



**THE REAL LIFE  
COMPANY**

## Media Release

### **HKRT U16 aims for the best in the finals of the AFC Championship**

**Hong Kong, 8 September 2014** – The Hong Kong Under 16 Representative Team (“HKRT U16”) is currently giving it their best at the finals of the 2014 Asian Football Confederation (“AFC”) U16 Championship in Thailand. This is the first time the team has qualified for the finals since the establishment of the AFC U16 Championship.

As the official shirt sponsor of the English Premier League football club Tottenham Hotspur, AIA sponsored a 12-day football training camp for the HKRT U16 team at the Tottenham Hotspur Training Centre in the UK in mid-August. The HKRT U16 team came away invigorated and inspired from the training camp experience.

The training camp in August offered HKRT U16 members a bevy of once-in-a-lifetime experiences, including opportunities for pitting their football skills against top local youth teams in friendly matches. These challenging fixtures provided a platform for HKRT U16 members to sharpen their teamwork, enhance their physical performance and master their football skills. They also had a visit to Wembley Stadium, the home of English football, and a tour of White Hart Lane, the historic home of Spurs.

Tottenham Hotspur First Team players Jan Vertonghen and Emmanuel Adebayor visited the HKRT U16 young players during the training camp to offer their encouragement. Jan Vertonghen said, “It’s very important for companies like AIA to make it possible for the HKRT U16 team to be here. They can improve by watching other players and working with different coaches. We wish them the best of luck at the AFC Championship this month.” Teammate Emmanuel Adebayor added, “It is key for these young players to be exposed to top-level coaching and facilities in order to help their development. Hopefully in the future we will see more Asian players finding their way to the Premier League.”

Ms. Bonnie Tse, General Manager, Marketing and Business Strategy of AIA Hong Kong and Macau said, “The HKRT U16 players have done us proud at the Tottenham Hotspur training camp with their impressive display of teamwork, perseverance and motivation. It’s an honour to sponsor the team, especially as they embody the values of healthy lifestyle that we promote and practice at AIA. We look forward to cheering on the team as they step on the pitch at the finals of the AFC U16 Championship.”

Xavi Bravo, Head Coach of the HKRT U16, gave the Tottenham Hotspur training camp experience an enthusiastic thumbs-up. “I want to thank AIA and Tottenham Hotspur for hosting the HKRT U16 and assisting our preparation for the finals of AFC U16 Championship. The Tottenham Hotspur facilities are top notch and I hope the HKRT U16 players can improve on their fitness, skills and tactical-awareness through the training camp.”

The finals of the AFC U16 Championship are held between 6 and 20 September in Thailand, with participating teams representing 16 Asian countries and territories. The Hong Kong team played against last edition’s runner-up Japan and Australia, and will face two-year champion China later today in Group B. The top four teams that proceed to the semi-finals will also qualify for the FIFA U-17 World Cup Chile 2015.

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(Front row, left to right) Tottenham Hotspur star players Emmanuel Adebayor and Jan Vertonghen pose with HKRT U16 at Tottenham Hotspur's Training Centre, wishing the team all the best for the finals of the 2014 Asian Football Confederation U16 Championship in September.



The HKRT U16 players have undergone intensive and professional training at the training centre of Tottenham Hotspur to sharpen their teamwork, enhance their physical performance and football skills.

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HKRT U16 has taken a group photo during their visit to White Hart Lane, the historic home of Tottenham Hotspur

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### **About AIA Hong Kong and AIA Macau**

AIA Hong Kong and AIA Macau are subsidiaries of AIA Group Limited. AIA Group Limited established its operations in Hong Kong in 1931. We have the largest team of over 10,000 financial planners in Hong Kong and Macau\*, as well as an extensive network of IFA and brokerage partners and bancassurance partners who serve around 1.68 million customers. Our products range from individual life, group life, accident, medical and health, personal lines insurance to investment-linked products with over 100 investment options. We are also dedicated to providing superb product solution to meet the distinguished financial needs of high net worth customers.

*\* As of 31 May 2014*

### **About AIA**

AIA Group Limited and its subsidiaries (collectively “AIA” or the “Group”) comprise the largest independent publicly listed pan-Asian life insurance group. It has operations in 17 markets in Asia-Pacific – wholly-owned branches and subsidiaries in Hong Kong, Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia, China, Korea, the Philippines, Australia, Indonesia, Taiwan, Vietnam, New Zealand, Macau, Brunei, a 97 per cent subsidiary in Sri Lanka, a 26 per cent joint venture in India and a representative office in Myanmar.

The business that is now AIA was first established in Shanghai over 90 years ago. It is a market leader in the Asia-Pacific region (ex-Japan) based on life insurance premiums and holds leading positions across the majority of its markets. It had total assets of US\$159 billion as of 31 May 2014.

AIA meets the long-term savings and protection needs of individuals by offering a range of products and services including life insurance, accident and health insurance and savings plans. The Group also provides employee benefits, credit life and pension services to corporate clients. Through an extensive network of agents, partners and employees across Asia-Pacific, AIA serves the holders of more than 28 million individual policies and over 16 million participating members of group insurance schemes.

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AIA refers to AIA Hong Kong and AIA MPF.

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AIA Group Limited is listed on the Main Board of The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited under the stock code "1299" with American Depositary Receipts (Level 1) traded on the over-the-counter market (ticker symbol: "AAGIY").

### **About Tottenham Hotspur**

Founded in 1882, Tottenham Hotspur Football Club has a tradition of playing an entertaining and attacking style of football. The team has achieved four consecutive top five Premier League finishes and has a multi-national squad of players. Tottenham Hotspur also has:

- A global following in excess of 180 million, with strong supporter bases across the UK, the USA, China, Asia and Southern Africa.
- Commercial partnerships with globally-recognised brands including AIA Group Limited (AIA) - one of the world's leading providers of insurance services; US sportswear giants Under Armour, and EA Sports
- A newly-built state-of-the-art training centre with advanced plans for a new world class stadium development that will sit at the heart of a major regeneration for North London
- An award winning Foundation that has created over 2 million opportunities to help enhance the lives of people in its local community through education, employment, health and social inclusion programmes.

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