

Media Information

FRR selects FTSE Group as index provider for €8.8billion mandates

London & Paris, 29th January, 2004: FTSE Group, the global index provider, announces today that it has been selected to provide eight benchmark indices for the Fonds de Réserve pour les Retraites (FRR) in its historic launch of French state pension funds. FRR will use customised FTSE indices, covering European, US and Asia Pacific markets, as benchmarks for a combination of active and passive funds. Altogether, FRR will benchmark €8.8 billion to FTSE indices.

The specially customised indices are derived from the FTSE Global Equity Index Series and cover a range of international markets including:

- FTSE Eurobloc Large Cap Index;
- FTSE Eurobloc Mid & Small Cap Index;
- FTSE USA Large Cap Index;
- FTSE USA Mid Cap Index;
- FTSE USA Growth Large Cap Index;
- FTSE USA Value Large Cap Index;
- FTSE Developed Europe ex-Eurobloc Index;
- FTSE Developed Asia Pacific Large Cap Index.

FTSE will customise these indices in order to meet FRR's fiscal requirements.

Commenting on the business win, Mark Makepeace, Chief Executive of FTSE Group said, "FTSE is honoured to be selected as the index provider for these historic mandates and to participate in the creation of a retirement system for France. We believe the FTSE Global Equity Series is the best benchmark on the market – being chosen by FRR is

testament to the quality of this benchmark and to FTSE's customisation service for institutional investors."

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 AP7 in Scandinavia.

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About FRR

The Fonds de Réserve pour les Retraites (FRR) is a public financial institution, under French state supervision, which became operational at the beginning of 2003. Its objective is to optimize the management of allocated assets in order to contribute to financing the French pension scheme in 2020 and thereafter. More details are available at www.fondsreserve.fr

About FTSE

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 manages and develops globally recognised indices ranging from the FTSE All-World Index to the FTSE 100, the FTSE4Good indices and the recently launched FTSEurofirst Index Series. The company has collaborative arrangements with the 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 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. More details are available at www.ftse.com