

JOINT PRESS RELEASE

NEGOTIATION RELATING TO THE SALE OF BIVERBANCA

Torino, Milano, Siena, 15th May 2007 – The Management Board of Intesa Sanpaolo and the Board of Directors of Banca Monte dei Paschi di Siena gave a mandate to CEO Corrado Passera and General Manager Antonio Vigni respectively to negotiate the sale of 55% of Biverbanca currently owned by Intesa Sanpaolo, also envisaging a possible exchange of assets.

Any further development will be duly communicated to the market.

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