

Kazkommertsbank joins UnionPay International payment system

February 12, 2014, Shanghai, Almaty – Kazkommertsbank has become a principal member of UnionPay International payment system (former China UnionPay). A cooperation agreement was signed between Kazkommertsbank and UnionPay International in Shanghai last week.

Mr. Wang Lixin, a Vice President of Business Development signed on behalf of UnionPay International, and Mr. Nurlan Zhagiparov, Executive Director, on behalf of Kazkommertsbank. Then, UnionPay International's certificate was presented to Mr. Zhagiparov confirming Kazkommertsbank's status of official member of this payment system.

The status of the Principal Member will allow Kazkommertsbank to accept and serve UnionPay International cards at its ATMs and POS terminal network. Currently, Kazkommertsbank is making adjustments to its software for launching the acquiring of UnionPay International cards, that will be fully completed by the second half of 2014. Kazkommertsbank is the second bank that serves UnionPay International cards in the Republic of Kazakhstan.

During the signing ceremony Mr. Zhagiparov noted that Kazakhstan and China have close economic relationship. Chinese business tourists visit Kazakhstan on a regular basis, and now Kazkommertsbank will provide local merchants with an opportunity to serve UnionPay cards. Premium segment entrepreneurs will have high demand for this service.

Taking into account the expanded level of foreign trade between Kazakhstan and China, trade and service companies will be able to serve UnionPay International cards issued by Chinese banks or other countries using Kazkommertsbank's POS-terminals.

Kazkommertsbank plans to get the respective technical certificates and licenses to issue UnionPay International cards in Kazakhstan by the end of 2014, which enables Kazakh tourists to travel and shop in China with comfort. Later, Kazkommertsbank will connect UnionPay International system to its own ePay internet acquiring.

Kazkommertsbank issues Visa and MasterCard cards as well as American Express cards exclusively in Kazakhstan. As of 1 January 2014, Kazkommertsbank issued more than 1.33 million payment cards. The bank has a wide ATM network with 1,317 ATM, including 300 ATMs with cash-in service. Furthermore, Kazkommertsbank processes 230 Internet booths and 16,970 POS terminals and has over 6,000 card bonus program partners.

Reference information:

JSC "Kazkommertsbank" is one of the largest retail banks in Kazakhstan and Central Asia and the market leader by total assets in Kazakhstan. As of September 30, 2013 total assets amount to KZT 2,635.1 billion (US\$17.1 billion equivalent). Bank serves its retail clients through a network of branches in 45 cities all over Kazakhstan. In addition, Kazkommertsbank has international banking subsidiaries in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Russian Federation.

Kazkommertsbank has been in operation since 1991, primarily as provider of banking services and other financial products to large and medium-sized corporations across all sectors of the Kazakh economy. In 2006 Bank brought KAZKOM trademark into operation for retail clients and SME service.

Major shareholders of Kazkommertsbank include Central Asian Investment Company and Chairman of the Board Mr. Nurzhan Subkhanberdin, Alnair Capital Holding, the Kazakh Government through the Samruk-Kazyna National Welfare Fund and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. Shares of the Bank are listed at JSC “Kazakhstan Stock Exchange” (KASE), Global depositary receipts, underlying assets of which are shares of the Bank (GDRs), also at the London Stock Exchange Listing (LSE). Bank came first among other CIS banks with disposing IPO in form of GDR at London Stock Exchange in November 2006 with total amount of USD 845mln.

[UnionPay International Co., Ltd](#) is China's national payment system. It was established in 2002 as China UnionPay (CUP) with support from the Central Bank of the PRC. It holds the first place in the world by the number of issued plastic cards, with the total amount issued exceeding 3.8 billion cards. The UnionPay cards are accepted at 5 million ATMs and 17 million POS terminals in 142 countries.

Contacts:

Sergey Chikin, Manager, Office for Media and Public Relations

Kazkommertsbank, Public Relations Department

Tel.: 2585-105, ext. 57611, E-mail: schikin@kkb.kz