



Bank of Valletta

Bank of Valletta p.l.c.

Office of the Company Secretary
BOV Centre, High Street, Sliema SLM 16 - Malta
Telephone: (356) 2134 0696 Fax: (356) 2321 3711

BOV/104

COMPANY ANNOUNCEMENT

The following is a company announcement issued by Bank of Valletta p.l.c. pursuant to Malta Financial Services Authority Listing Rule 8.6.12:

Quote

By its letter dated 8th October 2004 the Government's Privatisation Unit informed the Bank of Valletta plc that the Government of Malta and Banco di Sicilia spa have signed a Memorandum of Understanding in terms of which they have agreed to initiate a process leading to the joint appointment of an independent financial advisor and the joint sale of their shareholding in Bank of Valletta plc to a strategic investor.

The Government of Malta and Banco di Sicilia have also agreed to issue a joint Press Statement in Malta and Italy to announce this understanding. This Press Statement is to be released at 13.00hrs on Monday, 11th October 2004.

Unquote

Victor J. Cardona ACIB, BA (Hons) Econ. CSA
Company Secretary

9th October 2004