2014 was an important year for OCBC as we took a major strategic step to deepen our regional presence.

We have broadened our geographical footprint in Greater China – China, Hong Kong, Taiwan and now Macau – with the acquisition of Wing Hang Bank. We are now better positioned to seize in-market opportunities and have extended our reach and capabilities in capturing the fast growing trade, capital, investment and wealth flows between North and Southeast Asia. We have secured a strong funding base in Greater China and enhanced our access to the US dollar and Renminbi to support our customers' growing cross-border needs in trade and investments. We increased our investment in Bank of Ningbo, solidifying our partnership as it became an associated company of the Group. We are privileged to have received a provisional foreign bank licence in Myanmar and we look forward to having this attractive market as part of our franchise.

Our expanded network now offers customers convenient access to over 630 branches and representative offices spanning 18 countries and territories. With our compelling mix of a wide geographical coverage, a broad suite of products and services as well as an embedded culture of prudent risk taking, we are firmly positioned to deliver sustained long-term value to our shareholders, customers and employees.