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POSSIBLE COMBINATION OF THE RANK GROUP PLC, 888 HOLDINGS PLC AND WILLIAM HILL PLC – WITHDRAWAL OF INTENTION

This announcement is made pursuant to Rule 13.09 of the Rules (the “Listing Rules”) Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the “SEHK”) and the Inside Information Provisions under Part XIVA of the Securities and Futures Ordinance.

Reference is made to the announcements (the “Announcements”) of Guoco Group Limited (the “Company”) pertaining to the non-binding proposals (the “Proposals”) submitted by The Rank Group Plc (“Rank”, a 52% owned subsidiary of the Company and listed on LSE) and 888 Holdings plc (“888”) to William Hill plc (“William Hill”) to form the Enlarged Group. Capitalised terms used in this announcement shall have the same meaning as ascribed to them in the Announcements, unless the context otherwise requires.

Rank and 888 announced on 18 August 2016 (London Time) that notwithstanding their belief in the inherent value of their Proposals, it has not been possible to meaningfully engage with the William Hill Board. Rank and 888 respect the William Hill Board’s position and, as such, after careful consideration each now confirms that they have withdrawn their interest and that they do not intend to make an offer for William Hill.

Rank remains committed to enhancing returns to its shareholders through its focused strategic plans.

The announcements of Rank and 888 are accessible at LSE’s website (<http://www.londonstockexchange.com>) and are also posted by the Company as overseas regulatory announcements on the websites of the SEHK (<http://www.hkexnews.hk>) and the Company (<http://www.guoco.com>).

By Order of the Board
Stella Lo Sze Man
Company Secretary

Hong Kong, 19 August 2016

As at the date of this announcement, the board of directors of the Company comprises Mr. Quek Leng Chan as Chairman; Mr. Kwek Leng Hai as President, CEO; Mr. Kwek Leng San and Mr. Tan Lim Heng as non-executive directors and Mr. Volker Stoeckel, Mr. Roderic N. A. Sage and Mr. David Michael Norman as independent non-executive directors.