

# THE Macau POST DAILY



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# Lawmaker worries about 'significant' increase in euthanised dogs

Yuki Lei

The Municipal Affairs Bureau (IAM) has said that the number of dog and cat adoptions has continued to rise since the city's Animal Protection Law came into effect in 2016, while the number of abandoned pets handed in to the bureau has dropped significantly – but lawmaker Ella Lei Ching I yesterday cited the bureau's figures as pointing to a "significant" increase in the number of dogs that were euthanised between January and August this year compared to the same period in previous years.

According to the bureau's Macau Animal Health Control Website, the number of euthanised dogs and cats dropped from a peak of 879 in 2004 to 127 in 2016 – the year the Animal Protection Law took effect, but the data also shows that the number of euthanised dogs and cats is on an upward trend, as the number of

euthanised cats and dogs reached 360 last year, while in the first eight months of this year, the number of euthanised canines and felines had already reached 333, of which 241 were dogs.

According to the website, the number of abandoned cats and dogs received by the bureau in 2016 totalled 164, whereas last year 106 cats and dogs were taken in by the bureau. In the first eight months of this year, the number of cats and dogs received by the bureau stood at 73.

Referring to the bureau's earlier comments that its TNA (Trap-Neuter-Adopt) initiative had achieved certain results, Lei urged the bureau to evaluate the effectiveness of its existing measures and continue to step up its efforts in promoting the concepts of animal protection, early neutering and adoption instead of purchase:



This file photo taken last year shows two abandoned dogs at the Coloane Municipal Kennel. – Photo: Yuki Lei

"What are the reasons for the significant increase in the number of dogs euthanised, as assessed by the bureau? What further plans does the bureau have to reduce the abandonment of pets by members

of the public and to promote the adoption, instead of purchase, of pets for lifelong care?"

Meanwhile, in her written interpellation, Lei also raised concerns about the fact that some veterinary

surgeons who had been practising for many years were not accredited due to their insufficient academic requirements. "The community expects the bureau to monitor the market demand for and price changes at private veterinary clinics after the Veterinary Clinical Care and Commercial Activity of Animals Law came into effect in April this year, and to review the current arrangements for its veterinary outpatient services," Lei said.

Lei quoted the bureau's data as noting that as of June this year, the government-appointed Council of Veterinary Medicine Professionals had received 117 applications for recognition of their veterinary qualifications, among which 101 applicants had been approved by September, while some veterinarians failed to make the transition to veterinary surgeon status after the new law took effect. ■

## Vietnamese duo steal frozen meat from eatery

William Chan

Two Vietnamese women have been apprehended for stealing frozen meat valued at 500 patacas from a restaurant where one of them was employed, Public Security Police (PSP) spokeswoman Lai In Hong said during a routine press conference yesterday.

The suspect in her fifties, surnamed Lien, worked in the eatery in the city centre. Her accomplice, a woman surnamed Truyen, who is in her forties, works as a domestic helper. Lien is a non-permanent resident while Truyen is a non-resident worker (NRW).

According to Lai, on Sunday, a chef at the restaurant witnessed Lien taking a batch of frozen meat from the freezer, placing it in a black garbage bag, and then loading it onto a trolley. The chef grew suspicious as the shop's regulations prohibited Lien from handling food items.

Later that day, the chef noticed Lien pushing the cart containing the frozen meat out of the restaurant and handing it over to Truyen in an adjacent alley.

The chef intercepted them and reported the case to the police.

Under questioning, they admitted to the crime. Truyen told the police that she intended to use the meat for a dinner party with her friends, all of them working as maids, later that evening.

The suspects have been transferred to the Public Prosecutions Office (MP). Lien faces a charge of abuse of trust, while Truyen faces a charge of handling stolen goods. ■



Public Security Police (PSP) spokeswoman Lai In Hong looks on during yesterday's regular press conference. – Photo: William Chan

## Police bust first illegal currency exchange case under new law

William Chan

Two individuals from mainland China were apprehended for engaging in an illegal currency exchange transaction on Tuesday, the same day as a new law criminalising illegal currency exchanges on and in the vicinity of casino premises took effect, Judiciary Police (PJ) spokesman Ho Chan Nam said during a special press conference yesterday.

The 51-year-old male suspect surnamed Yao and the 48-year-old female suspect surnamed Qian told the police that they're jobless.

According to Ho, PJ officers saw Yao and Qian offering an illegal currency exchange deal to a mainland male gambler in a Cotai casino smoking lounge on Tuesday morning. After the gambler transferred 28,300 yuan by scanning the QR code provided by Qian, she handed him HK\$30,000 in gambling chips.

Yao and Qian were apprehended on the spot. The police confiscated the HK\$30,000 worth of chips from the gambler, who then became



The hooded illegal currency exchange dealers from the mainland are escorted by Judiciary Police (PJ) officers from the PJ headquarters to a PJ vehicle in Zape after yesterday's special press conference. – Photo: William Chan

a witness in the case, as well as HK\$21,300 in casino chips from the suspects.

Under questioning, Qian confessed to the crime, revealing that she made a profit of 70 yuan for every 10,000 yuan exchanged.

The two suspects have been transferred to the Public Prosecutions Office (MP), facing illegal currency exchange charges, Ho said.

Ho underlined that according

to the new law illegal currency exchanges occurring at gaming resorts are criminal activities. Providing currency exchange services in casinos or near them is presumed to be for the purpose of facilitating gambling activities. Ho urged residents and tourists to exchange currency only at legitimate financial institutions and to refrain from utilising the services of illegal currency exchange dealers. ■

## Mongolian man steals 2 phones from shop

William Chan

A Mongolian male in his fifties has been arrested for stealing two mobile phones worth a total of 5,000 patacas, Public Security Police (PSP) spokeswoman Lai In Hong said during a regular press conference yesterday.

According to Lai, a local shopkeeper in the northern district reported to the police earlier this month that two phones owned by the company for use by its staff kept in the shop were suspected to have been stolen by a man.

The police soon identified the suspect and arrested him at the Barrier Gate checkpoint on Saturday. The stolen phones were found on him

The suspect has been transferred to the Public Prosecutions Office (MP), facing a theft charge, Lai said. ■



This undated handout photo provided by the Public Security Police (PSP) yesterday shows a police officer escorting the Mongolian suspect to a police station in the northern district.

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### Macau Weather

**DRY.  
FINE.  
FORCE 3 TO 5 NORTHERLY  
WINDS WITH GUSTS.  
RELATIVE HUMIDITY WILL  
RANGE BETWEEN 35% AND 70%.**



21°C~30°C

Source: SMG

# Sam to receive his CE appointment decree in Beijing

Tony Wong

The Macau Government Information Bureau (GCS) announced in a statement yesterday that Chief Executive-designate Sam Hou Fai will travel to Beijing today for a three-day visit where he will receive a State Council decree appointing him as the sixth-term chief executive of the Macau Special Administrative Region (MSAR).

The GCS statement did not mention on which day Sam will receive his appointment decree during his three-day visit between today and Saturday.

The State Council appointed Sam on Friday last week as the MSAR's sixth-term chief executive, whose tenure will start on December 20, 2024 when he will be formally installed, after he was elected Macau's next chief executive on October 13 when he garnered 394 of the 398 votes cast by the special administrative region's 400-member Chief Executive Election Committee, or 98.99

percent of the ballots cast, with two electors absent. There were four blank and no invalid votes. Sam was the election's sole candidate.

The October 13 chief executive election result validated by Macau's Court of Final Appeal (TUI) was published in the Official Gazette (BO) on Monday last week, confirming Sam as chief executive-elect.

The decision to appoint Sam as the MSAR's sixth-term chief executive was made during the sixth plenary meeting of the State Council in Beijing, presided over by Premier Li Qiang on Friday last week.

Li also signed Sam's appointment certificate, officially known as State Council Decree No. 794, on Friday last week, i.e., the one that Sam will receive during his three-day visit to the nation's capital.

With effect from last Friday's official appointment by the State Council, Sam is Macau's chief executive-designate until his swearing-in by one of the top leaders of the

People's Republic of China (PRC) on December 20, coinciding with the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the establishment of the MSAR.

Until last Friday's appointment, Sam, 62, was Macau's chief executive-elect.

Current Chief Executive Ho Iat Seng, 67, announced in August that for health reasons he was not seeking a second five-year term.

Macau's chief executives can serve a maximum of two consecutive five-year terms.

Since the establishment of the MSAR on December 20, 1999, Sam had headed the Court of Final Appeal for nearly 25 years until late August when he resigned as the MSAR's top judge so that he could run for chief executive.

Sam will be the MSAR's fourth chief executive, after Edmund Ho Hau Wah, Fernando Chui Sai On and Ho Iat Seng. The first two served two terms each.

Sam was born in May 1962 in Zhongshan City, some 40 kilometres north of Macau in



Sam Hou Fai, then chief executive-elect and now chief executive-designate, addresses a press conference at the Forum Macao Complex on October 13 following his election as Macau's sixth-term and fourth chief executive. – Photo: Tony Wong

Guangdong Province, making him the first Macau chief executive born in the mainland. He graduated from Peking University's law school, and moved to Macau in 1986 when the city was still under temporary Portuguese administration. ■

## Beijing issues 5-billion-yuan bonds in Macau, including 2 billion with 5-year maturity

Tony Wong

The Ministry of Finance issued sovereign bonds worth five billion yuan in Macau yesterday, according to a statement by the Macau Monetary Authority (AMCM).

Yesterday's issuance was the fourth time that the central government has issued sovereign bonds in Macau, after the first, second and third ones in July 2019, September 2022 and September last year.

According to the statement, the renminbi-denominated sovereign bonds issued in Macau yesterday comprised two-year-maturity bonds worth three billion yuan with an interest rate of 1.83 percent and five-year-maturity bonds worth two billion yuan with an interest rate of 2.05 percent.

"Renminbi" ("people's currency") is the official name of the nation's legal tender, informally known as "yuan".

The Ministry of Finance issued sovereign bonds worth two billion yuan in the Macau Special Administrative Region (MSAR) in 2019, while bonds worth three billion yuan were issued here in 2022.

Last year, the ministry issued sovereign bonds worth five billion yuan in Macau.

Last year was the first time that the central government issued sovereign bonds with a five-year maturity in Macau.

The sovereign bonds issued in Macau last year comprised two-year-maturity bonds worth four billion yuan with an interest rate of 2.4 percent and five-year-maturity bonds worth one billion yuan with an interest rate of 2.68 percent.

Although the total value of this year's sovereign bonds issued in Macau remains unchanged from last year's, more of this year's bonds, which were issued yesterday, are those with a five-year maturity, i.e., two billion yuan, compared to last year when only bonds worth one billion yuan had a five-year maturity.

In yesterday's statement, the Macau Monetary Authority expressed its gratitude for the Finance Ministry's "long-standing" support in developing modern finance in Macau.

Unchanged from last year, the sovereign bonds issued in Macau this year are also only available to professional investors, according to yesterday's statement.

Yesterday's AMCM statement also said the sovereign bonds issued this time were oversubscribed as they were well-received by investors in the market.

The statement also pointed out that the Ministry of Finance has now cumulatively issued sovereign bonds in Macau worth a total of 15 billion yuan. ■

## Macao Emission Exchange opens, aiming to link up China & PSCs



Chief Executive Ho Iat Seng (third from right), Deputy Director of the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the Macau Lv Yuyin (third from left), Commissioner of the Commission of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China in Macau Liu Xianfa (second from right), Secretary for Transport and Public Works Raimundo do Rosário (second from left), Chinese Academy of Engineering Academician and Tsinghua University Institute for Carbon Neutrality Dean He Kebin (right), and Co-Founder and Chairman of YF Capital and Chairman of Macao International Carbon Emission Exchange David Yu Feng officiate at yesterday's unveiling ceremony of the Macao Emission Exchange and Macao Carbon Neutral Research Institute, at the Venetian Macao in Cotai. – Photo by the organisers

Yuki Lei

The International Carbon Emission Exchange officially opened its doors in Macau yesterday, and the Macao Carbon Neutral Research Institute was established on the same day, aiming to contribute to the appropriate diversification of Macau's economy.

A joint opening ceremony for the two entities was held yesterday at The Venetian Macao in Cotai, with Chief Executive Ho Iat Seng, Secretary for Transport and Public Works Raimundo do Rosário, Foreign Ministry Commissioner Liu Xianfa and Liaison Office Deputy Director Lv Yuyin, as well as Chinese Academy of Engineering Academician and Tsinghua University's Institute for Carbon Neutrality Dean He Kebin and Macao International Carbon

Emission Exchange Chairman and YF Capital Co-Founder and Chairman David Yu Feng unveiled the plaques.

Speaking as a representative of Rosário, Commerce and Investment Promotion Institute (IPIM) President Vincent U U Sang expressed his expectation that the two newly-established entities will adhere to an innovation-led approach, making full use of Macau's advantage of being connected to Portuguese-speaking countries (PSCs) on four continents, linking up the Chinese and foreign markets, becoming a brand-new nexus for climate and finance cooperation, while contributing to the appropriate diversification of Macau's economy.

He also underlined that low-carbon development is an important direction for the appropriate and diversified development of Macau's economy.

As the only independent carbon exchange outside of the mainland with social resources, the Macao Emission Exchange is also the only trading platform in China that focuses on cross-border trading solutions for all types of environmental and energy green assets, with the mission of "serving China's dual-carbon goals\* and building a bridge for climate cooperation between China and the world", providing innovative solutions for China to connect with the international environment products market, while also offering various green products and services to global customers, including

carbon-credit products, green energy products, green certification and capacity building for cross-border trading and green investment, among other services.

The Macao Carbon Neutral Research Institute, as an independent think tank focusing on climate change and low-carbon development, is based on the nation's dual carbon target and Macau's development strategy of appropriate economic diversification, according to the ceremony.

Focusing on key areas such as low-carbon industry, green finance and the carbon market, the institute aims to carry out cutting-edge policy research, international cooperation and dialogue and incubation of low-carbon industries, various speakers stressed during the ceremony.

One of the speakers, Erik Solheim, former under-secretary-general at the United Nations and former executive director of the UN Environment Programme, emphasised Macau's linkage between China and the Portuguese-speaking world: "Macau is part of China, but still has a separate system which makes this connection very flexible and pragmatic. Macau is part of China, but it's also the link to the Portuguese-speaking world. Brazil is one of the most important nations in the world for the green transformation". Solheim is a former Norwegian diplomat. ■

\* China's dual-carbon goals refer to its commitment to achieving carbon peaking by 2030 and carbon neutrality by 2060.



Commerce and Investment Promotion Institute (IPIM) President Vincent U U Sang addresses yesterday's opening ceremony. – Photo: Yuki Lei



Artist and curator Julia Lam Tsz Kwan signs an information card about her current exhibition "Superflat" at the Rui Cunha Foundation (FRC) gallery yesterday. - Photos: Rui Pastorin

# Julia Lam's 'Superflat' exhibition kicks off

Rui Pastorin

The Rui Cunha Foundation (FRC) gallery was yesterday packed with guests and attendees at the launch of local artist and curator Julia Lam Tsz Kwan's 3<sup>rd</sup> solo exhibition entitled "Superflat", which will be on display until November 9.

The exhibition features 10 works, each recently created and featuring buildings like the erstwhile Hotel Estoril, the Red Market and the Old Courthouse that might be overlooked or overshadowed in Macau, and are named for the year the buildings were completed, according to yesterday's MCs. They added that Lam hopes to draw the public's attention to these landmarks' historical significance.

Aspects like the buildings' essential structures and proportions, the MCs remarked, are converted into colours, lines and shapes to create vibrant "superflat" artworks.

The "superflat" concept and postmodern art movement was introduced by Japanese artist Takashi Murakami in 2000, according to an FRC statement, critiqued Japanese consumer culture through flattened forms.

In creating her works, a statement on the FRC website noted, Lam transforms the layering technique of watercolours into spray paint overlap on handmade plates, and also uses spraying, splattering, printing, stamping techniques, along with texture embellishments.

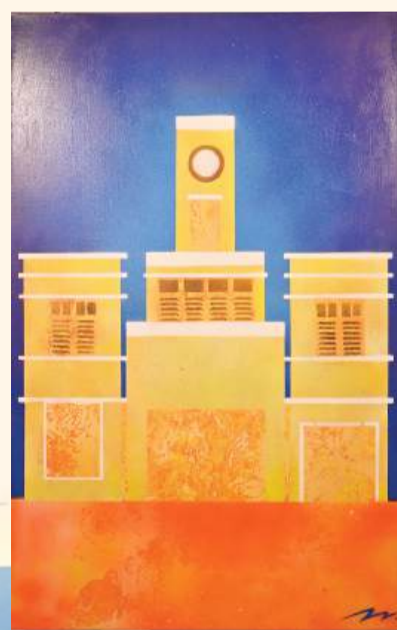
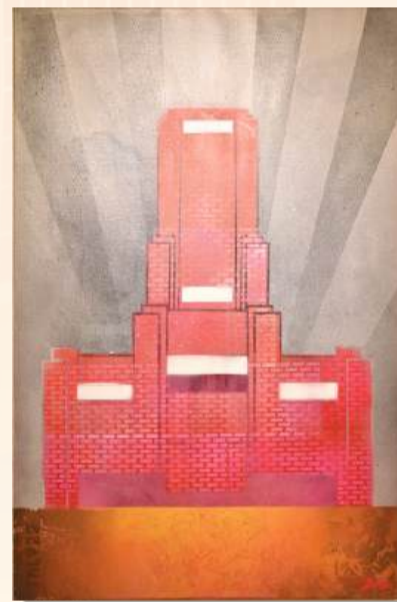
Moreover, the works show the artist's self-exploration in recent years and is a summary of her artistic transformation, the statement added.

"My creations are deeply rooted in urban contexts. Initially, my watercolours explored hidden forms of customs and festivals, capturing the humanistic essence of the city through imagery", Lam, a disciple of renowned local watercolour artist Lai Ieng, said in her speech at yesterday's opening ceremony.

She added: "In response to the global [COVID-19] pandemic, I have shifted my focus on the profound transformation of our visible urban landscape, and I hope my work could invite you to reflect the emotion and the deeper meaning of our existence within this landscape".

Lam graduated from the Tsinghua University's Academy of Arts and Design in Beijing. Her previous two solo exhibitions are "Youhua - Julia Lam Tsz Kwan Solo Exhibition" in 2009, themed travelling around the world, and the 2017 Macanese food-themed "COMA - Julia Lam Solo Exhibition". She has also taken part in both international and domestic art exhibitions.

The gallery is open from Monday to Friday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturdays. Admission is free.



## IAM urges public to stop eating Guangxi made kudzu

Ginnie Liang

The Municipal Affairs Bureau (IAM) urged the public yesterday to cease consuming a pre-packed kudzu product as it was found to contain an excessive amount of preservatives, according to an IAM statement yesterday.

According to the Science Direct website, the kudzu root is the dried root of *Pueraria lobata* (Willd.) Ohwi, a semi-woody, perennial and leguminous vine native to South East Asia. It is often used interchangeably in traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) with Thomson kudzu root. For more than 2,000 years, kudzu root has been used as a herbal medicine for the treatment of fever, acute dysentery, diarrhoea, diabetes, and cardiovascular diseases.

The problematic product, which is made in the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, has a net weight of 600 grams and the production date of September 4 this year, the statement said.

The bureau said that it has issued a food alert to order local retailers to remove the product from their shelves and stop selling it, while also dispatching IAM officials to inspect the food market.

The statement noted that the product was found to contain 1,720 milligrams per kilogram of sulphur dioxide, which exceeds the local standards concerning the use of preservatives and antioxidants in food.

According to the statement, SO<sub>2</sub>, which acts as a preservative and a bleaching agent and is soluble in water, can be used in flour, noodles and other kinds of food.

The statement underlined that although most of the SO<sub>2</sub> can be removed from food by washing and cooking, it may still cause a health risk to asthmatic or hypoallergenic people, who could suffer from headache, vomiting or shortness of breath.

### Non-prepacked lemon tea found to be bad for health: CC

Meanwhile, the Consumer Council (CC) urged members of the public in a report of its latest research released yesterday that some non-prepacked lemon tea beverages sold locally contain a variety of synthetic substances, which may have adverse effects on one's health and emotions.

According to the report, all of the 10 samples of the non-prepackaged lemon tea beverages have passed the hygiene test, but all were found to contain caffeine and high levels of sugar, which should not be consumed on a regular basis.

In order to help consumers learn more about the ingredients of shaken fruit tea and establish a healthy eating habit, the latest issue of *Macau Consumer* magazine features a point-by-point explanation by Macau Professional Nutritionist Association (MPNA) President Parris Fok Soi Teng on the possible adverse effects of this popular beverage on human health and mood.

Fok points out in the report that most of the fruit teas in the market nowadays contain a variety of synthetic substances, including syrups with artificial flavourings, which will lead to greater fluctuations in blood sugar, disturbing the autonomic nerve system and leading to mood swings.

Meanwhile, the lemon tea, routinely labelled as hand made, consists of a variety of artificial, colours, caffeine and flavourings, among others. Dietitians warn that drinking too much of this tea can be hazardous to health, causing damage to the liver and kidneys or disturbing the body's endocrine system (a complex network of glands and organs), according to the report.

For more information, please refer to the new issue of *Macau Consumer* magazine at <https://www.consumer.gov.mo>. ■



This undated handout photo provided by the Municipal Affairs Bureau (IAM) yesterday shows the pre-packed kudzu product that was found to contain an excessive amount of sulphur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>).

## DSAL & IAS award 10 outstanding elderly employees and 62 employers

Ginnie Liang

The Outstanding Senior Employees and Seniors Employers Recognition Programme 2024 awarded 10 outstanding elderly employees and 62 businesses and organisations employing elderly people yesterday, with the aim of promoting the admiration for and recognition of senior citizens' contributions to the community with their work experience and skills.

Co-organised by the Macau Social Welfare Bureau (IAS) and Labour Affairs Bureau (DSAL), the awarding ceremony of the programme was held at the Macau Science Centre (MSC) yesterday.

Labour Affairs Bureau (DSAL) Employment Department Chief Lei Lai Keng told reporters on the sidelines of the ceremony that a total of 250 nominations were received from eligible elderly employees, of whom more than 100 were aged 70 or above, with the oldest one being 85 years old.

Lei said that the 10 awardees were chosen by the selection committee on the basis of their work discipline, ability, further studies, and interpersonal relationships.

Lei pointed out that for the first two quarters of the year, there was an increase in the number of elderly people aged 65 or above in the workforce, and more than 30 percent of the elderly people entered under the



Outstanding senior employees and their employers are awarded during yesterday's Outstanding Senior Employees and Seniors Employers Recognition Programme awarding ceremony held at Macau Science Centre (MSC). – Photo: Ginnie Liang

scheme have been more than 10 years in the same job, reflecting the stability of employment for the elderly.

Lei said she hoped that more enterprises will join the scheme in the future and provide more flexible working hours for senior citizens to choose, so that they can make use of their spare time and “forget about their age” and take part in employment.

In addition, IAS senior official Choi Sio Un told reporters on the sidelines of the ceremony that the government has all long been concerned about senior citizens living alone, and plans to cooperate with non-government organisations

(NGOs) next year in launching a pilot outreach service targeting the elderly and families concerned, where social workers and activity coordinators will form service teams to reach out to senior citizens.

Choi also pointed out that the bureau's mobile app aimed at supporting the elderly living alone has been launched this month, with its first stage being piloted at the government's rental housing estate for senior citizens in Areia Preta district, where more than 100 senior citizens have started to use it. Choi added that the bureau will promote the app among the elderly in other districts in the future. ■

## SJM hosts responsible gaming contest, certificate presentation

Rui Pastorin

SJM Resorts held its SJM Responsible Gaming Promotion 2024 – Responsible Gaming Competition and Course Certificate Award Ceremony” at Grand Lisboa yesterday afternoon where staff who participated in responsible gaming activities throughout the year received certificates.

The integrated resort (IR) operator this year launched a series of activities themed “Seeking Help for Winning the Future” in collaboration with various social service organisations.

A statement provided after yesterday's ceremony noted that over 35 staff members received

certifications in programmes such as “Responsible Gambling Advanced Learning Course”, “Certified Gambling Counsellor Training Course accredited by the Canadian Council of Professional Certification”, “Sustainable Development in Macau Tourism, Leisure, Entertainment – Responsible Gaming” and a training course jointly organised by the IR and Yat On Responsible Gambling Counselling Centre.

Other recently held activities on the theme were the “One Happy Family” board game competition, which was also open to members of the public, and the “Responsible Gambling Knowledge Quiz Competition”. Booths and

consultation services, photo exhibitions, community flash mobs and public carnivals were also among the activities recently held, according to the statement, altogether having nearly 20,000 participants.

In her speech, SJM Managing Director Daisy Ho Chiu Fung said that the company “has always been dedicated to fulfilling its social responsibilities by persistently promoting the importance of responsible gaming among both our employees and the wider community. We have seamlessly woven this message into the guest experience, ensuring that our offerings provide unparalleled and healthy leisure delights.” ■



SJM staff members (standing, second row) who were awarded certificates yesterday pose with SJM Managing Director Daisy Ho Chiu Fung (seated, 6<sup>th</sup> from left), Director of SJM and Chairman of the Staff Welfare Consultative Committee of SJM, Angela Leong On-kei (seated, 7<sup>th</sup> from left) and other representatives during the award ceremony at Grand Lisboa's ballroom.

– Photo: Rui Pastorin

## STOCK MARKETS

### Hang Seng Index closes 1.55 pct lower

HONG KONG – Hong Kong's stock market ended lower yesterday with the benchmark Hang Seng Index down 1.55 percent to close 20,380.64 points.

The Hang Seng China Enterprises Index fell 1.77 percent to end at 7,286.5 points, while the Hang Seng Tech Index fell 2.38 percent to end at 4,513.68 points. – Xinhua