

June 20, 2011

**International Financial Consulting Ltd. Seeking Input for a Study on
the Functioning of the Market for Short Term Credit Insurance
Within the European Union**

(Brussels) International Financial Consulting Ltd. has been awarded the consultancy assignment to undertake a study for the **European Commission** (EC) on the functioning of the market for short-term credit insurance within the European Union, with a focus on what role the state-backed Export Credit Agencies should properly play in this area. The project is being led by **Ms. Diana Smallridge**, President of International Financial Consulting Ltd., and **Mr. Malcolm Stephens**, Group Chairman.

The present EC regulations are set out in a Communication defining “marketable risks” where ECA involvement is prohibited.¹ However, during the global financial crisis, temporary Commission approvals were granted to a number of member states that notified the Commission of proposed schemes to alleviate the impact of the crisis.²

Because of the importance of the issue, we wish to encourage as many stakeholders as possible to have the opportunity to **contribute to this study** and to participate in the discussion on the future arrangements. We therefore have set up a weblink (<http://www.i-financialconsulting.com/ec-survey.php>) for interested parties to record their views in a confidential manner. Submissions should be received no later than July 31st, 2011.

Please contact Diana Smallridge at DSmallridge@i-financialconsulting.com or on +1-613-742-7829, ext 21 for any questions.

International Financial Consulting Ltd. is a leading international consulting firm specializing in financial services in support of trade, investment, and development and are experts in the area of credit insurance. We possess an in-depth understanding of the complex and ever-changing interface between the private and public sector in providing financial services and risk management solutions.

¹ [http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:52005XC1222\(07\):EN:NOT](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:52005XC1222(07):EN:NOT)

² <http://ec.europa.eu/competition/elojade/isef/index.cfm>