

For Immediate Release

BEA China Celebrates the Grand Opening of Nanjing Branch

Hong Kong, 28th December, 2007 – The Bank of East Asia (China) Limited (“BEA China”) has today celebrated the grand opening of its Nanjing Branch at a ceremony held at the Jinling Hotel in Nanjing. BEA’s Chairman & Chief Executive, Dr. David K.P. Li, and BEA China’s Vice Chairman, Mr. Chan Kay-cheung, officiated at the ceremony, which was attended by approximately 200 dignitaries from the government, business, and financial sectors in Jiangsu Province and its provincial capital of Nanjing. Nanjing Branch is BEA China’s 15th branch.

Speaking at the event, Dr. Li said, “We’re delighted to establish a branch in Nanjing, which is a major hub of investment in the Yangtze River Delta. With nearly 90 years of operating experience in China, we look forward to bringing our expertise and comprehensive range of banking services to our customers in Nanjing and other parts of Jiangsu Province.”

Strategically located in the downstream Yangtze River drainage basin, Nanjing is the largest commercial centre in East China after Shanghai. With the establishment of Nanjing Branch, BEA China plans to further enhance its value to customers in the region by expanding its network of outlets in the Delta, and by providing an even wider range of quality products and services. Together, BEA and BEA China currently operate 14 outlets in the Yangtze River Delta, one of the strongest presences of any foreign bank in the region.

Nanjing Branch provides comprehensive foreign currency banking services to all customers. These include account and deposit services, loans and advances, bill acceptance and discounting, documentary credit and bank guarantees, remittance and international settlement, foreign exchange, derivative products, agency services for general and life insurance products, and overseas investment services to local residents and enterprises. Nanjing Branch will provide Renminbi banking services to all customers, including local residents, once it receives approval from the China Banking Regulatory Commission.

For further details on BEA China’s Nanjing Branch, please contact Mr. Jovic Hui Wa, General Manager of Nanjing Branch at Room 101 & 201, Long Sheng Mansion, 23 Hong Wu Road, Nanjing, Jiangsu Province, P.R.C. [tel.: (86 25) 8689 9988, fax: (86 25) 8689 9977]. Enquiries may also be directed to BEA’s China Division in Hong Kong on tel.: (852) 3608 3007 or fax: (852) 3608 6213.

About BEA’s Operations in China

A wholly-owned subsidiary of BEA, BEA China operates one of the most extensive branch networks of any China-incorporated foreign bank authorised to operate on the mainland. Headquartered in Shanghai, BEA China has a network of 44 outlets

that includes 15 branches (Shanghai, Shenzhen, Xiamen, Guangzhou, Zhuhai, Dalian, Xi'an, Beijing, Chengdu, Hangzhou, Chongqing, Qingdao, Shenyang, Wuhan, and Nanjing) and 28 sub-branches (7 in Shanghai, 5 in Guangzhou, 4 in Shenzhen, 3 in Xiamen, 2 in both Dalian and Xi'an, and 1 each in Zhuhai, Beijing, Chengdu, Hangzhou, and Chongqing). BEA China plans to open a branch in Tianjin in the first quarter of 2008.

BEA China is authorised to provide a full range of personal and corporate banking services as well as overseas investment services to all customers, including local residents and enterprises. BEA China also provides agency services for general and life insurance products.

In addition to the BEA China network, BEA also operates a branch in Shanghai, through which it conducts its foreign exchange wholesale banking business. BEA also operates 4 representative offices in Tianjin, Fuzhou, Suzhou, and Dongguan.

For more details on BEA China, please visit www.hkbea.com.cn.

About The Bank of East Asia

Incorporated in Hong Kong in 1918, BEA is dedicated to providing comprehensive retail and commercial banking services to its customers in Hong Kong, Greater China, and overseas. BEA is the largest independent local bank in Hong Kong, with total consolidated assets of HKD343.2 billion (USD43.9 billion) as of 30th June, 2007. The Bank is listed on the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong and is one of the constituent stocks of the Hang Seng Index.

With more than 200 outlets worldwide, BEA operates an extensive international network covering Hong Kong and Greater China, the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, the British Virgin Islands, and Southeast Asia. For more information on BEA, please visit any BEA branch or the Bank's homepage at www.hkbea.com.

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BEA – Serving customers through one of Hong Kong's largest banking networks, with over 130 branches and SupremeGold Centres around town