



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BLADEX ANNOUNCES FIRST BOND ISSUANCE IN MEXICO

Panama City, Republic of Panama, March 22, 2012 - Banco Latinoamericano de Comercio Exterior, S.A. (Bladex) (NYSE: BLX), announced today the Bank's first-ever issuance of "*certificados bursátiles*" in the Mexican capital markets, in the amount of Pesos 2.0 billion (two billion Mexican pesos). The Notes have a three-year tenor, with a floating-rate coupon of 28-day TIE plus 65 basis points. The transaction was oversubscribed, with total demand exceeding Pesos 2.3 billion. With more than 25 investors, the transaction was diversified among pension funds, insurance companies, private banks, commercial banks, and brokerage firms. The issuance's success reflects investors' confidence in Bladex's solid financial profile.

Mr. Gregory Testerman, Bladex's Executive Vice President of Treasury & Capital Markets, commented, "Through its central bank, Mexico has been a Bladex shareholder since its creation in 1977. This issuance demonstrates the depth and liquidity of Mexico's capital markets. Trade growth in Latin America continues to be solid and stable, and Bladex plans to deploy these funds to finance that growth. The Bank's loan portfolio in Mexico is expected to continue growing over the coming year."

The issuance was rated "mxAAA" by Standard & Poor's, S.A de C.V. and "AAA(mex)" by Fitch Mexico, S.A. de C.V.

The arrangers were Casa de Bolsa Santander, S.A. de C.V., Grupo Financiero Santander and HSBC Casa de Bolsa, S.A. de C.V., Grupo Financiero HSBC.

Bladex is a supranational bank originally established by the central banks of the Latin American and the Caribbean countries ("the Region"), to promote trade financing in the Region. Established in Panama, its shareholders include central banks and commercial banks from 23 countries in the Region, as well as Latin-American and international banks, and private investors through the New York Stock Exchange.

For further information, please access Bladex's website on the Internet at www.bladex.com or contact:

<p>Bladex, Head Office, Calle 50 y Aquilino de la Guardia, Panama, Republic of Panama Attention: Mr. Christopher Schech, Senior Vice President & Chief Financial Officer Tel.: (507) 210-8630, E-mail: cschech@bladex.com -or- i-advize Corporate Communications, Inc., 20 Broad Street, 25th Floor, New York, NY 10005 Attention: Ms. Melanie Carpenter or Mr. Peter Majeski Tel.: (212) 406-3694, E-mail: bladex@i-advize.com</p>
