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PRESS RELEASE

"CHINA LEADS RALLY OF ASIAN SHARES"

Beijing, China - 26 September, 2008 -

Last week's efforts by leading central banks in Asia paid off, with China leading the way, as shares soared for the first time in seven days.

China's benchmark stock index climbed 9.3% on Friday, responding to the government's Thursday evening announcement that it would cut a 0.1% tax on share purchases. Chinese banks also helped the surge, as the state owned China Investment Corporation announced its desire to increase its stake in the large banks ICBC and China Construction Bank.

"China's recent performance shows that it is ready to lead the way in the Asian markets," according to Edward Lehman. Mr. Lehman is the managing director of the Chinese firm Lehman, Lee, & Xu, which represents the China Foreign Banks Association (CFBA), an organization that includes more than 180 banks in China.

The Asian markets improved overall last week, partially responding to the U.S. government's plan to bail out failing giants Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, Lehman Brothers, and AIG. Experts agree that Asian financial markets have been affected by the recent crisis in the U.S. But they "are not expected to reach a crisis situation," according to a Standard & Poor's report released this month. Generally, Asian institutions avoided the kind of risky investing that has recently crippled so many U.S. banks-- at mid-year, Asian banks accounted for only 6% of total losses on sub-prime investments at the world's banks, according to Fitch Reports.

"Our firm has helped many clients navigate financial transactions in China and we are glad to show them that the stock exchange here is maturing," Lehman said.

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