At the beginning of the year, I would like to give an up-to-date progress report in this corner. Amid the exercise of conducting Survey on Proposed Amendment to HKDA M&A among members, I would like to express our gratitude towards members’ response which provides us with solid direction in drawing up the content. As mentioned in the survey pack, the adoption timeline is subject to the completion of all necessary procedural and legal requirements. Members’ support is indispensable to make it a success.

**Brief Account of Work Progress**

1. The Task Force on Review of M&A of HKDA (the Task Force) was set up in 2017 after the 23rd AGM. It is tasked to study and make recommendations on necessary revisions to the M&A with an aim to keep it aligned with the latest and foreseeable long-term development needs of the Association.

2. To keep members informed of the work progress of the Task Force, a special column was created in the HKDA Newsletter.
   - Maiden report in Volume 4, 2017
   - 2nd report in Volume 6, 2017
   - 3rd report in Volume 2, 2018

3. Focus Group meeting was held on 15 May 2018 to invite members’ views.

4. The Council and the Task Force had reached a consensus over the engagement of independent legal service from Haldanes Solicitors and Notaries to perform work pertaining to legal perspectives, after weighing the quotation and quoted experience from certain legal firms.

5. Survey on Proposed Amendment to HKDA M&A, with reply deadline of 21 January 2019, is conducted to collect members’ opinions on four main areas: proposed revisions which are of members’ major concern, namely (a) mechanism for filling vacancy in the event of office termination, casual vacancy or resignation; (b) proposed inclusion of two additional Councillor positions; (c) proposed limit of the tenure of office of President position; and (4) proposed downward adjustment in general meeting quorum upon implementation of postal ballot.

6. Briefing session open to all HKDA members for elaboration on the proposed amendment to M&A of HKDA will take place around mid-March 2019 when the draft amendment work is accomplished. Detailed arrangement is to be announced in due course. Stay tuned for our updates.

**Other Major Scopes of Proposed Amendments**

1. Voting by postal ballot at general meetings, pertaining to the resolution passed at the 23rd AGM 2017;

2. Adoption of the new Model Articles of the Companies Ordinance to the extent practicable (Cap.622); and


**Highlights on Other Proposed Amendments**

Apart from the survey questions which are of major concerns of members, I would like to highlight other proposed subjects of amendment to the M&A of HKDA for members’ attention.

1. To upward adjust the disbursement limit made by the Honorary Treasurer from the existing HK$20,000 to HK$50,000 (see current Article 53(b)).
2. To prohibit members from running for more than one positions of the Council (including the same position for different tenures arising from previous filling up of vacancy due to resignation) in the same election.

3. Any Council Member who is going to run for Officer position shall tender resignation, effective immediately upon commencement of the general meeting for election.

4. There should be no limit in the number of Honorary Life Members at any time (see existing Article 5).

5. To align with the legal binding on the threshold for convening an EGM (see current relevant Articles 65-67 and refer to section 566 of the Companies Ordinance which reads: “The directors are required to call a general meeting if the company has received requests to do so from members of the company representing at least 5% of the total voting rights of all the members having a right to vote at general meetings.”).

6. To include arrangement details on postal ballot voting system.

7. HKDA Council’s decision is that HKDA Council may from time to time determine how to choose nominees for consideration of appointment to the Dental Council of Hong Kong (DCHK) and the PIC of the DCHK, with terms and number of HKDA representatives bound by the Dentists Registration Ordinance (see current Article 81(a)).