

**LAUNCH OF OCBC WEALTH PANEL IS WELL-TIMED TO
ADDRESS TODAY'S VOLATILE MARKET CONDITIONS TO
HELP CLIENTS MAKE INFORMED INVESTMENT DECISIONS**

With vast collective investment experience, the OCBC Wealth Panel offers a holistic and insightful view of markets to its Premier Banking clients

Singapore, 11 July 2011 – Oversea-Chinese Banking Corporation Limited (“OCBC Bank”) announced today the official launch of the OCBC Wealth Panel for its Premier Banking client base. Comprising six leading financial experts from OCBC Group – OCBC Bank, OCBC Investment Research and Lion Global Investors – the OCBC Wealth Panel addresses the various factors affecting investment decisions.

Given the uncertainties facing the global economy and financial markets today, it has become even more critical for investors to have a holistic view of the risks, upsides, and trends of different investment options such as equities, commodities, currencies, bonds and interest rates put together in a clear and simple manner that is relevant and actionable.

Today, most market outlook reports choose to either analyse a couple of investment classes focusing on commodities and currencies, or give general economic commentaries. From our customer insights, we found that investors have been yearning for a comprehensive outlook report that covers all aspects of the investment landscape, without having to look elsewhere for additional information and piecing them together on their own. In other words, they want a one-stop shop report for investment information. This is what the OCBC Wealth Panel aims to do.

The OCBC Wealth Panel is made up of six members who are chosen based on their wide-ranging experiences and sterling track records in providing advice to its high net worth Premier Banking clients. Each member focuses on an area of expertise that forms part of the investment decision making process:

- 1) Mr Lim Wyson, Chairman of the OCBC Wealth Panel and Head of Global Wealth Management, OCBC Bank, has over 20 years of experience in the wealth management industry. He has held various roles from product management, advisory and operations. He will identify the key issues and themes affecting markets and offer broad perspectives of how investors can better manage their wealth.

- 2) Mr Simon Flood, Chief Investment Officer, Lion Global Investors Limited, has held senior investment roles in the asset management industry, covering listed, developed and emerging markets, as well as private, equity markets. He is well-placed to share insights on the risks, upsides and trends of global equities and bonds.
- 3) Ms Selena Ling, Head of Treasury Research & Strategy, OCBC Bank, has 17 years of research experience. She is the Chief Economist at OCBC Bank. She is responsible for treasury market research, forecasts and trading recommendations for the Bank, covering different asset classes, as well as providing macro-economic insights. As a member of the panel, Ms Ling focuses primarily on interest rates and currencies.
- 4) Ms Carmen Lee, Head of OCBC Investment Research, has spent the past 20 years analysing markets and companies listed in Singapore. At OCBC Investment Research, she leads a strong team which topped analyst agency Starmine's earnings estimates category for mid-to-small-cap Singapore-listed stocks in 2007. She provides views on markets and listed companies in the local stock exchange.
- 5) Mr Vasu Menon, Head of Content and Research, Wealth Management Singapore, OCBC Bank, has spent 23 years in the investment and wealth management industries. Prior to joining the Bank, he was head of investment research at a brokerage where he developed a strong reputation in picking small-cap stocks. His role in the panel requires him to formulate investment views and offer insights on commodities.
- 6) Mr Michael Tan, Head of Premier Wealth Advisory, OCBC Bank, has over 25 years of banking experience with half of them spent in a trading capacity. He advises on products and helps clients manage their wealth by assessing their assets and liabilities. He also assesses how current and future events will impact financial markets. He will highlight actionable investment ideas for clients given the views from the other members.

Having weathered major financial crises like the Asian currency crisis in 1997 and the global financial crisis in 2008, our Wealth Panel members are well-versed in the causes and effects of such economic turmoil. As such, they are poised to provide practical tips and astute analyses for clients.

Their collective experience and perception is all the more vital in today's uncertain economic climate. With deep-seated anxieties in Europe, a slowdown in USA and China, and the current recession in Japan, it is imperative that clients are provided with timely, credible and well-researched information and advice.

Such valuable insights by the OCBC Wealth Panel are put together every month according to a topical theme, and shared with the OCBC Premier Banking clients via a monthly *Market Outlook* report, and distributed at investor forums. A soft copy is also available on www.ocbc.com/premier.

Said Mr Lim Wyson: “As individual investors, we have struggled in the past with the lack of a holistic view of various investment risks and trends for us to make sound investment decisions. After validating this gap with our clients, it set the impetus for us to come together as one panel to give like-minded investors a one-stop view of all relevant information. In this regard, we are confident that the OCBC Wealth Panel can help our clients gain access to the knowledge they need to arrive at an informed investment decision, which is especially crucial in these uncertain times.”

He added, “The highly experienced members of the Wealth Panel, who have lived in Asia most of their lives, have an intimate understanding of how global crises have impacted markets in this region, and are well-placed to offer useful insights to our clients.”

About OCBC Bank

OCBC Bank is the longest established Singapore bank, formed in 1932 from the merger of three local banks, the oldest of which was founded in 1912. It is now the second-largest financial services group in Southeast Asia by assets and one of the world’s most highly-rated banks, with an Aa1 rating from Moody’s. It is also ranked by Bloomberg Markets as the world’s strongest bank.

OCBC Bank and its subsidiaries offer a broad array of specialist financial services, ranging from consumer, corporate, investment, private and transaction banking to treasury, insurance, asset management and stockbroking services.

OCBC Bank’s key markets are Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia and Greater China. It has a network of 500 branches and representative offices in 15 countries and territories, including 400 branches and offices in Indonesia that are operated by its subsidiary, Bank OCBC NISP.

OCBC Bank’s insurance subsidiary, Great Eastern Holdings, is the largest insurance group in Singapore and Malaysia by assets. Its asset management subsidiary, Lion Global Investors, is one of the largest private sector asset management companies in Southeast Asia. Private banking services are provided by subsidiary Bank of Singapore, which has been ranked among the top five global private banks in Asia.

For more information, please visit www.ocbc.com