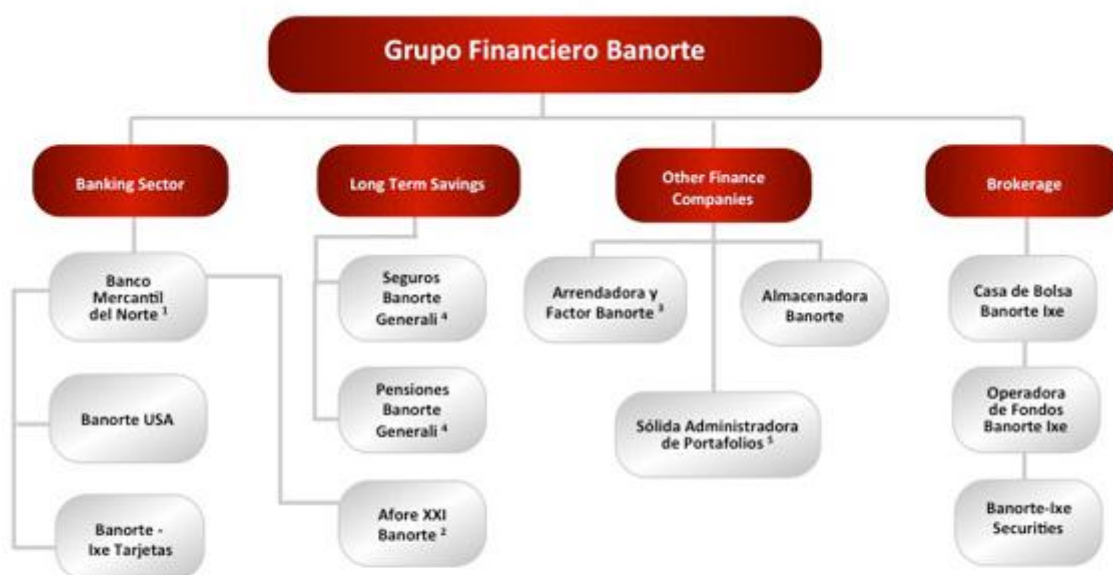


# AUTHORIZATION TO MERGE IXE BANCO AND FINCASA HIPOTECARIA WITH BANCO MERCANTIL DEL NORTE AND BANORTE'S DIVESTMENT IN SÓLIDA ADMINISTRADORA DE PORTAFOLIOS

**24 May 2013**

**Monterrey, N.L. May 24th, 2013.-** As a follow up to the material events published during 2010 and 2011 mentioning that Grupo Financiero Banorte, S.A.B. de C.V. ("GFNORTE") (BMV: GFNORTEO) and Ixe Grupo Financiero, S.A.B. de C.V. ("Ixe") (BMV: IXEGFO –stock delisted in 2011) had obtained the corresponding authorizations in order to merge both Financial Groups, and which originated a corporate restructuring process, which is still in process, GFNORTE informs the investment public that since the corresponding authorizations have been granted and all the necessary conditions are fulfilled for the merger of Ixe Banco, S.A., (Ixe Banco) and Fincasa Hipotecaria, S.A. de C.V. (Fincasa Hipotecaria) with Banco Mercantil del Norte, S.A., (Banorte), the mergers came into effect today, being the latter the merging company, and also Banorte's divestment in Sólida Administradora de Portafolios, S.A. de C.V. (Sólida) will be carried out in order to spin it off from Banorte and merge it with Ixe Soluciones, S.A. de C.V. (Ixe Soluciones), being the last one the merging entity, modifying its corporate identity to Sólida Administradora de Portafolios, S.A. de C.V., SOFOM, ER, Grupo Financiero Banorte.

As a result of the merger, Ixe Banco, Fincasa Hipotecaria and Sólida will cease to exist, and Grupo Financiero's new corporate structure will be as follows:



- 1) Merges Ixe Banco and Fincasa Hipotecaria.
- 2) 50% Banorte and 50% IMSS after de aquisition of Afore Bancomer.
- 3) Merged Ixe Automotriz on May 7<sup>th</sup>.
- 4) 51% GFNORTE, 49% Generali.
- 5) Ixe Soluciones merges Sólida and changes its corporate identity to Sólida Administradora de Portafolios.

Furthermore, as part of this process, in the Extraordinary General Shareholders' Meeting held on April 26th, 2013, it was approved to modify article second of the Corporate By-Laws, in order to exclude Ixe Banco and Fincasa Hipotecaria as integrated entities of GFNORTE, as a result of their merger with Banorte.

The formerly mentioned spin-off and merger agreements, along with the corresponding authorizations, were duly recorded today in the Public Registry of Commerce in Mexico City and Monterrey, N.L.; therefore, as of this date, all the corresponding legal effects will simultaneously come into force.

This transaction will not impact in any way the products and services that GFNORTE offers at the Ixe branches. The "Ixe" brand and image will be maintained, and the integrated bank will carry out the necessary efforts in order to maintain and improve the service level that our customers recognize in us.

GFNORTE is convinced that having two networks focused on their traditional market segments will strengthen the Financial Group and will help us to continue our consolidation as one of the most important banks in Mexico and Latin America; actions like this enable us to evolve fully into a client centric bank, always looking to provide the best service.

GFNORTE reiterates to the investment public that it will continue adopting the best international corporate practices regarding Corporate Governance and information disclosure. The Financial Group will maintain its strategic and expansion plans to consolidate a leading institution in Mexico; in this sense, we will timely inform the investment community regarding the strategy execution and evolution of our operations. The Investor Relations Department is available for any inquiry or comment regarding this material event at: **investor@banorte.com** or in the number **(55) 52.68.16.80**.