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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.*

19 November 2012

## **HSBC STATEMENT**

HSBC Holdings plc (“HSBC”) notes the recent press speculation about a possible sale of its 15.57% shareholding in Ping An Insurance (Group) Co. of China Limited.

HSBC has from time to time received approaches regarding its shareholding and confirms that it is in discussions which may or may not lead to the sale of the shares.

A further announcement will be made if or when appropriate.

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<sup>†</sup>, L M L Cha<sup>†</sup>, M K T Cheung<sup>†</sup>, J D Coombe<sup>†</sup>, J Faber<sup>†</sup>, R A Fairhead<sup>†</sup>, J W J Hughes-Hallett<sup>†</sup>, W S H Laidlaw<sup>†</sup>, J P Lipsky<sup>†</sup>, J R Lomax<sup>†</sup>, I J Mackay, N R N Murthy<sup>†</sup>, Sir Simon Robertson<sup>†</sup> and J L Thornton<sup>†</sup>.

<sup>†</sup> Independent non-executive Director

Hong Kong Stock Code: 5