ANNOUNCEMENT

THE CENTRAL BANK OF CHINA

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Date: 19th November 2002

Subject:

The Central Bank of China will issue the 5th Coin Set of The Taiwan Indigenous Peoples Cultural Series—AMIS on November 26, 2002. Each set consists of six coins in circulation (NT\$ 1/2, NT\$1, NT\$5, NT\$10, NT\$20, NT\$50) as well as a commemorative medal bearing traditional Amis motifs.

Authority:

The authority is based on the Regulations Governing the Issue of New Taiwan Currency by the Central Bank of China.

Description

The Amis, the most populous of the aboriginal groups of Taiwan, inhabit the East Coast and longitudinal rift valley between Hualien and Taitung. Traditionally the Amis gather in collective living styles and expand forming larger settlements. They are skilled in farming, hunting, fishing and wild-herb collecting. The social system is uxiro-matrilocal in which the women have the inheritance rights for housing and properties. The men establish hierarchical relationships based on age grading and each village forms a separate age-set organization, which is the foundation for education, administration, military, ritual, and cooperative production for the whole village. Major annual festivals are held for seeding, hunting, fishing, harvest, and rites of passage rituals.