

PRESS RELEASE

ECOBANK LAUNCHES PACT WITH BANK OF CHINA

Lome, Togo (30 July 2010) – Under a co-operation agreement with Bank of China, Ecobank Ghana has become the first affiliate of the Ecobank Group to have a dedicated desk manned by staff seconded by the Bank of China.

The co-operation agreement between Ecobank, the leading Pan African banking institution and the Bank of China, the country's leading international bank, is a reciprocal pact focusing mainly on international trade, projects and investments.

“Today sees the beginning of an exciting partnership between Ecobank and the Bank of China,” Ecobank Group CEO, Arnold Ekpe said. “We shall open dedicated desks at selected Ecobank branches across Africa. In return the bank of China will be our primary conduit in our business dealings in China.”

Speaking at the signing ceremony in Accra, Ecobank Group Executive Director, Corporate Banking, Albert Essien said “The pact will allow the Bank of China to cater more pointedly to their clients in Africa using the Ecobank platform, while it also enables Ecobank to grow its China business.”

Ecobank and the Bank of China stand to benefit from the growing trade and investment links between Africa and China. African exports to China have increased significantly in the past few years reaching US\$30.14 billion in 2008. China exported goods worth \$23 billion to Africa over the same period.

About Ecobank (www.ecobank.com)

Incorporated in Lome, Togo, Ecobank Transnational Incorporated (ETI) is the parent company of the leading independent regional banking group in Africa. It currently has a presence in 30 African countries, namely: Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Democratic Republic), Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia. The group is also represented in France through its affiliate EBI S.A. in Paris. ETI also has a presence in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, where it holds a license for a representative office but is not yet operational.

ETI is listed the stock exchanges in Lagos, Accra and the West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA) – the BRVM. The Group is owned by more than 180,000 local and international institutional and individual shareholders. It has over 11,000 employees from 29 different countries in over 700 branches. Ecobank is a full-service bank providing wholesale, retail, investment and transaction banking services and products to governments, financial institutions, multinationals, international organizations, medium, small and micro businesses and individuals.

ENDS

For more information please send an email to contact@ecobank.com