



PRESS RELEASE

city of Almaty

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KASE awards prizes to members of the Exchange, listed companies and media for 2023

On March 12, 2024, Kazakhstan Stock Exchange JSC (hereinafter – the Exchange, KASE) held an annual award ceremony based on the results of 2023: members of the Exchange who achieved the best results in the markets of the Exchange, listed companies for their commitment to transparency, as well as representatives of the mass media – for active coverage of the stock market.

KASE members

Among members of the Exchange, the following joint bookrunners of the public offering (SPO) of common shares of KEGOC JSC were awarded in the nomination "Best underwriter of the year in the equity market" – Halyk Finance JSC, SkyBridge Invest JSC, Freedom Finance JSC, BCC Invest JSC and First Heartland Jusan Invest JSC. As part of the SPO of common shares of KEGOC JSC on KASE, more than 37 thousand orders were executed in the amount of 18.7 billion tenge, which is 82.4 % of the total offering volume.

Freedom Finance JSC, BCC Invest JSC and Halyk Finance JSC were awarded prizes in the category "Best underwriter of the year in the corporate bond market", being the top three in this category in terms of the number of bond issues placed and the volume of raised funds.

In the "Equity market leader" nomination, three KASE members in the "stock" category were recognized as the winners, who completed 2023 with the highest activity coefficients (K_a) in the equity sector: Freedom Finance JSC ($K_a = 3.46$), Halyk Finance JSC ($K_a = 2.19$) and Halyk Bank of Kazakhstan JSC ($K_a = 2.18$). The winners in this nomination, on behalf of their clients, actively conclude transactions in the equity sector with the participation of both sub-accounts and unique omnibus account codes.

Two participants were awarded prizes in the category "Leader of the corporate bond market": Freedom Finance JSC and First Heartland Jusan Invest JSC. Based on results of 2023, the highest ratio in the corporate bond market was shown by Freedom Finance JSC with an activity coefficient of $K_a = 3.80$, second place was taken by First Heartland Jusan Invest JSC with an activity coefficient $K_a = 2.11$.

In the category "Leader of the government securities market" the winners were Freedom Finance JSC and Kaspi Bank JSC – for demonstrating the greatest trading activity with activity coefficients $K_a = 2.92$ and 1.56, respectively.

Based on the results of 2023, the winners in the category "Leader of the foreign currency market" are Citibank Kazakhstan JSC and Bank CenterCredit JSC.

In the nominations "The best market maker of the year in the equity market" and "The best market maker of the year in the corporate bond market", the most active were Freedom Finance JSC, BCC Invest JSC and Halyk Finance JSC. When determining the winners, the following parameters were taken into account: the number of securities for which the companies acted as market makers, the volume and number of market maker transactions.

Freedom Finance JSC and Halyk Bank of Kazakhstan JSC were the winners in the category "The best market maker of the year in the government securities market".

Three participants were awarded in the nomination "For significant contribution to attracting investors": First Heartland Jysan Invest JSC, Halyk Bank of Kazakhstan JSC and Bank CenterCredit JSC. The winners successfully built a system of servicing retail clients through an omnibus account and First Heartland Jysan Invest JSC in 2023 showed the largest increase in the number of subaccounts of retail clients – 138.4 thousand.

SkyBridge Invest JSC and BCC Invest JSC were awarded in the category "The best financial consultant". In 2023, the companies acted as financial consultants for the largest number of issues of new issuers that were listed for the first time on KASE.

Tengri Partners Investment Banking (Kazakhstan) JSC was awarded a prize in the category "Underwriter in the bond market of international financial organizations". During 2023, the company acted as an underwriter for 8 bond issues and conducted placements totaling 143.9 billion tenge (51.4 % of the total placement volume in this sector).

Subsidiary Bank "Bank of China in Kazakhstan" JSC and Commercial and Industrial Bank of China in Almaty JSC were awarded prizes in the nomination "For contribution to the development of the Chinese yuan exchange market". The winners of the nomination are actively developing trade in the Chinese yuan in Kazakhstan and contribute to a gradual increase in the share of exchange transactions with the yuan on the Kazakh foreign exchange market and an increase in the volume of exchange trading.

KEGOC JSC was awarded for the successful implementation of an SPO on the local market. The company raised on KASE 18.7 billion tenge, which is 82.4 % of the total placement volume.

Air Astana JSC was awarded a prize for the successful implementation of the IPO. The company's IPO took place simultaneously on three platforms: Kazakhstan Stock Exchange, LSE and AIX, within which 370 million US dollars were raised, with 58 % raised on the local market.

According to the results of the IPO on KASE, the company executed more than 36 thousand orders at a price of 1,073.83 tenge per share. The total volume of executed orders on KASE amounted to 49.2 billion tenge (equivalent to 108.9 million US dollars), or 76 % of the volume of common shares offered on the local market.

SWF Samruk-Kazyna JSC was awarded a prize for the successful implementation of the IPO/SPO. The fund successfully brought common shares of KEGOC JSC to SPO in 2023 and common shares of Air Astana JSC to IPO in 2024. These IPO/SPO are of great importance for the companies and for the Kazakh stock market as a whole.

BRBAPK LLP, Black Biotechnology LLP and KazWind Energy LLP were awarded prizes in the nomination "For successful raising of funds using government support instruments". During 2023, with the support of the Ministry of National Economy of the Republic of Kazakhstan, amendments were made to the National Entrepreneurship Development Project for 2021-2025, which provides for subsidies for the coupon rate and bond guarantees (optional). In 2023, the first three issues of bonds with a subsidized coupon rate passed the listing procedure – bonds of BRBAPK LLP, green bonds of KazWindEnergy LLP and Black Biotechnology LLP.

In addition, the Exchange decided to award a prize to MFO "Arnur Credit" LLP, Asian Development Bank, Development Bank of Kazakhstan JSC and MFO OnlineKazFinance JSC in the category "Leader of the ESG bond market". These companies issued "green" and social bonds and passed the listing procedure on KASE during 2023.

KASE-listed companies

Diplomas "For striving for transparency" based on the results of 2023 were awarded to:

- financial sector companies – Halyk Bank of Kazakhstan JSC and Development Bank of Kazakhstan JSC;
- companies of the non-financial sector – KazTransOil JSC, National Company "KazMunayGas" JSC and National Atomic Company "Kazatomprom" JSC.

These companies demonstrate the best practice of disclosing information to investors and building communications with investors using the KASE platform.

Media representatives

Kazakhstan's media were awarded diplomas for active coverage of Kazakhstan's stock market and KASE activities in 2023 and high professionalism in presenting materials in an accessible and interesting format.

Among the media in the nomination "For improving the financial literacy of the population", the best were TV Channel 24.kz (Khabar 24) and the Interfax-Kazakhstan News Agency.

In the nomination "For the most creative approach to coverage of the stock market", the website of the business edition "Kursiv" (kz.kursiv.media) and the Information Agency "Inbusiness.kz" were awarded diplomas.

In the nomination "For the most relevant material about the stock market", the websites Forbes.kz and Exclusive.kz became the winners.

In the nomination "For the most professional coverage of the stock market", the Business Information Center Kapital.kz and the information and analytical portal Business Kazakhstan (DKNews.kz) were awarded diplomas.

The winner in the nomination "For coverage of the stock market in the state language" was the Information Agency BAQ.KZ.

For reference:

Kazakhstan Stock Exchange (KASE) is a leading stock exchange in the Central Asian region. KASE occupies the second place among the CIS exchanges in terms of securities trading volume, and the fourth place in terms of the equity market capitalization among the FEAS exchanges.

It is a universal trading platform for corporate and government securities, bonds of international financial organizations, foreign currencies, transactions of the money market – repo and swap, as well as derivatives.

KASE is a member of the World Federation of Exchanges (WFE), the Federation of Euro-Asian Stock Exchanges (FEAS), the International Association of Exchanges of the Commonwealth of Independent States (MAB CIS), the Global Association of Central Counterparties (CCP Global) and other international and local professional associations, as well as a participant of the UN's Sustainable Stock Exchanges Initiative.

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