

23 July 2008

HSBC TO EXPAND PRIVATE BANKING OPERATIONS IN JAPAN

NEW ANNEX OFFICES TO OPEN IN OSAKA AND NAGOYA

HSBC, one of the world's largest banking and financial services organisations with headquarters in London, today announced that it plans to open two new annex offices in Osaka and Nagoya to offer private banking services to high net worth individuals in the Kansai and Chubu regions. The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited, Tokyo Branch Osaka Annex Office and The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited, Tokyo Branch Nagoya Annex Office are both scheduled to open on 5 August, 2008.

Since its establishment in 1996, HSBC Private Bank has continuously provided unique wealth management and investment services to high net worth individuals and their families in Japan utilising HSBC's extensive global network.

Commenting on the expansion into Central and Western Japan, Stuart Milne, President and Chief Executive Officer, Country Manager Japan, The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited, said, "The opening of these annex offices demonstrates HSBC's long-term commitment to Japan and is part of our wider strategy of bringing a comprehensive range of wealth management services to affluent individuals nationwide."

Fumio Matsushima, Head of Private Banking in Japan, The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited commented, "With over a decade of experience, HSBC has the longest continuous history, among all foreign banks, of offering private banking services in Japan. I look forward to bringing our wealth management knowledge and expertise to high net worth clients in the Kansai and Chubu regions."

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HSBC Private Bank Offices in Japan

HSBC Private Bank Tokyo Office

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited, Tokyo Branch

HSBC Building 11-1, Nihonbashi 3-chome, Chuo-ku, Tokyo 103-0027

HSBC Private Bank Osaka Office

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited, Osaka Annex Office

Sakaisujihonmachi Building 11F 8-14, Minami-Honmachi 1-chome, Chuo-ku, Osaka
541-0054

HSBC Private Bank Nagoya Office

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited, Nagoya Annex Office

Mitsui Life Insurance Nagoya Building 4F 4-6, Nishiki 1-chome, Naka-ku, Nagoya-shi, Aichi 460-0003

Notes to editors:

1. HSBC Holdings plc

HSBC Holdings plc serves over 128 million customers worldwide through around 10,000 offices in 83 countries and territories in Europe, the Asia-Pacific region, the Americas, Middle East and Africa. With assets of more than US\$2,354 billion at 31 December 2007, HSBC is one of the world's largest banking and financial services organizations. HSBC is marketed worldwide as "The world's local bank."

2. The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited

Established in Hong Kong and Shanghai in 1865, The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited is the founding member of the HSBC Group. It established its first branch in Japan in Yokohama in 1866, making it the oldest bank operating in Japan today.

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