

PRESS RELEASE CADES ANNOUNCES NEW EURO BOND ISSUE MATURING IN 2010

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Following extensive consultation with banks and investors, and in connection with its previously announced financing program for 2005, CAISSE D'MORTISSEMENT DE LA DETTE SOCIALE (CADES) has decided to launch a fixed-rate benchmark euro issue with a five-year maturity (due July 12, 2010).

ABN AMRO, CITIGROUP, HSBC and LEHMAN Brothers have been mandated to act as bookrunners on this latest transaction, for which the issue price should be determined during the week of March 7, 2005, market conditions permitting.

The face value of the transaction will be of benchmark size, to be adjusted in accordance with actual market demand and with the aim of obtaining excellent secondary market performance. The last five-year issue of this type was launched in June 2004.

Once this transaction is completed, CADES will have reached the half-way point in its projected issuance program for 2005 in this market segment, pursuing its aim of composing a regular yield curve of liquid issues.

The next fixed-rate euro benchmark issue is likely to be one with a 2017 or 2020 due date. In the interval, CADES also intends to be present in the market through euro issues indexed to inflation as well as notes issued in other currencies, particularly the US dollar. These transactions will be carried out in the appropriate amounts, and when investor demand is sufficient to ensure success. One of the key requirements of the CADES issue policy is to safeguard the performance of existing issues in the secondary market at all times.

To date, CADES maintains a very liquid position as it has drawn down less than 5 billion of its 35 billion euros in available stand-by credit facilities.

CADES: A BENCHMARK ISSUER IN THE EUROPEAN MARKET

Created in 1996, CADES is an administrative public agency under the authority of the French government. CADES enjoys the highest ratings by the principal international rating agencies (AAA/A1+, Aaa/P1, AAA/F1+), and a 0% Basel ratio weighting, which makes CADES one of the five largest non-government issuers in Europe.