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Press Release

Yi Huiman and ICBC win the Bank Leadership Achievement of the Year in Asia Pacific and Best Managed Bank in Asia Pacific Awards

Yi was recognised by the Council of Advisors of the Asian Banker Leadership Achievement Award Programme for his outstanding achievements in successfully leading ICBC through major reforms taking place in the Chinese economy and financial system, the establishment of a stronger international franchise and its digitisation journey.

ICBC maintained its global leading position across various core indicators

Under his leadership, ICBC maintained its global leading position across various core indicators and realised the most valuable bank in the world by market capitalisation since February 2017.

Despite the cumulative effects of deepening interest rates liberalisation, accelerated financial disintermediation and intensified inter-bank and cross-sector competition, the bank's total net profit remained the best in the global banking industry; its operational results were better than the same period of previous year and maintained a stable and steady trend.

The bank accelerated innovation in financial technology

Under his leadership, the bank made coordinated efforts on reforms such as market-based interest rate setting, competitiveness enhancement in major cities, optimised layout of channels and staff structure adjustment. The bank accelerated innovation in financial technology (fintech), established the Internet Finance Department, implemented the e-ICBC 3.0 strategic upgrading and established the "Seven Innovative Laboratories".

He led the bank to integrate operation in line with the national strategy to support supply-side structural reforms. The bank's credits and non-credit financing both exceeded RMB1 trillion.

The Council of Advisors took into account the fact that several banks in China have been undertaking similar reforms, but that ICBC did not erode in its market share of its key business lines in the country and did not need to resort to price wars.

He communicates a clear transformational vision

Yi communicates a clear transformational vision and has set a new three-year plan that we will be monitoring closely. The bank is taking 5 major strategic projects as the focus to maintain its global leading position, namely, serving the real economy, serving the broadest customer base, transforming and upgrading, leading in innovation and risk control enhancement.

All of these achievements set the stage for the bank to retain its leadership position as one of the largest, commercially successful banks in the world that is responsible to its shareholders interests. A sampling of interviews with his key staff suggests that Yi has been able to command the respect and engagement of his key executives in meeting these goals.

About The Bank Leadership Achievement of the Year and Best Managed Bank in Asia Pacific Awards Programme

This awardsprogramme was created in the belief that true leadership results in strong and sustainable franchises.It recognises leadership of financial institutions, complex businesses that are central to the economies of the countries in which they operate. The shortlisted candidates are reviewed over a meaningful period of time, three years. It recognises the leadership of banks' chairmen or CEOs in demonstrating vision, character and skill that has led the people in their institutions to become the best managed in the industry in the period under review. The programme is predicated on the following qualities:

- A superior franchise under the leadership of the chairman or CEO,
- A strong commitment to domestic customers at the product and service levels,
- A strong governance structure at both the board and management levels under the leadership of the chairman or CEO recognised in the leadership programme,
- An ability to execute on strategy and respond to changes in the marketplace,
- A stable and long-term commitment to all shareholders.

About The Asian Banker

The Asian Banker is the region's most authoritative provider of strategic business intelligence to the financial services community. The Singapore-based company has offices in Singapore, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Beijing and Dubai as well as representatives in London, New York and San Francisco. It has a business model that revolves around three core business lines: publications, research services and forums. The company's website is www.theasianbanker.com For further information on the collaterals for winning banks, please contact:

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