



PRESS RELEASE

BANQUE POPULAIRE GROUP AND CAISSE D'ÉPARGNE GROUP AFFILIATE NATIXIS

Paris, April 2, 2007 – Philippe Dupont, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Banque Fédérale des Banques Populaires and Charles Milhaud, Chairman of the Management Board of Caisse Nationale des Caisses d'Épargne, today signed the agreement under which Natixis will be affiliated by CNCE and BFBP as the central body.

The agreement, which was approved by the CECEI ("*Comité des Etablissements de Crédit et des Entreprises d'Investissement*") during its meeting of March 30, constitutes an extension to the creation of Natixis on November 17, 2006, in accordance with the commitments made.

This dual affiliation is in accordance with Article L.511.31 of the French Monetary and Financial Code. It enables Natixis to benefit from the respective guarantee and solidarity systems of the Banque Populaire Group and the Caisse d'Épargne Group.

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