Central Bank of Chile Santiago, 8 September 2009 Press Release^{*}

In its monthly monetary policy meeting, the Board of the Central Bank of Chile decided to maintain the monetary policy interest rate at 0.50% (annual), and to continue applying the complementary monetary policy measures adopted in July's meeting.

Internationally, recent data show stabilizing global growth prospects for this year. These prospects have resulted in a better environment in financial markets. Commodity prices, particularly for copper, have remained stable.

Domestically, available information suggests that output and demand have expanded in recent months, but are still below the levels of a year ago. The rise in unemployment has moderated and employment has tended to stabilize. Lending conditions remain tight, despite reduced lending interest rates.

In August, CPI inflation was affected by a temporary reduction in electricity tariffs. Wage dynamics continue to be in line with historical patterns. Reduced y-o-y inflation figures are foreseen for the coming quarters. Medium-term inflation expectations have remained stable.

The Board reiterates that the monetary policy rate will be held at its minimum level of 0.50% for a prolonged time period, and that it will continue to use its policies with flexibility so that projected annual inflation stands at 3% over the policy horizon.

^{*} The Spanish original prevails.