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**FONDUL PROPRIETATEA'S LISTING
GIVES MAJOR BOOST TO ROMANIA'S CAPITAL MARKET**

Bucharest, 28 February 2011 – One month after the successful listing of Fondul Proprietatea (“the Fund”) on the Bucharest Stock Exchange (“BVB”), Franklin Templeton Investment Management Limited, investment manager and sole administrator of the Fund, highlights the benefits and significant influence that such a historic event has had on the Romanian capital market.

Dr. Mark Mobius, Executive Chairman Templeton Emerging Markets Group said: “After years of delays, shareholders and investors can now trade Fondul Proprietatea shares on a regulated and transparent market, at lower transaction costs and with full access to relevant information. In addition, it is important to point out that on the day of the listing the share price was higher and the discount was lower than when the Fund was trading on the grey market. This is indeed a very good start.”

Some of the positive developments arising from this event for the Romanian capital market since the Fund's listing were:

- Fondul Proprietatea has the largest free-float at RON 5.2 billion [EUR 1.2 billion]¹, making it the most liquid share on the Bucharest Stock Exchange.
- The capitalisation of the Bucharest Stock Exchange increased by RON 8.2 billion [EUR 1.9 billion] with the listing of Fondul Proprietatea.
- Large foreign investors can now access a fund such as Fondul Proprietatea via modernised trading mechanisms on the Bucharest Stock Exchange.
- Over 1.6 billion shares have been traded on the Bucharest Stock Exchange in the first month of the Fund's trading, representing nearly 11.8% of the Fund's equity. The value

¹ Source: Depozitarul Central as at 31 January 2011 and BVB

of all trades with the Fund's shares has exceeded RON 1 billion, while the total number of trades reached 27,191 in the first month².

- The listing of the Fund led to a tripling of the average daily turnover in comparison with 2009 and 2010 with the average value of trades amounting to over 59% of the total turnover of the Bucharest Stock Exchange – by far the most traded share³.

Unlocking Value for shareholders

Commenting on the next step for the Fund, Greg Konieczny, Fund Manager of Fondul Proprietatea said: "Our key priority from now on is to focus on unlocking the value of the underlying companies within the Fund through our active management investment process. In time, this process should reflect positively on the value of the Fund and its share price."

The process of unlocking value within the Fund will be focusing on the following elements in the near-term:

- Introducing proper corporate governance practices and streamlining decision-making processes for the portfolio companies.
- Working to ensure proper corporate governance in the activity of the underlying companies through arranging Fondul Proprietatea representation in the Board of Directors of over 20 portfolio companies.
- Advising portfolio companies' management on improvement measures to increase efficiency, profitability and transparency of state-controlled companies (e.g., encouraging the Government to change existing plans regarding the energy champions Electra and Hidroenergetica).
- Bringing foreign expertise and additional financing to portfolio companies.
- Further improving transparency in Fondul Proprietatea (better disclosure related to unlisted portfolio companies).
- Supporting and advising on the planned IPOs and SPOs of the underlying state-controlled companies.
- Analyzing and executing new investments for Fondul Proprietatea in Romania and in other Central European countries.

Launched in December 2005, Fondul Proprietatea was established to compensate Romanians whose properties were confiscated by the former communist government. An international tender was announced in December 2008, and Franklin Templeton won the Euro 3.68 billion⁴ Fondul Proprietatea mandate in July 2009 after being selected from among seven global asset managers. Franklin Templeton officially took over as investment manager and sole administrator of the Fund on 29 September 2010.

Franklin Templeton established an office in Bucharest in August 2009, with a team of 25 employees, including 6 locally based investment professionals who are further supported by the over 40 portfolio managers and analysts of the wider Templeton Emerging Markets team.

Franklin Templeton Investment Management Limited is a subsidiary of Franklin Resources, Inc. [NYSE:BEN], a [global investment management](#) organization operating as Franklin Templeton Investments. Franklin Templeton Investments provides global and domestic investment management solutions managed by its Franklin, Templeton, Mutual Series, Fiduciary Trust,

² Source: BVB for the period 25 January 2010 - 25 February 2011.

³ Source: BVB as at 25 February 2011.

⁴ Source: Franklin Templeton Investments, 31 January 2011, NAV reporting based on CNVM (local regulator) standards.

Darby and Bissett investment teams. The San Mateo, CA-based company has more than 60 years of investment experience and over USD 680 billion in assets under management as of 31 January 2010. For more information, please visit www.franklintempleton.uk.

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