

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **IOSCO Technical Committee Financial Services Fraud on the Internet: Securities and Futures Regulators Surf the Internet in Coordinated International Action**

**16 May, 2000**

The Chairman of the Technical Committee of the International Organisation of Securities Commissions (IOSCO), Michel Prada, announced during the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of IOSCO that IOSCO Technical Committee members conducted an International Internet Surf Day on March 28, 2000, aimed at increasing investor protection and market confidence.

Twenty-one securities and futures regulators from eighteen countries around the world coordinated their efforts to identify securities and futures fraud on the Internet.

Regulators concentrated on fraudulent solicitation of investors, manipulation, the circulation of false or misleading information and insider trading.

During the Surf Day, approximately 220 individuals from the 21 participating authorities visited almost 10,000 sites, totaling nearly 1,000 hours of global participation.

Of these sites, more than 1,000 were identified for follow-up review, including over 250 sites that involved cross border activity. That review is now underway and could result in enforcement action by the relevant national regulators, working cooperatively where appropriate.

Commenting on the International Internet Surf Day, Michel Prada said,

"Whilst the Internet brings new opportunities, it creates new risks as fraudsters take advantage of the low cost and speed that it provides. Investors must be mindful of those risks and regulators must be ready to act where necessary. In a global marketplace, effective enforcement requires co-operation among regulators around the world. This initiative demonstrates the determination of the international regulatory community to work together to address the challenges posed by new technology."

The International Internet Surf Day is one of a number of activities conducted by securities and futures regulators to address Internet fraud. Many of the participating authorities conduct Internet surveillance on a daily basis. In addition, the authorities continue to work together to share information and technical expertise in detecting, deterring and investigating securities and futures fraud on the Internet.

## Notes for Editors

For further information about the IOSCO  
International Internet Surf Day contact

Peter Clark, IOSCO Secretary General:  
+ 61 (2) 9282 5426 (until May 20, 2000);  
+ 1 (514) 875 8278 (after May 22, 2000).

List of participating IOSCO members and websites:

<b>IOSCO Member Organisation</b>	<b>Website Address</b>
AUSTRALIA - Australian Securities and Investments Commission	<a href="http://www.asic.gov.au/">http://www.asic.gov.au/</a>
CANADA - Ontario Securities Commission	<a href="http://www.osc.gov.on.ca/">http://www.osc.gov.on.ca/</a>
CANADA - Commission des Valeurs Mobilières du Québec	<a href="http://www.cvmq.com/">http://www.cvmq.com/</a>
FRANCE - Commission des Opérations de Bourse	<a href="http://www.cob.fr/">http://www.cob.fr/</a>
GERMANY - Bundesaufsichtsamt Für Den Wertpapierhandel	<a href="http://www.bawe.de/index.htm">http://www.bawe.de/index.htm</a>
GREECE - Capital Market Commission	<a href="http://www.hcmc.gr/">http://www.hcmc.gr/</a>
HONG KONG - Securities and Futures Commission	<a href="http://www.hksfc.org.hk/">http://www.hksfc.org.hk/</a>
ITALY - Commissione Nazionale per le Società e la Borsa	<a href="http://www.consob.it/">http://www.consob.it/</a>
JAPAN - Securities and Exchange Surveillance Commission	<a href="http://www.fsa.go.jp/sesc/sesc-j.html">http://www.fsa.go.jp/sesc/sesc-j.html</a>
MEXICO - Comisión Nacional Bancaria y de Valores de Mexico	<a href="http://www.cnbv.gob.mx/index.htm">http://www.cnbv.gob.mx/index.htm</a>
NETHERLANDS - Stichting Toezicht Effectenverkeer	<a href="http://www.ste.nl/">http://www.ste.nl/</a>
NORWAY - Kredittilsynet	<a href="http://www.kredittilsynet.no/">http://www.kredittilsynet.no/</a>
POLAND - Polish Securities and Exchange Commission	<a href="http://www.kpwig.gov.pl/">http://www.kpwig.gov.pl/</a>

PORTUGAL - Comissão do Mercado de Valores	<a href="http://www.cmvm.pt/">http://www.cmvm.pt/</a>
SPAIN - Comisión Nacional del Mercado de Valores	<a href="http://www.cnmv.es/">http://www.cnmv.es/</a>
SWEDEN - Finansinspektionen	<a href="http://www.fi.se/">http://www.fi.se/</a>
SWITZERLAND - Swiss Federal Banking Commission	<a href="http://www.sfb.admin.ch/">http://www.sfb.admin.ch/</a>
UNITED KINGDOM - Financial Services Authority	<a href="http://www.fsa.gov.uk/">http://www.fsa.gov.uk/</a>
UNITED STATES - Commodity Futures and Trading Commission	<a href="http://www.cftc.gov/">http://www.cftc.gov/</a>
UNITED STATES - National Futures Association	<a href="http://www.nfa.futures.org/">http://www.nfa.futures.org/</a>
UNITED STATES - Securities and Exchange Commission	<a href="http://www.sec.gov/">http://www.sec.gov/</a>

Many of the above listed IOSCO members will announce separately the results of their participation in the International Internet Surf Day. You can contact the members directly for further information.