

Media release

Hong Kong, 18 March 2010

Sarasin strengthens Asia presence with Hong Kong Branch – First Sarasin branch outside of Switzerland

Highlighting its international growth strategy, Sarasin today officially launched its Bank Sarasin & Cie AG, Hong Kong Branch (瑞士嘉盛銀行香港分行) (“BSC HK”). BSC HK is the first outside Switzerland for the Basel-headquartered Sarasin Group, and its third booking centre. Enid Yip, Chief Executive Officer Asia, is the Branch Manager.

BSC HK is a full service branch, allowing clients worldwide to book assets in Hong Kong. It offers clients (i) an alternative to Sarasin’s booking centres in Singapore and Germany and the booking centre at its headquarters in Switzerland, as well as (ii) a dedicated infrastructure to meet the increasingly sophisticated needs of high net worth individuals in Asia and beyond.

Joachim H. Straehle, Chief Executive Officer, Bank Sarasin & Co. Ltd, Switzerland

“The opening of our Hong Kong Branch is a historic moment for Sarasin and marks our commitment to our clients, to our international growth strategy, and to Asia in particular. With Singapore, Hong Kong offers our clients a second Asian booking centre, creating greater flexibility.”

Fidelis M. Goetz, Head of Private Banking, Bank Sarasin & Co. Ltd, Switzerland

“The Branch opening is a major milestone, and reflects the considerable investments we have made in Hong Kong and Singapore. We have grown our Asia operations tremendously over the last three years, demonstrating the strength of our commitment to the region and our expectations of further growth.”

Enid Yip, Chief Executive Officer, Asia, and Branch Manager, Hong Kong

“Our new Branch creates substantial opportunities for our clients and for Sarasin. Since many of our Hong Kong clients prefer to book their assets here, we are expecting another exceptional year for Asia.”

Sarasin’s Hong Kong presence was founded in Hong Kong in 1995 by Rabobank as part of its international private banking business. In 2002, when Rabobank began its strategic alliance with Sarasin, Rabobank’s Asian private banking business was incorporated to Sarasin. The Hong Kong presence was then renamed Sarasin Rabo Investment Management Ltd, marking Sarasin’s entry to Asia.

Since 2002, Sarasin has expanded substantially in Asia, doubling the number of staff in Hong Kong by end-2009. This strategy has been rewarded with substantial growth. In 2009, assets under management increased 60% in Asia and the Middle East, while net new assets grew by 70%, the strongest performance across the Group worldwide.

For more information please contact:

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Sarasin Group has its roots as a leading Swiss private bank. As an international financial service provider committed to sustainability, it is now represented in more than 20 locations in Europe, the Middle East, and Asia. By end of December 2009 it managed total client assets of CHF 93.7 billion and employed around 1,500 staff. Its majority shareholder is the AAA-rated Dutch Rabobank.

Bank Sarasin & Cie AG, Hong Kong – www.sarasin.hk

As the first branch of Bank Sarasin & Cie AG outside Switzerland, and our second booking centre in Asia, BSC HK is an Authorized Institution regulated by the Hong Kong Monetary Authority and a Registered Institution regulated under the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Chapter 571 of the Laws of Hong Kong). BSC HK provides a complete set of high quality private banking and wealth management services to private and institutional clients in the region.