

Press Release

Zurich, January 14, 2002

Dr. Georg Rich joins HSZ Group

Dr. Georg Rich, the former Chief Economist of the Swiss National Bank, has become an adviser to HSZ Group, a global investment management boutique with a special interest in Asia.

Mr. Rich's career at the Swiss National Bank started in 1977. From 1985 until his retirement in 2001, he was the Bank's Chief Economist and was instrumental in shaping Swiss monetary policy.

On behalf of its clients HSZ Group holds and manages investments in selected companies that are listed, leading in their field and of high quality. It is also the manager of Asia Investment Corporation (AIC). HSZ Group is controlled by its management. Minority shareholders are HSBC Guyerzeller and ERGO Trust, a member of the Munich Re Group.

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