

**BBC Worldwide and RTÉ renew content deal**

**Multi-annual programme license deal extension agreed**

London, Thursday 27th February,

Embargo: 10.00 GMT

BBC Worldwide, the wholly owned commercial subsidiary of the BBC, and RTÉ are pleased to announce a multiannual extension to their agreement which provides for the transmission of some of the BBC’s best-loved programmes by the Irish public service national broadcaster.

The agreement takes in programmes across a range of television genres including drama, comedy, natural history, factual and children’s.

Sam Tewungwa, Commercial Director, TV and VOD Sales, BBC Worldwide, said, “We've enjoyed a really productive partnership with RTÉ over the last twenty years and I’m delighted that this is set to continue. It's great to know that as a result of this deal RTÉ viewers will be able to continue to enjoy the BBC programmes they love for years to come.”

Dermot Horan, RTÉ’s Director of Broadcast & Acquisitions, said “RTÉ is delighted to be continuing its long term relationship with BBC Worldwide. It will bring Irish viewers a rich variety of the highest quality programming from drama to natural history, documentaries to children’s programming. This new deal, together with our existing co-production and co-funding of content with the BBC, means our relationship with the BBC is growing significantly.”

-Ends-

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**NOTES TO EDITORS**

**About BBC Worldwide Ltd.** BBC Worldwide Limited is the main commercial arm and a wholly owned subsidiary of the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC). BBC Worldwide exists to support the BBC public service mission and to maximise profits on its behalf. It does this through investing in, commercialising and showcasing content from the BBC around the world, in a way that is consistent with BBC standards and values. The business also builds the reach and reputation of the BBC brand overseas and champions British creativity.

In 2012/13, BBC Worldwide generated headline profits of £156m and headline sales of £1,116m and returned £156m to the BBC. For more detailed performance information please see our Annual Review website: <http://www.bbcworldwide.com/annualreview>

**About RTÉ**. As part of Ireland’s public service media organisation, RTÉ Television provides complementary content across RTÉ One, RTÉ Two and RTÉjr.  In 2013, RTÉ One and RTÉ Two broadcast 19 out of the 20 most-watched television programmes across all channels available in Ireland.

As Ireland’s most watched channel, RTÉ One serves a broad audience with landmark drama, documentary, factual and entertainment programming as well as news and current affairs that brings the country together for key national events.

RTÉ Two provides a complementary service with distinctive and relevant programming for 15-34 year olds through factual, entertainment, comedy, sports, documentary and acquired drama.

RTÉjr is a commercial-free channel on TV, radio, online and mobile for children aged 0-7, offering children original, entertaining and educational content that reflects their lives and is made exclusively for them, allowing them to watch, listen and play with channels on television and digital radio from around 7am to 7pm daily.