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New Discovery in Bohai Bay Improves the Outlook for CFD Fields

(Beijing, December 4, 2001) CNOOC Limited (NYSE "CEO", SEHK "883") (the "Company") announced today that its partners have scored an exploration success with the CFD 12-1S-1 wildcat well in Block 05/36 in the western part of Bohai Bay. The CFD 12-1S-1 well tested a combined 6,049 BOE per day of light oil and gas from five successful drill stem tests.

CFD 12-1S-1 is located 4.2 km south of the CFD 12-1-4 well. It encountered over 200 feet of hydrocarbon bearing sandstones in the Dongying, Guantao and Lower Ming formations. The well was drilled to test the Dongying formation that is productive in the CFD 11-2 field area and the CFD 12-1-5 well.

The CFD 12-1 field was discovered by Kerr-McGee, Newfield Exploration and Sino-American Energy Corp in 2000.

Under the production-sharing contract between the Company and its partners, the Company has the option to take a participating interest of up to 51% in any commercial discoveries in the block. Current interest holders include Kerr-McGee (operator) with 50%, Newfield Exploration with 35% and Sino-American Energy with 15%.

Mr. Ru Ke, Executive Vice President of the Company commented, "The success of this CFD 12-1S-1 provides further proof of the reserves in the block and will improve returns on its development."

Notes to Editors:

CNOOC LIMITED - BACKGROUND

Incorporated in Hong Kong in August 1999, the Company is the dominant producer of crude oil and natural gas offshore China. The Company is also one of the largest independent crude oil and gas exploration and production companies in the world. As of December 31, 2000, its net proved reserves were 1.8 billion barrels-of-oil equivalents and its net production totaled 239,337 BOE per day.

The Company has interests in 45 crude oil and gas properties in four major producing areas: Bohai Bay, Western South China Sea, Eastern South China Sea and East China Sea. The Company is a major oil and gas company in China with approximately 1,000 employees.

CNOOC LIMITED - RELATIONSHIP WITH ITS PARENT COMPANY

The Company is a 70.6% held subsidiary of China National Offshore Oil Corporation ("CNOOC"). The Company is the sole vehicle through which CNOOC carries out oil and gas exploration, development and production activities offshore China and internationally.

CNOOC, the parent company, is involved in the administrative, research and services functions for the PRC offshore petroleum industry as well as other mid- or down-stream petroleum projects.

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This press release contains statements that are not historical facts, including statements about beliefs and expectations of the directors of the

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Company. These forward-looking statements are based on current plans, estimates and projections, and therefore you should not place undue reliance on them. Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date they are made, and the directors of the Company undertake no obligation to update publicly any of them in light of new information or future events. Forward-looking statements involve inherent risks and uncertainties. You are cautioned that a number of important factors could cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in any forward-looking statement. Such factors include, but are not limited to, changes of the PRC's economic, political and social conditions as well as government policies.

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For further enquiries, please contact:

Mr. Xiao Zongwei
CNOOC Limited
Tel : +86 10 8452 1646
Fax: +86 10 8452 1648
E-mail: xiaozw@cnooc.com.cn

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the registrant has duly caused this report to be issued on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

CNOOC Limited

By: /s/ Cao Yunshi

Name: Cao Yunshi
Title: Company Secretary

Dated: December 5, 2001