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The following is the text of an announcement released to the other stock exchanges on which HSBC Holdings plc is listed.

**HSBC HOLDINGS PLC
THIRD INTERIM DIVIDEND FOR 2011**

96,994,187 ordinary shares of US\$0.50 each have been allotted by HSBC Holdings plc to shareholders who elected to receive the scrip dividend alternative for the third interim dividend for 2011.

The shares will be issued on 18 January 2012 and will 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 18 January 2012.

R G Barber

Group Company Secretary

12 January 2012

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

[†] Independent non-executive Director

Hong Kong Stock Code: 5