

OCBC BANK IS THE STRONGEST BANK IN THE WORLD IN RANKING BY BLOOMBERG MARKETS

Kuala Lumpur, 11 May 2011 – Singapore-based OCBC Bank, whose second largest market after Singapore is Malaysia, tops the list in Bloomberg Markets' inaugural ranking of the world's strongest banks. According to Bloomberg Markets, OCBC Bank achieved the highest score in its assessment of the financial strength of the top global banks around the world. Other banks in the top three positions are Svenska Handelsbanken in Sweden and National Bank of Canada.

Mr David Conner, CEO of OCBC Bank, said, "We are delighted to be recognized as the World's Strongest Bank by Bloomberg. It is an honor, not just for all of us in the OCBC Group, but also for Singapore as a leading financial centre.

"Credit for this award goes first to our customers, who continue to bring us their business, day-in and day-out, and to our employees, who have for years been dedicated to improving our overall customer franchise, asset quality, efficiency and delivery capabilities. Our financial strength stems from their collective efforts in executing our strategy, for which our board and management team are deeply grateful."

Using information from Bloomberg's database, Bloomberg Markets drew up a list of the world's strongest banks as of mid-March 2011, comprising top 70 global banks with total assets of US\$100 billion or more. The team then assessed the banks using weighted criteria which included their Tier 1 capital ratio, ratio of non-performing assets to total assets, ratio of reserves for loan losses to non-performing assets, ratio of deposits to funding and efficiency ratio. The banks were scored on each criterion and the scores of each bank were totaled. The overall score achieved by a bank determined its position in the ranking.

About OCBC Bank

OCBC Bank is the longest established Singapore bank, formed in 1932 from the merger of three local banks, the oldest of which was founded in 1912. It is now the second largest financial services group in Southeast Asia by assets and one of the world's most highly-rated banks, with an Aa1 rating from Moody's.

OCBC Bank and its subsidiaries offer a broad array of specialist financial services, ranging from consumer, corporate, investment, private and transaction banking to treasury, insurance, asset management and stockbroking services.

OCBC Bank's key markets are Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia and Greater China. It has a network of over 500 branches and representative offices in 15 countries and territories, including more than 400 branches and offices in Indonesia that are operated by its subsidiary, Bank OCBC NISP.

OCBC Bank's insurance subsidiary, Great Eastern Holdings, is the largest insurance group in Singapore and Malaysia by assets. Its asset management subsidiary, Lion Global Investors, is one of the largest private sector asset management companies in Southeast Asia. Private banking services are provided by subsidiary Bank of Singapore, which has been ranked among the top five global private banks in Asia.

OCBC Bank offers Islamic banking products and services in Malaysia through its wholly-owned subsidiary, OCBC Al-Amin Bank Berhad.

For more information, please visit www.ocbc.com