



**Press release** 

# France Telecom and TDC consider the Swiss Competition Commission's decision as negative for the Swiss Consumer and telecommunications market

## Renens, Zurich, Paris and Copenhagen, 22 April, 2010

The Swiss Competition Commission ("ComCo") has informed France Telecom S.A. and TDC A/S that it has decided to prohibit the proposed combination of their respective subsidiaries in Switzerland, Orange Communications S.A and Sunrise Communications AG.

France Telecom and TDC are disappointed and surprised by this decision as they strongly believe that the contemplated combination and the substantial commitments that they had proposed to undertake would have benefited the Swiss Consumer. Without this combination, Swisscom's dominant position in the Swiss telecommunications market would be maintained.

The combined entity would be in the position to significantly invest in its networks and enhance customer experience. Identified synergies of such combination would enable the combined entity to offer more attractive prices and innovative products and services, as well as an enhanced access to a worldwide network.

France Telecom and TDC will assess their available options regarding potential next steps.

### About TDC

TDC is the leading provider of communications solutions in Denmark with a strong Nordic focus. In the Nordic region TDC has five business units: Business, Operations & Wholesale, Consumer, Nordic and YouSee. TDC's activities outside the Nordic region primarily consist of Sunrise, a leading telecommunications provider in Switzerland. TDC was partly privatized in 1994 and fully privatized in 1998. Angel Lux Common S.A owns 87.9% of TDC, with the remainder of the shares held by individual and institutional shareholders.

TDC's shares are listed on NASDAQ OMX Copenhagen, its Reuters code is TDC.CO and its Bloomberg code is TDC DC.

For more information: www.tdc.dk, www.sunrise.ch

#### About France Telecom

France Telecom, one of the world's leading telecommunications operators, had in 2009 total sales of 50.9 billion euros, including its activities in the United Kingdom, and, at 31 December 2009, a customer base of almost 193 million customers in 32 countries. Orange, the Group's single brand for internet, television and mobile services in the majority of countries where the company operates, now covers 131.8 million customers. At 31 December 2009, the Group had 132.6 million mobile customers and 13.5 million broadband internet (ADSL) customers worldwide. Orange is the number three mobile operator and the number two provider of broadband internet services in Europe and, under the brand Orange Business Services, is one of the world leaders in providing telecommunication services to multinational companies.

The Group's strategy, which is characterized by a strong focus on innovation, convergence and effective cost management, aims to establish Orange as an integrated operator and benchmark for new telecommunications services in Europe. Today the Group remains focused on its core activities as a network operator, while working to develop its position in new growth activities. To meet customer expectations, the Group strives to provide products and services that are simple and user-friendly, while maintaining a sustainable and responsible business model that can be adapted to the requirements of a fast-paced and changing eco-system.

France Telecom (NYSE:FTE) is listed on Euronext Paris (compartment A) and on the New York Stock Exchange.

For more information (on the internet and on your mobile): <u>www.orange.com</u>, <u>www.orange-business.com</u>, <u>www.orange-innovation.tv</u>





#### About Sunrise

Sunrise is the largest privately held telecommunications provider in Switzerland, with offices in Zurich, Bern, Biel and Renens. More than 2.85 million customers use its services in the areas of mobile telephony, fixed network and the Internet. Its mobile network, which is based on GSM, EDGE, UMTS and HSDPA technologies, covers over 99% of the population with state-of-theart mobile network services with transfer rates of up to 7.2 Mbps. A high-performance fiber optic network, with a total length of 10,000 km, enables high-quality voice and data services to be offered throughout the country. Sunrise is able to reach around 80 % of households with its own broadband services and since the end of 2009 has operated 74 Sunrise centers throughout Switzerland. Sunrise is a brand of Sunrise Communications AG.

For more information: www.sunrise.ch

#### About Orange Suisse

Orange Communications SA entered the Swiss telecoms market in June 1999 as the third mobile communications provider. The Orange mobile communications network covers 99% of the Swiss population and offers fast mobile internet connections in addition to mobile phone calls. As of June 2007, Orange also provides fixed network lines.

In 2009, Orange generated total revenues of CHF 1,296 billion. Some 1156 employees attend to the every-day needs of 1,558,147 customers (as at the end of December 2009).

Orange Switzerland is a 100% subsidiary of the France Telecom Group. As at 31 December 2009, France Telecom had more than 132 million mobile communications customers and over 13.5 million Internet customers. In 2009, France Telecom achieved a consolidated revenue of EUR 50.9 billion.

For more information: www.orange.ch

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