

## Georges Zecchin appointed Chief Executive of Crédit Agricole (Suisse) SA, Asia

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Georges Zecchin has been appointed Chief Executive of Crédit Agricole Suisse in Asia, a position based in Hong Kong. He will be in charge of the teams in Singapore and Hong Kong and will supervise the growth of business in the region. His experience and expertise will enable him to consolidate and expand Crédit Agricole Suisse's regional position in private banking, its core business for more than 130 years.

Georges Zecchin (53) began his career in 1974 as a forex dealer. Ten years later he decided to focus on the law, earning a Master of Law at the University of Geneva. In 1989 he was admitted to the Geneva Bar. He worked first as a partner for a law firm and then as Head of the Legal Department at the Swiss People's Bank. From 1995 to 2001, Georges Zecchin was an investigating magistrate specialising in complex criminal cases with the Geneva judicial authorities.

Georges Zecchin joined Crédit Agricole Suisse in 2001 as Head of Compliance. He was subsequently appointed Corporate Secretary and became a member of the Bank's Executive Committee and Member of the General Management Committee. In these positions he dealt with all the legal and regulatory issues concerning the bank, both in Switzerland and internationally, and supervised more than 60 employees in offices around the world (Switzerland, Singapore, Hong Kong and the Bahamas). He also acquired considerable experience in the prevention of money laundering, corruption and terrorist financing.

### **About the Hong Kong and Singapore branches**

Crédit Agricole Suisse has decided to extend its private banking platform in Asia by expanding its local staff in order to take advantage of the burgeoning opportunities spurred by economic growth in the region. The upcoming opening of a booking centre in Hong Kong is a sign of that ambition and will enable the bank to broaden its product range and deal in yuan. The bank already has a booking centre in Singapore.

Located in Hong Kong since 1894 through Banque de l'Indochine, the Hong Kong branch now employs 74 people and plans to hire more staff this year.

The Singapore branch has existed since 1905 through Banque de l'Indochine. In March 2005, it was renamed Crédit Agricole (Suisse) SA and currently employs 65 people.

### **About Crédit Agricole Suisse**

Crédit Agricole (Suisse) SA, a subsidiary of Crédit Agricole SA, has four business areas: Private Banking, Capital Markets, Transactional Commodity Finance, and Banking Logistics. Supported by the financial strength of the Crédit Agricole Group (S&P AA-) and its extensive international network, Crédit Agricole (Suisse) SA, headquartered in Geneva, is one of the top five foreign banks in Switzerland in terms of assets under management, total assets and shareholders' equity. With nearly 1,360 employees, the bank has four branches in Switzerland – Basel, Lausanne, Lugano and Zurich – and numerous international business locations, including Abu Dhabi, Bahrain, Beirut, Doha, Dubai, Hong Kong, Karachi, Nassau, Singapore and Tel Aviv.

For further information, visit [www.ca-suisse.com](http://www.ca-suisse.com).

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