## **REPORT OF INDEPENDENT AUDITORS**

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TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND SHAREHOLDERS OF JAPAN SECURITIES DEPOSITORY CENTER, INC.

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheet of Japan Securities Depository Center, Inc. and its subsidiary as of March 31, 2004 and the related consolidated statements of income, shareholders' equity, and cash flows for the year then ended, all expressed in Japanese Yen. These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in Japan. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall consolidated financial statements presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of Japan Securities Depository Center, Inc. and its subsidiary as of March 31, 2004, and the consolidated results of their operations and their cash flows for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles and practices generally accepted in Japan.

The amounts expressed in U.S. dollars, which are provided solely for the convenience of readers, have been translated on the basis set forth in Note 3 to the accompanying consolidated financial statements.

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ChuoAoyama PricewaterhouseCoopers Tokyo, Japan June 22, 2004