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PRESS NOTICE

31 March 2000

GILT-EDGED AUCTIONS: APRIL-JUNE 2000

In the first quarter of the 2000-01 financial year the UK Debt Management Office ("DMO") plans to hold two outright auctions of gilt-edged stock and one switch auction, as set out below:

Outright auctions

- Wednesday 3 May 2000: 2½% Index-linked Treasury Stock 2020;
- Wednesday 24 May 2000: a new long-dated, current coupon stock, maturing on 7 June 2032. The new stock will become strippable only when £5,000 million nominal of the stock has been issued.

Switch auction

- Thursday 22 June 2000: from 8% Treasury Stock 2015 into the new 2032 maturity stock.

The amount of each stock to be auctioned outright, the maximum amount of 8% 2015 to be switched, and the terms of the three auctions will be announced by the DMO at 3.30pm on the Tuesday of the weeks preceding the auctions (25 April, 16 May and on 13 June). The coupon on the new long-dated stock will be announced on 16 May. All these auctions will settle on the following business day.

NOTE TO EDITORS

HM Treasury's remit to the DMO for 2000-01 was published on 21 March 2000 in the Debt Management Report. Gilt sales of £12.2 billion are planned, divided as follows:

- Medium-dated conventionals (7-15 year maturity) £2.2bn
- Long-dated conventionals (over 15 years maturity) £6.5bn
- Index-linked gilts £3.5bn

Eight outright gilt auctions are planned – four conventional and four index-linked. The calendar for gilt auctions is as follows:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Type</u>
Wednesday 3 May 2000	2½% IL 2020
Wednesday 24 May 2000	New 2032 stock
Wednesday 26 July 2000	Index-linked
Wednesday 27 September 2000	Conventional
Wednesday 25 October 2000*	Index-linked
Late November/early December 2000*	Conventional
Wednesday 24 January 2001	Index-linked
Wednesday 28 March 2001*	Conventional

** subject to confirmation following the Chancellor's decisions on the Budgetary timetable.*

Decisions on the auction stocks for July-September will be announced by the DMO at 3.30 pm on 30 June 2000.

Switch auctions

Switch auctions were introduced in October 1999. The switch auction announced today will be the third to be held. The DMO's remit for 2000-01 refers to the possibility of further switch auctions being made out of 8% 2015 into longer-maturity stocks.

This press notice will be appearing on the DMO website at: www.dmo.gov.uk. (The Debt Management Report is also available). Queries may be addressed to the DMO's Press officer Steve Whiting (steve.whiting@dmo.gov.uk) or on 020 7862-6532.