



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 (i):

Quote:

As part of the HSBC Group restructuring process, HSBC Finance (Malta) Ltd, a subsidiary of HSBC Bank Malta p.l.c., has voluntarily surrendered its licence to the Central Bank of Malta in terms of the Financial Institutions Act 1994 consequent to a notice of dissolution and voluntary winding up on 31 December 2000.

The business previously undertaken by HSBC Finance (Malta) Ltd has been transferred to the parent bank, HSBC Bank Malta p.l.c.

Unquote

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Philip Farrugia Randon".

Dr. Philip Farrugia Randon LL.D. KM
Company Secretary

10 January 2001

HSBC Bank Malta p.l.c.
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Registered in Malta number C3177. Registered Office: 233 Republic Street, Valletta VLT 03
Regulated by the Central Bank of Malta, the Malta Financial Services Centre and the Malta Stock Exchange.
Licensed to conduct Investment Services business by the Malta Financial Services Centre.