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Societa' : BANCA IFIS

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PRESS RELEASE

THE SUBSIDIARY BANCA IFIS S.P.A. LAUNCHES A VOLUNTARY TOTALITARIAN TENDER AND EXCHANGE OFFER OVER THE SHARES OF ILLIMITY BANK S.P.A.

THE TRANSACTION IS IN LINE WITH THE LONG-TERM VISION OF LA SCOGLIERA SA, WHICH AIMS TO ENSURE THE BANCA IFIS' GROUP A SUSTAINABLE AND LASTING INDUSTRIAL GROWTH PERSPECTIVE

THE BUSINESS COMBINATION WILL CREATE VALUE FOR ALL STAKEHOLDERS AND THE SHAREHOLDERS OF THE BANCA IFIS' GROUP AND ILLIMITY BANK

Lausanne, 8 January 2025

On the date hereof, Banca Ifis announced a voluntary tender and exchange offer for all the shares of illimity Bank S.p.A. The offer was communicated to the market pursuant to Article 102, paragraph 1 of the CFA and Article 37 of the Issuers' Regulation.

“The tender offer launched by Banca Ifis over the shares of illimity Bank addresses the need to find a strategic industrial solution aimed at strengthening the Bank's leadership position in the specialty finance market and accelerating its growth in a sustainable and long-term perspective, in line with our family vision as controlling shareholders?” declared **Ernesto Fürstenberg Fassio**, Chief Executive Officer of La Scogliera SA. *“The goal is to create a European industrial player capable of tackling the challenges posed by the banking market with solidity and vision, meeting the expectations of all the shareholders who will decide to join the project and continue the Banca Ifis Group's success story with us; a story that stands out for the degree of industrial and financial excellence achieved and for its sustainable approach to business management, to the benefit of companies, people and our country”.*

In line with the long-term view of the controlling shareholder of Banca Ifis, the transaction will allow the Group to accelerate its growth, strengthen its solidity, and maintain profitability and efficiency levels, while playing a leading role in the consolidation phase of the sector necessary to face a macroeconomic that will be characterised by increasing competitive pressure and an increasingly articulated and evolving regulatory framework, as well as a lower level of interest rates than those recorded in recent years.

Given the homogeneity of illimity Bank's business model and the potential synergies resulting from the merger of the two Groups, Banca Ifis will be able to strengthen its leading position in specialty finance and in the most profitable market segments in which the Bank grown and specialised in its successful journey of over 40 years: Corporate & Commercial Banking and NPLs (Non performing loans). This path, which has led the Bank to achieve a solid track record of positive industrial and financial results, has been taken with a mission of service to the country's productive and economic system, both by accompanying the development and digital and sustainable transformation of SMEs, and by acquiring and managing portfolios of impaired loans in a logic of efficiency for the banking system and financial reintegration for debtors.

In line with this vision, the business combination project focuses on the creation of sustainable and lasting value for all stakeholders: shareholders, through increased profitability and dividends, also thanks to Banca Ifis' historically high half-yearly *pay-out ratios*; customers, who will be able to access an even wider range of products and services; employees who will be able to benefit from

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opportunities for growth and professional development; and the country, which will be able to count on a leading player in the specialty finance market that has already proven to make a significant contribution to the efficiency of the entire system.

Fine Comunicato n.0147-9-2025

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