



Press release

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Monday, January 12, 2009

For immediate release

[French version](#)

ICMA and AMTE announce combination of their activities from January 2009.

(London, UK – Paris, France) The International Capital Market Association (ICMA) and the Euro Debt Market Association (AMTE) have announced that, as from January 2009, AMTE will be operating as a semi-autonomous council under the auspices of ICMA.

The proposal, which was ratified by the membership of AMTE at its AGM in December, will allow the AMTE name and its work on the integration and efficient functioning of the euro debt markets to continue, with strengthened technical and administrative support from ICMA.

Commenting on the move, Bertrand de Mazières, Chairman of AMTE, said: “Recent developments in financial markets have led all trade associations to seek efficiencies through closer co-operation”. He continued, “AMTE and ICMA have demonstrated their leadership in this area and will immediately deliver enhanced value to both sets of members in these difficult times”.

AMTE will continue to be a unique forum where all parties, issuers, investors, and intermediaries in the euro fixed income markets can freely share concerns and develop ideas. AMTE’s services, including the monitoring of the secondary market activity of the French primary dealers community, (the SVTs - Spécialistes en Valeurs du Trésor) on behalf of the Agence France Trésor (French Treasury), will benefit from the support of an effectively staffed international organisation. The Paris office of ICMA will act as the focal point for support of AMTE and ICMA members in France.

René Karsenti, Executive President of ICMA, said: “ICMA and AMTE, as truly pan-European industry bodies, share many common aspirations; their joining forces will greatly enhance the representation of the international financial industry in Europe at this critical time in its history”.



Notes for editors:

1. Association des Marchés de Taux en Euro (AMTE)

AMTE, created in July 2002, has established its central role as an international forum for exchange and a means of articulating the collective voice of the euro-denominated fixed income and derivatives markets. The purpose of AMTE is to contribute to the development and effective operation of euro debt markets by supporting the various professionals in these markets in their efforts to come to an agreement on concrete ways to reach these goals. In a broader sense, the association aims to facilitate the development of the depth, liquidity, transparency and innovative nature of the euro debt markets.

To achieve its objectives, AMTE conducts work and research, and organises consultations among its members on all subjects relating to any type of operation on euro-denominated financial markets excluding equity markets. In order to ensure efficiency, these subjects are chosen with the aim of contributing, without duplication, to the work carried out by other entities (subsidiarity principle). AMTE comprises 61 members, leaders in their field, representatives of the euro debt markets (issuers, intermediaries, investors). The high profile Board members represent the diversity of the AMTE membership.

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2. International Capital Market Association (ICMA)

ICMA is a unique self regulatory organisation and an influential voice for the global capital market. It represents a broad range of capital market interests including global investment banks and smaller regional banks, as well as asset managers, exchanges, central banks, law firms and other professional advisers amongst its 400 member firms. ICMA's market conventions and standards have been the pillars of the international debt market for almost 40 years, providing the self regulatory framework of rules governing market practice which have facilitated the orderly functioning and impressive growth of the market. ICMA actively promotes the efficiency and cost effectiveness of the capital markets by bringing together market participants including regulatory authorities and governments. See: www.icmagroup.org

3. ICMA Communications

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