



Press release

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Chairman of UNICE Commander of the Order of Orange-Nassau

The Hague, 12 december 2006 – Ernest-Antoine Seillière has been appointed Commander of the Order of Orange-Nassau by Her Majesty the Queen. Economic Affairs Minister Wijn today presented Mr Seillière with the corresponding decorations in the Malietoren, the building of employers' organisation VNO-NCW.

The distinction has been conferred on Mr Seillière on account of his meritorious services to economic relations between the Netherlands and France and for his commitment to entrepreneurship and the competitive strength of European trade and industry.

As president of Wendel Investissement and chairman of the Supervisory Board of Oranje-Nassau Groep, he has been involved for many years in developing the investments and business activity of the latter Dutch company. Oranje-Nassau Groep B.V. invests in and manages interests in energy, real estate and private equity. Oranje-Nassau Groep has a balance sheet total of more than a billion euros.

As chairman of the French employers' organisation MEDEF he worked closely with VNO-NCW on promoting trade relations and investments between France and the Netherlands in the period between 1997 and 2005.

In 2005 Mr Seillière was elected chairman of UNICE, the Union of Industrial and Employers' Confederation of Europe to which VNO-NCW is also affiliated. He is vital to the image of the European business community and combines the qualities of a successful employer with those of an effective advocate of entrepreneurship. That is also apparent from the foundation and financing of a chair at the INSEAD management school: the Wendel Centre for International Family Enterprise.

For further information:

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