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**Frontier markets join FTSE's Global Equity Index Series**

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***Hong Kong, London, New York, Tokyo, 29th July 2008:*** - Building on the success of its internationally acclaimed approach to equity indexing, FTSE Group ("FTSE") has extended its Global Equity Index Series ("GEIS") to include coverage of the Frontier markets, alongside its existing Developed and Emerging market indices. The FTSE Frontier 50, a new index which begins calculating today, is FTSE's first index to be created from an eligible universe of 23 new frontier markets. Further regional and country indices for frontier markets will be launched in phases throughout the remainder of 2008 and into 2009.

FTSE's Frontier indices are integrated within GEIS by applying the same rules-based market classification framework as is currently in place for Developed and Emerging designations. This approach, unique amongst index providers, is of benefit to investors as it provides a single transparent structure to help investors manage their exposure to international markets as they become eligible for inclusion in the FTSE Global Equity Index Series as a Frontier Market, and as markets move up through Emerging and Developed status.

Commenting on today's expansion of the global equity index series to include Frontier markets, Mark Makepeace, FTSE's Chief Executive said, "Frontier equity markets today represent over USD1 trillion in capitalisation, and are becoming attractive investment destinations for a growing number of investors worldwide. By extending coverage within its Global Equity Index Series, FTSE can offer investors an objective and rules-based means of managing their exposure to new equity markets as they evolve their market infrastructures and regulatory environments."

The FTSE Frontier 50 index is calculated in real time and is designed to be used as the basis of financial products such as Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs), mutual funds, and derivatives products. Full index information, including performance analysis, constituents, backhistory and vendor codes, is available at [www.ftse.com/frontier](http://www.ftse.com/frontier)

For more information:

**Press contacts:**

**London**

Sabrina Bhangoo/Mittal Dave/Arnaud Humblot, Tel: 020 7866 1821 or email

[media@ftse.com](mailto:media@ftse.com)

**Hong Kong**

Meredith Blakemore, Tel: + 85 222 305 801 or email [media@ftse.com](mailto:media@ftse.com)

**New York**

Jill Mathers, Tel: + 1 212 641 6168 or email [media@ftse.com](mailto:media@ftse.com)

**Japan**

Stewart Ueno, Tel.: +81 3 3581 3444 or email [media@ftse.com](mailto:media@ftse.com)

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**Notes to Editors**

**About FTSE Group**

FTSE Group is a world-leader in the creation and management of indexes. With offices in Beijing, London, Frankfurt, Hong Kong, Madrid, Paris, New York, San Francisco, Boston, Shanghai and Tokyo, FTSE Group services clients in 77 countries worldwide. It calculates and manages the FTSE Global Equity Index Series, which includes world-recognised indexes ranging from the FTSE All-World Index, the FTSE4Good series and the FTSEurofirst Index series, as well as domestic indexes such as the prestigious FTSE 100. The company has collaborative arrangements with the Athens, AMEX, Cyprus, Euronext, Johannesburg London, Madrid, NASDAQ Thailand and Taiwan exchanges, as well as Nomura Securities, Hang Seng and Xinhua Finance of China. FTSE also has a collaborative agreement with Dow Jones Indexes to develop a single sector classification system for global investors.

FTSE indexes 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 indexes to ensure that they are made objectively and without bias. Real-time FTSE indexes are calculated on systems managed by Reuters. Prices and FX rates used are supplied by Reuters.