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HSBC Holdings plc

Incorporated in England with limited liability. Registered in England: number 617987.

Registered Office and Group Management Office: 8 Canada Square, London E14 5HQ, United Kingdom.

Web: www.hsbc.com

Hong Kong Stock code: 5

9 October 2012

**HSBC HOLDINGS PLC
THIRD INTERIM DIVIDEND FOR 2012 ON ORDINARY SHARES**

The Directors of HSBC Holdings plc have declared a third interim dividend of US\$0.09 per ordinary share in respect of the year ending 31 December 2012 in accordance with their intention, as set out in the 2011 Annual Report and Accounts, to pay quarterly dividends on the ordinary shares in a pattern of three equal dividends with a variable fourth interim dividend. The ordinary shares will be quoted ex-dividend in London, Hong Kong, Paris and Bermuda on 24 October 2012. The American Depositary Shares will be quoted ex-dividend in New York on 24 October 2012. The dividend will be payable on 12 December 2012 to holders of record on 25 October 2012 on the Hong Kong Overseas Branch Register and 26 October 2012 on the Principal Register in the United Kingdom or the Bermuda Overseas Branch Register.

The third interim dividend will be payable on 12 December 2012 in cash in US dollars, sterling or Hong Kong dollars, or a combination of these currencies, at the forward exchange rates quoted by HSBC Bank plc in London at or about 11.00am on 3 December 2012, and with a scrip dividend alternative. Particulars of these arrangements will be mailed to holders of ordinary shares on or about 7 November 2012 and elections will be required to be made by 28 November 2012.

Any person who has acquired ordinary shares registered on the Hong Kong Overseas Branch Register but who has not lodged the share transfer with the Hong Kong Overseas Branch Registrar should do so before 4.00pm on 25 October 2012 in order to receive the dividend.

Any person who has acquired ordinary shares registered on the Principal Register in the United Kingdom but who has not lodged the share transfer with the Principal Registrar should do so before 4.00pm on 26 October 2012 in order to receive the dividend.

Any person who has acquired ordinary shares registered on the Bermuda Overseas Branch Register but who has not lodged the share transfer with the Bermuda Overseas Branch Registrar should do so before 4.00pm on 26 October 2012 in order to receive the dividend.

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HSBC Holdings plc – Third Interim Dividend for 2012 on Ordinary Shares/2

Removals of ordinary shares may not be made to or from the Hong Kong Overseas Branch Register on 26 October 2012. Accordingly any person who wishes to remove shares to the Hong Kong Overseas Branch Register must lodge the removal request with the Principal Registrar in the United Kingdom or the Bermuda Overseas Branch Registrar by 4.00pm on 24 October 2012. Any person who wishes to remove shares from the Hong Kong Overseas Branch Register must lodge the removal request with the Hong Kong Overseas Branch Registrar by 4.00pm on 25 October 2012.

Payment on Ordinary Shares held through Euroclear France

The dividend will be payable on ordinary shares held through Euroclear France, the settlement and central depository system for Euronext Paris, on 12 December 2012 to the holders of record on 26 October 2012. The dividend will be payable by Euroclear France in cash, in euros, at the forward exchange rate quoted by HSBC France at or about 12 noon on 3 December 2012, or as a scrip dividend. Particulars of these arrangements will be announced through Euronext Paris on 15 October and 31 October 2012.

Payment on American Depository Shares

The dividend will be payable on American Depository Shares, each of which represents five ordinary shares, on 12 December 2012 to holders of record on 26 October 2012. The dividend of US\$0.45 per American Depository Share will be payable by the depository in cash in US dollars or as a scrip dividend of new American Depository Shares. Particulars of these arrangements will be mailed to holders on or about 7 November 2012 and elections will be required to be made by 21 November 2012. Alternatively, the cash dividend may be invested in additional American Depository Shares for participants in the dividend reinvestment plan operated by the depository.

In order to be eligible to receive the dividend, American Depository Shares must be registered on the books of the depository by close of business on 26 October 2012.

The Directors of HSBC Holdings plc 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[†].

[†] *Independent non-executive Director*

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Media enquiries to Patrick Humphris on +44 (0)20 7992 1631.

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 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\$2,652bn at 30 June 2012, the HSBC Group is one of the world's largest banking and financial services organisations.

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By Order of the Board
R G Barber
Group Company Secretary