

**Subject: Standard & Poor's upgraded Banorte's long-term global scale rating to "BBB+"**

(BMV: GFNORTEO, OTCQX: GBOOY, Latibex: XNOR)

**Monterrey, N.L., May 12th, 2016.** Grupo Financiero Banorte S.A.B. de C.V. ("GFNorte") informs to the investment public that today Standard & Poor's ("S&P") upgraded Banco Mercantil del Norte's, S.A., Institución de Banca Múltiple, Grupo Financiero Banorte ("Banorte") long-term global scale rating to "BBB+" from "BBB" and affirmed its short-term global scale and long & short-term national scale ratings. Moreover, S&P also ratified ratings for Casa de Bolsa Banorte Ixe, S.A. de C.V. ("Casa de Bolsa Banorte Ixe"), both institutions maintaining stable outlook.

The aforementioned rise derives mainly from three elements, i) Banorte's recent designation as Level II - Domestic Systemically Important Financial Institution by the National Banking and Securities Commission, ii) the bank's position as the third largest bank in the country in terms of total deposits and iii) the strong presence in the retail segment, which is expected to continue growing in the future.

S&P recognizes Banorte's importance in the Mexican financial system and its impact towards adverse situations. Likewise, it considers portfolio's growth, diversifications and mix, as well as its stable market share.

The following rating for Banorte was modified:

- Counterparty Credit – Long-term from "BBB" to **"BBB+"**

Below is the list of confirmed ratings:

**Banorte:**

- Counterparty Credit – Short-term **"A-2"**
- National Scale Counterparty Credit - Short-term **"mxA-1+"**
- National Scale Counterparty Credit – Long-term **"mxAAA"**

**Casa de Bolsa Banorte Ixe:**

- National Scale Counterparty Credit – Short-term **"mxA-1+"**
- National Scale Counterparty Credit – Long-term **"mxAAA"**

GFNORTE reiterates to the investment public that it expects to continue adopting the best international corporate practices regarding Corporate Governance and information disclosure. The Investor Relations and Financial Intelligence Department is available for any inquiry or comment regarding this material event at: [investor@banorte.com](mailto:investor@banorte.com) or at the number (55) 1670-2256.