

The Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited and The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited take no responsibility for the contents of this announcement, 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 announcement.

This announcement is for information purposes only and does not constitute an invitation or offer to acquire or subscribe for securities.



The Bank of East Asia, Limited

(Incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability in 1918)
(Stock Code: 23)

SETTLEMENT NOTICE RELATING TO THE INVITATION TO TENDER TO PURCHASE AT PAR FOR CASH THE OUTSTANDING U.S.\$550,000,000 5.625 PER CENT. SUBORDINATED NOTES DUE 2015

The Bank announces the completion and settlement of the Tender Offer.

Reference is made to the announcement of the Bank dated 20 July 2010 in relation to the results of the Tender Offer.

The Bank announces that the Tender Offer completed on the Settlement Date and the aggregate principal amount of the 2015 Notes it accepted for purchase was U.S.\$74,690,000, for which the Bank paid an aggregate cash amount of U.S.\$75,133,658.60 inclusive of Accrued Interest.

All the 2015 Notes validly tendered and accepted for purchase by the Bank have been cancelled on the Settlement Date.

Following completion and settlement of the Tender Offer and the cancellation of all the 2015 Notes purchased by the Bank, the aggregate principal amount of the 2015 Notes which remains outstanding is U.S.\$475,310,000.

The Tender Offer has not been made in the United States or Italy or to any U.S. person or Italian person or to any person resident or located in the United States or the Republic of Italy. Other restrictions have also applied as described in the Tender Offer Memorandum.

Definitions

In this announcement, the following terms have the meanings set out below unless the context requires otherwise:

“Accrued Interest” interest accrued and unpaid on the 2015 Notes from (and including) the immediately preceding interest payment date for the 2015 Notes to (but excluding) the Settlement Date;

"Bank"	The Bank of East Asia, Limited;
"New Notes"	the U.S.\$450,000,000 6.125% Subordinated Notes due 2020 issued by the Bank on 16 July 2010;
"Settlement Date"	22 July 2010;
"Tender Offer"	the invitation to tender to purchase of the 2015 Notes at par for cash up to an amount equal to the aggregate principal amount of the New Notes, conditional upon the completion of the issue of the New Notes;
"Tender Offer Memorandum"	the tender offer memorandum dated 9 July 2010 which was distributed to qualifying holders of the 2015 Notes;
"United States"	the United States of America, its territories and possessions, any State of the United States, and the District of Columbia;
"U.S. person"	any person or entity deemed to be a U.S. person for the purposes of Regulation S under the United States Securities Act of 1933 (as amended);
"U.S.\$" or "U.S. dollars"	the lawful currency of the United States; and
"2015 Notes"	the outstanding U.S.\$550,000,000 5.625 per cent. Subordinated Notes due 2015 issued by the Bank which are currently listed on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited.

By the Order of the Board
The Bank of East Asia, Limited
David LI Kwok-po
Chairman & Chief Executive

Hong Kong, 23 July 2010

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, 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.