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The Bank of East Asia, Limited

東亞銀行有限公司

(Incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability in 1918)

(Stock Code: 23)

**Voluntary Announcement
Strategic Cooperation Agreement with WeBank**

This Announcement is a voluntary announcement made by the Bank.

The Bank is pleased to announce that BEA China, its wholly-owned subsidiary, entered into the Strategic Agreement with WeBank on 16th April, 2015.

This Announcement is a voluntary announcement made by The Bank of East Asia, Limited (the "**Bank**").

The Bank is pleased to announce that, The Bank of East Asia (China) Limited ("**BEA China**"), a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Bank, entered into a strategic cooperation agreement (the "**Strategic Agreement**") with WeBank Co., Ltd. ("**WeBank**") on 16th April, 2015.

In accordance with the Strategic Agreement, BEA China and WeBank will treat each other as an important partner. The parties agree to fully explore their respective competitive advantages with a view to achieving joint business development and maximising mutual benefits through business cooperation under the Strategic Agreement. The business under cooperation includes but not limited to: customer referrals, credit card business, micro and personal loans, wealth management business, interbank lending and internet finance business.

The Strategic Agreement sets out the framework for future cooperation, and the parties will separately agree and enter into contract(s) on their subsequent business cooperation, if any. Furthermore, the launch of the businesses mentioned above is subject to all the necessary regulatory approvals being obtained.

Relevant Information of the Bank

The Bank was established in 1918. Its shares have been listed on a stock exchange in Hong Kong since 1930's. According to the closing price of its shares on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited on 16th April, 2015, the market capitalisation of the Bank is approximately HK\$85.98 billion. The Bank has become a Hang Seng Index Constituent Stock since 1984. Please refer to the website: www.hkbea.com for the details of the Bank.

Relevant Information of BEA China

The Bank has maintained an operational presence in mainland China since the opening of its Shanghai branch in 1920. In April 2007, the Bank established BEA China, one of the first wholly-owned, locally-incorporated foreign banking subsidiaries in mainland China. BEA China is authorised to provide a full range of banking and financial services to a broad customer base that includes both local and foreign residents and enterprises. BEA China operates one of the most extensive branch networks of any foreign bank in mainland China. BEA China's network of 128 outlets includes its headquarters in Shanghai, 29 branches, and 98 sub-branches in 42 cities nationwide. For more details on BEA China, please refer to the website: www.hkbea.com.cn.

Relevant Information of WeBank

WeBank, one of the first private commercial banks in mainland China and also the first officially launched online bank, was established in 2014. Tencent owns thirty per cent of WeBank's total share capital, while Baiyeyuan Investment and Liye Group each owns twenty per cent of WeBank's total share capital.

By order of the Board
Alson LAW Chun-tak
Company Secretary

Hong Kong, 16th April, 2015

As at the date of this announcement, the Board of Directors of the Bank comprises Dr. the Hon. Sir David LI Kwok-po[#] (Chairman & Chief Executive), Professor Arthur LI Kwok-cheung (Deputy Chairman), Dr. Allan WONG Chi-yun** (Deputy Chairman), Mr. WONG Chung-hin**, Mr. Aubrey LI Kwok-sing*, Mr. Winston LO Yau-lai**, Tan Sri Dr. KHOO Kay-peng**, Mr. Richard LI Tzar-kai*, Mr. Kenneth LO Chin-ming**, Mr. Eric LI Fook-chuen*, Mr. Stephen Charles LI Kwok-sze*, Mr. William DOO Wai-hoi**, Mr. KUOK Khoon-ean**, Mr. Valiant CHEUNG Kin-piu**, Dr. Isidro FAINÉ CASAS*, Dr. Peter LEE Ka-kit*, Mr. Adrian David LI Man-kiu[#] (Deputy Chief Executive) and Mr. Brian David LI Man-bun[#] (Deputy Chief Executive).*

[#] Executive Director

* Non-executive Director

** Independent Non-executive Director