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The following text is the English version of a news release issued in Germany by HSBC Trinkaus & Burkhardt AG, an 80.4% indirectly owned subsidiary of HSBC Holdings plc., which has been released to the other stock exchanges on which HSBC Holdings plc is listed.

14 November 2012

HSBC TRINKAUS & BURKHARDT AG THIRD QUARTER 2012 RESULTS

- Operating profit of €178.9m was 10.4% higher than for the comparable period of 2011 (€162.1m).
- Net profit of €124.6m was 8% higher than for the comparable period of 2011 (€115.5m).
- Net interest income improved significantly by 24%, to €135.3m, compared to the first nine months of 2011 (€109.3m).
- Net fee income of €93.4m was slightly below the comparable period of 2011 (€96.0m).
- Core tier 1 capital ratio remains solid at 11.7% (31 December 2011: 11.5%).

In a difficult market environment HSBC Trinkaus & Burkhardt AG ('HSBC Trinkaus' or the 'bank') recorded a strong performance in the first nine months of 2012. Operating profit of €178.9m was 10.4% higher than for the comparable period of 2011 (€162.1m). The increase was due primarily to higher levels of net interest income and net trading income, partially offset by higher administrative expenses arising from a one-off restructuring provision in respect of the organisational effectiveness programme. At €124.6m, net profit was 8% higher than for the first nine months of 2011 (€115.5m).

The core tier 1 capital ratio improved slightly to 11.7% compared with 11.5% at 31 December 2011. The bank, which meets the higher capitalisation requirements under Basel III, has sufficient capital to allow for further business expansion. The bank's long-term 'AA' issuer rating was reaffirmed by Fitch in April 2012. HSBC Trinkaus therefore retains the highest Fitch rating of all the German private commercial banks.

Financial commentary

Net interest income increased significantly, up 24%, to €35.3m, compared to the first nine months of 2011 (€109.3m). The increase is attributable to higher volumes of loans and advances to customers and an increased holding of financial assets used as a liquidity cushion. This increase was achieved against a backdrop of declining margins in the deposit, and to a lesser extent the lending, businesses.

There was a net release of loan impairment and other credit risk of €1.4m in the first nine months of 2012 (€2.8m in the comparable period in 2011). An increase in collectively assessed impairments was more than offset by releases of individually assessed impairments against a small number of exposures.

At €93.4m, net fee income was just below the net fee income for the comparable period in 2011 (€96.0m). In the securities and investment banking businesses, reduced customer demand resulted in lower transaction volumes in line with reduced market turnover. The resulting fall in net fee income was largely offset by an increase in fees from the foreign exchange and derivatives businesses.

Net trading income improved by 53.1% to €47.4m (€96.3m in the first nine months of 2011). This increase was primarily due to a one-off gain in equity trading arising during the second quarter of the year, augmented by higher treasury trading results.

Administrative expenses increased by 8.1% to €97.1m (€67.2m in the first nine months of 2011) mainly due to a one-off restructuring provision. At 68.2% the cost efficiency ratio remained within an appropriate range of 65% to 70% for the business model of HSBC Trinkaus. The moderate decline in the size of the workforce, following the organisational effectiveness programme, should lead to a significant decrease in administrative expenses. The benefits from the programme have already had a positive impact in reducing other administrative expenses during the third quarter of 2012.

Income from financial assets improved by €3.0m to €9.5m for the first nine months of 2012. Write-downs of investments in the real estate sector were offset by higher gains on disposals and releases of impairments against financial securities.

HSBC Trinkaus & Burkhardt AG Third Quarter 2012 results/3

HSBC Trinkaus' total assets increased by 19.1% since the end of 2011, to €24.6bn as at 30 September 2012 (31 December 2011: €20.6bn). 50% of assets are funded by customer deposits, which remain the bank's main source of funding. The bank's financial position remains characterised by excellent liquidity. HSBC Trinkaus' capital ratio remains high at 15.0%, the same level as 31 December 2011.

Business segment information

The Institutional Clients, Corporate Banking and Global Markets segments improved their results compared to first nine months of 2011. On the other hand, earnings in the high net worth private clients business declined due to lower levels of client-led business activities in the current uncertain economic environment.

Outlook

Thanks to its proven business model and strong capital base HSBC Trinkaus is in a strong position and will continue to work towards achieving its growth strategy in all business segments. Despite the fact that there are indicators of a slowdown in economic activity in Germany, the bank is anticipating earnings around the prior-year level for 2012.

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Notes to editors:

1. HSBC Trinkaus & Burkhardt AG

HSBC Trinkaus is a commercial bank which draws on its more than 227-year-old tradition as a trusted advisor to its clients. It is one of Germany's leading banks and a member of the HSBC Group, one of the world's largest banking and financial services organisations. HSBC Trinkaus' particular strength lies in its detailed knowledge of the international markets, mainly the emerging markets, and in its global network which helps its clients grasp international opportunities. With more than 2,500 employees HSBC Trinkaus can be found in seven locations in Germany in addition to the head office in Düsseldorf and has access to the global network of the HSBC Group. With total assets of €24.6bn and €144.6bn in funds under management and administration and a long-term 'AA' issuer rating unchanged since December 2007, the bank has the highest Fitch rating of any of the German private commercial banks. The bank's central target groups are corporate clients, institutional clients and wealthy private clients. (Figures as at 30 September 2012).

HSBC Trinkaus' press releases can be found on the www.hsbctrinkaus.de homepage under 'Press'.

2. HSBC Holdings plc

HSBC Holdings plc, the parent company of the HSBC Group, is headquartered in London. The Group serves customers worldwide from around 6,900 offices in over 80 countries and territories in Europe, the Asia-Pacific region, North and Latin America, and the Middle East and North Africa. With assets of US\$2,721bn at 30 September 2012, the HSBC Group is one of the world's largest banking and financial services organisations.

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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[†], J Faber[†], R A Fairhead[†], J W J Hughes-Hallett[†], W S H Laidlaw[†], J P Lipsky[†], J R Lomax[†], I J Mackay, N R N Murthy[†], Sir Simon Robertson[†] and J L Thornton[†].

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