Establishment of the Mizuho ASEAN PE Fund

Mizuho Corporate Bank (MHCB; President and CEO: Yasuhiro Sato) has decided to establish an ASEAN-focused private equity fund of up to 200 million US dollars with the aim of supporting the expansion of Japanese firms into the ASEAN region. The company in charge of managing the fund, Mizuho Asia Partners Pte., Ltd., has been established in Singapore as a wholly owned subsidiary of MHCB. The fund is scheduled for launch in November of this year. MHCB will commit 125 million US dollars to the fund.

The ASEAN region is ranked just after China and India as having the potential for strong and sustained economic growth. This makes it one of the most attractive markets for Japanese firms in search of their next location for overseas expansion. However, some small- and medium-sized enterprises find it difficult to expand overseas, due to such challenges as sourcing local partners, attracting investment, and managing overseas operations. The primary objective of the fund is to help encourage the expansion of Japanese firms, particularly small- and medium-sized enterprises, into the ASEAN region by investing in companies located there.

Specifically, the fund will partner with Japanese firms to invest jointly in companies located in the ASEAN region. It will then assist those Japanese firms in managing the companies in which they have invested. The fund will also seek out and invest in ASEAN-region companies that have the potential to be good opportunities for investment by Japanese firms. This will promote the creation of strategic alliances between Japanese firms and those ASEAN-region companies.

By fully utilizing the capabilities of the fund, and cooperating with our sister entity, Mizuho Bank, as well as other regional financial institutions, MHCB will continue to support the overseas expansion of small- and medium-sized Japanese companies.

Overview of the Fund:

Name (tentative)	Mizuho ASEAN PE Fund
Size (planned)	Maximum: USD200 million
	(MHCB commitment: USD125 million)
Management company	Mizuho Asia Partners Pte., Ltd.
Investment objective	Investment in ASEAN-region companies with the aim of supporting the expansion of Japanese SMEs into the ASEAN region
To be established	Late October 2012 (subject to regulatory approval)

Overview of Mizuho Asia Partners Pte., Ltd.:

Name	Mizuho Asia Partners Pte., Ltd.
Located	Singapore
Shareholder(s)	Wholly owned by Mizuho Corporate Bank, Ltd.
Number of employees (planned)	8
Core business	Management of a private equity fund in Asia
Planned start date	Late October 2012 (subject to regulatory approval)

Schematic representation of the fund:

