**Press Release**

**Al Salam Bank Bahrain acquires equity stake in a brand new B777-300ER on long term lease to Emirates Airlines.**

Manama, 4 June 2012:

Al Salam Bank Bahrain announced the acquisition of an equity stake in a brand new Boeing 777-300 ER on long term lease to Emirates Airlines.

The Boeing 777-300ER is capable of carrying over 350 passengers over long-haul routes making it very appealing for operators. It is also the most popular amongst the B777 family with backlog of orders exceeding 270 aircrafts. There are approximately 28 operators of this type of aircraft.

The aircraft is on long term lease to Emirates thus providing an opportunity for investors to benefit from a regular income stream secured by a top tier airline. Emirates airlines has recently published its results for the year ended March 2012 generating revenues of circa US $ 17 billion, an increase of 15% from the previous year. The latest financial results marked a remarkable 24$^{th}$ consecutive year of profitability.

This investment comes as part of the Bank's strategic objectives to diversify its investment portfolio and provide high quality investment opportunities to its customers.

Al Salam Bank-Bahrain has identified this opportunity and successfully concluded the transaction despite the challenging global economic conditions. In line with the investment strategy, the Bank will retain a sizeable stake of the investment in the

proprietary portfolio and sell down the remaining portion to its investors who have shown great interest in the transaction.

H.H. Shaikha Hessa bint Khalifa bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Chairperson of Al Salam Bank Bahrain commented: "The Bank is focusing on investment opportunities with a cash yield consistent with the current strategy of the Bank. This investment should provide periodical returns to the bank and its investors."

H.H. Shaikha Hessa also added: "we would like to thank the Bank's management for their dedicated efforts in closing this transaction and are confident that the Bank will conclude similar quality investments in the near future."

This transaction represents the Bank's second investment in the aviation sector. The Bank had previously acquired a Boeing 777-200ER on lease to Malaysian Airlines.

Novus Aviation is acting as the lease and Aircraft manager, International Bureau of Aviation acted as the technical advisor, and Clifford Chance Middle East provided legal advice on the transaction.

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**Note to Editors:**

Headquartered in the Kingdom of Bahrain, Al Salam Bank-Bahrain (B.S.C.) is a dynamic, diversified and differentiated Islamic bank.

Key factors that contribute to the Bank's distinct market differentiation include:

- Strong paid-up capital base;
- Pre-eminent founding shareholders;
- High-caliber management team;
- State-of-the-Art IT infrastructure;
- Universal business model covering deposits, financing and investment services;
- Innovative, tailor-made Shari'a-compliant solutions;
- Firm commitment to corporate and social responsibility;

Incorporated on 19 January 2006 in the Kingdom of Bahrain and commenced commercial operations on 17 April 2006, the Bank operates under Shari'a principles in accordance with regulatory requirements for Islamic banks set by the Central Bank of Bahrain.

Al Salam Bank-Bahrain was listed on the Bahrain Bourse on 27 April 2006, and subsequently on the Dubai Financial Market on 26 March 2008. The Bank's high caliber management team comprises highly qualified and internationally-experienced professionals with proven investment expertise in key areas of banking, finance and related fields; all supported by a world-class Information Technology (IT) infrastructure and the latest 'smart' working environment. In 2009, the Bank acquired a 90.31% stake in Bahraini Saudi Bank BSC. Established with a paid-up capital of BD120 million, the

Bank's total equity has crossed circa BD202 million (US$540 million) with total assets crossing the US$2 billion mark.

Al Salam Bank-Bahrain adopts internationally recognized standards and best practices in Corporate Governance and operates with highest levels of integrity, transparency and trust.

The Bank is committed to its role as a concerned corporate citizen, actively seeking ways to contribute and add value to the social and economic well-being of the local communities in which it invests and operates.

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