

**PRESS RELEASE #12**

**MERIDIA CAPITAL'S CHILEAN HOTELS SUFFER NO MAJOR  
LOSSES/DAMAGES AFTER DEVASTATING EARTHQUAKE**

**Barcelona, March 1st, 2010** – An 8.8-magnitude earthquake battered Chile last Saturday at 3:34am local time. This dealt a serious blow to the infrastructure of the country, one of Latin America's most developed and stable countries. According to the U.S. Geological Survey, the earthquake struck 115 km northeast of Concepción at a depth of 35 km. Chile's capital, Santiago, is about 320 km north of the epicentre and was also badly hit. Its international airport was temporarily closed. The Survey said an earthquake of magnitude 8 or over can cause "tremendous damage" although Chile's solid building standards helped.

Meridia Capital Hospitality I ("Meridia Capital") fully owns two properties in Santiago: the Ritz-Carlton and Crowne Plaza hotels. The Ritz-Carlton Hotel, which opened in 2003, is located in Las Condes. It is a 15-store building with 205 rooms. The Crowne Plaza is located in midtown Santiago, the business and cultural centre of the city. The property has 22 floors with 293 rooms. It was built in 1981 and totally refurbished in 2001.

Meridia Capital has announced today that no personal losses were recorded at its properties and that both hotels' guests and employees are fine. Although inevitably there have been some minor breakages of FF&E/crockery, the buildings suffered no major damage and their structure remains intact.

**About Meridia Capital**

Meridia Capital is a private equity group focused on investing in premium hotel properties internationally. The firm owns and asset manages hotels in urban markets which are operated by the world's leading international brands. Meridia Capital Hospitality I is Meridia Capital Partners' first fund and was closed in early 2007 with equity of €150 million. Meridia Capital currently owns various properties in Paris, Santiago (Chile), Sao Paulo (Brazil), Mexico D.F. and Thailand. For further information please visit [www.meridiacapital.com](http://www.meridiacapital.com).

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