

U.S. Investor Website Update

Fitch places major Australian Banks on Rating Watch

On January 31, 2012, ANZ confirmed that Fitch Ratings (Fitch) yesterday placed the ratings for the four major Australian banks, including ANZ, on Rating Watch Negative.

In its statement yesterday, Fitch advised that it expects any potential downgrades of the four major Australian banks' ratings would most likely be limited to one notch, with those entities currently rated at 'AA' most at risk. Prior to this action ANZ's issuer default rating was AA- 'positive outlook'.

A security rating is not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold securities and may be subject to suspension, reduction or withdrawal at any time by an assigning rating agency and any rating should be evaluated independently of any other information.