## HEINBRO

## GROUP

20 Jan 2023

# SFC Circular - SFC warns the public against a suspicious website

The Securities and Futures Commission (SFC) wishes to alert members of the public that 新美銀行 (translation: Newstates Bank) (website: <a href="https://newstates.com/">https://newstates.com/</a>) is not licensed by or registered with the SFC under the Securities and Futures Ordinance to conduct any regulated activities in Hong Kong.

Also, 新美銀行 is not authorised by the Hong Kong Monetary Authority under the Banking Ordinance to carry on banking business or the business of taking deposits in Hong Kong.

While technology is making online investing and money management more convenient, it is important to be aware of the risks when using these online services provided by intermediaries. In particular, before dealing with an entity in the Hong Kong securities and futures markets, members of the public are advised to check with the <a href="SFC's public register of licensed persons and registered institutions">SFC's public register of licensed persons and registered institutions</a> on the licensing status of the entity. The public register, available on the SFC website, lists all SFC's licensees and registered institutions. The public may also contact the SFC by email (<a href="mailto:enquiry@sfc.hk">enquiry@sfc.hk</a>) for any related enquiries.

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中文版本

#### 證監會呼籲公眾人士提防可疑網站

證券及期貨事務監察委員會(證監會)呼籲公眾人士提防新美銀行(網站 <a href="https://newstates.com/">https://newstates.com/</a>),因為它並沒有根據《證券及期貨條例》獲證監會發牌或註冊於香港進行受規管活動。

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此外,新美銀行並未獲香港金融管理局根據《銀行業條例》認可於香港經營銀行業務或接受存款業務。

證監會提醒公眾,科技發達令網上投資及理財更為方便,但務須於使用中介人所提供的這類網上服務時提防相關風險。尤其是,公眾在香港證券及期貨市場與某機構進行交易前,應先查閱證監會持牌人及註冊機構的公眾紀錄冊核實該機構的持牌狀況。該公眾紀錄冊登載於證監會網站,提供證監會持牌人及註冊機構的資料。如有任何有關查詢,公眾亦可透過電郵(enquiry@sfc.hk)與證監會聯絡。