

## **Atrium European Real Estate Limited**

("Atrium" the "Company" or the "Group")

### **Final results for the full year and fourth quarter 2009**

Jersey, 15 March 2010. Atrium European Real Estate (ATX/EURONEXT: ATRS), one of the leading real estate companies focused on shopping centre investment, management and development in Central and Eastern Europe, announces its results for the twelve months and fourth quarter ended 31 December 2009.

#### **Financial highlights:**

- Net cash from operating activities grew 111% to €64.7 million (December 2008: €30.6 million)
- Operating margin improved to 81.47% over the year compared to 70.95% for 2008, reflecting the significant progress made by the Group's operational efficiency programme
- EBITDA excluding property revaluation and exceptional items increased by 132.8%, or €51.9 million, to €90.9 million (December 2008: €39.1 million, June 2009: €39.7 million)
- Standing investments remained stable for the fourth quarter, but with a slight increase in valuation of €1.1 million to €1.48 billion (December 2008: €1.64 billion), following a devaluation of €272.7 million over the first nine months of 2009
- EPRA NAV and Triple NAV ("NNNAV") per ordinary share were €5.78 (2008: €10.56) and €5.86 (2008: (11.74), respectively
- Net asset value ("NAV") per share was €5.81 (June 2009: €8.97, December 2008: €10.66), impacted by the 155.2 million shares issued during the year
- Gross rental income increased by 10.86% to €148.8 million (December 2008: €134.2 million, June 2009: €74.6 million) while net rental income grew by 27.3% to €121.3 million (December 2008: €95.3 million, June 2009: €58.8 million), as a result of ongoing operational efficiencies over the year
- Like-for-like net rental income increased by 4.5% to €98.6 million (December 2008: €94.4 million, June 2009: €49.8 million), again showing the benefits of improved efficiencies when compared to like-for-like gross rental income which decreased 9.3% to €112.3 million (December 2008: €123.8 million, June 2009: €58.1 million)
- Cash balance of €610.7 million (September 2009: €814.1 million; December 2008: €1.25 billion)
- Borrowings decreased to €658.8 million (December 2008: €1.51 billion, September 2009: €1.07 billion).
- Loss before taxation amounted to €486.6 million (December 2008: €924.4 million), with a loss per share after taxation of €1.83 (December 2008: loss of €3.95)
- Special dividend of €0.50 per ordinary share paid in December 2009
- Initiation of a dividend policy of €0.12 per ordinary share per year, paid quarterly, with €0.03 paid in December 2009
- The Company will pay a €0.03 quarterly dividend on 31 March 2010, with an ex date of 22 March and a record date of 24 March.

## **Operational Highlights:**

- Occupancy remained strong at 93.96% (December 2008: 93.59%)
- Rationalisation of development pipeline, resulting in planned commitments of no more than €10 million across the entire development portfolio
- Completion of dual listing of shares on Euronext in Amsterdam
- Opening of extensions at Militari in Bucharest, Romania and three stand alone boxes in Russia; two in Togliatti and one in Volgograd
- The Atrium board of directors has authorised the repurchase of further notes issued under the Group's guaranteed medium term note programme 2006 (ISIN XS0263871328) as permitted by the terms of the notes. It is intended that repurchases will be made through agents for Atrium and will take place opportunistically as market conditions or circumstances permit in amounts up to in aggregate €100 million nominal and on terms that Atrium determines to be financially appropriate.

**Commenting, Rachel Lavine, Chief Executive Officer of Atrium European Real Estate, said:** "The situation today is very different from what it was a year ago, both from a market perspective and an Atrium standpoint. 2009 was very much about stabilising Atrium and ensuring we were able to extract the full potential from our income producing assets, through improvements in efficiencies and maintaining occupancy. While we believe this year will be a challenging one for retailers and we will continue our efforts to improve occupancy and margin, our main focus for 2010 is on how to achieve growth.

"We have a very strong cash position and maintain our firm belief that, despite its rationalisation, our development and land portfolio is still a key element of Atrium's future growth. Now that much of our in-house improvements have been implemented, our primary aim is to look to enhance growth through the acquisition of income producing, supermarket anchored shopping centres, which fit with our existing portfolio and offer a higher degree of security for income. I believe Atrium is now very well-placed and I am confident about the future."

*A full version of the full year 2009 results can be found on the Atrium page of the Vienna Börse website at <http://en.wienerborse.at/> and on the Company's page of the Euronext Amsterdam website, [www.euronext.com](http://www.euronext.com) or on the Company's website at [www.aere.com](http://www.aere.com).*

## **For further information:**

### **Financial Dynamics:**

Richard Sunderland

Laurence Jones

[Richard.sunderland@fd.com](mailto:Richard.sunderland@fd.com)

+44 (0)20 7831 3113

*Atrium is established as a closed-end investment company domiciled in Jersey. Atrium is registered with the Dutch Authority for the Financial Markets as a collective investment scheme which may offer participations in The Netherlands pursuant to article 2:66 of the Financial Supervision Act (Wet op het financieel toezicht). All investments are subject to risk. Past performance is no guarantee of future returns. The value of investments may fluctuate. Results achieved in the past are no guarantee of future results.*