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BOV/114

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

The Government of Malta has, today the 8th March 2005, issued a Press Release which is being quoted hereunder:

"PRESS RELEASE

SALE OF BOV SHARES BY MALTA GOVERNMENT AND BANCO DI SICILIA

With reference to recent speculation in the Press (both local and foreign) on the sale of shares in Bank of Valletta p.l.c. by the Malta Government and Banco di Sicilia S.p.A. (a subsidiary of Capitalia S.p.A.), Government wishes to clarify that, following the appointment of Rothschild S.p.A. as financial advisor, the process is under way.

Preparatory work on the Information Memorandum is in hand. At this stage, no banks have yet been approached."

Unquote

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

Company Secretary

8th March 2005