



中國工商銀行(亞洲)

ICBC (Asia)

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#### **Sheung Wan Branch Relocated Affirming Commitment to Network Optimization**

Hong Kong, 19 January 2006 - ICBC (Asia) announced that its Sheung Wan Branch was relocated to Shop F, G/F, Kai Tak Commercial Building, 317-319 Des Voeux Road Central, Sheung Wan, Hong Kong due to business expansion. An opening ceremony was held today to commemorate the occasion. Since 2004, ICBC (Asia)'s Yaumatei Branch, Tsimshatsui East Branch and Shamshuipo Branch have been relocated to more convenient and spacious sites under the branch network optimization plan. Situated in a more convenient location, the new Sheung Wan Branch signifies a further step of ICBC (Asia) to optimize its retail network operations.

With close proximity to the Western Market, the new Sheung Wan Branch is significantly enlarged from 2,000 sq ft to more than 9,000 sq ft to accommodate a full spectrum of banking and wealth management services. It is well equipped with safe deposit boxes and self-banking facilities, as well as wealth management counters to provide self-service real-time stock quote and transaction services. In addition, several meeting rooms are specially designed for relationship managers to confer with our commercial customers in a private area. The new branch design concept is to create a comfortable ambiance that extends the style of other new branch sites and enables customers to enjoy the convenience of one-stop banking services.

The opening ceremony of Sheung Wan Branch was officiated this morning by Director and Deputy General Manager Mr. Stanley Wong, Deputy General Manager of Retail Banking Mr. Brian Fong, Head of Branches Sales & Services Mr. Raymond Fung, HK Island Central Zone Manager Ms. Alice Lam and Sheung Wan Branch Manager Ms. Lee Yu.

Mr. Wong said after the ceremony: "Retail banking drives stable source of income to ICBC (Asia) and it is one of the major business sectors we want to further explore. After the merger with Belgian Bank, our branch network is expanded to 41 branches and it definitely boosts our competitive edge in retail banking business. We will proceed to optimize our branches

by expansion and renovation or relocation to more convenient site. In addition, subject to the different business features of branches, we tailor-make necessary facilities for every single branch so as to provide appropriate services for customers in a specific district. For instance, several spacious meeting rooms are provided in Sheung Wan Branch for numerous commercial customers in that district. ”

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**ICBC (Asia)**

ICBC (Asia) is a full licensed bank incorporated in Hong Kong with its shares listed on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong (Stock Code: 0349). It has 41 branches, 5 dedicated commercial business centres and an investment service centre in Hong Kong. It is principally engaged in banking, financial and other financial related services with focus on commercial banking, retail banking as well as corporate banking business. Being the flagship of Hong Kong banking business of Industrial and Commercial Bank of China, the largest commercial bank in the Mainland China (in terms of total assets), ICBC (Asia) is currently the sixth largest bank (in terms of total assets) among banks listed in Hong Kong. On 23 November 2005, ICBC (Asia) was assigned A2/Prime-1 long-term/short-term deposit ratings and D+ Bank Financial Strength Rating (BFSR) by Moody’s Investors Service.