Press Release

Kick-off for the *Berlinale Co-Production Market* 2008: Deadline for Submissions November 1, 2007

Experienced producers from around the world may submit their new feature film projects to the 5th *Berlinale Co-Production Market* (February 10-12, 2008) until November 1, 2007.

Projects submitted should be suited for co-production and have budgets ranging between two and ten million euros (for so-called transformation countries, budgets may begin at one million euros); in addition, at least thirty percent of their financing should already be in place. Producers applying should have experience in working on international co-productions.

At the *Berlinale Co-Production Market*, the producers of the selected projects meet with potential co–producers, financial backers, distributors and international sales agents, as well as with representatives from television stations and institutions funding film. If desired by participants, the *Co-Production Market* team can arrange thirty-minute individual meetings. Participants receive their personal schedules upon arrival.

The many opportunities for the 450 participants to communicate with each other, its multifaceted supporting programme with information on current co-production and financing issues, and its concentrated yet relaxed atmosphere have all made the *Berlinale Co-Production Market* an important event for the field over the past years. As Festival Director Dieter Kosslick comments: "For two-and-a-half days we provide a kind of 'home' for producers and financial backers during the festival – and as we all know: many of the best babies are conceived at home."

The *Market's* success rate is impressive: 51 projects submitted to the *Berlinale Co-Production Market* in the first four years have been completed to date or are in production.

As project manager Sonja Heinen adds: "In September alone, two new films are being presented to audiences: *Mongol* by Sergei Bodrov found its international distributor, BETA Cinema, here in 2005 and just celebrated its premiere at the festival in Toronto. *Salir Pitando* by Álvaro Fernández Armero, which participated as a project in the *Berlinale Co-Production Market* in 2006, is opening in Spanish cinemas on September 21. And a number of other projects that are sure to be exciting are now in postproduction."

Since 2004, the main partner of the *Berlinale Co-Production Market* has been

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Presse

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MDM – Mitteldeutsche Medienförderung; and since 2005, the MEDIA-Programme of the European Union.

Submission forms and project criteria can be found at: www.berlinale.de

Press Office
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