

***Paris, May 11, 2009***

Groupe Caisse d'Epargne takes note of the ruling handed down by the Italian Olympic Committee (Comitato Olimpico Nazionale Italiano, or CONI) regarding Alejandro Valverde.

Groupe Caisse d'Epargne points out that this affair concerns events that occurred before 2005, the date of the Group's commitment to the Abarca professional cycling team and the recruitment of Alejandro Valverde as a squad member.

Pending the final decision to be made by the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS), Groupe Caisse d'Epargne – which has always considered that complying with the rules is more important than obtaining results at any price – reasserts its entire confidence in, and support for, its team.

***Press Contacts:***

Marc Cogrel – Tel.: 33-1 58 40 47 81  
Christine Françoise – Tel.: 33-1 58 40 46 57  
Email: [presse@cnce.caisse-epargne.fr](mailto:presse@cnce.caisse-epargne.fr)

Maxime Decitre - Tel.: 33-1 42 56 60 60

Email: [mdecitre@relationpresse.com](mailto:mdecitre@relationpresse.com)

[www.groupe.caisse-epargne.com](http://www.groupe.caisse-epargne.com)