31 December 2019. This included assessing refinements in methodologies made during the year.

We tested the design and operating effectiveness of key controls focusing on:

- involvement of governance committees, including review and approval of post model adjustments;
- completeness and accuracy of external and internal data inputs into the ECL calculations; and
- accuracy and timeliness of allocation of exposures into Stage 1 and Stage 2 based on quantitative and qualitative triggers.

The Group's internal experts performed an independent model validation of the ECL methodologies and assumptions. We reviewed the outcomes from this work as part of our assessment of the ECL estimate.

Through the course of our work, we challenged the rationale and calculation basis of post model adjustments.

Overall, we assessed the methodologies and assumptions used by the Group to estimate the ECL on non-impaired exposures to be appropriate.

(Refer also to Notes 3 and 11 to the financial statements.)

### Key audit matter

#### Goodwill

As at 31 December 2019, the Group had \$5,170 million of goodwill as a result of acquisitions.

We focused on this area as management makes significant judgement in estimating future cash flows in undertaking its annual goodwill impairment assessment.

The key assumptions used in the discounted cash flow analyses relate to:

- cash flow forecasts;
- · discount rate; and
- long-term growth rate.

(Refer also to Notes 3 and 27 to the financial statements.)

# How our audit addressed the key audit matter

We assessed the appropriateness of management's identification of the Group's cash generating units and the process by which indicators of impairment were identified.

For DBS Bank (Hong Kong) Limited's franchise (goodwill of \$4,631 million as at 31 December 2019), we evaluated management's cash flow forecasts and the process by which they were developed. Together with valuation specialists in our team, we assessed discount rate and growth rate assumptions against the Group's own historical performance and available external industry and economic indicators.

We reviewed management's sensitivity analysis over the key assumptions to determine whether any reasonably possible change in these assumptions would result in an impairment, and also performed our own stress analysis based on the situation in Hong Kong.

We concur with management's assessment that goodwill balances are not impaired as at 31 December 2019.

# Valuation of financial instruments held at fair value

Financial instruments held by the Group at fair value include derivative assets and liabilities, trading securities, certain debt instruments and other assets and liabilities designated at fair value.

The Group's financial instruments are predominantly valued using quoted market prices ('Level 1') or market observable prices ('Level 2'). The valuation of 'Level 3' instruments rely on significant unobservable inputs.

We considered the overall valuation of financial instruments (Level 1, 2 and 3) to be a key audit matter given the financial significance to the Group, nature of underlying products and estimation involved to determine fair value.

In determining fair value, management also make adjustments to recognise credit risk, funding costs, bid-offer spreads and in other cases parameter We assessed the design and tested the operating effectiveness of the controls over the Group's financial instruments valuation processes. These included the controls over:

- management's testing and approval of new models and revalidation of existing models;
- the completeness and accuracy of pricing data inputs into valuation models;
- monitoring of collateral disputes; and
- governance mechanisms and monitoring over the valuation processes by the Group Market and Liquidity Risk Committee, including over derivative valuation adjustments.

We determined that we could rely on the controls for the purposes of our audit. In addition, we:

- engaged our own specialists to use their own models and input sources to determine an independent estimate of fair value for a sample of the Group's Level 1 and Level 2 financial instruments. We compared these to the Group's calculations of fair value to assess individual material valuation differences or systemic bias;
- assessed the reasonableness of the methodologies used and the assumptions made for a sample of financial instrument valuations

Key audit matter	How our audit addressed the key audit matter
and model risk limitations. This is broadly consistent with the banking industry, albeit the methodology to calculate some of these adjustments continues to evolve.  (Refer also to Notes 3 and 41 to the financial statements.)	<ul> <li>with significant unobservable valuation inputs (Level 3 instruments);</li> <li>performed procedures on collateral disputes to identify possible indicators of inappropriate valuations; and</li> <li>performed tests of inputs and assessed the methodology over fair value adjustments, in light of available market data and industry trends.</li> </ul>
	Overall, the valuation of financial instruments held a fair value was within a reasonable range of outcomes

#### **Other Information**

Management is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the Directors' Statement included in pages 82 to 85 (but does not include the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon), which we obtained prior to the date of this auditor's report, and the other sections of the Annual Report ("the Other Sections") which are expected to be made available to us after that date.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not and will not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information identified above and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed on the other information that we obtained prior to the date of this auditor's report, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

When we read the Other Sections, if we conclude that there is a material misstatement therein, we are required to communicate the matter to those charged with governance and take appropriate actions in accordance with SSAs.

#### Responsibilities of Management and Directors for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with the provisions of the Act and SFRS(I)s, and for devising and maintaining a system of internal accounting controls sufficient to provide a reasonable assurance that assets are safeguarded against loss from unauthorised use or disposition; and transactions are properly authorised and that they are recorded as necessary to permit the preparation of true and fair financial statements and to maintain accountability of assets.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Group's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Group or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

The directors' responsibilities include overseeing the Group's financial reporting process.

#### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with SSAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with SSAs, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Group's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Group's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Group to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the Group to express an opinion on the consolidated financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the Group audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

We communicate with the directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide the directors with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

From the matters communicated with the directors, we determine those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the financial statements of the current period and are therefore the key audit matters. We describe these matters in our auditor's report unless law or regulation precludes public disclosure about the matter or when, in extremely rare circumstances, we determine that a matter should not be communicated in our report because the adverse consequences of doing so would reasonably be expected to outweigh the public interest benefits of such communication.

#### **Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements**

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In our opinion, the accounting and other records required by the Act to be kept by the Company and by those subsidiary corporations incorporated in Singapore of which we are the auditors, have been properly kept in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

The engagement partner on the audit resulting in this independent auditor's report is Melvin Poon.

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

Public Accountants and Chartered Accountants

Singapore,12 February 2020