

Warsaw, 17th March 2010
Press Release

FRENCH OIL COMPANY TOTAL TO BECOME PETROLINVEST'S STRATEGIC PARTNER ON THE OTG CONCESSION IN KAZAKHSTAN

TOTAL WILL INVEST \$70 MILLION INTO OPERATIONS ON THE OTG CONCESSION

Petrolinvest has signed an agreement with TOTAL E&P KOBLANDY, member of the TOTAL group, on the 16th March 2010. This agreement provides that TOTAL will invest in geological and drilling works on the Koblandy structure, part of the OTG concession in north-west Kazakhstan owned by Petrolinvest. The works will include the drilling of a deep K-4 well in 2010-2011.

TOTAL will acquire 50% of the OTG concession. TOTAL and Petrolinvest will sign a joint operating agreement ("Joint Operating Agreement") whereby the OTG concession will be managed by an Operating Committee consisting of one TOTAL representative and one Petrolinvest representative. On the Shyrak structure, part of the concession, (estimated at 350 million barrels of prospective resources), Petrolinvest will have right to carry out exclusive operations.

While commenting on the agreement, President of the Management Board of Petrolinvest Paweł Gricuk said, *"Our partnership with an international corporation as experienced as TOTAL confirms that the potential of the OTG concession is very large, in particular, the potential of the Koblandy structure (East Karachaganak). TOTAL brings in not only additional finance for investments but also significant experience gained in oil exploration and production projects all over the world including Kazakhstan, where TOTAL is one of the top investors. The agreement with TOTAL is a significant step in Petrolinvest's development as the leading E&P company in Central and Eastern Europe. It is a consequence of our successful strategy of investing in concessions with considerable geological potential, as well as our focus on reducing the risk profile of those concessions."*

PETROLINVEST WILL LIMIT COOPERATION WITH PGNiG

In light of the investment agreement signed between the French oil company TOTAL and in accordance with the strategic cooperation agreement between PGNiG and Petrolinvest, both PGNiG and Petrolinvest have decided to limit strategic cooperation to the EmbaYugNeft concession, and to future oil prospecting and extraction projects in Kazakhstan. PGNiG and Petrolinvest have agreed to start negotiations on the new terms of cooperation.

President of the Management Board of Petrolinvest, Paweł Gricuk, stated: *"We are very grateful to PGNiG for their support in geological works in Kazakhstan and I hope that our cooperation on other concessions will turn out to be very productive for both sides."*

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■ TOTAL

Total is one of the world's major oil and gas groups, with activities in more than 130 countries. Its 97,000 employees put their expertise to work in every part of the industry – exploration and production of oil and natural gas, refining and marketing, gas & power and trading. Total is working to keep the world supplied with energy, both today and tomorrow. The Group is also a first rank player in chemicals.

TOTAL IN KAZAKHSTAN

TOTAL has been present in Kazakhstan since 1992 through interest in the North Caspian Sea permit—Kashagan. The size of the field may eventually allow production to reach 1,500 kboe/d (in 100%).

The stewardship of Kashagan has been entrusted to the North Caspian Operating Company (NCOC) since January 2009. NCOC supervises and coordinates activities on Kashagan with its agent companies. NCOC uses TOTAL's management system.

First production from Phase 1 of Kashagan is targeted end 2012.

www.total.com

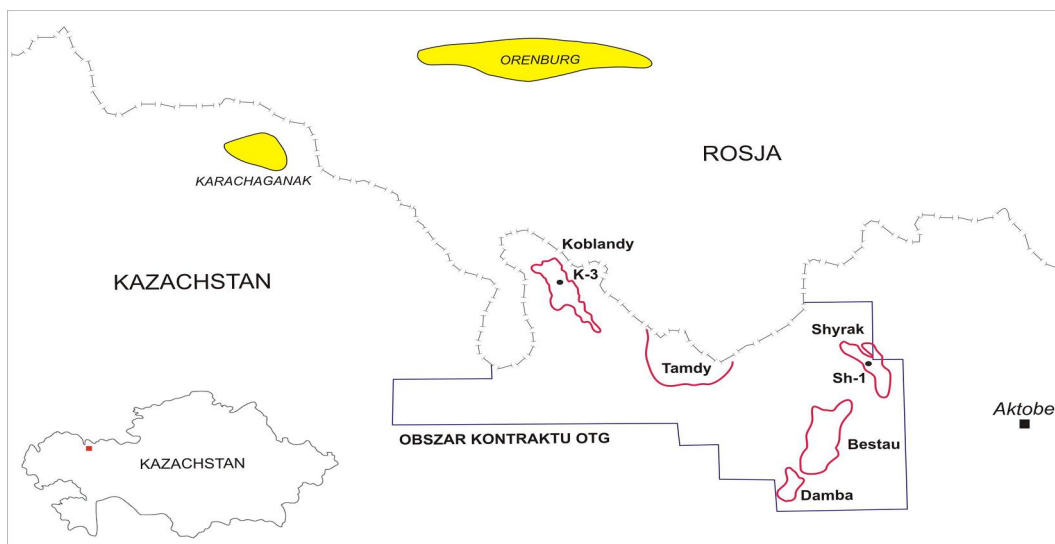
■ OilTechnoGroup (OTG)

The OilTechnoGroup (OTG) Contract, held by Petrolinvest, is located in the administrative district of Aktyubinsk (Aktyubinsk Oblast) in Western Kazakhstan. It covers an area of 9,512 square kilometres. Geologically, the OTG Contract area lies on the northern rim of the hydrocarbon prolific North Caspian basin. Situated in close proximity to the Contract area (approximately 150 kilometres) is Karachaganak, one of the world's largest oil and gas-condensate fields (covering an area of more than 280 square kilometres). Its reserves are estimated at 1.4 trillion cubic metres of natural gas, 5.2 billion barrels of condensate and 1.4 billion barrels of crude oil. The OTG Contract area has convenient access to high-capacity oil and gas pipelines. High-capacity Atyrau-Samara and the CPC consortium's oil pipelines run within a distance of 150-250 kilometres from the Contract area.

The capital expenditure allocated by Petrolinvest on the performance of the OTG Contract until January 2010 amounts to approximately USD 250 million. Following geological investigations conducted over the OTG licence area, oil and gas have been discovered by the K-3 well drilled on the Koblandy structure while the total prospective resources of the OTG contract area have been estimated at more than 2 billion barrels.

In terms of its geology, the OTG Contract area can be subdivided into three parts:

1. the **Koblandy-Tamdy** area, where in 2007-2009 a deep well (K3) was drilled as part of Petrolinvest's investment projects. The well reached a total depth of 6,737 metres and encountered gas and oil bearing horizons, whose reserves (as estimated by an independent competent person) exceed 800 million barrels of oil equivalent (boe). The well K-3 has resulted in a flow of both oil and gas. The Koblandy structure covers an area of approximately 150 square kilometres, and its gross pay thickness (i.e. thickness of hydrocarbon-saturated rocks) equals at least 470 metres.
2. the **Shyrak** area, whose prospective resources have been estimated by McDaniel & Associates (an independent competent person) at 311 million barrels of oil equivalent (boe). The structure is currently being penetrated by an exploration well (Shyrak 1), which has already reached a depth of 1,231.5 metres. The well has had some very encouraging gas and oil shows during drilling.
3. the **Bestau – Sarkol** area, where preparations are under way to spud further exploration wells, whose prospective resources (as estimated by an independent competent person) amount to approximately 135 million barrels of oil equivalent (boe).



■ Additional Information:

At present, Petrolinvest holds interests in four exploration and exploration&production companies operating in Kazakhstan, namely OilTechnoGroup (OTG), EmbaYugNieft (Emba), Profit and Aktau Transit (five Contracts: OTG, Zhubantam-Zhusalysay, Dautskoye, Tyubezhik and Zhangurshi). The Contracts cover an aggregate area of 12.8 thousand square kilometres, located within the most prospective oil and gas basins. The areas covered by the five Contracts lie in the vicinity of several discovered and producing fields, such as Karachaganak (working interests held by British Gas, Chevron, ENI and Lukoil), Kashagan (Total, ENI, Shell, Exxon Mobil, ConocoPhillips, KazMunaiGaz, Inpex) or Tengiz (Chevron, ExxonMobil, KazMunaiGaz, LukARCO).

The Zhubantam-Zhusalysay Contract (Emba) is located in the Atyrau region in Western Kazakhstan, in the vicinity of the world's sixth largest field – Tengiz – whose reserves are estimated at *circa* 6 billion barrels of oil and 12 trillion cubic feet of gas. All the Contract areas lie within a close distance of oil and gas pipelines and storage infrastructure.

As at the end of December 2009, the total amount of funds invested by Petrolinvest in its Kazakh projects was approximately USD 340 million. According to the most recent Competent Person's Reports (CPR), prepared by McDaniel & Associates Consultants in July 2009, the total volume of prospective resources of the licence areas controlled by the Petrolinvest Group amounts to more than 2 billion barrels of oil equivalent (boe) and their value (calculated on a fully risked basis) exceeds USD 2.7 billion.



DEFINITIONS:

Contract area – a part of the Earth’s surface where, under the laws of Kazakhstan, the party that signed a Contract has the right to conduct exploration work and/or produce hydrocarbons in accordance with the terms and conditions defined in the Contract. As one of its parts, a Contract includes a special document called *geological allotment* (in Russian: *geologicheski otvod*), which specifies the geographical coordinates of the corners of the Contract area.

Deposit/Field – an accumulation of a mineral or a few minerals in combination, occurring in such quantity and in such conditions which render its or their production and use commercially viable.

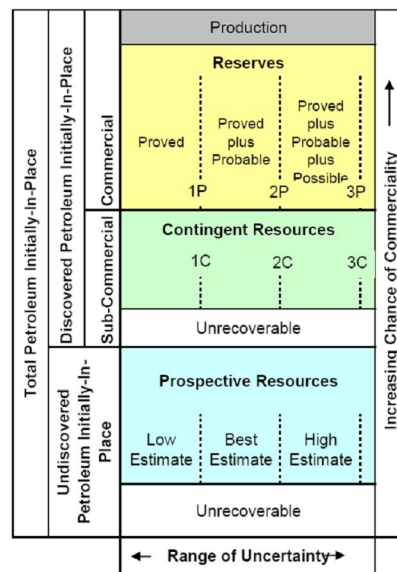
BOE, Barrel of Oil Equivalent – as hydrocarbons occur in different states of aggregation (gaseous, liquid and solid), various measurement units are needed to measure their quantities. Liquid crude oil and condensate are measured using units of volume such as cubic metres or barrels, or else using units of weight, such as tonnes. Natural gas in turn is measured in cubic metres or cubic feet (in the US). When publishing statistics, the so-called *oil equivalent* is often used to ensure comparability.

It is calculated as follows:

- 1,000 cubic metres of natural gas is equal to 1 tonne of crude oil;
- 6 million cubic feet (6 MMcf) of natural gas is equal to one thousand barrels of oil equivalent (1 Mboe).

Barrel, bbl – unit used to measure volume of crude oil, equal to 42 US gallons or 159 litres.

Resources – The term “resources” is intended to encompass all quantities of petroleum naturally occurring on or within the Earth’s crust, discovered and undiscovered (recoverable and unrecoverable), plus those quantities already produced. Further, it includes all types of petroleum whether currently considered “conventional” or “unconventional.” The “range of uncertainty” reflects a range of estimated quantities potentially recoverable from an accumulation by a project, while the vertical axis represents the “chance of commerciality”, that is, the chance that the project that will be developed and reach commercial producing status. The quantities estimated to be initially-in-place are defined as „total petroleum-initially-in-place”, „discovered petroleum-initially-in-place” and „undiscovered petroleum-initially-in-place”, and the recoverable portions are defined separately as reserves, contingent resources, and prospective resources. Reserves constitute a subset of resources, being those quantities that are discovered (i.e. in known accumulations), recoverable, commercial and remaining.



Reserves – Reserves are those quantities of petroleum anticipated to be commercially recoverable by application of development projects to known accumulations from a given date forward under defined conditions. Reserves must further satisfy four criteria: they must be discovered, recoverable, commercial, and remaining (as of the evaluation date) based on the development project(s) applied. Reserves are further categorized in accordance with the level of certainty associated with the estimates and may be sub-classified based on project maturity and/or characterized by development and production status.

Contingent resources – Contingent resources are those quantities of petroleum estimated, as of a given date, to be potentially recoverable from known accumulations, but the applied project(s) are not yet considered mature enough for commercial development due to one or more contingencies. Contingent resources may include, for example, projects for which there are currently no viable markets, or where commercial recovery is dependent on technology under development, or where evaluation of the accumulation is insufficient to clearly assess commerciality. Contingent resources are further categorized in accordance with the level of certainty associated with the estimates and may be sub-classified based on project maturity and/or characterized by their economic status.

Prospective resources – Prospective resources are those quantities of petroleum estimated, as of a given date, to be potentially recoverable from undiscovered accumulations by application of future development projects. Prospective resources have both an associated chance of discovery and a chance of development. Prospective resources are further subdivided in accordance with the level of certainty associated with recoverable estimates assuming their discovery and development and may be sub-classified based on project maturity.

BPD, B/D or BBL/D [barrels per day] – A unit used to measure the volume of crude oil produced from a field.

Associated gas – natural gas found in oil fields, which at formation pressure and temperature is dissolved in oil, but at surface conditions becomes separated. It is produced from combination (oil and gas) reservoirs or from oil reservoirs together with the oil. Formerly it was usually flared, but it may also be used for commercial purposes or injected into the reservoir in order to maintain formation pressure.

Condensate – the heavy hydrocarbons (C₃+ and higher) occurring in association with natural gas and extracted together with it. At formation pressure and temperature the condensate is in the gaseous state, whereas at surface conditions it changes from gas to liquid.

Prospective area/Prospect – an area (space) inside the Earth's crust where the results of evaluations suggest a possibility of discovering hydrocarbons.

Well testing – work performed on a well in order to determine the hydrocarbon saturation of the rocks, the flow rates that the well is able to deliver and the impact of well production on formation pressure.

Heavy crude oil – crude oil with gravity of less than 28 degrees API.

Light crude oil – crude oil with gravity of more than 33 degrees API.

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The Management Board takes every care and precaution to ensure that all information provided in this press release is true and accurate; however, neither the Company's Management Board nor the Company itself (or any of its shareholders, members of supervisory bodies or employees) bears any responsibility for the accuracy or completeness of information publicly available contained in this press release.

For material information relevant to the investment described herein, see the Company's Current Report No. 16/2010, dated 17th March 2010. For a detailed description of risk factors associated with investing in the Company's securities, refer to the Company's Annual Report for 2008 available on the Company's website at: <http://www.petroinvest.pl/pl/raporty-okresowe.html>.

Subject to the fulfillment of its legal obligations (including, but not limited to, its obligation to disclose inside information), the Company hereby represents that it is under no obligation to update or revise any published data relating to the information contained in this press release or the assumptions underlying the Company's strategy with respect to such information.

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