

Press Release

For immediate release

**The Asian Banker and BAFT renew agreement to collaborate on
The 10th Asian Banker Summit**

Singapore, November 4, 2008 - The Bankers' Association for Finance and Trade (BAFT) has renewed the agreement with The Asian Banker to continue operating its annual Asian conference as part of The Asian Banker Summit in 2009. The joint conference will be called The BAFT Asia Conference on Cash, Treasury and Trade.

"This agreement is part of our increased commitment to engage the Asian financial services community in exploring opportunities and discussing solutions for these challenging times," said Chuck Silverman, president of BAFT's board of directors and managing director of Wachovia Bank. "The frame work for the banking industry is evolving in Asia and around the world. Organizations like BAFT and The Asian Banker will have a key role to play in supporting the profitable, ethical, and safe conduct of banking as this new world unfolds. The forum will provide invaluable insights for navigating the crisis and building towards the future."

The agreement provides for BAFT's annual Asian conference to be held in conjunction with The Asian Banker Summit 2009, which every year brings together more than 800 senior executives from financial institutions, as well as senior regulators and investors to discuss global issues transforming the banking industry.

"The Asian Banker Summit has matured over the last ten years into Asia's community of senior-most banking and regulatory decision-makers who are committed to unflinching analyses of the most pressing questions faced by our industry," said Emmanuel Daniel, president of The Asian Banker. "Building on the resounding success of last year's Summit in Hanoi, BAFT and The Asian Banker have decided to renew the agreement to collaborate on the Summit in 2009. Key players and global leaders will come together to distill clarity on issues ranging from counterparty risks to managing level 3 assets, from bank-regulator engagement across jurisdictions to ROIs of technology investments during downturns. This is a landmark meeting for an unprecedented crisis to steer us during the difficult times that still lie ahead of us."

The conference will run alongside The Asian Banker Summit's other three conferences on risk management, technology and regulation as the single most important annual event for senior decision makers in the financial institutions industry. It will be held in Beijing from May 10 to May 13, 2009, featuring a wide range of global speakers.

About The Asian Banker

The Asian Banker is a research and intelligence company dedicated to providing incisive and up-to-date information and analysis on strategic developments in the financial services industry.

The Company offers the unique combination of the skills of researchers and journalists as well as organises forums to develop a keen perspective on strategic issues and the drivers in the industry.

The Asian Banker was founded by Mr. Emmanuel Daniel in September 1996. Incorporated as T.A.B. International Pte Ltd in Singapore, the Company begun as the publisher of Asian Banker Journal, a

regional publication covering the business of commercial banking.

The publication has grown from strength to strength to become the flagship product of the company and the leading commentator on developments in the Asia Pacific's financial services industry. For more details, please visit www.theasianbanker.com

Contact Information

For further details on the conference programme, please contact Mr. Jeremy Sim at Tel: + 65 62366497 or email: jsim@theasianbanker.com.

For sponsorship / exhibition enquiries, please contact Ms. Caroline Grimont at Tel: +65 62366531 or email: cgrimont@theasianbanker.com.

For more information on The Asian Banker Summit 2009, please visit www.asianbankerforums.com/summit2009.