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**INTERNATIONAL BANK OF ASIA LIMITED**  
**港基國際銀行有限公司**

*(incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability)*

**ANNOUNCEMENT : –**  
**APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL ADVISER**

The board of directors (“**Board**”) of International Bank of Asia Limited (“**IBA**”) refers to its joint announcement with Fubon Financial Holding Co., Ltd. (“**Fubon**”) dated 8th September, 2003. In that announcement IBA stated that an independent financial adviser would be appointed to advise the independent board committee of IBA in respect of the possible voluntary conditional cash offer for the whole of the issued share capital of IBA by Fubon (or its wholly-owned subsidiary). The Board wishes to inform shareholders and potential investors that N M Rothschild & Sons (Hong Kong) Limited has been appointed as the independent financial adviser in this regard. The Board still wishes to inform investors that there is no assurance that any transaction will be eventually consummated. A further announcement will be made at an appropriate time. **Shareholders and potential investors are reminded to exercise caution when dealing in the shares of IBA and should not rely on press speculation.**

By Order of the Board  
**International Bank of Asia Limited**  
**Mike M Murad**  
*Vice Chairman, Managing Director and  
Chief Executive Officer*

Hong Kong, 3rd October 2003

*The Directors of IBA jointly and severally accept full responsibility for the accuracy of the information contained in this announcement and confirm, having made all reasonable enquiries, that to the best of their knowledge, their opinions expressed in this announcement have been arrived at after due and careful consideration and that there are no other facts not contained in this announcement, the omission of which would make any statements in this announcement misleading.*