



13 December 2007

Bowleven plc ('Bowleven' or 'the Company')

Operational Update

Bowleven, the African focused oil & gas company listed on AIM, today announces an update on its operations.

This covers:

- Signature of production sharing contract ("PSC") for new blocks onshore Cameroon
- Exploration period on Etinde Permit, Cameroon, extended to September 2009
- Gabon government consent received for farm-out of 50% operated interest in Epaemeno PSC to Addax Petroleum Epaemeno Ltd
- Appointment of joint corporate broker

New licence in onshore Cameroon

The Company's wholly owned subsidiary, Euroil Ltd, has been awarded a new licence in onshore Cameroon. A production sharing contract has been completed for the Bomono Permit, comprising Blocks OLHP-1 and OLHP-2 and extending to approximately 2,328 km² in the Douala/Kribi Campo Basin. The Bomono Permit, which contains numerous active oil seeps, has not been actively explored since the 1980's. The last wells, which were drilled in the 1950's (without the benefit of modern seismic), proved gas and condensate in the Permit, but were unable to address the significant oil potential which the Company believes to be present.

Extension of exploration period on Etinde Permit

The Company has received formal confirmation from the Government of Cameroon that the exploration period for the Etinde Permit in offshore Cameroon has been extended for a further period of 18 months to September 2009.

Gabon government consent received for farm-out of 50% of Epaemeno

Further to the previous announcement of 10 April 2007, the Company has now received formal Gabon government consent for the farm-out of a 50% operated interest in the Epaemeno PSC to Addax Petroleum Epaemeno Ltd. Arrangements are currently being made for the handover of operations to Addax.

Appointment of joint corporate broker

The Company is also pleased to announce that it has appointed Merrill Lynch International as joint corporate broker to work alongside Hoare Govett Limited.

ENQUIRIES

For further information please contact:

Bowleven plc Kevin Hart, Chief Executive Officer	00 44 131 524 5656
Brunswick Group LLP Patrick Handley Deborah Spencer	00 44 207 404 5959
Hoare Govett Limited Andrew Foster	00 44 207 678 8000

Notes to the Editor:

Bowleven is an African focussed oil and gas group, based in Edinburgh and listed on AIM since December 2004.

Bowleven holds, through its wholly-owned subsidiary EurOil Limited, a 100% equity interest in the Etinde Permit area being three shallow water blocks in offshore Cameroon, West Africa; namely Blocks MLHP 5, MLHP 6 and MLHP 7. In total BowLeven has approximately 2,300 km² of exploration acreage located across the Rio del Rey and Douala basins in the Etinde Permit. Bowleven has operated in Cameroon since 1999.

The Cameroon Government has announced a cooperation agreement with the Government of Equatorial Guinea to investigate a project to export gas from Cameroon to the gas liquefaction plant on Bioko Island on Equatorial Guinea. It is proposed that Limbe would be the gathering hub for any such scheme.

Bowleven also holds, through its wholly-owned subsidiary FirstAfrica Oil, a 100% equity interest in the EOv offshore block in Gabon, which contains an existing oil discovery that it is seeking to develop, and, a 50% equity interest in the Epaemeno Block which is approximately 1,340 km² of exploration acreage in onshore Gabon which sits adjacent to a number of recent discoveries in surrounding blocks.