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Republic of Congo: Positive Appraisal on the Moho-Bilondo License

Paris, November 28 - Total announces today positive appraisal results for the Moho Nord Marine-3 well, lying around 80 kilometres offshore of the Republic of Congo in 1,030 metres of water in the northern part of the Moho-Bilondo license. The discovery follows on from the Moho Nord Marine-1 and 2 finds in 2007.

Moho Marine Nord-3 was drilled to a total depth of 2,300 meters, 1.7 kilometers northwest of Moho Nord Marine-2 and 2.7 kilometres north of Moho Nord Marine-1. The well encountered a 60-metre column of good quality sands, containing 18°API oil in the Upper Miocene and flowed at 3,000 barrels per day through a choke.

This discovery confirms the Tertiary Miocene resource cluster in the northern part of the Moho-Bilondo license. The well will make it possible to further refine the development plan for Moho Nord.

Phase 1 development of the southern part of Moho-Bilondo is under way, comprising fourteen subsea wells tied back to a Floating Production Unit (FPU). Phase 1 came on stream in April 2008, and should progressively ramp up to a plateau production of 90,000 barrels per day. Output is exported to the Djéno terminal.

Total E&P Congo holds a 53.5% interest in the license, alongside Chevron Overseas Congo Ltd. (31.5%) and Société Nationale des Pétroles du Congo (15%).

Total in the Congo and West Africa

Present in the Republic of Congo since 1968, Total has a solid position as the country's leading oil producer, with operated production capacity of 130,000 barrels of oil per day.

Total has the requisite technological know-how and capabilities to successfully implement complex large projects in frontier environments. In addition to potential Phase 2 development of the northern reservoirs in the Moho-Bilondo license, Total has made five discoveries in nearly 2,000 metres of water in the Congo's ultra-deep offshore Mer Très Profonde Sud license.

The start-up of Moho-Bilondo in April 2008 was a further success for Total's growth strategy in West Africa's deep offshore. It followed the production start-ups of Dalia and Rosa in Angola in late 2006 and 2007 respectively and the recent launch of both Pazflor, the third development pole in Angola's Block 17, and Usan in Nigeria. The next milestone will be the start up of Akpo in Nigeria, planned for 2009. Total's West African production was nearly 640,000 barrels of oil equivalent per day in 2007.

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