

The 5th Asia-Pacific Pensions Forum



The 5th Asia-Pacific Pensions Forum, “Retirement protection – a shared responsibility” was held on 12th and 13th of April, 2016 at the Central Government Offices in Hong Kong.

The Hong Kong Retirement Schemes Association (HKRSA) co-hosted the Forum with the Association of Superannuation Funds of Australia (ASFA). The event was supported by the Government of Hong Kong SAR and received different types of sponsorship from over 20 institutional entities.

The one-and-a-half-day event registered over 150 participants from six countries/regions



– Australia, China, Hong Kong, Philippines, Singapore and USA. Participants included a broad representation from the pertinent sectors, disciplines and communities, including government officials/politicians, academics, industry leaders and business professionals, as well as retirement protection stakeholder groups. The detailed agenda of the Forum can be downloaded from the HKRSA website <http://www.hkrsa.org.hk/>.



The Forum attracted wide media attention. In addition to coverage of the event on local radio and television stations and in newspapers as well as trade magazines, two special media sessions were held with our keynote speaker, the World Bank's Global Lead for Pensions and Social Insurance. On

the first day, HKRSA's Chairman, Ms Yvonne Sin, interviewed Mr. Robert Palacios in the presence of over 15 reporters on a number of important issues related to the Hong Kong government's current consultation on forging ahead with retirement protection, which was followed by a Q&A session. The next day, on a radio phone-in talk show, Hong Kong Today, Mr Palacios elaborated on his views with regard to the offsetting of severance and long service pay against the MPF employer account balance. Please refer to the HKRSA website for the respective media links.



The forum featured international, regional and local subject experts, experienced practitioners, renowned academicians and prominent political leaders. The Forum was officially opened by Mrs. Carrie Lam, Chief Secretary for Administration of the HKSAR Government. The eight sessions organized for Day One were structured to provide a comprehensive and unbiased knowledge platform for furthering the discussion on retirement protection for Hong Kong. Collectively, they examined global/regional trends and empirical evidence regarding the many challenges associated with society's quest for sustainable solutions to more adequate security in old age.

The workshop on Day Two focused on three topical themes for advancing the agenda on retirement protection in Hong Kong – namely the debate revolving around universal versus



targeted pensions, the unresolved matter of offsetting severance/long service payments, and instruments for hedging longevity risk. The panelists, moderators and audience engaged in productive dialogues, touching on several important issues that practically everyone who spoke agreed would need to be acted on in a timely manner.

Feedback on the Forum has been encouragingly positive. We designed a survey to solicit the opinions of participants regarding the three themes – universality versus targeting, the offsetting issue, and hedging longevity risk. We obtained a response rate of about 60%. However, we would like to open up the floor to those who were not able to attend the workshop. So, for those of you who have not availed yourself of the opportunity to express your views, we invite you to do so by completing the survey form via the QR code below or visit the HKRSA website and follow the cues.



第五屆 亞太退休保障論壇



「第五屆亞太退休保障論壇」在 2016 年 4 月 12 日及 13 日於香港政府總部舉行，主題為「退休保障 — 共同承擔」。

是次論壇由香港退休計劃協會與 The Association of Superannuation Funds of Australia (ASFA) 合辦，除得到香港特區政府支持，更獲逾 20 個機構以不同形式贊助。

論壇為期一日半，吸引超過 150 名來自澳洲、中國、香港、菲律賓、新加坡及美國等六個國家 / 地區人士參與，他們來自不同界



別、專業及團體，當中包括政府官員、政客、學者、行業領袖、商界專才及退休保障相關持分者。論壇議程可於香港退休計劃協會網站 <http://www.hkrsa.org.hk/> 下載。



論壇獲傳媒廣泛關注，除本地電台、電視台、報章和商貿雜誌報道外，主辦單位更特別安排世界銀行專家兩度與傳媒會面。論壇首日，逾 15 名記者出席由香港退休計劃協會主席冼懿敏主持的訪談環節，冼女士與 Robert Palacios 一同探討香港政府就退休保障諮詢中的重點議題，其後更設問答環

節。翌日，Robert Palacios 在電台訪談節目《Hong Kong Today》上，闡述他對強積金對沖機制——即以僱主強積金供款抵銷遣散費和長期服務金的看法。相關連結已上載到香港退休計劃協會網站供大家重溫。

本論壇由香港政務司司長林鄭月娥主持開幕禮，並獲來自世界各地、鄰近地區及本地的退休保障專家、資深從業員、知名學者及政要支持。論壇首日分八節，為參與人士提供廣泛而客觀的資訊，以進一步探討香港退休保障。整體而言，論壇詳細分析環球/地區趨勢，及讓市民安享晚年的可持續方案所面對的各種挑戰。



次日的工作坊則聚焦香港退休保障的三大議題：全民退休保障與針對性退休保障哪個較可取、如何處理尚待解決的遣散費和長期服務金對沖爭議、以及對沖長壽風險的工具。專家小組成員、主持人及現場觀眾積極投入討論，所有發言人士都同意應儘快處理。

是次論壇反應正面，令人鼓舞。我們向參與人士進行了一項調查，收集他們對全民或針對性退休保障、強積金對沖及對沖長壽風險等三大議題之意見，回應率達 60%。我們亦希望邀請未能出席工作坊的人士分享他們的意見，你只需掃描下方二維碼或瀏覽香港退休計劃協會網站，按指示完成問卷即可。

