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For Immediate Release

EMTA SURVEY: EMERGING MARKETS DEBT TRADING RISES 7% IN 2009 AT US$4.445 TRILLION IN REPORTED VOLUME

Trading Steadily Gained Quarter to Quarter

NEW YORK, March 8, 2010—Emerging Markets debt trading volumes stood at US$4.445 trillion in 2009, according to a report released today by EMTA, the industry trade association for Emerging Markets debt market professionals. This represents an increase of seven percent compared to 2008 volume of US$4.173 trillion. EMTA noted that volumes remained at levels below the US$6.5 trillion reported in both 2007 and 2006 despite the rebound in the EM marketplace in 2009 following the global recession and credit crisis.

However, looking more closely at how trading developed over the course of 2009, EMTA's newly-released quarterly volume report for the fourth quarter confirmed that trading volumes increased steadily throughout the year. Survey participants reported trading US$1.422 trillion in the fourth quarter of 2009, compared with US$1.123 trillion in the third quarter, US$985 billion in the second quarter and US$915 billion in the first quarter.

"Emerging debt trading volumes are set to expand further as the asset class is increasingly seen as a safe haven, especially in the worst global scenarios, from further deleveraging in the developed world," stated Jerome Booth, Head of Research and a Member of the Investment Committee at Ashmore Investment Management. "Whilst issuance is expected to balloon from developed market sovereigns, in some cases endangering the credibility of the issuers, Emerging Markets issuance is going to be more measured in line with stronger fundamentals and fiscal performance, and this should help the asset class's performance" he added.

Local Market Instruments at 65% of Volume

Turnover in local markets instruments stood at US$2.870 trillion in 2009 according to Survey participants. This represents a one percent increase compared to trading of US$2.837 trillion in 2008.

Local markets turnover accounted for 65% of total Survey turnover, compared to 68% in 2008. Hong Kong instruments were the most frequently traded local markets debt, at US$557 billion. Other frequently traded local instruments were those from Brazil (US$548 billion) and Turkey (US$301 billion).

Eurobond Volumes at US$1.513 Trillion

Eurobond trading stood at US$1.513 trillion in 2009, compared with US$1.281 trillion in 2008 (up 18%).

61% of Eurobond activity involved sovereign debt issues (US$925 billion in turnover, compared with US$856 billion in 2008, representing an 8% increase). Sovereign Eurobond activity accounted for 21% of overall Survey volumes, in line with its share in the previous two years.

Corporate bond trading stood at US$514 billion, compared to US$390 billion in 2008 (a 32% increase). Turnover in corporate debt accounted for 12% of overall Survey volume, vs. a 9% share in 2008. “Corporate issuance—as well as local currency issuance-- is where we expect most of the issuance growth in the medium term,” according to Booth.

The most frequently traded EM Eurobonds in 2009 included Russia’s 2030 bond (US$56 billion in turnover), Brazil’s 2040 bond (US$44 billion), Venezuela’s 2027 bond (US$27 billion) and Argentina’s Par and Discount bonds (US$15 billion and $14 billion respectively). EMTA also noted that in the final quarter of 2009, new issues from Qatar and Lithuania were among the top ten frequently traded instruments.

In addition to local markets bonds, and sovereign and corporate Eurobonds, the Survey also includes turnover in options, loans and Brady bonds. Survey participants reported US$51 billion in option trades (1% of volume), US$9 billion in loan assignments (less than 1% of volume) and US$2 billion in Brady bond transactions (also less than 1% of Survey turnover).

Brazil, Hong Kong and Turkey Most Frequently Traded Countries

Brazilian instruments were the most frequently traded instruments according to the Survey, with US$747 billion in turnover. This compares with US$847 billion in 2008 (a 12% decline). Brazilian volumes accounted for 17% of total Survey trading.

Hong Kong instruments were the second most frequently traded instruments in the EMTA report, at US$590 billion, according to Survey participants. This represents a 148% increase on the US$238 billion reported in 2008. Hong Kong volumes accounted for 13% of total reported volume.

Third were Turkish assets, at US$401 billion in turnover. This compares to US$370 billion in Turkish volumes in 2008 (up 8%). Turkish volume accounted for 9% of Survey volume.

Other frequently traded instruments were securities from Mexico (US$250 billion), Russia (US$201 billion), Argentina (US$190 billion) and Poland (US$179 billion).

EMTA's Survey includes trading volumes in debt instruments from over 90 Emerging Market countries, as reported by 47 leading investment and commercial banks, asset management firms and hedge funds. For a copy of EMTA's 2009 Annual and Fourth Quarter 2009 Debt Trading Volume Surveys, please contact Jonathan Murno at jmurno@emta.org or +1 (646) 289-5413.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

Founded in 1990, EMTA (formerly the Emerging Markets Traders Association) is a not-for-profit corporation dedicated to promoting the orderly development of fair, efficient and transparent trading markets for Emerging Markets instruments, and the integration of the Emerging Markets into the global financial marketplace. EMTA, with over 150 member firms worldwide, has published its Annual Volume Surveys since 1992 and Quarterly Surveys since the first quarter of 1997.

Participants in the EMTA Survey are asked to report trades based on aggregate principal amount (face value) rather than the consideration paid, and no effort is made to adjust for duplicate volumes that may be reported by each side of a trade. In these respects, the Survey's methodology has been the same since its inception.