

Brussels, 31 May 2011

The Court of Cassation has confirmed the decision of the Brussels Court of Appeal which declared proceedings related to the KBC/KBL case as inadmissible

The Court of Cassation today rejected the two appeals, one lodged by the Public Prosecutor, the other by the Belgian State, against the judgment issued by the Brussels Court of Appeal on 10 December 2010.

In that judgment of the Court of Appeal, further criminal proceedings against the 14 accused in the KBC/KBL case were declared inadmissible due to serious irregularities in the way evidence had been collected, and the handling of the enquiries by the police, the examining magistrate and certain other magistrates in the public prosecutor's department. This judgment confirmed a similar judgment issued by the Brussels Criminal Court on 8 December 2009.

This decision by the Court of Cassation thus finally brings to a close the KBC/KBL case which has now been running for 15 years.

KBC Group NV

Havenlaan 2 – 1080 Brussel Viviane Huybrecht: General Manager Group Communication /Spokesperson Tel. 02 429 85 45

Press Office Tel. 02 429 65 01 Fax 02 429 81 60 E-mail:pressofficekbc@kbc.be

KBC press releases are available at <u>www.kbc.com</u> or can be obtained by sending an e-mail to <u>pressofficekbc@kbc.be</u>

