



Announcement

BANK OF CYPRUS IS TO BE THE LARGEST CONSTITUENT of the FTSE/ATHEX Mid 40 INDEX as from 1 June 2006

Nicosia, 4 May 2006

The Bank of Cyprus is to be the largest constituent company of the FTSE/ATHEX Mid 40 index as from 1 June 2006. Based on yesterday's closing prices of the shares traded on the Athens Exchange, the Bank of Cyprus is expected to have a weight in the FTSE/ATHEX Mid 40 index of around 24%.

At the semi-annual meeting of the FTSE/ATHEX Index Advisory Committee on 3 May 2006, it was decided that Bank of Cyprus is included in the FTSE/ATHEX Mid 40 index effective 1 June 2006.

Even though Bank of Cyprus is ranked 11th among all ATHEX listed companies in terms of market capitalisation (based on yesterday's closing share prices), the FTSE/ATHEX Ground Rules do not allow participation of a new company in the FTSE/ATHEX 20 index unless the company is ranked at 10th position or higher, or an already index-participating company is ranked at 30th position or lower or exits the index for any other reason.

At its meeting held yesterday, the FTSE/ATHEX Index Advisory Committee ranked Bank of Cyprus at the first position of the FTSE/ATHEX 20 Reserve List. Therefore, in the event that a company is deleted from the FTSE/ATHEX 20 index for any reason, then the Bank of Cyprus will fill the vacancy.

Founded in 1899, the Bank of Cyprus Group is the leading Cypriot banking and financial services group. In 1991, the Group established its first branch in Greece where it has been expanding rapidly since 1999. It has an established banking presence in the United Kingdom and in 2001 it expanded to Australia through a wholly owned subsidiary bank. In addition to retail and commercial banking, the Group's activities include finance, factoring, investment banking, brokerage, fund management, life and general insurance. The Group currently operates through a total of 275 branches, of which 147 operate in Cyprus, 111 in Greece, six in the United Kingdom, ten in Australia and one in the Channel Islands. Bank of Cyprus also has representation in the United States of America, Canada, South Africa, Russia and Romania. The Bank of Cyprus Group employs 6.065 staff worldwide.

At 31 December 2005, the Group's Total Assets reached C£12,80bn (€22,32bn) and the Group's Shareholders' Funds were C£762mn (€1,33bn). The Bank of Cyprus shares are listed on the Cyprus and Athens Stock Exchanges. Additional information can be found at the Group's website www.bankofcyprus.com