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Nordea Bank of the Year in Western Europe

Nordea is named Bank of the Year among the leading European banks for 2012 by The Banker owned by the Financial Times.

Nordea is the first-ever Nordic winner of the award, selected among some of the largest international banks.

- In times of tough economic conditions and constraining regulation, Nordea is a natural choice to award Bank of the Year in Western Europe. The bank's relationship banking model is proving highly successful and the bank has stood out as a beacon of stability and prudence in banking, says Brian Caplen, Editor of The Banker.

- We are proud to receive this recognition, which is a result of the teamwork and dedicated efforts from each and every employee of Nordea, and the trust our customers show us. It's a great motivation to continue the work creating the bank of the future, safeguarding our ability to deliver on our customers' expectations, says Christian Clausen, Group CEO of Nordea.

Nordea took early action to adapt to a strained macroeconomic environment as well as new banking regulation. The bank not only maintained its ability to serve existing household customers, small and medium-sized companies and multinationals, but has also managed to attract new customers. Still, work is ongoing in all parts of the bank to further develop the services and the advice provided to customers and ensure compliance with the new financial market regulation.

- We have a good starting point, but we want to improve further in meeting our customers' expectations and delivering solid financial results. By continuously developing our prudent banking model and always putting the customer at the centre of everything we do, we will do our utmost to safeguard our strong position, also in a changed banking landscape, says Christian Clausen.

The previous three years the Bank of the Year in Western Europe award has been given to Santander (2011), BNP Paribas (2010) and HSBC (2009).

Nordea is also awarded Bank of the Year in Finland 2012, and in Denmark Nordea receives the national award for the fourth time in a row.

For further information:

Ragnar Roos, Deputy Head of Communications, Sweden, +46 76 787 69 84

Nordea's vision is to be a Great European bank, acknowledged for its people, creating superior value for customers and shareholders. We are making it possible for our customers to reach their goals by providing a wide range of products, services and solutions within banking, asset management and insurance. Nordea has around 11 million customers, approximately 1,000 branch office locations and is among the ten largest universal banks in Europe in terms of total market capitalisation. The Nordea share is listed on the NASDAQ OMX Nordic Exchange in Stockholm, Helsinki and Copenhagen.