2004 ANNUAL REPORT CHIYU BANKING CORPORATION LIMITED

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

The directors are pleased to present their report together with the audited consolidated accounts of Chiyu Banking Corporation Limited (hereinafter referred to as the "Bank") and its subsidiaries (together with the Bank hereinafter referred to as the "Group") for the year ended 31 December 2004.

Principal Activities

The principal activities of the Group are the provision of banking and related financial services. An analysis of the Group's performance for the yearly business segments is set out in Note 31 to the accounts.

Results and Appropriations

The results of the Group for the year are set out in the consolidated profit and loss account on page 6.

The directors declared a first interim dividend of HK\$50 per ordinary share, totalling HK\$150,000,000 on 29 June 2004.

The directors declared a second interim dividend of HK\$63 per ordinary share, totalling HK\$189,000,000 on 30 December 2004.

Reserves

Details of movements in the reserves of the Group and the Bank are set out in the consolidated statement of changes in equity and statement of changes in equity on page 9 and page 10 respectively.

Fixed assets

Details of movements in the fixed assets of the Group and the Bank are set out in note 21 to the accounts.

Directors

The directors during the year and up to the date of this report are:

Chairman He Guangbei #
Vice Chairman Ng Leung Sing #

Ng Man Kung

Directors Chen Yiao Zhong #

Chiu Ming Wah #
Liu Yanfen #
Mao Xiaowei #
Tan Wan Chye #
Woo Chia Wei *
Yu Kwok Chun *
Zhang Qi Hua #
Chan Yiu Fai
To Chi Wing #

In accordance with Article 99 of the Bank's Articles of Association, Mr. He Guangbei and Mr. Chiu Ming Wah retire at the forthcoming annual general meeting and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

[#] Non-executive directors

^{*} Independent non-executive directors

REPORT OF DIRECTORS (CONTINUED)

Directors' interests in equity or debt securities

Pursuant to written resolutions of all the shareholders of the Bank's intermediate holding company, BOC Hong Kong (Holdings) Limited ("BOCHKHL"), passed on 10 July 2002, BOCHKHL has approved and adopted a 2002 Share Option Scheme and a 2002 Sharesave Plan. No options have been granted by BOCHKHL pursuant to the 2002 Share Option Scheme or the 2002 Sharesave Plan during the year ended 31 December 2004.

On 5 July 2002, Mr. He Guangbei, Mr. Ng Leung Sing, Mr. Ng Man Kung, Mr. Chiu Ming Wah, Mr. Mao Xiaowei, Mr. Chan Yiu Fai and Mr. To Chi Wing were granted options by BOC Hong Kong (BVI) Limited ("BOC (BVI)"), the immediate holding company of BOCHKHL, pursuant to a Pre-listing Share Option Scheme of BOCHKHL to purchase from BOC (BVI) an aggregate of 3,652,800 existing issued shares of the BOCHKHL at a price of HK\$8.5 per share which is the same as the offer price. These options have a vesting period of four years from 25 July 2002 with a valid exercise period of ten years. Twenty five percent of the shares subject to such options will be vested at the end of each year. No offer to grant any options under the Pre-listing Share Option Scheme may be made on or after 25 July 2002, the date on which dealings in the BOCHKHL's shares commenced on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited. Mr. He Guangbei, Mr. Ng Man Kung, Mr. Mao Xiaowei and Mr. To Chi Wing exercised some of their options to purchase an aggregate of 596,000 shares of the intermediate holding company during the year ended 31 December 2004.

Save as disclosed above, at no time during the year was the Bank or any of its holding companies, subsidiaries or fellow subsidiaries a party to any arrangements to enable the directors of the Bank to acquire benefits by means of the acquisition of shares in, or debentures of, the Bank or any other body corporate.

Directors' interests in contracts of significance

No contracts of significance, in relation to the Group's business to which the Bank, its holding companies, or any of its subsidiaries or fellow subsidiaries was a party and in which a Director had a material interest, whether directly or indirectly, subsisted at the end of the year or at any time during the year.

Management contracts

No contracts concerning the management or administration of the whole or any substantial part of the business of the Bank were entered into or existed during the year.

Compliance with the Guideline on "Financial Disclosure by Locally Incorporated Authorized Institutions"

The accounts for the year ended 31 December 2004 fully comply with the requirements set out in the guideline on "Financial Disclosure by Locally Incorporated Authorized Institutions" under the Supervisory Policy Manual issued by the Hong Kong Monetary Authority.

REPORT OF DIRECTORS (CONTINUED)

Auditors

The accounts have been audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers. A resolution for their re-appointment as auditors for the ensuing year will be proposed at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

On behalf of the Board

He Guangbei

Chairman Hong Kong, 18 March 2005

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The Group has made reference to the Hong Kong Monetary Authority's guidelines set out in the Supervisory Policy Manual "Corporate Governance of Locally Incorporated Authorized Institutions".

In order to focus on the strategic and material issues that have significant impact on the Group's operation, financial performance, risk management and long-term development, three committees have been established under the Board of Directors to oversee the major areas of the Group. The details of the committees are given below.

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee has been delegated with authorities from the Board to handle matters which require the Board's review, but arise between board meetings. Its responsibilities include:

- approving policies, implementation plans and management measures to effect the group-wise development strategies and business plans approved by the Board;
- reviewing the implementation progress of the strategies and business plans;
- recommending strategic proposals to the Board for its consideration and approval; and
- approving the Group's rules and regulations according to the policies imposed by the supervisory authorities and the holding companies.

The members of Executive Committee are Mr. Ng Man Kung (Chairman), Mr. Chan Yiu Fai and Mr. To Chi Wing. All are directors of the Bank.

Audit Committee

The Audit Committee assists the Board in overseeing the auditing activities of the Group and monitoring compliance with approved policies and procedures, so that the effectiveness of financial reporting process and internal control systems of the Group can be assured. Its responsibilities include:

- reviewing and monitoring the effectiveness of the internal control systems, the controls over financial risks and the procedures of financial reporting and auditing;
- assessing independently the effectiveness and efficiency of financial reporting system and its controlling mechanism, and the sufficiency of operating policies and system; and
- monitoring the operation of the Group to ensure the Group is running in compliance with the relevant rules and regulations.

The members of Audit Committee are Mr. Chiu Ming Wah (Chairman), Ms. Liu Yanfen, Mr. Tan Wan Chye and Mr. Woo Chia Wei. All are non-executive directors of the Bank.

Risk Management Committee

The Risk Management Committee assists the Board in overseeing the risk management of the Group, to formulating the Group's risk management strategies, policies and procedures, and monitoring the implementation of those strategies, policies and procedures. Its responsibilities include:

- assisting the Board to measure and monitor the risk exposures of the Group;
- recommending appropriate risk management strategies to the Board; and
- formulating risk management related policies such as risk management policies and authorities and duties delegation policies in accordance with the requirements set by the Board.

The members of the Risk Management Committee are Mr. Mao Xiaowei (Chairman), Mr. Ng Leung Sing, Mr. Ng Man Kung, Mr. Chen Yiao Zhong, Mr. To Chi Wing and Mr. Yu Kwok Chun. All are directors of the Bank.

AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF CHIYU BANKING CORPORATION LIMITED

(Incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability)

We have audited the accounts on pages 6 to 56 which have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in Hong Kong.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

The Hong Kong Companies Ordinance requires the directors to prepare accounts which give a true and fair view. In preparing accounts which give a true and fair view it is fundamental that appropriate accounting policies are selected and applied consistently.

It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on those accounts and to report our opinion solely to you, as a body, in accordance with section 141 of the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance, and for no other purpose. We do not assume responsibility towards or accept liability to any other person for the contents of this report.

Basis of opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Statements of Auditing Standards issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the accounts. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgement made by the directors in the preparation of the accounts, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the circumstances of the Bank and the Group, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance as to whether the accounts are free from material misstatement. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the accounts. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion the accounts give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Bank and of the Group as at 31 December 2004 and of the Group's profit and cash flows for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance.

PricewaterhouseCoopers

Certified Public Accountants

Hong Kong, 18 March 2005

CONSOLIDATED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER

	Notes	2004	2003
		HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Interest income	4	702,579	725,141
Interest expense		(168,020)	(168,195)
Net interest income		534,559	556,946
Other operating income	5	221,980	205,144
Operating income		756,539	762,090
Operating expenses	6	(210,155)	(201,978)
Operating profit before provisions		546,384	560,112
Charge for bad and doubtful debts	7	(2,908)	(6,695)
Operating profit after provisions		543,476	553,417
Net gain/(loss) from disposal/revaluation of fixed assets	8	21,542	(9,426)
Net gain from disposal of investment securities		-	106
Write-back of provision/(provision) for impairment losses on investment securities		740	(160)
Profit before taxation		565,758	543,937
Taxation	9	(72,608)	(58,509)
Profit attributable to shareholders	10	493,150	485,428
Dividends	11	339,000	336,000

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER

	Notes	2004	2003
		HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Assets			
Cash and short-term funds Placements with banks and other financial institutions maturing between one and	14	9,434,661	11,069,635
twelve months		3,798,731	1,926,803
Trade bills		103,647	56,456
Certificates of deposit held	15	2,047,188	1,331,471
Held-to-maturity securities	16	5,571,797	5,970,524
Investment securities	17	21,677	20,924
Advances and other accounts	18	8,822,697	8,877,282
Fixed assets	21	518,810	399,047
Other assets		607,871	1,159,294
Total assets		30,927,079	30,811,436
Liabilities			
Deposits and balances of banks and other			
financial institutions		1,045,819	1,146,023
Deposits from customers	22	24,764,174	24,273,634
Certificates of deposit issued		369,291	414,328
Other accounts and provisions	23	1,280,498	1,751,943
Total liabilities		27,459,782	27,585,928
Capital resources			
Share capital	25	300,000	300,000
Reserves	26	3,167,297	2,925,508
Shareholders' funds		3,467,297	3,225,508
Total liabilities and capital resources		30,927,079	30,811,436

Approved by the Board of Directors on 18 March 2005 and signed on behalf of the Board by:

HE Guangbei
Director

CHIU Ming Wah
Director

PO Yuen Fung
Director
Secretary

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER

	Notes	2004	2003
		HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Assets			
Cash and short-term funds	14	9,434,661	11,069,635
Placements with banks and other financial	1.	<i>></i> , 10 1,001	11,000,000
institutions maturing between one and twelve months		3,798,731	1,926,803
Trade bills		103,647	56,456
Certificates of deposit held	15	2,047,188	1,331,471
Held-to-maturity securities	16	5,571,797	5,970,524
Investment securities	17	1,428	1,415
Advances and other accounts	18	8,823,434	8,878,454
Investments in subsidiaries	20	3,913	3,913
Amounts due from subsidiaries	20	53,573	53,052
Fixed assets	21	484,261	365,209
Other assets		604,544	1,155,998
Total assets		30,927,177	30,812,930
Liabilities			
Deposits and balances of banks and other			
financial institutions		1,045,819	1,146,023
Deposits from customers	22	24,810,289	24,314,004
Certificates of deposit issued		369,291	414,328
Other accounts and provisions	23	1,262,593	1,739,776
Amounts due to subsidiaries	20	20,523	20,528
Total liabilities		27,508,515	27,634,659
Capital resources			
Share capital	25	300,000	300,000
Reserves	26	3,118,662	2,878,271
Shareholders' funds		3,418,662	3,178,271
Total liabilities and capital resources		30,927,177	30,812,930

Approved by the Board of Directors on 18 March 2005 and signed on behalf of the Board by:

HE Guangbei
Director

CHIU Ming Wah
Director

PO Yuen Fung
Secretary

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

_	Share capital HK\$'000	Premises revaluation reserve HK\$'000	Investment properties revaluation reserve HK\$'000	Translation reserve HK\$'000	Retained earnings HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
At 1 January 2003	300,000	128,151	269	241	2,839,152	3,267,813
Net profit for the year Currency	-	-	-	-	485,428	485,428
translation difference 2002 final	-	-	-	167	4	171
dividend paid 2003 first interim	-	-	-	-	(180,000)	(180,000)
dividend 2003 second	-	-	-	-	(150,000)	(150,000)
interim dividend Revaluation of	-	-	-	-	(186,000)	(186,000)
properties (Note 21) Release from	-	(18,745)	(1,145)	-	-	(19,890)
deferred tax liabilities Transfer on	-	1,420	-	-	-	1,420
disposal of properties	<u>-</u>	(88)	6,566	-	88	6,566
At 31 December 2003	300,000	110,738	5,690	408	2,808,672	3,225,508
Bank and subsidiaries	300,000	110,738	5,690	408	2,808,672	3,225,508
At 1 January 2004	300,000	110,738	5,690	408	2,808,672	3,225,508
Net profit for the year Currency	-	-	-	-	493,150	493,150
translation differences 2004 first interim	-	-	-	(54)	-	(54)
dividend 2004 second	-	-	-	-	(150,000)	(150,000)
interim dividend Revaluation of properties	-	-	-	-	(189,000)	(189,000)
(Note 21) Release from	-	102,028	3,310	-	-	105,338
deferred tax liabilities	-	(17,645)	-	-	-	(17,645)
At 31 December 2004	300,000	195,121	9,000	354	2,962,822	3,467,297
Bank and subsidiaries	300,000	195,121	9,000	354	2,962,822	3,467,297

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

		ъ.	Investment		
	Share	Premises revaluation	properties revaluation	Retained	
	capital	reserve	reserve	earnings	Total
-	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
	1112φ σσσ	11114 000	11124 000	11124 000	11124 000
At 1 January 2003	300,000	128,151	269	2,793,655	3,222,075
Net profit for the					
year 2002 final dividend	-	-	-	484,100	484,100
paid	-	-	-	(180,000)	(180,000)
2003 first interim dividend				(150,000)	(150,000)
2003 second interim	-	-	-	(130,000)	(150,000)
dividend Revaluation of	-	-	-	(186,000)	(186,000)
properties					
(Note 21)	-	(18,745)	(1,145)	-	(19,890)
Release from deferred tax					
liabilities	-	1,420	-	-	1,420
Transfer on disposal of properties	_	(88)	6,566	88	6,566
or properties _		(00)	0,200		0,500
At 31 December					
2003	300,000	110,738	5,690	2,761,843	3,178,271
At 1 January 2004	300,000	110,738	5,690	2,761,843	3,178,271
Net profit for the					
year	-	-	-	491,698	491,698
2004 first interim dividend	_	_	_	(150,000)	(150,000)
2004 second interim					
dividend Revaluation of	-	-	-	(189,000)	(189,000)
properties					
(Note 21) Release from	-	102,028	3,310	-	105,338
deferred tax					
liabilities	-	(17,645)	-	-	(17,645)
Transfer on disposal					
of properties	-		-	-	
At 31 December					
2004	300,000	195,121	9,000	2,914,541	3,418,662

CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER

	Notes	2004	2003
		HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Cash flow from operating activities			
Operating cash inflow before taxation	27(a)	222,858	1,259,807
Hong Kong profits tax paid		(64,228)	(175)
Overseas profits tax paid		(2,859)	(1,591)
Net cash inflow from operating activities		155,771	1,258,041
Cash flow from investing activities			
Purchase of fixed assets		(5,058)	(10,939)
Proceeds from disposal of fixed assets		1	3,502
Proceeds from disposal of			
investment securities		-	8,143
Dividends received from			
investment securities		1,107	1,109
Net cash (outflow)/inflow from investing			
activities		(3,950)	1,815
Cash outflow from financing activities			
Dividends paid on ordinary shares		(336,000)	(330,000)
Dividends paid on ordinary snares		(330,000)	(330,000)
Net cash outflow from financing activities	3	(336,000)	(330,000)
(Decrease)/Increase in cash and cash			
equivalents		(184,179)	929,856
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January		11,049,659	10,119,803
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December	er 27(b)	10,865,480	11,049,659
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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1 Principal activities

The Group is principally engaged in the provision of banking and related financial services in Hong Kong.

2 Basis of preparation

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the revaluation of certain investments in securities, off-balance sheet financial instruments, premises and investment properties, and in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in Hong Kong and comply with the Statements of Standard Accounting Practice ("SSAPs") issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants ("HKICPA"). In addition, these accounts comply fully with the requirements set out in the guideline on "Financial Disclosure by Locally Incorporated Authorized Institutions" under the Supervisory Policy Manual issued by the Hong Kong Monetary Authority ("HKMA").

The accounting policies and methods of computation used in the preparation of the accounts are consistent with those used in the preparation of the Group's accounts for the year ended 31 December 2003.

3 Principal accounting policies

(a) Basis of consolidation

The consolidated accounts include the accounts of the Bank and its subsidiaries made up to 31 December. Subsidiaries are those entities in which the Group, directly and indirectly, controls the composition of the board of directors, controls more than half the voting power or holds more than half of the issued share capital. The results of subsidiaries acquired or disposed of during the year are included in the consolidated profit and loss account from the effective date of acquisition or up to the effective date of disposal, as appropriate.

All significant intercompany transactions and balances within the Group are eliminated on consolidation.

The gain or loss on the disposal of a subsidiary represents the difference between: a) the proceeds of the sale and, b) the Group's share of its net assets together with any unamortised goodwill (or goodwill taken to reserves and which was not previously charged or recognised in the consolidated profit and loss account) and any related accumulated foreign currency translation difference.

In the Bank's balance sheet, the investments in subsidiaries are stated at cost less provision for impairment losses. The results of subsidiaries are accounted for by the Bank on the basis of dividends received and receivable.

(b) Revenue recognition

Interest income is recognised in the profit and loss account as it accrues, except in the case of doubtful debts, where interest is credited to a suspense account which is netted in the balance sheet against the relevant balances.

Fees and commission income are recognised in the period when earned unless they relate to transactions involving an interest rate risk or other risks which extend beyond the current period, in which case they are amortised over the period of the transaction.

Dividend income is recognised when the right to receive payment is established.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

3 Principal accounting policies (continued)

(b) Revenue recognition (continued)

Rental income under operating leases is recognised on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease unless another systematic basis is more representative of the pattern in which the benefit derived from the leased asset is used.

(c) Advances

Advances to customers, banks and other financial institutions are reported on the balance sheet at the principal amount outstanding net of provisions for bad and doubtful debts and suspended interest. Advances to banks and other financial institutions include placements with banks and other financial institutions of more than one year.

All advances are recognised when cash is advanced to the borrowers.

Assets acquired by repossession of collateral for realisation would continue to be reported as advances, except in the case of a loan restructuring where the asset acquired is part of the terms of a new loan agreement and the assets are recognised on the balance sheet under the relevant assets category. When the repossessed asset is realised, the sales proceeds are applied against the outstanding advance and any shortfall is written off to the profit and loss account.

(d) Provisions for bad and doubtful debts

The Group internally classifies loans and advances into categories reflecting the Group's assessment of the borrower's capacity to repay and on the degree of doubt about the collectibility of interest and/or principal.

Provisions are made against specific loans and advances as and when the directors have doubt on the ultimate recoverability of principal or interest in full. Based on the directors' assessment of the potential losses on those identified loans and advances on a case-by-case basis, specific provision is made to reduce the carrying value of the assets, taking into account available collateral, to their expected net realisable value. Where it is not possible to reliably estimate the loss, the Group applies pre-determined provisioning levels to the unsecured portion of loans and advances based on the Group's loan classification procedures.

In addition, amounts have been set aside as a general provision for bad and doubtful debts. Specific and general provisions are deducted from "Advances and other accounts" in the consolidated balance sheet. When there is no realistic prospect of recovery, the outstanding debt is written off against the balance sheet asset and provision in part, or in whole.

(e) Fixed assets

(i) Premises

Premises are stated at cost or valuation less accumulated impairment losses and accumulated depreciation calculated to write off the assets over their estimated useful lives on a straight-line basis as follows:

Leasehold land - Over the remaining period of the lease

Buildings - Over the shorter of the remaining period of the leases and 15 to 50 years

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

3 Principal accounting policies (continued)

(e) Fixed assets (continued)

(i) Premises (continued)

Independent valuations are performed every three years on individual properties on the basis of open market values. In the intervening years, the directors review the carrying value of individual properties, by reference to the fair values of similar properties, and adjustment is made when they consider that there has been a material change. Increases in valuation are credited to the premises revaluation reserve. Decreases in valuation are first set off against increases on earlier valuations in respect of the same individual asset and thereafter are debited to the profit and loss account. Any subsequent increases are credited to the profit and loss account up to the amount previously debited, and then to the premises revaluation reserve. Upon disposal of premises, the relevant portion of the premises revaluation reserve realised in respect of previous valuations is released and transferred from the revaluation reserve to retained earnings.

The gain or loss on disposal of premises is the difference between the net sales proceeds and the carrying value to the relevant asset, and is recognised in the profits and loss account.

(ii) Investment properties

Investment properties are interests in land and buildings in respect of which construction work and development have been completed and which are held for their investment potential, any rental income being negotiated at arm's length.

Investment properties are valued annually and independent valuations are performed at intervals of not more than three years; in each of the intervening years, valuations are undertaken by professionally qualified persons appointed by the Group. The valuations are on an open market value basis. Changes in the value of investment properties are treated as movements in the investment properties revaluation reserves, unless the total of the reserve is insufficient to cover a deficit on a portfolio basis. In such cases, the amount by which the deficit exceeds the total amount in the investment properties revaluation reserve is charged to profit and loss account. Where a deficit has previously been charged to the profit and loss account and a revaluation surplus subsequently arises, this surplus is credited to the profit and loss account to the extent of the deficit previously charged.

Investment properties held on leases with unexpired periods of 20 years or less are depreciated over the remaining terms of the leases.

Upon the disposal of an investment property, the relevant portion of the investment properties revaluation reserve realised in respect of previous valuations is released from the investment properties revaluation reserve to the profit and loss account.

(iii) Property under development

Property under development is carried at cost less impairment losses. Cost includes development and construction expenditure incurred, interest and other direct costs attributable to the development. On completion, the property is transferred to premises or investment properties.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

3 Principal accounting policies (continued)

(e) Fixed assets (continued)

(iv) Equipment, fixtures and fittings

Equipment, fixtures and fittings are stated at cost less accumulated impairment losses and accumulated depreciation is calculated on a straight-line basis to write off the assets over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Motor vehicles 3 to 10 years Furniture, fixtures and equipment 3 to 15 years

The gain or loss on disposal of equipment, fixtures and fittings is recognised in the profit and loss account.

(v) Impairment and gain or loss on sale

At each balance sheet date, both internal and external sources of information are considered to determine whether there is any indication that premises, properties under development, equipment, fixtures and fittings are impaired. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated and where relevant, an impairment loss is recognised to reduce the asset to its recoverable amount. Such impairment losses are recognised in the profit and loss account except where the asset is carried at valuation and the impairment loss does not exceed the revaluation surplus for that same asset, in which case it is treated as a revaluation decrease.

The gain or loss on disposal of fixed assets is the difference between the net sales proceeds and the carrying value of the relevant asset, and is recognised in the profit and loss account.

(f) Investments in securities

(i) Held-to-maturity securities

Held-to-maturity securities are dated debt securities which the Group has the expressed intention and ability to hold to maturity. These securities are stated at cost adjusted for the amortisation of premiums or discounts arising on acquisition over the periods to maturity, less provision for impairment in their value which is other than temporary. Provisions are made for the amount of the carrying value which the Group does not expect to recover and are recognised as an expense in the profit and loss account as they arise.

The amortisation of premiums and discounts arising on acquisition of dated debt securities is included as part of interest income in the profit and loss account. Gain or loss on realisation of held-to-maturity securities is accounted for in the profit and loss account as they arise.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

3 Principal accounting policies (continued)

(f) Investment in securities (continued)

(ii) Investment securities

Securities which are intended to be held on a continuing basis for an identified long term purpose at the time of acquisition (for example for strategic purposes), are stated in the balance sheet at cost less any provisions for impairment in value which is other than temporary.

The carrying value of investment securities are reviewed as at balance sheet date in order to assess whether the fair value has declined below the carrying value. When such a decline has occurred, the carrying value is reduced to the fair value unless there is evidence that the decline is temporary. The amount of the reduction is recognised as an expense in the profit and loss account.

Fair value is the amount for which an asset can be exchanged, or a liability settled, between knowledgeable willing parties in an arm's length transaction.

Provisions against the carrying amount of held-to-maturity securities and investment securities are written back when the circumstances and events that led to the write downs cease to exist and there is persuasive evidence that the new circumstances and events will persist for the foreseeable future. The amount written back is limited to the amount of the write-downs.

(g) Operating leases

Leases where substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of assets remain with the lessor are accounted for as operating leases. Rentals applicable to such operating leases net of any incentives received from the lessor are charged to the profit and loss account on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Where the Group is the lessor, the assets subject to the lease are included in fixed assets in the balance sheet. They are depreciated over their expected useful lives on a basis consistent with similar owned fixed assets. Rental income from operating leases is recognised on a straight-line basis over the lease term. Initial direct costs incurred specifically to earn revenue from an operating lease are recognised as an expense in the profit and loss account in the period in which they are incurred

(h) Provisions

A provision is recognised when the Group has a present obligation, legal or constructive, as a result of a past event and it is probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits will be required to settle the obligations, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

(i) Deferred taxation

Deferred taxation is accounted for using the balance sheet liability method in respect of temporary differences arising between the tax bases of assets and liabilities and their carrying amounts in the accounts. The principal temporary differences arise from depreciation on fixed assets, revaluations of properties, general provision for bad and doubtful debts and tax losses carried forward. Taxation rates enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date are used to determine deferred taxation.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

3 Principal accounting policies (continued)

(i) Deferred taxation (continued)

Deferred tax is charged or credited in the profit and loss account except when it relates to items charged or credited directly to equity, in which case the deferred tax is also dealt with in equity.

Deferred tax liabilities are provided in full on all taxable temporary differences and deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profit will be available against which the deductible temporary differences can be utilised.

(j) Foreign currency translation

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated at exchange rates ruling at the transaction dates. Monetary assets and liabilities expressed in foreign currencies at the balance sheet date are translated at rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Exchange differences arising in these cases are dealt with in the profit and loss account.

The balance sheets of subsidiaries expressed in foreign currencies are translated at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date whilst the profit and loss account is translated at an average rate for the period. Exchange differences are dealt with as a movement in reserves.

(k) Employee benefits

(i) Retirement benefit costs

The Group contributes to defined contribution retirement schemes under either recognised occupation retirement schemes ("ORSO schemes") or mandatory provident fund ("MPF") schemes that are available to the Group's employees. Contributions to the schemes by the Group and employees are calculated as a percentage of employees' basic salaries for the ORSO schemes and in accordance with the MPF rules for MPF schemes. The retirement benefit scheme costs are charged to the profit and loss account as incurred and represent contributions payable by the Group to the schemes. Forfeited contributions by those employees who leave the ORSO scheme prior to the full vesting of their contributions are used by the Group to reduce the existing level of contributions or to meet its expenses under the trust deed of the ORSO schemes.

The assets of the schemes are held separately from those of the Group in independently administered funds.

(ii) Long service payment

The Group pays long service payment to staff who is dismissed without committing any offence and have been employed by the Group for more than 5 years. Employer's portion of the relevant retirement fund, on an individual basis, will be first utilised to offset the long service payment for which dismissed employees entitled, any shortfall will be further provided by the Group. The directors will estimate any such shortfall payment during employee's years of service on a portfolio basis, and recognise in the profit and loss account if material.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

3 Principal accounting policies (continued)

(k) Employee benefits (continued)

(iii) Leave entitlements

Employee entitlements to annual leave and sick leave are recognised when they accrue to employees. A provision is made for the estimated liability for unused annual leave and the amount of sick leave expected to be paid as a result of services rendered by employees up to the balance sheet date.

Compensated absences other than annual leave and sick leave are non-accumulating, they lapse if the current period's entitlement is not used in full and do not entitle employees to a cash payment for unused entitlement on leaving the Group. Such compensated absence are recognised when the absences occur.

(iv) Bonus plans

The expected cost of bonus payments is recognised as a liability when the Group has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of services rendered by employees and a reliable estimate of the obligation can be made.

Liabilities for bonus plans are expected to be settled within twelve months and are measured at the amounts expected to be paid when they are settled.

(I) Off-balance sheet financial instruments

Off-balance sheet financial instruments arise from forwards, swaps, options and other transactions undertaken by the Group in the foreign exchange, interest rate, equity and other markets. The accounting for these instruments is dependent upon whether the transactions are undertaken for dealing hedge purposes. The Group designates a derivative as held for dealing or hedging purposes when it enters into a derivative contract.

Transactions undertaken for dealing purposes are marked to market at fair value. For exchange traded contracts, fair value is based on quoted market prices. For non-exchange traded contracts, fair value is based on dealers' quotes, pricing models or quoted prices for instruments with similar characteristics. The gain or loss arising from changes in fair value is recognised in the profit and loss account as "Net gain/(loss) from foreign exchange activities" or "Net gain/(loss) from other dealing activities".

Unrealised gains on transactions which are marked to market are included in "Other assets". Unrealised losses on transactions which are marked to market are included in "Other accounts and provisions".

Hedging derivative transactions are designated as such at inception and the hedging instrument is required to be highly effective in accomplishing the objective of offsetting the risk being hedged throughout the life of the hedge. Hedging instruments are valued on an equivalent basis to the assets, liabilities or net positions that they are hedging. Any profit or loss is recognised in the profit and loss account on the same basis as that arising from the related assets, liabilities or net positions.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

3 Principal accounting policies (continued)

(I) Off balance sheet financial instruments (continued)

If the derivative transaction no longer meets the criteria for a hedge, the derivative is deemed to be held for dealing purposes and is accounted for as set out above.

Assets and liabilities arising from derivative transactions are netted off only when the Group has entered into master netting agreements or other legally enforceable arrangements, which assures beyond doubt, the Group's right to insist on settlement with the same counterparty on a net basis in all situations of default by the other party or parties including insolvency of any parties to the contract.

Derivative transactions are not offset unless the related settlement currencies are the same, or are denominated in freely convertible currencies for which quoted exchange rates are available in an active market.

(m) Contingent liabilities and contingent assets

A contingent liability is a possible obligation that arises from past events and whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the Group. It can also be a present obligation arising from past events that is not recognised because it is not probable that outflow of economic resources will be required or the amount of obligation cannot be measured reliably.

A contingent liability is not recognised but is disclosed in the notes to the accounts. When a change in the probability of an outflow occurs so that outflow is probable, it will then be recognised as a provision.

A contingent asset is a possible asset that arises from past events and whose existence will be confirmed only by the occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more uncertain events not wholly within the control of the Group.

Contingent assets are not recognised but are disclosed in the notes to the accounts when an inflow of economic benefits is probable. When inflow is virtually certain, it will be recognised as an asset.

(n) Cash and cash equivalents

For the purposes of the consolidated cash flow statement, cash and cash equivalents comprise balances with less than three months' maturity from the date of acquisition including cash, balances with banks and other financial institutions, treasury bills and certificates of deposit.

(o) Dividends

Dividends proposed or declared after the balance sheet date are disclosed as a post balance sheet event and are not recognised as a liability at the balance sheet date.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

3 Principal accounting policies (continued)

(p) Recently issued accounting standards

The HKICPA has issued a number of new and revised Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards (the "HKFRSs") and Hong Kong Accounting Standards (the "HKASs"), collectively the "new HKFRSs", which are effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2005

The Group has not early adopted any of the new HKFRSs in the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2004. The effect of first-time adoption of the new HKFRSs will be reported by the Group as an adjustment to the opening balance of the relevant assets, liabilities, equity reserve or retained earnings in 2005.

The Group is in the process of making an assessment of the impact of these new HKFRSs, and has so far concluded that the following HKFRSs will have significant financial or presentation effects on the Group's accounts upon adoption in the areas as briefly described below:

(i) HKAS39 Financial instruments: Recognition and Measurement

Classification of investments in securities

The current accounting policy on investment in securities is set out in note 3(f) above. Upon adoption of HKAS39, all investment securities other than investments in subsidiaries and associates are classified into one of the following three categories:

- held-to-maturity debt securities are measured at amortised cost less any impairment loss;
- at fair value through profit or loss securities are measured at fair value with change of fair value recognised in the profit and loss account;
- available-for-sale securities are measured at fair value, with the difference between fair value and amortised cost reported in the equity reserve directly.

Upon first-time adoption of HKAS39, the Group has reclassified its investment securities into the above categories. Majority of the Group's securities are classified as held-to-maturity or available-for-sale. The change in fair value of available-for-sale securities will cause volatility to the equity reserve.

Derivatives

The current accounting policy on derivatives is set out in note 3(1) above. Upon adoption of HKAS39, all derivatives are recognised separately as either assets or liabilities in the balance sheet and measured at fair value. The accounting for changes in the fair value of derivatives are recognised as follows:

For a derivative designated as fair value hedge, the gain or loss is recognised in the profit and loss account in the period of change together with the associated loss or gain on the hedged item;

For a derivative designated as cash flow hedge, the gain or loss on the derivative associated with the effective portion of the hedge is initially recognised in equity reserve and subsequently released into the profit and loss account in line with the recognition of the element of the recognised asset or liability which is being hedged. Any ineffective portion is recognised in the profit and loss account as it arises; and

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

3 Principal accounting policies (continued)

(p) Recently issued accounting standards (continued)

(i) HKAS39 Financial instruments: Recognition and Measurement (continued)

Derivatives (continued)

For other derivatives (including for dealing purpose and for economic hedging purpose which do not qualify for hedge accounting), the gain or loss is recognised in the profit and loss account.

Volatility in income will become higher due to stricter requirements under hedge accounting treatment. The volatility in equity reserve will also increase due to change in fair value of derivatives designated as cash flow hedges.

Revenue recognition

The current accounting policy on revenue recognition is set out in note 3(b) above. Upon adoption of HKAS39, interest accrual on doubtful loans ceased accrual previously will be recognised in the profit and loss account up to the extent of their outstanding carrying value net of impairment. Directly attributable loan origination fees and costs which were previously recognised as commission expenses will be recognised as interest income over the expected life of the loan as part of the effective interest calculation.

These changes in recognition and classification will have an effect on the Group's net interest income and net interest margin.

Provisions for bad and doubtful debts

The current accounting policy on loan provisions is set out in note 3(d) above. Upon adoption of HKAS39, loan impairment provisions are calculated using a discounted future cash flow analysis of loan repayments with significant carrying value. Collective assessment of impairment for individually insignificant items or items where no impairment has been identified on an individual basis is made by adopting formula-based approaches or statistical methods on groups of loan portfolio according to their credit characteristics.

Loan impairment provisions assessed individually and collectively will be presented in aggregate amount as allowance for losses on loans and advances instead of specific provisions and general provisions.

(ii) HKAS17: Leasing

Premises

The current accounting policy on premises is set out in note 3(e)(i) above. Upon adoption of HKAS17, the land element of a leasehold property held for own use would be recognised as operating lease if the land and building elements of the lease payment can be allocated reliably at the inception of the lease, otherwise both of the land and building elements will be recognised as finance lease. The land premiums and other related costs for acquiring the leasehold land will be amortised over the terms of the leases.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

3 Principal accounting policies (continued)

(p) Recently issued accounting standards (continued)

(ii) HKAS17: Leasing (continued)

The Group will continue to adopt the fair value model. The financial impact of adopting HKAS 17 to existing premises is not significant based on the preliminary assumption that the value of the land and building elements of the Group's premises at inception of the leases cannot be separated. However, this preliminary assumption is subject to change pending further consultation with independent valuers.

(iii) HKAS40: Investment property

<u>Investment properties</u>

The current accounting policy on investment properties is set out in note 3(e)(ii) above. Upon adoption of HKAS40, change in fair value of investment properties will be recognised directly in the profit and loss account instead of equity reserve.

The Group will continue to adopt the fair value model. The change in fair value of investment properties will cause volatility in the profit and loss account.

(iv) HKAS12: Income taxes – HKAS Interpretation 21

Deferred tax

There is currently no deferred tax provided on revaluation surplus of investment properties. According to the HKAS Interpretation 21, the Group will calculate deferred tax on the change in fair value of investment properties based on the profits tax rate. On transition, retained earnings will be reduced by the amount of deferred tax derived.

The Group will continue with the assessment of the other new HKFRSs and other significant changes may be identified as a result.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

4 Interest income

		2004	2003
		HK\$'000	HK\$'000
	erest income from listed investments erest income from unlisted	48,899	58,836
	investments	176,868	161,637
Ot	her interest income	476,812	504,668
	_	702,579	725,141
5 Ot	her operating income		
		2004	2003
		HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Fe	es and commission income (Note)	213,928	194,290
Le	ss: Fees and commission expenses	(33,762)	(29,247)
	t fees and commission income vividend income from investments in securities	180,166	165,043
- li	sted investments	94	255
	nlisted investments Net gain from foreign exchange	1,013	854
	activities ross rental income from investment	38,252	35,452
	properties	1,355	1,447
L	ess: Outgoings in respect of investment properties	(66)	(39)
Ot	hers	1,166	2,132
		221,980	205,144

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

6

5 Other operating income (continued)

2004	200
2004 HK\$'000	200 HK\$'00
75 121	62,52
	39
	42,50
	14,56
	13,03
	8,68
-	4,57
1,589	1,91
8,927	8,90
2,804	4,95
368	29
1,300	1,50
1,038	86
372	31
1,017	86
	65
	1,25
27,991	26,51
213,928	194,29
2004	2003
HK\$'000	HK\$'000
110 (10	116200
119,648	116,390
0.046	10.194
9,846	10,184
13.309	12,627
	20,510
-	4,858
•	
12,174	9,280
,	
,	
2,473	2,490
	2,490 25,616
-	75,121

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

7 Charge for bad and doubtful debts

	2004	2003
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Net charge for bad and doubtful debts		
Specific provisions		
- new provisions	74,023	48,108
- releases	(50,869)	(19,020)
- recoveries (Note 19)	(20,246)	(9,372)
	2,908	19,716
General provisions (Note 19)	<u> </u>	(13,021)
Net charge to profit and loss account (Note 19)	2,908	6,695
8 Net gain/(loss) from disposal/revaluation of fixed	assets	
	2004	2003
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Net loss on disposal of premises	_	(1)
Loss on disposal of investment properties	_	(6,805)
Loss on disposal of other fixed assets Gain/(deficit) on revaluation of premises	(24)	(31)
(Note 21)	21,566	(2,589)
	21,542	(9,426)
0 Tanakan		
9 Taxation		
Taxation in the profit and loss account represents:		
_	2004	2003
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Hong Kong profits tax		
- current year taxation	89,728	90,027
- over-provision in prior years	(19,800)	(18,823)
Deferred tax charge/(credit)	241	(879)
	70,169	70,325
Attributable share of estimated Hong Kong profits tax losses arising from investments in		
partnerships	(3,386)	(65,150)
_	66,783	5,175
Investments in partnerships written off	2,968	52,375
Hong Kong profits tax	69,751	57,550
Overseas taxation	2,857	959
_	72,608	58,509

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

9 Taxation (continued)

Hong Kong profits tax has been provided at the rate of 17.5% (2003: 17.5%) on the estimated assessable profits arising in Hong Kong during the year. Taxation on overseas profits has been calculated on the estimated assessable profits for the year at the rates of taxation prevailing in the countries in which the Group operates.

The Group has entered into a few of aircraft leasing and coupon strip transactions involving special purpose partnerships. As at 31 December 2004, the Group's investments in such partnerships, which are included in "Other assets" in the consolidated balance sheet, amounted to HK\$108,000,000 (2003: HK\$156,000,000). The Group's investments in partnerships are amortised over the life of the partnerships in proportion to the taxation benefits resulting from those investments.

The total assets and liabilities of partnerships where the Group is the majority general partner are as follows:

	2004	2003
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Assets	<u> </u>	203,462
Liabilities	<u>-</u>	131,445

The taxation on the Groups' profit before taxation that differs from the theoretical amount that would arise using the taxation rate of Hong Kong is as follows:

	2004	2003
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Profit before taxation	565,758	543,937
Calculated at a taxation rate of 17.5%		
(2003: 17.5%)	99,008	95,189
Effect of different taxation rates in other countries	507	(1,518)
Income not subject to taxation	(10,996)	(13,248)
Expenses not deductible for taxation purposes	4,548	10,563
Temporary differences not recognised	(241)	(879)
Over-provision in prior years	(19,800)	(18,823)
Tax benefits from partnerships	(418)	(12,775)
Taxation charge	72,608	58,509

10 Profit attributable to shareholders

The profit of the Bank for the year ended 31 December 2004 attributable to shareholders and dealt with in the accounts of the Bank amounted to HK\$491,698,000 (2003: HK\$484,100,000).

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

11 Dividends

	20	2004		2003	
	Per share	Total	Per share	Total	
	HK\$	HK\$'000	HK\$	HK\$'000	
First interim dividend paid	50	150,000	50	150,000	
Second interim dividend declared	63	189,000	62	186,000	
	113	339,000	112	336,000	

12 Retirement benefit costs

The Group operates certain defined contribution schemes for the employees are ORSO schemes exempted under the Mandatory Provident Fund Schemes Ordinance ("MPF Schemes Ordinance") and the BOC-Prudential Easy Choice MPF Scheme. Under the ORSO schemes, the employees make monthly contributions to the ORSO schemes equal to 5% of their basic salaries, while the employer makes monthly contributions equal to 5% to 15% of the employees' monthly basic salaries, depending on years of service. The employees are entitled to receive 100% of the employer's contributions upon termination of employment after completing 20 years of service, or at a scale range from 20% to 95% for employees who have completed 3 to 20 years of service, on conditions of retirement, early retirement, permanent incapacity and ill-health or termination of employment other than summary dismissal.

With the implementation of the MPF Schemes Ordinance on 1 December 2000, the Group also participates in the BOC-Prudential Easy Choice MPF Scheme of which the trustee is BOCI-Prudential Trustee Limited and the investment manager is BOCI-Prudential Manager, which are related parties of the Bank.

The Group's total contributions made to the ORSO schemes for the year ended 31 December 2004 amounted to approximately HK\$9,011,000 (2003: approximately HK\$9,996,000), after a deduction of forfeited contributions of approximately HK\$911,000 (2003: approximately HK\$496,000). For the MPF Scheme, the Group contributed approximately HK\$268,000 (2003: approximately HK\$188,000) for the year ended 31 December 2004.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

13 Directors' emoluments

Details of the emoluments paid and payable to the directors of the Bank in respect of their services rendered for managing the bank and the subsidiaries within the Group during the year are as follows:

	2004	2003
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Fees Other emoluments	910	350
- basis salaries and allowances	4,134	4,282
- others (including benefits in kind)	402	266
	5,446	4,898

Fees of HK\$140,000 (2003: HK\$140,000) were paid to the Independent Non-Executive Directors during the year.

On 5 July 2002, certain directors were granted options by BOC Hong Kong (BVI) Limited ("BOC (BVI)"), the immediate holding company of BOCHKHL, pursuant to a Pre-listing Share Option Scheme of BOCHKHL to purchase from BOC (BVI) an aggregate of 3,652,800 existing issued shares of the BOCHKHL at a price of HK\$8.5 per share which is the same as the offer price. None of these options may be exercised within one year from 25 July 2002. These options have a vesting period of four years from 25 July 2002 with a valid exercise period of ten years. One-fourth of the number of shares subject to such options will be vested at the end of each year. No offer to grant any options under the Pre-listing Share Option Scheme may be made on or after 25 July 2002, the date on which dealings in the BOCHKHL's shares commenced on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited. The benefits arising from the granting and exercising of these share options are not included in the directors' emoluments and staff costs and have not been recognised in the profit and loss account.

Options to purchase 596,000 (2003:484,000) shares of the BOCHKHL were exercised by certain directors during the year ended 31 December 2004 at a gain of HK\$3,194,275 (2003: HK\$2,246,000), representing the difference between the market price of the shares and the exercise price of share options at the date of exercise. The gain has not been recognised in the profit and loss account of the Bank, its fellow subsidiaries and its holding companies.

14 Cash and short-term funds

	The Group and	the Bank
	2004	
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Cash Balances with banks and other financial	100,985	85,907
institutions Money at call and short notice maturing within	533,261	1,112,900
one month	8,800,415	9,870,828
	9,434,661	11,069,635

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

15 Certificates of deposit held

			The Group	p and the Ba	ınk
			200		2003
			HK\$'00	0	HK\$'000
	Held-to-maturity, at amortised cost - Unlisted		2,047,18	8	1,331,471
16	Held-to-maturity securities				
			The Grou	p and the Ba	ınk
		-	200		2003
		-	HK\$'00		HK\$'000
	Listed, at amortised cost - in Hong Kong		302,13	5	1,196,721
	- outside Hong Kong		, -	_	174,013
			302,13	5	1,370,734
	Unlisted, at amortised cost		5,269,66	2	4,599,790
	Total		5,571,79	<u>7</u>	5,970,524
	Market value of listed securities		304,07	2	1,414,712
	Held-to-maturity securities are analysed by issu	ers as follow	vs:		
	- Central governments and central banks		352,38	0	1,246,425
	- Public sector entities		310,00	0	680,000
	- Banks and other financial institutions		4,909,41	<u> </u>	4,044,099
			5,571,79	7	5,970,524
17	Investment securities				
		The C		The I	Bank
		2004	2003	2004	2003
		HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
	Unlisted debt securities, at cost	250	250	250	250
	Equity securities				
	- Listed outside Hong Kong, at cost	653	653	653	653
	- Unlisted, at cost	21,834	21,821	525	512
	Less: Provision for impairment in value	$\frac{(1,060)}{20,774}$	$\frac{(1,800)}{20,021}$	525	512
		21,427	20,674	1,178	1,165
	Total	21,677	20,924	1,428	1,415
	Market value of listed equity securities	5,279	4,535	5,279	4,535

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

17 Investment securities (continued)

Investment securities are analysed by issuers as follows:

	The G	The Group		ank
	2004	2003	2004	2003
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Banks and other financial institutions	653	653	653	653
Corporate entities	21,024	20,271	775	762
	21,677	20,924	1,428	1,415

Details of the equity securities held by the Bank with equity interest over 20% as at 31 December 2004 are set out below:

		Particulars of		
	Place of	issued and paid up	Equity interest	
Name	incorporation/ operation	ordinary share capital	held by the Bank Directly Indirectly	Principal activities
<u>rvanic</u>	<u>operation</u>	share capitar	Directly maneetly	<u>activities</u>
Harbin Guo Ying Real Estate Development Company Limited	The People's Republic of China	US\$4,000,000	- 30%	Property development

18 Advances and other accounts

	The Group		The H	Bank
	2004	2003	2004	2003
•	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Advances to customers	8,985,561	9,041,421	8,986,298	9,042,593
Accrued interest	85,813	98,783	85,813	98,783
	9,071,374	9,140,204	9,072,111	9,141,376
Provision for bad and doubtful debts				
- General (Note 19)	(159,012)	(159,012)	(159,012)	(159,012)
- Specific (Note 19)	(89,665)	(103,910)	(89,665)	(103,910)
-	(248,677)	(262,922)	(248,677)	(262,922)
	8,822,697	8,877,282	8,823,434	8,878,454

No advances to banks and financial institutions were made in 2004 and 2003.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

18 Advance and other accounts (continued)

Non-performing loans are analysed as follows:

	The Gi	coup	The Bank	
	2004	2003	2004	2003
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Non-performing loans	266,710	387,631	266,710	387,631
Specific provisions made in respect of such advances	(89,665)	(103,910)	(89,665)	(103,910)
As a percentage of total advances to customers	2.97%	4.29%	2.97%	4.29%
Amount of interest in suspense	4,863	3,542	4,863	3,542

Non-performing loans are defined as loans and advances to customers on which interest is being placed in suspense or on which interest accrual has ceased. Specific provisions were made after taking into account the value of collateral in respect of such advances.

There were no advances to banks and other financial institutions on which interest has been placed in suspense or on which interest accrual has ceased as at 31 December 2004 and 31 December 2003, nor were there any specific provisions made.

19 Provisions for bad and doubtful debts

	The Group and the Bank				
		200	4		
	Specific HK\$'000	General HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000	Suspended Interest HK\$'000	
At 1 January 2004 Charge to profit and loss	103,910	159,012	262,922	3,542	
account (Note 7)	2,908	-	2,908	-	
Amounts written off	(37,399)	-	(37,399)	-	
Recoveries of advances written off in previous year (Note 7) Interest suspended during the	20,246	-	20,246	-	
year	-	_	-	2,270	
Suspended interest recovered				(949)	
At 31 December 2004	89,665	159,012	248,677	4,863	
Deducted from: - Advances to customers	89,665	159,012	248,677		

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

19 Provisions for bad and doubtful debts (continued)

	The Group and the bank					
	2003					
	Specific HK\$'000	General HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000	Suspended Interest HK\$'000		
At 1 January 2003 Charged/(credited) to profit and	155,202	172,033	327,235	5,092		
loss account (Note 7) Amounts written off	19,716 (80,380)	(13,021)	6,695 (80,380)	(1,728)		
Recoveries of advances written off in previous year (Note 7) Interest suspended during the	9,372	-	9,372	-		
year	_	-	-	1,208		
Suspended interest recovered	<u> </u>			(1,030)		
At 31 December 2003	103,910	159,012	262,922	3,542		
Deducted from: - Advances to customers	103,910	159,012	262,922			

20 Interests in subsidiaries

	The Bank		
	2004		
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	
Unlisted shares, at cost	3,913	3,913	
Amounts due from subsidiaries (Note (a))	53,573	53,052	
Amounts due to subsidiaries (Note (a))	(20,523)	(20,528)	
	36,963	36,437	

Note (a): Amounts due from/to subsidiaries are unsecured, interest-free and have no fixed terms of repayment.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

20 **Interests in subsidiaries (continued)**

Details of the subsidiaries as at 31 December 2004 are set out below:

Name	Place of incorporation	Particulars of issued share capital	Interest held	Principal activities
Chiyu Banking Corporation (Nominees) Limited	Hong Kong	1,000 shares of HK\$100 each	100%	Investment holding
Seng Sun Development Company Limited	Hong Kong	2,800 shares of HK\$1,000 each	100%	Investment holding
Pacific Trend Profits Corporation	The British Virgin Islands	1 shares of US\$1 each	100%	Investment holding
Glory Cardinal Limited	Hong Kong	2 shares of HK\$1each	*100%	Investment holding
Glister Company Limited	Hong Kong	2 shares of HK\$1each	*100%	Investment holding
Grace Charter Limited	Hong Kong	2 shares of HK\$1each	*100%	Investment holding
Seng Sun Development (Xiamen) Company Limited * Shares held indirectly by the	The People's Republic of China	US\$5,000,000	*100%	Property development

Bank

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

21 Fixed assets

			The Group		
			2004		
	Premises HK\$'000	Investment properties HK\$'000	Property under development	Equipment, fixtures and fittings	Total HK\$'000
Cost or valuation	222.006	15 200	20.040	00.001	460.206
At 1 January 2004 Additions	323,096	17,380	38,849	89,981 5.058	469,306
Disposals	-	-	-	5,058 (6,476)	5,058 (6,476)
Revaluation	115,994	3,310	-	(0,470)	119,304
At 31 December 2004	439,090	20,690	38,849	88,563	587,192
THE ST Become English		20,050	20,019		
Accumulated depreciation and impairment losses					
At 1 January 2004	(2,534)	-	(6,500)	(61,225)	(70,259)
Depreciation for the year	(5,066)	-	-	(7,108)	(12,174)
Disposals	7 (00	-	-	6,451	6,451
Write-back on revaluation At 31 December 2004	7,600		(6,500)	(61,882)	7,600
At 31 December 2004			(0,500)	(01,882)	(68,382)
Net book value					
At 31 December 2004	439,090	20,690	32,349	26,681	518,810
At 31 December 2003	320,562	17,380	32,349	28,756	399,047
The analysis of cost or valua	tion of the above	ve assets is as follo	ws:		
At 31 December 2004					
At cost	_	_	38,849	88,563	127,412
At valuation	439,090	20,690	-	-	459,780
<u>-</u>	,				
<u>-</u>	439,090	20,690	38,849	88,563	587,192
At 31 December 2003					
At cost			38,849	89,981	128,830
At cost At valuation	323,096	17,380	30,049	09,901	340,476
At valuation -	323,090	17,500	-	<u>-</u>	340,470
	323,096	17,380	38,849	89,981	469,306
=					

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

21 Fixed assets (continued)

	The Bank 2004			
	Premises HK\$'000	Investment properties HK\$'000	Equipment, fixtures and fittings HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
Cost or valuation				
At 1 January 2004	321,592	17,380	89,965	428,937
Additions	· -	· -	5,058	5,058
Disposals	-	-	(6,476)	(6,476)
Revaluation	115,298	3,310		118,608
At 31 December 2004	436,890	20,690	88,547	546,127
Accumulated depreciation and impairment losses				
At 1 January 2004	(2,519)	-	(61,209)	(63,728)
Depreciation for the year	(5,034)	-	(7,108)	(12,142)
Disposals	-	-	6,451	6,451
Write-back on revaluation	7,553			7,553
At 31 December 2004			61,866	61,866
Net book value				
At 31 December 2004	436,890	20,690	26,681	484,261
At 31 December 2003	319,073	17,380	28,756	365,209
The analysis of cost or valuation of	of the above assets is	as follows:		
At 31 December 2004				
At cost	-	-	88,547	88,547
At valuation	436,890	20,690	<u> </u>	457,580
	436,890	20,690	88,547	546,127
At 31 December 2003				
At cost	_	_	89,965	89,965
At valuation	321,592	17,380	69,703	338,972
11. Valuation	321,372	17,500		330,712
	321,592	17,380	89,965	428,937

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

21 Fixed assets (continued)

The carrying value of premises is analysed based on the remaining terms of the leases as follows:

	The G	roup	The Bank		
	2004	2003	2004	2003	
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	
Held in Hong Kong On long-term lease (over 50 years)	293,580	217,748	202 590	217,748	
On medium-term lease	293,380	217,740	293,580	217,746	
(10-50 years)	135,270	92,694	133,070	91,205	
Held outside Hong Kong					
On long-term lease (over 50 years) On medium-term lease	8,620	8,633	8,620	8,633	
(10-50 years)	1,620	1,487	1,620	1,487	
	439,090	320,562	436,890	319,073	

The carrying value of investment properties is analysed based on the remaining terms of the leases as follows:

	The Gro	oup	The Bank		
	2004	2003	2004	2003	
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	
Held in Hong Kong On long-term lease (over 50 years)	17,650	14,400	17,650	14,400	
Held outside Hong Kong On medium-term lease					
(10-50 years)	3,040	2,980	3,040	2,980	
	20,690	17,380	20,690	17,380	

As at 31 December 2004, the premises and investment properties of the Group and the Bank are included in balance sheet at valuation carried out at 31 October 2004 on the basis of their open market value by an independent firm of chartered surveyors, Chesterton Petty Limited. Chesterton Petty Limited also confirmed that there has been no material changes in valuations at 31 December 2004.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

21 Fixed assets (continued)

As a result of the above-mentioned revaluations, changes in value of the Group's and the Bank's premises and investment properties were recognised in the Group's and the Bank's property revaluation reserves, the profit and loss account respectively as follows:

		The Group	
		2004	
	Premises HK\$'000	Investment properties HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
Increase in valuation credited to property revaluation reserve Increase in valuation credited to	102,028	3,310	105,338
profit and loss account (Note 8)	21,566	<u> </u>	21,566
	123,594	3,310	126,904
		The Bank 2004	
	Premises HK\$'000	Investment properties HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
Increase in valuation credited to property revaluation reserve Increase in valuation credited to	102,028	3,310	105,338
profit and loss account	20,823	<u> </u>	20,823
	122,851	3,310	126,161
		The Group 2003	
	Premises HK\$'000	Investment properties HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
Increase in valuation credited to property revaluation reserve Increase in valuation credited to	18,745	1,145	19,890
profit and loss account (Note 8)	2,589	<u> </u>	2,589
	21,334	1,145	22,479
		The Bank 2003	
	Premises HK\$'000	Investment properties HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
Increase in valuation credited to property revaluation reserve Increase in valuation credited to	18,745	1,145	19,890
profit and loss account	2,535	<u>-</u>	2,535
	21,280	1,145	22,425

As at 31 December 2004, the net book value of premises that would have been included in the Group's and the Bank's balance sheets had the assets been carried at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses were HK\$180,000,000 (2003: HK\$183,000,000) and HK\$177,000,000 (2003: HK\$180,000,000) respectively.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

22 Deposits from customers

	The Group		The I	Bank
	2004	2003	2004	2003
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Demand deposits and current				11114 000
accounts	1,497,472	1,229,623	1,497,834	1,230,027
Saving deposits	12,046,043	11,318,253	12,065,881	11,332,341
Time, call and notice of	12,040,043	11,510,255	12,005,001	
deposits	11,220,659	11,725,758	11,246,574	11,751,636
	24,764,174	24,273,634	24,810,289	24,314,004
23 Other accounts and provisions				
	The G	roup	The H	Bank
	2004	2003	2004	2003
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Interest payable	26,783	21,238	26,783	21,238
Current taxation (Note 24(a))		26,218		26,218
Deferred taxation	28,530	•	28,531	
(Note 24(b))	18,319	414	18,319	414
Dividend payable	189,404	186,404	189,404	186,404
Accruals and other payables	1,017,462	1,517,669	999,556	1,505,502
	1,280,498	1,751,943	1,262,593	1,739,776
24 Tax liabilities				
	The G	roup	The I	Bank
	2004	2003	2004	2003
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Current taxation (Note a)	28,530	26,218	28,531	26,218
Deferred taxation (Note b)	18,248	362	18,319	414
	46,778	26,580	46,850	26,632
(a) Current taxation				
(a) Current taxation	TI C		TI I	. 1
	The G		The I	
	2004	2003	2004	2003
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Hong Kong profits tax	28,690	26,376	28,691	26,376
Overseas taxation	(160)	(158)	(160)	(158)
	28,530	26,218	28,531	26,218

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

24 Tax liabilities (continued)

(b) Deferred taxation

During the year, deferred tax is recognised in respect of the temporary differences arising between the tax bases of assets and liabilities and their carrying amounts in the accounts according to SSAP12 (revised) "Income taxes".

The major components of deferred tax assets and liabilities recorded in the Group's and the Bank's balance sheet, and the movements during the year are as follows:

			The Gr								
		2004									
	Accelerated tax depreciation	Assets revaluation	Losses	Provisions	Other temporary differences	Total					
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000					
At 1 January 2004 Charged/ (credited) to	2,781	22,667	(255)	(27,705)	2,874	362					
profit and loss account Charged to	2,011	-	(16)	(122)	(1,632)	241					
equity	<u>-</u>	17,645	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	17,645					
At 31 December 2004	4 703	40.212	(271)	(27, 927)	1242	10.240					
2004	4,792	40,312	(271)	(27,827)	1,242	18,248					
			The Gr								
	Accelerated		2003)	Other						
	tax	Assets			temporary						
	depreciation	revaluation	Losses	Provisions	differences	Total					
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000					
At 1 January 2003 Charged/ (credited) to	4,669	24,087	(207)	(25,888)	-	2,661					
profit and loss account Credited to	(1,888)	(1,420)	(48)	(1,817)	2,874	(879) (1,420)					
equity	- -	(1,420)	<u> </u>	<u>-</u>	-	(1,420)					
At 31 December											
2003	2,781	22,667	(255)	(27,705)	2,874	362					

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

24 Tax liabilities (continued)

(b) Deferred taxation (continued)

		7	The Bank 2004		
	Accelerated tax depreciation HK\$'000	Assets revaluation HK\$'000	Provisions HK\$'000	Other temporary differences HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
At 1 January 2004 Charged/(credited) to	2,578	22,667	(27,705)	2,874	414
profit and loss account Charged to equity	2,014	17,645	(122)	(1,632)	260 17,645
At 31 December 2004	4,592	40,312	(27,827)	1,242	18,319
		,	The Bank 2003		
	Accelerated		2003	Other	
	tax			temporary	
	depreciation		Provisions	differences	Total
	HK\$'000		HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
At 1 January 2003 Charged/(credited) to	4,481	24,087	(25,888)	-	2,680
profit and loss account	(1,903)	_	(1,817)	2,874	(846)
Credited to equity		(1,420)			(1,420)
At 31 December 2003	2,578	22,667	(27,705)	2,874	414

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are offset on an individual entity basis when there is a legal right to set off current tax assets against current tax liabilities and when the deferred taxation relates to the same authority. The following amounts, determined after appropriate offsetting, are shown in the consolidated balance sheet and balance sheet:

	The G	The Group		ank
	2004	2004 2003		2003
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Deferred tax assets (Note)	(71)	(52)	_	-
Deferred tax liabilities	18,319	414	18,319	414
	18,248	362	18,319	414

Note: This amount has been included in "Other assets"

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

24 Tax liabilities (continued)

(b) Deferred taxation (continued)

		The Gr	oup	The B	Bank	
		2004	2003	2004	2003	
		HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	
	Deferred tax assets to be recovered after more than twelve months	(28,098)	(27,960)	(27,827)	(27,705)	
	Deferred tax liabilities to be settled after more than twelve months	5,291	3,950	5,091	3,746	
		(22,807)	(24,010)	(22,736)	(23,959)	
25	Share capital					
				2004	2003	
	Authorised:			HK\$'000	HK\$'000	
	3,000,000 ordinary shares of H	K\$100 each		300,000	300,000	
	Issued and fully paid:					
	3,000,000 ordinary shares of H	K\$100 each		300,000	300,000	

26 Reserves

The amounts of the Group's and the Bank's reserves and the movements therein for the current and prior years are presented in the consolidated statement of changes in equity and statement of changes in equity on pages 9 and 10 of the accounts respectively.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

(b)

Notes to consolidated cash flow statement

(a) Reconciliation of operating profit after provisions to operating cash inflow before taxation:

Dividend income from investment securities		2004	2003
Dividend income from investment securities		HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Depreciation	Operating profit after provisions	543,476	553,417
Charge for bad and doubtful debts 2,908 6,695 Advances written off net of recoveries (17,153) (71,008) Change in money at call and short notice with original maturity over three months 281,256 604,071 Change in placements with banks and other financial institutions with original maturity over three months (783,932) 942,392 Change in trade bills (47,191) 68,125 Change in certificates of deposit held with original maturity over three months (715,717) (644,968) Change in held-to-maturity securities 398,727 (989,775) Change in advances and other accounts 68,830 (1,033,102) Change in deposits and balances of banks and other financial institutions repayable over three months (18,661) 93,813 Change in deposits from customers 490,540 1,214,080 Change in other accounts and provisions (45,037) 414,328 Change in other accounts and provisions (497,611) 771,744 Exchange difference (67) 139 Operating cash inflow before taxation 222,858 1,259,807 Analysis of the balances of cash and cash equivalents 8,704,791 <td< td=""><td>Dividend income from investment securities</td><td>(1,107)</td><td>(1,109)</td></td<>	Dividend income from investment securities	(1,107)	(1,109)
Charge for bad and doubtful debts 2,908 6,695 Advances written off net of recoveries (17,153) (71,008) Change in money at call and short notice with original maturity over three months 281,256 604,071 Change in placements with banks and other financial institutions with original maturity over three months (783,932) 942,392 Change in trade bills (47,191) 68,125 Change in certificates of deposit held with original maturity over three months (715,717) (644,968) Change in held-to-maturity securities 398,727 (989,775) Change in advances and other accounts 68,830 (1,033,102) Change in deposits and balances of banks and other financial institutions repayable over three months (18,661) 93,813 Change in deposits from customers 490,540 1,214,080 Change in other accounts and provisions (45,037) 414,328 Change in other accounts and provisions (497,611) 771,744 Exchange difference (67) 139 Operating cash inflow before taxation 222,858 1,259,807 Analysis of the balances of cash and cash equivalents 8,704,791 <td< td=""><td>Depreciation</td><td>* '</td><td>9,280</td></td<>	Depreciation	* '	9,280
Advances written off net of recoveries (17,153) (71,008) Change in money at call and short notice with original maturity over three months 281,256 604,071 Change in placements with banks and other financial institutions with original maturity over three months (783,932) 942,392 Change in trade bills (47,191) 68,125 Change in certificates of deposit held with original maturity over three months (715,717) (644,968) Change in held-to-maturity securities 398,727 (989,775) Change in advances and other accounts 68,830 (1,033,102) Change in other assets 551,423 (678,315) Change in deposits and balances of banks and other financial institutions repayable over three months (18,661) 93,813 Change in deposits from customers 490,540 1,214,080 Change in other accounts and provisions (497,611) 771,744 Exchange difference (67) 139 Operating cash inflow before taxation 222,858 1,259,807 Analysis of the balances of cash and cash equivalents 400,40 1,198,807 Money at call and short notice with original maturity within three months <		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	·
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over three months (783,932) 942,392 Change in trade bills (47,191) 68,125 Change in certificates of deposit held with original maturity over three months (715,717) (644,968) Change in held-to-maturity securities 398,727 (989,775) Change in advances and other accounts 68,830 (1,033,102) Change in other assets 551,423 (678,315) Change in deposits and balances of banks and other financial institutions repayable over three months (18,661) 93,813 Change in deposits from customers 490,540 1,214,080 Change in other accounts and provisions (495,037) 414,328 Change in other accounts and provisions (497,611) 771,744 Exchange difference (67) 139 Operating cash inflow before taxation 222,858 1,259,807 Analysis of the balances of cash and cash equivalents 404 2003 MKS'000 HKS'000 HKS'000 Cash and balances with banks and other financial institutions with original maturity within three months 8,704,791 9,493,948 Placements with banks and other financial institutions with or	Change in placements with banks and other	,	,
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Change in certificates of deposit held with original maturity over three months (715,717) (644,968) Change in held-to-maturity securities 398,727 (989,775) Change in advances and other accounts 68,830 (1,033,102) Change in deposits and balances of banks and other financial institutions repayable over three months (18,661) 93,813 Change in deposits from customers 490,540 1,214,080 Change in deposits from customers 490,540 1,214,080 Change in other accounts and provisions (49,037) 414,328 Change in other accounts and provisions (497,611) 771,744 Exchange difference (67) 139 Operating cash inflow before taxation 222,858 1,259,807 Analysis of the balances of cash and cash equivalents 2004 2003 MK\$'000 HK\$'000 HK\$'000 Cash and balances with banks and other financial institutions 634,246 1,198,807 Money at call and short notice with original maturity within three months 8,704,791 9,493,948 Placements with banks and other financial institutions with original maturity within three months 2,397,458 1,30			·
original maturity over three months (715,717) (644,968) Change in held-to-maturity securities 398,727 (989,775) Change in advances and other accounts 68,830 (1,033,102) Change in other assets 551,423 (678,315) Change in deposits and balances of banks and other financial institutions repayable over three months (18,661) 93,813 Change in deposits from customers 490,540 1,214,080 Change in other accounts and provisions (497,611) 771,744 Exchange in other accounts and provisions (497,611) 771,744 Exchange difference (67) 139 Operating cash inflow before taxation 222,858 1,259,807 Analysis of the balances of cash and cash equivalents 2004 2003 HK\$'000 HK\$'000 HK\$'000 Cash and balances with banks and other financial institutions 634,246 1,198,807 Money at call and short notice with original maturity within three months 8,704,791 9,493,948 Placements with banks and other financial institutions with original maturity within three months 2,397,458 1,309,462 Deposits a		(17,171)	00,120
Change in held-to-maturity securities 398,727 (989,775) Change in advances and other accounts 68,830 (1,033,102) Change in other assets 551,423 (678,315) Change in deposits and balances of banks and other financial institutions repayable over three months (18,661) 93,813 Change in deposits from customers 490,540 1,214,080 Change in certificates of deposit issued (45,037) 414,328 Change in other accounts and provisions (497,611) 771,744 Exchange difference (67) 139 Operating cash inflow before taxation 222,858 1,259,807 Analysis of the balances of cash and cash equivalents 400,40 400,50 Cash and balances with banks and other financial institutions 634,246 1,198,807 Money at call and short notice with original maturity within three months 8,704,791 9,493,948 Placements with banks and other financial institutions with original maturity within three months 2,397,458 1,309,462 Deposits and balances of banks and other financial institutions with original maturity within three months (871,015) (952,558)		(715 717)	(644 968)
Change in advances and other accounts 68,830 (1,033,102) Change in other assets 551,423 (678,315) Change in deposits and balances of banks and other financial institutions repayable over three months (18,661) 93,813 Change in deposits from customers 490,540 1,214,080 Change in deposits from customers 490,540 1,214,080 Change in other accounts and provisions (497,611) 771,744 Exchange difference (67) 139 Operating cash inflow before taxation 222,858 1,259,807 Analysis of the balances of cash and cash equivalents 2004 2003 HK\$'000 HK\$'000 Cash and balances with banks and other financial institutions 634,246 1,198,807 Money at call and short notice with original maturity within three months 8,704,791 9,493,948 Placements with banks and other financial institutions with original maturity within three months 2,397,458 1,309,462 Deposits and balances of banks and other financial institutions with original maturity within three months (871,015) (952,558)			
Change in other assets Change in deposits and balances of banks and other financial institutions repayable over three months Change in deposits from customers Change in deposits from customers Change in deposits from customers Change in certificates of deposit issued Change in other accounts and provisions Change in other accounts and provisions Change difference (67) Coperating cash inflow before taxation Cash and balances of cash and cash equivalents 2004 Cash and balances with banks and other financial institutions Money at call and short notice with original maturity within three months Capposits and balances of banks and other financial institutions with original maturity within three months Capposits and balances of banks and other financial institutions with original maturity within three months Capposits and balances of banks and other financial institutions with original maturity within three months Capposits and balances of banks and other financial institutions with original maturity within three months Capposits and balances of banks and other financial institutions with original maturity within three months Capposits and balances of banks and other financial institutions with original maturity within three months Capposits and balances of banks and other financial institutions with original maturity within three months Capposits and balances of banks and other financial institutions with original maturity within three months Capposits and balances of banks and other financial institutions with original maturity within three months Capposits and balances of banks and other financial institutions with original maturity within three months Capposits and balances of banks and other financial institutions with original maturity within three months Capposits and balances of banks and other financial institutions with original maturity within three months Capposits and balances of banks and other financial institutions with original maturity within three months Capposits and balances of banks and other f		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	, , ,
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Operating cash inflow before taxation 222,858 1,259,807 Analysis of the balances of cash and cash equivalents 2004 2003 HK\$'000 Cash and balances with banks and other financial institutions Money at call and short notice with original maturity within three months Placements with banks and other financial institutions with original maturity within three months Deposits and balances of banks and other financial institutions with original maturity within three months Deposits and balances of banks and other financial institutions with original maturity within three months (871,015) (952,558)			
Analysis of the balances of cash and cash equivalents 2004 2003 HK\$'000 HK\$'000 Cash and balances with banks and other financial institutions 634,246 1,198,807 Money at call and short notice with original maturity within three months 8,704,791 9,493,948 Placements with banks and other financial institutions with original maturity within three months 2,397,458 1,309,462 Deposits and balances of banks and other financial institutions with original maturity within three months (871,015) (952,558)	Exchange difference	(67)	139
Cash and balances with banks and other financial institutions Money at call and short notice with original maturity within three months Placements with banks and other financial institutions with original maturity within three months Deposits and balances of banks and other financial institutions with original maturity within three months Deposits and balances of banks and other financial institutions with original maturity within three months MK\$'000 1,198,807 8,704,791 9,493,948 1,309,462 2,397,458 1,309,462	Operating cash inflow before taxation	222,858	1,259,807
other financial institutions Money at call and short notice with original maturity within three months Placements with banks and other financial institutions with original maturity within three months Deposits and balances of banks and other financial institutions with original maturity within three months Deposits and balances of banks and other financial institutions with original maturity within three months (871,015) (952,558)	Analysis of the balances of cash and cash equivalent	2004	
other financial institutions Money at call and short notice with original maturity within three months Placements with banks and other financial institutions with original maturity within three months Deposits and balances of banks and other financial institutions with original maturity within three months Deposits and balances of banks and other financial institutions with original maturity within three months (871,015) (952,558)	Cash and balances with banks and		
maturity within three months Placements with banks and other financial institutions with original maturity within three months Deposits and balances of banks and other financial institutions with original maturity within three months (871,015) (952,558)	other financial institutions	634,246	1,198,807
institutions with original maturity within three months Deposits and balances of banks and other financial institutions with original maturity within three months (871,015) (952,558)	maturity within three months	8,704,791	9,493,948
financial institutions with original maturity within three months (871,015) (952,558)	institutions with original maturity within three months	2,397,458	1,309,462
	-		
10,865,480 11,049.659	within three months	(871,015)	(952,558)
		10,865,480	11,049,659

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

28 Maturity profile

The maturity profile of assets and liabilities analysed by the remaining period as at 31 December to the contractual maturity dates is as follows:

				The Group			
				2004			_
			1 year	5 years			
	Repayable		or less	or less			
	on	3 months	but over	but over	Over 5		
	demand	or less	3 months	1 year	years	Undated	Total
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Assets							
Cash and other							
short-term							
funds	634 246	8,800,415	_	_	_	_	9,434,661
Placements	054,240	0,000,413), 101,001
with banks and							
other financial							
institutions	_	3,249,671	549,060	_	_	_	3,798,731
Certificates of		0,21,071	212,000				0,750,701
deposit held	_	767,989	_	1,166,472	112,727	_	2,047,188
Debt securities		707,505		1,100,172	112,727		2,017,100
included in:							
- held-to							
-maturity							
securities	-	962,130	1,140,819	3,035,820	433,028	_	5,571,797
- investment		,	, ,	, ,	,		, ,
securities	_	_	_	_	250	-	250
Advances to							
customers	839,841	1,583,944	916,654	2,806,151	2,564,659	274,312	8,985,561
Liabilities							
Deposits and							
balances of							
banks and							
other financial							
institutions	113,106	886,476	46,237	_	_	_	1,045,819
Deposits from	,	,	,				, ,
customers	13,627,081	8,852,677	911,178	1,107,357	265,881	-	24,764,174
Certificates of		•	-		•		
deposit issued			186,248	183,043			369,291

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

28 Maturity profile (continued)

				The Bank			
				2004			_
			1 year or	5 years or			_
	Repayable		less	less			
	on	3 months	but over	but over	Over 5		
	demand	or less	3 months	1 year	years	Undated	Total
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Assets							
Cash and other							
short-term funds	634,246	8,800,415	_	_	_	-	9,434,661
Placements with							
banks and other							
financial							
institutions	-	3,249,671	549,060	-	-	-	3,798,731
Certificates of							
deposit held	-	767,989	-	1,166,472	112,727	-	2,047,188
Debt securities							
included in:							
- held-to							
-maturity							
securities	-	962,130	1,140,819	3,035,820	433,028	-	5,571,797
- investment							
securities	-	-	-	-	250	-	250
Advances to	000 044	4 =040=6	04=004	• 00 < 100	A T < 1 < T 0		0.006.00
customers	839,841	1,584,056	917,001	2,806,429	2,564,659	274,312	8,986,298
Liabilities							
Deposits and							
balances of banks							
and other							
financial							
institutions	113,106	886,476	46,237	-	-	-	1,045,819
Deposits from							
customers	13,647,281	8,878,592	911,178	1,107,357	265,881	-	24,810,289
Certificates of							
deposit issued	-	-	186,248	183,043	-	-	369,291

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

28 Maturity profile (continued)

				The Group			
				2003			
	Repayable		1 year or less	5 years or less			
	on	3 months	but over	but over	Over 5		
	demand	or less	3 months	1 year	years	Undated	Total
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Assets							
Cash and other							
short-term funds	1,198,807	9,870,828	_	_	_	_	11,069,635
Placements with banks and other financial	1,170,007	7,070,020					11,009,032
institutions	-	1,672,818	253,985	-	-	-	1,926,803
Certificates of deposit held			191,750	1,085,379	54,342		1,331,471
Debt securities	-	-	191,730	1,065,579	34,342	-	1,331,471
included in: - held-to -maturity							
securities	-	50,000	2,733,094	3,129,207	58,223	-	5,970,524
 investment securities 					250		250
Advances to	-	-	-	-	230	-	230
customers	940,573	1,197,188	895,815	2,911,722	2,704,770	391,353	9,041,421
Liabilities							
Deposits and balances of banks and other financial							
institutions	132,334	1,013,689	-	-	-	-	1,146,023
Deposits from customers	12,743,430	10,363,476	1,158,594	8,134	-	-	24,273,634
Certificates of deposit issued	-	-	_	414,328	-	-	414,328

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

28 Maturity profile (continued)

				The Bank			
				2003			
	Repayable on demand	3 months or less	1 year or less but over 3 months	5 years or less but over	Over 5	Undated	Total
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	1 year HK\$'000	years HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
	ПК\$ 000	ПК\$ 000	ПК\$ 000	HK\$ 000	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	ПК\$ 000
Assets Cash and other short-term funds Placements with	1,198,807	9,870,828	-	-	-	-	11,069,635
banks and other financial institutions Certificates of	-	1,672,818	253,985	-	-	-	1,926,803
deposit held Debt securities included in:	-	-	191,750	1,085,379	54,342	-	1,331,471
held-to-maturity							
securities - investment	-	50,000	2,733,094	3,129,207	58,223	-	5,970,524
securities Advances to	-	-	-	-	250	-	250
customers	940,573	1,197,295	896,144	2,912,458	2,704,770	391,353	9,042,593
Liabilities Deposits and balances of banks and other financial							
institutions	132,334	1,013,689	-	-	-	-	1,146,023
Deposits from customers Certificates of	12,757,922	10,389,354	1,158,594	8,134	-	-	24,314,004
deposit issued				414,328			414,328

Apart from certain deferred tax assets and liabilities, the majority of other assets and other accounts and provisions are due within 1 year.

The above maturity classifications have been prepared in accordance with the guideline on "Financial Disclosure by Locally Incorporated Authorized Institutions" under the Supervisory Policy Manual issued by the HKMA. In accordance with the guideline, the Group has reported assets such as advances and debt securities which have been overdue for not more than one month as "Repayable on demand" and assets which are non-performing or which are overdue for more than one month as "Undated". In the case of an asset that is repayable by different payments or instalments, only that portion of the asset that is actually overdue is reported as overdue. Any part of the asset that is not due is reported according to the residual maturity unless the repayment of the asset is in doubt in which case the amount is reported as "Undated". The above assets are stated before deduction of provisions, if any.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

29 Off-balance sheet exposures

(a) Contingent liabilities and commitments

The following is a summary of the contractual amounts of each significant class of contingent liabilities and commitments:

	The Group and t	he Bank
	2004	2003
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Direct credit substitutes	13,519	59,040
Transaction-related contingencies	67,622	22,916
Trade-related contingencies	1,046,820	1,213,670
Other commitments with an original maturity of		
- under one year or which are unconditionally		
cancellable	2,958,119	2,933,877
- one year and over	788,307	884,117
	4,874,387	5,113,620

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

29 Off-balance sheet exposures (continued)

(b) Derivatives

The following is a summary of the notional amounts of each significant type of derivative:

			The Group ar	nd the Bank		
		2004			2003	
	Trading	Hedging	Total	Trading	Hedging	Total
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Exchange rate						
contracts						
Spot	94,516	-	94,516	73,134	-	73,134
Forward						
contracts	32,593	-	32,593	5,810	-	5,810
Swaps	10,604	11,374	21,978	=	10,889	10,889
Foreign exchange						
option						
contracts						
- currency						
options	70 0 62		-0 0.62	104.155		104.155
purchased	72,063	-	72,063	124,175	-	124,175
currency options						
written	72,063	_	72,063	124,175	-	124,175
	<u> </u>		<u> </u>			
	281,839	11,374	293,213	327,294	10,889	338,183
Interest rate						
contracts						
Interest rate	-12.0	20.054		100 100	20.016	176.000
swaps	513,975	38,872	552,847	138,183	38,816	176,999
Interest rate option						
contracts						
- swaptions						
purchased	15,549	-	15,549	-	-	-
- swaptions written	205,847	_	205,847	205,710	_	205,710
Witten	<u> </u>					
	735,371	38,872	774,243	343,893	38,816	382,709
Equity						
contracts						
Equity option						
contracts						
equity options						
purchased	52,245	_	52,245	154,718	_	154,718
- equity	02,210		02,210	10 .,, 10		10 1,7 10
options						
written	52,245		52,245	154,718		154,718
	104,490	<u> </u>	104,490	309,436		309,436
	1,121,700	50,246	1,171,946	980,623	49,705	1,030,328
	, =-,:00	,	, - : -,- • •	, - = =	- ,	, ,= = =

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

29 Off-balance sheet exposures (continued)

(b) Derivatives (continued)

The trading transactions include positions arising from dealing activities and positions arising from the execution of trade orders from customers or transactions taken to hedge those positions.

The replacement costs and credit risk weighted amounts of the above off-balance sheet exposures, which do not take into account the effects of bilateral netting arrangements are as follows:

	The Group and the Bank				
	2004	2003	2004	2003	
	Credit risk weig	hted amount	Replacem	ent cost	
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	
Contingent liabilities and commitments	609,676	689,145	N/A	N/A	
Derivatives: - Exchange rate					
contracts - Interest rate	847	170	1,398	130	
contracts	835	338	1,024	415	
	611,358	689,653	2,422	545	

The contract or notional amounts of these instruments indicate the volume of transactions outstanding as at 31 December 2004 and 31 December 2003; they do not represent the amounts at risk.

The credit risk weighted amounts are the amounts that have been calculated in accordance with the Third Schedule of the Banking Ordinance and guidelines issued by the HKMA. The amounts calculated are dependent upon the status of the counterparty and the maturity characteristics of each type of contract.

Replacement cost is the cost of replacing all contracts that have a positive value when marked to market (should the counterparty default on its obligations) and is obtained by marking contracts to market. Replacement cost is a close approximation of the credit risk for these contracts at the balance sheet dates.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

30 Operating lease commitments

(a) As lessee

The Group and the Bank have commitments to make the following future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases:

	The Group and t	he Bank
	2004	2003
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Land and buildings		
not later than one yearlater than one year but not later than	11,049	9,430
five years	13,933	10,481
	24,982	19,911

(b) As lessor

The Group and the Bank have commitments to make the following future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases:

	The Group and the	he Bank
	2004	2003
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Land and buildings - not later than one year	1,338	801
 later than one year but not later than five years 	899	153
	2,237	954

31 Segmental reporting

A segment is a distinguishable component of the Group that is engaged either in providing products and services (business segment), or in providing products and services within a particular economic environment (geographical segment), which is subject to risks and rewards that are different from those of other business or geographical segments. The Group has chosen business segment information as the primary reporting format and geographical segment information as the secondary reporting format.

Segment revenue, expenses, results, assets and liabilities include items directly attributable to a segment and those that can be allocated on a reasonable basis to that segment. The allocation of revenue reflects the benefits of capital and other funding resources allocated to the business or geographical segments by way of internal capital allocations and fund transfer mechanisms.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

31 Segmental reporting (continued)

(a) By class of business

	2004					
	Commercial					
	Banking	Treasury	Unallocated	Subtotal	Elimination	Consolidated
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Net interest income Other	289,048	249,535	(4,024)	534,559	-	534,559
operating income	214,109	5,154	25,217	244,480	(22,500)	221,980
Operating income	503,157	254,689	21,193	779,039	(22,500)	756,539
Operating expenses	(170,470)	(2,990)	(59,195)	(232,655)	22,500	(210,155)
Operating profit/(loss) before provisions Charge for bad and doubtful debts	332,687	251,699	(38,002)	546,384 (2,908)	-	546,384 (2,908)
debts	(2,308)			(2,508)		(2,908)
Operating profit/(loss) after provisions Net gain from disposal/ revaluation of fixed assets Write-back of	329,779	251,699	(38,002) 21,542	543,476 21,542	-	543,476 21,542
provision for impairment on investment securities Profit/(loss) before			740	740		740
taxation	329,779	251,699	(15,720)	565,758		565,758
Assets Segment assets	9,368,545	20,898,806	659,728	30,927,079		30,927,079
Liabilities Segment liabilities	25,889,197	1,295,395	275,190	27,459,782	<u>-</u> _	27,459,782

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

31 Segmental reporting (continued)

(a) By class of business (continued)

	2003					
	Commercial Banking	Treasury	Unallocated	Subtotal	Elimination	Consolidated
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Net interest income Other operating	356,975	206,811	(6,840)	556,946	-	556,946
income	198,549	1,802	29,443	229,794	(24,650)	205,144
Operating income Operating expenses	555,524 (169,664)	208,613 (2,980)	22,603 (53,984)	786,740 (226,628)	(24,650) 24,650	762,090 (201,978)
Operating expenses	(109,004)	(2,980)	(33,964)	(220,028)	24,030	(201,978)
Operating profit/(loss)	205.060	205 (22	(21.201)	5(0.112		500 110
before provisions Charge for bad and	385,860	205,633	(31,381)	560,112	-	560,112
doubtful debts	(6,695)			(6,695)		(6,695)
Operating profit/(loss) after provisions Net loss from disposal/	379,165	205,633	(31,381)	553,417	-	553,417
revaluation of fixed assets Net gain from disposal of	-	-	(9,426)	(9,426)	-	(9,426)
investment securities Provision for impairment on investment	-	-	106	106	-	106
securities			(160)	(160)		(160)
Profit/(loss) before taxation	379,165	205,633	(40,861)	543,937		543,937
Assets Segment assets	9,827,917	20,393,230	590,289	30,811,436		30,811,436
Liabilities Segment liabilities	26,078,421	1,257,634	249,873	27,585,928		27,585,928

Commercial banking business includes acceptance of deposits, mortgage lending, credit card advances, remittance, provision of securities brokerage and insurance agency services, commercial lending, trade finance and overdraft facilities.

Treasury activities include money market, foreign exchange dealing and capital market activities. Treasury manages funding of the Group. Treasury provides funding to all other business segments and receives funds from commercial banking's deposit taking activities. These inter-segment funding transactions are priced either at market bid/offer rates as appropriate or at an internal funding rate as determined by the average funding requirements of other business segments and the average one-month inter-bank rates of the relevant financial period. In addition, the gains and losses on the foreign exchange activities of the Group are included in "Treasury". The profit and loss information presented in this note has been prepared using inter-segment charging/income transactions. The segmental assets and liabilities have not been adjusted to reflect the effect of inter-segment borrowing and lending (i.e. segmental profit and loss information is not comparable to segmental assets and liabilities information).

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

31 Segmental reporting (continued)

(a) By class of business (continued)

Unallocated items mainly comprise fixed assets of the Group, investment securities and other items that cannot be reasonably allocated to a specific business segment. The interest benefit of the capital of the Group is also included as unallocated within net interest income. Rental expenses are allocated to business segments based on a fixed rate per square footage occupied.

Operating expenses of a functional unit are allocated to the relevant business segment that is the predominant user of the services provided by the unit. Operating expenses of other shared services, which cannot be allocated to a specific business segment, are included in "Unallocated".

(b) By geographical area

No geographical reporting is provided as over 90% of the Group's revenues are derived from Hong Kong and over 90% of the Group's assets are originated from business decisions and operations based in Hong Kong.

32 Loans to directors and officers

Particulars of advances made to directors and officers of the Bank pursuant to section 161B (4B) of the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance are as follows:

	2004	2003
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Aggregate amount of relevant loans outstanding at year end	1,934	2,139
Maximum aggregate amount of relevant loans outstanding		
during the year	2,139	2,326

33 Significant related party transactions

Related parties are those parties that have the ability, directly or indirectly, to control the other party or exercise significant influence over the other party in making financial and operating decisions. Parties are also considered to be related if they are subject to common control or common significant influence. Related parties may be individuals or other entities.

As detailed in Note 34, pursuant to the reorganisation of Bank of China Limited on 26 August 2004, the PRC government established Central Huijin Investment Company Limited ("Huijin") to hold the equity capital of Bank of China Limited and the equity capital of certain other financial institutions previously held directly by the State. The stated purpose of Huijin is to exercise the rights of an equity investor on behalf of the State and not to have any commercial operations. In accordance with SSAP 20 "Related Party Disclosures", Huijin and financial institutions, other than Bank of China Limited, that it controls have not been regarded as related parties, as such entities are acting on behalf of the State similar to government departments and agencies, simply by virtue of their normal dealings with the Bank.

During the year, the Group entered into various transactions with related parties which are carried out in the normal course of the Group's business and on commercial terms are summarised as follows:

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

33 Significant related party transactions (continued)

(a) Summary of transactions entered into during the ordinary course of business with the related parties

The aggregate income and expenses arising from related party transactions with immediate holding company, intermediate holding companies, fellow subsidiaries and associates of an intermediate holding company are summarised as follows:

	2004	2003
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Profit and loss items:		
Interest income	48,036	83,510
Interest expense	3,899	13,427
Other operating income	50,653	43,295
Operating expenses	25,149	22,326
	-	
	2004	2003
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Balance sheet items:		
Cash and short-term funds	2,143,470	2,219,234
Placement with banks and other financial		
institutions	2,178,717	450,823
Advances and other accounts	209,823	257,595
Other assets	175,354	513,816
Deposits and balances of banks and other		
financial institutions	1,008,159	1,106,139
Deposits from customers	1,167,330	866,593
Other accounts and provisions	291,343	530,643

(b) Off-balance sheets items

Contingent liabilities and commitments

In the ordinary course of business, the Group provides loan facilities and trade finance services to, and guarantees for the obligations of intermediate holding company and fellow subsidiaries on normal commercial terms. As at 31 December 2004, the total undrawn loan commitments, trade finance-related contingencies and guarantees amounted to HK\$18,000,000 (2003: HK\$ Nil).

Derivatives

In the ordinary course of business, the Group enters into foreign exchange contracts and interest rate contracts with the intermediate holding company and fellow subsidiaries. The aggregate notional amount of such derivative transactions amounted to HK\$428,000,000 as at 31 December 2004 (2003: HK\$499,000,000). These transactions are executed on normal commercial terms with reference to prevailing market rates.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

33 Significant related party transactions (continued)

(c) Key management personnel

The Group accepts deposits from and grants loans and credit facilities to key management personnel in the ordinary course of business. During the year and that of the prior year, no material transaction was conducted with key management personnel of the Bank, its holding companies and parties related to them.

(d) Balances with group companies

Included in the following balance sheet captions are balances with the intermediate holding company:

	2004	2003
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Cash and short-term funds	1,976,259	1,732,594
Placements with banks and other financial		
institutions	1,999,908	389,495
Advances and other accounts	6,629	1,012
Deposits and balances of banks and other	,	,
financial institutions	648,931	147,318
Other accounts and provisions	528	187

Included in the following balance sheet captions are balances with the immediate holding company:

	2004	2003
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Cash and short-term funds	155,559	446,374
Advances and other accounts	2,463	903
Other assets	71,100	91,309
Deposits and balances of banks and other		
financial institutions	359,228	958,821
Other accounts and provisions	194,810	171,703

Included in the following balance sheet captions are balances with fellow subsidiaries:

	2004	2003
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Cash and short-term funds	11,652	40,266
Placements with banks and other financial		
institutions	178,809	61,328
Advances and other accounts	200,731	255,680
Other assets	104,253	422,507
Deposits from customers	1,167,330	866,593
Other accounts and provisions	96,005	358,753

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

34 Ultimate holding company

With the approval of the State Council of the PRC, Bank of China, the former ultimate holding company of the Bank, has been reorganised into a joint stock company with limited liability in the PRC (the "Reorganisation") and was renamed Bank of China Limited on 26 August 2004. Pursuant to the Reorganisation, Huijin, becomes the owner of the entire equity interest in Bank of China Limited. Huijin is approved by State of Council of the PRC to assume the rights and obligations of the equity owner on behalf of the State. Accordingly, Huijin, acting on behalf of the State, has become the ultimate holding company of the Bank by virtue of its interest in Bank of China Limited immediately after the Reorganisation.

35 Approval of accounts

The accounts were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on 18 March 2005.

UNAUDITED SUPPLEMENTARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION

(1) Capital adequacy ratio

	2004	2003
Capital adequacy ratio	26.45%	25.31%
Adjusted capital adequacy ratio	26.42%	25.30%

The Capital adequacy ratio ("CAR") is computed on the combined basis, as specified by the HKMA for its regulatory purposes and in accordance with the Third Schedule of the Banking Ordinance.

The adjusted CAR taking into account market risk exposure as at the balance sheet date is computed in accordance with the guideline on "Maintenance of Adequate Capital Against Market Risks" under the Supervisory Policy Manual issued by the HKMA and on the same basis as for the unadjusted CAR.

(2) Components of capital base after deductions

The consolidated capital base after deductions used in the calculation of the above capital adequacy ratios as at 31 December 2004 and 31 December 2003 and reported to the HKMA is analysed as follows:

	2004	2003
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Core capital:		
Paid up ordinary share capital	300,000	300,000
Reserves	2,761,842	2,619,428
Profit and loss account	152,699	148,105
	3,214,541	3,067,533
Supplementary capital:		
Premises and investment properties revaluation		
reserves	224	224
General provisions for doubtful debts	158,182	156,664
Total capital base	3,372,947	3,224,421
Deductions from total capital base:		
Shareholdings in subsidiaries or holding company	(3,913)	(3,913)
Exposures to connected companies	(75,789)	(75,720)
Investments in the capital of other banks or other		, ,
financial institutions	(653)	(653)
	(80,355)	(80,286)
Total capital base after deductions	3,292,592	3,144,135

UNAUDITED SUPPLEMENTARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION (Continued)

(3) Liquidity ratio

	2004	2003_
Average liquidity ratio	51.25%	57.25%

The average liquidity ratio is calculated as the simple average of each calendar month's average liquidity ratio of the Bank for the year.

The liquidity ratio is computed on the solo basis (the Hong Kong offices only) and is in accordance with the Fourth Schedule of the Banking Ordinance.

(4) Currency concentrations

The following is a summary of the major foreign currency exposures arising from trading, non-trading and structural positions. The net options position is calculated based on the worst-case approach set out in the prudential return "Foreign Currency Position" issued by the HKMA.

				20	~ -			
			E	quivalent in th		IK\$		
	US Dollars	Euro	Canadian Dollars	Australian Dollars	New Zealand Dollars	Renminbi Yuan	Others	Total
Spot assets	7,058,388	123,660	155,509	921,064	285,324	241,235	340,038	9,125,218
Spot liabilities Forward	(6,046,774)	(169,163)	(167,376)	(886,058)	(287,789)	(250,839)	(986,911)	(8,794,910)
purchases Forward sales	79,319 (333,081)	71,864 (26,457)	14,211 (2,586)	4,242 (38,629)	3,734 (3,075)	12,746 (4,000)	699,617 (45,672)	885,733 (453,500)
Net long /(short)								
position	757,852	(96)	(242)	619	(1,806)	(858)	7,072	762,541
Net Structural position	_	-	_	_	_	93,941	-	93,941
					03			
]	Equivalent in th		K\$		
	US Dollars	Euro	Canadian Dollars	Australian Dollars	New Zealand Dollars	Renminbi Yuan	Others	Total
Spot assets Spot	5,792,701	131,204	237,936	1,006,772	483,273	124,204	362,817	8,138,907
liabilities Forward	(5,296,278)	(210,647)	(233,985)	(1,035,123)	(477,126)	(129,878)	(1,067,108)	(8,450,145)
purchases Forward sales	51,895 (385,230)	105,303 (24,975)	4,808 (7,993)	40,081 (7,580)	2,037 (7,662)	(214)	729,157 (24,805)	933,281 (458,459)
Net long /(short)	1 (2 000	005	- 00	4.450		(5.000)		162.504
position	163,088	885	766	4,150	522	(5,888)	61	163,584
Net Structural position		-	_		_	-		

UNAUDITED SUPPLEMENTARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION (Continued)

(5) Segmental information

(a) Sectoral analysis of gross advances to customers

The information concerning gross advances to customers has been analysed into loans used inside or outside Hong Kong by industry sectors of the borrowers as follows:

	2004	2003
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Lagra for was in Hone Warra		
Loans for use in Hong Kong Industrial, commercial and financial		
- Property development	469,928	490,529
- Property investment	1,518,515	1,503,078
- Financial concerns	300,783	300,163
- Stockbrokers	2,394	3,481
- Wholesale and retail trade	661,125	795,173
- Manufacturing	890,894	725,395
- Transport and transport equipment	123,143	63,298
- Others	595,017	855,061
Individuals - Loans for the purchase of flats in Home Ownership Scheme, Private Sector Participation Scheme and Tenants Purchase Scheme - Loans for the purchase of other residential	152,903	174,042
properties	2,414,109	2,655,325
- Others	356,836	394,972
Total loans for use in Hong Kong	7,485,647	7,960,517
Trade finance	874,176	671,294
Loans for use outside Hong Kong	625,739	409,610
Gross advances to customers	8,985,562	9,041,421

(b) Geographical analysis of gross advances to customers, overdue advances and non-performing loans

The following geographical analysis of gross advances to customers, advances overdue for over three months and non-performing loans ("NPLs") is based on the location of the counterparties, after taking into account the transfer of risk in respect of such advances where appropriate.

UNAUDITED SUPPLEMENTARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION (Continued)

(5) Segmental information (continued)

(b) Geographical analysis of gross advances to customers, overdue advances and non-performing loans (continued)

(i) Gross advances to customers

	2004	2003
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Hong Kong	8,369,354	8,565,803
Mainland China	616,208	475,618
	8,985,562	9,041,421

(ii) Advances overdue for over three months

	2004	2003
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Hong Kong	166,793	242,537
Mainland China	42,822	94,013
	209,615	336,550

(iii) Non-performing loans

	2004	2003
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Hong Kong	186,430	294,413
Mainland China	80,280	93,218
	266,710	387,631

(6) Cross-border claims

The information on cross-border claims discloses exposures to foreign counterparties on which the ultimate risk lies, and is derived according to the location of the counterparties after taking into account any transfer of risk. In general, such transfer of risk takes place if the claims are guaranteed by a party in a country, which is different from that of the counterparty or if the claims are on an overseas branch of a bank whose head office is located in another country. Only regions constituting 10% or more of the aggregate cross-border claims are analysed by geographical areas and disclosed as follows:

UNAUDITED SUPPLEMENTARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION (Continued)

(6) Cross-border claims (continued)

	Banks and other financial institutions HK\$'000	Others HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
At 31 December 2004			
Asia, other than Hong Kong - Mainland China - Others	4,354,000 2,962,000 7,316,000	365,000 141,000 506,000	4,719,000 3,103,000 7,822,000
Western Europe - United Kingdom - Others	2,315,000 7,989,000 10,304,000	240,000 240,000	2,315,000 8,229,000 10,544,000
Total	17,620,000	746,000	18,366,000
	Banks and other financial institutions HK\$'000	Others HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
At 31 December 2003			
Asia, other than Hong Kong	4,562,000	395,000	4,957,000
Western Europe	10,348,000	474,000	10,822,000
Total	14,910,000	869,000	15,779,000

UNAUDITED SUPPLEMENTARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION (Continued)

(7) Overdue and rescheduled assets

(a) Overdue and non-performing loans

	2004		20	03
	Amount HK\$'000	% of gross advances to customers	Amount HK\$'000	% of gross advances to customers
Gross advances to customers which have been overdue for: - six months or less but over three months - one year or less but over six months	29,271 2,022	0.33% 0.02%	12,320 7,185	0.14% 0.08%
- over one year	178,322	1.98%	317,045	3.50%
Amount overdue for over three months Less: Amount overdue for over three months and on which interest is still being accrued	209,615	2.33%	336,550	3.72%
Add: Amount overdue for three months or less and on which interest is being placed in suspense or on which interest accrual has ceased - included in rescheduled advances - others	3,795 55,345	0.04% 0.62%	11,235 40,671	0.13% 0.45%
Gross non-performing loans	266,710	2.97%	387,631	4.29%

At 31 December 2004 and 31 December 2003, there were no advances to banks and other financial institutions that were overdue for over three months.

(b) Rescheduled advances to customers

	200	04	2003	3
	% of gross		_	% of gross
		advances to		advances to
	Amount	<u>customers</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>customers</u>
	HK\$'000		HK\$'000	
Rescheduled advances to customers	3,796	0.04%	12,961	0.14%

UNAUDITED SUPPLEMENTARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION (Continued)

(7) Overdue and rescheduled assets (continued)

(b) Rescheduled advances to customers (continued)

Advances with a specific repayment date are classified as overdue when the principal or interest is overdue and remains unpaid. Advances repayable by regular instalments are classified as overdue when an instalment payment is overdue and remains unpaid. Advances repayable on demand are classified as overdue either when a demand for repayment has been served on the borrower but repayment has not been made in accordance with the instruction or when the advances have remained continuously outside the approved limit that was advised to the borrower.

Rescheduled advances are those advances that have been restructured or renegotiated because of a deterioration in the financial position of the borrower or of the inability of the borrower to meet the original repayment schedule and for which the revised repayment terms, either of interest or of repayment period, are non-commercial. Rescheduled advances, which have been overdue for more than three months under the revised repayment terms, are included in overdue advances. Rescheduled advances are stated after deduction of accrued interest that has been charged to customers but accrued to a suspense account and before deduction of specific provisions.

As at 31 December 2004 and 31 December 2003, there were no rescheduled advances to banks and other financial institutions.

(8) Repossessed assets held

	2004	2003
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Repossessed assets held	110,754	118,583

Repossessed assets are properties or securities in respect of which the Group has acquired access or control (e.g. through court proceedings or voluntary actions by the borrowers concerned) for release in full or in part of the obligations of the borrowers. Upon repossession of the assets, the related loans and advances will continue to be recorded as loans and advances until all collection efforts have been exhausted and the repossessed assets are realised. Specific provisions will be made after taking into account the market value of the repossessed assets which are yet to be disposed. Upon disposal of the repossessed assets, any specific provisions previously made will be utilised to write off the loans and advances.

UNAUDITED SUPPLEMENTARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION (Continued)

(9) Risk management

Overview

The principal types of risk inherent in the Group's business include credit risk, market risk (exchange rate risk), interest rate risk, liquidity risk and operational risk. The Group's risk management goal is to maximise its return on capital while maintaining risk exposure within acceptable parameters.

Risk Management Structure

The Group's risk management policies are designed to identify and analyse credit risk, market risk, interest rate risk, liquidity risk and operational risk, to set appropriate risk limits, and to continually monitor these risks and limits by means of administrative procedures and information systems. The Group continually modifies and enhances its risk management policies and procedures to reflect changes in markets and products.

To achieve the Group's risk management goals, the Group has established a centralised risk management structure that involves the following elements:

- a corporate governance structure to provide active oversight and participation by the Board of Directors, committees and senior management;
- reporting lines that are independent of the Group's Business Units;
- uniform risk management policies, procedures and limits by which the Group identifies, measures, monitors and controls inherent risks;
- improved risk measurement, monitoring and management information systems to support business activities and risk management; and
- clearly defined risk management responsibilities and accountability.

The Group faces the same types of inherent business risks and adopts consistent risk management strategies and policies as its immediate holding company, Bank of China (Hong Kong) Limited ("BOCHK"). The Group executes its risk management strategy independently and functionally reports to BOCHK on a regular basis.

Credit Risk Management

Credit risk is the risk that a customer or counterparty will be unable or unwilling to meet a commitment that it has entered into with the Group. Credit risk arises principally from the Group's lending, trade finance and treasury operations.

The Group's primary goal in credit risk management is to maximise its risk-adjusted rate of return while maintaining its credit risk exposure within acceptable parameters. In particular, the Group has developed and implemented comprehensive policies and procedures to identify, measure, monitor and control credit risk across the organisation. The Group's Board of Directors, with the assistance of the Risk Management Committee, sets the Group's overall risk management strategy and policies, and the Group's overall risk limits and credit authorisation guidelines. The Risk Management Committee is responsible for reviewing and approving the Group's risk management policies and procedures as well as modifications to these policies and procedures. The primary goals of the credit risk management structure are:

- establishing an appropriate credit risk environment;
- enforcing prudent procedures for approving credits;
- maintaining an appropriate credit administration, measurement and monitoring process; and
- ensuring adequate independent oversight and control over credit risk.

UNAUDITED SUPPLEMENTARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION (Continued)

(9) Risk management (continued)

Credit Risk Management (continued)

To be consistent with the Group's overall risk management objectives, the key principles that ensure effective implementation of the Group's credit risk management strategy are:

- balancing the Group's tolerance for risk with the level of expected returns;
- diversifying the Group's loan portfolio by geographic regions, industries, products, customers, maturities and currencies;
- maintaining the independence of the credit review process to ensure risk assessment and monitoring are conducted in an objective, fair and comprehensive manner;
- emphasising the importance of cash flow as an essential factor in assessing borrowers' repayment ability;
- ensuring compliance with legal and regulatory requirements;
- assigning clearly defined credit risk management responsibilities and accountability to each relevant operating unit and staff involved in the risk management process;
- avoiding over-reliance on collaterals and guarantees;
- ensuring accurate measurement and full disclosure of credit risk exposure; and
- maintaining of consistent credit policy.

Credit Risk Management Structure

The Group's Board of Directors, representing the shareholders' overall interests, is responsible for determining its credit risk management strategic objectives and principles. The Board, with the aim of maximising the Group's risk-adjusted returns as well as shareholders' wealth, holds ultimate responsibility for the Group's overall credit risk management process.

The Risk Management Committee is a board level committee that has the responsibility of determining and revising the Group's credit risk management policies and procedures.

The Group believes that independence and proper checks-and-balances are of critical importance in effective risk management. To achieve these purposes, in the Group's managerial/organisational structure, the Credit Risk Management Division ("CRMD") and the Audit Division report directly to the Risk Management Committee and Audit Committee respectively. All these committees and departments form an independent line of control.

In addition, respective responsibilities, accountabilities and authorities related to credit risk management are clearly defined throughout the Group.

The General Manager is responsible for, among other things, implementing the credit risk management strategy and significant policies approved by the Board. The General Manager is also charged with balancing the Group's goal of generating a high yield on its assets and the need to maintain risk exposure within the tolerance levels stipulated by the Risk Management Committee.

The Risk Management Committee has the responsibility for reviewing and approving loans exceeding the credit approval limit of the General Manager.

The Group's credit initiation units, such as Corporate Banking Department, Retail Banking Department, Treasury Division and China Business Division, act as the first line of risk control. They are required to conduct business activities within the limits of delegated authorities and in accordance with the Group's credit risk management strategy, policies and procedures. Multi-level credit approval authorities are set depending mostly on the credit officers' professional experience, skill and responsibilities.

UNAUDITED SUPPLEMENTARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION (Continued)

(9) Risk Management (continued)

Credit Risk Management Structure (continued)

The CRMD, being structurally independent from credit initiation units, reports to and assists the General Manager in managing credit risk based on the credit risk management strategies and policies. It also provides independent analysis and review for the purpose of identifying, measuring, monitoring and controlling credit risk.

To avoid any potential conflicts of interest, the credit review functions are independent of the business development units.

The CRMD is also responsible for the collection of NPL.

Credit Approval Procedures

The Group employs discriminatory approval procedures for high-risk loans and low-risk loans. All credit approval and review authorities are originated from the Group's Board of Directors.

Low-risk loans that fulfil certain requirements relating to loan types, loan purposes, loan amount, guarantee, collateral coverage and security adequacy can be approved by authorised credit officers in the credit initiation units without prior review of the CRMD. Loan review officers in the CRMD conduct independent post-approval reviews and assess if initial credit decisions have been made in accordance with the established policies and procedures.

On the other hand, high-risk loans are subject to pre-approval review by the review officers in the CRMD to assess compliance with policies and procedures, adequacy of credit risk assessment, and information sufficiency. The CRMD is authorised to exercise the right of veto or concurrence based on the review conclusions.

Credit Risk Assessment

The result of credit risk assessment is a critical factor in making credit decisions. The Group's credit assessment emphasises a thorough understanding of the purpose and structure of the loan, the borrower's financial status, cash flow position and repayment ability as well as business management. The Group also evaluates the industry risk associated with the corporate borrowers. When assessing an individual loan application, the Group considers overall credit risk at the portfolio level.

Credit Risk Monitoring

The Group has well-established policies and procedures by means of robust and just-in-time administrative information systems. An independent dedicated section in CRMD conducts thorough and comprehensive monitoring of each obligor and group of obligors to identify and control the individual and overall credit risk in the loan portfolio.

An early alert program for potential problem customers has been established in order to detect early signs of deterioration in the credit status of obligors and trigger close monitoring to prevent further deterioration. Also, conservative collateral discount policy has been implemented to reflect the current stagnant property market in Hong Kong.

To achieve sustainable reduction of the NPLs and improvement in asset quality, the Group has established internal targets to evaluate the effort and performance in the resolution of criticised loans. CRMD provides regular monitoring reports to senior management for high-level oversight. An incentive scheme has also been developed to provide appreciation and reward to those who have made the most contribution and merit in the process.

UNAUDITED SUPPLEMENTARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION (Continued)

(9) Risk Management (continued)

Market Risk Management

Market risk is the risk of losses in on- and off-balance sheet positions arising from changes in interest rates, foreign exchange rates and equity prices, on the Group's assets, liabilities and commitments

The Group's market risk is originated from the holding of its foreign exchange position, debt securities and derivatives in its trading books. The Group does not engage in proprietary trading in foreign exchange and equity instruments. The Group's trading activities on foreign exchange and derivative instruments mainly arise from the execution of trade orders from customers and positions taken in order to hedge other elements of the trading books.

The Group's maximum market risk exposures in different activities are set by management. Exposures are measured and monitored on the basis of principal (or notional) amount, outstanding position and stop-loss limit, and are controlled within the limits approved by the management for each business unit, business type and in aggregate.

The Group has met the "de minimis" criteria set out in the Maintenance of Adequate Capital Against Market Risk guideline issued by the HKMA. As a result, the Group considers that the market risk arising from its trading book is not material and no further qualitative or quantitative disclosure is made of market risk in these accounts.

Foreign Exchange Risk Management

The Group provides foreign exchange deposit, margin trading and forward transaction services to its customers. Foreign exchange risk is the risk arising from changes in foreign exchange rates on the Group's assets, liabilities and commitments, thus causing profits or losses.

The Group's exchange exposures mainly comprise of currency exposures originated from its commercial banking business. It is the Group's policy to close out foreign exchange positions by the end of the business day. The Settlement Section in Operation Division ensures that all foreign currency transactions are conducted in accordance with the guidelines established by management.

Interest Rate Risk Management

The Group's balance sheet consists predominantly of Hong Kong dollar-denominated interest rate sensitive assets and liabilities. The Group's primary sources of interest rate risk are mismatches in the maturities or re-pricing periods of these assets and liabilities and movements in market interest rates. In addition, different pricing bases for different transactions may also lead to interest rate risk for the Group's assets and liabilities within the same re-pricing period.

Interest rate risk management is to limit potential adverse effects of interest rate movements on net interest income. The Risk Management Committee sets up strict internal guidelines to monitor and control interest rate exposures. The Assets and Liabilities Management Committee formulates strategies to manage the Group's money market operations, investment in bills, commercial papers, certificates of deposit and notes. Only small interest rate positions may be taken for yield enhancement within the risk limits.

UNAUDITED SUPPLEMENTARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION (Continued)

(9) Risk Management (continued)

Liquidity Risk Management

Liquidity risk arises in the funding of lending, trading and investment activities and in the management of trading positions. Liquidity risk includes both the risk of unexpected increase in the cost of funding to refinance the Group's asset portfolio at appropriate maturities and the risk of being unable to liquidate a position in a timely manner and/or at a reasonable price. The goal of liquidity management is for the Group to be able, even under adverse market conditions, to meet all its maturing repayment obligations on time and to fund all its asset growth and strategic opportunities. The Group's average liquidity ratio of 51.25% for the year ended 31 December 2004 was well above the statutory minimum ratio of 25%.

The Group maintains flexibility in meeting its funding requirements by maintaining diverse sources of liquidity. The Group funds its operations principally by accepting deposits from retail and corporate depositors. The Group also borrows in the short-term interbank markets, although it is typically a net lender of funds. In addition, the Group from time to time raises funds through the disposal of investments.

The Group uses the majority of funds raised to extend loans, to make investments in debt securities or to conduct interbank placements. Generally, the average maturity of deposits is shorter than that of loans or investments but is longer than that of interbank placements.

The primary goal of the Group's asset and liability management strategy is to achieve an optimal return while ensuring adequate levels of liquidity and capital within an effective risk control framework and at reasonable cost of funding. The Assets and Liabilities Management Committee is responsible for establishing these policy directives and works closely with the Finance Division to ensure that the Group maintains adequate levels of liquidity and secures the lowest possible cost of funding, while closely planning and monitoring the Group's on- and off-balance sheet assets and liabilities with regard to the risk incurred. The Finance Division provides reporting and analytical services to Assets and Liabilities Management Committee with respect to current and planned positions taken for investment, funding and foreign exchange management purposes. In particular, the Group has implemented various measures to:

- improve its management information system to provide timely information on the movement of its liquid assets and that of its customer deposits on a daily, weekly and monthly basis;
- monitor liquidity ratios in compliance with the HKMA's requirements;
- prepare regular maturity gap analysis to enable management to review and monitor the Group's liquidity position on a timely basis;
- conduct scenario analysis to estimate the impact of various risk factors on the liquidity position;
- establish a range of liquidity risk factors for monitoring purposes and a liquidity risk warning index system to detect early signs of any irregularities; and
- create a three-tier response system to effectively deal with any emergencies.

UNAUDITED SUPPLEMENTARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION (Continued)

(9) Risk Management (continued)

Capital Management

The Group monitors the adequacy of its capital using the CAR as one of the major measurements, which is subject to the Hong Kong Monetary Authority's regulatory requirements. The Group maintains its capital to comply with all the statutory standards for all the periods presented in the report. The Assets and Liabilities Management Committee, with the assistance of the Finance Division, monitors the adequacy of its capital using the CAR as one of the major measurements, which is subject to HKMA's regulatory requirements. On combined basis, the Bank's unadjusted CAR and adjusted CAR incorporating market risk were 26.45% and 26.42% at 31 December 2004 respectively. Both were well above the statutory minimum ratio of 8%.

Operational Risk Management

Operational risk is the risk of loss resulting from inadequate or the failure of internal processes, people and systems or from external events. It is the Group's objective to manage this risk consistent with the best practice of the industry.

In order to achieve effective internal controls, the Group maintains adequate documentation of its business processes and operating procedures. It also emphasises proper segregation of duties and independent authorisation among all business activities.

Every department is primarily responsible for establishing procedures managing operational risk and within its own business functions. This is monitored by the Compliance Section and Audit Division, which play an important role in the periodic review of various business operations.

Our Business Continuity Plan is further enhanced in 2004. Adequate facilities are maintained and tested for the recovery of critical business functions in the event of a disaster. The Group also arranges insurance cover to mitigate potential losses in respect of operational risk.

UNAUDITED SUPPLEMENTARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION (Continued)

(10) Regulatory development

The New Basel Capital Accord

In June 2004, the Basel Committee released the New Capital Accord (also referred to as Basel II). Basel II will be implemented globally by end-2006. All internationally active banks in the major financial markets around the world will follow Basel II. The HKMA has announced that local banks will follow the same timetable of the Basel Committee and Hong Kong is among the first to announce the implementation proposals.

Firstly, Basel II helps promote the safety and stability of the banking sector. In assessing the capital requirements for credit risk, a more "risk-sensitive" approach will be adopted. Banks will be required to hold more capital against high-risk lending. Furthermore, banks will, for the first time, be required to hold capital against operational risk - the risk of loss from inadequate or failed internal processes, people or systems, or from external events. In addition to credit risk, market risk and operational risk, banks will be required to assess the full range of other type of risks they run and determine how much capital to hold against them. Secondly, Basel II will help promote the adoption of advanced risk management practices. Thirdly, Basel II requires greater public disclosure about a bank's business.

The Group has formulated an implementation plan for Basel II according to the requirements of the Basel Committee and the HKMA. We are developing the required internal risk management system and conducting researches on the whole capital adequacy assessment process. The internal ratings-based approach will also be gradually adopted in our business decisions. In 2005, we will closely follow the latest requirements relating to the Basel II set by the HKMA and carry out its implementation plan step by step.

REVIEW AND PROSPECTS BY MANAGEMENT

In 2004, the Hong Kong economy resumed its growth momentum. Exports and domestic demands continued to grow, the property and equity markets gradually recovered. The GDP growth is expected to be about 8.0% for the whole year.

The banking industry has been facing abundance of market capitals, low market rates and a weak demand for loans. In effect, the net interest margin of the industry narrowed, and banks in Hong Kong are more deliberate on offering personal wealth management services to gain a larger share of non-interest income. Furthermore, they have expanded their businesses in Mainland China more enthusiastically.

In 2004, the Bank achieved a profit attributable to shareholders of HK\$493 million, an increase of 1.6% compared with 2003. Return on average shareholders' funds and return on average assets were 14.74% and 1.60% respectively.

The declining market interest rate and intensive market competition led to a fall in the contribution from interest free funds, and lower loan interest spread. Net interest spread narrowed by 6 basis points to 1.77%, and net interest margin reduced by 6 basis points to 1.84%. Net interest income was HK\$535 million, a reduction of 4% compared with 2003.

During the year, the Bank made efforts to widen its range of personal wealth management services and develop innovative products to serve our customers' needs, as well as enlarging our income sources. The non-interest income to total revenue increased from 26.92% to 29.34%. Other operating income increased by 8.2% to HK\$222 million compared with 2003.

The operating expenses increased by 4% to HK\$210 million compared with 2003. However, through effective utilization of resources and cost controls, a comparatively low cost-to-income ratio of 27.78% has been maintained.

The Bank has continued to improve asset quality and enhance credit risks control. The non-performing loans ratio dropped from 4.29% to 2.97% compared with the end of 2003. The charge for bad and doubtful debts decreased by 56.6% compared with 2003.

At the end of 2004, the Bank reported an increase in consolidated total asset by HK\$116 million to HK\$30.93 billion. Loans and advances to customers were dropped by 0.6% to HK\$8.99 billion. Deposits from customers rose by 2.0% to HK\$24.76 billion.

In 2005, the Bank will put emphasis on providing high quality wealth management services. We will expand the professional sales team in the personal wealth management services. To further cultivate the Small Medium Enterprises market, the Bank will also strengthen the corporate banking services sales team, so as to underpin our competitive advantages in this sector. The Bank will continue to explore more innovative products and services to meet the demands of our customers, particularly, in the personal wealth management services. The Bank will also continue to expand business in the Pearl River Delta region, the Yangtze River Delta region, as well as Fujian Province.

REVIEW AND PROSPECTS BY MANAGEMENT (CONTINUED)

In 2005, China's economy will sustain its growth rate. The Hong Kong economic and business environment will further improve, but the competition in banking industry will remain intense. We are convinced that, with the competence of the management and the entire staff, the Bank will continue to capitalize on every business opportunity arising from the growing economies of Hong Kong and Mainland China. The Bank will also allocate resources to ensure that the corporate governance is in line with international best practices. May we take this opportunity to express our thanks to our valued customers for their years support. We are committed to serve with our superior service all the time.

March 2005

BRANCH NETWORK

BRANCH (Br.)	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE	
HONG KONG ISLAND			
Central Br.	78, Des Voeux Road Central, Hong Kong	2843 1817	
North Point Br.	390-394 King's Road, North Point, Hong Kong	2570 6381	
Wanchai Br.	325 Hennessy Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong	2572 2823	
Sheung Wan Br.	22-24 Bonham Strand West, Hong Kong	2544 1678	
Western Br.	429-431 Queen's Road West, Hong Kong	2548 2298	
Quarry Bay Br.	997 King's Road, Quarry Bay, Hong Kong	2811 3131	
<u>KOWLOON</u>			
Hung Hom Br.	23-25 Gillies Avenue, Hung Hom, Kowloon	2362 0051	
Kwun Tong Br.	42-44 Mut Wah Street, Kwun Tong, Kowloon	2343 4174	
Sham Shui Po Br.	235-237 Laichikok Road, Kowloon	2789 8668	
San Po Kong Br.	61-63 Hong Keung Street, San Po Kong, Kowloon	2328 5691	
Yau Ma Tei Br.	117-119 Shanghai Street, Yaumatei, Kowloon	2332 2533	
Castle Peak Road Br.	226-228 Castle Peak Road, Kowloon	2720 5187	
Kowloon Bay Br.	Shop 10, G/F., Kai Lok House, Kai Yip Estate, Kowloon Bay, 2796 8968 Kowloon		
Tokwawan Br.	G/F, Shop 11-13, 78 Tokwawan Road, Kowloon	2765 6118	
Tsz Wan Shan Br.	Shop 202, 2/F., Tsz Wan Shan Shopping Centre, 23 Yuk Wah ST., Tsz Wan Shan	2322 3313	
NEW TERRITORIES	S		
Tuen Mun Yau Oi	Shop 103-104, G/F Restaurant Block Yau Oi Estate Tuen Mun	2452 3666	
Estate Br. Kwai Hing Estate Br.	N. T. Shop 1, G/F, Hing Yat House, Kwai Hing Estate, Kwai Chung, N. T.	2487 3332	
Tai Po Tai Wo Estate	Shop 112-114, G/F., On Wo House, Tai Wo Estate, Tai Po, N. T	. 2656 3386	
Belvedere Garden Br.	Shop 5A, G/F., Belvedere Square, Tsuen Wan, N.T	2411 6789	
Tsuen Wan Br.	Shop 1 and 1D, Level 2, Discovery Park Commercial Centre, Tsuen Wan, N.T.	2413 8111	
Shatin Sui Wo Court	Shop F7, Commercial Centre, Sui Wo Court, Shatin, N.T.	2601 5888	
Ma On Shan Br.	Shop 313, Level 3, Ma On Shan Plaza Bayshore Tower, Ma On Shan, N.T.	2640 0733	
Sheung Tak Estate Br.	Shop 238, Sheung Tak Shopping Centre, Sheung Tak Est., Tseung Kwan O, N.T.	2178 2278	
THE MAINLAND OI	F CHINA		
Xiamen Branch	1/F, 859 Xiahe Road, Xiamen, Fujian Province, China	(86-592) 585 1691	
Fuzhou Branch	1/F, International Bldg., 210 Wusi Road, Fuzhou, Fujian Province, China	(86-591) 781 0078	