

CBFA Press release

OCFDA (Offshore Commodity Futures Dealers Association)

The Banking, Finance and Insurance Commission (CBFA) warns the public against the activities of the OCFDA (Offshore Commodity Futures Dealers Association), which claims on its web site (www.ocfda.org) to have its registered office at rue du Congrès 12-14, 1000 Brussels.

According to information available to the Commission, the OCFDA describes itself as an association protecting investors in futures markets and safeguarding the integrity of global derivatives markets. It claims to have been mandated to establish an anti-money laundering program. It also purports to offer arbitration services to participants in the futures market as well as compliance activities. The association appears to be serving as a cover to lend an air of respectability to certain investments offered to the public.

The OCFDA is not known to the Commission. It is not authorized to offer regulated financial services in Belgium and has not been designated as an authority competent for protecting investors. Its registered office is a fictitious one. The Commission therefore questions the reliability of investments offered to the public by firms that claim to have been authorized by the OCFDA.

Additional information about the regularity of any transaction proposed can be found on the "<u>Consumer Protection</u>" page on the web site of the Commission (<u>www.cbfa.be</u>), or by contacting the "Protection of Consumers of Financial Services" Department (email: <u>peri@cbfa.be</u>; telephone: +32 2 220 59 10).

<u>Press</u>

Luk Van Eylen (*Press Officer*): +32 2 220 57 06 <u>Press@cbfa.be</u>

10/01/2007 1/1