



**PRESS RELEASE**

## Partnership Agreement between UNI and Vigeo

### Vigeo forms a strategic partnership with UNI Global Union to consolidate its ESG data collection

**PARIS, NYON (Switzerland) – 12th December 2008** – Vigeo, the leading European Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Rating Agency, has concluded a partnership agreement with UNI, the global union for the services sector, with 20 million members in 900 unions.

UNI will provide Vigeo with data, news and observations concerning individual companies, regarding the respect for freedom of association, the right to collective bargaining and the state of social dialogue. Data sharing will also concern more generally all labour relations and social issues related to the sectors represented by UNI Global Union.

Vigeo and UNI are both committed to the UN Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) and will work together to promote the inclusion of environmental, social and governance issues (ESG) in the investment decision-making process, when working with asset owners and investment managers.

**Nicole Notat, CEO of Vigeo, said** *“With this partnership agreement, Vigeo’s commitment towards integrating the stakeholders’ views into its analysis process takes a step forward. Labour unions are a key actor for ESG rating agencies as their knowledge of companies’ behaviour from the inside is decisive to confirm or infirm companies’ public saying.”*

**Philip Jennings, General Secretary of UNI Global Union, said.** *“It’s time for a more measured and sustainable approach to investment. We want to make sure that when a company says it will behave well, then it does with social policies applied across the whole company.”*

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#### **About Vigeo**

Vigeo is the leading European Corporate Social Responsibility rating agency. It measures the organisations' CSR commitments and identifies extra-financial risks related to environmental, social and governance issues.

Vigeo provides two services:

- SRI analysis, ratings and benchmarks for investors and asset managers
- CSR audits for companies and local governments

Vigeo has a team of 83 employees, with 14 different nationalities, on 4 locations: Paris, Brussels, Milan, Casablanca.

[www.vigeo.com](http://www.vigeo.com)

#### **About UNI Global Union**

UNI is based in Nyon, Switzerland and has member unions in more than 150 countries with 20 million members. It is the biggest grouping of individual unions in the world.

[www.uniglobalunion.org](http://www.uniglobalunion.org)