

HSBC HOLDINGS PLC

FOURTH INTERIM DIVIDEND FOR 2010

SCRIP DIVIDEND ALTERNATIVE

110,222,824 ordinary shares of US\$0.50 each have been issued by HSBC Holdings plc to shareholders who elected to receive the scrip dividend alternative for the fourth interim dividend for 2010, payable on 5 May 2011. The shares rank pari passu with the existing issued ordinary shares of the Company.

Application has been made to the Financial Services Authority for the shares to be admitted to the Official List and to the London Stock Exchange for the shares to be admitted to trading. Dealings are expected to commence on 5 May 2011.

R G Barber

Group Company Secretary

5 May 2011