



PRESS  
RELEASE

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EXCLUSIVE TALKS BETWEEN CREDIT AGRICOLE S.A. AND MERIDIAN BANK A.D.

Paris, 20th April 2005 - Crédit Agricole S.A. and Meridian Bank A.D. inform that they are conducting exclusive talks on a strategic partnership covering the market for financial services in Serbia.

Under terms that will be fully determined by mid-May 2005, and provided all necessary authorizations are obtained, Crédit Agricole S.A. would hold a 71% stake in Meridian Bank A.D.

In partnership with the Crédit Agricole Group, Meridian Bank A.D. will aim for a leading role in financial services in Serbia, with a focus on retail banking.