



30 December 2008

**Heritage Oil Limited
("Heritage" or the "Company")**

**HERITAGE OIL SPUDS GIRAFFE-1 EXPLORATION WELL
IN BLOCK 1, UGANDA**

Heritage Oil Limited, an independent upstream exploration and production company, announces that it has commenced drilling the Giraffe-1 exploration well in Block 1, Uganda.

Highlights

- Giraffe-1 continues the multi-well drilling programme in Block 1, Uganda
- Recent discoveries at Warthog-1 and Buffalo-1 in Block 1 have lowered exploration risk substantially
- Giraffe-1 is expected to take between two and three weeks to drill and complete

Drilling Activity – Block 1, Uganda

The Giraffe-1 exploration well, the third exploration well in the programme, is being drilled to an anticipated target depth of 800 metres and is expected to take approximately three weeks to drill and complete. Giraffe-1 is located five kilometres south-west of the successful Buffalo-1 well.

Heritage has had success in Block 1 recently with the Warthog and Buffalo discoveries. In addition, there are many other prospects mapped within the block from over 600 kilometres of seismic data acquired in the licence during the past 18 months. All are characterised by encouraging seismic amplitude anomalies similar to those seen over the Buffalo and Warthog discoveries. These all represent further prospects and leads which constitute additional multiple drilling targets within the block.

Tony Buckingham, CEO, commented:

“Operationally, 2008 has been an excellent year for Heritage as we have made extraordinary progress with our highly successful drilling programme in Uganda. This multi-well programme is continuing in Block 1 with the Giraffe-1 exploration well. We enter 2009 with high impact drilling programmes continuing in Uganda and the Kurdistan Region of Iraq.”

Heritage is the Operator of Block 3A and Block 1 in Uganda with a 50% equity interest in the licences with Tullow Oil Plc holding the remaining 50% interest.

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Notes to Editors

- Heritage is listed on the Main Market of the London Stock Exchange and is a constituent of the FTSE 250 Index. The trading symbol is HOIL. Heritage has a further listing on the Toronto Stock Exchange (TSX: HOC).
- Heritage is an independent upstream exploration and production company engaged in the exploration for, and the development, production and acquisition of, oil and gas in its core areas of Africa, the Middle East and Russia.
- Heritage has producing properties in Oman and Russia and exploration projects in Uganda, the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Malta, Pakistan, Tanzania and Mali.

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FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION:

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