

NEWS RELEASE

MEDIA CONTACT:

Nikko Citigroup Limited
Corporate Communications
Phone 81-3-5457-5740

Nikko Citigroup Announces Senior Management Transition

TOKYO, April 25, 2005 – Nikko Citigroup Limited announced today that the Board of Directors of the Company has approved the nomination of Mr. Masashi Kaneko, the Chairman of Nikko Cordial Corporation, to the Chairman and a board member of the Company.

Mr. Kaneko will formally assume his new role upon approval at the annual shareholders meeting and the board meeting of the Company to be held in June 2005. Mr. Yuji Shirakawa, the current Chairman, will become a Senior Advisor at that time.

“Mr. Kaneko’s appointment as Chairman signifies the renewed commitment of the parent companies, Nikko Cordial Corporation and Citigroup Inc., to Nikko Citigroup,” said Mr. Hideo Abe, Chief Executive Officer, Nikko Citigroup. “One of the principal architects of the joint venture, we will benefit from Mr. Kaneko’s broad industry contacts and knowledge. We sincerely thank Mr. Shirakawa for his leadership during his tenure as Chairman and we are pleased that he will continue to work with the company in a senior advisory role.”

Established in 1999 as a joint venture between Nikko Cordial Corporation and Citigroup Inc., Nikko Citigroup Limited is a securities company dedicated to serving corporate and institutional clients. Through its “Local Depth, Global Reach,” Nikko Citigroup fully leverages the domestic and global distribution platforms available from each parent company to provide the institutional customers with an innovative financial solution in sales/trading, investment banking, research and other businesses.

###

PROFILE

Masashi Kaneko

Chairman and a Member of the Board
Nikko Citigroup Limited

Masashi Kaneko is Chairman and a member of the Board of Nikko Citigroup Limited.

Mr. Kaneko began his career in the securities industry when he joined Nikko Securities Co., Ltd (NSCL) in 1962. Following his study at Columbia University in 1968, he was named Vice President of Nikko Securities Co., International Inc. (NSCI) in New York in 1970. In 1979 Mr. Kaneko returned to Tokyo to take the position of General Manager of International Research of NSCL. In 1981 he was seconded to Nikko International Capital Management Limited (NICAM) as Director and Chief Investment Officer, and was promoted to Managing Director in 1984.

Mr. Kaneko returned to NSCL as Director in 1988. Following the assignment to its Institutional Investment Service in 1992, he became Chairman of Nikko Europe Plc and Chief Operating Officer in Europe in 1993. Mr. Kaneko returned to Tokyo as Senior Managing Director of NSCL in 1994, and became Executive Deputy President and Head of International Operations in February 1997. In October in that year, he was promoted President and Chief Executive Officer, and was also appointed Chairman in June 2001.

In October 2001, Mr. Kaneko was named Chairman, President and CEO of Nikko Cordial Corporation (NCC), and also as Chairman of Nikko Cordial Securities Inc. (NCSI). In June 2003, he was appointed Chairman and Co-Chief Executive Officer of NCC, and Director of NCSI. He was appointed Chairman of the Board of Directors in 2004.

Born in March 1939, Mr. Kaneko graduated from the University of Tokyo with a Bachelor's Degree in Economics.