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**ABN AMRO Bank to Receive 2006 World Environment Center
*Gold Medal for International Corporate Achievement in
Sustainable Development***

Washington, D.C. January 9, 2006 – The World Environment Center’s (WEC) Twenty-Second Annual *Gold Medal for International Corporate Achievement in Sustainable Development* has been awarded to the ABN AMRO Bank for its leadership in sustainability.

In particular, the independent Jury cited ABN AMRO’s work in helping to inspire, create and implement the Equator Principles. The Equator Principles are a voluntary set of guidelines for determining, assessing and managing social and environmental risk in project financing, which are created based on the policies and standards set by the International Finance Corporation (IFC). ABN AMRO spearheaded this effort from the private sector side, and in coordination with several other major banks developed and implemented this globally important program. As a result, thirty seven international financial institutions, which represent 80% of project financing in the world, have now adopted the Equator Principles. The Jury also noted the work of ABN AMRO as an agent of environmental, social and economic development by integrating sustainability into its mandate.

“On behalf of ABN AMRO, I am delighted to be receiving this award” Mr. Rijkman Groenink, Chairman of the Managing Board of ABN AMRO Bank, said. “At ABN AMRO we have worked hard to integrate the principles of responsible environmental stewardship and socially responsible development into our activities, and for this reason we are particularly pleased to be recognized for this award.”

The Gold Medal Jury believes that the broad adoption of the Equator Principles will have a global impact on sustainable development. “The Equator Principles define precisely how the financial institutions should contribute to sustainable development; through assessing projects on social and environmental criteria in order to lend responsibly” said Gold Medal Jury Chairman Dr. Joel Abrams, Professor Emeritus of the University of Pittsburgh.

The WEC Gold Medal Award will be presented to ABN AMRO Bank at a formal gala on Friday May 12, 2006 at the National Building Museum in Washington, D.C. in

recognition of the company's global leadership in sustainable development. Mr. Groenink will accept the award on behalf of the company and its employees.

The World Environment Center *Gold Medal for International Corporate Achievement in Sustainable Development* was established in 1985 to recognize preeminent industry leadership initiatives and contributions to worldwide environmental quality and sustainable development. The WEC *Gold Medal* is awarded annually by an independent Jury comprised of distinguished international experts.

A complete list of Jury members, the Citation for the 2006 WEC Gold Medal Awardee, and a list of previous recipients are available at the WEC website: <http://www.wec.org/wecgm.htm>. The WEC Gold Medal Jury is completely independent of the WEC and its programs, and is composed of international leaders from academia, government, industry and non-governmental organizations.

About ABN AMRO Bank

Netherlands-based ABN AMRO is a leading international bank with total assets of EUR 899.3 bln (as at 30 September 2005). It has over 3,000 branches in more than 60 countries and territories, and has a staff of over 98,000 full-time equivalents worldwide. ABN AMRO is listed on the Euronext and New York stock exchanges.

About the World Environment Center

The World Environment Center (WEC) is an independent, not-for-profit, non-advocacy organization. Working with the private sector, international organizations, non-governmental organizations and academia, the WEC promotes sustainable development by encouraging leadership, improving health and safety practices worldwide, and fostering the efficient use of natural resources to protect the global environment. The WEC supports its mission through three central programs: the International Environment Forum (IEF); the WEC Gold Medal Award; and Capacity Building for the Environment programs. For more information about the WEC, please visit <http://www.wec.org/>

Previous recipients of the WEC Gold Medal award are: Starbucks (2005), Johnson Controls Inc. (2004), Ricoh Group Ltd. (2003), CEMEX (2002), The Royal Dutch/Shell Group (2001), International Paper Company (2000), Eastman Kodak Company (1999), Philips Electronics N.V.(1998), Compaq Computer Corporation (1997), Alcoa (1996), Ciba-Geigy Limited (1995), S.C. Johnson & Son, Inc. (1994), Xerox Corporation (1993), Procter & Gamble Company (1992), Rohm & Haas Company (1991), IBM Corporation (1990), The Dow Chemical Company (1989), The BP Group (1988), E.I. Du Pont de Nemours & Company (1987), Exxon Corporation (1986) and 3M (1985).

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