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Sahem signs agreement with Capital IQ to enhance Palestine market visibility

Ramallah, July 31, 2011 — Sahem Trading & Investments Company (Sahem), one of Palestine's top brokerage firms, announced today the signing of a significant agreement with Capital IQ, a Standard & Poors business and a leading provider of financial market data, analytics and solutions.. Under the terms of this contract, Capital IQ has agreed to publish Sahem's broker research on their platform which can be accessed via a subscription.

Sahem is the first financial firm in Palestine to offer this service to Capital IQ; it is well known that Standard & Poors has strong track record for stock markets indices and is one of the big three credit rating agencies.

General Manager of Sahem, Mr. Samir Zraiq said: "We are delighted about this partnership which adds incredibly to Sahem's track record of world-class and trusted market research. We have been providing institutional investors and mutual funds with our research and market data which have earned credibility."

"We are confident that publishing our research on such a leading and reputable platform will be an eye-opener to many fund managers and analysts who have been looking for opportunities in frontier and emerging markets. Palestine is still untapped by global mutual funds and through research we aim to reach out to those institutions to unveil the opportunities in our local market."

Sahem prepares and provides market reports on the Palestine Stock Exchange and its listed companies to cover: Equity, Risk Management, Flash results, Market Scan, Weekly and Annual Market reports, Macro reports, Dividend Analysis and New listing Overview. In 2010, Sahem

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signed an agreement with the leading Dubai-based financial market data provider Zawya to publish its research on the Palestinian market.

Chief Executive Officer of the Palestine Stock Exchange (PEX), Mr. Ahmad Aweidah said: "The agreement with Capital IQ proves again that the Palestinian stock market is viable and of increasing interest to institutional investors. Feeding research on Palestinian listed companies to Standard & Poors research subsidiary is significant and adds real value to our efforts in providing data and information to international investors and fund managers; it is indeed another milestone achieved by one of our leading brokerage firms"

About Capital IQ:

Capital IQ, a Standard & Poor's business, delivers comprehensive fundamental and quantitative research and analysis solutions to over 4,200 investment management firms, investment banks, private equity funds, advisory firms, corporations, and universities worldwide. Its solutions are based on the Capital IQ Platform, Compustat, ClariFI, and Alphaworks products, and offer an array of powerful applications for desktop research, screening, real-time market data, backtesting, portfolio management, financial modeling, and quantitative analysis. For more information, please visit Capital IQ's web site at www.capitaliq.com.

About Standard & Poors: Standard & Poor's, a subsidiary of The McGraw-Hill Companies (NYSE:MHP), is the world's foremost provider of independent credit ratings, indices, risk evaluation, investment research and data. With offices in 23 countries and markets, Standard & Poor's is an essential part of the world's financial infrastructure and has played a leading role for 150 years in providing investors with the independent benchmarks they need to feel more confident about their investment and financial decisions. For more information, visit www.standardandpoors.com.