## **Transaction Release**

## Belfius Bank successfully priced its inaugural Euro Mortgage Pandbrieven

## Brussels, November 19th 2012,

Belfius Bank SA/NV ("Belfius") launched today a highly successful Mortgage Pandbrieven benchmark issuance in Euro, the first Belgian Pandbrieven issue under the recently implemented Belgian covered bond framework. It is also the inaugural benchmark bond issuance from Belfius.

The EUR 1.25 billion notes will mature on November 27<sup>th</sup> 2017 and bear a coupon of 1.25 % per annum payable annually. Pricing was at a reoffer spread over euro mid swaps of 45 basis points (eq. Bund 4.25% 07/17 + 102.2 bps).

Joint bookrunners were Belfius, Deutsche Bank, HSBC, Natixis, Nomura and Rabobank.

The Belgian Covered Bond law entered into force on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2012. Belfius Bank's Pandbrieven Programme was signed on November 8<sup>th</sup> 2012 and the next day Belfius publicly announced its intention to launch an inaugural issue backed by Belgian residential mortgages. This follows an extensive communication process followed by an investor's global conference hosted on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2012.

The issuance was extremely well received as it offers geographical diversification to covered bond investors, Belgium being the latest European country to adopt a covered bond legislation. The notes are rated AAA/AAA by S&P and Fitch and are UCITS and CRD compliant and bear a 10% risk weight for investors.

Today's issue successfully opens the Belgian covered bond market and further strengthens Belfius' name and credit story in the bond markets as a leading issuer in the Belgian market.

## Distribution

The orderbook reached EUR 5.6 billion with 197 investors involved, establishing Belfius' name in the covered bond market and highlighting investors' appetite for its securities. This is one of the largest orderbooks seen this year for a Euro covered bond.

Geographical distribution was well spread across Europe, with Germany & Austria representing the bulk of allocations (42%), followed by Benelux (17%), Nordics (13%), France (12%), UK (8%), Switzerland (3%), Southern Europe (2%), others (3%).

Gathering 44% of total allocations, asset managers were the most active investors, followed by banks (29%), insurance companies (15%), pension funds (5%), central banks/official institutions (3%), others (4%).

