

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **INTEREST RATES TO BE APPLIED ON FOREIGN EXCHANGE DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS WITH CREDIT LETTERS AND SUPER FX ACCOUNTS**

The interest rates applicable to the foreign exchange deposit accounts with credit letters and super FX accounts have been rearranged with an amendment made to our Bank's Circular No: I/M.

#### **New interest rates for Foreign Exchange Deposit Accounts with Credit Letters:**

Annual interest rate applicable to Euro-denominated accounts has been decreased to 2,75 percent from 3,0 percent for two-year maturity; and annual interest rates applicable to US dollar denominated accounts have been decreased to 1,5 percent from 2,25 percent for one-year maturity, and to 2,25 percent from 2,75 percent for two-year maturity.

Interest rates applicable to Euro accounts for one-year maturity; and Swiss frank and UK pound denominated accounts remain the same as follows:

For Euro-denominated accounts; 2,5 percent for one-year maturity,

For Swiss frank-denominated accounts; 0,75 percent for one-year maturity, 1,0 percent for two-year maturity,

For UK pound-denominated accounts; 4,0 percent for one-year maturity, 4,25 percent for two-year maturity.

#### **New Interest Rates for Super FX deposits:**

Annual interest rates for Euro-denominated accounts have been decreased to 4 percent from 5 percent for one-year maturity; to 4,75 percent from 5,75 percent for two-year maturity; and to 5,5 percent from 6,5 percent for three-year maturity.

Annual interest rates for US dollar-denominated accounts have been decreased to 3,0 percent from 4,0 percent for one-year maturity, to 3,75 percent from 4,75 percent for two-year maturity, and to 4,5 percent from 5,5 percent for three-year maturity.

Meanwhile, the interest rate applied to the amount withdrawn prior to the maturity date has been reduced to 0,25 percent from 0,5 percent for Super FX Accounts. The interest rate of 0,25 percent for Foreign Exchange Deposit Accounts with Credit Letters remains the same.

The new interest rates shall take effect as of March 1st, 2004.