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**SUMMATIVE (FORMAL) ASSESSMENT: MODULE 8C**

**HONG KONG**

This is the **summative (formal) assessment for Module 8C** of this course and must be submitted by all candidates who **selected this module as one of their elective modules**.

**The mark awarded for this assessment will determine your final mark for Module 8C**. In order to pass this module, you need to obtain a mark of 50% or more for this assessment.

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETION AND SUBMISSION OF ASSESSMENT**

**Please read the following instructions very carefully before submitting / uploading your assessment on the Foundation Certificate web pages.**

1. You must use this document for the answering of the assessment for this module. The answers to each question must be completed using this document with the answers populated under each question.

2. All assessments must be submitted electronically in **Microsoft Word format**, using a standard A4 size page and an 11-point Arial or Avenir Next font. This document has been set up with these parameters – **please do not change the document settings in any way**. **DO NOT** submit your assessment in PDF format as it will be returned to you unmarked.

3. No limit has been set for the length of your answers to the questions. However, please be guided by the mark allocation for each question. More often than not, one fact / statement will earn one mark (unless it is obvious from the question that this is not the case).

4. You must save this document using the following format: **[studentID.assessment8C]**. An example would be something along the following lines: 202223-336.assessment8C. **Please also include the filename as a footer to each page of the assessment** (this has been pre-populated for you, merely replace the words “studentID” with the student number allocated to you). Do not include your name or any other identifying words in your file name. **Assessments that do not comply with this instruction will be returned to candidates unmarked**.

5. Before you will be allowed to upload / submit your assessment via the portal on the Foundation Certificate web pages, you will be required to confirm / certify that you are the person who completed the assessment and that the work submitted is your own, original work. Please see the part of the Course Handbook that deals with plagiarism and dishonesty in the submission of assessments. **Please note that copying and pasting from the Guidance Text into your answer is prohibited and constitutes plagiarism. You must write the answers to the questions in your own words**.

6.The final submission date for this assessment is **31 July 2023**. The assessment submission portal will close at **23:00 (11 pm) BST (GMT +1) on 31 July 2023**. No submissions can be made after the portal has closed and no further uploading of documents will be allowed, no matter the circumstances.

7. Prior to being populated with your answers, this assessment consists of **8 pages**.

**ANSWER ALL THE QUESTIONS**

**QUESTION 1 (multiple-choice questions) [10 marks in total]**

Questions 1.1. – 1.10. are multiple-choice questions designed to assess your ability to think critically about the subject. Please read each question carefully before reading the answer options. Be aware that some questions may seem to have more than one right answer, but you are to look for the one that makes the most sense and is the most correct. When you have a clear idea of the question, find your answer and mark your selection on the answer sheet by highlighting the relevant paragraph **in yellow**. Select only **ONE** answer. Candidates who select more than one answer will receive no mark for that specific question.

**Question 1.1**

Which of the following is / are among the jurisdictional criteria required to be satisfied for the Hong Kong court to make a bankruptcy order against an **individual**?

1. The individual must hold a Hong Kong permanent identity card.
2. The individual must be ordinarily resident in Hong Kong at the date of the hearing of the petition.
3. The individual is domiciled in Hong Kong.
4. Any of the above.

**Question 1.2**

A **receiver** appointed pursuant to a charge created by a company (A) over its assets in favour of its lender (B) acts as:

1. Agent of the company granting the charge (A, in this instance).
2. Agent of the lender appointing him (B, in this instance).
3. Agent of the Official Receiver.
4. An officer of the court.

**Question 1.3**

Which of the following is a correct statement as to the **core requirements** which need to be satisfied before the Hong Kong court will wind-up a foreign company:

1. All of the below apply.
2. At least one of the directors must be a Hong Kong resident.
3. The petitioning creditor must be a Hong Kong company or a Hong Kong resident.
4. There must be a reasonable possibility that the winding-up order would benefit those applying for it.

**Question 1.4**

A receiver is appointed over the entirety of a company’s assets and the company goes into liquidation. Assuming the charge under which the receiver is appointed (and the receiver’s appointment) cannot be challenged, **realisations** made by the receiver –

1. must first be used to satisfy the costs and expenses of the liquidator.
2. must first be used to satisfy the whole of all claims by employees but no other claims.
3. must first be used to satisfy the claims of preferential creditors as described in the relevant section of Companies (Winding Up and Miscellaneous Provisions) Ordinance (Cap 32) (CWUMPO).
4. will be kept entirely by the receiver for the benefit of the charge holder irrespective of what claims, preferential or otherwise, exist against the company.

**Question 1.5**

The date of **commencement** of liquidation for a compulsory liquidation is –

1. the date on which a creditor serves a statutory demand.
2. the date on which the petition is presented.
3. the date of the winding-up order.
4. the date on which notice of the liquidator’s appointment is advertised.

**Question 1.6**

In respect of a Hong Kong creditor’s **scheme of arrangement** promoted by the company, the legislation provides:

1. For a stay of all proceedings against the company pending the sanctioning of the scheme.
2. For a stay of enforcement of any judgment against the company.
3. For a stay of all proceedings against the company if the statutory majorities are met at the creditors’ meeting.
4. None of above, as the scheme legislation provides for no stay.

**Question 1.7**

Select the **correct** answer as to whether the following statement is true or untrue:

Hong Kong legislation provides a **comprehensive statutory regime** relating to corporate rescue.

1. This statement is true because of the combined effect of the Companies (Winding Up and Miscellaneous Provisions) Ordinance (Cap 32) and the Companies Ordinance (Cap 622).
2. This statement is true because of recent legislation called the Companies (Corporate Rescue) Bill.
3. This statement is untrue, as Hong Kong has no comprehensive statutory regime for corporate rescue.
4. This statement is true because of the recently enabled Cooperation Mechanism for cooperation in relation to insolvency matters as between Hong Kong and the Mainland, People’s Republic of China.

**Question 1.8**

Select the **correct** answer as to whether the following statement is true or untrue:

Since the **Handover** in 1997, no decisions of any United Kingdom (UK) court are binding in Hong Kong.

1. This statement is untrue as decisions of the UK Privy Council on appeals from Hong Kong remain binding.
2. This statement is true as all aspects of English law ceased on the Handover as otherwise this would be seen as conferring an advantage on the UK.
3. This statement is true as after the Handover only decisions of the Hong Kong court are allowed to be cited and relied upon.
4. This statement is true as although decisions from common law jurisdictions can be cited and may be persuasive, they are not binding.

**Question 1.9**

After a liquidator is appointed in a creditors’ voluntary liquidation, the **powers** of the directors of the company –

1. cease completely, with no exceptions.
2. cease except so far as the committee of inspection or the creditors (if there is no committee) agree to any powers continuing.
3. continue and can be exercised provided the directors do so with creditors’ interests in mind.
4. cease except so far as the liquidator agrees to any powers continuing.

**Question 1.10**

The law as to **cross-border insolvency** in Hong Kong can be found in:

1. The common law and Part X of the Companies (Winding Up and Miscellaneous Provisions) Ordinance.
2. The UNCITRAL Model Law on Cross-Border Insolvency as adopted in Hong Kong.
3. Various bilateral protocols with other common law jurisdictions.
4. The Foreign Judgments (Reciprocal Enforcement) Ordinance (Cap 319).

**QUESTION 2 (direct questions) [10 marks in total]**

**Question 2.1 [maximum 3 marks]**

To whom does a receiver (appointed pursuant to a charge) owe duties when selling the asset charged? Please provide an outline only.

[Type your answer here]

Question 2.2 [maximum 3 marks]

In a compulsory liquidation, what elements must a liquidator satisfy in order to successfully demonstrate a transaction (with a non-associate) amounted to an unfair preference? Please provide an outline only.

[Type your answer here]

Question 2.3 [maximum 4 marks]

What are the key elements needed for a Hong Kong liquidator to make use of the mechanism for co-operation between Hong Kong and the Mainland? Please provide an outline only.

[Type your answer here]

**QUESTION 3 (essay-type question) [15 marks]**

Question 3.1 [maximum 4 marks]

Discuss the statutory basis enabling the Hong Kong court’s jurisdiction to wind-up a non-Hong Kong company, and the common law principles that the Hong Kong court will consider when deciding whether to exercise that jurisdiction.

[Type your answer here]

Question 3.2 [maximum 5 marks]

The scheme of arrangement is, in essence, Hong Kong’s only statutory tool for corporate rescue. Describe it, listing the pros and cons.

[Type your answer here]

Question 3.3 [maximum 6 marks]

With no legislation to deal with cross-border insolvencies, how has the common law developed to assist foreign liquidations where steps need to be taken in Hong Kong? What are the pros and cons of developing the law in this way?

[Type your answer here]

**QUESTION 4 (fact-based application-type question) [15 marks]**

Question 4.1 [maximum 4 marks]

You are instructed by the liquidator of Palm Beach Limited, a Hong Kong company in compulsory liquidation. Your client tells you that the company granted a floating charge to a creditor, Sea Breeze Incorporated, a few months before the liquidation. Sea Breeze has appointed a receiver. The liquidator wants to know if any of the receiver’s realisations can be used to meet the liquidation costs or pay any unsecured creditors. Outline the discussion you would have with the liquidator.

[Type your answer here]

Question 4.2 [maximum 6 marks]

Soaring Kite Limited (SKL) is a Cayman incorporated company that is listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, and has assets and a representative office in Shenzhen. It is in insolvent liquidation in Cayman. The liquidator appointed in Cayman (L) tells you he wants to obtain documents from SKL’s bank in Hong Kong and he also wants obtain orders to examine the auditors who are in Hong Kong and who will not cooperate with his investigations. L says he has heard that it is straightforward to get a “standard order” from the Hong Kong court recognising his appointment and giving him a full suite of powers in Hong Kong including a stay of any actions that any creditor of SKL may bring in Hong Kong. Outline the advice you would give to L.

[Type your answer here]

Question 4.3 [maximum 5 marks]

Harrier Limited supplies software products to Lapwing Limited pursuant to an ongoing contract signed between the two. Lapwing has stopped paying Harrier’s invoices. It has not made any complaint about the supplies but in a conversation a Lapwing director told a Harrier director “sorry, we just can’t afford it right now”. The Harrier director said he may therefore have no option but to wind-up Lapwing, to which the Lapwing director replied “try that and I’ll fight it” but he does not say on what grounds. Harrier come to you and ask you to talk them through the issues. What key questions do you need to ask and what comments can you give?

[Type your answer here]

**\* End of Assessment \***