

In the event that a holder of ADSs exchanges such ADSs for the underlying shares, the holder will be entitled to continue to rely on such electronic registration for five business days after the exchange. Thereafter, unless the relevant shares are held pursuant to Resolution No. 2,689 by a duly registered investor, or a holder of the relevant shares applies for and obtains a new certificate of registration from the Central Bank of Brazil, the holder may not be able to convert into foreign currency and to remit outside Brazil the proceeds from the disposition of, or distributions with respect to, the relevant shares, and the holder, if not registered under Resolution No. 2,689, will be subject to less favorable Brazilian tax treatment than a holder of ADSs. In addition, if the foreign investor resides in a “tax haven” jurisdiction, the investor will be also subject to less favorable tax treatment. See Item 3. “Key Information–Risk Factors–Risks Relating to Our Equity and Debt Securities” and “–Taxation Relating to Our ADSs and Common and Preferred Shares–Brazilian Tax Considerations.”

PifCo

There are:

- no governmental laws, decrees or regulations in Cayman Islands that restrict the export or import of capital, including dividend and other payments to holders of notes who are not residents of the Cayman Islands, provided that such holders are not resident in countries subject to certain sanctions by the United Nations or the European Union; and
- no limitations on the right of nonresident or foreign owners imposed by Cayman Island law or PifCo’s Memorandum of Association to hold or vote PifCo’s shares.

Taxation Relating to Our ADSs and Common and Preferred Shares

The following summary contains a description of material Brazilian and U.S. federal income tax considerations that may be relevant to the purchase, ownership and disposition of preferred or common shares or ADSs by a holder. This summary does not describe any tax consequences arising under the laws of any state, locality or taxing jurisdiction other than Brazil and the United States.

This summary is based upon the tax laws of Brazil and the United States as in effect on the date of this annual report, which are subject to change (possibly with retroactive effect). This summary is also based upon the representations of the depository and on the assumption that the obligations in the deposit agreement and any related documents will be performed in accordance with their respective terms.

This description is not a comprehensive description of the tax considerations that may be relevant to any particular investor, including tax considerations that arise from rules that are generally applicable to all taxpayers or to certain classes of investors or rules that investors are generally assumed to know. Prospective purchasers of common or preferred shares or ADSs should consult their own tax advisors as to the tax consequences of the acquisition, ownership and disposition of common or preferred shares or ADSs.

There is no income tax treaty between the United States and Brazil. In recent years, the tax authorities of Brazil and the United States have held discussions that may culminate in such a treaty. We cannot predict, however, whether or when a treaty will enter into force or how it will affect the U.S. Holders of common or preferred shares or ADSs.

Brazilian Tax Considerations

General

The following discussion summarizes the material Brazilian tax consequences of the acquisition, ownership and disposition of preferred or common shares or ADSs, as the case may be, by a holder that is not deemed to be domiciled in Brazil for purposes of Brazilian taxation, also called a non-Brazilian holder.

Under Brazilian law, investors may invest in the preferred or common shares under Resolution No. 2,689 or under Law No. 4,131 of September 3, 1962. The rules of Resolution No. 2,689 allow foreign investors to invest in almost all instruments and to engage in almost all transactions available in the Brazilian financial and capital markets, provided that certain requirements are met. In accordance with Resolution No. 2,689, the definition of foreign investor includes individuals, legal entities, mutual funds and other collective investment entities, domiciled or headquartered abroad.

Pursuant to this rule, foreign investors must: (i) appoint at least one representative in Brazil with powers to perform actions relating to the foreign investment; (ii) complete the appropriate foreign investor registration form; (iii) register as a foreign investor with the CVM; and (iv) register the foreign investment with the Central Bank of Brazil.

Securities and other financial assets held by foreign investors pursuant to Resolution No. 2,689 must be registered or maintained in deposit accounts or under the custody of an entity duly licensed by the Central Bank of Brazil or the CVM. In addition, securities trading is restricted to transactions carried out in the stock exchanges or organized over-the-counter markets licensed by the CVM.

Taxation of Dividends

Dividends paid by us, including stock dividends and other dividends paid in property to the depositary in respect of the ADSs, or to a non-Brazilian holder in respect of the preferred or common shares, are currently not subject to withholding income tax in Brazil, to the extent that such amounts are related to profits generated as of January 1, 1996. Dividends relating to profits generated prior to January 1, 1996 may be subject to Brazilian withholding income tax at varying rates, depending on the year the profits were generated.

We must pay to our shareholders (including non-Brazilian holders of common or preferred shares or ADSs) interest on the amount of dividends payable to them, at the SELIC rate, from the end of each fiscal year through the date of effective payment of those dividends. These interest payments are considered as fixed-yield income and are subject to withholding income tax at varying rates depending on the length of period of interest accrual. The tax rate varies from 15%, in case of interest accrued for a period greater than 720 days, 17.5% in case of interest accrued for a period between 361 and 720 days, 20% in case of interest accrued for a period between 181 and 360 days, and to 22.5%, in case of interest accrued for a period up to 180 days. However, the withholding income tax is reduced to 15% in the case of a non-Brazilian holder of ADSs or common or preferred shares investing under Resolution No. 2,689 who is not resident or domiciled in a country or other jurisdiction that does not impose income tax or imposes it at a maximum income tax rate lower than 20% (a Low or Nil Tax Jurisdiction) or, based on the position of the Brazilian tax authorities, a country or other jurisdiction where the local legislation does not allow access to information related to the shareholding composition of legal entities, to their ownership or to the identity of the effective beneficiary of the income attributed to shareholders (the Non-Transparency Rule). See “—Clarifications on Non-Brazilian Holders Resident or Domiciled in a Low or Nil Tax Jurisdiction.”

Taxation on Interest on Shareholders' Equity

Any payment of interest on shareholders' equity to holders of ADSs or preferred or common shares, whether or not they are Brazilian residents, is subject to Brazilian withholding income tax at the rate of 15% at the time we record such liability, whether or not the effective payment is made at that time. See “—Memorandum and Articles of Incorporation of Petrobras — Payment of Dividends and Interest on Shareholders' Equity.” In the case of non-Brazilian residents that are resident in a Low or Nil Tax Jurisdiction (including in the view of Brazilian authorities the jurisdictions to which the Non-Transparency Rule applies), the applicable withholding income tax rate is 25%. See “—Clarifications on Non-Brazilian Holders Resident or Domiciled in a Low or Nil Tax Jurisdiction.” The payment of interest at the SELIC rate that is applicable to payments of dividends applies equally to payments of interest on shareholders' equity. The determination of whether or not we will make distributions in the form of interest on shareholders' equity or in the form of dividends is made by our board of directors at the time distributions are to be made. We cannot determine how our board of directors will make these determinations in connection with future distributions.

Taxation of Gains

For purposes of Brazilian taxation on capital gains, two types of non-Brazilian holders have to be considered: (i) non-Brazilian holders of ADSs, preferred shares or common shares that are not resident or domiciled in a Low or Nil Tax Jurisdiction, and that, in the case of preferred or common shares have registered before the Central Bank of Brazil and the CVM in accordance with Resolution No. 2,689; and (ii) any other non-Brazilian holder, including non-Brazilian holders who invest in Brazil not in accordance with Resolution No. 2,689 (including registration under Law No. 4,131 of 1962) and who are resident or domiciled in a Low or Nil Tax Jurisdiction. See “—Clarifications on Non-Brazilian Holders Resident or Domiciled in a Low or Nil Tax Jurisdiction.”

According to Law No. 10,833, dated December 29, 2003, capital gains realized on the disposition of assets located in Brazil by non-Brazilian holders, whether or not to other non-residents and whether made outside or within Brazil, may be subject to taxation in Brazil. With respect to the disposition of common or preferred shares, as they are assets located in Brazil, the non-Brazilian holder may be subject to income tax on any gains realized, following the rules described below, regardless of whether the transactions are conducted in Brazil or with a Brazilian resident. We understand the ADSs do not fall within the definition of assets located in Brazil for the purposes of this law, but there is still neither pronouncement from tax authorities nor judicial court rulings in this respect. Therefore, we are unable to predict whether such understanding will prevail in the courts of Brazil.

Although there are grounds to sustain otherwise, the deposit of preferred or common shares in exchange for ADSs may be subject to Brazilian taxation on capital gains if the acquisition cost of the preferred or common shares is lower than: (i) the average price per preferred or common share on a Brazilian stock exchange on which the greatest number of such shares were sold on the day of deposit; or (ii) if no preferred or common shares were sold on that day, the average price on the Brazilian stock exchange on which the greatest number of preferred or common shares were sold in the 15 trading sessions immediately preceding such deposit. In such a case, the difference between the amount previously registered and the average price of the preferred or common shares calculated as above, will be considered a capital gain.

The difference between the acquisition cost and the average price of the preferred or common shares calculated as described above will be considered to be a capital gain realized that is subject to taxation as described below. There are grounds to sustain that such taxation is not applicable with respect to non-Brazilian holders registered under the rules of Resolution No. 2,689 and not resident or domiciled in a Low or Nil Tax Jurisdiction.

The withdrawal of ADSs in exchange for preferred or common shares should not be considered as giving rise to a capital gain subject to Brazilian income tax, provided that on receipt of the underlying preferred or common shares, the non-Brazilian holder complies with the registration procedure with the Central Bank of Brazil as described below in “Registered Capital.”

Capital gains realized by a non-Brazilian holder on a sale or disposition of preferred or common shares carried out on a Brazilian stock exchange (which includes transactions carried out on the organized over-the-counter market) are:

- exempt from income tax when the non-Brazilian holder (i) has registered its investment in accordance with Resolution No. 2,689 and (ii) is not resident or domiciled in a Low or Nil Tax Jurisdiction; or
- in all other cases, including a case of capital gains realized by a non-Brazilian holder that is not registered in accordance with Resolution No. 2,689 and/or is resident or domiciled in a Low or Nil Tax Jurisdiction, subject to income tax at a 15% rate. In these cases, a withholding income tax at a rate of 0.005% of the sale value is levied on the transaction which can be offset against the eventual income tax due on the capital gain.

Any capital gains realized on a disposition of preferred or common shares that is carried out outside the Brazilian stock exchange are subject to income tax at the rate of 15%, or 25% in case of gains realized by a non-Brazilian holder that is domiciled or resident in a Low or Nil Tax Jurisdiction or a jurisdiction to which the Non-Transparency Rule applies. In this last case, for the capital gains related to transactions conducted on the Brazilian non-organized over-the-counter market with intermediation, the withholding income tax of 0.005% will also apply and can be offset against the eventual income tax due on the capital gain.

In the case of a redemption of preferred or common shares or ADSs or a capital reduction made by us, the positive difference between the amount received by the non-Brazilian holder and the acquisition cost of the preferred or common shares or ADSs redeemed or reduced is treated as capital gain derived from the sale or exchange of shares not carried out on a Brazilian stock exchange market and is therefore generally subject to income tax at the rate of 15% or 25%, as the case may be. See “Clarifications on Non-Brazilian Holders Resident or Domiciled in a Low or Nil Tax Jurisdiction.”

Any exercise of preemptive rights relating to the preferred or common shares will not be subject to Brazilian taxation. Any gain on the sale or assignment of preemptive rights will be subject to Brazilian income taxation according to the same rules applicable to the sale or disposition of preferred or common shares.

No assurance can be made that the current preferential treatment of non-Brazilian holders of the ADSs and some non-Brazilian holders of the preferred or common shares under Resolution No. 2,689 will continue to apply in the future.

Clarifications on Non-Brazilian Holders Resident or Domiciled in a Low or Nil Tax Jurisdiction

Law No. 9,779 of January 1, 1999 states that, except for limited prescribed circumstances, income derived from transactions by a person resident or domiciled in a Low or Nil Tax Jurisdiction will be subject to withholding income tax at the rate of 25%. A Low or Nil Tax Jurisdiction is generally considered to be a country or other jurisdiction which does not impose any income tax or which imposes such tax at a maximum rate lower than 20%. Under certain circumstances, the Non-Transparency Rule is also taken into account for determining whether a country or other jurisdiction is a Low or Nil Tax Jurisdiction. In addition, Law No. 11,727 of June 23, 2008 introduced the concept of a “privileged tax regime”, which is defined as a tax regime which (i) does not tax income or taxes it at a maximum rate lower than 20%; (ii) grants tax benefits to non-resident entities or individuals (a) without the requirement to carry out a substantial economic activity in the country or other jurisdiction or (b) contingent on the non-exercise of a substantial economic activity in the country or other jurisdiction; or (iii) does not tax or that taxes foreign source income at a maximum rate lower than 20%; or (iv) does not provide access to information related to shareholding composition, ownership of assets and rights or economic transactions carried out. We believe that the best interpretation of Law No. 11,727/08 is that the new concept of a “privileged tax regime” will apply solely for purposes of the transfer pricing rules in export and import transactions and the thin capitalization rules and, would therefore generally not have an impact on the taxation of a non-Brazilian holder of preferred or common shares or ADSs, as discussed herein. However, we are unable to ascertain whether the privileged tax regime concept will also apply in the context of the rules applicable to Low or Nil Tax Jurisdictions, although the Brazilian tax authorities appear to agree with our position, in view of the provisions of the recently introduced Normative Ruling No. 1,037 of June 4, 2010.

Taxation of Foreign Exchange Transactions (IOF/Exchange)

Brazilian law imposes the IOF/Exchange on the conversion of *reais* into foreign currency and on the conversion of foreign currency into *reais*. Currently, for most foreign currency exchange transactions, the rate of IOF/Exchange is 0.38%. However, transactions in respect of investments carried out in the Brazilian financial and capital markets, including those made by a non-Brazilian holder in accordance with Resolution No. 2,689, are currently subject to the IOF/Exchange at a rate of (a) 2% for the inflow of funds (including with respect to simultaneous foreign exchange transactions upon the cancellation of depositary receipts on or after January 1, 2011 and destined for investments in equity securities traded on a stock exchange) and (b) 0% for the outflow of resources from Brazil related to these type of investments, including payments of dividends and interest on shareholders' equity and the repatriation of funds invested in the Brazilian market. In any case, the Brazilian Executive Branch may increase such rates at any time, up to 25%, but not with retroactive effect.

Taxation on Bonds and Securities Transactions (IOF/Bonds)

Brazilian law imposes IOF/Bonds on transactions involving equity securities, bonds and other securities, including those carried out on a Brazilian stock exchange. The rate of IOF/Bonds applicable to transactions involving preferred or common shares is currently zero. However, the Brazilian government may increase such rate at any time up to 1.5% of the transaction amount per day, but the tax cannot be applied retroactively. The deposit of preferred or common shares for issuance of ADSs is subject to IOF/Bonds at a rate of 1.5%.

Other Brazilian Taxes

There are no Brazilian inheritance, gift or succession taxes applicable to the ownership, transfer or disposition of preferred or common shares or ADSs by a non-Brazilian holder, except for gift and inheritance taxes which are levied by certain states of Brazil on gifts made or inheritances bestowed by a non-Brazilian holder to individuals or entities resident or domiciled within such states in Brazil. There are no Brazilian stamp, issue, registration, or similar taxes or duties payable by holders of preferred or common shares or ADSs.

Registered Capital

The amount of an investment in preferred or common shares held by a non-Brazilian holder who obtains registration under Resolution No. 2,689, or by the depositary representing such holder, is eligible for registration with the Central Bank of Brazil; such registration (the amount so registered being called registered capital) allows the remittance outside Brazil of foreign currency, converted at the commercial market rate, acquired with the proceeds of distributions on, and amounts realized with respect to dispositions of, such preferred or common shares. The registered capital for each preferred or common share purchased as part of the international offering or purchased in Brazil after the date hereof, and deposited with the depositary will be equal to its purchase price (in U.S. dollars). The registered capital for a preferred or common share that is withdrawn upon surrender of an ADS will be the U.S. dollar equivalent of:

- (a) the average price of a preferred or common share on the Brazilian stock exchange on which the greatest number of such shares were sold on the day of withdrawal; or
- (b) if no preferred or common shares were sold on that day, the average price on the Brazilian stock exchange on which the greatest number of preferred or common shares were sold in the 15 trading sessions immediately preceding such withdrawal.

The U.S. dollar value of the average price of preferred or common shares is determined on the basis of the average of the U.S. dollar/*real* commercial market rates quoted by the Central Bank of Brazil information system on that date (or, if the average price of preferred or common shares is determined under the second option above, the average of such average quoted rates on the same 15 dates used to determine the average price of preferred or common shares).

A non-Brazilian holder of preferred or common shares may experience delays in effecting such registration, which may delay remittances abroad. Such a delay may adversely affect the amount, in U.S. dollars, received by the non-Brazilian holder. See Item 3. “Key Information—Risk Factors—Risks Relating to Our Equity and Debt Securities.”

U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations

This summary describes the principal U.S. federal income tax consequences of the ownership and disposition of common or preferred shares or ADSs, based on the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code), its legislative history, existing and proposed U.S. Treasury regulations promulgated thereunder, published rulings by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service (IRS), and court decisions, all as in effect as of the date hereof, and all of which are subject to change or differing interpretations, possibly with retroactive effect. This summary does not purport to be a comprehensive description of all of the tax consequences that may be relevant to a decision to hold or dispose of common or preferred shares or ADSs. This summary applies only to purchasers of common or preferred shares or ADSs who hold the common or preferred shares or ADSs as “capital assets” (generally, property held for investment), and does not apply to special classes of holders such as dealers or traders in securities or currencies, holders whose functional currency is not the U.S. dollar, holders of 10% or more of our shares (taking into account shares held directly or through depository arrangements), tax-exempt organizations, partnerships or partners therein, financial institutions, holders liable for the alternative minimum tax, securities traders who elect to account for their investment in common or preferred shares or ADSs on a mark-to-market basis, persons that enter into a constructive sale transaction with respect to common or preferred shares or ADSs, and persons holding common or preferred shares or ADSs in a hedging transaction or as part of a straddle or conversion transaction.

EACH HOLDER SHOULD CONSULT ITS OWN TAX ADVISOR CONCERNING THE OVERALL TAX CONSEQUENCES IN ITS PARTICULAR CIRCUMSTANCES, INCLUDING THE CONSEQUENCES UNDER LAWS OTHER THAN U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX LAWS, OF AN INVESTMENT IN COMMON OR PREFERRED SHARES OR ADSs.

Shares of our preferred stock will be treated as equity for U.S. federal income tax purposes. In general, a holder of an ADS will be treated as the holder of the shares of common or preferred stock represented by those ADSs for U.S. federal income tax purposes, and no gain or loss will be recognized if you exchange ADSs for the shares of common or preferred stock represented by that ADS.

In this discussion, references to ADSs refer to ADSs with respect to both common and preferred shares, and references to a “U.S. Holder” are to a holder of an ADS that is:

- an individual who is a citizen or resident of the United States;
- a corporation organized under the laws of the United States, any state thereof, or the District of Columbia; or
- otherwise subject to U.S. federal income taxation on a net basis with respect to the shares or the ADS.

Taxation of Distributions

A U.S. Holder will recognize ordinary dividend income for U.S. federal income tax purposes in an amount equal to the amount of any cash and the value of any property we distribute as a dividend to the extent that such distribution is paid out of our current or accumulated earnings and profits, as determined for U.S. federal income tax purposes, when such distribution is received by the custodian, or by the U.S. Holder in the case of a holder of common or preferred shares. The amount of any distribution will include distributions characterized as interest on shareholders' equity and the amount of Brazilian tax withheld on the amount distributed, and the amount of a distribution paid in *reais* will be measured by reference to the exchange rate for converting *reais* into U.S. dollars in effect on the date the distribution is received by the custodian, or by a U.S. Holder in the case of a holder of common or preferred shares. If the custodian, or U.S. Holder in the case of a holder of common or preferred shares, does not convert such *reais* into U.S. dollars on the date it receives them, it is possible that the U.S. Holder will recognize foreign currency loss or gain, which would be U.S. source ordinary loss or gain, when the *reais* are converted into U.S. dollars. Dividends paid by us will not be eligible for the dividends received deduction allowed to corporations under the Code.

Subject to certain exceptions for short-term and hedged positions, the U.S. dollar amount of dividends received by a non-corporate U.S. Holder prior to January 1, 2013, with respect to the ADSs will be subject to taxation at a maximum rate of 15% if the dividends are "qualified dividends." Dividends paid on the ADSs will be treated as qualified dividends if (i) the ADSs are readily tradable on an established securities market in the United States and (ii) the Company was not, in the year prior to the year in which the dividend was paid, and is not, in the year in which the dividend is paid, a "passive foreign investment company" as defined for U.S. federal income tax purposes (a PFIC). The ADSs are listed on the New York Stock Exchange, and will qualify as readily tradable on an established securities market in the United States so long as they are so listed. Based on the Company's audited financial statements and relevant market and shareholder data, the Company believes that it should not be treated as a PFIC for U.S. federal income tax purposes with respect to its 2010 taxable year. In addition, based on the Company's audited financial statements and its current expectations regarding the value and nature of its assets, the sources and nature of its income, and relevant market and shareholder data, the Company does not anticipate becoming a PFIC for its 2011 taxable year. Based on existing guidance, it is not clear whether dividends received with respect to the shares will be treated as qualified dividends, because the shares are not themselves listed on a U.S. exchange. In addition, the U.S. Treasury has announced its intention to promulgate rules pursuant to which holders of ADSs and intermediaries through whom such securities are held will be permitted to rely on certifications from issuers to treat dividends as qualified for tax reporting purposes. Because such procedures have not yet been issued, it is not clear whether the Company would be able to comply with these procedures. U.S. Holders of our ADSs should consult their own tax advisors regarding the availability of the reduced dividend tax rate in the light of their particular circumstances.

Distributions out of earnings and profits with respect to the shares or ADSs generally will be treated as dividend income from sources outside of the United States and generally will be treated as "passive category income" for U.S. foreign tax credit purposes. Subject to certain limitations, Brazilian income tax withheld in connection with any distribution with respect to the shares or ADSs may be claimed as a credit against the U.S. federal income tax liability of a U.S. Holder, or, at the U.S. Holder's election, such Brazilian withholding tax may be taken as a deduction against taxable income. A U.S. foreign tax credit may not be allowed for Brazilian withholding tax imposed in respect of certain short-term or hedged positions in securities or in respect of arrangements in which a U.S. Holder's expected economic profit is insubstantial. U.S. Holders should consult their own tax advisors regarding the availability of the U.S. foreign tax credit, including the translation of *reais* into U.S. dollar for these purposes, in light of their particular circumstances.

Holders of ADSs that are foreign corporations or nonresident alien individuals (non-U.S. Holders) generally will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax, including withholding tax, on distributions with respect to shares or ADSs that are treated as dividend income for U.S. federal income tax purposes unless such dividends are effectively connected with the conduct by the holder of a trade or business in the United States.

Holders of shares and ADSs should consult their own tax advisers regarding the availability of the reduced dividend tax rate in the light of the considerations discussed above and their own particular circumstances.

Taxation of Capital Gains

Upon the sale or other disposition of a share or an ADS, a U.S. Holder will generally recognize U.S. source capital gain or loss for U.S. federal income tax purposes, equal to the difference between the amount realized on the disposition and the U.S. Holder's tax basis in such share or ADS. Any gain or loss will be long-term capital gain or loss if the shares or ADSs have been held for more than one year. Non-corporate U.S. Holders of shares or ADSs may be eligible for a preferential rate of U.S. federal income tax in respect of long-term capital gains. Capital losses may be deducted from taxable income, subject to certain limitations. For U.S. federal income tax purposes, such disposition would not result in foreign source-income to a U.S. Holder. As a result, a U.S. Holder may not be able to use the foreign tax credit associated with any Brazilian income taxes imposed on such gains, unless such holder can use the credit against U.S. tax due on other foreign-source income. U.S. Holders should consult their own tax advisors regarding the availability of the U.S. foreign tax credit, including the translation of *reais* into U.S. dollar for purposes of their investment in our shares or ADSs.

A non-U.S. Holder will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax or withholding tax on gain realized on the sale or other disposition of a share or an ADS, unless:

- such gain is effectively connected with the conduct by the holder of a trade or business in the United States; or
- such holder is an individual who is present in the United States for 183 days or more in the taxable year of the sale and certain other conditions are met.

Information Reporting and Backup Withholding

The payment of dividends on, and proceeds from the sale or other disposition of, the ADSs or common or preferred shares to a U.S. Holder within the United States (or through certain U.S. related financial intermediaries) will generally be subject to information reporting unless the U.S. Holder is a corporation or other exempt recipient. Such dividends and proceeds may be subject to backup withholding unless the U.S. Holder (i) is an exempt recipient, or (ii) timely provides a taxpayer identification number and certifies that no loss of exemption from backup withholding has occurred. Backup withholding is not an additional tax. The amount of any backup withholding collected from a payment to a U.S. Holder will be allowed as a credit against the U.S. Holder's U.S. federal income tax liability and may entitle the U.S. Holder to a refund, so long as the required information is properly furnished to the IRS.

U.S. Holders should consult their own tax advisors about any additional reporting requirements that may arise as a result of their purchasing, holding or disposing of our ADSs, or common or preferred shares.

A non-U.S. Holder generally will be exempt from these information reporting requirements and backup withholding tax, but may be required to comply with certain certification and identification procedures in order to establish its eligibility for such exemption.

Taxation Relating to PifCo's Notes

The following summary contains a description of material Cayman Islands, Brazilian and U.S. federal income tax considerations that may be relevant to the purchase, ownership, and disposition of PifCo's debt securities. This summary does not describe any tax consequences arising under the laws of any state, locality or taxing jurisdiction other than the Cayman Islands, Brazil and the United States.

This summary is based on the tax laws of the Cayman Islands, Brazil and the United States as in effect on the date of this annual report, which are subject to change (possibly with retroactive effect). This description is not a comprehensive description of all tax considerations that may be relevant to any particular investor, including tax considerations that arise from rules generally applicable to all taxpayers or to certain classes of investors or that investors are generally assumed to know. Prospective purchasers of notes should consult their own tax advisors regarding the tax consequences of the acquisition, ownership and disposition of the notes.

There is no tax treaty to avoid double taxation between the Cayman Islands and the United States, the Cayman Islands and Brazil or Brazil and the United States. In recent years, the tax authorities of Brazil and the United States have held discussions that may culminate in such a treaty. We cannot predict, however, whether or when a treaty will enter into force or how it will affect the U.S. Holders of notes.

Cayman Islands Taxation

Under current law, PifCo is not subject to income, capital, transfer, sales or other taxes in the Cayman Islands.

PifCo was incorporated as an exempted company under the laws of the Cayman Islands on September 24, 1997. PifCo has received an Undertaking as to Tax Concessions pursuant to Section 6 of the Tax Concessions Law (1999 Revision) which provides that, for a period of twenty years from the date thereof no law hereafter enacted in the Cayman Islands imposing any tax or duty to be levied on income or on capital assets, gains or appreciation will apply to any of PifCo's income or property and which is deemed to provide that no tax is to be levied on profits, income, gains or appreciations or which is in the nature of estate duty or inheritance tax shall be payable or in respect of shares, debentures or other of PifCo's obligations, or by way of withholding of any part of a payment of principal due under a debenture or other of PifCo's obligations.

No Cayman Islands withholding tax applies to distributions by PifCo in respect of the notes. Noteholders are not subject to any income, capital, transfer, sales or other taxes in the Cayman Islands in respect of their purchase, holding or disposition of the notes.

Noteholders whose notes are brought into or issued in the Cayman Islands will be liable to pay stamp duty of up to C.I.\$250 on each note, unless stamp duty of C.I.\$500 has been paid in respect of the entire issue of notes (in which case no further stamp duty in respect of such notes is payable).

Brazilian Taxation

The following discussion is a summary of the Brazilian tax considerations relating to an investment in the notes by a non-resident of Brazil. The discussion is based on the tax laws of Brazil as in effect on the date hereof and is subject to any change in Brazilian law that may come into effect after such date. The information set forth below is intended to be a general discussion only and does not address all possible consequences relating to an investment in the notes.

INVESTORS SHOULD CONSULT THEIR OWN TAX ADVISERS AS TO THE CONSEQUENCES OF PURCHASING THE NOTES, INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE RECEIPT OF INTEREST AND THE SALE, REDEMPTION OR REPAYMENT OF THE NOTES OR COUPONS.

Generally, an individual, entity, trust or organization domiciled for tax purposes outside Brazil, or a "Non-resident," is taxed in Brazil only when income is derived from Brazilian sources or when the transaction giving rise to such earnings involves assets in Brazil. Therefore, any gains or interest (including original issue discount), fees, commissions, expenses and any other income paid by PifCo in respect of the notes issued by it in favor of Non-resident holders are not subject to Brazilian taxes.

Interest, fees, commissions, expenses and any other income payable by Petrobras as guarantor resident in Brazil to a Non-resident are generally subject to income tax withheld at source. The rate of withholding income tax in respect of interest payments is generally 15%, unless (i) the holder of the notes is resident or domiciled in a "tax haven jurisdiction" (that is deemed to be a country or jurisdiction which does not impose any tax on income or which imposes such tax at a maximum effective rate lower than 20% or where the local legislation imposes restrictions on disclosing the identities of shareholders, the ownership of investments, or the ultimate beneficiary of earnings distributed to the Non-resident- "tax haven jurisdiction"), in which case the applicable rate is 25% or (ii) such other lower rate as provided for in an applicable tax treaty between Brazil and another country where the beneficiary is domiciled. In case the guarantor is required to assume the obligation to pay the principal amount of the notes, Brazilian tax authorities could attempt to impose withholding income tax at the rate of up to 25% as described above. Although Brazilian legislation does not provide a specific tax rule for such cases and there is no official position from tax authorities or precedents from the Brazilian court regarding the matter, we believe that the remittance of funds by Petrobras as a guarantor for the payment of the principal amount of the notes will not be subject to income tax in Brazil, because the mere fact that the guarantor is making the payment does not convert the nature of the principal due under the notes into income of the beneficiary.

If the payments with respect to the notes are made by Petrobras, as provided for in the guaranties, the Non-resident holders will be indemnified so that, after payment of all applicable Brazilian taxes collectable by withholding, deduction or otherwise, with respect to principal, interest and additional amounts payable with respect to the notes (plus any interest and penalties thereon), a Non-resident holder will receive an amount equal to the amount that such Non-resident holder would have received as if no such Brazilian taxes (plus interest and penalties thereon) were withheld. The Brazilian obligor will, subject to certain exceptions, pay additional amounts in respect of such withholding or deduction so that the Non-resident holder receives the net amount due.

Gains on the sale or other disposition of the notes made outside of Brazil by a Non-resident, other than a branch or a subsidiary of Brazilian resident, to another Non-resident are not subject to Brazilian income tax.

In addition, payments made from Brazil are subject to the tax on foreign exchange transactions (*IOF/Câmbio*), which is levied on the conversion of Brazilian currency into foreign currency and on the conversion of foreign currency into Brazilian currency at a general rate of 0.38%. Other *IOF/Câmbio* rates may apply to specific transactions. In any case, the Brazilian federal government may increase, at any time, such rate up to 25% but only with respect to future transactions.

Generally, there are no inheritance, gift, succession, stamp, or other similar taxes in Brazil with respect to the ownership, transfer, assignment or any other disposition of the notes by a Non-resident, except for gift and inheritance taxes imposed by some Brazilian states on gifts or bequests by individuals or entities not domiciled or residing in Brazil to individuals or entities domiciled or residing within such states.

U.S. Federal Income Taxation

The following summary sets forth certain United States federal income tax considerations that may be relevant to a holder of a note that is, for U.S. federal income purposes, a citizen or resident of the United States or a domestic corporation or that otherwise is subject to U.S. federal income taxation on a net income basis in respect of the notes (a "U.S. Holder"). This summary is based upon the Code, its legislative history, existing and proposed U.S. Treasury regulations promulgated thereunder, published rulings by the IRS, and court decisions, all as in effect as of the date hereof, all of which are subject to change or differing interpretations, possibly with retroactive effect. This summary does not purport to discuss all aspects of the United States federal income taxation which may be relevant to special classes of investors, such as financial institutions, insurance companies, dealers or traders in securities or currencies, securities traders who elect to account for their investment in notes on a mark-to-market basis, regulated investment companies, tax-exempt organizations, partnerships or partners therein, holders that are subject to the alternative minimum tax, certain short-term holders of notes, persons that hedge their exposure in the notes or hold notes as part of a position in a "straddle" or as part of a hedging transaction or "conversion transaction" for U.S. federal tax purposes, persons that enter into a "constructive sale" transaction with respect to the notes or U.S. Holder whose functional currency is not the U.S. dollar. U.S. Holders should be aware that the U.S. federal income tax consequences of holding the notes may be materially different for investors described in the prior sentence.

In addition, this summary does not discuss any foreign, state or local tax considerations. This summary only applies to original purchasers of notes who have purchased notes at the original issue price and hold the notes as "capital assets" (generally, property held for investment).

EACH HOLDER SHOULD CONSULT ITS OWN TAX ADVISOR CONCERNING THE OVERALL TAX CONSEQUENCES IN ITS PARTICULAR CIRCUMSTANCES, INCLUDING THE CONSEQUENCES UNDER LAWS OTHER THAN U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX LAWS, OF AN INVESTMENT IN THE NOTES.

Payments of Interest

Payment of “qualified stated interest,” as defined below, on a note (including additional amounts, if any) generally will be taxable to a U.S. holder as ordinary interest income when such interest is accrued or received, in accordance with the U.S. holder’s applicable method of accounting for U.S. federal tax purposes. In general, if the “issue price” of a note is less than the “stated redemption price at maturity” by more than a de minimis amount, such note will be considered to have “original issue discount,” or OID. The “issue price” of a note is the first price at which a substantial amount of such notes are sold to investors. The stated redemption price at maturity of a note generally includes all payments other than payments of qualified stated interest.

In general, each U.S. Holder of a note, whether such holder uses the cash or the accrual method of tax accounting, will be required to include in gross income as ordinary interest income the sum of the “daily portions” of OID on the note, if any, for all days during the taxable year that the U.S. Holder owns the note. The daily portions of OID on a note are determined by allocating to each day in any accrual period a ratable portion of the OID allocable to that accrual period. In general, in the case of an initial holder, the amount of OID on a note allocable to each accrual period is determined by (i) multiplying the “adjusted issue price,” as defined below, of the note at the beginning of the accrual period by the yield to maturity of the note, and (ii) subtracting from that product the amount of qualified stated interest allocable to that accrual period. U.S. Holders should be aware that they generally must include OID in gross income as ordinary interest income for U.S. federal income tax purposes as it accrues, in advance of the receipt of cash attributable to that income. The “adjusted issue price” of a note at the beginning of any accrual period will generally be the sum of its issue price (generally including accrued interest, if any) and the amount of OID allocable to all prior accrual periods, reduced by the amount of all payments other than payments of qualified stated interest (if any) made with respect to such note in all prior accrual periods. The term “qualified stated interest” generally means stated interest that is unconditionally payable in cash or property (other than debt instruments of the issuer) at least annually during the entire term of a note at a single fixed rate of interest, or subject to certain conditions, based on one or more interest indices.

Interest income, including OID, in respect of the notes will constitute foreign source income for U.S. federal income tax purposes and, with certain exceptions, will be treated separately, together with other items of “passive category income,” for purposes of computing the foreign tax credit allowable under the U.S. federal income tax laws. The calculation of foreign tax credits, involves the application of complex rules that depend on a U.S. Holder’s particular circumstances. U.S. Holders should consult their own tax advisors regarding the availability of foreign tax credits and the treatment of additional amounts.

Sale or Disposition of Notes

A U.S. Holder generally will recognize capital gain or loss upon the sale, exchange, retirement or other disposition of a note in an amount equal to the difference between the amount realized upon such sale, exchange, retirement or other disposition (other than amounts attributable to accrued qualified stated interest, which will be taxed as such) and such U.S. Holder’s adjusted tax basis in the note. A U.S. Holder’s adjusted tax basis in the note generally will equal the U.S. Holder’s cost for the note increased by any amounts included in gross income by such U.S. Holder as OID, if any, and reduced by any payments other than payments of qualified stated interest on that note. Gain or loss realized by a U.S. Holder on the sale, exchange, retirement or other disposition of a note generally will be U.S. source gain or loss for U.S. federal income tax purposes unless it is attributable to an office or other fixed place of business outside the United States and certain other conditions are met. The gain or loss realized by a U.S. Holder will be capital gain or loss, and will be long-term capital gain or loss if the notes were held for more than one year. The net amount of long-term capital gain recognized by an individual holder before January 1, 2013 generally is subject to taxation at a maximum rate of 15%. Capital losses may be deducted from taxable income, subject to certain limitations.

Backup Withholding and Information Reporting

A U.S. Holder may, under certain circumstances, be subject to “backup withholding” with respect to certain payments to that U.S. Holder, unless the holder (i) is an exempt recipient, and demonstrates this fact when so required, or (ii) provides a correct taxpayer identification number, certifies that it is not subject to backup withholding and otherwise complies with applicable requirements of the backup withholding rules. Any amount withheld under these rules generally will be creditable against the U.S. Holder’s U.S. federal income tax liability. While non-U.S. Holders generally are except from backup withholding, a non-U.S. Holder may, in certain circumstances, be required to comply with certain information and identification procedures in order to prove entitlement to this exemption.

U.S. Holders should consult their own tax advisors about any additional reporting requirements that may arise as a result of their purchasing, holding or disposing of the notes.

Non-U.S. Holder

A holder or beneficial owner of a note that is not a U.S. Holder (a “non-U.S. Holder”) generally will not be subject to U.S. federal income or withholding tax on interest received on the notes. In addition, a non-U.S. Holder will not be subject to U.S. federal income or withholding tax on gain realized on the sale of notes unless such gain is effectively connected with the conduct by such holder of a trade or business in the United States or, in the case of gain realized by an individual non-U.S. Holder, the non-U.S. Holder is present in the United States for 183 days or more in the taxable year of the sale and certain other conditions are met.

Documents on Display

We are subject to the information requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and accordingly file reports and other information with the SEC. Reports and other information filed by us with the SEC may be inspected and copied at the public reference facilities maintained by the SEC at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. You can obtain further information about the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. You may also inspect Petrobras’ reports and other information at the offices of the New York Stock Exchange, 11 Wall Street, New York, New York 10005, on which Petrobras’ ADSs are listed. Our SEC filings are also available to the public from the SEC’s Web site at <http://www.sec.gov>. For further information on obtaining copies of Petrobras’ public filings at the New York Stock Exchange, you should call (212) 656-5060.

We also file financial statements and other periodic reports with the CVM.