

Media Information

AP3 Chooses FTSE Global Equity Index Series

London, 5 August, 2004: FTSE Group, the global index provider, announces today that the FTSE Global Equity Index Series has been chosen by the Tredje AP-fonden Swedish buffer fund (AP3) as the benchmark for the entire equity allocation of the fund, totalling approximately €6.2 billion.

AP3, which is one of the Swedish National Pension funds, has adopted FTSE Global Equity Index Series, which covers 98% of the world market capitalisation, including global small caps, for all of its equity mandates previously using the FTSE All-World Index.

In addition, AP3's mandates for European Small Cap, North American Small Cap and North American Mid Cap, which were not previously benchmarked against FTSE indices, have now been switched to sub-indices of the FTSE Global Equity Index Series.

Mandate	Benchmark
European Mid Caps	FTSE Developed Europe, Mid Cap
European Small Caps	FTSE Developed Europe, Small Cap ex Investment Companies
US Mid Cap	FTSE North America, Mid Cap ex Real Estate Investment Trusts
US Small Cap	FTSE North America, Small Cap ex Real Estate Investment Trusts

Mark Makepeace, Chief Executive of FTSE Group said, "The FTSE Global Equity Index Series allows us to offer our customers a streamlined and efficient service with complete, seamless coverage and the ability to create customised benchmark indices. We believe that it is the best index of this kind and it is a great endorsement for us that AP3 has recognised this potential and chosen it as its global equity benchmark."

FTSE benchmarks are used by pension funds around the world, including, CalPERS in the US, OMERS in Canada, MPF in Hong Kong, PGGM in the Netherlands, and FRR in France.

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Notes to Editors

About FTSE Group

FTSE Group is a world-leader in the creation and management of indices. With offices in London, Frankfurt, Hong Kong, Madrid, Paris, New York, San Francisco and Tokyo, FTSE Group services clients in 77 countries worldwide. It calculates and manages the FTSE Global Equity Index series, which includes world-recognised indices ranging from the FTSE All-World Index, the FTSE4Good series and the recently launched FTSEurofirst Index series, as well as domestic indices such as the prestigious FTSE 100. The company has collaborative arrangements with the AMEX, Athens, Cyprus, Euronext, Johannesburg, London, Luxembourg, and Madrid exchanges, as well as with Nikkei of Japan (Nihon Keizai Shimbun, Inc), and Xinhua Financial Network of China. FTSE recently signed an agreement with Dow Jones Indexes to develop a single sector classification system for global investors, named the Industry Classification benchmark (ICB).

FTSE indices are used extensively by investors world-wide for investment analysis, performance measurement, asset allocation, portfolio hedging and for creating a wide range of index tracking funds. Independent committees of senior fund managers, derivatives experts, actuaries and other experienced practitioners review all changes to the indices to ensure that they are made objectively and without bias. Real-time FTSE indices are calculated on systems managed by Reuters. Prices and FX rates used are supplied by Reuters.

About FTSE Global Equity Index Series

The FTSE Global Equity Index Series is the most sophisticated and accurate single benchmark available for investors to measure the world's stock markets' performance. It combines FTSE's hallmarks of transparent methodology and impartial index management to offer enhanced flexibility, precision and coverage in a single tool. The series is made up of the FTSE All-World large and mid-cap indices, and the FTSE Global Small Cap Index Series, a total of over 7,000 companies from 48 countries, providing 98% coverage of the world's market capitalisation.

All companies in the FTSE Global Equity Index Series must pass four screens to be included in the series. The rigour of these tests mean that the series is completely flexible, and can be adapted to meet any mandate requirement - whether it's size, style, SRI or complete customisation.