

For Immediate Release

BEA China Celebrates the Grand Opening of Suzhou Branch
New Branch Becomes BEA China's 20th Full-Service Branch on the Mainland

Hong Kong, 21st June, 2010 – The Bank of East Asia (“BEA”) announces that its wholly-owned subsidiary on the mainland, The Bank of East Asia (China) Limited (“BEA China”), has today celebrated the grand opening of its Suzhou Branch by holding a ceremony at Suzhou Kempinski Hotel.

Officiating at the opening ceremony, Dr. David K.P. Li, Chairman & Chief Executive of BEA and Chairman of BEA China, said: “BEA has long recognised the importance of the city of Suzhou, which has witnessed robust economic growth and massive foreign investment in recent years. The opening of BEA China’s Suzhou Branch not only enables us to offer a comprehensive range of products and services to the people and businesses in and around Suzhou, but also strengthens our branch network in the Yangtze River Delta region.” At present, BEA China operates a total of 16 outlets in the Yangtze River Delta region including its headquarters in Shanghai, and 4 branches and 11 sub-branches in Shanghai, Hangzhou, Nanjing, and Suzhou.

BEA’s has operated in Suzhou since 2005 when it opened its Suzhou Representative Office to provide liaison and advisory services. Earlier this year, BEA China received approval from the China Banking Regulatory Commission to establish a full-service branch in Suzhou. The Branch commenced business on 31st March, 2010.

As BEA China’s 20th branch on the mainland, Suzhou Branch provides comprehensive Renminbi and foreign currency banking services to all customers. Services include account and deposit services, loans and advances, documentary credit and bank guarantees, remittance and settlement, foreign exchange, derivative products, bank card services and overseas investment services to local residents and enterprises.

For more details about BEA China’s Suzhou Branch, please contact Mr. Peter Shi Shaobo, General Manager of Suzhou Branch at 1/F-2/F, CSSD Plaza, 158 Wangdun Road, Suzhou Industrial Park, Suzhou, Jiangsu Province, China [tel.: (86 512) 6873 5088; fax: (86 512) 6660 6100]. Enquiries may also be directed to BEA’s China Division in Hong Kong on tel.: (852) 3608 3007 or fax: (852) 3608 6212.

About BEA in China

Headquartered in Shanghai, BEA China operates one of the most extensive branch networks of any foreign bank on the mainland. Its network of 77 outlets includes 20 branches and 56 sub-branches in Shanghai, Beijing, Tianjin, Dalian, Shenyang, Qingdao, Shijiazhuang, Urumqi, Hangzhou, Nanjing, Suzhou, Chengdu, Chongqing, Wuhan, Hefei, Xi’an, Shenzhen, Guangzhou, Zhuhai, Xiamen, Foshan, Zhongshan,

and Huizhou. BEA China also operates ten 24-hour self-service banking centres and over 370 automatic teller machines in major urban areas nationwide. BEA China is authorised to provide a full range of personal and corporate banking services as well as overseas investment services to all customers. For more details on BEA China, please visit www.hkbea.com.cn.

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

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 and other major markets around the world. BEA is the largest independent local bank in Hong Kong, with total consolidated assets of HK\$434.1 billion (US\$56.0 billion) as of 31st December, 2009. 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 240 outlets worldwide, BEA operates an extensive international network covering Hong Kong and the rest of Greater China, North America, 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 140 branches and SupremeGold Centres around town

