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### **PRESS RELEASE**

Recent articles in the financial press presented a “forthcoming” increase in tariffs from the HELEX Group, which will result, based on these articles, in an increase in income for the Group, and will make the Athens Exchange more expensive.

These articles are incorrect and it is obvious that they can effect the investment decisions of the public.

These articles have “discovered” now a study that was prepared in 2005 and concerned the change in the fee structure of the companies of the Group. The study in question, parts of the conclusions of which were mentioned in the abovementioned articles, had as a goal the reduction of the transaction fees, while at the same time the imposition of charges on services that were (and still are) provided for free, such as the use of the Dematerialized Securities System (DSS) by the operators (brokers, custodians). No such decision for a change in the fee policy has been taken, as is quoted in the 2006 budget for the Group. This raises questions about the purpose of these articles.

It is the intent of the management of the Group, as has already been seen in practice with its decisions to reduce the cost of all participants and transaction parties in the Exchange while at the same time to improve the quality of services and products provided, without exploiting the positive course of the Exchange in order to impose fees or taxes, as quoted in the press articles. The Group in any case, neither wishes nor is able to affect such changes, according to the legal framework and the rules of the Capital Market.