

**For Immediate Release**

**BEA Receives Approval to Proceed with the Establishment of  
Shanghai Xintiandi and Shenzhen Nanshan Sub-branches**

**Hong Kong, 29<sup>th</sup>, August 2005** — The Bank of East Asia (“BEA”) has today received approval from the Shanghai Office of the China Banking Regulatory Commission (“CBRC”) to proceed with the establishment of a sub-branch in Xintiandi. In addition, the CBRC’s Shenzhen Office has recently given its consent for the Bank to set up a sub-branch in Nanshan District, Shenzhen.

Located in major districts in their respective cities, BEA’s Shanghai Xintiandi and Shenzhen Nanshan Sub-branches will enable the Bank to further expand its customer base in China and provide local customers with an enhanced level of support. BEA’s presence in China has been steadily increasing; the Bank opened its Suzhou Representative Office in May and its Dongguan Representative Office in June.

As one of the foreign banks with the most extensive branch coverage on the Mainland, BEA’s branch network in China covers Shanghai, Shenzhen, Xiamen, Guangzhou, Zhuhai, Dalian, Xi’an, Beijing, Chengdu, Hangzhou (under preparation), and Chongqing (under preparation). The Bank also has two sub-branches in Shanghai, one sub-branch each in Guangzhou and Shenzhen, and six representative offices in Fuzhou, Qingdao, Wuhan, Tianjin, Suzhou, and Dongguan. BEA plans to open its Hangzhou and Chongqing Branches in November and December this year respectively.

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. Recently, BEA has received preliminary approval for its Beijing Branch to provide Renminbi services, allowing more customers in the capital to enjoy the Bank’s RMB services.

– End –

For press enquiries, please contact:

Mr. Chan Kay-cheung  
Executive Director and Deputy Chief Executive, BEA

Tel: (852) 3608 8238