



Ministero dell'Economia e delle Finanze

DIPARTIMENTO DEL TESORO

DIREZIONE SECONDA

COMUNICATO STAMPA

A\$ public bond issue

THE REPUBLIC OF ITALY, rated Aa2/AA has now launched a A\$500 million global issue via joint-bookrunners Deutsche Bank and UBS Investment Bank. Maturity date 14 August 2008. Pay 27 February 2004. The deal will be priced in the context of the market no later than 3 pm Sydney time on 20 February. A group is being formed. Further details at pricing.

Rome, February 18, 2004