

MOBILE TELESYSTEMS OJSC
Form 6-K
February 08, 2010

FORM 6-K

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

Report of Foreign Issuer
February 8, 2010

Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16 of
the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Commission file number: 333-12032

Mobile TeleSystems OJSC

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Russian Federation

(Jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

**4, Marksistskaya Street
Moscow 109147
Russian Federation**

(Address of principal executive offices)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover Form 20-F or Form 40-F.

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Form 20-F Form 40-F

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information contained in this Form is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Yes No

Press release

MTS to Further Optimize its Debt Portfolio

February 8, 2010

Moscow, Russian Federation Mobile TeleSystems OJSC (the Company or MTS NYSE: MBT), the largest mobile phone operator in Russia and the CIS, announces that it has sent an irrevocable notice to ING Bank, N.V. (London branch), the Agent of the Lenders under the syndicated loan agreement originally signed in May 2009 and amended in June 2009, regarding the voluntary prepayment of the loan.

In accordance with the terms of the loan agreement, MTS will prepay without any penalties the principal and loan interest amounts on facility A of \$373.8 million and on facility B of 247.6 million.

Mr. Alexey Kornya, acting Vice President and Chief Financial Officer at MTS, commented: The decision to repay the syndicated loan is reflective of our efforts to reduce the Company's debt servicing costs and better balance our debt portfolio with our revenues. We are also seeing positive developments in the capital markets with declining interest rates and longer term funding becoming available both in Russia and abroad. Given MTS' outstanding record as a borrower and strong financials, we feel we can further optimize our debt portfolio.

The original syndicated loan for \$360.0 million and 238.1 million carried a three-year maturity and an interest rate of LIBOR+6.5%. The facility was to be repaid in three semiannual installments after a two-year grace period. The proceeds of the loan were used to refinance the \$630 million three-year tranche of MTS' \$1.3 billion syndicated loan, which was originally signed in April 2006, as well as for general corporate purposes.

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For further information, please contact in Moscow:

Joshua B. Tulgan

Director, Investor Relations

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Learn more about MTS. Visit the official blog of the Investor Relations Department at www.mtsgsm.com/blog/

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Mobile TeleSystems OJSC (MTS) is the largest mobile phone operator in Russia and the CIS. Together with its subsidiaries, the Company services over 97.81 million subscribers. The regions of Russia, as well as Armenia, Belarus, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan, in which MTS and its associates and subsidiaries are licensed to provide GSM services, have a total population of more than 230 million. Since June 2000, MTS Level 3 ADRs have been listed on the New York Stock Exchange (ticker symbol MBT). Additional information about MTS can be found on MTS website at www.mtsgsm.com.

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Some of the information in this press release may contain projections or other forward-looking statements regarding future events or the future financial performance of MTS, as defined in the safe harbor provisions of the U.S. Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. You can identify forward looking statements by terms such as expect, believe, anticipate, estimate, intend, will, could, may or might, and the negative of such terms or other similar expressions. We wish to caution you that these statements are only predictions and that actual events or results may differ materially. We do not undertake or intend to update these statements to reflect events and circumstances occurring after the date hereof or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events. We refer you to the documents MTS files from time to time with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, specifically the Company's most recent Form 20-F. These documents contain and identify important factors, including those contained in the section captioned Risk Factors that could cause the actual results to differ materially from those contained in our projections or forward-looking statements, including, among others, the severity and duration of current economic and financial conditions, including volatility in interest and exchange rates, commodity and equity prices and the value of financial assets; the impact of Russian, U.S. and other foreign government programs to restore liquidity and stimulate national and global economies, our ability to maintain our current credit rating and the impact on our funding costs and competitive position if we do not do so, strategic actions, including acquisitions and dispositions and our success in integrating acquired businesses, including Comstar-UTS, potential fluctuations in quarterly results, our competitive environment, dependence on new service development and tariff structures, rapid technological and market change, acquisition strategy, risks associated with telecommunications infrastructure, governmental regulation of the telecommunications industries and other risks associated with operating in Russia and the CIS, volatility of stock price, financial risk management and future growth subject to risks.

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SIGNATURES

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

MOBILE TELESYSTEMS OJSC

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| By: | /s/ Mikhail Shamolin | |
| | Name: | Mikhail Shamolin |
| | Title: | CEO |

Date: **February 8, 2010**
