



PRESS RELEASE

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EAST CARIBBEAN FINANCIAL HOLDING COMPANY LIMITED

PRESS RELEASE

We are pleased to advise that for the year ended December 31, 2006 the East Caribbean Financial Holding Company Limited (parent company of Bank of Saint Lucia Limited, EC Global Insurance Company Limited, Bank of St Lucia International Limited and Property Holding and Development Company Limited) achieved net profit after tax of \$35 Million, representing a 27% increase over the results for 2005.

Return on assets stood at 2.44% compared with 2.29% in 2005. Total assets grew by 18% and were recorded at \$1.6 Billion. Deposits grew by 18% to \$1.2 Billion. Total Shareholders Equity increased by 18% to \$172 Million. The Group was able to meet the conditions for staff profit sharing for the second successive year. Net income before profit sharing and tax was recorded at \$40.1 million.

After deductions for statutory and general reserves, a contribution to the Student Loans Guarantee Fund and the allocations for preference dividends, a final dividend of \$10 Million has been made available for distribution to ordinary shareholders. This is in addition to the interim dividend of \$5 million paid in 2006, making total dividends payable of \$15 million.

The Board of Directors of the Group is therefore pleased to announce a final dividend of 70 cents per ordinary share. An interim dividend payment 30 cents per share was made in October 2006, based on the performance for the first half year ending June 30, 2006. The interim and final dividends amount to a total ordinary dividend payout of \$1.00 per share (80 cents in 2005) for the year; or a return of 20% on the original share price of \$5.00 or 10% on the current value of the shares.

Final dividends will be paid to shareholders on record as at March 04, 2007. The ECFH Group has also scheduled its Annual Meeting of Shareholders for Wednesday, April 04, 2007 at 4:00 p.m at the National Insurance Corporation Conference Room, Francis Compton Building, The Waterfront, Castries.



VICTOR EUDOXIE
Chairman



ESTHERLITA CUMBERBATCH
Corporate Secretary