

## Press Release

Paris, 23 May 2007

## Launch of Advans Cameroun, a new micro-finance institution in Cameroon

Advans Cameroun has opened its first branch in Douala.

SGBC (Société Générale de Banques au Cameroun) holds a 20% interest in the new microfinance institution, which offers financial products and services to Cameroonian micro and small entrepreneurs. Other shareholders include project sponsor, La Fayette Investissement, and two private Cameroonian investors.

Advans Cameroun will be opening about 10 branches over the next 5 years and as such, will become a financial player in Cameroon.

SGBC's contribution to the development of the micro-finance industry is part of the "good citizen" policy practiced by Société Générale and its subsidiaries outside France.

SGBC is active in terms of corporate social responsibility:

- It was awarded the 2005 Youth Employment trophy for its recruitment policy by the Union Générale des Travailleurs du Cameroun:
- It runs an anti-HIV/AIDS programme for staff, which holds meetings to raise awareness, provides information on the disease and organises regular HIV testing;
- Finally, the partnership with the "Foyer Saint Nicomède" aims to protect homeless children.

For more information www.advansgroup.com

Société Générale is one of the largest financial services groups in the euro-zone. The Group employs 120,000 people worldwide in three key businesses:

- Retail Banking & Financial Services: Société Générale serves more than 22,8 million individual customers
- Global Investment Management & Services: Société Générale is one of the largest banks in the euro-zone in terms of assets under custody (EUR 2 448 billion, March 2007) and under management (EUR 441,4 billion, March
- Corporate & Investment Banking: Société Générale ranks among the leading banks worldwide in euro capital markets, derivatives and structured finance.

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