Commonwealth Bank

Commonwealth Bank of Australia ACN 123 123 124

Secretariat

GPO Box 2719 Sydney NSW 1155 Telephone (02) 9378-3546 Facsimile (02) 9378-3317 J D Hatton Company Secretary

18 October 2005

The Manager Company Announcements Platform Australian Stock Exchange



Dear Sir/Madam

Commonwealth Bank Completes Sale of Hong Kong Businesses

The Commonwealth Bank of Australia today announced that the sale of its Hong Kong-based CMG Asia, CommServe and Financial Solutions businesses to Sun Life Financial has been completed. The transaction, which was announced on 6 July 2005, has been approved by regulatory authorities in Hong Kong, Bermuda and Canada.

The Commonwealth Bank has received consideration of A\$608 million from the sale of these businesses. Consistent with the requirements of the Australian equivalents of the International Financial Reporting Standards (AIFRS), the Commonwealth Bank will report a net profit on sale after tax (statutory basis) of around A\$140 million for this transaction.

For further information, please contact:

Kerrith Burton Executive Manager Investor Relations

(02) 9378 2638

Yours faithfully

J D HATTON Company Secretary