



For Immediate Release

## **Bank of China (Hong Kong) Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge (HK Section) Half Marathon 2024/25**

### **Runners competed in race across the bridge**

(Hong Kong – 5 January, 2025) The "Bank of China (Hong Kong) Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge (HK Section) Half Marathon 2024/25" was completed successfully today. Nearly 7,000 runners participated in the half marathon on the world's longest cross-sea bridge and tunnel, with 98% runners completing the race. This event has been awarded "M" Mark recognition. Distinguished guests, including Miss Rosanna Law, JP, Secretary for Culture, Sports and Tourism, HKSAR Government, Mr. Benson Kwok, IDSM, Director of Immigration, HKSAR Government, Mr. Sun Yu, Vice Chairman and Chief Executive of Bank of China (Hong Kong), and Mr. Kwan Kee, MH, Chairman of the Hong Kong, China Association of Athletics Affiliates, officiated at the starting ceremony.

This year's event had been upgraded to a Gold Label Road Race by the World Athletics Federation (WA), with a total of 10 platinum or gold label runners participating. In the male's half marathon, first place went to Ethiopia runner Milkesa Mengesha Tolosa, who finished with a time of 1:01:27; in second place was Kenya runner Patrick Kabirech Mosin with a time of 1:01:30; and third place went to Ethiopia runner Haftu Teklu Asefa, finishing at 1:02:54. In the female's half marathon, first place went to Kenya runner Grace Loibach Nawowuna, who finished with a time of 1:07:56; in second place was Kenya runner Shelia Chenlangat with a time of 1:08:06; and Kenya runner Chepngeno Viola, finishing at 1:08:09 to take third place. Both male and female champions set the new course record.

Chong See Yeung and Lo Ying Chiu finished the race as the fastest local male and female runners, finishing with times of 1:09:44 and 1:16:15, respectively.

Japanese runner Yuki Kawauchi, known as "The Citizen Runner," participated in this year's event for the first time and remarked on the breathtaking views of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge after the race. He enjoyed the energy and enthusiasm of all the Hong Kong runners and commented on how he had thoroughly enjoyed this unique Hong Kong racing experience.

This time, the BOCHK HZMB Half Marathon has specially added the 2km Honorary Cup. Representatives from various sectors participated, with Mr. Sun Yu, Chief Executive of Bank of China (Hong Kong), and Mr. Kwan Kee, MH, Chairman of the Hong Kong, China Association of Athletics Affiliates, officiating at the starting ceremony. Guests participating in the "BOCHK HZMB Half Marathon – 2km Honorary Cup" included HKSAR Secretary for Justice Mr. Paul Lam and his wife, Mr. Erick Tsang, Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs, Mr. Tang Ping-Keung, Secretary for Security, and Miss Rosanna Law, JP, Secretary for Culture, Sports



and Tourism. Mr. Xu Haifeng, Deputy Chief Executive of Bank of China (Hong Kong), Mr. Wang Huabin, Deputy Chief Executive of Bank of China (Hong Kong), Mrs Ann Kung Yeung Yun-chi, Advisor to Bank of China (Hong Kong), Mr. Ronick Chan, Advisor to Bank of China (Hong Kong) and Ms Carmen Kan, General Counsel of Bank of China (Hong Kong), representatives from the Legislative Council, supervisory authorities, institutions, public organizations, chambers of commerce, and enterprises, along with well-known figures such as Miss Guo Jingjing, Miss Vivian Kong, Dr. Rebecca Lee, paralympic athletes, and TVB artists, participated in the event, creating an extraordinary lineup.

This year's event featured 8,000 participants, divided into Challenge Races and non-Challenge Races. The event had been upgraded to a Gold Label Road Race by the World Athletics Federation (WA), significantly enhancing the runner experience. The race cut-off time was extended from last year's 2 hours and 30 minutes to 3 hours. This year, the event further optimized the starting point arrangements by shortening the distance from the shuttle bus drop-off point to the starting line by more than half to just 500 metres. Additionally, a wider range of refreshment options were provided for racers, allowing runners to complete the race more easily while enjoying the scenery along the scenic Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge course.

The event was committed to implementing sustainable development principles by introducing several environmental measures. These included using 100% water-soluble non-woven bags for the runner's packs, encouraging runners to bring collapsible cups for refills at water stations, and setting up recycling stations to collect banana peels, paper cups, plastic bottles, and paper. Additionally, there was an eco-friendly exhibition area that promotes sustainability through booths and display panels, working together with runners to create a greener future.

This year's event included a charitable component that supported the further development of Po Leung Kuk youth services in enhancing environmental and low-carbon awareness among young people, working together to build community well-being.

AsiaWorld-Expo hosted a Kids Athletics Event, allowing young runners aged 6 to 9 to showcase their own athletic talents.

The "Bank of China (Hong Kong) Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge (HK Section) Half Marathon 2024/25" was title sponsored by Bank of China (Hong Kong), with additional sponsors including BOC Group Life Assurance Company Limited, ASICS Hong Kong Limited, A.S. Watson Group (HK) Ltd, Crown Motors Limited, Foon Tai Trading Company Limited, Regal Hotel International, Science In Sports (Hong Kong) Limited, Thong Sia Watch Co Ltd, and YNBY International Limited. The venue partner was AsiaWorld-Expo Management Limited, and the supporting organization are Major Sports Events Committee and MTR Corporation Limited. The organizers sincerely thank all parties for their strong support and active cooperation, which contributed to the overall success of the event.



The Bank of China (Hong Kong) Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge (HK Section) Half Marathon 2024/25 is proud of being an “M” Mark event that helps enhance the image of Hong Kong as Asia’s sports event capital. The “M” Mark awarded by the Major Sports Events Committee, symbolising intense, spectacular and signature event in the territory sports calendar.

Download link for photos: <https://bit.ly/4j2u76Q>



Elite runners from around the world took off, marking the beginning of the event.



Distinguished guests, including Miss Rosanna Law, JP, Secretary for Culture, Sports and Tourism, HKSAR Government (front left fourth), Mr. Benson Kwok, IDSM, Director of Immigration, HKSAR Government (front left sixth), Mr. Sun Yu, Vice Chairman and Chief Executive of Bank of China (Hong Kong) (front left fifth), and Mr. Kwan Kee, MH, Chairman of the Hong Kong, China Association of Athletics Affiliates (front left seventh), officiated at the starting ceremony.



Representatives from various sectors competed in the BOCHK HZMB Half Marathon – 2km Honorary Cup.





Runners enjoy the beautiful scenery of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge while competing.



First place in the male's half marathon:  
Milkesa Mengesha Tolosa



First place in the female's half marathon:  
Grace Loibach Nawowuna



Japanese runner Yuki Kawauchi, known as "The Citizen Runner," participated in this year's event for the first time and remarked on the breathtaking views of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge after the race.



Male award ceremony



Female award ceremony



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### **About Hong Kong, China Association of Athletics Affiliates**

The Hong Kong Association of Athletics Affiliates (HKAAA) previously known as the Hong Kong Amateur Track and Field Association (HKATFA), was founded in 1951 by a group of enthusiastic volunteers and has since become the governing body for Athletics, including Track & Field, Distance Running, Cross Country and Race Walking in Hong Kong. The Association became a member of the Sports Federation and Olympic Committee of Hong Kong, China (SF & OC) in the same year. It has also joined the World Athletics (WA) previously named as the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) next year. Aims to promote and develop athletics in Hong Kong, including the development of athletes, coaches, technical officials, and professional staff, so as to enhance the image and performance of Hong Kong athletics, and to make athletics to become the sport of most participation.