

**Rating Action: Banco Regional de Cuyo S.A.**

**Moody's assigns first-time ratings to Banco Regional de Cuyo; affirms Banco Supervielle's ratings**

Buenos Aires, January 26, 2009 -- Moody's Investors Service assigned a first-time bank financial strength rating (BFSR) of D- (minus) to Banco Regional de Cuyo S.A.. At the same time, Moody's gave the bank long- and short-term global local-currency deposit ratings of Ba2 and Not Prime, as well as long- and short-term foreign-currency deposit ratings of Caa1 and Not Prime. Moody's also assigned the bank Aa2.ar local-currency and Ba1.ar foreign-currency deposit ratings on the Argentine national scale.

The outlooks on all ratings are stable.

At the same time, Moody's affirmed Banco Supervielle S.A.'s BFSR of D- (minus) and Ba2/Not Prime and Caa1/Not Prime ratings for global local and foreign currency deposits. Moreover, the national scale of Aa2.ar and Ba1.ar for local and foreign currency deposits were also affirmed.

Moody's said the D- BFSR reflects Banco Regional de Cuyo's alignment with Banco Supervielle's (its shareholder's) ratings. Regional de Cuyo was acquired by Supervielle in September 2008 and it should be absorbed by the parent bank by mid 2009 though retaining its well recognized brand. Although small in size, Regional de Cuyo has adequate financial metrics and a franchise that is focused on lending to small and medium companies, and individuals, mainly in the province of Mendoza, where it has reasonably good branch coverage. Regional de Cuyo's franchise is seen as complementary to Supervielle's, which is active in the neighboring province of San Luis. The ratings therefore, reflect Moody's views that business and operational synergies that can be achieved are positive to the acquisition, as they may translate into earnings and funding diversification, as well as in broader market coverage.

The ratings also incorporate the agency's assessment of Regional de Cuyo's risk management practices in light of its limited corporate governance, which derives from the bank's family ownership and lack of board independence.

Nevertheless, the ratings also capture the challenges arising from the merger process itself and the operating environment. Moody's also pointed out that Regional de Cuyo faces harsh competition from peers.

Moody's Ba2 global local-currency deposit rating reflects Banco Regional de Cuyo's Baseline Credit Assessment of Ba3, as well as Moody's assessment of a high probability that systemic support would be extended to the bank in case of stress because of its relatively important market share in terms of deposits in a consolidated basis. Such an assessment results in a one-notch lift of the local currency rating to Ba2.

Banco Regional de Cuyo S.A. is headquartered in Mendoza, Argentina, and it had assets of Ar\$ 587.7 million, deposits of Ar\$ 473.1 million, and equity of Ar\$ 58.7 million, as of September 2008.

The following ratings were assigned to Banco Regional de Cuyo S.A.

Bank Financial Strength Rating: D-, with stable outlook.

Long- and short-term global local-currency deposit ratings: Ba2 and Not Prime, with stable outlook.

Long- and short-term foreign-currency deposit ratings: Caa1 and Not Prime, with stable outlook.

Long-Term National Scale Local-Currency Deposit Rating: Aa2.ar, with stable outlook.

Long -Term National Scale Foreign-Currency Deposit Rating: Ba1.ar, with stable outlook.

The following Banco Supervielle S.A.'s ratings were affirmed:

Bank Financial Strength Rating: D-, with stable outlook.

Long- and short-term global local-currency deposit ratings: Ba2 and Not Prime, with stable outlook.

Long- and short-term foreign-currency deposit ratings: Caa1 and Not Prime, with stable outlook.

Long-Term National Scale Local-Currency Deposit Rating: Aa2.ar, with stable outlook.

Long -Term National Scale Foreign-Currency Deposit Rating: Ba1.ar, with stable outlook.

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