



**DePfa Group**

## **Press Release**

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### **Highly successful share exchange for DePfa Preliminary quota of over 95% after end of first acceptance period**

Wiesbaden. 21 February 2002 - The share exchange of DePfa was a great success. Based on the official quota of tendered shares reported by Clearstream Banking as well as on returns of acceptances received by the custodian banks today over 95% of DePfa shares have been tendered for exchange, well in excess of the minimum 90% required for the restructuring of the DePfa Group to go ahead. In accordance with the law which came into force at the beginning of this year governing public offers to purchase shares, a grace period for exchanging shares must be granted provided that this quota has been exceeded to give those shareholders who have not yet tendered their shares a last opportunity to do so.

This grace period begins on 26 February and runs through to 13 March 2002 12:00 CET. Tendered shares trade until 15 March under the securities identification number 804 702. For technical reasons trading in DePfa shares will be suspended on 18 and 19 March. As of 20 March DePfa Holding plc will then be listed on the Frankfurt Stock Exchange and will have the securities identification number 765 818.