

Statement on Media Reports

TOKYO, February 10, 2005 --- Today, there were media reports that Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group (SMFG) enters into a full-scale negotiation with Daiwa Securities Group (Daiwa) for consolidation. The two groups do have close ties and have been considering various initiatives to strengthen the collaborative relationship, however, it is not a fact that SMFG enters into a full-scale negotiation with Daiwa for consolidation.