



NASDAQ OMX Armenia Announces Market Results for 2009

YEREVAN, Jan 29, 2010 – Bringing difficult times for almost all business across the world, the year of 2009 was still quite successful for NASDAQ OMX Armenia: some of its markets even saw a growth compared to 2008.

Thus, corporate bonds, the best performing market of the year, was up 4.7 times to AMD 10.55 billion with the number of trades increasing more than two times to 719. Bonds issued by "Elite Group" cjsc (ELTGB2), "Shen-Concern" cjsc (SHNCB4), and "HSBC Bank Armenia" cjsc (HSBCB1) were the most actively traded corporate bonds on the exchange. Four new issues of corporate bonds were listed on NASDAQ OMX Armenia during 2009.

Government bonds trading was also active at AMD 2.4 billion and 191 trades, an increase by 43% and 135% over the respective indicators of the previous year. Annual trading in repurchase agreements (REPO), which was only launched in December 2008, exceeded AMD 5 billion.

During the year currency equivalent to AMD 372.93 billion was traded representing a 10% increase over the same of 2008. The only currency traded was US Dollar, no trades were done in Euro. The US Dollar amount traded, however, saw a slight decrease of 2.4% to USD 1,079 million.

Like in previous years, the stock market was the least active exchange market in 2009. Total value of trading in stocks on the exchange amounted to AMD 98 million, a decrease by 63% compared to the indicator of 2008. Stocks of "Almast" ojsc (ALMS), "Armenian Development Bank" ojsc, and ARARATBANK ojsc were responsible for the highest trading values. At the end of 2009, market capitalization stood at AMD 53.1 billion declining by 1.7% since the end of 2008 – a relatively good development considering the lingering effects of the global financial crisis. The year 2009 also saw the first IPO in Armenia implemented by "Artsakh" HydroPower Plant currently listed on NASDAQ OMX Armenia under ticker AHEK.

In 2009, the Central Depository of Armenia (CDA) continued to deliver services to individual and corporate customers. At the end of the year, the number of personal securities accounts served reached 156,430, of which 2,540 accounts were newly opened in 2009. The number of companies keeping their shareholders registries also saw a substantial increase – by 370 to a total of 1,527. During the year CDA also worked closely with the Government of Armenia to design and prepare the implementation of a new pension system in Armenia, a cooperation that will continue in 2010.

For more information on NASDAQ OMX Armenia please visit www.nasdaqomx.am.

About NASDAQ OMX

The NASDAQ OMX Group, Inc. is the world's largest exchange company. It delivers trading, exchange technology and public company services across six continents, and with over 3,900 companies, it is number one in worldwide listings among major markets. NASDAQ OMX technology supports the operations of over 60 exchanges, clearing organizations and central securities depositories in more than 50 countries.

In January 2008, Nordic exchange operator OMX Group acquired 100% of shares of the Armenian Stock Exchange (Armex) and the Central Depository of Armenia (CDA). After the combination of NASDAQ and OMX in February 2008, Armex and CDA have become fully



owned by the NASDAQ OMX Group, Inc. For more information on the NASDAQ OMX Group, Inc. visit www.nasdaqomx.com.

On January 27, 2009, "Armenian Stock Exchange" ojsc was officially renamed as "NASDAQ OMX Armenia" ojsc. On June 5, 2009, "NASDAQ OMX Armenia" ojsc became the owner of 100% of the shares of the "Central Depository of Armenia" ojsc.

NASDAQ OMX Armenia

Media Contact:

Rouzanna Sarkissian, Head of Marketing and Communications

+374 10 54 33 21 ext.116

rouzanna.sarkissian@nasdaqomx.com