



Ministero dell'Economia e delle Finanze

DIPARTIMENTO DEL TESORO

Direzione Seconda

PRESS RELEASE

The Republic of Italy, rated AA2/AA/AA, has mandated Barclays, BNP Paribas, Citigroup, Goldman Sachs e UBM to lead manage its forthcoming BTP€i inflation-linked Government 10-year benchmark, indexed to the Eurozone HICP ex-tobacco. The deal will be launched in the coming weeks, subject to market conditions.

Rome, January 30, 2004