

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Trinidad and Tobago Securities and Exchange Commission ("the Commission") has confirmed that a foreign national, Mr. Ramy Ghattas an employee or agent of Bear, Stearns & Co. Inc. ("Bear Stearns"), has on a number of occasions visited and conducted business of a securities nature in the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago.

The public is hereby advised that neither Mr. Ghattas nor Bear Stearns is registered with the Trinidad and Tobago Securities and Exchange Commission to conduct such business in Trinidad and Tobago.

If you are approached by Mr. Ghattas and/or any other individual for the purpose of dealing in securities or offering of investment advice, please confirm whether or not they are registered by the Commission before you enter into any arrangement with the individual and/or entity. If you fail to do so you may be unwittingly assisting the individual and/or entity in committing a breach of the Securities Act, 1995.

Members of the public are strongly advised that there are inherent risks involved in conducting business with unregistered individuals or entities. Persons who avail themselves of the services offered by such agencies or their employees or agents who are not registered with the Commission under <u>section 53(1)</u> of the <u>Securities Industry Act</u>, 1995 may find themselves outside of the protection of the Commission in the event of problems with such business.

For a free verification of the registration status of individuals and or entities operating in Trinidad and Tobago please contact the:

Manager, Communications Trinidad and Tobago Securities and Exchange Commission 57-59 Dundonald Street Port of Spain, or by telephone at 624-2991 Ext 1275