

SCREEN ANNOUNCEMENT: 3:30 PM WEDNESDAY 30 AUGUST 2006

NEW GILT-EDGED MARKET MAKER – BNP PARIBAS

The UK Debt Management Office, jointly with the London Stock Exchange, today announces that BNP Paribas (London Branch) is to be recognised as a Gilt-Edged Market Maker (GEMM), in both conventional and index-linked gilts, with effect from the opening of business on Monday 4 September 2006. This appointment brings the total number of primary dealer firms in the UK government bond market to seventeen (sixteen in index-linked gilts).