

# MERGER BETWEEN AFORE XXI AND AFORE BANORTE BECOMES EFFECTIVE

**15 Jan 2012**

**Monterrey, N.L., January 16th, 2012.** As a follow up to the material events published during the past months indicating that Grupo Financiero Banorte, S.A.B. de C.V. ("GFNORTE") (BMV: GFNORTEO) and the Mexican Social Security Institute ("IMSS") had reached the agreements in order to merge their respective pension fund retirement companies (Afores), GFNORTE informs that the merger of Banorte Generali, S.A. de C.V., Afore with Afore XXI, S.A. de C.V. and their respective Siefos (Retirement Savings Funds) became effective as of today after registering the documents formalizing the Merger Agreement in the Public Registry of Commerce in Monterrey, Nuevo Leon as well in the Distrito Federal (Mexico City).

GFNORTE reiterates its commitment to the financial community and investors to maintain modern and transparent in information disclosure, strictly in compliance with Mexico's "Ley de Mercado de Valores" (Securities Market Law).