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Ref: 02/04/002/0015/002

\S April 2015

To: The Chief Executive Officers of Licensed Commercial Banks and Licensed Specialised Banks

Dear Sir/Madam

Expanding Access to Banking

We wish to draw your attention to the Interim Budget - 2015 enumerating several measures to enhance access to banking as summarised below:

- Commercial banks to open their branches in remote areas.
- To open accounts to new customers without requiring a minimum initial deposit.
- (iii) To make all efforts to initiate bank accounts for all citizens and all grants and allowances that may devolve on them to be remitted through the banking system in the near future.
- (iv) To simplify rules and regulations, particularly in lending operations, to facilitate borrowers and the new simplified systems to be implemented from September 2015.
- 2. We request you to take appropriate measures to implement the above.

Yours faithfully

(Mrs.) T M J Y P Fernando

Director of Bank Supervision

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