

Press release

Brussels, 13 February 2009

Fortis Bank 'A' rating confirmed

The rating agencies have today independently commented on their ratings for Fortis Bank.

Fortis Bank SA/NV 'A/A-1' ratings have been reaffirmed by Standard and Poor's Rating Services. The rating agency confirmed also the credit Watch 'Positive'.

Also Moody's has kept Fortis Bank ratings unchanged at A1 and the short-term debt and deposit ratings at Prime-1. Fortis Bank's rating was placed on review with direction uncertain.

Finally, Fitch Ratings has affirmed the Long-term Issuer Default Ratings (IDRs) of Fortis Bank and BGL SA at 'A+', while putting the Outlook on both banks at Stable. Fitch also kept the short term rating at F1+, the highest possible level.

Fortis Bank welcomes this reassuring assessment of the bank's stable position which among others confirms the very low risk profile of the bank's deposits and saving accounts.

Fortis Bank

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Fortis Bank provides a total package of banking services to personal, business and institutional customers through its own channels and via other partners. The bank has built up a strong presence in the European retail banking market, operating through a variety of distribution channels. It offers financial services to companies, institutional clients and high net worth individuals and provides integrated solutions to enterprise and entrepreneur. Fortis Bank employs 38,000 people, of which almost 20,000 in Belgium.