



BNP PARIBAS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BNP PARIBAS APPOINTS NEW HEAD OF TERRITORY IN CHINA

HONG KONG, 6th August, 2007 ---- BNP Paribas is pleased to announce the appointment of François Cristofari as the new Head of Territory of China, based in Shanghai, effective from 1st September 2007.

Reporting to Mignonne Cheng, Head of North & East Asia, François is expected to further solidify the Bank's foothold in mainland China by strengthening its business deliverables in a market that is growing in significance in the Group's growth strategy.

François was most recently the CEO of BNP Paribas Australia & New Zealand, based in Sydney.

François is a seasoned, all-rounded banker, having garnered extensive experience in various business lines. Prior to his Australia posting, François was Head of Corporate Banking Europe and Deputy Head of the Global Corporate Group for BNP Paribas based in France. Since joining the Bank in 1974, he has held a number of management positions within the BNP Paribas Group in Europe and North America.

Commenting on the appointment of François, Jean Clamon, Chief Operating Officer for BNP Paribas said, "BNP Paribas has a significant presence in Asia Pacific in Corporate and Investment Banking, Asset Management, Private Banking and Retail banking. François' appointment will enable us to focus on expanding our operations to capture the significant opportunities and growth in the Chinese economy. François has contributed an enormous amount to the growth of our business in Australasia during the three years of his tenure and I am confident he will bring his dedication, managerial skills and energy to his new challenge in China."

Didier Mahout will replace François Cristofari as the new CEO of BNP Paribas Australia & New Zealand, effective late September.

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About BNP Paribas

BNP Paribas (www.bnpparibas.com) is a European leader in banking and financial services, and ranks among the world's top 15 banks by market capitalization. It has 150 000 employees. The group occupies leading positions in three significant fields of activity: Corporate and Investment Banking, Asset Management & Services and Retail Banking. It is present in 85 countries and has a strong presence in all the key financial centres. BNP Paribas enjoys a significant and growing presence in the United States and leading positions in Asia and in emerging markets.

Biography of François Cristofari

Head of Territory of BNP Paribas in China

François Cristofari joined Paribas in Paris in 1974 working in Corporate Banking within the Large Corporate Group. Subsequently, he worked in Investment Banking division's Mergers and Acquisitions and Private Equity section. In 1983, François was posted to the US where he held a series of managerial positions including taking charge of all Paribas activities for the Southwest Region of the US. Upon his return to Paris in 1991, François was appointed as the Head of the North and South America's Division.

From 1993, François headed up Paribas' French and European banking networks. He was appointed Head of Corporate Banking France in 1998 and following the merger of BNP and Paribas in 2000, François was promoted to the Head of Corporate Banking Europe for BNP Paribas. In 2002, he became Deputy Head of the Global Corporate Group until his move to Sydney, Australia to take up the role of Chief Executive Officer of BNP Paribas Australia & New Zealand in 2004.

François is married with three children. A graduate from the renowned business school, Ecole des Hautes Etudes Commerciales, he is fluent in English, Spanish and French.