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PRESS RELEASE

CONSOB approves the prospectus for the rights offering Envisaged timetable of the rights offering of Banca Monte dei Paschi di Siena

Siena, May 20, 2015 – Banca Monte dei Paschi di Siena (“**BMPS**”) announces that today CONSOB approved the Italian prospectus relating to the Offering and the admission to trading of the BMPS shares on the on the Mercato Telematico Azionario organized and managed by Borsa Italiana S.p.A. (“**MTA**”) of the up to Euro 3 billion capital increase, approved on April 16, 2015, by the Shareholders’ Meeting of BMPS (the “**Offering**”).

The Offering is expected to commence on May 25, 2015.

It is envisaged that the rights for the subscription of new BMPS shares will be exercisable between May 25, 2014 and June 12, 2015 inclusive, failing which such rights will expire without value (the “**Subscription Period**”). Rights can be traded on the MTA between May 25, 2015 and June 8, 2015 inclusive.

Within the month following the end of the Subscription Period, any rights not exercised during the Subscription Period will be offered on the Exchange for at least five trading days (to the extent not sold in full before), pursuant to art. 2441, paragraph 3, of the Italian Civil Code. The number of rights not exercised to be offered on the MTA and the dates of the rights auction on the Exchange will be announced by way of a notice within the day before the rights auction commences.

BMPS shares are admitted to trading on the MTA. The BMPS shares resulting from the Offering will have the same characteristics as the outstanding BMPS shares and same dividend entitlement (*godimento regolare*) and will be traded on the MTA.

It is also envisaged that tomorrow afternoon, May 21, 2015, the Board of Directors of BMPS will meet in order to decide the final terms of the Offering, including, *inter alia*, the issue price per share, the option ratio and the maximum overall amount of the Offering. The final terms of the Offering will be included in a supplement to the prospectus that will be published following CONSOB’s approval.

Relazioni con i Media

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The Italian prospectus will be made available within the terms provided for by law at the Issuer's Registered office, in Siena, Piazza Salimbeni, n. 3, and will also be published on the Bank's website www.mps.it .

This communication will be available at www.mps.it

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