

**Three Firebird Funds Increased Their Respective Shareholdings in Bank of Georgia
By Purchasing the Shares Previously Owned by TBC Bank**

JSC Bank of Georgia (GSE: GEB), a leading Georgian universal bank, announced today that Firebird Avrora Fund, Firebird Republics Fund and Firebird Global Master Fund have increased their respective shareholdings in Bank of Georgia by purchasing from TBC Bank 796,184, 513,625 and 141,279 shares, respectively. The transactions took place today on the Georgian Stock Exchange at GEL 6.45 per share. TBC Bank has sold all of the shares of Bank of Georgia it had owned. Galt & Taggart Securities, the wholly-owned investment banking subsidiary of Bank of Georgia, acted as broker to the Firebird funds.

“We are proud that the three funds were given the opportunity to increase their stakes in Bank of Georgia. We are happy to deepen our commitment to the bank as we believe even stronger about the bank’s prospects”, noted **Ian Hague**, a Principal at Firebird Management LLC in New York.

“These transactions represent a significant milestone in the development of the bank. Now our destiny is fully in the hands of our shareholders, for whose continuing support and optimism concerning the bank’s future we are grateful. This is particularly significant as we gear up to list the bank’s shares internationally and continue to execute our growth strategy, including through acquisitions“, commented **Lado Gurgenidze**, Chief Executive Officer of Bank of Georgia.

About Bank of Georgia

Bank of Georgia is a leading Georgian universal bank, with an approximately 18.6 % market share in loans and 23.7 % market share in deposits. The bank markets and distributes a wide spectrum of retail products through its extensive branch network, and offers a full range of commercial banking and investment banking (through its affiliate, Galt & Taggart Securities) services to corporate clients. Additionally, BCI, the wholly-owned insurance subsidiary of the bank, has an approximately 12% market share in Georgia. As at April 30, 2005, the bank had GEL 351.4 million in assets.

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