

particular year has been declared and paid no later than one month following the shareholders' meeting. Dividends are paid to shareholders of record on the fifth day preceding the date set for payment of the dividend. The applicable record dated for the payment of dividends to holders of ADSs will, to the extent practicable, be the same.

Under the General Banking Law, a bank must distribute cash dividends in respect of any fiscal year in an amount equal to at least 30% of its net income for that year, as long as the dividend does not result in the infringement of minimum capital requirements. The balances of our distributable net income are generally retained for use in our business (including for the maintenance of any required legal reserves). Although our Board of Directors currently intends to pay regular annual dividends, the amount of dividend payments will depend upon, among other factors, our then current level of earnings, capital and legal reserve requirements, as well as market conditions, and there can be no assurance as to the amount or timing of future dividends.

Dividends payable to holders of ADSs are net of foreign currency conversion expenses of JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., as depositary (the "Depositary") and will be subject to the Chilean withholding tax currently at the rate of 35% (subject to credits in certain cases as described in "Item 10: E. Taxation—Material Tax Consequences of Owning Shares of Our Common Stock or ADSs").

Under the Foreign Investment Contract (as defined herein), the Depositary, on behalf of ADS holders, is granted access to the Formal Exchange Market to convert cash dividends from Chilean pesos to U.S. dollars and to pay such U.S. dollars to ADS holders outside Chile, net of taxes, and no separate registration by ADS holders is required. In the past, Chilean law required that holders of shares of Chilean companies who were not residents of Chile to register as foreign investors under one of the foreign investment regimes contemplated by Chilean law in order to have dividends, sale proceeds or other amounts with respect to their shares remitted outside Chile through the Formal Exchange Market. On April 19, 2001, the Central Bank deregulated the Exchange Market and eliminated the need to obtain approval from the Central Bank in order to remit dividends, but at the same time this eliminated the possibility of accessing the Formal Exchange Market. These changes do not affect the current Foreign Investment Contract, which was signed prior to April 19, 2001, which grants access to the Formal Exchange Market with prior approval of the Central Bank. See "Item 10: D. Exchange Controls."

The following table presents dividends declared and paid by us in nominal terms in the past five years:

Year Paid	Dividend Ch\$ mn (1)	Per share Ch\$/share (2)	Per ADR Ch\$/ADR (3)	% over earnings (4)
2005	198,795	1.05	1,096.06	100
2006	155,811	0.83	859.06	65
2007	185,628	0.99	1,023.46	65
2008	200,620	1.06	1,106.12	65
2009	213,295	1.13	1,176.02	65

(1) Million of nominal pesos.

(2) Calculated on the basis of 188,446 million shares.

(3) Calculated on the basis of 1,039 shares per ADS.

(4) Calculated by dividing dividend paid in the year by net income for the previous year.

B. Capitalization and Indebtedness

Not applicable.

C. Reasons for the Offer and Use of Proceeds

Not applicable.

D. Risk Factors

You should carefully consider the following risk factors, which should be read in conjunction with all the other information presented in this Annual Report. The risks and uncertainties described below are not the only ones that we face. Additional risks and uncertainties that we do not know about or that we currently think are immaterial may

also impair our business operations. Any of the following risks, if they actually occur, could materially and adversely affect our business, results of operations, prospects and financial condition.

We are subject to market risks that are presented both in this subsection and in “Item 5: Operating and Financial Review and Prospects” and “Item 11: Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk.”

Risks Associated with Our Business

We are vulnerable to the current disruptions and volatility in the global financial markets.

In the past two years, the global financial system has experienced difficult credit and liquidity conditions and disruptions leading to less liquidity, greater volatility, general widening of spreads and, in some cases, lack of price transparency on interbank lending rates. Global economic conditions deteriorated significantly in the second half of 2008, and many countries, including the United States, are currently in recession. Many major financial institutions, including some of the world’s largest global commercial banks, investment banks, mortgage lenders, mortgage guarantors and insurance companies, have been experiencing significant difficulties. Around the world, there have also been runs on deposits at several financial institutions, numerous institutions have sought additional capital and many lenders and institutional investors have reduced or ceased providing funding to borrowers (including to other financial institutions).

Continued or worsening disruption and volatility in the global financial markets could have a material adverse effect on our ability to access capital and liquidity on financial terms acceptable to us, if at all. If capital markets financing ceases to become available, or becomes excessively expensive, we may be forced to raise the rates we pay on deposits to attract more customers. Any such increase in capital markets funding costs or deposit rates could have a material adverse effect on our interest margins.

In Chile, the continued economic recession has also caused a rise in unemployment, a fall in consumer spending, a fall in real estate prices and a general decline in economic activity. All these may lead a decrease in demand for individual and corporate borrowings, a decrease in demand for financial services and a decrease in credit card spending, which may in turn materially adversely affect our financial condition and results of operation.

Increased competition and industry consolidation may adversely affect results of our operations.

The Chilean market for financial services is highly competitive. We compete with other Chilean private sector domestic and foreign banks, with Banco del Estado, a public sector bank, with department stores and the larger supermarket chains that make consumer loans and sell other financial products to a large portion of the Chilean population. The lower middle to middle income segments of the Chilean population and the small and medium sized corporate segments have become the target markets of several banks, and competition in these segments is likely to increase. As a result, net interest margins in these segments are likely to decline. Although we believe that demand for financial products and services from individuals and for small and medium sized companies will continue to grow during the remainder of the decade, we cannot assure you that net interest margins will be maintained at their current levels.

We also face competition from non-bank and non-finance competitors (principally department stores and the larger supermarket chains) with respect to some of our credit products, such as credit cards, consumer loans and insurance brokerage. In addition, we face competition from non-bank finance competitors, such as leasing, factoring and automobile finance companies, with respect to credit products, and from mutual funds, pension funds and insurance companies, with respect to savings products.

The increase in competition within the Chilean banking industry in recent years has led to, among other things, consolidation in the industry. We expect the trends of increased competition and consolidation to continue and result in the formation of new large financial groups. Consolidation, which can result in the creation of larger and stronger competitors, may adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations by decreasing the net interest margins we are able to generate. In addition, Law No. 19,769 allows insurance companies to participate and compete with banks in the residential mortgage and credit card businesses.

Our allowances for impairment losses may not be adequate to cover our future actual losses to our loan portfolio.

At December 31, 2008, our allowance for impairment losses on loans was Ch\$285,505 million, and the ratio of our allowance for impairment losses to total loans was 1.9%. The amount of allowances is based on our current assessment of and expectations concerning various factors affecting the quality of our loan portfolio. These factors include, among other things, our borrowers' financial conditions, repayment abilities and repayment intentions, the realizable value of any collateral, the prospects for support from any guarantor, Chile's economy, government macroeconomic policies, interest rates and the legal and regulatory environment. As the recent global financial crisis has demonstrated, many of these factors are beyond our control. If our assessment of and expectations concerning the above mentioned factors differ from actual developments, or if the quality of our loan portfolio deteriorates or the future actual losses exceed our estimates, our allowance for impairment losses may not be adequate to cover actual losses and we may need to make additional provisions for impairment losses, which may materially and adversely affect our results of operations and financial condition.

Our exposure to individuals and small businesses could lead to higher levels of past due loans, allowances for loan losses and charge-offs.

A substantial number of our customers consist of individuals (approximately 46.7% of the value of the total loan portfolio at December 31, 2008) and, to a lesser extent, small and medium sized companies (those with annual sales of less than US\$1.9 million), which comprised approximately 16.5% of the value of the total loan portfolio at December 31, 2008. As part of our business strategy, we seek to increase lending and other services to small companies and individuals. Small companies and individuals are, however, more likely to be adversely affected by downturns in the Chilean economy than large corporations and high income individuals. In addition, at December 31, 2008, our residential mortgage loan book totaled Ch\$3,981,346 million, representing 27.1% of our total loans. (See "Item 5: F. Selected Statistical Information—Loan Portfolio" and "Item 5: F. Selected Statistical Information—Loans by Economic Activity" for a description and presentation of residential mortgages in the balance sheet). If the economic conditions and real estate market in Chile experience a significant downturn, as it may in 2009 due to the global financial and economic crisis, this could materially adversely affect the liquidity, businesses and financial conditions of our customers, which may in turn cause us to experience higher levels of past due loans, thereby resulting in higher provisions for loan losses and subsequent write-offs. This may in turn materially and adversely affect our asset quality, results of operations and financial condition.

If we are unable to maintain the quality of our loan portfolio, our financial condition and results of operations may be materially and adversely affected.

At December 31, 2008, our past due loans were Ch\$160,824 million, and the ratio of our past due loans to total loans was 1.1%. For additional information on our asset quality, see "Item 5: F. Selected Statistical Information—Analysis of Substandard Loans and Amounts Past Due." We seek to continue to improve our credit risk management policies and procedures. However, we cannot assure you that our credit risk management policies, procedures and systems are free from any deficiency. Failure of credit risk management policies may result in an increase in the level of non-performing loans and adversely affect the quality of our loan portfolio. In addition, the quality of our loan portfolio may also deteriorate due to various other reasons, including factors beyond our control such as the macroeconomic factors affecting Chile's economy. If such deterioration were to occur, it would materially and adversely affect our financial conditions and results of operations.

The value of the collateral securing our loans may not be sufficient, and we may be unable to realize the full value of the collateral securing our loan portfolio.

The value of the collateral securing our loan portfolio may significantly fluctuate or decline due to factors beyond our control, including macroeconomic factors affecting Chile's economy. The real estate market is particularly vulnerable in the current economic climate and this may affect us as real estate represents a significant portion of the collateral securing our residential mortgages loan portfolio. We may also not have current information on the value of collateral, which may result in an inaccurate assessment for impairment losses of our loans secured by such collateral. If this were to occur, we may need to make additional provisions to cover actual impairment losses of our loans, which may materially and adversely affect our results of operations and financial condition.

Additionally, there are certain provisions under Chilean law that may affect our ability to foreclose or liquidate residential mortgages granted to us by our customers if the real estate in question has been declared as “family property” by a court. If any party occupying the real estate files a petition with the court requesting that such real estate be declared as family property, our ability to foreclose will be very limited.

The growth of our loan portfolio may expose us to increased loan losses.

From December 31, 2004 to December 31, 2008, our aggregate loan portfolio grew by 53.2% in real terms to Ch\$14,700,374 million (US\$22.9 billion), while our consumer loan portfolio grew by 66.7% in real terms to Ch\$2,248,996 (US\$3,507 million). The further expansion of our loan portfolio (particularly in the consumer, small and mid sized companies and real estate segments) can be expected to expose us to a higher level of loan losses and require us to establish higher levels of provisions for loan losses.

Our loan portfolio may not continue to grow at the same rate. The current economic turmoil may lead to a contraction in our loan portfolio.

There can be no assurance that in the future our loan portfolio will continue to grow at similar rates to the historical growth rate. A reversal of the rate of growth of the Chilean economy, a slowdown in the growth of customer demand, an increased in market competition or changes in governmental regulations, could adversely affect the rate of growth of our loan portfolio and our risk index and, accordingly, increase our required allowances for loan losses. The continued economic turmoil could materially adversely affect the liquidity, businesses and financial condition of our customers as well as a general decline in consumer spending and rise in unemployment. All this could in turn lead to decreased demand for borrowings in general. Our loan portfolio may thus contract in 2009, given the economic environment.

The effectiveness of our credit risk management is affected by the quality and scope of information available in Chile.

In assessing customers’ creditworthiness, we rely largely on the credit information available from our own internal databases, the Superintendency of Banks, Dicom (a nationwide credit bureau) and other sources. Due to limitations in the availability of information and the developing information infrastructure in Chile, our assessment of the credit risks associated with a particular customer may not be based on complete, accurate or reliable information. In addition, although we have been improving our credit scoring systems to better assess borrowers’ credit risk profiles, we cannot assure you that our credit scoring systems collect complete or accurate information reflecting the actual behavior of customers or that their credit risk can be assessed correctly. Without complete, accurate and reliable information, we have to rely on other publicly available resources and our internal resources, which may not be effective. As a result, our ability to effectively manage our credit risk may be materially and adversely affected.

Fluctuations in the rate of inflation may affect our results of operations.

Inflation in Chile gained momentum in 2007 and 2008. In 2007 and 2008, inflation reached 7.1% and 7.8%, respectively. High levels of inflation in Chile could adversely affect the Chilean economy and have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations. In 2009, the possibility of a deflationary environment could also have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Our assets and liabilities are denominated in Chilean pesos, UF and foreign currencies. The UF is revalued in monthly cycles. On each day in the period beginning on the tenth day of any given month through the ninth day of the succeeding month, the nominal peso value of the UF is indexed up (or down in the event of deflation) in order to reflect a proportionate amount of the change in the Chilean Consumer Price Index during the prior calendar month. For more information regarding the UF see “Item 5: F. Selected Statistical Information—Average Balance Sheets, Income Earned from Interest-Earning Assets And Interest Paid on Interest Bearing Liabilities.” Although we currently benefit from inflation in Chile, due to the current structure of our assets and liabilities (i.e., a significant portion of our loans are indexed to the inflation rate, but there are no corresponding features in deposits, or other funding sources that would increase the size of our funding base), there can be no assurance that our business, financial condition and result of operations in the future will not be adversely affected by changing levels of inflation, including from extended periods of inflation that adversely affect economic growth or periods of deflation.

Our results of operations are affected by interest rate volatility.

Our results of operations depend to a great extent on our net interest revenue. In 2008, net interest revenue represented 73.3% of our operating revenue. Changes in market interest rates could affect the interest rates earned on our interest-earning assets differently from the interest rates paid on our interest-bearing liabilities leading to a reduction in our net interest revenue or result in a decrease in customer's demand for our loan or deposit products. Interest rates are highly sensitive to many factors beyond our control, including the reserve policies of the Central Bank, deregulation of the financial sector in Chile, domestic and international economic and political conditions and other factors. In the current economic climate, there is a greater degree of uncertainty and unpredictability in the policy decisions and the setting of interest rates by the Central Bank. Any changes in interest rates could adversely affect our business, our future financial performance and the price of our securities. The following table shows the yields on the Chilean government's 90-day notes as reported by the Central Bank of Chile at year-end 2004 – 2008 and up to May 2009.

Year	Period-end 90 day note (%)
2004	2.32
2005	4.75
2006	5.10
2007	6.15
2008	8.18
May 2009	1.20

Source: Central Bank.

Since our principal sources of funds are short-term deposits, a sudden shortage of funds could cause an increase in costs of funding and an adverse effect on our revenues.

Customer deposits are our primary source of funding. At December 31, 2008, 87.4% of our customer deposits had remaining maturities of one year or less, or were payable on demand. A significant portion of our assets have longer maturities, resulting in a mismatch between the maturities of liabilities and the maturities of assets. If a substantial number of our depositors withdraw their demand deposits or do not roll over their time deposits upon maturity, our liquidity position, results of operations and financial condition may be materially and adversely affected. We cannot assure you that in the event of a sudden or unexpected shortage of funds in the banking system, any money markets in which we operate will be able to maintain levels of funding without incurring high funding costs or the liquidation of certain assets. If this were to happen, our results of operations and financial condition may be materially and adversely affected.

The legal restrictions on the exposure of Chilean pension funds may affect our access to funding.

Chilean regulations impose restrictions on the share of assets that a Chilean pension fund management company (*Administrador de Fondos de Pension*, an "AFP") may allocate to a single issuer, which is currently 7% per fund managed by an AFP (including any securities issued by the issuer and any bank deposits with the issuer). If the exposure of an AFP to a single issuer exceeds the 7% limit, the AFP is required to reduce its exposure below the limit within three years. At December 31, 2008, the aggregate exposure of AFPs to us was approximately US\$4.4 billion or 5.5% of their total assets. If the exposure of any AFP to us exceeds the regulatory limit, we would need to seek alternative sources of funding, which could be more expensive and, as a consequence, may have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

Pension funds must also comply with other investment limits. Recently approved legislation in Chile (*Reformas al Mercado de Capitales II* (also known as MK2) relaxed the limits on making investments abroad in order to permit pension funds to further diversify their investment portfolios. As of December 31, 2008, the limit on making investments abroad was 50%. In 2009, this limit will gradually increase to 60% and in 2011 it will reach 80%. As a result, pension funds may change the composition of their portfolios, including reducing their deposits with local banks. At December 31, 2008, 29.0% of the Bank's time deposits were from AFPs. Although the legislation referred to above is intended to promote a gradual relaxation of the investment limits, and we may be able to substitute the reduced institutional funds with retail deposits, there can be no assurance that this occurrence will not have a material adverse impact on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

We may be unable to meet requirements relating to capital adequacy.

Chilean banks are required by the General Banking Law to maintain regulatory capital of at least 8% of risk-weighted assets, net of required loan loss allowance and deductions, and paid in capital and reserves ("basic capital") of at least 3% of our total assets, net of required loan loss allowances. As a result of the merger between Old Santander-Chile and Santiago, we are required to maintain a minimum regulatory capital to risk-weighted assets ratio of 11%. At December 31, 2008, the ratio of our basic capital to total assets, net of loan loss allowance, was 7.2%, and the ratio of our regulatory capital to risk-weighted assets, net of loan loss allowance and deductions, was 13.8%. Certain developments could affect our ability to continue to satisfy the current capital adequacy requirements applicable to us, including:

- the increase of risk-weighted assets as a result of the expansion of our business;
- the failure to increase our capital correspondingly;
- losses resulting from a deterioration in our asset quality;
- declines in the value of our investment instrument portfolio;
- changes in accounting rules;
- and changes in the guidelines regarding the calculation of the capital adequacy ratios of banks in Chile.

On January 30, 2009, the Superintendency of Banks issued Circular No. 3,465 that modified the guidelines for risk weighting derivatives. If the Bank has a net liability in a derivative position and if this derivative, under certain stress and volatility measures, becomes a net asset position, then the Bank must also include this derivative as a risk weighted asset and this should have an adverse impact on regulatory capital ratios. In 2009, the adoption of accounting standards in line with International Accounting Standards will also have an impact on the level of the Bank's restated shareholders' equity and capitalization levels. The main impacts are the elimination of the price level restatement of capital and the revaluation of fixed assets. In 2010, the Chilean banks will most likely adopt the guidelines set forth under Basel II with adjustments incorporated by the Superintendency of Banks. This should result in a different level of minimum capital required to be maintained by the Bank. No assurance can be given that these events will not have a material impact on the Bank's capitalization ratio.

We may also be required to raise additional capital in the future in order to maintain our capital adequacy ratios above the minimum required levels. Our ability to raise additional capital may be limited by numerous factors, including: our future financial condition, results of operations and cash flows; any necessary government regulatory approvals; our credit ratings; general market conditions for capital raising activities by commercial banks and other financial institutions; and domestic and international economic, political and other conditions.

If we require additional capital in the future, we cannot assure you that we will be able to obtain such capital on favorable terms, in a timely manner or at all. Furthermore, the Superintendency of Banks may increase the minimum capital adequacy requirements applicable to us. Accordingly, although we currently meet the applicable capital adequacy requirements, we may face difficulties in meeting these requirements in the future. If we fail to meet the capital adequacy requirements, we may be required to take corrective actions. These measures could materially and adversely affect our business reputation, financial condition and results of operations. In addition, if we are unable to raise sufficient capital in a timely manner, the growth of our loan portfolio and other risk weighted assets may be restricted, and we may face significant challenges in implementing our business strategy. As a result, our prospects, results of operations and financial condition could be materially and adversely affected.

Our business is highly dependant on proper functioning and improvement of information technology systems.

Our business is highly dependant on the ability of our information technology systems to accurately process a large number of transactions across numerous and diverse markets and products in a timely manner. The proper functioning of our financial control, risk management, accounting, customer service and other data processing systems is critical to our business and our ability to compete effectively. We have backup data for our key data processing systems that could be used in the event of a catastrophe or a failure of our primary systems, and have established alternative communication networks where available. However, we do not operate all of our redundant systems on a real time basis and cannot assure you that our business activities would not be materially disrupted if

there were a partial or complete failure of any of these primary information technology systems or communication networks. Such failures could be caused by, among other things, software bugs, computer virus attacks or conversion errors due to system upgrading. In addition, any security breach caused by unauthorized access to information or systems, or intentional malfunctions or loss or corruption of data, software, hardware or other computer equipment, could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

Our ability to remain competitive and achieve further growth will depend in part on our ability to upgrade our information technology systems and increase our capacity on a timely and cost effective basis. Any substantial failure to improve or upgrade information technology systems effectively or on timely basis could materially and adversely affect our competitiveness, results of operations and financial condition.

Operational problems or errors can have a material adverse impact on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Santander-Chile, like all large financial institutions, is exposed to many types of operational risks, including the risk of fraud by employees and outsiders, failure to obtain proper internal authorizations, failure to properly document transactions, equipment failures and errors by employees. Fraud or other misconduct by employees or third parties may be difficult to detect and prevent and could subject us to financial losses and sanctions imposed by governmental authorities as well as seriously harm our reputation. Although Santander-Chile maintains a system of operational controls, there can be no assurance that operational problems or errors will not occur and that their occurrence will not have a material adverse impact on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Banking regulations may restrict our operations and thereby adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations.

We are subject to regulation by the Superintendency of Banks. In addition, we are subject to regulation by the Central Bank with regard to certain matters, including reserve requirements and interest rates and foreign exchange mismatches and market risks. During the Chilean financial crisis of 1982 and 1983, the Central Bank and the Superintendency of Banks strictly controlled the funding, lending and general business matters of the banking industry in Chile.

Pursuant to the *Ley General de Bancos, Decreto con Fuerza de Ley No. 3 de 1997*, or the General Banking Law, all Chilean banks may, subject to the approval of the Superintendency of Banks, engage in certain businesses other than commercial banking depending on the risk associated with such business and the financial strength of the bank. Such additional businesses include securities brokerage, mutual fund management, securitization, insurance brokerage, leasing, factoring, financial advisory, custody and transportation of securities, loan collection and financial services. The General Banking Law also applies to the Chilean banking system a modified version of the capital adequacy guidelines issued by the Basel Committee on Banking Regulation and Supervisory Practices and limits the discretion of the Superintendency of Banks to deny new banking licenses. There can be no assurance that regulators will not in the future impose more restrictive limitations on the activities of banks, including us, than those currently in effect. Any such change could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition or results of operations.

Historically, Chilean banks have not paid interest on amounts deposited in checking accounts. However, since June 1, 2002, the Central Bank has allowed banks to pay interest on checking accounts. Currently, there are no applicable restrictions on the interest that may be paid on checking accounts. We have begun to pay interest on some checking accounts under certain conditions. If competition or other factors lead us to pay higher interest rates on checking accounts, to relax the conditions under which we pay interest or to increase the number of checking accounts on which we pay interest, any such change could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition or results of operations.

We must maintain higher regulatory capital to risk-weighted assets than other banks in Chile. Our required minimum regulatory capital to risk weighted assets ratio is 11%. Although we have not failed in the past to comply with our capital maintenance obligations, there can be no assurance that we will be able to do so in the future.

Beginning January 1, 2009, Chilean banks will adopt accounting standards more congruent with International Accounting Standards and we will be restating 2008 figures under these new accounting principles. Although the

exact impact of this change is still under discussion, there can be no assurance that this will not have a material impact on our financial condition or results of operation.

We are subject to regulatory inspections and examinations.

We are also subject to various inspections, examinations, inquiries, audits and other regulatory requirements by Chilean regulatory authorities. We cannot assure you that we will be able to meet all the applicable regulatory requirements and guidelines, or that we will not be subject to sanctions, fines and other penalties in the future as a result of non compliance. If sanctions, fines and other penalties are imposed on us for failure to comply with applicable requirements, guidelines or regulations, our business, financial condition, results of operations and our reputation and ability to engage in business may be materially and adversely affected.

Risks Relating to Chile

Our growth and profitability depend on the level of economic activity in Chile.

A substantial amount of our loans are to borrowers doing business in Chile. Accordingly, the recoverability of these loans in particular, our ability to increase the amount of loans outstanding and our results of operations and financial condition in general, are dependent to a significant extent on the level of economic activity in Chile. Our results of operations and financial condition could be affected by changes in economic or other policies of the Chilean government, which has exercised and continues to exercise a substantial influence over many aspects of the private sector, or other political or economic developments in Chile. Chile's economy may not continue to grow in the future and future developments could negatively affect Chile's exports and economic activity. In line with the current global economic climate, we expect Chile's economy to contract in 2009 for the first time since 1999. All this may materially and adversely affect our business, financial condition or results of operations.

Economic and political problems encountered by other countries may adversely affect the Chilean economy, our results of operations and the market value of our securities.

The prices of securities issued by Chilean companies, including banks, are to varying degrees influenced by economic and market considerations in other countries. We cannot assure you that future developments in or affecting the Chilean economy, including consequences of economic difficulties in other markets, will not materially and adversely affect our business, financial condition or results of operations. At December 31, 2008, approximately 3.7% of our assets were held abroad.

We are directly exposed to risks related to the weakness and volatility of the economic and political situation in other parts of the world, mainly, the United States, Europe, China, Brazil and Argentina. A significant economic deterioration in one of these countries or regions could result in lower economic growth in Chile, lower loan growth, an increase our loan allowances, and therefore, this could affect our financial results, our results of operations and the price of our securities. The global financial and sub-prime crisis has had a significant impact on the growth rate of the Chilean economy and is expected to continue to negatively impact growth, consumption, unemployment, investment and the price of exports in 2009 and 2010.

Chile is also involved in an international litigation with Peru regarding maritime borders and has other conflict with neighboring countries in the past. We cannot assure you that crisis and political uncertainty in other Latin American countries will not have an adverse effect on Chile, the price of our securities or our business.

Currency fluctuations could adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations and the value of our securities.

Any future changes in the value of the Chilean peso against the U.S. dollar could affect the U.S. dollar value of our securities. The peso has been subject to large devaluations and appreciations in the past and could be subject to significant fluctuations in the future. Our results of operations may be affected by fluctuations in the exchange rates between the peso and the dollar despite our policy and Chilean regulations relating to the general avoidance of material exchange rate exposure. In order to avoid material exchange rate exposure, we enter into forward exchange transactions. The following table shows the value of the Chilean peso relative to the U.S. dollar as reported by the Central Bank at year end for the last four years.

Year	Exchange rate (Ch\$)	Devaluation (Revaluation) (%)
	Year-end	
2004	559.83	(6.6%)
2005	514.21	(8.1%)
2006	534.43	3.9%
2007	495.82	(7.2%)
2008	629.11	26.9%
May 2009	565.72	(10.1%)

Source: Central Bank.

We may decide to change our policy regarding exchange rate exposure. Regulations that limit such exposures may also be amended or eliminated. Greater exchange rate risk will increase our exposure to the devaluation of the peso, and any such devaluation may impair our capacity to service foreign currency obligations and may, therefore, materially and adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations. Notwithstanding the existence of general policies and regulations that limit material exchange rate exposures, the economic policies of the Chilean government and any future fluctuations of the peso against the dollar could affect our financial condition and results of operations.

Furthermore, Chilean trading in the shares underlying our ADSs will be conducted in pesos. Cash distributions with respect to our shares of common stock are received in Chilean pesos by the Depositary, which will then convert such amounts to U.S. dollars at the then prevailing exchange rate for the purpose of making payments in respect of our ADSs. If the value of the Chilean peso falls relative to the U.S. dollar, the dollar value of our ADSs and any distributions to be received by our ADS holders from the Depositary will be reduced.

Chile's banking regulatory and capital markets environment is continually evolving and may change.

Changes in banking regulations may materially and adversely affect the bank's business, financial condition and results of operations. Chilean laws, regulations, policies and interpretations of laws relating to the banking sector and financial institutions are continually evolving and changing. In 2007, regulations governing the Chilean capital markets were approved (*Reformas al Mercado de Capitales II*; also known as MK2). These modifications, among other things, modified certain provisions set forth in the General Banking Law. Under new legislation, the limit in on the amount that a bank is allowed to grant as an unsecured loan to a single individual or entity was increased to 10% of the bank's regulatory capital (and up to 30% of the bank's regulatory capital if any loans granted in excess of the 10% is secured by collateral). Previously, these limits were set at 5% and 25%, respectively. Although any such increase may increase our lending activity, it may also increase the risks associated with the growth of our loan portfolio and increase competition as the number of banks that can compete in the corporate segment increases as they are less constrained by this requirement.

Increased regulation of the financial services industry in Chile could increase our costs and result in lower profits.

As a result of the current financial crisis, there has been an increase in government regulation of the financial services industry in many countries. Such regulation may also be increased in Chile, including the imposition of higher capital requirements, heightened disclosure standards and restrictions on certain types of transaction structures. In addition, novel regulatory proposals abound in the current environment. If enacted, new regulations could require us to inject further capital into our business as well as in businesses we acquire, restrict the type or volume of transactions we enter into, or set limits on or require the modification of rates or fees that we charge on certain loan or other products, any of which could lower the return on our investments, assets and equity. We may also face increased compliance costs and limitations on our ability to pursue certain business opportunities.

A worsening of labor relations in the Chile could impact our business.

As of December 31, 2008, on a consolidated basis we had 9,169 employees of which 45.3% were unionized. In March 2007, a new collective bargaining agreement became effective that will expire on March 1, 2011, but this may be negotiated ahead of schedule with the agreement of management and the union. We generally apply the terms of our collective bargaining agreement to unionized and non-unionized employees. We have traditionally enjoyed good relations with our employees and their unions, but we cannot assure you that in the future a

strengthening of cross-industry labor movements will not materially and adversely affect our business, financial condition or results of operations.

Any downgrading of Chile’s debt credit rating for domestic and international debt and/or our parent company’s ratings by international credit rating agencies may also affect our ratings, our business, our future financial performance, stockholder’s equity and the price of our shares and ADSs.

Our foreign currency deposit ratings are equivalent to the Chilean sovereign ratings. In the case of Moody’s, our senior and subordinated debt denominated in foreign currency pierce the sovereign ceilings. In 2007, Standard and Poor’s improved their ratings for us. In 2007 and March 2009 Moody’s improved their rating for us, but in May 2009, Moody’s placed our foreign currency senior and subordinated bond ratings, local currency deposit ratings and Bank Financial Strength Rating under review for possible downgrade, following a similar action on the ratings of our parent company, Banco Santander Spain. Any adverse revisions to our parent company’s ratings and/or Chile’s credit ratings for domestic and international debt by international rating agencies may adversely affect our ratings, our business, future financial performance, stockholder’s equity and the price of our equity shares and ADSs.

Chile has different corporate disclosure and accounting standards than those you may be familiar with in the United States.

Accounting, financial reporting and securities disclosure requirements in Chile differ from those in the United States. Accordingly, the information about us available to you will not be the same as the information available to shareholders of a U.S. financial institution. There are also material differences between Chilean and U.S. accounting and financial reporting standards. As a result, Chilean financial statements and reported earnings generally differ from those reported based on U.S. accounting and reporting standards. Beginning January 1, 2009, Chilean banks will adopt accounting standards adopted by the Superintendency of Banks, and more congruent with International Accounting Standards.

As a regulated financial institution, we are required to submit to the Superintendency of Banks unaudited unconsolidated balance sheets and income statements, excluding any note disclosure, prepared in accordance with Chilean GAAP and the rules of the Superintendency of Banks on a monthly basis. Such disclosure differs in a number of significant respects from information generally available in the United States with respect to U.S. financial institutions.

The securities laws of Chile, which govern open or publicly listed companies such as us, aims to promote disclosure of all material corporate information to the public. Chilean disclosure requirements, however, differ from those in the United States in some material respects. In addition, although Chilean law imposes restrictions on insider trading and price manipulation, applicable Chilean laws are different from those in the United States and in certain respects the Chilean securities markets are not as highly regulated and supervised as the U.S. securities markets.

Our status as a controlled company and a foreign private issuer exempts us from certain of the corporate governance standards of the New York Stock Exchange (“NYSE”), limiting the protections afforded to investors.

We are a “controlled company” and a “foreign private issuer” within the meaning of the NYSE corporate governance standards. Under the NYSE rules, a controlled company is exempt from certain NYSE corporate governance requirements. In addition, a foreign private issuer may elect to comply with the practice of its home country and not to comply with certain NYSE corporate governance requirements, including the requirements that (1) a majority of the Board of Directors consist of independent directors, (2) a nominating and corporate governance committee be established that is composed entirely of independent directors and has a written charter addressing the committee’s purpose and responsibilities, (3) a compensation committee be established that is composed entirely of independent directors and has a written charter addressing the committee’s purpose and responsibilities and (4) an annual performance evaluation of the nominating and corporate governance and compensation committees be undertaken. We currently use these exemptions and intend to continue using these exemptions. Accordingly, you will not have the same protections afforded to shareholders of companies that are subject to all NYSE corporate governance requirements. For more details on the differences between our corporate governance standards and the NYSE standards, please see “Item 6: C. Board Practices – Summary Comparison of Corporate Governance Standards and NYSE Listed Company Standards.”

Chile imposes controls on foreign investment and repatriation of investments that may affect your investment in, and earnings from, our ADSs.

Equity investments in Chile by persons who are not Chilean residents have generally been subject to various exchange control regulations which restrict the repatriation of the investments and earnings therefrom. In April 2001, the Central Bank eliminated the regulations that affected foreign investors except that investors are still required to provide the Central Bank with information relating to equity investments and conduct such operations within Chile's Formal Exchange Market. The ADSs are subject to a contract, dated May 17, 1994, among the Depositary, us and the Central Bank (the "Foreign Investment Contract") that remains in full force and effect. The ADSs continue to be governed by the provisions of the Foreign Investment Contract subject to the regulations in existence prior to April 2001. The Foreign Investment Contract grants the Depositary and the holders of the ADSs access to the Formal Exchange Market, which permits the Depositary to remit dividends it receives from us to the holders of the ADSs. The Foreign Investment Contract also permits ADS holders to repatriate the proceeds from the sale of shares of our common stock withdrawn from the ADR facility, or that have been received free of payment as a consequence of spin offs, mergers, capital increases, wind ups, share dividends or preemptive rights transfers, enabling them to acquire the foreign currency necessary to repatriate earnings from such investments. Pursuant to Chilean law, the Foreign Investment Contract cannot be amended unilaterally by the Central Bank, and there are judicial precedents (although not binding with respect to future judicial decisions) indicating that contracts of this type may not be abrogated by future legislative changes or resolutions of the Advisory Council of the Central Bank. Holders of shares of our common stock, except for shares of our common stock withdrawn from the ADS facility or received in the manner described above, are not entitled to the benefits of the Foreign Investment Contract, may not have access to the Formal Exchange Market, and may have restrictions on their ability to repatriate investments in shares of our common stock and earnings therefrom.

Holders of ADSs are entitled to receive dividends on the underlying shares to the same extent as the holders of shares. Dividends received by holders of ADSs will be paid net of foreign currency exchange fees and expenses of the Depositary and will be subject to Chilean withholding tax, currently imposed at a rate of 35.0% (subject to credits in certain cases). If for any reason, including changes in Chilean law, the Depositary were unable to convert Chilean pesos to U.S. dollars, investors would receive dividends and other distributions, if any, in Chilean pesos.

We cannot assure you that additional Chilean restrictions applicable to holders of our ADSs, the disposition of the shares underlying them or the repatriation of the proceeds from such disposition or the payment of dividends will not be imposed in the future, nor can we advise you as to the duration or impact of such restrictions if imposed.

ADS holders may not be able to effect service of process on, or enforce judgments or bring original actions against, us, our directors or our executive officers, which may limit the ability of holders of ADSs to seek relief against us.

We are a Chilean corporation. None of our directors are residents of the United States and most of our executive officers reside outside the United States. In addition, a substantial portion of our assets and the assets of our directors and executive officers are located outside the United States. As a result, it may be difficult for ADS holders to effect service of process outside Chile upon us or our directors and executive officers or to bring an action against us or such persons in the United States or Chile to enforce liabilities based on U.S. federal securities laws. It may also be difficult for ADS holders to enforce in the United States or in Chilean courts money judgments obtained in United States courts against us or our directors and executive officers based on civil liability provisions of the U.S. federal securities laws. If a U.S. court grants a final money judgment in an action based on the civil liability provisions of the federal securities laws of the United States, enforceability of this money judgment in Chile will be subject to the obtaining of the relevant "exequatur" (i.e., recognition and enforcement of the foreign judgment) according to Chilean civil procedure law currently in force, and consequently, subject to the satisfaction of certain factors. The most important of these factors are the existence of reciprocity, the absence of a conflicting judgment by a Chilean court relating to the same parties and arising from the same facts and circumstances and the Chilean courts' determination that the U.S. courts had jurisdiction, that process was appropriately served on the defendant and that enforcement would not violate Chilean public policy. Failure to satisfy any of such requirements may result in non-enforcement of your rights.

We cannot assure you of the accuracy or comparability of facts, forecasts and statistics contained in this report with respect to Chile, its economy and global banking industries.

Facts, forecasts and statistics in this document relating to Chile, Chile's economy and Chilean global banking industries, including market share information, are derived from various official and other publicly available sources that we generally believe to be reliable. However, we cannot guarantee the quality and reliability of such official and other sources of materials. In addition, these facts, forecasts and statistics have not been independently verified by us and, therefore, we make no representation as to the accuracy of such facts, forecasts and statistics, which may not be consistent with other information compiled within or outside of Chile and may not be complete or up to date. We have taken reasonable care in reproducing or extracting the information from such sources. However, because of possible flawed or ineffective methodologies underlying the published information or discrepancies between the published information and market practice and other problems, these facts, forecasts or statistics may be inaccurate and may not be comparable from period to period or to facts, forecasts or statistics produced for other economies, and you should not unduly rely upon them.

Risks Relating to our ADSs

There may be a lack of liquidity and market for our shares and ADSs.

Our ADSs are listed and traded on the NYSE. Our common stock is listed and traded on the Santiago Stock Exchange, the Chile Electronic Stock Exchange and the Valparaiso Stock Exchange, which we refer to collectively as the Chilean Stock Exchanges, although the trading market for the common stock is small by international standards. At December 31, 2008, we had 188,446,126,794 shares of common stock outstanding. The Chilean securities markets are substantially smaller, less liquid and more volatile than major securities markets in the United States. According to Article 14 of the *Ley de Mercado de Valores*, *Ley No. 18,045*, or the Chilean Securities Market Law, the *Superintendencia de Valores y Seguros*, or the Superintendency of Securities and Insurance, may suspend the offer, quotation or trading of shares of any company listed on one or more Chilean Stock Exchanges for up to 30 days if, in its opinion, such suspension is necessary to protect investors or is justified for reasons of public interest. Such suspension may be extended for up to 120 days. If, at the expiration of the extension, the circumstances giving rise to the original suspension have not changed, the Superintendency of Securities and Insurance will then cancel the relevant listing in the registry of securities. In addition, the Santiago Stock Exchange may inquire as to any movement in the price of any securities in excess of 10% and suspend trading in such securities for a day if it deems necessary.

Although our common stock is traded on the Chilean Stock Exchanges, there can be no assurance that a liquid trading market for our common stock will continue to exist. Approximately 23.09% of our outstanding common stock is held by the public (i.e., shareholders other than Banco Santander Spain and its affiliates), including our shares that are represented by ADSs trading on the NYSE. A limited trading market in general and our concentrated ownership in particular may impair the ability of an ADS holder to sell in the Chilean market shares of common stock obtained upon withdrawal of such shares from the ADR facility in the amount and at the price and time such holder desires, and could increase the volatility of the price of the ADSs.

You may be unable to exercise preemptive rights.

The *Ley Sobre Sociedades Anónimas*, *Ley No. 18,046* and the *Reglamento de Sociedades Anónimas*, which we refer to collectively as the Chilean Companies Law, and applicable regulations require that whenever we issue new common stock for cash, we grant preemptive rights to all of our shareholders (including holders of ADSs), giving them the right to purchase a sufficient number of shares to maintain their existing ownership percentage. Such an offering would not be possible in the United States unless a registration statement under the U.S. Securities Act of 1933 ("Securities Act"), as amended, were effective with respect to such rights and common stock or an exemption from the registration requirements thereunder were available.

Since we are not obligated to make a registration statement available with respect to such rights and the common stock, you may not be able to exercise your preemptive rights in the United States. If a registration statement is not filed or an applicable exemption is not available under U.S. securities law, the Depositary will sell such holders' preemptive rights and distribute the proceeds thereof if a premium can be recognized over the cost of any such sale.