

Paris, 2 July 2010

**PRESS RELEASE**

**BNP Paribas announces the sale of  
BNP Paribas Personal Finance Belgium to Apax Partners SA**

BNP Paribas and Apax Partners SA announce the sale of BNP Paribas Personal Finance Belgium to the funds managed by Apax Partners SA. This divestment will enable BNP Paribas to meet the requirements of the European Commission concerning the BNP Paribas Fortis deal.

BNP Paribas Personal Finance Belgium manages some 500m€ assets in consumer credit for 300,000 clients (revolving cards and consumer loans), and has 200 employees.

Apax Partners SA, a leading private equity firm specialising in the European mid-market, supports companies' growth across six business sectors including financial services.

The closing of the transaction is subject to approval by the European Commission and by the Belgium regulation authorities.

BNP Paribas remains active in the Belgium consumer finance market through Alpha Credit a 100% subsidiary of BNP Paribas Fortis. Alpha Credit that manages a loan book of € 2.5 billion is the driver of BNP Paribas Fortis' consumer finance activity and the leader in car finance in Belgium.



**BNP PARIBAS**

### **About Apax Partners**

Apax Partners SA is a leading private equity firm in France. With more than 30 years of investing experience, Apax Partners provides long-term equity financing to build and strengthen world-class companies.

Funds raised and managed by Apax Partners SA exceed €2 billion. The Apax Funds invest in fast-growing companies across six sectors of specialisation: Technology, Telecom, Media, Retail & Consumer, Healthcare, Business & Financial Services.

For additional information, go to: [www.apax.fr](http://www.apax.fr).

### **About BNP Paribas**

BNP Paribas ([www.bnpparibas.com](http://www.bnpparibas.com)) is one of the six strongest banks in the world\* and the largest bank in the eurozone by deposits. With a presence in more than 80 countries and more than 200,000 employees, including 160,000 in Europe, BNP Paribas is a leading European provider of financial services on a worldwide scale. It ranks highly in its three core activities: Retail Banking, Investment Solutions and Corporate & Investment Banking. In Retail Banking, the Group has four domestic markets: Belgium, France, Italy and Luxembourg. BNP Paribas is rolling out its integrated model across the Europe-Mediterranean zone and boasts a large network in the United States. BNP Paribas Personal Finance is the leader in consumer lending in Europe. In its Corporate & Investment Banking and Investment Solutions activities, BNP Paribas also enjoys top positions in Europe and solid and fast-growing businesses in Asia.

\* Rated AA by Standard & Poor's i.e. 3rd rating level on a scale of 22.

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