

Press Release

Paris, 22 January 2009

Société Générale Board of Directors

- Co-opting a director
- Proposals for nominating directors or renewing tenures

At its meeting held on 20 January 2009, the Board of Directors of Société Générale, following a proposal from the Selection Committee, co-opted Mr. Robert CASTAIGNE as director to replace Mr. Elie COHEN who resigned at the beginning of November 2008, a few weeks before his death.

M. Robert CASTAIGNE is co-opted as an independent director. He will also be a member of the Audit Committee.

His nomination will be subject to ratification by the Annual General Meeting of shareholders, which will take place on 19 May 2009. His period of tenure will end in 2010.

Mr. Robert CASTAIGNE, 62, graduated from the Ecole Centrale in Lille and the Ecole Nationale Supérieure du Pétrole et des Moteurs; he also holds a doctorate in Economics. He has spent his entire career at Total, first working as an engineer and then in various roles. From 1994 to 2008, he was the Chief Financial Officer and a member of Total's Executive Committee.

He is also a director and member of the Audit Committee of Sanofi-Aventis, Vinci and the Compagnie Nationale à Portefeuille.

Moreover, the Board of Directors, following a proposal from the Selection Committee, will suggest that the Annual General Meeting:

- renew the tenures of Mrs. Elisabeth LULIN and Mr. Jean AZEMA, both independent directors:
- nominate Mr. Jean-Bernard LEVY, Chairman of Vivendi's Board of Management, to replace Mr. Patrick RICARD who does not wish to renew his tenure.

Mr. Jean-Bernard LEVY will be nominated as an independent director.

Mr. Jean-Bernard LEVY, 53, alumni of the Ecole Polytechnique and the Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Télécommunications, was nominated as the Chief Executive Officer of Vivendi in 2002. He has been the Chairman of the Board of Management since 2005.

Formerly, he held various posts in ministerial offices; in industry (France Télécom, Matra-Groupe Lagardère); and in finance (Oddo et Cie).

PRESS RELATIONS SOCIETE GENERALE Stéphanie CARSON-PARKER +33 (0)1 42 14 95 77 Hélène MAZIER +33 (0)1 58 98 72 74

Laura SCHALK +33 (0)1 42 14 52 86 P.A +33(0)1 42 14 49 48 Fax +33(0)1 42 14 28 98 SOCIETE GENERALE COMM/PRS **75886 PARIS CEDEX 18** A French corporation with share capital of EUR 725,909,055 552 120 222 RCS PARIS



Mr. Jean-Bernard LEVY is a Director of Vinci and the Institut Pasteur. He also chairs the Supervisory Board of Viroxis.

If these proposals are adopted by the Annual General Meeting, the Board of Directors will comprise 14 members:

- 12 elected by the Annual General Meeting 9 of whom will be independent directors;
- 2 elected by the employees.

Therefore, the majority threshold of independent directors, as recommended by the AFEP-MEDEF Corporate Governance Code, will be exceeded.

Société Générale

Société Générale is one of the largest financial services groups in the euro-zone. The Group employs 151,000 people worldwide in three key businesses:

- Retail Banking & Financial Services: Société Générale serves more than 30 million individual customers worldwide.
- Global Investment Management & Services: Société Générale is one of the largest banks in the euro-zone in terms of assets under custody (EUR 2 744 billion, September 2008) and under management (EUR 371 billion, September 2008).
- Corporate & Investment Banking: Société Générale ranks among the leading banks worldwide in euro capital markets, derivatives and structured finance.

Société Générale is included in 3 socially-responsible investment indexes: FTSE, ASPI and Ethibel. www.socgen.com