Eni signs MoU for conducting Petroleum Exploration in Block 1

Offshore Bahrain

Manama (Kingdom of Bahrain), 13 January 2019 - A Memorandum of Understanding

(MoU) has been signed today between the National Oil and Gas Authority of the Kingdom

of Bahrain (NOGA) and Eni with the aim to pursue petroleum exploration of Block 1, an

offshore area of over 2,800 km<sup>2</sup> still largely unexplored, located in the northern territorial

waters of the Kingdom of Bahrain with water depth ranging from 10m up to 70m.

The signing took place by H.E. Sh. Mohamed Bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, Minister of Oil of

Bahrain and Chairman of the board of directors in NOGA, and Claudio Descalzi, Chief

Executive Officer of Eni.

H.E. Sh. Mohamed Bin Khalifa Al Khalifa said: "This strategic partnership with Eni is a major

step towards utilizing the Kingdom's offshore natural resources. With this signing, we aim to

hold various discussions to review all relevant aspects of the technical and commercial

terms of the potential exploration and development within a reduced timeframe".

Claudio Descalzi said: "We are delighted with the signing of this agreement and the

opportunity to explore the potential of Block 1. This MoU and the exploration in Block 1 will

allow Eni to start cooperating and investing in a country that was one of the first in the Gulf to

produce oil and which now aims at unveiling its offshore potential. Entering in Bahrain will

enable our company to expand its presence in a key region of the Middle East, in line with

our strategy aimed at diversifying our exploration portfolio across basins with liquid

hydrocarbon potential while keeping high quality stakes throughout the exploration phase".

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