

21 March 2012

HSBC HOLDINGS PLC FOURTH INTERIM DIVIDEND FOR 2011 SCRIP DIVIDEND ALTERNATIVE

On 27 February 2012, the Directors of HSBC Holdings plc declared a fourth interim dividend for 2011 of US\$0.14 per ordinary share payable on 2 May 2012 to holders of record on 15 March 2012 on the Hong Kong Overseas Branch Register and 16 March 2012 on the Principal Register in the United Kingdom or the Bermuda Overseas Branch Register. The dividend is payable in cash in United States dollars, sterling or Hong Kong dollars, or a combination of these currencies, with a scrip dividend alternative. The 'Market Value' for the issue of new shares under the scrip dividend alternative is:

US\$9.1170 for each new share

The 'Market Value' is the United States dollar equivalent of £5.7466 being the average of the middle market quotations for the ordinary shares on the London Stock Exchange as derived from the Daily Official List for the five business days beginning on 14 March 2012.

Dividends payable in cash in sterling or Hong Kong dollars on 2 May 2012 will be converted from United States dollars at the forward exchange rates quoted by HSBC Bank plc in London at or about 11.00am on 23 April 2012. These exchange rates will be announced to the London, Hong Kong, New York, Paris and Bermuda stock exchanges.

Particulars of the dividend arrangements will be sent to shareholders on or about 27 March 2012 and elections must be received by the Registrars by 19 April 2012.

R G Barber Group Company Secretary HSBC Holdings plc

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Media enquiries to Brendan McNamara on +44 (0)20 7991 0655.

Note to editors:

HSBC Holdings plc

HSBC Holdings plc, the parent company of the HSBC Group, is headquartered in London. The Group serves customers worldwide from around 7,200 offices in over 80 countries and territories in Europe, the Asia-Pacific region, North and Latin America, the Middle East and Africa. With assets of US\$2,556bn at 31 December 2011, HSBC is one of the world's largest banking and financial services organisations.

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