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MEDIA RELEASE

AS CONSUMER SPENDING WAINS WITH ANTICIPATION OF WORSENING ECONOMIC TIMES SCOTIABANK PRODUCES POSITIVE RESULTS.

For the six months ended April 30th, 2009 Scotiabank Trinidad and Tobago Limited produced profits after tax of \$227.1 million which represented an increase of 6.9% over the same period in 2008. These positive results are a testament of Scotiabank's continued stability even as the financial sector has had to weather an overall slowdown in borrowing as consumer spending slows in anticipation of worsening economic conditions.

The group has not been immune to the current economic climate as, delinquency has trended upwards and consequently, loan losses have increased to \$29.2 million. When compared to the same period in 2008, this represents an increase of 167% or \$18.3 million. However, due to the bank's significant loan growth over the last three years we consider this within expected thresholds as the current loan loss expense only represents 0.274% of the bank's net loans to customers which totalled \$10.6 billion at the end of the current period.

During the period asset growth outstripped profitability prompting a reduction in the bank's performance ratios. Return on Equity dropped from 26.08% to 23.87% while the bank's Return on Assets for the half year of 2009 measured 2.99% compared to 3.47% a year earlier. A push factor for this ratio has also been the high amount of reserves the bank has had to carry at the central bank which negatively impacted the bank's interest margins.

Earnings per share increased from 120.4cents to 128.8cents, which translated into Shareholder's being rewarded Dividends of 25 cents per share for the three months to April 30th, 2009. This brought total Dividends for the year to 50 cents.

REVENUES

Revenue was mainly derived from the bank's core business in the form of interest income which was \$619.5 million, a 17.1% increase when compared to April 30th, 2008. Interest Expense also grew by 28.3% for the same period.

This produced Net Interest Income (NII) of \$396.2 million, which represented a growth of 11.6% from the \$355.1 million achieved in the same period in 2008.

Other Income, which includes commissions and fees, grew by 13.1% for the year to \$140.9 million. Total NII and other income was \$537.1 million or 11.9% higher than 2008.

NON-INTEREST EXPENSES

Non Interest Expenses (NIE) increased by \$36.6 million, bringing the total NIE to \$245.4 million as at April 30th, 2009. This represented a 17.8% growth year over year.

The main components of NIE were Salaries and Staff benefits, Premises and technology, Communications and marketing, and Loan loss expenses of which Loan loss expenses carried the highest year over year increase, as a further \$18.3 million was allocated for probable bad debts during the period in review.

Salaries and Staff Benefits costs also increased this period by \$11.8 million. This was necessary to maintain a competitive market position in compensation.

BALANCE SHEET

For the six months ended April 30th, 2009 Total Assets grew by 24.9% or \$3.2 billion closing the first half of 2009 at \$16.3 billion. Asset classes with major growth were Deposits with Central Bank which carried the largest year over year growth of \$997.5 million or 61%. This was due to increased reserve requirements and high liquidity which caused banks to have large excess reserve balances with the Central Bank.

Due from Banks grew by \$838 million while Net Loans to customers increased by 7.5% or \$741.3 million when compared to the same period in 2008.

As borrowing slowed, the bank increased its investments to make use of its cash. This pushed holdings in Treasury bills up from \$270.3 million in April 2008 to \$617.3 million in the current period. Investment securities also increased by 68.8% from, \$398.9 million to \$673.6 million.

The 26% growth in deposits which generated \$2.5 billion in funding for the bank's operations was also supplemented by the issue of a bond totalling \$800 million in August 2008. These were the major areas that pushed the bank's liabilities to \$14.3 billion when compared to the similar period in 2008.

SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY

The Group continued to strengthen Shareholders' Equity through increased retained earnings as Total shareholders' equity grew to \$2.0 billion, 17.6% or \$233.8 million higher than the same period in 2008.

The Bank's capital adequacy ratio measured 17.67% as at March 31st, 2009. This is well above the minimum capital adequacy ratio of 8% specified by regulators and is consistent with international standards.

LIQUIDITY MANAGEMENT

The bank continued to maintain high liquidity reserves with Cash and cash equivalents amounting to \$2.0 billion as at March 31st, 2009. This, in addition to Deposits of \$2.6 billion with the Central Bank, places Scotiabank in a strong liquid position.

Corporate Social Responsibility

In the last quarter, Scotiabank Trinidad and Tobago Limited hosted its annual Scotiabank Women Against Breast Cancer Ladies' Golf Tournament, which saw 17 teams participating at the St. Andrew's Golf Course in Moka, Maraval. The funds raised via this event would allow approximately 250 women to be screened. All the funds raised through various Scotiabank Women Against Breast Cancer events serve to offset the cost of breast cancer screening, ultrasounds and mammograms to be conducted in October 2009.

The Scotiabank Kiddy Cricket Program was another highlight of the last quarter. During the luncheon interval of the 5th Test Match between West Indies and England on March 7th and 8th, the crowd was treated to a skills display by Scotiabank's Kiddy Cricketers. On each day, 80 boys and girls between the ages of 7-11 represented their schools as they showcased their cricketing skills acquired during the Kiddy Cricket campaign. The display was arranged in 8 groups of 10 children located strategically around the field to maximize the crowd's view. The skills display consisted of close catching, skim catching, high catching, underarm throw, fielding and driving through cones.

In addition, Scotiabank Trinidad and Tobago Limited held an educational seminar in collaboration with the Inter-American Investment Corporation entitled "Energy Efficiency for Small and Medium Enterprises" at the Bank's Hospitality Suite at the Queen's Park Oval in Port-of-Spain. Members of the audience were briefed on the importance of implementing energy efficiency measures in their organizations. These Scotiabank clients were exposed to the RET Screen Clean Energy Project Analysis Software and were able to benefit from presentations from consultants and companies with expertise in this area.

The Scotiabank Group is committed to supporting communities in whichever country they operate. Recognized as a leader internationally and among Canadian corporations for its charitable donations and philanthropic activities, in 2008 the Bank of Nova Scotia provided about US\$43 million in sponsorships and donations globally to a variety of projects and initiatives, primarily in the areas of healthcare, education, social services and arts and culture.

Scotiabank is on the World Wide Web at www.scotiabank.com