

## BASE PROSPECTUS



(incorporated as a *société anonyme* in France)

### **Euro 6,000,000,000 Euro Medium Term Note Programme Due from one year from the date of original issue**

Under the Euro Medium Term Note Programme (the **Programme**) described in this base prospectus (the **Base Prospectus**), Autoroutes du Sud de la France (the **Issuer** or **Autoroutes du Sud de la France** or **ASF**), subject to compliance with all relevant laws, regulations and directives, may from time to time issue Euro Medium Term Notes (the **Notes**). The aggregate nominal amount of Notes outstanding will not at any time exceed Euro 6,000,000,000 (or the equivalent in other currencies).

This Base Prospectus replaces and supersedes the base prospectus dated 5 April 2007.

Application has been made to the *Commission de surveillance du secteur financier (CSSF)* in Luxembourg for approval of this Base Prospectus in its capacity as competent authority under the "loi relative aux prospectus pour valeurs mobilières" dated 10 July 2005 which implements Directive 2003/71/EC of 4 November 2003 on the prospectus to be published when securities are offered to the public or admitted to trading. Application may be made to the Luxembourg Stock Exchange during the period of 12 months from the date of this Base Prospectus for Notes issued under the Programme to be admitted to trading on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange's regulated market and to be listed on the Official List of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange. The Regulated Market of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange is a regulated market for the purposes of Directive 2004/39/EC (a **Regulated Market**). However, Notes issued pursuant to the Programme may also be unlisted or listed and admitted to trading on any other market including any Regulated Market in any member state of the European Economic Area (the **EEA**). The relevant final terms (the **Final Terms**) (a form of which is contained herein) in respect of the issue of any Notes will specify whether or not such Notes will be admitted to trading, and, if so, the relevant Regulated Market.

Notes may be issued either in dematerialised form (**Dematerialised Notes**) or in materialised form (**Materialised Notes**) as more fully described herein.

Dematerialised Notes will at all times be in book entry form in compliance with Article L.211-4 of the French *Code monétaire et financier*. No physical documents of title will be issued in respect of the Dematerialised Notes.

Dematerialised Notes may, at the option of the Issuer, be in bearer dematerialised form (*au porteur*) inscribed as from the issue date in the books of Euroclear France (**Euroclear France**) (acting as central depository) which shall credit the accounts of Account Holders (as defined in "Terms and Conditions of the Notes - Form, Denomination, Title and Redenomination") including Euroclear Bank S.A./N.V. (**Euroclear**) and the depository bank for Clearstream Banking, société anonyme (**Clearstream, Luxembourg**) or in registered dematerialised form (*au nominatif*) and, in such latter case, at the option of the relevant Noteholder (as defined in Condition 1(c)(iv)), in either fully registered form (*au nominatif pur*), in which case they will be inscribed either with the Issuer or with the registration agent (designated in the relevant Final Terms) for the Issuer, or in administered registered form (*au nominatif administré*) in which case they will be inscribed in the accounts of the Account Holders designated by the relevant Noteholders.

Materialised Notes will be in bearer materialised form only and may only be issued outside France. A temporary global certificate in bearer form without interest coupons attached (a **Temporary Global Certificate**) will initially be issued in connection with Materialised Notes. Such Temporary Global Certificate will be exchanged for Definitive Materialised Notes in bearer form with, where applicable, coupons for interest attached, on or after a date expected to be on or about the 40th day after the issue date of the Notes (subject to postponement as described in "Temporary Global Certificates issued in respect of Materialised Bearer Notes") upon certification as to non U.S. beneficial ownership as more fully described herein.

Temporary Global Certificates will (a) in the case of a Tranche (as defined in "General Description of the Programme") intended to be cleared through Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg, be deposited on the issue date with a common depository on behalf of Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg and (b) in the case of a Tranche intended to be cleared through a clearing system other than or in addition to Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg or delivered outside a clearing system, be deposited as agreed between the Issuer and the relevant Dealer (as defined below).

Notes issued under the Programme may be rated or unrated. Notes, whether Unsubordinated or Subordinated (all as defined in "General Description of the Programme"), will have such rating, if any, as is assigned to them by the relevant rating organisation as specified in the relevant Final Terms. Where an issue of Notes is rated, its rating will not necessarily be the same as the rating assigned under the Programme. A rating is not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold securities and may be subject to suspension, change or withdrawal at any time by the assigning rating agency.

Arranger

**NATIXIS**

Dealers

**BARCLAYS CAPITAL  
BAYERNLB  
BNP PARIBAS  
CALYON Crédit Agricole CIB  
DRESDNER KLEINWORT  
FORTIS BANK**

**HSBC  
JPMORGAN  
NATIXIS  
SOCIETE GENERALE CORPORATE & INVESTMENT  
BANKING  
THE ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND  
UBS INVESTMENT BANK**

The date of this Base Prospectus is 7 May 2008

**This Base Prospectus (together with all supplements thereto from time to time), constitutes a base prospectus for the purposes of article 5.4 of Directive 2003/71/EC (the "Prospectus Directive") and contains all relevant information concerning the Issuer which is necessary to enable investors to make an informed assessment of the assets and liabilities, financial position, profit and losses and prospects of the Issuer and its subsidiaries (together with the Issuer, the "Group"), as well as the base terms and conditions of the Notes to be issued under the Programme. The terms and conditions applicable to each Tranche (as defined in "General Description of the Programme") not contained herein (including, without limitation, the aggregate nominal amount, issue price, redemption price thereof, and interest, if any, payable thereunder) will be determined by the Issuer and the relevant Dealer(s) at the time of the issue on the basis of the then prevailing market conditions and will be set out in the relevant Final Terms.**

**This Base Prospectus is to be read in conjunction with any document and/or information which is or may be incorporated herein by reference in accordance with article 15 of the *Loi relative aux prospectus pour valeurs mobilières* dated 10 July 2005 implementing the Prospectus Directive in Luxembourg and article 28 of the European Commission Regulation N°809/2004 dated 29 April 2004 (see "Documents incorporated by Reference" below).**

**No person has been authorised to give any information or to make any representation other than those contained in this Base Prospectus in connection with the issue or sale of the Notes and, if given or made, such information or representation must not be relied upon as having been authorised by the Issuer or any of the Dealers or the Arranger (each as defined in "General Description of the Programme"). Neither the delivery of this Base Prospectus nor any sale made in connection herewith shall, under any circumstances, create any implication that there has been no change in the affairs of the Issuer or the Group since the date hereof or the date upon which this Base Prospectus has been most recently supplemented or that there has been no adverse change in the financial position of the Issuer or the Group since the date hereof or the date upon which this Base Prospectus has been most recently supplemented or that any other information supplied in connection with the Programme is correct as of any time subsequent to the date on which it is supplied or, if different, the date indicated in the document containing the same.**

**Certain information contained in this Base Prospectus and/or documents incorporated herein by reference has been extracted from sources specified in the sections where such information appears. The Issuer confirms that such information has been accurately reproduced and that, so far as it is aware and is able to ascertain from information published by the above sources, no facts have been omitted which would render the information reproduced inaccurate or misleading. The Issuer has also identified the source(s) of such information.**

**The distribution of this Base Prospectus and the offering or sale of the Notes in certain jurisdictions may be restricted by law. Persons into whose possession this Base Prospectus comes are required by the Issuer, the Dealers and the Arranger to inform themselves about and to observe any such restriction. The Notes have not been and will not be registered under the United States Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act) or with any securities regulatory authority of any state or other jurisdiction of the United States and may include Materialised Notes in bearer form that are subject to U.S. tax law requirements. Subject to certain exceptions, Notes may not be offered, sold or, in the case of Materialised Notes in bearer form, delivered within the United States or to or for the account or benefit of U.S. persons (as defined in Regulation S under the Securities Act (Regulation S) or, in the case of Materialised Notes in bearer form, the U.S. Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the U.S Internal Revenue Code and the regulations thereunder). For a description of certain restrictions on offers and sales of Notes and on distribution of this Base Prospectus, see "Subscription and Sale".**

**This Base Prospectus has not been submitted to the clearance procedures of the *Autorité des marchés financiers*.**

**This Base Prospectus does not constitute an offer of, or an invitation by or on behalf of the Issuer or the Dealers or the Arranger to subscribe for, or purchase, any Notes.**

**The Arranger and the Dealers have not separately verified the information contained in this Base Prospectus. None of the Dealers or the Arranger makes any representation, express or implied, or accepts any responsibility, with respect to the accuracy or completeness of any of the information in this Base Prospectus. Neither this Base Prospectus nor any other information supplied in connection with the**

**Programme (including financial statements) are intended to provide the basis of any credit or other evaluation and should not be considered as a recommendation by any of the Issuer, the Arranger or the Dealers that any recipient of this Base Prospectus or any other information supplied in connection with the Programme (including financial statements) should purchase the Notes. Each potential purchaser of Notes should determine for itself the relevance of the information contained in this Base Prospectus and its purchase of Notes should be based upon such investigation as it deems necessary. None of the Dealers or the Arranger undertakes to review the financial condition or affairs of the Issuer or the Group during the life of the arrangements contemplated by this Base Prospectus nor to advise any investor or potential investor in the Notes of any information coming to the attention of any of the Dealers or the Arranger.**

**In connection with the issue of any Tranche (as defined in "General Description of the Programme"), the Dealer or Dealers (if any) named as the stabilising manager(s) (the Stabilising Manager(s)) (or persons acting on behalf of any Stabilising Manager(s)) in the applicable Final Terms may over-allot Notes or effect transactions with a view to supporting the market price of the Notes at a level higher than that which might otherwise prevail. However, there is no assurance that the Stabilising Manager(s) (or persons acting on behalf of a Stabilising Manager) will undertake stabilisation action. Any stabilisation action may begin on or after the date on which adequate public disclosure of the final terms of the offer of the relevant Tranche is made and, if begun, may be ended at any time, but it must end no later than the earlier of 30 days after the issue date of the relevant Tranche and 60 days after the date of the allotment of the relevant Tranche. In this Base Prospectus, unless otherwise specified or the context otherwise requires, references to "€", "Euro", "EUR" or "euro" are to the single currency of the participating member states of the European Economic and Monetary Union which was introduced on 1 January 1999, references to "\$", "USD" and "U.S. Dollars" are to the lawful currency of the United States of America, references to "¥", "JPY", "Japanese yen" and "Yen" are to the lawful currency of Japan and references to "Swiss francs" or "CHF" are to the lawful currency of Switzerland.**

**In this Base Prospectus, any discrepancies in any table between totals and the sums of the amounts listed in such table are due to rounding.**

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## **RISK FACTORS RELATING TO THE NOTES**

*The following paragraphs describe some risk factors that are material to the Notes to be admitted to trading in order to assess the market risk associated with these Notes.*

*The Issuer believes that the following factors may affect its ability to fulfil its obligations under Notes issued under the Programme. They do not describe all the risks of an investment in the Notes. Prospective investors should consult their own financial and legal advisers about risks associated with investment in a particular Series of Notes and the suitability of investing in the Notes in light of their particular circumstances. These risk factors may be completed in the Final Terms of the relevant Notes for a particular issue of Notes.*

*Terms used but not defined in this section will have the meaning given to them in the Terms and Conditions.*

### **1. General Risks Relating to the Notes**

#### **1.1 Independent Review and Advice**

Each prospective investor of Notes must determine, based on its own independent review and such professional advice as it deems appropriate under the circumstances, that its acquisition of the Notes is fully consistent with its financial needs, objectives and condition, complies and is fully consistent with all investment policies, guidelines and restrictions applicable to it and is a fit, proper and suitable investment for it, notwithstanding the clear and substantial risks inherent in investing in or holding the Notes.

A prospective investor may not rely on the Issuer or the Dealer(s) or any of their respective affiliates in connection with its determination as to the legality of its acquisition of the Notes or as to the other matters referred to above.

#### **1.2 Potential Conflicts of Interest**

Each of the Issuer, the Dealer(s) or their respective affiliates may deal with and engage generally in any kind of commercial or investment banking or other business with any issuer of the securities taken up in an index, their respective affiliates or any guarantor or any other person or entities having obligations relating to any issuer of the securities taken up in an index or their respective affiliates or any guarantor in the same manner as if any index-linked Notes issued under the Programme did not exist, regardless of whether any such action might have an adverse effect on an issuer of the securities taken up in the index, any of their respective affiliates or any guarantor.

The Issuer may from time to time be engaged in transactions involving an index or related derivatives which may affect the market price, liquidity or value of the Notes and which could be deemed to be adverse to the interests of the Noteholders.

Potential conflicts of interest may arise between the calculation agent, if any, for a Tranche of Notes and the Noteholders, including with respect to certain discretionary determinations and judgements that such calculation agent may make pursuant to the Terms and Conditions that may influence the amount receivable upon redemption of the Notes.

#### **1.3 Legality of Purchase**

Neither the Issuer, the Dealer(s) nor any of their respective affiliates has or assumes responsibility for the lawfulness of the acquisition of the Notes by a prospective investor of the Notes, whether under the laws of the jurisdiction of its incorporation or the jurisdiction in which it operates (if different), or for compliance by that prospective investor with any law, regulation or regulatory policy applicable to it.

#### **1.4 Modification, waivers and substitution**

The conditions of the Notes contain provisions for calling General Meetings of Noteholders to consider matters affecting their interests generally. These provisions permit defined majorities to bind all Noteholders including Noteholders who did not attend and vote at the relevant General Meeting and Noteholders who voted in a manner contrary to the majority.

#### **1.5 Taxation**

Potential purchasers and sellers of the Notes should be aware that they may be required to pay taxes or other documentary charges or duties in accordance with the laws and practices of the country where the Notes are transferred or other jurisdictions. In some jurisdictions, no official statements of the tax authorities or court decisions may be available for the Notes. Potential investors are advised not to rely upon the tax summary contained in this Base Prospectus and/or in the Final Terms but to ask for their own tax adviser's advice on their individual taxation with respect to the acquisition, sale and redemption of the Notes. Only these advisors are in a position to duly consider the specific situation of the potential investor. This risk factor has to be read in connection with the taxation sections of this Base Prospectus and the additional tax sections, if any, contained in the relevant Final Terms.

### **1.6 EU Savings Directive**

Under Council Directive 2003/48/EC on taxation of savings income, Member States are required to provide to the tax authorities of another Member State details of payments of interest (or similar income) paid by a person within its jurisdiction to an individual resident in that other Member State. However, for a transitional period, Belgium, Luxembourg and Austria are instead required (unless during that period they elect otherwise) to operate a withholding system in relation to such payments (the ending of such transitional period being dependent upon the conclusion of certain other agreements relating to information exchange with certain other countries). A number of non-EU countries and territories including Switzerland have agreed to adopt similar measures (a withholding system in the case of Switzerland) with effect from the same date. This Directive has been implemented in French law under Article 242 *ter* of the French *Code général des impôts*.

### **1.7 Change of Law**

The Terms and Conditions of the Notes are based on French law in effect as at the date of this Base Prospectus. No assurance can be given as to the impact of any possible judicial decision or change in French law or the official application or interpretation of French law after the date of this Base Prospectus.

### **1.8 No active Secondary/Trading Market for the Notes**

Notes issued under the Programme will be new securities which may not be widely distributed and for which there may be no active trading market (unless in the case of any particular Tranche, such Tranche is to be consolidated with and form a single series with a Tranche of Notes which is already issued). If the Notes are traded after their initial issuance, they may trade at a discount to their initial offering price, depending upon prevailing interest rates, the market for similar securities, general economic conditions and the financial condition of the Issuer. Although in relation to Notes to be admitted to trading on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange and/or any other Regulated Market in the European Economic Area, the Final Terms of the Notes will be filed with the *Commission de surveillance du secteur financier* in Luxembourg and/or with the competent authority of the Regulated Market of the European Economic Area where the Notes will be admitted to trading, which, in the case of Notes to be admitted to trading on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange shall be the Luxembourg Stock Exchange, there is no assurance that such filings will be accepted, that any particular Tranche of Notes will be so admitted or that an active trading market will develop. Accordingly, there is no assurance as to the development or liquidity of any trading market for any particular Tranche of Notes.

### **1.9 Currency Risk**

Prospective investors of the Notes should be aware that an investment in the Notes may involve exchange rate risks. The reference assets or the Notes may be denominated in a currency other than the currency of the purchaser's home jurisdiction; and/or the reference assets or the Notes may be denominated in a currency other than the currency in which a purchaser wishes to receive funds. Exchange rates between currencies are determined by factors of supply and demand in the international currency markets which are influenced by macro economic factors, speculation and central bank and government intervention (including the imposition of currency controls and restrictions). Fluctuations in exchange rates may affect the value of the Notes or the reference assets.

### **1.10 Credit ratings may not reflect all risks**

One or more independent credit rating agencies may assign credit ratings to the Notes. The ratings may not reflect the potential impact of all risks related to structure, market, additional factors discussed above, and other factors that may affect the value of the Notes. A credit rating is not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold securities and may be revised or withdrawn by the rating agency at any time.

### **1.11 Market Value of the Notes**

The market value of the Notes will be affected by the creditworthiness of the Issuer and a number of additional factors, including the value of the reference assets or an index, including, but not limited to, the volatility of the reference assets or an index, or the dividend on the securities taken up in the index, market interest and yield rates and the time remaining to the maturity date.

The value of the Notes, the reference assets or the index depends on a number of interrelated factors, including economic, financial and political events in France or elsewhere, including factors affecting capital markets generally and the stock exchanges on which the Notes, the reference assets, the securities taken up in the index, or the index are traded. The price at which a Noteholder will be able to sell the Notes prior to maturity may be at a discount, which could be substantial, from the issue price or the purchase price paid by such purchaser. The historical market prices of the reference assets or an index should not be taken as an indication of the reference assets' or an index's future performance during the term of any Note.

## **2. Risks related to the structure of a particular issue of Notes**

The Programme allows for different types of Notes to be issued. Accordingly, each Tranche of Notes may carry varying risks for potential investors depending on the specific features of such Notes such as, *inter alia*, the provisions for computation of periodic interest payments, if any, redemption and issue price. Set out below is a description of the most common of such features:

### **2.1 Notes subject to optional redemption by the Issuer**

Unless in the case of any particular Tranche of Notes the relevant Final Terms specifies otherwise, in the event that the Issuer would be obliged to increase the amounts payable in respect of any Notes due to any withholding or deduction for or on account of, any present or future taxes, duties, assessments or governmental charges of whatever nature imposed, levied, collected, withheld or assessed by the country of domicile (or residence for tax purposes) by the Issuer, or on behalf of France, or any political subdivision thereof or any authority therein or thereof having power to tax, the Issuer may, and in some circumstances must, redeem all outstanding Notes in accordance with the Terms and Conditions.

In addition, if in the case of any particular Tranche of Notes the relevant Final Terms specify that the Notes are redeemable at the Issuer's option in certain other circumstances the Issuer may choose to redeem the Notes at times when prevailing interest rates may be relatively low. During a period when the Issuer may elect, or has elected, to redeem Notes, such Notes may feature a market value not substantially above the price at which they can be redeemed. In such circumstances an investor may not be able to reinvest the redemption proceeds in a comparable security at an effective interest rate as high as that of the relevant Notes.

### **2.2 Fixed Rate Notes**

Investment in Notes which bear interest at a fixed rate involves the risk that subsequent changes in market interest rates may adversely affect the value of the relevant Tranche of Notes.

### **2.3 Floating Rate Notes**

Investment in Notes which bear interest at a floating rate comprise (i) a reference rate and (ii) a margin to be added or subtracted, as the case may be, from such base rate. Typically, the relevant margin will not change throughout the life of the Notes but there will be a periodic adjustment (as specified in the relevant Final Terms) of the reference rate (e.g., every three months or six months) which itself will change in accordance with general market conditions. Accordingly, the market value of floating rate Notes may be volatile if changes, particularly short term changes, to market interest rates evidenced by the relevant reference rate can only be reflected in the interest rate of these Notes upon the next periodic adjustment of the relevant reference rate.

### **2.4 Inverse Floating Rate Notes**

Inverse floating rate Notes have an interest rate equal to a fixed base rate minus a rate based upon a reference rate. The market value of such Notes typically is more volatile than the market value of floating rate Notes based on the same reference rate (and with otherwise comparable terms). Inverse floating rate Notes are more volatile because an increase in the reference rate not only decreases the interest rate of the Notes, but may also reflect an increase in prevailing interest rates, which further adversely affects the market value of these Notes.

### **2.5 Fixed to Floating Rate Notes**

Fixed to floating rate Notes initially bear interest at a fixed rate; conversion from a fixed rate to a floating rate then takes place either automatically or at the option of the Issuer if certain predetermined conditions are met. The conversion (whether it be automatic or optional) of the interest rate will affect the secondary market and the market value of the Notes since the conversion may lead to a lower overall cost of borrowing. If a fixed rate is converted to a floating rate, the spread on the fixed to floating rate Notes may be less favourable than then prevailing spreads on comparable floating rate Notes tied to the same reference rate. In addition, the new floating rate at any time may be lower than the rates on other Notes.

## **2.6 Notes issued at a substantial discount or premium**

The market values of securities issued at a substantial discount or premium from their principal amount tend to fluctuate more in relation to general changes in interest rates than do prices for conventional interest-bearing securities. Generally, the longer the remaining term of the securities, the greater the price volatility as compared to conventional interest-bearing securities with comparable maturities.

## **2.7 Index-Linked Notes**

Index-linked Notes are debt securities which do not provide for predetermined redemption amounts and/or interest payments but amounts due in respect of principal and/or interest will be dependent upon the performance of an index, which itself may contain substantial credit, interest rate or other risks. The amount of principal and/or interest, if any, payable by the Issuer might be substantially less than the issue price or, as the case may be, the purchase price invested by the Noteholder and may even be zero in which case the Noteholder may lose his entire investment.

Index-linked Notes are not in any way sponsored, endorsed, sold or promoted by the index sponsor or the respective licensor of the index and such index sponsor or licensor makes no warranty or representation whatsoever, express or implied, either as to the results to be obtained from the use of the index and/or the figure at which the index stands at any particular time. Each index is determined, composed and calculated by its respective index sponsor or licensor, without regard to the Issuer or the Notes. None of the index sponsors or licensors is responsible for or has participated in the determination of the timing of, prices at, or quantities of the Notes to be issued or in determination or calculation of the equation by which the Notes settle into cash. None of the index sponsors or licensors has any obligation or liability in connection with the administration, marketing or trading of the Notes. The index sponsor or licensor of an index has no responsibility for any calculation agency adjustment made for the index.

None of the Issuer, the Dealer(s) or any of their respective affiliates makes any representation as to an index. Any of such persons may have acquired, or during the term of the Notes may acquire, non-public information with respect to an index that is or may be material in the context of index-linked Notes. The issue of index-linked Notes will not create any obligation on the part of any such persons to disclose to the Noteholders or any other party such information (whether or not confidential).

## **2.8 Inflation-Linked Notes**

The decision to purchase inflation-linked Notes involves complex financial appreciations and risks as the inflation cannot be foreseen with certainty. The yield of Inflation-Linked Notes may be lower than the yield of non Inflation-Linked Notes. The Issuer makes no representation as to the tax treatment of such Notes or as to the lawfulness of the purchase of such Notes in any jurisdiction.

## **2.9 Partly-paid Notes**

The Issuer may issue Notes where the issue price is payable in more than one instalment. Failure to pay any subsequent instalment could result in an investor losing all of his investment.

## **2.10 Variable rate Notes with a multiplier or other leverage factor**

Notes with variable interest rates can be volatile investments. If they are structured to include multipliers or other leverage factors, or caps or floors, or any combination of those features, their market values may be even more volatile than those for securities that do not include those features.

## **2.11 Structured Notes**

An investment in Notes, the premium and/or the interest on or principal of which is determined by reference to one or more values of currencies, commodities, interest rates or other indices or formulae, either directly or inversely, may entail significant risks not associated with similar investments in a conventional debt security, including the



risks that the resulting interest rate will be less than that payable on a conventional debt security at the same time and/or that an investor may lose the value of its entire investment or part of it, as the case may be. Neither the current nor the historical value of the relevant currencies, commodities, interest rates or other indices or formulae should be taken as an indication of future performance of such currencies, commodities, interest rates or other indices or formulae during the term of any Note.

## **2.12 Subordinated Notes**

In the event of any insolvency or liquidation of the Issuer, holders of Subordinated Notes would receive payments on any outstanding Subordinated Notes only after senior Noteholders and other senior creditors have been repaid in full, if and to the extent that there is still cash available for those payments. Thus, holders of Subordinated Notes generally face a higher performance risk than holders of senior Notes.

## RISK FACTORS RELATING TO THE ISSUER AND ITS OPERATIONS

- **Operating risks**

### **Concentration of revenue sources**

97.7 per cent of the sales turnover of the Autoroutes du Sud de la France (ASF) group (the "ASF Group" or the "Group") consists of toll revenues received under its three present concession agreements. These concession agreements are the ASF network concession agreement expiring in 2032 (the "ASF Concession Agreement"), the Escota network concession agreement expiring in 2026 (the "Escota Concession Agreement") and, to a lesser extent, the Puymorens tunnel concession agreement signed by ASF and expiring in 2037 (the "Puymorens Concession Agreement"). Since it entered the VINCI Group in 2006, ASF has ceased to compete for new concession agreements, development of new concessions being managed by VINCI Concessions, a dedicated entity of the VINCI Group.

The remainder of turnover is generated by

- royalties related to sub-concessions (motorway service stations, hotels and restaurants) (1.5 per cent);
- rental of optical fibre networks to telecommunication operators (0.6 per cent);
- and by operation, maintenance and advisory activities linked to motorways infrastructures exercised by ASF and its subsidiaries through service contracts (0.2 per cent).

Activity outside France is insignificant.

The ASF Group is almost entirely dependent on the revenues generated by its two main concession agreements, the ASF Concession Agreement and the Escota Concession Agreement. This risk is, however, mitigated by the size of the Group network and the number of routes covered, which provides major trunk routes comprising essential international transit roads within France.

Conversely, the Issuer considers that the risks related to the diversification of its business are very limited

### **Change in traffic and toll receipts**

Toll receipts, which represent the bulk of ASF Group revenues, depend on the number of paying vehicles, tariffs and the network's ability to absorb traffic.

A certain number of factors, such as the quality, convenience and travel time of toll-free roads or toll motorways that are not part of the ASF Group networks, the economic climate and fuel prices in France, environmental legislation (including measures to restrict motor vehicle use in order to reduce air pollution), new taxes levied on road infrastructure users, the existence of alternative modes of transport (in particular rail and air travel) and the extent to which customers are prepared to pay toll prices, which are linked to inflation, would have an impact on traffic volumes, which is currently difficult to estimate.

Tariffs and tariff increases are determined by the concession agreements. The ASF Group can give no assurance that the tariffs the Group is authorised to charge will be sufficient to guarantee an adequate level of profitability.

Moreover, a change in the toll collection technologies in France (such as in other European countries) may also be contemplated. However, it is not possible to estimate all the consequences in term of revenues and costs for ASF at this stage.

### **Changes in the inflation rate**

Toll rate adjustments are based on annual changes in the French consumer price index (excluding tobacco). Accordingly, ASF is exposed to the risk of a decline in the rate of inflation. A decrease in the inflation rate would result in lower toll rate increases, which could adversely affect the evolution of ASF's net operating cash flows.

Conversely, an increase in the inflation rate would result in toll rate increases which could have an adverse effect on traffic.

### **Traffic saturation on certain motorways**

Some of ASF's urban motorways are saturated and become over-saturated only at certain periods of the year. These sections represent only a few percentages of traffic revenues. Moreover, traffic congestion appears during peak periods, especially in summer, on some of ASF's motorways including the A7 (section located in the Rhone Valley) and the A9. The ASF Group is working with the State and the relevant local authorities to identify solutions to reduce traffic to acceptable levels. However, no assurance can be given that the saturation problems will be resolved at an acceptable cost to ASF, or that the problems will not lead to new concessions being awarded to competitors. At present, the ASF Group estimates that traffic saturation does not have a material impact on its revenues.

### **Road users' resistance to tolls**

To date, the ASF Group has not experienced any major road-user resistance to tolls. However, from time to time in urban areas the company has had pressure from users and the authorities. In particular, it had to bow to pressure in relation to the four-lane Roques expressway in the suburbs of Toulouse, which was originally toll-free, by selling to the State the toll plaza located there for a price corresponding to the construction costs of the toll barrier and to the forecast profits for this relevant section. In addition, like other toll motorway operators, the company is exposed to user protests, mainly on the urban sections of the network.

### **Regulatory environment**

The ASF Group operates in a highly regulated environment and its results are influenced by government road policies.

As in all highly regulated industries, regulatory changes could affect the company's business. However, in the event of a change in technical regulations related directly to the concession or a substantial change in the taxation system or the introduction of new taxes levied on motorway operators that could seriously impair the financial equilibrium of concession operations, the concession agreements stipulate that the Group and the French State (the "State" or the "French State") will mutually negotiate compensatory measures in the interest of the continued provision of the public service.

### **State termination and buy-out option**

Starting in 2012 the State will have the right to buy back the concession, for reasons of public interest, on 1 January of each year, subject to giving one year's notice.

If the buyback option is exercised, the concessionaire will be entitled to compensation corresponding to the loss suffered by it as a result of the termination, the amount of which, net of taxes due on its receipts and after taking into account all deductible costs, will be equal to the fair value of the concession being bought back, estimated in accordance with the method for calculating the present value of available after-tax cash-flows. (See section 4.4 : "State buyback option").

Under public law, the French State may also unilaterally terminate the concession agreements for reasons of public interest before 2012, subject to judicial supervision. In this case, pursuant to a constant case law in France, the concessionaire will become entitled to a full indemnification of its damages, termination costs and losses of profits beyond the actual assets value as shown in the accounts. The same procedure will apply in case of partial (e.g. relating to only a part of the network) early termination of the concession in the public interest.

In addition, the State may terminate the concession agreement due to a serious breach of the company's contractual obligations (except in case of *force majeure*). In this case, the concession would be awarded to a new operator under a competitive bidding process and the company would receive the bid price paid by the new concessionaire (See section 4.4.: "Termination for default").

However, the ASF Group can give no assurance that this price will cover all of its liabilities. Moreover, if no operator were found, the Group would be entitled to no compensation.

## **Expiry of concession agreements, return of assets to the State**

Substantially all of ASF Group revenues are derived from operations under the ASF Concession Agreement and the Escota Concession Agreement. When the concessions expire, ASF and Escota will be required to surrender substantially all of the related assets to the State, without compensation.

## **Increased competition**

The ASF Group is exposed to competition from alternative road networks and also from alternative modes of transport (in particular rail and air travel).

Competition from alternative road networks is currently low.

For North/South traffic, the A75 from Clermont-Ferrand to Montpellier has generated increased competition for ASF motorways since the Millau viaduct was opened at the end of 2004. Traffic data for 2007 shows that the A20 is apparently not affected by this competition (+ 4 per cent increase in traffic), however it can explain the modest increase in traffic observed for the A7 in the Rhône valley (+2.8 per cent).

The most significant competition from toll-free roads concerns the A10, which competes with the RN10 between Poitiers and Saint-André-de-Cubzac. This section of the RN10 is almost entirely four-lane and the route followed is around 20 km shorter than that taken by the A10. Nearly half the heavy goods vehicles that use the A10 north of Poitiers choose this stretch of the RN10. Although in 2005 and 2006, heavy goods vehicle traffic fell significantly on the A10 following the lifting of the ban on these vehicles using the RN10 highway while major roadworks were in progress, overall traffic rose by 3.2 per cent in 2007.

French transport policy currently focuses on restoring the balance among the various modes of transport. Efforts are being made to limit heavy goods vehicle traffic by encouraging freight back onto rail, with the target of at least doubling rail freight in the next ten years. At the European level, the European Commission's 2001 White Paper targets the rebalancing of modes of transport not in the next ten years but by 2030. This less ambitious goal takes into account the fact that only a small proportion of freight is currently carried by rail, and transport by lorry is unavoidable over short distances, where there is no alternative mode sufficiently tailored to the needs of the economy. ASF consider that competition from rail is currently limited.

At present, passenger traffic on the new high-speed train links (TGV Méditerranée) does not represent a material source of competition for ASF and Escota networks, as illustrated by the traffic increase in the motorways following the same routes over the past five years.

## **Labour unrest and damage or destruction of sections of the Group's motorways could adversely affect the Group's revenues, results of operations and financial condition**

Like all motorway concessionaires, ASF and Escota face potential risks from labour unrest, natural disasters such as earthquakes, flooding, landslides or subsidence, collapse or destruction of sections of motorway or the spillage of hazardous substances. The occurrence of any such events could lead to a significant decline in toll revenues from the Group's motorways or a significant increase in expenditures for the operation, maintenance or repair of the Group Network. Although the Group carries all risk and accident insurance, there can be no assurance that these policies cover all of the incremental costs resulting from damage to the network. ASF and Escota do not carry business interruption insurance covering the loss of toll receipts as a result of strike action or blockages of toll booths by protestors or as a result of accidents or damage to roads, tunnels or bridges.

In relation to tunnels, following the Mont Blanc tunnel accident, the State imposed certain requirements relating to safety for tunnels longer than 300 metres. The tunnels operated by ASF and Escota have therefore been subject to specific studies to establish the changes required. Some work has already taken place and other work is pending.

- **Construction risks**

The large-scale construction projects expose the Group to the risk of shortages of materials or labour, higher material or labour costs, general factors affecting economic activity and the credit market, business failures by contractors or subcontractors, work stoppage due to bad weather or unforeseen engineering or environmental problems. Under the concession agreement, remedies can be sought in case the construction of a motorway fails to meet the initial schedule or a section of motorway is not made available on time.

Although ASF and Escota have significant experience and seek to limit this risk in their agreements with contractors, no assurance can be given that these factors will not, under certain circumstances, have an adverse effect on the Group. This risk is however limited considering that 96.1 per cent of the conceded network has already been built.

- **Environmental risks**

The Group incurs and will continue to incur costs to comply with environmental, health and safety laws and regulation.

These include regulations covering noise pollution, water protection, air quality and atmospheric pollution, waste prevention, protection of sites of archaeological interest, national parks, nature reserves, classified sites, "Natura 2000" sites (conservation areas for the protection of natural habitats and rare species of plants and animals), forest fire prevention and waste disposal. The Group may be subject to stricter laws and regulations in the future and incur higher compliance costs. In the case of an accident or damage to the environment, the Group may be subject to personal injury or property damage claims or legal proceedings for harm to natural resources. The business or profitability may be adversely affected in case of inability by the Group to cover environmental protection costs or costs arising from its partial liability for any accidents, by raising the tariffs pursuant to the terms of the concession agreements.

The Group complies with all applicable environmental regulations and standards and has set up a quality control system covering all projects. Formal design and management standards as well as guidelines have been issued, spanning all aspects of the business. On 4 June 2003, the Construction Department of ASF obtained ISO 9001: 2000 certification from Bureau Veritas Quality International for its quality management systems covering motorway design and construction activities, this certification was renewed on 30 June 2006 for three additional years. For all major construction projects, contractors are required to submit and apply an environmental protection plan. The plan, which sets out the contractor's commitments and obligations for the duration of the project, is contractually binding. Since 2002, the contractors which do the most to prevent damage to the environment during motorway construction work are awarded the "ASF Construction Environnement Sécurité" label. The Infrastructure Department (ASF) and the Environmental Mission (Escota) are responsible for constant environmental monitoring, in connection with the ASF Group Sustainable Development Mission (created in August 2006) and with input from the Legal Department on regulatory aspects. The French Industry Association, Association des Sociétés Françaises d'Autoroutes (ASFA), has set up a Sustainable Development Committee, providing a forum for exchanges of experience among motorway operators.

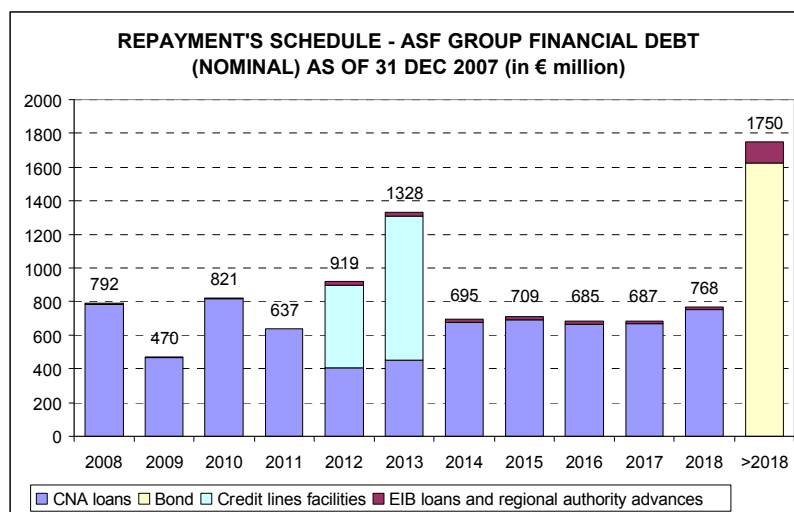
Under the regulations designed to protect the public and workers against the health risks associated with exposure to asbestos, as set out in the decrees of 7 February 1996, the ASF Group has performed tests to detect the possible presence of asbestos in its premises and equipment. In the very limited number of cases where asbestos was found, the ASF Group implemented the preventive and corrective measures specified in the regulations.

- **Market risks**

### Liquidity risks

The ASF Group's exposure to liquidity risk relates to its obligation to its existing debt and to obtaining financing in future for working capital needs, capital expenditure and general purposes.

At 31 December 2007, the net debt of ASF Group was €10,475.3 million. The repayment schedule of the nominal debt (€10,260.6 million) is as follow:



Most of ASF Group financing has been incurred by CNA (Caisse Nationale des Autoroutes), a State owned financial entity, managed by the Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations (CDC), and created for providing financing to the SEMCAs (semi-public motorway concessionaire companies) benefiting from AAA rating issuer conditions in the bond market in the form of bullet loans.

In 2006, ASF and Escota ceased to benefit from the access to CNA loans further to the IPO of 49 per cent of the company capital in 2002. Then, in the context of the total privatisation, ASF and Escota signed in March 2006 an addendum to the "Convention Technique" of 1996, setting out the general conditions of CNA outstanding loans and providing that:

- ASF must comply with the following financial covenants calculated on the basis of the ASF consolidated financial statements:

- Net Debt / EBITDA  $\leq$  7
- EBITDA / Net Financial Costs  $>$  2.2

- ASF Group shall ensure that its construction and operation activities, in France and in the member countries of the OECD, of roads, expressways, highways, transportation works, highway systems and parking facilities, or services related to such activities, represent at all times more than 85% of its consolidated assets and more than 80% of its annual consolidated income.

- Merger and reorganisation are not permitted except within ASF Group.

For the refinancing of CNA loans and the financing of future investments, ASF will have recourse mainly to the banking system and the bond market.

At 31 December 2007, ASF had a net cash managed of €78.3 million and unused syndicated revolving facilities for a total amount of €2.4 billion (€0.5 billion maturing in July 2012 and €1.9 billion maturing in December 2013). These bank credit lines have similar financial covenants as those provided for CNA loans.

In December 2007, ASF and the European Investment Bank (EIB) signed a new amortising loan contract for €250 million. This financing is in the form of a loan to be used between December 2007 and December 2009 and to be repaid at the latest in 2028.

(in million euros)	Amounts used as per 31/12/2007	Amounts available as per 31/12/2007	Autorisation as per 31/12/2007	Schedule		
				< 31/12/2008	> 31/12/2008 < 31/12/2012	>31/12/2012
Syndicated credit line	495	505	1,000		1,000	
Revolving credit line	100	1,900	2,000			2,000
EIB loan	0	250	250			250
<b>Total</b>	<b>595</b>	<b>2,655</b>	<b>3,250</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>2,250</b>

Taking into account of net cash managed and unused credit facilities (€2.65 billion), the Group's liquidity position at 31 December 2007 was €2.73 billion covering the total amount of CNA loans to be redeemed in 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011.

The above-mentioned CNA loans and bank facilities do not provide any early repayment provisions based solely on a rating trigger. The EIB (European Investment Bank) loan contracts signed in 2005 and 2007 provides a rating clause under which, if ASF is downgraded, the parties shall consult one another in order to provide the lender with sufficient information to assess the situation. Following such consultation, the EIB is authorised to request the provision of guarantees or collateral in its favour. If ASF fails to satisfy this request within a reasonable time, the EIB may require an early redemption of the loans. Since the execution of the first loan, ASF was downgraded by Standard and Poor's from A+ to BBB+, in connection with its privatisation. The EIB, after having considered ASF's situation following such downgrade, has not requested the provision of guarantees or collateral.

### **Interest rate risk**

Due to the level of its net debt, ASF may be affected by the evolution of the euro zone interest rates. ASF intends to preserve and optimise its financial results on a long term basis by implementing interest rate hedging policy based on a targeted allocation of net debt between fixed rate, capped rate, inflation linked rate and floating rate depending on the level of leverage measured by the net debt/EBITDA ratio. The Treasury Committee, which comprises: the VINCI Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, the ASF CFO, the VINCI-ASF Group Treasurer and his assistant and the Head of the Back Office department and which meets at least once a month, follows the interest rate exposure of the ASF group and implements the coverage policy.

In connection with this policy, the ASF Group uses loans issued at a fixed rate, and implements some hedging instruments, which allow it to maintain a significant part of its debt at a fixed or capped rate.

At 31 December 2007, 78 per cent of ASF gross debt was at a fixed rate, and 22 per cent was capped or inflation linked. The maximum part of gross debt kept at floating rate shall not exceed 15 per cent in 2008.

### **Foreign exchange risk**

Given that almost all ASF Group business is carried out in France, its exposure to foreign exchange risks is very limited.

The exposure linked to financing raised in foreign currencies is hedged. As of today, one loan issued in Swiss francs in 1998, is still outstanding. It has been hedged by a cross-currency swap, converting their combined nominal amount into a €301.1 million loan.

- **Legal risks**

As part of the ordinary course of their business, ASF and Escota are subject to a number of administrative proceedings and civil actions relating to the construction, operation and management of the Group network.



In addition, the award to ASF of the A89 Balbigny – La Tour de Salvigny concession has been challenged before the French *Conseil d'Etat*. See "Information concerning the Issuer (Section 1.6.) –A89: on the road to a motorway all the way from Bordeaux to Clermont-Ferrand".

The ASF Group considers that its insurance policies provide adequate coverage of material potential risks; ASF and Escota general civil liability is covered up to €30.5 million per claim. Cover for losses arising from liability claims for accidental environmental damage amounts to €15 million per claim and for total claims per insurance year at ASF and Escota. Companies that participate in the construction of motorways are required to carry insurance covering their own liability. Although ASF and Escota carry property and casualty and liability insurance, they can give no assurance that these policies will cover the total amount of claims related to the construction, maintenance or operation of the motorways, bridges and tunnels.

## DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

The following documents which have previously been published or are published simultaneously with this Base Prospectus and have been filed with the CSSF shall be incorporated in, and form part of, this Base Prospectus:

- (a) the English language version of the Issuer's Annual financial report 2007 which includes the audited consolidated annual financial statements of the Issuer for the year ended 31 December 2007, together with the explanatory notes and the related auditors reports (the "**2007 FR**"); and
- (b) the English language version of the Issuer's Annual financial report 2006 which includes the audited consolidated annual financial statements of the Issuer for the year ended 31 December 2006, together with the explanatory notes and the related auditors reports (the "**2006 FR**").

Following the publication of this Base Prospectus a supplement may be prepared by the Issuer and approved by the CSSF in accordance with Article 16 of the Prospectus Directive. Statements contained in any such supplement (or contained in any document incorporated by reference therein) shall, to the extent applicable (whether expressly, by implication or otherwise), be deemed to modify or supersede statements contained in this Base Prospectus or in a document which is incorporated by reference in this Base Prospectus. Any statement so modified or superseded shall not, except as so modified or superseded, constitute a part of this Base Prospectus.

Copies of documents incorporated by reference in this Base Prospectus can be obtained from the registered office of the Issuer and from the specified offices of the Paying Agent for the time being in Luxembourg, and will also be published on the website of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange ([www.bourse.lu](http://www.bourse.lu)). This Base Prospectus will be published on the websites of (a) the Luxembourg Stock Exchange ([www.bourse.lu](http://www.bourse.lu)) during a period of twelve months from the date of this Base Prospectus and (b) the Issuer ([www.asf.fr](http://www.asf.fr)). The Final Terms related to Notes admitted to trading on any Regulated Market will be published on the websites of (a) the Luxembourg Stock Exchange ([www.bourse.lu](http://www.bourse.lu)) and (b) the Issuer ([www.asf.fr](http://www.asf.fr)).

Any information not listed in the cross-reference table below but included in the documents incorporated by reference is given for information purposes only.

### INFORMATION INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

(Annex IX of the European Regulation 809/2004/EC)

#### **11. FINANCIAL INFORMATION CONCERNING THE ISSUER'S ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, FINANCIAL POSITION AND PROFITS AND LOSSES**

##### **11.1 Historical Financial Information**

	<b>2006 FR</b>	<b>2007 FR</b>
Consolidated balance sheet	Page 18	Page 12
Consolidated statement of income	Page 17	Page 11
Cash flow statement	Page 19	Page 14
Notes to the consolidated financial statements	Page 21	Page 16
Auditors' report	Pages 72-74	Pages 62-63

##### **11.2 Financial statements**

If the issuer prepares both own and consolidated financial statements, include at least the consolidated financial statements in the registration document.	Pages 10-74 "Consolidated Financial Statements".	Pages 10-61 "Consolidated Financial Statements".
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##### **11.3 Auditing of historical annual financial information**

<b>2006 FR</b>	<b>2007 FR</b>
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**INFORMATION INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE****Reference Document**

(Annex IX of the European Regulation 809/2004/EC)

<b>11.3.1.</b> A statement that the historical financial information has been audited.	Pages 73-74 "Consolidated Financial Statements".	Pages 62-63 "Consolidated Financial Statements".
Refusal, qualifications or disclaimers of the audit reports, as the case may be, and reasons for such refusal, qualifications or disclaimers.	Not applicable	Not applicable
<b>11.3.2.</b> Other information included audited by the auditors.	Not applicable	Not applicable
<b>11.3.3.</b> If financial data included is not extracted from the non audited financial statements, source of the data and indication that the data is unaudited.	Not applicable	Not applicable

**PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE INFORMATION GIVEN IN THIS BASE  
PROSPECTUS**

To the best knowledge of the Issuer (having taken all reasonable care to ensure that such is the case), the information contained in this Base Prospectus is in accordance with the facts and contains no omission likely to affect its import. The Issuer accepts responsibility accordingly.

**Autoroutes du Sud de la France**

9, place de l'Europe

92851 Rueil-Malmaison cedex

France

Duly represented by:

Pierre Anjolras, *Directeur général* of the Issuer

## **SUPPLEMENT TO THE BASE PROSPECTUS**

If at any time the Issuer shall be required to prepare a Supplement to the Base Prospectus pursuant to the provisions of Article 16 of the Prospectus Directive 2003/71/EC, the Issuer will prepare and make available an appropriate Supplement to this Base Prospectus, which in respect of any subsequent issue of Notes to be admitted to trading on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange or on a Regulated Market of a Member State of the European Economic Area, shall constitute a Supplement to the Base Prospectus for the purpose of the relevant provisions of the Prospectus Directive 2003/71/EC.

## GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAMME

The following general description of the Programme is qualified in its entirety by the remainder of this Base Prospectus. The Notes will be issued on such terms as shall be agreed between the Issuer and the relevant Dealer(s) and, unless specified to the contrary in the relevant Final Terms, will be subject to the Terms and Conditions of the Notes below.

<b>Issuer</b>	Autoroutes du Sud de la France
<b>Risk factors related to the Notes</b>	There are certain factors which are material for the purpose of assessing the market risks associated with Notes issued under the Programme including general risks relating to the Notes and risks related to the structure of a particular issue of Notes. These are set out under <i>Risk Factors relating to the Notes</i> above.
<b>Description</b>	Euro Medium Term Note Programme for the continuous offer of Notes (the <b>Programme</b> )
<b>Arranger</b>	Natixis
<b>Dealers</b>	Barclays Bank PLC Bayerische Landesbank BNP PARIBAS CALYON Dresdner Bank Aktiengesellschaft Fortis Bank NV/SA HSBC Bank plc J.P. Morgan Securities Ltd Natixis Société Générale The Royal Bank of Scotland plc UBS Limited  The Issuer may from time to time terminate the appointment of any dealer under the Programme or appoint additional dealers either in respect of one or more Tranches or in respect of the whole Programme. References in this Base Prospectus to <b>Permanent Dealers</b> are to the persons listed above as Dealers and to such additional persons that are appointed as dealers in respect of the whole Programme (and whose appointment has not been terminated) and to <b>Dealers</b> are to all Permanent Dealers and all persons appointed as a dealer in respect of one or more Tranches.
<b>Programme Limit</b>	Euro 6,000,000,000 (or the equivalent in other currencies at the date of issue) aggregate nominal amount of Notes outstanding at any one time.
<b>Fiscal Agent, Principal Paying Agent, Luxembourg Paying Agent and Paris Paying Agent</b>	Fortis Banque Luxembourg SA
<b>Calculation Agent</b>	Fortis Banque Luxembourg SA
<b>Method of Issue</b>	The Notes will be issued on a syndicated or non-syndicated basis.
<b>Maturities</b>	Subject to compliance with all applicable relevant laws, regulations and directives, any maturity from one year from the date of original issue.
<b>Currencies</b>	Subject to compliance with all relevant laws, regulations and directives, Notes may be issued in any currency agreed between the Issuer and the relevant Dealers.
<b>Denomination(s)</b>	The Notes will be issued in such denomination(s) as may be agreed between the Issuer and the relevant Dealer save that the minimum denomination of each Note admitted to trading on a Regulated Market in circumstances which require the publication of a Base Prospectus under the Prospectus Directive will be €50,000 (or, if the Notes are

denominated in a currency other than euro, the equivalent amount in such currency at the issue date) or such other higher amount as may be allowed or required from time to time by the relevant central bank (or equivalent body) or any laws or regulations applicable to the relevant Specified Currency.

Dematerialised Notes will be issued in one denomination only.

<b>Status of the Unsubordinated Notes</b>	Unsubordinated Notes ( <b>Unsubordinated Notes</b> ) will constitute direct, general, unconditional, unsecured (subject to the provisions of Condition 4) and unsubordinated obligations of the Issuer and will rank <i>pari passu</i> and without any preference among themselves and (subject to such exceptions as are from time to time mandatory under French law) equally and rateably with all other present or future unsecured and unsubordinated obligations of the Issuer.
<b>Status of the Subordinated Notes</b>	<p>Subordinated Notes (<b>Subordinated Notes</b>) will be unsecured subordinated obligations of the Issuer and will rank <i>pari passu</i> and without any preference among themselves and <i>pari passu</i> with any other unsecured subordinated obligations of the Issuer with the exception of any <i>prêts participatifs</i> granted to the Issuer as set out in Condition 3(b) - see Terms and Conditions of the Notes – Status of Subordinated Notes.</p> <p>If so specified in the relevant Final Terms, the payment of interest in respect of Subordinated Notes without a specified maturity date (<b>Undated Subordinated Notes</b>) may be deferred in accordance with the provisions of Condition 5(h) - see Terms and Conditions of Notes - Interest and Other Calculations.</p>
<b>Negative Pledge</b>	There will be a negative pledge in respect of Unsubordinated Notes as set out in Condition 4 - see Terms and Conditions of the Notes - Negative Pledge.
<b>Events of Default (including cross default)</b>	There will be events of default and a cross-default in respect of Unsubordinated Notes as set out in Condition 9(a) and limited events of default only in respect of Subordinated Notes as set out in Condition 9(b) - see "Terms and Conditions of the Notes - Events of Default".
<b>Redemption Amount</b>	The relevant Final Terms will specify the basis for calculating the redemption amounts payable.
<b>Optional Redemption</b>	The Final Terms issued in respect of each issue of Notes will state whether such Notes may be redeemed prior to their stated maturity at the option of the Issuer (either in whole or in part) and/or the Noteholders and if so the terms applicable to such redemption.
<b>Redemption by Instalments</b>	The Final Terms issued in respect of each issue of Notes that are redeemable in two or more instalments will set out the dates on which, and the amounts in which, such Notes may be redeemed.
<b>Early Redemption (including following a Change of Control) at the option of the Issuer and/or Noteholders</b>	Except as provided in "Optional Redemption" above, Notes will be redeemable at the option of the Issuer prior to maturity for tax reasons. See Condition 6 "Terms and Conditions of the Notes - Redemption, Purchase and Options". If at any time while any of the Notes remains outstanding, there occurs a Change of Control and (only if, at the start of the Change of Control Period any of the Notes are rated by any Rating Agency) within the Change of Control Period a Rating Downgrade in respect of that Change of Control occurs, the holder of each Note will have the option (unless, prior to the giving of a Put Event Notice by a Noteholder, the Issuer gives notice to the Noteholders of its intention to redeem the Notes) to require the Issuer to redeem or, at the Issuer's option, to procure the purchase of that Note, all as defined and further described in Condition 6 "Terms and Conditions of the Notes - Redemption, Purchase and Options – Redemption at the option of Noteholders following a Change of Control".
<b>Taxation</b>	Payments of interest and other revenues in respect of Notes constituting <i>obligations</i> or debt instruments ( <i>titres de créances</i> ) assimilated thereto for French tax purposes benefit from the exemption from deduction of tax at source as provided by Article 131 quater of the French <i>Code Général des Impôts</i> .

	The tax regime applicable to Notes which do not constitute obligations or debt instruments ( <i>titres de créances</i> ) assimilated thereto for French tax purposes will be set out in the relevant Final Terms.
<b>Interest Periods and Interest Rates</b>	The length of the interest periods for the Notes and the applicable interest rate or its method of calculation may differ from time to time or be constant for any Series. Notes may have a maximum interest rate, a minimum interest rate, or both. All such information will be set out in the relevant Final Terms.
<b>Fixed Rate Notes</b>	Fixed interest will be payable in arrear on the date or dates in each year specified in the relevant Final Terms.
<b>Floating Rate Notes</b>	Floating Rate Notes will bear interest determined separately for each Series on the basis and by reference to the fluctuating rate or benchmark as specified in the relevant Final Terms.  Interest periods will be specified in the relevant Final Terms.
<b>Zero Coupon Notes</b>	Zero Coupon Notes may be issued at their nominal amount or at a discount to it and will not bear interest.
<b>Dual Currency Notes</b>	Payments (whether in respect of principal or interest and whether at maturity or otherwise) in respect of Dual Currency Notes will be made in such currencies, and based on such rates of exchange, as may be specified in the relevant Final Terms.
<b>Index Linked Notes</b>	Payments of principal in respect of Index Linked Redemption Notes or of interest in respect of Index Linked Interest Notes will be calculated by reference to such index and/or formula as may be specified in the relevant Final Terms.
<b>Other Notes</b>	Terms applicable to high interest Notes, low interest Notes, step-up Notes, step-down Notes, reverse dual currency Notes, optional dual currency Notes, Partly Paid Notes and any other type of Notes that the Issuer and any Dealer or Dealers may agree to issue under the Programme will be set out in the relevant Final Terms.
<b>Form of Notes</b>	Notes may be issued in either dematerialised form ( <b>Dematerialised Notes</b> ) or in materialised form ( <b>Materialised Notes</b> ).  Materialised Notes will be in bearer materialised form ( <b>Materialised Bearer Notes</b> ) only. A Temporary Global Certificate will be issued initially in respect of each Tranche of Materialised Bearer Notes. Materialised Notes may only be issued outside France.
<b>Governing Law</b>	French.
<b>Clearing Systems</b>	Euroclear France as central depository in relation to Dematerialised Notes and, in relation to Materialised Notes, Clearstream, Luxembourg and Euroclear or any other clearing system that may be agreed between the Issuer, the Fiscal Agent and the relevant Dealer.
<b>Initial Delivery of Dematerialised Notes</b>	Not later than one Paris business day before the issue date of each Tranche of Dematerialised Notes, the <i>lettre comptable</i> relating to such Tranche shall be deposited with Euroclear France as central depository.
<b>Initial Delivery of Materialised Notes</b>	On or before the issue date for each Tranche of Materialised Bearer Notes, the Temporary Global Certificate issued in respect of such Tranche shall be deposited with a common depository for Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg or with any other clearing system or may be delivered outside any clearing system provided that the method of such delivery has been agreed in advance by the Issuer, the Fiscal Agent and the relevant Dealer.
<b>Issue Price</b>	Notes may be issued at their nominal amount or at a discount or premium to their nominal amount. Partly Paid Notes may be issued, the issue price of which will be payable in two or more instalments.
<b>Approval - Admission to trading and listing</b>	Application has been made to the CSSF to approve this document as a base prospectus. Application has also been made to the Luxembourg Stock Exchange for Notes issued under the Programme to be admitted to trading on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange's



regulated market and to be listed on the Official list of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange.

Notes may be listed or admitted to trading, as the case may be, on other or further stock exchanges or markets agreed between the Issuer and the relevant Dealer(s) in relation to the Series. Notes which are neither listed nor admitted to trading on any market may also be issued.

The applicable Final Terms will state whether or not the relevant Notes are to be listed and/or admitted to trading and, if so, on which stock exchanges and/or markets.

**Method of  
Publication of the  
Final Terms**

This Base Prospectus will be published on the website of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange ([www.bourse.lu](http://www.bourse.lu)) during a period of twelve months from the date of this Base Prospectus. The Final Terms related to Notes admitted to trading on any Regulated Market will be published on the website of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange. In addition, if the Notes are admitted to trading on a Regulated Market other than the Luxembourg Stock Exchange, the relevant Final Terms will provide whether additional methods of publication are required and describe any such methods.

**Selling Restrictions**

There are restrictions on the sale of Notes and the distribution of offering material in various jurisdictions. See Subscription and Sale. In connection with the offering and sale of a particular Tranche, additional selling restrictions may be imposed which will be set out in the relevant Final Terms.

The Notes constitute Category 2 securities for the purposes of Regulation S under the United States Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

Materialised Notes will be issued in compliance with U.S. Treas. Reg. §1.163-5(c)(2)(i)(D) (the **D Rules**) unless (i) the relevant Final Terms states that such Materialised Notes are issued in compliance with U.S. Treas. Reg. §1.163-5(c)(2)(i)(C) (the **C Rules**) or (ii) such Materialised Notes are issued other than in compliance with the D Rules or the C Rules but in circumstances in which the Notes will not constitute registration required obligations under the United States Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 1982 (**TEFRA**), which circumstances will be referred to in the relevant Final Terms as a transaction to which TEFRA is not applicable.

The TEFRA rules do not apply to any Dematerialised Notes.

**Rating**

The Programme has been rated BBB+ by Standard and Poor's and Baa1 by Moody's Investors Service. Notes issued under the Programme may be rated or unrated. Notes, whether Unsubordinated or Subordinated, will have such rating, if any, as is assigned to them by the relevant rating organisation as specified in the relevant Final Terms. Where an issue of Notes is rated, its rating will not necessarily be the same as the rating assigned under the Programme. A rating is not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold securities and may be subject to suspension, change or withdrawal at any time by the assigning rating agency.

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE NOTES

The following is the text of the terms and conditions that, subject to completion and amendment and as supplemented or varied in accordance with the provisions of the relevant Final Terms, shall be applicable to the Notes. In the case of Dematerialised Notes, the text of the terms and conditions will not be endorsed on physical documents of title but will be constituted by the following text as completed, amended or varied by the relevant Final Terms. In the case of Materialised Notes, either (i) the full text of these terms and conditions together with the relevant provisions of the Final Terms or (ii) these terms and conditions as so completed, amended, supplemented or varied (and subject to simplification by the deletion of non-applicable provisions), shall be endorsed or attached on Definitive Materialised Bearer Notes. All capitalised terms that are not defined in these Conditions will have the meanings given to them in the relevant Final Terms. References in the Conditions to **Notes** are to the Notes of one Series only, not to all Notes that may be issued under the Programme.

The Notes are issued by Autoroutes du Sud de la France (the **Issuer**) with the benefit of an amended and restated agency agreement dated 7 May 2008 between the Issuer and Fortis Banque Luxembourg SA as fiscal agent, Principal Paying Agent, Luxembourg Paying Agent, Paris Paying Agent, Redenomination Agent, Consolidation Agent and Calculation Agent (the **Amended and Restated Agency Agreement**). The fiscal agent, the paying agents, the redenomination agent, the consolidation agent and the calculation agent(s) for the time being (if any) are referred to below respectively as the **Fiscal Agent**, the **Paying Agents** (which expression shall include the Fiscal Agent), the **Redenomination Agent**, the **Consolidation Agent** and the **Calculation Agent(s)**. References below to "Conditions" are, unless the context requires otherwise, to the numbered paragraphs below.

Certain defined terms contained in the 2001 FBF Master Agreement relating to transactions on forward financial instruments as supplemented by the Technical Schedules published by the Fédération Bancaire Française (together the **FBF Master Agreement**) have either been used or reproduced in Condition 5 below.

Copies of the Amended and Restated Agency Agreement are available for inspection during normal business hours at the specified offices of each of the Paying Agents.

For the purpose of these Terms and Conditions, **Regulated Market** means any regulated market situated in a Member State of the European Economic Area (**EEA**) as defined in Directive 2004/39/EC.

### 1. Form, Denomination(s), Title, Redenomination

(a) **Form:** Notes may be issued either in dematerialised form (**Dematerialised Notes**) or in materialised form (**Materialised Notes**).

(i) Title to Dematerialised Notes will be evidenced in accordance with Article L.211-4 of the French *Code monétaire et financier* by book entries (*inscriptions en compte*). No physical document of title (including *certificats représentatifs* pursuant to Article R.211-7 of the French *Code monétaire et financier*) will be issued in respect of the Dematerialised Notes.

Dematerialised Notes are issued, at the option of the Issuer, in either bearer dematerialised form (*au porteur*), which will be inscribed in the books of Euroclear France (**Euroclear France**) (acting as central depositary) which shall credit the accounts of Account Holders, or in registered dematerialised form (*au nominatif*) and, in such latter case, at the option of the relevant Noteholder in either administered registered form (*au nominatif administré*) inscribed in the books of an Account Holder or in fully registered form (*au nominatif pur*) inscribed in an account in the books of Euroclear France maintained by the Issuer or the registration agent (designated in the relevant Final Terms) acting on behalf of the Issuer (the **Registration Agent**).

For the purpose of these Conditions, **Account Holder** means any authorised financial intermediary institution entitled to hold, directly or indirectly, accounts on behalf of its customers with Euroclear France, and includes Euroclear Bank S.A./N.V. (**Euroclear**) and the depositary bank for Clearstream Banking, société anonyme (**Clearstream, Luxembourg**).

(ii) Materialised Notes are issued in bearer form (**Materialised Bearer Notes**). Materialised Bearer Notes are serially numbered and are issued with coupons (each, a **Coupon**) and, where

appropriate, a talon (a **Talon**) attached, save in the case of Zero Coupon Notes in which case references to interest (other than in relation to interest due after the Maturity Date), Coupons and Talons in these Conditions are not applicable. Instalment Notes are issued with one or more Receipts attached.

In accordance with Article L.211-4 of the French *Code monétaire et financier*, securities (such as Notes) which are governed by French law and are in materialised form must be issued outside the French territory.

- (b) **Denomination(s):** Notes shall be issued in the specified denomination(s) as set out in the relevant Final Terms (the **Specified Denomination(s)**) save that the minimum denomination of each Note admitted to trading on a Regulated Market in circumstances which require the publication of a Base Prospectus under the Prospectus Directive will be €50,000 (or, if the Notes are denominated in a currency other than euro, the equivalent amount in such currency at the issue date) or such other higher amount as may be allowed or required from time to time by the relevant central bank (or equivalent body) or any laws or regulations applicable to the relevant Specified Currency). Dematerialised Notes shall be issued in one Specified Denomination only.
- (c) **Title:**
- (i) Title to Dematerialised Notes in bearer dematerialised form (*au porteur*) and in administered registered form (*au nominatif administré*) shall pass upon, and transfer of such Notes may only be effected through, registration of the transfer in the accounts of Account Holders. Title to Dematerialised Notes in fully registered form (*au nominatif pur*) shall pass upon, and transfer of such Notes may only be effected through, registration of the transfer in the accounts of the Issuer or the Registration Agent.
  - (ii) Title to Materialised Bearer Notes in definitive form having, where appropriate, Coupons, Receipt(s) and/or a Talon attached thereto on issue (**Definitive Materialised Bearer Notes**), shall pass by delivery.
  - (iii) Except as ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction or as required by law, the holder of any Note (as defined below), Receipt, Coupon or Talon shall be deemed to be and may be treated as its absolute owner for all purposes, whether or not it is overdue and regardless of any notice of ownership, or an interest in it, any writing on it or its theft or loss and no person shall be liable for so treating the holder.
  - (iv) In these Conditions, **holder of Notes** or **holder of any Note**, or **Noteholder** means (i) in the case of Dematerialised Notes, the person whose name appears in the account of the relevant Account Holder or the Issuer or the Registration Agent (as the case may be) as being entitled to such Notes and (ii) in the case of Materialised Notes, the bearer of any Definitive Materialised Bearer Note and the Receipts, Coupons (**Receiptholder** and **Couponholder** being construed accordingly), or Talon relating to it, and capitalised terms have the meanings given to them in the relevant Final Terms, the absence of any such meaning indicating that such term is not applicable to the Notes.
- (d) **Redenomination:**
- (i) The Issuer may (if so specified in the relevant Final Terms), on any Interest Payment Date, without the consent of the holder of any Note, Receipt, Coupon or Talon, by giving at least 30 days' notice in accordance with Condition 15 and on or after the date on which the European Member State in whose national currency the Notes are denominated has become a participating Member State in the single currency of the European Economic and Monetary Union (as provided in the Treaty establishing the European Community (the **EC**), as amended from time to time (the **Treaty**)), or events have occurred which have substantially the same effects (in either case, **EMU**), redenominate all, but not some only, of the Notes of any Series into Euro and adjust the aggregate principal amount and the Specified Denomination(s) set out in the relevant Final Terms accordingly, as described below. The date on which such redenomination becomes effective shall be referred to in these Conditions as the Redenomination Date.
  - (ii) Unless otherwise specified in the relevant Final Terms, the redenomination of the Notes pursuant to Condition 1(d)(i) shall be made by converting the principal amount of each Note from the relevant national currency into Euro using the fixed relevant national currency Euro conversion

rate established by the Council of the European Union pursuant to applicable regulations of the Treaty and rounding the resultant figure to the nearest Euro 0.01 (with Euro 0.005 being rounded upwards). If the Issuer so elects, the figure resulting from conversion of the principal amount of each Note using the fixed relevant national currency Euro conversion rate shall be rounded down to the nearest Euro. The Euro denominations of the Notes so determined shall be notified to Noteholders in accordance with Condition 15. Any balance remaining from the redenomination with a denomination higher than Euro 0.01 shall be paid by way of cash adjustment rounded to the nearest Euro 0.01 (with Euro 0.005 being rounded upwards). Such cash adjustment will be payable in Euro on the Redenomination Date in the manner notified to Noteholders by the Issuer.

- (iii) Upon redenomination of the Notes, any reference in the relevant Final Terms to the relevant national currency shall be construed as a reference to Euro.
- (iv) Unless otherwise specified in the relevant Final Terms, the Issuer may, with the prior approval of the Redenomination Agent and the Consolidation Agent, in connection with any redenomination pursuant to this Condition or any consolidation pursuant to Condition 14, without the consent of the holder of any Note, Receipt, Coupon or Talon, make any changes or additions to these Conditions or Condition 14 (including, without limitation, any change to any applicable business day definition, business day convention, principal financial centre of the country of the Specified Currency, interest accrual basis or benchmark), taking into account market practice in respect of redenominated euromarket debt obligations and which it believes are not prejudicial to the interests of such holders. Any such changes or additions shall, in the absence of manifest error, be binding on the holders of Notes, Receipts, Coupons and Talons and shall be notified to Noteholders in accordance with Condition 15 as soon as practicable thereafter.
- (v) Neither the Issuer nor any Paying Agent shall be liable to the holder of any Note, Receipt, Coupon or Talon or other person for any commissions, costs, losses or expenses in relation to or resulting from the credit or transfer of Euro or any currency conversion or rounding effected in connection therewith.

## 2. Conversion and Exchanges of Notes

### (a) *Dematerialised Notes*

- (i) Dematerialised Notes issued in bearer dematerialised form (*au porteur*) may not be converted into Dematerialised Notes in registered dematerialised form, whether in fully registered form (*au nominatif pur*) or in administered registered form (*au nominatif administré*).
- (ii) Dematerialised Notes issued in registered dematerialised form (*au nominatif*) may not be converted into Dematerialised Notes in bearer dematerialised form (*au porteur*).
- (iii) Dematerialised Notes issued in fully registered form (*au nominatif pur*) may, at the option of the Noteholder, be converted into Notes in administered registered form (*au nominatif administré*), and *vice versa*. The exercise of any such option by such Noteholder shall be made in accordance with Article R.211-4 of the French *Code monétaire et financier*. Any such conversion shall be effected at the cost of such Noteholder.

### (b) *Materialised Notes*

Materialised Bearer Notes of one Specified Denomination may not be exchanged for Materialised Bearer Notes of another Specified Denomination.

## 3. Status

The obligations of the Issuer under the Notes may be either unsubordinated (**Unsubordinated Notes**) or subordinated (**Subordinated Notes**).

### (a) *Status of Unsubordinated Notes*

The Unsubordinated Notes and, where applicable, any relative Receipts and Coupons are direct, general, unconditional, unsecured (subject to the provisions of Condition 4) and unsubordinated

obligations of the Issuer and rank and will rank *pari passu* and without any preference among themselves and (subject to such exceptions as are from time to time mandatory under French law) equally and rateably with all other present or future unsecured and unsubordinated obligations of the Issuer.

**(b) Status of Subordinated Notes**

(i) Subordination

Subordinated Notes (which term shall include both Subordinated Notes with a specified maturity date (**Dated Subordinated Notes**) and Subordinated Notes without a specified maturity date (**Undated Subordinated Notes**)) are unsecured subordinated obligations of the Issuer and rank and will rank *pari passu* without any preference among themselves and *pari passu* with any other unsecured subordinated obligations of the Issuer but in priority to any *prêts participatifs* granted to the Issuer. If any judgement is rendered by any competent court declaring the transfer of the whole of its business (*cession totale de l'entreprise*) or the judicial liquidation (*liquidation judiciaire*) of the Issuer or if the Issuer is liquidated for any other reason, the rights of payment of the holders of Subordinated Notes shall be subordinated to the payment in full of unsubordinated creditors and, subject to such payment in full, the holders of Subordinated Notes shall be paid in priority to any *prêts participatifs* granted to the Issuer. In the event of incomplete payment of unsubordinated creditors, the obligations of the Issuer in connection with the Subordinated Notes will be terminated. The holders of Subordinated Notes shall take all steps necessary for the orderly accomplishment of any collective proceedings or voluntary liquidation.

(ii) Dated Subordinated Notes

Unless otherwise specified in the relevant Final Terms, payments of interest relating to Dated Subordinated Notes constitute obligations which rank equally with the obligations of the Issuer in respect of Unsubordinated Notes issued by the Issuer in accordance with Condition 3(a).

(iii) Undated Subordinated Notes

Unless otherwise specified in the relevant Final Terms, payments of interest relating to Undated Subordinated Notes constitute obligations which rank equally with the obligations of the Issuer in respect of Unsubordinated Notes issued by the Issuer in accordance with Condition 3(a) and may be deferred in accordance with the provisions of Condition 5(h).

The use of the proceeds of issues of Undated Subordinated Notes will be set out in the applicable Final Terms.

#### 4. Negative Pledge

So long as any of the Unsubordinated Notes or, if applicable, any Receipts or Coupons relating to them, remains outstanding, the Issuer will not create or permit to subsist any mortgage, charge, pledge, lien or other security interest (*sûreté réelle*) upon the whole or any part of its assets, present or future, to secure any present or future Relevant Indebtedness (as defined below) incurred or guaranteed by it (whether before or after the issue of the Unsubordinated Notes) unless the Issuer's obligations under the Unsubordinated Notes, Receipts and Coupons are equally and rateably secured therewith.

For the purposes of this Condition:

**Limited-recourse Borrowings** means any indebtedness for borrowed money, in the form of, or represented by, bonds or notes (**Indebtedness**) incurred by the Issuer to finance the ownership, acquisition, development, operation and/or maintenance of an asset or project in respect of which the person (or persons) to whom any such Indebtedness is or may be owed by the Issuer has (or have) no recourse to the Issuer for the repayment thereof other than:

- (i) recourse to the Issuer for amounts not exceeding an amount equal to the cash flow from, or the value of, such asset or project; and/or
- (ii) recourse to the Issuer for the purpose of enabling amounts to be claimed in respect of such Indebtedness in an enforcement of any security interest given by the Issuer over such asset or rights under, or in respect of, such project (or the income, cash flow or other proceeds deriving therefrom) to secure such Indebtedness; and/or
- (iii) recourse to the Issuer under any form of assurance, undertaking or support, which is limited to a claim for damages for breach of an obligation (not being a payment obligation or an indemnity in respect thereof, which, for the avoidance of doubt, would fall to be considered under subparagraph (i) above) by the Issuer.

**Relevant Indebtedness** means any indebtedness for borrowed money, represented by bonds or notes (*obligations*) which are for the time being, or are capable of being, quoted, admitted to trading or ordinarily traded in on any stock exchange, over-the-counter-market or other securities market, and which does not constitute Limited-recourse Borrowings.

This Condition 4 shall not apply to Subordinated Notes.

#### 5. Interest and other Calculations

- (a) **Definitions:** In these Conditions, unless the context otherwise requires, the following defined terms shall have the meanings set out below:

**Business Day** means:

- (i) in the case of Euro, a day on which the Trans European Automated Real Time Gross Settlement Express Transfer or any successor thereto (the **TARGET System**) is operating (a **TARGET Business Day**) and/or;
- (ii) in the case of a specified currency other than Euro, a day (other than a Saturday or Sunday) on which commercial banks and foreign exchange markets settle payments in the principal financial centre for that currency and/or;
- (iii) in the case of a specified currency and/or one or more business centre(s) specified in the relevant Final Terms (the **Business Centre(s)**), a day (other than a Saturday or a Sunday) on which commercial banks and foreign exchange markets settle payments in such currency in the Business Centre(s) or, if no currency is indicated, generally in each of the Business Centres so specified.

**Day Count Fraction** means, in respect of the calculation of an amount of interest on any Note for any period of time (from and including the first day of such period to but excluding the last) (whether or not constituting an Interest Period, the **Calculation Period**):

- (iv) if **Actual/365 - FBF** is specified in the relevant Final Terms, the fraction whose numerator is the actual number of days elapsed during the Calculation Period and whose denominator is 365. If part of that Calculation Period falls in a leap year, Actual /365 - FBF shall mean the sum of (i) the fraction whose numerator is the actual number of days elapsed during the non-leap year and whose denominator is 365 and (ii) the fraction whose numerator is the number of actual days elapsed during the leap year and whose denominator is 366
- (v) if **Actual/365** or **Actual/Actual - ISDA** is specified in the relevant Final Terms, the actual number of days in the Calculation Period divided by 365 (or, if any portion of that Calculation Period falls in a leap year, the sum of (A) the actual number of days in that portion of the Calculation Period falling in a leap year divided by 366 and (B) the actual number of days in that portion of the Calculation Period falling in a non-leap year divided by 365);
- (vi) if **Actual/Actual-ICMA** is specified in the relevant Final Terms:
  - (A) if the Calculation Period is equal to or shorter than the Determination Period during which it falls, the number of days in the Calculation Period divided by the product of (x) the number of days in such Determination Period and (y) the number of Determination Periods normally ending in any year; and
  - (B) if the Calculation Period is longer than one Determination Period, the sum of:
    - the number of days in such Calculation Period falling in the Determination Period in which it begins divided by the product of (1) the number of days in such Determination Period and (2) the number of Determination Periods normally ending in any year; and
    - the number of days in such Calculation Period falling in the next Determination Period divided by the product of (1) the number of days in such Determination Period and (2) the number of Determination Periods normally ending in any year
 in each case where
    - Determination Period** means the period from and including a Determination Date in any year to but excluding the next Determination Date; and
    - Determination Date** means the date specified in the relevant Final Terms or, if none is so specified, the Interest Payment Date;
- (vii) if **Actual/365 (Fixed)** is specified in the relevant Final Terms, the actual number of days in the Calculation Period divided by 365;
- (viii) if **Actual/360** is specified in the relevant Final Terms, the actual number of days in the Calculation Period divided by 360;
- (ix) if **30/360, 360/360** or **Bond Basis** is specified in the relevant Final Terms, the number of days in the Calculation Period divided by 360 (the number of days to be calculated on the basis of a year of 360 days with 12 30-day months (unless (a) the last day of the Calculation Period is the 31st day of a month but the first day of the Calculation Period is a day other than the 30th or 31st day of a month, in which case the month that includes that last day shall not be considered to be shortened to a 30-day month, or (b) the last day of the Calculation Period is the last day of the month of February, in which case the month of February shall not be considered to be lengthened to a 30-day month)) and
- (x) if **30E/360** or **Eurobond Basis** is specified in the relevant Final Terms, the number of days in the Calculation Period divided by 360 (the number of days to be calculated on the basis of a year of 360 days with 12 30-day months, without regard to the date of the first day or last day of the Calculation Period unless, in the case of a Calculation Period ending on the Maturity Date, the Maturity Date is the last day of the month of February, in which case the month of February shall not be considered to be lengthened to a 30-day month).

**Effective Date** means, with respect to any Floating Rate to be determined on an Interest Determination Date, the date specified as such in the relevant Final Terms or, if none is so

specified, the first day of the Interest Accrual Period to which such Interest Determination Date relates.

**Euro-zone** means the region comprised of member states of the European Union that have adopted or adopt the single currency in accordance with the Treaty establishing the European Community, as amended.

**FBF Definitions** means the definitions set out in the FBF Master Agreement, unless otherwise specified in the relevant Final Terms.

**Interest Accrual Period** means the period beginning on (and including) the Interest Commencement Date and ending on (but excluding) the first Interest Period Date and each successive period beginning on (and including) an Interest Period Date and ending on (but excluding) the next succeeding Interest Period Date.

**Interest Amount** means the amount of interest payable, and in the case of Fixed Rate Notes, means the Fixed Coupon Amount or Broken Amount, as the case may be.

**Interest Commencement Date** means the Issue Date or such other date as may be specified in the relevant Final Terms.

**Interest Determination Date** means, with respect to a Rate of Interest and Interest Accrual Period, the date specified as such in the relevant Final Terms or, if none is so specified, (i) the day falling two TARGET Business Days prior to the first day of such Interest Accrual Period if the Specified Currency is Euro or (ii) the first day of such Interest Accrual Period if the Specified Currency is Sterling or (iii) the day falling two Business Days in the city specified in the Final Terms for the Specified Currency prior to the first day of such Interest Accrual Period if the Specified Currency is neither Sterling nor Euro.

**Interest Payment Date** means the date(s) specified in the relevant Final Terms.

**Interest Period** means the period beginning on (and including) the Interest Commencement Date and ending on (but excluding) the first Interest Payment Date and each successive period beginning on (and including) an Interest Payment Date and ending on (but excluding) the next succeeding Interest Payment Date.

**Interest Period Date** means each Interest Payment Date unless otherwise specified in the relevant Final Terms.

**ISDA Definitions** means the 2000 ISDA Definitions, as published by the International Swaps and Derivatives Association, Inc., unless otherwise specified in the relevant Final Terms.

**Page** means such page, section, caption, column or other part of a particular information service (including, but not limited to, Reuters Markets 3000 (**Reuters**) and Telerate (**Telerate**)) as may be specified for the purpose of providing a Relevant Rate, or such other page, section, caption, column or other part as may replace it on that information service or on such other information service, in each case as may be nominated by the person or organisation providing or sponsoring the information appearing there for the purpose of displaying rates or prices comparable to that Relevant Rate.

**Rate of Interest** means the rate of interest payable from time to time in respect of the Notes and that is either specified or calculated in accordance with the provisions in the relevant Final Terms.

**Reference Banks** means the institutions specified as such in the relevant Final Terms or, if none, four major banks selected by the Calculation Agent in the interbank market (or, if appropriate, money, swap or over-the-counter index options market) that is most closely connected with the Benchmark (which, if EURIBOR is the relevant Benchmark, shall be the Euro-zone).

**Relevant Financial Centre** means, with respect to any Floating Rate to be determined in accordance with a Screen Rate Determination on an Interest Determination Date, the financial centre as may be specified as such in the relevant Final Terms or, if none is so



specified, the financial centre with which the relevant Benchmark is most closely connected (which, in the case of EURIBOR, shall be the Euro-zone) or, if none is so connected, Paris.

**Relevant Rate** means the Benchmark for a Representative Amount of the Specified Currency for a period (if applicable or appropriate to the Benchmark) equal to the Specified Duration commencing on the Effective Date.

**Relevant Time** means, with respect to any Interest Determination Date, the local time in the Relevant Financial Centre specified in the relevant Final Terms or, if no time is specified, the local time in the Relevant Financial Centre at which it is customary to determine bid and offered rates in respect of deposits in the Specified Currency in the interbank market in the Relevant Financial Centre and for this purpose **local time** means, with respect to Europe and the Euro-zone as a Relevant Financial Centre, 11.00 a.m., Brussels time.

**Representative Amount** means, with respect to any Floating Rate to be determined in accordance with a Screen Rate Determination on an Interest Determination Date, the amount specified as such in the relevant Final Terms or, if none is specified, an amount that is representative for a single transaction in the relevant market at the time.

**Specified Currency** means the currency specified as such in the relevant Final Terms or, if none is specified, the currency in which the Notes are denominated.

**Specified Duration** means, with respect to any Floating Rate to be determined in accordance with a Screen Rate Determination on an Interest Determination Date, the duration specified in the relevant Final Terms or, if none is specified, a period of time equal to the relative Interest Accrual Period, ignoring any adjustment pursuant to Condition 5(c)(ii).

- (b) **Interest on Fixed Rate Notes:** Each Fixed Rate Note bears interest on its outstanding nominal amount from the Interest Commencement Date at the rate per annum (expressed as a percentage) equal to the Rate of Interest, such interest being payable in arrear on each Interest Payment Date except as otherwise provided in the relevant Final Terms.

If a Fixed Coupon Amount or a Broken Amount is specified in the relevant Final Terms, the amount of interest payable on each Interest Payment Date will amount to the Fixed Coupon Amount or, if applicable, the Broken Amount so specified and in the case of the Broken Amount will be payable on the particular Interest Payment Date(s) specified in the relevant Final Terms.

- (c) **Interest on Floating Rate Notes Index Linked Interest Notes and Inflation Linked Interest Notes:**

- (i) *Interest Payment Dates:* Each Floating Rate Note, Index Linked Interest Note and Inflation Linked Interest Note bears interest on its outstanding nominal amount from the Interest Commencement Date at the rate per annum (expressed as a percentage) equal to the Rate of Interest, such interest being payable in arrear (except as otherwise provided in the relevant Final Terms) on each Interest Payment Date. Such Interest Payment Date(s) is/are either shown in the relevant Final Terms as Specified Interest Payment Dates or, if no Specified Interest Payment Date(s) is/are shown in the relevant Final Terms, Interest Payment Date shall mean each date which falls the number of months or other period shown in the relevant Final Terms as the Interest Period after the preceding Interest Payment Date or, in the case of the first Interest Payment Date, after the Interest Commencement Date.
- (ii) *Business Day Convention:* If any date referred to in these Conditions that is specified to be subject to adjustment in accordance with a Business Day Convention would otherwise fall on a day that is not a Business Day, then, if the Business Day Convention specified is (A) the Floating Rate Business Day Convention, such date shall be postponed to the next day that is a Business Day unless it would thereby fall into the next calendar month, in which event (x) such date shall be brought forward to the immediately preceding Business Day and (y) each subsequent such date shall be the last Business Day of the month in which such date would have fallen had it not been subject to adjustment, (B) the Following Business Day Convention, such date shall be postponed to the next day that is a Business Day, (C) the Modified Following Business Day Convention, such date shall be postponed to the next day that is a Business Day unless it would thereby fall into the

next calendar month, in which event such date shall be brought forward to the immediately preceding Business Day or (D) the Preceding Business Day Convention, such date shall be brought forward to the immediately preceding Business Day.

- (iii) *Rate of Interest for Floating Rate Notes*: The Rate of Interest in respect of Floating Rate Notes for each Interest Accrual Period shall be determined in the manner specified in the relevant Final Terms and, unless otherwise specified in the relevant Final Terms, the provisions below relating to either FBF Determination or ISDA Determination or Screen Rate Determination shall apply, depending upon which is specified in the relevant Final Terms.

(A) FBF Determination for Floating Rate Notes

Where FBF Determination is specified in the relevant Final Terms as the manner in which the Rate of Interest is to be determined, the Rate of Interest for each Interest Accrual Period shall be determined by the Calculation Agent as a rate equal to the relevant FBF Rate plus or minus (as indicated in the relevant Final Terms) the Margin (if any). For the purposes of this sub-paragraph (A), **FBF Rate** for an Interest Accrual Period means a rate equal to the Floating Rate that would be determined by the Calculation Agent under a Transaction under the terms of an agreement incorporating the FBF Definitions and under which:

- (a) the Floating Rate is as specified in the relevant Final Terms, and
- (b) the relevant Floating Rate Determination Date (*Date de Détermination du Taux Variable*) is the first day of that Interest Accrual Period unless otherwise specified in the relevant Final Terms.

For the purposes of this sub-paragraph (A), **Floating Rate** (*Taux Variable*), **Calculation Agent** (*Agent*), **Floating Rate Determination Date** (*Date de Détermination du Taux Variable*) and **Transaction** (*Transaction*) have the meanings given to those terms in the FBF Definitions, provided that Euribor means the rate calculated for deposits in euro which appears on Reuters Page EURIBOR01, as more fully described in the relevant Final Terms.

(B) ISDA Determination for Floating Rate Notes

Where ISDA Determination is specified in the relevant Final Terms as the manner in which the Rate of Interest is to be determined, the Rate of Interest for each Interest Accrual Period shall be determined by the Calculation Agent as a rate equal to the relevant ISDA Rate plus or minus (as indicated in the relevant Final Terms) the Margin (if any). For the purposes of this sub-paragraph (B), **ISDA Rate** for an Interest Accrual Period means a rate equal to the Floating Rate that would be determined by the Calculation Agent under a Swap Transaction under the terms of an agreement incorporating the ISDA Definitions and under which:

- (c) the Floating Rate Option is as specified in the relevant Final Terms,
- (d) the Designated Maturity is a period specified in the relevant Final Terms, and
- (e) the relevant Reset Date is the first day of that Interest Accrual Period unless otherwise specified in the relevant Final Terms.

For the purposes of this sub-paragraph (B), **Floating Rate**, **Calculation Agent**, **Floating Rate Option**, **Designated Maturity**, **Reset Date** and **Swap Transaction** have the meanings given to those terms in the ISDA Definitions.

(C) Screen Rate Determination for Floating Rate Notes

Where Screen Rate Determination is specified in the relevant Final Terms as the manner in which the Rate of Interest is to be determined, the Rate of Interest for each Interest Accrual Period shall be determined by the Calculation Agent at or about the Relevant Time on the Interest Determination Date in respect of such Interest Accrual Period in accordance with the following:

- (a) if the Primary Source for Floating Rate is a Page, subject as provided below, the Rate of Interest shall be:
- (i) the Relevant Rate (where such Relevant Rate on such Page is a composite quotation or is customarily supplied by one entity) or
  - (ii) the arithmetic mean of the Relevant Rates of the persons whose Relevant Rates appear on that Page,
- in each case appearing on such Page at the Relevant Time on the Interest Determination Date, as disclosed in the relevant Final Terms;
- (b) if the Primary Source for the Floating Rate is Reference Banks or if sub-paragraph (a)(i) applies and no Relevant Rate appears on the Page at the Relevant Time on the Interest Determination Date or if sub-paragraph (a)(ii) applies and fewer than two Relevant Rates appear on the Page at the Relevant Time on the Interest Determination Date, subject as provided below, the Rate of Interest shall be the arithmetic mean of the Relevant Rates that each of the Reference Banks is quoting to leading banks in the Relevant Financial Centre at the Relevant Time on the Interest Determination Date, as determined by the Calculation Agent and
- (c) if paragraph (b) above applies and the Calculation Agent determines that fewer than two Reference Banks are so quoting Relevant Rates, subject as provided below, the Rate of Interest shall be the arithmetic mean of the rates per annum (expressed as a percentage) that the Calculation Agent determines to be the rates (being the nearest equivalent to the Benchmark) in respect of a Representative Amount of the Specified Currency that at least two out of five leading banks selected by the Calculation Agent in the principal financial centre of the country of the Specified Currency or, if the Specified Currency is Euro, in the Euro-zone as selected by the Calculation Agent (the **Principal Financial Centre**) are quoting at or about the Relevant Time on the date on which such banks would customarily quote such rates for a period commencing on the Effective Date for a period equivalent to the Specified Duration (I) to leading banks carrying on business in Europe, or (if the Calculation Agent determines that fewer than two of such banks are so quoting to leading banks in Europe) (II) to leading banks carrying on business in the Principal Financial Centre; except that, if fewer than two of such banks are so quoting to leading banks in the Principal Financial Centre, the Rate of Interest shall be the Rate of Interest determined on the previous Interest Determination Date (after readjustment for any difference between any Margin, Rate Multiplier or Maximum or Minimum Rate of Interest applicable to the preceding Interest Accrual Period and to the relevant Interest Accrual Period).
- (iv) *Rate of Interest for Index Linked Interest Notes and Inflation Linked Interest Notes:* The Rate of Interest in respect of Index Linked Interest Notes and Inflation Linked Interest Notes for each Interest Accrual Period shall be determined in the manner specified in the relevant Final Terms and interest will accrue by reference to an Index or Formula as specified in the relevant Final Terms.
- (d) **Zero Coupon Notes:** Where a Note the Interest Basis of which is specified to be Zero Coupon and is repayable prior to the Maturity Date is not paid when due, the amount due and payable prior to the Maturity Date shall be the Early Redemption Amount of such Note. As from the Maturity Date, the Rate of Interest for any overdue principal of such a Note shall be a rate per annum (expressed as a percentage) equal to the Amortisation Yield (as described in Condition 6(e)(i)).
- (e) **Dual Currency Notes:** In the case of Dual Currency Notes, if the rate or amount of interest falls to be determined by reference to a Rate of Exchange or a method of calculating a Rate of Exchange, the rate or amount of interest payable shall be determined in the manner specified in the relevant Final Terms.

- (f) **Partly Paid Notes:** In the case of Partly Paid Notes (other than Partly Paid Notes which are Zero Coupon Notes), interest will accrue as aforesaid on the paid-up nominal amount of such Notes and otherwise as specified in the relevant Final Terms.
- (g) **Accrual of interest:** Interest shall cease to accrue on each Note on the due date for redemption unless (i) in the case of Dematerialised Notes, on such due date or (ii) in the case of Materialised Notes, upon due presentation, payment is improperly withheld or refused, in which event interest shall continue to accrue (as well after as before judgment) at the Rate of Interest in the manner provided in this Condition 5 to the Relevant Date (as defined in Condition 8).
- (h) **Deferral of interest:** If deferral of interest is specified in the relevant Final Terms, in the case of Undated Subordinated Notes, interest shall be payable on each Compulsory Interest Payment Date (as defined below) in respect of the interest accrued in the Interest Period ending on the day immediately preceding such date. On any Optional Interest Payment Date (as defined below) there may be paid (if the Issuer so elects) the interest accrued in the Interest Period ending on the day immediately preceding such date but the Issuer shall not have any obligation to make such payment. Notice of any Optional Interest Payment Date shall (for so long as the rules of, or applicable to, any Regulated Market so require) be given to the Noteholders in accordance with Condition 15 and to the relevant Regulated Market. Such notice shall be given at least seven days prior to the relevant Optional Interest Payment Date(s). Any interest not paid on an Optional Interest Payment Date shall, so long as the same remains unpaid, constitute **Arrears of Interest** which term shall include interest on such unpaid interest as referred to below. Arrears of Interest may, at the option of the Issuer, be paid in whole or in part at any time upon the expiration of not less than seven days' notice to such effect given to the Noteholders in accordance with Condition 15 but all Arrears of Interest on all Undated Subordinated Notes outstanding shall become due in full on whichever is the earliest of:
- (i) the next Interest Payment Date if such Interest Payment Date is a Compulsory Interest Payment Date or,
  - (ii) the date on which any Undated Subordinated Notes are to be redeemed partially or in full (otherwise than at the option of the Noteholders) in accordance with their terms and conditions or,
  - (iii) (a) a judgement rendered by any competent court declaring the transfer of the whole of the business (*cession totale de l'entreprise*) or the judicial liquidation (*liquidation judiciaire*) of the Issuer or (b) the liquidation of the Issuer for any other reason.

If notice is given by the Issuer of its intention to pay the whole or part of Arrears of Interest, the Issuer shall be obliged to do so upon the expiration of such notice. When Arrears of Interest are paid in part, each such payment shall be applied in or towards satisfaction of the full amount of the Arrears of Interest accrued in respect of the earliest Interest Period in respect of which Arrears of Interest have accrued and have not been paid in full. Arrears of Interest shall (to the extent permitted by law) bear interest accruing (but only, in accordance with Article 1154 of the Civil Code, after such interest has been due for a period of at least one year) and compounding on the basis of the exact number of days which have elapsed at the prevailing rate of interest on the Undated Subordinated Notes in respect of each relevant Interest Period. For these purposes the following expressions have the following meanings:

**Compulsory Interest Payment Date** means any Interest Payment Date on which the Issuer has (i) declared or paid any dividend (final or interim) of any nature (whether in cash, shares or any other form and including, any interim dividend (*acompte sur dividende*) on any Share Capital Securities, (ii) redeemed, repurchased or otherwise acquired any Share Capital Securities by any means other than in connection with the performance by the Issuer of its obligations under any existing or future benefit plan, share option plan or free share allocation scheme reserved for directors, officers or employees of the Issuer or (iii) at its election, redeemed, repurchased or otherwise acquired any Parity Securities (other than Notes).

**Optional Interest Payment Date** means any Interest Payment Date, as the case may be, other than a Compulsory Interest Payment Date.

**Parity Securities** means any subordinated obligations or other instruments issued by the Issuer which rank, or are expressed to rank, *pari passu* among themselves and with the Subordinated Notes.

**Share Capital Securities** means (a) any ordinary shares (*actions ordinaires*) of the Issuer and (b) any other class of the Issuer's share capital (including preference shares (*actions de préférence*, including *actions à dividendes prioritaires sans droit de vote*), or other priority shares (*actions de priorité*)) issued by the Issuer.

**(i) Margin, Maximum/Minimum Rates of Interest, Instalment Amounts and Redemption Amounts, Rate Multipliers and Rounding**

(i) If any Margin or Rate Multiplier is specified in the relevant Final Terms (either (x) generally, or (y) in relation to one or more Interest Accrual Periods), an adjustment shall be made to all Rates of Interest, in the case of (x), or the Rates of Interest for the specified Interest Accrual Periods, in the case of (y), calculated in accordance with (c) above by adding (if a positive number) or subtracting the absolute value (if a negative number) of such Margin or multiplying by such Rate Multiplier, subject always to the next paragraph

(ii) If any Maximum or Minimum Rate of Interest, Instalment Amount or Redemption Amount is specified in the relevant Final Terms, then any Rate of Interest, Instalment Amount or Redemption Amount shall be subject to such maximum or minimum, as the case may be

(iii) For the purposes of any calculations required pursuant to these Conditions (unless otherwise specified), (x) all percentages resulting from such calculations shall be rounded, if necessary, to the nearest one hundred-thousandth of a percentage point (with halves being rounded up), (y) all figures shall be rounded to seven significant figures (with halves being rounded up) and (z) all currency amounts that fall due and payable shall be rounded to the nearest unit of such currency (with halves being rounded up), save in the case of yen, which shall be rounded down to the nearest yen. For these purposes unit means the lowest amount of such currency that is available as legal tender in the country(ies) of such currency.

**(j) Calculations:** The amount of interest payable in respect of any Note for any period shall be calculated by multiplying the product of the Rate of Interest and the outstanding nominal amount of such Note by the Day Count Fraction, unless an Interest Amount (or a formula for its calculation) is specified in respect of such period, in which case the amount of interest payable in respect of such Note for such period shall equal such Interest Amount (or be calculated in accordance with such formula). Where any Interest Period comprises two or more Interest Accrual Periods, the amount of interest payable in respect of such Interest Period shall be the sum of the amounts of interest payable in respect of each of those Interest Accrual Periods.

**(k) Determination and Publication of Rates of Interest, Interest Amounts, Final Redemption Amounts, Optional Redemption Amounts, Early Redemption Amounts and Instalment Amounts:** As soon as practicable after the relevant time on such date as the Calculation Agent may be required to calculate any rate or amount, obtain any quotation or make any determination or calculation, it shall determine such rate and calculate the Interest Amounts in respect of each Specified Denomination of the Notes for the relevant Interest Accrual Period, calculate the Final Redemption Amount, Optional Redemption Amount, Early Redemption Amount or Instalment Amount, obtain such quotation or make such determination or calculation, as the case may be, and cause the Rate of Interest and the Interest Amounts for each Interest Period and the relevant Interest Payment Date and, if required to be calculated, the Final Redemption Amount, Optional Redemption Amount, Early Redemption Amount or any Instalment Amount to be notified to the Fiscal Agent, the Issuer, each of the Paying Agents, the Noteholders, any other Calculation Agent appointed in respect of the Notes that is to make a further calculation upon receipt of such information and, if the Notes are admitted to trading on a Regulated Market and the rules of, or applicable to, such Regulated Market so require, such Regulated Market as soon as possible after their determination but in no event later than (i) the commencement of the relevant Interest Period, if determined prior to such time, in the case of notification to such Regulated Market of a Rate of Interest and Interest Amount,

or (ii) in all other cases, the fourth Business Day after such determination. Where any Interest Payment Date or Interest Period Date is subject to adjustment pursuant to Condition 5(c)(ii), the Interest Amounts and the Interest Payment Date so published may subsequently be amended (or appropriate alternative arrangements made by way of adjustment) without notice in the event of an extension or shortening of the Interest Period. The determination of any rate or amount, the obtaining of each quotation and the making of each determination or calculation by the Calculation Agent(s) shall (in the absence of manifest error) be final and binding upon all parties.

- (I) **Calculation Agent and Reference Banks:** The Issuer shall use its best efforts to procure that there shall at all times be four Reference Banks (or such other number as may be required by the Conditions) with offices in the Relevant Financial Centre and one or more Calculation Agents if provision is made for them in the relevant Final Terms and for so long as any Note is outstanding (as defined in the Amended and Restated Agency Agreement). If any Reference Bank (acting through its relevant office) is unable or unwilling to continue to act as a Reference Bank, then the Issuer shall appoint another Reference Bank with an office in the Relevant Financial Centre to act as such in its place. Where more than one Calculation Agent is appointed in respect of the Notes, references in these Conditions to the Calculation Agent shall be construed as each Calculation Agent performing its respective duties under the Conditions. If the Calculation Agent is unable or unwilling to act as such or if the Calculation Agent fails duly to establish the Rate of Interest for an Interest Period or Interest Accrual Period or to calculate any Interest Amount, Instalment Amount, Final Redemption Amount, Early Redemption Amount or Optional Redemption Amount, as the case may be, or to comply with any other requirement, the Issuer shall appoint a leading bank or investment banking firm engaged in the interbank market (or, if appropriate, money, swap or over-the-counter index options market) that is most closely connected with the calculation or determination to be made by the Calculation Agent (acting through its principal Luxembourg office or any other office actively involved in such market) to act as such in its place. The Calculation Agent may not resign its duties without a successor having been appointed as aforesaid. So long as the Notes are admitted to trading on a Regulated Market and the rules of, or applicable to, that Regulated Market so require, notice of any change of Calculation Agent shall be given in accordance with Condition 15.

## 6. Redemption, Purchase and Options

- (a) **Final Redemption:** Unless previously redeemed, purchased and cancelled as provided below or its maturity is extended pursuant to any option provided by the relevant Final Terms including any Issuer's option in accordance with Condition 6(c) or any Noteholders' option in accordance with Condition 6(d), each Note shall be finally redeemed on the Maturity Date specified in the relevant Final Terms at its Final Redemption Amount (which, unless otherwise provided, is its nominal amount) or, in the case of a Note falling within Condition 6(b) below, its final Instalment Amount.
- (b) **Redemption by Instalments and Final Redemption:** Unless previously redeemed, purchased and cancelled as provided in this Condition 6 or the relevant Instalment Date (being one of the dates so specified in the relevant Final Terms) is extended pursuant to any Issuer's or Noteholder's option in accordance with Condition 6(c) or (6)(d), each Note that provides for Instalment Dates and Instalment Amounts shall be partially redeemed on each Instalment Date at the related Instalment Amount specified in the relevant Final Terms. The outstanding nominal amount of each such Note shall be reduced by the Instalment Amount (or, if such Instalment Amount is calculated by reference to a proportion of the nominal amount of such Note, such proportion) for all purposes with effect from the related Instalment Date, unless payment of the Instalment Amount is improperly withheld or refused (i) in the case of Dematerialised Notes, on the due date for such payment or (ii) in the case of Materialised Notes, on presentation of the related Receipt, in which case, such amount shall remain outstanding until the Relevant Date relating to such Instalment Amount.
- (c) **Redemption at the Option of the Issuer, Exercise of Issuer's Options and Partial Redemption:** If a Call Option is specified in the relevant Final Terms, the Issuer may, subject to compliance by the Issuer with all relevant laws, regulations and directives and on giving not less than 15 nor more than 30 days' irrevocable notice in accordance with Condition 15 to the Noteholders (or such other notice period as may be specified in the relevant Final Terms), redeem or exercise any Issuer's option (as may be described) in relation to all, or, if so provided, some, of the Notes on any Optional

Redemption Date or Option Exercise Date, as the case may be. Any such redemption of Notes shall be at their Optional Redemption Amount together with interest accrued to the date fixed for redemption (including, where applicable, any Arrears of Interest), if any. Any such redemption or exercise must relate to Notes of a nominal amount at least equal to the minimum nominal amount to be redeemed specified in the relevant Final Terms and no greater than the maximum nominal amount to be redeemed specified in the relevant Final Terms.

All Notes in respect of which any such notice is given shall be redeemed, or the Issuer's option shall be exercised, on the date specified in such notice in accordance with this Condition.

In the case of a partial redemption or a partial exercise of an Issuer's option in respect of Materialised Notes, the notice to holders of such Materialised Notes shall also contain the number of the Definitive Materialised Bearer Notes to be redeemed or in respect of which such option has been exercised, which shall have been drawn in such place and in such manner as may be fair and reasonable in the circumstances, taking account of prevailing market practices, subject to compliance with any applicable laws and Regulated Market requirements.

In the case of a partial redemption of or a partial exercise of an Issuer's option in respect of Dematerialised Notes, the redemption may be effected, at the option of the Issuer, either (i) by reducing the nominal amount of all such Dematerialised Notes in a Series in proportion to the aggregate nominal amount redeemed or (ii) by redeeming in full some only of such Dematerialised Notes and, in such latter case, the choice between those Dematerialised Notes that will be fully redeemed and those Dematerialised Notes of any Series that will not be redeemed shall be made in accordance with Article R.213-16 of the French *Code monétaire et financier* and the provisions of the relevant Final Terms, subject to compliance with any other applicable laws and Regulated Market requirements.

So long as the Notes are admitted to trading on a Regulated Market and the rules of, or applicable to, such Regulated Market require, the Issuer shall, each time there has been a partial redemption of the Notes, cause to be published (i) as long as such Notes are listed and admitted to trading on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange and the rules of such Stock Exchange so permit, on the website of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange ([www.bourse.lu](http://www.bourse.lu)) or (ii) in a leading newspaper with general circulation in the city where the Regulated Market on which such Notes are admitted to trading is located, which in the case of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange is expected to be the *Luxemburger Wort*, a notice specifying the aggregate nominal amount of Notes outstanding and, in the case of Materialised Notes, a list of any Definitive Materialised Bearer Notes drawn for redemption but not surrendered.

- (d) **Redemption at the Option of Noteholders and Exercise of Noteholders' Options:** If a Put Option is specified in the relevant Final Terms the Issuer shall, at the option of the Noteholder, upon the Noteholder giving not less than 15 nor more than 30 days' notice to the Issuer (or such other notice period as may be specified in the relevant Final Terms) redeem such Note on the Optional Redemption Date(s) at its Optional Redemption Amount together with interest accrued to the date fixed for redemption including, where applicable, any Arrears of Interest.

To exercise such option or any other Noteholders' option that may be set out in the relevant Final Terms (which must be exercised on an Option Exercise Date) the Noteholder must deposit with any Paying Agent at its specified office during usual business hours a duly completed option exercise notice (the **Exercise Notice**) in the form obtained during usual business hours from any Paying Agent or the Registration Agent, as the case may be, within the notice period. Such notice shall, in the case of Materialised Bearer Notes, have attached to it such Note (together with all unmatured Receipts and Coupons and unexchanged Talons). In the case of Dematerialised Notes, the Noteholder shall transfer, or cause to be transferred, the Dematerialised Notes to be redeemed to the account of the Paris Paying Agent specified in the Exercise Notice. No option so exercised and, where applicable, no Note so deposited or transferred may be withdrawn without the prior consent of the Issuer.

It may be that before a Put Option can be exercised, certain conditions and/or circumstances will need to be satisfied. Where relevant, the provisions will be set out in the applicable Final Terms.

- (e) **Early Redemption:**
- (i) Zero Coupon Notes:

- (A) The Early Redemption Amount payable in respect of any Zero Coupon Note, the Early Redemption Amount of which is not linked to an index and/or a formula, upon redemption of such Note pursuant to Condition 6(f) or upon it becoming due and payable as provided in Condition 9 shall be the Amortised Nominal Amount (calculated as provided below) of such Note unless otherwise specified in the relevant Final Terms.
- (B) Subject to the provisions of sub-paragraph (C) below, the Amortised Nominal Amount of any such Note shall be the scheduled Final Redemption Amount of such Note on the Maturity Date discounted at a rate per annum (expressed as a percentage) equal to the Amortisation Yield (which, if none is shown in the relevant Final Terms, shall be such rate as would produce an Amortised Nominal Amount equal to the issue price of the Notes if they were discounted back to their issue price on the Issue Date) compounded annually.
- (C) If the Early Redemption Amount payable in respect of any such Note upon its redemption pursuant to Condition 6(f) or upon it becoming due and payable as provided in Condition 9 is not paid when due, the Early Redemption Amount due and payable in respect of such Note shall be the Amortised Nominal Amount of such Note as defined in sub-paragraph (B) above, except that such sub-paragraph shall have effect as though the date on which the Amortised Nominal Amount becomes due and payable were the Relevant Date. The calculation of the Amortised Nominal Amount in accordance with this sub-paragraph shall continue to be made (as well after as before judgment) until the Relevant Date, unless the Relevant Date falls on or after the Maturity Date, in which case the amount due and payable shall be the scheduled Final Redemption Amount of such Note on the Maturity Date together with any interest that may accrue in accordance with Condition 5(d).

Where such calculation is to be made for a period of less than one year, it shall be made on the basis of the Day Count Fraction shown in the relevant Final Terms.

(ii) Other Notes:

The Early Redemption Amount payable in respect of any Note (other than Notes described in (i) above), upon redemption of such Note pursuant to Condition 6(f), or upon it becoming due and payable as provided in Condition 9 shall be the Final Redemption Amount together with interest accrued to the date fixed for redemption (including, where applicable, any Arrears of Interest) unless otherwise specified in the relevant Final Terms.

**(f) Redemption for Taxation Reasons:**

- (i) If, by reason of any change in French law, or any change in the official application or interpretation of such law, becoming effective after the Issue Date, the Issuer would on the occasion of the next payment of principal or interest due in respect of the Notes, not be able to make such payment without having to pay additional amounts as specified under Conditions 8(a) and 8(b) below, the Issuer may, at its option, on any Interest Payment Date or, if so specified in the relevant Final Terms, at any time, subject to having given not more than 60 nor less than 30 days' notice to the Noteholders (which notice shall be irrevocable), in accordance with Condition 15, redeem all, but not some only, of the Notes at their Early Redemption Amount together with, unless otherwise specified in the relevant Final Terms, any interest accrued to the date set for redemption (including, where applicable, any Arrears of Interest) provided that the due date for redemption of which notice hereunder may be given shall be no earlier than the latest practicable date on which the Issuer could make payment of principal and interest without withholding for French taxes.
- (ii) If the Issuer would on the next payment of principal or interest in respect of the Notes be prevented by French law from making payment to the Noteholders or, if applicable, Couponholders of the full amounts then due and payable, notwithstanding the undertaking to pay additional amounts contained in Conditions 8(a) and 8(b) below, then the Issuer shall forthwith give notice of such fact to the Fiscal Agent and the Issuer shall upon giving not less than seven days' prior notice to the Noteholders in accordance with Condition 15, redeem all, but not some only, of the Notes then



outstanding at their Early Redemption Amount together with, unless otherwise specified in the relevant Final Terms, any interest accrued to the date set for redemption (including, where applicable, any Arrears of Interest) on (A) the latest practicable Interest Payment Date on which the Issuer could make payment of the full amount then due and payable in respect of the Notes, provided that if such notice would expire after such Interest Payment Date the date for redemption pursuant to such notice of Noteholders shall be the later of (i) the latest practicable date on which the Issuer could make payment of the full amount then due and payable in respect of the Notes and (ii) 14 days after giving notice to the Fiscal Agent as aforesaid or (B) if so specified in the relevant Final Terms, at any time, provided that the due date for redemption of which notice hereunder shall be given shall be the latest practicable date at which the Issuer could make payment of the full amount payable in respect of the Notes, or, if applicable, Receipts or Coupons or, if that date is passed, as soon as practicable thereafter.

- (g) **Partly Paid Notes:** Partly Paid Notes will be redeemed, whether at maturity, early redemption or otherwise, in accordance with the provisions of this Condition and the provisions specified in the relevant Final Terms.
- (h) **Purchases:** The Issuer shall have the right at all times to purchase Notes (provided that, in the case of Materialised Notes, all unmatured Receipts and Coupons and unexchanged Talons relating thereto are attached thereto or surrendered therewith) in the open market or otherwise at any price, subject to the applicable laws and/or regulations.
- (i) **Cancellation:** All Notes purchased by or on behalf of the Issuer must be cancelled, in the case of Dematerialised Notes, by transfer to an account in accordance with the rules and procedures of Euroclear France and, in the case of Materialised Bearer Notes, by surrendering to the Fiscal Agent the Temporary Global Certificate and the Definitive Materialised Bearer Notes in question together with all unmatured Receipts and Coupons and all unexchanged Talons and, in each case, if so transferred or surrendered, shall, together with all Notes redeemed by the Issuer, be cancelled forthwith (together with, in the case of Dematerialised Notes, all rights relating to payment of interest and other amounts relating to such Dematerialised Notes and, in the case of Materialised Notes, all unmatured Receipts and Coupons and unexchanged Talons attached thereto or surrendered therewith). Any Notes so cancelled or, where applicable, transferred or surrendered for cancellation may not be re-issued or resold and the obligations of the Issuer in respect of any such Notes shall be discharged.
- (j) **Illegality:** If, by reason of any change in French law, or any change in the official application of such law, becoming effective after the Issue Date, it will become unlawful for the Issuer to perform or comply with one or more of its obligations under the Notes, the Issuer will, subject to having given not more than 45 nor less than 30 days' notice to the Noteholders (which notice shall be irrevocable), in accordance with Condition 15, redeem all, but not some only, of the Notes at their Early Redemption Amount together with any interest accrued to the date set for redemption (including, where applicable, any Arrears of Interest).
- (k) **Redemption at the option of Noteholders following a Change of Control:** If at any time while any of the Notes remains outstanding, there occurs a Change of Control and within the Change of Control Period a Rating Downgrade in respect of that Change of Control occurs (a **Put Event**), the holder of each Note will have the option (the **Put Option**) (unless, prior to the giving of the Put Event Notice (as defined below), the Issuer gives not more than 60 nor less than 30 days' prior notice to the Noteholders in accordance with Condition 15 of its intention to redeem the Notes (which notice shall be irrevocable)) to require the Issuer to redeem or, at the Issuer's option, to procure the purchase of that Note on the Optional Settlement Date (as defined below) at its principal amount together with accrued interest to but excluding the Optional Settlement Date.

**Control**, in respect of any entity, means:

- (i) the holding or acquisition, directly or indirectly, by any person or persons acting in concert or any person or persons acting on behalf of any such person(s) (the **Relevant Person(s)**) of (A) more than 50 per cent of the issued ordinary share capital of such entity; or (B) such number of the shares in the capital of such entity carrying more than 50 per cent of the voting rights normally exercisable at a general meeting of such entity;

or (C) a number of shares in the ordinary share capital of such entity carrying at least 40 per cent. of the voting rights in exercisable general meetings of such entity and no other shareholder of such entity, directly or indirectly, acting alone or in concert with others, holds a number of shares carrying a percentage of the voting rights exercisable in such general meetings which is higher than the percentage of voting rights attached to the number of shares held by such Relevant Person(s) or;

- (ii) whether by the ownership of share capital or the possession of voting power, contract or otherwise the ability, directly or indirectly, of any Relevant Person(s) to appoint or dismiss all or the majority of the members of the *Conseil d'administration* or other governing or supervisory body of such entity.

A **Change of Control** in respect of the Issuer shall be deemed to have occurred at each time (whether or not approved by the Issuer) that any Relevant Person(s), at any time following the Issue Date of the Notes acquire(s) Control of the Issuer provided that a Change of Control in respect of the Issuer shall be deemed not to have occurred in the case of a Change of Control in respect of the Issuer involving any Relevant Person(s) which at the time of such Change of Control are under the Control of Vinci S.A.

**Change of Control Period** means the period commencing on the date that is the earlier of (i) the date of the first of any formal public announcement that the relevant Change of Control in respect of the Issuer has occurred and (ii) the date of the earliest relevant Potential Change of Control Announcement (if any) and ending 120 days after the date of the first public announcement of such relevant Change of Control in respect of the Issuer having occurred (the **Initial Longstop Date**) provided that unless any other Rating Agency has on or prior to the Initial Longstop Date effected a Rating Downgrade in respect of its rating of the Notes, if one or more Rating Agency publicly announces at any time on or after the date which is 60 days prior to the Initial Longstop Date that it has placed its rating of the Notes under consideration for rating review as a consequence of such Change of Control, the Change of Control Period shall be extended to the date which falls 60 days after the date of the first such public rating review consideration announcement.

**Potential Change of Control Announcement** means any public announcement or statement by the Issuer, any actual or potential bidder or any advisor thereto relating to any potential Change of Control in respect of the Issuer, such announcement or statement occurring no more than 180 days prior to the first public announcement of the occurrence of the relevant Change of Control.

**Rating Agency** means Standard & Poor's Rating Services, a division of The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. and/ or Moody's Investors Service and their respective successors or affiliates and/ or any other rating agency of equivalent international standing specified from time to time by the Issuer which has a current rating of the Notes at any relevant time.

A **Rating Downgrade** shall be deemed to have occurred in respect of a Change of Control in respect of the Issuer if within the Change of Control Period the rating previously assigned to any of the Notes by any Rating Agency is (i) withdrawn or (ii) changed from an investment grade rating (BBB-/Baa3, or their respective equivalents for the time being, or better) to a non-investment grade rating (BB+/Ba1, or their respective equivalents for the time being, or worse) or (iii) if the rating previously assigned to any of the Notes by any Rating Agency was below an investment grade rating (as described above), lowered at least one full rating notch (for example, from BB+ to BB or their respective equivalents), provided that a Rating Downgrade otherwise arising by virtue of a particular change in rating shall be deemed not to have occurred in respect of a particular Change of Control in respect of the Issuer if the Rating Agency making the change in rating does not publicly announce or publicly confirm that the reduction was the result, in whole or part, of any event or circumstance comprised in or arising as a result of, or in respect of, such Change of Control.

Promptly upon the Issuer becoming aware that a Put Event has occurred, the Issuer shall give notice (a **Put Event Notice**) to the Noteholders in accordance with Condition 15 (which notice shall be irrevocable) specifying the nature of the Put Event and the circumstances giving rise to it and the procedure for exercising the Put Option contained in this Condition 6(k)).

To exercise the Put Option to require redemption or, as the case may be, purchase of a Note under this Condition 6(k), the holder of that Note must (i) in the case of Dematerialised Notes transfer or cause to be transferred by its Account Holder its Notes to be so redeemed or purchased to the account of the Paying Agent specified in the Put Option Notice for the account of the Issuer or (ii) in the case of Materialised Notes, deposit its Notes with any Paying Agent specified in the Put Option Notice for the account of the Issuer, in each case within the period (the **Put Period**) of 45 days after the Put Event Notice is given together with a duly signed and completed notice of exercise in the form (for the time being current) obtainable from the specified office of any Paying Agent (a **Put Option Notice**) and in which the holder may specify a bank account to which payment is to be made under this Condition 6(k).

The Issuer shall redeem or, at the option of the Issuer, procure the purchase of, the Notes in respect of which the Put Option has been validly exercised as provided above, and subject to the transfer or deposit of such Notes as described above on the date which is the fifth Business Day (as defined in Condition 5(a)) following the end of the Put Period (the **Optional Settlement Date**). Payment in respect of any Note so transferred or deposited will be made to each relevant holder in Euro in accordance with Condition 7 on the Optional Settlement Date.

If 80 per cent. or more in principal amount of the Notes then outstanding have been redeemed pursuant to this Condition 6(k), the Issuer may, on not less than 30 nor more than 60 days' notice to the Noteholders given within 30 days after the Optional Settlement Date, redeem on a date to be specified in such notice (the "**Squeeze Out Redemption Date**"), at its option, all (but not some only) of the remaining Notes at their principal amount, together with interest accrued to but excluding the Squeeze Out Redemption Date.

## 7. Payments and Talons

- (a) **Dematerialised Notes:** Payments of principal and interest (including, for the avoidance of doubt, any Arrears of Interest, where applicable) in respect of Dematerialised Notes shall (in the case of Dematerialised Notes in bearer dematerialised form or administered registered form) be made by transfer to the account denominated in the relevant currency of the relevant Account Holders for the benefit of the Noteholders and, (in the case of Dematerialised Notes in fully registered form), to an account denominated in the relevant currency with a Bank (as defined below) designated by the Noteholders. All payments validly made to such Account Holders will be an effective discharge of the Issuer in respect of such payments.
- (b) **Materialised Bearer Notes:** Payments of principal and interest (including, for the avoidance of doubt, any Arrears of Interest, where applicable) in respect of Materialised Bearer Notes shall, subject as mentioned below, be made against presentation and surrender during usual business hours of the relevant Receipts (in the case of payments of Instalment Amounts other than on the due date for redemption and provided that the Receipt is presented for payment together with its relative Note), Materialised Bearer Notes (in the case of all other payments of principal and, in the case of interest, as specified in Condition 7(f)(vi)) or Coupons (in the case of interest, save as specified in Condition 7(f)(vi)), as the case may be, at the specified office of any Paying Agent outside the United States by a cheque payable in the relevant currency drawn on, or, at the option of the Noteholder, by transfer to an account denominated in such currency with, a Bank.

**Bank** means a bank in the principal financial centre for such currency or, in the case of Euro, in a city in which banks have access to the TARGET System.

- (c) **Payments in the United States:** Notwithstanding the foregoing, if any Materialised Bearer Notes are denominated in U.S. Dollars, payments in respect thereof may be made at the specified office of any Paying Agent in New York City in the same manner as aforesaid if (i) the Issuer shall have appointed Paying Agents with specified offices outside the United States with the reasonable expectation that such Paying Agents would be able to make payment of the amounts on the Notes in the manner provided above when due, (ii) payment in full of such amounts at all such offices is illegal or effectively precluded by exchange controls or other similar restrictions on payment or receipt of such amounts and (iii) such payment is then permitted by United States law, without involving, in the opinion of the Issuer, any adverse tax consequence to the Issuer.

- (d) **Payments Subject to Fiscal Laws:** All payments are subject in all cases to any applicable fiscal or other laws, regulations and directives in the place of payment but without prejudice to the provisions of Condition 8. No commission or expenses shall be charged to the Noteholders or Couponholders in respect of such payments.
- (e) **Appointment of Agents:** The Fiscal Agent, the Paying Agents, the Calculation Agent, the Redenomination Agent and the Consolidation Agent initially appointed by the Issuer and their respective specified offices are listed below. The Fiscal Agent, the Paying Agents, the Redenomination Agent, the Consolidation Agent and the Registration Agent act solely as agents of the Issuer and the Calculation Agent(s) act(s) as independent experts(s) and, in each case such, do not assume any obligation or relationship of agency for any Noteholder or Couponholder. The Issuer reserves the right at any time to vary or terminate the appointment of the Fiscal Agent, any other Paying Agent, the Redenomination Agent, the Consolidation Agent and the Registration Agent or the Calculation Agent(s) and to appoint additional or other Paying Agents, provided that the Issuer shall at all times maintain (i) a Fiscal Agent, (ii) one or more Calculation Agent(s) where the Conditions so require, (iii) a Redenomination Agent and a Consolidation Agent where the Conditions so require, (iv) Paying Agents having specified offices in at least two major European cities (including Luxembourg so long as Notes are admitted to trading on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange and, in either case, so long as the rules of, or applicable to, the relevant Regulated Market so require) (v) in the case of Materialised Notes, a Paying Agent with a specified office in a European Union Member State (which may be any of the Paying Agents referred to in (iv) above) that will not be obliged to withhold or deduct tax pursuant to European Council Directive 2003/48/EC of 3 June 2003 on taxation of savings income in the form of interest payments, or any other European Union Directive implementing the conclusions of the ECOFIN Council meeting of 26-27 November 2000 on the taxation of savings income, or any law implementing or complying with, or introduced in order to conform to, such Directive, (vi) in the case of Dematerialised Notes, in fully registered form, a Registration Agent and (vii) such other agents as may be required by any other Regulated Market on which the Notes may be admitted to trading.

In addition, the Issuer shall forthwith appoint a Paying Agent in New York City in respect of any Materialised Bearer Notes denominated in U.S. Dollars in the circumstances described in paragraph (c) above.

On a redenomination of the Notes of any Series pursuant to Condition 1(d) with a view to consolidating such Notes with one or more other Series of Notes, in accordance with Condition 14, the Issuer shall ensure that the same entity shall be appointed as both Redenomination Agent and Consolidation Agent in respect of both such Notes and such other Series of Notes to be so consolidated with such Notes.

Notice of any such change or any change of any specified office shall promptly be given to the Noteholders in accordance with Condition 15.

- (f) **Unmatured Coupons and Receipts and unexchanged Talons:**
- (i) Unless Materialised Bearer Notes provide that the relative Coupons are to become void upon the due date for redemption of those Notes, Materialised Bearer Notes should be surrendered for payment together with all unexpired Coupons (if any) relating thereto, failing which an amount equal to the face value of each missing unexpired Coupon (together, where applicable, with the amount of any Arrears of Interest corresponding to such Coupon) (or, in the case of payment not being made in full, that proportion of the amount of such missing unexpired Coupon (together, where applicable, with the amount of any Arrears of Interest corresponding to such Coupon) that the sum of principal so paid bears to the total principal due) shall be deducted from the Final Redemption Amount, Amortised Nominal Amount, Early Redemption Amount or Optional Redemption Amount, as the case may be, due for payment. Any amount so deducted shall be paid in the manner mentioned above against surrender of such missing Coupon within a period of 10 years from the Relevant Date for the payment of such principal (whether or not such Coupon has become void pursuant to Condition 10).

- (ii) If Materialised Bearer Notes so provide, upon the due date for redemption of any such Materialised Bearer Note, unmatured Coupons relating to such Note (whether or not attached) shall become void and no payment shall be made in respect of them.
- (iii) Upon the due date for redemption of any Materialised Bearer Note, any unexchanged Talon relating to such Note (whether or not attached) shall become void and no Coupon shall be delivered in respect of such Talon.
- (iv) Upon the due date for redemption of any Materialised Bearer Note that is redeemable in instalments, all Receipts relating to such Materialised Bearer Note having an Instalment Date falling on or after such due date (whether or not attached) shall become void and no payment shall be made in respect of them.
- (v) Where any Materialised Bearer Note that provides that the relative unmatured Coupons are to become void upon the due date for redemption of those Notes is presented for redemption without all unmatured Coupons, and where any Bearer Note is presented for redemption without any unexchanged Talon relating to it, redemption shall be made only against the provision of such indemnity as the Issuer may require.
- (vi) If the due date for redemption of any Materialised Bearer Note is not a due date for payment of interest, interest accrued from the preceding due date for payment of interest or the Interest Commencement Date, as the case may be, (including, for the avoidance of doubt, any Arrears of Interest if applicable) shall only be payable against presentation (and surrender if appropriate) of the relevant Definitive Materialised Bearer Note. Interest accrued on a Materialised Bearer Note that only bears interest after its Maturity Date shall be payable on redemption of such Note against presentation of the relevant Materialised Bearer Notes.
- (g) **Talons:** On or after the Interest Payment Date for the final Coupon forming part of a Coupon sheet issued in respect of any Materialised Bearer Note, the Talon forming part of such Coupon sheet may be surrendered at the specified office of the Fiscal Agent in exchange for a further Coupon sheet (and if necessary another Talon for a further Coupon sheet) (but excluding any Coupons that may have become void pursuant to Condition 10).
- (h) **Non-Business Days:** If any date for payment in respect of any Note, Receipt or Coupon is not a business day, the Noteholder shall not be entitled to payment until the next following business day nor to any interest or other sum in respect of such postponed payment. In this paragraph, **business day** means a day (other than a Saturday or a Sunday) (A) (i) in the case of Dematerialised Notes, on which Euroclear France is open for business or (ii) in the case of Materialised Notes, on which banks and foreign exchange markets are open for business in the relevant place of presentation, in such jurisdictions as shall be specified as **Financial Centres** in the relevant Final Terms and (B) (i) (in the case of a payment in a currency other than Euro), where payment is to be made by transfer to an account maintained with a bank in the relevant currency, on which foreign exchange transactions may be carried on in the relevant currency in the principal financial centre of the country of such currency or (ii) (in the case of a payment in Euro), which is a TARGET Business Day.

## 8. Taxation

### (a) Tax Exemption for Notes constituting obligations or debt instruments (titres de créances) assimilated thereto for French tax purposes

Payments of interest and other revenues in respect of Notes constituting *obligations* or debt instruments (*titres de créances*) assimilated thereto for French tax purposes benefit from the exemption from deduction of tax at source as provided by Article 131 *quater* of the French *Code Général des Impôts*.

The tax regime applicable to Notes which do not constitute *obligations* or debt instruments (*titres de créances*) assimilated thereto for French tax purposes will be set out in the relevant Final Terms.

### (b) Additional Amounts

If French law should require that payments of principal or interest in respect of any Note, Receipt or Coupon be subject to deduction or withholding in respect of any present or future French taxes or duties whatsoever, the Issuer will, to the fullest extent then permitted by law, pay such additional amounts as shall

result in receipt by the Noteholders or, if applicable, the Receiptholders and the Couponholders, as the case may be, of such amounts as would have been received by them had no such withholding or deduction been required, except that no such additional amounts shall be payable with respect to any Note, Receipt or Coupon, as the case may be:

(i) *Other connection:*

to, or to a third party on behalf of, a Noteholder who is liable to such taxes, duties, assessments or governmental charges in respect of such Note, Receipt or Coupon by reason of his having some connection with the Republic of France other than the mere holding of the Note, Receipt or Coupon; or

(ii) *Presentation more than 30 days after the Relevant Date in the case of Materialised Notes:*

more than 30 days after the Relevant Date except to the extent that the Noteholder would have been entitled to such additional amounts on presenting it for payment on the thirtieth such day; or

(iii) *Payment to individuals:*

where such withholding or deduction is imposed on a payment to an individual and is required to be made pursuant to European Council Directive 2003/48/EC of 3 June 2003 or any other EU Directive implementing the conclusions of the ECOFIN Council Meeting of 26-27 November 2000 on the taxation of savings, or any law implementing or complying with, or introduced in order to conform to, such Directive; or

(iv) *Payment by another paying agent in the case of Materialised Notes:*

presented for payment by or on behalf of a holder who would be able to avoid such withholding or deduction by presenting the relevant Note, Receipt or Coupon to another paying agent in a Member State of the EU.

As used in these Conditions, **Relevant Date** in respect of any Note, Receipt or Coupon means the date on which payment in respect of it first becomes due (and, for the avoidance of doubt, in the case of Arrears of Interest, references to becomes due shall be interpreted in accordance with the provisions of Condition 5(h)) or (if any amount of the money payable is improperly withheld or refused) the date on which payment in full of the amount outstanding is made or, in the case of Materialised Notes (if earlier) the date seven days after that on which notice is duly given to the Noteholders that, upon further presentation of the Note, Receipt or Coupon being made in accordance with the Conditions, such payment will be made, provided that payment is in fact made upon such presentation.

References in these Conditions to (i) **principal** shall be deemed to include any premium payable in respect of the Notes, all Instalment Amounts, Final Redemption Amounts, Early Redemption Amounts, Optional Redemption Amounts, Amortised Nominal Amounts and all other amounts in the nature of principal payable pursuant to Condition 6 or any amendment or supplement to it, (ii) **interest** shall be deemed to include all Interest Amounts and all other amounts (including, for the avoidance of doubt, all Arrears of Interest) payable pursuant to Condition 5 or any amendment or supplement to it and (iii) **principal** and/or **interest** shall be deemed to include any additional amounts that may be payable under this Condition.

## 9. Events of Default

The Representative (as defined in Condition 11), upon request of any Noteholder, may, upon written notice to the Fiscal Agent given before all defaults shall have been cured, cause all the Notes (but not some only) held by such Noteholder to become immediately due and payable at their principal amount, together with any accrued interest thereon, as of the date on which such notice for payment is received by the Fiscal Agent without further formality, if any of the following events (each an **Event of Default**) shall occur:

(a) **Unsubordinated Notes:** In the case of Unsubordinated Notes:

- (i) default in any payment when due of interest on any of the Notes, and the continuance of any such default for a period of 15 days thereafter; or
- (ii) default in the performance of, or compliance with, any other obligation of the Issuer under the Notes, if such default shall not have been remedied within 30 days after receipt by the Fiscal Agent of written notice of such default given by the Representative (as defined in Condition 11); or

- (iii) any other present or future indebtedness of the Issuer for borrowed money in excess of Euro 60,000,000 (or its equivalent in any other currency) shall become due and payable prior to its stated maturity as a result of a default thereunder, or any such indebtedness shall not be paid when due or, as the case may be, within any applicable grace period therefor, unless the Issuer is contesting in good faith and by appropriate proceedings before a competent court that such indebtedness was due and payable; or
- (iv) if the Issuer makes any proposal for a general moratorium in relation to its debt; or applies for the appointment of a *mandataire ad hoc*, or enters into an amicable settlement (*procédure de conciliation*) with its creditors; or a judgement is issued for the judicial liquidation (*liquidation judiciaire*) or for the transfer of the whole business (*cession totale de l'entreprise*) of the Issuer; or to the extent permitted by applicable law, the Issuer is subject to any other insolvency or bankruptcy proceedings; or the Issuer makes any conveyance, assignment or other arrangement for the benefit of, or enters into a composition with, its creditors; or the Issuer ceases to carry on all or a substantial part of its business or operations or is dissolved except (i) any operation falling within the definition of Permitted Reorganisation (as defined below) or (ii) with the prior approval of the *Masse*, for the purposes of, or in connection with, an amalgamation, reorganisation, consolidation or merger (other than a Permitted Reorganisation) which is implemented;

then the Representative may, by notice in writing to the Issuer and the Fiscal Agent given on behalf of the Noteholders before all continuing Events of Default shall have been remedied, cause all the Notes outstanding to become immediately due and payable whereupon they shall become immediately due and payable at their principal amount together with any accrued interest thereon. The occurrence of any Event of Default must be notified to the Noteholders by a publication in accordance with the provisions of Condition 15.

**Permitted Reorganisation** means a reconstruction, amalgamation, merger, consolidation or transfer of assets and/or activities (a **Reorganisation**) where the surviving legal entity which acquires or to which is transferred all or a substantial part of the business and/or activities of the Issuer:

- (a) is a company incorporated and resident in a Member State of the OECD;
  - (b) carries on the same or similar business and activities as the Issuer immediately after such acquisition or transfer;
  - (c) expressly and effectively by law assumes all the obligations of the Issuer under the Notes and has obtained all authorisations therefore; and
  - (d) benefits from a senior long term debt rating from either Standard & Poor's or Moody's which is equal to or higher than the senior long term debt rating of the Notes immediately prior to the Reorganisation.
- (b) **Subordinated Notes:** In the case of Subordinated Notes and in accordance with Condition 3(b), if any judgment shall be issued for the transfer of the whole of its business (*cession totale de l'entreprise*) or the judicial liquidation (*liquidation judiciaire*) of the Issuer or if the Issuer is liquidated for any other reason then the Subordinated Notes shall become immediately due and payable, in accordance with Condition 3(b), at their principal amount together with any accrued interest to the date of payment and where applicable, any Arrears of Interest, without further formality.

## 10. Prescription

Claims against the Issuer for payment in respect of the Notes, Receipts and Coupons (which for this purpose shall not include Talons) shall be prescribed and become void unless made within 10 years (in the case of principal) or five years (in the case of interest) from the appropriate Relevant Date in respect of them.

## 11. Representation of Noteholders

Except as otherwise provided by the relevant Final Terms, Noteholders will, in respect of all Tranches in any Series, be grouped automatically for the defence of their common interests in a *masse* (in each case, the *Masse*).

The Masse will be governed by the provisions of the French Code of Commerce with the exception of Articles L.228-48, L.228-59, R.228-63, R.228-67 and R.228-69, subject to the following provisions:

**(a) Legal Personality**

The Masse will be a separate legal entity and will act in part through a representative (the **Representative**) and in part through a general meeting of the Noteholders (the **General Meeting**).

The Masse alone, to the exclusion of all individual Noteholders, shall exercise the common rights, actions and benefits which now or in the future may accrue respectively with respect to the Notes.

**(b) Representative**

The office of Representative may be conferred on a person of any nationality who agrees to perform such function. However, the following persons may not be chosen as Representatives:

- (i) the Issuer, the members of its Board of Directors (*Conseil d'administration*), its Supervisory Board (*Conseil de surveillance*), its general managers (*directeurs généraux*), its statutory auditors, or its employees as well as their ascendants, descendants and spouse; or
- (ii) companies guaranteeing all or part of the obligations of the Issuer, their respective managers (*gérants*), general managers (*directeurs généraux*), members of their Board of Directors, Executive Board (*Directoire*), or Supervisory Board (*Conseil de surveillance*), their statutory auditors, or employees as well as their ascendants, descendants and spouse; or
- (iii) companies holding 10 per cent. or more of the share capital of the Issuer or companies having 10 per cent. or more of their share capital held by the Issuer; or
- (iv) persons to whom the practice of banker is forbidden or who have been deprived of the right of directing, administering or managing an enterprise in whatever capacity.

The names and addresses of the initial Representative of the Masse and its alternate will be set out in the relevant Final Terms. The Representative appointed in respect of the first Tranche of any Series of Notes will be the Representative of the single Masse of all Tranches in such Series.

The Representative will be entitled to such remuneration in connection with its functions or duties as set out in the relevant Final Terms.

In the event of death, retirement or revocation of appointment of the Representative, such Representative will be replaced by another Representative. In the event of the death, retirement or revocation of appointment of the alternate Representative, an alternate will be elected by the General Meeting.

All interested parties will at all times have the right to obtain the names and addresses of the initial Representative and the alternate Representative at the head office of the Issuer and the specified offices of any of the Paying Agents.

**(c) Powers of Representative**

The Representative shall (in the absence of any decision to the contrary of the General Meeting) have the power to take all acts of management necessary in order to defend the common interests of the Noteholders.

All legal proceedings against the Noteholders or initiated by them, must be brought by or against the Representative.

The Representative may not be involved in the management of the affairs of the Issuer.

**(d) General Meeting**

A General Meeting may be held at any time, on convocation either by the Issuer or by the Representative. One or more Noteholders, holding together at least one-thirtieth of the principal



amount of the Notes outstanding, may address to the Issuer and the Representative a demand for convocation of the General Meeting. If such General Meeting has not been convened within two months after such demand, the Noteholders may commission one of their members to petition a competent court in Paris to appoint an agent (*mandataire*) who will call the General Meeting.

Notice of the date, time, place and agenda of any General Meeting will be published as provided under Condition 15.

Each Noteholder has the right to participate in a General Meeting in person or by proxy. Each Note carries the right to one vote or, in the case of Notes issued with more than one Specified Denomination, one vote in respect of each multiple of the lowest Specified Denomination comprised in the principal amount of the Specified Denomination of such Note.

**(e) Powers of the General Meetings**

The General Meeting is empowered to deliberate on the dismissal and replacement of the Representative and the alternate Representative and also may act with respect to any other matter that relates to the common rights, actions and benefits which now or in the future may accrue with respect to the Notes, including authorising the Representative to act at law as plaintiff or defendant.

The General Meeting may further deliberate on any proposal relating to the modification of the Conditions including any proposal, whether for arbitration or settlement, relating to rights in controversy or which were the subject of judicial decisions, it being specified, however, that the General Meeting may not increase amounts payable by Noteholders, nor establish any unequal treatment between the Noteholders, nor decide to convert Notes into shares.

General Meetings may deliberate validly on first convocation only if Noteholders present or represented hold at least a fifth of the principal amount of the Notes then outstanding. On second convocation, no quorum shall be required. Decisions at meetings shall be taken by a two-third majority of votes cast by Noteholders attending such General Meetings or represented thereat.

Decisions of General Meetings must be published in accordance with the provisions set forth in Condition 15.

**(f) Information to Noteholders**

Each Noteholder or Representative thereof will have the right, during the 15-day period preceding the holding of each General Meeting, to consult or make a copy of the text of the resolutions which will be proposed and of the reports which will be presented at the General Meeting, all of which will be available for inspection by the relevant Noteholders at the registered office of the Issuer, at the specified offices of any of the Paying Agents during usual business hours and at any other place specified in the notice of the General Meeting.

**(g) Expenses**

The Issuer will pay all expenses relating to the operation of the Masse, including expenses relating to the calling and holding of General Meetings and, more generally, all administrative expenses resolved upon by the General Meeting, it being expressly stipulated that no expenses may be imputed against interest payable under the Notes.

**(h) Single Masse**

The holders of Notes of the same Series, and the holders of Notes of any other Series which have been assimilated with the Notes of such first mentioned Series in accordance with Condition 14, shall, for the defence of their respective common interests, be grouped in a single Masse. The Representative appointed in respect of the first Tranche of any Series of Notes will be the Representative of the single Masse of all such Series.

## **12. Modifications**

These Conditions may be amended, modified or varied in relation to any Series of Notes by the terms of the relevant Final Terms in relation to such Series.

### 13. Replacement of Definitive Notes, Receipts, Coupons and Talons

If, in the case of any Materialised Bearer Notes, a Definitive Materialised Bearer Note, Receipt, Coupon or Talon is lost, stolen, mutilated, defaced or destroyed, it may be replaced, subject to applicable laws, regulations and Regulated Market regulations, at the specified office of the Fiscal Agent or such other Paying Agent as may from time to time be designated by the Issuer for the purpose and notice of whose designation is given to Noteholders, in each case on payment by the claimant of the fees and costs incurred in connection therewith and on such terms as to evidence, security and indemnity (which may provide, *inter alia*, that if the allegedly lost, stolen or destroyed Definitive Materialised Bearer Note, Receipt, Coupon or Talon is subsequently presented for payment or, as the case may be, for exchange for further Coupons, there shall be paid to the Issuer on demand the amount payable by the Issuer in respect of such Definitive Materialised Bearer Notes, Receipts, Coupons or further Coupons) and otherwise as the Issuer may require. Mutilated or defaced Materialised Bearer Notes, Receipts, Coupons or Talons must be surrendered before replacements will be issued.

### 14. Further Issues and Consolidation

- (a) **Further Issues:** Unless otherwise specified in the relevant Final Terms, the Issuer may from time to time without the consent of the Noteholders, Receiptholders or Couponholders create and issue further notes to be assimilated (*assimilées*) and form a single series with the Notes provided such Notes and the further notes carry rights identical in all respects (or in all respects save for the principal amount thereof and the first payment of interest in the relevant Final Terms) and that the terms of such further notes provide for such assimilation and references in these Conditions to **Notes** shall be construed accordingly.
- (b) **Consolidation:** The Issuer may, with the prior approval (which shall not be unreasonably withheld) of the Redenomination and Consolidation Agent, from time to time on any Interest Payment Date occurring on or after the Redenomination Date on giving not less than 30 days' prior notice to the Noteholders in accordance with Condition 15, without the consent of the Noteholders, Receiptholders or Couponholders, consolidate the Notes of one Series with the Notes of one or more other Series issued by it, whether or not originally issued in one of the European national currencies or in Euro, provided such other Notes have been redenominated in Euro (if not originally denominated in Euro) and which otherwise have, in respect of all periods subsequent to such consolidation, the same terms and conditions as the Notes.

### 15. Notices

- (a) Notices to the holders of Dematerialised Notes in registered form (*au nominatif*) shall be valid if either, (i) they are mailed to them at their respective addresses, in which case they will be deemed to have been given on the fourth weekday (being a day other than a Saturday or a Sunday) after the mailing, or (ii) at the option of the Issuer, they are published in a leading daily newspaper of general circulation in Europe. Provided that, so long as such Notes are admitted to trading on any Regulated Market(s), notices shall be valid if published (x) as long as such Notes are listed and admitted to trading on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange, and the rules of such Stock Exchange so permit, on the website of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange ([www.bourse.lu](http://www.bourse.lu)) or (y) in a daily newspaper with general circulation in the city/ies where the Regulated Market(s) on which such Notes are admitted to trading is/are situated, which in the case of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange, is expected to be the *Luxemburger Wort*.
- (b) Notices to the holders of Materialised Bearer Notes and Dematerialised Notes in bearer form shall be valid if (i) published in a daily leading newspaper of general circulation in Europe or (ii) so long as such Notes are admitted to trading on a Regulated Market, published (x) as long as such Notes are listed and admitted to trading on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange, and the rules of such Stock Exchange so permit, on the website of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange ([www.bourse.lu](http://www.bourse.lu)) or (y) in a daily newspaper with general circulation in the city/ies where the Regulated Market(s) on which such Notes are admitted to trading is/are situated, which in the case of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange, is expected to be the *Luxemburger Wort*.

- (c) If any such publication is not practicable, notice shall be validly given if published in another leading daily English language newspaper with general circulation in Europe. Any such notice shall be deemed to have been given on the date of such publication or, if published more than once or on different dates, on the date of the first publication as provided above. Couponholders shall be deemed for all purposes to have notice of the contents of any notice given to the holders of Materialised Bearer Notes in accordance with this Condition.
- (d) Notices required to be given to the holders of Dematerialised Notes (whether in registered or in bearer form) pursuant to these Conditions may be given by delivery of the relevant notice to Euroclear France, Euroclear, Clearstream, Luxembourg and any other clearing system through which the Notes are for the time being cleared in substitution for the mailing and publication as required by Conditions 15 (a), (b) and (c) above; except that so long as such Notes are admitted to trading on any Regulated Market(s) and the rules of, or applicable to, that Regulated Market so require, notices will be published (x) as long as such Notes are listed and admitted to trading on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange, and the rules of such Stock Exchange so permit, on the website of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange ([www.bourse.lu](http://www.bourse.lu)) or (y) in a daily newspaper with general circulation in the city/ies where the Regulated Market(s) on which such Notes are admitted to trading are/is situated which, in the case of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange, is expected to be the *Luxemburger Wort* and notices relating to the convocation and decision(s) of the General Meetings pursuant to Condition 11 shall also be published in a leading newspaper of general circulation in Europe.

## 16. Governing Law and Jurisdiction

- (a) **Governing Law:** The Notes (and, where applicable, the Receipts, the Coupons and the Talons) are governed by, and shall be construed in accordance with, French law.
- (b) **Jurisdiction:** Any claim against the Issuer in connection with any Notes, Receipts, Coupons or Talons may be brought before any competent court of the jurisdiction of the Paris Court of Appeal.

## **TEMPORARY GLOBAL CERTIFICATES ISSUED IN RESPECT OF MATERIALIZED BEARER NOTES**

### **Temporary Global Certificates**

A Temporary Global Certificate, without interest Coupons, will initially be issued in connection with Materialised Bearer Notes. Upon the initial deposit of such Temporary Global Certificate with a common depository for Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg (the **Common Depository**), Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg will credit the accounts of each subscriber with a nominal amount of Notes equal to the nominal amount thereof for which it has subscribed and paid.

The Common Depository may also credit with a nominal amount of Notes the accounts of subscribers with (if indicated in the relevant Final Terms) other clearing systems through direct or indirect accounts with Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg held by such other clearing systems. Conversely, a nominal amount of Notes that is initially deposited with any other clearing system may similarly be credited to the accounts of subscribers with Euroclear, Clearstream, Luxembourg or other clearing systems.

### **Exchange**

Each Temporary Global Certificate issued in respect of Notes will be exchangeable, free of charge to the holder, on or after its Exchange Date (as defined below):

- (i) if the relevant Final Terms indicates that such Temporary Global Certificate is issued in compliance with the C Rules or in a transaction to which TEFRA is not applicable (as to which, see General Description of the Programme - Selling Restrictions), in whole, but not in part, for the Definitive Materialised Bearer Notes and
- (ii) otherwise, in whole but not in part upon certification as to non-U.S. beneficial ownership (a form of which shall be available at the specified offices of any of the Paying Agents) for Definitive Materialised Bearer Notes.

### **Delivery of Definitive Materialised Bearer Notes**

On or after its Exchange Date, the holder of a Temporary Global Certificate may surrender such Temporary Global Certificate to or to the order of the Fiscal Agent. In exchange for any Temporary Global Certificate, the Issuer will deliver, or procure the delivery of, an equal aggregate nominal amount of duly executed and authenticated Definitive Materialised Bearer Notes. In this Base Prospectus, Definitive Materialised Bearer Notes means, in relation to any Temporary Global Certificate, the Definitive Materialised Bearer Notes for which such Temporary Global Certificate may be exchanged (if appropriate, having attached to them all Coupons and Receipts in respect of interest or Instalment Amounts that have not already been paid on the Temporary Global Certificate and a Talon). Definitive Materialised Bearer Notes will be security printed in accordance with any applicable legal and Regulated Market requirements. Forms of such Definitive Bearer Materialised Notes shall be available at the specified offices of any of the Paying Agent(s).

### **Exchange Date**

**Exchange Date** means, in relation to a Temporary Global Certificate, the day falling after the expiry of 40 days after its issue date, provided that, in the event any further Materialised Notes are issued prior to such day pursuant to Condition 14(a), the Exchange Date for such Temporary Global Certificate shall be postponed to the day falling after the expiry of 40 days after the issue of such further Materialised Notes.

## **USE OF PROCEEDS**

The net proceeds of the issue of the Notes will be used for the Issuer's general corporate purposes unless otherwise specified in the relevant Final Terms.

## DESCRIPTION OF THE ISSUER

### I INFORMATION CONCERNING THE ISSUER

#### 1.1 - General information

- **General information about the Issuer**

**Corporate name:** Autoroutes du Sud de la France – "ASF"

**Registered office:** 9 place de l'Europe, 92 851 Rueil-Malmaison Cedex, France

**Telephone:** +33 1 72 71 90 00

**Legal form:** French public limited company (« *société anonyme* ») with a Board of Directors

**Applicable legislation:** Governed by the provisions of the French Commercial Code and the related enabling legislation applicable to trading companies.

**Legal term of existence:** The company was incorporated on 6 September 1957 and will be automatically dissolved on 6 September 2056 unless it is wound up in advance or its term is extended.

**Financial year:** From 1 January to 31 December

**Registration number:** RCS 572 139 996 Nanterre– Siret: 572 139 996 01322 – NAF code: 632A

**Inspection of documents:** Legal documents relating to ASF are available for inspection at its registered office and at the Clerk's Office of the Paris Commercial Court.

- **Corporate purpose (Article 2 of the bylaws)**

The corporate purpose of ASF is as follows:

- Under a concession agreement, contract, mandate or other form of delegation, to design, build, maintain and operate roads, including expressways, motorways or civil engineering structures and including slip-roads and feeder-roads, build and operate related infrastructures or intermodal transport infrastructures, improve the surrounding land, gather, process and distribute traffic information and, generally, perform any and all related work or activities.

- Under a contract, mandate or other form of delegation, to design, build and operate transport infrastructures including freight centres, vehicle parking areas, multimodal platforms and airport and maritime platforms.

- To build, maintain and operate telecommunications infrastructure, including that related directly to the business of transport infrastructure operator.

- To carry out any and all studies and develop any and all industrial and scientific processes, materials and equipment related directly or indirectly to the design, operation or construction of transport or telecommunications infrastructure.

- Generally, to invest in any and all financial, commercial, securities or real estate companies, transactions or ventures, including for the acquisition of and improvements to land and buildings, related to the above corporate purpose.

## 1.2 - Administration, management and supervisory bodies

### Composition of the Board of Directors (as of 30/ 04 /2008)

The board of directors has ten members:

- Henri Stouff, Chairman
- Bernard Val,
- Gérard Payen,
- Christian Bouvier,
- Willy Stricker,
- VINCI, represented by Yves-Thibault de Silguy,
- VINCI Concessions, represented by David Azéma,
- SNEL, represented by Xavier Huillard,
- SEMANA, represented by Bernard Huvelin,
- SOCOFREG, represented by Christian Labeyrie

### Positions and mandates held by the members of the board of directors as of 30 April 2008

Name	Age	Function	Start	End	Principal other appointments and functions
Henri Stouff	63	Chairman	Chairman of the Board since 10/12/2007	AGM voting on accounts closed in 2013	- Chairman and CEO of COFIROUTE until December 2007, then Director, - Member of VINCI's executive committee, - Chairman of ASFA, - President of MEDEF's public market committee, - Vice president of UNSPIC and ASECAP, - Member of the comity for the opening of public market at the European Commission, - Director of the Institut de la gestion déléguée, - Permanent representative of ASF on the Board of Escota.
Bernard Val	65	Director	Chairman of ASF from 1997 to 15 May 2006, then Vice Chairman until 26/02/2007, Director since 26 February 2007	AGM voting on accounts closed in 2013	- Chairman of VINCI Concessions until 12/10/2007, - Director of Escota and Derichebourg, - Member of the Supervisory Board of Ginger.
Gérard Payen	55	Director	13 March 2002	AGM voting on accounts closed in 2013	- Chairman of AquaFed.
Christian Bouvier	69	Director	9 March 2006	AGM voting on accounts closed in 2013	- Director of Escota, ICADE, EPPJP and Pax Progrès Pallas.
Willy Stricker	65	Director	26 February 2007	AGM voting on accounts closed in 2012	Director of VINCI and Canal+, Chairman of IFE FUND
VINCI, represented by Yves-Thibault de Silguy	59	Director	15 December 2004	AGM voting on accounts closed in 2013	- Chairman of VINCI's Board of Directors, - Chairman of VINCI's strategy and investments committee and appointments committee.

Name	Age	Function	Start	End	Principal other appointments and functions
VINCI Concessions, represented by David Azéma	47	Director	9 March 2006	AGM voting on accounts closed in 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Vice CEO of VINCI Concessions until 12/10/2007, then CEO,</li> <li>- Director of VINCI Concessions,</li> <li>- Member of VINCI's executive committee,</li> <li>- CEO and Chairman of COFIROUTE Holding and SOC11,</li> <li>- Chairman of Arcour, VINCI Airports, VINCI Infrastructures, VINCI Services Aéroportuaires, VINCI Concessions Russie,</li> <li>- Vice Chairman of Sté Expl. de l'Aéroport de Chambéry and of Sté Expl. De l'Aéroport de Grenoble,</li> <li>- Director of VINCI Park and Gefyra, VINCI Concessions Canada, UNSPIC,</li> <li>- Permanent representative of VINCI on the Board of Escota,</li> <li>- Permanent representative of SNEL on the Board of SOC16,</li> <li>- Permanent representative of VINCI Concessions on the Board of Cofiroute, SMTPC, ASF Holding, Truck Etape Holding, SOC18, VEN1, ParkAzur, Consortium Stade de France.</li> </ul>
SNEL, represented by Xavier Huillard	53	Director	9 March 2006	AGM voting on accounts closed in 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- CEO and Director of VINCI,</li> <li>- Chairman of VINCI's executive committee,</li> <li>- Director of VINCI Concessions and Chairman since 12/10/2007,</li> <li>- Director of VINCI Park until 09/05/2007, COFIROUTE, Solétanche, VINCI Investments Ltd and VINCI Plc,</li> <li>- Chairman of the Foundation "Entreprises VINCI pour la Cité",</li> <li>- Member of the supervisory Board of VINCI Energies Deutschland until 30/06/2007 and VINCI Deutschland,</li> <li>- Permanent representative of VINCI on the Board of VINCI Energies.</li> </ul>
SEMANA, represented by Bernard Huvelin	70	Director	9 March 2006	AGM voting on accounts closed in 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Vice Chairman of VINCI,</li> <li>- Chairman and CEO of Consortium Stade de France and Entreprise générale de France BTP,</li> <li>- Director of VINCI Park until 09/05/2007, VINCI Concessions, VINCI Energies, Compagnie d'entreprises CFE, COFIDO, Electro Bank, SEML Rueil 2000, SOFICOT,</li> <li>- Vice-President of VINCI USA Holding,</li> <li>- Member of the supervisory Board of VINCI Deutschland,</li> <li>- Permanent representative of SEMANA on the Board of EUROVIA,</li> <li>- Permanent representative of SOGEPAR on the Board of COFIROUTE.</li> <li>- Member of VINCI's strategy and investments committee and appointments committee.</li> </ul>



Name	Age	Function	Start	End	Principal other appointments and functions
SOCOFREG, represented by Christian Labeyrie	51	Director	9 March 2006	AGM voting on accounts closed in 2013	- Executive Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer of VINCI, - Member of VINCI's executive committee, - Director of ARCOUR until 17/12/2007, VINCI Concessions, EUROVIA, Consortium du Stade de France, ASF Holding, VINCI Park, compagnie d'entreprises CFE, - Member of the supervisory Board of VINCI Deutschland, - Permanent representative of SNEL on the Boards of Cofiroute Holding and SOC11, - Chairman of VINCI USA Holding.

The business address of the above members of the Board of Directors is the registered office of the Issuer.

In compliance with applicable laws and the company's by-laws, each director must hold at least one share as long as he is a member of the board. The board of directors convenes as often as the interests of the company require. In 2007 the board met four times.

Members of the Board of Directors of the Issuer shall conduct their private and other external activities and financial interests in a manner that does not conflict with the interests of the Issuer. Conflicts of interest may occasionally arise between duties of a member of the Board of Directors of the Issuer and such member's duties to another party. In the event that any conflict of interest is deemed to exist in any matter, the person subject to the conflicting interests will not handle or participate in any decision relating to the matter. Apart from such occasional conflicts of interest, to the best of the Issuer's knowledge, there are no conflicts of interest between any duties to the Issuer of the members of the Board of Directors and their private interests.

#### **Chairmanship and executive management of the company**

The board designates a chairman ("président") among its members who are physical persons.

Pursuant to French law, the executive management of the company is entrusted to a physical person appointed by the board of directors with the title of Chief Executive Officer ("directeur général").

On 29 August 2007, the ASF board of directors decided that the positions of chairman and CEO would be held by two different persons.

The chairman of the board of directors organises and heads the work of the board of directors and represents it in its relations with the shareholders and third parties. He oversees the efficient running of the company's organisation and, in particular, makes sure that the directors have the capacity to carry out their duties.

The CEO is entrusted with the most extensive powers to act in the name of the company in all circumstances. He exercises these powers within the limits of the company's purpose and of the statutory powers entrusted to the shareholders' and board of directors' meetings.

The CEO represents the company in its relations with third parties.

The CEO may grant any of his powers to attorneys-in-fact whom he designates, whether with or without the power to sub-delegate, subject only to statutory limits.

The Board of 29 August 2007 appointed Pierre Anjolras as chief executive officer ("directeur général"). His nomination became effective on the 01 September 2007.

The Board of 10 December 2007 appointed Henri Stouff as Chairman. His nomination became effective on that day.

The main executive managers of the company, as of 30 April 2008 are the following:

- Josiane COSTANTINO – Human Resources Director,
- Isabelle HEDOUIN-RUTY – Communication Director,
- Olivier ALAMO – Clients and communication Director,
- Gilles CALAS – Infrastructure Director,
- Bernard FER – Environmental and Sustainable Development Director,
- Sébastien FRAISSE – South-East Operational Director,
- Vincent LE PARC – South-West Operational Director,
- Paul MAAREK – Engineering and IT Director,
- Patrick PRIAM- Secretary and Finance Director.

### **The Advisory Commission on Contracts**

In addition, the Commission Consultative des Marchés de la Société ("CCMS"), created by a decision of the Board of directors on 10 May 2001, continues to carry out its tasks. Consisting of six members, headed by the executive officer, two experts selected by the chairman (with one being independent of the company), the manager of the contract submitted to the CCMS, the State auditor and one representative of the French anti-trust authority ("DGCCRF"). The CCMS acts in an advisory capacity about the award of the contracts which are submitted for its examination and checks the contracts awards procedure in force in the company. Its advice is required for all contracts relating to civil works above €5,000,000 (before tax), all contracts related to supplies or services above €500,000 (before tax).

Pursuant to the 12th amendment to ASF Concession Agreement approved by the Board of ASF and the Conseil d'Etat in 2007, a new advisory commission to be called CCMA "Commission Consultative des Marchés Autoroutiers" will substitute for the CCMS. Its composition will be close to the current CCMS and its advisory tasks will be broadened to include all civil works contracts above €2,000,000 and all supply or services contracts above €240,000.

### **1.3 - History of the Issuer**

- **History of the Issuer before its privatisation**

The company was founded, as a Société d'Economie Mixte Concessionnaire d'Autoroute ("SEMCA") in 1957 under the name of Société de l'Autoroute de la Vallée du Rhône (SAVR) to build and operate the A7 motorway starting from Vienne (south of Lyon). Between 1967 and 1973, the company was granted the concessions for the Nîmes-Montpellier, Orange-Nîmes, Béziers-Narbonne sections of the A9, all located in the South of France. In 1973, the current name, Autoroutes du Sud de la France, was adopted in order to reflect the geographic expansion of the company's activities.

In 1981-1982, ASF opened the Poitiers/Saint-André-de-Cubzac (north of Bordeaux) section of the A10, providing a continuous motorway link between Paris and Bordeaux and completed the A62 between Toulouse and Bordeaux.

In 1984, ASF acquired the Société de l'Autoroute de la Côte Basque (ACOBA), which operates the A63 motorway. The construction of the A72 between Clermont-Ferrand and Saint-Etienne was completed in 1985, and the works on the A11 between Angers and Le Mans was finished in 1989.

At the end of 1994, ASF acquired 83.72 per cent of Escota, and increased its shareholding progressively over the years finally up to 98.97 per cent following the capital increase of November 2002. Escota was a SEMCA founded in 1956 under the name Société des Autoroutes Estérel, Côte d'Azur, to construct the A8, the first conceded motorway in France. The A8 now provides a continuous link between Aix-en-Provence and the Italian border. In 1991, following the geographic expansion of its activities, Escota adopted its current name, "Société des Autoroutes Estérel, Côte d'Azur, Provence, Alpes".

In 1994, ASF signed the concession agreement for the operation and maintenance for the Tunnel du Puymorens (in the Pyrenees).

In 1995, the construction of the A20 motorway from Brive to Montauban began. The work was finished in June 2003.

In 2001, the concessions for ASF and Escota were extended by 12 years until 2032 and 2026 respectively.

On 1 March 2006 the Parliament passed a law endorsing the integration of the A89 section Balbigny – La Tour de Salvigny into ASF Concession.

- **Privatisation of the Issuer**

ASF was the first of the publicly-owned motorway concession companies in France (SEMCA) to be partly privatised. In March 2002, some €2.7 billion were raised from the IPO of 49 per cent of the company's capital, out of which about €850 million were reinvested into ASF's equity by the French State and the remainder was paid to the French State through a special dividend. During the days following the IPO, VINCI bought 14.4 per cent of ASF's capital in the market and Eiffage 0.8 per cent. Eiffage finally sold its stake to VINCI in June 2003. At year end 2004, VINCI had raised its stake to 22.99 per cent and signed a shareholder agreement with the French State under which it obtained a seat on the Board of ASF.

In 2005 the French State decided to privatise ASF entirely. VINCI acquired all of the remaining 77.01 per cent of ASF between March and November 2006 for a total consideration of €9.1 billion. VINCI first acquired the State and Autoroutes de France's stake (41.5 per cent and 8.8 per cent of ASF's capital respectively). Thereafter, VINCI successfully launched a standing market offer, thereby increasing its stake to more than 95 per cent of ASF. The acquisition of ASF was completed on 6th November 2006 with the squeeze out of ASF allowing VINCI group to hold 100 per cent of ASF.

#### **1.4 - Concession agreements**

- **ASF and Escota concession agreements**

Motorways concessions are public utility and public works concessions. They are granted by the French State by virtue of a concession agreement, backed by a set of specifications approved by a *Conseil d'Etat* decree specifying how to construct, operate and maintain the motorways.

The French system of motorway concessions was established by the Motorways Act of 18 April 1955 (now known as the Roads and Highways Code). Roads are built on public land and cannot be privately owned. Only the French State may authorise a company to build and operate motorways and the related infrastructure under a concession agreement. Concession agreements are subject to bids.

The relationships between the French State and the concessionaires are governed by concession agreements and their addenda and, since 1994, by a Programme Plan (*Contrat de Plan*) signed on a regular basis by both parties, which establish the practices in terms of pricing, capital expenditure, development, marketing and customer services, financial targets and social and environmental policies within the respect of the financial balance of concession.

ASF and Escota build, maintain and operate their motorway network under two concession agreements with the French State, one for the ASF network and the other for the Escota network. Both agreements are identical, except for their different expiry dates, and the differences in financial and pricing terms. They were approved in decrees issued by the French *Conseil d'Etat* in 1961 and 1957 respectively, and have since been the subject of several addenda.

#### **Scope of the concessions**

The concession agreements relate to the motorways or motorway sections, and also all land, structures and installations necessary for the construction, maintenance and operation of each motorway, such as parking, service and rest areas, service stations, restaurants, motels and hotels (the "Concession Assets").

The Concession Assets fall into three categories:

- assets required to operate the concession, which will automatically be returned to the State without compensation at the end of the concession ("Returnable Assets");

- other assets that are the property of the concessionaire, which the State may elect to buy back at the end of the concession period, if they are of use in operating the concession ("Assets with a Buyback Option");
- assets owned outright by the concessionaire ("Owned Assets"), which will not be transferred to the State at the end of the concession period, with or without consideration.

Throughout the duration of the concession agreement, the concessionaire has the exclusive right to operate the motorways or motorway sections covered by the concession, and to collect tolls.

### **Duration of concessions and recovery of assets on expiry of concessions**

ASF's concession will expire on 31 December 2032 and Escota's concession on 31 December 2026.

On expiry of each concession, the State will take possession of the Returnable Assets. The concessionaire must carry out all necessary maintenance and replacement work, on a timely basis and at its own expense, so that the assets are returned in a good state of repair.

On the concession expiry date, the State may decide to exercise its buyback option in order to also take possession of the other assets required to operate the network.

### **Motorway construction**

Each concession agreement outlines the main features of the infrastructure. For motorways that are classified as being in the public interest, the concessionaire enjoys all the legal and regulatory rights conferred on the State in matters of public works, for the purpose of acquiring land, carrying out expropriations and building the motorway, and is subject to all the corresponding obligations. In particular, the concessionaire must fulfil all the undertakings given and conditions imposed in the Declaration of Public Interest.

Construction contracts above a certain value must be awarded under a competitive bidding process. Discrimination against European Union companies on the basis of national origin is prohibited.

### **Motorway operation**

The concessionaire must deploy all necessary resources to maintain continuity of traffic in good conditions of safety and convenience. Concession assets must be kept in a good state of repair and operated by the concessionaire at its own expense.

The concessionaire must comply with law and order measures announced by the *préfets* of the regions crossed by the motorway. It must also submit its proposed operating plan for the prior approval of the Infrastructure Minister. In accordance with the rules applicable to public service providers, in the case of a strike by its employees, the concessionaire is required to maintain a minimum service as defined by the Infrastructure Minister.

The concessionaire also has certain obligations in the event that the motorway traffic flow is interrupted or restricted. These include informing the public in advance of possible holdups, and immediately notifying the competent authorities if traffic is interrupted due to circumstances beyond the concessionaire's control.

### **Financial terms and conditions**

The concessionaire is responsible for financing the construction and operation of the motorway network and related infrastructure, on the basis specified in the concession agreement.

### **Tariffs**

The concession agreement specifies the basis to be used by the concessionaire to determine toll charges. Under the ASF and Escota concession agreements, the rates are usually revised on the 1st of February in each year. By law (Decree n° 95-81), the minimum annual rate increase for toll operators amounts to 70 per cent of the

inflation index (French inflation index excluding tobacco). Upon the signing of a Programme Plan between the French State and the concessionaire, the tariff increases are defined for the duration of the contract. ASF Group's concession agreements specify that the annual increase in tariffs applicable to class 1 vehicles (light vehicle), when a Programme Plan exists, can not be less than 85 per cent of consumer price inflation. The tariffs for other classes are determined through coefficients applied to the tariffs of class 1 vehicles.

In addition, following the amendment to the ASF concession agreement relating to the Lyon Balbigny section, the Group was allowed to increase the tariffs on the ASF network by specific additional increases of 0.58 per cent in 2007, and a yearly 0.625 per cent from 2008 to 2017.

### Programme Plan 2007-2011

ASF and Escota have completed last year the negotiation with the *Direction Générale des Routes* (Ministry of Infrastructure) of their 2007-2011 Programme Plan which was signed on the 08 June 2007.

In the Programme Plan 2007-2011, the nature and the amount of the investments required on new and existing sections, ASF's new targets (in particular on the opening dates of the road widening schemes), the strategic decisions to improve traffic's security and fluidity in good conditions of safety and convenience are specified.

The main features of the programme plan 2007-2011 are as follows :

#### ➤ Tariffs Increase :

- ASF (including the specific increase relating to the Lyon-Balbigny section amendment)

Class 1 annual increase	2007	85% of inflation index (*) +1.0925%
	2008-2011	85% of inflation index (*) +0.825%

- Escota

Class 1 annual increase	2007-2011	85% of inflation index (*) +0.90%
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(\*) French inflation index excluding tobacco

The coefficients for heavy goods vehicle classes are as follows:

		2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
ASF	Class 3	2.18	2.18	2.19	2.21	2.23
	Class 4	2.85	2.86	2.88	2.91	2.95
Escota	Class 3	2.12	2.12	2.14	2.18	2.22
	Class 4	2.89	2.90	2.95	3.01	3.06

#### ➤ 2007-2011 investment plan in 2006 constant euros

ASF	New sections	1 300 M€
	Investment in existing motorways	1 200 M€
Escota	Investment in existing motorways	800 M€

#### ➤ Operation and quality of service

ASF and Escota will continue their actions aimed at:

- Improving the security, the traffic flow, the accommodation of trucks, the development of automatic tolls (electronic tolls is available for trucks since April 2007)
- Protecting the environment

Specific actions, such as speed limits and access control, will be undertaken concerning the A7 in the Rhone Valley where the traffic averages around 70 000 vehicles per day. No increase in the number of lanes is contemplated in the next few years.

ASF and Escota focus on a good quality of service through yearly customers polls, the implementation of performance indicators and the follow up of the actions defined in the Programme Plan.

### **Operation of service area outlets and other commercial installations**

The concessionaire awards contracts for the operation of service area outlets according to a competitive bidding process. The fees paid by the service area operators are included in concession revenues.

Under the terms of the concession agreement, the concessionaire may install and operate optical fibre and telecommunications networks alongside the motorways.

### **Technical regulations**

The concession agreements stipulate that in the event of a change in technical regulations, the State and the concessionaire will mutually agree on the amount of any compensation to be paid to the concessionaire.

### **Taxation**

The concessionaire is liable for all current and future taxes relating to the concession. However, under the terms of the concession agreements, in the event of a substantial change in tax rules or the introduction of new taxes or levies during the life of the agreement that may seriously undermine the financial viability of the concession, the State and the concessionaire will mutually agree on any compensatory measures to be taken to permit the continued provision of the public service.

### **State buyback option**

Starting in 2012 the State will have the right to buy back the concession, for reasons of public interest, on 1 January of each year, subject to giving one year's notice.

If the buyback option is exercised, the concessionaire will be entitled to compensation corresponding to the loss suffered by it as a result of the termination, the amount of which, net of taxes due on its receipts and after taking into account all deductible costs, will be equal to the fair value of the concession being bought back, estimated in accordance with the method for calculating the present value of available after-tax cash-flows.

The payment of the buyback amount will take place on 30 June of the year of the buyback.

The concessionaire will be required to return to the State the assets, installations, machinery and equipment bought back in a good state of repair. In the three months following the one-year notice mentioned above, the State, after consultation with the concessionaire, and if necessary with expert assistance, will draw up a programme of maintenance and renovations needed for the concession to be returned in good condition and a programme of operations to be carried out prior to the return of the assets, such programmes being at the cost of the concessionaire. Failure by the concessionaire to comply in whole or in part with such programmes may result in financial penalties being levied by the State to cover the costs of carrying out such programmes.

On the buyback date, the State will assume all of the concessionaire's commitments entered into in the normal course of business for the construction and operation of the Concession Assets, except for those commitments arising from loan agreements.

### **Penalties and remedies**

In the case of any failure by the concessionaire to fulfil any of its obligations under the concession agreement that is not remedied within the period specified in the execution order issued by the State, the concessionaire will be required to make a remedial payment, unless such failure is due to circumstances beyond the concessionaire's control.

In particular, such a payment will be levied in the case of any motorway construction delays or any partial or total interruption of traffic arising from the fault of the concessionaire.

If the concessionaire breaches its obligations concerning tariffs, the tariffs applicable up to the next revision date will be set jointly by the Infrastructure Minister and the Finance Minister.

## **Termination for default**

The concession agreement may be terminated by decision of the State made by decree of the *Conseil d'Etat*, if any of the following breaches are not remedied within 30 days of receiving an execution order:

- the concessionaire, other than as a result of a "*force majeure*" event: interrupts operations repeatedly or for a lengthy period without authorization or commits a serious breach of any other contractual obligations;
- the concessionaire transfers the concession without prior and express authorization of the State;
- the concessionaire fails to obtain on a timely basis the funds required to finance the design, construction, operation and maintenance of a motorway.

In the event of termination for default, the concession agreement will be granted to a new concessionaire, in compliance with applicable laws and regulations, through a competitive bidding process. In this case, the bid price will be paid by the new concessionaire to the disqualified company, immediately following publication of the *Conseil d'Etat* decree approving the new concession agreement and related specifications.

### • **The Puymorens tunnel concession agreement**

The concession agreement for the Puymorens tunnel was signed on 2 June 1994 for a period expiring on 31 December 2037. An addendum may be signed bringing forward the expiry date, following completion of the new Andorran road linking the tunnel to the RN320. Starting in 2013, the concession may also be revoked by the State on 1 January of each year, subject to giving one year's notice. Under the terms of the concession agreement, when the concession expires or is revoked, the State will assume all of debts and obligations relating to the concession.

ASF is entitled to request a tariff increase if this is necessary to preserve the financial viability of the concession. In addition, variable tariffs may be applied according to the season and tunnel-users may be offered cut-price subscriptions. These tariffs must be submitted for the approval of the Infrastructure Minister one month before they are introduced. ASF is entitled to outsource the operation of tunnel-related facilities, subject to the restrictions described above. The related fees are included in concession revenues.

## **1.5 - Business overview**

### • **Issuer profile**

France has a long experience both of motorways building and of motorways management, in particular as regards concessions. The French motorway network is approximately 11,000 km long, of which about 8,400 km are toll roads. New concessions for a further 1,000 km will be subject to tenders in the near to medium term.

In 1994, three regional public operators were created: ASF and its subsidiary Escota to cover the Southern region, Sanef (Société des Autoroutes du Nord et de l'Est de la France) and its subsidiary SAPN (Société des Autoroutes Paris-Normandie) to cover the Northern and Eastern regions, and SAPRR (Société des Autoroutes Paris-Rhin-Rhône) and its subsidiary AREA (Société des Autoroutes Rhône Alpes) to cover the Rhin-Rhone and Rhone-Alpes region, the western region of France being covered by the private operator Cofiroute.

In its 50-year history, ASF growth has been built on three core areas of expertise: financing, building and operating transport infrastructure.

Today, ASF is the largest motorway concessionaire in France and the second largest in Europe (after Italian-based Atlantia<sup>1</sup>) in terms of kilometres under concession (3,191.5 km, representing 38 per cent of the total French conceded network). It is operated by ASF with 2,732.5 km (including the 5.5 km long Tunnel du Puymorens concession and the 53 km long Lyon-Balbigny section) and Escota (ASF's 98.97 per cent owned subsidiary) with 459 km, located mainly along the French Riviera.

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<sup>1</sup> 3,408 km under concession

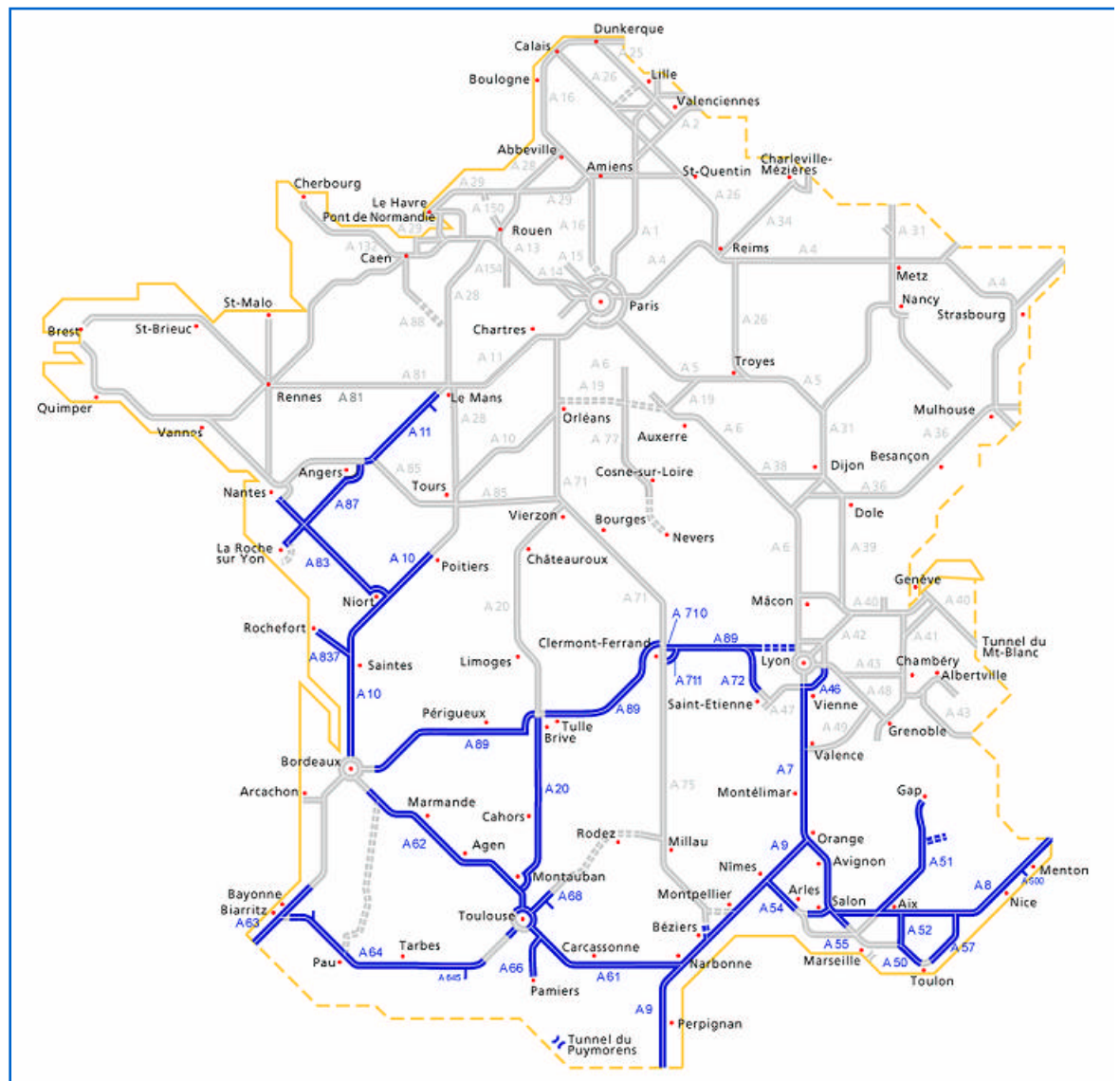


- **ASF's Network**

At 31 December 2007, ASF's motorway network totalled 3,049.3 km in service (95.5 per cent of the conceded network), 142,2 km under construction or still to be built (of which 53 km of the Lyon-Balbigny section integrated to ASF concession on 1 March 2006). 27.3 per cent of the network in service (832 km) were roads with three lanes or more.

ASF and Escota networks are strategically positioned to capitalize on above average demographic growth in the South of France and on traffic flows between the Iberian peninsula and Italy on the one hand and Northern Europe on the other hand. Thanks to this positioning, the network attracts not only European freight and tourist traffic but also high volumes of local traffic.

<b>ASF Group conceded network in operation (km)</b>	
A46 Sud/A7/A8 Lyon – Orange – Aix en Provence (L'autoroute du Soleil):	285.3
A9 Orange – Le Perthus (Spanish border) (La Languedocienne/La Catalane):	280.4
A10 Poitiers – Bordeaux (L'Aquitaine):	231.9
A11 Le Mans – Angers (L'Océane):	81.4
A20 Brive – Montauban:	144.0
A54 Nîmes – Salon de Provence - St Martin de Crau:	49.0
A61-A62 Narbonne – La Brède (near Bordeaux) and West of Toulouse by pass	372.1
A63 Saint Geours de Maremme – Spanish border (Basque Coast):	66.5
A64 North Toulouse – Muret	13.8
A645 Val d'Aran	5.7
A64 Bayonne – Toulouse (La Pyrénéenne):	230.6
A66 Toulouse – Pamiers:	39.0
A68 Toulouse – Gémil:	17.7
A680 Verfeil by pass	8.6
A710-a711-A72-A89 Clermond-Ferrand - Veauchette and Balbigny:	134.5
A8 by pass between Coudoux (A7) and Aix en Provence	18.1
A83 Nantes – Niort:	146.7
A837 Rochefort - Saintes:	36.5
A87 Angers – La Roche-sur-Yon:	112.5
A87N Sorges- Grand Clos	5.4
A89 Ouest Bordeaux – Clermond Ferrand:	305.0
<b>Puymorens tunnel:</b>	<b>5.5</b>
<b>Total ASF:</b>	<b>2,590.2</b>
A8 Aix-en-Provence – Côte d'Azur – Italian border (La Provençale):	205.8
A51 Aix-en-Provence – Gap:	129.7
A52/50 Aix-en-Provence – Aubagne – Toulon:	74.7
A57 Toulon – A8:	45.9
A500 A8 – Monaco:	3.0
<b>Total Escota:</b>	<b>459.1</b>
<b>Total ASF Group network in operation:</b>	<b>3,049.3</b>



There are 4 main players in motorways concessions in France:

- **ASF Group:** 3,191.5 km under concession;
- **APRR Group:** 2,279 km under concession

Autoroutes Paris-Rhin-Rhône (APRR), an Eiffage subsidiary, currently operates 2,215 km of motorways out of a 2,279 km network under concession from the French State. The network comprises the Paris-Lyon corridor (A5, A6, A39), the Burgundy-North Europe connector (A31-A36), the alpine motorways of the Rhône-Alpes region (A40, A41, A42, A43, A48, A49, A51 north) and the motorways of central France (A77, A71);

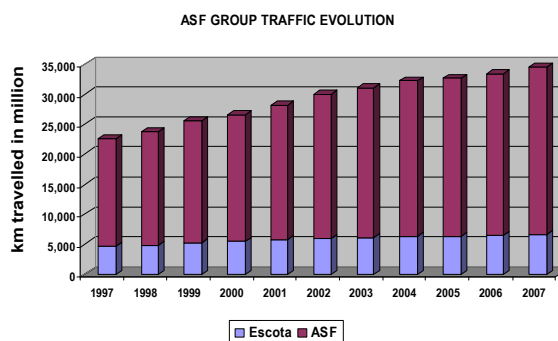
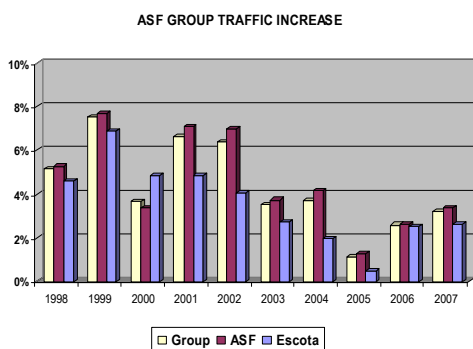
- **Sanef Group:** 2,023 km under concession

Sanef has built up a motorway network of 1,743 kilometres in France with a further 280 km under construction, comprising the A1 and A2 in the north, the A4 in the east, the A13 and A14 in the west and the link motorways (A16, A26 and A29). It also owns 20 per cent of Alis, which holds the concession for the A28 motorway and is part of the Abertis group;

- **Cofiroute:** 1,109 km under concession

Cofiroute is the only French motorway concession company that has remained in the private sector since its creation in 1970. Its main shareholder is VINCI which holds 83.3 per cent. The company operates 1,082 km of motorway in western France (A10, A11, A28, A71, A81 and A85). Cofiroute also holds the concession for the underground link of the A86 motorway in Ile de France (10 km under construction).

- **Historical traffic evolution :**



- **Main activities**

### **Motorway Construction**

ASF Group acts as project manager for the construction of the infrastructure it has committed to perform under its concession agreements or programme plan. The first task is to define the precise itinerary of the motorway within the 300m strip covered by the declaration of public interest. This choice is governed by two priorities – road safety and blending the motorway into its local environment with a view to minimizing any disturbances for local residents. ASF teams of architects and landscapers use advanced imaging technology and other tools to simulate the course of the motorway and assess its impact on local populations and on the natural environment. Road works are outsourced by way of competitive tenders.

### **Motorway and Infrastructure Maintenance**

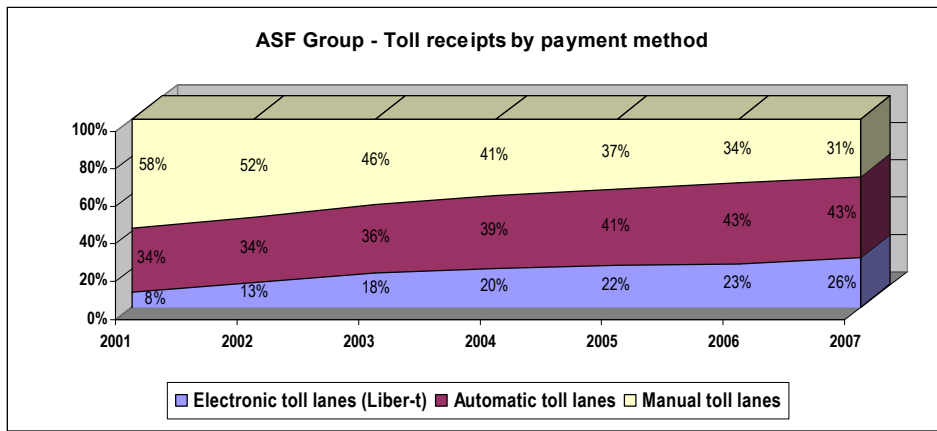
Pursuant to the Programme Plan with the French State, ASF is also bound to make additional investments on existing motorways. These investments are to adapt infrastructure, mainly to cope with increasing traffic, and include road-widening, toll plazas and rest and service area extensions and interchanges construction.

ASF also invests in infrastructure maintenance to repair damage due to high traffic and infrastructure ageing and to comply with new technical standards.

### **Toll Collection**

There are three toll collection systems on ASF and Escota’s motorways: manual toll, automatic toll and electronic toll "Liber-t".

Liber-t is an electronic toll collection system, developed by the French motorway operators. It is valid on the whole toll French motorway network and allows direct payment of tolls from the user's bank account. This system also has advantages for the motorist: slowing down without stopping at the toll plaza and, on heavy traffic days, easier access; and the system benefits the Company: by way of cost reductions in the operation and construction of toll plazas (fewer lanes needed when compared with conventional manual toll collection plazas).



ASF and Escota hold a 35.5 per cent stake in SAS AXXES, whose task is to issue tags which are used for the European interoperable truck electronic toll collection system. At ASF and Escota, the installation of truck electronic toll collection equipment at interchanges and the development of the appropriate information system have been completed and the electronic toll system was opened to heavy goods vehicles in April 2007.

### Developments in new concessions

Since its acquisition by VINCI, ASF does not currently intend to develop any further concessions activities. However ASF is providing VINCI CONCESSIONS with all required expertise in order to support new concessions developments.

In 2002, ASF signed a partnership agreement with Bouygues Construction in respect of the Highway 2000 project in Jamaica. Under the terms of the agreement, ASF acquired 34 per cent of the concessionaire, TransJamaican Highway ("TJH") and 51 per cent of the operating company, Jamaican Infrastructure Operator ("JIO"). ASF contemplates to sell its participation in both TJH and JIO.

### Services

ASF performs operation, maintenance and advisory activities linked to motorway infrastructure through service contracts.

On 11 November 2005, ASF won the Lyon Northern Bypass operating contract following a call for tenders by the Greater Urban community of Lyon. This eight years contract was won on the grounds of ASF's expertise in road operations and automatic tolls. Openly, a new 100 per cent ASF subsidiary was set up to operate the bypass and achieve infrastructure maintenance for a fixed price of €1.4 million per year and a variable payment. Lyon Northern Bypass is 10 km long and includes three tunnels, a covered trench and a viaduct. The average traffic is about 130,000 vehicles per day on the toll free section and of 45,000 vehicles per day in the central toll section.

ASF, in consortium with Canada's Dessau-Soprin, an engineering consulting firm, signed on 06 June 2006 a contract awarded by the Algerian National Motorway Agency (ANA). The 50-month contract covers project management and technical assistance during the construction of the trans-Algerian motorway. ASF participation in the consortium ended at the end of 2007 with no financial consequence.

### Assistance to the Customer

Adequate service levels are ensured through innovative initiatives. These may include new equipment, new systems or effective and timely solutions for incidents or crises as they occur.

Road assistance – which is part of ASF's obligations under the terms of the Concession Agreement – consists of patrolling motorways in order to detect and correct anomalies and thus prevent accidents and to assist road users. ASF and Escota have Assistance and Maintenance Centres strategically located to provide efficient assistance on all motorways. Their networks are broken down into districts which cover about 50 km of motorway in high-traffic

areas and 90 to 120 km in the other areas, each benefiting from a strongly reactive organisation dedicated to managing traffic flows and responding to incidents.

Assistance to road users includes rapid breakdown services, refuelling and car removal services.

Service areas are one of the most useful services made available on the network. Located on the roadside every 40 km on average, the service areas are organised through concession to third parties with ASF exercising active control in respect of both service quality and capacity. The Group network includes 337 rest and service areas.

SAS Truck Etape, an ASF subsidiary, offers an integrated and secure road centre for trucks in France in Béziers on the edge of the A9 motorway. This centre is located in a site of eight hectares and comprises a secure parking lot with 350 places, a service area with stores and a restaurant as well as refuelling and washing facilities for trucks.

## **R&D**

To successfully carry out its public service mission, ASF has created a comprehensive traffic monitoring and management system. ASF develops technologies that can predict traffic and weather conditions, to forestall problems.

## **Road Safety**

ASF's increasing concern with traffic conditions and road safety has led to continuous improvements in active and passive safety measures.

ASF and Escota have stepped up actions aimed at improving the safety of their clients and personnel. Some noteworthy measures deserve to be mentioned: the use of the dynamic speed regulation system on days of heavy traffic was extended throughout the A7; impact attenuators were installed in the entrances to toll lanes; the time needed to convey information to intervention teams and customers was reduced.

## **1.6 - Significant events in 2007**

- **Motorway section openings**

In 2007, ASF increased its network with two sections from the French State: The A20 Montauban bypass (16.2 km) on 01 June 2007 and the A87 Sorges –Murs Erigné (6.6 km) on 25 June 2007. The group will maintain repair and improve those two new sections according to the concession general conditions agreements  
As at 31 December 2007, the total length of network in service is 3,049.3 km.

- **Operation**

At an operational level, in contrast with the very mild winter witnessed in late 2007, heavy snowfalls (from 23<sup>rd</sup> to the 25<sup>th</sup> of January) and bad weather affected part of the Group's network in January 2007. The intervention of ASF's maintenance teams, however, enabled it keep its network open for its clients without any significant disruption.

- **Employees**

Several company agreements were signed during this year with union representatives to enhance employees' mobility or their move to different career paths.

The GPEC's (Gestion Prévisionnelle des Emplois et des Compétences) agreement enounced all those principles: Early retirement plan (CATS), change of careers or the redefinition of the toll activities. Section 80, relating to the toll workforce, was the first of the GPEC's agreements to be put in place. It allows through a new organisation a

sleeker work rhythm. Adjusting work positions, by introducing more flexibility in work positions over the year, enables the management of manual toll lanes to be optimised according to the intensity of traffic.

In 2007, ASF and Escota signed agreements on early retirement for employees (Cessation Anticipée d'Activité des Travailleurs Salariés "CATS"). These arrangements enable employees who have worked in particularly arduous conditions to cease working before reaching the age that entitles them to a full pension, under a suspension of their contract of employment.

Each company-level agreement describes, among other matters, the conditions that employees must satisfy in order to benefit from these arrangements, and the benefits that will be paid to them during the so-called "pre-retirement" period. Benefits comprise in particular:

- lump-sums paid at the start and end of the pre-retirement period,
- an allowance paid during the pre-retirement period in lieu of pay,
- maintenance of social benefit cover during the pre-retirement period.

The signature of a "CATS" agreement with the State entitles employers to:

- exemption from certain social benefit contributions,
- partial State participation in the financing of the allowance, when beneficiaries reach the age of 57.

The extent of this participation varies depending on the age of the beneficiary at the time of joining the scheme. Under the agreement signed by ASF and Escota, the State participation will be the maximum, which is 50% of the allowance.

Further to the privatisation, funds invested in the ASF employee savings schemes have been almost entirely transferred into the VINCI employee savings schemes. In 2007, the Group employees benefited from an employer contribution of up to €3,500 for an annual investment of €11,000. At 31 December 2007 the Group's employer contribution was €11.5 million.

#### • **VAT paid by users between 1996 and 2000**

After the ECJ (European Court of Justice) condemned the French VAT motorway tolls special regime on 12 September 2000, and following the decision taken on 29 June 2005 by the French Constitutional Court, road transport companies have been allowed to claim the VAT on the invoices they had paid between 1996 and 2000.

In a letter to the Chief Executive Officers of ASF and Escota dated 2 February 2006, the Junior Minister for the Budget and State Reform has confirmed, with respect to VAT on tolls for the period 1996-2000, that "under no circumstances will the toll motorway concessionaires be required to pay the VAT mentioned on the amended invoices."

Since 2006, ASF and Escota, like all other motorway concession companies, have, in agreement with the DLF (Tax Legislation Directorate), made copies of the invoices issued during the relevant period, available on a secure site accessible on the internet for subscriber transport companies and detailing the amount of calculated and invoiced VAT.

#### • **Exceptional dividend**

On 25 January 2007 ASF distributed an exceptional dividend of €3,298,365,854.28 which was exclusively allocated to its distributable reserves as set out in its accounts as of 31 December 2006 for €3,310,923,181.48.

This dividend was apportioned between VINCI for 77.01 per cent of its total amount and ASF Holding for 22.99 per cent.

#### • **Corporate**

ASF financed the payment of this dividend by using its available cash resources of 550 million, drawing on a €1.5 billion seven-year loan and using two revolving facilities of a total amount of €3 billion, for €1.25 billion.

On 4 July 2007, ASF issued a 15-year bond for €1.5 billion, maturing on 4 July 2022. The coupon yield was set at 5.625%.

In addition, ASF arranged two other loans in August and September :

- the first was of €75 million, under the 2022 bond base issue, made on the basis of a re-offer rate of 5.469%
- the second, of €50 million, was a private placement at 20 years, with a floating interest rate of Euribor 3 months + 75 bp

These transactions led to the early repayment of €744 million of the €1.5 billion term loan drawn in January 2007, the balance having served to reduce the amount drawn against the revolving facilities.

ASF has taken out a loan with the European Investment Bank (EIB) in December 2007, for €250 million. The financing granted by the EIB is in the form of a loan to be drawn down by the end of 2009 and maturing in 2028.

## • Traffic

Excluding new sections, total traffic grew 3.16 per cent in 2007, including a 3.20 per cent increase in light vehicle traffic and a 2.88 per cent increase in heavy goods vehicle traffic. Light vehicle traffic and heavy goods vehicle traffic represented respectively 85.2 per cent and 14.8 per cent of the total traffic.

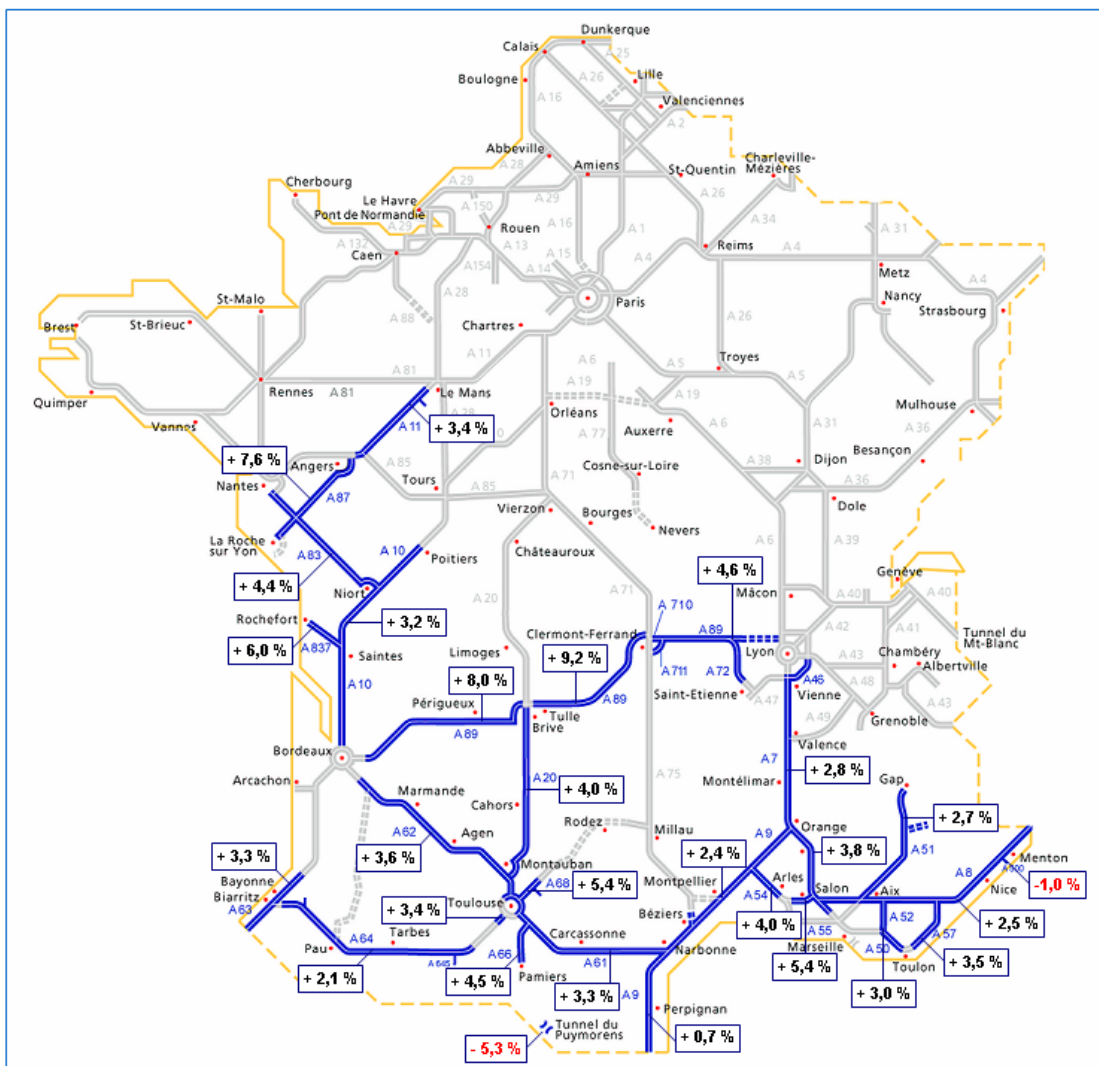
The number of kilometres travelled in 2007 totalled 34,539 million versus 33,467 million in 2006, representing an increase of 3.2 per cent, including the additional traffic generated by the opening of new sections.

Including new sections, light vehicle traffic rose 3.25 per cent while heavy goods vehicle traffic was up 2.97 per cent.

The Annual Average Daily Traffic ("AADT") on the entire network came to 31,494 vehicles per day in 2007, up 3.1 per cent compared with 30,540 vehicles per day in 2006.

As shown in the table below, rates of traffic growth varied significantly from one motorway section to another.

	AADT 2007	AADT 2006	Change %
<b>ASF Network</b>			
<b>A46Sd A7</b> SAINT PRIEST - A43-A46 - ORANGE BYPASS	71,523	69,607	2.8
<b>A7</b> ORANGE - COUDOUX	57,675	55,588	3.8
<b>A9</b> ORANGE - NARBONNE SUD	61,813	60,392	2.4
<b>A9</b> NARBONNE SUD - LE PERTHUS	39,150	38,875	0.7
<b>A10</b> POITIERS SUD - BORDEAUX	27,947	27,089	3.2
<b>A83</b> NANTES - A83-A10 BYPASS	18,475	17,698	4.4
<b>A837</b> A10-A837 - ROCHEFORT BYPASS	9,058	8,541	6.0
<b>A11</b> LE MANS - ANGERS	23,103	22,353	3.4
<b>A20</b> MONTAUBAN - BRIVE	16,066	15,442	4.0
<b>A54</b> NIMES - ARLES	36,983	35,560	4.0
<b>A54</b> ST MARTIN DE CRAU - SALON DE PROVENCE	30,262	28,713	5.4
<b>A61</b> NARBONNE SUD - TOULOUSE SUD	37,195	36,002	3.3
<b>A62</b> LA BREDE - TOULOUSE NORD	28,281	27,303	3.6
<b>A63</b> COTE BASQUE (St Géours de Maremne - Biriadou)	34,924	33,812	3.3
<b>A64</b> BRISCOUS - MARTRES TOLOSANE, A645 (bretelle Val d'Aran)	17,772	17,405	2.1
<b>A64Nd</b> TOULOUSE - MURET	34,560	33,422	3.4
<b>A66</b> PAMIRS - A61- A66 (Toulouse) BYPASS	8,955	8,569	4.5
<b>A68</b> TOULOUSE - GEMIL	35,469	33,656	5.4
<b>A87</b> ANGERS - LA ROCHE SUR YON	10,335	9,604	7.6
<b>A72 A89</b> ST ETIENNE - CLERMONT FERRAND	20,686	19,774	4.6
<b>A89</b> ARVEVRES - BRIVE NORD	9,358	8,666	8.0
<b>A89</b> ST GERMAIN LES VERGNES - BIFURCATION A89-A71	7,916	7,248	9.2
<b>PUY</b> TUNNEL DU PUYMORENS	1,485	1,569	(5.3)
<b>ASF Average Network</b>	<b>30,078</b>	<b>29,132</b>	<b>3.2</b>
<b>Escota Network</b>			
<b>A8</b> AIX EN PROVENCE - Frontière Italienne	58,887	57,459	2.5
<b>A51</b> AIX EN PROVENCE - GAP	14,861	14,475	2.7
<b>A52/A50</b> AIX EN PROVENCE - AUBAGNE - TOULON	44,856	43,567	3.0
<b>A57</b> TOULON A8	13,436	12,982	3.5
<b>A500/A8</b>	15,573	15,735	(1.0)
<b>Escota Average Network</b>	<b>39,339</b>	<b>38,337</b>	<b>2.6</b>
<b>Group Average Network</b>	<b>31,494</b>	<b>30,540</b>	<b>3.1</b>



- **Tariffs**

In accordance with contractual conditions, prices were increased on 1 February 2007. Taking all categories together, the increase was 2.0% for ASF and 1.81% for Escota.

- **Toll collection**

Total toll receipts increased by 7.0 per cent in 2007 to €2,753.3 million from €2,572.2 million in 2006. The breakdown between ASF and Escota is as follows:

(in € million)	2007			2006	Change
Income	ASF	Escota	Group	Group	2007 vs 2006
Toll receipts	2,184.5	568.8	2,753.3	2,572.2	7.0%

The total number of transactions rose by 3.4 per cent to 647.36 million from 625.89 million in 2006.

By the end of 2007, the Group is beyond its initial expectations for automated toll collection with 69.4 per cent of all tolls collected on the network paid electronically or by bank or corporate card.

As of 31 December 2007, the Group had 519,755 electronic toll subscribers (Liber-t system), corresponding to some 681,673 electronic badges in use.

Toll receipts breakdown by payment method is as follows:



Group transactions in million	2007	2006	% Change	% of 2007 total
Manual toll lanes	198.17	212.20	-6.6%	30.6%
Automatic toll lanes	278.32	267.21	4.2%	43.0%
Electronic toll lane (Liber-t)	170.87	146.48	16.7%	26.4%
Total	647.36	625.89	3.4%	100.0%

The French toll motorway operators have decided to offer electronic payment solutions for heavy goods vehicle drivers throughout the country from 2007.

Since 2007, ASF and Escota stopped marketing CAPLIS (Cartes Poids Lourds Inter-Sociétés) magnetic card-based subscriptions dedicated to heavy truck fleets to replace them progressively with specific electronic toll systems.

By the end of 2008, with the total transfer from the CAPLIS system to an electronic toll system, ASF will be limiting the maximum discounts it offers to such vehicles to 13% of payments made on each electronic badge, in accordance with European Directive 2006/38/EC of 17 May 2006 relating to the taxation of heavy goods vehicles for the use of certain infrastructures.

- **Capital expenditure**

Construction of the new motorway links included in ASF specifications is proceeding smoothly. 35 km were built in 2007: The Thenon/Terrasson A89 section (18.8 km) opened on the 16<sup>th</sup> January 2008 and the La Roche-sur-Yon South A87 bypass (16.2 km) is due to open by the summer 2008.

As at the end of 2007, of the 3,191.5 km conceded to ASF and Escota, 3,049.3 km were in service. 41 km are currently under construction, leaving 83 km still to be built under the current concession, of which 53 km is for the A89 Balbigny – La Tour de Salvagny section, integrated into ASF concession by a law dated 1 March 2006.

Capital expenditure for 2007 totalled €454.9 million, down 1.0 per cent from €459.6 million in 2006. The investment in existing motorways declined to €199.3 millions from €208.4 millions. Conversely, construction of new motorway sections increased over the year by more than 7 per cent.

(in € million)	2007			2006
Description	ASF	Escota	Group	Group
New sections	175.7	2.9	178.6	166.6
Investment in existing motorways	60.0	139.3	199.3	208.4
Operating assets	26.0	17.5	43.5	55.7
Own work capitalised	11.7	5.2	16.9	21.4
Capitalised interests	16.6	0.0	16.6	7.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>290.0</b>	<b>164.9</b>	<b>454.9</b>	<b>459.6</b>

Motorway sections opened in the last three years:

Section	Motorway	Number of Km	Opening date
Les Essarts - La Roche -sur-Yon	A87	20 km, two lanes	14/01/2005
Terrasson-Brive Nord	A89	10 km, two lanes	11/01/2006
Le Sancy-A71	A89	52 km, two lanes	11/01/2006
Montauban bypass	A20	16 km two lanes	01/06/2007 (*)
Sorges-Murs Erigné	A87	6.5 km two lanes	25/06/2007 (*)

(\*) ASF's exploitation date (maintenance work to be done)

## Planned new sections

The table below shows new construction provided for in the concession agreement and Programme Plan 2007-011:

Section	Motorway	Km	Schedule opening date
A89 Thenon-Terrasson	A89	18.8	16 janvier 2008
A89 Brive Nord- Saint-Germain-les-Vergnes (via RD9)	A89	4.0	DUP* + 4 years
A71-A72	A89	7.0	DUP* + 5 years
A87 Sorges-Murs Erigné	A87	8.0	June 2012
Béziers East (A75/A9) bypass	A75	6.0	March 2010
A64 Briscou - Bayonne-Mousserolles	A64	11.0	Administrative approval + 4 ans
A87 South of La Roche-sur-Yon bypass	A87	16.2	Summer 2008
A89 Balbigny-La Tour de Salvagny Lyon	A89	53.0	December 2012

DUP\*: declaration of public interest.

In 2007, ASF invested €197.3 million in new links (including capitalised expenditure and interest expenses on loans), including nearly 12.6 per cent in environment-related spending:

Section	Motorway	€ million
Thenon / Cublac / Terrasson		84.1
Balbigny - La tour de Salvagny	A89	21.7
others		9.2
<b>A89 Total</b>		<b>115.0</b>
La Roche-sur-Yon southern bypass	A87	67.3
Others		5.3
<b>A87 Total</b>		<b>72.6</b>
Beziers East (A9) bypass	A75	6.7
<b>A75 Total</b>		<b>6.7</b>
Others		3.0
<b>New sections expenditure Total</b>		<b>197.3</b>

### A87: La Roche-sur-Yon bypass execution

Major bypass works started in 2006 with the view of opening this 16.2 km section to traffic by the summer 2008. Access to the beaches of the Vendée will be made easier with the opening of this last section of the A87.

At the other boundary of the A87, a public utility survey for the Sorges – Murs Erigné section took place in 2005 and the declaration of public interest has been issued on the 15<sup>th</sup> July 2007.

Phase 1 (2 km on 2 x 2 lanes - Murs Erigné/Haute Perche bypass) was authorised by an “OS” (*ordre de service*) in March 2008, while phase 2 (works on the Loire’s Viaduct) will not start before the end of 2008 and phase 3 (4 km on 2 x 3 lanes - Haute Perche/Sorges) will start in 2010.

### A89: Between Bordeaux and Clermont-Ferrand

- Thenon – Terrasson (18.8 km): Major works started in autumn 2005. The section opened 5 months ahead of schedule (30/06/2008) on the 16<sup>th</sup> January 2008,

- Brive Nord – Saint-Germain-les-Vergnes via the RD9 (4 km): Following the analysis carried out in 2005 by ASF of the various options to build the Brive bypass motorway, the *Direction Générale des Routes* (Ministry of Infrastructure) confirmed in mid-2006 that it had chosen the option of doubling the width of the RD9 secondary road. In late 2006, the company worked with government departments on drafting the Statement of Public Utility dossier for this new project. Should the Statement of Public Utility be published in late 2008, this 4 km section will be opened to traffic in mid-2012, thereby ensuring 2 x 2-lane motorway continuity between Bordeaux and Clermont Ferrand.

On 23 February 2006, the French Parliament passed a law endorsing the integration of the section Balbigny – La Tour de Salvagny into ASF’s concession.

On 11 July 2006 and 13 October 2006, the French *Conseil d'Etat* transmitted to ASF details of proceedings challenging the awarding of that section to ASF respectively introduced by the ALCALY ("Alternatives au Contournement Autoroutier de Lyon") association and by the "Association de Sauvegarde des Côteaux du Lyonnais". As of today, ASF has not received the State written defence to the *Conseil d'Etat*. Should the proceedings be successful, this section would be withdrawn from the concession agreement. In such a case, ASF should be entitled to claim compensation from the State. A final judgment is not expected in the course of 2007.

This so-called Lyon – Balbigny section is a 53 km motorway, declared of public interest on 17 April 2003. It consists of six interchanges, seven viaducts and three tunnels representing a cumulative length of more than 6 km. Specific studies from this project have been carried out during 2007, resulting in some preparation works to take place in 2008 (archaeology, land acquisition, network).

This section should be in service at the end of 2012 and works should start by the end of 2008.

#### **A75/A9: Béziers East bypass (6 km)**

- Works have been carried out since October 2007.

#### **Investments in existing motorways**

Under the ASF and Escota Programme Plans, the two companies were committed to making additional investments in existing motorways over the period 2007-2011 (Section 1.4). Around 50 per cent of annual capital budgets are earmarked for adapting the infrastructure, mainly to cope with increased traffic. This involves carrying out road-widening schemes, extending toll plazas, rest and service areas, and building new interchanges.

Investments in operating assets are intended to improve safety by installing modular crash barriers on central reservations, motorcycle crash barriers, lay-bys, etc.

Capital expenditure on existing motorways totalled €199.4 million in 2007, as follows:

Description	2007			2006	% change
	ASF	ESCOTA	GROUP	GROUP	
Lane extensions	14,3	18,6	32,9	34,3	-4,1%
Toll plazas and interchanges	6,0	8,4	14,4	19,0	-24,2%
Rest and service areas	5,5	4,2	9,7	12,2	-20,5%
Operating systems	15,0	5,9	20,9	35,4	-41,0%
Tunnels	1,0	80,5	81,5	41,3	97,3%
Environment and other	18,3	21,7	40,0	66,2	-39,6%
<b>Total in M€</b>	<b>60,1</b>	<b>139,3</b>	<b>199,4</b>	<b>208,4</b>	<b>-4,3%</b>

Furthermore, in 2007, ASF continued to take part in the public debate on transport in the Rhône Valley and the Languedoc Roussillon region, within the framework of the so-called "multimodal schemes of collective services for transport of people and goods". At this stage, widening the A7 motorway is not planned, but ASF will study how to enhance this motorway as well as complementary operational measures.

Moreover, ASF and Escota are still studying the extension of toll plazas and service or rest areas, the possibility of widening some sections to 2 x 3 lanes according to traffic (North Perpignan/South Perpignan: 14 km on the A9, Biriattou/Ondres: 39 km on the A63, Châteauneuf/Saint Maximin on the A8 and La Ciotat/Bandol on the A50-52), and safety modifications to be made in all tunnels on the A8 network and the Puymorens tunnel, in the perspective of the 2007-2011 Programme Plan.

#### **Infrastructure maintenance costs**

Infrastructure maintenance consists of repairing the damage caused by traffic, the ageing process or natural phenomena, and also of upgrading the network and engineering structures to comply with new technical standards.

Infrastructure maintenance plans are designed to optimise maintenance operations without compromising either road-user safety or the ongoing upkeep of our assets.

In 2007, €75.9 million was spent on infrastructure maintenance compared with €69.8 million the year before.-

### **Main Financial indicators**

Total Revenue: €2,818.2 million

Cost of net financial debt: €524.8 million

Net profit attributable to equity holders of the parent : €481.3 million

Cash generating capacity before tax and financing costs: €1,841.6 million (65.5 per cent of the revenue)

Net financial debt: €10,475.3 million

Ratio net financial debt / cash generating capacity before tax and financing costs: 5.7

## **II ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE**

### • **Shareholding structure**

On 6 November 2006, the public buyout offer on ASF was closed by the AMF; VINCI group now holds 100 per cent of ASF.

On December 2006, ASF Holding, a special purpose vehicle fully owned by VINCI Concessions, acquired the 22.99 per cent stake in ASF held by its mother company.

ASF's shareholders are currently VINCI with a 77.01 per cent stake and ASF Holding with a 22.99 per cent stake. In 2008 VINCI intends to transfer all or part of its remaining stake in ASF to ASF Holding, which will therefore become ASF's majority shareholder.

A shareholder agreement was signed in December 2006 between ASF Holding and VINCI in connection with the €1.2 billion syndicated bank facility entered into by ASF Holding for the partial financing of VINCI Concessions' 22.99 per cent stake in ASF and based on ASF's future dividends.

This agreement shall remain in force as long as any monies shall remain due to the banks under the syndicated bank facility, provided further that no transfer of all or part of its shares in ASF by any of the shareholders to a third party who would obtain at least a veto position shall occur unless such third party has previously approved the terms and conditions of the shareholder agreement. The agreement provides for a maximised dividend pay-out policy at the level of ASF subject to compliance with the financial covenants accepted by or on behalf of the company on the basis of its consolidated accounts, as provided in the ASF €3.5 billion syndicated facility, and which are reflected in the following formula :

net debt/CAFICE < or equal to 7 and CAFICE / net financial costs > or equal to 2.2

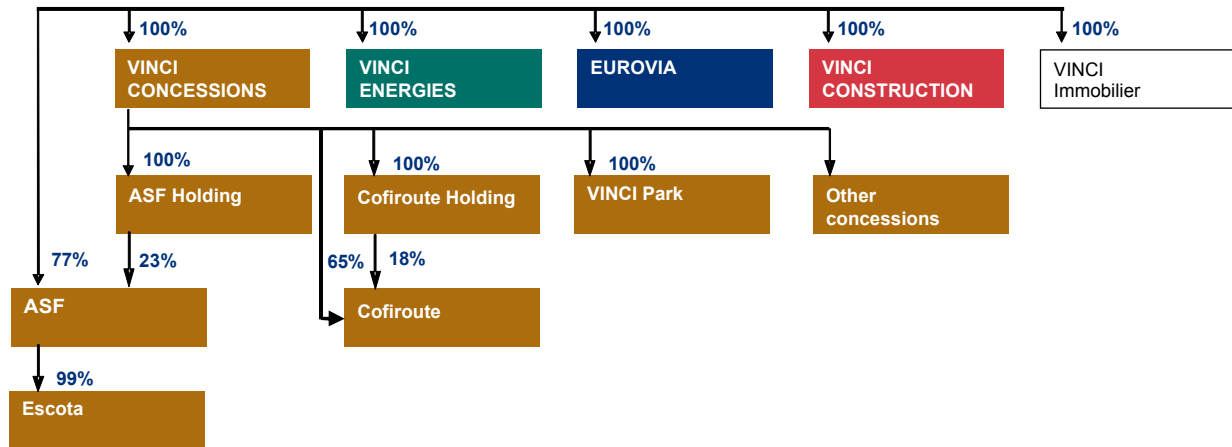
where "CAFICE" means "consolidated cash generating capacity before tax and financing costs".

### • **ASF's position in the VINCI Group**

#### **Overview**

ASF is part of the VINCI group. The organisational chart below shows its position within the Group as of 30 April 2008:

# VINCI



## VINCI group overview

VINCI is the world's leading concession operation and construction group and the largest motorway concessionaire in Europe.

The consolidated revenue of VINCI Group was €30.4 billion in 2007.

At the end of April 2008, VINCI's market capitalisation amounted to €23.1 billion, ranging among the twenty largest market capitalisations of the CAC 40 index.

VINCI focuses on four main operating divisions:

### - VINCI Concessions (2007 Revenue €4,580 million)

VINCI Concessions finances, designs and builds transport and public infrastructure projects launched within the framework of public-private partnerships, then operates the infrastructure under long-term contracts. The company is the world's biggest motorway and car park concession operator.

### - VINCI Energies (2007 Revenue €4,301 million)

VINCI Energies is market leader in France and a major player in Europe in energy and information technology services (design, installation and maintenance). The company operates in the infrastructure, industry, service and telecommunications sectors, where it develops solutions that are both local and global. The solutions are implemented by the company's 760 networked business units.

### - Eurovia (2007 Revenue €7,706 million)

Ranked among the world's leading roadworks companies, Eurovia builds, renovates and maintains transport infrastructure (roads, motorways, railways and airports), carries out urban, industrial and commercial development projects, and is expanding into complementary environmental and service business activities. The company is also one of Europe's biggest producers of road building materials.

### - VINCI Construction (2007 Revenue €13,653 million)

Leader in France and a major player on the world's construction market, VINCI Construction brings together an outstanding combination of capabilities in building, civil engineering, hydraulic engineering and associated services. With strong roots in its local markets in France and the rest of Europe through its networks of subsidiaries, the company also plays a leading role in the world market for major projects, specialised civil engineering, geotechnical engineering and dredging..

### **III STATUTORY AUDITORS**

#### **Name of the Statutory Auditors**

##### **KPMG Audit**

1, cours Valmy – 92923 Paris La Défense Cedex

(Represented by Benoît Lebrun)

First appointed : 15 May 2006

Current term expires: at the close of the Shareholders Meeting to approve the 2011 Financial Statements.

##### **Deloitte & Associés**

185, avenue Charles-de-Gaulle – BP 136 92203 Neuilly-sur-Seine Cedex

(Represented by Thierry Benoit)

First appointed: 15 May 2006

Current term expires: at the close of the Shareholders Meeting to approve the 2011 Financial Statements.

#### **Alternate Auditors**

##### **SCP Jean Claude André et Autres**

2 bis rue de Villiers – 92309 Levallois Perret Cedex

First appointed : 15 May 2006

Current term expires: at the close of the Shareholders Meeting to approve the 2011 Financial Statements.

##### **BEAS SARL**

7-9, villa Houssay - 92200 Neuilly-sur-Seine

First appointed: 15 May 2006

Current term expires: at the close of the Shareholders Meeting to approve the 2011 financial statements.

ASF's Statutory Auditors are registered with the Compagnie Nationale des Commissaires aux Comptes (official statutory auditors' representative body) and subject to the authority of the Haut Conseil du Commissariat aux Comptes (French High Council of Statutory Auditors).

## RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

### Opening of new section

The Thenon/Terrasson A89 section (18.8 km) opened on the 16<sup>th</sup> January 2008. As at the end of March 2008, among the 3,191.5 km conceded to ASF and Escota, 3,068.1 km were in service

### 2008 Tariffs

In accordance with contractual provisions of the Programme Plan 2007-2011, ASF and Escota raised their tariffs for all the categories on 1 February 2008:

- ASF by 2.81 per cent for Class 4 heavy vehicles and by 2.45 per cent for the remaining classes.
- Escota by 2.88 per cent for Class 4 heavy vehicles and by 2.53 per cent for classes 1,2,5 and 3.

On the ASF network, tariff coefficients for heavy goods vehicles were set at 2.18 (class 3) and at 2.86 (class 4).

On the Escota network, tariff coefficients for class 3 and 4 were set at 2.12 and 2.9 respectively.

### Dividends

On 23 April 2008, the general shareholders' meeting of the Issuer passed a resolution approving the distribution of a dividend of EUR1.95 per share in respect of 2007, for a total amount of EUR 450,407,101.95 from which will be deducted the interim dividend paid on 29 August 2007 of EUR0.45 per share, for a total amount of EUR 103,940,100.45 making a final dividend remaining to be paid of EUR1.50 per share, a total amount of EUR346,467,001.50.

## DOCUMENTS ON DISPLAY

For so long as Notes issued under the Programme are outstanding, the following documents will be available, during usual business hours on any weekday (Saturdays and public holidays excepted), for inspection at the office of the Fiscal Agent or each of the Paying Agents:

- (i) the *statuts* (Company's Articles) of the Issuer;
- (ii) the published annual report and audited non-consolidated of Autoroutes du Sud de la France and consolidated financial statements of the Group for the two financial years ended 31 December 2006 and 2007 (also available on [www.asf.fr](http://www.asf.fr));
- (iii) each Final Terms for Notes that are admitted to trading on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange and/or any other Regulated Market (also available for viewing on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange website [www.bourse.lu](http://www.bourse.lu));
- (iv) a copy of this Base Prospectus together with any Supplement to this Base Prospectus or further Base Prospectus; and
- (v) all reports, letters and other documents, historical financial information, valuations and statements prepared by any expert at the relevant Issuer's request any part of which is included or referred to in this Base Prospectus.

For so long as Notes issued under the Programme are outstanding, copies of the latest non-consolidated financial statements of Autoroutes du Sud de la France and consolidated financial statements of the Group (in English and French) (in each case as soon as they are published) may be obtained at the office of the Fiscal Agent or each of the Paying Agents during usual business hours on any weekday (except Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays).



## SUBSCRIPTION AND SALE

### Summary of Amended and Restated Dealer Agreement

Subject to the terms and on the conditions contained in an amended and restated dealer agreement dated 7 May 2008 (the **Amended and Restated Dealer Agreement**) between the Issuer, the Permanent Dealers (being all Dealers other than those appointed as such solely in respect of one or more specified Tranches), and the Arranger, the Notes will be offered on a continuous basis by the Issuer to the Permanent Dealers. However, the Issuer has reserved the right to sell Notes directly on its own behalf to Dealers that are not Permanent Dealers. The Notes may be resold at prevailing market prices, or at prices related thereto, at the time of such resale, as determined by the relevant Dealer. The Notes may also be sold by the Issuer through the Dealers, acting as agents of the Issuer. The Amended and Restated Dealer Agreement also provides for Notes to be issued in syndicated Tranches that are jointly and severally underwritten by two or more Dealers.

The Issuer will pay each relevant Dealer a commission as agreed between them in respect of Notes subscribed by it. The Issuer has agreed to reimburse the Arranger for its expenses incurred in connection with the Programme and the Dealers for certain of their activities in connection with the Programme.

The Issuer has agreed to indemnify the Dealers against certain liabilities in connection with the offer and sale of the Notes. The Amended and Restated Dealer Agreement entitles the Dealers to terminate any agreement that they make to subscribe Notes in certain circumstances prior to payment for such Notes being made to the Issuer.

### Selling Restrictions

#### General

These selling restrictions may be modified by the agreement of the Issuer and the Dealers following a change in a relevant law, regulation or directive. Any such modification or supplement will be set out in the Final Terms issued in respect of the issue of Notes to which it relates or in a Supplement to the Base Prospectus.

No action has been taken in any jurisdiction that would permit an offer to the public of any of the Notes, or possession or distribution of the Base Prospectus or any other offering material or any Final Terms, in any country or jurisdiction where action for that purpose is required.

Each Dealer has agreed that it will, to the best of its knowledge, comply with all relevant laws, regulations and directives in each jurisdiction in which it purchases, offers, sells or delivers Notes or has in its possession or distributes the Base Prospectus, any other offering material or any Final Terms and neither the Issuer nor any Dealer shall have responsibility therefor.

Each of the Dealers and the Issuer has represented and agreed that Materialised Notes may only be issued outside France.

### European Economic Area

In respect of Notes the denomination of which is less than € 50,000 (or its equivalent in another currency):

In relation to each Member State of the European Economic Area which has implemented the Prospectus Directive (each, a **Relevant Member State**), each Dealer has represented and agreed, and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to represent and agree, that with effect from and including the date on which the Prospectus Directive is implemented in that Relevant Member State (the **Relevant Implementation Date**) it has not made and will not make an offer of Notes which are the subject of the offering contemplated by this Base Prospectus as completed by the final terms in relation thereto to the public in that Relevant Member State except that it may, with effect from and including the Relevant Implementation Date, make an offer of such Notes to the public in that Relevant Member State:

- (a) at any time to legal entities which are authorised or regulated to operate in the financial markets or, if not so authorised or regulated, whose corporate purpose is solely to invest in securities;

- (b) at any time to any legal entity which has two or more of (1) an average of at least 250 employees during the last financial year; (2) a total balance sheet of more than €43,000,000; and (3) an annual net turnover of more than €50,000,000, as shown in its last annual or consolidated accounts;
- (c) at any time to fewer than 100 natural or legal persons (other than qualified investors as defined in the Prospectus Directive) subject to obtaining the prior consent of the relevant Dealer or Dealers nominated by the Issuer for any such offer; or
- (d) at any time in any other circumstances falling within Article 3(2) of the Prospectus Directive,

provided that no such offer of Notes referred to in (a) to (d) above shall require the Issuer or any Dealer to publish a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive or supplement a prospectus pursuant to Article 16 of the Prospectus Directive.

For the purposes of this provision, the expression an **offer of Notes to the public** in relation to any Notes in any Relevant Member State means the communication in any form and by any means of sufficient information on the terms of the offer and the Notes to be offered so as to enable an investor to decide to purchase or subscribe the Notes, as the same may be varied in that Member State by any measure implementing the Prospectus Directive in that Member State and the expression **Prospectus Directive** means Directive 2003/71/EC and includes any relevant implementing measure in each Relevant Member State.

### **United States**

The Notes have not been and will not be registered under the U.S. Securities Act of 1933 as amended (the **Securities Act**) and may not be offered or sold within the United States or to, or for the account or benefit of, U.S. persons except in certain transactions exempt from the registration requirements of the Securities Act. Terms used in this paragraph have the meanings given to them by Regulation S under the Securities Act (**Regulation S**).

Materialised Bearer Notes are subject to U.S. tax law requirements and may not be offered, sold or delivered within the United States or its possessions or to a United States person, except in certain transactions permitted by U.S. tax regulations. Terms used in this paragraph have the meanings given to them by the U.S. Internal Revenue Code and regulations thereunder.

Each Dealer has agreed and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to agree that, except as permitted by the Amended and Restated Dealer Agreement, it will not offer, sell or, in the case of Materialised Bearer Notes, deliver Notes, (i) as part of their distribution at any time or (ii) otherwise until 40 days after the completion of the distribution of any identifiable Tranche as determined, and certified to the Issuer, by the Fiscal Agent, or in the case of Notes issued on a syndicated basis, the Lead Manager, within the United States or to, or for the account or benefit of, U.S. persons, and it will have sent to each dealer to which it sells Notes during the distribution compliance period a confirmation or other notice setting forth the restrictions on offers and sales of the Notes within the United States or to, or for the account or benefit of, U.S. persons. Terms used in the preceding sentence have the meanings given to them by Regulation S.

The Notes are being offered and sold outside the United States to non-U.S. persons in reliance on Regulation S.

In addition, until 40 days after the commencement of the offering of any identifiable tranche of Notes, an offer or sale of Notes within the United States by any dealer (whether or not participating in the offering of such tranche of Notes) may violate the registration requirements of the Securities Act.

This Base Prospectus has been prepared by the Issuer for use in connection with the offer and sale of the Notes outside the United States. The Issuer and the Dealers reserve the right to reject any offer to purchase the Notes, in whole or in part, for any reason. This Base Prospectus does not constitute an offer to any person in the United States. Distribution of this Base Prospectus by any non-U.S. person outside the United States to any U.S. person or to any other person within the United States, is unauthorised and any disclosure without the prior written consent of the Issuer of any of its contents to any such U.S. person or other person within the United States, is prohibited.

## France

Each of the Dealers and the Issuer has represented and agreed that it has not offered or sold and will not offer or sell, directly or indirectly, any Notes to the public in France and it has not distributed or caused to be distributed and will not distribute or cause to be distributed to the public in France, the Base Prospectus, the relevant Final Terms or any other offering material relating to the Notes and such offers, sales and distributions have been and will be made in France only to (a) providers of investment services relating to portfolio management for the account of third parties, and/or (b) qualified investors (*investisseurs qualifiés*) other than individuals, all as defined in, and in accordance with, articles L.411-1, L.411-2 and D.411-1 to D.411-3 of the French *Code monétaire et financier*.

## United Kingdom

Each Dealer has represented, warranted and agreed that:

- (i) it has only communicated or caused to be communicated and will only communicate or cause to be communicated any invitation or inducement to engage in investment activity (within the meaning of section 21 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (the "FSMA")) received by it in connection with the issue or sale of any Notes in circumstances in which section 21(1) of the FSMA does not apply to the Issuer; and
- (ii) it has complied and will comply with all applicable provisions of the FSMA with respect to anything done by it in relation to such Notes in, from or otherwise involving the United Kingdom.

## Italy

No Base Prospectus has been, nor will be, published in Italy in connection with the offering of the Notes and such offering of the Notes has not been cleared by the *Commissione Nazionale per le Società e la Borsa* ("**CONSOB**") pursuant to Italian securities legislation and, accordingly, the Notes may not and will not be offered, sold or delivered, directly or indirectly, in the Republic of Italy and copies of the Base Prospectus or any other document relating to the Notes may not, and will not, be distributed in the Republic of Italy, unless an exemption applies. Accordingly, each Dealer has represented and agreed not to effect any offering, marketing, solicitation or selling activity of the Notes in Italy except (a) to "Qualified Investors" pursuant to article 100 of Legislative Decree No.58 of 24 February 1998, as amended ("**Legislative Decree no. 58**") as defined under article 2(i)(e)(i) to (iii) of the Prospectus Directive, or (b) in any other circumstances which are exempted from the rules on investment solicitation pursuant to article 100 of Legislative Decree no. 58, as amended and its implementing regulations, including article 33, first paragraph, of CONSOB Regulation no. 11971 of 14 May 1999, as amended ("**Regulation no. 11971**").

Each Dealer has also represented and agreed that any offer, sale or delivery of the Notes or distribution of the copies of the Base Prospectus or any other document relating to the Notes in the Republic of Italy under (i) or (ii) above must, and will, be effected in accordance with all relevant Italian securities, tax and exchange control and other applicable laws and regulations, and, in particular will be:

- (i) made by an investment firm, bank or financial intermediary permitted to conduct such activities in the Republic of Italy in accordance with Legislative Decree no. 58, Legislative Decree No. 385 of 1 September 1993, Regulation no. 11971 and any other applicable laws or regulations; and
- (ii) conducted in compliance with any relevant limitations or procedural requirements which may be imposed by CONSOB, the Bank of Italy or the Minister of Economy and Finance.

Any investor purchasing the Notes in the offering is solely responsible for ensuring that any offer and resale of the Notes it purchased in the offering occurs in compliance with applicable Italian laws and regulations.

## FORM OF FINAL TERMS

Final Terms dated [•]

[Logo, if document is printed]

**Autoroutes du Sud de la France**

Euro 6,000,000,000  
Euro Medium Term Note Programme  
for the issue of Notes

**SERIES NO: [•]**

**TRANCHE NO: [•]**

**[Brief description and Amount of Notes]**

**Issued by: Autoroutes du Sud de la France (the Issuer)**

**[Name(s) of Dealer(s)]**

### PART A – CONTRACTUAL TERMS

Terms used herein shall be deemed to be defined as such for the purposes of the Conditions set forth in the Base Prospectus dated 7 May 2008 [and the Supplement to the Base Prospectus dated [•]]\* which [together]\* constitute[s] a base prospectus for the purposes of the Prospectus Directive (Directive 2003/71/EC) (the **Prospectus Directive**). This document constitutes the Final Terms of the Notes described herein for the purposes of Article 5.4 of the Prospectus Directive and must be read in conjunction with such Base Prospectus [as so supplemented]. Full information on the Issuer and the offer of the Notes is only available on the basis of the combination of these Final Terms and the Base Prospectus. The Base Prospectus [and the Supplement to the Base Prospectus]\* [is] [are]\* available for viewing at the office of the Fiscal Agent or each of the Paying Agents and on the websites of (a) the Luxembourg Stock Exchange during a period of twelve months from the date of the Base Prospectus and (b) the Issuer (www.asf.fr) and copies may be obtained free of charge from [●], France. [In addition<sup>1</sup>, the Base Prospectus [and the Supplement to the Base Prospectus]\* [is] [are]\* available for viewing [at/on] [•]].

*[Terms used herein shall be deemed to be defined as such for the purposes of the Conditions (the **Conditions**) set forth in the Base Prospectus dated [original date] [and the Supplement to the Base Prospectus dated [•]]\*. This document constitutes the Final Terms of the Notes described herein for the purposes of Article 5.4 of the Prospectus Directive (Directive 2003/71/EC) (the **Prospectus Directive**) and must be read in conjunction with the Base Prospectus dated [current date] [and the Supplement to the Base Prospectus dated [•]]\*, which [together]\* constitute[s] a base prospectus for the purposes of the Prospectus Directive, save in respect of the Conditions which are extracted from the Base Prospectus dated [original date] [and the Supplement to the Base Prospectus]\* dated [•] and are attached hereto. Full information on the Issuer and the offer of the Notes is only available on the basis of the combination of these Final Terms and the Base Prospectus dated [original date] and the Base Prospectus dated [current date] [and the Supplement to the Base Prospectus dated [•]]\*. The Base Prospectus [and the Supplement to the Base Prospectus]\* are available for viewing at the office of the Fiscal Agent or each of the*

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\* Delete if no Supplement is published.

<sup>1</sup> If the Notes are admitted to trading on a regulated market other than the Luxembourg Stock Exchange.

Paying Agents and on the websites of (a) Luxembourg Stock Exchange during a period of twelve months from the date of the Base Prospectus and (b) the Issuer ([www.asf.fr](http://www.asf.fr)) and copies may be obtained free of charge from Autoroutes du Sud de la France [●]. [In addition<sup>2</sup>, the Base Prospectus [and the Supplement to the Base Prospectus]<sup>\*</sup> [is] [are]<sup>\*</sup> available for viewing [at/on] [●]].]<sup>3</sup>

[Include whichever of the following apply or specify as "Not Applicable" (N/A). Note that the numbering should remain as set out below, even if "Not Applicable" is indicated for individual paragraphs or sub-paragraphs. Italics denote guidance for completing the Final Terms.]

[When completing final terms or adding any other final terms or information consideration should be given as to whether such terms or information constitute "significant new factors" and consequently trigger the need for a supplement to the Base Prospectus under article 16 of the Prospectus Directive, the publication of which would in turn trigger the investors' right to withdraw their acceptances within a forty-eight (48)-hour time period.]

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>1. Issuer:</b>  | Autoroutes du Sud de la France  |
| <b>2. (i) Series Number:</b>                                     | [●]   |
| <b>(ii) Tranche Number:</b>                                      | [●]   |
|  | <i>(If fungible with an existing Series, details of that Series, including the date on which the Notes become fungible).</i>  |
| <b>3. Specified Currency or Currencies:</b>                      | [●]   |
| <b>4. Aggregate Nominal Amount of Notes admitted to trading:</b> |   |
| <b>[(i) Series:</b>  | [●]   |
| <b>[(ii) Tranche:</b>  | [●]   |
| <b>5. Issue Price:</b>   | [●] per cent of the Aggregate Nominal Amount [plus accrued interest from [insert date] ( if applicable)]  |
| <b>6. Specified Denomination(s):</b>                             | [●] <sup>4</sup> <i>(one denomination only for Dematerialised Notes) (Not less than €50,000 or its equivalent in any other currency at the Issue Date)</i>                                  |
| <b>7. [(i) Issue Date:</b>                                       | [●]   |
| <b>[(ii) Interest Commencement Date</b>                          | <i>[specify/Issue Date/Not applicable]</i>  |
| <b>8. Maturity Date:</b>   | <i>[specify date or (for Floating Rate Notes) Interest Payment Date falling in or nearest to the relevant month and year]</i>   |
| <b>9. Interest Basis:</b>  | [[ ● ] % Fixed Rate]<br>[[specify reference rate] +/- [●] % Floating Rate]<br>[Zero Coupon]<br>[Index Linked Interest]<br>[Other (specify)]<br><i>(further particulars specified below)</i> |
| <b>10. Redemption/Payment Basis <sup>**</sup> :</b>              | [Redemption at par]   |

<sup>2</sup> If the Notes are admitted to trading on a regulated market other than the Luxembourg Stock Exchange.

<sup>3</sup> The following alternative language applies if the first tranche of an issue which is being increased was issued under [a Prospectus/an Offering Circular] with an earlier date.

<sup>4</sup> Notes (including Notes denominated in sterling) in respect of which the issue proceeds are to be accepted by the Issuer in the United Kingdom or whose issue otherwise constitutes a contravention of Section 19 of the FSMA and having a maturity of less than one year must have a minimum denomination of £100,000 (or its equivalent in other currencies).

	[Index Linked Redemption]
	[Dual Currency]
	[Partly Paid]
	[Instalment]
	[Other ( <i>specify</i> )]
<b>11. Change of Interest or Redemption/Payment Basis:</b>	[ <i>Specify details of any provision for convertibility of Notes into another interest or redemption/ payment basis</i> ]
<b>12. Put/Call Options:</b>	[Investor Put]
	[Issuer Call]
	[Not Applicable]
	[(further particulars specified below)]
<b>13. (i) Status of the Notes:</b>	[Subordinated/Unsubordinated Notes] [ <i>specify details for any provisions of Subordinated Notes notably whether dated or undated and if deferral interest provisions apply</i> ]
<b>(ii) Dates of the corporate authorisations for issuance of the Notes:</b>	Decision of the Board of Directors of the Issuer dated [•]
<b>14. Method of distribution:</b>	[Syndicated/Non-syndicated]
<b>PROVISIONS RELATING TO INTEREST (IF ANY) PAYABLE</b>	
<b>15. Fixed Rate Note Provisions</b>	[Applicable/Not Applicable] <i>(If not applicable, delete the remaining sub-paragraphs of this paragraph)</i>
(i) Rate[(s)] of Interest:	[•] per cent. per annum [payable [annually/semi-annually/quarterly/monthly/other ( <i>specify</i> )] in arrear]
(ii) Interest Payment Date(s):	[•] in each year [adjusted in accordance with [ <i>specify Business Day Convention and any applicable Business Centre(s) for the definition of Business Day</i> ]/not adjusted]
(iii) Fixed Coupon Amount[(s)]:	[•] per [•] in Nominal Amount
(iv) Broken Amount(s):	[ <i>Insert particulars of any initial or final broken interest amounts which do not correspond with the Fixed Coupon Amount[(s)]</i> ]
(v) Day Count Fraction:	[•] [30/360 / Actual/Actual (ICMA/ISDA) / other]
(vi) Determination Dates:	[•] in each year ( <i>insert regular interest payment dates, ignoring issue date or maturity date in the case of a long or short first or last coupon. N.B. only relevant where Day Count Fraction is Actual/Actual ([ICMA])</i> )
(vii) Other terms relating to the method of calculating interest for Fixed Rate Notes:	[Not Applicable/ <i>give details</i> ]
<b>16. Floating Rate Note Provisions</b>	[Applicable/Not Applicable] <i>(If not applicable, delete the remaining sub-paragraphs of this paragraph)</i>

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\*\* If the Final Redemption Amount is different than one hundred per cent. (100%) of the nominal value, the Notes will constitute derivative securities for the purposes of the Prospectus Directive and the requirements of Annex XII to the Prospectus Directive Regulation No. 809/2004 will apply. This form of Final Terms has been annotated to indicate where the key additional requirements of Annex XII are dealt with. Note that some regulatory authorities may require the inclusion of information or placeholders addressing Paragraph 5 of Annex XII even though (noting that such information is not required by Annex XIII) the denomination of the Notes is €50,000 or more. Where Annex XII is not applicable but income on the Notes is linked to an underlying, nevertheless consider including disclosure in relation to the underlying.

- (i) Interest Period(s): [•]
- (ii) Specified Interest Payment Dates: [•]
- (iii) First Interest Payment Date: [•]
- (iv) Interest Period Date: [•]
- (v) Business Day Convention: [Floating Rate Business Day Convention/ Following Business Day Convention/ Modified Following Business Day Convention/ Preceding Business Day Convention/ other (*give details*)]
- (vi) Business Centre(s): [•]
- (vii) Manner in which the Rate(s) of Interest is/are to be determined: [Screen Rate Determination/FBF Determination/ISDA Determination/other (*give details*)]
- (viii) Party responsible for calculating the Rate(s) of Interest and Interest Amount(s) (if not the Calculation Agent): [•]
- (ix) Screen Rate Determination: [Applicable/Not Applicable]
- Benchmark: [•] (*specify Benchmark [EURIBOR, LIBOR, LIBID, LIMEAN, or other benchmark] and months [e.g. EURIBOR 3 months] (additional information if necessary)*)
  - Relevant Time: [•]
  - Interest Determination Date(s): [•]
  - Primary Source: [*Specify relevant screen page or Reference Banks*]
  - Reference Banks (if Primary Source is Reference Banks): [*Specify four*]
  - Relevant Financial Centre: [*The financial centre most closely connected to the Benchmark*]
  - Representative Amount: [*Specify if screen or Reference Bank quotations are to be given in respect of a transaction of a specified notional amount*]
  - Effective Date: [*Specify if quotations are not to be obtained with effect from commencement of Interest Accrual Period*]
  - Specified Duration: [*Specify period for quotation if not duration of Interest Accrual Period*]
- (viii) FBF Determination
- Floating Rate: [•]
  - Floating Rate Determination Date (*Date de Détermination du Taux Variable*): [•]
  - FBF Definitions: (if different from those set out in the Conditions): [•]
- (ix) ISDA Determination: [Applicable/Not Applicable]

- Floating Rate Option: [•]
  - Designated Maturity: [•]
  - Reset Date: [•]
  - (x) Margin(s): [+/-][•] per cent per annum
  - (xi) Minimum Rate of Interest: [•] per cent per annum
  - (xii) Maximum Rate of Interest: [•] per cent per annum
  - (xiii) Day Count Fraction: [•]
  - (xiv) Fall back provisions, rounding provisions, denominator and any other terms relating to the method of calculating interest on Floating Rate Notes, if different from those set out in the Conditions: [•]
- 17. Zero Coupon Note Provisions** [Applicable/Not Applicable]  
*(If not applicable, delete the remaining sub-paragraphs of this paragraph)*
- (i) Amortisation Yield: [•] per cent per annum
  - (ii) Day Count Fraction: [•]
  - (iii) Any other formula/basis of determining amount payable: [•]
- 18. Index-Linked Interest Note/Inflation Linked Interest Note/other variable-linked interest Note Provisions\*\*** [Applicable/Not Applicable]  
*(If not applicable, delete the remaining sub-paragraphs of this paragraph)*
- (i) Index/Formula/other variable: *[give or annex details]*
  - (ii) Party responsible for calculating the Rate(s) of Interest and/or Interest Amount(s) (if not the Calculation Agent): [•]*[give name and address]*
  - (iii) Provisions for determining Coupon where calculated by reference to Index and/or Formula and/or other variable: [•]
  - (iv) Interest Determination Date(s): [•]
  - (v) Provisions for determining Coupon where calculation by reference to Index and/or Formula and/or other variable is impossible or impracticable *(Need to include a description of market disruption or settlement disruption events and adjustment provisions)*

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\*\* If the Final Redemption Amount is different than one hundred per cent. (100%) of the nominal value, the Notes will constitute derivative securities for the purposes of the Prospectus Directive and the requirements of Annex XII to the Prospectus Directive Regulation No. 809/2004 will apply. This form of Final Terms has been annotated to indicate where the key additional requirements of Annex XII are dealt with. Note that some regulatory authorities may require the inclusion of information or placeholders addressing Paragraph 5 of Annex XII even though (noting that such information is not required by Annex XIII) the denomination of the Notes is €50,000 or more. Where Annex XII is not applicable but income on the Notes is linked to an underlying, nevertheless consider including disclosure in relation to the underlying.



or otherwise disrupted:

- (vi) Interest or calculation Period(s): [•]
- (vii) Specified Interest Payment Dates: [•]
- (viii) Business Day Convention: [Floating Rate Business Day Convention/ Following Business Day Convention/Modified Following Business Day Convention/Preceding Business Day Convention/other *(give details)*]
- (ix) Business Centre(s): [•]
- (x) Minimum Rate of Interest / Amount of Interest: [Not Applicable/ [•] per cent per annum]
- (xi) Maximum Rate of Interest / Amount of Interest: [Not Applicable/ [•] per cent per annum]
- (xii) Day Count Fraction: [•]
- 19. Dual Currency Note Provisions** [Applicable/Not Applicable]  
*(If not applicable, delete the remaining sub-paragraphs of this paragraph)*
- (i) Rate of Exchange/method of calculating Rate of Exchange: *[give details]*
- (ii) Party, if any, responsible for calculating the principal and/or interest due (if not the Calculation Agent): [•]*[give name and address]*
- (iii) Provisions applicable where calculation by reference to Rate of Exchange impossible or impracticable: *[Need to include a description of market disruption or settlement disruption events and adjustment provisions.]*
- (iv) Person at whose option Specified Currency(ies) is/are payable: [•]
- (v) Day Count Fraction: [•]

#### **PROVISIONS RELATING TO REDEMPTION**

- 20. Call Option** [Applicable/Not Applicable]  
*(If not applicable, delete the remaining sub-paragraphs of this paragraph)*
- (i) Optional Redemption Date(s): [•]
- (ii) Optional Redemption Amount(s) of each Note and method, if any, of calculation of such amount(s): [•] per Note of [•] specified denomination
- (iii) If redeemable in part:
- (a) Minimum Redemption Amount: [•]
- (b) Maximum Redemption Amount: [•]
- (iv) Option Exercise Date: [•]

- (v) Notice period<sup>5</sup>: [•]
- 21. Put Option** [Applicable/Not Applicable]  
*(If not applicable, delete the remaining sub-paragraphs of this paragraph)*
- (i) Optional Redemption Date(s): [•]
- (ii) Optional Redemption Amount(s) of each Note and method, if any, of calculation of such amount(s): [•] per Note of [•] specified denomination
- (iii) Option Exercise Date: [•]
- (iv) Notice period<sup>1</sup>: [•]
- 22. Final Redemption Amount of each Note**<sup>\*\*</sup> [[•] per Note of [•] specified denomination /other/see Appendix]
- In cases where the Final Redemption Amount is Index-Linked or other variable-linked:
- (i) Index/Formula/variable: *[give or annex details]*
- (ii) Party responsible for calculating the Final Redemption Amount (if not the Calculation Agent): [•]
- (iii) Provisions for determining Final Redemption Amount where calculated by reference to Index and/or Formula and/or other variable: [•]
- (iv) Determination Date(s): [•]
- (v) Provisions for determining Final Redemption Amount where calculation by reference to Index and/or Formula and/or other variable is impossible or impracticable or otherwise disrupted: [•]
- (vi) Payment Date: [•]
- (vii) Minimum Final Redemption Amount: [•]
- (viii) Maximum Final Redemption Amount: [•]

<sup>5</sup> If setting notice periods which are different to those provided in the terms and conditions, consider the practicalities of distribution of information through intermediaries, for example clearing systems, as well as any other notice requirements which may apply, for example as between the Issuer and the Fiscal Agent.

<sup>\*\*</sup> If the Final Redemption Amount is different than one hundred per cent. (100%) of the nominal value, the Notes will constitute derivative securities for the purposes of the Prospectus Directive and the requirements of Annex XII to the Prospectus Directive Regulation No. 809/2004 will apply. This form of Final Terms has been annotated to indicate where the key additional requirements of Annex XII are dealt with. Note that some regulatory authorities may require the inclusion of information or placeholders addressing Paragraph 5 of Annex XII even though (noting that such information is not required by Annex XIII) the denomination of the Notes is €50,000 or more. Where Annex XII is not applicable but income on the Notes is linked to an underlying, nevertheless consider including disclosure in relation to the underlying.

### 23. Early Redemption Amount

Early Redemption Amount(s) of [•] each Note payable on redemption for taxation reasons (Condition 6(f)), for illegality (Condition 6(j)) or on event of default (Condition 9) or other early redemption and/or the method of calculating the same (if required or if different from that set out in the Conditions):

### GENERAL PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO THE NOTES

24. Form of Notes: [Dematerialised Notes/Materialised Notes] (*Materialised Notes are only in bearer form*) [Delete as appropriate]
- (i) Form of Dematerialised Notes: [Not Applicable/Bearer dematerialised form (*au porteur*)]/[Registered dematerialised form (*au nominatif*)]
- (ii) Registration Agent: [Not Applicable/if Applicable give name and details (Note that a Registration Agent must be appointed in relation to Registered Notes only.)]
- (iii) Temporary Global Certificate: Temporary Global Certificate exchangeable for Definitive Materialised Bearer Notes on [•] (the **Exchange Date**), being 40 days after the Issue Date subject to postponement as provided in the Temporary Global Certificate
25. Financial Centre(s) or other special provisions relating to Payment Dates: [Not Applicable/give details].
26. Talons for future Coupons or Receipts to be attached to Definitive Notes (and dates on which such Talons mature): [Yes/No/Not Applicable. If yes, give details] (*Only applicable to the Materialised Notes*).
27. Details relating to Partly Paid Notes: amount of each payment comprising the Issue Price and date on which each payment is to be made and consequences (if any) of failure to pay: [Not Applicable/give details]
28. Details relating to Instalment Notes: amount of each instalment, date on which each payment is to be made: [Not Applicable/give details]
29. Redenomination, renominatisation and reconventioning provisions: [Not Applicable/The provisions [in Condition 1(d)] [annexed to these Final Terms] apply]
30. Consolidation provisions: [Not Applicable/The provisions [in Condition 14(b)] [annexed to these Final Terms] apply]
31. Representation of holders of Notes<sup>6</sup>/Masse: [Applicable/Not Applicable/Condition 11 replaced by the full provisions of French Code of Commerce relating to the Masse] (*Note that: (i) in respect of any Tranche of Notes issued outside France, Condition 11 may be waived, amended or supplemented, and (ii) in respect of any Tranche of Notes issued inside France, Condition 11 must be waived*)

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<sup>6</sup> The provisions of the French *Code de Commerce* relating to the *Masse* of holders of Notes are applicable in full to French domestic issues of Notes. Pursuant to Article L.228-90 of the French *Code de Commerce*, the *Masse* provisions contained in the French *Code de Commerce* are NOT applicable to international issues (*emprunt émis à l'étranger*); accordingly international issues may have no *Masse* provisions at all or the *Masse* provisions contained in the French *Code de Commerce* may be varied along the lines of the provisions of Condition 11.

*in its entirety and replaced by the provisions of French Code of Commerce relating to the Masse. If Condition 11 (as it may be amended or supplemented) applies or if the full provisions of French Code of Commerce apply, insert details of Representative and Alternative Representative and remuneration, if any).*

32. Other final terms:

[Not Applicable/give details]

*(When adding any other final terms consideration should be given as to whether such terms constitute a significant new factor and consequently triggers the need for a Supplement to the Base Prospectus under Article 16 of the Prospectus Directive.)*

## DISTRIBUTION

32. (i) If syndicated, names of Managers: [Not Applicable/give names]

(ii) [Date of Subscription Agreement:

[ ● ]<sup>7</sup>

(iii) Stabilising Manager(s) (if any): [Not Applicable/give name]

33. If non-syndicated, name and address of Dealer: [Not Applicable/give name and address]

34. Additional selling restrictions: [Not Applicable/give details]

35. U.S. selling restrictions: The Issuer is Category 2 for the purposes of Regulation S under the United States Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

[TEFRA C/ TEFRA D/ TEFRA not Applicable]

## GENERAL

The aggregate principal amount of Notes issued [ ● ]  
has been translated into Euro at the rate of [ ● ]  
producing a sum of:

## [PURPOSE OF FINAL TERMS

These Final Terms comprise the final terms required for issue and admission to trading on the [*specify relevant regulated market*] of the Notes described herein pursuant to the Euro 6,000,000,000 Medium Term Note Programme of ASF.]

## RESPONSIBILITY

The Issuer accepts responsibility for the information contained in these Final Terms. [*Relevant third party information*] has been extracted from (*specify source*). The Issuer confirms that such information has been accurately reproduced and that, so far as it is aware, and is able to ascertain from information published by (*specify source*), no facts have been omitted which would render the reproduced information inaccurate or misleading.]<sup>8</sup>

Signed on behalf of Autoroutes du Sud de la France:

By: .....

Duly authorised

<sup>7</sup> Required only for derivative securities to which Annex XII to the Prospectus Directive Regulation applies.

<sup>8</sup> Include if third party information is provided, for example in compliance with Annex XII of the Prospectus Directive Regulation in relation to an index or its components, an underlying security or the issuer of an underlying security.

## PART B – OTHER INFORMATION

### 1. RISK FACTORS

*[Insert any risk factors that are material to the Notes being offered and/or admitted to trading in order to assess the market risk associated with these Notes and that may affect the Issuer's ability to fulfil its obligations under the Notes which are not covered under "Risk Factors" in the Base Prospectus. If any such additional risk factors need to be included consideration should be given as to whether they constitute a "significant new factor" and consequently triggers the need for a Supplement to the Base Prospectus under Article 16 of the Prospectus Directive.] [Where the underlying is an index need to include the name of the index and a description if composed by the Issuer and if the index is not composed by the Issuer need to include details of where the information about the index can be obtained. Where the underlying is not an index need to include equivalent information.]\**

### 2. LISTING AND ADMISSION TO TRADING

- (i) Listing(s): [Luxembourg Stock Exchange /other (specify)/None]
- (ii) (a) Admission to trading: [Application has been made by the Issuer (or on its behalf) for the Notes to be admitted to trading on [specify relevant regulated market] with effect from [●].][Application is expected to be made by the Issuer (or on its behalf) for the Notes to be admitted to trading on [specify relevant regulated market/] with effect from [●].] [Not Applicable] (Where documenting a fungible issue need to indicate that original Notes are already admitted to trading.)
- (b) Regulated Markets or equivalent markets on which, to the knowledge of the Issuer, securities of the same class of the Notes to be admitted to trading are already admitted to trading: [●]
- (iii) Estimate of total expenses related to admission to trading: [●]
- (iv) Additional publication of Base Prospectus and Final Terms: [●](See Condition 16 which provides that the Base Prospectus will be published on the websites of (a) the Luxembourg Stock Exchange during a period of twelve months from the date of the Base Prospectus and (b) the Issuer and that the Final Terms related to Notes admitted to trading on any Regulated Market will be published on the websites of (a) the Luxembourg Stock Exchange and (b) the Issuer. Please provide for additional methods of publication in respect of an admission to trading on a regulated market other than the Luxembourg Stock Exchange, e.g. Paris)

### 3. RATINGS

Ratings: The Programme has been rated BBB+ by Standard & Poor's Rating Services and Baa1 by Moody's Investors Services, Inc.

[The Notes to be issued have been rated:

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\* Required for derivative securities to which Annex 12 to the Prospectus Directive Regulation applies. See footnote \*\* below.

\*\* If the Final Redemption Amount is more or less than 100% of the nominal value the Notes will be derivative securities for the purposes of the Prospectus Directive and the requirements of Annex 12 to the Prospectus Directive Regulation will apply. This pro forma has been annotated to indicate where the key additional requirements of Annex 12 are dealt with.

[S & P: [•]]  
[Moody's: [•]]  
[[Other]: [•]]

*(The above disclosure should reflect the rating allocated to Notes of the type being issued under the Programme generally or, where the issue has been specifically rated, that rating.)*

#### 4. [NOTIFICATION]

The *Commission de surveillance du secteur financier* in Luxembourg [has been requested to provide/has provided] - [include first alternative for an issue which is contemporaneous with the establishment or update of the Programme and the second alternative for subsequent issues] the [include names of competent authorities of host Member States] with a certificate of approval attesting that the Base Prospectus has been drawn up in accordance with the Prospectus Directive.]

#### 5. [THIRD PARTY INFORMATION AND STATEMENT BY EXPERTS AND DECLARATIONS OF ANY INTEREST]

*If advisors are mentioned in these Final Terms, specify the capacity in which the advisors have acted.*

*Specify other information mentioned in the Final Terms which has been audited or reviewed by auditors and where auditors have produced a report. Insert the report or, with permission of the competent authority, a summary of the report.*

*Where a statement or report attributed to a person as an expert is included in these Final Terms in respect of the Issuer or the Notes, provide such person's name, business address, qualifications and material interest if any in the Issuer. If the report has been produced at the Issuer's request a statement to that effect that such statement or report is included, in the form and context in which it is included, with the consent of that person who has authorised the contents of that part in respect of the Issuer or the Notes.*

*Where information has been sourced from a third party, provide a confirmation that this information has been accurately reproduced and that as far as the Issuer is aware and is able to ascertain from information published by that third party, no facts have been omitted which would render the reproduced information inaccurate or misleading.*

*In addition, the Issuer shall identify the source(s) of the information.]*

#### 6. [INTERESTS OF NATURAL AND LEGAL PERSONS INVOLVED IN THE [ISSUE/OFFER]

Need to include a description of any interest, including conflicting ones, that is material to the issue/offer, detailing the persons involved and the nature of the interest. May be satisfied by the inclusion of the following statement :

So far as the Issuer is aware, no person involved in the offer of the Notes has an interest material to the offer.]/[•]

*[(When adding any other description, consideration should be given as to whether such matters described constitute "significant new factors" and consequently trigger the need for a supplement to the Prospectus under Article 16 of the Prospectus Directive.)]*

#### 7. REASONS FOR THE OFFER, ESTIMATED NET PROCEEDS AND TOTAL EXPENSES

(i) Reasons for the offer [•]

(ii) Estimated net proceeds: [•]

(iii) Estimated total expenses: [•]

*(If the Notes are derivative securities to which Annex 12 of the Prospectus Directive Regulation applies, it is only necessary to include disclosure of net proceeds and total expenses at (ii) and (iii) above where disclosure is included at (i) above.)<sup>9</sup>*

**8. [Fixed Rate Notes only – YIELD**

Indication of yield: [•]

The yield is calculated at the Issue Date on the basis of the Issue Price. It is not an indication of future yield. ]

**9. [INDEX-LINKED OR OTHER VARIABLE-LINKED NOTES ONLY – PERFORMANCE OF INDEX/FORMULA/OTHER VARIABLE, EXPLANATION OF EFFECT ON VALUE OF INVESTMENT AND ASSOCIATED RISKS AND OTHER INFORMATION CONCERNING THE UNDERLYING<sup>10</sup>**

*[Need to include details of where past and future performance and volatility of the index/formula/other variable can be obtained. Where the underlying is an index need to include the name of the index and a description if composed by the Issuer and if the index is not composed by the Issuer need to include details of where the information about the index can be obtained. Where the underlying is not an index need to include equivalent information. Include other information concerning the underlying required by Paragraph 4.2 of Annex XII of the Prospectus Directive Regulation.*

*[(When completing this paragraph, consideration should be given as to whether such matters described constitute “significant new factors” and consequently trigger the need for a supplement to the Prospectus under Article 16 of the Prospectus Directive.)]*

**10. [DUAL CURRENCY NOTES ONLY – PERFORMANCE OF RATE[S] OF EXCHANGE AND EXPLANATION OF EFFECT ON VALUE OF INVESTMENT]<sup>11</sup>**

*[Need to include details of where past and future performance and volatility of the relevant rate[s] can be obtained.*

*[(When completing this paragraph, consideration should be given as to whether such matters described constitute “significant new factors” and consequently trigger the need for a supplement to the Prospectus under Article 16 of the Prospectus Directive.)]*

**11. [Derivatives only – EXPLANATION OF EFFECT ON VALUE OF INVESTMENT, RETURN ON DERIVATIVES SECURITIES AND INFORMATION CONCERNING THE UNDERLYING SETTLEMENT PROCEDURES FOR DERIVATIVE SECURITIES**

*Need to include a description of the settlement procedures of the derivative securities.*

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<sup>9</sup> Required for derivative securities to which Annex XII to the Prospectus Directive Regulation applies. See footnote \*\* above.

<sup>10</sup> For derivative securities to which Annex XII to the Prospectus Directive Regulation applies, please complete instead paragraph 11 below relating to explanation of effect on value of investment, return on derivatives securities and information concerning the underlying.

<sup>11</sup> For derivative securities to which Annex XII to the Prospectus Directive Regulation applies, please complete instead paragraph 11 below relating to explanation of effect on value of investment, return on derivatives securities and information concerning the underlying.

## RETURN ON DERIVATIVES SECURITIES

Return on derivative securities: *[Description of how any return on derivative securities takes place]*

Payment or delivery date: [•]

Method of calculation: [•]

## INFORMATION CONCERNING THE UNDERLYING

The exercise price or the final reference price of the underlying: [•]

A statement setting out the type of the underlying and details of where information on the underlying can be obtained:

- an indication where information about the past and the further performance of the underlying and its volatility can be obtained [•]

- where the underlying is a security: [Applicable/Not Applicable]

- the name of the issuer of the security: [•]

- the ISIN (International Security Identification Number) or other such security identification code: [•]

- where the underlying is an index: [Applicable/Not Applicable]

- the name of the index and a description of the index if it is composed by the issuer. If the index is not composed by the issuer, where information about the index can be obtained: [•]

- where the underlying is an interest rate: [Applicable/Not Applicable]

- a description of the interest rate: [•]

- others: [Applicable/Not Applicable]

- where the underlying does not fall within the categories specified above the securities note shall contain equivalent information: [•]

- where the underlying is a basket of underlyings: [Applicable/Not Applicable]

- disclosure of the relevant weightings of each underlying in the basket: [•]

A description of any market disruption or settlement disruption events that affect the underlying: [•]

Adjustment rules with relation to events concerning the underlying: [•]

## OTHER

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\* Only applicable in case of derivative securities to which Annex 12 to the Prospectus Directive Regulation applies.



Name and address of Calculation Agent: [●]

[Information on taxes on the income from the Notes withheld at source in the country where admission to trading (other than in Luxembourg) is sought:

[●]]

## 12. [Derivatives only – POST ISSUANCE INFORMATION CONCERNING THE UNDERLYING

The Issuer does not intend to provide post-issuance information, if not otherwise required by all applicable laws and regulations.

[If post issuance information has to be reported, specify what information will be reported and where such information can be obtained.]

## 13. OPERATIONAL INFORMATION

ISIN Code: [●]

Common Code: [●]

Depositories:

(i) Euroclear France to act as [Yes/No]  
Central Depository

(ii) Common Depository for [Yes/No]  
Euroclear Bank and  
Clearstream Banking, *société  
anonyme*

Any clearing system(s) other than [Not Applicable/give name(s) and number(s)]  
Euroclear Bank S.A./N.V. and  
Clearstream Banking, *société anonyme*  
and the relevant identification  
number(s):

Delivery: Delivery [against/free of] payment

Names and addresses of initial Paying [●]  
Agent(s):

Names and addresses of additional [●]  
Paying Agent(s) (if any):

## [PLACING AND UNDERWRITING]\*

*Need to include:*

- (i) The name and address of the co-ordinator(s) of the global offer and of single parts of the offer;<sup>12</sup>*
- (ii) The name and address of any paying agents and depository agents in each country (in addition to the Principal Paying Agent);*
- (iii) The names of entities agreeing to underwrite the issue on a firm commitment basis, and entities agreeing to place the issue without a firm commitment or under best efforts arrangements\*\* and*
- (iv) Indicate when the underwriting agreement has been or will be reached.*

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\* Required for derivative securities to which Annex XII to the Prospectus Directive Regulation applies.

<sup>12</sup>To the extent known to the Issuer, of the placers in the various countries where the offer takes place.

## TAXATION

*The following is a summary limited to certain tax considerations in France, in Luxembourg and in the European Union relating to the Notes that may be issued under the Programme and specifically contains information on taxes on the income from the securities withheld at source. This summary is based on the laws in force in France and in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg as of the date of this Base Prospectus and is subject to any changes in law. It does not purport to be a comprehensive description of all the tax considerations which may be relevant to a decision to purchase, own or dispose of the Notes. Each prospective holder or beneficial owner of Notes should consult its tax advisor as to the tax consequences of any investment in or ownership and disposition of the Notes and should not apply information set out below to other areas including (but not limited to) the legality of transactions involving the Notes.*

### **French Withholding Tax**

The EC Council Directive 2003/48/EC of 3 June 2003 on taxation of savings income in the form of interest payments (see section "**EU Savings Directive**" below) has been implemented in French law by Article 242 *ter* of the French *Code Général des Impôts* and Articles 49 I *ter* to 49 I *sexies* of the Schedule III to French *Code Général des Impôts*. Article 242 *ter* of the French *Code Général des Impôts*, imposes on paying agents based in France an obligation to report to the French tax authorities certain information with respect to interest payments made to beneficial owners domiciled in another Member State, including, among other things, the identity and address of the beneficial owner and a detailed list of the different categories of interest paid to that beneficial owner.

Pursuant to Article 131 *quater* of the French *Code Général des Impôts*, as construed by administrative circular no. 5 I-11-98 dated 30 September 1998 and ruling (*rescrit*) no. 2007/59 (FP) dated 8 January 2008, both issued by the French Tax Authorities, payments of interest and other revenues to be made by the Issuer to non-French tax residents in respect of Notes constituting *obligations* or debt instruments (*titres de créances*) assimilated thereto for French tax purposes benefit from the exemption from deduction of tax at source otherwise provided for under Article 125 A III of the French *Code Général des Impôts*.

The tax regime applicable to Notes which do not constitute *obligations* or debt instruments (*titres de créances*) assimilated thereto for French tax purposes will be set out in the relevant Final Terms.

### **Luxembourg taxation**

#### ***Withholding Tax***

All payments of interest and principal by the Issuer in the context of the holding, disposal, redemption or repurchase of the Notes can be made free and clear of any withholding or deduction for or on account of any taxes of whatsoever nature imposed, levied, withheld, or assessed by Luxembourg or any political subdivision or taxing authority thereof or therein, in accordance with the applicable Luxembourg law, subject however to:

- (i) the application of the Luxembourg laws of 21 June 2005 implementing the EU Savings Directive (Council Directive 2003/48/EC) and several agreements concluded with certain dependent or associated territories and providing for the possible application of a withholding tax (15% from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2008, 20% from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2011 and 35% from 1 July 2011) on interest paid to certain non Luxembourg resident investors (individuals and certain types of entities called "residual entities") in the event of the Issuer appointing a paying agent in Luxembourg within the meaning of the above-mentioned directive (see section "**EU Savings Directive**" below) or agreements;
- (ii) the application as regards Luxembourg resident individuals of the Luxembourg law of 23 December 2005 which has introduced a 10% final withholding tax on savings income (i.e. with certain exemptions, savings income within the meaning of the Luxembourg law of 21 June 2005 implementing the EU Savings Directive). This law should apply to savings income accrued as from 1 July 2005 and paid as from 1 January 2006.

Responsibility for the withholding of tax in application of the above-mentioned Luxembourg laws of 21 June 2005 and 23 December 2005 is assumed by the Luxembourg paying agent within the meaning of these laws and not by the Issuer.

### *EU Savings Directive*

On 3 June 2003, the EU Council of Economic and Finance Ministers adopted the EU Savings Directive. The EU Savings Directive is, in principle, applied by Member States as from 1 July 2005 and has been implemented in Luxembourg by the Laws of 21 June 2005. Under the directive, each Member State is required to provide to the tax authorities of another Member State details of payments of interest or other similar income within the meaning of the EU Savings Directive paid by a paying agent within the meaning of the EU Savings Directive, to an individual resident or certain types of entities called "residual entities", within the meaning of the EU Savings Directive (the "**Residual Entities**"), established in that other Member State (or certain dependent or associated territories). For a transitional period, however, Austria, Belgium and Luxembourg are permitted to apply an optional information reporting system whereby if a beneficial owner, within the meaning of the EU Savings Directive, does not comply with one of two procedures for information reporting, the relevant Member State will levy a withholding tax on payments to such beneficial owner. The withholding tax system will apply for a transitional period during which the rate of the withholding will be of 15% from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2008, 20% from 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2011 and 35% as from 1 July 2011. The transitional period is to terminate at the end of first full fiscal year following agreement by certain non-EU countries to the exchange of information relating to such payments. See "European Union Directive on the Taxation of Savings Income in the Form of Interest Payments" (Council Directive 2003/48/EC).

Also with effect from 1 July 2005, a number of non-EU countries (Switzerland, Andorra, Liechtenstein, Monaco and San Marino) and certain dependent or associated territories (Jersey, Guernsey, Isle of Man, Montserrat, British Virgin Islands, Netherlands Antilles and Aruba) have agreed to adopt similar measures (either provision of information or transitional withholding) in relation to payments made by a paying agent (within the meaning of the EU Savings Directive) established within such countries or territories to, or collected by such a paying agent for, an individual resident or a Residual Entity established in a Member State. In addition, Member States have entered into reciprocal provision of information or transitional withholding arrangements with those dependent or associated territories in relation to payments made by a paying agent established in a Member State to, or collected by such a paying agent for, an individual resident or a Residual Entity established in one of those territories.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

- (1) The Issuer does not publish any interim financial statements.
- (2) The Issuer has obtained all necessary consents, approvals and authorisations in France in connection with the update of the Programme. Any issuance of Notes under the Programme, to the extent that such Notes constitute *obligations* under French law, require the prior authorisation of the *Conseil d'Administration* of the Issuer in accordance with article L.228-40 of the French *Code de commerce*. For this purpose the Board of Directors (*Conseil d'Administration*) of the Issuer has delegated by a resolution passed on 23 April 2008 to its *Directeur Général* Pierre Anjolras, all powers to issue *obligations* and to determine their Final Terms and conditions, up to a maximum aggregate amount of € 3,000,000,000 within a period of one year as from the date of such resolution. Any drawdown of Notes, to the extent that such Notes do not constitute *obligations* under French law, fall within the general powers of the *directeur général* or a *directeur général délégué* of the Issuer.
- (3) Notes have been accepted for clearance through the Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg systems which are entities in charge of keeping the records. The Common Code and the International Securities Identification Number (ISIN) or the identification number for any other relevant clearing system for each Series of Notes will be set out in the relevant Final Terms.  
  
The address of Euroclear is 1 boulevard du Roi Albert II, 1210 Bruxelles, Belgium and the address of Clearstream, Luxembourg is 42 avenue John Fitzgerald Kennedy, L-1855 Luxembourg, Grand-Duchy of Luxembourg.
- (4) Dematerialised Notes will be inscribed in the books of Euroclear France (acting as central depository). Dematerialised Notes which are in registered form (*au nominatif*) are also inscribed either with the Issuer or with the registration agent.  
  
The address of Euroclear France is 115, rue Réaumur, 75081 Paris Cedex 02, France.
- (5) The name and address of the Issuer's auditors having audited the Issuer's financial statements for the two years ended 31 December 2006 and 31 December 2007 are set out in "Description of the Issuer – Statutory Auditors" above.
- (6) Save as disclosed in this Base Prospectus, there has been no material adverse change in the prospects of the Issuer since 31 December 2007.
- (7) The Issuer does not intend to provide any post-issuance information in relation to any assets underlying issues of Notes constituting derivative securities.
- (8) Except as disclosed in this Base Prospectus (see above "Recent Developments"), there has been no significant change in the financial or trading position of Autoroutes du Sud de la France since the date of its last published audited financial statements dated 31 December 2007.
- (9) Save as disclosed in this Base Prospectus (including the documents incorporated by reference), the Issuer did not conclude any material contract not entered into in the ordinary course of its business, which could result in any group member being under an obligation or entitlement that is material to the Issuer's ability to meet its obligation to security holders in respect of the securities being issued.
- (10) Save as disclosed in this Base Prospectus (including the documents incorporated by reference), the Issuer is or has not been involved in any governmental, legal or arbitration proceedings (including any such proceedings which are pending and threatened of which the Issuer is aware) in the 12 months preceeding the date of this Base Prospectus which may have or have had in the recent past, significant effects on the Issuer's financial position or profitability.
- (11) The Board of Directors (*Conseil d'Administration*) elects domicile at the registered office of the Issuer. The address of this office is 9, place de l'Europe, 92851 Rueil-Malmaison cedex, France.

**Registered Office of the Issuer**

**Autoroutes du Sud de la France**  
9, place de l'Europe  
92851 Rueil-Malmaison cedex  
France

**Arranger**

**Natixis**  
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75013 Paris  
France

**Dealers**

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London E14 4BB  
United Kingdom

**BNP PARIBAS**

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United Kingdom

**Dresdner Bank Aktiengesellschaft**

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Germany

**HSBC Bank plc**

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United Kingdom

**Natixis**

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France

**The Royal Bank of Scotland plc**

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United Kingdom

**Bayerische Landesbank**

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80333 Munich  
Germany

**CALYON**

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**Fortis Bank NV/SA**

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1000 Brussels  
Belgium

**J.P. Morgan Securities Ltd.**

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London EC2Y 5AJ  
United Kingdom

**Société Générale**

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75009 Paris  
France

**UBS Limited**

1 Finsbury Avenue  
London EC2M 2PP  
United Kingdom

**Fiscal Agent, Principal Paying Agent, Redenomination Agent,  
Consolidation Agent and Calculation Agent**

**Fortis Banque Luxembourg SA**

50, avenue John Fitzgerald Kennedy  
L-2955 Luxembourg  
Luxembourg

**Paying Agents**

**Listing Agent, Paris Paying Agent and Luxembourg Paying Agent**

**Fortis Banque Luxembourg SA**  
50, avenue John Fitzgerald Kennedy  
L-2955 Luxembourg  
Luxembourg

**Auditors to the Issuer**

**KPMG Audit**  
1, cours Valmy  
92923 Paris La Défense Cedex  
France

**Deloitte & Associés**  
185, avenue Charles de Gaulle  
92524 Neuilly sur Seine  
France

**Legal Advisers**

**To the Issuer**  
**Clifford Chance Europe LLP**  
9, Place Vendôme  
75001 Paris  
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**To the Arranger and the Dealers**  
**Gide Loyrette Nouel A.A.R.P.I.**  
26, cours Albert 1er  
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