



**European
Investment
Bank**

£309,000,000

Zero Coupon Euro-Fungible Notes due 2038

(to be consolidated and form a single series with the existing £205,000,000 Zero Coupon Euro-Fungible Notes due 2038 issued on 1st April, 1999)

Issue Price: 24.25 per cent.

Application has been made to list the Notes on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange.

The Notes will, unless previously redeemed or purchased and cancelled, be redeemed according to the schedule set out in Condition 4 with the last payment being made on 15th March, 2038.

The Notes will from 26th April, 2001 (the "Closing Date") be represented by a Permanent Global Note which is expected to be deposited with a common depositary for Euroclear Bank S.A./N.V., as operator of the Euroclear System ("Euroclear") and Clearstream Banking, société anonyme ("Clearstream, Luxembourg") on the Closing Date and which will be exchangeable for definitive Notes, in the limited circumstances set out in such Global Note and described under "Summary of Provisions relating to the Notes while in Global Form" below.

On the Closing Date, the Notes will be consolidated with the existing £205,000,000 Zero Coupon Euro-Fungible Notes due 2038 issued on 1st April, 1999 (the "Existing Notes") so as to form a single series therewith.

Barclays Capital

26th April, 2001

European Investment Bank (“EIB”), having made all reasonable enquiries, confirms that this Offering Circular contains all information with regard to EIB and the Notes which is material in the context of the Notes, that such information is true and accurate in all material respects and is not misleading, that the opinions and intentions expressed herein are honestly held and that there are no other facts the omission of which makes this Offering Circular as a whole or any of such information or the expression of any such opinions or intentions misleading. EIB accepts responsibility accordingly.

No person has been authorised to give any information or to make any representations, unless contained in this document, in connection with the issue, purchase or sale of the Notes and any information or representations not contained herein must not be relied upon as having been authorised by EIB.

Neither the delivery of this document nor any purchase, offering or sale made in connection herewith shall, under any circumstances, constitute a representation or create any implication that there has been no change since the date of this document in the affairs of EIB or that other information contained herein has remained accurate and complete.

The distribution of this Offering Circular and the offering or sale of the Notes in certain jurisdictions may be restricted by law. Persons into whose possession this Offering Circular comes are required by EIB and the Manager to inform themselves about and to observe any such restrictions. For a description of certain restrictions on offers and sales of Notes and on distribution of this Offering Circular see “Subscription and Sale” below.

References herein to “Pounds Sterling” or “£” are to the currency of the United Kingdom. References herein to “euro” or “EUR” are to the currency introduced at the start of the third stage of the economic and monetary union pursuant to the Treaty establishing the European Community, as amended by the Treaty on European Union and as amended by the Treaty of Amsterdam.

In connection with this issue, Barclays Bank PLC may over-allot or effect transactions which stabilise or maintain the market price of the Notes at a level which might not otherwise prevail. Such stabilising, if commenced, may be discontinued at any time.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
Terms and Conditions of the Notes	3
Summary of Provisions relating to the Notes while in Global Form.....	7
Use of Proceeds.....	8
Subscription and Sale	9
General Information	10

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE NOTES

There follows the text of the Terms and Conditions to which (subject to completion and amendment) the Notes will be subject:

The Zero Coupon Euro-Fungible Notes due 15th March, 2038 of European Investment Bank ("EIB") in an aggregate principal amount of £514,000,000 of which £205,000,000 were issued on 1st April, 1999 (the "Existing Notes") and £309,000,000 are issued on 26th April, 2001 (the "Further Notes"). The Existing Notes and the Further Notes are referred to as the "Notes". The Existing Notes have the benefit of a Fiscal and Paying Agency Agreement dated 1st April, 1999 (the "Principal Agency Agreement") made between EIB, Barclays Bank PLC and Dexia Banque Internationale à Luxembourg as amended by an Agreement of Resignation, Appointment and Acceptance dated 3rd April, 2000 made between EIB, Barclays Bank PLC and The Bank of New York. The Further Notes have the benefit of the Principal Agency Agreement and a First Supplemental Fiscal and Paying Agency Agreement dated 26th April, 2001 made between EIB, The Bank of New York and Dexia Banque Internationale à Luxembourg. The Principal Paying Agency Agreement and the First Supplemental Fiscal and Paying Agency Agreement are referred as the "Fiscal and Paying Agency Agreement". The fiscal agent and principal paying agent and the paying agents for the time being are referred to below respectively as the "Fiscal Agent" and the "Paying Agents" (which expression shall include the Fiscal Agent). Certain statements in these Terms and Conditions are summaries of, and are subject to, the detailed provisions of the Fiscal and Paying Agency Agreement. Copies of the Fiscal and Paying Agency Agreement are available for inspection at the specified offices of the Paying Agents. The holders of the Notes are entitled to the benefit of, are bound by, and are deemed to have notice of, all the provisions of the Fiscal and Paying Agency Agreement.

1. Form, Denomination and Title

The aggregate principal amount of the Notes is £309,000,000. The Notes are issued in bearer form in the denomination of £1,000,000 with Receipts (the "Receipts") for payment of instalments of principal attached. Title to the Notes will pass by delivery. Receipts may not be transferred separate from the Notes to which they appertain. EIB and the Paying Agents may deem and treat the bearer of each Note and Receipt to be the absolute owner thereof for the purpose of making payments and for all other purposes.

2. Redenomination

EIB may, without the consent of the holders of the Notes, on giving at least 30 days' prior notice to the holders of the Notes elect that, with effect from any date as may be specified in that notice (the "Redenomination Date") falling on or after the date on which the United Kingdom becomes one of the countries participating in the third stage of economic and monetary union pursuant to the Treaty establishing the European Community, each Note and Receipt shall be deemed to be denominated in such amount of euro as is equivalent to its denomination in Pounds Sterling, converted into euro at the rate for the conversion of Pounds Sterling (including compliance with rules relating to roundings in accordance with applicable European Community regulations) into euro established by the Council of the European Union as determined at that time. Such amount shall be rounded down to the nearest integral multiple of euro 17. Any fraction of euro 17 arising therefrom shall be paid to the holder on the Redemption Date (as defined in Condition 4) following the Redenomination Date. On and after the Redenomination Date all payments in respect of the Notes and Receipts will be made solely in euro.

"euro" means the currency introduced at the start of the third stage of economic and monetary union pursuant to the Treaty establishing the European Community.

In addition, EIB may, without the consent of the holders of the Notes, on giving not less than 30 days' prior notice to the holders of the Notes, elect that with effect from the Redenomination Date, the denomination of the Notes shall be euro 17, euro 1,000 and euro 100,000. In such event, the then existing euro-denominated Notes (the "Original Notes") shall be exchangeable at the specified office of the Fiscal Agent, and at the specified offices of the Paying Agents, for Notes of such new denominations ("New Notes") having the same aggregate principal amount as the Original Notes so exchanged.

References in the terms and conditions to any business day, day-count fraction or other convention (whether for the calculation of the redemption amount, Amortisation Yield, determination of the payment date or otherwise) shall, if different, with effect from the Redenomination Date, be deemed to be amended to comply with any conventions applicable to euro-denominated obligations pursuant to applicable requirements of relevant monetary, stock exchange or other authorities, applicable European Community and national laws and regulations and such market practices consistent therewith as the Fiscal Agent, in its discretion, shall determine to be applicable for the redenomination and exchange of Eurobonds held in international clearing systems and these terms and conditions shall be deemed to be amended accordingly.

Any such redenomination and exchange of Notes shall be subject in all cases to compliance with all applicable requirements of relevant monetary, stock exchange or other authorities, applicable European Community and national laws and regulations and such market practices consistent therewith as the Fiscal Agent, in its discretion, shall determine to be applicable for the redenomination and exchange of Eurobonds held in international clearing systems and these terms and conditions shall be deemed to be amended accordingly.

Upon any change to these terms and conditions pursuant to a redenomination or exchange, notice thereof will be given to holders of Notes in accordance with Condition 10.

Determinations made by the Fiscal Agent will, in the absence of manifest error, be conclusive and binding on EIB and the holders of Notes.

3. Interest

There shall be no periodic payment of interest on the Notes.

4. Redemption and Purchase

Unless previously redeemed or purchased and cancelled as described herein, EIB will redeem each Note in instalments (each an "Instalment") on the dates set out below (each a "Redemption Date") such that, immediately following payment of such Instalment the outstanding principal amount of each Note then outstanding will be equal to the percentage of the outstanding original principal amount of each Note set out below:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Outstanding principal amount of each Note (expressed as a percentage of the original outstanding principal amount of the Notes.)</i>
15th March, 2022	94.117647
15th March, 2023	88.235294
15th March, 2024	82.352941
15th March, 2025	76.470588
15th March, 2026	70.588235
15th March, 2027	64.705882
15th March, 2028	58.823529
15th March, 2029	52.941177
15th March, 2030	47.058824
15th March, 2031	41.176471
15th March, 2032	35.294118
15th March, 2033	29.411765
15th March, 2034	23.529412
15th March, 2035	17.647059
15th March, 2036	11.764706
15th March, 2037	5.882353
15th March, 2038	0

EIB shall have the right at any time to purchase Notes in the open market or otherwise. Any Notes so purchased may be resold at EIB's discretion, if not surrendered, together with any unmatured Receipts appertaining thereto to the Fiscal Agent for cancellation.

5. Payments

Payments of instalments of principal will be made to the bearer against surrender of the relevant Receipt, and in the case of the last Instalment, against surrender of the relevant Note at the specified office of any of the Paying Agents for the time being. The specified offices of the initial Paying Agents appear below. Each Receipt must be presented for payment of the relevant Instalment together with the definitive Note to which it appertains. Receipts presented without the definitive Note to which they appertain do not constitute valid obligations of EIB.

Payments (if any) made before the Redenomination Date will be made in Pounds Sterling by cheque drawn on, or by credit or transfer to a Pounds Sterling account specified by the payee with, a bank in the United Kingdom. Payments (if any) made on or after the Redenomination Date will be made in euro by credit or

transfer to a euro account (or any other account to which euro may be credited or transferred) specified by the payee.

Payments will be subject in all cases to any fiscal or other laws and regulations applicable thereto. Consequently neither EIB nor any Paying Agent will make any additional payments in the event of a withholding being required in respect of any payment under or in connection with the Notes.

If any day for payment of principal in respect of any Note or Receipt is not a day on which banks are open for business and carrying out transactions in Pounds Sterling or euro (as the case may be) in the place where it is presented for payment, credit or transfer instructions in respect of such payments shall not be given and (in the case of payments in Pounds Sterling) cheques will not be drawn until the next day in such place on which they are so open and the holder shall not be entitled to any interest or other sums in respect of such postponed payment. Neither EIB nor any Paying Agent shall be liable to any holder of a Note or Receipt or other person for any commissions, costs, losses or expenses in relation to or resulting from such credit or transfer or any currency conversion or rounding effected in connection therewith.

EIB reserves the right at any time to vary or terminate the appointment of the Fiscal Agent or any other Paying Agent and to appoint another fiscal agent or additional or other paying agents provided that it will at all times while any Note is outstanding maintain (i) a fiscal agent; and (ii) so long as the Notes are listed on any stock exchange and if the rules of that stock exchange so require, a paying agent having a specified office in the city of that stock exchange. Notice of any such termination or appointment and of any changes in the specified office of any Paying Agent will be given to the Noteholders in accordance with Condition 10.

6. Status of the Notes and Negative Pledge

The Notes will be unconditional, direct and general obligations of EIB in accordance with their terms for their payment and performance. The Notes will rank *pari passu* with any present or future indebtedness of EIB represented by any unsubordinated notes, bonds or other securities, except indebtedness (i) incurred for all or part of the purchase price of property purchased by EIB and (ii) secured by any mortgage, pledge or other security interest on such property but otherwise ranking *pari passu* with the Notes. If EIB shall in the future secure any such present or future indebtedness by any mortgage, pledge or other security interest on any of its present or future assets or revenues (other than mortgages, pledges or security interests on property purchased by EIB as security for all or part of the purchase price), the Notes will be secured by such mortgage, pledge or other security interest equally and rateably with such indebtedness, and the instrument creating such mortgage, pledge or other security interest will expressly so provide.

7. Default

The holder of any Note may, by written notice to EIB delivered before all defaults shall have been remedied, cause such Note to become due and payable at its redemption amount (calculated as provided below) as of the date on which the said notice of acceleration is received by EIB in the event that:

- 7.1 EIB shall default in the due performance of any of its obligations in respect of the Notes and such default shall continue for a period of 30 days after written notice thereof shall have been given by the holder of any Note to EIB at its office at 100 Boulevard Konrad Adenauer, L-2950 Luxembourg or at such other address as shall be notified to the holders of the Notes in accordance with Condition 10; or
- 7.2 any other indebtedness of EIB for borrowed money shall become due and payable prior to the stated maturity thereof as a result of a default thereunder or any such indebtedness shall not be paid at the maturity thereof as extended by any applicable grace period therefor or any guarantee given by EIB for borrowed money shall not be honoured within 30 days when due and called upon in accordance with its terms.

The redemption amount of any Note shall be the outstanding principal amount of such Note discounted at a rate per annum (expressed as a percentage) equal to the Accrual Yield compounded annually. Where such calculation is to be made for a period of less than one whole year it shall be made on the basis of the actual number of days elapsed in the relevant part of the year (the "Relevant Period"), divided by the actual number of days in the full year which the Relevant Period forms part. "Accrual Yield" means 6.3587 per cent. In such case any unmatured Receipts appertaining to such Notes shall be null and void.

8. Replacement of Notes and Receipts

In the case of theft, loss or other involuntary dispossession or mutilation of any Note or Receipt, application for replacement thereof is to be made at the principal office of the Fiscal Agent. Any such Note or Receipt shall be replaced by EIB in compliance with such procedures and on such terms as to evidence and

indemnification as EIB and the Fiscal Agent may require. Subject to applicable stock exchange regulations, all such costs as may be incurred in connection with the replacement of any such Note or Receipt shall be borne by the applicant. Mutilated Notes or Receipts must be surrendered before new ones will be issued.

9. Prescription

Any amount payable on the Notes or Receipts will cease to be payable after ten years from the due date for payment thereof.

10. Notices

Any notice to holders of Notes shall be validly given if published in the *Luxemburger Wort* (Luxembourg) and the *Financial Times* (United Kingdom) and such other newspapers or publications as may be required by the rules of the stock exchange(s) on which the Notes may from time to time be listed or, if any such newspaper or publication shall cease to be published or timely publication therein shall not be practicable, in such other newspapers as the Fiscal Agent shall deem necessary to give fair and reasonable notice to holders of Notes. Any such notice shall be deemed to have been given on the date of the last publication provided above.

11. Further Issues and Consolidation

EIB may from time to time, without the consent of the holders of the Notes, create and issue further notes so as to be consolidated and form a single issue with the Notes.

EIB may also from time to time, without the consent of the holders of the Notes, consolidate the Notes with one or more issues of other notes issued by it, whether or not originally issued in Pounds Sterling or euro, provided that such other notes have been redenominated in euro (if not originally denominated in euro) and otherwise have, in respect of all periods subsequent to such consolidation, the same terms and conditions as the Notes.

The relevant Fiscal and Paying Agency Agreement(s) will be amended accordingly.

12. Governing Law and Jurisdiction

The Notes are governed by, and shall be construed in accordance with, the laws of the Grand-Duchy of Luxembourg. Claims against EIB thereunder may be brought before any competent court in Luxembourg or any other country where EIB shall hereafter have its legal seat.

SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE NOTES WHILE IN GLOBAL FORM

The Global Note contains provisions which apply to the Notes while they are in global form, some of which modify the effect of the terms and conditions of the Notes set out in this document. The following is a summary of certain of those provisions:

1. Exchange

The Global Note is exchangeable in whole but not, except as provided in the next paragraph, in part (free of charge to the holder) for the Definitive Notes with attached Receipts described below (i) if the Global Note is held on behalf of a clearing system and such clearing system is closed for business for a continuous period of 14 days (other than by reason of holidays, statutory or otherwise) or announces an intention permanently to cease business or does in fact do so, (ii) if principal or the redemption amount payable pursuant to Condition 7 in respect of any Notes or Receipts is not paid when due and payable or (iii) if EIB would suffer a material disadvantage in respect of the Notes as a result of a change in laws or regulations which would not be suffered were the Notes in definitive form and a certificate to such effect signed by EIB is delivered to the Fiscal Agent for display to Noteholders, (unless a default notice has been given as referred to in "Default" below). Thereupon (in the case of (i) and (ii) above) the holder may give notice to the Fiscal Agent, and (in the case of (iii) above) EIB may give notice to the Fiscal Agent and the Noteholders, of its intention to exchange the Global Note for Definitive Notes and Receipts on or after the Exchange Date specified in the notice.

If principal or the redemption amount payable pursuant to Condition 7 in respect of any Notes or Receipts is not paid when due and payable, the holder of the Global Note may by notice to the Fiscal Agent (which may but need not be the default notice referred to in "Default" below) require the exchange of a specified principal amount of the Global Note (which may be equal to or (provided that, if the Global Note is held by or on behalf of a clearing system, that clearing system agrees) less than the outstanding principal amount of Notes represented thereby) for Definitive Notes and Receipts on or after the Exchange Date (as defined below) specified in such notice.

On or after any Exchange Date (as defined below) the holder of the Global Note may surrender the Global Note or, in the case of a partial exchange, present it for endorsement to or to the order of the Fiscal Agent. In exchange for the Global Note, or the part thereof to be exchanged, EIB will deliver, or procure the delivery of, an equal aggregate principal amount of duly executed Definitive Notes and Receipts, security printed in accordance with any applicable legal and stock exchange requirements and in or substantially in the form set out in Schedule 1 to the First Supplemental Fiscal and Paying Agency Agreement. On exchange in full of the Global Note, EIB will, if the holder so requests, procure that it is cancelled and returned to the holder together with any relevant Definitive Notes and Receipts.

"Exchange Date" means a day falling not less than 60 days, or in the case of exchange pursuant to (ii) above 30 days, after that on which the notice requiring exchange is given and on which banks are open for business in the city in which the specified office of the Fiscal Agent is located and, except in the case of exchange pursuant to (i) above, in the cities in which the relevant clearing system is located.

2. Payments

Payments in respect of Notes represented by the Global Note will be made against presentation for endorsement and, if no further payment falls to be made in respect of the Notes, surrender of the Global Note to or to the order of the Fiscal Agent or such other Paying Agent as shall have been notified to the Noteholders for such purpose. A record of each payment so made will be endorsed in the appropriate schedule to the Global Note, which endorsement will be *prima facie* evidence that such payment has been made in respect of the Notes.

3. Notices

So long as the Notes are represented by the Global Note and the Global Note is held on behalf of a clearing system, notices to Noteholders may be given by delivery of the relevant notice to that clearing system for communication by it to entitled accountholders in substitution for publication as required by the Conditions except that so long as the Notes are listed on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange and the rules of that stock exchange so require, notices shall also be published in a leading newspaper having general circulation in Luxembourg (which is expected to be the *Luxemburger Wort*) and so long as the Notes may be listed on any other stock exchange notices will be published in such manner as the rules of that stock exchange may require.

4. Purchase and Cancellation

Cancellation of any Note to be cancelled following its purchase will be effected by reduction of the outstanding principal amount of the Global Note by an amount equal to the outstanding principal amount of the Note to be cancelled.

5. Default

The Global Note provides that the holder may cause the Global Note or a portion of it to become due and payable in the circumstances and at the redemption amount described in Condition 7 by stating in the notice to EIB the principal amount of Notes which is being declared due and payable.

6. Redenomination and Consolidation

On the Redenomination Date the Notes shall become New Notes without the need for the Global Note to be presented for exchange.

On consolidation of the Notes, EIB may issue a replacement Global Note in exchange for the global notes of the issues consolidated. The relevant clearing systems may, in such circumstances, require a change of the common depositary.

USE OF PROCEEDS

The net proceeds of the sale of the Notes, which will amount to approximately £74,932,500, will be used in the general operations of EIB.

SUBSCRIPTION AND SALE

Barclays Bank PLC (the “Manager”) has, pursuant to a Subscription Agreement dated 26th April, 2001, agreed with EIB, subject to the satisfaction of certain conditions, to subscribe for the Notes at an issue price of 24.25 per cent. of the principal amount of the Notes. The Subscription Agreement entitles the Manager to terminate the Subscription Agreement in certain circumstances prior to payment to EIB.

No action is being taken by EIB or the Manager to permit a public offering of the Notes, or the distribution of any document, in or from any jurisdiction where action would be required for such purposes. Accordingly, the Notes may not be directly or indirectly offered or sold or any offering circular, prospectus, form of application, advertisement or other offering material distributed or published in any country or jurisdiction except in compliance with any applicable laws or regulations. In particular, no representation is made that the Notes may lawfully be sold in compliance with any applicable registration requirements and neither EIB nor the Manager assumes any responsibility for facilitating such sales.

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. The issue of the Notes was duly authorised by EIB pursuant to an authorisation of its Board of Directors on 5th December, 2000 and in compliance with procedures laid down by its Management Committee.

2. The Notes have been accepted for clearance through Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg (Common Code 9605622). The ISIN of the Notes is XS0096056220.

No action has been taken by EIB to permit clearance through other clearing systems in European Community member states, either before or after a redenomination of the Notes. Such clearance would be dependent on the clearing system having appropriate links with Cedelbank and Euroclear and, in any event, would be effected in accordance with all applicable requirements of relevant monetary, stock exchange or other authorities and applicable European Community and national laws and regulations.

3. Application has been made for the Notes initially to be listed on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange. Application may also be made to list the Notes on one or more other Stock Exchanges in the European Community after the Redenomination Date (as defined above in the Terms and Conditions of the Notes).
4. EIB's 1999 Annual Report and EIB's statute are incorporated herein by reference. Copies of EIB's Statute and of the Fiscal and Paying Agreement will be available for inspection by holders of the Notes at the specified offices of the Fiscal Agent in London and Paying Agent in Luxembourg during the life of the Notes. In addition, copies of the annual reports of EIB may be obtained by holders of the Notes at the said offices during such period.

5. The Board of Governors of EIB has, in the Annual Meeting held on 5th June, 2000, decided:

- 5.1 to make available a second EUR 1 billion to provide risk capital funding benefiting high-technology small and medium-sized enterprise investments, to be allocated from the EIB's annual surpluses between 1999 and 2002;

- 5.2 to rationalise the respective activities of the EIB and the European Investment Fund ("EIF"), whereby EIB would acquire a majority holding in the EIF, and the EIF would effectively become the EIB's task force for venture capital; and

- 5.3 to appropriate the balance on the Profit and Loss Account for the year ended 31st December, 1999, after transfer of EUR 120,000,000 to the Fund for General Banking Risks, as follows: firstly, as to EUR 500,000,000, to be used for financing sound projects in the interests of the European Community through instruments extending the scope of the EIB's financing through the provision of risk capital to certain categories of enterprises through suitable intermediaries, excluding subsidies; and secondly, the balance, amounting to EUR 567,390,168 to the Additional Reserves.

6. The Board of Governors of EIB has decided, by unanimous written decision completed on 20th April, 2001:

- 6.1 that part of EIB's annual surplus, after allocation to statutory reserves, may be used to establish a new facility to be known as the Structured Finance Facility. Under this facility EIB may, subject to the fulfilment of certain conditions, finance priority projects in all countries in which EIB currently undertakes its business, through instruments extending the scope of EIB's financing, including, but not limited to, senior or subordinated loans and guarantees, mezzanine finance and credit derivatives. A prudential allocation for these purposes of an overall indicative amount of up to EUR 750 million, to be taken from EIB's annual surplus, may be made over a three-year period starting with an allocation of EUR 250 million in the year 2001 from EIB's surplus for 2000. Any further specific amounts of the surpluses arising in 2001 to 2002 shall be determined annually by the Board of Governors on a proposal from the Board of Directors. This capital allocation shall be applied in accordance with modalities, including a leverage ratio, to be determined by the Board of Directors. An annual addition to the Fund for General Banking Risk relating to the Structured Finance Facility for an indicative amount of up to EUR 75 million per year, plus any amounts unused in previous years, shall be made over a three-year period commencing in 2001 and shall not exceed EUR 225 million *in toto*; and

- 6.2 that the Amsterdam Special Action Programme ("ASAP") Reserve shall be applied to fund operations in accordance with a gearing ratio to be determined by the Board of Directors subject to a maximum limit of 200 per cent.; that capital gains from risk capital operations financed from the ASAP Reserve may be re-invested in line with the objectives of ASAP; and that the ASAP

Reserve may be used for risk capital operations in the countries that have applied for accession to the European Union.

7. The member states of the European Union are considering proposals for the passing of a directive regarding the taxation of savings income. Under the proposals, member states would be required to provide to the tax authorities of another member state details of payments of interest made by a person within its jurisdiction to an individual resident in that other member state, subject to the right of certain member states to opt instead for a withholding system for a transitional period in relation to such payments.

It is proposed (pursuant to a decision of the Council of the European Union (ECOFIN) adopted on 3rd March, 2001) that during a transitional period the directive would not apply (subject to certain conditions):

- (a) in relation to securities issued before 1st March, 2001; nor
- (b) in relation to tap issues of such securities made prior to 1st March, 2002, unless a further tap issue is made on or after that date (in which case the directive would apply to the original issue and all taps).

These proposals are at an early stage of discussion and the terms of any directive actually passed may differ substantially from such proposals. Investors should rely on their own analysis of the proposals and should take advice from appropriate legal or taxation professionals.

EIB reserves its right to make tap issues of the Notes at any time, without regard to any taxation consequences for holders of the Notes.

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