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 DIRECTORS OF BANCA MONTE DEI
 PASCHI DI SIENA ASSESSES THE
 REQUIREMENTS AND INTERLOCKING
 PROHIBITION

Testo del comunicato

Vedi allegato.

PRESS RELEASE

**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF BANCA MONTE DEI PASCHI DI SIENA ASSESSES
THE REQUIREMENTS AND INTERLOCKING PROHIBITION FOR THE DIRECTORS
AND STATUTORY AUDITORS APPOINTED BY THE SHAREHOLDERS' MEETING ON
16 APRIL 2015**

The Board of Directors mostly consists of independent directors

Siena, 8 May 2015 – During today's meeting, the Board of Directors of Banca Monte dei Paschi di Siena assessed whether the Directors and Statutory Auditors appointed by the Shareholder's Meeting of 16 April 2015 meet the requirements of professionalism, honourable conduct and independence.

In particular, the Board assessed whether the following Directors: Stefania Bariatti, Daniele Bonvicini, Lucia Calvosa, Maria Elena Cappello, Alessandro Falciai, Fiorella Kostoris, Antonino Turicchi, Stefania Truzzoli qualify as independent, as provided for by the Bank's Articles of Association, in compliance with Legislative Decree no. 58/1998 (CFA - Consolidated Financial Act) and the principles of the Self-Regulation Code for Listed Companies, once examined the credit relationships attributable to the Directors who are deemed to be independent, pursuant to Circular no. 285 of the Bank of Italy.

In compliance with their statements, the following Directors: Béatrice Bernard, Roberto Isolani and Christian Whamond were deemed to be independent in accordance with the Consolidated Financial Act but not pursuant to the Self-Regulation Code and, therefore, have not been considered as independent according to the Bank's Articles of Association.

In addition, Fiorella Bianchi – who declared to be independent upon submission of the list where she was included – in view of the Shareholder's Meeting held last 16 April, during the controls of the Board of Directors was deemed to be independent in accordance with the Consolidated Financial Act, but not pursuant to the Self-Regulation Code, taking into account the considerable credit relationships between the Bank and the companies belonging to the group where said Director is the General Manager. However, she remains in office as a non-independent Director in accordance with the Articles of Association.

Therefore, the Board of Directors mostly consists of independent directors.

The Board of Directors also assessed the independence of the members of the Board of Statutory Auditors in compliance with the provisions of the Articles of Association and the Consolidated Financial Act.

The Board of Directors finally assessed the non-existence of any relevant situations pursuant to the regulations in relation to the interlocking prohibition for the directors, statutory auditors and top managers (CEOs and officer in charge of preparing corporate accounting documents) pursuant to art. 36 of Law Decree no. 201/2011 as converted by Law no. 214/2011.

This press release will be available on the Bank's website www.mps.it

Fine Comunicato n.0035-57

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