

## Banorte holds its 12th Annual Convention

**21 May 2008**

Guadalajara, Jal., May 22, 2008.- Grupo Financiero Banorte's XII Annual Convention was inaugurated today in Guadalajara, Jalisco with several objectives in mind, i.e. to assess its business plans, establish the strategies to follow in the short and mid terms in order to continue its upward growth trend, and to strengthen its position nationwide.

The event, in which Top Management members took part, was presided over by the Chairman of the Board, Roberto González Barrera and the Institution's CEO, Dr. Alejandro Valenzuela del Río.

In his welcome speech to the entire executive board of the financial group, Roberto González Barrera said that "Teamwork is the pillar on which our institution's strength rests."

The Bank's CEO, Alejandro Valenzuela del Río, on the other hand, commented, "We are migrating from a product-oriented focus toward a customer-oriented focus to maintain our growth trend with the utmost quality."

During this XII Annual Convention, held at the Quinta Real Hotel in Guadalajara, known as the Pearl of the West, and which ends on this Friday May 23rd, Banorte will establish the procedures to follow per business and region in order to consolidate its position as the "Banco Fuerte de Mexico".

Noteworthy is the fact that Banorte leads the market in ATM infrastructure in the Guadalajara metro area, with a total of 219 ATM's currently in operation and another 25 to become operable this year. Furthermore, Banorte, "el Banco Fuerte de Mexico", has 84 branches throughout the state of Jalisco and plans to open 10 more in the upcoming months.

In Jalisco, the institution assumes a major commitment to continue to provide personalized assistance to its customers, offering a variety of financing alternative to small and medium-sized companies (SMBs) as there are a great number of such businesses in the state.

About Banorte:

Banco Mercantil del Norte, today Banorte, was established in 1899 in Monterrey, Nuevo León. It covers the most important cities across the Mexican Republic with over 1000 branches and 3 thousand 674 ATMs strategically located, and a labor force of over 17 thousand employees.