ZAO Citibank named "Company of the Year" and "Investor of the Year" by American Chamber of Commerce (AmCham) in Russia

In a ceremony held on 2 April in Moscow to mark the occasion of the 11th Annual AmCham Awards Dinner, AmCham presented ZAO Citibank with the prestigious Award the Company of the Year. Prior to that, on March 31st in St.-Petersburg the St.-Petersburg branch of AmCham presented ZAO Citibank, a member of Citigroup, the Investor of the Year Award. Speaking at the event on April 2nd were Andrew Somers, President of the American Chamber of Commerce, several AmCham Board Members and Mark Robinson, CCO, ZAO Citibank.

The Company of the Year Award is given to organizations which have achieved impressive growth, visibility and a significant breakthrough in the Russian market, demonstrating a long-term commitment and adhering to the highest standards of business ethics. In previous years, the Company of the Year Award was given to Mars LLC, Coca-Cola Company, McDonald's, United Technologies International, Nestle Food LLC, Sakhalin Energy Investment Company Ltd, Gillette Group LLC, Caterpillar, Ford and Rosinter Restaurants.

Winners for Friend of the Chamber, The Chairman's, Special Recognition, Chamber Member of the Year, Committee Chairperson of the Year, Businessperson of the Year, Small Business of the Year, Region of the Year were also announced during the Awards ceremony.

All basic 2004 indices attained by ZAO Citibank indicated sustainable growth. ZAO Citibank's net assets increased 20% from the previous year and consumer funds more than doubled to RUB9bn representing considerable consumer demand for Citibank's services in Russia. In addition, the consumer loan portfolio grew six-fold over the course of 2004. Citibank's equity grew by 10% in 2004.

The corporate business, which was the first Citibank business to enter the Russian market in 1994, continues to gain momentum and Citibank's corporate customer base currently comprises over 800 companies, all of which have access to Citibank's full range of products and services.

Throughout the year, Citibank robustly developed its consumer business. From July 2004, a full range of Citibank's products and services were made available in St-Petersburg, where 4 consumer branches were opened, 30 round-the-clock ATMs installed, and more than 100 partner relationships established.

Citibank is the leading world credit card issuer. In Russia, Citibank was the first to introduce such unique banking products as credit cards with a grace period of up to 50 days; Equal Payment Plan, under which all Citibank cardholders may buy on credit at a reduced interest rate of 1.5% per month in all partner merchant networks; and Personal Financial Consulting Program, under which unbiased objective investment advice is provided to each customer.