



## **Joint press release of Groupe Banque Populaire and Groupe Caisse d'Épargne**

**Paris, October 21, 2008** -The French government has decided to adopt a plan to support funding for the economy. This plan will enable the six largest French banks to access complementary funding and to maintain their high solvency ratios.

The funding plan will take the form of subordinated debt which counts towards Tier 1 capital.

Groupe Banque Populaire and Groupe Caisse d'Épargne have decided to take part in this plan in an amount of €950 million and €1.1 billion respectively.

This plan will permit Groupe Banque Populaire and Groupe Caisse d'Épargne to continue to provide funding for the economy, in accordance with the government's expectations.

Via its two key shareholders, Natixis will be able to benefit from a strengthened capital position in order to also partake in this plan to support the financing of the real economy and French companies.

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