

**PRESS RELEASE**

**Corporate and Investment Banking Division's international consolidation plan still underway**

**INTESA SANPAOLO: SYDNEY REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE OPERATIONAL**

- **The new representative office will report to the Hong Kong Hub Branch**

*Milan, 11 April 2013* - **Intesa Sanpaolo is opening a representative office in Sydney**, confirming the Group's commitment to assist Italian enterprises that operate or intend to operate on international markets in order to seek new growth opportunities.

The Sydney Office represents the local point of reference for Australia in the **international network maintained by the Corporate & Investment Banking Division** and will be coordinated by the **Hong Kong Hub Branch**, responsible for the **Asia-Pacific** area, where the Group is also present in Shanghai, Singapore, Tokyo, Beijing, Ho Chi Minh City, Mumbai and Seoul.

**Australia**, which in the past 20 years has seen constant GDP growth and is rated "AAA stable" by international ratings agencies, is not a new market for the **Bank**, which, through its Hong Kong branch, **has actively operated there for several years and thoroughly studied its potential**, in terms of both the interests of Italian companies and those of the Group's international corporate customers.

In addition to developing **relations with international organisations** and the **financial and business community**, the Representative Office **will promote correspondent banking** services, interacting with the country's major banks, **offer assistance and advice to companies** for entry and development on the local market, **be committed to the acquisition of international customers** and **act as a bridge** for corporate and financial institutions seeking investment opportunities and **partnerships in Italy**.

In addition, by operating in close synergy with the Hong Kong Branch, the Sydney Office will support commercial banking activities and offer corporate and project finance products, with a particular focus on the sectors power and utilities, oil and gas, technology, media and telecommunications, and mining and infrastructure, as well as cash management and trade services.

The opening of the Sydney Representative Office strengthens the international presence maintained by the Group, which is already **active in over 40 countries**. **Intesa Sanpaolo**, with a network of branches, representative offices and banks specialised in corporate banking, is **present in 30 countries** in support of the cross-border activity of its corporate and enterprise customers through its **International Department** and **Corporate and Investment Banking Division**. Finally, through its subsidiaries in the **International Subsidiary Banks Division**, it ensures strategic coverage of the territory in **12 other countries** in Central Eastern Europe, the Middle East and North Africa, providing retail and commercial banking as well as corporate banking services.

For information

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