

## **PRESS RELEASE**

The African Reinsurance Corporation, an international financial institution comprising 41 member countries of the African Union (AU), the African Development Bank (ADB), the International Finance Corporation, DEG, PROPARCO and FMO – all Development Finance Institutions – and more than 100 insurance and reinsurance companies operating in the member countries, held the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Ordinary Meeting of its General Assembly on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2008 in Tunis (Tunisia).

### **OPENING CEREMONY**

The opening ceremony was marked by the speeches of Mr. Mohamed Dkhili, Chairman of the Local Organising Committee, Mrs. Zainab Bakri, Vice President (Operations II) of the African Development Bank – representing the President of that institution, Mr. Musa Al NAAS, Chairman of the Board of Directors and the General Assembly of Africa Re and Mr. Mohamed Kachid KECHICHE, Minister of Finance who presided over the event on behalf of the President of the Republic of Tunisia.

In his welcome speech, Mr. Dkhili expressed happiness that the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting was held in Tunis and, among other issues, informed the assembly that the Tunisian authorities have introduced reforms that are aimed at promoting the growth of the insurance industry. After inviting African reinsurers to unite their efforts to develop the sector and congratulated Africa Re on its remarkable achievements.

The Vice President of the ADB, on her part, expressed satisfaction with the Corporation's positive growth since its creation and recommended the creation of products that will increase penetration in Africa and appeal to the low income earners in the society. Furthermore, she reiterated the Bank's unflinching support to the Corporation in all its endeavours.

In his speech, the Chairman of the Board expressed appreciation to the Tunisian authorities and the Local Organising Committee for the facilities made available to the Corporation and the participants for attending the ceremony. He then reviewed the institution's results for the 2007 financial year and again thanked the government authorities for the welcome extended to the delegates and the facilities provided for them.

In his speech, the Minister of Finance, urged the African professionals to strengthen their cooperation, assess the achievements recorded and reflect on the future. He stressed the need

to promote insurance penetration and the growth of the sector so as to cope with international competition. After having congratulated and encouraged the Corporation on the performance recorded, he declared open the 30<sup>th</sup> meeting of the General Assembly.

## **DELIBERATIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

At General Assembly meeting, the Board of Directors presented and the shareholders, in the presence of observers approved the 2007 accounts, which confirmed the Corporation's financial strength and its ability to meet its commitments to cedants.

### **1. APPROPRIATION OF RESULTS**

The General Assembly approved the final accounts for the year ended 31 December 2007 which revealed an income of US\$369.51 million compared to USD 293.49 million in 2006 (a growth of 25.90%) and a net profit of US\$34.05million as against USD 24.88 million in the previous year. Conscious of the need to consolidate the Corporation's financial base, whilst ensuring returns on shareholders' investment, the General Assembly decided to distribute the net results as follows:

- US\$17,023,852 to the General Reserves in accordance with Resolution N° 4/1992;
- US\$3,750,000 to be paid as dividend at the rate of US\$3.75 (2006: US\$3.00) per subscribed and paid up share of US\$ 100 par value;
- US\$800,000 to be transferred to the Reserve for Loss Fluctuation in line with the approved self insurance scheme;
- The balance of US\$12,473,852 to be carried forward;

The General Assembly also upheld the current dividend distribution policy which seeks to significantly improve returns on investment for shareholders, without sacrificing international prudential rules.

## **2. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE 29<sup>th</sup> MEETING:**

### **CORPORATION'S GROWTH AND RESTRUCTURING STRATEGY**

The General Assembly noted, with satisfaction, the implementation of the resolutions adopted at its previous meeting, mainly as regards the final accounts and the Corporation's growth and restructuring strategy.

## **3. APPOINTMENT OF THE EXTERNAL AUDITORS**

In accordance with Article 38 of the Agreement Establishing the Corporation, as amended by Resolution 4/1997, the General Assembly appointed the firm of Chartered Accountants, Deloitte & Touche - Abidjan, as External Auditors for a fifth and final term to audit the Corporation's accounts for year ended 31 December 2008 and present a report of the Corporation's financial situation as at that date to the General Assembly at its 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Ordinary Meeting.

## **4. BYE-ELECTION OF DIRECTORS**

Two new Directors joined the Board and six others were re-elected with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2008:

1. Mrs Eunice MBOGO: East and Southern African States
2. Mrs. Nyamikeh KYIAMAH: Anglophone West Africa (States & Companies) and East and Southern Africa (Companies)
3. Mr. EZO'O ENGOLO Blaise: Francophone Africa (States)
4. Mr. MARAMI Kamel: Algeria (State & Companies)
5. Mr. EL-BARKI Thami: Morocco (State & Companies)
6. Mr. Adel MOUNIR: Egypt (State & Companies)
7. Mr. Fola DANIEL: Nigeria (State & Companies)
8. Mr. Bernd TÜMMERS: D.E.G

**Lagos, 8<sup>th</sup> July 2008**

**Mamadou DIALLO**  
**Corporation Secretary**