

## PRESS RELEASE

Paris, April 7<sup>th</sup> 2016

### **SOCIETE GENERALE BRINGS LEGAL PROCEEDINGS FOR DEFAMATION**

The accusations that Mr Mélenchon and the members of the support committee of Jérôme Kerviel – a man who was convicted several times in succession for forgery and breach of trust – have seen fit to make are not only intolerable and unacceptable for Societe Generale and its 145,000 employees, but also amount to defamation. Societe Generale will not allow such accusations to be made against it and its senior executives and has therefore given instructions for the filing of legal proceedings against Messrs Mélenchon, Koubbi and Kerviel as well as any person who would utter such accusations.

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### **Societe Generale**

Societe Generale is one of the largest European financial services groups. Based on a diversified universal banking model, the Group combines financial solidity with a strategy of sustainable growth, and aims to be the reference for relationship banking, recognised on its markets, close to clients, chosen for the quality and commitment of its teams.

Societe Generale has been playing a vital role in the economy for 150 years. With more than 145,000 employees, based in 66 countries, we accompany 31 million clients throughout the world on a daily basis. Societe Generale's teams offer advice and services to individual, corporate and institutional customers in three core businesses:

- **Retail banking in France** with the Societe Generale branch network, Credit du Nord and Boursorama, offering a comprehensive range of omnichannel financial services on the leading edge of digital innovation;
- **International retail banking, insurance and financial services to corporates** with a presence in developing economies and leading specialised businesses;
- **Corporate and investment banking, private banking, asset management and securities services**, with recognised expertise, top international rankings and integrated solutions.

Societe Generale is included in the main socially responsible investment indices: DJSI (World and Europe), FTSE4Good (Global and Europe), Euronext Vigeo (Europe, Eurozone and France), ESI Excellence (Europe) from Ethibel and 4 of the STOXX ESG Leaders indices.

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