



Press Release – Outside trading hours - Regulated information*

23 December 2011

KBC repays EUR 500 million to Belgian Federal Government

KBC confirms that it will repay on 2 January 2012 EUR 500 million of state aid (with 15% penalty) to the Belgian Federal Government.

Jan Vanhevel , CEO of KBC Group commented today's news as follows : “KBC’s main objective always was, is and remains to implement the strategic plan we agreed with the European Commission in November 2009 within the agreed timeframe and to repay the Belgian authorities in a timely manner. On 10 November 2011, at the occasion of the publication of its 3Q11 results, KBC already expressed its intention to repay a first tranche of the YES* (yield enhanced securities) to the amount of EUR 500 million by year end to the Federal Government under the conversion mechanism. The Federal Government confirmed that it opted for cash and thus the 15% penalty is applicable.

Although the last few months and weeks continued to be characterized by the uncertain macroeconomic climate and challenging, turbulent market conditions, our core strengths have remained fundamentally sound. We continue to have a very solid customer base in our core markets of Belgium and Central Europe. Our liquidity profile is robust and supported by a stable and resilient customer deposit base. Moreover, our solvency position is and remains strong (as proven during the most recent EBA capital exercise) and helps us to remain a solid European financial player committed to actively financing our customers’ projects, even in extremely difficult conditions. We remain committed to executing our strategic plan with the same diligence and determination to ensure timely repayment of the remaining state aid and are committed to playing an active role in the European financial sector, which will benefit our customers, employees, shareholders and other stakeholders.”

*More details on YES can be found on www.kbc.com/investor-relations/presentations/general-investor-presentation-3Q2011: slide 53 “summary of government transactions (2)”

Contact details

Wim Allegaert, General Manager, Investor Relations, KBC Group
Tel 32 2 429 40 51 wim.allegaert@kbc.be

Viviane Huybrecht, General Manager, Group Communications/Spokesperson, KBC Group
Tel 32 2 429 85 45 pressofficekbc@kbc.be

KBC Group NV
Havenlaan 2 – 1080 Brussels
Viviane Huybrecht:
General Manager Group
Communication /Spokesperson
Tel. +32 2 429 85 45

Press Office
Tel. +32 2 429 65 01
Fax +32 2 429 81 60
E-mail: pressofficekbc@kbc.be

* This news item contains information that is subject to the transparency regulations for listed companies.

KBC press releases are available at www.kbc.com or can be obtained by sending an e-mail to pressofficekbc@kbc.be

Follow us on 
www.twitter.com/kbc_group