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ANNOUNCEMENT

APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE

The Board of the Company is pleased to announce the appointment of Ms. Zhu Yanlai (朱燕來) as an Assistant Chief Executive of the Group with effect from 20 May 2010.

The Board of Directors (the "**Board**") of the Company (together with its subsidiaries, the "**Group**") is pleased to announce the appointment of Ms. Zhu Yanlai (朱燕來) as an Assistant Chief Executive of the Group with effect from 20 May 2010. Ms. Zhu will report to the Chief Executive of the Group and will provide overall leadership for the planning and implementation of the Group's strategy, business direction and sustainable development. In her position, Ms. Zhu will assist and support the 3 Deputy Chief Executives, who are respectively overseeing personal banking, corporate banking and financial markets businesses of the Group, to drive the execution of their respective business strategies so as to facilitate the achievement of the business goals and targets of the Group.

Ms. Zhu has been the General Manager of Economics and Strategic Planning Department of the Company since the merger of the Group in October 2001. She is currently a non-executive director of Nanyang Commercial Bank, Limited and Nanyang Commercial Bank (China), Limited, both of which are wholly-owned subsidiaries of the Company. Ms. Zhu joined Bank of China Limited ("**BOC**") in 1997 and had been the Head of Business Development of BOC (Canada), and Assistant General Manager of Hong Kong and Macau Regional Office of BOC. Prior to joining BOC, Ms. Zhu had worked for Royal Bank of Canada and Nesbitt Burns, Bank of Montreal Group. She was previously the visiting scholar of York University in Canada and the lecturer in Renmin University of China. Ms. Zhu obtained a master's degree in sociology from the University of Regina, Sask, Canada, and graduated from Renmin University of China with bachelor's and master's degrees in philosophy.

The Board welcomes the appointment of Ms. Zhu as an Assistant Chief Executive of the Group and believes that her continuous contribution to strategic planning and implementation will further enhance the Group's business expansion and sustainable development.

By Order of the Board Jason C.W. Yeung Company Secretary

Hong Kong, 24 May 2010

As at the date hereof, the Board of Directors of the Company comprises Mr. XIAO Gang* (Chairman), Mr. LI Lihui* (Vice-chairman), Mr. HE Guangbei (Vice-chairman and Chief Executive), Mr. LI Zaohang*, Mr. ZHOU Zaiqun*, Mdm. ZHANG Yanling*, Mr. GAO Yingxin, Dr. FUNG Victor Kwok King**, Mr. KOH Beng Seng**, Mr. SHAN Weijian**, Mr. TUNG Chee Chen** and Mr. TUNG Savio Wai-Hok**.

* Non-executive Directors

** Independent Non-executive Directors