INVESTOR AB

PRESS RELEASE

Percy Barnevik, chairman of Investor AB, comments on the merger between STORA and Enso:

- The merger between STORA and Enso creates a world-leading forestry industry with rich opportunities for international expansion. Both companies have, separately, ongoing programs for profitability improvements and, in addition, significant synergy gains will be achieved to the benefit of the new company and the shareholders. Investor intends to remain a lead shareholder also in the new company to be created.
- My own experience of cooperation between Finnish and Swedish companies is positive and I am convinced that Stora Enso, too, will become a success.

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For further information:

Nils Ingvar Lundin, Director, Corporate Communications,
+46-8 614 20 69, +46 70 514 20 49