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Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Public Bank is the Best Retail Bank in Malaysia for 2011

- *Public Bank wins the Best Retail Bank in Malaysia Award during the 11th International Excellence in Retail Financial Services Awards Programme*
- *The bank once again stands out with stellar financial performances delivered against headwinds, as well as peerless cost-efficiency and risk-management*
- *It continues to maintain market leadership in retail lending businesses, with up to 18% share in mortgages*

Singapore, March 23rd 2012—Public Bank has been named as the winner of the Best Retail Bank in Malaysia Award for the year 2011 during the 11th International Excellence in Retail Financial Services Awards Programme. The bank received the award at The International Excellence in Retail Financial Services 2012 Awards ceremony, held in conjunction with the region's most prestigious retail banking event, the Excellence in Retail Financial Services Convention. The ceremony was held at the Marina Bay Sands in Singapore on March 23rd 2012.

As the best Malaysian retail bank for 2011, Public Bank stood out with its stellar financial performances, which it has been delivering yearly even against challenging regulatory and business environment. Furthermore, with its near-ruthless cost-efficiency and risk management, the bank is also among the most sustainable financial institutions in Southeast Asia, as evident in its low cost-to-income ratio at 28%.

From such a well-secured position, Public Bank has continued to grow through the market headwinds in recent years to claim leadership in retail lending businesses, which with 18% market share remains a target to overcome in Malaysia's financial banking sector. These key drivers are the reasons why the bank has managed to post strong earning growth in 2011, with its net profit reaching USD3.6 billion for the financial year.

About 150 senior bankers from award-winning banks in 29 countries across the Asia Pacific, the Middle East, Central Asia and Africa attended the glittering event that recognises their efforts in bringing superior products and services to their customers.

The awards programme, administered by The Asian Banker and refereed by prominent global bankers, consultants and academics, is the most prestigious of its kind.

A stringent three-month evaluation process based on a balanced and transparent scorecard used to determine the winners and the positions of various retail banks in the region is attached.

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 and Shanghai 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

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