Ramon Fernandez and Laurent Paillassot to join Orange's Executive Committee

On 27 May at the Group's Annual General Meeting, the Chairman and CEO of Orange Stéphane Richard announced two appointments to the Executive Committee. From 1 September, Ramon Fernandez will become Deputy CEO and Chief Financial Officer and Laurent Paillassot will become Deputy CEO and Senior Executive Vice-President of Customer Experience and Mobile Banking.

The appointment of Ramon Fernandez will become effective following approval by the French state's Ethics Committee in application of the Law of 29 January 1993.

Commenting of this announcement, Stéphane Richard said, "I am very pleased that these two very talented individuals will be contributing their invaluable skills to the Group's Executive Committee. Ramon brings his widely-recognized expertise in the financial world and Laurent's extensive experience in retail banking and customer satisfaction will be a real asset for the Group."

After eight years as head of Finance where he was one of the key architects of the Group's financial recovery, CEO Delegate Gervais Pellissier will be taking over management of the Europe zone, which includes the United Kingdom, on 1 September replacing Benoit Scheen. This appointment will allow Orange to take full advantage of Gervais Pellissier's considerable experience at a time when the telecoms sector is undergoing widespread changes.

Ramon Fernandez, born in 1967, is a high-ranking civil servant currently serving as Director General of the French Treasury. He worked as Senior Economic Adviser to the French Presidency between June 2007 and April 2008, before taking on a role as Chief of Staff for Xavier Bertrand, French Minister for Labor, Labor Relations, the Family and Solidarity from April 2008 to January 2009.

Ramon Fernandez has also worked in various capacities at the IMF (International Monetary Fund), and from May 2002 to October 2003 he was Technical Staff Adviser to the French Minister for the Economy, Finance and Industry under Francis Mer. He had also previously held a number of positions within the French Treasury office.

Ramon Fernandez is a graduate of Sciences Po (Institute of Political Studies) and ENA (National School of Civil Service), Léon Gambetta class (1991-1993).

Laurent Paillassot, born in 1965, has acted as CEO Delegate of LCL since May 2011 after serving as Deputy CEO from 2007 to 2011.

He began his career in 1989 at Compagnie Bancaire (Paribas Group) before moving to the Mitchell Madison Group, an American consulting firm specializing in financial strategy, in 1997. In 2000, he took a position with the Caisse d'Epargne Group as Director of Distribution and then served as Managing Director of Caisse d'Epargne Financement.

From 2005 to 2007, he was also Chairman of GE Money Bank in France, a subsidiary of General Electric Consumer Finance.

Laurent Paillassot holds an engineering degree from Ponts et Chaussées (1989) and an MBA from INSEAD (1996).

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