

Paris, 11 May 2011

The Autorité des marchés financiers warns the public against certain unauthorised websites offering binary options trading

In recent weeks, the Autorité des marchés financiers (AMF) has observed an upsurge in aggressive internet advertising campaigns for binary options trading, claiming very high yields over very short periods of time. These are financial instruments in the form of options that may generate gains or losses according to whether a condition is fulfilled or not on expiry of the option. Investors in these bonds must state whether the price of an underlying asset (for example a share, commodity or index, etc.) is going to rise or fall before its expiration: if they think that the price of the asset is going to rise, they buy a call option; if they think the price of the asset is going to fall, they buy a put option.

The AMF warning particularly targets the following websites for which it has not been possible to clearly identify an authorised investment services provider:

- www.ikkotrader.com
- www.optionfair.com
- www.optionbit.com
- www.traderxp.com
- www.24option.com
- www.option10.com
- www.ufxbank.com
- www.winoptions.com
- www.excitingmarkets.com
- www.marketpunter.com

As a general rule, before committing yourself, you should always check that the financial intermediary offering or recommending such investments features on the list of financial institutions authorised to do business in France (<http://www.amf-france.org> > Check for an authorisation). Any unauthorized intermediaries run the risk of criminal sanctions.

If the intermediary in question is not on these lists, we strongly recommend that you do not respond to their offers.

Before you give any commitments, your financial intermediary must inform themselves as to your knowledge and experience in order to provide you with all the information required for you to understand the nature of the product, the risks it entails and the total amount of fees you will be charged.

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If you have any questions or queries, go to our website <http://www.amf-france.org> or contact the AMF Investor Information team on 01 53 45 62 00*, Mondays to Fridays 9am to 5pm.

* cost of a local call from a landline