(Incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability under the Companies Ordinance)

(the "Company")

ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. Chia Pei-Yuan has resigned as an Independent Non-executive Director of the Company and BOCHK due to personal reasons. The Company is in the course of identifying suitable candidates to replace Mr. Chia and to be appointed as additional Independent Non-executive Directors.

The Directors of the Company hereby announce that Mr. Chia Pei-Yuan has resigned as an Independent Non-executive Director of the Company and Bank of China (Hong Kong) Limited ("BOCHK"), the principal operating subsidiary of the Company, due to personal reasons. The Directors are grateful to Mr. Chia for his valuable contribution to the development and growth of the Group during his tenure of office.

The Company is in the course of identifying suitable candidates to replace Mr. Chia and to be appointed as additional Independent Non-executive Directors. Further announcement will be made as soon as such appointment has taken place.

By Order of the Board

Jason C. W. Yeung

Company Secretary

Hong Kong, 14th July, 2003