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PRESS RELEASE

**BANCA MONTE DEI PASCHI DI SIENA
EXTRAORDINARY SHAREHOLDERS' MEETING:**

- *authority accorded to increase capital in exclusion of pre-emptive rights*
- *amendment of Articles of Association.*

Siena, 25 January 2013 – The extraordinary shareholders' meeting of Banca Monte dei Paschi di Siena S.p.A. met today and resolved to accord authority to the Board to increase capital, in exclusion of the pre-emptive rights of existing shareholders, for an amount of up to Euro 4,500,000,000.00, at the exclusive service of the exercise of the Bank's right to convert the New Financial Instruments provided for by Law Decree no. 95 of 6 July 2012, converted with amendments by Law no. 135 of 7 August 2012, as subsequently amended; and/or to increase capital, again in exclusion of the pre-emptive rights of existing shareholders, pursuant to articles 2443 and 2441, para. 5 of the Civil Code, through the issuance of ordinary shares for an amount of up to Euro 2,000,000,000.00, at the exclusive service of the interest payments to be made in shares pursuant to the regulations applicable to the New Financial Instruments as set forth in Law Decree no. 95 of 6 July 2012, converted with amendments by Law no. 135 of 7 August 2012, as subsequently amended.

Consequently, article 6 of the Articles of Association was amended.

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For further information contact:

Media Relations

Tel. +39 0577.296634
ufficio.stampa@banca.mps.it

Investor Relations

Tel: +39 0577.293038
investor.relations@banca.mps.it