The following is the text of an announcement released to The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited on 19 October 2010 pursuant to rule 13.43 of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited:

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(Hong Kong Stock Code: 5)

HSBC HOLDINGS PLC

THIRD INTERIM DIVIDEND FOR 2010

Pursuant to Rule 13.43 of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited, notice is given that a meeting of Directors of HSBC Holdings plc will be held on Monday, 1 November 2010 to consider the declaration of a third interim dividend for 2010.

By Order of the Board R G Barber Group Company Secretary

19 October 2010

The Board of Directors of HSBC Holdings plc as at the date of this announcement are: S K Green, M F Geoghegan, S A Catz[†], V H C Cheng, M K T Cheung[†], J D Coombe[†], R A Fairhead[†], D J Flint, A A Flockhart, S T Gulliver, J W J Hughes-Hallett[†], W S H Laidlaw[†], J R Lomax[†], G Morgan[†], N R N Murthy[†], Sir Simon Robertson[†], J L Thornton[†] and Sir Brian Williamson[†].

[†] Independent non-executive Director