

**HONG LEONG ASIA LTD.**  
(Company Registration No. 196300306G)  
(Incorporated in the Republic of Singapore)

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

**ACQUISITION BY HARTWELL PTE. LTD. (“HARTWELL”) (A WHOLLY-OWNED SUBSIDIARY OF HONG LEONG ASIA LTD.) OF 13.50% SHAREHOLDING INTERESTS IN TASEK CORPORATION BERHAD (“TASEK”) AND MANDATORY CONDITIONAL CASH OFFER (“OFFER”) FOR TASEK BY HARTWELL (COLLECTIVELY, THE “PROPOSED TRANSACTIONS”)**

The Board of Directors of Hong Leong Asia Ltd. (the “**Company**” or “**HLA**”) refers to the announcement by the Company dated 27 November 2008 in relation to the Proposed Transactions (the “**27 November Announcement**”) and the subsequent announcements by the Company dated 3 December 2008, 5 December 2008, 10 December 2008, 16 December 2008, 18 December 2008, 22 December 2008, 23 December 2008 and 2 January 2009.

Terms and references used in this Announcement which have not been defined herein bear the same meaning as ascribed to them in the 27 November Announcement.

The Board of Directors of the Company wishes to announce that CIMB Investment Bank Berhad (“**CIMB**”) has today, for and on behalf of Hartwell, notified Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad (the “**Notification**”) that as at 5 January 2009, the level of acceptances of the Offer for the remaining Offer Shares, which is subject to verification, has resulted in Hartwell and the persons acting in concert with Hartwell (“**PACs**”) holding in aggregate, together with the Tasek Ordinary Shares that are already acquired, held or are entitled to be acquired or held by Hartwell and the PACs, more than 50% in the total voting shares of Tasek, as set out below:

	Number of Tasek Ordinary Shares	% of total Tasek Ordinary Shares *	Number of Tasek Preference Shares	% of total Tasek Preference Shares
Tasek Ordinary Shares and Tasek Preference Shares held by Hartwell and the PACs as at 22 December 2008, being the date of posting of the Offer Document (“ <b>Posting Date</b> ”)	84,267,223	45.65%	18,000	3.60%
Offer Shares for which acceptances have been received since the Posting Date up to 5 January 2009:				
- verified as valid acceptances	6,499,310	3.52%	47,495	9.50%
- subject to verification	6,253,947	3.39%	48,064	9.61%
Offer Shares acquired or agreed to be acquired from the Posting Date up to 5 January 2009	200,000	0.11%	-	-
<b>Total shareholdings of Hartwell and the PACs in Tasek as at 5 January 2009 (including acceptances which are subject to verification)</b>	<b>97,220,480</b>	<b>52.67%</b>	<b>113,559</b>	<b>22.71%</b>

**Note:**

\* Based on the issued and paid-up ordinary share capital of Tasek of RM184,587,800 comprising 184,587,800 Tasek Ordinary Shares as at 5 January 2009.

CIMB has further notified that premised on the aforementioned level of acceptances, the Offer has become unconditional, subject to verification of the acceptances received.

A copy of the Notification is attached to this Announcement for information.

By Order of the Board

Yeo Swee Gim, Joanne  
Ng Siew Ping, Jaslin  
Company Secretaries  
5 January 2009