



Paris, 16 May 2006

## PRESS RELEASE

### **BNP Paribas' public offer for BNL is a huge success**

#### **BNP Paribas holds 97% of BNL's common stock**

The period of BNP Paribas' public offer for BNL's common and savings stock closed today.

Those common shares tendered during the public offer have exceeded 81.97% of the shares which were the subject of the offer. Shares tendered represent approximately 41.56% of the total common shares.

The tender offer has been a huge success with both current and former employees of BNL, who tendered 97.51% of their restricted shares.

As a result of the tender offer and taking into account those shares already held by BNP Paribas, and those bought in the market during the offer period, BNP Paribas' stake should amount to 97.00% of BNL's common stock.

As announced in the prospectus, BNP Paribas will launch a residual offer for the outstanding BNL common shares.

Furthermore, following the voluntary bid for BNL's savings stock, BNP Paribas holds approximately 37.90% of the savings stock in BNL. The definitive results of the tender offer will be released in a separate press release, according to the Consob's regulations (article 41, para 5, Consob Rules 11971/1999).

BNP Paribas should like to thank all BNL's staff and shareholders, who tendered their shares, for the confidence they have shown in the integration project between these two great European banks.

## About BNP Paribas

BNP Paribas ([www.bnpparibas.com](http://www.bnpparibas.com)) is a European leader in banking and financial services, with a significant and growing presence in the United States and leading positions in Asia. The group has one of the largest international banking networks, a presence in over 85 countries and employs more than 110 000 employees, including approximately 80,000 in Europe. BNP Paribas enjoys key positions in its three core businesses: Corporate and Investment Banking, Asset Management & Services and Retail Banking.

## Contacts :

Antoine Sire	(+33) 1 40 14 21 06	antoine.sire@bnpparibas.com
Carine Lauru	(+33) 1 42 98 15 91	carine.lauru@bnpparibas.com
Christelle Maldague	(+33) 1 42 98 56 48	christelle.maldague@bnpparibas.com
Hélène Regnard	(+33) 1 40 14 65 14	helene.regnard@bnpparibas.com

Barabino & Partners

Raffaella Nani / Leonardo Auricchio

02/72.02.35.35