# **PRESS RELEASE**

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# "Sentier" case : Société Générale informed of the ruling by the Paris Court of Appeal

Société Générale was informed today of the ruling by the Paris Court of Appeal with regards to the money-laundering case known in France as "Sentier".

The Court's ruling granted the appeal petition filed by the State Prosecutor requesting the rescission of the order of the investigating magistrate which indicted and sent before the Paris criminal court certain corporations and individuals. This appeal was mainly based on the fact that the magistrate did not wait for the Prosecutor's views before giving her order.

The Court remanded the case to an investigating magistrate who will have to make a decision whether or not to indict corporations and individuals under formal investigation.

The investigative magistrate has three options:

- Follow the position taken by the State Prosecutor who asked that the case be dismissed:
- order once again that all or some of the persons under investigation to be sent before the criminal court;
- order new investigations.

## Société Générale Group

Société Générale is one of the largest financial services groups in the euro-zone. The Group employs 88,000 people worldwide in three key businesses:

- Retail Banking & Financial Services : Société Générale serves more than 15 million retail customers worldwide.
- Asset Management, Private Banking & Securities Services: Société Générale is one of the largest banks in the euro-zone in terms of assets under custody (approximately USD 1200 billion) and under management (EUR 300 billion, March 2004).
- Corporate & Investment Banking: SG CIB ranks among the leading banks worldwide in euro capital markets, derivatives and structured finance.

Société Générale is included in the four major socially responsible investment indexes. www.socgen.com

