

CEMEX SAB DE CV
Form 20-F
June 16, 2011
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UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549
FORM 20-F

(Mark One)

REGISTRATION STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(b) OR (g) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

OR

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2010

OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
OR

SHELL COMPANY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
Date of event requiring this shell company report _____

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission file number 1-14946

CEMEX, S.A.B. de C.V.

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

CEMEX PUBLICLY TRADED STOCK CORPORATION WITH VARIABLE CAPITAL

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(Translation of Registrant's name into English)

United Mexican States

(Jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

Avenida Ricardo Margáin Zozaya #325, Colonia Valle del Campestre, Garza García, Nuevo León, México 66265

(Address of principal executive offices)

Ramiro G. Villarreal Morales, (011-5281) 8888-8888, (011-5281) 8888-4399,

Avenida Ricardo Margáin Zozaya #325, Colonia Valle del Campestre, Garza García, Nuevo León, México 66265

(Name, Telephone, E-mail and/or Facsimile number and Address of Company Contact Person)

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Securities registered or to be registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act.

Title of each class	Name of each exchange on which registered
Ordinary Participation Certificates (<i>Certificados de Participación Ordinarios</i>), or CPOs, each CPO representing two Series A shares and one Series B share, traded in the form of American Depositary Shares, or ADSs, each ADS representing ten CPOs.	New York Stock Exchange

Securities registered or to be registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act.

None

(Title of Class)

Securities for which there is a reporting obligation pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Act.

None

(Title of Class)

Indicate the number of outstanding shares of each of the issuer's classes of capital or common stock as of the close of the period covered by the annual report.

9,798,571,935 CPOs

20,043,602,184 Series A shares (including Series A shares underlying CPOs)

10,021,801,092 Series B shares (including Series B shares underlying CPOs)

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes No

If this report is an annual or transition report, indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Yes No

Note: Checking the box above will not relieve any registrant required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 from their obligations under those sections.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). N/A

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, or a non-accelerated filer. See definition of accelerated filer and large accelerated filer in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer Non-accelerated filer

Indicate by check mark which basis of accounting the registrant has used to prepare the financial statements included in this filing:

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U.S. GAAP

International Financial Reporting Standards as issued

Other

by the International Accounting Standards Board

If Other has been checked in response to the previous question, indicate by check mark which financial statement item the registrant has elected to follow. Item 17 Item 18

If this is an annual report, indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes No

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INTRODUCTION

CEMEX, S.A.B. de C.V. is incorporated as a publicly traded stock corporation with variable capital (*sociedad anónima bursátil de capital variable*) organized under the laws of the United Mexican States, or Mexico. Except as the context otherwise may require, references in this annual report to CEMEX, we, us or our refer to CEMEX, S.A.B. de C.V. and its consolidated entities. See note 2 to our consolidated financial statements included elsewhere in this annual report.

PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Our consolidated financial statements included elsewhere in this annual report have been prepared in accordance with Mexican Financial Reporting Standards, or MFRS, which differ in significant respects from generally accepted accounting principles in the United States, or U.S. GAAP. Beginning on January 1, 2008, according to MFRS B-10, *Inflation Effects* (MFRS B-10) inflationary accounting is only applied in a high-inflation environment, defined by MFRS B-10 as existing when the cumulative inflation for the preceding three years equals or exceeds 26%. Until December 31, 2007, inflationary accounting was applied to both CEMEX, S.A.B. de C.V. and all of its subsidiaries regardless of the inflation level of their respective countries. Beginning in 2008, only the financial statements of those subsidiaries whose functional currency corresponds to a country under high inflation are restated to take account of inflation. Designation of a country as a high or low inflation environment takes place at the end of each year, and inflation is applied or suspended prospectively. In 2008, only the financial statements of our subsidiaries in Costa Rica and Venezuela were restated. In 2009, we restated the financial statements of our subsidiaries in Egypt, Nicaragua, Latvia and Costa Rica. In 2010, we restated the financial statements of our subsidiaries in Egypt, Nicaragua and Costa Rica.

Beginning in 2008, MFRS B-10 eliminated the restatement of the financial statements for the period as well as the comparative financial statements for prior periods into constant values as of the date of the most recent balance sheet. Likewise, beginning in 2008, the amounts of the statement of operations, statement of cash flows and statement of changes in stockholders' equity are presented in nominal values; meanwhile, pursuant to MFRS B-10, amounts of financial statements for prior years are presented in constant Pesos as of December 31, 2007, the date in which inflationary accounting ceased to be generally applied.

Until December 31, 2007, the restatement factors applied to our consolidated financial statements of prior periods were calculated using the weighted average inflation and the fluctuation in the exchange rate of each country in which CEMEX operates relative to the Mexican Peso, weighted according to the proportion that our assets in each country represent of our total assets. Also, see note 24A to our consolidated financial statements for a description of the principal differences between MFRS and U.S. GAAP as they relate to us. Non-Peso amounts included in the financial statements are first translated into Dollar amounts, in each case at a commercially available or an official government exchange rate for the relevant period or date, as applicable, and those Dollar amounts are then translated into Peso amounts at the CEMEX accounting rate, described under Item 3 Key Information Mexican Peso Exchange Rates, as of the relevant period or date, as applicable.

References in this annual report to U.S.\$ and Dollars are to U.S. Dollars, references to € are to Euros, references to £ and Pounds are to British Pounds, references to ¥ and Yen are to Japanese Yen, and, unless otherwise indicated, references to Ps, Mexican Pesos and Pesos are to Mexican Pesos. References to billion means one thousand million. The Dollar amounts provided below, unless otherwise indicated elsewhere in this annual report, are translations of Peso amounts at an exchange rate of Ps12.36 to U.S.\$1.00, the CEMEX accounting rate as of December 31, 2010. However, in the case of transactions conducted in Dollars, we have presented the Dollar amount of the transaction and the corresponding Peso amount that is presented in our consolidated financial statements. These translations have been prepared solely for the convenience of the reader and should not be construed as representations that the Peso amounts actually represent those Dollar amounts or could be converted into Dollars at the rate indicated. From December 31, 2010 through June 10, 2011, the Peso appreciated by 4% against the Dollar, based on the noon buying rate for Pesos. See Item 3 Key Information Selected Consolidated Financial Information.

The noon buying rate for Pesos on December 31, 2010 was Ps12.38 to U.S.\$1.00 and on June 10, 2011 was Ps11.87 to U.S.\$1.00.

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See Item 5 Operating and Financial Review and Prospects Status of our IFRS Migration Process.

PART I**Item 1 - Identity of Directors, Senior Management and Advisors**

Not applicable.

Item 2 - Offer Statistics and Expected Timetable

Not applicable.

Item 3 - Key Information**Summary of Our Recent Financial History**

As of December 31, 2008, we had approximately Ps258.1 billion (U.S.\$18.8 billion) of total debt, not including approximately Ps41.5 billion (U.S.\$3.0 billion) of Perpetual Debentures (as defined below), which are not accounted for as debt under MFRS but are considered to be debt for purposes of U.S. GAAP. Most of our outstanding debt as of December 31, 2008 had been incurred to finance our acquisitions, including the acquisition of Rinker Group Limited, or Rinker, in 2007, and our capital expenditure programs. The acquisition of Rinker substantially increased our exposure in the United States, which in recent years has been experiencing a sharp and prolonged downturn in the housing and construction sectors. The downturn in the United States has had adverse effects on our U.S. operations, making it more difficult for us to achieve our goal of decreasing our acquisition-related leverage and, given extremely tight credit markets during the height of the economic crisis, made it increasingly difficult for us to refinance our acquisition-related debt. Nonetheless, after long negotiations, on August 14, 2009 we reached a comprehensive financing agreement with our major creditors, as subsequently amended, the Financing Agreement. The Financing Agreement extended the maturities of approximately U.S.\$15.1 billion in syndicated and bilateral bank facilities and private placement obligations. As part of the Financing Agreement, we pledged or transferred to a trustee under a security trust substantially all the shares of CEMEX México, S.A. de C.V., or CEMEX México, Centro Distribuidor de Cemento, S.A. de C.V., Mexcement Holdings, S.A. de C.V., Corporación Gouda, S.A. de C.V., CEMEX Trademarks Holding Ltd., New Sunward Holding B.V., or New Sunward, and CEMEX España, S.A., or CEMEX España, as collateral (the Collateral) and all proceeds of such Collateral, to secure our payment obligations under the Financing Agreement and under several other financing arrangements for the benefit of the participating creditors and holders of debt and other obligations that benefit from provisions in their instruments requiring that their obligations be equally and ratably secured. These subsidiaries collectively own, directly or indirectly, substantially all our operations worldwide.

Since the signing of the Financing Agreement, we have completed a number of capital markets transactions and asset disposals, the majority of the proceeds of which have been used to reduce the amounts outstanding under the Financing Agreement, to pay other debt not subject to the Financing Agreement and also to improve our liquidity position. In 2009 and 2010, such capital market transactions consisted of (i) a global offering of 1,495 million CPOs, directly or in the form of ADSs, for approximately U.S.\$1.8 billion in net proceeds in September 2009; (ii) the issuance of approximately Ps4.1 billion (approximately U.S.\$315 million) in mandatory convertible securities (the Mandatory Convertible Securities), in exchange for promissory notes previously issued by CEMEX, S.A.B. de C.V. in the Mexican capital markets (*Certificados Bursátiles*), or CBs, in December 2009; (iii) CEMEX Finance LLC's issuance of U.S.\$1,250 million aggregate principal amount of its 9.50% Senior Secured Notes due 2016 (the 9.50% Dollar-denominated Notes), and 350 million aggregate principal amount of its 9.625% Senior Secured Notes due 2017 (the 9.625% Euro-denominated Notes) in December 2009, and CEMEX Finance LLC's issuance of an additional U.S.\$500 million aggregate principal amount of the 9.50% Dollar-denominated Notes (together with the 9.50% Dollar-denominated Notes and the 9.625% Euro-denominated Notes, the December 2009 Notes) in January 2010; (iv) the issuance of our 4.875% Convertible Subordinated Notes due 2015 (the 2010 Optional Convertible Subordinated Notes) in March 2010; (v) CEMEX España, Luxembourg branch's issuance of U.S.\$1,067,665,000 aggregate principal amount of its 9.25% Senior Secured Notes due 2020 (the 9.25% Dollar-denominated Notes) and 115,346,000 aggregate principal amount of its 8.875% Senior

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Secured Notes due 2017 (the 8.875% Euro-denominated Notes and, together with the 9.25% Dollar-denominated Notes, the May 2010 Notes), in exchange for Dollar-denominated 6.196% fixed-to-floating rate callable perpetual debentures (the 6.196% Perpetual Debentures), Dollar-denominated 6.640% fixed-to-floating rate callable perpetual debentures (the 6.640% Perpetual Debentures), Dollar-denominated 6.722% fixed-to-floating rate callable perpetual debentures (the 6.722% Perpetual Debentures) and Euro-denominated 6.277% fixed-to-floating rate callable perpetual debentures (the 6.277% Perpetual Debentures and, together with the 6.196% Perpetual Debentures, the 6.640% Perpetual Debentures and the 6.722% Perpetual Debentures, the Perpetual Debentures), pursuant to a private placement exchange offer and consent solicitation (the 2010 Exchange Offer) directed to the holders of Perpetual Debentures in May 2010; and (vi) an early cash payment of approximately Ps4.0 billion (approximately U.S.\$330 million) in long-term CBs following a public tender offer and the exercise of a call option in June 2010. For a more detailed description of these transactions, see Item 5 Operating and Financial Review and Prospects Summary of Material Contractual Obligations and Commercial Commitments.

As a result of the foregoing transactions, sales of assets, debt repayments and other activities, as of December 31, 2010, we had approximately Ps202,818 million (U.S.\$16,409 million) of total debt, not including approximately Ps16,310 million (U.S.\$1,320 million) of Perpetual Debentures, which are not accounted for as debt under MFRS but are considered to be debt for purposes of U.S. GAAP. In addition, as of December 31, 2010, we had reduced debt outstanding under the Financing Agreement by approximately U.S.\$5.3 billion, or 35.4% of the original U.S.\$15.1 billion principal amount.

Since the beginning of 2011, we have engaged in a number of significant financing transactions designed to lengthen our average debt maturities and improve our balance sheet.

On January 11, 2011, we issued U.S.\$1.0 billion aggregate principal amount of our 9.000% Senior Secured Notes due 2018 (the January 2011 Notes) in transactions exempt from registration pursuant to Rule 144A and Regulation S under the Securities Act. The payment of principal, interest and premium, if any, on the January 2011 Notes is fully and unconditionally guaranteed by CEMEX México, New Sunward and CEMEX España. The January 2011 Notes are secured by a first-priority security interest over the Collateral and all proceeds of such Collateral. The net proceeds from the offering, of approximately U.S.\$981 million, were used for general corporate purposes and the repayment of indebtedness, including (i) a prepayment of approximately U.S.\$256 million of CBs that had been due in September 2011, (ii) a prepayment of approximately U.S.\$218 million of CBs that had been due in January 2012, (iii) a prepayment of approximately U.S.\$56 million of CBs that had been due in September 2011, and (iv) a repayment of U.S.\$50 million of indebtedness under the Financing Agreement.

On January 19, 2011, we prepaid approximately U.S.\$256 million of CBs that had been due in September 2011, for which we had created a CB reserve with the proceeds from the offering of the January 2011 Notes. In addition, on January 27, 2011, we prepaid approximately U.S.\$218 million of CBs maturing in January 2012, or the January 2012 CBs, for which we had created a CB reserve with the proceeds from the offering of the January 2011 Notes.

On February 10, 2011, we made a prepayment of U.S.\$50 million to reduce the principal amount due under the Financing Agreement. We made this prepayment with proceeds from the offering of the January 2011 Notes.

On March 4, 2011, we closed a private exchange (the 2011 Private Exchange) of 119,350,000 aggregate principal amount of the 6.277% Perpetual Debentures issued by C-10 EUR Capital (SPV) Limited and held by an investor for U.S.\$125,331,000 aggregate principal amount of new 9.25% Dollar-denominated Notes, issued by CEMEX España, acting through its Luxembourg branch, and guaranteed by CEMEX, S.A.B. de C.V., CEMEX México and New Sunward (the Additional 2020 Notes). As a result of the 2011 Private Exchange, 119,350,000 in aggregate principal amount of the 6.277% Perpetual Debentures were cancelled. The Additional 2020 Notes are secured by a first-priority security interest over the Collateral and all proceeds of such Collateral. The exchange was effected in reliance upon the exemption from U.S. securities law registration provided by Regulation S under the Securities Act.

On March 15, 2011, we closed the offering of U.S.\$977.5 million aggregate principal amount of 3.25% Convertible Subordinated Notes due 2016 (the 2016 Notes) and U.S.\$690 million aggregate principal amount of 3.75% Convertible Subordinated Notes due 2018 (the 2018 Notes and, together with the 2016 Notes, the 2011 Optional Convertible Subordinated Notes), in transactions exempt from registration pursuant to Rule 144A and

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Regulation S under the Securities Act. The aggregate principal amount of the 2011 Optional Convertible Subordinated Notes issued reflects the full exercise of the U.S.\$177.5 million over-allotment option granted to the initial purchasers with respect to the 2016 Notes and the U.S.\$90 million over-allotment option granted to the initial purchasers with respect to the 2018 Notes. We used approximately U.S.\$128 million of the net proceeds from this offering to prepay CBs maturing in March 2012, and approximately U.S.\$1,287 million to repay indebtedness under the Financing Agreement.

In March 2011, we prepaid approximately Ps691 million (approximately U.S.\$56 million based on prevailing exchange rates as of December 31, 2010) of CBs, in connection with a private cash tender offer to holders of CBs in Mexico for up to approximately Ps999 million (approximately U.S.\$81 million based on prevailing exchange rates as of December 31, 2010). After these prepayments, we had approximately Ps308 million (approximately U.S.\$25 million based on prevailing exchange rates as of December 31, 2010) of CBs outstanding, which are due on September 15, 2011.

On April 5, 2011, we closed the offering of U.S.\$800 million aggregate principal amount of Floating Rate Senior Secured Notes due 2015 (the April 2011 Notes) in transactions exempt from registration pursuant to Rule 144A and Regulation S under the Securities Act. The payment of principal, interest and premium, if any, on the April 2011 Notes is fully and unconditionally guaranteed by CEMEX México, New Sunward and CEMEX España. The April 2011 Notes are secured by a first-priority security interest over the Collateral and all proceeds of such Collateral. The net proceeds from the offering, approximately U.S.\$788 million, were used to repay indebtedness under the Financing Agreement. We refer to the December 2009 Notes, the May 2010 Notes, the January 2011 Notes, the Additional 2020 Notes and the April 2011 Notes collectively, as the Senior Secured Notes.

On April 12, 2011, we obtained consents from the required lenders and our major creditors under the Financing Agreement to make certain amendments to the Financing Agreement to allow us to retain funds in the CB reserve from disposal proceeds, permitted fundraisings and cash in hand, to meet CBs maturing in April and September 2012.

We refer to the prepayments of CBs in January and March 2011, the prepayments to the Financing Agreement in February, March and April 2011, and additional repayments of indebtedness of approximately U.S.\$59 million, collectively, as the 2011 Prepayments. For a more detailed description of the transactions completed after December 31, 2010, see Item 5 Operating and Financial Review and Prospects Recent Developments Recent Developments Relating to Our Indebtedness.

As of December 31, 2010, after giving *pro forma* effect to (1) the issuance of the January 2011 Notes, the 2011 Optional Convertible Subordinated Notes and the April 2011 Notes, (2) the 2011 Prepayments and (3) the 2011 Private Exchange, our total debt was approximately Ps208,100 million (U.S.\$16,837 million), not including approximately Ps14,342 million (U.S.\$1,160 million) of Perpetual Debentures, but including our debt not subject to the Financing Agreement, which was approximately Ps115,829 million (U.S.\$9,372 million). Of such *pro forma* total debt amount, approximately Ps1,059 million (U.S.\$86 million) matures during 2011; Ps4,717 million (U.S.\$382 million) matures during 2012; Ps9,283 million (U.S.\$751 million) matures during 2013; Ps99,956 million (U.S.\$8,087 million) matures during 2014; and Ps93,085 million (U.S.\$7,531 million) matures after 2014.

As of December 31, 2010, after giving *pro forma* effect to (1) the issuance of the January 2011 Notes, the 2011 Optional Convertible Subordinated Notes and the April 2011 Notes, and (2) the 2011 Prepayments, the Financing Agreement had the following semi-annual amortization schedule, with a final maturity of approximately U.S.\$6.8 billion on February 14, 2014:

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Repayment Date	Cumulative repayment amount %	Original repayment amount %	Approximate required payment (in millions of Dollars)	
June 2011*	20.69%	1.59%		
December 2011*	33.11%	12.42%		
June 2012*	35.75%	2.64%		
December 2012*	38.39%	2.64%		
June 2013*	46.35%	7.96%		
December 2013	54.31%	7.96%	U.S.\$	696
February 2014	100.00%	45.69%	U.S.\$	6,769

* Repaid in full.

The *pro forma* financial information giving effect to our most significant transactions completed after December 31, 2010 has been included in this annual report for the convenience of the reader.

Risk Factors

Many factors could have an effect on our financial condition, cash flows and results of operations. We are subject to various risks resulting from changing economic, environmental, political, industry, business, financial and climate conditions. The factors we consider most important are described below.

Economic conditions in some of the countries where we operate may adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations.

The economic conditions in some of the countries where we operate have had and may continue to have a material adverse impact on our business, financial condition and results of operations throughout our operations worldwide. Our results of operations are highly dependent on the results of our operating subsidiaries in the U.S., Mexico and Western Europe. Despite some aggressive measures taken by governments and central banks thus far, there is still a significant risk that these measures may not prevent several of the countries where we operate from falling into an even deeper and longer lasting recession. In the construction sector, declines in residential construction in several of our major markets have broadened and intensified in line with the spread and deterioration of the financial crisis. The adjustment process has been more severe in countries that experienced the largest housing market expansion during the years of high credit availability (such as the U.S., Spain, Ireland and the U.K.). Most government sponsored recovery efforts focus on fostering growth in demand from infrastructure projects. The infrastructure plans announced to date by many countries, including the U.S., Mexico and Spain, may not stimulate economic growth or yield the expected results because of delays in implementation and/or bureaucratic issues, among other obstacles. A worsening of the economic crisis or delays in implementing any such plans could adversely affect demand for our products.

In the U.S., the recession was longer and deeper than the previous two recessions during the 1990s and in early 2000, and the economy continues to languish. In December 2010, housing starts, the primary driver of cement demand in the residential sector, reached an annual rate of 586,900, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, which was less than 10% higher than the annual rate of 554,000 in 2009. The timing of a housing recovery remains uncertain given the current market environment, tight credit conditions and housing oversupply. As part of the announced government fiscal stimulus package, the U.S. Congress passed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, which provides approximately U.S.\$85 billion for infrastructure spending. To date, however, spending under this program has not been entirely effective to offset the decline in cement and ready-mix concrete demand as a result of current economic conditions. The uncertain economic environment and tight credit conditions also adversely affected the U.S. industrial and commercial sectors during 2010, with contract awards – a leading indicator of construction activity – declining 17% in 2010 compared to 2009, according to FW Dodge. This combination of factors resulted in the worst decline in sales volumes that we have experienced in the United States in recent history. Our U.S. operations – domestic cement sales volumes were flat and ready-mix concrete sales volumes decreased approximately 7% in 2010 compared to 2009.

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The Mexican economy has also been significantly and adversely affected by the financial crisis. Mexican dependence on the U.S. economy remains very important, and therefore, any downside to the economic outlook in the United States may hinder the recovery in Mexico. The crisis has also adversely affected local credit markets resulting in an increased cost of capital that may negatively impact companies' ability to meet their financial needs. During 2008, the Mexican Peso depreciated by 26% against the Dollar. During 2009 and 2010, the Mexican Peso had a mild recovery, appreciating by approximately 5% and 6%, respectively, against the Dollar. Exchange rate depreciation and/or volatility in the markets would adversely affect our operational and financial results. We cannot be certain that a contraction of Mexican economic output will not take place, which would translate into a more challenging outlook for the construction sector and its impact on cement and concrete consumption. According to the Mexican Statistics Office (*Instituto Nacional de Estadística, Geografía e Informática*, or INEGI), spending on infrastructure-related projects increased approximately 1% for the full year 2010 compared to 2009, and approximately 15% for the full year 2009 compared to 2008. However, we cannot give any assurances that this trend will continue, as the Mexican government's plan to increase infrastructure spending could prove to be, as in other countries, difficult to implement in a timely manner and in the officially announced amounts. As a result of the current economic environment, our domestic cement and ready-mix concrete sales volumes in Mexico decreased approximately 4% in 2010 compared to 2009.

Many Western European countries, including the U.K., France, Spain, Germany and Ireland, have faced difficult economic environments due to the financial crisis and its impact on their economies, including the construction sectors. If this situation were to deteriorate further, our financial condition and results of operations could be further affected. The situation has been more pronounced in those countries with a higher degree of previous market distortions (especially those experiencing real estate bubbles and durable goods overhangs prior to the crisis), such as Spain, or those more exposed to financial turmoil, such as the U.K. According to OFICEMEN, the Spanish cement trade organization, domestic cement demand in Spain declined 15% in 2010 compared to 2009. Our domestic cement and ready-mix concrete sales volumes in Spain decreased approximately 22% and 20%, respectively, in 2010 compared to 2009. In the U.K., according to the British Cement Association, domestic cement demand increased approximately 3% in 2010 compared to 2009. Our domestic cement sales volumes in the U.K. increased approximately 1%, while the ready-mix concrete sales volumes in the U.K. decreased approximately 3% in 2010 compared to 2009. In the construction sector, the residential adjustment could last longer than anticipated, while non-residential construction could experience a sharper decline than expected. Finally, the boost to infrastructure spending that is anticipated as a result of the stimulus packages that have been announced by most European countries could be lower than projected due to bureaucratic hurdles, delays in implementation or funding problems. If these risks materialize, our business, financial condition, and results of operations may be adversely affected. The important trade links with Western Europe make some of the Eastern European countries susceptible to the Western European recession. Large financing needs in these countries pose a significant vulnerability. Central European economies could face delays in implementation of European Union Structural Funds (funds provided by the European Union to member states with lowest national incomes per capita) related projects due to logistical and funding problems, which could have a material adverse effect on cement and/or ready-mix concrete demand. In addition, the current concerns about sovereign debt and the budget deficit levels of Greece, Ireland, Portugal, Spain and several other European Union countries have resulted in increased volatility and risk perception in the financial markets. The plan announced in May 2010 by the European Union and the International Monetary Fund to provide approximately 720 billion to support financial stability in Europe is designed to reduce liquidity risk and debt default probability of any individual European Union member. However, under these and similar plans, fiscal adjustments would need to be implemented in countries with unsustainable fiscal deficits, which likely will lead to a decrease in infrastructure investment in some countries, including Spain, which could have a material adverse effect on cement and/or ready-mix concrete demand and/or would delay any expected economic recovery.

The Central and South American economies also pose a downside risk in terms of overall activity. The financial downturn, lower exports to the U.S. and Europe, lower remittances and lower commodity prices could represent an important risk for the region in the short term. This may translate into greater economic and financial volatility and lower growth rates, which could have a material adverse effect on cement and ready-mix concrete consumption and/or prices. Political or economic volatility in the South American, Central American or the Caribbean countries in which we have operations may also have an impact on cement prices and demand for cement and ready-mix concrete, which could adversely affect our business and results of operations.

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The Asia-Pacific region will likely be affected if the economic landscape further deteriorates. An additional increase in country risk and/or decreased confidence among global investors would also limit capital flows and investments in the Asian region. In the Middle East region, lower oil revenues and tighter credit conditions could moderate economic growth and adversely affect construction investments. Our operations in the United Arab Emirates (the UAE) have been adversely affected by credit concerns and the end of the construction boom. In addition, the accumulated housing overhang, the rapid decline in property values, and the radical change in the international financial situation could prompt a sudden adjustment of the residential markets in some of the countries in the region. The recent political instability in Egypt, which resulted in former President Hosni Mubarak resigning from his post on February 11, 2011, is currently causing a reduction in overall economic activity in Egypt, which is affecting demand for building materials, and interruptions in services, such as banking, which is also having a material adverse effect on our operations in Egypt.

If the economies of the major countries where we operate were to continue to deteriorate and fall into an even deeper and longer lasting recession, or even a depression, our business, financial condition, and results of operations would be adversely affected.

The Financing Agreement contains several restrictions and covenants. Our failure to comply with such restrictions and covenants could have a material adverse effect on us.

The Financing Agreement has required us, beginning June 30, 2010, to comply with several financial ratios and tests, including a consolidated coverage ratio of EBITDA to consolidated interest expense of not less than (i) 1.75:1 for each semi-annual period beginning on June 30, 2010 through the period ending December 31, 2012 and (ii) 2.00:1 for the remaining semi-annual periods to December 31, 2013. In addition, the Financing Agreement allows us a maximum consolidated leverage ratio of total debt (including the perpetual debentures) to EBITDA for each semi-annual period not to exceed 7.75:1 for the period beginning June 30, 2010 and ending June 30, 2011, decreasing to 7.00:1 for the period ending December 31, 2011, and decreasing gradually thereafter for subsequent semi-annual periods to 4.25:1 for the period ending December 31, 2013. Our ability to comply with these ratios may be affected by current economic conditions and high volatility in foreign exchange rates and the financial and capital markets. Pursuant to the Financing Agreement, we (i) were prohibited from making aggregate capital expenditures in excess of U.S.\$700 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 and (ii) are prohibited from making aggregate capital expenditures in excess of U.S.\$800 million for the year ending December 31, 2011 and each year thereafter until the debt under the Financing Agreement has been repaid in full. For the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2010, we recorded U.S.\$636 million and U.S.\$555 million in capital expenditures, respectively.

We are also subject to a number of negative covenants that, among other things, restrict or limit our ability to: (i) create liens; (ii) incur additional debt; (iii) change our business or the business of any obligor or material subsidiary (as defined in the Financing Agreement); (iv) enter into mergers; (v) enter into agreements that restrict our subsidiaries' ability to pay dividends or repay intercompany debt; (vi) acquire assets; (vii) enter into or invest in joint venture agreements; (viii) dispose of certain assets; (ix) grant additional guarantees or indemnities; (x) declare or pay cash dividends or make share redemptions; (xi) issue shares; (xii) enter into certain derivatives transactions; (xiii) exercise any call option in relation to any perpetual bonds we issue unless the exercise of the call options does not have a materially negative impact on our cash flow; and (xiv) transfer assets from subsidiaries or more than 10% of shares in subsidiaries into or out of CEMEX España or its subsidiaries if those assets or subsidiaries are not controlled by CEMEX España or any of its subsidiaries.

The Financing Agreement also contains a number of affirmative covenants that, among other things, require us to provide periodic financial information to our lenders. Pursuant to the Financing Agreement, however, a number of those covenants and restrictions will automatically cease to apply or become less restrictive if (i) we receive an investment-grade rating from two of Standard & Poor's, Moody's Investors Service, Inc. and Fitch Ratings; (ii) we reduce the indebtedness under the Financing Agreement by at least 50.96% (approximately U.S.\$7.6 billion) from the original amount of U.S.\$15 billion; (iii) our consolidated leverage ratio for the two most recently completed semi-annual testing periods is less than or equal to 3.5:1; and (iv) no default under the Financing Agreement is continuing. Restrictions that will cease to apply when we satisfy such conditions include the capital expenditure limitations mentioned above, any applicable margin increases that were due to a failure to meet amortization targets, and several negative covenants, including limitations on our ability to declare or pay cash dividends and distributions to shareholders, limitations on our ability to repay existing financial indebtedness, certain asset sale restrictions, the quarterly cash balance sweep, certain mandatory prepayment provisions, and

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restrictions on exercising call options in relation to any perpetual bonds we issue (provided that participating creditors will continue to receive the benefit of any restrictive covenants that other creditors receive relating to other financial indebtedness of ours in excess of U.S.\$75 million). At such time, several baskets and caps relating to negative covenants will also increase, including permitted financial indebtedness, permitted guarantees and limitations on liens. However, there can be no assurance that we will be able to meet the conditions for these restrictions to cease to apply prior to the final maturity date under the Financing Agreement.

The Financing Agreement contains events of default, some of which may be outside our control. Such events of default include defaults based on (i) non-payment of principal, interest, or fees when due; (ii) material inaccuracy of representations and warranties; (iii) breach of covenants; (iv) bankruptcy or insolvency of CEMEX, any borrower under an existing facility agreement (as defined in the Financing Agreement) or any other of our material subsidiaries (as defined in the Financing Agreement); (v) inability to pay debts as they fall due or by reason of actual financial difficulties, suspension or threatened suspension of payments on debts exceeding U.S.\$50 million or commencement of negotiations to reschedule debt exceeding U.S.\$50 million; (vi) a cross-default in relation to financial indebtedness in excess of U.S.\$50 million; (vii) a change of control with respect to CEMEX; (viii) a change to the ownership of any of our subsidiary obligors under the Financing Agreement, unless the proceeds of such disposal are used to prepay Financing Agreement debt; (ix) enforcement of the share security; (x) final judgments or orders in excess of U.S.\$50 million that are neither discharged nor bonded in full within 60 days thereafter; (xi) any restrictions not already in effect as of August 14, 2009 limiting transfers of foreign exchange by any obligor for purposes of performing material obligations under the Financing Agreement; (xii) any material adverse change arising in the financial condition of CEMEX and each of its subsidiaries, taken as a whole, which more than 66.67% of the participating creditors determine would result in our failure, taken as a whole, to perform payment obligations under the existing facilities or the Financing Agreement; and (xiii) failure to comply with laws or our obligations under the Financing Agreement cease to be legal. If an event of default occurs and is continuing, upon the authorization of 66.67% of the participating creditors, the creditors have the ability to accelerate all outstanding amounts due under the existing facilities. Acceleration is automatic in the case of insolvency.

There can be no assurance that we will be able to comply with the restrictive covenants and limitations contained in the Financing Agreement. Our failure to comply with such covenants and limitations could result in an event of default, which could materially and adversely affect our business and financial condition.

We pledged the capital stock of the subsidiaries that represent substantially all of our business as collateral to secure our payment obligations under the Financing Agreement, the Senior Secured Notes and other financing arrangements.

As part of the Financing Agreement, we pledged or transferred to trustees under security trusts, as collateral, the Collateral and all proceeds of such Collateral to secure our payment obligations under the Financing Agreement and under a number of other financing arrangements for the benefit of the participating creditors and holders of debt and other obligations that benefit from provisions in their instruments requiring that their obligations be equally and ratably secured. The payment of principal, interest and premium, if any, on the Senior Secured Notes are secured by a first-priority security interest over the Collateral and all proceeds of such Collateral. As of December 31, 2010, after giving *pro forma* effect to (1) the issuance of the January 2011 Notes, the 2011 Optional Convertible Subordinated Notes and the April 2011 Notes, (2) the 2011 Prepayments and (3) the 2011 Private Exchange, the Collateral and all proceeds of such Collateral secured (i) Ps163,698 million (U.S.\$13,244 million) aggregate principal amount of debt under the Financing Agreement, the Senior Secured Notes and other financing arrangements, and (ii) Ps14,342 million (U.S.\$1,160 million) aggregate principal amount of dual-currency notes issued in connection with the Perpetual Debentures, which are not accounted for as debt under MFRS but are considered to be debt for purposes of U.S. GAAP. These subsidiaries collectively own, directly or indirectly, substantially all of our operations worldwide. Provided that no default has occurred which is continuing, as defined under the Financing Agreement, the Collateral will be released automatically if we meet specified debt reduction and financial covenant targets.

The interest rate of our debt included in the Financing Agreement may increase if we do not meet certain amortization targets.

Conditional interest rate increases that may occur with respect to our financial indebtedness included in the Financing Agreement could adversely affect our business. In general, our existing bank facilities that are included in

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the Financing Agreement bear interest at a base rate LIBOR or EURIBOR plus, in each case, an applicable margin. The base rates, LIBOR and EURIBOR applicable to our existing bank facilities remain in place, and under the Financing Agreement, the applicable margin for each bank facility is set at 4.5% per annum; however, if we are unable to repay at least 50.96% (approximately U.S.\$7.6 billion) of the aggregate initial exposures of the participating creditors between the closing of the Financing Agreement and December 31, 2011, the applicable margin will increase by 0.5% per annum, starting on January 1, 2012.

As of December 31, 2010, after giving *pro forma* effect to (1) the issuance of the January 2011 Notes, the 2011 Optional Convertible Subordinated Notes and the April 2011 Notes, and (2) the 2011 Prepayments, we had reduced indebtedness under the Financing Agreement by approximately U.S.\$7.5 billion (calculated as prevailing exchange rates on each payment date), thereby avoiding an interest rate increase that otherwise could have been applicable as of December 2010 pursuant to the terms of the Financing Agreement. We need to prepay an additional approximately U.S.\$200 million under the Financing Agreement before December 31, 2011 to avoid an interest rate increase of 0.5% per annum that otherwise would be applicable pursuant to the terms of the Financing Agreement.

The private placement obligations subject to the Financing Agreement bear interest at a rate of 8.91% (except for the private placement obligations denominated in Japanese Yen, which bear a corresponding rate of 6.625%) per annum. The interest rate on such private placement obligations is subject to the same adjustment as described above. An interest rate increase due to a failure to meet amortization targets will cease to apply on the Covenant Reset Date (as defined in the Financing Agreement). There can be no assurance that we will be able to satisfy the requirements necessary to prevent such pricing increase.

We have a substantial amount of debt maturing in the next several years, including a significant portion of debt not subject to the Financing Agreement, which could limit our ability to take advantage of investment opportunities. If we are unable to secure refinancing on favorable terms or at all, we may not be able to comply with our upcoming payment obligations.

As of December 31, 2010, after giving *pro forma* effect to (1) the issuance of the January 2011 Notes, the 2011 Optional Convertible Subordinated Notes and the April 2011 Notes, (2) the 2011 Prepayments and (3) the 2011 Private Exchange, we had approximately Ps208,100 million (U.S.\$16,837 million) of total debt, not including approximately U.S.\$1,160 million (Ps14,342 million) of Perpetual Debentures, which are not accounted for as debt under MFRS but are considered to be debt for purposes of U.S. GAAP, but including our debt subject to the Financing Agreement, which was approximately Ps92,271 million (U.S.\$7,465 million). Of such *pro forma* total debt amount, approximately Ps1,059 million (U.S.\$86 million) matures during 2011; approximately Ps4,717 million (U.S.\$382 million) matures during 2012; approximately Ps9,283 million (U.S.\$751 million) matures during 2013; approximately Ps99,956 million (U.S.\$8,087 million) matures during 2014; and approximately Ps93,085 million (U.S.\$7,531 million) matures after 2014.

Our levels of debt, contractual restrictions, and our need to deleverage may limit our planning flexibility and our ability to react to changes in our business and the industry, and may place us at a competitive disadvantage compared to competitors who may have lower leverage ratios and fewer contractual restrictions. There can also be no assurance that, because of our high leverage ratio and contractual restrictions, we will be able to maintain our operating margins and deliver financial results comparable to the results obtained in the past under similar economic conditions. Further, if we are unable to comply with our upcoming principal maturities under our indebtedness (including the Financing Agreement), or refinance our indebtedness, our debt could be accelerated. Acceleration of our debt would have a material adverse effect on our business and financial condition.

We may not be able to generate sufficient cash to service all of our indebtedness or satisfy our short-term liquidity needs, and we may be forced to take other actions to satisfy our obligations under our indebtedness and our short-term liquidity needs, which may not be successful.

Historically, we have addressed our liquidity needs (including funds required to make scheduled principal and interest payments, refinance debt, and fund working capital and planned capital expenditures) with operating cash flow, borrowings under credit facilities, receivables and inventory financing facilities, proceeds of debt and equity offerings and proceeds from asset sales.

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As of December 31, 2010, we had U.S.\$561 million in outstanding short-term working capital and receivables financing facilities, which consisted of four securitization programs with a combined funded amount of U.S.\$539 million and U.S.\$22 million outstanding in short-term CBs. Our accounts receivable securitization program in Spain, which had a funded amount of U.S.\$117 million as of December 31, 2010, was extended for five years on May 5, 2011 and now expires on May 5, 2016. On May 19, 2010, we entered into a one-year accounts receivable securitization program for our U.S. operations for up to U.S.\$300 million in funded amounts. As of December 31, 2010, we had U.S.\$231 million in funded amounts under this program. On May 17, 2011, we extended this program two years for up to U.S.\$275 million, and it now expires on May 17, 2013. The scheduled maturity for the securitization program in France, which had a funded amount of U.S.\$57 million as of December 31, 2010, has been extended to September 30, 2011. The securitization program in Mexico, which had a funded amount of U.S.\$134 million at December 31, 2010, expires on December 29, 2011, with the first principal payment (equal to approximately 16.66% of the program) due in August 2011 and the remainder in five equal monthly installments through the program's expiration date. We cannot ensure that, going forward, we will be able to roll over or renew these programs, which could adversely affect our liquidity.

The global equity and credit markets in the last few years have experienced significant price volatility, dislocations and liquidity disruptions, which have caused market prices of many stocks to fluctuate substantially and the spreads on prospective and outstanding debt financings to widen considerably. This volatility and illiquidity has materially and adversely affected a broad range of fixed income securities. As a result, the market for fixed income securities has experienced decreased liquidity, increased price volatility, credit downgrade events and increased defaults. Global equity markets have also been experiencing heightened volatility and turmoil, with issuers exposed to the credit markets being most seriously affected. The disruptions in the financial and credit markets may continue to adversely affect our credit rating and the market value of our common stock, our CPOs and our ADSs. If the current pressures on credit continue or worsen, and alternative sources of financing continue to be limited, we may be dependent on the issuance of equity as a source to repay our existing indebtedness, including meeting amortization requirements under the Financing Agreement. Although we have been able to raise debt, equity and equity linked capital following our entry into the Financing Agreement in August 2009, as capital markets recovered, previous conditions in the capital markets in 2008 and 2009 were such that traditional sources of capital were not available to us on reasonable terms or at all. As a result, there is no guarantee that we will be able to successfully raise additional debt or equity capital at all or on terms that are favorable.

The Financing Agreement restricts us from incurring additional debt, subject to a number of exceptions. The debt covenant under the Financing Agreement permits us to incur a liquidity facility or facilities entered into with a participating creditor under the Financing Agreement in an amount not to exceed U.S.\$1.0 billion (of which up to U.S.\$500 million may be secured). In addition, the Financing Agreement requires proceeds from asset disposals, incurrence of debt and issuance of equity, and cash flow to be applied to the prepayments of the exposures of participating creditors subject to our right to retain cash on hand up to U.S.\$650 million, including the amount of undrawn commitments of a permitted liquidity facility or facilities (unless the proceeds are used to refinance existing indebtedness on the terms set forth in the Financing Agreement), and to temporarily reserve proceeds from asset disposals, permitted refinancings and cash on hand, to be applied to the repayment of CBs that are scheduled to mature during 2012.

As a result of the current global economic environment and uncertain market conditions, we may not be able to complete asset divestitures on terms that we find economically attractive or at all.

If the global economic environment deteriorates further and our operating results worsen significantly, if we were unable to complete debt or equity offerings or if our planned divestitures and/or our cash flow or capital resources prove inadequate, we could face liquidity problems and may not be able to comply with our upcoming principal payment maturities under our indebtedness or refinance our indebtedness.

The indentures governing the Senior Secured Notes and the terms of our other indebtedness impose significant operating and financial restrictions, which may prevent us from capitalizing on business opportunities and may impede our ability to refinance our debt and the debt of our subsidiaries.

We have issued a total of U.S.\$4,743 million and 465 million aggregate principal amount of our Senior Secured Notes under the indentures governing the Senior Secured Notes. The indentures governing the Senior Secured Notes and the other instruments governing our consolidated indebtedness impose significant operating and

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financial restrictions on us. These restrictions will limit our ability, among other things, to: (i) incur debt; (ii) pay dividends on stock; (iii) redeem stock or redeem subordinated debt; (iv) make investments; (v) sell assets, including capital stock of subsidiaries; (vi) guarantee indebtedness; (vii) enter into agreements that restrict dividends or other distributions from restricted subsidiaries; (viii) enter into transactions with affiliates; (ix) create or assume liens; (x) engage in mergers or consolidations; and (xi) enter into a sale of all or substantially all of our assets.

These restrictions could limit our ability to seize attractive growth opportunities for our businesses that are currently unforeseeable, particularly if we are unable to incur financing or make investments to take advantage of these opportunities.

These restrictions may significantly impede our ability, and the ability of our subsidiaries, to develop and implement refinancing plans in respect of our debt or the debt of our subsidiaries.

Each of the covenants is subject to a number of important exceptions and qualifications. The breach of any of these covenants could result in a default under the indentures governing the Senior Secured Notes and under other existing debt obligations, as a result of the cross-default provisions contained in the documentation governing such debt obligations. In the event of a default under the indentures governing the Senior Secured Notes, the holders of such Senior Secured Notes could seek to declare all amounts outstanding under such Senior Secured Notes, together with accrued and unpaid interest, if any, to be immediately due and payable. If the indebtedness under the Senior Secured Notes, or certain other existing debt obligations were to be accelerated, we can offer no assurance that our assets would be sufficient to repay in full that indebtedness and our other indebtedness.

Furthermore, upon the occurrence of any event of default under the Financing Agreement, or other credit facilities or any of our other debt, the lenders could elect to declare all amounts outstanding thereunder, together with accrued interest, to be immediately due and payable. If the lenders accelerate payment of those amounts, we can offer no assurance that our assets will be sufficient to repay in full those amounts or to satisfy all of our other liabilities.

In addition, in connection with the entry into new financings or amendments to existing financing arrangements, our and our subsidiaries financial and operational flexibility may be further reduced as a result of more restrictive covenants, requirements for security and other terms that are often imposed on sub-investment grade entities.

Our ability to comply with our debt maturities in 2013 and subsequent years may depend on us making asset sales, and there is no assurance that we will be able to execute such sales on terms favorable to us or at all.

In the short term, we intend to use our capital resources, cash flow from operations, proceeds from capital markets debt and equity offerings and proceeds from the sale of assets to repay debt in order to reduce our leverage, strengthen our capital structure and regain our financial flexibility. Our ability to comply with our payment obligations under the Financing Agreement and other indebtedness may depend in large part on asset sales, and there is no assurance that we will be able to execute such sales on terms favorable to us or at all.

As a result of the restrictions under the Financing Agreement and other debt instruments, the current global economic environment and uncertain market conditions, we may not be able to complete asset divestitures on terms that we find economically attractive or at all. The current volatility of the credit and capital markets can significantly affect us due to the limited availability of funds to potential acquiring parties. The lack of acquisition financing in the current economic environment and existing relatively high levels of indebtedness among many industry peers may likely make it difficult for potential interested acquirers to purchase our assets. In addition, high levels of consolidation in our industry in some jurisdictions may further limit potential assets sales to interested parties due to antitrust considerations. Given market conditions at the time of any future asset sales, we can not assure you that we may not be forced to sell our assets at prices substantially lower than their fair market value.

If we are unable to complete asset divestitures and our cash flow or capital resources prove inadequate, we could face liquidity problems during 2013 and subsequent years and may not be able to comply with payment obligations under our indebtedness.

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We may not be able to realize the expected benefits from acquisitions, some of which may have a material impact on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Our ability to realize the expected benefits from acquisitions depends, in large part, on our ability to integrate acquired operations with our existing operations in a timely and effective manner. These efforts may not be successful. The acquisition of Rinker substantially increased our exposure in the United States, which has been experiencing a prolonged downturn in the housing and construction sectors. The downturn in the United States has had adverse effects on our operations in the U.S., making it more difficult for us to achieve our goal of decreasing our acquisition-related leverage. We also may not be able to achieve all the anticipated cost savings from the Rinker acquisition. Our financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2008 included non-cash charges of approximately U.S.\$1.5 billion for impairment losses in accordance with MFRS, of which approximately U.S.\$1.3 billion related to impairment of goodwill (mainly related to the Rinker acquisition). Considering differences in the measurement of fair value, including the selection of economic variables, as well as the methodology for determining final impairment losses between MFRS and U.S. GAAP, our preliminary impairment losses in 2008 under U.S. GAAP amounted to approximately U.S.\$4.9 billion, including the impairment losses determined under MFRS, of which approximately U.S.\$4.7 billion related to impairment of goodwill. After finalizing our 2008 impairment exercise under U.S. GAAP during 2009, our impairment losses were reduced by approximately U.S.\$71 million. See note 24 to our consolidated financial statements included elsewhere in this annual report.

During the last quarter of 2010, we performed, under MFRS, our annual goodwill impairment test. Based on this analysis, in 2010, we determined an impairment loss of goodwill for approximately Ps189 million (U.S.\$15 million) associated with our reporting unit in Puerto Rico, which we acquired in July 2002, under MFRS. We did not recognize any additional goodwill impairment losses under U.S. GAAP for the year ended December 31, 2010. Although we currently are seeking to dispose of assets to reduce our overall leverage and the Financing Agreement and other debt instruments restrict our ability to acquire assets, we may in the future acquire new operations and integrate such operations into our existing operations, and some of such acquisitions may have a material impact on our business, financial condition and results of operations. We cannot assure you that we will be successful in identifying or acquiring suitable assets in the future. If we fail to achieve the anticipated cost savings from any acquisitions, our business, financial condition and results of operations would be materially and adversely affected.

As a result of the sale of our operations in Australia, for the year ended December 31, 2009, we recognized a loss on sale, net of income tax, and the reclassification of foreign currency translation effects accrued in equity and included under Other comprehensive income, for an aggregate amount of approximately Ps5.9 billion (U.S.\$446 million). This is reflected in a single line item of Discontinued operations. See note 3B to our consolidated financial statements included elsewhere in this annual report.

Our use of derivative financial instruments has negatively affected our operations especially in volatile and uncertain markets.

We have used, and may continue to use, derivative financial instruments to manage the risk profile associated with interest rates and currency exposure of our debt, to reduce our financing costs, to access alternative sources of financing and to hedge some of our financial risks. However, there is no assurance that our use of such instruments will allow us to achieve these objectives due to the inherent risks in any derivatives transaction. For the years ended December 31, 2008, 2009 and 2010, we had net losses of approximately Ps15,172 million (U.S.\$1.4 billion), Ps2,127 million (U.S.\$156 million) and Ps956 million (U.S.\$75 million), respectively, from financial instruments.

The 2008 losses resulted from a variety of factors, including losses related to changes in the fair value of equity derivative instruments attributable to the generalized decline in price levels in the capital markets worldwide and in our own shares, losses related to changes in the fair value of cross-currency swaps and other currency derivatives attributable to the appreciation of the Dollar against the Euro, and losses related to changes in the fair value of interest rate derivatives primarily attributable to the decrease in the five-year interest rates in Euros and Dollars.

During 2009, we reduced the aggregate notional amount of our derivatives, thereby reducing the risk of cash margin calls. This initiative included closing substantially all notional amounts of derivative instruments related to our debt (currency and interest rate derivatives) and the settlement of our inactive derivative financial instruments,

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which we finalized during April 2009. The Financing Agreement and other debt instruments significantly restrict our ability to enter into derivative transactions.

As of December 31, 2010, our derivative financial instruments that had a potential impact on our comprehensive financing result consisted of equity forward contracts on third party shares and equity derivatives under our own shares (including our capped call transactions in connection with the 2010 Optional Convertible Subordinated Notes, which we closed in March 2010), a forward instrument over the Total Return Index of the Mexican Stock Exchange and interest rate derivatives related to energy projects. See note 12C to our consolidated financial statements included elsewhere in this annual report. We have recently entered into capped call transactions with several financial institutions in connection with the issuance of the 2011 Optional Convertible Subordinated Notes. See Item 5 Operating and Financial Review and Prospects Recent Developments Recent Developments Relating to Our Indebtedness.

Most derivative financial instruments are subject to margin calls in case the threshold set by the counterparties is exceeded. If we resume using derivative financing instruments in the future, the cash required to cover margin calls in several scenarios may be substantial and may reduce the funds available to us for our operations or other capital needs. The mark-to-market changes in some of our derivative financial instruments are reflected in our statement of operations, which could introduce volatility in our controlling interest net income and our related ratios. In the current environment, the creditworthiness of our counterparties may deteriorate substantially, preventing them from honoring their obligations to us. We maintain equity derivatives that in a number of scenarios may require us to cover margin calls that could reduce our cash availability. If we resume using derivative financing instruments, or with respect to our outstanding or new equity derivative positions, we may incur net losses from our derivative financial instruments. See Item 5 Operating and Financial Review and Prospects Critical Accounting Policies Derivatives Financial Instruments.

Higher energy and fuel costs may have a material adverse effect on our operating results.

Our operations consume significant amounts of energy and fuel, the cost of which has significantly increased worldwide in 2011 and in recent years. Energy and fuel prices have recently increased and may continue to increase as a result of the political turbulence in Egypt, Libya and other countries in Africa and the Middle East. In an attempt to mitigate high energy and fuel costs and volatility, we have implemented the use of alternative fuels such as tires, biomass and household waste, which is designed to make us less vulnerable to price spikes. We have also implemented technical improvements in several facilities and entered into long-term supply contracts of petcoke and electricity to mitigate price volatility. Despite these measures, we cannot assure you that our operations would not be materially adversely affected in the future if energy and fuel costs increase.

A substantial amount of our total assets consists of intangible assets, including goodwill. We have recognized charges for goodwill impairment in the past, and if market and industry conditions continue to deteriorate further, impairment charges may be recognized. Our charges for impairment may be materially greater under U.S. GAAP than under MFRS.

As of December 31, 2010, approximately 40% of our total assets were intangible assets, of which approximately 69% (Ps142,094 million) corresponded to goodwill related primarily to our acquisitions of RMC Group, p.l.c., or RMC, and Rinker. Goodwill is recognized at the acquisition date based on the preliminary allocation of the purchase price to the fair value of the assets acquired and liabilities assumed. If applicable, goodwill is subsequently adjusted for any correction to the preliminary assessment given to the assets acquired and/or liabilities assumed within the twelve-month period following the purchase date.

Our consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with MFRS, which differ significantly from U.S. GAAP with respect to the methodology used to determine the final impairment loss, when applicable, including the selection of key economic assumptions related to the determination of the discount rates used to assess our assets' fair value. Pursuant to our policy under MFRS, goodwill and other intangible assets of indefinite life are not amortized and are tested for impairment when impairment indicators exist or in the fourth quarter of each year, by determining the value in use of the reporting units to which those intangible assets relate (a reporting unit comprises multiple cash generating units), which is the result of the discounted amount of estimated future cash flows expected to be generated by the reporting units. An impairment loss is recognized under MFRS if the value in use is lower than the net book value of the reporting unit. We determine the discounted amount of

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estimated future cash flows over a period of five years, unless a longer period is justified in a specific country, considering the economic cycle of the reporting units and prevailing industry conditions. Impairment tests are sensitive to the projected future prices of our products, trends in operating expenses, local and international economic trends in the construction industry, as well as the long-term growth expectations in the different markets, among other factors. We use after-tax discount rates, which are applied to after-tax cash flows for each reporting unit. Undiscounted cash flows are significantly sensitive to the growth rates in perpetuity used. Likewise, discounted cash flows are significantly sensitive to the discount rate used. The higher the growth rate in perpetuity applied, the higher the amount obtained of undiscounted future cash flows by reporting unit. Conversely, the higher the discount rate applied, the lower the amount obtained of discounted estimated future cash flows by reporting unit. See note 11B to our consolidated financial statements included elsewhere in this annual report.

During the fourth quarter of 2008, the global economic crisis caused financing scarcity in almost all productive sectors, resulting in a decrease in economic activity in all our markets and a worldwide downturn in macroeconomic indicators. This effect lowered the overall growth expectations within the countries in which we operate, particularly affecting the construction industry due to the cancellation or deferral of several investment projects. These conditions, which constitute an impairment indicator, remained during a significant portion of 2009. During the fourth quarters of 2010, 2009 and 2008, we performed our annual goodwill impairment testing under MFRS. In 2008, our test coincided with the negative economic environment previously described. For the year ended December 31, 2008, we recognized goodwill impairment losses under MFRS of approximately Ps18.3 billion (U.S.\$1.3 billion), of which the impairment corresponding to the United States reporting unit was approximately Ps16.8 billion (U.S.\$1.2 billion). The estimated impairment loss in the United States during 2008 was mainly related to the acquisition of Rinker in 2007 and overall was attributable to the negative economic situation expected in the markets during 2009 and 2010, particularly in the construction industry. For the year ended December 31, 2009, we did not recognize goodwill impairment losses despite the economic conditions prevailing during the year, considering that in such period, the main global stock markets started their stabilization and achieved growth as compared to the closing pricing levels in 2008. Likewise, the reference interest rates at the end of 2009 decreased with respect to their level in 2008 due to an increase in liquidity in the debt and equity markets, which slightly reduced the risk premium in the countries where we operate. These elements jointly generated a decrease in the discount rates in 2009 in comparison with the 2008 discount rates and consequently generated an increase in the value in use of the reporting units. For the year ended December 31, 2010, we recognized a goodwill impairment loss under MFRS of approximately Ps189 million (U.S.\$15 million) associated with our reporting unit in Puerto Rico, which we acquired in July 2002. See notes 11 and 11B to our audited consolidated financial statements included elsewhere in this annual report.

As mentioned above, differences between MFRS and U.S. GAAP with respect to the methodology used to determine the final impairment loss, when applicable, including the selection of key economic assumptions related to the determination of the discount rates used to assess our assets fair value, led to a materially greater impairment loss under U.S. GAAP, as compared to that recognized in our 2008 consolidated financial statements under MFRS. For the year ended December 31, 2008, we recognized goodwill impairment losses under U.S. GAAP of approximately U.S.\$4.7 billion (compared to U.S.\$1.3 billion under MFRS), of which an estimated impairment loss corresponding to the United States reporting unit was recognized for approximately U.S.\$4.5 billion (compared to U.S.\$1.2 billion of goodwill impairment losses recognized under MFRS) related to the completion of the second step required to allocate the fair value of the U.S. reporting unit's net assets. During 2009, we completed our U.S. GAAP analysis in connection with the year 2008 impairment exercise and reduced final impairment losses under U.S. GAAP by approximately U.S.\$71 million. We did not recognize any additional goodwill impairment losses under U.S. GAAP for the year ended December 31, 2010.

Due to the important role that economic factors play in testing goodwill for impairment, a further downturn in the economies where we operate could necessitate new impairment tests and a possible downward readjustment of our goodwill for impairment under both MFRS and U.S. GAAP. Such an impairment test could result in additional impairment charges which could be material to our financial statements.

Our ability to repay debt and pay dividends depends on our subsidiaries' ability to transfer income and dividends to us.

We are a holding company with no significant assets other than the stock of our direct and indirect subsidiaries and our holdings of cash and marketable securities. In general, our ability to repay debt and pay

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dividends depends on the continued transfer to us of dividends and other income from our wholly-owned and non-wholly-owned subsidiaries. The Financing Agreement restricts CEMEX, S.A.B de C.V.'s ability to declare or pay cash dividends.

The ability of our subsidiaries to pay dividends, and make loans and other transfers to us is generally subject to various regulatory, legal and economic limitations. Depending on the jurisdiction of organization of the relevant subsidiary, such limitations may include solvency and legal reserve requirements, dividend payment restrictions based on interim financial results or minimum net worth and withholding taxes on loan interest payments. For example, our subsidiaries in Mexico are subject to Mexican legal requirements, which provide that a corporation may declare and pay dividends only out of the profits reflected in the year-end financial statements that are approved by its stockholders. In addition, such payment can be approved by a subsidiary's stockholders only after the creation of a required legal reserve (equal to one fifth of the relevant company's capital) and satisfaction of losses, if any, incurred by such subsidiary in previous fiscal years.

We may also be subject to exchange controls on remittances by our subsidiaries from time to time in a number of jurisdictions. In addition, our ability to receive funds from these subsidiaries may be restricted by covenants in the debt instruments and other contractual obligations of those entities.

We currently do not expect that existing regulatory, legal and economic restrictions on our subsidiaries' ability to pay dividends and make loans and other transfers to us will negatively affect our ability to meet our cash obligations. However, the jurisdictions of organization of our subsidiaries may impose additional and more restrictive regulatory, legal and/or economic limitations. In addition, our subsidiaries may not be able to generate sufficient income to pay dividends or make loans or other transfers to us in the future. Any material additional future limitations on our subsidiaries could adversely affect our ability to service our debt and meet our other cash obligations.

The instruments governing our debt contain cross-default and cross-acceleration provisions that may cause substantially all of the debt we have issued or incurred to become immediately due and payable as a result of a default under any one of our debt instruments.

Instruments governing our debt contain certain affirmative and negative covenants. Our failure to comply with the obligations contained in indentures or other instruments governing our indebtedness could result in an event of default under the applicable instrument, which could result in the related debt and the debt issued under other instruments becoming immediately due and payable. In such event, we would need to raise funds from alternative sources, which may not be available to us on favorable terms, on a timely basis or at all. Alternatively, such default could require us to sell our assets and otherwise curtail operations in order to pay our creditors.

We are subject to restrictions due to non-controlling interests in our consolidated subsidiaries.

We conduct our business through subsidiaries. In some cases, third-party shareholders hold non-controlling interests in these subsidiaries. Various disadvantages may result from the participation of non-controlling shareholders whose interests may not always coincide with ours. Some of these disadvantages may, among other things, result in our inability to implement organizational efficiencies and transfer cash and assets from one subsidiary to another in order to allocate assets most effectively.

We have to service our Dollar-denominated obligations with revenues generated in Pesos or other currencies, as we do not generate sufficient revenue in Dollars from our operations to service all our Dollar-denominated obligations. This could adversely affect our ability to service our obligations in the event of a devaluation or depreciation in the value of the Peso, or any of the other currencies of the countries in which we operate, compared to the Dollar. In addition, our consolidated reported results and outstanding indebtedness are significantly affected by fluctuations in exchange rates between the Peso and other currencies.

A substantial portion of our outstanding debt is denominated in Dollars. As of December 31, 2010, after giving *pro forma* effect to (1) the issuance of the January 2011 Notes, the 2011 Optional Convertible Subordinated Notes and the April 2011 Notes, (2) the 2011 Prepayments and (3) the 2011 Private Exchange, our Dollar-denominated debt represented approximately 75% of our total debt, not including approximately U.S.\$965 million of Perpetual Debentures. Our Dollar-denominated debt must be serviced with funds generated by our subsidiaries.

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Although the acquisition of Rinker increased our U.S. assets substantially, we nonetheless continue to rely on our non-U.S. assets to generate revenues to service our Dollar-denominated debt. Consequently, we have to use revenues generated in Pesos, Euros or other currencies to service our Dollar-denominated debt. See Item 5 Operating and Financial Review and Prospects Qualitative and Quantitative Market Disclosure Interest Rate Risk, Foreign Currency Risk and Equity Risk Foreign Currency Risk. A devaluation or depreciation in the value of the Peso, Euro, Pound or any of the other currencies of the countries in which we operate, compared to the Dollar, could adversely affect our ability to service our debt. In 2010, Mexico, Spain, the United Kingdom, Germany, France and the Rest of Europe region (which includes our subsidiaries in Ireland, Poland, Croatia, Austria, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Latvia and other assets in the European region), our main non-Dollar-denominated operations, together generated approximately 57% of our total net sales in Peso terms (approximately 23%, 4%, 8%, 7%, 7% and 7%, respectively) before eliminations resulting from consolidation. In 2010, approximately 17% of our net sales in Peso terms were generated in the United States. During 2010, the Peso appreciated approximately 6% against the Dollar, the Euro depreciated approximately 7% against the Dollar and the Pound depreciated approximately 3% against the Dollar. If we enter into future currency hedges in the future, these may not be effective in covering all our currency-related risks. Our consolidated reported results for any period and our outstanding indebtedness as of any date are significantly affected by fluctuations in exchange rates between the Peso and other currencies, as those fluctuations influence the amount of our indebtedness when translated into Pesos and also result in foreign exchange gains and losses as well as gains and losses on derivative contracts we may have entered into to hedge our exchange rate exposure.

In addition, as of December 31, 2010, our Euro denominated debt, after giving *pro forma* effect to (1) the issuance of the January 2011 Notes, the 2011 Optional Convertible Subordinated Notes and the April 2011 Notes, (2) the 2011 Prepayments, and (3) the 2011 Private Exchange, represented approximately 21% of our total debt, not including the 147 million aggregate principal amount of the 6.277% Perpetual Debentures outstanding after the completion of the 2011 Private Exchange.

We are subject to litigation proceedings, including antitrust proceedings, that could harm our business if an unfavorable ruling were to occur.

From time to time, we may become involved in litigation and other legal proceedings relating to claims arising from our operations in the normal course of business. As described in, but not limited to, Item 4 Information on the Company Regulatory Matters and Legal Proceedings of this annual report, we are currently subject to a number of significant legal proceedings, including, but not limited to, tax matters in Mexico, as well as antitrust investigations in Europe and antitrust actions by private parties in Florida. Litigation is subject to inherent uncertainties, and unfavorable rulings may occur. We cannot assure you that these or other legal proceedings will not materially affect our ability to conduct our business in the manner that we expect or otherwise adversely affect us should an unfavorable ruling occur.

Our operations are subject to environmental laws and regulations.

Our operations are subject to a broad range of environmental laws and regulations in each of the jurisdictions in which we operate. The enactment of stricter laws and regulations, or stricter interpretation of existing laws or regulations, may impose new risks or costs on us or result in the need for additional investments in pollution control equipment, which could result in a material decline in our profitability.

In late 2010, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (the EPA) issued the final portland cement national emission standard for hazardous air pollutants under the federal Clean Air Act (Portland Cement NESHAP). This rule requires Portland cement facilities to limit emissions of mercury, total hydrocarbons, hydrochloric acid and particulate matter, and is scheduled to take effect in 2013. The EPA also promulgated New Source Performance Standards (NSPS) for cement plants at the same time. The Company, along with others in its industry, has challenged these rules in administrative and judicial proceedings. It is too soon to predict the outcome of these challenges, although the EPA recently agreed to reconsider certain aspects of the rules. It did not, however, delay implementation of the rules, and it refused to reconsider certain aspects of the rules considered important to us. If the rules take effect as proposed, they could have a material impact on our business or results of operations.

In addition, the Company and others in its industry have challenged the EPA's final emissions standards for commercial and industrial solid waste incinerators (CISWI), which were published in March 2011. The

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challenges assert, among other things, that the rules impermissibly overlap with the Portland Cement NESHAP and create ambiguity with respect to how portland cement kilns will be regulated in the future. If the rules take effect as proposed, they could have a material impact on our business or results of operations. In May 2011, the EPA announced that it will postpone implementation of the standards while it reconsiders portions of the rules and addresses related legal challenges. We cannot predict when the EPA will take action to implement the rules, nor whether the rules will be modified as a result of the pending administrative and judicial proceedings.

The EPA also has proposed regulating Coal Combustion Products (CCPs) generated by electric utilities and independent power producers as a hazardous or special waste under the Resource Conservation And Recovery Act (RCRA). We use CCPs as a raw material in the cement manufacturing process, as well as a supplemental cementitious material, in some of our ready-mix concrete products. It is too early to predict how the EPA will ultimately regulate CCPs, but if CCPs are regulated as a hazardous or special waste in the future, it may result in changes to the mix of our products away from ones that use CCPs as a raw material. Based on current information, we believe, although there can be no assurance, that such matters will not have a material impact on us.

Efforts to address climate change through domestic federal, state and regional laws and regulations, as well as through international agreements and the laws and regulations of other countries, to reduce the emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs) can create risks and uncertainties for our business. This is because the cement manufacturing process requires the combustion of large amounts of fuel and creates carbon dioxide (CO₂) as a by product of the calcination process. Such risks could include costs to purchase allowances or credits to meet GHG emission caps, costs required to provide equipment to reduce emissions to comply with GHG limits or required technological standards, or decreased profits or losses arising from decreased demand for our goods or higher production costs resulting directly or indirectly from the imposition of legislative or regulatory controls.

The EPA has promulgated a series of regulations pertaining to emissions of GHGs from industrial sources. The EPA issued a Mandatory Reporting of GHG Rule, effective December 29, 2009, which requires certain covered sectors, including cement manufacturing, with GHG emissions above an established threshold to inventory and report their GHG emissions annually on a facility-by-facility basis. We are in the process of complying with this regulation, and do not expect a material economic impact on us.

In 2010, EPA issued a final rule that establishes GHG thresholds for the New Source Review Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) and Title V Operating Permit programs. The rule tailors the requirements of these CAA permitting programs to limit which facilities will be required to obtain PSD and Title V permits for GHG. Cement production facilities are included within the categories of facilities required to obtain permits, provided that their GHG emissions exceed the thresholds in the tailoring rule. The PSD program requires new major sources of regulated pollutants and major modifications at existing major sources to secure pre-construction permits, which establish, among other things, limits on pollutants based on Best Available Control Technology (BACT). According to the EPA's rules, stationary sources, such as cement manufacturing, which are already regulated under the PSD program for non-GHG pollutants, would need to apply for a PSD permit as of January 2, 2011, for any GHG emissions increases above 75,000 tons/year of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e). Therefore, new cement plants and existing plants undergoing modification which are major sources for non-GHG pollutants regulated under the Clean Air Act would need to acquire a PSD permit for construction or modification activities that increase CO₂e by 75,000 or more tons/year, and would have to determine and install BACT controls for those emissions. Beginning in July 2011, any new source that emits 100,000 tons/year of CO₂e or any existing source that emits 100,000 tons/year of CO₂e and undergoes modifications that would emit 75,000 tons/year of CO₂e, must comply with PSD obligations. PSD permits can involve significant costs and delay.

In addition, environmental groups have challenged the recently issued NSPS for the cement sector claiming that EPA violated the Clean Air Act by failing to include limits for GHG emission. The costs of future GHG-related regulation of our facilities through these efforts or others could have a material economic impact on our U.S. operations and the U.S. cement manufacturing industry.

On the legislative front, during the past few years, various bills have been introduced in the U.S. Congress seeking to establish caps or other limits on GHG emissions. It is not possible at this time to predict whether any federal climate change legislation may be enacted, what that legislation may provide or whether it may impact existing federal regulations or state laws or regulations on GHG emissions. Therefore, it is not possible at this time to predict how such legislation would impact our U.S. operations. However, any impositions by legislation of

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significant costs or limitations on raw materials, fuel or production, or requirements for reductions of GHG emissions, could have a significant impact on the cement manufacturing industry and a material economic impact on our U.S. operations, including competition from imports in countries where such costs are not imposed on manufacturing.

In addition to pending U.S. federal regulation and legislation, states and regions are establishing or seeking to establish their own programs to reduce GHG emissions, including from manufacturing sectors. For example, California passed AB 32 into law in 2006, which, among other things, seeks a statewide reduction of GHG emissions to 1990 levels by 2020. In December 2008, the California Air Resource Board (CARB) approved a plan to implement AB32, which includes a cap-and-trade program beginning in 2012. The program has been challenged in litigation, but if it takes effect, there can be no assurance that it will not have a material impact on our operations in California.

Also, in 2007, CARB approved a regulation that will require California equipment owners/operators to reduce diesel particulate and nitrogen oxide emissions from in-use off-road diesel equipment and to meet progressively more restrictive emission targets. In 2008, CARB approved a similar regulation for in-use on-road diesel equipment. The emission targets will require us to retrofit our California-based equipment with diesel emission control devices or replace equipment with new engine technology in accordance with certain deadlines, which will result in higher equipment related expenses or capital investments. The company may incur substantial expenditures to comply with these requirements. In December 2010, CARB amended both regulations to grant economic relief to affected fleets by extending certain compliance dates and modifying compliance requirements.

Finally, there are ongoing efforts on the international front to address GHG emissions. We are actively monitoring negotiations of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and we operate in countries that are signatories to the Kyoto Protocol, which establishes GHG emission reduction targets for developed country parties to the protocol, such as the countries of the European Union. Hence, our operations in the United Kingdom, Spain, Germany, Latvia and Poland are subject to binding caps on CO2 emissions imposed by member states of the European Union as a result of the European Commission's directive establishing the European Emissions Trading System (ETS) to implement the Kyoto Protocol. Under this directive, companies receive from the relevant member states set limitations on the levels of CO2 emissions from their industrial facilities. These allowances are tradable so as to enable companies that manage to reduce their emissions to sell their excess allowances to companies that are not reaching their emissions objectives. Failure to meet the emissions caps is subject to significant monetary penalties. For the years 2008 through 2012, the European Commission significantly reduced the overall availability of allowances. In December 2008, the European Commission, Council, and Parliament reached an agreement on a new Directive that will govern emissions trading after 2012. One of the main features of the Directive is that a European-wide benchmark will be used to allocate free allowances among installations in the cement sector according to their historical clinker production. On April 27, 2011, the European Commission adopted a Decision setting out the rules, including benchmarks of GHG emissions performance, to be used by the Member States in calculating the number of allowances to be allocated free annually to industrial sectors, including the cement sector, that are deemed to be exposed to the risk of carbon leakage. Based on the criteria in the Decision, we expect that the aggregate amount of allowances that will be annually allocated for free to CEMEX in Phase III of the ETS (2013-2020) will be sufficient to operate, assuming that the cement industry continues to be considered a trade exposed industry. As a result of continuing uncertainty regarding final allowances, however, it is premature to draw conclusions regarding the overall position of all of our European cement plants. Also, separate cap-and-trade schemes may be adopted in individual countries outside the EU. For example, there is now a trading scheme in place in Croatia.

Under the ETS, we seek to reduce the impact of any excess emissions by either reducing the level of CO2 released in our facilities or by implementing clean development mechanism (CDM) projects under the Kyoto Protocol in emerging markets. We have registered 5 CDM projects. If we are not successful in implementing emission reductions in our facilities or obtaining credits from CDM projects, we may have to purchase a significant amount of allowances in the market, the cost of which may have an impact on our operating results.

Although we monitor other international efforts to regulate GHG emissions carefully, it is more difficult to estimate the potential impact of any international agreements under the UNFCCC or through other international or

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multilateral instruments. A Conference of Parties was held in December 2010 in Cancún, Mexico, but no binding legal agreements were reached there.

In conclusion, given the uncertain nature of the actual or potential statutory and regulatory requirements for GHG emissions at the federal, state, regional and international levels, we cannot predict the impact on our operations or financial condition or make a reasonable estimate of the potential costs to us that may result from such requirements. However, the impact of any such requirements, whether individually or cumulatively, could have a material economic impact on our operations in the United States and in other countries.

In addition to the risks identified above arising from actual or potential statutory and regulatory controls, severe weather, rising seas, higher temperatures and other effects that may be attributable to climate change may impact any manufacturing sector in terms of direct costs (e.g., property damage and disruption to operations) and indirect costs (e.g., disruption to customers and suppliers, higher insurance premiums, potential lawsuits over emissions). Because the impacts of climate change are still subject to scientific debate and the related law is developing, we cannot at this time predict the impact that such matters may have on our future business or operations.

As is the case with other companies in our industry, some of our aggregate products contain varying amounts of crystalline silica, a common mineral. Also, some of our construction and material processing operations release, as dust, crystalline silica that is in the materials being handled. Excessive, prolonged inhalation of very small-sized particles of crystalline silica has allegedly been associated with respiratory disease (including silicosis). Under various laws, we may be subject to claims related to exposure to these or other substances. Based on our past experience, we believe, although there can be no assurance, that such claims will not have a material impact on our business or operations.

Environmental laws and regulations also impose liability and responsibility on present and former owners, operators or users of facilities and sites for hazardous substance contamination at such facilities and third-party disposal sites without regard to causation or knowledge of contamination. We occasionally evaluate various alternatives with respect to our facilities, including possible dispositions or closures. Investigations undertaken in connection with these activities (or ongoing operational or construction activities) may lead to hazardous substance releases or discoveries of historical contamination that must be remediated, and closures of facilities may trigger compliance requirements that are not applicable to operating facilities. While compliance with these laws and regulations has not materially adversely affected our operations in the past, there can be no assurance that these requirements will not change and that compliance will not adversely affect our operations in the future. Furthermore, we cannot provide assurance that existing or future circumstances or developments with respect to contamination will not require us to make significant remediation or restoration expenditures.

We are an international company and are exposed to risks in the countries in which we have significant operations or interests.

We are dependent, in large part, on the economies of the countries in which we market our products. The economies of these countries are in different stages of socioeconomic development. Consequently, like many other companies with significant international operations, we are exposed to risks from changes in foreign currency exchange rates, interest rates, inflation, governmental spending, social instability and other political, economic or social developments that may materially affect our results.

With the acquisitions of RMC in 2005 and Rinker in 2007, our geographic diversity has significantly increased. As of December 31, 2010, we had operations in Mexico, the United States, the United Kingdom, Spain, the Rest of Europe region, South America, Central America and the Caribbean region (which includes our subsidiaries in Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Panama, Nicaragua, Puerto Rico, Guatemala, Argentina and other assets in the Caribbean region), Africa and the Middle East (which includes our subsidiaries in Egypt, the UAE and Israel) and Asia (which includes our subsidiaries in the Philippines, Thailand, Malaysia, Bangladesh and other assets in the Asian region).

We sold our operations in Australia on October 1, 2009. As of December 31, 2010, after eliminations resulting from consolidation, our operations in Mexico represented approximately 12% of our total assets, our operations in the U.S. represented approximately 43% of our total assets, our operations in Spain represented

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approximately 10% of our total assets, our operations in the United Kingdom represented approximately 6% of our total assets, our operations in Germany represented approximately 2% of our total assets, our operations in France represented approximately 3% of our total assets, our operations in the Rest of Europe represented approximately 4% of our total assets, our operations in South America, Central America and the Caribbean represented approximately 6% of our total assets, our operations in Africa and the Middle East represented approximately 3% of our total assets, our operations in Asia represented approximately 2% of our total assets, and our other operations represented approximately 9% of our total assets. For the year ended December 31, 2010, before eliminations resulting from consolidation in Peso terms, our operations in Mexico represented approximately 23% of our net sales, our operations in the U.S. represented approximately 17% of our net sales, our operations in Spain represented approximately 4% of our net sales, our operations in the United Kingdom represented approximately 8% of our net sales, our operations in Germany represented approximately 7% of our net sales, our operations in France represented approximately 7% of our net sales, our operations in the Rest of Europe represented approximately 7% of our net sales, our operations in South America, Central America and the Caribbean represented approximately 11% of our net sales, our operations in Africa and the Middle East represented approximately 8% of our net sales, our operations in Asia represented approximately 3% of our net sales and our other operations represented approximately 5% of our net sales. Adverse economic conditions in any of these countries or regions may produce a negative impact on our net income.

For a geographic breakdown of our net sales for the year ended December 31, 2010, please see [Item 4 Information on the Company Geographic Breakdown of Our 2010 Net Sales](#).

Our operations in South America, Central America and the Caribbean are faced with several risks that are more significant than in other countries. These risks include political instability and economic volatility. For example, on August 18, 2008, Venezuelan officials took physical control of the facilities of CEMEX Venezuela, S.A.C.A., or CEMEX Venezuela, following the issuance on May 27, 2008 of governmental decrees confirming the expropriation of all of CEMEX Venezuela's assets, shares and business. The government of Venezuela has paid no compensation to the CEMEX affiliates, CEMEX Caracas Investments B.V. and CEMEX Caracas II Investments B.V. (together, "CEMEX Caracas"), which held a 75.7% interest in CEMEX Venezuela, or to any other former CEMEX Venezuela shareholder. On October 16, 2008, CEMEX Caracas filed a request for arbitration against the government of Venezuela before the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes, or ICSID, pursuant to the bilateral investment treaty between the Netherlands and Venezuela, seeking relief for the expropriation of their interest in CEMEX Venezuela. The ICSID arbitral tribunal, or ICSID Tribunal, has been constituted, and the arbitration is now in the merits phase, the jurisdiction aspects having been concluded by the issuance of the award discussed below. We are unable at this preliminary stage to estimate the likely range of potential recovery (if any) or to determine what position the government of Venezuela will take in these proceedings, the nature of the award that may be issued by the ICSID Tribunal, and the difficulties of collection of any possible monetary award issued to CEMEX Caracas, among other matters. See [Item 4 Information on the Company Regulatory Matters and Legal Proceedings Other Legal Proceedings Expropriation of CEMEX Venezuela and ICSID Arbitration](#).

Our operations in Africa and the Middle East have experienced instability as a result of, among other things, civil unrest, extremism and the deterioration of general diplomatic relations in the region. There can be no assurance that political turbulence in Egypt, Libya and other countries in Africa and the Middle East will abate in the near future or that neighboring countries will not be drawn into conflicts or experience instability.

In January 2011, protests and demonstrations demanding a regime change began taking place across Egypt, which resulted in former President Hosni Mubarak resigning from his post on February 11, 2011. Subsequently, Mr. Mubarak transferred government powers to the Egyptian Army. The Supreme Council of the Armed Forces of Egypt then issued a statement expressing a commitment to oversee an orderly transition of power by holding elections under a stable environment. Since then, demonstrations and protests have continued to take place across Egypt. Although CEMEX's operations in Egypt have not been immune from disruptions resulting from the turbulence in Egypt, CEMEX continues with its cement production, dispatch and sales activities as of the date of this annual report. Risks to CEMEX's operations in Egypt include a potential reduction in overall economic activity in Egypt, which could affect demand for building materials, and interruptions in services, such as banking, which could have a material adverse effect on our operations in Egypt.

There have been terrorist attacks in countries in which we maintain operations, and ongoing threats of future terrorist attacks. There can be no assurance that there will not be other attacks or threats that will lead to an

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economic contraction or erection of material barriers to trade in any of our markets. An economic contraction in any of our major markets could affect domestic demand for cement and could have a material adverse effect on our operations.

Our operations can be affected by adverse weather conditions.

Construction activity, and thus demand for our products, decreases substantially during periods of cold weather, when it snows or when heavy or sustained rainfalls occur. Consequently, demand for our products is significantly lower during the winter in temperate countries and during the rainy season in tropical countries. Winter weather in our European and North American operations significantly reduces our first quarter sales volumes, and to a lesser extent our fourth quarter sales volumes. Sales volumes in these and similar markets generally increase during the second and third quarters because of normally better weather conditions. However, high levels of rainfall can adversely affect our operations during these periods as well. Such adverse weather conditions can adversely affect our results of operations and profitability if they occur with unusual intensity, during abnormal periods, or last longer than usual in our major markets, especially during peak construction periods.

The Mexican tax consolidation regime may have an adverse effect on cash flow, financial condition and net income.

During November 2009, the Mexican Congress approved a general tax reform, effective as of January 1, 2010. Specifically, the tax reform requires CEMEX, S.A.B. de C.V. to retroactively pay taxes (at current rates) on items in past years that were eliminated in consolidation or that reduced consolidated taxable income (Additional Consolidation Taxes). This tax reform will require CEMEX, S.A.B. de C.V. to pay taxes on certain previously exempt intercompany dividends, certain other special tax items, and operating losses generated by members of the consolidated tax group not recovered by the individual company generating such losses within the succeeding 10-year period, which may have an adverse effect on our cash flow, financial condition and net income. This tax reform also increases the statutory income tax rate from 28% to 30% for the years 2010 to 2012, 29% for 2013, and 28% for 2014 and future years. In 2010, we were required to pay, at the new 30% tax rate, 25% of Additional Consolidation Taxes resulting from eliminating the tax consolidation effects from 1999 to 2004. The remaining 75% is payable as follows: 25% in 2011, 20% in 2012, 15% in 2013 and 15% in 2014.

Additional Consolidation Taxes arising after 2004 will be taken into account in the sixth fiscal year after their occurrence and will be payable over the succeeding five years in the same proportions (25%, 25%, 20%, 15% and 15%). Applicable taxes payable as a result of this tax reform will be increased by inflation adjustments as required by Mexican Income Tax Law (*Ley del Impuesto Sobre la Renta*). In connection with the changes in the tax consolidation regime in Mexico, as of December 31, 2009, we recognized a liability of approximately Ps10.5 billion (U.S.\$799 million), of which approximately Ps8.2 billion (U.S.\$628 million) were recognized under Other non-current assets in connection with the net liability recognized before the new tax law and that we expect to realize in connection with the payment of this tax liability; and approximately Ps2.2 billion (U.S.\$171 million) were recognized under Retained earnings, considering special provisions under MFRS, for the portion, according to the new law, related to: (a) the difference between the sum of the equity of the controlled entities for tax purposes and the equity for tax purposes of the consolidated entity; (b) dividends from the controlled entities for tax purposes to CEMEX, S.A.B. de C.V.; and (c) other transactions among the companies included in the tax consolidation that represented the transfer of resources within such group. In December 2010, the tax authority in Mexico granted us the option to defer the calculation and payment of income taxes, until a subsidiary is disposed of or until CEMEX eliminates the tax consolidation, over the difference between the sum of the equity of the controlled entities for tax purposes and the equity of the consolidated entity for tax purposes. As a result, CEMEX reduced its estimated taxes payable by approximately Ps2,911 million against a credit to Retained earnings. In our U.S. GAAP reconciliation of our 2010 and 2009 financial statements, the approximately income of Ps2.9 billion (U.S.\$236 million) and expense of Ps2.2 billion (U.S.\$171 million), respectively, recognized under Retained earnings under MFRS were reclassified under U.S. GAAP to income tax revenue for the period in 2010 and income tax expense for the period in 2009.

As of December 31, 2010, our estimated payment schedule of remaining taxes payable resulting from changes in the tax consolidation regime was as follows: approximately Ps501 million in 2011, approximately Ps667 million in 2012, approximately Ps667 million in 2013, approximately Ps1.9 billion in 2014 and approximately Ps6.3 billion in 2015 and thereafter. For the year ended December 31, 2010, we paid Ps325 million (U.S.\$26 million) in

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respect of Additional Consolidated Taxes. See notes 2N and 15A to our consolidated financial statements included elsewhere in this annual report.

On February 15, 2010, we filed a constitutional challenge (*juicio de amparo*) against this tax reform. However, we cannot assure you that we will prevail in this constitutional challenge.

It may be difficult to enforce civil liabilities against us or our directors, executive officers and controlling persons.

We are a publicly traded stock corporation with variable capital (*sociedad anónima bursátil de capital variable*) organized under the laws of Mexico. Substantially all of our directors and officers and some of the persons named in this annual report reside in Mexico, and all or a significant portion of the assets of those persons may be, and the majority of our assets are, located outside the United States. As a result, it may not be possible for you to effect service of process within the United States upon such persons or to enforce against them or against us in U.S. courts judgments predicated upon the civil liability provisions of the federal securities laws of the United States. We have been advised by our General Counsel, Lic. Ramiro G. Villarreal, that there is doubt as to the enforceability in Mexico, either in original actions or in actions for enforcement of judgments of U.S. courts, of civil liabilities predicated on the U.S. federal securities laws.

The protections afforded to non-controlling shareholders in Mexico are different from those in the United States and may be more difficult to enforce.

Under Mexican law, the protections afforded to non-controlling shareholders are different from those in the United States. In particular, the legal framework and case law pertaining to disputes between shareholders and us, our directors, our officers or our controlling shareholders, if any, are less developed under Mexican law than under United States law, generally only permits shareholder derivative suits (i.e., suits for our benefit as opposed to the direct benefit of our shareholders) and there are different procedural requirements for bringing shareholder lawsuits, such as shareholder derivative suits, which differ from those you may be familiar with under U.S. and other laws. There is also a substantially less active plaintiffs bar dedicated to the enforcement of shareholders' rights in Mexico than in the United States. As a result, in practice it may be more difficult for our non-controlling shareholders to enforce their rights against us or our directors or controlling shareholders than it would be for shareholders of a United States company.

ADS holders may only vote the Series B shares represented by the CPOs deposited with the ADS depository through the ADS depository and are not entitled to vote the Series A shares represented by the CPOs deposited with the ADS depository or to attend shareholders' meetings.

Under the terms of the ADSs and our by-laws, a holder of an ADS has the right to instruct the ADS depository to exercise voting rights only with respect to Series B shares represented by the CPOs deposited with the depository, but not with respect to the Series A shares represented by the CPOs deposited with the depository. ADS holders will not be able to directly exercise their right to vote unless they withdraw the CPOs underlying their ADSs (and, in the case of non-Mexican holders, even if they do so, they may not vote the Series A shares represented by the CPOs) and may not receive voting materials in time to ensure that they are able to instruct the depository to vote the CPOs underlying their ADSs or receive sufficient notice of a shareholders' meeting to permit them to withdraw their CPOs to allow them to cast their vote with respect to any specific matter. In addition, the depository and its agents may not be able to send out voting instructions on time or carry them out in the manner an ADS holder has instructed. As a result, ADS holders may not be able to exercise their right to vote and they may lack recourse if the CPOs underlying their ADSs are not voted as they requested. In addition, ADS holders are not entitled to attend shareholders' meetings. ADS holders will also not be permitted to vote the CPOs underlying the ADSs directly at a shareholders' meeting or to appoint a proxy to do so without withdrawing the CPOs. If the ADS depository does not receive voting instructions from a holder of ADSs in a timely manner such holder will nevertheless be treated as having instructed the ADS depository to give a proxy to a person we designate to vote the B shares underlying the CPOs represented by the ADSs in his/her discretion. The ADS depository or the custodian for the CPOs on deposit may represent the CPOs at any meeting of holders of CPOs even if no voting instructions have been received. The CPO trustee may represent the A shares and the B shares represented by the CPOs at any meeting of holders of A shares or B shares even if no voting instructions have been received. By so attending, the ADS depository, the

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custodian or the CPO trustee, as applicable, may contribute to the establishment of a quorum at a meeting of holders of CPOs, A shares or B shares, as appropriate.

Preemptive rights may be unavailable to ADS holders.

ADS holders may be unable to exercise preemptive rights granted to our shareholders, in which case ADS holders could be substantially diluted following future equity or equity-linked offerings. Under Mexican law, whenever we issue new shares for payment in cash or in kind, we are generally required to grant preemptive rights to our shareholders, except if the shares are issued in respect of a public offering or if the relevant shares underlie convertible securities. However, ADS holders may not be able to exercise these preemptive rights to acquire new shares unless both the rights and the new shares are registered in the United States or an exemption from registration is available. We cannot assure you that we would file a registration statement in the United States at the time of any rights offering.

Non-Mexicans may not hold our Series A shares directly and must have them held in a trust at all times.

Non-Mexican investors in our CPOs or ADSs may not directly hold the underlying Series A shares, but may hold them indirectly through our CPO trust. Upon the early termination or expiration of the 30-year term of our CPO trust, the underlying Series A shares of our CPOs held by non-Mexican investors must be placed in a new trust similar to the current CPO trust for non-Mexican investors to continue to hold an economic interest in such shares. We cannot assure you that a new trust similar to the CPO trust will be created or that the relevant authorization for the creation of the new trust or the transfers of our Series A shares to such new trust will be obtained. In that event, since non-Mexican holders currently cannot hold Series A shares directly, they may be required to sell all of their Series A shares to a Mexican individual or corporation.

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Mexico has had no exchange control system in place since the dual exchange control system was abolished on November 11, 1991. The Mexican Peso has floated freely in foreign exchange markets since December 1994, when the Mexican Central Bank (*Banco de México*) abandoned its prior policy of having an official devaluation band. Since then, the Peso has been subject to substantial fluctuations in value. The Peso appreciated against the Dollar by approximately 5% in 2005, depreciated against the Dollar by approximately 2%, 1% and 26% in 2006, 2007 and 2008, respectively, appreciated against the Dollar by approximately 5% in 2009, and appreciated against the Dollar by approximately 6% in 2010. These percentages are based on the exchange rate that we use for accounting purposes, or the CEMEX accounting rate. CEMEX accounting rates represent the average of three different exchange rates that are provided to us by Banco Nacional de México, S.A., integrante del Grupo Financiero Banamex, or Banamex. For any given date, the CEMEX accounting rate may differ from the noon buying rate for Pesos in New York City published by the U.S. Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

The following table sets forth, for the periods and dates indicated, the end-of-period, average and high and low points of the CEMEX accounting rate as well as the noon buying rate for Pesos, expressed in Pesos per U.S.\$1.00.

Year ended December 31,	CEMEX Accounting Rate				Noon Buying Rate			
	End of Period	Average(1)	High	Low	End of Period	Average(1)	High	Low
2005	10.62	10.85	11.38	10.42	10.63	10.89	11.41	10.41
2006	10.80	10.91	11.49	10.44	10.80	10.90	11.46	10.43
2007	10.92	10.93	11.07	10.66	10.92	10.93	11.27	10.67
2008	13.74	11.21	13.96	9.87	13.83			