



Banco Bilbao Vizcaya Argentaria, S.A., (BBVA) pursuant to the provisions of the Spanish Securities Market Act, proceeds by means of the present document to notify the following

RELEVANT EVENT

BBVA has exercised today the option to purchase 1.924.343.862 shares of China Citic Bank (CNCB), which represent 4,93% of the share capital of said bank. This option was part of the strategic agreements between BBVA and Citic Group, which have been disclosed in announcements of November 22, 2006 and June 8, 2008.

Pursuant to said agreements, the purchase price is approximately 0.56 € per share, and consequently the total investment resulting from the exercise of the option amounts to approximately 1,000 million €.

Once the purchase of the shares effectively takes place, which is subject to certain regulatory approvals, the participation of BBVA will reach 15% of the share capital of CNCB.

Madrid, December 3, 2009