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Mizuho Corporate Bank, Ltd.

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

**MHCB to Provide Services in Hong Kong
for RMB-denominated Trade Transactions**

Mizuho Corporate Bank, Ltd. (“MHCB”; Yasuhiro Sato, President & CEO) announces that on July 6, MHCB’s Hong Kong Branch concluded an agreement with the Bank of China (Shanghai Branch) concerning the opening of trade settlement accounts to handle RMB-denominated trade settlement transactions. Previously, trade settlement with Chinese companies had to be carried out using the U.S. dollar or other foreign currencies, but going forward, financing and settlement of trade transactions with China can be denominated in RMB.

As the first step towards internationalization of the RMB, the People’s Bank of China (China’s central bank) announced a pilot program allowing RMB-denominated trade settlement between designated companies in Shanghai and in four major cities of Guangdong Province (hereafter “Designated Companies”) and Hong Kong, Macao, and ten ASEAN countries, starting on July 1, 2009. Excluding Chinese banks, MHCB is among first group of banks to commence this RMB settlement business.

In light of the increasing importance of international trade to China, MHCB will take this opportunity to provide business solutions that will provide faster settlement for cross-border trade with China, reduce RMB foreign-exchange risk, and enable efficient funds management for customers who wish to develop and expand transactions with the Designated Companies.

Reference: Outline of the Bank of China

Established in 1912 as a large state-owned commercial bank, the Bank of China served exclusively as a foreign-exchange bank from 1949 to 1994, and as such, has strengths in international business and foreign exchange. In addition to its more than 10,000 domestic branches in China, the Bank of China currently maintains an overseas network of more than 600 offices in 29 countries/regions.