

# Independent Auditor's Report

## TO THE MEMBERS OF DBS GROUP HOLDINGS LTD (INCORPORATED IN SINGAPORE)

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of DBS Group Holdings Ltd (the Company) and its subsidiaries (the Group) set out on pages 60 to 135, which comprise the balance sheets of the Company and of the Group as at 31 December 2009, and the consolidated statement of comprehensive income, the consolidated statement of changes in equity and the consolidated cash flow statement of the Group for the financial year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes.

### Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the provisions of the Singapore Companies Act (Cap. 50) (the Act) and Singapore Financial Reporting Standards. This responsibility includes:

- (a) devising and maintaining a system of internal accounting control sufficient to provide a reasonable assurance that assets are safeguarded against loss from unauthorised use or disposition; and transactions are properly authorised and that they are recorded as necessary to permit the preparation of true and fair profit and loss accounts and balance sheets and to maintain accountability of assets;
- (b) selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and
- (c) making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Singapore Standards on Auditing. Those Standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance as to whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

### Opinion

In our opinion,

- (a) the consolidated financial statements of the Group and the balance sheet of the Company are properly drawn up in accordance with the provisions of the Act and Singapore Financial Reporting Standards, including the modification of the requirements of FRS 39 Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement in respect of loan loss provisioning by Notice to Banks No. 612 "Credit Files, Grading and Provisioning" issued by the Monetary Authority of Singapore, so as to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company and of the Group as at 31 December 2009 and the results, changes in equity and cash flows of the Group for the financial year ended on that date; and
- (b) the accounting and other records required by the Act to be kept by the Company and by those subsidiaries incorporated in Singapore of which we are the auditor, have been properly kept in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

### PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

Public Accountants and Certified Public Accountants

3 February 2010