



News Release



Saturday, October 29, 2011

WTA PLAYERS AND TEB BNP PARIBAS DONATE US\$250,000 TO SUPPORT TURKEY'S EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS

ISTANBUL, TURKEY – Women's Tennis Association (WTA) Players and TEB BNP Paribas, the title sponsor of the TEB BNP Paribas WTA Championships, made a joint donation of US\$250,000 to the Turkish Red Crescent to support the victims of the recent devastating earthquake in Turkey. Close to 600 people died and more than 2,300 were injured during the country's most powerful earthquake in more than a decade. WTA stars participating in the TEB BNP Paribas WTA Championships donated a percentage of their Championships prize money which was matched by both the WTA and TEB BNP Paribas.

The WTA is the global leader in women's professional sport with more than 2,400 players representing 99 nations competing for more than \$90 million in prize money at the WTA's 53 events and four Grand Slams in 33 countries. More than 5 million people attended women's tennis events in 2010 with tens of millions more watching on television and digital channels around the world. The WTA competitive season concludes with the TEB BNP Paribas WTA Championships in Istanbul, Turkey, from October 25-30, and the Commonwealth Bank Tournament of Champions in Bali, Indonesia, from November 3-6. Further information on the WTA can be found on www.wtatennis.com.

The Turkish Red Crescent is Turkey's arm of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, the world's largest humanitarian network. Turkish Red Crescent took immediate action after the earthquake, mobilizing its staff and emergency supplies for thousands of victims.

"Through the four years that we've been preparing for the TEB BNP Paribas WTA Championships in Turkey, we've established a deep connection to this wonderful country and its people," said Stacey Allaster, Chairman and CEO of the WTA. "WTA players and our partner TEB BNP Paribas wanted to show support for those affected by the earthquake in hopes that our collective donation can help some of the neediest at this time."

"TEB BNP Paribas is very pleased to join WTA players in helping raise funds for the earthquake victims in Turkey," said Varol Civil, CEO of TEB BNP Paribas.

"Turkey has been incredibly kind and welcoming to us and we want to assist in some way the victims of this terrible disaster. We hope that the funds we generated this week for the victims can ease at least a little bit of their pain. Our thoughts and prayers are with those affected by the earthquake," said Petra Kvitova.

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About BNP Paribas:

BNP Paribas (www.bnpparibas.com) is one of the strongest banks in the world*. The Group has a presence in more than 80 countries and more than 200,000 employees, including more than 160,000 in Europe. It ranks highly in its three core activities: Retail Banking, Investment Solutions and Corporate & Investment Banking. In Europe, the Group has four domestic markets (Belgium, France, Italy and Luxembourg) and BNP Paribas Personal Finance is the leader in consumer lending. BNP Paribas is rolling out its integrated retail banking model across the Europe-Mediterranean zone and boasts a large network in the western part of the United States. In its Corporate & Investment Banking and Investment Solutions activities, BNP Paribas also enjoys top positions in Europe, a strong presence in the Americas and solid and fast-growing businesses in Asia.

* Rated AA by Standard & Poor's i.e. 3rd rating level on a scale of 22.

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About Türk Ekonomi Bankası (TEB):

Türk Ekonomi Bankası (TEB), a reputable and prestigious institution in the Turkish banking sector, was established in 1927. Since its establishment, TEB, with its expanded network of branches and a diversified range of products and services, pursues operating in various fields of the banking sector as investment, leasing, factoring and portfolio management. In February 2005, BNP Paribas, one of the top 10 most important banks in the world and the largest in the Euro zone, operating in 85 countries, became a partner of TEB which went public in February 2000. In the wake of its partnership with the BNP Paribas, Türk Ekonomi Bankası carries its expertise in foreign trade, corporate, commercial and private banking over into the fields of retail banking and banking for small and medium-sized businesses. Following the merger between TEB and Fortis, New TEB embarked on its 'New Life' starting on the 21st of March 2010, as Turkey's 6th largest private bank with an asset size of 31.2 billion TL and more than 10,000 employees. New TEB also has become Turkey's fifth private bank in terms of network coverage with more than 600 branches and 1,000 ATMs.

About Turkish Red Crescent:

Turkish Red Crescent Society is a humanitarian organisation that provides relief to the vulnerable and those in need by mobilising the power and resources of the community to protect human dignity anytime, anywhere, under any conditions and support the enhancement of the community's capacity to cope with disasters. To donate to Turkish Red Crescent, please visit: <http://www.kizilay.org.tr/english/sayfa.php?t=-Donate>.