

OVERSEA-CHINESE BANKING CORPORATION LIMITED
(Incorporated in the Republic of Singapore)

PROPOSED SALE OF 43.33% STAKE IN RAFFLES HOTEL (1886) LTD

OCBC Bank wishes to announce that its associated company, Raffles Investments Limited (“Raffles Investments”), has on 15 November 2003, entered into a conditional sale and purchase agreement with Raffles Centre (Private) Limited for the sale of a 43.33% stake in Raffles Hotel (1886) Ltd (the “Sale”) for a consideration of \$53 million, payable in cash. The Sale is subject to the approval of shareholders of Raffles Investments at an extraordinary general meeting.

In line with its on-going initiatives to divest non core investments, OCBC Bank has provided an undertaking to Raffles Centre (Private) Limited to vote in favour of the Sale at an extraordinary general meeting of Raffles Investments, if convened.

Raffles Investments is a 49.83% held associated company of OCBC Bank. The principal activities of Raffles Investments and its subsidiaries (“Raffles Investments Group”) are those of investment holding and investment dealing. Raffles Hotel (1886) Ltd is the owner and operator of the Raffles Hotel cum Shopping Arcade.

The net tangible asset value attributable to the sale shares as at 31 December 2002 was \$60.4 million.

Financial Effects

Based on the accounts of OCBC Bank and subsidiaries (the “Group”) for the year ended 31 December 2002, the Sale is not expected to have a material impact on the net tangible assets or earnings per share of OCBC Bank or the Group for the current financial year.

Based on the unaudited consolidated accounts of the Raffles Investments Group as at 30 September 2003, the net book value of its 43.33% stake in Raffles Hotel (1886) Ltd was \$23.5 million.

Interests

OCBC Bank has direct and deemed interests of 8.03% of Raffles Holdings Limited (a company listed on the Singapore Exchange). Raffles Centre (Private) Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary of Raffles Holdings Limited.

Issued by
Oversea-Chinese Banking Corporation Limited

Peter Yeoh
Company Secretary

Singapore
17 November 2003