

**BANCO LATINOAMERICANO DE EXPORTACIONES, S.A. ("BLADEX")
REPORTS FOURTH QUARTER AND FULL YEAR 2000 RESULTS**

Panama City, Republic of Panama, February 8, 2001 - Banco Latinoamericano de Exportaciones, S.A. (the "Bank") (NYSE: BLX), a specialized multinational bank established to finance trade in the Latin American and the Caribbean region, today reported results for the fourth quarter of, and the year ended, December 31, 2000. Net income for the fourth quarter was \$22.9 million, representing a decline of 10% from the fourth quarter of 1999. Earnings per common share after preferred dividends were \$1.16 per common share for the quarter, representing a decline of 6% compared to the fourth quarter of 1999.

Net income for the year 2000 was \$97.1 million, a decline of 4% compared with 1999. Earnings per common share after preferred dividends were \$4.84 per common share, a decrease of 2% compared with 1999.

Commenting on the Bank's performance, José Castañeda, chief executive officer, said, "BLADEX's results in the fourth quarter of 2000 were mixed with some improvement evident in the demand for credit from top tier customers and a decline in our fee based businesses. The overall credit portfolio was essentially the same as the third quarter. Competitive pressures increased in a generally weak market environment, causing the decline in our net interest margin primarily during the first three quarters of 2000. This decline leveled off in the fourth quarter of 2000."

"Despite competitive pressure to build the credit portfolio by accepting more risk, BLADEX's strategy continues to be focused on maintaining asset quality. We intend to continue to expand our business relationships with creditworthy customers, and not compromise the quality of our borrowers in pursuit of short-term margin improvements."

"While the two largest economies in Latin America continue to perform well, the conditions in many other markets were much less favorable."

"For the year, BLADEX performed well in a difficult market and invested considerable management time and capital to develop a more agile and pro-active approach to the changing market. Initiatives were taken to strengthen the risk management function which has enabled BLADEX to become more competitive as the customer base is becoming more segmented. The performance of our core business is improving because of these initiatives and our investments in people and systems."

"We are encouraged by the internal progress made last year in transforming BLADEX into a more competitive institution in the Latin American marketplace and are optimistic about the Bank's future role in the region's growth."

During the year 2000, the Bank repurchased approximately 577 thousand Class B common shares, which are not traded in the public market. On the other hand, 485 thousand Class B common shares have been converted to date, into Class E common shares on a one-to-one basis, which contributed to the increase in the number of Class E common shares trading in the market. Under the share repurchase program, which started in early December of 2000, the Bank has repurchased to date, 302 thousand Class E common shares and 156 thousand Class A common shares (which are not traded in the market). The Bank's total number of common shares of all classes has been reduced by approximately 1 million common shares in the last 12 months, to 18.9 million common shares.

Financial Highlights (in \$ millions, except percentages and per share amounts)

	1999	2000	Change
Net revenues (net interest income plus commission income)	139.2	138.6	0%
Net interest income	112.7	112.7	0%
Commission income	26.5	25.9	-2%
Net income	101.1	97.1	-4%
EPS	4.95	4.84	-2%
Commission income to commission expenses plus operating expenses	151%	116%	-23%
Operating expenses to net interest income plus commission income	11.9%	15.3%	28%
Return on equity	15.7%	14.0%	-11%
Avg. credit portfolio, net of unearned discount	6,193	6,037	-3%
Net interest margin	2.15%	2.24%	4%

BLADEX, with \$5.7 billion in assets, is a specialized multinational bank established to finance trade in the Latin American and Caribbean region. Its shareholders include central banks from 23 countries in the region and 174 commercial banks (from the region, as well as international banks) and private investors. Its mission is to provide funds for the development of Latin America and the Caribbean, and to provide integrated solutions for the promotion of the region's exports. BLADEX is listed on the New York Stock Exchange. Further investor information can be found at www.blx.com

A LONGER VERSION OF THIS PRESS RELEASE WITH DETAILED INFORMATION HAS BEEN FILED WITH THE UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION, AND CAN BE OBTAINED FROM BLADEX AT:

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