World Economic Forum Annual Meeting to Focus on Shared Norms for the New Reality

19 January 2011

• Over 2,500 leaders to take part in the 41st World Economic Forum Annual Meeting 2011 in Davos-Klosters

• The theme of the Meeting is “Shared Norms for the New Reality”

• President Dmitry Medvedev of the Russian Federation to deliver opening address

• More information on the Annual Meeting: www.weforum.org

Geneva, Switzerland, 19 January 2011 – The World Economic Forum today presented the programme of the 41st World Economic Forum Annual Meeting in Davos-Klosters, Switzerland. The theme of the Meeting, which will take place from 26 to 30 January, is “Shared Norms for the New Reality”. Over the five-day Meeting, over 2,500 leaders from over 100 countries will convene in Davos-Klosters, representing business, government, civil society, academia and culture.

"The shifts of political and economic power from West to East and from North to South, as well as the speed of technological innovation, have created a completely new reality. Global systems and decision models can no longer cope with the speed and complexity of all these changes. In Davos this year, instead of looking only at the aftershocks of the recent crisis, we will concentrate on defining the new reality and discuss which shared norms are required for making global cooperation possible in this new age," said Klaus Schwab, Founder and Executive Chairman, World Economic Forum.

Speaking at a press conference at the World Economic Forum’s headquarters in Geneva, Schwab went on to say: "The Annual Meeting in Davos-Klosters, which is the only global summit to deal in a comprehensive way with all the challenges on the global agenda, will also propose ideas and solutions for the G20 process. In addition, it will mark the launch of a Risk Response Network, creating a mechanism for public and private leaders to recognize systemic risks and to mitigate them before crisis situations occur."

The theme of the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting has four interconnected pillars, which are::

1. Responding to the New Reality

2. The Economic Outlook and Defining Policies for Inclusive Growth

3. Supporting the G20 Agenda

4. Building a Risk Response Network

A major focus of this year’s meeting will be how to deal with global risks, develop risk mitigation strategies and capture related opportunities. The World Economic Forum will present its Risk Response Network at the Annual Meeting, which will serve as a preparatory, analytical and highly practical framework for the global community in the service of improving global risk management. The Risk Response Network is a platform designed to better understand, manage and respond to complex, interdependent risk.

Over 1,400 business leaders from the Forum’s 1,000 Member companies will take part in the Annual

Meeting. Participants also include over 35 heads of state or government, with 19 of the G20 governments represented at ministerial level or higher. They are joined by government ministers, central bankers, top officials from international organizations, labour leaders, religious leaders, representatives of civil society, media and leading academics.

The Co-Chairs of the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting 2011 are: Paul Bulcke, Chief Executive Officer, Nestlé, Switzerland; Chanda Kochhar, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, ICICI Bank, India; Yorihiko Kojima, Chairman of the Board, Mitsubishi Corporation, Japan; Ellen Kullman, Chair of the Board and Chief Executive Officer, DuPont, USA; Jacob Wallenberg, Chairman, Investor, Sweden; and Wei Jiafu, Group President and Chief Executive Officer, China Ocean Shipping Group Co., People's Republic of China. Download the Abridged List of Business Participants.

Dmitry Medvedev, President of the Russian Federation, will deliver the opening address at the Annual Meeting. Other G20 world leaders participating in the Annual Meeting include: Felipe Calderón, President of Mexico; David Cameron, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom; Angela Merkel, Federal Chancellor of Germany; Herman Van Rompuy, President, Council of the European Union; Nicolas Sarkozy, President of France;Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, President of Indonesia; and Jacob G. Zuma, President of South Africa.

Among other public figures who have confirmed so far from Africa: John Mills, President of Ghana; Raila Amolo Odinga, Prime Minister of Kenya; Paul Kagame, President of Rwanda; from the Americas: Antonio De Aguiar Patriota, Minister of External Relations of Brazil; Timothy F. Geithner, US Secretary of the Treasury; Eric I. Cantor, Majority Leader, US House of Representatives; Juan Manuel Santos, President of Colombia; from Asia: Chen Deming, Minister of Commerce of the People’s Republic of China; Pranab Mukherjee, Minister of Finance of India; Nguyen Thien Nhan, Deputy Prime Minister of Vietnam; Abhisit Vejjajiva, Prime Minister of Thailand; from Australia: Kevin Rudd, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Australia; and from Europe: Werner Faymann, Federal Chancellor of Austria; Tarja Halonen, President of Finland; Bronislaw Komorowski, President of Poland; Lars Lokke Rasmussen, Prime Minister of Denmark; George A. Papandreou, Prime Minister of Greece; Olafur Ragnar Grimsson, President of Iceland; Fredrik Reinfeldt, Prime Minister of Sweden; and Jens Stoltenberg, Prime Minister of Norway.

Notes to Editors

For more information about the Annual Meeting 2011 http://wef.ch/Davos2011

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