



The Bank of East Asia, Limited

(Incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability in 1918)

(Stock Code: 23)

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS OF 2009 FINAL RESULTS AND KEY RATIOS

Profit after taxation	HK\$2,638Mn
- representing an increase of 2,445.1% compared with the year ended 31 st December, 2008	
Return on average assets	0.6%
Return on average equity	7.7%
Net interest margin	1.80%
Basic earnings per share	HK\$1.36
Proposed final dividend per share (with scrip option)	HK\$0.48
Total dividend per share	HK\$0.76
Total consolidated assets	HK\$434,082Mn
Total advances to customers	HK\$247,654Mn
Impaired loan ratio	1.0%
Total deposits	HK\$345,340Mn
Loan to deposit ratio	71.7%
Average liquidity ratio	43.3%
Capital adequacy ratio	13.3%

CLOSURE OF REGISTER OF MEMBERS

The Register of Members of the Bank will be closed for the following periods:

- (a) For the purpose of determining shareholders who qualify for the proposed final dividend, the Register of Members of the Bank will be closed on Tuesday, 30th March, 2010 and Wednesday, 31st March, 2010. In order to qualify for the proposed final dividend, all transfer documents should be lodged for registration with Tricor Standard Limited* by 4:00 p.m. on Monday, 29th March, 2010.
- (b) For the purpose of determining shareholders who are entitled to attend and vote at the 2010 Annual General Meeting of the Bank ("2010 AGM"), the Register of Members of the Bank will be closed on Wednesday, 21st April, 2010 and Thursday, 22nd April, 2010. In order to qualify for attending and voting at the 2010 AGM, all transfer documents should be lodged for registration with Tricor Standard Limited* by 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, 20th April, 2010.

**Address: 26th Floor, Tesbury Centre, 28 Queen's Road East, Hong Kong*

2010 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 2010 AGM will be held in the Grand Ballroom, Conrad Hong Kong, Pacific Place, 88 Queensway, Hong Kong on Thursday, 22nd April, 2010 at 10:30 a.m.

By order of the Board

The Bank of East Asia, Limited

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Company Secretary

Hong Kong, 11th February, 2010