

Western Asset High Income Opportunity Fund Inc.
as of
December 31, 2009

NEW YORK – (Business Wire) – January 19, 2010 - Western Asset High Income Opportunity Fund Inc. (NYSE: HIO) announces its portfolio composition as of December 31, 2009.

Investment Objective: The Fund seeks a high current income. Capital appreciation is a secondary objective.

Portfolio Composition*:

Asset Allocation

High Yield	85.4%
Investment Grade	7.0%
Emerging Market Debt	4.5%
Investment Grade	1.3%
<i>US Dollar</i>	1.3%
Non-Investment Grade	3.2%
<i>US Dollar</i>	3.2%
Mortgage Backed	0.2%
Cash & Other Securities	3.0%

Credit Quality Allocation (Lower of S&P/Moody's/Fitch)

AAA	1.5%
A	0.5%
BBB	3.0%
BB	16.2%
B	40.0%
CCC	30.6%
CC	2.4%
C	2.5%
D	2.0%
Not Rated	1.3%

Top Ten High Yield Industries

Consumer Cyclical	17.2%
Communications	12.5%
Consumer Non Cyclical	11.6%
Energy	9.1%
Basic Industry	8.9%
Electric	7.9%
Capital Goods	5.5%
Transportation	3.1%
Bank Loans	2.8%
Technology	1.7%

Top Emerging Market Countries

Mexico	1.4%
Russia	1.3%
United Arab Emirates	1.1%
Thailand	0.5%
South Africa	0.2%

Currency Allocation

US Dollar	100.0%
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Average Life (years)	6.75
Effective Duration (years)	4.01
Average Credit Quality (S&P)	B
Average Coupon (%)	8.98%

Portfolio Statistics:

Inception Date	November 16, 1993
Inception Price	\$12.50
Total Assets	\$441,624,665

Market Price	\$5.98
NAV	\$5.93

(Daily NAV is available on market quotation systems using the symbol XHIOX.)

Distribution Rate	\$0.0525 per share
Frequency	Monthly (Declared quarterly, paid monthly)

* Portfolio holdings and weightings are historical and are presented here for informational purposes only. They are subject to change at any time.

Western Asset High Income Opportunity Fund Inc., a diversified closed-end investment management company, is advised by Legg Mason Partners Fund Advisor, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Legg Mason, Inc., and is sub-advised by Western Asset Management Company, an affiliate of the advisor.

An investment in the Fund involves risk, including loss of principal. Investment return and the value of shares will fluctuate.

For more information, please call Fund Investor Services at 888-777-0102 or consult the Fund's web site at www.leggmason.com/cef.

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