

**For Immediate Release**

**The Bank of East Asia now licensed to offer foreign currency services to local customers from all 8 branches and sub-branches in China**

**Hong Kong, 28 May 2002** – The Bank of East Asia (BEA) has obtained official approval to offer foreign currency services to all customers in China, including local enterprises and residents, from its Shenzhen, Xiamen, Dalian and Xi'an branches, and Shanghai Puxi sub-branch. This follows approval in March to offer such services at its Guangzhou, Zhuhai and Shanghai branches. With this announcement, all of BEA's seven branches and one sub-branch in China are accredited to provide full foreign currency services.

BEA owns one of the most extensive branch networks among foreign banks in China. In addition to foreign currency services, the Bank offers Renminbi services from its Shanghai and Shenzhen branches to clients in Zhejiang, Jiangsu, Shanghai, Guangdong, Guangxi, Hunan, Tianjin and Dalian.

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