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For Immediate Release – HONG KONG

The Asia Society Hong Kong Center (ASHK) Center announced today the resignation of its Executive Director Edith Ngan Chan. As part of the transition plan currently underway, S. Alice Mong, ASHK Center's Gallery and Strategy Consultant since November 2011, has been named Interim Executive Director by the Board.

"Following the successful opening of our new home on February 9, it's time for me to move on to other callings after 18 rewarding months at the helm of this dynamic organization," said Mrs. Chan. "I couldn't have found a better time to leave than now as I hand over to Alice whom I recruited to help us with the opening. I am proud of what we have been able to achieve and know that the Center will grow from strength to strength."

In addition to her current responsibilities with the Center, Ms. Mong brings with her 9 years of non-profit leadership experience from New York, first as Executive Director of Committee of 100, a Chinese-American leadership organization and later as Director of Museum of Chinese in America. She also has 11 years of professional experience in Hong Kong where she received her EMBA from Kellogg/HKUST. "I look forward to continuing the great work of Edith," said Ms. Mong. "I am also looking forward to working with the staff and the Board in this important transition period."

In paying tribute to Mrs. Chan, "Edith's dedication has contributed to bringing us to this important juncture in our Center's growth. She has successfully recruited energetic staff, expanded our operations and moved us to our beautiful new home which will allow us to become an important hub of activities for Asia Society's growth in Asia," said Ronnie Chan, Chair of the ASHK Center and Co-Chair of the Asia Society globally. "We wish Edith continued success in her future pursuits and thank her for her stewardship during this crucial move to our new home. I am confident that Alice, one of the most creative thinkers and doers in both for-profit and not-for-profit organizations and whom I have worked with on and off for the past 17 years, will be able to get ASHK on the right course for years to come."

"The opening of Asia Society's magnificent new home in Hong Kong is a key part of Asia Society's mission to strengthen partnerships and promote mutual understanding among Asians and Americans. ASHK Center staff, under the leadership of Edith Chan successfully opened the facility," declares Dr. Vishakha Desai, President of Asia Society. "We are fortunate to have Alice Mong be the interim Executive Director as we continue to develop world class programs and exhibitions at our new 'Asian home'."

#### **About Asia Society**

The Asia Society Hong Kong Center was established in 1990 by a group of Hong Kong community leaders, led by Sir Q.W. Lee, then chairman of Hang Seng Bank. It is the first overseas center of the 11 centers of Asia Society, a non-profit educational organization founded in New York, and also the first center to have a permanent home outside of New York City.

The Asia Society Hong Kong Center at The Hong Kong Jockey Club Former Explosives Magazine carries historical, architectural, and cultural significance for the city. The center combines heritage conservation with a distinctive modern aesthetic that has created a dynamic complex allowing the Center to extend educational programs to the larger community. Since its establishment in 1990, the ASHKC has become a recognized regional knowledge-based platform for learning about Asia and the U.S.

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