

Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited and The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited take no responsibility for the contents of this announcement, make no representation as to its accuracy or completeness and expressly disclaim any liability whatsoever for any loss howsoever arising from or in reliance upon the whole or any part of the contents of this announcement.



國浩集團有限公司  
**Guoco Group Limited**

(Incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability)  
(Stock Code: 53)

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE COURT OF JUSTICE OF THE EUROPEAN UNION'S DECISION  
ON THE RANK GROUP PLC'S CLAIM FOR OVERPAID VALUE ADDED TAX**

This announcement is made pursuant to Rule 13.09(1) of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited.

Rank, a 74.5% controlled subsidiary of Guoco and listed on the LSE, announced on 10 November 2011 ECJ's decision on Rank's claim for overpaid VAT on certain types of amusement machines and bingo.

The Rank Group Plc, a 74.5% controlled subsidiary of Guoco and listed on London Stock Exchange Plc ("LSE"), announced on 10 November 2011 the decision of the Court of Justice of the European Union on Rank's claim for overpaid value added tax ("VAT") on certain types of amusement machines and bingo. The following is the text of Rank's announcement in relation thereto:

**"European Court decides in Rank VAT case**

The Rank Group Plc ("Rank") notes the decision of the Court of Justice of the European Union ("ECJ") regarding claims for overpaid VAT on certain types of amusement machines and bingo. The ECJ has confirmed that UK VAT law was in breach of the EU law principle of fiscal neutrality.

Today's announcement confirms the findings of successive UK courts for Rank's bingo claims totalling £253.4m including interest.

Rank is considering the implications of the ECJ decision with its advisors on its amusement machines claim for £30.8m including interest and will provide an update on this claim in due course.

**Notes**

**1) Rank Group's claims**

Rank group has submitted several claims against Her Majesty's Revenue & Customs (HMRC) pursuant to this litigation. The details of these claims can be found in Rank's half year results. The agreement Rank reached in 2010, which is referred to in Rank's results, does not cover the amusement machines claim.

To view previous announcements concerning Rank's VAT claims please visit [www.rank.com/investors.news.jsp](http://www.rank.com/investors.news.jsp)

**2) Fiscal neutrality**

The European Union's law of fiscal neutrality requires that supplies of services that are the same or similar should be not be treated differently for VAT purposes. This position was confirmed in the European Court of Justice case Finanzamt v Linneweber (2005).

**3) About The Rank Group Plc**

The Rank Group Plc is a leading European gaming and betting business, based in the UK and listed on the London Stock Exchange (RNK.L). Its principal activities are the operation of bingo clubs and casinos with complementary interactive gaming and bookmaking services."

*Remarks: Rank's announcement is accessible at LSE's website: <http://www.londonstockexchange.com> and also posted by Guoco as an overseas regulatory announcement on its website: <http://www.guoco.com>.*

*As at the date of this announcement, the board of directors of Guoco comprises Mr. Quek Leng Chan as Executive Chairman; Mr. Kwek Leng Hai as President, CEO; Mr. Tan Lim Heng and Mr. Ding Wai Chuen as executive directors; Mr. Kwek Leng San as non-executive director and Mr. Sat Pal Khattar, Mr. Volker Stoeckel and Mr. Roderic N. A. Sage as independent non-executive directors.*

By Order of the Board  
**Stella Lo Sze Man**  
Company Secretary

Hong Kong, 10 November 2011