4 September 2012 Akbank T.A.Ş. Mizuho Corporate Bank, Ltd.

## FOR GENERAL RELEASE

## Cooperation Agreement signed between Akbank T.A.Ş and Mizuho Corporate Bank, Ltd.

Akbank T.A.Ş. ("Akbank") and Mizuho Corporate Bank, Ltd. ("MHCB") entered into a Non Exclusive general business cooperation agreement on 3 September 2012. The cooperation agreement covers a wide range of commercial and investment banking business, and this represents the first time that Akbank has entered an agreement of this nature with a Japanese financial institution.

This cooperation agreement is aimed at fostering closer cooperation in financial services to assist Japanese companies in Turkey. MHCB will seek to provide a full range of support to its Japanese clients, many of whom already have established businesses in Turkey or who are conducting business with Turkish companies. MHCB and Akbank will be able to offer a variety of services such as local currency denominated remittances in TL/JYP, local/foreign currency denominated loans and other financing, trade finance and project finance.

MHCB is one of the main subsidiaries of Mizuho Financial Group ("MHFG") and serves major Japanese and international corporations and their group companies, as well as financial institutions and public sector entities globally. MHFG is one of the largest financial institutions in Japan, offering a broad range of financial services. The group has over 56,000 staff working in approximately 950 offices inside and outside Japan, and total assets of US\$2 trillion (as of March 2012). MHFG has an exceptionally strong client base and business relationships with 70% of listed Japanese companies.

With a consolidated asset size of over USD 80 billion, strong and extensive national distribution network comprising over 950 branches and 16,000 employees, Akbank is one of the most valuable companies in Turkey in terms of its market capitalization. Akbank is also "the Most Valuable Banking Brand in

Turkey" according to the "Brand Finance - Banking 500, 2012" report.

In addition to its core banking activities, Akbank offers a wide range of corporate, SME, consumer and private banking services as well as foreign trade financing. The bank conducts overseas operations through its subsidiaries in Germany (Akbank AG) and Dubai (Akbank Dubai Limited) along with a branch in Malta.

Akbank's robust capital, low leverage, high level of liquidity and effective risk management policy constitute its pillars of strength and support the Bank's profitable growth. Akbank's local subsidiaries are Ak Securities, Ak Asset Management and Ak Lease.

Through its effective risk management practices and exceptional performance, Akbank holds the highest individual and financial strength ratings that can be assigned within the Turkish banking sector.

Turkey has the most developed economy in the CEEMEA region. It is the 18<sup>th</sup> largest economy in the world and 8<sup>th</sup> largest in Europe with a USD 772 billion of GDP. Turkey's population of over 75 million is relatively young and tech-savy, with an average age of 29 and over 26% falling within the 0-14 age bracket. The country has a solid financial sector with strong future growth potential, and is among the world's leading producers of textiles, motor vehicles, construction materials, consumer electronics, and home appliances. As Turkey acts as an energy corridor between the Middle East's rich energy sources and Europe, some of the largest energy transmission pipelines in the world run through the country. Turkey also has the most developed infrastructure, education, and judicial systems in its region while enjoying a history of political and democratic stability. Country's significant growth prospects and key geostrategic location help boost ties and business with the investors.

Together with other group companies, both MHCB and Akbank aim to take advantage of this cooperation agreement to support their respective clients as they conduct business in Japan and Turkey by fully meeting their financial needs.

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