

## PRESS RELEASE

### Istanbul – April 11, 2012

#### JCR-Eurasia Rating

affirms the rating of

#### **Banka Kombetare Tregtare Sh.A**

as “**AAA (Alb)**” and outlook as “**stable**”. Furthermore, JCR-ER increases BKT’s Long Term International Local Currency Grade from “BB” to “BB+” in parallel with the increase in the Country grade.

JCR-Eurasia Rating affirms Banka Kombetare Tregtare Sh.A. (BKT)’s Long Term National Grade as “**AAA (Alb)**” and affirms its outlook as “stable”, which means highest investment can be made. On the other hand, JCR-ER assigns BKT Long Term International Foreign Currency Grade “BB+” and raises its Long Term International Local Currency Grade from “BB” to “BB+” in parallel with the increase in the Country grade. Details of all notes are shown below.

<b>Long Term International Foreign Currency</b>	: <b>BB+</b> /(Stable Outlook)
<b>Long Term International Local Currency</b>	: <b>BB+</b> /(Stable Outlook)
<b>Long Term National Local Rating</b>	: <b>AAA(Alb)</b> /(Stable Outlook)
<b>Short Term International Foreign Currency</b>	: <b>B</b> /(Stable Outlook)
<b>Short Term International Local Currency</b>	: <b>B</b> /(Stable Outlook)
<b>Short Term National Local Rating</b>	: <b>A -1+(Alb)</b> /(Stable Outlook)
<b>Sponsor Support</b>	: <b>3</b>
<b>Stand-Alone</b>	: <b>AB</b>

The Bank’s assets, which generated profits over the last decade, more than doubled cumulatively in comparison to the sector. The asset growth is accompanied by an expansion in deposits and loans and a strengthened position to second largest in the sector. Impairment in the quality of sector assets in 2010, continued in 2011. However, BKT maintained its asset quality and lowered its bad and non-performing loans ratio compared to that of the previous year, while this same ratio rose sharply in the sector.

With the change in the Bank’s credit strategy, share of loans granted to real sector expanded in the composition of assets, while that of bond and debentures declined. Absolute trust in the Bank caused deposit term to extend over one year and the Bank’s long-term and widespread deposit structure facilitated its liquidity management.

Strategic sectors in Albania and neighbouring countries offer growth opportunities in the retail banking business sector to main shareholder Calik Group, who extends its influence in the region through Bank activities in Albania and its new opened branches in Kosovo. Nevertheless, the capital adequacy ratio, which is below the industry average and slightly above the legal level, hinders growth funded by internal resources.

It’s JCR-ER’s considered opinion that given the Bank’s asset quality, market share, growth rates and high profitability ratios, the Bank gained invaluable experience and established institutional infrastructure allowing the Firm fulfilling its obligations, provided that the Company protects the existing customer base and maintains market efficiency without needing shareholder support. Consequently, JCR assigns Banka Kombetare Tregtare Sh.A. (BKT) a Sponsor Support Grade of (3), and a Stand Alone Grade of (AB).

For more information related to the rating results you may visit our internet site <http://www.jcrer.com.tr> or contact our analyst **Mr. Sevket GULEC**.

**JCR EURASIA RATING**  
**Administrative Board**