SNB as basket owner for all securities eligible for SNB repos

Dear Mr.

The Swiss franc-denominated securities eligible for repo transactions with the SNB are contained in the CHF GC Basket. The SNB is responsible for the composition of this basket. Changes are usually effected on a daily basis. A list of changes and all individual securities contained in the basket are published at www.snb.ch -> News -> Repos. Applications for the inclusion of issues are to be submitted to Department III of the SNB.

For the two euro-denominated baskets (Euro GC Basket and German Jumbo Pfandbriefe GC Basket), which also contain securities eligible for the SNB's repo transactions, Eurex Zürich AG as basket owner is responsible. We have now agreed with Eurex Zürich AG that we will assume this function with effect from 19 April 2004. The procedure and the publications will be the same as for the CHF GC Basket.

Yours sincerely,

Banque nationale suisse

Erich Spörndli  Karl Hug