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Sun Life Financial statement on Washington Mutual holdings

TORONTO (September 26, 2008) — In response to the notice issued by the United States Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation in respect of Washington Mutual Inc., Sun Life Financial Inc. (TSX/NYSE: SLF) today announced its exposures:

Washington Mutual Inc:

- | Bond securities with a par value of \$18 million

Washington Mutual Bank:

- | Bond securities with a par value of \$134 million

Washington Mutual Preferred Funding:

- | Bond securities with a par value of \$118 million

The majority of Sun Life Financial's Washington Mutual exposure is held in segments backing liabilities. Under accounting rules, when a bond backing liabilities is written down in value or defaults, the actuarial assumptions cash flows required to support the liabilities will change, resulting in a strengthening of reserves with a corresponding charge to income.

Sun Life Financial currently expects to record a charge to earnings in the third quarter of 2008 in respect of its Washington Mutual. The amount of the charge is dependent on a number of factors, including the amount of expected recoveries and actuarial cash flow testing which is performed following the close of the quarter on September 30, 2008.

Sun Life Financial has a high quality, diversified investment portfolio with over \$100 billion in invested assets as of June 30, 2008. Sun Life's \$60 billion bond portfolio is highly diversified across 1400 different borrowers around the world with a rated 97% investment grade. The aggregate exposures to Washington Mutual discussed above represent less than 1% percent of Sun Life's invested assets. Sun Life Financial continues to have a strong balance sheet, is well capitalized and is very well positioned to fulfill all of its obligations.

About Sun Life Financial

Sun Life Financial is a leading international financial services organization providing a diverse range of protection, wealth accumulation products and services to individuals and corporate customers. Chartered in 1865, Sun Life and its partners today have operations in key markets worldwide, including Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Hong Kong, the Philippines, Japan, Indonesia, India, China and Bermuda. As of June 30, 2008, Sun Life Financial group of companies had total assets under management of CDN\$413 billion.

Sun Life Financial Inc. trades on the Toronto (TSX), New York (NYSE) and Philippine (PSE) stock exchanges under the symbol SLF.

Forward-Looking Statements

Certain statements in this document, including statements that are predictive in nature, that depend upon or rely on events or conditions, or that include words such as “expects”, “anticipates”, “intends”, “plans”, “believes”, “estimates” or similar expressions, are forward-looking statements within the meaning of securities laws. Forward-looking statements include the information concerning possible or assumed future results of operations of the Company. These statements represent the Company’s expectations, estimates and projections regarding future events and are not historical. Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and involve certain risks and uncertainties that are difficult to predict. Future results and stockholder value may differ materially from those expressed in these forward-looking statements due to, among other factors, the matters set out under “Risk Factors” in the Company’s AIF and the information detailed in its other filings with Canadian and U.S. securities regulators, including its annual and interim MD&A financial statements, which are available for review at www.sedar.com and www.sec.gov.

Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from expectations include, but are not limited to, the volatility of equity markets; interest rate fluctuations; investment losses and defaults; movements in credit spreads; the effectiveness and availability of risk mitigating hedging programs; the creditworthiness of guarantors and counterparties; derivatives; risks related to market liquidity; changes in legislation and regulations including tax laws; regulator investigations and proceedings and private legal proceedings and class actions relating to practices in the mutual insurance, annuity and financial product distribution industries; risks relating to product design and pricing; risks including mortality, morbidity, longevity and policyholder behaviour including the occurrence of natural or man-made disasters, pandemic diseases and acts of terrorism; risks relating to operations in Asia including risks relating to joint ventures; currency exchange rate fluctuations; the impact of competition; risks relating to financial modelling and business continuity risks; failure of information systems and Internet enabled technology; breaches of computer security and privacy; the availability, cost and effectiveness of reinsurance; the inability to maintain strong distribution channels; risks relating to market conduct by intermediaries and agents; dependence on third party relationships including outsourcing arrangements; downgrades in financial strength or credit ratings; the ability to successfully complete and integrate acquisitions; the ability to attract and retain employees; and the performance of the Company’s investment portfolios managed for clients such as segregated and mutual funds. The Company does not undertake an obligation to update or revise these forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date of the report or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events, except as required by law.

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Note to Editors: All figures in Canadian dollars.

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