

Press release

In the context of challenging macroeconomic conditions in emerging markets and Brazil's current recession, Standard & Poor's wishes to update its assessment of Casino's credit. As a result, the agency has placed the Group's BBB- credit rating under CreditWatch Negative on 15 January 2016. Standard & Poor's will soon conduct, in collaboration with Casino's management, a review of the Group's credit rating.

Standard & Poor's and FitchRatings had previously confirmed Casino's BBB-/Stable Outlook rating in mid-December 2015.

Furthermore, Casino launched in late 2015 a disposal plan, initially of 2 billion euros, which was increased to approximately 4 billion euros with the planned sale of its Big C subsidiary listed in Thailand, following indications of interest from potential buyers.

The Group is committed to its "Investment Grade" status. The expected improvement in its operating performance in France in 2016 and the scale of the initiated divestment program are important elements that will strengthen its financial structure.

Independently of the execution of its disposal plan, Casino enjoys a strong liquidity position enabling it to meet all its debt repayments in coming years.

Casino will comment this announcement to analysts and investors today in a conference call scheduled at 8am (CEST / Paris)

Dial-in: +33 1 70 77 09 43 (no access code required)

A transcript will be available on the Group's website at the following address : http://www.groupe-casino.fr/



ANALYST AND INVESTOR CONTACTS

Régine GAGGIOLI – Tél : +33 (0)1 53 65 64 17 <u>rgaggioli@groupe-casino.fr</u> ou Tél : +33 (0)1 53 65 24 17 IR Casino@groupe-casino.fr

GROUP EXTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

Aziza BOUSTER Tél : +33 (0)1 53 65 24 78 Mob : +33 (0)6 08 54 28 75 abouster@groupe-casino.fr

<u>Disclaimer</u>

This press release was prepared solely for information purposes and should not be construed as a solicitation or an offer to buy or sell securities or related financial instruments. Similarly, it does not give and should not be treated as giving investment advice. It has no connection with the investment objectives, financial situation or specific needs of any recipient. No representation or warranty, either express or implicit, is provided in relation to the accuracy, completeness or reliability of the information contained herein. It should not be regarded by recipients as a substitute for exercise of their own judgement. All opinions expressed herein are subject to change without notice.

This document contains certain forward-looking statements. This information is not historical data and should not be interpreted as guarantees of the future occurrence of such facts and data. These statements are based on data, assumptions and estimates that the Group believes are reasonable. The Group operates in a competitive and rapidly changing environment. It is therefore not in a position to predict all of the risks, uncertainties or other factors that may affect its business, their potential impact on its business, or the extent to which the occurrence of a risk or a combination of risks could have results that are significantly different from those included in any forward-looking statement. The forward-looking statements contained in this press release are made only as of the date hereof. Except as required by any applicable law, rules or regulations, the Group expressly disclaims any obligation or undertaking to publicly release any updates of any forward-looking statements contained in this press release to reflect any change in its expectations or any change in events, conditions or circumstances on which any forward-looking statement contained in this press release is based.

2