

PRESS RELEASE

10 year US dollar Global bond :placement results.

The Ministry of Economy and Finance announces the details of the placement of the \$2bn 5.375% Global bond due 12^{th} June 2017, priced today.

The distribution by investor type has been: Central Banks 43%, Asset Managers 36%, Pension Funds and Insurance Companies 11%, Banks 8%. The distribution breakdown on geographical basis is as follow: Asia 32%, Europe 41% (of which 26% United Kingdom), USA 20% and Canada 7%.

Lead managers for the transaction have been CITIGROUP, LEHMAN BROTHERS e MERRILL LYNCH INTERNATIONAL.

Rome, June 5, 2007