

COMPANY ANNOUNCEMENT

The following is a Company Announcement by HSBC Bank Malta p.l.c. pursuant to Malta Stock Exchange Bye-Law 6.05.04 (vi):

Quote

HSBC International Financial Services (UK) Limited have today transferred their shareholding in HSBC Bank Malta p.l.c., namely 25,547,455 shares (70.03%), to their fully-owned subsidiary HSBC Europe BV.

Unquote

Dr. Philip Farrugia Randon LL.D.

my Tanenglandor

Company Secretary

20 July 2000

HSBC Book Make p.l.c. Legal Office, Head Office, 168, Strait Street, Valletta VLT 08 Tel: (+356) 234928, 233349 Fax: (+356) 242014, 226889

ereil in Media number CS177. Registered Office: 293 Republic Street, Voltage VCF 03 intel by the Control Bank of Molta. The Molta Pinencial Services Contro and the Melte St Licerard to conduct Investment Services business by the Molte Pineaglei Services Caura.