

## First training course, under MOU with City of London, takes place at Cass Business School

Following the agreement reached between the City of London and the Municipality of Tianjin in October 2007, the first group of delegates to take part in this two way agreement visited London in May for 10 days. The agreement was signed by the former Lord Mayor of London, Sir John Stuttard, and the former Mayor of Tianjin, Dai Xianglong. Under the new policy of making Tianjin the location of the third major growth area in China (after Shenzhen and Shanghai), this visit was the result of several two-way visits and a wish for closer collaboration, following Tianjin's new position as a centre for financial reform.

The delegates were all senior representatives of the banking industry of Tianjin, many of them with significant experience at the top of their field. They were led by a small, high level group from the Tianjin government, headed by the Vice Chairman of Tianjin Government, People's Consultative Conference. The group was hosted to a reception at the Guildhall, sponsored by Standard Life, who are significant UK investors in Tianjin.

The training itself took place at Cass Business School, one of the best respected schools in the UK, where staff and practitioners spoke on several complex areas of finance. Apart from lectures, there were also visits to LIFFE, the FSA and the Bank of England, as well as a visit to Edinburgh, taking in Standard Life and RBS.

Madeleine Sturrock, Managing Director of PanCathay Consulting, coordinated the programme with the Tianjin government and said: "The Tianjin municipality is the third largest and most important city in China. It is receiving significant attention from the Chinese Government and, as it grows, it is important that those people overseeing development and regulation have specialised knowledge of the global finance market.

"Cass Business School was selected for this programme because of the School's location and relationship with the City of London. For some of the delegates this was their first visit to London so they have had the opportunity to get a feel for the working of the City as well as to enjoy some of the other attractions."



Delegates on the training course, outside the Guildhall.



The leading group with the Lord Mayor at the Mansion House.