Chairman Frank Daly’s speaking notes for NAMA Annual Report press briefing

Wednesday 8th June 2016

Minister, ladies and gentlemen,

- You are all very welcome to the launch of NAMA’s Annual Report and Financial Statements for 2015 – this is our sixth Annual Report. I am glad to say that we have good results to highlight to you today.

- We made a profit of €1.826 billion in 2015. This was an exceptionally strong performance. It is almost 4 times the size of our 2014 profit and, importantly, this is the fifth year in a row in which we are reporting a profit.

- This means a lot but perhaps most significantly it means that there is no doubt about us repaying our debt and that we are firmly on course, if current market conditions prevail, to deliver a surplus of €2.3 billion for the Exchequer over NAMA’s lifetime – we can say this with confidence.

- It is clear that we have come a very long way since NAMA was set up. So much so that now, in just our seventh year of operation, the debate has changed dramatically from how much NAMA might lose over its lifetime to how big its surplus will be. That, as I’ve said, we project may be €2.3 billion.

- It is also clear that we will totally eliminate the State’s NAMA related contingent liability – in full and well ahead of schedule. All our senior debt will be repaid by end 2018.

- Today that outstanding Senior Debt is less than one-fifth of its peak size – we have reduced it from €30.2 billion to €5.6bn. By the end of this year it will be below €4 billion. In 2018 – two years from now - it will be zero.

- We have always had a clear objective and focus on debt reduction – we recognise its implications for the sovereign and its expeditious elimination is of much wider value to the State than just NAMA pursuing one of its objectives. So no surprise about that zero senior debt by 2018 focus.

- But we now also have a couple of other objectives - to improve supply in the residential housing market and to deliver a major programme of development in
Dublin Docklands. Just like our debt repayment objective, these two will also be achieved.

- I hope that in years to come NAMA will be seen as a very profitable State agency that:
  - Expeditiously got rid of its debt;
  - Delivered a major financial surplus for the Exchequer;
  - Funded delivery of 20,000 new homes and a significant social housing contribution at a time when supply was severely constrained; currently active on nearly 50 sites;
  - Delivered millions of square feet of world-class office, commercial, retail and cultural space in the Dublin Docklands – making the same Docklands, as you can see from the visual behind me, a markedly better place for investors to deploy capital, for employers to create jobs, and for people to work or to set up home;
  - And contributed to the economic recovery of this country after some bruising and painful years.

Thank you all for your attendance here today. I will now invite Brendan to begin his presentation and take you through our Annual Report in more detail.