

Approval Received to Commence Preparations for Establishment of Subsidiary Bank in China

On December 22, 2006, Mizuho Corporate Bank, Ltd. (MHCB: President & CEO, Hiroshi Saito) received approval of its application submitted to the China Banking Regulatory Committee and the CBRC Shanghai Office to begin preparations for the establishment in China of a wholly-owned MHCB banking subsidiary, Mizuho Corporate Bank (China), Ltd., in accordance with the *Regulations of the People's Republic of China on Administration of Foreign-funded Banks* and the related rules, which were promulgated and became effective on December 11, 2006.

Steps taken by MHCB to expand operations and prepare for the establishment of a banking subsidiary in China were well-received by the supervisory authorities. As such, MHCB and eight other financial institutions were the first group of banks to be granted approval to begin preparations for the establishment of banking subsidiaries in China.

MHCB is moving forward with preparations to establish the head office in Shanghai and four branches (Beijing, Shenzhen, Dalian and Wuxi) of its new banking subsidiary and to transfer the business of MHCB's five existing China branches to the new banking subsidiary, which is planned to commence operations in the first half of FY2007.

MHCB anticipates that the establishment of its new banking subsidiary in China will produce the following benefits, making it possible for Mizuho to respond to the needs of its customers with even greater speed and precision:

- Enable handling of RMB deposit-taking and lending business through all Mizuho branches in China
- Facilitate license acquisition for new business (derivatives, securitization, etc.)
- Facilitate expansion of the office network in China (in addition to enabling Mizuho to submit simultaneous applications for multiple offices, it is also anticipated that the examination period for such application will be shortened)

Plans for the new banking subsidiary are being made in anticipation of large-scale future expansion, including arrangements for offices in the World Financial Center, a landmark 101-story building currently under construction (completion planned for spring 2008) by the Mori Building Corporation.