

ANNOUNCEMENT

Vienna, 23 March 2010

Announcement according to sec. 93 Austrian Stock Exchange Act in connection with sec. 91 art. 1 Austrian Stock Exchange Act

Erste Group Bank AG informs the public pursuant to § 93 Austrian Stock Exchange Act in connection with § 91 art. 1 Austrian Stock Exchange Act (Börsegesetz) that Capital Research and Management Company, 333 South Hope Street, Los Angeles, California 90071-1406 holds more than 5 % of Erste Group Bank AG's share capital (i.e. 19,185,719 Erste Group Bank AG's shares; 5.08%) on 18 March, 2010.

For more information, please contact:

Erste Group, Investor Relations, Graben 21, 1010 Vienna, Austria, Fax: +43 (0) 5 0100 9 13112

Gabriele Werzer,	Tel. +43 (0) 5 0100 Ext. 11286,	E-mail: gabriele.werzer@erstegroup.com
Thomas Sommerauer,	Tel. +43 (0) 5 0100 Ext. 17326,	E-mail: thomas.sommerauer@erstegroup.com
Peter Makray,	Tel. +43 (0) 5 0100 Ext. 16878,	E-mail: peter.makray@erstegroup.com

This release is also available on our website at <http://www.erstegroup.com/investorrelations> in the news section.