

INVESTOR INFORMATION

Vienna, 31 January 2008

Erste Bank receives admission to trade on the Bucharest Stock Exchange

Erste Bank der oesterreichischen Sparkassen AG (Erste Bank) announces it has officially been admitted to trade its shares on the international segment of the Bucharest Stock Exchange (BVB) based on the passporting of financial services mechanism of the European Union¹.

Erste Bank's listing on the Bucharest Stock Exchange follows a commitment to facilitate local trading for those employees of Banca Comercială Română (BCR, a 70% subsidiary of Erste Bank) who accepted Erste Bank's offer to exchange their BCR shares for Erste Bank shares in November 2006. BCR employees currently hold approximately 4 million Erste Bank shares (c.1.3% of the share capital), with a value of around EUR 140m². The lock-up period relating to the shares received through the swap ended in December 2007.

As with its secondary listing on the Prague Stock Exchange in 2002, Erste Bank will list its entire share capital (316,288,945 shares) in Bucharest. It is expected that the Erste Bank share will be included in the official BVB index following consideration by the index committee at its regular meeting later this year.

The Erste Bank shares will carry the symbol 'EBS', and the ISIN code: AT0000652011. Trading is expected to start in mid-February.

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This release is also available on our website at <http://www.erstebank.com/investorrelations> in the news section.

¹ Passporting of financial services is a European Union mechanism which allows firms authorised to provide financial services in one jurisdiction to provide them in another without the need for authorisation in this second jurisdiction

² For further details on the November 2006 BCR share purchase offer, please see the Erste Bank announcement of 12 December 2006.