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PRESS RELEASE

## **SEB adopts the Equator Principles**

**SEB today becomes the first Nordic bank to formally adopt the Equator Principles on project financing. SEB views this commitment as an important step in ensuring the application of sound practice in terms of assessing and handling environmental and social impacts when engaging in project financing transactions.**

The Equator Principles are a set of voluntary guidelines developed by major international banks in conjunction with the International Finance Corporation, part of the World Bank Group. The goal of the guidelines is to create a widely accepted framework for lenders and borrowers in project finance for addressing environmental and social issues caused by projects with the aim to make sure that the projects are properly assessed and implemented.

SEB is committed to act as an engaged and responsible corporate citizen. By adopting these principles SEB is putting emphasis on sound practices in the lending decisions where social or environmental impacts are present. SEB regards adoption of the Equator Principles as a positive way of reinforcing SEB's business approval processes.

By adopting the Equator Principles, SEB will ensure that all new project finance transactions it leads and participates in are categorized according to the requirements stipulated by the principles.

SEB will report annually on its implementation process and on the number of transactions screened against the Equator Principles.

More information about Equator Principles is available at the official Equator Principles web-site: <http://www.equator-principles.com/>.

The SEB Group is a North European financial group for 400,000 corporate customers and institutions, and 5 million private customers. SEB has local presence in the Nordic and Baltic countries, Germany, Poland, the Ukraine and Russia and has a global presence through its international network in another 10 countries. On 31 December 2006, the Group's total assets amounted to SEK 1,934bn while its assets under management totalled SEK 1,262bn. The Group has about 20,000 employees. Read more about SEB at [www.sebgroup.com](http://www.sebgroup.com).

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