

**DBS Group Holdings Ltd**

**Co. Reg. no.: 199901152M**

**RESPONSES TO SUBSTANTIAL AND RELEVANT QUESTIONS RECEIVED FROM DBSH SHAREHOLDERS IN RELATION TO DBSH'S 27<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**26 March 2026** – DBS Group Holdings Ltd (“**DBSH**”) would like to thank our shareholders for submitting their questions in advance of DBSH's 27<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting, which will be convened and held, in a wholly physical format, at Marina Bay Sands Expo and Convention Centre, Level 4, Roselle and Simpor Ballrooms, 10 Bayfront Avenue, Singapore 018956 on Tuesday, 31 March 2026 at 2:00 pm.

**Responses to substantial and relevant questions submitted by shareholders**

Please refer to the Appendix for our responses to the substantial and relevant questions submitted by shareholders, which are set out according to the following themes:

- (i) Group Strategy & Business Outlook;
- (ii) Technology, AI and Innovation;
- (iii) Sustainability;
- (iv) Capital Management; and
- (v) Miscellaneous.

## Appendix

Theme		DBSH Annual General Meeting – 31 March 2026	DBS Response
<b>Group Strategy &amp; Business Outlook</b>	1.	Given the persistent geopolitical tensions and increased global uncertainties, what risk management and business strategies has DBS put in place to remain profitable?	<p>Our core strengths as a Dependable, Diversifier, Digital and Disruptor bank position us well to navigate uncertainty and sustain profitability.</p> <p>Dependable — Being dependable means staying resilient amid volatility. We continue to focus on maintaining financial and capital strength, disciplined risk management, and operational robustness. We reinforce our financial resilience through proactive balance sheet hedging, scaling high-ROE businesses, and maintaining strict cost discipline.</p> <p>Diversifier — We remain ready to serve our clients’ diversification needs. As supply chains and investment flows reconfigure, we see opportunities in cross-border financing, trade and payments, capital markets and wealth management.</p> <p>Digital and Disruptor — In the medium term, our strategy will be increasingly shaped by the Digital and Disruptor pillars. We continue to invest in technology, data and AI to improve productivity and resiliency, strengthen risk management and deliver more customised solutions to clients. We are also capturing new growth opportunities arising from structural shifts, including tokenised and digital asset infrastructure, and the emergence of new business models.</p> <p>Taken together, these strengths set us apart and will continue to stand us in good stead going forward.</p>
	2.	What is the impact of the ongoing Middle East conflict on DBS’ business, and how is the bank managing the potential risks arising from this situation?	Recent developments in the Middle East have introduced additional uncertainty to the macroeconomic outlook, presenting both opportunities and risks for our business. For instance, safe-haven flows support deposit growth, but the resulting liquidity may exert downward pressure

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			<p>on interest rates in Singapore. At the same time, market volatility can benefit markets trading income, but it can also dampen investor sentiment and reduce wealth management activity.</p> <p>We employ a robust set of frameworks and processes to monitor and manage potential risks. These include rigorous customer selection, risk scenario planning supported by early warning indicators, watchlisting and regular stress testing.</p> <p>While the eventual outcome of recent events remains uncertain, our strong general allowance buffers, solid capital position and robust liquidity, together with our proven agility, position us well to navigate the risks and capture opportunities.</p>
	3.	<p>Does DBS plan to allocate additional capital toward the growth of Partior and DDEX, or will investment levels remain unchanged? How does the bank ensure these investments remain aligned with core strategic priorities and competitive against global peers?</p>	<p><u>For Partior:</u></p> <p>The payments landscape is transforming rapidly, driven by technology and evolving client needs. Our engagement with Partior is part of our strategy to explore innovative solutions for enhanced clearing and settlement efficiency, leveraging tokenised money and DLT-based market infrastructures. DBS is a significant contributor to Partior’s transaction volumes and our board representation allows us to contribute to its strategic direction.</p> <p>The company does raise capital periodically, and most recently completed an USD 80 million Series B round in 2024, which brought in a number of new investors.</p> <p>We will continue to evaluate investment opportunities as it arises especially if it fits within our investment criteria (strategically aligned, value adding and accretive within a reasonable window).</p>

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			<p><u>For DDEX:</u></p> <p>We have been a pioneer in the banking industry when it comes to digital assets. DDEX serves as an exchange for accredited and institutional clients to buy, sell, and manage digital assets such as cryptocurrencies in a safe, secure and seamless manner. Since then, we have built a comprehensive end-to-end solution suite, spanning issuance, trading and custody of digital assets.</p> <p>In the upcoming year, we will continue to expand our products, offerings and capabilities as DDEX is an integral part of our overall Digital Assets proposition.</p> <p>We will continue to invest appropriately to ensure we are able to capture the opportunities in a timely fashion.</p>
	4.	<p>With FY2026 earnings expected to moderate and in view of ongoing CSR commitments, what are the key levers DBS intends to use to improve profitability and ROE? For example, how does the bank evaluate options such as bolt-on acquisitions, capital efficiency tools such as significant risk transfer (SRT) transactions or other balance sheet optimisation strategies, along with the risks associated with them?</p>	<p>Our 2026 performance will be influenced by a range of factors, including the broader macroeconomic environment. While some of these are beyond our control, we continue to strengthen our financial resilience through proactive balance sheet hedging, capturing growth in high-ROE businesses and maintaining disciplined expense management. In the normal course of business, we regularly evaluate both organic and inorganic opportunities. We apply a rigorous and disciplined decision-making framework that balances strategic fit, risk-adjusted returns, capital efficiency and execution certainty, ensuring that any actions taken are aligned with our longer-term objectives and undertaken prudently.</p> <p>On our CSR commitment, we have pledged to contribute up to S\$1 billion over ten years to support vulnerable communities. Annual contributions are not fixed and will be calibrated against the ROE achieved for the year,</p>

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			ensuring a balanced approach between delivering shareholder returns and fulfilling our broader societal responsibilities.
	5.	What is DBS' assessment of the opportunities and outlook for the Malaysian market? What are your strategic plans for Malaysia?	<p>We have always maintained that Malaysia is a market of interest, provided that the regulatory environment is conducive.</p> <p>In any inorganic initiative we pursue, we will adopt a disciplined approach. We will do it if it fits our strategy, creates additional value and is accretive within an acceptable period of time.</p>
<b>Technology, AI and Innovation</b>	6.	Given DBS' investments in AI and innovation track record, how is the bank approaching the development and adoption of quantum technologies? Are there ongoing internal pilots and are there plans to extend beyond industry collaborations?	<p>We are approaching quantum through both a defensive and offensive lens, and have done some experimentation against each:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Defensively</b>, we completed a QKD (Quantum Key Distribution) experiment with MAS where we tested secure file transfers and effective key retrieval controls and have now designed a new hybrid cryptography experiment. We are in parallel scoping a cryptography audit and scenario modelling exercise for PQC (post-quantum cryptography).</li> <li>• <b>Offensively</b>, we ran an experiment on Counterparty Credit Risk for derivative trading. We also sponsored a global quantum hackathon with our challenge statements on credit card transaction fraud detection and counterparty credit risk.</li> </ul>
	7.	As artificial intelligence ("AI") tools become more widespread in the industry, does DBS anticipate any structural pressure on wealth advisory fees? How will the bank continue to differentiate its advisory offering and	<p>AI has evolved rapidly and is increasingly used in the wealth management space. This presents both opportunities and risks.</p> <p>On one hand, AI tools can raise the productivity of our relationship managers ("RMs") such as by helping</p>

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		<p>sustain returns in a landscape where advisory services may increasingly be automated?</p>	<p>them synthesise the best of research views, enabling them to more effectively service clients. By adopting AI to reduce mundane work, our RMs can now focus on higher value-added work such as scaling customer acquisition as well as improving customer engagement and advisory. On the other hand, as with any tech innovation, the potential of margin erosion from AI developments is not new. AI can empower clients to make more informed wealth planning decisions on their own.</p> <p>As such, we will remain nimble and continue enhancing our “phygital” approach which integrates physical and digital touchpoints to tailor our offerings to wealth clients with different needs.</p> <p>For customers with more vanilla product requirements, we will continue to serve them digitally and through AI. Clients with more sophisticated needs often require bespoke solutions and are best serviced with a human touch. We will thus continue equipping our RMs with AI to engage clients more effectively.</p> <p>At the same time, we have built a trusted reputation with customers over the years. This strategic moat underpins the long-term strength of our wealth management franchise. We forge enduring relationships and support our customers with long-term structures like trusts and estate planning, serving as their trusted banking partner through cycles and generations.</p> <p>While AI presents risks of margin erosion, we will continue building on our strong foundations in AI to innovate new solutions, deepen customer engagement and increase efficiency. Our track record shows that we have been able to grow volumes and sustain margins at a portfolio</p>

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			level. Our digital strengths and trusted reputation thus place us in good stead to remain differentiated.
<b>Sustainability</b>	8.	DBS has affirmed its commitment to delivering on its ESG agenda, and recently arranged a social loan for Parkway Life REIT in Japan. How does the bank ensure that its ESG initiatives, particularly in Singapore, deliver the intended outcomes while maintaining prudent risk management and financial discipline?	<p>At DBS, sustainability considerations are embedded into how we originate, price and prudently manage risk.</p> <p>Our sustainable finance products are guided by several frameworks including the DBS Sustainable Finance and Taxonomy Framework. These frameworks, complemented by internal guidelines, assure consistency in the way we identify and assess financing opportunities that aim to create positive environmental or social impact. Furthermore, these frameworks also establish clear governance, such as how we decide on labels for a transaction. To the extent possible, we align with global and regional standards, such as the Singapore-Asia Taxonomy, as well as industry best practises.</p> <p>Importantly, all such sustainable finance transactions are processed within our standard governance and risk processes and frameworks. This ensures that these opportunities meet our normal credit as well as risk and return thresholds. In our view, the most durable sustainability outcomes are those that are economically viable and risk-disciplined.</p> <p>At DBS, we embed sustainability considerations into how we originate, price and prudently manage risk. In our view, the most durable sustainability outcomes are those that are economically viable and risk-disciplined.</p> <p>All sustainable finance transactions (including green and social labelled transactions) are processed within our standard governance and risk processes and frameworks. We also ensure such transactions generate sustainable outcomes through</p>

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			<p>frameworks such as the DBS Sustainable Finance and Taxonomy Framework. To the extent possible, we align with global and regional standards, such as the Singapore-Asia Taxonomy, as well as industry best practices.</p> <p>These ensure that sustainable financing opportunities aimed at creating positive environmental or social impact meet our credit as well as risk and return thresholds, are identified and evaluated consistently, and are well-governed.</p>
<b>Capital Management</b>	9.	Does DBS have plans to increase dividends?	<p>Our capital returns initiatives include two forms of dividends: Ordinary dividends and Capital Return dividends, each guided by distinct considerations.</p> <p>Ordinary dividends are funded by our ongoing earnings generation. As such, any increase, as well as the pace of such increases, will be assessed against our expectations of financial performance over a multi-year horizon.</p> <p>Capital Return dividends, on the other hand, are funded from our existing stock of excess capital. Barring unforeseen circumstances, the Board plans to maintain the current level of Capital Return dividends for financial years 2026 and 2027.</p>
<b>Miscellaneous – Private Credit</b>	10.	Recent commentary from industry leaders has highlighted risk in the private credit market. How does DBS approach the structuring, distribution and ongoing monitoring of such exposures, including those offered to clients, to mitigate credit, conduct and reputational risks?	<p>While the West has seen rapid expansion in private credit, Asia, where our core markets are, has experienced more muted growth. Hence, our credit exposure to private credit funds is not significant.</p> <p>Moreover, as a distributor for private credit funds, we have in place rigorous onboarding and selection guardrails, and maintain stringent sales processes:</p>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Before onboarding any fund manager or selecting funds for distribution, we apply internal processes that include operational due diligence by an independent external party, as well as internal reviews and ratings based on various considerations.</li> <li>• We maintain a robust sales and distribution process for suitable clients. We have been giving timely updates to investors about their private credit funds, and continue to facilitate redemption requests.</li> </ul>
<b>Miscellaneous - IBG</b>	11.	With ICBC already serving as Singapore’s RMB clearing bank, how is DBS differentiating its RMB capabilities and value proposition to corporate clients?	<p>DBS Bank has deep presence in our core markets and we have established an extensive client base across the region. Being the only Singapore bank with an RMB clearing licence positions us well to facilitate RMB trade flows for MNCs and Southeast Asian clients.</p> <p>Moreover, it further strengthens our already comprehensive suite of products which includes liquidity management, financing structuring, interest rate risk management, FX risk management product portfolios, and custody services alongside sophisticated structured solutions.</p>
<b>Miscellaneous – Provisions</b>	12.	DBS appears to have set aside lower provisions compared with industry peers. What are the factors contributing to DBS’ stronger asset quality performance? Is there a risk that current provisioning levels may be understating potential future credit risks?	<p>As of end-December 2025, total allowance reserves stood at S\$6.3 billion, comprising specific allowance reserves and general allowance reserves. Our total allowance coverage ratio of 130% and 197% after considering collateral are healthy. These ratios do not lag the domestic peer average.</p> <p>We have a prudent approach on allowances. Notably, our general allowance reserves of S\$3.9 billion includes a S\$2.4 billion general allowance overlay, which we had built and added to since 2020. This overlay</p>

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			takes into account stress scenarios such as heightened geopolitical and macroeconomic risk and is on top of the baseline general allowance reserves deemed sufficient by our expected credit loss models.