



The Bank of East Asia, Limited

(Incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability in 1918)

(Stock Code: 23)

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS OF 2012 FINAL RESULTS AND KEY RATIOS

Profit attributable to the owners of the parent	HK\$6,056Mn
- representing an increase of 39.0% compared with the year ended 31 st December, 2011	
Return on average assets	0.94%
Return on average equity	11.92%
Net interest margin	1.67%
Basic earnings per share	HK\$2.72
Second interim dividend (in lieu of final dividend) per share (with scrip option)	HK\$0.63
Total dividend per share	HK\$1.06
Dividend payout ratio	40.3%
Total consolidated assets	HK\$692,114Mn
Total advances to customers	HK\$350,720Mn
Impaired loan ratio	0.32%
Total deposits	HK\$526,140Mn
Loan to deposit ratio	66.7%
Average liquidity ratio	46.6%
Capital adequacy ratio	14.3%

To view the announcement on final results for 2012, please visit the Bank's website at www.hkbea.com.

PAYMENT OF SECOND INTERIM DIVIDEND (IN LIEU OF FINAL DIVIDEND) FOR 2012

The Board of The Bank of East Asia, Limited (the "Bank") has declared a second interim dividend (in lieu of final dividend) for the year ended 31st December, 2012 of HK\$0.63 per share ("**2012 Second Interim Dividend**") (2011 second interim dividend (in lieu of final dividend): HK\$0.51 per share), which, together with the interim dividend of HK\$0.43 per share paid in September 2012, will constitute a total dividend of HK\$1.06 per share (2011: HK\$0.94 per share) for the full year. The 2012 Second Interim Dividend will be paid on or about Tuesday, 9th April, 2013 in cash with an option to receive new, fully paid shares in lieu of cash, to shareholders whose names appear on the Register of Members at the close of business on Monday, 18th March, 2013 ("**Scrip Dividend Scheme**"). Details of the Scrip Dividend Scheme and the election form will be sent to shareholders on or about Monday, 18th March, 2013.

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 2012 Second Interim Dividend, the Register of Members of the Bank will be closed from Friday, 15th March, 2013 to Monday, 18th March, 2013 (both days inclusive). In order to qualify for the 2012 Second Interim Dividend, all transfer documents should be lodged for registration with Tricor Standard Limited* by 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, 14th March, 2013.
- (b) For the purpose of determining shareholders who are entitled to attend and vote at the 2013 Annual General Meeting of the Bank ("**2013 AGM**"), the Register of Members of the Bank will be closed on Monday, 29th April, 2013 and on Tuesday, 30th April, 2013. In order to qualify for attending and voting at the 2013 AGM, all transfer documents should be lodged for registration with Tricor Standard Limited* by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, 26th April, 2013.

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

2013 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 2013 AGM will be held in the Grand Ballroom, Conrad Hong Kong, Pacific Place, 88 Queensway, Hong Kong on Tuesday, 30th April, 2013 at 11:30 a.m.

By order of the Board
The Bank of East Asia, Limited
Alson LAW Chun-tak
Company Secretary

Hong Kong, 26th February, 2013