

*Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited and The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited take no responsibility for the contents of this notice, make no representation as to its accuracy or completeness and expressly disclaim any liability whatsoever for any loss howsoever arising from or in reliance upon the whole or any part of the contents of this notice.*



## The Bank of East Asia, Limited

*(Incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability in 1918)*

(Stock Code: 23)

### **NOTICE OF NINETY-FIRST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Ninety-first Annual General Meeting ("2010 AGM") of the members of The Bank of East Asia, Limited (the "Bank") will be held in the Grand Ballroom, Conrad Hong Kong, Pacific Place, 88 Queensway, Hong Kong on Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> April, 2010 at 10:30 a.m. for the following purposes:

1. To consider and adopt the Audited Accounts and the Report of the Directors and the Independent Auditor's Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2009;
2. To declare a final dividend of HK\$0.48 per share (with scrip option) for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2009;
3. To re-elect Directors:
  - (a) Dr. The Hon. Sir David LI Kwok-po
  - (b) Dr. Allan WONG Chi-yun
  - (c) Mr. Aubrey LI Kwok-sing
  - (d) Mr. Winston LO Yau-lai
  - (e) Tan Sri Dr. KHOO Kay-peng
  - (f) Mr. Stephen Charles LI Kwok-sze
4. To re-appoint KPMG as Auditors of the Bank and authorise the Directors to fix their remuneration;

As special business, to consider and, if thought fit, pass with or without amendments, the following resolutions:

#### **Ordinary Resolutions**

5. "THAT the authorised capital of the Bank be and is hereby increased from HK\$6,500,000,000 divided into 2,600,000,000 ordinary shares of HK\$2.50 each and US\$500,000,000 divided into 500,000 Substitute Preference Shares of US\$1,000 each to HK\$10,000,000,000 divided into 4,000,000,000 ordinary shares of HK\$2.50 each and US\$500,000,000 divided into 500,000 Substitute Preference Shares of US\$1,000 each by the creation of an additional 1,400,000,000 ordinary shares of HK\$2.50 each."

6. “THAT

(a) a general mandate be and is hereby unconditionally given to the Directors to exercise during the Relevant Period all the powers of the Bank to allot, issue and dispose of additional shares of the Bank and to make or grant offers, agreements, options or warrants which would or might require the exercise of such powers either during or after the Relevant Period, not exceeding 10% of the aggregate nominal amount of the issued share capital of the Bank as at the date of this Resolution, otherwise than any shares which may be issued pursuant to the following events:

- (i) a rights issue;
- (ii) any option scheme or similar arrangement for the time being adopted for the grant or issue to the employees of the Bank and its subsidiaries of shares or rights to acquire shares of the Bank; or
- (iii) any scrip dividend or similar arrangement in accordance with the Articles of Association of the Bank; and

(b) for the purposes of this Resolution:

‘Relevant Period’ means the period from the passing of this Resolution until whichever is the earlier of:

- (i) the conclusion of the next Annual General Meeting of the Bank;
- (ii) the expiration of the period within which the next Annual General Meeting of the Bank is required by law to be held; and
- (iii) the date on which the authority set out in this Resolution is revoked or varied by an ordinary resolution of the members in general meeting.”

7. “THAT

(a) a general mandate be and is hereby unconditionally granted to the Directors to exercise during the Relevant Period all the powers of the Bank to repurchase ordinary shares of HK\$2.50 each in the capital of the Bank in accordance with all applicable laws and the requirements of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited or of any other stock exchange as amended from time to time provided however that the aggregate nominal amount of the shares to be repurchased pursuant to the approval in this paragraph shall not exceed 10% of the aggregate nominal amount of the issued share capital of the Bank as at the date of this Resolution; and

(b) for the purposes of this Resolution:

‘Relevant Period’ means the period from the passing of this Resolution until whichever is the earlier of:

- (i) the conclusion of the next Annual General Meeting of the Bank;

- (ii) the expiration of the period within which the next Annual General Meeting of the Bank is required by law to be held; and
  - (iii) the date on which the authority set out in this Resolution is revoked or varied by an ordinary resolution of the members in general meeting.”
8. “THAT, conditional on the passing of Resolutions in item 6 and item 7 of the Notice of this Meeting, the general mandate granted to the Directors to allot shares pursuant to the Resolution set out in item 6 of the Notice of this Meeting be and is hereby extended by the addition to the aggregate nominal amount of the share capital which may be allotted or agreed to be allotted by the Directors pursuant to such general mandate an amount representing the aggregate nominal amount of the share capital of the Bank repurchased by the Bank under the authority granted pursuant to the Resolution set out in item 7 of the Notice of this Meeting.”

By Order of the Board  
**Alson LAW Chun-tak**  
Company Secretary

Hong Kong, 18<sup>th</sup> March, 2010

Notes:

- (a) *For the purpose of determining the Shareholders who qualify for the proposed final dividend, the Register of Members of the Bank will be closed on Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> March, 2010 and Wednesday, 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2010. In order to qualify for the proposed final dividend, all transfer documents should be lodged for registration with Tricor Standard Limited, 26/F., Tesbury Centre, 28 Queen’s Road East, Hong Kong, by 4:00 p.m. Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> March, 2010.*
- (b) *For the purpose of determining the Shareholders who are entitled to attend and vote at the 2010 AGM, the Register of Members of the Bank will be closed on Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> April, 2010 and Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> 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, 26/F., Tesbury Centre, 28 Queen’s Road East, Hong Kong, by 4:00 p.m. Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> April, 2010.*
- (c) *A member entitled to attend and vote at the above Meeting may appoint a proxy to attend and vote in his place. A proxy need not be a member.*
- (d) *As set out in the Letter from the Chairman included in the circular of the Bank dated 18<sup>th</sup> March, 2010 (the “Circular”), the Board of Directors of the Bank recommends the Shareholders to vote in favour of the resolutions to be proposed at the 2010 AGM. Please refer to the Circular for details of the matters for which the resolutions are concerned.*

*As at the date of this announcement, the Executive Director of the Bank is: Dr. The Hon. Sir David LI Kwok-po (Chairman & Chief Executive); Non-executive Directors of the Bank are: Professor Arthur LI Kwok-cheung (Deputy Chairman), Mr. Aubrey LI Kwok-sing, Dr. William MONG Man-wai, Tan Sri Dr. KHOO Kay-peng, Mr. Richard LI Tzar-kai, Mr. Eric LI Fook-chuen, Mr. Stephen Charles LI Kwok-sze and Dr. Isidro FAINÉ CASAS; and Independent Non-executive Directors are: Dr. Allan WONG Chi-yun (Deputy Chairman), Mr. WONG Chung-hin, Dr. LEE Shau-kee, Mr. Winston LO Yau-lai, Mr. Thomas KWOK Ping-kwong, Mr. Kenneth LO Chin-ming, Mr. William DOO Wai-hoi, Mr. KUOK Khoon-ean and Mr. Valiant CHEUNG Kin-piu.*