



2 July 2007

HSBC APPOINTS NEW CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER IN JAPAN

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited today announced the appointment of Kwok Yuen Lau as Chief Operating Officer in Japan, with immediate effect.

In this newly created position, Mr. Lau will be responsible for further strengthening key internal control functions at the bank particularly in the areas of IT risk management, operational risk management and outsourcing management. He will report directly to Stuart Milne, President and Chief Executive Officer, Country Manager Japan.

Mr. Lau assumes his new position after spending more than 17 years with the HSBC Group working in Hong Kong, India, Korea, the Philippines and Singapore. He has extensive IT experience and for the past five years served as Chief Information Officer at HSBC Korea where he was responsible for leading the implementation of numerous innovative eBanking solutions including Korea's first online direct internet banking service, a PDA-based loan approval system and Korea's first "one-time" password entry system for online banking.

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Notes to editors:

HSBC Group

The HSBC Group is one of the largest banking and financial services organisations in the world. The Group has over 10000 offices in 82 countries and territories in Europe, the Asia-Pacific region, the Americas, the Middle East and Africa, serves over 125 million customers and has assets of US\$1,861 billion on 31 December 2006.

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