

SATURDAY 18TH APRIL AT THE VENETO BANCA HOLDING SHAREHOLDERS' MEETING

The Board of Directors agreed to provide a fund of 750,000 Euros to help the victims of the earthquake in Abruzzo.

The Annual Shareholders' meeting of Veneto Banca Holding s.p.a. will take place on 18th April at Villa Spineda Gasparini Loredan in Venegazzù, the head offices of Veneto Banca s.p.a., the commercial bank controlled by the Holding company. The meeting is due to start at 9.00. The agenda includes the nomination of 4 administrators: Up for re-election were the President Flavio Trinca, the Veronese businessman Attilio Carlesso, Paolo Rossi Chauvenet a businessman from Padua, and Luigi Fumagalli, lawyer and University lecturer from Piedmont.

The last-mentioned has expressed their intention not to stand again and in his place Ambrogio Dalla Rovere has been proposed, a businessman from Vicenza.

The 2008 balance, share price, appearance fees for the Board of Directors and the selection of auditors for the consolidated balance are the other matters on the meeting's agenda, upon which the Shareholders will be asked to vote.

Saturday 18th is important because Veneto Banca Holding, which is now one of the biggest co-operative banks in the country not listed on the stock exchange, despite the period of crisis, is preparing to approve very positive 2008 results.

"The Group has a gross banking product in excess of 42 billion Euros," points out CEO Vincenzo Consoli. "Loans have reached 16 billion Euros, with an increase of 15.4% over December 2007, a confirmation of the continuing support our banks are providing companies and families. We closed 2008 with a net profit of 116.5 million Euros, achieved with the excellent contribution of banks and companies created by the Group, registering 25.6% increase over 2007."

"In a year when fluctuations in the stock market have destroyed financial wealth, we continue to create value," highlights President Flavio, "for Shareholders but also for all stakeholders. We will be proposing a dividend of 0.60 Euros and an increase in share value of 1.50 Euros, from last year's price of 35.50 to 37 Euros."

"During this dramatic crisis the co-operative banks have shown themselves to be particularly resilient," continues Mr Trinca, "and have demonstrated that they are without doubt a significant stabilizing influence in the system. We as a Group have continued to invest in and support the local area, through our foundations (Intra and Veneto Banca), which continue to provide resources for local voluntary, cultural and aid institutions. But our commitment does not stop here, given that solidarity is one of the cardinal principles of co-operative banking. Some days ago, in fact, our Board of Directors agreed to make 750,000 Euros in aid available for the victims of the earthquake in Abruzzo."

Currently, the Veneto Banca Group comprises Veneto Banca, which operates in Veneto and Friuli Venezia Giulia, Banca Popolare di Intra, with branches in Piedmont and Lombardy, and Banca Meridiana, which is situated in Puglia and Basilicata.

Abroad, the Group is present in Romania with Banca Italo Romena, in Moldova with Eximbank, in Croatia with Veneto Banka and in Albania with BIS (Banca Italiana di Sviluppo or Italian Development Bank).