HELLENIC REPUBLIC

CAPITAL MARKET COMMISSION

Athens, 26 August 2010

**PRESS RELEASE**

The Board of Directors of the Hellenic Capital Market Commission (HCMC) decided on the 26th of August 2010 to lift the ban on the short-selling of shares listed on the Securities Market of the Athens Exchange, but to maintain the ban on naked short-selling. In particular, effective the 1st of September 2010, short-selling is allowed under the condition that the seller has ensured, prior to the transaction, that he or she will have adequate shares at the settlement date (T+3) in order to fulfill his or her settlement obligations.

It is noted that, according to the decision 1/509/15.5.2009 of the HCMC, the obligation to flag short-selling orders, the obligation to enter short-selling orders into the trading system of the regulated market at a price higher than the price of the last trade (up-tick) as well as the obligation to report all net short positions in excess of 0.10% of the total number of issued shares remain in force.