



The Bank of East Asia, Limited

(Incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability in 1918)

(Stock Code: 23)

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS OF 2008 INTERIM RESULTS AND KEY RATIOS

Profit after taxation	HKD930Mn
- representing a decrease of 51.3% compared with the first half of 2007	
- representing a decrease of 59.7% compared with the second half of 2007	
Return on assets	0.5%
Return on equity	5.4%
Net interest margin	1.9%
Basic earnings per share	HKD0.54
Interim dividend per share (with scrip option)	HKD0.23
Total consolidated assets	HKD396,660Mn
Total loans and advances to customers	HKD245,408Mn
Impaired loan ratio	0.5%
Total deposits	HKD308,064Mn
Loan to deposit ratio	79.7%
Average liquidity ratio	38.8%
Capital adequacy ratio	14.7%

CLOSURE OF REGISTER OF MEMBERS

The Register of Members of the Bank will be closed from Monday, 25th August, 2008 to Tuesday, 26th August, 2008, both days inclusive, for the purpose of determining shareholders who qualify for the interim dividend for the six months ended 30th June, 2008. The interim dividend will be paid on or about Wednesday, 17th September, 2008. In order to qualify for the interim dividend, all transfer documents should be lodged for registration with Tricor Standard Limited at 26th Floor, Tesbury Centre, 28 Queen's Road East, Hong Kong by 4:00 p.m. Friday, 22nd August, 2008.

By order of the Board
The Bank of East Asia, Limited
Molly HO Kam-lan
Company Secretary

Hong Kong, 5th August, 2008

The information contained in the Financial Highlights does not constitute a statutory results announcement. Full version of the results announcement is published on Bank's website at www.hkbea.com and on the website of Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited at www.hkexnews.hk.