

December 19, 2006

Mizuho Financial Group, Inc.
Mizuho Corporate Bank, Ltd.
Mizuho Securities Co., Ltd.

Financial Holding Company status obtained in the U.S.

Mizuho Corporate Bank, Ltd. (“MHCB”: President and CEO, Hiroshi Saito) is pleased to announce receipt of notification from the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the primary regulatory authority of MHCB in the United States, that its election to become a Financial Holding Company (FHC) under the U.S. Bank Holding Company Act has become effective as of December 18, 2006.

FHC is required for banking groups in the United States to engage in comprehensive investment banking businesses, such as the underwriting and dealing of corporate bonds, equities and other types of securities.

Through the U.S. subsidiaries of Mizuho Securities Co., Ltd. (MHSC), our group has so far been engaging in securities businesses related to U.S. Treasury securities and other U.S. government securities and M&A advisory business. However, as a financial group that is expanding its global operations, we have considered it necessary to obtain FHC status to further expand our investment banking business. We have thus been preparing to obtain FHC status in the United States and successfully obtained the status effective yesterday, enabling us to expand our scope of business through our U.S. subsidiaries.

FHC status will enable our group to promote our investment banking business on a broader basis in the United States, the world’s largest market, in addition to such businesses we already conduct in Japan, Europe and Asia.

As a “Global Financial Player” both MHCB and MHSC will continue efforts to enhance our business platforms in order to provide global level financial solutions.

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