

For Immediate Release**BEA Wins Best SME's Partner Gold Award for Five Straight Years**

Hong Kong, 31st October, 2022 – The Bank of East Asia, Limited (“BEA” or “the Bank”) won the “Best SME’s Partner Gold Award” organised by The Hong Kong General Chamber of Small and Medium Business for the fifth consecutive year, in recognition of its long-standing support of small and medium enterprises (“SMEs”) in Hong Kong.

Mr Ken Kwan, Head of Enterprise Banking Department of BEA, said, “BEA has been relentlessly supporting SMEs through challenges arising from the pandemic and macro-economic uncertainties by offering flexible and user-friendly banking solutions. Over the past year, we have further streamlined processes to shorten the account opening time and invested in developing an extensive suite of corporate banking services. We are delighted that our initiatives and efforts are once again being recognised.

As SMEs are increasingly keen to undergo green transformation, BEA is committed to helping SMEs gain access to green financing and supporting SMEs which focus on environmentally and socially responsible businesses and projects. The Bank is also enhancing its services in the Greater Bay Area to address clients’ cross-boundary business needs and help them seize new opportunities.

BEA has received the “Best SME’s Partner Award” for the past 15 years, and the Gold award from 2018 onwards. The “Best SME’s Partner Gold Award” is awarded to companies who have won the “Best SME’s Partner Award” for 10 years or more.

About The Bank of East Asia, Limited

Incorporated in 1918, The Bank of East Asia, Limited (“BEA”) is a leading Hong Kong-based financial services group listed on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong, with total consolidated assets of HK\$908.2 billion (US\$115.8 billion) as of 30th June, 2022.

BEA provides a comprehensive range of wholesale banking, personal banking, wealth management, and investment services to customers through an extensive network of about 150 outlets covering Hong Kong, the rest of Greater China, Southeast Asia, the United Kingdom, and the United States. For more information, please visit www.hkbea.com.

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Mr Ken Kwan, Head of Enterprise Banking Department of BEA (centre) receives the Best SME's Partner Gold Award on behalf of the Bank at the presentation ceremony. Guest presenters included (from left to right): Mr. Michael Lai, Executive Vice President, Chairman of the Organising Committee of Award Ceremony; Mr Algernon Yau, JP, Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development; Mr Calvin Chau, President of The Hong Kong General Chamber of Small and Medium Business; and Mr Stanley Zheng, Chairman of the Organising Committee of Best SME Award, Vice President and Chairman of the Young Executive Committee.