



Independent News & Media PLC

## INDEPENDENT NEWS & MEDIA PLC MAKES INVESTMENT IN INDONESIAN MEDIA SECTOR

*Ticker: (Bloomberg) INM ID/ INM LN and (Reuters) INME.I/ INME.L*

*Dublin/London -- 30<sup>th</sup> May 2008:* Independent News & Media PLC ['INM'] today announces that it will purchase 20.0% of PT Abdi Bangsa TBK (ABBA.JK), a leading Indonesian media group, and publisher of 'Republika', one of Indonesia's highest circulating national daily newspapers, for an investment of circa USD\$7.5 million.

PT Abdi Bangsa TBK is listed on the Jakarta Stock Exchange and has diversified media interests in national newspapers, online publishing, radio, magazine and book publishing, and outdoor advertising. PT Abdi Bangsa TBK's principal shareholder is Mahaka Media/ Erick Thohir – who will retain an interest of 52% post-issue in the enlarged capital structure of PT Abdi Bangsa TBK.

INM's all cash consideration will be partly via a share rights placement for 170.0 million shares at Rupiah 250 per share and partly through the purchase of shares from an existing shareholder to bring INM's stake upto 20.0%. This transaction is subject to normal regulatory and PT Abdi Bangsa TBK shareholder approval.

As part of this transaction, it will be proposed to the shareholders of PT Abdi Bangsa TBK that Gavin O'Reilly, group chief operating officer of INM, be elected to the Board. Commenting on the announcement, Gavin O'Reilly stated:

*"We are extremely pleased to be investing with Erick Thohir in PT Abdi Bangsa and to be part of the exciting and rapidly developing Indonesian media market. This strategic investment once again demonstrates INM's commitment to and successful strategy in developing geographic diversity in high-growth markets."*

**Ends**

**30<sup>th</sup> May 2008**

**For further information, please contact:**

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**ABOUT INDEPENDENT NEWS & MEDIA PLC**

**– CORPORATE PROFILE –**

INM is a leading international newspaper and communications group, with its main interests in Australia, India, Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa and the United Kingdom. Spanning four continents, 10 major markets and 22 individual countries, INM has market-leading newspaper positions in Australia (regional), India, Ireland, New Zealand and South Africa. In the United Kingdom, it publishes the flagship national title, *The Independent*, as well as being the largest newspaper group in Northern Ireland.

Across these regions, the Group publishes over 200 newspaper and magazine titles, delivering a combined weekly circulation of over 32 million copies with a weekly audience of over 100 million consumers and includes the world's largest read newspaper, *Dainik Jagran*, in India. The Group has established a strong and growing online presence, with over 100 editorial, classified and transactional sites.

INM is the largest radio operator – over 130 stations and an audience of almost six million people – and outdoor advertising operator in Australasia and also has leading outdoor advertising positions in Hong Kong, Malaysia, India, Indonesia and across Africa.

The Group has grown consistently over the last 15 years by building a geographically unique and diverse portfolio of market-leading brands, and manages gross assets of €4.7 billion, revenue of €1.9 billion and employs approximately 9,600 people worldwide. Further information is available on the Group's website [www.inmplc.com](http://www.inmplc.com).