



TURKMEN CASPIAN SEA OFFER PROPOSED

The Turkmenistan Ministry of Oil and Gas intends to offer an extensive area for exploration and production in the northern Turkmen portion of the Caspian Sea. The offer, planned for early 1994, will include formation of a group to acquire seismic data over the area, and a competitive bidding round to follow. The initial round will be limited to members of the acquisition group. General terms of the model contract will be available to prospective participants.

The area is in the Caspian Sea, north of the Apsheron high trend, and between the Karabogaz massif on the east and the Northern Apsheron depression on the west. Primary objectives are in Mesozoic, Paleogene, and Neogene rocks in structural and stratigraphic traps on the western flank of the massif.

Additional information will be released soon. Inquiries may be directed to Mr. Edward Gendelman, Wavetech Geophysical Inc., Denver, Telephone: 1 303/839-9488, Fax: 1 303/839-9497.

Ministry of Oil and Gas of Turkmenistan news release; 9 December 1993

CÔTE D'IVOIRE DATA AVAILABILITY

Geological and geophysical data relevant to the three large evaluation concessions currently offered on the Côte d'Ivoire shelf can be viewed at the offices of PETROCI in Abidjan, or Gustavson Associates in Boulder, Colorado. All non-proprietary seismic and well data for each of the roughly 5000 sq km areas will be available for viewing and possible purchase through the end of March 1994.

Access to the data room is subject to the purchase of the *Côte d'Ivoire Petroleum Evaluation Report*, a three-volume compila-

tion consisting of a comprehensive 145-page text detailing the geology, exploration history, and plays in the area. The report is accompanied by a set of seismic structure maps and 47 color plates. It is available from PETROCI, or Gustavson, for US\$10,000.

Contact: M. Koffi N'Dri, PETROCI, Telephone: (225) 20 25 82, Fax: (225) 21 68 24; or Gustavson Associates, Telephone: 1-303/443-2209, Fax: 1-303/443-3156. (See *International Exploration Newsletter*, 22 November 1993.)

Gustavson news release; 1 December 1993

SAKHALIN ISLAND NEGOTIATIONS

A new agreement between SODECO and Russia clears the way for Exxon and SODECO to conduct feasibility evaluations, and negotiate a production-sharing agreement for an area off Sakhalin Island. The area includes the Chayvo and Odoptu fields, previously discovered by SODECO, as well as the highly potential Arkuta-Dagi field, where a discovery was made. Additional exploration and appraisal drilling is needed. Exxon and SODECO expect to conclude the production-sharing agreement with the Russian government and the government of Sakhalin Island during the first half of 1994.

Exxon news release; 3 December 1993

SECOND BID ROUND, AMU-DARYA BASIN. TURKMENISTAN

The government of Turkmenistan announced the second bidding round for exploration and production in the Chardzhou sector of the Amu-Darya basin in eastern Turkmenistan. The Chardzhou sector covers approximately 16,000 sq km between the Amudaria river and the Uzbekistan border. The round is planned for early to mid-1994.

Principal objectives are in late Jurassic, Callovian to Oxfordian age reefs. Among the numerous large Jurassic reef fields in the region are Kokdumalak, with probable recoverable reserves of 1.8 billion barrels of oil-equivalent, Zevardy, with 1.1 billion barrels, and Bota with 0.7 billion barrels of oil-equivalent. Seismic data has revealed numerous, apparently reef-related, anomalies.

Technical data and additional information on the terms and conditions of the round will be released soon. Inquiries should be directed to Wavetech Geophysical Inc., Denver, Telephone 1 303/839-9488, Fax: 1 303/839-9497.

Ministry of Oil and Gas, Turkmenistan; 7 December 1993.

