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BlackRock Has Been Engaged in Discussions with Barclays Bank plc

New York, June 8, 2009 - BlackRock, Inc. (NYSE:BLK) confirmed that it has been engaged in discussions with Barclays Bank plc about BlackRock's potential purchase of Barclays Global Investors, including the iShares business. The negotiations are ongoing and there is no certainty that any transaction will be agreed upon or, if agreed upon, completed.

About BlackRock

BlackRock is one of the world's largest publicly traded investment management firms. At March 31, 2009, BlackRock's AUM was \$1.283 trillion. The firm manages assets on behalf of institutions and individuals worldwide through a variety of equity, fixed income, cash management and alternative investment products. In addition, a growing number of institutional investors use *BlackRock Solutions* investment system, risk management and financial advisory services. Headquartered in New York City and has employees in 21 countries and a major presence in key global markets, including the U.S., Europe, Asia, Australia and the Middle East. For additional information, please visit the Company's website at www.blackrock.com.

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