

For Immediate Release

BEA Temporarily Suspends Revenue Tower Branch Service During WTO Conference

Hong Kong, 8th December, 2005 – The Bank of East Asia (“BEA”) has today announced that, as part of its precautionary measures in anticipation of significant traffic congestion during the Sixth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization (“WTO Conference”), the Bank’s Revenue Tower Branch will temporarily suspend its service for the period from Monday, 12th December, 2005 to Saturday, 17th December, 2005. Revenue Tower Branch is located at G/F., Revenue Tower, 5 Gloucester Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong.

During the period of temporary suspension of service, customers may visit any of BEA’s other branches in Hong Kong, where service will be available throughout the WTO Conference. Customers in particular need of the assistance of Revenue Branch staff may proceed to the Bank’s Taikoo Shing Branch at Shop No. G1010-1011, Yiu Sing Mansion, Taikoo Shing. Revenue Tower Branch personnel will be stationed at Taikoo Shing Branch to assist visiting customers during the period of suspended service.

Alternatively, Cyberbanking customers may choose the convenience of BEA’s electronic banking services during the WTO Conference by logging on to www.hkbea-cyberbanking.com. Cyberbanking customers can access up to twelve related accounts and select from a variety of banking services including balance enquiries, fund transfers, bill payment, renewal of time deposits, applications for telegraphic transfers, and more.

Revenue Tower Branch will resume normal service on Monday, 19th December, 2005. For further information, customers may call the branch on 3609 1450 or 3609 1453 during business hours.

BEA will keep its customers and the public informed of any services affected before and during the WTO Conference. Alternatively, they may visit BEA’s webpage at www.hkbea.com for more details.

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