



恒生銀行

HANG SENG BANK

Press Release

22 December 2005

HANG SENG FUZHOU BRANCH RECEIVES APPROVAL TO EXPAND SERVICES TO DOMESTIC CUSTOMERS

Hang Seng Bank has received approval from the China Banking Regulatory Commission for its Fuzhou branch to expand its banking services to domestic enterprises and residents.

The Fuzhou branch has been permitted to offer renminbi (RMB) and foreign currency banking services to domestic enterprises; and foreign currency banking services to local residents on the Mainland, in addition to foreign passport holders, citizens of Hong Kong SAR, Macau SAR and Taiwan, and foreign-invested enterprises.

The Fuzhou branch is expected to launch the expanded services in the first quarter of 2006.

RMB and foreign currency banking services offered by the Fuzhou branch include savings, current and time deposit accounts, mortgage loans, personal financial services, trade finance, corporate lending, project finance, foreign exchange and remittance.

Mr Raymond Or, Vice-Chairman and Chief Executive of Hang Seng, said: "We are very pleased that our Fuzhou branch has been given permission to extend RMB and foreign currency services to domestic customers. This development will enable us to offer better services to meet the needs of different customer segments on the Mainland."

Fuzhou branch opened in 2001 and was relocated to larger branch premises in April 2005.

Founded in 1933, Hang Seng Bank is a principal member of the HSBC Group. It operates 156 branches and automated banking centres in Hong Kong; a branch in Macau; and a network of 12 mainland China outlets, including six branches (in Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Shenzhen, Fuzhou and Nanjing), four sub-branches (three in Shanghai and one in Shenzhen) and two representative offices (in Xiamen and Dongguan). The Bank also has a representative office in Taipei.

With consolidated assets of HK\$569.7 billion as at 30 June 2005, the Bank reported a profit attributable to shareholders of HK\$6,045 million for the first six months of 2005, and HK\$11.40 billion in 2004. For further information on Hang Seng, please visit the Bank's website at www.hangseng.com or its Mainland website at cn.hangseng.com.

#End#

新聞稿