

**Max Petroleum Plc
(the "Company")**

Execution of Drilling Contract

27 September 2010

Max Petroleum, an oil and gas exploration and production company focused on Kazakhstan, today announced that it has executed a drilling contract with Sun Drilling LLP for a second rig capable of drilling to 3,600 metres. The ZJ-40 rig will mobilise to drill the ASK-1 exploration well on the Asanketken Prospect on Block E, and is expected to commence drilling activities on or around 30 November 2010. The ZJ-40 rig will then be utilised in conjunction with the ZJ-30 rig to drill additional exploration and development wells in the Company's ongoing post-salt drilling programme.

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