

For Immediate Release

Hong Kong, 24 September 2003 – It has come to the attention of The Bank of East Asia, Limited (“BEA”) that an Internet website calling itself East Asia Credit and operating under the URL www.eastasiacredit.com has been set up, soliciting deposits online from individuals.

The Bank wishes to advise that this website has no affiliation whatsoever with BEA, nor any of its employees or existing or former subsidiaries.

The management of BEA has been made aware of at least one possible fraud case associated with this website. Members of the public are advised to take the foregoing into consideration in any dealings with the operators of the website.

The Bank has requested its solicitors to investigate the registration of this website, and to take any action that may be appropriate to protect the good name and standing of The Bank of East Asia, Limited.

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For press enquiries, please contact:

Mr Chan Kay-cheung

Executive Director and Deputy Chief Executive, BEA

Tel: 2842 3203