

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Ms Draginja Đurić announced banker of the year**

**Belgrade (4 December 2008)** – Economist Media Group announced Ms Draginja Đurić, President of the EB of Banca Intesa “Banker of the year” in 2008. As stated in the jury’s exposition, the aim of the award is to contribute to the rise of the general standard of banking operations, and this year the award carries specific weight due to financial crisis in the whole world. The most successful banker recognition is being awarded third time in a row, whereas this year, for the first time, the recognitions were awarded to the most successful companies as well.

“Above all, I see this award as a recognition for Banca Intesa, the company which I have managed for 7 years now, and which is today leader according to all relevant parameters of successful business operations. Recognitions are always additional motive to continue with further successes measured not only by excellent financial results but also by our continuous commitment as a socially responsible company to contribute the development and welfare of the entire social community as well”, said on the occasion Ms Draginja Đurić, President of the EB of Banca Intesa.

Ms Draginja Đurić, has managed Banca Intesa for the past 7 years during which period the Bank succeeded in making a strategic turnabout towards retail and small and middle–size enterprises operations and adapt its operations to the standards of the Parent Group Intesa Sanpaolo. In the previous year, the Bank realized record results, taking up the leadership position in terms of total assets, total placements and deposits. Also, the bank became recognizable in its active contribution to the development of social community as the sponsor of important cultural institutions and events and as initiator of numerous humanitarian projects. Ms Draginja Đurić currently holds the positions of the President of the Management Board of the Bank Association, President of Banking Board in the Chamber of Commerce of Serbia and is also a member of the Association of Corporate Directors of Serbia.

She started her banking career in 1996, as Director of Delta Bank in Pančevo, soon to become Deputy General Manager of Delta Bank in Belgrade. Since 2001 she was General Manager of Delta Bank. Prior to banking career, she spent 13 years working in the Public Accounting Department of Yugoslavia, first in revision and control operations, and later as Assistant General Manager for Payment Turnover. She also held the position of SDK General Manager in Pančevo.