

**For Immediate Release**

## **BEA Expands its Presence in Southern China**

*The Bank Celebrates the Opening of its Dongguan Representative Office*

**Hong Kong, 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2005** — The Bank of East Asia (“BEA”) today celebrated the opening of its new Dongguan Representative Office following the opening of its Suzhou Representative Office last month. Mr. Chan Kay-cheung, BEA’s Executive Director & Deputy Chief Executive, and Mr. Raymond Yu Hok-keung, General Manager & Head of China Division, officiated at the ceremony in Dongguan in Guangdong Province.

Dignitaries taking part in the opening ceremony included leaders of Dongguan Municipal People’s Government, Guangdong and Dongguan bureaux of the China Banking Regulatory Commission, as well as leaders of the Dongguan Foreign Business Association and Dongguan Taiwanese Business Association. Representatives from enterprises, financial institutions, and the media in Dongguan were also among the estimated 300 guests who attended the ceremony.

Dongguan is situated to the east of the Pearl River and in the middle of the “Guangzhou - Hong Kong Economic Corridor”. In 2004, Dongguan ranked twelfth among large and medium-sized cities in China in terms of comprehensive competitiveness. The city has experienced an average annual economic growth rate of 20% over the last twenty years. According to Mr. Chan Kay-cheung, BEA established its representative office in Dongguan in response to the city’s sharp economic growth. The new office will offer professional consultation and advice to individuals and enterprises in Dongguan and adjacent areas, effectively serving as a natural extension of BEA’s banking business in Shenzhen.

BEA’s Dongguan Representative Office is the Bank’s seventh representative office on the Mainland. As one of the foreign banks with the most extensive branch coverage in the country, BEA also has nine branches and four sub-branches nationwide. In addition, BEA has obtained approval to establish branches in Hangzhou and Chongqing, which will be opened within this year.

BEA provides a wide range of banking services to a growing customer base in China, including full foreign currency services to all customers at all branches, and Renminbi services to foreigners, as well as to foreign-invested and local enterprises through its seven branches in Shanghai, Shenzhen, Dalian, Guangzhou, Zhuhai, Xi’an, and Xiamen.

For further details on Dongguan Representative Office or BEA’s China services, please contact Mr. Ma Jianqiang, Gosen, Chief Representative of BEA’s Dongguan Representative Office at Room 502A, Hua Kai Building, Sheng He Road, Nancheng District, Dongguan, Tel: (86 769) 280 8186, Fax: (86 769) 280 8187. Enquiries may also

be directed to BEA's China Division on Tel: (852) 3608 3007 or Fax: (852) 3608 6213.  
To learn more about BEA, please visit the Bank's website at: [www.hkbea.com](http://www.hkbea.com).

– End –

For press enquiries, please contact:

Ms. Salina Tong  
Head of Marketing & Communications Department, BEA  
Tel: 2842 3063