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## FTSE and CSAG Launch New Index Series to Assist US Investors in Meeting Terror-Free Mandates

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**New York and Washington, DC, March, 26, 2008:** FTSE Group ("FTSE"), the global index company, and Conflict Securities Advisory Group ("CSAG"), the preeminent research provider specializing in terror-free investment screening and certification services, today announce the launch of the FTSE CSAG Terror-Free Index Series, which is based on the FTSE Global Equity Index Series. The indexes will begin disseminating on Monday, March 31.

The FTSE CSAG Terror-Free Index Series has been devised in response to exclusion requirements being adopted by US state governments, public and private organizations and investor demand. Nineteen US states, including New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts, California, Texas, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Missouri and Louisiana have proposed or enacted legislation requiring state plan sponsors to divest from international companies with active business ties to terror-sponsoring countries. Definitions vary by state with terror-sponsoring countries most commonly identified as Iran, Sudan, Syria and North Korea.

By applying CSAG's screening process to FTSE's All-World ex-US, FTSE All-World Developed ex-US and FTSE All-World Emerging ex-US indexes, the FTSE CSAG Terror-Free indexes screen out companies with active or current non-humanitarian business ties in or with countries that expose them to global security risk, including Iran, Sudan, Syria and/or North Korea. The FTSE CSAG Index Series can assist pension plans in complying with new state legislation and meeting exclusion mandates while allowing them to continue to implement existing international investment strategies.

Companies excluded from the FTSE CSAG Terror-Free indexes were informed prior to finalizing the construction and given a chance to respond to CSAG's assessment of their business operations.

In a joint statement, FTSE Americas President Jerry Moskowitz and CSAG President and Chief Executive Roger Robinson commented, "FTSE and CSAG identified demand from institutional investors in the US for the option to invest terror-free and have introduced this new index series to meet it. The FTSE CSAG

Terror-Free Index Series is also tradable and suitable for the creation of retail investment products such as ETFs and Mutual Funds.”

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### **About FTSE Group**

FTSE Group is leader in the creation and management of indexes and related market data services. It is estimated that there are over \$2.5 trillion USD in assets under management globally using any of the 60,000 FTSE indexes calculated daily for markets worldwide.

FTSE’s flagship index, the FTSE Global Equity Index Series (GEIS), covers 98% of the world’s total investable market capitalization and includes a broad range of traditional and alternative asset class indexes such as multinationals, style, socially responsible investment, real estate and hedge funds. Custom indexes are designed and created regularly to meet a wide variety of investment strategies for clients. FTSE also manages and calculates non-market capitalization weighted indexes, which offer investors an alternative way to benchmark performance.

FTSE has partnered with notable financial industry leaders in key regions to create unique and innovative products for the investment community, including NASDAQ, Dow Jones Indexes, NAREIT, and Research Affiliates (RAFI™) in the US; Xinhua Financial Network of China, Nikkei of Japan (Nihon Keizai Shimbun, Inc), and the ASEAN stock exchanges in Asia; and Euronext, the London Stock Exchange, EPRA, and Global Wealth Associates in Europe. Partnerships with the Athens, Cyprus, Johannesburg, Luxembourg and Madrid stock exchanges round out FTSE’s global coverage of markets worldwide. Real-time FTSE indexes are calculated on systems managed by Reuters. Prices and FX rates used are supplied by Reuters.

### **About CSAG**

Conflict Securities Advisory Group (CSAG), an independent research provider based in Washington DC, has the longest track record of any firm in the marketplace for providing detailed information on the business ties of publicly traded companies in terrorist states. The firm has worked with numerous states, foundations and asset managers on terror-free investing and their research currently underpins the nation’s first “terror free” public fund and first “terror-free” mutual fund. Other CSAG clients include the SEC, New York City Comptroller William Thompson and the Treasurers of Missouri and Arizona. CSAG is a wholly owned subsidiary of IdealsWork, Inc., which also owns IW Financial, a leading provider of environmental, social, and governance research and analytics. For information on CSAG visit [www.conflictsecurities.com](http://www.conflictsecurities.com). For more information on terror-free investing, visit [www.terrorfreeinvesting.com](http://www.terrorfreeinvesting.com).