



According to the report presented to the Shareholders' Meeting

Mercantil Servicios Financieros Loan Portfolio grew 32.6 percent in 2007 to Bs.F 19,338 million

An Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders of Mercantil Servicios Financieros (Mercantil), a Venezuelan financial services provider of banking, insurance, and asset management services, approved the audited financial statements and its 2007 report, both presented by the Board of Directors to the shareholders for their consideration. The documents reflect a 32.6 percent increase in the Loan Portfolio and a 23.1 percent growth in Total Assets compared with 2006.

A Corporate Communications Management communiqué also announced the approval of the Board of Directors' report on the degree of compliance with Corporate Governance Principles, the proposal to declare and pay dividends for 2008, authorization of the seventeenth phase of the company's Stock Repurchase Program; a partial amendment to the company's by-laws, and new appointments to the Board of Directors in line with the statutory provisions.

According to the report presented to the shareholders by the Board of Directors, at the close of 2007 Mercantil Servicios Financieros registered Total Assets of Bs.F. 39,049 million, 23.1 percent higher than in 2006, and Bs.F. 3,407 million in Equity, an increment of 31.6 percent compared to December 2006.

Mercantil's net loan portfolio grew 32.6 percent to Bs.F. 19,338.49 million compared with Bs.F. 14,580.27 million at the close of 2006, maintaining a very favorable portfolio quality levels with a ratio of Past-due and Non-performing Loans to Total Loans of 0.6 percent.

Mercantil reported Bs.F. 783 million in Net Income for 2007. The main contributors to the profits are Mercantil, C.A., Banco Universal; Mercantil Seguros, C.A.; Mercantil Commercebank Holding Corporation; and Mercantil Merinvest, C.A.

The Shareholders' Meeting, chaired by Gustavo Marturet approved an ordinary cash dividend for each outstanding Common "A" and "B" share at Bs.F. 0.13 per share for the second, third, and fourth quarter of 2008. An extraordinary cash dividend was also approved, to be paid from earnings at December 31, 2007, at Bs.F. 0.50 per each outstanding Common Class "A" and "B" share, payable as follows: Bs.F. 0.25 per each outstanding Common Class "A" and "B" share on April 15 and July 22, 2008.

The Shareholders' Meeting approved a partial amendment to the company's by-laws, increasing the number of directors of the Board from nine to ten, each with two Alternate Directors. Additionally, principal and alternate members of the Board pending election in accordance with the by-laws were designated. The Board is now comprised by: Principal Directors: Gustavo A. Marturet; Gustavo J. Vollmer H.; Alfredo Travieso P.; Luis A. Romero M.; Víctor J. Sierra A.; Gustavo Vollmer A.; Jonathan Coles; Roberto Vainrub; Alejandro González Sosa, and Miguel Ángel Capriles López. Alternate Directors: Luis A. Sanabria U.; Oscar A. Machado K.; Eduardo Mier y Terán; Luis Esteban Palacios W.; Gustavo Galdo C.; Gonzalo Mendoza M.; Germán Sánchez Myles; Luis A. Marturet M.; Carlos Hellmund B.; Gustavo Machado C.; Francisco Monaldi M.; Federico Vollmer A.; Guillermo Sosa S.; Claudio Dolman; Carlos Zuloaga T; Nerio Rosales R; Armando Leirós R; Miguel Ángel Capriles Capriles; Luis Pedro España and Philip Henríquez.

The Board of Directors appointed Gustavo A. Marturet as President and Alejandro González Sosa as Executive President of Mercantil Servicios Financieros.

The Ordinary General Shareholders' Meeting of Mercantil Banco Universal, also held on March 28, considered and approved the Board of Directors Report, the Audited Financial Statements and the Statutory Auditor's Report for the close of 2007. The by-laws were also approved at an Extraordinary Meeting of Shareholders, increasing the number of Directors from nine to ten, each with two Alternate Directors, and the corresponding appointments were announced. The Board of Directors of Mercantil Banco Universal appointed Gustavo A. Marturet as President and Nerio Rosales Rengifo as Executive President.

The report of Mercantil Banco Universal highlighted the fact that for the third year running, the financial institution was ranked one of the ten best companies to work for in Venezuela, according to an organizational climate survey conducted in the country by the renowned Great Place to Work Institute. Mercantil Banco Universal holds the eight rank and is the first Venezuelan financial institution in this field.

Mercantil is a financial services provider of banking, insurance, and asset management services in Venezuela that operates in 10 countries in the Americas and Europe. Its shares are listed on the Caracas Stock Exchange and its ADRs are traded over the counter in the United States. Its main subsidiaries are Mercantil Banco Universal, Mercantil Seguros and Mercantil Merinvest in Venezuela; Mercantil Commercebank in the USA and Mercantil Bank (Schweiz) in Switzerland. Mercantil is one of the world's 2000 largest companies according to a survey by Forbes magazine (March 2007). For further information, please visit our website www.bancomercantil.com.

Corporate Communications
Caracas, March 31, 2008