



3 August 2020

COMPANY ANNOUNCEMENT

The following is a Company Announcement by HSBC Bank Malta p.l.c. pursuant to the Listing Rules issued by the Listing Authority.

Quote:

Reference is made to Company Announcement HSBC355 issued by HSBC Bank Malta p.l.c. (the 'bank') on 2 April 2020, wherein the bank had announced that following the European Central Bank's recommendation to all Eurozone banks not to make dividend payments at that time, the bank was obliged to delay the payment of the final 2019 dividend and potential future dividends. The bank had also announced that it will re-examine, when appropriate, the situation regarding the payment of the final 2019 dividend and update the market accordingly.

During its meeting held today, the Board of HSBC Bank Malta p.l.c. (the 'Board') has taken cognisance of the European Central Bank's Recommendation (ECB/2020/35) of 27 July 2020, which *inter alia* states that until 1 January 2021 no dividends are paid out and no irrevocable commitment to pay out dividends is undertaken by credit institutions for the financial years 2019 and 2020.

In view of the above, the Board considers it is appropriate to withdraw its recommendation made on the 18 February 2020 for the payment of a final 2019 dividend.

The Board intends to provide an update on the dividend policy at the year-end results for 2020, when the economic impact of the Covid-19 outbreak is better understood. The Board will also take into account the views of the shareholders, the interests of other stakeholders and other factors, including the bank's financial performance and capital position.

Unquote

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "G. Brancalone".

Dr George Brancalone LL.D.
Company Secretary