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Ref: IRU/ 9/99

06 March 2009

Dear Dr. Kaihsu Tai

Freedom of Information Act 2000: PUBLICATION OF MINUTES OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK

Thank you for your enquiry dated 6 February 2009. I am treating your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You asked for information covering:

- The dates and recipient of representations by HM Treasury to Institutions of the EU regarding whether and how minutes of the Governing Council of the European Central Bank should be published.

I confirm that after a search of our information, we have not found any records of Her Majesty's Treasury having made any representation since 1997 to the Institutions of the European Union regarding whether and how the minutes of Governing Council meetings of the European Central Bank should be made public.

We have identified that the House of Lords discussed the transparency of the European Central Bank in 2004. You may be interested to read the debate, at the link below:

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld199900/ldselect/ldeucom/124/12409.htm#a13>

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me. It will be helpful to us if you remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

**Information Rights Unit
HM Treasury**



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Your right to complain under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

If you are not happy with this reply, you may request a review by writing to HM Treasury, Information Rights Unit, 2/S2, 1 Horse Guards Road, London SW1A 2HQ. Email public.enquiries@hm-treasury.gov.uk <<mailto:public.enquiries@hm-treasury.gov.uk>>.

Any review request must be made within 2 months of the date of this letter.

It would assist our review if you set out which aspects of the reply concern you and why you are dissatisfied.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the Treasury. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.