#### MEDIOBANCA - Banca di Credito Finanziario S.p.A.

(incorporated with limited liability as a "Società per Azioni" under the laws of the Republic of Italy)

# Euro 5,000,000,000 Covered Bond Programme unconditionally and irrevocably guaranteed as to payments of interest and principal by Mediobanca Covered Bond S.r.l.

(incorporated with limited liability as a "Società a responsabilità limitata" under the laws of the Republic of Italy)



The €5,000,000,000 Covered Bond Programme (the "**Programme**") described in this base prospectus (the "**Base Prospectus**") has been established by Mediobanca – Banca di Credito Finanziario S.p.A. (in its capacity as issuer of the Covered Bonds (as defined below), "**Mediobanca**" or the "**Issuer**") for the issuance of covered bonds (the "**Covered Bonds**") guaranteed by Mediobanca Covered Bond S.r.l. (the "**Guarantor**") pursuant to Article 7-bis of law 30 April 1999, No. 130 ("**Law 130/99**"), Ministerial Decree No. 310 of the Ministry for the Economy and Finance of 14 December 2006 (the "**MEF Decree**") and the regulation issued by the Bank of Italy on 24 March 2010, as from time to time amended/supplemented/replaced by subsequent regulations, including by the 8th supplement dated 18 November 2011 of the Bank of Italy Circular no. 263 of 27 December 2006 (the "**BoI Regulations**" and together with Law 130/99 and the MEF Decree, the "**Covered Bonds Law**"), as amended and implemented from time to time. The maximum aggregate nominal amount of all the Covered Bonds from time to time outstanding under the Programme will not exceed € 5,000,000,000 (or its equivalent in other currencies calculated as described herein).

The Covered Bonds constitute direct, unconditional, unsecured and unsubordinated obligations of the Issuer and will rank pari passu without preference among themselves and (save for any applicable statutory provisions) at least equally with all other present and future unsecured and unsubordinated obligations of the Issuer from time to time outstanding. In the event of a compulsory winding-up (liquidazione coatta amministrativa) of the Issuer, any funds realised and payable to the Bondholders will be collected by the Guarantor on their behalf and will be included in the Cover Pool, in accordance with the provisions of Article 4, Paragraph 3 of the MEF Decree. The Guarantor issued a first demand (a prima richiesta), autonomous, unconditional and irrevocable guarantee securing the payment obligations of the Issuer under the Covered Bonds (the "Guarantee"), collateralised by a portfolio of residential and commercial mortgage loans assigned and to be assigned to the Guarantor by the Seller (and/or, as the case may be, by any Additional Seller) and of other Eligible Assets and Integration Assets, in accordance with the Covered Bonds Law. The recourse of the Bondholders to the Guarantor under the Guarantee will be limited to the assets of the Cover Pool subject to, and in accordance with, the relevant Priority of Payments pursuant to which specified payments will be made to other parties prior to payments to the Bondholders.

Application has been made to the *Commission de Surveillance du Secteur Financier* ("CSSF"), in its capacity as competent authority in Luxembourg under Directive 2003/71/EC as from time to time amended (the "**Prospectus Directive**") and relevant implementing measures in Luxembourg for approval of this Base Prospectus. The CSSF assumes no responsibility as to the economic and financial soundness of the transaction and the quality or solvency of the Issuer in line with the provisions of article 7(7) of the Luxembourg Law on prospectuses for securities.

Application has also been made for Covered Bonds issued under the Programme during the period of 12 months from the date of this Base Prospectus to be listed on the official list of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange (the "Official List") and admitted to trading on the regulated market of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange. The Luxembourg Stock Exchange's regulated market is a regulated market for the purposes of Directive 2004/39/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on markets in financial instruments. However, unlisted Covered Bonds may be issued pursuant to the Programme. The relevant Final Terms in respect of the issue of any Covered Bonds will specify whether or not such Covered Bonds will be listed on the Official List and admitted to trading on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange's regulated market (or any other stock exchange). Application may also be made for notification to be given to competent authorities in other Member States of the European Economic Area in order to permit Covered Bonds issued under the Programme to be offered to the public and admitted to trading on regulated markets in such other Member States in accordance with the procedures under the Prospectus Directive

Notice of the aggregate nominal amount of the Covered Bonds of each Series (or Tranche), interest (if any) payable in respect of the Covered Bonds of each Series (or Tranche), the issue price of the Covered Bonds of each Series (or Tranche) and any other terms and conditions not contained herein which are applicable to each Series (or Tranche) (as defined under "Terms and Conditions of the Covered Bonds") of Covered Bonds will be set out in a final terms document (the "Final Terms") relating to such Series (or Tranche) prepared in accordance with the provisions of this Base Prospectus and, if listed, to be delivered to the regulated market of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange on or before the date of issue of such Series (or Tranche).

The Covered Bonds will be issued in dematerialised form (*emesse in forma dematerializzata*) on the terms of, and subject to, the Terms and Conditions of the Covered Bonds and the relevant Final Terms and will be held in such form on behalf of the beneficial owners, until redemption or cancellation thereof, by Monte Titoli S.p.A. ("Monte Titoli") for the account of the relevant Monte Titoli Account Holders. The expression "Monte Titoli Account Holders" means any authorised institution entitled to hold accounts on behalf of their customers with Monte Titoli (and includes any relevant Clearing System) which holds account with Monte Titoli or any depository banks appointed by any authorised financial intermediary institution entitled to hold accounts on behalf of their customers with Monte Titoli and includes any depository banks appointed by Euroclear Bank S.A. / N.V. ("Euroclear") and Clearstream Banking, société anonyme, Luxembourg ("Clearstream"). Each Series (or Tranche) is and will be deposited with Monte Titoli on the relevant Issue Date (as defined in the "Terms and Conditions of the Covered Bonds" below). Covered Bonds will at all time be evidenced by, and title thereto will be transferrable by means of, book-entries in accordance with the provisions of (i) Article 83-bis and ff. of the Legislative Decree no. 58 of 24 February 1998 and (ii) the Joint Resolution (as defined below), as subsequently amended and supplemented from time to time. Monte Titoli shall act as depository for Clearstream and Euroclear. No certificate or physical document of title will be issued in respect of the Covered Bonds.

Before the Maturity Date the Covered Bonds will be subject to optional redemption in whole or in part in certain circumstances, as set out in Condition 10 (Redemption and Purchase).

Each Series (or Tranche) issued under the Programme specified in the relevant Final Terms can be assigned a rating by Standard & Poor's Rating Services, a division of The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. ("S&P" or the "Rating Agency"). Conditions precedent to the issuance of any Series or Tranche include that the Rating Agency confirms (where applicable) that the issuance of such Series or Tranches will not result in a reduction or withdrawal of the then current ratings of any of the then outstanding Series or Tranche.

All the credit ratings included or referred to in this Base Prospectus have been issued by S&P which is established in the European Union and registered under Regulation (EC) No 1060/2009 (as amended by Regulation (EU) No. 513/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 May 2011) of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 September 2009 on credit rating agencies. A credit rating is not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold Covered Bonds and may be subject to revision or withdrawal by the assigning Rating Agency and each rating shall be evaluated independently of any other.

An investment in Covered Bonds issued under the Programme involves certain risks. For a discussion of these risks, see "Risk Factors" beginning on page 39.

Arranger of the Programme

Mediobanca – Banca di Credito Finanziario S.p.A.

#### RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENTS AND NOTICE TO INVESTORS

This document constitutes a base prospectus for the Issuer for the purposes of Article 5.4 of the Prospectus Directive (the "Base Prospectus") and for the purposes of giving information with regard to the Issuer, the Seller, the Guarantor, the Covered Bonds and the Asset Monitor which, according to the particular nature of the Covered Bonds, is necessary to enable investors to make an informed assessment of the assets and liabilities, financial position, profit and losses and prospects of the Issuer, of the Seller, of the Guarantor, of the Asset Monitor and of the rights attaching to the Covered Bonds.

The Issuer accepts responsibility for the information contained in this Base Prospectus other than (i) those information (regarding the Seller, the Credit and Collection Policies and the Cover Pool) for which the Seller accepts responsibility, (ii) those information (regarding the Guarantor) for which the Guarantor accepts responsibility and (iii) those information (regarding the Asset Monitor) for which the Asset Monitor accepts responsibility.

The Seller accepts responsibility for the information contained in this Base Prospectus under the sections headed "Description of the Seller", "Credit and Collection Policies" and "The Cover Pool". To the best of the knowledge of the Seller (having taken all reasonable care to ensure that such is the case) the information and data in relation to which it is responsible as described above are in accordance with the facts and do not contain any omission likely to affect the import of such information and data. The Seller accepts responsibility for its relevant sections of this Base Prospectus, but does not accept responsibility for any other parts of this Base Prospectus.

The Guarantor accepts responsibility for the information contained in this Base Prospectus under the sections headed "Description of the Guarantor". To the best of the knowledge of the Guarantor (having taken all reasonable care to ensure that such is the case) the information and data in relation to which it is responsible as described above are in accordance with the facts and do not contain any omission likely to affect the import of such information and data. The Guarantor accepts responsibility for its relevant section of this Base Prospectus, but does not accept responsibility for any other parts of this Base Prospectus.

The Asset Monitor accepts responsibility for the information contained in this Base Prospectus under the sections headed "Description of the Asset Monitor". To the best of the knowledge of the Asset Monitor (having taken all reasonable care to ensure that such is the case) the information and data in relation to which it is responsible as described above are in accordance with the facts and do not contain any omission likely to affect the import of such information and data. The Asset Monitor accepts responsibility for its relevant section of this Base Prospectus, but does not accept responsibility for any other part of this Base Prospectus.

Each of the Issuer and the Guarantor, having made all reasonable enquiries, confirms that (i) this Base Prospectus contains all information with respect to the Issuer and the Guarantor, the Covered Bonds and the Guarantee which is material in the context of the issue and offering of the Covered Bonds, (ii) the statements contained in this Base Prospectus relating to the Issuer and the Guarantor are in every material respect true and accurate and not misleading, the opinions and intentions expressed in this Base Prospectus with regard to the Issuer and the Guarantor are honestly held, have been reached after considering all relevant circumstances and are based on reasonable assumptions, (iii) there are no other facts in relation to the Issuer, the Guarantor, the Covered Bonds or the Guarantee the omission of which would, in the context of the issue and offering of Covered Bonds, make any statement in this Base Prospectus misleading in any material respect and (iv) all reasonable enquiries have been made by the Issuer and the Guarantor to ascertain such facts and to verify the accuracy of all such information and statements.

This Base Prospectus should be read and construed with any supplement hereto and with any other documents incorporated by reference herein and, in relation to any Series/Tranche of Covered Bonds, should be read and construed together with the relevant Final Terms. Copies of the Final Terms will be available from the registered office of the Issuer and the specified office set out below of the Luxembourg Listing Agent (as defined below) and on the website of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange (www.bourse.lu).

Full information on the Issuer, the Guarantor, the Seller and any Series/Tranche of Covered Bonds is only available on the basis of the combination of the Base Prospectus, any supplements, the relevant Final Terms and the documents incorporated by reference.

Capitalised terms used in this Base Prospectus shall have the meaning ascribed to them in the "*Terms and Conditions of the Covered Bonds*" below, unless otherwise defined in the single section of this Base Prospectus in which they are used.

No person has been authorised to give any information or to make any representation other than those contained in this Base Prospectus in connection with the issue or sale of the Covered Bonds and, if given or made, such information or representation must not be relied upon as having been authorised by the Issuer, the Guarantor or any of the Dealers. Neither the delivery of this Base Prospectus or any Final Terms nor any sale made in connection herewith shall, under any circumstances, create any implication that there has been no change in the affairs of the Issuer or the Guarantor since the date hereof or the date upon which this document has been most recently supplemented or that there has been no adverse change in the financial position of either the Issuer or the Guarantor since the date hereof or the date upon which this document has been most recently supplemented or that any other information supplied in connection with the Programme is correct as of any time subsequent to the date on which it is supplied or, if different, the date indicated in the document containing the same.

The contents of this Base Prospectus should not be construed as providing legal, business, accounting or tax advice. Each prospective investor should determine for itself the relevance of the information contained in this Base Prospectus and its purchase of Covered Bonds should be based upon such investigation as it deems necessary and should consult its own legal, business, accounting and tax advisers prior to making a decision to invest in the Covered Bonds.

The Arranger, the Dealers and the Representative of the Bondholders have not separately verified the information contained in this Base Prospectus. Accordingly none of the Arranger, the Dealers or the Representative of the Bondholders makes any representation, express or implied, or accepts any responsibility, with respect to the accuracy or completeness of any of the information in this Base Prospectus or any other information provided by the Issuer, the Seller, the Guarantor or the Asset Manager in connection with the Covered Bonds or their distribution.

Neither this Base Prospectus nor any other information supplied in connection with the Programme or the issue of any Covered Bonds constitutes an offer of, or an invitation by or on behalf of the Issuer, the Guarantor or any of the Dealers to subscribe for, or purchase, any Covered Bonds.

This Base Prospectus does not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy any Covered Bonds in any jurisdiction to any person to whom it is unlawful to make the offer or solicitation in such jurisdiction. The distribution of this Base Prospectus and the offer or sale of the Covered Bonds may be restricted by law in certain jurisdictions. The Issuer, the Seller, the Guarantor, the Dealers, the Asset Monitor, the Arranger and the Representative of the Bondholders do not represent that this Base Prospectus may be lawfully distributed, or that any Covered Bond may be lawfully offered, in compliance with any applicable registration or other requirements in any such jurisdiction, or pursuant to an exemption available thereunder, or assume any responsibility for facilitating any such distribution or offering. In particular,

unless specifically indicated to the contrary in the applicable Final Terms, no action has been taken by the Issuer, the Seller, the Guarantor, the Dealers, the Arranger and the Representative of the Bondholders which is intended to permit a public offering of any Covered Bonds outside Luxembourg or distribution of this Base Prospectus in any jurisdiction where action for that purpose is required. Accordingly, no Covered Bonds may be offered or sold, directly or indirectly, and neither this Base Prospectus nor any advertisement or other offering material may be distributed or published in any jurisdiction, except under circumstances that will result in compliance with any applicable laws and regulations. Persons into whose possession this Base Prospectus or any Covered Bonds may come must inform themselves about, and observe, any such restrictions on the distribution of this Base Prospectus and the offering and sale of Covered Bonds. In particular, there are restrictions on the distribution of this Base Prospectus and the offer or sale of Covered Bonds in the United States, Japan and the European Economic Area (including the United Kingdom, the Republic of Italy, Ireland, Luxembourg, France and the Netherlands), see also section headed "Subscription and Sale".

The language of the Base Prospectus is English. Where a claim relating to the information contained in this Base Prospectus is brought before a court in a member State of the European Economic Area (a **Member State**), the plaintiff may, under the national legislation of the Member State where the claim is brought, be required to bear the costs of translating the Base Prospectus before the legal proceedings are initiated.

In this Base Prospectus, references to € or **euro** or **Euro** are to the single currency introduced at the start of the Third Stage of European Economic and Monetary Union pursuant to the Treaty establishing the European Community, as amended; references to **U.S.** or **U.S.** Dollar are to the currency of the Unites States of America; references to £ or **UK Sterling** are to the currency of the United Kingdom; references to Italy are to the Republic of Italy; references to laws and regulations are, unless otherwise specified, to the laws and regulations of Italy; and references to billions are to thousands of millions.

Certain monetary amounts and currency conversions included in this Base Prospectus have been subject to rounding adjustments; accordingly, figures shown as totals in certain tables may not be an arithmetic aggregation of the figures which preceded them.

This Base Prospectus may only be used for the purpose for which it has been published.

This Base Prospectus and any Final Terms may not be used for the purpose of an offer or solicitation by anyone in any jurisdiction in which such offer or solicitation is not authorised or to any person to whom it is unlawful to make such an offer or solicitation.

Each initial and subsequent purchaser of a Covered Bond will be deemed, by its acceptance of the purchase of such Covered Bond, to have made certain acknowledgements, representations and agreements intended to restrict the resale or other transfer thereof as set forth therein and described in this Base Prospectus and, in connection therewith, may be required to provide confirmation of its compliance with such resale or other transfer restrictions in certain cases.

The Arranger is acting for the Issuer and no one else in connection with the Programme and will not be responsible to any person other than the Issuer for providing the protection afforded to clients of the Arranger or for providing advice in relation to the issue of the Covered Bonds.

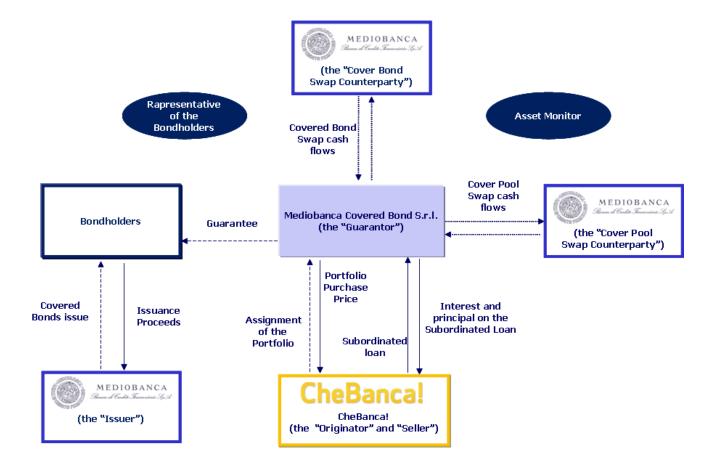
In connection with the issue of any Series or Tranche under the Programme, the Dealer (if any) which is specified in the relevant Final Terms as the stabilising manager (the Stabilising Manager) or any person acting for the Stabilising Manager may over-allot any such Series or Tranche or effect transactions with a view to supporting the market price of such Series or Tranche at a level higher than that which might otherwise prevail for a limited period. However, there may be no obligation on the Stabilising Manager (or any agent of the Stabilising Manager) to do this. Any stabilisation action may begin on or after the date on

which adequate public disclosure of the final terms of the offer of the Covered Bonds is made and, if begun, may be ended at any time, but it must end no later than the earlier of 30 days after the issue date of the relevant Series or Tranche and 60 days after the date of the allotment of any such Series or Tranche. Such stabilising shall be in compliance with all applicable laws, regulations and rules.

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#### STRUCTURE DIAGRAM



#### GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAMME

The following section contains a general description of the Programme and, as such, does not purport to be complete and is qualified in its entirety by the remainder of this Base Prospectus and, in relation to the terms and conditions of any Series or Tranche, the applicable Final Terms. Prospective purchasers of Covered Bonds should carefully read the information set out elsewhere in this Base Prospectus prior to making an investment decision in respect of the Covered Bonds. In this section, references to a numbered condition are to such condition in "Terms and Conditions of the Covered Bonds" below.

#### 1. PARTIES

**Issuer** 

Mediobanca — Banca di Credito Finanziario S.p.A, a bank incorporated under the laws of Republic of Italy and having its registered office at Piazzetta E. Cuccia, 1, 20121, Milan, Italy, Fiscal Code, VAT number and registration with the companies' register in Milan under No. 00714490158, enrolled in the register of banks held by the Bank of Italy pursuant to Article 13 of the Legislative Decree of 1 September 1993, No. 385 (the "Banking Act") under No. 74753.5.0, and which is the parent company of the Mediobanca Group (the "Issuer" or "Mediobanca").

See "Description of the Issuer", below.

Arranger

Mediobanca.

**Dealers** 

Mediobanca and Mediobanca International (Luxembourg) S.A., a *société* anonyme subject to Luxembourg law and having its registered office at 14 Boulevard Roosevelt L-2450 Luxembourg, registered at the Luxembourg trade and companies registry under registration number B 112885 ("Mediobanca International"), as well as any other dealer appointed from time to time in accordance with the Programme Agreement.

Guarantor

Mediobanca Covered Bond S.r.l., a limited liability company incorporated under the laws of the Republic of Italy, whose registered office at Galleria Del Corso No. 2, Milan, Italy, Fiscal Code and registration with the Companies Register in Milan No. 03915310969, enrolled under No. 34916 in the general register held by the Bank of Italy pursuant to article 106 of the Banking Act, under the direction and coordination of Mediobanca — Banca di Credito Finanziario S.p.A. (the "Guarantor"). The issued corporate capital of the Guarantor is equal to Euro 100,000 and is held by CheBanca S.p.A. 90% and SPV Holding S.r.l. 10% (the "Quotaholders").

See "Description of the Guarantor", below.

Seller

CheBanca! S.p.A., a joint stock company (*società per azioni*) incorporated under the laws of the Republic of Italy, having its registered office at Via Manuzio, No. 7, 20124, Milan, Italy, Fiscal Code and VAT number and enrolment with the companies' register of Milan No. 00714490158, under the direction and coordination of Mediobanca – Banca di Credito Finanziario S.p.A. ("**CheBanca**" or the "**Seller**").

See "Description of the Seller", below.

#### **Additional Sellers**

Any entity (each an "Additional Seller"), other than the Seller, which is part of the Mediobanca Group that may sell Eligible Assets and/or Integration Assets to the Guarantor, subject to satisfaction of certain conditions, and that, for such purpose, shall, *inter alia*, accede to the Master Purchase Agreement by signing an accession letter substantially in the form attached to the Master Purchase Agreement and in accordance with the provisions of the Transaction Documents executed by the Seller.

#### Servicer

CheBanca will collect, recover and administer the Eligible Assets comprised in the Cover Pool on behalf of the Guarantor pursuant to the terms of the Servicing Agreement (the "Servicer").

See "Transaction Summary - The Portfolio", "Description of the Seller", "The Credit and Collection Policies", and "Description of the Transaction Documents – Servicing Agreement", below.

#### **Successor Servicer**

The party or parties which will be appointed in order to perform, *inter alia*, the servicing activities performed by the Servicer, and any successor or replacing entity thereto following the occurrence of a Servicer Termination Event (as defined below) (the "**Successor Servicer**").

See "Description of the Transaction Documents - Servicing Agreement", below.

#### **Corporate Servicer**

Studio Dattilo Commercialisti Associati, with registered office at Galleria del Corso, 2, 20122, Milan, Italy, VAT number 10246540156, is the corporate services provider to the Guarantor pursuant to the terms of the Corporate Services Agreement (the "Corporate Servicer").

See "Description of the Transaction Documents –The Corporate Services Agreement", below.

#### **Asset Monitor**

A reputable firm of independent accountants and auditors will be appointed as Asset Monitor pursuant to a mandate granted by the Issuer, and which will act as an independent monitor pursuant to an Asset Monitor Agreement in order to perform tests and procedures in favour of the Issuer, the Seller and/or the Guarantor, including those in accordance with the applicable legal regulations. The initial Asset Monitor will be Mazars S.p.A. (the "Asset Monitor").

See "Description of the Asset Monitor", below.

# Cash Manager and Calculation Agent

CheBanca will act as cash manager (in such capacity, the "Cash Manager"), for the purpose of operating the Collection Account, the Expense Account, the Transaction Account, the Reserve Account and the Securities Account and as calculation agent (in such capacity, the "Calculation Agent") to the Guarantor pursuant to the Cash Management Agreement.

See "Description of the Transaction Documents - The Cash Management Agreement", below.

# Account Bank and Investment Manager

Mediobanca will act as account bank (in such capacity, the "Account Bank"), for the purpose of maintaining the Collection Account, the Expense Account, the Transaction Account, the Reserve Account and the Securities Account and as investment manager (in such capacity, the "Investment Manager") pursuant to the Cash Management Agreement.

See "Description of the Transaction Documents - The Cash Management Agreement", below.

# Test Report Provider

CheBanca will act as test report provider pursuant to the Cash Management Agreement (in such capacity, the "**Test Report Provider**"). The Test Report Provider will perform certain calculations and conduct certain tests pursuant to the Cash Management Agreement and the Portfolio Management Agreement.

See "Description of the Transaction Documents - The Cash Management Agreement", and "Credit Structure" below.

# Cover Pool Swap Counterparty

Any swap counterparty which agrees to act as swap counterparty (the "Cover Pool Swap Counterparty") to the Guarantor under the Cover Pool Swap Agreements executed with the Guarantor in order to hedge interest rate risk on the Cover Pool (the "Cover Pool Swap Agreements"). The initial Cover Pool Swap Counterparty will be Mediobanca.

# Covered Bond Swap Counterparty

Any institution which shall agree to act as covered bond swap counterparty (each, a "Covered Bond Swap Counterparty") to the Guarantor under a covered bond swap agreement executed with the Guarantor in order to hedge against currency (if any) and/or interest rate exposure in relation to obligations under the Covered Bonds (the "Covered Bond Swap Agreement"). The initial Covered Bond Swap Counterparty will be Mediobanca.

# Swap Counterparties

The Cover Pool Swap Counterparty and each Covered Bond Swap Counterparty.

#### **Swap Agreements**

The Cover Pool Swap Agreement(s) and the Covered Bond Swap Agreement(s), each entered into in connection with any Series of Covered Bonds, each of which is documented in accordance with the documentation published by the International Swaps and Derivatives Association Inc. (**ISDA**), which are in particular:

- (i) 1992 ISDA Master Agreement with the Schedule thereto (the "ISDA Master Agreement");
- (ii) 1995 ISDA Credit Support Annex (Transfer-English Law) to the Schedule to the ISDA Master Agreement (the "CSA"); and
- (iii) the relevant confirmation(s)

entered into between the Guarantor and each Cover Pool Swap Counterparty and each Covered Bond Swap Counterparty, respectively.

# Paying Agent and Interest Determination Agent

BNP Paribas Securities Services, a company incorporated under the laws of the Republic of France, with registered office at 3 Rue d'Antin, 75002 - Paris, France, acting through its Milan branch, with offices at Via Ansperto No. 5, 20123 - Milan, Italy, Fiscal Code, VAT code and enrolment with the Register of Enterprises of Milan No. 13449250151, enrolled with the register held by the Bank of Italy pursuant to article 13 of the Consolidated Banking Act under No. 5483 ("BNP Paribas") will act as Paying Agent and Interest Determination Agent under the Programme pursuant to the provisions of the Cash Management Agreement (the

"Paying Agent" and the "Interest Determination Agent", respectively).

# **Luxembourg Listing Agent**

Bnp Paribas Securities Services, a company incorporated under the laws of Republic of France whose registered office is at 3 Rue d'Antin, 75002 Paris, France, acting through its Luxembourg branch with offices at 33 Rue de Gasperich, Howald – Hesperange, L-2085 Luxembourg, Grand Duchy of Luxembourg will be the Luxembourg listing agent (the "Luxembourg Listing Agent") under the Programme.

# Representative of the Bondholders

KPMG Fides Servizi di Amministrazione S.p.A., a joint stock company incorporated under the laws of the Republic of Italy, having its registered office at Via Vittor Pisani, 27, 20124, Milan, Italy, registered with the companies' register of Milan under No. 00731410155, will act as representative of the bondholders pursuant to the Programme Agreement, the Intercreditor Agreement and the Rules of the Organisation of Bondholders (the "Representative of the Bondholders").

**Rating Agency** 

Standard & Poor's Rating Services, a division of McGraw Hill Companies ("**S&P**" or the "**Rating Agency**").

#### 2. THE COVERED BONDS AND THE PROGRAMME

#### **Description**

A covered bond issuance programme under which Covered Bonds (*Obbligazioni Bancarie Garantite*) will be issued by the Issuer to Bondholders and guaranteed by the Guarantor.

## Programme Amount

Up to €5,000,000,000 (and for this purpose, any Covered Bonds (*Obbligazioni Bancarie Garantite*) denominated in another currency shall be translated into Euro at the date of the agreement to issue such Covered Bonds, and the Euro exchange rate used shall be included in the Final Terms) in aggregate principal amount of Covered Bonds outstanding at any time (the "**Programme Limit**").

# Distribution of the Covered Bonds

The Covered Bonds may be distributed on a syndicated or non-syndicated basis, in each case only in accordance with the relevant selling restrictions.

# **Selling Restrictions**

The offer, sale and delivery of the Covered Bonds and the distribution of offering material in certain jurisdictions may be subject to certain selling restrictions. Persons who are in possession of this Base Prospectus are required by the Issuer, the Dealers and the Arranger to inform themselves about, and to observe, any such restriction. The Covered Bonds have not been and will not be registered under the United States Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"). Subject to certain exceptions, the Covered Bonds may not be offered, sold or delivered within the United States or to US persons. There are further restrictions on the distribution of this Base Prospectus and the offer or sale of Covered Bonds in the European Economic Area, including the United Kingdom, the Republic of Ireland, Germany, the Republic of Italy, and in Japan.

See "Subscription and Sale", below.

### **Specified Currency**

Covered Bonds may be issued in such currency or currencies as may be agreed from time to time between the Issuer and the relevant Dealer(s) and indicated in the applicable Final Terms (each a "**Specified Currency**"), subject to compliance with all applicable legal, regulatory and/or central bank requirements.

# Denomination of Covered Bonds

In accordance with the Conditions, the Covered Bonds will be issued in such denominations as may be specified in the relevant Final Terms, subject to compliance with all applicable legal or regulatory or central bank requirements (See Condition 3 (*Denomination*, *Form and Title*)).

The minimum denomination of each Covered Bond admitted to trading on a regulated market within the European Economic Area or offered to the public in a Member State of the European Economic Area in circumstances which require the publication of a prospectus under the Prospectus Directive will be €100,000 (or, if the Covered Bonds are denominated in a currency other than euro, the equivalent amount in such currency).

#### **Issue Price**

Covered Bonds may be issued at an issue price which is at par or at a discount to, or at a premium over, par, as specified in the relevant Final Terms (in each case, the "**Issue Price**" for such Series or Tranche).

#### **Issue Date**

The date of issue of a Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds, pursuant to, and in accordance with, the Programme Agreement (each, the "**Issue Date**" in relation to such Series or Tranche).

#### **CB Payment Date**

The dates specified as such in, or determined in accordance with the provisions of the Conditions and the relevant Final Terms, subject in each case, to the extent provided in the relevant Final Terms, to adjustment in accordance with the applicable Business Day Convention (as defined in the Conditions) (such date, a "CB Payment Date").

## **CB Interest Period**

Each period beginning on (and including) a CB Payment Date or, in case of the first CB Interest Period, the Interest Commencement Date and ending on (but excluding) the next CB Payment Date.

# Interest Commencement Date

In relation to any Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds, the Issue Date of such Covered Bonds or such other date as may be specified as the Interest Commencement Date in the relevant Final Terms (the "Interest Commencement Date").

### Form of Covered Bonds

The Covered Bonds will be issued in bearer form and will be held in dematerialised form on behalf of the beneficial owners, until redemption or cancellation thereof, by Monte Titoli S.p.A., whose registered office is at Via Mantegna 6, 20154 Milan ("Monte Titoli") for the account of the relevant Monte Titoli account holders. Each Series or Tranche will be deposited with Monte Titoli on the relevant Issue Date. Monte Titoli shall act as depositary for Clearstream and Euroclear. The Covered Bonds will at all times be held in book entry form and title to the Covered Bonds will be evidenced by book entries in accordance with the provisions of Legislative Decree No. 58 of 24 February 1998 and with CONSOB Resolution No. 16190 issued on 29 October 2007, as subsequently amended and supplemented. No physical document of title will be issued in respect of the Covered Bonds.

# Types of Covered Bonds

In accordance with the Conditions, the Covered Bonds may be Fixed Rate Covered Bonds, Floating Rate Covered Bonds, Index-Linked Interest Covered Bonds, Other Variable-Linked Interest Covered Bonds, Dual Currency Interest Covered Bonds, Zero Coupon Covered Bonds or a combination of any of the foregoing, depending upon the interest basis shown in the applicable Final Terms. The Covered Bonds

may be Index-Linked Redemption Covered Bonds, Dual Currency Covered Bonds, Covered Bonds scheduled to be redeemed in full on the Maturity Date and Covered Bonds repayable in one or more instalments or a combination of any of the foregoing, depending on the Redemption/Payment Basis shown in the applicable Final Terms. Each Series or tranche shall be comprised of Fixed Rate Covered Bonds only or Floating Rate Covered Bonds only or Index-Linked Interest/Redemption Covered Bonds only or Zero Coupon Covered Bonds only or Dual Currency Covered Bonds only or such other Covered Bonds accruing interest on such other basis and at such other rate as may be so specified in the relevant Final Terms only.

Fixed Rate Covered Bonds: fixed interest on the Covered Bonds will be payable in accordance with the relevant Final Terms, on such date as may be agreed between the Issuer and the relevant Dealers and on redemption, and will be calculated on the basis of such Day Count Fraction provided for in the Conditions and the relevant Final Terms.

Floating Rate Covered Bonds: Floating Rate Covered Bonds will bear interest at a rate determined in accordance with the Conditions and the relevant Final Terms. The margin (if any) relating to such floating rate will be agreed between the Issuer and the relevant Dealers for each Series or Tranche of Floating Rate Covered Bonds.

Index-Linked Interest Covered Bonds: Payments of principal in respect of Index-Linked Interest Covered Bonds will be calculated by reference to such index and/or formula or to changes in the prices of securities or commodities or to such other factors as the Issuer and the relevant Dealers may agree and as provided in the applicable Final Terms.

Other Variable-Linked Interest Covered Bonds: Covered Bonds may be issued under the Programme which are either Credit Linked Interest Covered Bonds or Equity Linked Interest Covered Bonds.

The specific terms of any linked instruments will be set out in the applicable Final Terms.

Credit Linked Interest Covered Bonds may be principal protected instruments (in which the relevant obligation to pay interest is linked to the credit of one or more reference entities) and/or full instruments (*i.e.* instruments whereby the Issuer may redeem either at a cash redemption amount (above or at par) or physically by delivering deliverable obligations upon the occurrence of certain events relating to the credit of one or more reference entities).

Equity Linked Interest Covered Bonds may be either cash settled (in which payments of principal and/or interest will be calculated by reference to the value of underlying shares, as will be set out in the applicable Final Terms) and/or physically delivered equity instruments (in which the Issuer will deliver a specific number of the underlying shares, other than shares of the Issuer and its subsidiaries, in respect of such instruments).

Other provisions in relation to Floating Rate Covered Bonds and Index Linked Interest Covered Bonds: Floating Rate Covered Bonds and Index Linked Interest Covered Bonds may also have a maximum interest rate, a minimum interest rate

or both.

Interest on Floating Rate Covered Bonds and Index Linked Interest Covered Bonds in respect of each CB Interest Period, as agreed prior to issue by the Issuer and the relevant Dealers, will be payable on such CB Payment Dates, and will be calculated on the basis of such Day Count Fraction provided for in the Conditions and the relevant Final Terms.

Dual Currency Covered Bonds: Payments (whether in respect of principal or interest and whether at maturity or otherwise) in respect of Dual Currency Covered Bonds will be made in such currencies, and based on such rates of exchange, as the Issuer and the relevant Dealer may agree.

Zero Coupon Covered Bonds: Zero Coupon Covered Bonds will be offered and sold at a discount to their nominal amount and will not bear interest.

*Partly-Paid Covered Bonds:* Covered Bonds may be issued on a partly-paid basis in which case interest will accrue on the paid-up amount of such Covered Bonds or on such other basis as may be agreed between the Issuer and the relevant Dealer(s) and set out in the applicable Final Terms.

#### **Issuance in Series**

Covered Bonds will be issued in Series, but on different terms from each other, subject to the terms set out in the relevant Final Terms in respect of such Series. Covered Bonds of different Series will not be fungible among themselves. Series may be issued in more than one tranche (each, a "**Tranche**") which are fungible among themselves within the Series and are identical in all respects, but having different issue dates, interest commencement dates, issue prices and dates for first interest payments. The Issuer will issue Covered Bonds without the prior consent of the holders of any outstanding Covered Bonds but subject to certain conditions.

See "Conditions Precedent to the Issuance of a new series of Covered Bonds" below.

#### **Final Terms**

Specific final terms will be issued and published in accordance with the generally applicable terms and conditions of the Covered Bonds (the "Conditions") prior to the issue of each Series or Tranche detailing certain relevant terms thereof which, for the purposes of that Series or Tranche only, supplements the Conditions and the Base Prospectus and must be read in conjunction with the Base Prospectus (such specific final terms, the "Final Terms"). The terms and conditions applicable to any particular Series or Tranche are the Conditions as supplemented, amended and/or replaced, by the relevant Final Terms.

### Interest on the Covered Bonds

Except for the Zero Coupon Covered Bonds and unless otherwise specified in the Conditions and the relevant Final Terms, the Covered Bonds will be interest-bearing and interest will be calculated on the principal amount outstanding of the relevant Covered Bonds (the "**Principal Amount Outstanding**"). Interest will be calculated on the basis of such Day Count Fraction in accordance with the Conditions and in the relevant Final Terms. Interest may accrue on the Covered Bonds at a fixed rate or a floating rate or on such other basis and at such rate as may be so specified in the relevant Final Terms or interest may be index-linked and the method of calculating interest may vary between the Issue Date and the Maturity Date of the relevant Series or Tranche.

### Redemption of the Covered Bonds

The applicable Final Terms relating to each Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds will indicate either (a) that the Covered Bonds cannot be redeemed prior to their stated maturity (other than in specified cases, e.g. taxation reasons, or if it becomes unlawful for any Covered Bonds to remain outstanding, or following a Guarantor Event of Default), or (b) that such Covered Bonds will be redeemable at the option of the Issuer upon giving notice to the Representative of Bondholders on behalf of the holders of the Covered Bonds (the "Bondholders") and in accordance with the provisions of the Conditions and of the relevant Final Terms, on a date or dates specified prior to such maturity and at a price or prices and on such other terms as may be agreed between the Issuer and the relevant Dealers (as set out in the applicable Final Terms) or (c) that such Covered Bonds will be redeemable at the option of the Bondholders, as provided in Condition 10(f) (Redemption at the Option of Bondholders).

Covered Bonds may be redeemable at par or at such other redemption amount (detailed in a formula, index or otherwise) as may be specified in the relevant Final Terms. Covered Bonds may also be redeemable in two or more instalments on such dates and in such manner as may be specified in the relevant Final Terms.

# Tax Gross Up and Redemption for taxation reasons

Payments in respect of the Covered Bonds to be made by the Issuer will be made without deduction or withholding for or on account of Tax (a "**Tax Deduction**"), unless such Tax Deduction is required to be made by applicable law.

Subject to the Condition 12 (*Taxation*), in the event that any such Tax Deduction is to be made, the Issuer will be required to pay additional amounts to cover the amounts so deducted. In such circumstances and provided that such obligation cannot be avoided by the Issuer taking reasonable measures available to it, the Covered Bonds will be redeemable (in whole, but not in part) at the option of the Issuer. See Condition 10(c) (*Redemption for tax reasons*).

The Guarantor will not be liable to pay any additional amount due to taxation reasons following an Issuer Event of Default (as defined below).

#### **Maturity Date**

The maturity date for each Series or Tranche (the "Maturity Date") will be specified in the relevant Final Terms, subject to such minimum or maximum maturities as may be allowed or required from time to time by the relevant central bank (or equivalent body) or any laws or regulations applicable to the Issuer or the currency of the Covered Bonds. Unless previously redeemed as provided in Condition 10 (*Redemption and Purchase*), the Covered Bonds of each Series or Tranche will be redeemed at their Principal Amount Outstanding on the relevant Maturity Date.

# Extended Maturity Date

The applicable Final Terms relating to each Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds may also provide that the Guarantor's obligations under the Guarantee to pay Guaranteed Amounts equal to the Final Redemption Amount (as defined below) of the applicable Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds on their Maturity Date may be deferred pursuant to the Conditions (the **Extended Maturity Date**). Such deferral will automatically occur, if so stated in the relevant Final Terms, if:

- (a) an Issuer Event of Default has occurred; and
- (b) the Guarantor has insufficient moneys available (in accordance with the Post-Issuer Event of Default Priority of Payments) to pay in full any amount

representing the Guaranteed Amounts corresponding to the amount due (subject to the applicable grace period) in respect of the relevant Series or Tranche of Covered Bond as set out in the relevant Final Terms (the "**Final Redemption Amount**") on the Extension Determination Date.

In these circumstances, on the Extension Determination Date the Guarantor shall pay (i) Guaranteed Amounts constituting the Scheduled Interest in respect of each such Covered Bond and (ii) to the extent that the Guarantor has sufficient Available Funds (as defined below), in part and *pro rata* (after paying or providing for payment of higher ranking or *pari passu* amounts in accordance with the relevant Priority of Payments) the Final Redemption Amount in respect of the Series or Tranches of Covered Bonds. The obligation of the Guarantor to pay any amounts in respect of the balance of the Final Redemption Amount not so paid shall be deferred as described above.

Payment of all unpaid amounts shall be deferred automatically until the applicable Extended Maturity Date, provided that, any amount representing the Final Redemption Amount due and remaining unpaid on the Maturity Date may be paid by the Guarantor on any Scheduled Payment Date thereafter according to the relevant Final Terms, up to (and including) the relevant Extended Maturity Date. Interest will continue to accrue and be payable on any unpaid amount up to the Extended Maturity Date in accordance with Condition 10 (b) (Extension of maturity).

### Ranking of the Covered Bonds

The Covered Bonds will constitute direct, unconditional, unsecured and unsubordinated obligations of the Issuer, guaranteed by the Guarantor and will rank *pari passu* without any preference among themselves, except in respect of maturities of each Series or Tranche, and (save for any applicable statutory provisions) at least equally with all other present and future unsecured, unsubordinated obligations of the Issuer having the same maturity of each Series or Tranche of the Covered Bonds, from time to time outstanding.

#### Recourse

In accordance with the legal framework established by Law 130/99 and the Decree of the Ministry of Economy and Finance No. 310 of 14 December 2006 (the "MEF Decree") and with the terms and conditions of the relevant Transaction Documents (as defined below), the Bondholders will benefit from recourse on the Issuer and limited recourse on the Guarantor.

See section "Credit Structure", below.

# Provisions of Transaction Documents

The Bondholders are entitled to the benefit of, are bound by, and are deemed to have notice of, all provisions of the Transaction Documents applicable to them. In particular, each Bondholder, by reason of holding Covered Bonds, recognises the Representative of the Bondholders as its representative and accepts to be bound by the terms of each of the Transaction Documents signed by the Representative of the Bondholders as if such Bondholder was a signatory thereto.

Conditions
Precedent to the
Issuance of a new
Series or Tranche
of Covered Bonds

The Issuer will be entitled to (but not obliged to) at its option, on any date and without the consent of the holders of the Covered Bonds issued beforehand and of any other creditors of the Guarantor or of the Issuer, issue further Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds other than the first issued Series or Tranche, subject to:

(i) compliance with the requirements of issuing banks (*Requisiti delle banche* 

emittenti; see Section II, Paragraph 1 of the BoI Regulations); and

- (ii) satisfaction of the Mandatory Tests and the Asset Coverage Test with reference to the immediately preceding Collection Period and immediately after such further issue; and
- (iii) no Issuer Event of Default (as defined below) having occurred.

(collectively, the "Issuance Test")

The payment obligations under the Covered Bonds issued under all Series shall be cross-collateralised by all the assets included in the Cover Pool, through the Guarantee (as defined below)

See also Section Ranking of the Covered Bonds, below.

# Listing, Approval and Admission to trading

This Base Prospectus has been approved by the CSSF as competent authority under Directive 2003/71/EC as from time to time amended (the "**Prospectus Directive**"). CSSF only approves this Base Prospectus as meeting the requirements imposed under Luxembourg and EU law pursuant to the Prospectus Directive. Application has been made to the Luxembourg Stock Exchange for the Covered Bonds issued under the Programme to be admitted to the Official List and trading on its regulated market. Such approval relates only to the Covered Bonds which are to be admitted to trading on the regulated market of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange or other regulated markets for the purposes of Directive 2004/39/EC or which are to be offered to the public in any Member State of the European Economic Area.

Covered Bonds may be listed or admitted to trading, as the case may be, on other or further stock exchanges or markets agreed between the Issuer and the relevant Dealers in relation to the Series or Tranche in accordance with the applicable Final Terms. Covered Bonds which are neither listed nor admitted to trading on any market may also be issued.

#### **Settlement**

Monte Titoli / Euroclear / Clearstream.

#### **Governing law**

The Covered Bonds and the related Transaction Documents will be governed by Italian law, except for the Swap Agreements and the Deed of Charge, which will be governed by English law.

#### **Ratings**

Each Series or Tranche issued under the Programme may or may not be assigned a rating by one or more of the credit rating agencies as specified in the relevant Final Terms on the relevant Issue Date. Standard & Poor's rated Mediobanca A/Negative/A-1 on September 2011 – see <a href="https://www.mediobanca.it">www.mediobanca.it</a>.

Whether or not each credit rating applied for in relation to a Series of Covered Bonds will be issued by a credit rating agency established in the European Union and registered under under Regulation (EU) No. 1060/2009 (as amended by Regulation (EU) No. 513/2011) (the "CRA Regulation") will be disclosed in the applicable Final Terms. In general, European regulated investors are restricted from using a rating for regulatory purposes if such rating is not issued by a credit rating agency established in the European Union and registered under the CRA Regulation unless the rating is provided by a credit rating agency operating in the European Union before 7th June, 2010 which has submitted an application for

registration in accordance with the CRA Regulation and such registration is not refused.

# Purchase of the Covered Bonds by the Issuer

The Issuer may at any time purchase any Covered Bonds in the open market or otherwise and at any price.

#### 3. GUARANTEE

# **Security for the Covered Bonds**

In accordance with Law 130/99, by virtue of the Guarantee, the Bondholders will benefit from a guarantee issued by the Guarantor which will, in turn, hold a portfolio of receivables transferred by the Seller and Additional Sellers, if any, consisting of Eligible Assets and Integration Assets (as defined below).

#### The Eligible Assets

The receivables forming part of the Cover Pool may consist of:

- (i) the Residential Mortgage Loans (as defined below);
- (ii) the Commercial Mortgage Loans (as defined below);
- (iii) the Public Assets (as defined below); and
- (iv) the Asset Backed Securities (as defined below).

(collectively, the "Eligible Assets")

#### The Guarantee

Under the terms of the Guarantee the Guarantor will be obliged to pay Guaranteed Amounts in respect of the Covered Bonds on the relevant Due for Payment Date (as defined therein).

In view of ensuring timely payment by the Guarantor, an Issuer Default Notice (as defined below) will be served on the Guarantor by the Representative of Bondholders as a consequence of an Issuer Event of Default.

The obligations of the Guarantor to make payments in respect of the Guaranteed Amounts when due for payment are subject to the conditions that an Issuer Event of Default has occurred, an Issuer Default Notice has been served on the Issuer and on the Guarantor. The obligations of the Guarantor will accelerate with respect to all Guaranteed Amounts once a Guarantor Default Notice has been delivered to the Guarantor.

The obligations of the Guarantor under the Guarantee shall constitute a first demand, unconditional and independent guarantee (*garanzia autonoma*) and certain provisions of the Italian civil code relating to no autonomous personal guarantees (*fidejussioni*), specified in the MEF Decree, shall not apply. Accordingly, the obligations shall be direct, unconditional, unsubordinated obligations of the Guarantor, with limited recourse to the Available Funds (as defined below), irrespective of any invalidity, irregularity or unenforceability of any of the guaranteed obligations of the Issuer.

See "Description of the Transaction Documents –Guarantee", below.

# 4. ISSUER EVENTS OF DEFAULT, GUARANTOR EVENTS OF DEFAULT AND PRIORITIES OF PAYMENTS

### Issuer Events of Default

If during the Programme, any of the following events occurs:

- (a) Non payment: Default is made by the Issuer (a) for a period of 14 days or more in the payment of any principal or redemption amount due on the relevant CB Payment Date in respect of the Covered Bonds of any Series, or (b) for a period of 14 days or more in the payment of any interest amount due on the relevant Issuer Payment Date in respect of the Covered Bonds of any Series;
- (b) Breach of Tests: Following the delivery of a Breach of Test Notice, the Mandatory Test and the Asset Coverage Test as well as the Pre-Maturity Test (to the extent applicable) have not been cured within the immediately succeeding Calculation Date; or
- (c) Breach of other obligations: the Issuer has incurred into a material default in the performance or observance of any of its obligations under or in respect of the outstanding Covered Bonds of any Series (other than any obligation for the payment of principal, redemption amount or interest in respect of the Covered Bonds of any Series and/or any obligation to ensure compliance of the Cover Pool with the Mandatory Test and the Asset Coverage Test as well as the Pre-Maturity Test (to the extent applicable) or any other Transaction Document to which the Issuer is a party and (unless certified by the Representative of the Bondholders, in its sole opinion, to be incapable of remedy) such default remains unremedied for more than 30 days after the Representative of the Bondholders has promptly given written notice thereof to the Issuer, certifying that such default is, in its opinion, materially prejudicial to the interests of the Bondholders and specifying whether or not such default is capable of remedy; or
- (d) *Insolvency*: an Insolvency Event occurs in respect of the Issuer;
- (e) Suspension of payments: a resolution pursuant to Article 74 of the Banking Act is issued in respect of the Issuer;

(each, an "Issuer Event of Default"), then the Representative of the Bondholders:

will serve a notice (the "Issuer Default Notice") on the Issuer and Guarantor that an Issuer Event of Default has occurred. It being understood that (i) a breach of the Mandatory Test and the Asset Coverage Test constitutes an Issuer Event of Default unless the Representative of the Bondholders, having exercised its discretion, resolves otherwise or an Extraordinary Resolution is passed resolving otherwise and (ii) the Representative of the Bondholders may (but is not obliged to) in accordance with the Rules serve an Issuer Event Notice in the case of a breach of the Pre-Maturity Test (to the extent applicable) not cured.

Upon the service of an Issuer Default Notice:

- (a) No further issue: no further Series of Covered Bonds may be issued by the Issuer;
- (b) Acceleration against the Issuer: all Series of Covered Bonds will become

immediately due and payable by the Issuer and they will rank *pari passu* among themselves against the Issuer;

- (c) Enforcement: the Representative of the Bondholders may, at its discretion and without further notice, take such steps and/or institute such proceedings against the Issuer as it may think fit to enforce the payments due by the Issuer, but it shall not be bound to take any such proceeding or steps unless requested or authorised by an Extraordinary Resolution of the Bondholders;
- (d) Guarantee: without prejudice to paragraph (c) (Acceleration against the Issuer) above, interest and principal falling due on the Covered Bonds will be payable by the Guarantor at the time and in the manner provided under these Conditions, subject to and in accordance with the terms of the Guarantee and the relevant Priority of Payments;
- (e) Disposal of Assets: the Guarantor shall sell the Eligible Assets and the Integration Assets included in the Cover Pool in accordance with the Portfolio Management Agreement;
- (f) *Tests*: the Amortisation Test shall apply;

provided that, (A) in case of the Issuer Event of Default referred to under paragraph (d) (Insolvency) above, (i) the payments due by the Issuer in favour of the Bondholders under the Terms and Conditions shall be directly made by the Guarantor on any Scheduled Due for Payment Date under the Guarantee and (ii) the Guarantor shall exercise, on an exclusive basis and in compliance with the provisions of art. 4 of the MEF Decree, the rights of the Bondholders against the Issuer and any amount recovered from the Issuer will be part of the Available Funds; and (B) in case of the Issuer Event of Default referred to under paragraph (e) (Suspension of payments) above, the effects listed in items (a) (No further issue), (d) (Guarantee) and (e) (Disposal of Assets) will only apply for as long as the suspension of payments will be in force and effect (the "Suspension Period"); being understood that the effects listed in items (b) (Acceleration against the Issuer), (c) (Enforcement) and (f) (Tests) will not be applicable. Accordingly (i) the Guarantor, in accordance with MEF Decree, shall be responsible for the payments of the amounts due and payable under the Covered Bonds during the Suspension Period and (ii) at the end of the Suspension Period the Issuer shall be responsible for meeting the payment obligations under the Covered Bonds (and for the avoidance of doubts, the Covered Bonds then outstanding will not be deemed to be accelerated against the Issuer).

# Guarantor Events of Default

If, during the Programme, any of the following events occurs:

- (i) Non payment: default is made by the Guarantor for a period of 14 days or more in the payment by the Guarantor of any amounts due for payment in respect of the Covered Bonds of any Series; or
- (ii) Breach of Test: on any Calculation Date a breach of the Amortisation Test occurs (to the extent that such breach has not been cured within the following Calculation Date); or
- (iii) Breach of other obligations: default is made in the performance by the

Guarantor of any material obligation under or in respect of the Covered Bonds of any Series (other than any obligation for the payment of principal, redemption amount or interest in respect of the Covered Bonds of any Series and/or any obligation to ensure compliance of the Cover Pool with the Amortisation Test) or any other Transaction Document to which the Guarantor is a party and (unless certified by the Representative of the Bondholders, in its sole opinion, to be incapable of remedy) such default remains unremedied for more than 30 days after the Representative of the Bondholders has given written notice thereof to the Guarantor, certifying that such default is, in its opinion, materially prejudicial to the interests of the Bondholders and specifying whether or not such default is capable of remedy; or

(iv) Insolvency: an Insolvency Event occurs in respect of the Guarantor;

#### (each, a "Guarantor Event of Default")

then the Representative of the Bondholders (a) in cases under (i), (ii) and (iv) above, may but shall, if so directed by an Extraordinary Resolution of the Bondholders, and (b) in case under (iii) above, shall, if so directed by an Extraordinary Resolution of the Bondholders, serve to the Issuer, the Seller and the Guarantor a notice declaring that a Guarantor Event of Default has occurred (the "Guarantor Default Notice").

Upon the service of the Guarantor Event of Default:

- (a) Acceleration of the Covered Bonds: all Series of Covered Bonds then outstanding will become immediately due and payable by the Guarantor and will rank pari passu among themselves in accordance with the Post Guarantor Event of Default Priority of Payments;
- (b) Disposal of Assets: the Guarantor shall immediately sell all assets included in the Cover Pool in accordance with the procedures set out in the Portfolio Management Agreement;
- (c) Guarantee: the Representative of the Bondholders, subject to and in accordance with the terms of the Guarantee, on behalf of the Bondholders, shall have a claim against the Guarantor for an amount equal to the Principal Amount Outstanding on each Covered Bond, together with accrued interest and any other amount due under the Covered Bonds (other than additional amounts payable under Condition 12 (a) (Gross up by the Issuer)) in accordance with the Post Guarantor Event of Default Priority of Payments; and
- (d) *Enforcement*: the Representative of the Bondholders may, at its discretion and without further notice, take such steps and/or institute such proceedings against the Issuer or the Guarantor (as the case may be) as it may think fit to enforce such payments, but it shall not be bound to take any such proceedings or steps unless requested or authorised by an Extraordinary Resolution of the Bondholders and then only if it is indemnified and/or secured to its satisfaction.

#### **Cross Acceleration**

After the delivery of a Guarantor Default Notice with respect to a Series or Tranche, all Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds then outstanding will cross accelerate at the same time against the Guarantor.

# Pre-Issuer Event of Default Interest Priority of Payments

On each Guarantor Payment Date, prior to the service of an Issuer Default Notice, the Guarantor will use Interest Available Funds to make payments in the order of priority set out below (in each case only if and to the extent that payments of a higher priority have been made in full):

- (i) first, to pay pari passu and pro rata according to the respective amounts thereof any and all Taxes due and payable by the Guarantor, to the extent that such sums are not met by utilising the amounts standing to the credit of the Expense Account;
- (ii) second, to pay, pari passu and pro rata according to the respective amounts thereof any Guarantor's documented fees, costs, expenses, in order to preserve its corporate existence, to maintain it in good standing and to comply with applicable legislation (the "Expenses");
- (iii) *third*, to credit into the Expense Account the amounts necessary to replenish the Expense Account up to the Retention Amount;
- (iv) fourth, to pay, in the following order any amount due and payable (including fees, costs and expenses) to the extent that these are not paid by the Issuer to:
  - (A) the Representative of the Bondholders,
  - (B) pari passu and pro rata according to the respective amounts thereof, the Cash Manager, the Calculation Agent, the Corporate Servicer, the Asset Monitor, the Account Bank, the Paying Agent, the Interest Determination Agent, the Investment Manager and the Servicer;
- (v) *fifth*, to pay any interest amount due to the Cover Pool Swap Counterparties, including any termination payment due and payable by the Guarantor, except the Excluded Swap Termination Amount;
- (vi) sixth, to pay any interest amounts due to the Covered Bond Swap Counterparties, pro rata and pari passu in respect of each relevant Covered Bond Swap (including any termination payment due and payable by the Guarantor except the Excluded Swap Termination Amounts);
- (vii) seventh, to credit to the Reserve Account an amount required to ensure that the Reserve Account is funded up to the Required Reserve Amount, as calculated on the immediately preceding Calculation Date;
- (viii) *eighth*, to allocate to the credit of the Principal Available Funds an amount equal to the amounts paid under item (i) of the Pre-Issuer Event of Default Principal Priority of Payments in the preceding Guarantor Payment Dates;
- (ix) *ninth*, any Base Interests due and payable on each Guarantor Payment Date to the Seller pursuant to the terms of the Subordinated Loan

Agreement, provided that the Asset Coverage Test and the Mandatory Test are satisfied on such Guarantor Payment Date and further provided that interests on the related Series of Covered Bonds have been paid by the Issuer on such Guarantor Payment Date (if any);

- (x) *tenth*, to pay *pro rata* and *pari passu* in accordance with the respective amounts thereof any Excluded Swap Termination Amount;
- (xi) *eleventh*, to pay any other amount due and payable under the Transaction Documents, to the extent not already paid under other items of this Priority of Payments (other than amounts referred to under the following item (xii));
- (xii) *twelfth*, to pay any Premium Interests on the Subordinated Loan, provided that no breach of the Asset Coverage Test and the Mandatory Test has occurred and is continuing.

### (the "Pre-Issuer Event of Default Interest Priority of Payment").

# Pre-Issuer Event of Default Principal Priority of Payments

On each Guarantor Payment Date, prior to the service of an Issuer Default Notice, the Guarantor will use Principal Available Funds to make payments in the order of priority set out below (in each case only if and to the extent that payments of a higher priority have been made in full):

- (i) *first*, to allocate the Interest Shortfall Amount to the Interest Available Funds;
- (ii) second, to pay (a) any principal amounts (if any) due and payable to the relevant Covered Bond Swap Counterparties pro rata and pari passu in respect of each relevant Covered Bond Swap in accordance with the terms of the relevant Covered Bond Swap Agreement and (b) any principal amounts (if any) due and payable to the relevant Cover Pool Swap Counterparties pro rata and pari passu in respect of each relevant Cover Pool Swap Agreement in accordance with the terms of the relevant Cover Pool Swap Agreement;
- (iii) third, to the extent that a breach of the Pre-Maturity Test (if applicable to a Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds under the relevant Final Terms) has been occurred and is continuing, to credit the Pre-Maturity Account up to the Required Redemption Amount in respect of the relevant Series or Tranche of Covered Bond;
- (iv) *fourth*, to acquire Eligible Assets and/or Integration Assets (other than those funded through the proceeds of the Subordinated Loan);
- (v) fifth, to pay any amounts (in respect of principal) due and payable under the Subordinated Loan provided that in any case the Asset Coverage Test and the Mandatory Tests are satisfied and/or, where applicable, further provided that no amounts shall be applied to make a payment in respect of the Subordinated Loan if the principal amounts outstanding under the relevant Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds which have fallen due for payment on such Guarantor Payment Date have not been repaid in full by the Issuer.

# (the "Pre-Issuer Event of Default Principal Priority of Payments").

# Post-Issuer Event of Default Priority of Payments

On each Guarantor Payment Date, following an Issuer Event of Default, but prior to the occurrence of a Guarantor Event of Default, the Guarantor will use the Available Funds, to make payments in the order of priority set out below (in each case only if and to the extent that payments of a higher priority have been made in full):

- (i) *first*, to pay, *pari passu* and *pro rata* according to the respective amounts thereof, any Expenses and Taxes, in order to preserve its corporate existence, to maintain it in good standing and to comply with applicable legislation;
- (ii) second, to pay, in the following order, any amount due and payable to:
  - (A) the Representative of the Bondholders,
  - (B) pari passu and pro rata according to the respective amounts thereof, the Cash Manager, the Calculation Agent, the Corporate Servicer, the Asset Monitor, the Account Bank, the Paying Agent, the Interest Determination Agent, the Investment Manager, the Portfolio Manager (if any) and the Servicer;
- (iii) *third*, to credit into the Expense Account the amounts necessary to replenish the Expense Account up to the Retention Amount;
- (iv) fourth, to pay pro rata and pari passu:
  - a) interest payments due to the Swap Counterparties (including any termination payment due and payable by the Guarantor but excluding any Excluded Swap Termination Amount); and
  - b) Interest due under the Covered Bond Guarantee in respect of each Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds;
- (v) *fifth*, to pay *pro rata* and *pari passu*:
  - a) principal payments (if any) due to the Swap Counterparties (including any termination payment due and payable by the Guarantor but excluding any Excluded Swap Termination Amount); and
  - b) principal due under the Covered Bond Guarantee in respect of each Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds;
- (vi) sixth, once payments from item (i) to (v) have been made in full, to credit the pertaining Accounts with the remaining available funds up to an amount equal to the Required Redemption Amount in respect of each outstanding Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds;
- (vii) seventh, after each Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds has been fully repaid or repayment in full of the Covered Bonds has been provided for (such that the Required Redemption Amount has been accumulated in respect of each outstanding Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds under

- the preceding item (vi)) to pay *pro rata* and *pari passu*, any Excluded Swap Termination Amount due and payable by the Guarantor;
- (viii) *eighth*, once payments from item (i) to (vii) have been made in full, to pay any other amount due and payable under the Transaction Documents, to the extent not already paid under other items of this Priority of Payments;
- (ix) *ninth*, to repay in full the amounts outstanding and to pay any Base Interests under the Subordinated Loan Agreement;
- (x) tenth, to pay any Premium Interests under the Subordinated Loan Agreement.

#### (the "Post-Issuer Event of Default Priority of Payments").

## Eligible Investments

The Investment Manager may invest funds standing to the credit of the Transaction Account and the Reserve Account in the Eligible Investments (as defined below).

# Post-Guarantor Event of Default Priority of Payments

On each Guarantor Payment Date, following a Guarantor Event of Default, the Available Funds will be used to make payments in the order of priority set out below (in each case only if and to the extent that payments of a higher priority have been made in full):

- (i) *first*, to pay, *pari passu* and *pro rata* according to the respective amounts thereof, any Expenses and Taxes, in order to preserve its corporate existence, to maintain it in good standing and to comply with applicable legislation;
- (ii) second, to pay, in the following order, any amount due and payable to:
  - (A) the Representative of the Bondholders,
  - (B) pari passu and pro rata according to the respective amounts thereof, the Cash Manager, the Calculation Agent, the Corporate Servicer, the Asset Monitor, the Account Bank, the Paying Agent, the Interest Determination Agent, the Investment Manager, the Portfolio Manager (if any) and the Servicer;
- (iii) *third*, to credit into the Expense Account the amounts necessary to replenish the Expense Account up to the Retention Amount;
- (iv) fourth, to pay pro rata and pari passu:
  - a) principal and interest payments due to the Swap Counterparties (including any termination payment due and payable by the Guarantor but excluding any Excluded Swap Termination Amount); and
  - b) principal and interests due under the Covered Bond Guarantee in respect of each Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds;
- (v) fifth, to pay pro rata and pari passu any Excluded Swap Termination

Amount due and payable by the Guarantor;

- (vi) sixth, to pay any other amount due and payable under the Transaction Documents, to the extent not already paid under other items of this Priority of Payments;
- (vii) seventh, to repay in full the amounts outstanding and to pay any Base Interests under the Subordinated Loan Agreement;
- (viii) *eighth*, to pay any Premium Interests under the Subordinated Loan Agreement.

(the "Post-Guarantor Event of Default Priority of Payments" and, together with the Pre-Issuer Event of Default Principal Priority of Payments, the Pre-Issuer Event of Default Interest Priority of Payments, the Post-Issuer Event of Default Priority of Payments, are collectively referred to as the "Priorities of Payments").

#### 5. CREATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE COVER POOL

# Transfer of the Receivables

On November 30, 2011 the Seller and the Guarantor entered into a master purchase agreement (the "Master Purchase Agreement") pursuant to which (a) the Seller transferred to the Guarantor an initial portfolio comprising Residential Mortgage Loans (the "Initial Portfolio") and the parties agreed on the terms and conditions under which (b) the Seller may transfer to the Guarantor subsequent portfolios of Eligible Assets in order to collateralise and allow the issue of further series or tranches of Covered Bonds by the Issuer, subject to the limits to the assignment of further Eligible Assets set forth by the BoI Regulations (each, a "Subsequent Portfolio"), (c) the Guarantor, until an Issuer Event of Default has occurred, may purchase from the Seller further portfolios of Eligible Assets in order to invest the Principal Available Funds, subject to the Limits to the Assignment, provided that there are sufficient Principal Available Funds to be applied in accordance with the Pre-Issuer Event of Default Principal Priority of Payments (each, a "Further Portfolio") and (d) the Seller may assign and transfer to the Guarantor from time to time further Eligible Assets and/or Integration Assets in order to ensure compliance with the Tests in accordance with the Portfolio Management Agreement.

Pursuant to the Master Purchase Agreement, and subject to the conditions provided therein, the Seller shall be allowed to repurchase Eligible Assets which have been assigned to the Guarantor.

The Eligible Assets and the Integration Assets will be assigned and transferred to the Guarantor without recourse (*pro soluto*) in accordance with the Covered Bond Law and subject to the terms and conditions of the Master Purchase Agreement.

Under the Master Purchase Agreement, the Seller has made certain representations and warranties regarding itself and the Eligible Assets transferred from time to time to the Guarantor.

#### **General Criteria**

Each of the receivables deriving from the Mortgage Loans forming part of the Cover Pool shall comply with all of the following criteria (the "Mortgage Loans General Criteria"):

- 1. receivables arising from loans advanced by CheBanca! S.p.A. (formerly Micos S.p.A. and Micos Banca S.p.A.);
- 2. mortgage receivables, in respect of which the ratio between the loan's amount outstanding added to the principal amount outstanding of any higher ranking mortgage loans secured by the same property does not exceed on the Valuation Date 80 percent for the residential mortgage loans or 60 percent for the commercial mortgage loans, as the case may be, of the value of the property, in accordance with Ministry of Economy and Finance Italian Decree 14 December 2006, No. 310;
- 3. receivables that did not provide at the time of disbursement for any subsidy or other benefit in relation to principal or interest (*mutui agevolati*);
- 4. receivables that have not been granted to public entities (enti pubblici), clerical entities (enti ecclesiastici) or public consortium (consorzi pubblici);
- 5. receivables that are not consumer loans (*crediti al consumo*);
- 6. receivables that are not a *mutuo agrario* pursuant to Articles 43, 44 and 45 of the Legislative Decree 1 September 1993, n. 385;
- 7. receivables that are secured by a mortgage created, in accordance with the laws and regulations applicable from time to time, over real estate assets sited in the Republic of Italy;
- 8. receivables the payment of which is secured by a first ranking mortgage (*ipoteca di primo grado economico*), such term meaning (i) a first ranking mortgage or (ii) a second or subsequent ranking priority mortgage in respect of which (A) the mortgage(s) ranking prior to such second or subsequent mortgage has been formally consented by the relevant lender to the total cancellation; or (B) the obligations secured by the mortgage(s) ranking prior to such second or subsequent mortgage have been fully satisfied; or (C) the lender secured by the mortgage(s) ranking prior to such second or subsequent mortgage is CheBanca! S.p.A. (even if the obligations secured by such ranking priority mortgage(s) have not been fully satisfied) provided that the relevant receivables secured by such second or subsequent ranking priority mortgages meet the Mortgage Loans General Criteria;
- 9. receivables in respect to which the hardening period (*periodo di consolidamento*) applicable to the relevant mortgage has expired and the relevant mortgage is not capable of being cancelled pursuant to Article 67 of Royal Decree 16 March 1942, No. 267 and, if applicable, of Article 39, fourth paragraph, of Legislative Decree 1 September 1993, n. 385;
- 10. receivables that are fully disbursed and in relation to which there is no obligation or possibility to make additional disbursement;
- 11. receivables that, as of the transfer date, did not have any instalment pending for more than 30 days from its due date and in respect of which

all other previous instalments due before the transfer day have been fully paid;

- 12. receivables that are governed by Italian Law;
- 13. receivables that have not been granted to individuals (*persone fisiche*) that as of the origination date were employees of CheBanca! S.p.A.;
- 14. receivables that are denominated in Euro (or disbursed in a different currency and then re-denominated in Euro);
- 15. receivables in respect of which at least one instalment (*rata*) is fallen due and paid, including in case of interest instalment;
- 16. receivables related to loan agreements executed with borrowers that are resident in Italy.

Each of the receivables deriving from the Public Assets which may form part of the Cover Pool shall comply with all of the following criteria (the "**Public Assets General Criteria**"):

Loans granted to, or guaranteed by, and securities issued by, or guaranteed by, the entities indicated in Article 2, paragraph 1, lett. (c) of the MEF Decree.

Each of the receivables deriving from the Asset Backed Securities which may form part of the Cover Pool shall comply with all of the following criteria (the "ABS General Criteria").

Securities issued in the framework of securitisations having as underlying assets Mortgage Loans or Public Assets, pursuant to Article 2, paragraph 1, lett. (d) of the MEF Decree.

The receivables comprised in each Subsequent Portfolio, in each Further Portfolio as well as the Eligible Assets transferred to the Guarantor in order to ensure compliance with the Tests shall also comply with the relevant Specific Criteria.

"**Specific Criteria**" means, collectively, the Specific Criteria of the Initial Portfolio and the Specific Criteria of the Subsequent and Further Portfolios.

"Specific Criteria of the Initial Portfolio" means the criteria for the selection of the receivables included in the Initial Portfolio to which such criteria are applied, set forth in Schedule 1, Part II, to the Master Purchase Agreement.

"Specific Criteria of the Subsequent and Further Portfolios" means the criteria for the selection of the receivables to be included in the Subsequent Portfolios and/or Further Portfolios to which such criteria are applied, set forth in Schedule 1, Part III, to the Master Purchase Agreement.

"General Criteria" means the Mortgage Loans General Criteria and/or the Public Assets General Criteria and/or the ABS General Criteria.

In addiction to the General Criteria and the Specific Criteria, the Seller and the Guarantor may agree on applying to the Subsequent Portfolios and/or to the Further Portfolios further selection criteria, specifying them in the Schedule B to

the relevant Transfer Proposal (the "Further Criteria").

"Criteria" means jointly the General Criteria, the Specific Criteria and (to the extent applicable) the Further Criteria.

#### **Tests** The Mandatory Tests

Starting from the First Issue Date and until the earlier of:

- (i) the date on which all Series or Tranches of Covered Bonds issued in the context of the Programme have been cancelled or redeemed in full in accordance with the Conditions; and
- (ii) the date on which a Issuer Default Notice is served on the Guarantor as a consequence of an Issuer Event of Default,

in compliance with the provisions of the Portfolio Management Agreement and the MEF Decree, the Issuer and the Seller undertake to procure that, with respect to the Cover Pool, each of the following tests is met:

- (i) the outstanding aggregate notional amount of the assets comprised in the Cover Pool shall be, at least equal to the aggregate notional amount of all outstanding Series of Covered Bonds issued under the Programme; prior to the delivery of an Issuer Default Notice, this test will be deemed met to the extent that the Asset Coverage Test is met (the "Nominal Value Test");
- (ii) the net present value of the Cover Pool together with the expected cash flows to be received by the Guarantor under any hedging arrangement entered into in relation to the transaction (net of the transaction costs to be borne by the Guarantor including the expected costs and costs of any hedging arrangement entered into in relation to the transaction) shall be at least equal to the net present value of the outstanding Series of Covered Bonds issued under the Programme (the "NPV Test");
- (iii) the amount of interests and other revenues generated by the assets included in the Cover Pool (net of the transaction costs to be borne by the Guarantor including the expected costs and costs of any hedging arrangement entered into in relation to the transaction) taking into account the expected cash flows to be received by the Guarantor under any hedging arrangement entered into in relation to the transaction shall be at least equal to the interests and costs due by the Issuer under the Covered Bonds issued under the Programme (the "Interest Coverage Test" and, together with the Nominal Value Test and the NPV Test, the "Mandatory Test").

The Mandatory Tests will be made by CheBanca (the "**Test Report Provider**") on any Calculation Date with reference to the last day of the preceding Collection Period.

#### **The Asset Coverage Test**

Starting from the First Issue Date and until the earlier of:

- (i) the date on which all Series or Tranches of Covered Bonds issued in the context of the Programme have been cancelled or redeemed in full in accordance with the Conditions; and
- (ii) the date on which a Issuer Default Notice is served on the Guarantor as a consequence of an Issuer Event of Default,

the Issuer and the Seller undertake to procure that on any Calculation Date the Adjusted Aggregate Loan Amount is at least equal to the aggregate Principal Amount Outstanding of the Covered Bonds. For a more detailed description, see section "Credit structure".

#### **The Amortisation Test**

For so long as the Covered Bonds remain outstanding, on each Calculation Date following the occurrence of an Issuer Event of Default but prior to a Guarantor Event of Default, the Amortisation Test Aggregate Loan Amount shall be equal to or higher than the Principal Amount Outstanding of the Covered Bonds (the "Amortisation Test").

For a more detailed description, see section "Credit structure - Tests".

#### **Test Performance Report**

Compliance with the Tests will be verified by the Test Report Provider on each Calculation Date (with reference to the last day of the immediately preceding Collection Period) and on any other date on which the verification of the Tests is required pursuant to the Transaction Documents. The calculations performed by the Test Report Provider in respect of the Tests will be tested from time to time by the Asset Monitor in accordance with the provisions of the Asset Monitor Agreement and the Engagement Letter, as the case may be.

On any Calculation Date, the Test Report Provider shall prepare and deliver to the Issuer, the Seller (and any Additional Seller, if any), the Guarantor, the Servicer, the Representative of the Bondholders, the Asset Monitor and the Rating Agency, a report setting out the calculations carried out by it with respect of (i) the Mandatory Tests, the Asset Coverage Test, the Pre-Maturity Test (as defined below) and the percentage of the Integration Assets (taking into account the Liquidity) comprised in the Cover Pool, prior to the delivery of an Issuer Default Notice and (ii) the Amortisation Test, following an Issuer Default Notice (the "Test Performance Report"). Such report shall specify the occurrence of a breach of the Mandatory Test and/or of the Asset Coverage Test and/or the Amortisation Test and/or the Integration Assets Limit and/or the Pre-Maturity Test (if any).

See section "Credit Structure – Tests", below.

### **Breach of the Tests**

Following the notification by the Test Report Provider, in the relevant Test Performance Report, of a breach of any Test, the Guarantor, shall purchase Eligible Assets from the Seller (and/or any Additional Seller, if any) and/or the Issuer in accordance with the Master Purchase Agreement and/or purchase, or invest in, Integration Assets, in order to ensure that, within the Test Grace Period, all Tests are satisfied with respect to the Cover Pool.

Should the relevant breach have not been remedied prior to the expiry of the applicable Test Grace Period, in accordance with the Article 4.1 of the Portfolio Management Agreement, a Segregation Event has occurred and the Representative of the Bondholders shall serve a notice (the "Breach of Test Notice") to the Issuer, the Seller and the Guarantor.

Upon the occurrence of a Segregation Event:

- (a) no further Series of Covered Bonds may be issued by the Issuer;
- (b) the purchase price for any Eligible Assets or Integration Assets to be acquired by the Guarantor shall be paid only using the proceeds of a Subordinated Loan, except where the breach referred to in the Breach of Test Notice is related to the Interest Coverage Test and may be cured by using the Available Funds.

#### It is understood that:

- (i) the consequences set out in paragraph (a) and (b) above shall be applied at any time if a Test is not compliant with the Covered Bond Law and/or the provisions of the Portfolio Management Agreement;
- (ii) following the occurrence of a Segregation Event and until an Issuer Default Notice has been delivered, payments due under the Covered
- (iii) Bonds will continue to be made by the Issuer.

After the service of a Breach of Test Notice to the Issuer, the Seller and the Guarantor, the Guarantor (or the Servicer on behalf of the Guarantor) may sell any Eligible Assets and Integration Assets included in the Cover Pool in accordance with the rules set out in Article 5 and 6 of the Portfolio Management Agreement, provided that the Representative of the Bondholders has been duly informed.

Once a Breach of Test Notice has been delivered to the Issuer, the Seller and the Guarantor, should the relevant Test has not been remedied by the following Calculation Date, the Representative of the Bondholders shall deliver an Issuer Default Notice to the Issuer, the Seller and the Guarantor unless the Representative of the Bondholders, having exercised its discretion, resolves otherwise or an Extraordinary Resolution is passed resolving otherwise.

After the service of an Issuer Default Notice to the Issuer, the Seller and the Guarantor, the Guarantor (or the Servicer on behalf of the Guarantor) shall sell any Eligible Assets and Integration Assets included in the Cover Pool in accordance with the rules set out in Article 5 and 6 of the Portfolio Management Agreement, provided that the Representative of the Bondholders has been duly informed.

It being understood that should a breach of the Amortisation Test occur after an Issuer Event of Default, the Representative of the Bondholders may but shall, if so directed by an Extraordinary Resolution of the Bondholders, serve to the Issuer, the Seller and the Guarantor the Guarantor Default Notice if such a breach is not cured within the following Calculation Date.

After a Guarantor Event of Default, the Guarantor shall immediately sell (through

the Portfolio Manager) all Eligible Assets and Integration Assets included in the Cover Pool in accordance with the procedures described in the Portfolio Management Agreement, provided that the Guarantor will instruct the Portfolio Manager to use all reasonable endeavours to procure that such sale is carried out as quickly as reasonably practicable taking into account the market conditions at that time and subject to any right of pre-emption in favour of the Seller under the Master Purchase Agreement and the Portfolio Management Agreement.

See section "Credit Structure – Tests" and section "Description of the Transaction Documents – Portfolio Management Agreement", below.

#### **Pre-Maturity Test**

The Pre-Maturity Test (if applicable to a Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds under the relevant Final Terms) is intended to provide liquidity for the Covered Bonds when the Issuer's credit ratings fall below a certain level. On each Pre-Maturity Test Date prior to the occurrence of an Issuer Event of Default, the Test Report Provider will determine if the Pre-Maturity Test has been breached, and if so, it shall immediately notify the Issuer, the Seller, the Guarantor and the Representative of Bondholders.

See section "Credit structure", below.

### Role of the Asset Monitor

The Asset Monitor will perform specific agreed upon procedures set out in an engagement letter entered into with the Issuer (the "**Engagement Letter**"). The Asset Monitor will also perform the other activities provided under the Asset Monitor Agreement entered into on or about the First Issue Date.

#### 6. THE TRANSACTION DOCUMENTS

# Master Purchase Agreement

On November, 30 2011 the Seller and the Guarantor entered into a Master Purchase Agreement, pursuant to which the Seller assigned and transferred, without recourse (*pro soluto*), to the Guarantor the Initial Portfolio, in accordance with the Covered Bond Law. Pursuant to the Master Purchase Agreement, the Seller and the Guarantor agreed that the Seller may assign and transfer Subsequent Portfolios and/or Further Portfolios to the Guarantor from time to time in the cases and subject to the limits set out in the Master Purchase Agreement.

See Sections "The Cover Pool" and "Description of the Transaction Documents - Description of the Master Purchase Agreement".

# Subordinated Loan Agreement

Pursuant to the terms of a subordinated loan agreement entered into on November, 30 2011 between the Subordinated Lender and the Guarantor (the "Initial Subordinated Loan Agreement"), the Subordinated Lender has undertaken to make available to the Guarantor a subordinated loan of a total amount of Euro 2,000,000,000.00, for the purposes of (i) providing the Guarantor with the funds necessary to purchase the Initial Portfolio in the context of the first issue of Covered Bond and (ii) funding the purchase by the Guarantor of the Eligible Assets and Integration Assets in order to remedy (or prevent) a breach of the Tests. Under the Intercreditor Agreeement the parties have agreed that, within the context of the Programme, the Subordinated Lender may enter subsequent subordinated agreements (the loan "Subsequent Subordinated Loan Agreements" and, together with the Initial Subordinated Loan Agreement, the "Subordinated Loan Agreements") which will have substantially the same terms and conditions of the Initial Subordinated Loan Agreement.

The Guarantor will pay interest and/or Premium in respect of each Subordinated Loan but will have no liability to gross up for Tax.

Payments from the Guarantor to the Seller under the Subordinated Loans will be limited recourse and subordinated and paid in accordance with the Priority of Payments to the extent the Guarantor has available funds.

See "Description of the Transaction Documents – Initial Subordinated Loan Agreement", below.

# Servicing Agreement and Collection Policies

Pursuant to the terms of a servicing agreement entered into on November 30, 2011 (the "Servicing Agreement"), the Servicer has agreed to administer and service the Assets comprised in the Cover Pool, on behalf of the Guarantor.

The Servicer has undertaken, *inter alia*, to prepare and submit quarterly reports to the Guarantor, the Seller, the Issuer, the Asset Monitor, the Representative of Bondholders, the Swap Counterparty, the Corporate Servicer and the Calculation Agent, in the form set out in the Servicing Agreement, containing information as to all the amounts collected from time to time by the Guarantor in respect of the Assets as principal, interest and/or expenses and any payment of damages (the "**Collections**"), as a result of the activity of the Servicer pursuant to the Servicing Agreement during the preceding Collection Period.

See section "Description of the Transaction Documents - Servicing Agreement" and "Credit and Collection Policies", below.

#### Guarantee

On or about the First Issue Date the Guarantor issued a guarantee securing the payment obligations of the Issuer under the Covered Bonds (the "Guarantee"), in accordance with the provisions of the Covered Bond Law.

See sections "Transaction Summary –Guarantee" and "Description of the Transaction Documents - Guarantee", below.

# Corporate Services Agreement

Pursuant to a corporate services agreement entered into on November 30, 2011 (the "Corporate Services Agreement"), the Corporate Servicer has agreed to provide the Guarantor with certain administrative services, including the keeping of the corporate books and of the accounting and tax registers.

See "Description of the Transaction Documents - Corporate Services Agreement", below.

# Intercreditor Agreement

Under the terms of an intercreditor agreement entered into on or about the First Issue Date (the "Intercreditor Agreement") among, the Guarantor, the Quotaholders, the Seller, the Servicer, the Subordinated Lender, the Investment Manager, the Calculation Agent, the Representative of the Bondholders, the Asset Monitor, the Cover Pool Swap Provider, the Covered Bond Swap Provider, the Account Bank, the Paying Agent, the Test Report Provider, the Interest Determination Agent, the Corporate Servicer (collectively, with the sole exclusion of the Guarantor and the Quotaholders, the "Secured Creditors"), the parties agreed that all the Available Funds of the Guarantor will be applied in or towards satisfaction of the Guarantor's payment obligations towards the Bondholders as

well as the other Secured Creditors, in accordance with the relevant Priorities of Payments provided in the Intercreditor Agreement.

According to the Intercreditor Agreement, the Representative of the Bondholders will, subject to a Guarantor Event of Default having occurred, ensure that all the Available Funds are applied in or towards satisfaction of the Guarantor's payment obligations towards the Bondholders as well as the other Secured Creditors, in accordance with the Post-Guarantor Event of Default Priority of Payments provided in the Intercreditor Agreement.

The obligations owed by the Guarantor to each of the Bondholders and each of the other Secured Creditors will be limited recourse obligations of the Guarantor. The Secured Creditors will have a claim against the Guarantor only to the extent of the Available Funds, in each case subject to and as provided for in the Intercreditor Agreement and the other Transaction Documents.

See "Description of the Transaction Documents -Intercreditor Agreement", below.

# Cash Management Agreement

In accordance with a cash management and agency agreement entered into on or about the First Issue Date, among, *inter alios*, the Issuer, the Guarantor, the Servicer, the Seller, the Account Bank, the Investment Manager, the Cash Manager, the Calculation Agent, the Interest Determination Agent, the Paying Agent, the Test Report Provider and the Representative of the Bondholders (the "Cash Management Agreement"), the Account Bank, the Paying Agent, the Interest Determination Agent, the Test Report Provider, the Investment Manager, the Cash Manager, and the Calculation Agent will provide the Guarantor with certain calculation notification and reporting services together with account handling and cash management services in relation to moneys from time to time standing to the credit of the Accounts.

See "Description of the Transaction Documents - Cash Management and Agency Agreement", below.

# Asset Monitor Agreement

In accordance with an asset monitor agreement entered into on or about the First Issue Date, among the Asset Monitor, the Issuer, the Guarantor, the Seller, the Servicer, the Representative of the Bondholders and the Test Report Provider (the "Asset Monitor Agreement"), the Asset Monitor will conduct independent tests in respect of the calculations performed by the Interest Determination Agent and Calculation Agent for the Tests, as applicable on a quarterly basis, with a view to verifying the compliance by the Guarantor with such tests.

See "Description of the Transaction Documents - Asset Monitor Agreement".

# Portfolio Management Agreement

By a Portfolio management agreement entered into on or about the First Issue Date, among, *inter alia*, the Issuer, the Seller, the Servicer, the Test Report Provider, the Guarantor, the Calculation Agent and the Representative of the Bondholders (the "**Portfolio Management Agreement**"), the Seller and the Issuer have undertaken certain obligations for the replenishment of the Cover Pool in order to prevent and/or cure a breach of the Tests.

See "Description of the Transaction Documents - Portfolio Management

Agreement", below.

# Quotaholders Agreement

The quotaholders' agreement entered into on or about the First Issue Date among the CheBanca and SPV Holding S.r.l. (the "Quotaholders' Agreement"), contains provisions and undertakings in relation to the management of the Guarantor.

See "Description of the Transaction Documents –Quotaholders' Agreement", below.

#### **Deed of Pledge**

By a deed of pledge (the "**Deed of Pledge**") executed by the Guarantor on or about the First Issue Date the Guarantor will pledge in favour of the Bondholders and the other Secured Creditors all the monetary claims and rights and all the amounts payable from time to time (including payments for claims, indemnities, damages, penalties, credits and guarantees) to which the Guarantor is entitled pursuant or in relation to the Transaction Documents (other than the English Law Documents and the Deed of Pledge), other than those to be received by the Guarantor under to the Subordinated Loan Agreement, including the monetary claims and rights relating to the amounts standing to the credit of the Accounts (other than the Quota Capital Account) and any other account established by the Guarantor in accordance with the provisions of the Transaction Documents.

See "Description of the Transaction Documents - Deed of Pledge", below.

### **Deed of Charge**

By a deed of charge (the "**Deed of Charge**") executed by the Guarantor on or about the First Issue Date, the Guarantor will, with full title guarantee, assign absolutely to the Representative of the Bondholders (acting as security trustee for the Bondholders and the other Secured Creditors, the "**Security Trustee**"), by way of first fixed security, all of its rights under the Swap Agreements as security for the payment and discharge of its obligations under the Guarantee.

See "Description of the Transaction Documents - Deed of Charge", below.

# Programme Agreement

By a programme agreement to be entered into on or about the First Issue Date among the Issuer, the Representative of Bondholders and the Dealers (the "**Programme Agreement**"), the Dealers have been appointed as such. The Programme Agreement contains, *inter alia*, provisions for the resignation or termination of appointment of existing Dealers and for the appointment of additional or other dealers either generally in respect of the Programme or in relation to a particular Series or Tranche. By a subscription agreement form of which is attached to the Programme Agreement, to be entered into within the Programme among the Issuer and the Dealers (the "**Relevant Dealers**"), the Relevant Dealers will agree to subscribe for the relevant tranche of Covered Bonds and pay the Issue Price subject to the conditions set out therein (the "**Subscription Agreement**").

See "Description of the Transaction Documents - Description of the Programme Agreement", below.

# Cover Pool Swap Agreements

In order to hedge the interest rate risks related to the Cover Pool, the Guarantor will enter into one or more swap transactions with the relevant Cover Pool Swap Counterparty subject to an ISDA Master Agreement, the CSA and the relevant confirmation (the "Cover Pool Swaps" and each a "Cover Pool Swap"). Under

the Cover Pool Swaps, in the event that the long-term rating of the respective Cover Pool Swap Counterparty is downgraded by the Rating Agency below a first threshold, as specified therein (each a "**First Rating Event**"), the Cover Pool Swap Counterparty will be required to:

within 10 (ten) Local Business Days (as defined in the ISDA Master Agreement) plus additional 10 Business Days if the Cover Pool Swap Counterparty during the initial 10 Local Business Days sends a written proposal for collateral posting to the Rating Agency, provided that the Rating Agency confirms to the Representative of the Bondholders and to the Cover Pool Swap Counterparty that it will not take any negative rating action as result of such proposal - of the occurrence of the First Rating Event, (i) post the collateral required in accordance with CSA, and (ii) obtain and make available to S&P on a semiannual basis an external mark in relation to the other party's Exposure (as such term is defined under the Credit Support Annex), to be calculated from an independent third party who would be eligible to replace the Cover Pool Swap Counterparty with respect to all rights and obligations under this Agreement.

Under the Cover Pool Swaps, in the event that the long-term rating of the respective Cover Pool Swap Counterparty is further downgraded by the Rating Agency below a second threshold, as specified therein (each a "**Second Rating Event**"), the Cover Pool Swap Counterparty will be required to:

- (A) within 10 Local Business Days of the occurrence of such Second Rating Event plus additional 10 Business Days if the Cover Pool Swap Counterparty during the initial 10 Local Business Days sends a written proposal for collateral posting to the Rating Agency, provided that the Rating Agency confirms to the Representative of the Bondholders and to the Cover Pool Swap Counterparty that it will not take any negative rating action as result of such proposal post the collateral required in accordance with the CSA; and
- (B) within 60 days of the occurrence of such Second Rating Event (plus additional 30 calendar days if during the initial 60 days period the Cover Pool Swap Counterparty sends a written proposal regarding such remedy to the Rating Agency, provided that the Rating Agency confirms to the Representative of the Bondholders and the Cover Pool Swap Counterparty that it will not take any negative rating action as result of such proposal),
  - (i) replace itself with a third party financial institution having a longterm rating as specified therein assigned by S&P, by transferring by novation to such third party financial institution all of its rights and obligations with respect to the Cover Pool Swaps; or
  - (ii) obtain a guarantee of its rights and obligations with respect to the Cover Pool Swaps from a third party financial institution having a long-term rating as specified therein assigned by S&P.

A failure to take such steps within the time periods specified in the relevant Cover Pool Swap will constitute an Additional Termination Event and therefore will allow the Guarantor to terminate such Cover Pool Swap.

## Covered Bond Swap Agreements

In order to hedge the currency and/or interest rate exposure in relation to obligations under the Covered Bonds, the Guarantor will enter into one or more swap transactions with the relevant Covered Bond Swap Counterparty, on or about each Issue Date, subject to an ISDA Master Agreement, the CSA and the relevant confirmation (the "Covered Bond Swaps" and each a "Covered Bond Swap").

Under the Covered Bond Swaps, in the event that the long-term rating of the respective Covered Bond Swap Counterparty is downgraded by the Rating Agency below a first threshold, as specified therein (each a "**First Rating Event**"), the Covered Bond Swap Counterparty will be required to:

within 10 (ten) Local Business Days (as defined in the ISDA Master Agreement) plus additional 10 Business Days if the Covered Bond Swap Counterparty during the initial 10 Local Business Days sends a written proposal for collateral posting to the Rating Agency, provided that the Rating Agency confirms to the Representative of the Bondholders and to the Covered Bond Swap Counterparty that it will not take any negative rating action as result of such proposal - of the occurrence of the First Rating Event, (i) post the collateral required in accordance with CSA, and (ii) obtain and make available to S&P on a semiannual basis an external mark in relation to the other party's Exposure (as such term is defined under the Credit Support Annex), to be calculated from an independent third party who would be eligible to replace the Covered Bond Swap Counterparty with respect to all rights and obligations under this Agreement.

Under the Covered Bond Swaps, in the event that the long-term rating of the respective Covered Bond Swap Counterparty is further downgraded by the Rating Agency below a second threshold, as specified therein (each a "**Second Rating Event**"), the Covered Bond Swap Counterparty will be required to:

- (A) within 10 Local Business Days of the occurrence of such Second Rating Event plus additional 10 Business Days if the Covered Bond Swap Counterparty during the initial 10 Local Business Days sends a written proposal for collateral posting to the Rating Agency, provided that the Rating Agency confirms to the Representative of the Bondholders and to the Covered Bond Swap Counterparty that it will not take any negative rating action as result of such proposal post the collateral required in accordance with the CSA; and
- (B) within 60 days of the occurrence of such Second Rating Event (plus additional 30 calendar days if during the initial 60 days period the Covered Bond Swap Counterparty sends a written proposal regarding such remedy to the Rating Agency, provided that the Rating Agency confirms to the Representative of the Bondholders and the Covered Bond Swap Counterparty that it will not take any negative rating action as result of such proposal),
  - (i) replace itself with a third party financial institution having a longterm rating as specified therein assigned by S&P, by transferring by novation to such third party financial institution all of its rights and obligations with respect to the Covered Bond Swaps; or
  - (ii) obtain a guarantee of its rights and obligations with respect to the

Covered Bond Swaps from a third party financial institution having a long-term rating as specified therein assigned by S&P.

A failure to take such steps within the time periods specified in the Covered Bond Swap will constitute an Additional Termination Event and therefore will allow the Guarantor to terminate the Covered Bond Swap.

## Provisions of Transaction Documents

The Bondholders are entitled to the benefit of, are bound by, and are deemed to have notice of, all provisions of the Transaction Documents applicable to them. In particular, each Bondholder, by reason of holding Covered Bonds, recognises the Representative of the Bondholders as its representative and accepts to be bound by the terms of each of the Transaction Documents signed by the Representative of the Bondholders as if such Bondholder was a signatory thereto.

#### RISK FACTORS

The following is a summary of certain aspects of the Issuer, the Seller, the Guarantor and the Covered Bonds to be issued under the Programme of which prospective Bondholders should be aware. The prospective Bondholders should also read the detailed information set out elsewhere in this Base Prospectus and the Transaction Documents and reach their own views prior to making any investment decision. Additional risks and uncertainties not presently known to the Issuer, the Seller, the Guarantor or that it currently believes to be immaterial could also have a material impact on its business operations. Words and expressions defined in the Conditions or elsewhere in this Base Prospectus have the same meanings in this section. Investing in the Covered Bonds involves certain risks. Prospective investors should consider, among other things, the following:

#### 1. GENERAL INVESTMENT CONSIDERATIONS

#### **Suitability**

Prospective investors should determine whether an investment in the Covered Bonds is appropriate in their particular circumstances and should consult with their legal, business and tax advisers to determine the consequences of an investment in the Covered Bonds and to arrive at their own evaluation of the investment.

Each potential investor in the Covered Bonds must determine the suitability of that investment in light of its own circumstances. In particular, each potential investor should:

- 1. have the requisite knowledge and experience in financial and business matters to evaluate the merits and risks of an investment in the Covered Bonds;
- 2. have access to, and knowledge of, appropriate analytical tools to evaluate such merits and risks in the context of their financial situation;
- 3. are capable of bearing the economic risk of an investment in the Covered Bonds; and
- 4. recognise that it may not be possible to dispose of the Covered Bonds for a substantial period of time, if at all.

Prospective investors in the Covered Bonds should make their own independent decision whether to invest in the Covered Bonds and whether an investment in the Covered Bonds is appropriate or proper for them, based upon their own judgment and upon advice from such advisers as they may deem necessary.

Some Covered Bonds are complex financial instruments. Sophisticated institutional investors generally do not purchase complex financial instruments as stand-alone investments. They purchase complex financial instruments as a way to reduce risk or enhance yield with an understood, measured, appropriate addition of risk to their overall portfolios. A potential investor should not invest in Covered Bonds which are complex financial instruments unless it has the expertise (either alone or with a financial adviser) to evaluate how the Covered Bonds will perform under changing conditions, the resulting effects on the value of the Covered Bonds and the impact this investment will have on the potential investor's overall investment portfolio.

Prospective investors in the Covered Bonds should not rely on or construe any communication (written or oral) of the Issuer, the Seller or the Arranger, as investment advice or as a recommendation to invest in the Covered Bonds, it being understood that information and explanations related to the Conditions shall not be considered to be investment advice or a recommendation to invest in the Covered Bonds.

No communication (written or oral) received from the Issuer, the Seller or the Arranger or from any other person shall be deemed to be an assurance or guarantee as to the expected results of an investment in the Covered Bonds.

#### Obligations to make payments when due on the Covered Bonds

The Issuer is liable to make payments when due on the Covered Bonds. The obligations of the Issuer under the Covered Bonds are direct, unsecured, unconditional and unsubordinated obligations, ranking *pari passu* without any preference amongst themselves and equally with its other direct, unsecured, unconditional and unsubordinated obligations. The Guarantor has no obligation to pay the Guaranteed Amounts payable under the Guarantee until the occurrence of an Issuer Event of Default.

The Covered Bonds will not represent an obligation or be the responsibility of any of the Arranger, Dealers, the Representative of the Bondholders or any other party to the Transaction Documents, their officers, members, directors, employees, security holders or incorporators, other than the Issuer and the Guarantor. The Issuer and the Guarantor will be liable solely in their corporate capacity for their obligations in respect of the Covered Bonds and such obligations will not be the obligations of their respective officers, members, directors, employees, security holders or incorporators.

#### Representative of the Bondholders' powers may affect the interests of the Bondholders

In the exercise of its powers, trusts, authorities and discretions the Representative of the Bondholders shall only have regard to the interests of the Bondholders and the other Secured Creditors but if, in the opinion of the Representative of the Bondholders, there is a conflict between all or any of these interests, the Representative of the Bondholders shall have regard solely to the interests of the Bondholders. If, in connection with the exercise of its powers, trusts, authorities or discretions, the Representative of the Bondholders is of the opinion that the interests of the Bondholders of any one or more Series would be materially prejudiced thereby, the Representative of the Bondholders shall not exercise such power, trust, authority or discretion without the approval of such Bondholders by Extraordinary Resolution or by a direction in writing of such Bondholders of at least 75% of the principal amount outstanding of Covered Bonds of the relevant Series then outstanding.

#### Limited liquidity

There is not at present an active and liquid secondary market for the Covered Bonds. The Covered Bonds will not be registered under the Securities Act and will be subject to significant restrictions on resale in the United States. Although the application has been made to list the Covered Bonds on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange, there can be no assurance that a secondary market for any of the Covered Bonds will develop, or, if a secondary market does develop in respect of any of the Covered Bonds, that it will provide the holders of such Covered Bonds with liquidity of investments or that it will continue until the final redemption or cancellation of such Covered Bonds. Consequently, any purchaser of the Covered Bonds must be prepared to hold such Covered Bonds until the final redemption or cancellation. Illiquidity may have a severely adverse effect on the market value of Covered Bonds. In an illiquid market, an investor might not be able to sell its Covered Bonds at any time at fair market prices. The possibility to sell the Covered Bonds might additionally be restricted by country specific reasons.

#### Exchange rate and exchange controls

The Issuer will pay principal and interest on the Covered Bonds in the Specified Currency. This presents certain risks relating to currency conversions if an investor's financial activities are denominated principally in a currency or currency unit (the "Investor's Currency") other than the Specified Currency. These include the risk that exchange rates may significantly change (including changes due to devaluation of the Specified Currency or revaluation of the Investor's Currency) and the risk that authorities with jurisdiction over the Investor's Currency may impose or modify exchange controls. An appreciation in the value of the Investor's Currency relative to the Specified Currency would decrease (i) the Investor's Currency equivalent yield on the Covered Bonds, (ii) the Investor's Currency equivalent value of the principal payable on the Covered Bonds and (iii) the Investor's Currency equivalent market value of the Covered Bonds. Government

and monetary authorities may impose (as some have done in the past) exchange controls that could adversely affect an applicable exchange rate. As a result, investors may receive less interest or principal than expected, or no interest or principal.

#### **Interest rate risks**

Investment in Fixed Rate Covered Bonds involves the risk that subsequent changes in market interest rates may adversely affect the value of the Fixed Rate Covered Bonds.

#### **Ratings of the Covered Bonds**

One or more independent credit rating agencies may assign credit ratings to the Covered Bonds. The ratings assigned to the Covered Bonds address:

- (i) the likelihood of full and timely payment to Bondholders of all payments of interest on each CB Payment Date; and
- (ii) the likelihood of ultimate payment of principal to Bondholders on (a) the Maturity Date thereof or (b) if the Covered Bonds are subject to an Extended Maturity Date in respect of the Guarantee in accordance with the applicable Final Terms, on the Extended Maturity Date thereof.

The expected ratings of the Covered Bonds will be set out in the relevant Final Terms for each Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds. Any rating agency may lower its rating or withdraw its rating if, *inter alia*, in the sole judgment of the relevant rating agencies, the credit quality of the Covered Bonds has declined or is in question. If any rating assigned to the Covered Bonds is lowered or withdrawn, the market value of the Covered Bonds may be reduced.

The ratings may not reflect the potential impact of all risks related to structure, market, additional factors discussed above, and other factors that may affect the value of the Covered Bonds. A credit rating is not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold securities and may be revised or withdrawn by the rating agency at any time.

# The return on an investment in Covered Bonds will be affected by charges incurred by investors

An investor's total return on an investment in any Covered Bonds will be affected by the level of fees charged by the nominee service provider and/or clearing system used by the investor. Such a person or institution may charge fees for the opening and operation of an investment account, transfers of Covered Bonds, custody services and on payments of interest, principal and other amounts. Potential investors are therefore advised to investigate the basis on which any such fees will be charged on the relevant Covered Bonds.

#### Legal investment considerations may restrict certain investments

The investment activities of certain investors are subject to legal investment laws and regulations, or review or regulation by certain authorities. Each potential investor should consult its legal advisers to determine whether and to what extent (a) Covered Bonds are legal investments for it, (b) Covered Bonds can be used as collateral for various types of borrowing and "repurchase" agreements and (c) other restrictions apply to its purchase or pledge of any Covered Bonds. Financial institutions should consult their legal advisors or the appropriate regulators to determine the appropriate treatment of Covered Bonds under any applicable risk-based capital or similar rules.

#### **Covered Bond Law**

The Law 130/99 Law was enacted in Italy in April 1999 and amended to allow for the issuance of covered bonds in 2005. As at the date of this Base Prospectus, no interpretation of the application of the Law 130/99

as it relates to covered bonds has been issued by any Italian court or governmental or regulatory authority, except for (i) the Decree of the Italian Ministry for the Economy and Finance No. 310 of 14 December 2006 (the "MEF Decree"), setting out the technical requirements of the guarantee which may be given in respect of covered bonds and (ii) the regulation issued by the Bank of Italy on 24 March 2010, as from time to time amended/supplemented/replaced by subsequent regulations, including by the 8th supplement dated 18 November 2011 of the Bank of Italy Circular no. 263 of 27 December 2006 (the "Bol Regulations") concerning guidelines on the valuation of assets, the procedure for purchasing integration assets and controls required to ensure compliance with the legislation. Moreover, it is possible that such or different authorities may issue further regulations relating to the Law 130/99 as it relates to covered bonds or the interpretation thereof, the impact of which cannot be predicted by the Issuer as at the date of this Base Prospectus.

#### Change of Law

The structure of the transaction and, *inter alia*, the issue of the Covered Bonds and the rating assigned to the Covered Bonds are based on Italian and English law, on tax and administrative practice in effect at the date hereof and having due regard to the expected tax treatment of all relevant entities under such law and practice. No assurance can be given as to any possible change to Italian or English law, tax or administrative practice after the First Issue Date.

The Issuer believes that the risks described above are the principal risks inherent in the transaction for holders of the Covered Bonds but the inability of the Issuer to pay interest or repay principal on the Covered Bonds of any such Series of Covered Bonds may occur for other reasons and the Issuer does not represent that the above statements of the risks of holding the Covered Bonds are exhaustive. While the various structural elements described in this Base Prospectus are intended to lessen some of these risks for holders of the Covered Bonds, there can be no assurance that these measures will be sufficient or effective to ensure payment to the holders of the Covered Bonds of such Series of interest or principal on such Covered Bonds on a timely basis or at all.

#### 2. RISK FACTORS RELATING TO THE ISSUER AND MEDIOBANCA GROUP

Risk factors relating to the Issuer

#### The Issuer's financial results may be affected by events which are difficult to anticipate

The Issuer's earning and business are affected by general economic conditions, the performance of financial markets, interest rate levels, currency exchange rates, changes in laws and regulation, changes in the policies of central banks, particularly the Bank of Italy and the European Central Bank, and competitive factors, in each case on a regional, national and international level. Each of these factors can change the level of demand for the Issuer's products and services, the credit quality of borrowers and counterparties, the interest rate margin of the Issuer between lending and borrowing costs and the value of the Issuer's investment and trading portfolios.

#### The Issuer's financial results are affected by changes in interest rates

Fluctuations in interest rates in Italy and in the other markets in which the Mediobanca Group operates influence the Mediobanca Group's performance. The results of each Issuer's banking operations are affected by its management of interest rate sensitivity. Interest rate sensitivity refers to the relationship between changes in market interest rates and changes in net interest income. A mismatch of interest-earning assets and interest-bearing liabilities in any given period, which tends to accompany changes in interest rates, may have a material effect on the Issuer's financial condition or results of operations.

#### The Issuer's financial results may be affected by market declines and volatility

The results of the Issuer are affected by general economic, financial and other business conditions. During recessionary periods, there may be less demand for loan products and a greater number of the Issuer's customers may default on their loans or other obligations. Interest rate rises may also impact the demand for mortgages and other loan products. The risk arising from the impact of the economy and business climate on the credit quality of the Issuer's borrowers and counter-parties can affect the overall credit quality and the recoverability of loans and amounts due from counterparties.

# The Issuer is subject to credit and market risk. Current market conditions are unprecedented

The credit and capital markets have been experiencing extreme volatility and disruption in recent months. To the extent that any of the instruments and strategies the Issuer uses to hedge or otherwise manage its exposure to credit or capital markets risk are not effective, the Issuer may not be able to mitigate effectively the Issuer's risk exposures in particular market environments or against particular types of risk. The Issuer's trading revenues and interest rate risk are dependent upon its ability to identify properly, and mark to market, changes in the value of financial instruments caused by changes in market prices or interest rates. The Issuer's financial results also depend upon how effectively the Issuer determines and assesses the cost of credit and manages its credit risk and market risk concentration. In addition, due to market fluctuations, weak economic conditions and/or a decline in stock and bond prices, trading volumes or liquidity, the Issuer's financial results may also be affected by a downturn in the revenues deriving from its margin interests, principal transactions, investment banking and securities trading fees and brokerage activities.

# Sustained market weakness and volatility may adversely affect the Issuer's investment banking and financial advisory revenues and subject the Issuer to risks of losses from clients and other counterparties

The Issuer's investment banking revenues, in the form of financial advisory and debt and equity underwriting fees, are directly related to the number and size of the transactions in which the Issuer participates and may be impacted by continued or further credit market dislocations or sustained market downturns. Sustained market downturns or continued or further credit market dislocations and liquidity issues would also likely lead to a decline in the volume of capital market transactions that the Issuer executes for its clients and, therefore, to a decline in the revenues that it receives from commissions and spreads earned from the trades the Issuer executes for its clients. Further, to the extent that potential acquirers are unable to obtain adequate credit and financing on favourable terms, they may be unable or unwilling to consider or complete acquisition transactions, and as a result the Issuer's merger and acquisition advisory practice would suffer.

In addition, declines in the market value of securities can result in the failure of buyers and sellers of securities to fulfil their settlement obligations, and in the failure of the Issuer's clients to fulfil their credit obligations. During market downturns, the Issuer's counterparties in securities transactions may be less likely to complete transactions. Also, the Issuer often permit its clients to purchase securities on margin or, in other words, to borrow a portion of the purchase price from the Issuer and collateralize the loan with a set percentage of the securities. During steep declines in securities prices, the value of the collateral securing margin purchases may drop below the amount of the purchasers indebtedness. If the clients are unable to provide additional collateral for these loans, the Issuer may lose money on these margin transactions. In addition, particularly during market downturns, the Issuer may face additional expenses defending or pursuing claims or litigation related to counterparty or client defaults.

# Protracted market declines can reduce liquidity in the markets, making it harder to sell assets and leading to material losses

In some of the Issuer's businesses, protracted adverse market movements, particularly asset price declines, can reduce the level of activity in the market or reduce market liquidity. These developments can lead to material losses if the Issuer cannot close out deteriorating positions in a timely way. This may especially be

the case for assets of the Issuer for which there are not very liquid markets to begin with. Assets that are not traded on stock exchanges or other public trading markets, such as derivatives contracts between banks, may have values that the Issuer calculates using models other than publicly quoted prices. Monitoring the deterioration of prices of assets like these is difficult and failure to do so effectively could lead to losses that the Issuer did not anticipate or that were higher than those anticipated. This in turn could adversely affect the Issuer's results of operations and financial condition.

# Market volatility and difficult access to debt capital markets can adversely affect the Issuer's liquidity

In the event that the extreme volatility and disruption experienced by international and domestic markets in recent months continue in the future, the Issuer's liquidity can be adversely affected. In particular, in the absence of a developed retail network, the Issuer's funding strategy relies primarily on medium and long-term debt capital market issues offered to the public in Italy through a network of third party financial intermediaries on the basis of distribution arrangements agreed upon on a case by case basis or placed with foreign investors by way of public offerings or private placements. As a consequence, the volatility of the debt capital markets in Italy and abroad may impair the Issuer's ability to raise funding through fixed-income instruments and may affect its liquidity in the long term. In addition, the wider credit spreads that the markets are experiencing can affect the Issuer's aggregate cost of funding and have an impact on its financial results.

# Intense competition, especially in the Italian market, where the Issuer has the largest concentration of its business, could materially adversely effect the Issuer's revenues and profitability

Competition is intense in all of the Mediobanca Group's primary business areas in Italy and the other countries in which the Issuer conducts its business. The Mediobanca Group derives most of its total banking income from its banking activities in Italy, a mature market where competitive pressures have been increasing quickly. If the Mediobanca Group is unable to continue to respond to the competitive environment in Italy with attractive product and service offerings that are profitable for the Mediobanca Group, it may lose market share in important areas of its business or incur losses on some or all of its activities. In addition, downturns in the Italian economy could add to the competitive pressure, through, for example, increased price pressure and lower business volumes for which to compete.

# The Issuer's risk management policies, procedures and methods may nevertheless leave the Issuer exposed to unidentified or unanticipated risks, which could lead to material losses

The Issuer has devoted significant resources to developing policies, procedures and assessment methods to manage market, credit, liquidity and operating risk and intends to continue to do so in the future. Nonetheless, the Issuer's risk management techniques and strategies may not be fully effective in mitigating its risk exposure in all economic market environments or against all types of risks, including risks that the Issuer fails to identify or anticipate. If existing or potential customers believe that the Issuer's risk management policies and procedures are inadequate, the Issuer's reputation as well as its revenues and profits may be negatively affected.

#### The Issuer is subject to operational risk

The Issuer, like all financial institutions, is exposed to many types of operational risk, including the risk of fraud by employees and outsiders, unauthorised transactions by employees or operational errors, including errors resulting from faulty computer or telecommunication systems. The Issuer's systems and processes are designed to ensure that the operational risks associated with the Issuer's activities are appropriately monitored. Any failure or weakness in these systems, however, could adversely affect the Issuer's financial performance and business activities.

# Changes in the Italian and European regulatory framework could adversely affect the Issuer's business

The Issuer is subject to extensive regulation and supervision by the Bank of Italy and the *Commissione Nazionale per le Società e la Borsa* (the Italian securities market regulator or "**CONSOB**"). This supervision and regulation if changed could materially affect the Issuer's business, the products and the services it offers or the value of its assets.

#### 3. RISK FACTORS RELATING TO THE COVERED BONDS

#### Risks related to the structure of a particular issue of Covered Bonds

Covered Bonds issued under the Programme will either be fungible with an existing Series (in which case they will form part of such Series) or have different terms to an existing Series (in which case they will constitute a new Series). All Covered Bonds issued from time to time will rank *pari passu* with each other in all respects and will share equally in the security granted by the Guarantor under the Guarantee. If an Issuer Event of Default and a Guarantor Events of Default occur and result in acceleration, all Covered Bonds of all Series will accelerate at the same time.

A wide range of Covered Bonds may be issued under the Programme. A number of these Covered Bonds may have features which contain particular risks for potential investors. Set out below is a description of the most common of such features:

Covered Bonds subject to optional redemption by the Issuer

An optional redemption feature of Covered Bonds is likely to limit their market value. During any period when the Issuer may elect to redeem Covered Bonds, the market value of those Covered Bonds generally will not rise substantially above the price at which they can be redeemed. This also may be true prior to any redemption period.

The Issuer may be expected to redeem Covered Bonds when its cost of borrowing is lower than the interest rate on the Covered Bonds. At those times, an investor generally would not be able to reinvest the redemption proceeds at an effective interest rate as high as the interest rate on the Covered Bonds being redeemed and may only be able to do so at a significantly lower rate. Potential investors should consider reinvestment risk in light of other investments available at that time.

Index Linked Interest Covered Bonds and Dual Currency Interest Covered Bonds

The Issuer may issue Covered Bonds with interest determined by reference to an index or formula, to changes in the prices of securities or commodities, to movements in currency exchange rates or other factors (each a "**Relevant Factor**"). In addition, the Issuer may issue Covered Bonds with principal or interest payable in one or more currencies which may be different from the currency in which the Covered Bonds are denominated. Prospective investors should be aware that:

- (a) the market price of such Covered Bonds may be very volatile;
- (b) they may receive no interest;
- (c) payment of principal or interest may occur at a different time or in a different currency than expected;
- (d) the Relevant Factor may be subject to significant fluctuations that may not correlate with changes in interest rates, currencies or other indices;

- (e) if a Relevant Factor is applied to Covered Bonds in conjunction with a multiplier greater than one or contains some other leverage factor, the effect of changes in the Relevant Factor on principal or interest payable likely will be magnified; and
- (f) the timing of changes in a Relevant Factor may affect the actual yield to investors, even if the average level is consistent with their expectations. In general, the earlier the change in the Relevant Factor, the greater the effect on yield.

### Partly-paid Covered Bonds

The Issuer may issue Covered Bonds where the issue price is payable in more than one instalment. Failure to pay any subsequent instalment could result in an investor losing all of its investment.

### Zero Coupon Covered Bonds

The Issuer may issue Covered Bonds which do not pay current interest but are issued at a discount from their nominal value or premium from their principal amount. Such Covered Bonds are characterised by the circumstance that the relevant bondholders, instead of benefitting from periodical interest payments, shall be granted an interest income consisting in the difference between the redemption price and the issue price, which difference shall reflect the market interest rate. A holder of a zero coupon covered bond is exposed to the risk that the price of such covered bond falls as a result of changes in the market interest rate. Prices of zero coupon covered bonds are more volatile than prices of fixed rate covered bonds and are likely to respond to a greater degree to market interest rate changes than interest bearing covered bonds with a similar maturity. Generally, the longer the remaining terms of such Covered Bonds, the greater the price volatility as compared to conventional interest-bearing securities with comparable maturities.

#### Credit-Linked Interest Covered Bonds and Equity-Linked Interest Covered Bonds

The Issuer may issue Credit-Linked Interest Covered Bonds in which the relevant obligation to pay interest and/or principal is linked to the credit of one or more reference entities. There is no guarantee that the holders will receive the full principal amount of such Covered Bonds or any interest thereon and ultimately the obligations of the Issuer to pay principal under such Covered Bonds may even be reduced to zero. The Issuer may also issue Equity-Linked Interest Covered Bonds in which the payment of principal and/or interest will be calculated by reference to the value of certain underlying shares. For their features, both Credit-Linked Interest Covered Bonds and Equity-Linked Interest Covered Bonds should be purchased by sophisticated investors that are able to adequately assess the risks connected with an investment in Credit-Linked Interest Covered Bonds or Equity-Linked Interest Covered Bonds.

#### Variable Rate Covered Bonds with a multiplier or other leverage factor

Covered Bonds with variable interest rates can be volatile investments. If they are structured to include multipliers or other leverage factors, or caps, floors or collars (or any combination of those features or other similar related features), their market values may be even more volatile than those for securities that do not include those features.

#### Fixed/Floating Rate Covered Bonds

Fixed/Floating Rate Covered Bonds may bear interest at a rate that the Issuer may elect to convert from a fixed rate to a floating rate or from a floating rate to a fixed rate. The Issuer's ability to convert the interest rate will affect the secondary market and the market value of the Covered Bonds since the Issuer may be expected to convert the rate when it is likely to produce a lower overall cost of borrowing. If the Issuer converts from a fixed rate to a floating rate, the spread on the Fixed/Floating Rate Covered Bonds may be less favourable than then prevailing spreads on comparable Floating Rate Covered Bonds tied to the same reference rate. In addition, the new floating rate at any time may be lower than the rates on other Covered

Bonds. If the Issuer converts from a floating rate to a fixed rate, the fixed rate may be lower than then prevailing rates on its Covered Bonds.

Covered Bonds issued at a substantial discount or premium

The market values of securities issued at a substantial discount or premium from their principal amount tend to fluctuate more in relation to general changes in interest rates than do prices for conventional interest-bearing securities. Generally, the longer remaining term of the securities, the greater the price volatility as compared to conventional interest-bearing securities with comparable maturities.

#### Risks related to Covered Bonds generally

Set out below is a brief description of certain risks relating to the Covered Bonds generally:

#### **Programme Resolutions**

Any Programme Resolution to direct the Representative of the Bondholders to take any enforcement action must be passed at a single meeting of the holders of all Covered Bonds of all Series then outstanding as set out in the Rules of the Organisation of the Bondholders attached to the Conditions as Schedule 1 and cannot be decided upon at a meeting of Bondholders of a single Series. A Programme Resolution will be binding on all Bondholders including Bondholders who did not attend and vote at the relevant meeting and Bondholders who voted in a manner contrary to the majority.

Pursuant to the Rules of Organisation of the Bondholders, the Representative of the Bondholders may, without the consent or sanction of any of the Bondholders, concur with the Issuer and/or the Guarantor and any other relevant parties in making or sanctioning any modifications to the Rules of the Organisation of the Bondholders, the Conditions and/or the other Transaction Documents:

- (a) provided that in the opinion of the Representative of the Bondholders which may be based on the advice of, or information obtained from, any lawyer, accountant, banker, tax advisor, Rating Agency or other expert, as described in the Conditions such modification is not materially prejudicial to the interests of any of the Bondholders of any Series; or
- (b) which in the opinion of the Representative of the Bondholders which may be based on the advice of, or information obtained from, any lawyer, accountant, banker, tax advisor, Rating Agency or other expert, as described in the Conditions are made to correct a manifest error or an error established as such to the satisfaction of the Representative of the Bondholders or of a formal, minor or technical nature or are made to comply with mandatory provisions of law.

### Controls over the transaction

The BoI Regulations require that certain controls be performed by the Issuer (see "Selected aspects of Italian law – Controls over the transaction"), aimed, inter alia, at mitigating the risk that any obligation of the Issuer or the Guarantor under the Covered Bonds is not complied with. Whilst the Issuer believe they have implemented the appropriate policies and controls in compliance with the relevant requirements, investors should note that there is no assurance that such compliance ensures that the aforesaid controls are actually performed and that any failure to properly implement the relevant policies and controls could have an adverse effect on the Issuers' or the Guarantor's ability to perform their obligations under the Covered Bonds. However investors should consider that, in accordance with the BoI Regulations, a qualified entity (being an auditing firm) has been appointed as asset monitor in the context of the Programme to carry out controls on the regularity of the transaction (regolarità dell'operazione) and the integrity of the Guarantee (integrità della garanzia) (see "Description of the Asset Monitor").

#### Limits to Integration

Under the BoI Regulations, the integration of the Cover Pool, whether through Eligible Assets or through Integration Assets shall be carried out in accordance with the methods, and subject to the limits, set out in the BoI Regulations (see "Selected aspects of Italian law – Tests set out in the MEF Decree").

More specifically, under the BoI Regulations, Integration is allowed exclusively for the purpose of (a) complying with the tests provided for under the MEF Decree; (b) complying with any contractual overcollateralisation requirements agreed by the parties to the relevant agreements or (c) complying with the Integration Assets Limit.

Investors should note that such integration of the Cover Pool is not allowed in circumstances other than as set out in the BoI Regulations and specified above.

#### EU Savings Directive

Legislative Decree No. 84 of 18 April 2005 implemented in Italy, as of 1 July 2005, the European Directive No. 2003/48/EC on the taxation of savings income. Under the Directive, Member States (if equivalent measures have been introduced by certain non-EU countries) are required to provide to the tax authorities of another Member State details of payments of interest (or similar income) paid by a person within its jurisdiction to an individual resident in that other Member State. However, for a transitional period, Belgium, Luxembourg and Austria will instead be required (unless during that period they elect otherwise) to operate a withholding system in relation to such payments (the ending of such transitional period being dependent upon the conclusion of certain other agreements relating to information exchange with certain other countries). The same information concerning payment of interest (or similar income) will be provided to the tax authorities of Switzerland, Andorra, Monaco, Liechtenstein and San Marino, which have adopted, for the transitional period, the same withholding system of Belgium, Austria and Luxembourg. Belgium, which was formerly entitled to apply withholding tax, has replaced such system with a regime of exchange of information to the Member State of residence as from 1 January 2010.

If a payment were to be made or collected through a Member State of the EU which has opted for a withholding system and an amount of, or in respect of, tax were to be withheld from that payment, neither the Issuer nor any Paying Agent nor any other person would be obliged to pay additional amounts with respect to any Covered Bonds as a result of the imposition of such withholding tax. The Issuer is required to maintain a Paying Agent in a Member State that is not obliged to withhold or deduct tax pursuant to the EC Council Directive 2003/48/EC.

#### Tax consequences of holding the Covered Bonds

Prospective investors in the Covered Bonds should consult their own tax advisers concerning the overall tax consequences under Italian tax law, under the tax laws of the country in which they are resident for tax purposes and of any other potentially relevant jurisdiction of acquiring, holding and disposing of the Covered Bonds and receiving payments of interest, principal and/or other amounts under the Covered Bonds, including in particular the effect of any state, regional or local tax laws.

#### Base Prospectus to be read together with applicable Final Terms

The terms and conditions of the Covered Bonds included in this Base Prospectus apply to the different types of Covered Bonds which may be issued under the Programme. The *full* terms and conditions applicable to each Series of Covered Bonds can be reviewed by reading the master Terms and Conditions as set out in *full* in this Base Prospectus, which constitute the basis of all Covered Bonds to be offered under the Programme, together with the applicable Final Terms which applies and/or disapplies, supplements and/or amends the master Terms and Conditions of the Programme in the manner required to reflect the particular terms and conditions applicable to the relevant Series of Covered Bonds.

#### Changes of law

The structure of the issue of the Covered Bonds and the ratings which are to be assigned to them are based on the law of the Republic of Italy in effect as at the date of this Base Prospectus. No assurance can be given as to the impact of any possible change to the law of Italy or administrative practice in Italy after the date of this Base Prospectus.

### 4. RISK FACTORS RELATING TO THE GUARANTOR AND THE GUARANTEE

#### Guarantor only obliged to pay guaranteed amounts on the Due for Payment Date

The Guarantor has no obligation to pay the Guaranteed Amounts payable under the Guarantee until service of an Issuer Default Notice by the Representative of the Bondholders on the Guarantor following the occurrence of an Issuer Event of Default.

An Issuer Default Notice can only be served if an Issuer Event of Default occurs. A Guarantor Default Notice can only be served if a Guarantor Event of Default occurs.

Following service of an Issuer Default Notice on the Guarantor (provided that (a) an Issuer Event of Default has occurred and (b) no Guarantor Default Notice has been served) under the terms of the Guarantee, the Guarantor will be obliged to pay Guaranteed Amounts on the Due for Payment Date. Such payments will be subject to and will be made in accordance with the Post-Issuer Event of Default Priority of Payments. In these circumstances, other than the Guaranteed Amounts, the Guarantor will not be obliged to pay any amount, for example in respect of broken funding indemnities, penalties, premiums, default interest or interest on interest which may accrue on or in respect of the Covered Bonds.

#### Extendable obligations under the Guarantee

With respect to the Series (or Tranche) of Covered Bonds in respect of which the Extended Maturity Date is specified as applicable in the relevant Final Terms, if the Guarantor is obliged under the Guarantee to pay a Guaranteed Amount and has insufficient funds available under the relevant priority of payments to pay such amount on the Extension Determination Date, then the obligation of the Guarantor to pay such Guaranteed Amounts shall automatically be deferred to the relevant Extended Maturity Date. However, to the extent the Guarantor has sufficient moneys available to pay in part the Guaranteed Amount in respect of the relevant Series (or Tranche) of Covered Bonds, the Guarantor shall make such partial payment in accordance with the relevant Priorities of Payments, as described in Condition 10 (Redemption and Purchase) on the relevant Maturity Date and any subsequent CB Payment Date falling prior to the relevant Extended Maturity Date. Payment of the unpaid amount shall be deferred automatically until the applicable Extended Maturity Date. Interest will continue to accrue and be payable on the unpaid Guaranteed Amount on the basis set out in the applicable Final Terms or, if not set out therein, Condition 10 (Redemption and Purchase), mutatis mutandis. In these circumstances, except where the Guarantor has failed to apply money in accordance with the relevant Priorities of Payments in accordance with Condition 10 (Redemption and Purchase), failure by the Guarantor to pay the relevant Guaranteed Amount on the Maturity Date or any subsequent CB Payment Date falling prior to the Extended Maturity Date (or the relevant later date in case of an applicable grace period) shall not constitute a Guarantor Events of Default. However, failure by the Guarantor to pay any Guaranteed Amount or the balance thereof, as the case may be, on the relevant Extended Maturity Date and/or pay any other amount due under the Guarantee will (subject to any applicable grace period) constitute a Guarantor Events of Default.

#### No Gross-up for Taxes

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Base Prospectus, if Tax Deduction is imposed on any payment under the Covered Bonds, the Guarantor will make the required Tax Deduction for the account of

the Bondholders, as the case may be, and shall not be obliged to pay any additional amounts to the Bondholders.

#### Limited resources available to the Guarantor

The Guarantor's ability to meet its obligations under the Guarantee will depend on the realisable value of the Cover Pool, the amount of principal and interest generated by the Cover Pool and the timing thereof, the proceeds of any Eligible Investments and amounts received from the Swap Counterparties. The Guarantor will not have any other source of funds available to meet its obligations under the Guarantee.

If a Guarantor Event of Default occurs, the proceeds of the Cover Pool may not be sufficient to meet the claims of all the Bondholders. If the Bondholders have not received the full amount due to them pursuant to the terms of the Transaction Documents, then they may still have an unsecured claim against the Issuer for the shortfall. There is no guarantee that the Issuer will have sufficient funds to pay that shortfall.

The Bondholders should note that the Asset Coverage Test and the Amortisation Test have been structured to ensure that the outstanding nominal amount of the Cover Pool shall be equal to, or greater than, the nominal amount of the outstanding Covered Bonds. In addition the MEF Decree and the BoI Regulations provide for certain further mandatory tests aimed at ensuring that (a) the net present value of the Cover Pool (net of certain costs) shall be equal to, or greater than, the net present value of the Covered Bonds; and (b) the amount of interests and other revenues generated by the Cover Pool (net of certain costs) shall be equal to, or greater than, the interests and costs due by the Issuer under the Covered Bonds.

However there is no assurance that there will not be a shortfall.

The Bondholders and the other Secured Creditors have undertaken in the Intercreditor Agreement not to petition or commence proceedings for a declaration of insolvency (nor join any such petition or proceedings) against the Guarantor at least until (i) one year and one day after the Maturity Date of the Latest Maturing Covered Bonds, (ii) in case of prepayment in full of the Covered Bonds, two years and one day after the date on which the Covered Bonds have been repaid in full and cancelled in accordance with the Conditions and the relevant Final Terms or (iii) one year and one day after the full redemption and cancellation of the covered bonds issued in the context of any other covered bonds programme which may be implemented by the Guarantor in its capacity of guarantor (if any).

#### Reliance of the Guarantor on third parties

The Guarantor has entered into agreements with a number of third parties, which have agreed to perform services for the Guarantor. In particular, but without limitation, the Servicer has been (and the Successor Servicer may be) appointed to service the Cover Pool and the Asset Monitor has been appointed to monitor compliance, *inter alia*, with the Mandatory Test. In the event that any of those parties fails to perform its obligations under the relevant agreement to which it is a party, the realisable value of the Cover Pool or any part thereof may be affected, or, pending such realisation (if the Cover Pool or any part thereof cannot be sold), the ability of the Guarantor to make payments under the Guarantee may be affected. For instance, if the Servicer has failed to adequately administer the Cover Pool, this may lead to higher incidences of non-payment or default by Debtors. The Guarantor is also reliant on the Swap Counterparties to provide it with the funds matching its obligations under the Guarantee.

If a Servicer Termination Event occurs pursuant to the terms of the Servicing Agreement, then the Guarantor and/or the Representative of the Bondholders will be entitled to terminate the appointment of the Servicer and appoint a Successor Servicer in its place. There can be no assurance that a substitute servicer with sufficient experience of administering the Cover Pool would be found who would be willing and able to service the Cover Pool on the terms of the Servicing Agreement. The ability of a Successor Servicer to perform fully the required services would depend, among other things, on the information, software and

records available at the time of the appointment. Any delay or inability to appoint a Successor Servicer may affect the realisable value of the Cover Pool or any part thereof, and/or the ability of the Guarantor to make payments under the Guarantee.

The Representative of the Bondholders is not obliged in any circumstances to act as a Servicer or to monitor the performance by any Servicer of its obligations.

#### **Reliance on Swap Counterparty**

To provide a hedge against interest rate risk on the Cover Pool, the Guarantor will enter into one or more Cover Pool Swap Agreement(s) with the relevant Cover Pool Swap Counterparty. In addition, to provide a hedge against currency (if any) and/or interest rate exposure in relation to obligations under the Covered Bonds, the Guarantor will enter into one or more Covered Bond Swap Agreement(s) with the relevant Covered Bond Swap Counterparty.

If the Guarantor fails to make timely payments of amounts due under any Swap Agreement, then it will (unless otherwise stated in the relevant Swap Agreement) have defaulted under that Swap Agreement. A Swap Counterparty is (unless otherwise stated in the relevant Swap Agreement) only obliged to make payments to the Guarantor as long as the Guarantor complies with its payment obligations under the relevant Swap Agreement. In circumstances where non-payment by the Guarantor under a Swap Agreement does not result in a default under that Swap Agreement, the Swap Counterparty may be obliged to make payments to the Guarantor pursuant to the Swap Agreement as if payment had been made by the Guarantor. Any amounts not paid by the Guarantor to a Swap Counterparty may in such circumstances incur additional amounts of interest by the Guarantor, which would rank senior to amounts due on the Covered Bonds. If the Swap Counterparty is not obliged to make payments or if it defaults in its obligations to make payments of amounts in the relevant currency equal to the full amount to be paid to the Guarantor on the payment date under the Swap Agreements, the Guarantor will be exposed to changes in the relevant currency exchange rates to Euro and to any changes in the relevant rates of interest. In addition, the Guarantor may hedge only part of the potential risk and, in such circumstances, may have insufficient funds to make payments under the Covered Bonds or the Guarantee.

If a Swap Agreement terminates, then the Guarantor may be obliged to make a termination payment to the relevant Swap Counterparty. There can be no assurance that the Guarantor will have sufficient funds available to make a termination payment under the relevant Swap Agreement, nor can there be any assurance that the Guarantor will be able to enter into a replacement swap agreement, or if one is entered into, that the credit rating of the replacement swap counterparty will be sufficiently high to prevent a downgrade of the then current ratings of the Covered Bonds by the Rating Agencies. In addition the swaps may provide that notwithstanding the swap counterparty ceasing to be assigned the requisite ratings and the failure by the swap counterparty to take the remedial action set out in the relevant swap agreement, the Guarantor may not terminate the swap until a replacement swap counterparty has been found. There can be no assurance that the Guarantor will be able to enter into a replacement swap agreement with a replacement swap counterparty with the requisite ratings.

If the Guarantor is obliged to pay a termination payment under any Swap Agreement, such termination payment may rank *pari passu* with (or under certain circumstances ahead of) certain amounts due on the Covered Bonds. Accordingly, the obligation to pay a termination payment may adversely affect the ability of the Guarantor to meet its obligations under the Covered Bonds.

#### Downgrading events of the counterparties

The parties to the Transaction Documents who receive and hold monies pursuant to the terms of such documents (such as the Account Bank or the Servicer) are required to satisfy certain criteria in order to continue to receive and hold such monies.

These criteria include, *inter alia*, requirements in relation to the long-term, unguaranteed and unsecured ratings or the short-term, unguaranteed and unsecured ratings (as the case may be) ascribed to such party by the Rating Agencies or alternatively to the controlling party in the specific case of the Servicer. If the party concerned ceases to satisfy the ratings criteria, (i) the rights and obligations of that party (including the right or obligation to receive monies, or to effect payments, on behalf of the Guarantor) may be required to be transferred to another entity which does satisfy the applicable criteria or (ii) in the case of the controlling party to the Servicer, a commingling risk guarantee may be required or alternatively, *inter alia*, a third party entity satisfying the applicable criteria shall deposit an amount able to cover the commingling risk. In these circumstances, the terms agreed with the replacement entity may not be as favourable as those agreed with the original party pursuant to the Transaction Documents.

In addition, should the applicable criteria cease to be satisfied, then the parties to the relevant Transaction Document may agree to amend or waive certain of the terms of such document, including the applicable criteria, in order to avoid the need for a replacement entity to be appointed. The consent of Bondholders may not be required in relation to such amendments and/or waivers.

#### **Limited description of the Cover Pool**

The Bondholders will not receive detailed statistics or information in relation to the Cover Pool, because it is expected that the constitution of the Cover Pool will frequently change due to, for instance:

- (a) the Seller or the Additional Seller (if any) selling further Eligible Assets and/or Integration Assets (also Eligible Assets which are of a type that have not previously been comprised in the Cover Pool to the Guarantor); and
- (b) the Seller or the Additional Seller (if any) repurchasing certain Eligible Assets and/or Integration Assets in accordance with the Master Purchase Agreement;
- (c) the Seller or the Additional Seller (if any) and the Servicer being granted by the Guarantor with a power to renegotiate the terms and conditions of the Assets comprised in the Cover Pool.

However, each claim will be required to meet the Criteria and to conform to the representations and warranties set out in the Master Purchase Agreement — see "Description of the Transaction Documents — Master Purchase Agreement". In addition, the Mandatory Test are intended to ensure, inter alia, that the ratio of the Guarantor's assets to the Covered Bonds is maintained at a certain minimum level and the Test Report Provider will provide on each Calculation Date a report that will set out, inter alia, certain information in relation to the Mandatory Test.

#### **Maintenance of the Cover Pool**

Pursuant to the terms of the Master Purchase Agreement and the Portfolio Management Agreement, the Seller has agreed (and the Additional Seller(s), if any, will agree pursuant to the relevant master purchase agreement) to transfer further Eligible Assets and/or Integration Assets to the Guarantor and the Guarantor has agreed to purchase further Eligible Assets and/or Integration Assets in order to ensure that the Cover Pool is in compliance with the Tests. The purchase price of the Initial Portfolio shall be funded through the proceeds of the Initial Subordinated Loan; the purchase price of the Subsequent Portfolios will be funded through the proceeds of the Subsequent Subordinated Loans; the purchase price of the Further Portfolios will be funded through the Principal Available Funds and the purchase price of the Eligible Assets and/or the Integration Assets transferred by the Seller to the Guarantor to comply with the Tests will be funded through the proceeds of Subordinated Loans (or through the Available Funds, but only in order to cure the Interest Coverage Test).

Under the terms of the Portfolio Management Agreement, the Issuer and the Seller have undertaken to ensure that on each Calculation Date the Cover Pool is in compliance with the Tests. If on any Calculation Date the Cover Pool is not in compliance with the Tests, then the Seller and, to the extent that the Seller does not meet such obligation, the Issuer shall assign to the Guarantor, and the Guarantor shall purchase by the Seller or the Issuer, as the case may be, Integration Assets and/or other Eligible Assets using the proceeds deriving from the Subordinated Loans to cure the relevant Test, representing an amount sufficient to allow the Tests to be met on the next following Calculation Date. If the Cover Pool is not in compliance with the Tests on the next following Calculation Date, the Representative of the Bondholders will serve a Breach of Test Notice on the Issuer and the Guarantor. The Representative of the Bondholders shall revoke the Breach of Test Notice if on the next following Calculation Date the Tests are subsequently satisfied and without prejudice to the obligation of the Representative of the Bondholders to serve a Breach of Test Notice in the future. If, following the delivery of a Breach of Test Notice, the Tests are not met on, or prior to, the next Calculation Date, the Representative of the Bondholders will serve an Issuer Default Notice on the Issuer and the Guarantor.

If the aggregate collateral value of the Cover Pool has not been maintained in accordance with the terms of the Tests, that may affect the realisable value of the Cover Pool or any part thereof (both before and after the occurrence of a Guarantor Event of Default) and/or the ability of the Guarantor to make payments under the Guarantee. However, failure to satisfy the Amortisation Test on any Calculation Date following an Issuer Event of Default will constitute a Guarantor Event of Default, thereby entitling the Representative of the Bondholders to accelerate the Covered Bonds against the Issuer (to the extent not already accelerated against the Issuer) and the Guarantor's obligations under the Guarantee against the Guarantor subject to and in accordance with the Conditions.

Prior to the delivery of an Issuer Default Notice and subject to receipt of the relevant information from the Issuer, the Asset Monitor will perform specific agreed upon procedures set out in an engagement letter entered into with the Issuer on or about the First Issue Date concerning, *inter alia*, (a) the fulfilment of the eligibility criteria set out under the MEF Decree with respect to the Eligible Assets and Integration Assets included in the Cover Pool; (b) the calculations performed by the Test Report Provider in respect of the Mandatory Tests; (c) the compliance with the limits to the transfer of the Eligible Assets set out under the MEF Decree; and (d) the effectiveness and adequacy of the risk protection provided by any Swap Agreement entered into in the context of the Programme. In addition, the Asset Monitor will, pursuant to the terms of the Asset Monitor Agreement, (i) prior to the delivery of Issuer Default Notice, verify on behalf of the Issuer, on an annual basis or more frequently upon occurrence of some circumstances set out thereunder, the calculations performed by the Test Report Provider in respect of the Mandatory Test and the Asset Coverage Test; and (ii) following the delivery of a Issuer Default Notice, verify, on behalf of the Guarantor, the calculations performed by the Test Report Provider in respect of the Amortisation Test on a quarterly basis. See further "Description of the Transaction Documents – Asset Monitor Agreement".

The Representative of the Bondholders shall not be responsible for monitoring compliance with, nor the verification of, the Tests or any other test, or supervising the performance by any other party of its obligations under any Transaction Document.

#### Sale of Selected Assets following the occurrence of an Issuer Event of Default

If a Issuer Default Notice is served on the Guarantor, then the Guarantor may be obliged to sell (through a Portfolio Manager) Selected Assets (selected on a random basis) in order to make payments to the Guarantor's creditors including making payments under the Guarantee, see "Description of the Transaction Documents — Portfolio Management Agreement".

There is no guarantee that a buyer will be found to acquire Selected Assets at the times required and there can be no guarantee or assurance as to the price which may be able to be obtained for such Selected Assets,

which may affect payments under the Guarantee. However, the Selected Assets may not be sold by the Guarantor for less than an amount equal to the Required Outstanding Principal Balance Amount for the relevant Series of Covered Bonds until six months prior to the Maturity Date in respect of such Covered Bonds or (if the same is specified as applicable in the relevant Final Terms) the Extended Maturity Date in respect of such Covered Bonds. In the six months prior to, as applicable, the Maturity Date or Extended Maturity Date, the Guarantor is obliged to sell the Selected Assets for the best price reasonably available notwithstanding that such price may be less than the Required Outstanding Principal Balance Amount.

#### Realisation of assets following the occurrence of a Guarantor Event of Default

If a Guarantor Events of Default occurs and a Guarantor Default Notice is served on the Guarantor, then the Representative of the Bondholders shall, in the name and on behalf of the Guarantor direct the Portfolio Manager to sell all the Eligible Assets and the Integration Assets as quickly as reasonably practicable taking into account the market conditions at that time (see "Description of the Transaction Documents — Portfolio Management Agreement").

Following the service of a Guarantor Default Notice, there is no guarantee that the proceeds of realisation of the Cover Pool will be in an amount sufficient to repay all amounts due to creditors (including the Bondholders) under the Covered Bonds and the Transaction Documents.

# Factors that may affect the realisable value of the Cover Pool or the ability of the Guarantor to make payments under the Guarantee

Following the occurrence of an Issuer Event of Default, the service of an Issuer Default Notice on the Issuer and on the Guarantor, the realisable value of Selected Assets comprised in the Cover Pool may be reduced (which may affect the ability of the Guarantor to make payments under the Guarantee) by, *inter alia*:

- (a) default by borrowers of amounts due on their receivables;
- (b) changes to the lending criteria of the Seller;
- (c) set-off risks in relation to some types of Eligible Assets included in the Cover Pool;
- (d) decrease of the economic value of the Assets comprised in the Cover Pool;
- (e) possible regulatory changes by the Bank of Italy, Consob and other regulatory authorities (including, without limitation, regulations in Italy that could lead to some terms of the Eligible Assets included in the Cover Pool being unenforceable);
- (f) unwinding cost related to the hedging structure.

Some of these factors is considered in more detail below. However, it should be noted that the Mandatory Tests and the Criteria are intended to ensure that there will be an adequate amount of Assets included in the Cover Pool to enable the Guarantor to repay the Covered Bonds following an Issuer Event of Default, service of a Issuer Default Notice on the Issuer and on the Guarantor and accordingly it is expected (although there is no assurance) that Selected Assets could be realised for sufficient values to enable the Guarantor to meet its obligations under the Guarantee.

#### Value of the Cover Pool

The Guarantee granted by the Guarantor in respect of the Covered Bonds will be backed by the Cover Pool and the recourse against the Guarantor will be limited to such assets. Since the economic value of the Cover Pool may increase or decrease, the value of the Guarantor's assets may decrease (for example if there is a general decline in property values). The Seller makes no representation, warranty or guarantee that the value of a real estate asset will remain at the same level as it was on the date of the origination of the related

Mortgage Loan or at any other time. If the residential property market in Italy experiences an overall decline in property values, the value of the Mortgage Loan could be significantly reduced and, ultimately, may result in losses to the Bondholders if such security is required to be enforced.

# No representations or warranties to be given by the Guarantor or the Seller if Selected Assets and their related security interests are to be sold

After the service of a Breach of Test Notice or of Issuer Default Notice on the Guarantor, the Guarantor may, and following an Issuer Default Notice shall, sell the Selected Assets and their related security interests included in the Cover Pool, on the terms and conditions set out in the Portfolio Management Agreement, subject to a right of pre emption granted to the Seller pursuant to the terms of the Master Purchase Agreement and of the Portfolio Management Agreement. In respect of any sale of Selected Assets and their related security interests to third parties, however, the Guarantor will not provide any warranties or indemnities in respect of such Selected Assets and related security interests and there is no assurance that the Seller itself would give or repeat any warranties or representations in respect of the Selected Assets and related security interests. Any representations or warranties previously given by the Seller in respect of the Assets included in the Cover Pool may not have value for a third party purchaser if the Seller is then insolvent. Accordingly, there is a risk that the realisable value of the Selected Assets and related security interests could be adversely affected by the lack of representations and warranties which in turn could adversely affect the ability of the Guarantor to meet its obligations under the Guarantee.

#### Claw-back of the transfer of the Claims

The transfer of the Assets under the relevant transfer agreement is subject to claw-back upon bankruptcy of the related Seller under article 67 of the Insolvency Law, but only in the event that the covered bonds transaction (or the purchase of the Assets) is perfected within three months prior to the adjudication of bankruptcy of the relevant Seller or, in cases where paragraph 1 of article 67 applies, within six months prior to the adjudication of bankruptcy.

### Default by borrowers in paying amounts due on their Mortgage Loans

Borrowers may default on their obligations due under the Mortgage Loans for a variety of reasons. The receivables arising from the Mortgage Loans are affected by credit, liquidity and interest rate risks. Various factors influence delinquency rates, prepayment rates, repossession frequency and the ultimate payment of interest and principal, such as changes in the national or international economic climate, regional economic conditions, changes in tax laws, interest rates, inflation, the availability of financing, yields on alternative investments, political developments and government policies. Certain factors may lead to an increase in default by the borrowers, and could ultimately have an adverse impact on the ability of borrowers to repay the Mortgage Loans. Loss of earnings, illness, divorce and other similar factors may lead to an increase in default by and bankruptcies of borrowers, and could ultimately have an adverse impact on the ability of borrowers to repay the Mortgage Loans. In addition, the ability of a borrower to sell a property given as security for a Mortgage Loan at a price sufficient to repay the amounts outstanding under that Mortgage Loan will depend upon a number of factors, including the availability of buyers for that property, the value of that property and property values in general at the time.

The recovery of amounts due in relation to defaulted claims will be subject to the effectiveness of enforcement proceedings in respect of the receivables arising from the Mortgage Loans which in Italy can take a considerable time depending on the type of action required and where such action is taken and on several other factors, including the following: proceedings in certain courts involved in the enforcement of the Mortgage Loans and Mortgages may take longer than the national average; obtaining title deeds from land registries which are in process of computerising their records can take up to two or three years; further time is required if it is necessary to obtain an injunction decree (*decreto ingiuntivo*) and if the relevant debtor raises a defence to or counterclaim in the proceedings; and it takes an average of six to eight years

from the time lawyers commence enforcement proceedings until the time an auction date is set for the forced sale of any real estate asset.

Law 3 August 1998, No. 302 allowed notaries, accountants and lawyers to conduct certain stages of the enforcement procedures in place of the courts in order to reduce the length of enforcement proceedings by between two and three years.

#### **Insurance coverage**

All Mortgage Loans provide that the relevant real estate assets must be covered by an Insurance Policy issued by leading insurance companies approved by the Seller. There can be no assurance that all risks that could affect the value of the real estate assets are or will be covered by the relevant Insurance Policy or that, if such risks are covered, the insured losses will be covered in full. Any loss incurred in relation to the real estate assets which is not covered (or which is not covered in full) by the relevant Insurance Policy could adversely affect the value of the real estate assets and the ability of the relevant Debtor to repay the relevant mortgage loan.

#### Changes to the lending criteria of the Seller

Each of the Mortgage Loans originated by the Seller will have been originated in accordance with its lending criteria at the time of origination. It is expected that the Seller's lending criteria will generally consider term of loan, indemnity guarantee policies, status of applicants and credit history. In the event of the sale or transfer of any Loans to the Guarantor, the Seller will warrant that such Mortgage Loans as were originated by it were originated in accordance with the Seller's lending criteria applicable at the time of origination. The Seller may revise its lending criteria from time to time. However, if such lending criteria change in a manner that affects the creditworthiness of the Mortgage Loans, that may lead to increased defaults by borrowers and may affect the realisable value of the Cover Pool and the ability of the Guarantor to make payments under the Guarantee.

#### Unwinding cost related to the hedging structure

If a Swap Agreement terminates, then the Guarantor may be obliged to make a termination payment to the relevant Swap Counterparty according to the relevant Priority of Payments. There can be no assurance that the Guarantor will have sufficient funds available to make a termination payment under the relevant Swap Agreement, nor can there be any assurance that the Guarantor will be able to enter into a replacement swap agreement, or if one is entered into, that the credit rating of the replacement hedging counterparty will be sufficiently high to prevent a downgrade of the then current ratings of the Covered Bonds by the Rating Agencies.

#### Legal risks relating to the Mortgage Loans

The ability of the Guarantor to recover payments of interest and principal from the Mortgage Loans is subject to a number of legal risks.

There include the risks set out below:

#### Set-off risks

Under general principles of Italian law, the borrowers under the Mortgage Loans are entitled to exercise rights of set-off in respect of amounts due under any Mortgage Loan to the Guarantor against any amounts payable by the Seller to the relevant borrowers and which came into existence prior to the later of: (i) the publication of the notice of assignment of the Claims in the Italian Official Gazette (Gazzetta Ufficiale della Repubblica Italiana) and (ii) the registration of such notice in the competent companies' register. Under the representations and warranties contained in the Master Purchase Agreement, the Seller has agreed to

indemnify the Guarantor in respect of any reduction in amounts received by the Guarantor in respect of the Cover Pool as a result of the exercise by any borrower of a right of set-off. In addition, the exercise of set-off rights by borrowers may adversely affect any sale proceeds of the Cover Pool and, ultimately, the ability of the Guarantor to make payments under the Guarantee.

#### Usury Law

The interest payments and other remuneration paid by the Borrowers under the Mortgage Loans are subject to Italian law No. 108 of 7 March 1996 (the "Usury Law", as recently amended by Law Decree no. 70 of 13 May 2011 (converted into law, with amendments, by Law no. 106 of 12 July 2011 published in the Official Gazette no. 160 of 12 July 2011)), which introduced legislation preventing lenders from applying interest rates equal to, or higher than, rates (the "Usury Rates") set every three months on the basis of a decree issued by the Italian Ministry of Economy and Finance (the last such decree having been issued on 26 September, 2011). In addition, even where the applicable Usury Rates are not exceeded, interest and other advantages and/or remuneration may be held to be usurious if: (i) they are disproportionate to the amount lent (taking into account the specific situations of the transaction and the average rate usually applied for similar transactions); and (ii) the person who paid or agreed to pay them was in financial and economic difficulties. The provision of usurious interest, advantages or remuneration has the same consequences as non-compliance with the Usury Rates.

The Italian Government, with law decree No. 394 of 29 December 2000 (the "Usury Law Decree" and, together with the Usury Law, the "Usury Regulations"), converted into law by law No. 24 of 28 February 2001, has established, *inter alia*, that interest is to be deemed usurious only if the interest rate agreed by the parties exceeds the Usury Rate applicable at the time the relevant agreement is reached. The Usury Law Decree also provides that, as an extraordinary measure due to the exceptional fall in interest rates in the years 1998 and 1999, interest rates due on instalments payable after 2 January 2001 on loans already entered into on the date on which the Usury Law Decree came into force (such date being 31 December 2000) are to be substituted with a lower interest rate fixed in accordance with parameters determined by the Usury Law Decree.

As the Usury Law Decree became law at the end of February 2001, no official or judicial interpretation of it is yet available. However, the Italian Constitutional Court has rejected, with decision No. 29/2002 (deposited on 25 February 2002), a constitutional exception raised by the Court of Benevento (2 January 2001) concerning article 1, paragraph 1, of the Usury Law Decree (now reflected in article 1, paragraph 1 of the above mentioned conversion law No. 24 of 28 February, 2001). In so doing, it has confirmed the constitutional validity of the provisions of the Usury Law Decree which hold that interest rates may be deemed to be void due to usury only if they infringe Usury Regulations at the time they are agreed between the borrower and the lender and not at the time such rates are actually paid by the borrower.

If a Mortgage Loan is found to contravene the Usury Regulations, the relevant borrower might be able to claim relief on any interest previously paid and to oblige the Guarantor to accept a reduced rate of interest, or potentially no interest on such Mortgage Loan. In such cases, the ability of the Guarantor to maintain scheduled payments of interest and principal on the Covered Bonds may be adversely affected. Pursuant to the Master Purchase Agreement, the Seller has undertaken to indemnify the Guarantor in respect of the non-usury portion of interest.

#### Compounding interest (anatocismo)

Pursuant to article 1283 of the Italian civil code, accrued interest in respect of a monetary claim or receivable may be capitalised after a period of not less than six months only (i) under an agreement subsequent to such accrual or (ii) from the date when any legal proceedings are commenced in respect of that monetary claim or receivable. Article 1283 of the Italian civil code allows derogation from this provision in the event that there are recognised customary practices (*usi*) to the contrary. Banks and financial companies in the Republic of

Italy have traditionally capitalised accrued interest on a three-monthly basis on the grounds that such practice could be characterised as a customary practice (*uso normativo*). However, a number of recent judgments from Italian courts (including the judgment from the Italian Supreme Court (*Corte di Cassazione*) No. 2374/99, No. 2593/2003 and No. 21095/2004 confirmed by a recent decision No. 10376/06) have held that such practices are not *uso normativo*. Consequently, if customers of the Seller were to challenge this practice and such interpretation of the Italian civil code were to be upheld before other courts in the Republic of Italy, there could be a negative effect on the returns generated from the Mortgage Loans.

The Seller has consequently undertaken in the relevant transfer agreement to indemnify the Guarantor in respect of any losses, costs and expenses that may be incurred by the Guarantor in connection with any challenge in respect of interest on interest. In this respect, it should be noted that article 25, paragraph 3, of legislative decree No. 342 of 4 August 1999 ("Law No. 342"), enacted by the Italian Government under a delegation granted pursuant to law No. 142 of 19 February 1992, has considered the capitalisation of accrued interest (*anatocismo*) made by banks prior to the date on which it came into force (19 October 1999) to be valid. After such date, the capitalisation of accrued interest is no longer possible upon the terms established by a resolution of the CICR issued on 22 February 2000. Law No. 342 has been challenged and decision No. 425 of 17 October 2000 of the Italian Constitutional Court has declared as unconstitutional the provisions of Law No. 342 regarding the validity of the capitalisation of accrued interest made by banks prior to the date on which Law No. 342 came into force.

### 2008 Budget Law

The Italian Law No. 244 of 24 December 2007 (the "2008 Budget Law") provided for the right of borrowers, under mortgage loans related to the purchase of the first house and unable to pay the relevant instalments, to request the suspension of payments of instalments due under the relevant mortgage loans for a maximum of two times and for a maximum aggregate period of 18 months. The 2008 Budget Law also provided for the establishment of a fund (so called "fondo di solidarietà", the "Fund") created for the purpose of bearing certain costs deriving from the suspension of payments and refers to implementing regulation to be issued for the determination of: (i) the requirements that the borrowers must comply with in order to have the right to the aforementioned suspension and the subsequent aid of the Fund; and (ii) the formalities and operating procedures of the Fund.

Pending the enactment of the implementing regulation referred to above, the impact thereof on the amortisation and prepayment profile of the Cover Pool cannot be predicted by the Issuer as at the date of this Base Prospectus. However investors should consider that under the Master Purchase Agreement the Seller and the Guarantor have agreed on a specific Eligibility Criterion – applicable to the Initial Portfolio and to all the other Subsequent Portfolios – establisging that the receivables in relation to which the relevant borrowers have requested and obtained to suspend the payment of the instalments in accordance to the applicable laws and regulations are excluded from the receivables transferable to the Guarantor.

#### **Basel Capital Accord**

The original Basel Accord was agreed in 1988 by the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision (the "Committee"). The 1988 Accord, now referred to as Basel I, helped to strengthen the soundness and stability of the international banking system as a result of the higher capital ratios that it required. The Committee supervision published the text of the new capital accord under the title: "Basel II; International Convergence on Capital Measurement and Capital Standards: a revised framework" (the "Framework") in June 2004. In November 2005, the Committee issued an updated version of the Framework. On 4 July 2006, the Committee issued a comprehensive version of the Framework. This Framework places enhanced emphasis on market discipline and sensitivity to risk and serves as a basis for national and supra-national rule making and approval processes for banking organisations. The Framework was put into effect for credit institutions in Europe via the recasting of a number of prior directives. This consolidating directive is

referred to as the EU Capital Requirements Directive ("CRD"). Member States were required to transpose, and financial services industry have to apply, the CRD by 1 January 2007. The more sophisticated measurement approaches for operational risk were required to be implemented from January 2008.

EU Directive 2009/111/EC ("CRD II"), due to be implemented by 31 December 2010, changed the criteria for assessing hybrid capital eligible to be included in Tier I Capital and has been transposed into Italian law in December 2010.

EU 2010/76/EU Capital Requirements Directive III ("CRD III") (the final text of which has been published in December 2010, with implementation of the relevant rules to occur by 31 December 2011) introduced a number of changes in response to the recent and current market conditions, which will:

- (i) strengthen the capital requirements for trading books to ensure that a bank's assessment of the risks connected with its trading book better reflects the potential losses from adverse market movements in stressed conditions;
- (ii) limit investments in securitisations held in the trading book and re-securitisations by imposing higher capital requirements for re-securitisations to make sure that banks take proper account of the risks of investing in such complex financial products;
- (iii) require banks to disclose more information on their exposure to securitisation risks, such as exposures in the trading book and sponsorship of off-balance sheet vehicles.

It should be also be noted that the Basel Committee has approved significant changes to the Framework (such changes being commonly referred to as "Basel III"), including new capital and liquidity requirements intended to reinforce capital standards and to establish minimum liquidity standards for credit institutions. Further details in respect of the changes have been made available during the course of 2010 and member countries will be required to implement the new capital standards from January 2013. The European authorities have indicated that they support the work of the Basel Committee on the approved changes in general, and the European Commission's corresponding proposal to implement the changes (through amendments to the Capital Requirements Directive (comprising Directives 2006/48/EC and 2006/49/EC) known as "CRD IV") has been presented on July 2011.

The changes approved by the Basel Committee may have an impact on incentives to hold the Covered Bonds for investors that are subject to requirements that follow the revised capital accord and, as a result, they may affect the liquidity and/or value of the Covered Bonds.

Consequently, Bondholders should consult their own advisers as to the regulatory capital requirements in respect of the Covered Bonds and as to the consequences to and effect on them of any changes to the Framework (including the Basel III changes described above) and the relevant implementing measures. No predictions can be made as to the precise effects of such matters on any investor or otherwise.

The Issuer believes that the risks described above are the principal risks for the Bondholders inherent in the transaction, but the inability of the Issuer to pay interest, principal or other amounts on or in connection with the Covered Bonds may occur for other reasons. The Issuer does not represent that the above stated risk factors are exhaustive. The Issuer believes that the structural elements described elsewhere in this Base Prospectus go to mitigate a number of these risks for the Bondholders, nevertheless the Issuer can not give any assurance that those will be sufficient to ensure timely payment of interest, principal or any other amounts on or in connection with the Covered Bonds to the Bondholders.

#### DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

The following documents which have previously been published or which are published simultaneously with this Base Prospectus and which have been filed with the CSSF shall be incorporated in, and form part of this Base Prospectus:

- 1. Issuer audited consolidated annual financial statements in respect of the year ending on 30 June 2011;
- 2. Issuer audited consolidated annual financial statements in respect of the year ending on 30 June 2010;
- 3. Issuer unaudited consolidated financial statements in respect of the three months ended 30 September 2011 and 30 September 2010;
- 4. Guarantor audited annual financial statements in respect of the year ending on 30 June 2011;
- 5. Guarantor audited annual financial statements in respect of the year ending on 30 June 2010;
- 6. the Mediobanca Registration Document (as defined on page 63), taking into account that any documents incorporated by reference in the Mediobanca Registration Document (which are not listed above) are not incorporated by reference for the purposes of this Base Prospectus,

in the case of the above-mentioned financial statements, together with the accompanying notes and (where applicable) auditor's reports, save that any statement contained in this Base Prospectus or in any of the documents incorporated by reference in, and forming part of, this Base Prospectus shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for the purpose of this Base Prospectus to the extent that a statement contained in any document subsequently incorporated by reference by way of supplement prepared in accordance with Article 16 of the Prospectus Directive modifies or supersedes such statement.

Each of the Issuer and the Guarantor will provide, without charge to each person to whom a copy of this Base Prospectus has been delivered, upon the request of such person, a copy of any or all the documents deemed to be incorporated by reference herein unless such documents have been modified or superseded as specified above, in which case the modified or superseded version of such document will be provided. Request for such documents should be directed to each of the Issuer and the Guarantor at their offices set out at the end of this Base Prospectus. In addition, such documents will be available, without charge, at the principal office of the Paying Agent in Luxembourg and on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange's website (<a href="https://www.bourse.lu">www.bourse.lu</a>), on the Mediobanca's website (<a href="https://www.mediobanca.it">www.mediobanca.it</a>).

#### Cross-reference list

The following table shows where the information required under Annex XI of Commission Regulation (EC) No. 809/2004 can be found in the above mentioned documents incorporated by reference. Any information contained in the documents incorporated by reference but not set out below is given for information purposes only. Please note that non-incorporated parts of the documents incorporated by reference are not relevant for the investors or covered elsewhere in this Base Prospectus.

# Mediobanca - Consolidated annual financial statements as of June 30, 2011 and 2010 $\,$

Commission Regulation (EC) No. 809/2004, Annex XI, Paragraph 11.1	2011	2010
Balance sheet	Pages 62-63	Pages 62-63
Statement of income	Pages 64-65	Pages 64-65
Statement of changes in equity	Pages 66-67	Pages 66-67
Cashflow statement	Page 68	Page 68
Accounting policies and explanatory notes	Pages 71-235	Pages 71-229
Auditors' review/reports	Page 59	Page 59
Mediobanca - Consolidated quarterly financial statements as of September 30, 2010 and 2011		
Commission Regulation (EC) No. 809/2004, Annex XI, Paragraph 11.5	2011	2010
Balance sheet	Page 8	Page 8
Statement of income	Page 7	Page 7
Accounting policies and explanatory notes	Pages 11-41	Pages 11-43

# Mediobanca Registration Document approved by the competent Italian authority (CONSOB) on November 10, 2011 and published on November 14, 2011

IV	Risk factors	Pages 4-6
XII	Future trends	Page 21
XIII	Forecasts or estimates of profits	Page 22

# Mediobanca Covered Bond S.r.l. - annual financial statements as of June 30, 2011 and 2010

Commission Regulation (EC) No. 809/2004, Annex XI, Paragraph 11.1	2011	2010	
Directors' report	Pages 1 - 3	Pages 1 - 3	
Balance sheet	Page 4	Page 4	
Statement of income	Page 5	Page 5	
Cashflow statement	Page 7	Page 7	
Statement of changes in equity	Page 8	Page 8	
Accounting policies and explanatory notes	Pages 9 – 20	Pages 9 – 21	
Auditors' review/reports	Pages 21 – 22	Pages 22 - 23	

#### DESCRIPTION OF THE ISSUER

This section of the Base Prospectus reflects the contents of certain paragraphs of the registration document published in Italian language by Mediobanca on 14 November 2011 and approved by CONSOB pursuant to CONSOB Regulation No. 11971 of 14 May 1999 (as amended) on 10 November 2011, report No. 11090977 (the "Mediobanca Registration Document"). Other information included in the Mediobanca Registration Document not incorporated in this section of the Base Prospectus are covered elsewhere in this Base Prospectus, such as under section headed "Risk Factors" or under section headed "Financial Information of Mediobanca – Banca di Credito Finanziario S.p.A."

Sections III (Risk factors), VII (Future trends) and VIII (Forecasts or estimates of profits) of the Mediobanca Registration Document are deemed to be incorporated in, and to form part of, this Base Prospectus as more fully described in the section of this Base Prospectus headed "Documents Incorporated By Reference". In addition, all other Sections of the Mediobanca Registration Document are deemed to be incorporated in, and to form part of, this Base Prospectus for information purposes only. The Mediobanca Registration Document contains information inter alia regarding Mediobanca, its business, administration and management, and shareholders.

#### History and development of Mediobanca

Legal status and information

Mediobanca – Banca di Credito Finanziario S.p.A. was set up on 10 April 1946 by virtue of a notarial deed drawn up by Notary public Arturo Lovato, file no. 3041/52378. Mediobanca is a joint stock company incorporated under Italian law registered in the Milan Companies' Register under Registration no. 00714490158 having its registered office and administrative headquarters in Piazzetta Enrico Cuccia 1, 20121 Milan, Italy, tel. no.: (0039) 02-88291. Mediobanca operates under Italian law, and the Court of Milan has jurisdiction over any disputes arising against it.

Important events in Mediobanca's recent history

Since 30 June 2011 there have been no negative changes either to the financial position or prospects of either Mediobanca or the Mediobanca Group.

Neither Mediobanca nor any company in the Mediobanca Group have carried out transactions that have materially affected or that might be reasonably expected to materially affect, the Issuer's ability to meet its obligations towards third parties.

Standard & Poor's rated Mediobanca A/Negative/A-1 on September 2011 - see www.mediobanca.it

#### **Business Overview**

#### Principal activities

The Mediobanca Group's principal activities are currently segmented into three divisions: corporate and investment banking (CIB), which includes wholesale banking and leasing; principal investing (PI), which brings together the Mediobanca Group's investments in Assicurazioni Generali, RCS MediaGroup, Telco and stakes taken as part of merchant banking and private equity activity; and retail and private banking (RPB), consisting of consumer credit activities, CheBanca! (retail banking) and private banking (CMB and Banca Esperia).

### Mediobanca Group activities

Mediobanca Group is a banking group operating in corporate and investment banking (CIB), which includes wholesale banking and leasing, principal investing (PI), which brings together the Mediobanca Group's long-term investments, and retail and private banking (RPB), consisting of consumer credit, retail banking and private banking. Mediobanca has a market capitalization of approximately €5.5 billion.

### Consolidated financial information as at 30/06/11

€m	CIB	PI	RPB	Total
	Coverage & corporate finance	Assicurazioni Generali	Consumer credit	
	Lending & structured finance	RCS MediaGroup	Retail banking	
	Capital markets	Telco	Private banking	
Profit and loss account				
Net interest income	429.3	-7.5	660.5	1,070.3
Total income	912.6	196.1	955.6	2,002.3
Profit before tax	396.3	63.5	115.4	554.2
Net profit	242.2	69.3	77.8	368.6

#### Corporate and investment banking (CIB)

Mediobanca seeks to provide its corporate clients with the advisory services and financial services they need to help them grow and develop.

The wholesale banking division comprises three different units: Corporate finance, Lending and structured finance, Capital markets.

#### Corporate finance

Mediobanca is the leader in Italy and has an increasingly significant role in financial advisory services at the European level through its branches in Paris, Frankfurt and Madrid. A client-based approach is adopted, backed by indepth knowledge of the financial issues and a consolidated track record in executing deals. The operating unit is organized into different industry teams covering individual industries in order to provide greater focus.

Corporate finance involves the following activities:

- defining strategic objectives for companies and identifying extraordinary financing transactions in order to help meet them;
- extraordinary financing transactions: mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures and partnerships, disposals and spinoffs
- liability restructuring: earnings/financial analysis of companies/groups undergoing restructuring; working out financial rebalancing scenarios; negotiating with key creditors;

- corporate restructuring: LBOs, MBOs, spinoffs and tax-/inheritance-related issues;
- company valuations, on a standalone basis and for purposes of setting exchange ratios;
- relations with authorities: assistance in handling relations with market and regulatory authorities, principally Consob and Borsa Italiana.

#### Lending & structured finance

The Financing teams serve Mediobanca's Italian and international customers, through the branch offices located in Paris, Frankfurt, London and Madrid, to offer:

- advice in evaluating possible capital structures and financing solutions available from among a vast series of debt products, including considering possible implications in terms of rating;
- structuring and executing lending transactions;
- access to the international syndicated loans market;
- facility and security agent services for corporate and structured lending transactions.

The principal Lending & structured finance area products are:

- **corporate lending** (bilateral loans, club deals and syndicated loans): corporate loans aimed at supporting customers' financial requirements generated by investments or related to their companies' growth; the financial solutions offered are aimed primarily at medium-/large-sized firms operating on domestic and international markets, in industrial and service-based sectors.
- leveraged finance (acquisition finance, loans for LBO/MBOs): financial support to corporate
  counterparties and institutional investors as part of leveraged transactions to acquire stakes in listed
  and unlisted companies; a wide range of lending transactions are developed, arranged, structured,
  underwritten and executed based on complex structures, and because of their size these are often
  syndicated on the international market.
- **structured finance** (project finance, infrastructure finance, real estate finance): on the back of its solid track record in various sectors, customers are provided with advisory services covering the entire process of structuring deals to support investment and infrastructure or industrial projects, including offering strategies, selection of the most effective debt instruments, hedging strategies, financial modelling and structuring contracts.
- **export finance** (export credit, trade finance, untied loans, etc.): financial support provided to exporters of merchandise and services destined for counterparties located in emerging markets, including with the support of government organizations guaranteeing insurance coverage and/or subsidized interest rates (SIMEST, SACE or other European export credit agencies); such loans, which are often syndicated, are structured in conjunction with the provision of advisory services regarding negotiations with commercial counterparties and financial and/or supranational institutions.

#### Capital markets

Mediobanca operates on both the primary and secondary markets, trading equities and fixed-income securities, foreign exchange products and credit risk, interest rate and exchange rate derivatives.

In the **equity** market (primary and secondary), activity is divided into the following areas:

- equity capital markets: Mediobanca is the Italian leader and has a role of increasing importance internationally in structuring, co-ordinating and executing equity capital markets transactions, such as IPOs, rights issues, secondary offerings and ABOs, and bonds convertible into equity solutions (equity derivatives to manage investments and treasury shares): this unit structures and implements extraordinary financing transactions involving equity investments and treasury shares; using a dedicated trading platform, the team offers customers innovative, high value-added solutions, and also handles any legal, accounting, tax and regulatory issues;
- **equity finance** (securities lending, equity repos, collateralized financing): the unit offers tailored securities lending solutions, which range from simple loans to hedge short-/medium-term positions, to equity repos, to upgrades and collateralized financing;
- **equity derivatives institutional marketing:** a range of equity-linked investments are offered to banks, insurances, asset managers and family offices, from synthetic replications of simple underlying assets to sophisticated protection mechanisms and solutions for increasing the return on portfolios, funded or unfunded;
- **MB Securities:** this is Mediobanca's equity brokerage division, offering global access to equity markets and research on the Italian market (over 100 companies are covered), plus a pan-European focus on the financials sector (banks and insurances); a dedicated team also offers corporate broking services.

As for the **debt** market, the activity is divided into the following areas of operation:

- **debt capital market**: this team originates, structures, executes and places corporate and financial bond issues, covered bonds and securitizations to meet its customers' financing needs.
- **CRAL solutions**: this area structures solutions based on interest rates, credit and alternative products; it targets corporate clients, banks and institutional investors who need to restructure their investment portfolios, increase asset liquidity and diversify their sources of funding.
- **proprietary funding:** this team is responsible for structuring, issuing and placing debt products, the revenues from which finance Mediobanca's own activities. Fund raising, supported by Mediobanca's high credit rating, takes place primarily through the issuance of securities, both plain vanilla and structured. Securities are placed with retail investors through public offers (executed using the networks of individual banks including that of BancoPosta either on an exclusive basis or via groups of banks in syndicates) and direct sales are made over the screen-based bond market (MOT) operated by Borsa Italiana. Demand from institutional investors is met via public offers of securities on the Euromarket and private placements of products customized to meet the subscribers' specific needs.

### Leasing

Mediobanca owns a 60% stake in the SelmaBipiemme Leasing group via Compass, with the other 40% held by Banca Popolare di Milano. SelmaBipiemme owns 100% of Palladio Leasing (a company which operates exclusively in north-east Italy), and 80% of Teleleasing (the other 20% being owned by Telecom Italy), a company which operates primarily in operating leasing.

The SelmaBipiemme Leasing group operates via branches, agents and above all banking networks, including Banca Popolare di Milano and Banca Popolare di Vicenza. It ranks among the top 10 operators in this sector.

In the twelve months to 30 June 2011 the Mediobanca Group disbursed approximately €1.1 billion.

As at 30 June 2011 the net value finance disbursed by the Mediobanca Group amounted to some €4.4 billion, with a headcount numbering 207 staff employed at the head office and 12 branches.

For further information please refer to the following paragraph "Recent events".

#### Principal investing (PI)

Mediobanca takes minority stakes in leading Italian and international companies, most of which are listed, and which are generally leaders in their respective spheres of activity, with a view to contributing, including through representation on investee companies' governing bodies, to value creation over a medium- and long-term time horizon. Mediobanca offers its investee companies, on an arm's length basis, the entire range of Mediobanca Group services (lending, corporate finance, capital markets, etc.). In view of the size of the investments and the role played by Mediobanca in the governance of the companies concerned, the shareholdings in Generali, RCS MediaGroup and Telco are assigned to the Principal investing division.

Company	Sector	% of share capital	Book value at 30/6/11 (€m)	Stock market value at 30/6/11 (€m)
Assicurazioni Generali	Insurance	13.24%	2,241.5	2,998.7
RCS Mediagroup	Publishing – media	14.36%	191.8	125.3
Telco	Telephony	11.62%	252.6	

#### Retail and Private Banking (RPB)

Mediobanca has a footprint in this sector through its group companies. It has operations in consumer credit through Compass, in retail banking through CheBanca!, and in private banking through Banca Esperia (in Italy) and Compagnie Monégasque du Banque (in the Principality of Monaco).

#### Consumer credit

Mediobanca has operated in the consumer credit sector since the 1960s through its subsidiary Compass. In 2008 its positioning in this segment was strengthened, including through acquisitions, with the addition of Linea, acquired on 27 June 2008 from Banca Popolare di Vicenza, Banco Popolare and other banking shareholders). Compass is now one of the top-ranking Italian consumer credit operators with a market share of over 9%.

Compass offers a wide range of products (personal loans, special purpose loans for acquisition of consumer durable goods, credit cards and salary-backed finance), using a highly diversified distribution network consisting of some 146 own branches, distributing agreements with banking partners and retailers, and BancoPosta.

As at the balance-sheet date it had approximately €8.9 billion in loans outstanding, plus a total of 1,341 staff on the books.

#### Retail banking - CheBanca!

In 2008, with the launch of CheBanca! Mediobanca commenced operations in the retail banking segment. The rationale for the CheBanca! project was to diversify the Mediobanca Group's sources of funding and

create a value centre to leverage on the market's potential to establish a transparent and highly innovative Italian operator. Three years since its launch, CheBanca! has achieved a distinctive position on the market, with:

- high brand recognition;
- effective, innovative multi-channel distribution (internet, 42 own branches, direct banking);
- simple, transparent products;
- substantial customer base (over 400,000 customers);
- strong commercial results: €10 billion in deposits, €4.1 billion in mortgages disbursed, over 530,000 products sold.

The company employs a total of 923 staff.

#### Private banking

The range of services offered to clients by the Mediobanca Group includes private banking, via Banca Esperia and Compagnie Monégasque de Banque.

- Banca Esperia was set up in July 2000 as a joint venture between the Mediobanca and Mediolanum groups with the aim of becoming the Italian private bank of choice for high net worth clients, offering them portfolio management, advisory and financing services. Independence, operational autonomy, focus on private banking activities, and excellence and quality of service, are the hallmarks of a bank which has approximately €12 billion in assets under management at its branches in Bergamo, Bologna, Brescia, Florence, Genoa, Milan, Modena, Naples, Padua, Parma, Rome and Turin.
- Compagnie Monégasque de Banque ("CMB"), is 100%-owned by Mediobanca. CMB is market leader in the Principality of Monaco, with total deposits of approximately €6 billion. Its geographical position, indepth knowledge of markets and reputation for absolute discretion make it a player of primary importance in the private banking industry, which can provide exclusive services to its clientèle, ranging from loans to property investments.

#### Recent events

In view of the increasing development and growing complexity of the individual retail businesses, at a Board meeting held on 21 September 2011, the directors of Mediobanca approved a project aimed at renewing the organizational model based on Compass in the role of a sub-holding company via a group reorganization whereby Compass spins off to Mediobanca – via a partial demerger – its investments in CheBanca! (100%), SelmaBipiemme Leasing (60%) and Assicurazioni Generali (0,91%). The demerger will be executed on the basis of the respective company's financial statements as at 30 June 2011, subject to authorization from the Bank of Italy.

Once the Bank of Italy's authorization has been obtained, the demerger will be submitted to the definitive approval of the Board of Directors at a subsequent meeting.

Brief description of the Mediobanca's principal activities, with an indication of the main categories of products sold and/or services provided

As stated in Article 3 of the Company's Articles of Association, the Company's purpose is to raise funds and provide credit in any of the forms permitted, especially medium- and long-term credit to corporates.

Within the limits laid down by current regulations, Mediobanca may execute all banking, financial and intermediation-related operations and services, and carry out any transaction deemed to be instrumental to or otherwise connected with the achievement of Mediobanca's purpose.

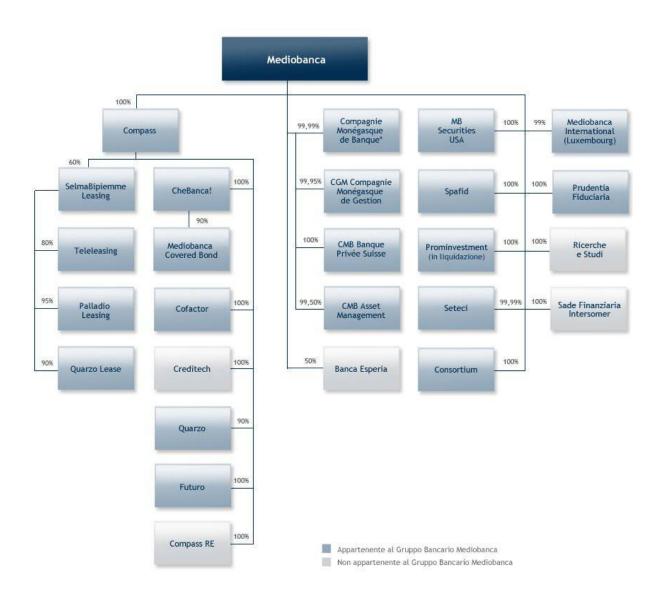
Save as described in this section "Description of the Issuer", there are no significant new products and/or services that have been introduced and no development of new products and services has been disclosed.

### **Organizational Structure**

Description of organizational structure of group headed up by Mediobanca

The Mediobanca Group is registered as a banking group in the register instituted by the Bank of Italy.

The following diagram illustrates the structure of the Mediobanca Group as at the date hereof:



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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> NB: the above diagram does not show the recent 100% stake taken by Mediobanca International (Luxembourg) SA in MEDIOBANCA INTERNATIONAL IMMOBILIERE S.à r.l.

## Bodies responsible for governance, management and supervision of Mediobanca

# Information on governing bodies

At an ordinary general meeting held on 28 October 2011, the shareholders of Mediobanca *inter alia* approved a resolution to set the number of Board members at twenty-two.

# **Board of Directors**

Members of the Board of Directors are:

Name	Post held	Place and date of birth	Term of office expires	Posts held in other companies
Renato	Chairman	Milan, 20/2/57	30/6/14	Deputy Chairman RCS MediaGroup
Pagliaro*	***			Director Telecom Italia
				Director, Pirelli & C.
Dieter Rampl	Deputy	Munich, 5/9/47	30/6/14	Chairman, UniCredit
	Chairman			Chairman, Supervisory Board Koenig & Bauer
				Member, Supervisory Board FC Bayern Munchen
				Director, KKR Management LLC
				Chairman, Managing Board Hypo- Kulturstiftung
Marco	Deputy	Milan, 18/1/48	30/6/14	Chairman and CEO, Pirelli & C.
Tronchetti Provera	Chairman			Chairman, Camfin
				Chairman, Prelios
				Chairman, Gruppo Partecipazioni Industriali
				Director, RCS Quotidiani
				Director, Alitalia
				Director, F.C. Internazionale Milano
				Director, Eurostazioni
Alberto Nagel*	Chief Executive	Milan, 7/6/65	30/6/14	Deputy Chairman, Assicurazioni

	Officer ***			Generali
				Director, Banca Esperia
Francesco Saverio Vinci *	General Manager ***	Milan, 10/11/62	30/6/14	Director, Assicurazioni Generali Director, Banca Esperia
				Director, Perseo
Tarak Ben Ammar	Director	Tunis, 12/6/49	30/6/14	Director, Telecom Italia  Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Quinta Communications  Chairman, Europa TV  Chairman and CEO, Prima TV  Chairman, Carthago Film  Chairman, Andromeda Tunisie S.A.  Chairman, Eagle Pictures S.p.A.  Chairman, Promotions et Partécipations International S.A.
Gilberto Benetton	Director	Treviso, 19/6/41	30/6/14	Chairman, Edizione Holding  Chairman, Autogrill  Director, Sintonia  Director, Benetton Group  Director, Pirelli & C.  Director, Atlantia  Director, Allianz
Marina Berlusconi	Director	Milan, 10/8/66	30/6/14	Chairman, Finanziaria d'Investimento Fininvest Chairman, Arnoldo Mondadori Editore Director, Mediaset

				Director, Mondadori France
Roberto Bertazzoni	Director	Guastalla, 10/12/42	30/6/14	Chairman, Smeg  Director, RCS MediaGroup
				Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Erfin - Eridano Finanziaria
				Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Cofiber
Vincent Bolloré	Director	Boulogne sur Seine, 1/4/52	30/6/14	Chairman and General Manager, Bolloré
				Chairman and General Manager, Bolloré Partécipations
				Chairman Financière De L'Odet
				Chairman, Havas
				Deputy Chairman, Assicurazioni Generali
				Director, Matin Plus
				Director, Direct Soir
				Director, Natixis
				Director, Socfin
				Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Financière du Champ de Mars
				Chairman, Financière Nord Sumatra
				General Manager and Director, Financière V
				Permanent representative, Société Chemins De Fer Et Tramways du Var et Du Gard
				Permanent representative, Société Industrielle et Financière De L'Artois
Angelo Casò *	Director	Milan, 11/8/40	30/6/14	Chairman of Board of directors, Milano Assicurazioni
				Chairman, Statutory Audit Committee

				Benetton Group
				Chairman, Statutory Audit Committee Edizione
				Chairman, Statutory Audit Committee FidItalia
				Chairman, Statutory Audit Committee Bracco
				Chairman, Statutory Audit Committee Alchera
				Chairman, Statutory Audit Committee Bracco Imaging
				Standing Auditor, Barclays Private Equity
				Standing Auditor, Italmobiliare
Maurizio Cereda	Director ***	Milan, 7/1/64	30/6/14	Director, Ansaldo STS
*				Director, Enervit
Massimo Di Carlo *	Director ***	Rovereto, 25/6/63	30/6/14	
Ennio Doris	Director	Tombolo,		Chief Executive Officer, Mediolanum
		3/7/40		Chairman, Banca Mediolanum
				Director, Banca Esperia
Jonella Ligresti	Director	Milan, 23/3/67	30/6/14	Chairman, Fondiaria-SAI
				Chairman, SAI Holding Italy
				Deputy Chairman, Fondazione Fondiaria-SAI
				Deputy Chairman, Premafin Finanziaria
				Director, Milan Assicurazioni
				Director, RCS MediaGroup
				Director, Italmobiliare
				Director, Finadin

Fabrizio Palenzona	Director	Novi Ligure, 1/9/53	30/6/14	Deputy Chairman, Unicredit Group
		77700		Chairman, Gemina
				Chairman, Aeroporti di Rome
				Chairman, Aviva Italia
				Director, Fondazione Cassa Di Risparmio di Alessandria
Carlo Pesenti	Director	Milan, 30/3/63	30/6/14	General Manager, Director and Member of Executive Committee, Italmobiliare
				CEO and Member of Executive Committee, Italcementi
				Deputy Chairman, Ciments Français
				Director, UniCredit
				Director and Member of Executive Committee, RCS MediaGroup
				Director, Ambienta Societa' di Gestione del Risparmio
Eric Strutz *	Director	Mainz, 13/12/1964	30/6/14	Member of Board of Managing Directors, Commerzbank
				Member, Supervisory Board ABB
				Member, Supervisory Board BRE Bank
				Deputy Chairman, Commerzbank Auslandsbanken Holding
				Chairman, Supervisory Board Commerzbank Auslandsbanken Holding Nova
				Member, Supervisory Board RWE Power
				Member of Supervisory Board, SdB Sicherungseinrichtungsgesellschaft deutscher Banken
				Member of Supervisory Board Verlagsbeteiligungs – und

				Verwaltunggsgesellschaft  Chairman, Supervisory Board  Commerzbank Inlandsbanken Holding
Anne Marie Idrac	Director	27/7/51	30/6/14	Director, Saint Gobain  Member of Supervisory Board,  Vallourec S.A.
Pierre Lefèvre	Director	19/1/56	30/6/14	Chairman of Board of Directors, Groupama Assicurazioni S.p.A.  Chairman of Board of Directors, Groupama Emeklilik  Chairman of Board of Directors, Groupama Garancia Biztosito S.p.A.  Chairman of Board of Directors, Groupama Insurance Company Ltd  Chairman of Board of Directors, Groupama Investment Bosphorus Holding  Chairman of Board of Directors, Groupama Phoenix Asfalistiki  Chairman of Board of Directors, Groupama Seguros y Reaseguros SaU  Chairman of Board of Directors, Groupama Sigorta  Chairman of Board of Directors, Guk Broking Services Ltd  Chairman of Board of Directors, Rampart Insurance Company
Elisabetta Magistretti	Director	21/7/47	30/6/14	Director, Pirelli & C. S.p.A.  Director Gefran S.p.A.  Member of Supervisory Board, ZAO  Unicredit Russia
Fabio Alberto Roversi Monaco	Director	18/12/38	30/6/14	Chairman, Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio in Bologna Director, Alleanza Toro S.p.A.

	Director, Telecom Italia Media S.p.A.

 $<sup>{\</sup>it *Member of the Executive Committee}.$ 

The address for all members of the Board of Directors in respect of their duties is: Piazzetta E. Cuccia 1, Milan, Italy.

# Statutory Audit Committee

# Composition:

Post	Name	Place and date of birth	Term expires	Posts held in other companies
Chairman	Freddi Natale	6/6/52	FY 30/6/14	
Standing Auditor	Gabriele Villa	Milan, 18/6/64	FY 30/6/14	Chairman of Statutory Audit Committee, Credito Artigiano Director, Snai S.p.A.
				Standing Auditor, Finecobank  Alternate auditor, Italiana Assicurazioni S.p.A.
Standing Auditor	Maurizia Angelo Comneno	Rome, 18/6/48	FY 30/6/14	Director, ADR – Associazione per le Alternative Dispute Resolution
Alternate Auditor	Guido Croci	Milan, 4/3/59	FY 30/6/14	Sole Director, Strauss  Director, FPZ
				Chairman, Pegaso  Chairman, Statutory Audit Committee Automobili.com  Chairman, Statutory Audit Committee Avvenire Società di intermediazione
				Mobiliare per azioni Chairman, Statutory Audit Committee Ferretti

 $<sup>{\</sup>it ****} \, {\it Member of Mediobanca senior management}.$ 

				Chairman, Statutory Audit Committee RCS Digital
				Chairman, Statutory Audit Committee RCS Produzioni
				Chairman, Statutory Audit Committee Sfera Editore
				Chairman, Statutory Audit Committee SG Finance Italia
				Chairman, Statutory Audit Committee SG Infrastructure Italia
				Chairman, Statutory Audit Committee Sind International
				Chairman, Statutory Audit Committee Société Générale Asset Finance Italia
				Chairman, Statutory Audit Committee Société Générale Italia Holding
				Chairman, Statutory Audit Committee Société Générale Mutui Italia
Alternate Auditor	Mario Busso	1/3/51	FY 30/6/14	Chairman, Statutory Audit Committee Saipem
				Chairman, Statutory Audit Committee Permicro

The address for all members of the Statutory Audit Committee in respect of their duties is: Piazzetta E. Cuccia 1, Milan, Italy.

#### Executive Committee

The Board of Directors appoints an Executive Committee to comprise a total of up to nine members, establishing their powers.

The Chairman of the Board of Directors and the five directors who are members of the Mediobanca Group's management with the requisites set forth under the Mediobanca's Articles of Association and elected from the list which receives the highest number of votes are members of the Executive Committee *de jure*.

The Board of Directors grants responsibility to the Executive Committee for the ordinary management of the Company, with all powers not reserved, by law or in conformity with the provisions of the Articles of Association, to the collegiate jurisdiction of the Board of Directors or which the latter has delegated to the Chief Executive Officer.

Without prejudice to the foregoing, the Executive Committee:

- 1) is responsible for Mediobanca's operating performance, as a rule through the proposals of the Chief Executive Officer and in co-operation with him;
- adopts resolutions to grant loans in accordance with the guidelines and general directions adopted by the Board of Directors and on the other matters specified under Article 17, paragraph 2, points 3 and 4 of the Articles of Association, in amounts and/or for percentages not to exceed those which fall within the sole jurisdiction of the Board of Directors;
- 3) draws up internal regulations, to be submitted to the approval of the Board of Directors;
- 4) establishes the principles for co-ordination and management of the Mediobanca Group companies in execution of the strategic guidelines approved by the Board of Directors.

In urgent cases the Executive Committee may agree on resolutions in conjunction with the Chairman of the Board of Directors regarding any matter or transaction, reporting back to the Board at the first meeting to be held afterwards.

Resolutions are approved by the Executive Committee with the majority of its members in attendance and voting in favour.

The Executive Committee may delegate its powers to approve resolutions to committees made up of the Company's management or individual managers up to certain pre-established limits.

General manager and senior management

Renato Pagliaro Chairman, Alberto Nagel Chief Executive Officer, Francesco Saverio Vinci General Manager, Maurizio Cereda and Massimo Di Carlo, Executive Directors of Mediobanca and Massimo Bertolini, Head of Company Financial Reporting.

Conflicts of interest among bodies responsible for governance, management and supervision

Some members of the Board of Directors (see the table above) also hold posts in other Italian or non-Italian banks. This situation could generate conflicts of interests. If such situations were to occur, these would be dealt with in accordance with the legislation in force.

At an annual general meeting held on 28 October 2008, the shareholders of Mediobanca authorized the directors with posts in banking enterprises to take office, as required by Article 2390 of the Italian Civil Code. The Board of Directors reviews the posts held in other companies on an annual basis, reporting any critical issues to shareholders at the next successive general meeting. To this end, each Director informs the Board of any activities undertaken in the course of his/her term of office which may be in competition with those of Mediobanca.

Mediobanca also adopts the procedure recommended under Article 136 of the Italian Consolidated Banking Act for approval of transactions involving individuals who perform duties of management and control in other companies where these are Directors or Statutory Auditors.

#### Share capital

Amount of share capital issued

As at 30 September 2011, the Mediobanca's share capital, fully subscribed and paid up, totalled €430,564,606.00, made up of 861,129,212 par value €0.50 shares.

#### **Main Shareholders**

Information on ownership structure

Individuals or entities who based on the shareholders' register and available information as at 31 June 2011 own directly or indirectly financial instruments representing share capital with voting rights in excess of 2% of Mediobanca's share capital, directly or indirectly, are listed below:

	Shareholder	% of share capitale
1	Unicredito group	8.7413
2	Bolloré group	5.0634
3	Groupama group	4.9273
4	Premafin group	3.8345
5	Mediolanum group	3.3787
6	Fondaz. Cariverona	3.1360
7	Italmobiliare group	2.6209
8	Fondazione Ca.Ris.Bo	2.5566
9	Benetton group	2.1629
10	Fininvest group	2.0570

Mediobanca shareholders representing approximately 44.5% of Mediobanca's share capital entered into a shareholders' agreement in 2007 (subsequently amended in October 2008 to reflect the new corporate governance model adopted) (the "**Agreement**"). The shareholders' Agreement expires on 31 December 2011. On 4 October 2011, the shareholders renewed the shareholders' Agreement until 31 December 2013. The new Agreement will reduce to around 40.9% of Mediobanca's share capital as from 1 January 2012.

The Agreement, which is filed with the Milan companies' register, is a block shareholders' agreement aimed at preserving a stable shareholder base combined with representative governing bodies to ensure consistent management objectives. In order to achieve these objectives, these shareholders, divided into three groups, concur in seeing the traditional system of corporate governance, which leverages on the management and provides greater clarity in the roles of the various governing bodies within the company, as fundamental to safeguarding the characteristics, function and traditional independence of Mediobanca and to ensuring that consistent management objectives are pursued.

An excerpt from the Agreement may be found on the Issuer's website at www.mediobanca.it.

Mediobanca is the parent company of the Mediobanca Group. No entity has control over Mediobanca as defined under Article 93 of Decree No. 58 of 24 February, 1998.

Agreements the performance of which may result in a change of control subsequent to the date hereof

As at the date of this Base Prospectus, Mediobanca is not aware of any agreements aimed at bringing about future changes regarding the ownership structure of Mediobanca.

#### **Auditors of the Financial Statements**

External auditors responsible for auditing the financial statements

Reconta Ernst & Young S.p.A., a company with its registered offices in Via della Chiusa 2, Milan, Italy, has audited the individual and consolidated financial statements of Mediobanca as at 30 June 2009, 30 June 2010 and 30 June 2011.

At an annual general meeting held on 27 October 2007, the shareholders of Mediobanca approved a resolution to extend the duration of the mandate thus granted to audit the individual and consolidated full-year and interim financial statements, to perform other activities provided for under Article 155 of Italian Legislative Decree 58/98, and to sign off the "Unico" and "770" tax declarations, to include the financial years ending 30 June 2010, 2011 and 2012.

Information regarding resignations, dismissals or failures to renew the appointment of the external auditors or the auditors responsible for auditing the financial statements

No resignations, dismissals or failures to renew the appointment of the external auditors have occurred during the period under review.

# Legal and arbitration proceedings

As at the date hereof, none of Mediobanca and its consolidated subsidiaries is or has been involved in any governmental, legal, arbitration or administrative proceedings relating to claims or amounts of money which may have, or have had in the recent past, a material impact on the Mediobanca Group's financial position or profitability, and as far as Mediobanca is aware, no such litigation, arbitration or administrative proceedings has either been announced or is pending.

A total of twelve claims against Mediobanca, jointly with the other parties in their alleged failure to launch a full takeover bid for La Fondiaria in 2002, are still pending for damages amounting to €100m. The present status of the trials in respect of these claims is as follows:

- the Court of Appeal in Milan has ruled in favour of Mediobanca on four claims, three of which rulings have been challenged in the court of cassation;
- the Court of Appeal in Milan has ruled against Mediobanca on seven claims in the first degree, all of which have been appealed;
- the Court of Florence has ruled in favour of Mediobanca on one claim, which has been appealed by the plaintiff.

A "provision for risks and liabilities" has been made in the balance sheet as at 30 June 2011 in an amount of €156.3 million to cover, *inter alia*, risks not necessarily linked to the failure to meet obligations or repay loans which could lead to charges in the future.

## **Material Agreements**

In the past two years neither Mediobanca nor any of the companies controlled by Mediobanca has entered into agreements outside of their normal course of business which could result an obligation or entitlement for Mediobanca Group members that would impact significantly on the Issuer's ability to meet its obligations versus holders of financial instruments issued or to be issued.

#### FINANCIAL INFORMATION OF MEDIOBANCA – BANCA DI CREDITO FINANZIARIO S.P.A.

The consolidated annual financial statements of Mediobanca as at and for the years ended 30 June 2011 and 2010 have, as required by Italian Legislative Decree 38/05, been drawn up in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and International Accounting Standards (IAS) issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB), which were adopted by the European Commission in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 6 of regulation CE 1606/02 issued by the European Council and Commission on 19 July 2002. Adoption of the new accounting standards with respect to financial reporting by banks is governed by Bank of Italy circular no. 262 issued on 22 December 2005 (as amended on 18 November 2009). The unaudited consolidated financial statements as at and for the three months ended 30 September 2011 and 2010 were also drawn up in compliance with Consob's regulations for issuers as contained in Consob regulation 11971/99.

All of the above consolidated annual and three month financial statements, prepared in each case together with the notes thereto, are incorporated by reference in this Base Prospectus. See "Documents Incorporated by Reference".

Since 30 September 2011 (being the day on which the latest available interim financial statements have been prepared) there has been no significant change in the financial condition of Mediobanca or its subsidiaries, and since 30 June 2011 (being the last day of the financial period in respect of which the most recent audited annual financial statements of Mediobanca have been prepared) there has been no material adverse change in the financial condition of Mediobanca or its subsidiaries.

All of the above annual consolidated financial statements have been audited by Reconta Ernst & Young S.p.A., whose reports thereon are attached to such annual financial statements.

#### **DESCRIPTION OF THE SELLER**

#### CheBanca! overview

CheBanca! is the retail bank of the Mediobanca Group. It was established in May 2008 by merge into Micos Banca (which used to operate exclusively in the mortgage business) thus creating a new banking operator offering both mortgage and checking/saving product.

Micos was rebranded "CheBanca! Rete Mutui" becoming the Division originating mortgages through multiple intermediaries (real estate agents, brokers, financial consultants).

CheBanca! distribution model encompasses: branches, call center and the Internet.

The product portfolio includes:

- Checking account;
- Saving account for retail and business customers;
- Securities account;
- Prepaid/credit card;
- A full set of mortgage products;
- Insurance products (life, unemployment, accidents, home).

## **CheBanca! Strategy**

## **Products**

- Simple products, clear pricing, no hidden clauses, no bad surprises for the customers;
- Strong focus on the whole customer experience: product communication, subscription and management;
- No product proliferation: one need, one product;
- Competitive pricing; high value for money, no price leadership.

#### <u>Brand</u>

- Significant investments in the brand to create strong and sustainable brand awareness;
- Consistent brand "delivery" through all the "touch points": advertising, branch, web site, product design.

#### **Distribution**

- Integrated channel management: customers can buy and operate with their products across all the channels (internet, call center, branches);
- Few branches focused on sales ... internet banking made simple, comprehensive and efficient to facilitate unattended transactions;
- Specialized mortgage channel with employed personnel (fixed compensation + bonus).

## It Infrastucture

- Specific components of the IT infrastructure to generate competitive advantage (i.e. customer facing systems) are developed in-house;
- Standardized IT modules, where no competitive advantage can be obtained (i.e. transaction processing), have been outsourced;

# **Economic Results in detail**

At 30 June 2011 the interest margin of CheBanca! amounted to  $\mathfrak C$  112 million and net commissions increased to  $\mathfrak C$  6.7 million. The gross operating margin thus amounted to  $\mathfrak C$  157.1 million (+61%). Net of impairment losses on loans and other financial items ( $\mathfrak C$  20.8 million), the net result from financial operations increased to  $\mathfrak C$  136.2 million.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCONTS (in € 000)	June 2009	June 2010	June 2011
Interest and similar income	207.485	311.971	353.852
Interest and similar expense	-184.109	-279.990	-241.790
Net interest income	23.376	31.981	112.062
Fee and commission income	6.480	7.770	9.276
Fee and commission expense	-1.571	-2.480	-2.531
Net fee and commission income	4.909	5.290	6.745
Realised gain (loss) on debt securities	17.073	57.952	38.068
Fair value adjustments in hedge accounting		2.170	190
TOTAL INCOME	45.358	97.393	157.065
Adjustement for impairment	-27.011	-23.000	-20.838
NET INCOME FROM FINANCIAL OPERATIONS	18.347	74.393	136.227
Admistrative expenses	-153.969	-176.393	-180.788
- Personnel expenses	-37.848	-52.687	-54.768
-Other administrative expenses	-116.121	-123.706	-126.020
Net transfer to provisions	0	-250	-175
Net adjustment to tangible assets	-3.112	-4.749	-5.056
Net adjustment to intangible assets	-2.148	-2.887	-2.714
Other operating income (expenses)	5.124	4.859	4.889
Others	0	-9	-30
Operating costs	-154.105	-179.429	-183.874
PROFIT (LOSS) ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE TAX	-135.758	-105.036	-47.647
Income tax and ordinary activities for the year	35.826	25.818	8.461
PROFIT (LOSS) ON ORDINARY ACTIVITIES AFTER TAX	-99.932	-79.218	-39.186

Operating costs amounted to & 180.7 million, up by 2,5% compared to June 2010. The loss from ordinary activities before taxes amounted to & 47.6 million.

ASSETS (in € 000)	June 2009	June 2010	June 2011
Cash and cash equivalent	11.044	18.158	21.595
AFS securities	2.081.643	2.006.001	1.471.210
Loans and receivables with banks	2.634.340	5.530.968	6.758.802
Loans and receivables with customers		5.555.555	
	3.231.159	3.546.096	4.102.953
Hedging derivatives		1.222	748
Shareholdings	9	45	90
Property plant and equipment	13.961	15.755	12.070
Intangible assests	3.464	2.712	2.366
Tax assets	17.801	29.568	40.232
Other assets	33.056	41.156	136.768
TOTAL ASSETS	8.026.477	11.191.681	12.546.834

LIABILITIES (in € 000)	June 2009	June 2010	June 2011
Due to banks	1.600.121	1.217.401	2.256.337
Due to customers	6.115.256	9.561.126	9.966.398
Hedging derivatives		21.997	2.937
Tax liabilities	16.786	7.995	5.963
Other liabilities	66.471	160.985	147.752
Staff severance indemnity provision	1.482	1.227	1.125
Provision	292	375	450
Reserves	26.001	89.793	-4.942
Share capital	300.000	210.000	210.000
Profit (loss) for the period	-99.932	-79.218	-39.186
TOTAL LIABILITIES	8.026.477	11.191.681	12.546.834

# The Originator's Position in the Loan Mortgage Market in Italy

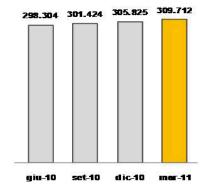
Stock of residential mortgage is increased of about 3.7% in the last year (apr-10/mar-11). The rebound after two years of sharp contraction is due to:

- the persistent low interest rate environment, both for short- and long-term maturities;
- the overall stability of property prices;
- greater recourse to property purchases as an alternative investment to financial assets.

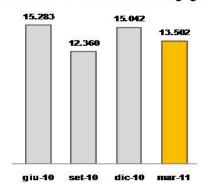
In the same period, new mortgage disbursement account for about 17% of the initial stock, with a pretty seasonal quarterly trend.

This difference is mostly explained by the fact that an increasingly part of the "new" volumes are used for refinancing, substitution of existing mortgages and debt consolidation (+18,6% YoY), while the flows purposed to home buying grew at a lower pace (+1.0% YoY).

Stock of residential mortgages, €m



Disbursement of residential mortgages, €m

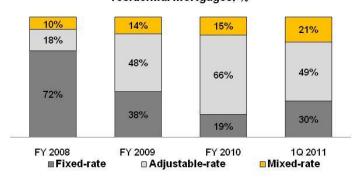


Source: Bank of Italy and Assofin

In the 1Q 2011 Italian households continued to prefer floating rate mortgages, that accounted for 49% of disbursement but reported a decrease (-17%) compared to the end of 2010.

Floating rate mortgages continue to prevail mainly thanks to the persistent low interest rate environment and the introduction of floating rate mortgages with caps.

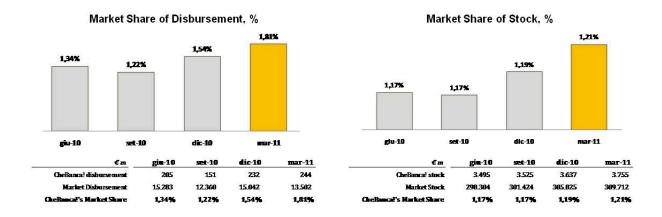
Breakdown of disbursement of residential mortgages, %



In the first 3 months of 2011 CheBanca! increased the disbursements to €244m (+5% Q-o-Q) in a slightly decreasing environment:

- most of the disbursements of the 1Q 2011 regard the home purchases (76%);
- most of the disbursements refer to long-term maturities (72% refer to contract terms of more than 20 years);
- floating rate mortgages account for the bulk of the disbursements (88%).

Despite an ongoing increase in the weight of the direct channel, CheBanca!'s production is still mostly sourced from the indirect channel (real estate agents and financial intermediaries) which accounts for around 84% of the disbursements in 1Q 2011.



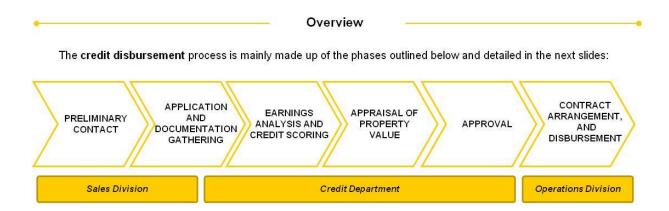
#### CREDIT AND COLLECTION POLICIES

#### Introduction

The Bank's policies for granting mortgages provide for restrictions in relation to the specific product (term, disbursement limit vis-à-vis the appraised value, maximum/minimum amount, minimum guarantees). There are also three types of requirements for all mortgages:

- specific requirements for the applicant, with regard to:
  - personal requirements (minimum/maximum age, citizenship, residence);
  - profession and professional experience (free-lance professional, self-employed worker, full-time employee, retired);
  - earnings situation (ratio of monthly installment to monthly net income, minimum disposable income, level of debt);
- specific requirements for the guarantor with regard to the level of debt and the specific relationship with the applicant;
- specific requirements for the property with regard to:
  - restrictions on location and on the property's state and conditions;
  - restrictions on specific elements that may reduce the possibility for the Bank to take an interest in an unencumbered asset.

## **Credit Reiew and Approval Process**



The credit application and approval process for the disbursement to a new customer includes the following activities:

- preliminary contact, aimed at detecting the needs and the pre-requirements for granting the loan;
- gathering of the documentation needed for a preliminary feasibility assessment;
- evaluation through the credit policies based on customer monthly income/debt position;
- property appraisal by an external company;
- final approval and subsequent closing of the contract.

## Preliminary contact

During the phase the Bank evaluates the applications from the customer and identifies the applicant's financial needs. It could be done with the branch manager, the call center operator, the Internet site or Brokers partnered with CheBanca! .

# Application and Gathering Documentation

Upon presentation of the application for the mortgage, the customer is asked to supply the following **documentation** (the list is an example and is not all inclusive):

#### Personal data:

- fiscal code and valid ID document (ID cart, passport or driver's license);
- family Status certificate;
- residence certificate.

#### Income information:

- most recent earnings statement issued for tax purposes, 2 most recent payroll stubs, income tax return;
- ID card / certification for registration on a professional register, document for issuance of a value-added tax number;
- employer's statement of employment and hire date;
- most recent quarterly bank account statement, updated to the most recent month, with evidence;
   of the crediting of payroll or business volume for a professional.

## **Investment Detail:**

- copy of preliminary sale-purchase contract and/or proposal to purchase;
- deed of origin (current owner's deed of ownership);
- floor plan and up-to-date cadastral survey.

Before submitting to the credit analyst CheBanca! sale rep checks that the documentation is complete and runs a first feasibility assessment on the basis of the documentation and CRIF databank (to determine the presence, if any, of protests or other serious impediments and the feasibility of the transaction).

#### Credit Scoring Assessment

The first evaluation at the Credit Department foresees three main steps:

## 1. Preliminary Overview

Once the application is received at the Credit Department, the analyst:

- maps the customer's outstanding loans;
- checks the declared sources of income introducing discounted rates where needed;
- verifies how the application credit "ratios" stand versus the threshold set in the credit policy;
- performs a preliminary enquiry to Bank of Italy's Central Credit Register (Centrale dei Rischi) to gather information on the overall risk profile of all subjects involved into the operation (borrower, co-borrower, guarantor);
- checks for the presence of protests and impediments.

### 2. Credit Scoring

After the preliminary check, the analyst carries out an automated credit scoring process that calculates a credit risk score through a proprietary algorithm based on:

- CRIF Credit Bureau Score, an application risk score provided by CRIF (CRIF is a private credit information bureau, specialized in credit information systems and management of a private central information file);
- CheBancal's internal score, based on information concerning the credit request and borrower characteristics.

At present the algorithm is implemented in SAS environment of Mediobanca.

## 3. In-depth Analysis

Interrogation of Bank of Italy's Central Credit Register (Centrale dei Rischi) and depending on the outcome, the process continues with the customer's debt position "quality" and evaluation of customer's current account (whether in/outflows are consistent with income/debt/spending attitude).

At this step, in case the application is "border line", the analyst may suggest the sale rep to:

- reduce the mortgage amount;
- increase the mortgage maturity;
- acquire a mortgage guarantor.

Once this step is completed the analyst may:

- Proceed the application to the next step (in case the mortgage amount complains with his/her approved threshold);
- submit to a higher approving body for the authorization to proceed with the approval;
- reject the application.

# <u>Appraisal of Property to Secure the Mortgage</u>

A property appraisal by an outside company is required for any transaction (regardless of the amount) preapproved through the credit analysis: the company in charge of the appraisal visits the property and documents the visit with photos.

The external company does the appraisal on the basis of certified and standardized evaluation criteria.

The quarterly key evaluation data are used to re-evaluate the property value, through statistical methodologies based on market quotation indexes provided by Nomisma. In case of significant depreciation (>10%) against the original value of the property, it must be appraised again.

Once the appraisal is received, the analyst verifies:

- comprehensiveness;
- compliance with credit policies as far as property concerns;
- property value vs. benchmark;
- property value vs. mortgage amount, considering the maximum LTV admitted;
- consistency of cadastral data;
- the property's current conditions, habitability and compliance with regulation.

## Checking of parameters and approving resolution

Once the application package is complete (including the notary's preliminary report), the check of consistency is carried out. The analyst inputs a definitive recommendation and submits the file to the person/body having in charge the mortgage approval (in terms of amount). During this process, the information system automatically checks the compliance of:

- parameters for the capacity to finance (as provided by the Bank of Italy);
- parameters defined by internal procedures (i.e. debt ratio);
- usury threshold parameters.

In order to ensure the proper application of credit policy, mortgages are approved according to an authorization procedure formalized on the basis of operating authority limits established for the persons responsible. The system checks the extent of the analyst's approval authority with respect to the amount of the financing.

The approval of any exceptions vis-à-vis the limits provided by credit policy must be done through the authorization procedure. The application must be submitted to the person who has the authority (by amount) to approve it.

# Contract signature and disbursement

At this stage, the sale rep collects customer's signature on the following documents:

- Notice of outcome The notice contains all of the terms and conditions of the mortgage;
- Letter of instructions The letter provides the customer's requests in terms of installment due date, disbursement (payee(s) and amount).

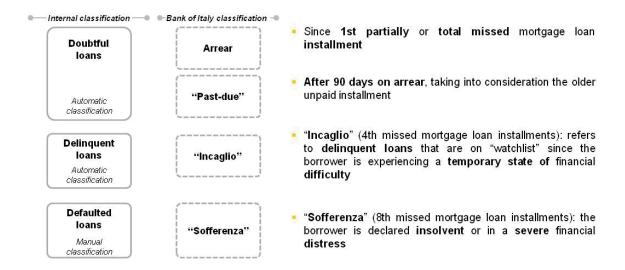
The documentation is sent to the head office and checked once again by the staff before proceeding to the next step.

The process ends by signing of the mortgage documents at the notary's office.

The disbursement is concomitant with the closing of the contract and may take place through the issuance of cashier's cheque or via bank to bank transfers.

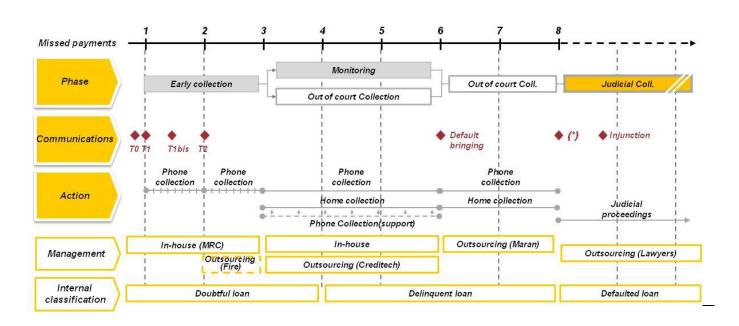
## **Credit Monitoring and Collection Process**

According to Bank of Italy, CheBanca! non-performing loans are categorized as doubtful and defaulted. CheBanca! automatic or manual classifications are:



At the end of foreclosure procedures, or whether the borrower offers to pay a considerable amount of the debt, the write off will be set out.

## **The Collection Process**



## Phase 1: Early collection

- in-house telephone solicitation and written communications (telegrams) at the 1st and 2nd technical or effective missed payments (To, T1, T1bis, T2);
- outsourced phone collection 2 on customers not found by the in-house Phone Collection.

Phone collection activities are carried out by both, internal and outsourced resources, who are responsible for calling borrowers to understand reasons of missed installments and solicit the recovery.

In order to support the overall management of customers followed by the Phone Collection office, a web application has been set up, which schedules different activities according to the number of missed installments and default gravity, balancing the daily effort between all the resources involved.

# Phase 2: Monitoring and Home collection

- in-house phone collection activities on debtors not found at previous stages;
   oOutsourcing home collection supported by phone collection on customers not found by the in-house Phone Collection;
- written communication (to bring a default action as of the 6th missed payment.

When the Phone collection office and the phone collection outsourcer do not succeed in their recovery purpose, a deeper action is set up, and another outsourcer is in charge to go directly to the house of the borrower, in order to exert a strong action on him/her and to arrange recovery plan.

The pipeline schedules two phases of Home Collection, both in outsourcing: the first one lasts 90 days, the second one lasts 60 days.

## Phase 3: Out of court collection

- outsourced home or phone collection;
- written communication (DBT letter);
- defaulted loans classification status at the 8th missed payment.

## Phase 4: Judicial collection

- starting of the judicial proceedings (Injunction), followed by the lawyer geographically competent;
- starting the foreclosure procedures, according to the Italian regulation (cpc, art. 491).

#### DESCRIPTION OF THE GUARANTOR

#### Introduction

Mediobanca Covered Bond S.r.l. (the "**Guarantor**") is a limited liability company (*società a responsabilità limitata*) incorporated on 31 March 2003 under the denomination of "Sessanta Finance S.r.l." in the Republic of Italy under article 7-bis of Italian law No. 130 of 30 April 1999 (*Disposizioni sulla cartolarizzazione dei crediti*) as amended from time to time (the "Law 130/99"), as a special purpose vehicle for the purpose of issuing a guarantee in relation to the Covered Bonds.

By way of a shareholder's resolution held on March, 17, 2009, the corporate name of the Guarantor was changed into Mediobanca Covered Bond S.r.l.

By way of a shareholders' resolution adopted on March, 17 2009, the by-laws of the company has been amended in order to allow the company to act as a special purpose vehicle within covered bond transactions in accordance with article 7-bis of Law 130/99.

In accordance with the Guarantor's by-laws, the corporate duration of the Guarantor is limited to 30 June, 2050 and may be extended by quotaholders' resolution. The Guarantor is registered with the companies' register of Milan under number 03915310969, enrolled under No. 34916 in the general register held by the Bank of Italy pursuant to article 106 of the Banking Act, and its tax identification number (*codice fiscale*) and VAT number is 03915310969. The registered office of the Guarantor is Galleria del Corso, 2, Milan, Italy. The telephone number of the registered office of the Guarantor is + 39 02 7636 981.

Since the date of its incorporation on 31 March 2003, the Guarantor has not engaged in any business, has not declared or paid any dividends or incurred any indebtedness, other than the Guarantor's costs and expenses of incorporation.

The Guarantor has not employees.

#### Quotaholding

As of October, 12 2011 the authorised equity capital of the Guarantor is € 100,000. The issued and paid-up equity capital of the Guarantor is € 100,000 and the 90% is held by CheBanca! S.p.A. and the remaining 10% is held by SPV Holding S.r.l.

Italian company law combined with the holding structure of the Guarantor and the role of the Representative of the Bondholders are together intended to prevent any abuse of control of the Guarantor.

The Guarantor is under the management and co-ordination activity of Mediobanca S.p.A.

## Multi-purpose vehicle

The Guarantor has been established as a multi-purpose vehicle with the purpose of issuing guarantees in accordance with Law 130/99, accordingly, it may carry out other Covered Bond issue program transactions in addition to that one contemplated in this Prospectus, subject to certain conditions.

#### **Business Overview**

The exclusive purpose of the Guarantor is to purchase from banks, against payment, receivables and notes issued in the context of securitization transaction, in compliance with article 7-bis of Law 130/99 and the relevant implementing provisions, by means of loans granted or guaranteed also by selling banks, as well as to issue guarantees for the Covered Bond issued by such bank or entities.

The Guarantor has granted the guarantee to the benefit of the Representative of the Bondholders (acting in the name and on behalf of the Bondholders), of the counterparts of derivative contracts as well as to the benefit of the payment of the other costs of the transaction, with priority in respect of the reimbursement of the other loans, pursuant to paragraph 1 of article 7-bis of Law 130/99.

Under the terms of the Guarantee the Guarantor will be obliged to pay Guaranteed Amounts in respect of the Covered Bonds on the relevant Due for Payment Date.

# **Accounting treatment of the Portfolio**

Pursuant to the Bank of Italy's regulations, the accounting information relating to the securitisation of the Receivables will be contained in the explanatory notes to the Guarantor's accounts (*nota integrativa*). The explanatory notes, together with the balance sheet and the profit and loss statements, form part of the financial statements of Italian limited liability companies (*società a responsabilità limitata*).

# **Accounts of the Guarantor**

Starting from fiscal year 2009, the fiscal year of the Issuer begins on 1 July of each calendar year and ends on 30 June of the next calendar year.

#### **Directors of the Guarantor**

The board of directors of the Guarantor is constituted by the following directors:

Name	Address	Principal Activities	Posts held in other companies
Stefano Radice	c/o CheBanca S.p.A., Via Manuzio No. 7– 20100 – Milan	Chairman of the board of director	Chief Financial Officer, CheBanca!
Maria Teresa Iardella	c/o Mediobanca S.p.A., Piazzetta Cuccia No. 1– 20100 – Milan	Company director	Executive Officer in charge of Debt Capital Markets & Securitisation, Mediobanca
Simone Tini	ne Tini Via Acquedotto, Palau – 07020- Company dire Olbia - Tempio		Director, Quarzo S.r.l.  Director, Quarzo Lease S.r.l.
			Member of supervisory board, Fondo Pensione Previgen Global (Generali group)
			Member of supervisory board, Fondo Pensione Previgen Valore (Generali Group)

## Statutory auditors of the Guarantor

The Guarantor has no statutory auditors.

## Capitalisation and indebtedness statement

The capitalisation and indebtedness of the Guarantor as at the date of this Prospectus, adjusted for the issue of the receivables on the Issue Date, are as follows:

in euro (€)

Issued equity capital

€ 100,000 fully paid up

**Borrowings** 

Subordinated Loan 2,000,000

#### **Financial statements**

The financial statements of the Guarantor as of and for the two years ended 30 June 2010 and 30 June 2011 are incorporated by reference in this Base Prospectus. The financial statements have been translated into the English language solely for the convenience of international readers. The Guarantor accepts responsibility for the correct translation of the information set out therein.

# Independent auditors' report

The financial statements of the Guarantor as of and for the two years ended 30 June 2010 and 30 June 2011 were audited, without qualification and in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards in the Republic of Italy, by Reconta Ernst & Young S.p.A.

Reconta Ernst & Young S.p.A. is registered under No. 2 in the Special Register (*Albo Speciale*) maintained by CONSOB and set out in Article 161 of the *Testo Unico delle Disposizioni in Materia di Mercati Finanziari* and under No. 70945 in the Register of Accounting Auditors (*Registro dei Revisori Contabili*), in compliance with the provisions of Legislative Decree No. 88 of 27 January 1992, and is also a member of the *ASSIREVI - Associazione Nazionale Revisori Contabili*. The business address of Reconta Ernst & Young S.p.A. is Via Romagnosi, 18/A 00196 Rome, Italy.

#### DESCRIPTION OF THE ASSET MONITOR

The BoI Regulations require that the Issuer appoints a qualified entity to be the asset monitor to carry out controls on the regularity of the transaction and the integrity of the Guarantee.

Pursuant to the BoI Regulations, the asset monitor must be independent auditor, enrolled with the special register of accounting firms held by CONSOB pursuant to article 161 of Legislative Decree No. 58 of 24 February 1998 and shall be independent from the Issuer and any other party to the programme and from the accounting firm who carries out the audit of the Issuer.

Pursuant to an engagement letter entered into on or about the First Issue Date, the Issuer has appointed Mazars S.p.A., a *società per azioni* incorporated under the laws of the Republic of Italy, having its registered office at Corso di Porta vigentina, 35, 20122 Milan, Italy, fiscal code and enrolment with the compagnie register of Milan No. 97909 with the special register of accounting firms held by the *Commissione Nazionale per le Società e la Borsa* pursuant to article 161 of Legislative Decree No. 58 of 24 February 1998, as asset monitor (the "Asset Monitor") in order to perform, subject to receipt of the relevant information from the Issuer, specific monitoring activities concerning, *inter alia*, (i) the compliance with the eligibility criteria set out under the MEF Decree with respect to the Assets and Integration Assets included in the Portfolio; (ii) the compliance with the limits on the transfer of the Assets set out under the MEF Decree; and (iii) effectiveness and adequacy of the risk protection provided by any swap agreement entered into in the context of the Programme.

The engagement letter is in line wit the provisions of the BoI Regulations in relation to the reports to be prepared and submitted by the Asset Monitor also to the Board of Statutory Auditors (*collegio sindacale*) of the Issuer.

The engagement letter provides for certain matters such as the payment of fees and expenses by the Issuer to the Asset Monitor and the resignation of the Asset Monitor.

The engagement letter is governed by Italian law.

Furthermore, on or about the First Issue Date, the Guarantor, the Issuer, the Seller, the Servicer, the Representative of the Bondholders and the Test Report Provider entered into the Asset Monitor Agreement, as more fully described under the section "General Description of the Transaction Documents - Asset Monitor Agreement".

#### THE COVER POOL

The Cover Pool is and/or will be comprised of (a) Mortgage Loans transferred pursuant to the Master Purchase Agreement, (b) other Eligible Assets, in accordance with Law 130/99, the MEF Decree and the BoI Regulations, (c) any Integration Assets, (d) the Collections arising from the Assets and (e) all the positive amounts arising from the Swap Agreements.

As at the date of this Base Prospectus, the Initial Portfolio consist only of Residential Mortgage Loans transferred by the Seller to the Guarantor in accordance with the terms of the Master Purchase Agreement, as more fully described under "Description of the Transaction Documents – Master Purchase Agreement".

The Cover Pool has characteristics that demonstrate capacity to produce funds to service any payment due and payable on the Covered Bonds.

For the purposes hereof:

**Asset Backed Securities** means securities issued in the framework of securitisations having as underlying assets Mortgage Loans or Public Assets, pursuant to Article 2, paragraph 1, lett. (d) of the MEF Decree.

Eligible Assets means the Mortgage Loans, the Public Assets and the Asset Backed Securities.

**Further Portfolio** means all the Eligible Assets, compliant with the General Criteria, the relevant Specific Criteria and the relevant Further Criteria (if any), which may be purchased as a pool (*in blocco*) and *pro soluto* by the Guarantor, pursuant to Clause 4 (*Cessione di Ulteriori Portafogli su base revolving*) of the Master Purchase Agreement.

**Initial Portfolio** means the portfolio of Receivables arising form Residential Mortgage Loan Agreement purchased by the Guarantor on November 30, 2011 pursuant to Article 2 of the Master Purchase Agreement in connection with the first issue of Covered Bonds under the Programme.

**Mortgage Loans** means Italian residential and commercial mortgage loans (mutui ipotecari residenziali e commerciali) pursuant to Article 2, paragraph 1, lett. (a) and (b), of the MEF Decree.

Public Assets means, collectively, the Public Entities Receivables and Public Entities Securities.

**Public Entity Receivables** means, pursuant to article 2, sub-paragraph 1, of MEF Decree, any receivables owned by or receivables which have been benefit of a guarantee eligible for credit risk mitigation granted by:

- (i) Public Entities, including ministerial bodies and local or regional bodies, located within the European Economic Area or Switzerland for which a risk weight not exceeding 20% is applicable in accordance with the Bank of Italy's prudential regulations for banks standardised approach; and
- (ii) Public Entities, located outside the European Economic Area or Switzerland, for which a 0% risk weight is applicable in accordance with the Bank of Italy's prudential regulations for banks standardised approach or regional or local public entities or non-economic administrative entities, located outside the European Economic Area or Switzerland, for which a risk weight not exceeding 20% is applicable in accordance with the Bank of Italy's prudential regulations for banks standardised approach, provided that, the Public Entities Receivables described under item (ii) above may not amount to more than 10% of the aggregate nominal value of the Cover Pool.

**Public Entity Securities** means pursuant to article 2, sub-paragraph 1, of MEF Decree, any securities issued by or which have benefit of a guarantee eligible for credit risk mitigation granted by:

- (i) Public Entities, including ministerial bodies and local or regional bodies, located within the European Economic Area or Switzerland for which a risk weight not exceeding 20% is applicable in accordance with the Bank of Italy's prudential regulations for banks standardised approach; and
- (ii) Public Entities, located outside the European Economic Area or Switzerland, for which a 0% risk weight is applicable in accordance with the Bank of Italy's prudential regulations for banks standardised approach or regional or local public entities or non-economic administrative entities, located outside the European Economic Area or Switzerland, for which a risk weight not exceeding 20% is applicable in accordance with the Bank of Italy's prudential regulations for banks standardised approach, provided that, the Public Entities Securities described under item (ii) above may not amount to more than 10% of the aggregate nominal value of the Cover Pool.

**Residential Mortgage Loan** means, pursuant to article 2, sub-paragraph 1, of MEF Decree, a residential mortgage loan in respect of which the relevant amount outstanding added to the principal amount outstanding of any higher ranking mortgage loans secured by the same property, does not exceed 80 per cent of the value of the property and for which the hardening period with respect to the perfection of the relevant mortgage has elapsed.

**Specific Criteria** means, collectively, the Specific Criteria of the Initial Portfolio and the Specific Criteria of the Subsequent and Further Portfolios.

**Specific Criteria of the Initial Portfolio** means the criteria for the selection of the receivables included in the Initial Portfolio to which such criteria are applied, set forth in Schedule 1, Part II, to the Master Purchase Agreement.

**Specific Criteria of the Subsequent and Further Portfolios** means the criteria for the selection of the receivables to be included in the Subsequent Portfolios and/or Further Portfolios to which such criteria are applied, set forth in Schedule 1, Part III, to the Master Purchase Agreement.

**Subsequent Portfolios** means any portfolio of Eligible Assets which may be purchased by the Guarantor in order to allow Mediobanca to issue other Series of Covered Bonds during the Revolving Period pursuant to the terms and subject to the conditions of the Master Purchase Agreement.

The Receivables transferred and to be transferred from time to time to the Guarantor pursuant to the Master Purchase Agreement will meet the following criteria on each relevant Transfer Date.

Each of the receivables deriving from the Mortgage Loans forming part of the Cover Pool shall comply with all of the following criteria (the "Mortgage Loans General Criteria"):

- 1. receivables arising from loans advanced by CheBanca! S.p.A. (formerly Micos S.p.A. and Micos Banca S.p.A.);
- 2. mortgage receivables, in respect of which the ratio between the loan's amount outstanding added to the principal amount outstanding of any higher ranking mortgage loans secured by the same property does not exceed on the Valuation Date 80 percent for the residential mortgage loans or 60 percent for the commercial mortgage loans, as the case may be, of the value of the property, in accordance with Ministry of Economy and Finance Italian Decree 14 December 2006, No. 310;
- 3. receivables that did not provide at the time of disbursement for any subsidy or other benefit in relation to principal or interest (*mutui agevolati*);
- 4. receivables that have not been granted to public entities (*enti pubblici*), clerical entities (*enti ecclesiastici*) or public consortium (*consorzi pubblici*);

- 5. receivables that are not consumer loans (*crediti al consumo*);
- 6. receivables that are not a *mutuo agrario* pursuant to Articles 43, 44 and 45 of the Legislative Decree 1 September 1993, n. 385;
- 7. receivables that are secured by a mortgage created, in accordance with the laws and regulations applicable from time to time, over real estate assets sited in the Republic of Italy;
- 8. receivables the payment of which is secured by a first ranking mortgage (*ipoteca di primo grado economico*), such term meaning (i) a first ranking mortgage or (ii) a second or subsequent ranking priority mortgage in respect of which (A) the mortgage(s) ranking prior to such second or subsequent mortgage has been formally consented by the relevant lender to the total cancellation; or (B) the obligations secured by the mortgage(s) ranking prior to such second or subsequent mortgage have been fully satisfied; or (C) the lender secured by the mortgage(s) ranking prior to such second or subsequent mortgage is CheBanca! S.p.A. (even if the obligations secured by such ranking priority mortgage(s) have not been fully satisfied) provided that the relevant receivables secured by such second or subsequent ranking priority mortgages meet the Mortgage Loans General Criteria;
- 9. receivables in respect to which the hardening period (*periodo di consolidamento*) applicable to the relevant mortgage has expired and the relevant mortgage is not capable of being cancelled pursuant to Article 67 of Royal Decree 16 March 1942, No. 267 and, if applicable, of Article 39, fourth paragraph, of Legislative Decree 1 September 1993, n. 385;
- 10. receivables that are fully disbursed and in relation to which there is no obligation or possibility to make additional disbursement;
- 11. receivables that, as of the transfer date, did not have any instalment pending for more than 30 days from its due date and in respect of which all other previous instalments due before the transfer day have been fully paid;
- 12. receivables that are governed by Italian Law;
- 13. receivables that have not been granted to individuals (*persone fisiche*) that as of the origination date were employees of CheBanca! S.p.A.;
- 14. receivables that are denominated in Euro (or disbursed in a different currency and then redenominated in Euro);
- receivables arising from mortgage loan in respect of which at least one instalment (*rata*) is fallen due and paid, including in case of interest instalment;
- 16. receivables related to loan agreements executed with borrowers that are resident in Italy.

Each of the receivables deriving from the Public Assets which may form part of the Cover Pool shall comply with all of the following criteria (the "**Public Assets General Criteria**"):

Loans granted to, or guaranteed by, and securities issued by, or guaranteed by, the entities indicated in Article 2, paragraph 1, lett. (c) of the MEF Decree.

Each of the receivables deriving from the Asset Backed Securities which may form part of the Cover Pool shall comply with all of the following criteria (the "ABS General Criteria"):

Securities issued in the framework of securitisations having as underlying assets Mortgage Loans or Public Assets, pursuant to Article 2, paragraph 1, lett. (d) of the MEF Decree.

The receivables comprised in each Subsequent Portfolio, in each Further Portfolio as well as the Eligible Assets transferred to the Guarantor in order to ensure compliance with the Tests shall also comply with the relevant Specific Criteria.

#### CREDIT STRUCTURE

The Covered Bonds will be direct, unsecured, unconditional obligations of the Issuer guaranteed by the Guarantor. The Guarantor has no obligation to pay the Guaranteed Amounts under the Guarantee until the occurrence of an Issuer Event of Default, serviced by the Representative of the Bondholders to the Guarantor of an Issuer Default Notice. The Issuer will not be relying on payments by the Guarantor in order to pay interest or repay principal under the Covered Bonds.

There are a number of features of the Programme which enhance the likelihood of timely and, as applicable, ultimate payments to Bondholders:

- (a) the Guarantee provides credit support to the Issuer;
- (b) the Mandatory Test is intended to ensure that the Cover Pool is at all times sufficient to pay any interest and principal under the Covered Bonds;
- (c) the Asset Coverage Test is intended to test the asset coverage of the Guarantor's assets in respect of the Covered Bonds prior to the service of an Issuer Default Notice, applying for the purpose of such coverage an Asset Percentage factor determined in order to provide a degree of over-collateralisation with respect to the Cover Pool;
- (d) the Pre-Maturity Test (if applicable to a Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds under the relevant Final Terms) is intended to ensure that there is sufficient liquidity available to redeem the relevant Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds on the relevant Maturity Date;
- (e) the Amortisation Test is periodically performed, following the occurrence of an Issuer Event of Default and service of an Issuer Event of Default, for the purpose of testing the asset coverage of the Guarantor's assets in respect of the Covered Bonds;
- (f) the Swap Agreements are intended to hedge certain interest rate, currency or other risks in respect of amounts received and amounts payable by the Guarantor;
- (g) a Reserve Account will be established which will build up over time using excess cash flow from Interest Available Funds, in order to ensure that the Guarantor will have sufficient funds set aside to fulfil its obligation to pay interest accruing with respect to the Covered Bonds.

Certain of these factors are considered more fully in the remainder of this section.

# Guarantee

The Guarantee provided by the Guarantor guarantees payment of Guaranteed Amounts on the Due for Payment Date in respect of all Covered Bonds issued under the Programme. The Guarantee will not guarantee any other amount becoming payable in respect of the Covered Bonds for any other reason. In this circumstance (and until a Guarantor Event of Default occurs and a Guarantor Default Notice is served), the Guarantor's obligations will only be to pay the Guaranteed Amounts on the Due for Payment Date.

See further "Description of the Transaction Documents —Guarantee", as regards the terms of the Guarantee.

# **Pre-Maturity Liquidity**

The Pre-Maturity Test (if applicable to a Series or Tranche of Covered Bond under the relevant Final Terms) is intended to provide liquidity for the relevant Covered Bonds when the Issuer's credit ratings fall below a certain level. The applicable final terms will set-out whether the relevant Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds

is a Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds to which such Test is applicable. On each Pre-Maturity Test Date prior to the occurrence of an Issuer Event of Default, the Test Report Provider will determine if the Pre-Maturity Test has been breached, and if so, it shall immediately deliver to the Issuer, the Representative of the Bondholders, the Seller and the Guarantor a notice evidencing such a breach (the "**Pre-Maturity Test Notice**").

The Issuer will fail and be in breach of the Pre-Maturity Test on a Pre-Maturity Test Date in relation to the relevant Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds if the Issuer's short-term credit rating from *S&P* falls to A-2 (or lower) and the Maturity Date of the relevant Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds will fall within 12 months following the relevant Pre-Maturity Test Date.

If the Pre-Maturity Test is breached in respect of a Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds, the Issuer and the Guarantor will be required to (A) ensure that, on or before the immediately following Calculation Date, the **Pre-Maturity Collateral Amount** will have a value equal to the Required Redemption Amount in respect of such Series or Tranche or, alternatively, (B) that a guarantee is provided in respect of the payment of the Final Redemption Amount on the relevant Maturity Date for that Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds in order to comply with the S&P criteria applicable from time to time.

In order to ensure compliance with or cure a breach of the Pre-Maturity Test under (A) above, the Guarantor may, among others:

- (i) offer to sell Selected Assets in accordance with this Agreement, and subject to any right of preemption enjoyed by the Seller and/or Additional Seller (if any); and/or
- (ii) purchase Public Assets or Asset Backed Securities or Integration Assets from the Seller or Additional Seller (if any) provided that such Public Assets or Asset Backed Securities or Integration Assets are in line with the criteria of the Eligible Investments.

Should the relevant breach have not been remedied prior to the end of the Test Grace Period, the Representative of the Bondholders shall deliver a Breach of Test Notice to the Issuer, the Seller and the Guarantor. Should the relevant Test has not been remedied within the following Calculation Date, the Representative of the Bondholders may (but is not obliged to) deliver an Issuer Default Notice to the Issuer, the Seller and the Guarantor in compliance with the Rules.

The Test Report Provider and the Guarantor shall ensure that any applicable contributions made by the Seller or the proceeds of any applicable sale of the Selected Assets shall be recorded to the credit of a purposely-opened account (the "**Pre-Maturity Account**").

Following service of an Issuer Default Notice to the Guarantor (due to the breach of the Pre-Maturity Test), the Guarantor shall apply funds standing to the Pre-Maturity Account to repay the relevant Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds on its Maturity Date.

If the Issuer fully repays the relevant Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds on the Maturity Date thereof any amount of cash standing to the credit of the Pre-Maturity Account after such repayment shall be applied in accordance with the relevant Priority of Payments, unless:

- (a) the Issuer is failing the Pre-Maturity Test in respect of any other Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds to which such Test is applicable under the relevant Final Terms, in which case the cash will be transferred to the relevant Series or Tranche Pre-Maturity Account in order to provide liquidity for that other Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds; or
- (b) the Issuer is not failing the Pre-Maturity Test in respect of any other Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds, but the Board of Directors elects to retain the cash on the Pre-Maturity Account in order to

provide liquidity for any future Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds to which such Test is applicable under the relevant Final Terms.

**Pre-Maturity Test Date** means each Business Day prior to the occurrence of an Issuer Event of Default on which the Guarantor or the Test Report Provider will determine if the Pre-Maturity Test has been breached in respect of the Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds to which such Test is applicable under the relevant Final Terms.

# Pre-Maturity Collateral Amount means the aggregate of:

- (i) amounts standing to the credit of the Pre-Maturity Account; and
- (ii) the principal amount of the Eligible Investments and the Eligible Assets and Integration Assets that are in line with the criteria of the Eligible Investments.

## **Mandatory Test and Asset Coverage Test**

Under the terms of the Portfolio Management Agreement, the Issuer and the Seller must ensure that the Cover Pool is in compliance with the Mandatory Test and Asset Coverage Test described below.

See section "Description of the Transaction Documents - Portfolio Management Agreement"

## **Mandatory Test**

Starting from the First Issue Date and until the earlier of:

- (i) the date on which all Series or Tranches of Covered Bonds issued in the context of the Programme have been cancelled or redeemed in full in accordance with the Conditions; and
- (ii) the date on which a Issuer Default Notice is served on the Guarantor as a consequence of an Issuer Event of Default,

the Issuer and Seller shall procure on a ongoing basis until the service of an Issuer Default Notice that each of the following tests is met:

- (i) the outstanding aggregate notional amount of the assets comprised in the Cover Pool shall be, at least equal to the aggregate notional amount of all outstanding Series of Covered Bonds issued under the Programme; prior to the delivery of an Issuer Default Notice, this test will be deemed met to the extent that the Asset Coverage Test is met (the "Nominal Value Test");
- (ii) the net present value of the Cover Pool together with the expected cash flows to be received by the Guarantor under any hedging arrangement entered into in relation to the transaction (net of the transaction costs to be borne by the Guarantor including the expected costs and costs of any hedging arrangement entered into in relation to the transaction) shall be at least equal to the net present value of the outstanding Series of Covered Bonds issued under the Programme (the "NPV Test");
- (iii) the amount of interests and other revenues generated by the assets included in the Cover Pool (net of the transaction costs to be borne by the Guarantor including the expected costs and costs of any hedging arrangement entered into in relation to the transaction) taking into account the expected cash flows to be received by the Guarantor under any hedging arrangement entered into in relation to the transaction shall be at least equal to the interests and costs due by the Issuer under the Covered Bonds issued under the Programme (the "Interest Coverage Test" and, together with the Nominal Value Test and the NPV Test, the "Mandatory Test").

The Test Report Provider, on the basis of the information provided to it pursuant to the Transaction Documents, shall verify compliance with the Mandatory Test on each Calculation Date and on any other date on which the verification of the Mandatory Test is required pursuant to the Transaction Documents.

Prior to the occurrence of an Issuer Event of Default, the Nominal Value Test is deemed to be met if the Asset Coverage Test (as defined below) is met. Following the occurrence of an Issuer Event of Default, the Nominal Value Test will be deemed to be met of the Amortisation Test (as defined below) is met.

The calculations performed by the Test Report Provider in respect of the Mandatory Test will be tested from time to time by the Asset Monitor in accordance with the provisions of the Asset Monitor Agreement.

## **Asset Coverage Test**

Starting from the First Issue Date and until the earlier of:

- (i) the date on which all Series or Tranches of Covered Bonds issued in the context of the Programme have been cancelled or redeemed in full in accordance with the Conditions; and
- (ii) the date on which a Issuer Default Notice is served on the Guarantor as a consequence of an Issuer Event of Default,

the Issuer and the Seller, pursuant to the terms and conditions set out in the Portfolio Management Agreement, undertake to procure that on any Calculation Date the Adjusted Aggregate Loan Amount is at least equal to the aggregate Principal Amount Outstanding of the Covered Bonds issued under the Programme (the "Asset Coverage Test"). The Adjusted Aggregate Loan Amount will be calculated as follows:

#### A+B+C+D+E-X-Y-Z

where,

A is equal to the lower of (i) and (ii), where:

(i) means the sum of the "LTV Adjusted Principal Balance" of each Mortgage Loan which shall be the lower of (1) the actual Outstanding Principal Balance of the relevant Mortgage Loan in the Cover Pool as calculated on the last day of the immediately preceding Collection Period, and (2) the Latest Valuation relating to that Mortgage Loan multiplied by M (where M is: (a) equal to 80 per cent. for all Mortgage Loans that are not Delinquent Assets and Defaulted Assets; (b) equal to 60 per cent. for all Commercial Mortgage Loans that are not Delinquent Assets and Defaulted Assets; (c) equal to 50 per cent. for all the Delinquent Assets; and (d) equal to 0 per cent. for all Defaulted Assets)

minus

the aggregate sum of the following deemed reductions occurred during the previous Collection Period:

- a loan was, in the immediately preceding Collection Period, in breach of the representations and
  warranties ("Affected Loan"). In this event, the aggregate LTV Adjusted Principal Balance of
  the Mortgage Loans will be reduced by an amount equal to the LTV Adjusted Principal Balance of
  the relevant Affected Loan; and/or
- the Seller, in any preceding Collection Period, was in breach of any other material warranty
  and/or the Servicer was, in any preceding Collection Period, in breach of a material term of the
  Servicing Agreement. In this event, the aggregate LTV Adjusted Principal Balance of the loans
  will be reduced, by an amount equal to the resulting financial loss incurred by the Guarantor in
  the immediately preceding Collection Period (such financial loss to be calculated by the Test

Report Provider without double counting and to be reduced by any amount paid (in cash or in kind) to the Guarantor by the Seller to indemnify the Guarantor for such financial loss) ("Breach Related Loss");

#### AND

(ii) means the aggregate "Asset Percentage Adjusted Principal Balance" of the Mortgage Loans in the Cover Pool which in relation to each Mortgage Loan shall be the lower of (1) the actual Outstanding Principal Balance of the relevant Mortgage Loan as calculated on the last day of the immediately preceding Collection Period, and (2) the Latest Valuation relating to that Mortgage Loan multiplied by N (where N is: (x) equal to 100 per cent. for all Residential Mortgage Loans and all Commercial Mortgage Loans that are not Delinquent Assets and Defaulted Assets and/or (y) equal to 50 per cent. for all Delinquent Assets and/or (z) equal to 0 per cent. for all Defaulted Assets)

#### minus

- the aggregate sum of (1) the Asset Percentage Adjusted Principal Balance of the any Affected Loan(s) and/or (2) any Breach Related Losses occurred during the previous Collection Period;
- the result of which is multiplied by the Asset Percentage (as defined below);

**B** is equal to the aggregate amount of all cash standing on the Accounts as at the end of the immediately preceding Collection Period which will not be applied to buy new Assets or to make payments under the relevant Order of Priority as at the relevant Calculation Date;

C is equal to the aggregate Outstanding Principal Balance of any Integration Assets (other than the cash referred to under letter "B" above) that are in line with the criteria of the Eligible Investments and/or Eligible Investments as at the end of the immediately preceding Collection Period; and

**D** is equal to the aggregate Outstanding Principal Balance of any Asset Backed Securities as at the end of the immediately preceding Collection Period, weighted by a percentage which will be determined with the Rating Agency methodology; and

**E** is equal to the aggregate Outstanding Principal Balance of any Public Assets as at the end of the immediately preceding Collection Period, weighted by a percentage which will be determined with the Rating Agency methodology; and

**X** is equal to nil if the Issuer's short term ratings are at least "A-2" by S&P or, to the extent that the Issuer has not short term ratings, the Issuer's senior unsecured ratings are at least "BBB+" by S&P, otherwise the Potential Set-Off Amounts; and

Y is equal to nil if the Issuer's short term ratings are at least "A-2" by S&P or, to the extent that the Issuer has not short term ratings, the Issuer's senior unsecured ratings are at least "BBB+" by S&P, otherwise the Potential Commingling Amounts; and

**Z** is the item resulting from the aggregate amount of the following figures for all the Covered Bonds outstanding:

(i) the Residual Maturity of the relevant Covered Bond outstanding;

multiplied by

(ii) the relative (EUR Equivalent) Principal Amount Outstanding of the relevant Covered Bond; and multiplied by

(iii) the relative Negative Carry Factor of the relevant Covered Bond.

**Residual Maturity** means the residual maturity of the relevant Covered Bond expressed in days and divided by 365.

**Negative Carry Factor** means (i) nil if the relevant Covered Bond has a corresponding Cover Pool Swap structured as Total Balance Guaranteed Swap, otherwise (ii) a percentage calculated by reference to the interest rate due on the relevant Covered Bond to the extent that such percentage is in line with the S&P criteria applicable from time to time.

**Asset Percentage** means (i) 100 per cent. or (ii) such lesser percentage figure as determined from time to time by the Test Report Provider (on behalf of the Guarantor) and notified to S&P and the Representative of the Bondholders.

The Guarantor (or the Test Report Provider on its behalf) will, on the Calculation Date, send notification to S&P and the Representative of the Bondholders of the percentage figure selected by it, being the difference between 100 per cent. and the amount of credit enhancement required to maintain the then current ratings of the covered bonds.

The Asset Percentage will be adjusted from time to time in order to ensure that sufficient credit enhancement will be maintained.

**Potential Set-Off Amounts** means an amount calculated on a quarterly basis by the Servicer and communicated to the Rating Agency as a percentage of the Cover Pool that the Servicer determines as potentially subject to set-off risk by the relevant Debtors, taking into consideration the portion of the Debtors having current and deposit accounts opened with the Seller.

**Potential Commingling Amounts** means, at any date, an amount equal to the maximum monthly Collections related to the last six months or any higher amount which is in line with the criteria of S&P applicable from time to time.

# **The Amortisation Test**

For so long as the Covered Bonds remain outstanding, on each Calculation Date following the occurrence of an Issuer Event of Default but prior to a Guarantor Event of Default, the Amortisation Test Aggregate Loan Amount shall be equal to or higher than the Principal Amount Outstanding of the Covered Bonds (the "Amortisation Test").

For the purpose of calculating the Amortisation Test the **Amortisation Test Aggregate Loan Amount** means an amount equal to

#### A+B+C+D+E-Z

where:

**A** is the lower of:

- (1) the actual Outstanding Principal Balance of each Mortgage Loan as calculated on the last day of the immediately preceding Collection Period multiplied by M; and
- (2) the Latest Valuation multiplied by M,

where M is: (i) equal to 100 per cent. for all the Residential Mortgage Loans and all the Commercial Mortgage Loans that are not Delinquent Assets and Defaulted Assets; (ii) equal to 50 per cent. for all the Delinquent Assets; and (iii) equal to 0 per cent. for all the Defaulted Assets;

**B** the aggregate amount of all cash standing on the Accounts as at the end of the immediately preceding Collection Period which will not be applied to make payments under the relevant Order of Priority as at the relevant Calculation Date;

C is the aggregate Outstanding Principal Balance of any Integration Assets (other than the cash referred to under letter "B" above) that are in line with the criteria of the Eligible Investments and/or Eligible Investments as at the end of the immediately preceding Collection Period;

**D** is the aggregate Outstanding Principal Balance of any Asset Backed Securities as at the end of the immediately preceding Collection Period;

E is the aggregate Outstanding Principal Balance of any Public Assets as at the end of the immediately preceding Collection Period; and

**Z** is the item resulting from the aggregate amount of the following figures for all the Covered Bonds outstanding:

(i) the Residual Maturity of the relevant Covered Bond outstanding;

multiplied by

- (ii) the relative (EUR Equivalent) Principal Amount Outstanding of the relevant Covered Bond; and multiplied by
- (iii) the relative Negative Carry Factor of the relevant Covered Bond.

The Test Report Provider shall verify on behalf of the Guarantor compliance with the Amortisation Test on each Calculation Date following the occurrence of an Issuer Event of Default and on any other date on which the verification of the Amortisation Test is required pursuant to the Transaction Documents and shall inform the Representative of the Bondholders if a breach of the Amortisation Test has occurred.

Should a breach of the Amortisation Test occur after an Issuer Event of Default, the Representative of the Bondholders may but shall, if so directed by an Extraordinary Resolution of the Bondholders, serve to the Issuer, the Seller and the Guarantor the Guarantor Default Notice if such a breach is not cured within the following Calculation Date.

# **Required Reserve Amount**

**Required Reserve Amount** means, if the Issuer's short term, unsecured, unsubordinated and unguaranteed debt obligations are rated at least A-1+ by S&P, nil or such other amount as the Issuer shall direct the Guarantor from time to time and otherwise, an amount which will be determined on each Calculation Date and which will be equal to the aggregate amount of (a) one fourth of the annual amount payable under items (ii) and (iv) of the Pre-Issuer Event of Default Interest Priority of Payment; (b) any interest amounts due to the Covered Bond Swap Counterparties in respect of each relevant Covered Bond Swap on the second Guarantor Payment Date following each relevant Calculation Date or, if no Covered Bond Swap has been entered into in relation to a Series of Covered Bonds, the interest amounts accrued until the relevant Calculation Date plus the interest amounts due in relation to that Series of Covered Bonds on the second Guarantor Payment Date following each relevant Calculation Date and (c) Euro 250,000.00.

#### ACCOUNTS AND CASH FLOWS

The following accounts shall be established and maintained with the Account Bank for so long as it qualifies as an Eligible Institution as separate accounts in the name of the Guarantor. Find below a description of the deposits and withdrawals in respect of the accounts:

- (a) the "Collection Account" (IBAN No. IT10N1063101600000070200426)
  - (i) **Payments into the Collection Account.** No later than 12:00 a.m. (CET) of the second Business Day following the relevant date of receipt, any principal and interest payment in relation to the Eligible Assets and/or Integration Assets comprised in the Cover Pool received by the Servicer on behalf of the Guarantor pursuant to the Servicing Agreement, will be deposited into the Collection Account.
  - (ii) Withdrawals from the Collection Account. (A) At least on a weekly basis all funds then standing to the credit of the Collection Account will be transferred to the Transaction Account by the Cash Manager; (B) at the end of any Collection Period, the interest accrued on the credit balance of the Collection Account will be transferred to the Transaction Account.
- (b) The **Expenses Account** (IBAN No. IT80J1063101600000070200430)
  - (i) **Payments into the Expenses Account.** (A) On the First Issue Date the Retention Amount will be credited on the Expense Account; (B) on each Guarantor Payment Date monies will be credited to the Expense Account in accordance with the applicable Priority of Payments until the balance of such account equals the Retention Amount;
  - (ii) Withdrawals from the Expenses Account. (A) the Guarantor will use the funds standing to the credit of the Expenses Account to make payments relating to any and all documented fees, costs, expenses and taxes required to be paid during the period comprised between a Guarantor Payment Date and the immediately subsequent Guarantor Payment Date pursuant to the instructions of the Corporate Servicer; and (B) at the end of any Collection Period, the interest accrued on the credit balance of the Expenses Account, if any, will be transferred to the Transaction Account.

**Retention Amount** means Euro 50,000.

# (c) The Quota Capital Account

(i) Payments into the Quota Capital Account. All the capital contributions of each quotaholder in the Guarantor and any interest accrued thereon are credited to the Quota Capital Account.

## (d) The Reserve Account

- (i) **Payments into the Reserve Account.** On each Guarantor Payment Date the Reserve Account will be credited with the proceeds of Interest Available Funds according to the Pre-Issuer Event of Default Interest Priority of Payments for the purpose of refilling, on each Guarantor Payment Date, such account up to the relevant Required Reserve Amount.
- (ii) Withdrawals from the Reserve Account

- (A) On each Guarantor Payment Date, prior to the service of an Issuer Default Notice, the funds standing to the credit of the Reserve Account in excess of the Required Reserve Amount will be applied by the Cash Manager as Interest Available Funds according to the Pre-Issuer Event of Default Interest Priority of Payments.
- (B) Following the service of an Issuer Default Notice, the Guarantor will apply all the funds standing to the Reserve Account as Available Funds in accordance with the applicable Priority of Payments.
- (C) At the end of any Collection Period, the interest accrued on the credit balance of the Reserve Account will be transferred to the Transaction Account.
- (e) The **Securities Account** (IBAN No. IT57K1063101600000070200431)
  - (i) **Payments into the Securities Account.** All securities constituting Eligible Investments purchased by the Investment Manager (on behalf of the Guarantor) with the amounts standing to the credit of the Transaction Account and the Reserve Account, pursuant to any order of the Guarantor, and all Assets consisting of Asset Backed Securities, Public Notes and Integration Securities will be deposited on such account.
  - (ii) Withdrawals from the Securities Account. (A) Not later than 10:00 (London time) of the first Business Day prior to each Guarantor Payment Date, the Eligible Investments standing to the credit of the Securities Account will be liquidated and proceeds credited to the Transaction Account (other than an amount equal to the Required Reserve Amount provided that an Issuer Event of Default has not occurred); and (B) the Assets consisting of Asset Backed Securities, Public Notes and Integration Securities will be liquidated in accordance with the Portfolio Management Agreement and proceeds credited to the Transaction Account promptly upon liquidation; and (C) at the end of any Collection Period, the interest accrued on the investments standing to the credit balance of the Securities Account will be transferred to the Transaction Account.

**Eligible Investments** means the Euro denominated senior (unsubordinated) debt securities or other debt instruments, provided that, in all cases:

- (a) such investments are immediately repayable on demand, disposable without penalty or have a maturity date falling on or before the third Business Day preceding the Guarantor Payment Date immediately succeeding the Collection Period in respect of which such eligible investments were made;
- (b) such investments provide a fixed principal amount at maturity (such amount not being lower than the initially invested amount) or in case of repayment or disposal, the principal amount upon repayment or disposal is at least equal to the principal amount invested;
- (c) the debt securities or other debt instruments, with a maturity date equal to that requested under point (a), are issued by, or fully and unconditionally guaranteed on an unsubordinated basis by, an institution having at least the following rating:

Maturity	Rating S&P
Less than 365 calendar days	A-1+/AA-
More than 60 calendar days provided that the Substitution	A-1/A+
Mechanism is in place	
Less than 60 calendar days	A-1/A+

where "**Substitution Mechanism**" means that the investments should be liquidated within 60 days of a downgrade below 'A-1' (or 'A+' if no short term rating), at no loss to the Guarantor;

provided that the total principal amount to be invested from time to time in Eligible Investments of issuers rated A-1 by S&P is not higher than 20% of the Principal Amount Outstanding of the Covered Bonds; and

(d) investments in a money market fund rated AAA by S&P, with a maturity date equal to that requested under point (a).

# (f) The Transaction Account

### (i) Payments into the Transaction Account.

- (A) At least on a weekly basis all funds standing to the credit of the Collection Account will be transferred to the Transaction Account by the Cash Manager;
- (B) any amounts whatsoever received by or on behalf of the Guarantor pursuant to the Swap Agreements will be credited to the Transaction Account;
- (C) all other payments paid to the Guarantor under any of the Transaction Documents including - for the avoidance of doubt – any indemnity paid by the Seller in accordance with the Master Purchase Agreement will be credited to the Transaction Account;
- (D) the revenue of the Eligible Investments;
- (E) any interest accrued on any of the Accounts (other than the Quota Capital Account).

# (ii) Withdrawals from the Transaction Account.

- (A) on each Guarantor Payment Date, the Cash Manager will make those payments as are indicated in the relevant Payments Report.
- (B) No later than 12.00 am (CET) of the first Business Day immediately preceding a Due for Payment Date, the Cash Manager will transfer to the Paying Agent the amounts necessary to execute payments of interests and principal due by the Guarantor under the Guarantee in relation to the outstanding Covered Bonds.

The Collection Account, the Securities Account, the Reserve Account, the Transaction Account and the Expenses Account are jointly referred to as the "**Accounts**".

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#### DESCRIPTION OF THE TRANSACTION DOCUMENTS

### Master purchase agreement

On November 30, 2011, pursuant to a master purchase agreement entered into between the Seller and the Guarantor (the "Master Purchase Agreement"), the Seller has assigned to the Guarantor, pursuant and for the purposes of the art. 4 and art. 7-bis of the Law 130/1999, a first portfolio of receivables arising from the Residential Mortgage Loan Agreements (the "Initial Portfolio") in order to allow the issue of the First Series of Covered Bond by the Issuer; (ii) the parties have agreed the terms and conditions related to the assignment of subsequent portfolios of receivables arising from the Residential Mortgage Loan Agreements (the "Subsequent Portfolios") in order to collateralise and allow the issue of further Series of Covered Bond by the Issuer in the context of the Programme, (iii) the parties have agreed the terms and conditions related to the assignment on a revolving basis of further portfolios of receivables arising from the Residential Mortgage Loan Agreements (the "Further Portfolios") to be paid out of Principal Available Funds, and (iv) the parties have agreed integration and substitution procedures in relation to the Assets included from time to time in the Cover Pool in compliance with the Covered Bond Law.

## Initial Portfolio

The Initial Portfolio transferred by the Seller to the Guarantor according to the Master Purchase Agreement consist of receivables arising from Residential Mortgage Loans only. Each Residential Mortgage Loan included in the Initial Portfolio shall comply with the mortgage loans general criteria indicated in the Annex 1 – Part I to the Master Purchase Agreement (the "Mortgage Loans General Criteria") and with the specific criteria of the Initial Portfolio indicated in the Annex 1 – Part II to the Master Purchase Agreement (the "Specific Criteria of the Initial Portfolio").

The purchase price payable for the Initial Portfolio is equal to the aggregate Individual Purchase Price of all the receivables deriving from the Residential Mortgage Loans included in the Initial Portfolio. The Individual Purchase Price is equal to (i) the book value (*ultimo valore di iscrizione in bilancio*) as of the most recent audited balance sheet - net of the relevant collections made by the Seller – on which the auditing firm had no reservations, or (ii) the value given by the Seller as certified by an auditing firm pursuant to which there are no grounds to consider the estimate criteria used for the calculation of the relevant purchase price not in line with those used by the Seller for the annual balance sheet (*bilancio di esercizio*).

The purchase price of the Initial Portfolio shall be paid by the Guarantor - out of the advances of the Initial Subordinated Loan - on the First Issue Date, provided that (i) the relevant Publicity has been complied with, if the Issuer's long term ratings are at least "BBB" with an "A-2" short-term rating by S&P or (ii) the registration of the transfer notice of the Initial Portfolio with the competent Companies' Register in addition to the perfection of the Publicity, if the Issuer's long term ratings are lower than "BBB" by S&P.

### Subsequent Portfolios and Further Portfolios

In order to collateralise and allow Mediobanca to issue further Series of Covered Bond in the context of the Programme, during the Revolving Period the Seller may transfer from time to time to the Guarantor, and the Guarantor shall purchase from the Seller, subsequent portfolios (the "**Subsequent Portfolios**"), provided that the following conditions are satisfied:

- (i) the First Series of Covered Bonds has been issued and fully subscribed;
- (ii) the compliance with the Limits to the Transfer (*Limiti alla Cessione*, see Section II, Paragraph 2 of the BoI Regulations).

Until the occurrence of an Issuer Event of Default the Seller may from time to time transfer to the Guarantor, and the Guarantor shall purchase from the Seller, further portfolios (the "Further Portfolios") in order to allow Guarantor to invest the Principal Available Funds pursuant to the applicable Priority of Payments provided that the following conditions are satisfied:

- (i) there are sufficient Principal Available Funds to be applied pursuant to the Pre-Issuer Event of Default Principal Priority of Payments;
- (ii) the compliance with the Asset Coverage Test and the Mandatory Test.

The Subsequent Portfolios and the Further Portfolios to be transferred to the Guarantor according to the Master Purchase Agreement may consist, from time to time, not only of receivables arising from the Residential Mortgage Loan Agreements, but also of Assets arising from:

- (i) Commercial Mortgage Loans;
- (ii) Public Assets; and
- (iii) Asset Backed Securities,

provided that the Rating Agency (i) will have been previously notified by the parties and (ii) will have confirmed in writing the current ratings of the then outstanding Covered Bonds.

The Residential Mortgage Loans, the Commercial Mortgage Loans, the Public Assets and the Asset Backed Securities are jointly defined as the "Eligible Assets".

Each Eligible Asset included in each Subsequent Portfolio and in each Further Portfolio shall comply with: (i) the Mortgage Loans General Criteria, the Public Assets General Criteria and/or the ABS General Criteria (as the case may be); (ii) the specific criteria of the Subsequent and Further Portfolios indicated in the Annex 1 – Part III to the Master Purchase Agreement (the "**Specific Criteria of the Subsequent and Further Portfolios**"); and (iii) the further criteria agreed between the Seller and the Guarantor and specified in the Schedule B to the relevant Transfer Proposal (the "**Further Criteria**").

The purchase price payable for each Subsequent Portfolio and each Further Portfolio will be equal to the aggregate Individual Purchase Price of all the Eligible Assets included in the Subsequent Portfolio and the Further Portfolio. The Individual Purchase Price will be equal to (i) the book value (*ultimo valore di iscrizione in bilancio*) as of the most recent audited balance sheet - net of the relevant collections made by the Seller – on which the auditing firm had no reservations, or (ii) the value given by the Seller as certified by an auditing firm pursuant to which there are no grounds to consider the estimate criteria used for the calculation of the relevant purchase price not in line with those used by the Seller for the annual balance sheet (*bilancio di esercizio*).

Under the Master Purchase Agreement the parties may agree to use different criteria for the calculation of the Individual Purchase Price in relation to the Eligible Assets included in each Subsequent Portfolio and in each Further Portfolio in order to conform to any relevant law, regulation or interpretation of any authority (including, without limitation, the Bank of Italy, the Minister of Economy and the *Agenzia delle Entrate*), which may be enacted with respect to the Covered Bond Law.

The Purchase Price of each Subsequent Portfolio shall be paid by the Guarantor - out of the advances of the Subsequent Subordinated Loan - on the relevant Issue Date, provided that (i) the relevant Publicity has been complied with, if the Issuer's long term ratings are at least "BBB" with an "A-2" short term rating by S&P or (ii) the registration of the transfer notice of the Initial Portfolio with the competent Companies' Register in addition to the perfection of the Publicity, if the Issuer's long term ratings are lower than "BBB" by S&P.

The Purchase Price of each Further Portfolio shall be paid by the Guarantor - out of Principal Available Funds - on the latest between (a) the relevant Guarantor Payment Date, provided that (i) the relevant Publicity has been complied with, if the Issuer's long term ratings are at least "BBB" with an "A-2" short term rating by S&P or (ii) the registration of the transfer notice of the Initial Portfolio with the competent Companies' Register in addition to the perfection of the Publicity, if the Issuer's long term ratings are lower than "BBB" with an "A-2" short term rating by S&P, and (b) the date on which the formalities under paragraph (i) and (ii) above (as the case may be) have been complied with.

## <u>Integration of the Cover Pool</u>

The integration of the Cover Pool shall be allowed solely for the purpose of complying with the Mandatory Test and the other tests provided for in the Transaction Documents.

The integration of the Cover Pool shall be carried out through the Integration Assets provided that, the Integration Assets (taking into account the Liquidity) shall not be, at any time, higher than 15% of the aggregate outstanding principal amount of the Cover Pool (the "Integration Assets Limit").

"Integration Assets" means, in accordance with article 2, sub-paragraph 3.2 and 3.3 of MEF Decree, each of the following assets:

- (i) deposits held with banks which have their registered office in the European Economic Area or Switzerland or in a country for which a 0% risk weight is applicable in accordance with the Bank of Italy's prudential regulations for banks -standardised approach; and
- (ii) securities issued by the banks indicated in item (i) above, which have a residual maturity not exceeding one year.

The Purchase Price of the Integration Assets shall be paid by the Guarantor - out of the advances of the Subordinated Loans or, but only for the purposes to cure a breach of the Interest Coverage Test, out of the Principal Available Funds – on the date specified in the relevant Transfer Proposal provided that the formalities from time to time necessary to the perfection of the assignment of the relevant Integration Asset have been complied with.

# Price Adjustments

The Master Purchase Agreement provides a price adjustment mechanism pursuant to which:

- (a) if, following the relevant effective date, any Eligible Asset which is part of the Initial Portfolio or of the Subsequent Portfolios and Further Portfolio does not meet the Criteria, then such Eligible Asset will be deemed not to have been assigned and transferred to the Guarantor pursuant to the Master Purchase Agreement;
- (b) if, following the relevant effective date, any Eligible Asset which meets the Criteria but it is not part of the Initial Portfolio or of the Subsequent Portfolio and Further Portfolio, then such Eligible Asset shall be deemed to have been assigned and transferred to the Guarantor as of the relevant transfer date, pursuant to the Master Purchase Agreement.

# Repurchase of the Eligible Assets

The Seller is granted an option right, pursuant to article 1331 of Italian Civil Code, to repurchase Eligible Assets comprised in the Cover Pool, also in different tranches, in accordance with the terms and conditions set out in the Master Purchase Agreement. In particular, pursuant to the Master Purchase Agreement, the Seller, provided that such repurchase does not result in a breach of the Tests, will have the right to repurchase Eligible Assets transferred to the Guarantor under the Master Purchase Agreement if:

- (a) such Eligible Assets have became non-eligible in accordance with the MEF Decree;
- (b) the repurchase of such Eligible Assets and/or Integration Assets is made in order to substitute other Eligible Assets and/or Integration Assets and for the ultimate benefit of the Bondholders;
- (c) the repurchase of such Eligible Assets and/or Integration Assets is made in order to reduce, to the extent permitted under the Covered Bond Law and pursuant to the Transaction Documents, the overcollateralization of the Cover Pool.

# Portfolio Call

Under the Master Purchase Agreement, as from the date on which all the Series of Covered Bonds issued in the context of the Programme have been fully redeemed and until the Programme End Date, the Seller is granted an option right, pursuant to Article 1331 of Italian Civil Code, to repurchase all the Eligible Assets and the Integration Assets included in the Cover Pool, pursuant to the terms and conditions set out in such Agreement, provided that:

- (i) all the Series of Covered Bonds issued under the Programme have been redeemed in full; and
- (ii) all the claims of the Secured Creditors (other than the Subordinated Lender) against the Guarantor have been fully satisfied.

### Representation and Warranties

Under the Master Purchase Agreement the Seller gives to the Guarantor, inter alia, representation and warranties about: (a) its status and powers, (b) the information and the documents provided to the Guarantor, (c) its legal title on the Eligible Assets, (d) the status of the Eligible Assets, (e) the terms and conditions of the Eligible Assets.

Pursuant to the Master Purchase Agreement, the Seller undertakes to fully and promptly indemnify and hold harmless the Guarantor and its officers, directors and agents, from and against any and all damages, losses, claims, liabilities, costs and expenses awarded against, or incurred by, any of them, arising from any representations and/or warranties made by the Seller being actually false, incomplete or incorrect and/or failure by the Seller to perform any of the obligations and undertakings assumed by the Seller under the Transaction Documents.

# **Undertakings**

The Master Purchase Agreement also contains a number of undertakings by the Seller in respect of its activities in relation to the Eligible Assets. The Seller has undertaken, inter alia, to refrain from carrying out activities with respect to the Eligible Assets which may prejudice the validity or recoverability of any Eligible Assets and in particular not to assign or transfer the Eligible Assets to any third party or to create any security interest, charge, lien or encumbrance or other right in favour of any third party in respect of the Eligible Assets. The Seller also has undertaken to refrain from any action which could cause any of the Eligible Assets to become invalid or to cause a reduction in the amount of any of the Eligible Assets.

# Additional Seller

Under the Master Purchase Agreement, any other entity which is part of the Mediobanca Group other than the Seller, may sell Eligible Assets and/or Integration Assets to the Guarantor, subject to satisfaction of certain conditions, and, for such purpose, shall, inter alia, accede to the Master Purchase Agreement by signing an accession letter substantially in the form attached to the Master Purchase Agreement and in accordance with the provisions of the Transaction Documents.

#### **Governing Law**

The Master Purchase Agreement is governed by Italian Law.

# **Initial Subordinated Loan Agreement**

On November 30, 2011, the Seller and the Guarantor entered into a subordinated loan agreement (the "Initial Subordinated Loan Agreement"), pursuant to which the Seller will grant to the Guarantor a subordinated loan (the "Initial Subordinated Loan") with a maximum amount equal to 2,000,000,000.

Under the provisions of the Initial Subordinated Loan Agreement, the Seller has made available to the Guarantor (a) a tranche A of an amount equal to Euro 1,500,000,000.00 (the "Tranche A"), for the purposes of providing the Guarantor with the funds necessary to purchase the portion of the Initial Portfolio equal to the nominal value of the First Series of the Covered Bonds and (b) a tranche B of an amount equal to Euro 500,000,000.00 (the "Tranche B"), for the purposes of providing the Guarantor with the funds necessary (i) to purchase the portion of the Initial Portfolio in excess of the nominal value of the First Series of Covered Bonds, equal to the initial level of the overcollateralization of the Cover Pool, (ii) to purchase further Eligible Assets and/or Integration Assets in view of carrying out an integration of the Cover Pool in order to prevent or to cure a breach of the Tests provided for in the Transaction Documents during all the Life of the Programme, (iii) to purchase any Eligible Asset which meets the Criteria in relation to the Initial Portfolio but which has been not part of the Initial Portfolio (such Eligible Assets shall be deemed to have been assigned and transferred to the Guarantor as of the relevant transfer date, pursuant to the Master Purchase Agreement), and (iv) to deposit the Retention Amount on the Expenses Account.

The Guarantor shall pay any amounts due under the Subordinated Loan in accordance with the relevant Priorities of Payments.

The advances made by the Seller pursuant to the Subordinated Loan shall be remunerated by the Guarantor by way of:

- (a) with respect to the advances made under the Tranche A, an amount of interests equal to the interests to be paid under the first Series of Covered Bonds; and
- (b) with respect to the advances made under the Tranche B, the sum of the Reference Rate, the Margin and the Premium Interests.

All and any amounts granted by the Seller under the Subordinated Loan, shall be repayable by the Guarantor on or after the date on which all and any Covered Bonds issued under the first Series have been fully and unconditionally repaid.

Notwithstanding the above, the amounts granted by the Seller under the Tranche B of the Subordinated Loan shall be repaid in advance, under the circumstances and within the limits specified in the Subordinated Loan Agreement, upon receipt by the Guarantor of a request from the Seller in accordance with the relevant Priority of Payments and provided that such repayment does not result in a breach of any of the Tests.

## **Main Definitions**

For the purposes of the Subordinated Loan Agreement:

**Margin** means the margin as from time to time established in the Initial Subordinated Loan Agreement and in each Subsequent Subordinated Loan Agreement (as defined below).

# **Premium Interests** means, on any Guarantor Payment Date:

(A) prior to the occurrence of an Issuer Event of Default, an amount equal to the positive difference between (a) the sum of the Interest Available Funds, with respect to the immediately preceding

Collection Period, and (b) the algebraic sum of the amounts due by the Guarantor under items from (i) to (xi) (included) of the Pre-Issuer Event of Default Interest Priority of Payments; or

- (B) following the occurrence of an Issuer Event of Default but prior to the occurrence of a Guarantor Event of Default, an amount equal to the positive difference between (a) the sum of the Available Funds with respect to the immediately preceding Collection Period and (b) the algebraic sum of the amounts due by the Guarantor under items from (i) to (ix) (included) of the Post-Issuer Event of Default Priority of Payments; or
- (C) following the occurrence of a Guarantor Event of Default, an amount equal to the positive difference between (a) the sum of the Available Funds with respect to the immediately preceding Collection Period and (b) the algebraic sum of the amounts due by the Guarantor under items from (i) to (vii) (included) of the Post-Guarantor Event of Default Priority of Payments.

**Reference Rate** has the meaning given in the relevant Final Terms.

# **Governing Law**

The Subordinated Loan Agreement is governed by Italian law.

#### Guarantee

On or about the Issue Date, the Guarantor issued a guarantee securing the payment obligations of the Issuer under the Covered Bonds (the "Guarantee"), in accordance with the provisions of the Law 130/99 and of the MEF Decree.

Under the terms of the Guarantee, following the occurrence of an Issuer Event of Default, and service of an Issuer Default Notice to the Guarantor, but prior to the occurrence of a Guarantor Event of Default, the Guarantor unconditionally and irrevocably has agreed to pay to the Representative of the Bondholders (for the benefit of the Bondholders), any amounts due under the relevant Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds as and when the same were originally due for payment by the Issuer.

Pursuant to Article 7-bis, paragraph 1, of Law 130 and Article 4 of the MEF Decree, the guarantee provided under the Guarantee is a first demand (a prima richiesta), unconditional, irrevocable (irrevocabile) and independent guarantee (garanzia autonoma) and therefore provides for direct and independent obligations of the Guarantor vis-à-vis the Bondholders and with limited recourse to the Cover Pool, irrespective of any invalidity, irregularity, unenforceability or genuineness of any of the guaranteed obligations of the Issuer. The provisions of the Italian Civil Code relating to fideiussione set forth in articles 1939 (Validità della fideiussione), 1941, paragraph 1 (Limiti della fideiussione), 1944, paragraph 2 (Escussione preventiva), 1945 (Eccezioni opponibili dal fideiussore), 1955 (Liberazione del fideiussore per fatto del creditore), 1956 (Liberazione del fideiussore per obbligazione futura) and 1957 (Scadenza dell'obbligazione principale) shall not apply to the Guarantee.

Should the Issuer become subject to the suspension of payments pursuant to Article 74 of the Banking Act, the Guarantor shall directly provide to the payments due by the Issuer to the Bondholders during the Suspension Period on the relevant Due for Payment Date.

Should the Issuer become subject to the administrative liquidation (*liquidazione coatta amministrativa*) pursuant to Article 80 and ff. of the Banking Act, the payments due by the Issuer in favour of the Bondholders under the Terms and Conditions shall be directly made by the Guarantor on any Due for Payment Date.

In case of administrative liquidation of the Issuer, the Guarantor shall exercise, on an exclusive basis and in compliance with the provisions of Article 4 of the MEF Decree, the rights of the Bondholders against the Issuer and any amount recovered from the Issuer will be part of the Available Funds.

Following the service of an Issuer Default Notice on the Guarantor, but prior to the occurrence of a Guarantor Event of Default, the Guarantor will make payments of the relevant Guaranteed Amounts pursuant to Guarantee on the relevant Due for Payment Date, subject to and in accordance with the Post-Issuer Event of Default Priority of Payments.

Following the occurrence of a Guarantor Event of Default and the service, by the Representative of the Bondholders, of a Guarantor Default Notice, all Covered Bonds will accelerate against the Guarantor, becoming due and payable, and they will rank pari passu amongst themselves and the Guarantor shall pay the relevant Guaranteed Amounts for all outstanding Covered Bonds on the relevant Due for Payment Date, subject to and in accordance with the Post-Guarantor Event of Default Priority of Payment.

For the purposes of the Guarantee:

**Due for Payment Date** means (a) a Scheduled Due for Payment Date (as defined below) or (b) following the occurrence of a Guarantor Event of Default, the date on which the Guarantor Default Notice is served on the Guarantor. If the Due for Payment Date is not a Business Day, Due for Payment Date will be the next Business Day.

**Excluded Scheduled Interest Amounts** means any additional amounts relating to default interest or interest upon interest payable by the Issuer.

**Excluded Scheduled Principal Amounts** means any additional amounts relating to prepayments, early redemption, broken funding indemnities, or penalties payable by the Issuer.

Guaranteed Amounts means (a) prior to the service of a Guarantor Default Notice, with respect to any Scheduled Due for Payment Date, the sum of amounts equal to (i) the Scheduled Interest and the Scheduled Principal, in each case, payable on that Schedule Due for Payment Date or any other amounts due and payable by the Issuer under the Covered Bonds pursuant to the Terms and Conditions and the relevant Final Terms and (ii) all amounts payable by the Guarantor under the Transaction Documents ranking senior to any payment due in respect of the Covered Bonds according to the applicable Priority of Payments, or (b) after the service of a Guarantor Default Notice, an amount equal to (i) the relevant Early Redemption Amount (as defined and specified in the Terms and Conditions) plus all accrued and unpaid interests and all other amounts due and payable in respect of the Covered Bonds, including all Excluded Scheduled Interest Amounts and all Excluded Scheduled Principal Amounts (whenever the same arose), and (ii) all amounts payable by the Guarantor under the Transaction Documents ranking senior to any payment due in respect to the Covered Bonds according to the applicable Priority of Payments. The Guaranteed Amounts include any Guaranteed Amount that was timely paid by or on behalf of the Issuer to the Bondholders to the extent it has been clawed back and recovered from the Bondholders by the receiver or liquidator, in bankruptcy or other insolvency or similar proceedings for the Issuer named or identified in the order, and has not been paid or recovered from any other source (the "Clawed Back Amounts").

# **Scheduled Due for Payment Date** means:

(i) (a) the date on which the Scheduled Payment Date in respect of the relevant Guaranteed Amounts is reached, and (b) only with respect to the first Scheduled Payment Date immediately after the occurrence of an Issuer Event of Default, the later of (i) the day which is two Business Days following the service of the Issuer Default Notice on the Guarantor in respect of such Guaranteed Amounts and (ii) the relevant Scheduled Payment Date; or

(ii) if the applicable Final Terms specified that an Extended Maturity Date is applicable to the relevant Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds, the Scheduled Payment Date that would have applied if the Maturity Date of such series or tranche of Covered Bonds had been the Extended Maturity Date or such other Scheduled Payment Date(s) as specified in the relevant Final Terms.

**Scheduled Interest** means in respect of each Scheduled Payment Date following the service of an Issuer Default Notice to the Guarantor, an amount equal to the amount in respect of interest which would have been due and payable under the Covered Bonds on such Scheduled Payment Date as specified in the Terms and Conditions falling on or after the service of an Issuer Default Notice to the Guarantor (but excluding any Excluded Scheduled Interest Amounts).

**Scheduled Payment Date** means, in relation to any payments due under the Guarantee, each CB Payment Date or, if applicable under the relevant Final Terms, each Optional Redemption Date.

**Scheduled Principal** means in respect of each Scheduled Payment Date following the service of an Issuer Default Notice to the Guarantor, an amount equal to the amount in respect of principal which would have been due and repayable under the Covered Bonds on such Scheduled Payment dates as specified in the Terms and Conditions (but excluding any Excluded Scheduled Principal Amount).

## Governing Law

The Guarantee is governed by Italian law.

# **Servicing Agreement**

On November 30, 2011 the Servicer has agreed, pursuant to the terms of a servicing agreement (the "**Servicing Agreement**"), to administer and service the Assets comprised in the Cover Pool, on behalf of the Guarantor.

Under the Servicing Agreement, the Servicer has agreed to perform certain servicing duties in connection with the Assets comprised in the Cover Pool, and, in general, the Servicer has agreed to be responsible for the management of the Assets and for cash and payment services (*soggetto incaricato della riscossione dei crediti ceduti e dei servizi di cassa e di pagamento*) in accordance with the requirements of the Law 130/99.

As consideration for activities performed and reimbursement of expenses, the Servicing Agreement provides that the Servicer will receive certain fees payable by the Guarantor on each Guarantor Payment Date in accordance with the applicable Priorities of Payments.

# Servicer's activities

In the context of the appointment, the Servicer has undertaken to perform, with its best diligence, *inter alia*, the activities specified below:

- (a) administration, management and collection of the Assets in accordance with the collection policies; management and administration of enforcement proceedings and insolvency proceedings;
- (b) to perform certain activities with reference to the data processing pursuant to article 29 of the Legislative Decree no. 196 of 30 June 2003 (the "**Privacy Law**");
- (c) to keep and maintain updated and safe the documents relating to the transfer of the Assets from the Seller to the Guarantor; to consent to the Guarantor and the Representative of the Bondholders to examine and inspect the documents and to draw copies;
- (d) following (i) the service of a Breach of Test Notice or (ii) the occurrence of an Issuer Event of Default, the Servicer may sell (in the name and on behalf of the Guarantor) certain Assets comprised in the

Cover Pool, in accordance with the Portfolio Management Agreement, in the interest of the Bondholders.

The Servicer is entitled to delegate the performance of certain activities to third parties, except for the supervisory activities in accordance with Bank of Italy regulations of August 5, 1996, No. 216, as amended and supplemented. Notwithstanding the above, the Servicer shall remain fully liable for the activities performed by a party so appointed by the Servicer, and shall maintain the Guarantor fully indemnified for any losses, costs and damages incurred for the activity performed by a party so appointed by the Servicer.

# Servicer Reports

The Servicer has undertaken to prepare and submit quarterly reports to the Guarantor, the Seller, the Issuer, the Asset Monitor, the Rating Agency, the Calculation Agent, the Corporate Servicer, the Swap Counterparties and the Representative of the Bondholders, in the form set out in the Servicing Agreement, containing information as to the Collections made in respect of the Assets during the preceding Collection Period. The reports will provide the main information relating to the Servicer's activity during the period.

# Successor Servicer

According to the Servicing Agreement, the Guarantor, upon the occurrence of a termination event, shall have the right to withdraw the appointment of the Servicer at any time and to appoint a different entity (the "Successor Servicer"). Pursuant to the Servicing Agreement, the Guarantor has undertaken to appoint the Successor Servicer immediately after the occurrence of a termination event. The Successor Servicer shall undertake to carry out the activity of administration, management and collection of the Assets, as well as all other activities provided for in the Servicing Agreement by entering into a servicing agreement having substantially the same form and contents as the Servicing Agreement and accepting the Terms and Conditions of the Intercreditor Agreement.

The Guarantor may terminate the Servicer's appointment and appoint a Successor Servicer following the occurrence of any of the termination events (each a "Servicer Termination Event").

The Servicer Termination Events include inter alia:

- (a) failure to transfer, deposit or pay any amounts due by the Servicer to the Guarantor, which failure continues for a period of 3 Business Days following the earliest of (a) the date on which the Servicer has received a written notice from the Guarantor requiring the relevant amounts to be transferred, paid or deposited;
- (b) an insolvency, liquidation or winding up event occurs with respect to the Servicer, or a resolution of the board of directors of the Servicer has been adopted in order to obtain the admission of the Servicer to any insolvency proceedings;
- (c) failure from CheBanca to observe or perform duties under the Servicing Agreement, the Master Purchase Agreement and each of the Transaction Documents to which CheBanca is a party, which failure (i) on the reasonable opinion of the Representative of the Bondholders is able to substantially prejudice the interests of the Bondholders and (ii) is not remedied by the Servicer within 5 Business Days from the date on which such failure has occurred; and
- (d) any representation and warranty of the Servicer contained in the Servicing Agreement shall prove to have been incorrect or incomplete with a prejudicial effect for the Guarantor and/or for the Programme, provided that these circumstances has not been cured within a 20 days period.

In the event that (a) the long-term rating of Mediobanca has been downgraded by the Rating Agency below "BBB+" and (b) the remedies provided in the Portfolio Management Agreement to be carried out by the

Seller and the Issuer in the cases of the paragraph (a) above have been not satisfied, the Servicer shall, within 30 days from the date on which the events *sub* (a) and (b) have occurred, alternatively, to:

- (i) mitigate the Commingling Risk entering into a first demand independent guarantee agreement (contratto di garanzia autonoma e a prima richiesta) in order to ensure that the current rating of the outstanding Covered Bonds is confirmed by the Rating Agency, for an aggregate maximum amount which will be from time to time equal to the Potential Commingling Amounts (the "Guaranteed Maximum Amount"); or
- (ii) find an entity, with a long-term rating assigned by S&P at least equal to "BBB+", which deposits an amount equal to the Guaranteed Maximum Amount on an account opened in the name of Guarantor and for such purposes with the Account Bank or, to the extent that the Account Bank ceases to be an Eligible Institution, with any Eligible Institution; or
- (iii) immediately inform, in compliance with the formalities required by law, all the Debtor to carry out any future payments in relation to the Assets crediting the relevant amounts directly on the Collection Account.

For the purposes of the Servicing Agreement:

"Commingling Risk" means the risk that an Insolvency Event occurs in relation to the Servicer, as a consequence of which (i) the Servicer is not able, by virtue of law, to transfer the Collections to the Guarantor or (ii) the Collection credited by the Servicer on the Collection Account become subject to claw-back.

# **Governing Law**

The Servicing Agreement is governed by Italian law.

# **Corporate Services Agreement**

Pursuant to a corporate services agreement entered into on or about the First Issue Date (the "Corporate Services Agreement"), the Corporate Servicer has agreed to provide the Guarantor with certain administrative services, including the keeping of the corporate books and of the accounting and tax registers.

## **Governing Law**

The Corporate Services Agreement is governed by Italian law.

# **Intercreditor Agreement**

Under the terms of an intercreditor agreement entered into on or about the First Issue Date (the "Intercreditor Agreement") among the Guarantor, the Quotaholders, the Seller, the Servicer, the Subordinated Lender, the Investment Manager, the Calculation Agent, the Representative of the Bondholders, the Asset Monitor, the Cover Pool Swap Provider, the Covered Bond Swap Provider, the Account Bank, the Paying Agent, the Test Report Provider, the Interest Determination Agent, the Corporate Servicer (collectively, with the sole exclusion of the Guarantor and the Quotaholders, the "Secured Creditors"), the parties agreed that all the Available Funds of the Guarantor will be applied in or towards satisfaction of the Guarantor's payment obligations towards the Bondholders as well as the other Secured Creditors, in accordance with the relevant Priorities of Payments provided in the Intercreditor Agreement.

According to the Intercreditor Agreement, the Representative of the Bondholders will, subject to a Guarantor Event of Default having occurred, ensure that all the Available Funds are applied in or towards satisfaction of the Guarantor's payment obligations towards the Bondholders as well as the other Secured Creditors, in accordance with the Post-Guarantor Event of Default Priority of Payments provided in the Intercreditor Agreement.

The obligations owed by the Guarantor to each of the Bondholders and each of the other Secured Creditors will be limited recourse obligations of the Guarantor. The Secured Creditors will have a claim against the Guarantor only to the extent of the Available Funds, in each case subject to and as provided for in the Intercreditor Agreement and the other Transaction Documents.

The Guarantor has granted a general irrevocable mandate to the Representative of the Bondholders, in the interest of the Bondholders and the other Secured Creditors (who irrevocably agreed to such mandate), under and pursuant to Article 1723, paragraph 2, and Article 1726 of the Italian Civil Code, to act in the name and on behalf of the Guarantor on the terms and conditions specified in the Intercreditor Agreement, in exercising the rights of the Guarantor under the Transaction Documents to which it is a party, provided that such powers will be exercisable only if the Guarantor fails to timely exercise its rights under the Transaction Documents.

Under the Intercreditor Agreement the parties have agreed that, within the context of the Programme, the Subordinated Lender may enter into subsequent subordinated loan agreements (each, a "**Subsequent Subordinated Loan Agreement**") under which the Subordinated Lender will undertake to make available to the Guarantor each of the following:

- (A) a subordinated loan agreement containing a Tranche A only, for the purpose of:
  - (i) reimburse any Tranche B of any subordinated loan agreement executed on or about any preceding Issue Date for an amount up to the difference (if positive) between (x) the total amount drawn under any Tranche B and (y) the amount of any Tranche B necessary to comply with the Tests from time to time applicable; and/or
  - (ii) to purchase any Subsequent Portfolio; or
- (B) a subordinated loan agreement containing, in addition to the Tranche A aforementioned, a Tranche B for an amount necessary to comply with the Tests from time to time applicable.

Apart from the characteristics indicated above, each Subsequent Subordinated Loan Agreement will have substantially the same terms and conditions of the Initial Subordinated Loan Agreement.

# **Governing Law**

The Intercreditor Agreement is governed by Italian law.

## **Cash Management Agreement**

On or about the First Issue Date the Issuer, the Guarantor, the Cash Manager, the Account Bank, the Paying Agent, the Interest Determination Agent, the Seller, the Servicer, the Calculation Agent, the Test Report Provider, the Investment Manager and the Representative of the Bondholders entered into a cash management agreement (the "Cash Management Agreement"), pursuant to which the Account Bank, the Interest Determination Agent, the Cash Manager, the Paying Agent, the Investment Manager and the Calculation Agent will provide the Guarantor with certain calculation, notification and reporting services together with account handling and cash management services in relation to moneys from time to time standing to the credit of the Accounts.

Pursuant to the Cash Management Agreement:

(a) the Account Bank will provide, *inter alia*, the Guarantor with certain account management services and other services in relation to monies standing from time to time to the credit of the Collection Account, the Reserve Account, the Expenses Account and the Transaction Account and to securities standing from time to time to the credit of the Securities Account;

- (b) the Cash Manager will provide, *inter alia*, the Guarantor, with (i) certain services in relation to the management of the monies to be credited or debited on the Expenses Account, the Collection Account, the Reserve Account and the Transaction Account and (ii) certain payment services to the Guarantor;
- (c) the Calculation Agent will provide the Guarantor with calculation services with respect to certain calculations, notification and reporting services and, *inter alia*, will provide the Guarantor with a payments report (the "**Payments Report**") which will set out the Available Funds and the payments to be made on the following Guarantor Payment Date;
- (d) the Paying Agent will provide the Issuer (prior to an Issuer Event of Default) and the Guarantor (following an Issuer Event of Default) with certain payment services in favour of the Bondholders;
- (e) the Interest Determination Agent will provide certain calculation services to the Issuer (prior to an Issuer Event of Default) and the Guarantor (following an Issuer Event of Default) in relation to the payment of interest on the Covered Bond;
- (f) the Investment Manager will provide the Guarantor with certain services in relation to the investment, on behalf of the Guarantor, of funds standing to the credit of the Transaction Account and the Reserve Account in Eligible Investments.

## Account Bank

The Collection Account, the Securities Account, the Transaction Account, the Expenses Account, the Reserve Account, the Quota Capital Account (together the "Accounts") will be opened in the name of the Guarantor with the Account Bank.

On or prior to each Settlement Report Date, the Account Bank shall deliver to the Guarantor, the Servicer and the Calculation Agent a statement of account (*estratto conto*) in relation to each of the Accounts held by the Guarantor with it setting out the balance (*saldo*) thereof as of the last day of the immediately preceding Collection Period and details of amounts credited to and withdrawn from each such Account during such period.

Pursuant to the Cash Management Agreement, it is a necessary requirement that the Account Banks shall be an Eligible Institution and failure to so qualify shall constitute a termination event thereunder.

### Cash Manager

The amounts standing to the credit of the Accounts shall be debited and credited by the Cash Manager in accordance with the provisions of the Cash Management Agreement.

On each Guarantor Payment Date, the Cash Manager shall make on behalf of the Guarantor all the payments pursuant to the relevant Priority of Payments (other than the payments under the Guarantee which shall be made by the Paying Agent, out of the funds received by the Cash Manager on behalf of the Guarantor in accordance with the relevant Priority of Payments).

### Calculation Agent

On each Calculation Date, the Calculation Agent, subject to timely receipt of certain information, shall deliver via e-mail to the Issuer, the Guarantor, the Representative of the Bondholders, the Seller, the Servicer, the Account Bank, the Paying Agent, the Swap Counterparties and the Corporate Services Provider the Payments Report with respect to the following Guarantor Payment Date.

# The Paying Agent

The Paying Agent will make payments of principal and interest in respect of the Covered Bonds on behalf of the Issuer in accordance with the Conditions and the relevant Final Terms. After the occurrence of an Issuer Event of Default, the Paying Agent acting upon instruction of the Guarantor shall make payments of principal and interest in respect of the Covered Bonds on behalf of the Guarantor.

## **Investment Manager**

The Investment Manager, on the basis of the investment instructions received by the Guarantor, shall invest on behalf of the Guarantor funds standing to the credit of the Transaction Account and the Reserve Account in Eligible Investments. Subject to compliance with the definition of Eligible Investments and the other restrictions set out in the Cash Management Agreement, the Cash Manager shall have absolute discretion as to the types and amounts of Eligible Investments which it may acquire and as to the terms on which, through whom and on which markets, any purchase of Eligible Investments may be effected.

No later than each Settlement Report Date, the Investment Manager shall deliver to the Guarantor, the Issuer, the Calculation Agent, the Representative of the Bondholders and the Corporate Services Provider a report (with all the information set out in Schedule 3 hereof) setting out details of the Eligible Investments made during the immediately preceding Collection Period out of the funds of the Transaction Account and the Reserve Account and the amounts (including any profit and return) deriving from the disposal and liquidation of such Eligible Investments

### **Termination**

Upon the occurrence of certain events, including the Account Banks or the Paying Agent ceasing to qualify as Eligible Institutions, either the Representative of the Bondholders or the Guarantor may terminate the appointment of any Agent, as the case may be, under the terms of the Cash Management Agreement.

# **Governing Law**

The Cash Management Agreement will be governed by Italian law.

# **Portfolio Management Agreement**

On or about the First Issue Date, the Guarantor, the Issuer, the Seller, the Servicer, the Test Report Provider, the Asset Monitor and the Representative of the Bondholders have entered into a portfolio management agreement (the "Portfolio Management Agreement").

Pursuant to such agreement the Issuer, the Seller and the Guarantor have undertaken certain obligations for the replenishment of the Cover Pool in order to cure a breach of the Tests (as described in detail in section "Credit Structure" above).

Starting from the Issue Date of the first Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds and until the earlier of:

- (i) the date on which all Series or Tranches of Covered Bonds issued in the context of the Programme have been cancelled or redeemed in full in accordance with the Conditions; and
- (ii) the date on which a Issuer Default Notice is served on the Guarantor as a consequence of an Issuer Event of Default,

the Issuer and the Seller have undertaken to procure on a continuing basis that on any Calculation Date (a) the Mandatory Test (as described in detail in section "Credit Structure" above) is met with respect to the Cover Pool and (b) the Asset Coverage Test (as defined in section "Credit Structure" above) is met with respect to the Cover Pool. The Test Report Provider shall verify the respect of the Mandatory test and the Asset Coverage Test on behalf of the Issuer and the Seller.

On each Calculation Date following an Issuer Event of Default but prior to a Guarantor Event of Default, the Guarantor shall procure that the Amortisation Test (as defined in section "Credit structure – Tests") is met. The Test Report Provider shall verify the respect of the Amortisation Test on behalf of the Guarantor.

The Pre-Maturity Test (if applicable to a Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds under the relevant Final Terms) is intended to provide liquidity for the Covered Bonds when the Issuer's credit ratings fall below a certain level. On each Pre-Maturity Test Date prior to the occurrence of an Issuer Event of Default, the Test Report Provider will determine if the Pre-Maturity Test has been breached, and if so, it shall immediately notify the Issuer, the Seller, the Guarantor and the Representative of Bondholders.

The Test Report Provider has agreed to prepare and deliver on each Calculation Date to the Issuer, the Seller, the Guarantor, the Representative of the Bondholders and the Asset Monitor, a report setting out the calculations carried out by it with respect of the Tests (the "**Test Performance Report**"). Such report shall specify the occurrence of a breach of the Mandatory Test and/or of the Asset Coverage Test and/or the Amortisation Test and/or the Integration Assets Limit and/or the Pre-Maturity Test (if any).

Following the notification by the Test Report Provider, in the relevant Test Performance Report, of a breach of the Mandatory Test and/or the Asset Coverage Test, the Seller and, to the extent that the Seller does not meet such obligation, the Issuer undertake to assign to the Guarantor and the Guarantor shall purchase from the Seller (and/or any Additional Seller, if any) or the Issuer, as the case may, Eligible Assets in accordance with the Master Receivables Purchase Agreement and/or Integration Assets, in order to ensure that, within the Test Grace Period, all Tests and/or the Integration Assets Limit are satisfied with respect to the Cover Pool.

The Guarantor shall comply with the following conditions in selecting the assets to be purchased:

- (i) give priority to the purchase of Eligible Assets from the Seller (and/or any Additional Seller, if any) and the Issuer and
- (ii) to the extent that the Seller (and/or any Additional Sellers) and the Issuer inform the Guarantor that the Eligible Assets available for sale to the Guarantor prior to the expiry of the relevant Test Grace Period are not sufficient for the purpose of allowing the Tests to be remedied as of the following Calculation Date, the Guarantor will:
  - (a) purchase Integration Assets from the Seller (and/or any Additional Sellers) and the Issuer; and
  - (b) to the extent the Integration Assets purchased in accordance with item (a) above are insufficient, purchase Eligible Assets or Integration Assets from other entities;

provided however that the aggregate amount of Integration Assets included in the Cover Pool following such purchase (taking into account the Liquidity) may not be in excess of 15% of the aggregate outstanding principal amount of the Cover Pool or any other limit set out in accordance with any relevant law, regulation or interpretation of any authority (including, for the avoidance of doubts, the Bank of Italy or the Minister of Economy and Finance) which may be enacted with respect to the Covered Bonds Law, unless the Representative of the Bondholders resolves otherwise as this could be beneficial for the Programme.

Should the relevant breach have not been remedied prior to the expiry of the applicable Test Grace Period, the Representative of the Bondholders shall deliver a Breach of Test Notice to the Issuer, the Seller and the Guarantor.

After the service of a Breach of Test Notice to the Issuer, the Seller and the Guarantor, the Guarantor (or the Servicer on behalf of the Guarantor) may sell any Eligible Assets and Integration Assets included in the Cover

Pool, in accordance with the rules set out in such Agreement, provided that the Representative of the Bondholders has been duly informed.

Once a Breach of Test Notice has been delivered to the Issuer, the Seller and the Guarantor, (i) should the Mandatory Test and the Asset Coverage Test have not been remedied by the following Calculation Date, the Representative of the Bondholders shall deliver an Issuer Default Notice to the Issuer, the Seller and the Guarantor, unless the Representative of the Bondholders, having exercised its discretion, resolves otherwise or an Extraordinary Resolution is passed resolving otherwise, and (ii) should the Pre-Maturity Test has not been remedied by the following Calculation Date, the Representative of the Bondholders may in accordance to the Rules (but is not obliged to) serve an Issuer Default Notice.

After the service of an Issuer Default Notice to the Issuer, the Seller and the Guarantor, the Guarantor (or the Servicer on behalf of the Guarantor) shall sell any Eligible Assets and Integration Assets included in the Cover Pool in accordance with the rules set out in such Agreement, provided that the Representative of the Bondholders has been duly informed.

It being understood that should a breach of the Amortisation Test occur after an Issuer Event of Default, it will determine a Guarantor Event of Default – unless the Representative of the Bondholders, having exercised its discretion, resolves otherwise or an Extraordinary Resolution is passed resolving otherwise – if it is not cured within the following calculation date.

With respect to any sale to be carried out in accordance with such Agreement, the Guarantor may, and after the occurrence of an Issuer Event of Default shall, instruct a recognised portfolio manager (the "Portfolio Manager") to endeavour - to the extent possible taking into account the time left before the Maturity Date or Extended Maturity Date (if applicable) of the Earliest Maturing Covered Bonds - to sell or liquidate the Selected Assets included in the Cover Pool. To incentivise the Portfolio Manager to achieve the best price for the sale of Eligible Assets and Integration Assets, the fees of the Portfolio Manager will be determined on the basis of its performance. The terms of the agreement giving effect to the appointment of the Portfolio Manager in accordance with the tender process shall be approved in writing by the Representative of the Bondholders.

Following the delivery of a Guarantor Default Notice, the Guarantor shall immediately sell all Eligible Assets and Integration Assets included in the Cover Pool in accordance with the procedures described above, provided that the Guarantor will instruct the Portfolio Manager to use all reasonable endeavours to procure that such sale is carried out as quickly as reasonably practicable taking into account the market conditions at that time and subject to any right of pre-emption in favour of the Seller under the Master Purchase Agreement and this Agreement. The proceeds of any such sale shall be credited to the Transaction Account and applied in accordance with the relevant Priority of Payments.

## **Governing Law**

The Portfolio Management Agreement will be governed by Italian law.

# **Asset Monitor Agreement**

Pursuant to an asset monitor agreement entered into on or about the Initial Issue Date, among, *inter alia*, the Asset Monitor, the Guarantor, the Test Report Provider, the Seller, the Servicer, the Issuer and the Representative of the Bondolders (the "Asset Monitor Agreement"), the Asset Monitor will perform certain monitoring and reporting services in favour of the Issuer (prior to an Issuer Event of Default) and the Guarantor (after an Issuer Event of Default): subject to due receipt of the information to be provided by the Test Report Provider, the Asset Monitor has undertaken to conduct independent tests in respect of the calculations performed by the Test Report Provider for the Mandatory Tests, the Asset Coverage Test and the

Amortisation Test, as applicable with a view to verifying the compliance by the Issuer and the Guarantor with such tests.

The Asset Monitor will be required to conduct such monitoring activities no later than the relevant Asset Monitor Report Date (as defined under the Asset Monitor Agreement). On or prior to each Asset Monitor Report Date, the Asset Monitor shall deliver to the Issuer and Guarantor a report substantially in the form set forth under the Asset Monitor Agreement. The Asset Monitor thereby authorises the Issuer (prior to the service of an Issuer Default Notice) and the Guarantor (after the service of an Issuer Default Notice) to deliver the Asset Monitor Report to the Test Report Provider, the Seller and the Representative of the Bondholders. In addition, the Asset Monitor has authorised the Issuer (prior to the service of an Issuer Default Notice) and the Guarantor (after the service of an Issuer Default Notice) also to send the Asset Monitor Report to the Rating Agency having sent to the Asset Monitor, prior to the first delivery of the Asset Monitor Report to the Rating Agency, a release letter confirming that the Rating Agency will not be able to rely on any such reports received under the Programme.

Other than in relation to the verification of the Mandatory Tests, the Asset Coverage Test and the Amortisation Test, the Asset Monitor is entitled, in the absence of manifest error, to assume that all information provided to it under this Agreement is true and correct and is complete and not misleading.

In the Asset Monitor Agreement, the Asset Monitor has acknowledged to perform its services also for the benefit and in the interests of the Guarantor (to the extent it will carry out the services under the appointment of the Issuer) and the Bondholders and accepted that upon delivery of an Issuer Default Notice, it will receive instructions from, provide its services to, and be liable vis-à-vis the Guarantor or the Representative of the Bondholders on its behalf.

The Issuer will pay to the Asset Monitor for the Issuer Services a fee equal to the amount agreed in the Engagement Letter. Starting from the Guarantor Payment Date after the service of an Issuer Default Notice, subject to and in accordance with the relevant Priority of Payment, the provisions of the Intercreditor Agreement and within the limits of the Available Funds, the Guarantor will pay to the Asset Monitor a fee for the services to be performed by the Asset Monitor in the amount set out in the Asset Monitor Agreement.

The Issuer and (upon delivery of an Issuer Default Notice) the Guarantor may, subject to the prior approval of the Representative of the Bondholders, revoke the appointment of the Asset Monitor by giving not less than three months written notice to the Asset Monitor (with a copy to the Representative of the Bondholders) or earlier, in the event of a breach of warranties and covenants. If termination of the appointment of the Asset Monitor would otherwise take effect less than 30 days before any Calculation Date on which an Asset Monitor Report shall be delivered, then such termination shall not take effect until the tenth day following such Calculation Date. In any case, no revocation of the appointment of the Asset Monitor shall take effect until a successor, approved by the Representative of the Bondholders, has been duly appointed.

The Asset Monitor may, at any time, resign by giving not less than three months (or such shorter period as the Representative of the Bondholders may agree) prior written notice of termination to the Issuer, the Guarantor and the Representative of the Bondholders. Such resignation will be subject to and conditional upon: (i) if such resignation would otherwise take effect less than 30 days before any Calculation Date on which an Asset Monitor Report shall be delivered, then such resignation shall not take effect until the tenth day following such Calculation Date, (ii) the Representative of the Bondholders consenting in writing to the resignation (such consent not to be unreasonably withheld), (iii) a substitute Asset Monitor being appointed by the Issuer and (upon delivery of an Issuer Default Notice) the Guarantor, with the prior written approval of the Representative of the Bondholders, on substantially the same terms as those set out in the Asset Monitor Agreement and (iv) the Asset Monitor being not released from its obligations under this Agreement until a substitute Asset Monitor has entered into such new agreement and it has become a party to the

Intercreditor Agreement; and provided that, if the substitute Asset Monitor is not appointed within four months from the date of the written notice set out above, the Asset Monitor shall be released from its obligations under the Asset Monitor Agreement.

### **Governing Law**

The Asset Monitor Agreement is governed by Italian law.

## **Quotaholders' Agreement**

On or about the First Issue Date the Seller, SPV Holding and the Representative of the Bondholders entered into a quotaholders' agreement (the "Quotaholders' Agreement"), containing provisions and undertakings in relation to the management of the Guarantor.

### Governing Law

The Quotaholders' Agreement will be governed by Italian law.

## **Programme Agreement**

On or about the First Issue Date, the Issuer, the Seller, the Representative of Bondholders and the Dealers entered into a programme agreement (the "**Programme Agreement**"), which contains certain arrangements under which the Covered Bonds may be issued and sold, from time to time, by the Issuer to any one or more of the Dealers.

Under the Programme Agreement, the Issuer and the Dealer(s) have agreed that any Covered Bonds of any Series or Tranche which may from time to time be agreed between the Issuer and any Dealer(s) to be issued by the Issuer and subscribed for by such Dealer(s) shall be issued and subscribed for on the basis of, and in reliance upon, the representations, warranties, undertakings and indemnities made or given or provided to be made or given pursuant to the terms of the Programme Agreement. Unless otherwise agreed, neither the Issuer nor any Dealer(s) is, are or shall be, in accordance with the terms of the Programme Agreement, under any obligation to issue or subscribe for any Covered Bonds of any Series or Tranche.

Under the Programme Agreement the Dealers have appointed the Representative of the Bondholders, which appointment has been confirmed by the Issuer and the Guarantor.

The Issuer and the Guarantor will indemnify the Dealers for costs, liabilities, charges, expenses and claims incurred by or made against the Dealers arising out of, in connection with or based on breach of duty or misrepresentation by the Issuer and the Guarantor.

The Programme Agreement contains provisions relating to the resignation or termination of appointment of existing Dealers and for the appointment of additional or other dealers acceding as new dealer (a) generally in respect of the Programme or (b) in relation to a particular issue of Covered Bonds.

The Programme Agreement contains stabilisation provisions.

Pursuant to the Programme Agreement, the Issuer, the Seller and the Guarantor have given certain representations and warranties to the Dealers in relation to, *inter alia*, themselves and the information given by them in connection with this Base Prospectus.

The Programme Agreement also contains the *pro forma* of the Subscription Agreement to be entered into in relation to each issue of Covered Bonds.

Within the Programme, the Issuer and the Dealers (the "**Relevant Dealers**") will enter into a subscription agreement under which the Relevant Dealers will agree to subscribe for the relevant tranche of Covered Bonds, subject to the conditions set out therein ("**Subscription Agreement**").

Under the terms of the Subscription Agreement, the Relevant Dealers will confirm the appointment of the Representative of the Bondholders.

# **Governing Law**

The Programme Agreement and the Subscription Agreement will be governed by Italian law.

# **Deed of Pledge**

By a deed of pledge (the "**Deed of Pledge**") executed by the Guarantor on or about the First Issue Date the Guarantor will pledge in favour of the Bondholders and the other Secured Creditors all the for claims, indemnities, damages, penalties, credits and guarantees) to which monetary claims and rights and all the amounts payable from time to time, other than those to be received by the Guarantor under to the Subordinated Loan Agreement, (including payment the Guarantor is entitled pursuant to, or in relation to, the Transaction Documents (other than the English Law Documents), including the monetary claims and rights relating to the amounts standing to the credit of the Accounts (other than the Quota Capital Account) and any other account established by the Guarantor in accordance with the provisions of the Transaction Documents.

# Governing Law

The Deed of Pledge is governed by Italian law.

# **Deed of Charge**

By a deed of charge (the "**Deed of Charge**") executed by the Guarantor on or about the First Issue Date, the Guarantor will, with full title guarantee, assign absolutely to the Representative of the Bondholders (acting as security trustee for the Bondholders and the other Secured Creditors, the "**Security Trustee**"), by way of first fixed security, all of its rights under the Swap Agreements as security for the payment and discharge of its obligations under the Guarantee. The Security Trustee will hold the benefit of the Deed of Charge, including the security created and other rights granted in it to the Security Trustee, for itself and on trust for the Bondholders and the other Secured Creditors on the terms set out in the Deed of Charge.

## Governing Law

The Deed of Charge is governed by English law.

# **Swap Agreements**

# Cover Pool Swaps

In order to hedge the interest rate risks related to the Cover Pool, the Guarantor will enter into one or more swap transactions with the Cover Pool Swap Counterparty, on or about the date of each transfer under the Master Purchase Agreement, subject to an ISDA Master Agreement, the CSA and the relevant confirmation (each a "Cover Pool Swap" and together the "Cover Pool Swaps").

In order to hedge the interest rate risks related to the Cover Pool, the Guarantor will enter into one or more swap transactions with the relevant Cover Pool Swap Counterparty subject to an ISDA Master Agreement, the CSA and the relevant confirmation (the "Cover Pool Swaps" and each a "Cover Pool Swap"). Under the Cover Pool Swaps, in the event that the long-term rating of the respective Cover Pool Swap Counterparty

is downgraded by the Rating Agency below a first threshold, as specified therein (each a "First Rating Event"), the Cover Pool Swap Counterparty will be required to:

within 10 (ten) Local Business Days (as defined in the ISDA Master Agreement) - plus additional 10 Business Days if the Cover Pool Swap Counterparty during the initial 10 Local Business Days sends a written proposal for collateral posting to the Rating Agency, provided that the Rating Agency confirms to the Representative of the Bondholders and to the Cover Pool Swap Counterparty that it will not take any negative rating action as result of such proposal - of the occurrence of the First Rating Event, (i) post the collateral required in accordance with CSA, and (ii) obtain and make available to S&P on a semiannual basis an external mark in relation to the other party's Exposure (as such term is defined under the Credit Support Annex), to be calculated from an independent third party who would be eligible to replace the Cover Pool Swap Counterparty with respect to all rights and obligations under this Agreement.

Under the Cover Pool Swaps, in the event that the long-term rating of the respective Cover Pool Swap Counterparty is further downgraded by the Rating Agency below a second threshold, as specified therein (each a "**Second Rating Event**"), the Cover Pool Swap Counterparty will be required to:

- (A) within 10 Local Business Days of the occurrence of such Second Rating Event plus additional 10 Business Days if the Cover Pool Swap Counterparty during the initial 10 Local Business Days sends a written proposal for collateral posting to the Rating Agency, provided that the Rating Agency confirms to the Representative of the Bondholders and to the Cover Pool Swap Counterparty that it will not take any negative rating action as result of such proposal post the collateral required in accordance with the CSA; and
- (B) within 60 days of the occurrence of such Second Rating Event (plus additional 30 calendar days if during the initial 60 days period the Cover Pool Swap Counterparty sends a written proposal regarding such remedy to the Rating Agency, provided that the Rating Agency confirms to the Representative of the Bondholders and the Cover Pool Swap Counterparty that it will not take any negative rating action as result of such proposal),
  - (i) replace itself with a third party financial institution having a long-term rating as specified therein assigned by S&P, by transferring by novation to such third party financial institution all of its rights and obligations with respect to the Cover Pool Swaps; or
  - (ii) obtain a guarantee of its rights and obligations with respect to the Cover Pool Swaps from a third party financial institution having a long-term rating as specified therein assigned by S&P.

A failure to take such steps within the time periods specified in the relevant Cover Pool Swap will constitute an Additional Termination Event and therefore will allow the Guarantor to terminate such Cover Pool Swap.

The Cover Pool Swap may also be terminated upon the occurrence of a Termination Event (as defined in the 1992 ISDA Master Agreement and includes any other Additional Termination Events).

## Governing Law

The Cover Pool Swaps are governed by English Law.

# **Covered Bond Swaps**

In order to hedge the currency and/or interest rate exposure in relation to obligations under the Covered Bonds, the Guarantor will enter into one or more swap transactions with the Covered Bond Swap Counterparty, on or about each Issue Date, subject to an ISDA Master Agreement, the CSA and the relevant confirmation (each a "Covered Bond Swap" and together the "Covered Bonds Swaps").

Under the Covered Bond Swaps, in the event that the long-term rating of the respective Covered Bond Swap Counterparty is downgraded by the Rating Agency below a first threshold, as specified therein (each a "First Rating Event"), the Covered Bond Swap Counterparty will be required to: within 10 (ten) Local Business Days (as defined in the ISDA Master Agreement) - plus additional 10 Business Days if the Covered Bond Swap Counterparty during the initial 10 Local Business Days sends a written proposal for collateral posting to the Rating Agency, provided that the Rating Agency confirms to the Representative of the Bondholders and to the Covered Bond Swap Counterparty that it will not take any negative rating action as result of such proposal - of the occurrence of the First Rating Event, (i) post the collateral required in accordance with CSA, and (ii) obtain and make available to S&P on a semiannual basis an external mark in relation to the other party's Exposure (as such term is defined under the Credit Support Annex), to be calculated from an independent third party who would be eligible to replace the Covered Bond Swap Counterparty with respect to all rights and obligations under this Agreement.

Under the Covered Bond Swaps, in the event that the long-term rating of the respective Covered Bond Swap Counterparty is further downgraded by the Rating Agency below a second threshold, as specified therein (each a "**Second Rating Event**"), the Covered Bond Swap Counterparty will be required to:

- (A) within 10 Local Business Days of the occurrence of such Second Rating Event plus additional 10 Business Days if the Covered Bond Swap Counterparty during the initial 10 Local Business Days sends a written proposal for collateral posting to the Rating Agency, provided that the Rating Agency confirms to the Representative of the Bondholders and to the Covered Bond Swap Counterparty that it will not take any negative rating action as result of such proposal post the collateral required in accordance with the CSA; and
- (B) within 60 days of the occurrence of such Second Rating Event (plus additional 30 calendar days if during the initial 60 days period the Covered Bond Swap Counterparty sends a written proposal regarding such remedy to the Rating Agency, provided that the Rating Agency confirms to the Representative of the Bondholders and the Covered Bond Swap Counterparty that it will not take any negative rating action as result of such proposal),
  - (i) replace itself with a third party financial institution having a long-term rating as specified therein assigned by S&P, by transferring by novation to such third party financial institution all of its rights and obligations with respect to the Covered Bond Swaps; or
  - (ii) obtain a guarantee of its rights and obligations with respect to the Covered Bond Swaps from a third party financial institution having a long-term rating as specified therein assigned by S&P.

A failure to take such steps within the time periods specified in the Covered Bond Swap will constitute an Additional Termination Event and therefore will allow the Guarantor to terminate the Covered Bond Swap. The Covered Bond Swap may also be terminated upon the occurrence of a Termination Event (as defined in the 1992 ISDA Master Agreement and includes any other Additional Termination Events.

# **Governing Law**

The Cover Pool Swaps are governed by English Law.

#### SELECTED ASPECTS OF ITALIAN LAW

The following is a summary only of certain aspects of Italian law that are relevant to the transactions described in this Base Prospectus and of which prospective Bondholders should be aware. It is not intended to be exhaustive and prospective Bondholders should also read the detailed information set out elsewhere in this Base Prospectus.

## Law 130 and article 7-bis thereof. General remarks

The Law 130 was enacted on 30 April 1999 and was conceived to simplify the securitisation process and to facilitate the increased use of securitisation as a financing technique in the Republic of Italy.

Law Decree of 14 March 2005, No. 35, converted with amendments into law by law 14 May 2005, No. 80, added articles 7-bis and 7-ter to the Law 130, which regulate the issuance of covered bonds (obbligazioni bancarie garantite).

Pursuant to article 7-bis, certain provisions of the Law 130 apply to transactions involving the "true" sale (by way of non-gratuitous assignment) of receivables meeting certain eligibility criteria set out in article 7-bis and in the MEF Decree (as defined below), where the sale is to a special purpose vehicle incorporated pursuant to article 7-bis and all amounts paid by the debtors are to be used by the special purpose vehicle exclusively to meet its obligations under a guarantee to be issued by it, in view of securing the payment obligations of the selling bank or of other banks in connection with the issuance of covered bonds (the "Guarantee").

Pursuant to Article 7-bis, the purchase price of the assets to be comprised in the cover pool shall be financed through the taking of a loan granted or guaranteed by the bank selling the assets. The payment obligations of the special purpose vehicle under such loan shall be subordinated to the payment obligations of the issuing bank vis-à-vis the bondholders, the counterparties of any derivative contracts hedging risks in connection with the assigned receivables and securities, the counterparties of any other ancillary contract and counterparties having a claim in relation to any payment of other costs of the transaction.

The Covered Bonds are further regulated by the BoI Regulations, under which the covered bonds may be issued also by banks which are member of banking groups meeting certain requirements relating to the consolidated regulatory capital and the consolidated solvency ratio at the group's level. Such requirements must be complied with also by banks selling the assets, where the latter are different from the bank issuing the covered bonds.

## Eligibility criteria of the assets and limits to the assignment of assets

The Minister of Economy and Finance has issued a decree on 14 December 2006, No. 310 in order to enact the implementing regulation of the article 7-bis of the Law 130, in particular for the purposes of specifying the maximum ratio between the covered bonds and the assets assigned to the special purpose vehicle and comprised in the cover pool, the eligibility criteria of the assets to be assigned to the special purpose vehicle, also for the integration of the cover pool and the characteristics of the guarantee to be released by the special purpose vehicle (the "MEF Decree"). Under the MEF Decree, the following assets, inter alia, may be assigned to the purchasing company, together with any ancillary contracts aimed at hedging the financial risks embedded in the relevant assets: (i) residential mortgage receivables, where the relevant amount outstanding added to the principal amount outstanding of any previous mortgage loans secured by the same property by the seller, does not exceed 80 per cent. of the value of the mortgaged property (the "Residential Mortgage Receivables"), (ii) non residential mortgage receivables, where the relevant amount outstanding added to the principal amount outstanding of any previous mortgage loans secured by the same

property by the seller, does not exceed 60 per cent. of the value of the property (the "Non-Residential Mortgage Receivables" and, together with the Residential Mortgage Receivables, the "Mortgage Receivables"), (iii) securities satisfying the requirements set forth under article 2, paragraph 1, letter c) of the MEF Decree (as define below) (the "Public Securities") and (iv) securities issued in the framework of securitisations with 95% of the underlying assets of the same nature as in (i) and (ii) above and having a risk weighting non higher than 20% under the standardized approach (the "Asset Backed Securities" and, together with the Mortgage Receivables and the Public Securities, the "Assets"), and, within certain limits, Integration Assets.

The BoI Regulations set out certain limits to the possibility for banks to assign eligible assets (the "Limits to the Assignment"), which are based on the level of the consolidated solvency ratio ("CSR") and the "tier 1 ratio" (the "T1R"), in accordance with the following table, contained in the BoI Regulations:

Capital ad	equacy condition	Limits to the Assignment			
Group "a"	CSR ≥ 11% and T1R ≥ 7%	No limits			
Group "b"	CSR ≥ 10% and < 11% and T1R ≥ 6,5%	Assignment allowed up to 60% of the eligible assets			
Group "c"	CSR ≥ 9% and < 10% and T1R ≥ 6%	Assignment allowed up to 25% of the eligible assets			

The relevant CSR and T1R set out in the table relate to the aggregate of the covered bond transactions launched by the relevant banking group.

The Limits to the Assignment do not apply in case of Integration (as defined below) of the cover pool, provided that Integration is allowed exclusively within the limits set out by the BoI Regulations.

## **Ring-Fencing of the Assets**

Under the terms of article 3 of the Law 130, the assets relating to each transaction will by operation of law be segregated for all purposes from all other assets of the special purpose vehicle (the "SPV") which purchases the receivables. On a winding up of the SPV such assets will only be available to holders of the covered bonds in respect of which the SPV has issued a guarantee and to the other secured creditors of the SPV. In addition, the assets relating to a particular transaction will not be available to the holders of covered bonds issued in relation to any other transaction or to general creditors of the SPV.

However, under Italian law, any other creditor of the special purpose vehicle would be able to commence insolvency or winding up proceedings against the special purpose vehicle in respect of any unpaid debt.

# The Assignment

The assignment of the receivables under the Law 130 will be governed by article 58 paragraph 2, 3 and 4, of the Legislative Decree No. 385 of 1 September 1993 (the "Banking Act"). The prevailing interpretation of this provision, which view has been strengthened by article 4 of the Law 130, is that the assignment can be perfected against the selling bank, assigned debtors and third party creditors by way of publication of a notice in the Italian Official Gazette and by way of registration of such notice in the register of enterprises (registro delle imprese) at which the SPV is registered, so avoiding the need for notification to be served on each debtor.

As from the latest to occur between the date of publication of the notice of the assignment in the Italian Official Gazette and the date of registration of such notice with the competent Register of Enterprises, the assignment becomes enforceable against:

- (a) the debtors and any creditors of the selling bank who have not, prior to the date of publication of the notice, commenced enforcement proceedings in respect of the relevant receivables;
- (b) the liquidator or any other bankruptcy officials of the debtors (so that any payments made by a debtor to the SPV may not be subject to any claw-back action according to article 67 of Royal Decree no. 267 of 16 March 1942 (*Legge Fallimentare*) (the "**Bankruptcy Law**");
- (c) other permitted assignees of the seller who have not perfected their assignment prior to the date of publication.

Upon the completion of the formalities referred to above, the benefit of any privilege, guarantee or security interest guaranteeing or securing repayment of the assigned receivables will automatically be transferred to and perfected with the same priority in favour of the special purpose vehicle, without the need for any formality or annotation.

As from the latest to occur between the date of publication of the notice of the assignment in the Italian Official Gazette and the date of registration of such notice with the competent Register of Enterprises, no legal action may be brought against the receivables assigned or the sums derived therefrom other than for the purposes of enforcing the rights of the holders of the covered bonds and to meet the costs of the transaction.

However, article 7-bis, paragraph 4, also provides that where the functions of servicer (soggetto incaricato della riscossione dei crediti) are attributed, in the context of covered bonds transaction, to an entity other than the assigning bank (whether from the outset or eventually), notice of such circumstance shall be given by way of publication in the Italian Official Gazette and registered mail with return receipt to the relevant public administrations.

# **Exemption from claw-back**

Assignments executed under the Law 130 are subject to revocation on bankruptcy under article 67 of the Bankruptcy Law, but only in the event that the transaction is entered into (i) within three months of the adjudication of bankruptcy of the relevant party or (ii), in cases where paragraph 1 of article 67 applies, within six months of the adjudication of bankruptcy.

The subordinated loan to be granted to the SPV and the Guarantee are subject to the provisions of article 67, paragraph 4, of the Bankruptcy Law, pursuant to which the provisions of article 67 relating to the claw back of for-consideration transactions, payments and guarantees do not apply to certain transactions.

# **Tests set out in the MEF Decree**

Pursuant to article 3 of the MEF Decree the issuing bank and the assigning bank (to the extent different from the issuer), will have to ensure that, in the context of the transaction, the following tests are satisfied on an ongoing basis:

- (a) the outstanding aggregate nominal amount of the cover pool shall be higher than, or equal to, the aggregate nominal amount of the outstanding covered bonds;
- (b) the net present value of the cover pool, net of the transaction costs to be borne by the SPV, including therein the expected costs and the costs of any hedging arrangement entered into in relation to the transaction, shall be higher than, or equal to, the net present value of the outstanding covered bonds;
- (c) the amount of interests and other revenues generated by the assets included in the cover pool, net of the costs borne by the SPV, shall be higher than the interests and costs due under the outstanding covered bonds, taking also into account any hedging arrangements entered into in relation to the transaction;

(the above tests are jointly defined as the "Mandatory Tests").

For the purpose of ensuring compliance with the tests described above and pursuant to article 2, para. 3, of the MEF Decree, in addition to the assets listed in article 2, para. 1, of the MEF Decree which are generally eligible, the following assets may be used for the purpose of the integration of the cover pool:

- (a) the creation of deposits with banks incorporated in public administrations of States comprised in the European Union, the European Economic Space and the Swiss Confederation (the "Admitted States" or in a State which attract a risk weight factor equal to 0% under the "Standardized Approach" to credit risk measurement;
- (b) the assignment of securities issued by the banks referred to under (a) above, having a residual maturity not exceeding one year.

## (the "Integration Assets").

Integration through Integration Assets shall be allowed within the limits of 15% of the nominal value of the assets included in the cover pool.

In addition, pursuant to article 7-bis and the MEF Decree, integration of the cover pool – whether through assets or through Integration Assets – (the "**Integration**") shall be carried out in accordance with the modalities, and subject to the limits, set out in the BoI Regulations.

More specifically, under the BoI Regulations, the Integration is allowed exclusively for the purpose of (a) complying with the Mandatory Tests; (b) complying with any contractual overcollateralisation requirements agreed by the parties to the relevant agreements or (c) complying with the 15% maximum amount of Integration Assets within the cover pool (the "Limits to Integration"). The Limits to the Assignment do not apply to the assignment of Integration Assets.

The Integration is not allowed in circumstances other than as set out in the BoI Regulations. In any event, Integration Assets may be replaced at any time without any limitation with Eligible Assets.

#### The features of the Guarantee

According to article 4 of the MEF Decree the Guarantee shall be limited recourse to the cover pool, irrevocable, first-demand, unconditional and autonomous from the obligations assumed by the Issuer of the covered bonds. Accordingly, such obligations shall be a direct, unconditional, unsubordinated obligation of the SPV, limited recourse to the SPV's available funds, irrespective of any invalidity, irregularity or unenforceability of any of the guaranteed obligations of the issuer of the covered bonds.

In order to ensure the autonomous nature of the Guarantee, article 4 of the MEF Decree provides that the following provisions of the Italian Civil Code, generally applicable to personal guarantees (*fideiussioni*), shall not apply to the Guarantee (a) article 1939, providing that a fideiussione shall not generally be valid where the guaranteed obligation is not valid; (b) article 1941, para. 1, providing that a *fideiussione* cannot exceed the amounts due by the guaranteed debtor, nor can it be granted for conditions more onerous than those pertaining to the main obligation; (c) article 1944, para. 2, providing, inter alia, that the parties to the contract pursuant to which the fideiussione is issued may agree that the guarantor shall not be obliged to pay before the attachment is carried out against the guaranteed debtor; (d) article 1945, providing that the guarantor can raise against the creditor any objections (*eccezioni*) which the guaranteed debtor is entitled to raise, except for the objection relating to the lack of legal capacity on the part of the guaranteed debtor; (e) article 1955, providing that a fideiussione shall become ineffective (*estinta*) where, as a consequence of acts of the creditor, the guarantor is prevented from subrogating into any rights, pledges, mortgages, and liens (*privilegi*) of the creditor; (f) article 1956, providing that the guarantor of future receivables shall not be liable where the creditor – without the authorization of the guarantor – has extended credit to a third party,

while being aware that the economic conditions of the principal obligor were such that recovering of the receivable would have become significantly more difficult; (g) article 1957, providing, inter alia, that the guaranter will be liable also after the guaranteed obligation has become due and payable, provided that the creditor has filed its claim against the guaranteed debtor within six months and has diligently pursued them.

# The obligations of the Guarantor following a liquidation of the Issuer

The MEF Decree set out also certain principles which are aimed at ensuring that the payment obligations of the SPV are isolated from those of the Issuer of the Covered Bonds. To that effect it requires that the Guarantee contains provisions stating that the relevant obligations thereunder shall not accelerate upon the Issuer's default, so that the payment profile of the Covered Bonds shall not automatically be affected thereby.

More specifically, article 4 of the MEF Decree provides that in case of breach by the Issuer of its obligations vis-à-vis the Bondholders, the SPV shall assume the obligations of the Issuer – within the limits of the cover pool – in accordance with the terms and conditions originally set out for the Covered Bonds. The same provision applies where the Issuer is subject to mandatory liquidation procedures (*liquidazione coatta amministrativa*).

In addition, the acceleration (*decadenza dal beneficio del termine*) provided for by article 1186 of the Civil Code and affecting the Issuer shall not affect the payment obligations of the SPV under the Covered Bonds Guarantee. Pursuant to article 4 of the MEF Decree, the limitation in the application of article 1186 of the Civil Code shall apply not only to the events expressly mentioned therein, but also to any additional event of acceleration provided for in the relevant contractual arrangements.

In accordance with article 4, para. 3, of the MEF Decree, in case of *liquidazione coatta amministrativa* of the Issuer, the SPV shall exercise the rights of the Bondholders *vis-à-vis* the Issuer in accordance with the legal regime applicable to the Issuer. Any amount recovered by the SPV as a result of the exercise of such rights shall be deemed to be included in the cover pool.

The Bank of Italy shall supervise on the compliance with the aforesaid provisions, within the limits of the powers vested with the Bank of Italy by the Banking Act.

## Controls over the transaction

The BoI Regulations lay down rules on controls over transactions involving the issuance of covered bonds.

Inter alia, the resolutions of the selling banks approving the assignment of portfolios to the SPV are passed in relation to each transfer of assets on the basis of appraisal reports on the assets prepared by an auditing firm. Such report are not required where the assignment is carried out at the book values set out in the most recent approved financial statements of the selling bank, or in its most recent six month report (situazione patrimoniale semestrale).

The management body of the issuing bank must ensure that the structures delegated to the risk management verify at least every six months and for each transaction, *inter alia*:

- (a) the quality and integrity of the assets sold to the SPV securing the obligations undertaken by the latter;
- (b) compliance with the maximum ratio between covered bonds issued and the cover pool sold to the SPV for purposes of backing the issue, in accordance with the MEF Decree;
- (c) compliance with the Limits to the Assignment and the Limits to the Integration set out by the BoI Regulations;

(d) the effectiveness and adequacy of the coverage of risks provided under derivative agreements entered into in connection with the transaction.

The bodies with management responsibilities of issuing banks and banking groups ensure that an assessment is carried out on the legal aspects of the activity on the basis of specially issued legal reports setting out an indepth analysis of the contractual structures and schemes adopted, with a particular focus on, *inter alia*, the characteristics of the Guarantee.

The BoI Regulations also contain certain provisions on the asset monitor, who is delegated to carry out controls over the regularity of the transaction (*regolarità dell'operazione*) and the integrity of the Guarantee (*integrità della garanzia*) (the "**Asset Monitor**"). Pursuant to the BoI Regulations the Asset Monitor shall be an auditing firm having adequate professional experience in relation to the tasks entrusted with the same and independent from (a) the audit firm entrusted with the auditing of the issuing bank, (b) the issuing bank and (c) the other entities taking part to the transaction.

The Asset Monitor shall prepare annual reports on controls and assessments on the performance of transactions, to be addressed, inter alia, to the body entrusted with control functions of the Issuer. The BoI Regulations refer to the provisions (art. 52 and 61, para. 5, of the Banking Act), which impose on persons responsible for conducting controls specific obligations to report to the Bank of Italy. Such reference appears to be aimed at ensuring that any serious irregularities found are reported to the Bank of Italy.

In order to ensure that the SPV can perform, in an orderly and timely manner, the obligations arising under the Guarantee, the issuing banks shall use asset and liability management techniques for purposes of ensuring, including by way of specific controls at least every six months, that the payment dates of the cashflows generated by the cover pool match the payments dates with respect to payments due by the issuing bank under the covered bonds issued and other transaction costs.

Finally, in relation to the information flows, the parties to the covered bonds transactions shall assume contractual undertakings allowing the issuing and the assigning bank also acting as servicer (and any third party servicer, if appointed) to hold the information on the cover pool which are necessary to carry out the controls described in the BoI Regulations and for the compliance with the supervisory reporting obligations, including therein the obligations arising in connection with the membership to the central credit register (*Centrale dei Rischi*).

# **Insolvency proceedings**

Insolvency proceedings (procedure concorsuali) conducted under Italian law may take the form of, inter alia, a forced liquidation (fallimento) or creditors' agreements (concordato preventivo and accordi di ristrutturazione dei debiti). Insolvency proceedings are only applicable to businesses (imprese) either run by companies, partnerships or by individuals. An individual who is not a sole entrepreneur or an unlimited partner in a partnership is not subject to insolvency.

A debtor can be declared bankrupt (*fallito*) and subject to *fallimento* (at its own initiative, or at the initiative of any of its creditors or the public prosecutor) if it is not able to fulfil its obligations in a timely manner. The debtor loses control over all its assets and of the management of its business, which is taken over by a court appointed receiver (*curatore fallimentare*). Once judgment has been made by the court and the creditors' claims have been approved, the sale of the debtor's property is conducted in accordance with a liquidation plan (approved by the delegated judge and the creditors' committee) which may provide for the dismissal of the whole business or single business units, even through competitive procedures.

A qualifying insolvent debtor may avoid being subject to *fallimento* by proposing to its creditors a creditors' agreement (*concordato preventivo*). Such proposal must contain, *inter alia*: (i) an updated statement of the financial and economic situation of the insolvent company, (ii) a detailed list of the creditors and their

respective credit rights and related security interest and (iii) a detailed evaluation of the assets of the insolvent company. The offer may be structured as an offer to transfer all of the assets of the insolvent debtor to the creditors or an offer to undertake other restructuring plan such as, *inter alia*, the allocation to the creditors of shares, quotas, and other debt instruments of the company. The feasibility of the proposal must be accompanied by an expert's report. An entrepreneur may also execute with the creditors representing almost the 60% of the credits a settlement providing for debt rescheduling (*accordo di ristrutturazione dei debiti*). A report of an expert certifying the feasibility of the settlement shall be attached to the latter and the settlement shall be approved by the Court.

After insolvency proceedings are commenced, no legal action can be taken against the debtor and no foreclosure proceedings may be initiated. Moreover, all action taken and proceedings already initiated by creditors are automatically stayed.

# Description of Amministrazione Straordinaria delle Banche

A bank may be submitted to the *amministrazione straordinaria delle banche* where (a) serious administrative irregularities, or serious violations of the provisions governing the bank's activity provided for by laws, regulations or the bank's bylaws activity are found; (b) serious capital losses are expected to occur; (c) the dissolution has been the object of a request by the administrative bodies or an extraordinary company meeting providing the reasons for the request.

According to the Banking Act, the procedure is initiated by decree of the Minister of economy and finance, acting on a proposal by the Bank of Italy, which shall terminate the board of directors and the board of statutory auditors of the bank. Subsequently the Bank of Italy shall appoint (a) one or more special administrator (commissari straordinari); (b) an oversight committee composed by a number of members from three to five (comitato di sorveglianza). The commissari straordinari are entrusted with the duty to assess the situation of the bank, remove the irregularities which may have been found and promote solutions in the best interest of the depositors of the bank. The comitato di sorveglianza exercises auditing functions and provides to the commissari straordinari the opinions requested by the law or by the Bank of Italy. However, it should be noted that the Bank of Italy may instruct in a binding manner the commissari straordinari and the comitato di sorveglianza providing specific safeguards and limits concerning the management of the bank.

In exceptional circumstances, the commissari straordinari, in order to protect the interests of the creditors, in consultation with the *comitato di sorveglianza* and subject to an authorization by the Bank of Italy, may suspend payment of the bank's liabilities and the restitution to customers of financial instruments. Payments may be suspended for a period of up to one month, which may be extended for an additional period of up to two months.

The *amministrazione straordinaria delle banche* shall last for one year from the date of issue of the decree of the Minister of the economy and finance. In exceptional cases, the procedure may be extended for a period of up to six months. The Bank of Italy may extend the duration of the procedure for periods of up to two months, in connection with the acts and formalities related to the termination of the procedure, provided that the relevant acts to be executed have already been approved by the Bank of Italy.

At the end of the procedure, the *commissari straordinari* shall undertake the necessary steps for the appointment of the bodies governing the bank in the ordinary course of business. After the appointment, the management and audit functions shall be transferred to the newly appointed bodies. It should however be noted that, should at the end of the procedure or at any earlier time the conditions for the declaration of the *liquidazione coatta amministrativa* (described in the following section) be met, then the bank may be subject to such procedure.

# Description of Liquidazione Coatta Amministrativa delle Banche

According to the Banking Act, when the conditions for the *amministrazione straordinaria delle banche* and described in the preceding paragraph are exceptionally serious (*di eccezionale gravità*), or when a court has declared the state of insolvency of the bank, the Minister of economy and finance, acting on a proposal from the Bank of Italy, by virtue of a decree, may revoke the authorization for the carrying out of banking activities and submit the bank to the compulsory winding up (*liquidazione coatta amministrativa*).

From the date of issue of the decree the functions of the administrative and control bodies, of the shareholders meetings and of every other governing body of the bank shall cease. The Bank of Italy shall appoint (a) one or more liquidators (*commissari liquidatori*); (b) an oversight committee composed by a number of members from three to five (*comitato di sorveglianza*).

From the date the commissari liquidatori and the comitato di sorveglianza have assumed their functions and in any case from the third day following the date of issue of the aforesaid decree of the Minister of economy and finance, the payment of any liabilities and the restitution of assets owned by third parties shall be suspended.

The *commissari liquidatori* shall act as legal representatives of the bank, exercise all actions that pertain to the bank and carry out all transactions concerning the liquidation of the bank's assets. The *comitato di sorveglianza* shall (i) assist the *commissari liquidatori* in exercising their functions, (ii) control the activities carried out by *commissari liquidatori*; and (iii) provide to the *commissari straordinari* the opinions requested by the law or by the Bank of Italy. The Bank of Italy may issue directives concerning the implementation of the procedure and establish that some categories of operations and actions shall be subject to its authorisation and to preliminary consultation with the *comitato di sorveglianza*.

The Banking Act regulates the procedure for the assessment of the bank's liabilities (*accertamento del passivo*), and the procedures which allow creditors whose claims have been excluded from the list of liabilities (*stato passivo*) to challenge the list of liabilities.

The liquidators, with the favourable opinion of the *comitato di sorveglianza* and subject to authorization by the Bank of Italy, may assign assets and liabilities, going concerns, assets and legal relationships identifiable *en bloc*. Such assets may be assigned at any stage of the procedure, even before the *stato passivo* has been deposited. The assignor shall however be liable exclusively for the liabilities included in the *stato passivo*. Subject to prior authorization of the Bank of Italy and for the purpose of maximizing profits deriving from the liquidation of the assets, the *commissari liquidatori* may continue the banks' activity or of specific going concerns of the bank, in compliance with any indications provided for by the *comitato di sorveglianza*. In such case the provision of the Bankruptcy Law concerning the termination of legal relationships shall not apply.

Once the assets have been realised and before the final allotment to the creditors or to the last restitution to customers, the *commissari liquidatori* shall present to the Bank of Italy the closing statement of accounts of the liquidation, the financial statement and the allotment plan, accompanied by their own report and a report by the oversight committee.

# Certain Aspects of Italian law relevant to mortgage loans

Italian Law Decree number 7 of 31 January 2007, as converted into law by Italian Law number 40 of 2 April 2007 (the "Bersani Decree") and amended by Italian Law number 244 of 24 December 2007, provides for certain measures for the protection of consumers' rights and the promotion of the competition in, *inter alia*, the Italian mortgage loan market. The new provisions of law facilitate the exercise by the borrowers of their right to prepayment of the loan and/or subrogation of a new bank into the rights of their creditors in accordance with article 1202 (*surrogazione per volontà del debitore*) of the Italian civil code, by eliminating the limits and costs previously borne by the borrowers for the exercise of such right.

The Bersani Decree also provides that any provision imposing a prepayment penalty in case of early redemption of mortgage loans is void with respect to mortgage loan agreements entered into, with an individual as borrower, on or after 2 February 2007 (being the date on which the Bersani Decree entered into force) for the purpose of purchasing or refurbishing real estate properties destined to residential purposes or to carry out the borrower's own professional and economic activity.

With respect to loan agreements entered into prior to the enactment of the Bersani Decree (*i.e.*, prior to 2 February 2007), article 7, paragraph 5 of the Bersani Decree provided that the Italian banking association ("**ABI**") and the main national consumer associations were entitled to reach, within three months from 2 February 2007, an agreement regarding the equitable renegotiation of prepayment penalties within certain maximum limits calculated on the residual amount of the loans (in each instance, the "**Substitutive Prepayment Penalty**"). Had ABI and the relevant consumer associations failed to reach an agreement, the Bank of Italy would have determined the Substitutive Prepayment Penalty by 2 June 2007.

The agreement reached on 2 May 2007 between ABI and national consumer associations (the "**Prepayment Penalty Agreement**") contains the following main provisions (as described in an ABI press release dated May 2007):

- (i) with respect to variable rate loan agreements the Substitutive Prepayment Penalty should not exceed 0.50 per cent, and should be further reduced to: (a) 0.20 per cent, in case of early redemption of the loan carried out within the third year from the final maturity date; and (b) zero, in case of early redemption of the loan carried out within two years from the final maturity date;
- (ii) with respect to fixed rate loan agreements entered into before 1 January 2001 the Substitutive Prepayment Penalty should not exceed 0.50 per cent. and should be further reduced to: (a) 0.20 per cent. in case of early redemption of the loan carried out within the third year from the final maturity date; and (b) zero, in case of early redemption of the loan carried out within two years from the final maturity date.
- (iii) with respect to fixed rate loan agreements entered into after 31 December 2000 the Substitutive Prepayment Penalty should be equal to: (a) 1.90 per cent. if the relevant early redemption is carried out in the first half of loan's agreed duration; (b) 1.50 per cent. if the relevant early redemption is carried out following the first half of loan's agreed duration, provided however that the Substitutive Prepayment Penalty should be further reduced to: (x) 0.20 per cent. in case of early redemption of the loan carried out within three years from the final maturity date; and (y) zero, in case of early redemption of the loan carried out within two years from the final maturity date.

The Prepayment Penalty Agreement introduces a further protection for borrowers under a "safeguard" equitable clause (the "*Clausola di Salvaguardia*") in relation to those loan agreements which already provide for a prepayment penalty in an amount which is compliant with the thresholds described above. In respect of such loans, the Clausola di Salvaguardia provides that:

- (i) if the relevant loan is either: (x) a variable rate loan agreement; or (y) a fixed rate loan agreement entered into before 1 January 2001; the amount of the relevant prepayment penalty shall be reduced by 0.20 per cent.;
- (ii) if the relevant loan is a fixed rate loan agreement entered into after 31 December 2000, the amount of the relevant prepayment penalty shall be reduced by (x) 0.25 per cent. if the agreed amount of the prepayment penalty was equal or higher than 1.25 per cent.; or (y) 0.15 per cent. if the agreed amount of the prepayment penalty was lower than 1.25 per cent.

Finally the Prepayment Penalty Agreement sets out specific solutions with respect to hybrid rate loans which are meant to apply to the hybrid rates the provisions, as more appropriate, relating respectively to fixed rate and variable rate loans.

In relation to the provisions of the Prepayment Penalty Agreement, it is expected that further interpretative and supplemental indications may be issued, the specific impact of which cannot be accurately anticipated at this time.

The Bersani Decree moreover includes other miscellaneous provisions relating to mortgage loans which include, *inter alia*, simplified procedures meant to allow a more prompt cancellation of mortgages securing loans granted by banks or financial intermediaries in the event of a documented repayment in full by the debtors of the amounts due under the loans. While such provisions do not impact on the monetary rights of the lenders under the loans (lenders retain the right to oppose the cancellation of a mortgage), the impact on the servicing procedures in relation to the applicable loan agreements cannot be entirely assessed at this time.

With respect to the further provisions of Italian Law No. 244 of 24 December 2007 relevant to mortgage loans, please also refer to section "*Risk Factors*".

#### TAXATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF ITALY

The statements herein regarding taxation summarise the principal Italian tax consequences of the purchase, the ownership, the redemption and the disposal of the Covered Bonds.

This is a general summary that does not apply to certain categories of investors and does not purport to be a comprehensive description of all the tax considerations which may be relevant to a decision to purchase, own or dispose of the Covered Bonds. It does not discuss every aspect of Italian taxation that may be relevant to a Bondholder if such Bondholder is subject to special circumstances or if such Bondholder is subject to special treatment under applicable law.

This summary also assumes each of the Issuer and the Guarantor is resident in the Republic of Italy for tax purposes, is structured and conducts its business in the manner outlined in this Base Prospectus. Changes in the Issuer's and/or the Guarantor's organisational structure, tax residence or the manner in which each of them conducts its business may invalidate this summary. This summary also assumes that each transaction with respect to the Covered Bonds is at arm's length.

Where in this summary English terms and expressions are used to refer to Italian concepts, the meaning to be attributed to such terms and expressions shall be the meaning to be attributed to the equivalent Italian concepts under Italian tax law.

The statements herein regarding taxation are based on the laws in force in the Republic of Italy as of the date of this Base Prospectus and are subject to any changes in law occurring after such date, which changes could be made on a retroactive basis. The Issuer will not update this summary to reflect changes in laws and if such a change occurs the information in this summary could become invalid.

Article 2, paragraphs 6-34 of Law Decree August 13, 2011, No. 138, converted into law with amendments by Law 14 September 2011, No. 148 (the "**Decree 138**") introduced a general reform of financial income and capital gains pursuant to which, inter alia, save for certain exceptions, such kind of income will be subject to withholding (or substitutive) tax at 20% rate (instead of the current 12.5% rate) starting from January 1, 2012. Provisional rules are set forth by the Decree 138, which are not described herein.

Prospective purchasers of the Covered Bonds are advised to consult their own tax advisers concerning the overall tax consequences under Italian tax law, under the tax laws of the country in which they are resident for tax purposes and of any other potentially relevant jurisdiction of acquiring, holding and disposing of the Covered Bonds and receiving payments of interest, principal and/or other amounts under the Covered Bonds, including in particular the effect of any state, regional or local tax laws.

## 1. INTEREST ON THE COVERED BONDS

# 1.1 Covered Bonds qualifying as bonds or securities similar to bonds having a maturity of at least 18 months

Decree No. 239 regulates the income tax treatment of interest, premium and other income (including any difference between the redemption amount and the issue price, hereinafter collectively referred to as "**Interest**") from notes having a maturity of eighteen months or more and issued, *inter alia*, by Italian banks, falling within the category of bonds (*obbligazioni*) or debentures similar to bonds (*titoli similari alle obbligazioni*).

For this purpose, securities similar to bonds are securities that incorporate an unconditional obligation to pay, at maturity, an amount not lower than their nominal value and that do not allow any direct or indirect

participation either in the management of the issuer or in the business in connection with which they have been issued, nor any control on such management.

### 1.1.1 Italian resident Bondholders

Where an Italian resident Bondholder is (i) an individual not engaged in a business activity to which the Covered Bonds are effectively connected, (ii) a non-commercial partnership, (iii) a non-commercial private or public institution, or (iv) an investor exempt from Italian corporate income taxation, Interest payments relating to the Covered Bonds are subject to a substitutive tax, referred to as "*imposta sostitutiva*", levied at the rate of 12.5% (either when the Interest is paid by the Issuer, or when payment thereof is obtained by the Bondholder on a sale of the relevant Covered Bonds). Pursuant to the Decree 138, Interest accrued as from 1 January 2012 will be subject to *imposta sostitutiva* at 20% rate. The *imposta sostitutiva* may not be recovered by the Bondholder as a deduction from the income tax due.

If the Covered Bonds are held by an investor engaged in a business activity and are effectively connected with the same business activity, the Interest is subject to the *imposta sostitutiva* and is included in the relevant income tax return. As a consequence, the Interest is subject to the ordinary income tax and the *imposta sostitutiva* may be recovered as a deduction from the income tax due.

Pursuant to the Decree No. 239, *imposta sostitutiva* is levied by banks, *società di intermediazione mobiliare* ("**SIMs**"), *società di gestione del risparmio* ("**SGRs**"), fiduciary companies, stock exchange agents and other entities identified by the relevant Decrees of the Ministry of Finance (the "Intermediaries").

An Intermediary must satisfy the following conditions:

- (i) it must be: (a) resident in Italy; or (b) a permanent establishment in Italy of an intermediary resident outside of Italy; or (c) an organisation or company non-resident in Italy, acting through a system of centralized administration of securities and directly connected with the Department of Revenue of the Ministry of Finance (which includes Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg) having appointed an Italian representative for the purposes of Decree No. 239; and
- (ii) intervene, in any way, in the collection of Interest or in the transfer of the Covered Bonds. For the purpose of the application of *imposta sostitutiva*, a transfer of the Covered Bonds includes any assignment or other act, either with or without consideration, which results in a change of the ownership of the relevant Covered Bonds.

Where the Covered Bonds are not deposited with an Intermediary, *imposta sostitutiva* is applicable and withheld by any Italian bank or any Italian intermediary paying Interest to a Bondholder.

The *imposta sostitutiva* regime described herein does not apply in cases where the Covered Bonds are held in a discretionary investment portfolio managed by an authorized intermediary pursuant to the so-called discretionary investment portfolio regime ("Risparmio Gestito" regime as defined and described under paragraph 2, "Capital Gains", below). In such a case, Interest is not subject to *imposta sostitutiva* but contributes to determine the annual net accrued result of the portfolio, which is subject to an ad-hoc substitutive tax of 12.5%. Pursuant to Decree 138, such substitutive tax will apply at 20% rate on the results accrued as from 1 January 2012.

The *imposta sostitutiva* also does not apply to the following subjects, to the extent that the Covered Bonds and the relevant coupons are deposited in a timely manner, directly or indirectly, with an Intermediary:

(i) Corporate investors - Where an Italian resident Bondholder is a corporation or a similar commercial entity (including a permanent establishment in Italy of a foreign entity to which the Covered Bonds are effectively connected), Interest accrued on the Covered Bonds must be included in: (I) the relevant Bondholder's yearly taxable income for the purposes of corporate income tax ("IRES"),

applying at the rate of 27.5%; and (II) in certain circumstances, depending on the status of the Bondholder, also in its net value of production for the purposes of regional tax on productive activities ("**IRAP**"), generally applying at the rate of 3.9% (increased rates apply to certain categories of taxpayers, including banks, financial institutions and insurance companies). IRAP rate can be increased by regional laws up to 0.92%. Said Interest is therefore subject to general Italian corporate taxation according to the ordinary rules;

- (ii) Investment funds As from 1 July 2011, Italian investment funds (which includes Fondo Comune d'Investimento, or SICAV), as well as Luxembourg investment funds regulated by article 11-bis of Law Decree No. 512 of 30 September 1983 (collectively, the "Funds") are subject neither to imposta sostitutiva nor to any other income tax in the hands of the Funds. Proceeds paid by the Funds to their quotaholders are generally subject to a 12.5% withholding tax. Pursuant to Decree 138, withholding tax will apply at 20% rate to proceeds payable as from 1 January 2012.
- (iii) Pension funds Pension funds (subject to the tax regime set forth by Article 17 of Legislative Decree No. 252 of 5 December 2005, the "Pension Funds") are subject to an 11% substitutive tax on their annual net accrued result. Interest on the Covered Bonds is included in the calculation of such annual net accrued result; and
- (iv) Real estate investment funds Interest payments in respect of the Covered Bonds to Italian resident real estate investment funds established pursuant to Article 37 of Legislative Decree No. 58 of 24 February 1998 (the "Real Estate Investment Funds") are generally subject neither to imposta sostitutiva nor to any other income tax in the hands of the same Real Estate Investment Funds. Unitholders are generally subject to a 20% withholding tax on distributions from the Real Estate Funds. Law Decree No. 78 of 31 May 2010, converted into law, with amendments, by Law No. 122 of 30 July 2010, amended the definition of "investment fund". Furthermore, Law Decree No. 70 of 13 May 2011, converted with amendments by Law No. 106 of 12 July 2011, has repealed part of the provisions of Law Decree No. 78 of 31 May 2010 and introduced new changes to the tax treatment of the unitholders of Real Estate Funds, including a direct imputation system ("tax transparency") for certain non-qualifying unitholders (e.g. Italian resident individuals) holding more than 5% of the units of the Real Estate Fund.

#### 1.1.2 Non-Italian resident Bondholders

An exemption from *imposta sostitutiva* on Interest on the Covered Bonds is provided with respect to certain beneficial owners resident outside of Italy, not having a permanent establishment in Italy to which the Covered Bonds are effectively connected. In particular, pursuant to the Decree No. 239 the aforesaid exemption applies to any beneficial owner of an Interest payment relating to the Covered Bonds who: (i) is resident, for tax purposes, in a country which allows for a satisfactory exchange of information with the Republic of Italy (as currently listed by Ministerial Decree dated 4 September 1996 and which will be included in a new list to be enacted by a ministerial decree to be issued pursuant to Law No. 244 of December 24 2007 - a "White List Country"); or (ii) is an international body or entity set up in accordance with international agreements which have entered into force in the Republic of Italy; or (iii) is the Central Bank or an entity also authorised to manage the official reserves of a country; or (iv) is an institutional investor which is established in a White List Country, even if it does not possess the *status* of taxpayer in its own country of establishment (each, a "Qualified Bondholder").

The exemption procedure for Bondholders who are non-resident in Italy and are resident in a White List Country identifies two categories of intermediaries:

(i) an Italian or foreign bank or financial institution (there is no requirement for the bank or financial institution to be EU resident) (the "**First Level Bank**"), acting as intermediary in the deposit of the

Covered Bonds held, directly or indirectly, by the Bondholder with a Second Level Bank (as defined below); and

an Italian resident bank or SIM, or a permanent establishment in Italy of a non-resident bank or SIM, acting as depositary or sub-depositary of the Covered Bonds appointed to maintain direct relationships, via electronic link, with the Italian tax authorities (the "**Second Level Bank**"). Organisations and companies non-resident in Italy, acting through a system of centralized administration of securities and directly connected with the Department of Revenue of the Ministry of Finance (which include Euroclear and Clearstream) are treated as Second Level Banks, provided that they appoint an Italian representative (an Italian resident bank or SIM, or permanent establishment in Italy of a non-resident bank or SIM, or a central depositary of financial instruments pursuant to Article 80 of Legislative Decree no. 58 of 24 February 1998) for the purposes of the application of Decree No. 239.

In the event that a non-Italian resident Bondholder deposits the Covered Bonds directly with a Second Level Bank, the latter shall be treated both as a First Level Bank and a Second Level Bank.

The exemption from the *imposta sostitutiva* for the Bondholders who are non-resident in Italy is conditional upon:

- (a) the deposit of the Covered Bonds, either directly or indirectly, with an institution which qualifies as a Second Level Bank; and
- (b) the submission to the First Level Bank or the Second Level Bank of a statement of the relevant Bondholder (*autocertificazione*), to be provided only once, in which it declares that it is eligible to benefit from the exemption from *imposta sostitutiva*. Such statement must comply with the requirements set forth by a Ministerial Decree dated 12 December, 2001, is valid until withdrawn or revoked and needs not to be submitted where a certificate, declaration or other similar document for the same or equivalent purposes was previously submitted to the same depository. The above statement is not required for non-Italian resident investors that are international bodies or entities set up in accordance with international agreements entered into force in the Republic of Italy or Central Banks or entities also authorized to manage the official reserves of a State.

## 1.1.3 Early Redemption

Without prejudice to the regime described above, if the Covered Bonds are subject to an early redemption within eighteen months from the issue date, a tax is payable by the Issuer at the rate of 20% in respect of Interest accrued thereon up to the date of such early redemption, pursuant to Article 26, paragraph 1, of Presidential Decree No. 600 of 29 September 1973, as amended (the "**Decree No. 600/73**").

According to one interpretation of the Italian tax law, as recently confirmed by the Resolution of the Italian Revenue Agency No. 11/E of 31 January 2011, the above 20% additional tax may also be due in the event that the Issuer were to purchase the Covered Bonds and subsequently cancel them prior to the aforementioned 18 months period. Thus, the 20% additional tax would not apply in the event the Issuer undertakes to utilize the Covered Bonds repurchased by it for trading on the market and effectively sells them to third parties, provided that before their maturity the Covered Bonds are actually traded and held by third parties for a period (also not continuous) of at least 18 months. Such tax would instead be due by the Issuer in the event at their maturity the Covered Bonds have not been actually traded for a period of at least 18 months (computed without taking into account the days during which the Covered Bonds have been held by the Issuer).

Pursuant to the amendments enacted by Decree 138, the above 20% additional tax will no longer be due as from 1 January 2012.

# 1.2 Covered Bonds qualifying as bonds or securities similar to bonds with a maturity of less than 18 months

Pursuant to Article 26, paragraph 1, of the Decree No. 600/73, Interest payments relating to the Covered Bonds issued with a maturity of less than 18 months are subject to a withholding tax, levied at the rate of 27%.

The maturity of the Covered Bonds would become irrelevant for Interest accrued as from 1 January 2012. Pursuant to the Decree 138, such Interest will be subject to withholding tax at 20% rate, irrespective of the original maturity of the Covered Bonds.

Where an Italian resident Bondholder is (i) an individual engaged in a business activity to which the Covered Bonds are effectively connected, (ii) a corporation or a similar Italian commercial entity (including a permanent establishment in Italy of a foreign entity to which the Covered Bonds are effectively connected) (iii) a commercial partnership, or (iv) a commercial private or public institution, such withholding tax is an advance withholding tax. In all other cases, the withholding tax is a final withholding tax.

In case of non-Italian resident Bondholders, not having a permanent establishment in Italy to which the Covered Bonds are effectively connected, the above-mentioned withholding tax rate may be reduced (generally to 10%) or eliminated under certain applicable tax treaties entered into by Italy, if more favourable, subject to timely filing of the required documentation.

# 1.3 Covered Bonds qualifying as atypical securities (titoli atipici)

Interest payments relating to Covered Bonds that are not deemed to fall within the category of bonds (*obbligazioni*) or debentures similar to bonds (*titoli similari alle obbligazioni*) are subject to a withholding tax, levied at the rate of 27%.

Pursuant to the Decree 138, Interest payable as from 1 January 2012 on the Covered Bonds qualifying as atypical securities (*titoli atipici*) will be subject to withholding tax at 20% rate.

Where the Bondholder is (i) a non-Italian resident person, (ii) an Italian resident individual not holding the Covered Bonds for the purpose of carrying out a business activity, (iii) an Italian resident non-commercial partnership, (iv) an Italian resident non-commercial private or public institution, (v) a Fund, (vi) a Real Estate Investment Fund, (vii) a Pension Fund, (viii) an Italian resident investor exempt from Italian corporate income taxation, such withholding tax is a final withholding tax.

Where the Bondholder is (i) an Italian resident individual carrying out a business activity to which the Covered Bonds are effectively connected, (ii) an Italian resident corporation or a similar Italian commercial entity (including a permanent establishment in Italy of a foreign entity to which the Covered Bonds are effectively connected), such withholding tax is an advance withholding tax.

In case of non-Italian resident Bondholders, without a permanent establishment in Italy to which the Covered Bonds are effectively connected, the above-mentioned withholding tax rate may be reduced (generally to 10%) or eliminated under certain applicable tax treaties entered into by Italy, if more favourable, subject to timely filing of the required documentation.

# 1.4 Payments by the Guarantor

There is neither case law nor general published guidelines rendered by the Italian tax authorities directly regarding the tax regime of payments in respect of bonds made by an Italian resident guarantor.

In accordance with a certain interpretation of Italian law, any Interest payment made by an Italian resident Guarantor should be treated as a payment by the guaranteed Issuer and, accordingly, should be subject to the tax regime described in the previous paragraphs of this section.

According to a different interpretation such payments made to Italian resident Bondholders may be subject to Italian withholding tax at the rate of 12.5% levied as a final tax (*a titolo d'imposta*) or as an advance tax (*a titolo di acconto*) depending on the residential "status" of the Bondholder, pursuant to Article 26, paragraph 5, of Decree No. 600/73. Pursuant to the Decree 138, Interest payable as from 1 January 2012 will be subject to withholding tax at 20% rate.

In case of payments to non-Italian resident Bondholders (not having a permanent establishment in Italy to which the Covered Bonds are effectively connected), the withholding tax should be final and would apply at the following rates: (a) 12.5%, if the payment is made to non-Italian resident Bondholders other than those mentioned under (b); or (b) 27%, if the payment is made to non-Italian resident Bondholders who are resident in a country with a "privileged tax regime". According to the amendments enacted by Decree 138, payments made starting from 1 January 2012 would in any case be subject to withholding tax at 20%. Tax treaties entered into by Italy may apply allowing for a lower (or in certain cases, nil) withholding tax rate applicable on Interest payments in respect of the Covered Bonds made to non-Italian residents, subject to timely filing of the requiered documentation.

## 2. CAPITAL GAINS

## 2.1 Italian resident Bondholders

Pursuant to Legislative Decree No. 461 of 21 November, 1997, as amended, a 12.5% capital gains tax (the "CGT") is applicable to capital gains realized on any sale or transfer of the Covered Bonds for consideration by Italian resident individuals (not engaged in a business activity to which the Covered Bonds are effectively connected), regardless of whether the Covered Bonds are held outside of Italy. Pursuant to Decree 138, CGT will apply at 20% rate on capital gains realized as from 1 January 2012.

For the purposes of determining the taxable capital gain, any Interest on the Covered Bonds accrued and unpaid up to the time of the purchase and the sale of the Covered Bonds must be deducted from the purchase price and the sale price, respectively.

Should the Covered Bonds qualify as atypical securities, based on a very restrictive interpretation, the aforesaid capital gains - realized within 31 December 2010 - would be subject to the 27% final withholding tax mentioned under paragraphs 1.3, above. As from 1 January 2012, the 20% CGT will apply.

Taxpayers can opt for one of the three following regimes:

- (a) Tax return regime ("**Regime della Dichiarazione**") The Bondholder must assess the overall capital gains realized in a certain fiscal year, net of any incurred capital losses, in his annual income tax return and pay the CGT so assessed together with the income tax due for the same fiscal year. Losses exceeding gains can be carried forward into following fiscal years up to the fourth following fiscal year. Since this regime constitutes the ordinary regime, the taxpayer must apply it to the extent that the same does not opt for any of the two other regimes;
- (b) Non-discretionary investment portfolio regime ("*Risparmio Amministrato*") The Bondholder may elect to pay the CGT separately on capital gains realized on each sale or transfer of the Covered Bonds. Such separate taxation of capital gains is allowed subject to (i) the Covered Bonds being deposited with banks, SIMs or other authorized intermediaries and (ii) an express election for the *Risparmio Amministrato* regime being made in writing by the relevant Bondholder. The *Risparmio Amministrato* lasts for the entire fiscal year and unless revoked prior to the end of such year will be

deemed valid also for the subsequent one. The intermediary is responsible for accounting for the CGT in respect of capital gains realized on each sale or transfer of the Covered Bonds, as well as in respect of capital gains realized at the revocation of its mandate. The intermediary is required to pay the relevant amount to the Italian tax authorities by the 16<sup>th</sup> day of the second month following the month in which the CGT is applied, by deducting a corresponding amount from the proceeds to be credited to the Bondholder. Where a particular sale or transfer of the Covered Bonds results in a net loss, the intermediary is entitled to deduct such loss from gains subsequently realized on assets held by the Bondholder with the same intermediary and within the same deposit relationship, in the same fiscal year or in the following fiscal years up to the fourth following fiscal year. The Bondholder is not required to declare the gains in his annual income tax return; and

(c) Discretionary investment portfolio regime ("*Risparmio Gestito*") - If the Covered Bonds are part of a portfolio managed by an Italian asset management company, capital gains are not subject to the CGT, but contribute to determine the annual net accrued result of the portfolio. Such annual net accrued result of the portfolio, even if not realized, is subject to an ad-hoc 12.5%. substitutive tax, which the asset management company is required to levy on behalf of the Bondholder. Pursuant to Decree 138, such substitutive tax will apply at 20% rate on the results accrued as from 1 January 2012. Any losses of the investment portfolio accrued at year end may be carried forward against net profits accrued in each of the following fiscal years, up to the fourth following fiscal year. Under such regime the Bondholder is not required to declare the gains in his annual income tax return.

The aforementioned regime does not apply to the following subjects:

- (A) Corporate investors Capital gains realized on the Covered Bonds by Italian resident corporate entities (including a permanent establishment in Italy of a foreign entity to which the Covered Bonds are effectively connected) form part of their aggregate income subject to IRES. In certain cases, capital gains may also be included in the taxable net value of production of such entities for IRAP purposes. The capital gains are calculated as the difference between the sale price and the relevant tax basis of the Covered Bonds. Upon fulfilment of certain conditions, the gains may be taxed in equal instalments over up to five fiscal years both for IRES and for IRAP purposes.
- (B) Funds Capital gains realized by the Funds on the Covered Bonds are subjet neither to CGT nor to any other income tax in the hands of the Funds (see under paragraph 1.1.1. "Italian Resident Bondholders", above).
- (C) Pension Funds Capital gains realized by Pension Funds on the Covered Bonds contribute to determine their annual net accrued result, which is subject to an 11% substitutive tax (see under paragraph 1.1.1., "Italian Resident Bondholders", above).
- (D) Real Estate Investment Funds Capital gains realized by Real Estate Investment Funds on the Covered Bonds are not taxable at the level of same Real Estate Investment Funds (see under paragraph 1.1.1., "Italian Resident Bondholders", above).

## 2.2 Non Italian resident Bondholders

Capital gains realized by non-resident Bondholders (not having a permanent establishment in Italy to which the Covered Bonds are effectively connected) on the disposal of the Covered Bonds are not subject to tax in Italy, regardless of whether the Covered Bonds are held in Italy, subject to the condition that the Covered Bonds are listed in a regulated market in Italy or abroad (*e.g.* Luxembourg Stock Exchange).

Should the Covered Bonds not be listed in a regulated market as indicated above, the aforesaid capital gains would be subject to tax in Italy, if the Covered Bonds are held by the non-resident Bondholder therein.

Pursuant to Article 5 of Legislative Decree No. 461 of 21 November, 1997, an exemption, however, would apply with respect to beneficial owners of the Covered Bonds, which are Qualified Bondholders.

In any event, non-Italian resident Bondholders without a permanent establishment in Italy to which the Covered Bonds are effectively connected that may benefit from a tax treaty with Italy, providing that capital gains realized upon sale or transfer of Covered Bonds are taxed only in the country of tax residence of the recipient, will not be subject to tax in Italy on any capital gains realized upon any such sale or transfer.

# 3. TRANSFER TAXES

Stamp duty tax (*tassa sui contratti di borsa*), previously applicable on transfers of the Covered Bonds, has been repealed by Article 37 of Legislative Decree No. 248 of 31 December, 2007 (converted, with amendments, by Law No. 31 of 28 February, 2008) effective as of December 31, 2007.

# 4. INHERITANCE AND GIFT TAX

Inheritance and gift taxes apply on the overall net value of the relevant transferred assets, at the following rates, depending on the relationship between the testate (or donor) and the beneficiary (or donee):

- (a) 4%, if the beneficiary (or donee) is the spouse or a direct ascendant or descendant (such rate only applying on the net asset value exceeding, for each person, Euro 1 million);
- (b) 6%, if the beneficiary (or donee) is a brother or sister (such rate only applying on the net asset value exceeding, for each person, Euro 100,000);
- (c) 6%, if the beneficiary (or donee) is a relative within the fourth degree or a direct relative-in-law as well an indirect relative-in-law within the third degree;
- (d) 8%, if the beneficiary is a person, other those mentioned other (a), (b) and (c), above.

In case the beneficiary has a serious disability recognized by law, inheritance and gift taxes apply on its portion of the net asset value exceeding Euro 1.5 million.

# 5. TAX MONITORING

Pursuant to Law Decree No. 167 of 28 June, 1990, converted by Law No. 227 of 4 August, 1990, as amended, individuals resident in Italy who, at the end of the fiscal year, hold investments abroad or have financial activities abroad must, in certain circumstances, disclose the aforesaid and related transactions to the Italian tax authorities in their income tax return (or, in case the income tax return is not due, in a proper form that must be filed within the same time as prescribed for the income tax return). Such obligation is not provided if, *inter alia*, each of the overall value of the foreign investments or financial activities held at the end of the fiscal year, and the overall value of the related transfers carried out during the relevant fiscal year, does not exceed Euro 10,000.

#### 6. EU DIRECTIVE ON THE TAXATION OF SAVINGS INCOME

The European Union has adopted a Directive regarding the taxation of savings income in the form of interest payments (Council Directive 2003/48/EC of 3 June 2003). Under the Directive Member States are required to provide to the tax authorities of other Member States details of payments of interest and other similar income paid by a person within its jurisdiction to an individual and certain other persons in another Member State, except that Luxembourg and Austria may instead impose a withholding system for a transitional period in relation to such payments, deducting tax at rates rising over time to 35%. The transitional period will terminate at the end of the first fiscal year following agreement by certain non-EU countries to the exchange of information relating to such payments.

A number of non-EU countries, and certain dependent or associated territories of certain Member States, have agreed to adopt similar measures (either provision of information or transitional withholding) in relation to payments made by a person within their jurisdiction to, or collected by such a person for, an individual and certain other persons resident in a Member State. In addition, the Member States have entered into reciprocal provisions of information or transitional withholding arrangements with certain of those dependent or associated territories in relation to payments made by a paying agent in a Member State to, or collected by such a paying agent for, an individual resident in one of those territories.

The Directive has been implemented in Italy by Legislative Decree No. 84 of 18 April, 2005. Pursuant to said decree Italian paying agents (e.g., banks, SIMs, SGRs, financial companies and fiduciary companies resident in Italy for tax purposes, permanent establishments in Italy of non-resident persons as well as any other person resident in Italy for tax purposes paying interest for professional or commercial reasons) shall report to the Italian tax authorities details of interest payments made to individuals which qualify as beneficial owners thereof and are resident for tax purposes in another EU Member State. Such information will be transmitted by the Italian tax authorities to the competent authorities of the State of residence of the beneficial owner of the interest payment by 30th June of the fiscal year following the fiscal year in which said interest payment is made.

With reference to the definition of interest subject to the above described regime, Article 2, paragraph 1, lett. a, of mentioned Decree No. 84 of 18 April, 2005, provides that it includes, inter alia: "interest paid or credited, on accounts arisen from receivables of whatever nature, secured or not by mortgage (...), in particular interest and any other proceed, arising from public bonds and other bonds".

Prospective investors resident in a Member State of the European Union should consult their own legal or tax advisers regarding the consequences of the Directive in their particular circumstances.

#### TAXATION IN LUXEMBOURG

The following is a general description of certain Luxembourg tax considerations relating to the Covered Bonds. It does not purport to be a complete analysis of all tax considerations relating to the Covered Bonds, whether in Luxembourg or elsewhere. Prospective purchasers of the Covered Bonds should consult their own tax advisers as to which countries' tax laws could be relevant to acquiring, holding and disposing of the Covered Bonds and receiving payments of interest, principal and/or other amounts under the Covered Bonds and the consequences of such actions under the tax laws of Luxembourg. This overview is based upon the law as in effect on the date of this Base Prospectus. The information contained within this section is limited to withholding tax issues, and prospective investors should not apply any information set out below to other areas, including (but not limited to) the legality of transactions involving the Covered Bonds.

# Withholding Tax

All payments of interest and principal by the Issuer in the context of the holding, disposal, redemption or repurchase of the Covered Bonds can be made free and clear of any withholding or deduction for or on account of any taxes of whatsoever nature imposed, levied, withheld, or assessed by Luxembourg or any political subdivision or taxing authority thereof or therein, in accordance with the applicable Luxembourg law, subject however:

(i) with respect to Luxembourg non-resident investors, to the application of the Luxembourg laws of 21 June 2005 implementing the EU Savings Directive (Council Directive 2003/48/EC) and several agreements concluded with certain dependent or associated territories and providing for the possible application of a withholding tax (currently, from 1 July 2011, 35%) on interest paid to certain non Luxembourg resident investors (individuals and certain types of entities called "residual entities") in the event of the Issuer appointing a paying agent in Luxembourg within the meaning of the abovementioned directive (see section "EU Savings Directive" below) or agreements; (ii) with respect to Luxembourg resident investors in the event of the Issuer appointing a paying agent in Luxembourg within the meaning of the EU Savings Directive, to the application as regards Luxembourg resident individuals of the Luxembourg law of 23 December 2005 which has introduced a 10% final withholding tax (which is final when Luxembourg resident individuals are acting in the context of the management their private wealth) on savings income (i.e. with certain exemptions, savings income within the meaning of the Luxembourg laws of 21 June 2005 implementing the EU Savings Directive (Council Directive 2003/48/EC)). This law applies to savings income accrued as from 1 July 2005 and paid as from 1 January 2006.

Responsibility for the withholding of tax in application of the above-mentioned Luxembourg laws of 21 June 2005 and 23 December 2005 is assumed by the Luxembourg paying agent within the meaning of these laws and not by the Issuer.

#### TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE COVERED BONDS

The following is the text of the terms and conditions of the Covered Bonds (the "Conditions" and, each of them, a "Condition"). In these Conditions, references to the "holder" of Covered Bonds and to the "Bondholders" are to the ultimate owners of the Covered Bonds. Covered Bonds will at all times be in bookentry form (dematerialised form) and title to the Covered Bonds will be evidenced by book-entries with Monte Titoli S.p.A. in accordance with the provisions of (i) Article 83-bis and ff. of the Legislative Decree no. 58 of 24 February 1998 and (ii) the resolution dated 22 February, 2008 jointly issued by the Commissione Nazionale per le Società e la Borsa ("CONSOB") and the Bank of Italy (the "Joint Resolution"), as subsequently amended and supplemented from time to time. No certificate or physical document of title will be issued in respect of the Covered Bonds. The Bondholders are deemed to have notice of and are bound by, and shall have the benefit of, inter alia, the terms of the Rules of the Organisation of the Bondholders attached to, and forming part of, these Conditions.

In addition, the applicable Final Terms in relation to any Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds may specify other terms and conditions which shall, to the extent so specified or to the extent inconsistent with the Conditions, replace or modify the Conditions for the purpose of such Series or Tranche.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Programme: Mediobanca - Banca di Credito Finanziario S.p.A. (the "Issuer") has established a covered bond programme (the "Programme") for the issuance of up to € 5,000,000,000 in aggregate principal amount of obbligazioni bancarie garantite (the "Covered Bonds") guaranteed by Mediobanca Covered Bond S.r.l. Covered Bonds are issued pursuant to, and in compliance with, the provisions of Law 130/99 of 30 April 1999 ("Law 130/99"), Ministerial Decree No. 310 of the Ministry for the Economy and Finance of 24 March 2010 (the "MEF Decree") and the regulation issued Bank of Italy on 24 March 2010, as from amended/supplemented/replaced by subsequent regulations, including by the 8th supplement dated 18 November 2011 of the Bank of Italy Circular no. 263 of 27 December 2006 (the "BoI Regulations" and together with Law 130/99 and the MEF Decree, the "Covered Bonds Law") as amended and implemented from time to time.
- or more tranches (each a "**Tranche**") of Covered Bonds. Each Series or Tranche is the subject of final terms (the "**Final Terms**") which supplement these terms and conditions (the "**Conditions**"). The terms and conditions applicable to any particular Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds are these Conditions as supplemented, amended and/or replaced by the relevant Final Terms. In the event of any inconsistency between these Conditions and the relevant Final Terms, the relevant Final Terms shall prevail.
- Issue Date (the "Guarantee") entered into between the Guarantor and the Representative of the Bondholders (as defined below) for the purpose of guaranteeing the payments due from the Issuer in respect of the Covered Bonds of all Series issued under the Programme. The Guarantee will be collateralised and backed by a portfolio constituted by certain eligible assets assigned from time to time to the Guarantor pursuant to Master Purchase Agreement and the Portfolio Management Agreement (as defined below) and in accordance with the provisions of the Covered Bonds Law. It being understood that the recourse of the Bondholders to the Guarantor under the Guarantee will be limited to the assets of the Cover Pool (as defined below).

- 1.4 Programme Agreement and Subscription Agreement: In respect of each Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds issued under the Programme, the Dealer(s) (as defined below) has/have agreed to subscribe for the Covered Bonds and pay the relevant Issue Price (as defined below) on the relevant Issue Date (as defined below) pursuant to the provisions of the agreement entered into between, inter alios, the Issuer and the dealer(s) named therein and/or acceding thereto (the "Dealers") on or about the First Issue Date (the "Programme Agreement"), as supplemented (if applicable) by a subscription agreement to be entered into on or about the relevant Issue Date of any Series or Tranche among the Issuer, the Guarantor and the relevant Dealer(s) (the "Subscription Agreement").
- 1.5 Monte Titoli Mandate Agreement: In a mandate agreement with Monte Titoli S.p.A. ("Monte Titoli") (the "Monte Titoli Mandate Agreement"), Monte Titoli has agreed to provide the Issuer with certain depository and administration services in relation to the Covered Bonds.
- 1.6 The Covered Bonds: Except where stated otherwise, all subsequent references in these Conditions to "Covered Bonds" are to the Covered Bonds which are the subject of the relevant Final Terms, but all references to "each Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds" are to both (i) the Covered Bonds which are the subject of the relevant Final Terms and (ii) each other Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds issued under the Programme which is outstanding from time to time.
- **Rules** of the Organisation of the Bondholders: The rules of the Organisation of the Bondholders (the "**Rules**") are attached to, and form an integral part of, these Conditions. References in these Conditions to the Rules include such rules as from time to time modified in accordance with the provisions contained therein and any agreement or other document expressed to be supplemental thereto. Bondholders are deemed to have notice of, are entitled to the benefit of and are bound by, inter alia, the terms of the Rules.
- 1.8 Rights of the Bondholders: The rights and powers of the Bondholders and of the Representative of the Bondholders shall be exercised in accordance with these Conditions, the Rules and the Intercreditor Agreement.
- 1.9 Summaries: Certain provisions of these Conditions are summaries of the Transaction Documents (as defined below) and are subject to their detailed provisions. Bondholders are deemed to have notice of, are entitled to the benefit of and are bound by, all the provisions of the Transaction Documents applicable to them. Copies of the Transaction Documents are available for inspection by Bondholders during normal business hours at the registered office of the Representative of the Bondholders from time to time and, where applicable, at the Specified Office(s) of the Paying Agent.

#### 2. DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

2.1 Definitions: In these Conditions the following expressions have the following meanings.

**ABS General Criteria** (*Criteri Generali dei Titoli ABS*) means the eligibility criteria on the basis on which shall be selected the Asset Backed Securities to be included in each Portfolio, as specified in the Schedule  $1-Part\ I-Section\ III$  to the Master Purchase Agreement.

**Acceptance Date** (*Data di Accettazione*) means (i) with respect to the purchase of each Subsequent Portfolio, a date falling not later than the third Business Day preceding each Issue Date, and (ii) with respect to the purchase of each Further Portfolio, a date falling not later than the third Business Day preceding each Guarantor Payment Date.

**Account** means each of the Collection Account, the Transaction Account, the Securities Account, the Reserve Account and the Expenses Account, the Pre-Maturity Account and any other account which may be opened in the name of the Guarantor for the deposit of any Eligible Asset and Integration Assets and/or Eligible Investments under the Cash Management Agreement.

**Account Bank** means Mediobanca or any other entity appointed from time to time to act as such in accordance with the Cash Management Agreement.

**Accrual Yield** has the meaning given in the relevant Final Terms.

**Additional Business Centre(s)** means the city or cities specified as such in the relevant Final Terms.

**Additional Financial Centre(s)** means the city or cities specified as such in the relevant Final Terms.

**Additional Seller** means any additional entity of the Mediobanca Group which may from time to time enter into the Programme in capacity as seller under the Master Purchase Agreement.

**Adjusted Aggregate Loan Amount** means the amount calculated pursuant to the formula set out in clause 2.2 of the Portfolio Management Agreement.

Amortisation Test means the test which will be carried out pursuant to the terms of the Portfolio Management Agreement in order to ensure that, on each Calculation Date, following the delivery of an Issuer Default Notice, the outstanding principal balance of the Cover Pool which for such purpose is considered as an amount equal to the Amortisation Test Aggregate Loan Amount is higher than or equal to the Principal Amount Outstanding of all Series of Covered Bonds issued under the Programme.

**Amortisation Test Aggregate Loan Amount** has the meaning ascribed to it in the Portfolio Management Agreement and in the section "*Credit Structure – The Amortisation Test*" of this Base Prospectus.

**Amortisation Test Verification** has the meaning ascribed to it in Clause 5 of the Asset Monitor Agreement.

**Asset** (*Attivo*) means, collectively, the Eligible Assets and the Integration Assets which will be transferred by the Seller to the Guarantor in the context of the Programme.

**Asset Backed Securities** (*Titoli ABS*) means, pursuant to article 2, sub-paragraph 1(d), of MEF Decree the asset backed securities for which a risk weight not exceeding 20% is applicable in accordance with the Bank of Italy's prudential regulations for banks - standardised approach - provided that at least 95% of the relevant securitised assets are:

- (i) Residential Mortgage Loans;
- (ii) Commercial Mortgage Loans;
- (iii) Public Assets.

**Asset Coverage Test** means the test which will be carried out pursuant to the terms of the Portfolio Management Agreement in order to ensure that, on the relevant Calculation Date, the Adjusted Aggregate Loan Amount is at least equal to the aggregate Principal Amount Outstanding of the Covered Bonds issued under the Programme.

**Asset Coverage Test Verification** has the meaning ascribed to it in Clause 4 of the Asset Monitor Agreement.

**Asset Monitor Agreement** means the asset monitor agreement entered into on or about the First Issue Date between the Asset Monitor, the Issuer, the Guarantor, the Seller, the Servicer, the Representative of the Bondholders and the Test Report Provider.

**Asset Monitor** means Mazars S.p.A. or any other entity appointed from time to time to act as such in accordance with the Asset Monitor Agreement and in compliance with the Covered Bonds Law.

**Asset Monitor Report** means the report which shall be delivered by the Asset Monitor on each Asset Monitor Report Date to the Issuer, the Seller, the Guarantor, the Test Report Provider and the Representative of the Bondholders pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Asset Monitor Agreement.

**Asset Monitor Report Date** means the date on which an Asset Monitor Report shall be delivered by the Asset Monitor, namely:

- (i) with respect to the Mandatory Test Verification and the Asset Coverage Test Verification, 10 Business Days following receipt of the relevant Test Performance Report by the Test Report Provider on each of (a) the Calculation Date immediately following the First Issue Date, (b) the Calculation Date immediately preceding each anniversary date of the First Issue Date and (c) each Calculation Date as referred to in Clause 6.2 (Breach of Mandatory Test and Asset Coverage Test prior to an Issuer Default Notice) upon occurrence of the circumstances set out thereunder; or
- (ii) with respect to the Amortisation Test Verification, 10 Business Days following receipt of the Test Performance Report to be delivered by the Test Report Provider (on behalf of the Guarantor) on each Calculation Date after service of an Issuer Default Notice (but prior to a Guarantor Default Notice).

**Asset Percentage** means (i) 100 per cent. or (ii) such lesser percentage figure as determined from time to time by the Test Report Provider (on behalf of the Guarantor) and notified to S&P and the Representative of the Bondholders.

**Available Funds** (*Fondi Disponibili*) means, collectively, the Interest Available Funds and the Principal Available Funds.

**Banking Act** (*TUB*) means Legislative Decree 1 September 1993, No. 385 as subsequently amended and supplemented.

**Base Interests** (*Tasso di Interesse*) means the base interests due by the Guarantor under Clause 5.1 (*Tasso di Interesse della Tranche A*) and 5.2 (*Tasso di Interesse della Tranche B*) of the Subordinated Loan Agreement.

**Beneficiary** means the Bondholders and any other person or entity entitled to receive a payment from the Guarantor under the Guarantee, in accordance with the Covered Bonds Law.

**BoI Regulations** (*Regolamento della Banca d'Italia*) means the regulation (*Disposizioni di Vigilanza*) issued by the Bank of Italy on 24 March 2010 in relation to the Covered Bonds, as from time to time amended/supplemented/replaced by subsequent regulations (including by the 8<sup>th</sup> supplement dated 18 November 2011 of the Bank of Italy Circular no. 263 of 27 December 2006).

**Bondholders** (*Portatori dei Covered Bond*) means the holders, from time to time, of any Covered Bonds of each Series of Covered Bonds.

**Borrower** means any person in favour of which any Mortgage Loan or Public Loan has been granted by the Seller.

**Breach of Test Notice** means the notice delivered by the Representative of the Bondholders in accordance with the terms of the Portfolio Management Agreement and Condition 13.

**Business Day** (*Giorno Lavorativo*) means any day (other than a Saturday or Sunday) on which banks are generally open for business in Milan, Luxembourg and London and on which the Trans-European Automated Real Time Gross Settlement Express Transfer System (or any successor thereto) is open.

**Business Day Convention**, in relation to any particular date, has the meaning given in the relevant Final Terms and, if so specified in the relevant Final Terms, may have different meanings in relation to different dates and, in this context, the following expressions shall have the following meanings:

- (i) "Following Business Day Convention" means that the relevant date shall be postponed to the first following day that is a Business Day;
- (ii) "Modified Following Business Day Convention" or "Modified Business Day Convention" means that the relevant date shall be postponed to the first following day that is a Business Day unless that day falls in the next calendar month in which case that date will be the first preceding day that is a Business Day;
- (iii) "Preceding Business Day Convention" means that the relevant date shall be brought forward to the first preceding day that is a Business Day;
- (iv) "FRN Convention", "Floating Rate Convention" or "Eurodollar Convention" means that each relevant date shall be the date which numerically corresponds to the preceding such date in the calendar month which is the number of months specified in the relevant Final Terms as the Specified Period after the calendar month in which the preceding such date occurred provided, however, that:
  - (A) if there is no such numerically corresponding day in the calendar month in which any such date should occur, then such date will be the last day which is a Business Day in that calendar month;
  - (B) if any such date would otherwise fall on a day which is not a Business Day, then such date will be the first following day which is a Business Day unless that day falls in the next calendar month, in which case it will be the first preceding day which is a Business Day; and
  - (C) if the preceding such date occurred on the last day in a calendar month which was a Business Day, then all subsequent such dates will be the last day which is a Business Day in the calendar month which is the specified number of months after the calendar month in which the preceding such date occurred;

and

(v) "No Adjustment" means that the relevant date shall not be adjusted in accordance with any Business Day Convention.

**Calculation Agent** means CheBanca or any other entity appointed from time to time to act as such in accordance with the Cash Management Agreement.

Calculation Amount has the meaning given in the relevant Final Terms.

**Calculation Date** means (i) with reference to the activities to be carried out by the Calculation Agent, a date falling not later than the second Business Day preceding each Guarantor Payment Date, and (ii) with reference to the activities to be carried out by the Test Report Provider, a date falling not later than the 3rd Business Day following the Quarterly Report Date.

**Call Option** has the meaning given in the relevant Final Terms.

**Cash Management Agreement** means the cash management agreement entered into on or about the First Issue Date between the Issuer, the Guarantor, the Servicer, the Seller, the Account Bank, the Investment Manager, the Cash Manager, the Calculation Agent, the Interest Determination Agent, the Paying Agent, the Test Report Provider and the Representative of the Bondholders.

**CB Payment Date** means the First CB Payment Date and any date or dates specified as such in, or determined in accordance with the provisions of, the relevant Final Terms and, if a Business Day Convention is specified in the relevant Final Terms:

- (i) as the same may be adjusted in accordance with the relevant Business Day Convention; or
- (ii) if the Business Day Convention is the FRN Convention, Floating Rate Convention or Eurodollar Convention and an interval of a number of calendar months is specified in the relevant Final Terms as being the Specified Period, each of such dates as may occur in accordance with the FRN Convention, Floating Rate Convention or Eurodollar Convention at such Specified Period of calendar months following the Interest Commencement Date (in the case of the first CB Payment Date) or the previous CB Payment Date (in any other case).

**CB Interest Period** means each period beginning on (and including) the Interest Commencement Date or any CB Payment Date and ending on (but excluding) the following CB Payment Date.

**CB Ratio** has the meaning ascribed to it in the Cover Pool Swap Agreements.

**Clearstream** means Clearstream Banking Société Anonyme, Luxembourg with offices at 42 avenue JF Kennedy, L-1855 Luxembourg.

**Collection Account** means the euro denominated bank account established in the name of the Guarantor with the Account Bank, IBAN: IT10N1063101600000070200426, or such other substitute account as may be opened in accordance with the Transaction Documents.

Collection Period (*Periodo di Incasso*) means the quarterly periods of each year commencing on (and including) the first calendar day of months of January, April, July and October and ending on (and including), respectively, the last calendar day of the months of March, June, September and December and, in the case of the first Collection Period in relation to the Initial Portfolio, commencing on (and excluding) the Initial Valuation Date and ending on (and excluding) the first calendar day of month of January 2012.

**Collection Policies** (*Procedure di Riscossione*) means the procedures implemented by the Servicer for the management, collection and recovery of the instalments and all and any other amounts from time to time due in relation to the Assets, pursuant to the Schedule 1 to the Servicing Agreement.

**Commercial Mortgage Loan Agreement** (*Contratto di Mutuo Ipotecario Commerciale*) means any commercial mortgage loan agreement under which a Commercial Mortgage Loan has been granted in favour to the relevant Debtor.

**Commercial Mortgage Loan** (*Mutuo Ipotecario Commerciale*) means any Mortgage Loan secured by a Mortgage on a Real Estate Asset intended to commercial activities (*destinato ad uso commerciale*) comprised in the Cover Pool.

**CONSOB** means Commissione Nazionale per le Società e la Borsa.

**Corporate Servicer** (*Prestatore di Servizi Amministrativi*) means Studio Dattilo Commercialisti Associati or any other entity appointed from time to time to act as such in accordance with the Corporate Services Agreement.

**Corporate Services Agreement** (*Contratto di Servizi Amministrativi*) means the agreement entered into on November 30, 2011 between the Guarantor and the Corporate Servicer pursuant to which the Corporate Servicer will provide certain administration services to the Guarantor in the context of the Programme.

**Covered Bond Law** (*Normativa sui Covered Bond*) means, jointly, the Law 130/99, the MEF Decree and the BoI Regulations.

**Covered Bond** means any covered bond of any Series issued from time to time by the Issuer in the context of the Programme.

**Covered Bond Swap Agreements** means the 1992 ISDA Master Agreements entered into between the Guarantor and the relevant Covered Bond Swap Counterparty on or about the First Issue Date, together with the relevant Schedule, the relevant Credit Support Annex and the relevant confirmations, from time to time entered into in the context of the Programme, documenting the interest rate swap transactions supplemental thereto.

**Covered Bond Swap Counterparty** means Mediobanca, acting in such capacity or any other entity acting as such pursuant to the Covered Bond Swap Agreements.

**Cover Pool** (*Patrimonio Separato*) means the cover pool constituted by (i) the Eligible Assets and the Integration Assets purchased from time to time by the Guarantor in the context of the Programme and (ii) the Liquidity.

**Cover Pool Swap Agreement** means the 1992 ISDA Master Agreements entered into between the Issuer and the Cover Pool Swap Counterparty on or about the First Issue Date, together with the relevant Schedule, the relevant Credit Support Annex and the relevant confirmations, from time to time entered into in the context of the Programme, documenting the interest rate swap transactions supplemental thereto.

**Cover Pool Swap Counterparty** means Mediobanca, acting in such capacity or any other entity acting as such pursuant to the Cover Pool Swap Agreement.

**Credit and Equity Linked Interest Covered Bond** means a Covered Bond specified as such in the relevant Final Terms.

**Credit Linked Interest Covered Bond** means a Covered Bond specified as such in the relevant Final Terms.

**Current Balance** means in relation to a Mortgage Loan and/or any other Asset and/or any Eligible Investment at any given date, the Outstanding Principal Balance relating to that Mortgage Loan and/or that Asset and/or that Eligible Investment as at that date.

**Day Count Fraction** means, in respect of the calculation of an amount for any period of time (the "Calculation Period"), such day count fraction as may be specified in these Conditions or the relevant Final Terms and:

- (i) if Actual/Actual (ICMA) is so specified, means:
  - (a) where the Calculation Period is equal to or shorter than the Regular Period during which it falls, the actual number of days in the Calculation Period divided by the product of (1) the actual number of days in such Regular Period and (2) the number of Regular Periods normally ending in any year; and
  - (b) where the Calculation Period is longer than one Regular Period, the sum of:
    - (A) the actual number of days in such Calculation Period falling in the Regular Period in which it begins divided by the product of (1) the actual number of days in such Regular Period and (2) the number of Regular Periods in any year; and
    - (B) the actual number of days in such Calculation Period falling in the next Regular Period divided by the product of (a) the actual number of days in such Regular Period and (2) the number of Regular Periods normally ending in any year;
- (ii) if **Actual/365 or Actual/Actual (ISDA)** is so specified, means the actual number of days in the Calculation Period divided by 365 (or, if any portion of the Calculation Period falls in a leap year, the sum of (A) the actual number of days in that portion of the Calculation Period falling in a leap year divided by 366 and (B) the actual number of days in that portion of the Calculation Period falling in a non-leap year divided by 365);
- (iii) if **Actual/365 (Fixed)** is so specified, means the actual number of days in the Calculation Period divided by 365;
- (iv) if Actual/360 is so specified, means the actual number of days in the Calculation Period divided by 360;
- (v) if 30/360 (Fixed rate) is so specified, means the number of days in the Calculation Period divided by 360 (the number of days to be calculated on the basis of a year of 360 days with 12 30-day months (unless (i) the last day of the Calculation Period is the 31st day of a month but the first day of the Calculation Period is a day other than the 30th or 31st day of a month, in which case the month that includes that last day shall not be considered to be shortened to a 30-day month, or (ii) the last day of the Calculation Period is the last day of the month of February, in which case the month of February shall not be considered to be lengthened to a 30-day month);
- (vi) if **Actual/365 (Sterling)** is specified in the applicable Final Terms, the actual number of days in the CB Interest Period divided by 365 or, in the case of a CB Payment Date falling in a leap year, 366;

(vii) if 30/360 (Floating Rate) is so specified, the number of days in the Calculation Period in respect of which payment is being made divided by 360, calculated on a formula basis as follows

Day Count Fraction = 
$$\frac{[360x(Y_2 - Y_1)] + [30x(M_2 - M_1)] + (D_2 - D_1)}{360}$$

where:

Y1 is the year, expressed as a number, in which the first day of the Calculation Period falls;

**Y2** is the year, expressed as a number, in which the day immediately following the last day included in the Calculation Period falls;

**M1** is the calendar month, expressed as a number, in which the first day of the Calculation Period falls;

**M2** is the calendar month, expressed as number, in which the day immediately following the last day included in the Calculation Period falls;

**D1** is the first calendar day, expressed as a number, of the Calculation Period, unless such number would be 31, in which case D1 will be 30; and

**D2** is the calendar day, expressed as a number, immediately following the last day included in the Calculation Period, unless such number would be 31 and D1 is greater than 29, in which case D2 will be 30;

(viii) if **30E/360** or Eurobond Basis is so specified, the number of days in the Calculation Period in respect of which payment is being made divided by 360, calculated on a formula basis as follows:

Day Count Fraction = 
$$\frac{[360x(Y_2 - Y_1)] + [30x(M_2 - M_1)] + (D_2 - D_1)}{360}$$

where:

Y1 is the year, expressed as a number, in which the first day of the Calculation Period falls;

**Y2** is the year, expressed as a number, in which the day immediately following the last day included in the Calculation Period falls;

M1 is the calendar month, expressed as a number, in which the first day of the Calculation Period falls;

**M2** is the calendar month, expressed as a number, in which the day immediately following the last day included in the Calculation Period falls;

**D1** is the first calendar day, expressed as a number, of the Calculation Period, unless such number would be 31, in which case D1 will be 30; and

**D2** is the calendar day, expressed as a number, immediately following the last day included in the Calculation Period, unless such number would be 31, in which case D2 will be 30; and

(ix) if **30E/360 (ISDA)** is so specified, the number of days in the Calculation Period in respect of which payment is being made divided by 360, calculated on a formula basis as follows:

Day Count Fraction = 
$$\frac{[360x(Y_2 - Y_1)] + [30x(M_2 - M_1)] + (D_2 - D_1)}{360}$$

where:

Y1 is the year, expressed as a number, in which the first day of the Calculation Period falls;

**Y2** is the year, expressed as a number, in which the day immediately following the last day included in the Calculation Period falls;

**M1** is the calendar month, expressed as a number, in which the first day of the Calculation Period falls;

**M2** is the calendar month, expressed as a number, in which the day immediately following the last day included in the Calculation Period falls;

**D1** is the first calendar day, expressed as a number, of the Calculation Period, unless (i) that day is the last day of February or (ii) such number would be 31, in which case D1 will be 30; and

**D2** is the calendar day, expressed as a number, immediately following the last day included in the Calculation Period, unless (i) that day is the last day of February but not the Maturity Date or (ii) such number would be 31, in which case D2 will be 30, provided, however, that in each such case the number of days in the Calculation Period is calculated from and including the first day of the Calculation Period to but excluding the last day of the Calculation Period.

**Dealers** means Mediobanca and Mediobanca International, as well as any other entity which may be appointed as such by the Issuer upon execution of a letter in the terms or substantially in the terms set out in Schedule 8 (Form of Dealer Accession Letter) to the Programme Agreement on any other terms acceptable to the Issuer and such entity.

**Debtor** (*Debitore Ceduto*) means any borrower, any person which has granted a Security Interest and/or any other person who is liable for the payment or repayment of amounts due in respect of an Asset or a Security Interest and Debtors means from time to time all of them.

**Decree No. 239** means the Italian Legislative Decree 1 April 1996, No. 239 as amended and supplemented from time to time.

**Deed of Charge** means the English law deed of charge entered into on or about the First Issue Date between the Guarantor and the Representative of the Bondholders (acting as security trustee for the Bondholders and for the other Secured Creditors).

**Deed of Pledge** means the deed of pledge governed by Italian law executed on or about the First Issue Date between the Guarantor, the Representative of the Bondholders and the Account Bank.

**Defaulted Assets** (Attivi in Sofferenza) means (A) any Asset arising from Mortgage Loans and Public Entities Receivables included in the Cover Pool (a) having at least (i) one annual instalment which is past due and unpaid for more than 180 days, (ii) two semi-annual instalments which are past due and unpaid, (iii) three quarterly instalments which are past due and unpaid, or (iv) seven

monthly instalments which are past due and unpaid, or (b) in relation to which the relevant Debtor has been classified as being "in sofferenza" by the Servicer in accordance with the Bank of Italy regulations as amended and updated from time to time and collection policy thereof, and (B) the Assets different from the Mortgage Loans and the Public Entities Receivables included in the Cover Pool in relation to which the relevant Debtor has been classified as being "in sofferenza" by the Servicer in accordance with the Bank of Italy regulations as amended and updated from time to time and collection policy thereof.

**Defaulting Party** has the meaning ascribed to that term in the Swap Agreements.

Delinquent Assets means (A) any Asset arising from Mortgage Loans and the Public Entities Receivables included in the Cover Pool having (a) at least (i) one annual instalment which is past due and unpaid for more than 90 days, (ii) one semi-annual instalment which is past due and unpaid for more than 90 days, (iii) two quarterly instalments which are past due and unpaid, and/or (iv) four monthly instalments which are past due and unpaid or (b) in relation to which the relevant Debtor has been classified as being "ad incaglio" by the Servicer in accordance with the Bank of Italy regulations as amended and updated from time to time and collection policy thereof, and (B) the Assets different from the Mortgage Loans and the Public Entities Receivables included in the Cover Pool in relation to which the relevant Debtor has been classified as being "ad incaglio" by the Servicer in accordance with the Bank of Italy regulations as amended and updated from time to time and collection policy thereof.

**Dual Currency Interest Covered Bond** means a Covered Bond specified as such in the relevant Final Terms.

**Dual Currency Provisions** means Condition 9 (*Dual Currency Provisions*).

**Due for Payment Date** means (a) a Scheduled Due for Payment Date (as defined below) or (b) following the occurrence of a Guarantor Event of Default, the date on which the Guarantor Default Notice is served on the Guarantor. If the Due for Payment Date is not a Business Day, Due for Payment Date will be the next Business Day.

**Earliest Maturing Covered Bonds** means, at any time, the Series of Covered Bonds that has or have the earliest Maturity Date or Extended Maturity Date (if the relevant Series of Covered Bonds is subject to an Extended Maturity Date and the relevant Extension Period has already started) as specified in the relevant Final Terms.

**Early Redemption Amount (Tax)** means, in respect of any Series of Covered Bonds, the principal amount of such Series or such other amount as may be specified in, or determined in accordance with, the relevant Final Terms.

**Early Redemption Date** means, as applicable, the Optional Redemption Date (Call), the Optional Redemption Date (Put) or the date on which any Series of Covered Bonds is to be redeemed pursuant to Condition 10 (c) (Redemption for tax reasons).

**Early Termination Amount** means, in respect of any Series of Covered Bonds, the principal amount of such Series or such other amount as may be specified in, or determined in accordance with, the Terms and Conditions or the relevant Final Terms.

**Eligible Assets** (*Attivi Idonei*) means the following assets contemplated under article 2, subparagraph 1, of the MEF Decree:

(i) the Residential Mortgage Loans;

- (ii) the Commercial Mortgage Loans;
- (iii) the Public Assets; and
- (iv) the Asset Backed Securities.

**Criteria** (*Criteri*) means (i) with respect to the Initial Portfolio, collectively, the General Criteria and the Specific Criteria of the Initial Portfolio and (ii) with respect to the Subsequent Portfolios and Further Portfolios, collectively, the General Criteria, the Specific Criteria and the Further Criteria (if any) of the relevant Subsequent Portfolio or Further Portfolio.

**Eligible Institution** means any depository institution organised under the laws of any State which is a member of the European Union or of the United States whose short term unsecured, unsubordinated and unguaranteed debt obligations are rated at least A-1 by S&P or are guaranteed (in such a way as to ensure that the current rating of the outstanding Covered Bonds is confirmed by the Rating Agency) by an entity in relation to which the short term unsecured, unsubordinated and unguaranteed debt obligations are rated at least A-1 by S&P.

**Eligible Investments** means the Euro denominated senior (unsubordinated) debt securities or other debt instruments, provided that, in all cases:

- (a) such investments are immediately repayable on demand, disposable without penalty or have a maturity date falling on or before the third Business Day preceding the Guarantor Payment Date immediately succeeding the Collection Period in respect of which such eligible investments were made;
- (b) such investments provide a fixed principal amount at maturity (such amount not being lower than the initially invested amount) or in case of repayment or disposal, the principal amount upon repayment or disposal is at least equal to the principal amount invested;
- (c) the debt securities or other debt instruments, with a maturity date equal to that requested under point (a), are issued by, or fully and unconditionally guaranteed on an unsubordinated basis by, an institution having at least the following rating:

Maturity	Rating S&P
Less than 365 calendar days	A-1+/AA-
More than 60 calendar days provided that the Substitution	A-1/A+
Mechanism is in place	
Less than 60 calendar days	A-1/A+

where "**Substitution Mechanism**" means that the investments should be liquidated within 60 days of a downgrade below 'A-1' (or 'A+' if no short term rating), at no loss to the Guarantor:

provided that the total principal amount to be invested from time to time in Eligible Investments of issuers rated A-1 by S&P is not higher than 20% of the Principal Amount Outstanding of the Covered Bonds; and

(d) investments in a money market fund rated AAA by S&P, with a maturity date equal to that requested under point (a).

**EURIBOR** shall have the meaning ascribed to it in the relevant Final Terms.

**Euro**, € and **EUR** refer to the single currency of member states of the European Union which adopt the single currency introduced in accordance with the treaty establishing the European Community.

**Euroclear** means Euroclear Bank S.A./N.V., with offices at 1 Boulevard du Roi Albert II, B-1210 Brussels.

**Euro Equivalent** means, in case of an issuance of Covered Bonds denominated in currency other than the Euro, an equivalent amount expressed in Euro calculated by the Calculation Agent ad the prevailing exchange rate or, in case a cross-currency swap has been entered in respect of a Series of Covered Bonds, the exchange rate of the relevant cross-currency swap.

**Excluded Scheduled Interest Amounts** means any additional amounts relating to default interest or interest upon interest payable by the Issuer.

**Excluded Scheduled Principal Amounts** means any additional amounts relating to prepayments, early redemption, broken funding indemnities, or penalties payable by the Issuer.

**Excluded Swap Termination Amount** means any termination payment due and payable by the Guarantor to a Swap Counterparty, where the Swap Counterparty is the Defaulting Party or the sole Affected Party pursuant to the relevant Swap Agreement.

**Expenses Account** means the euro denominated account established in the name of the Guarantor with the Account Bank, IBAN: IT8oJ1063101600000070200430, or such other substitute account as may be opened in accordance with the Cash Management Agreement, into which the Retention Amount will be credited and from which any Expenses and Taxes will be paid during the period comprised between a Guarantor Payment Date and the immediately subsequent Guarantor Payment Date.

**Expenses** means any documented fees, costs, expenses, to be paid by the Guarantor in order to preserve its corporate existence, to maintain it in good standing and to comply with applicable legislation.

**Extended Maturity Date** means the date when final redemption payments in relation to a specific Series of Covered Bonds become due and payable pursuant to the extension of the relevant Maturity Date pursuant to the relevant Final Terms.

**Extension Determination Date** means, with respect to each Series of Covered Bonds, the date falling seven days after the Maturity Date of the relevant Series.

**Extension Period** means, with reference to the Series of Covered Bonds subject to an Extended Maturity Date, the period starting on the relevant Maturity Date (included) and ending on the relevant Extended Maturity Date (excluded).

Extraordinary Resolution has the meaning given in the Rules attached to the Conditions.

**Facility** means the facility to be granted by the Subordinated Lender pursuant to the terms of Clause 2 of the Subordinated Loan Agreement.

**Final Redemption Amount** means, in respect of any Series of Covered Bonds, the principal amount of such Series or such other amount as may be specified in, or determined in accordance with, the relevant Final Terms.

**Final Terms** means the final terms related to each Series of Covered Bond whose form is included in the Prospectus.

First CB Payment Date means the date specified in the relevant Final Terms.

**First Issue Date** (*Prima Data di Emissione*) means the Issue Date of the first Series of Covered Bonds issued under the Programme.

Fixed Coupon Amount has the meaning given in the relevant Final Terms.

**Fixed Rate Covered Bond** means a Covered Bond specified as such in the relevant Final Terms.

Fixed Rate Provisions means Condition 5 (Fixed Rate Provisions).

**Floating Rate Covered Bond** means a Covered Bond specified as such in the relevant Final Terms.

**Floating Rate Provisions** means the relevant provisions of Condition 6 (*Floating Rate and Index-Linked or Other Variable-Linked Interest Provisions*).

**Further Criteria** (*Criteri Ulteriori*) means the eligibility criteria, other than the General Criteria and the Specific Criteria, which the Seller and the Guarantor may apply, from time to time, to each Subsequent Portfolio and Further Portfolio, specifying such further criteria in the Schedule B to the relevant Transfer Proposal.

**Further Portfolio** (*Portafoglio Ulteriore*) means all the Eligible Assets, compliant with the General Criteria, the relevant Specific Criteria and the relevant Further Criteria (if any), which may be purchased as a pool (*in blocco*) and *pro soluto* by the Guarantor pursuant to Clause 4 (*Cessione di Ulteriori Portafogli su base revolving*) of the Master Purchase Agreement.

**General Criteria** (*Criteri Generali*) means, jointly, (i) the Mortgage General Criteria, (ii) the Public Assets General Criteria and (iii) the ABS General Criteria.

**Guarantee** means the guarantee issued on or about the First Issue Date by the Guarantor in favour of the Beneficiaries.

**Guaranteed Payment Obligations** means the payment obligations of interest and principal in relation of each Series of Covered Bonds guaranteed under the Guarantee.

Guaranteed Amounts means (a) prior to the service of a Guarantor Default Notice, with respect to any Scheduled Due for Payment Date, the sum of amounts equal to (i) the Scheduled Interest and the Scheduled Principal, in each case, payable on that Schedule Due for Payment Date or any other amounts due and payable by the Issuer under the Covered Bonds pursuant to the Terms and Conditions and the relevant Final Terms and (ii) all amounts payable by the Guarantor under the Transaction Documents ranking senior to any payment due in respect of the Covered Bonds according to the applicable Priority of Payments, or (b) after the service of a Guarantor Default Notice, an amount equal to (i) the relevant Early Redemption Amount (as defined and specified in the Terms and Conditions) plus all accrued and unpaid interests and all other amounts due and payable in respect of the Covered Bonds, including all Excluded Scheduled Interest Amounts and all Excluded Scheduled Principal Amounts (whenever the same arose), and (ii) all amounts payable by the Guarantor under the Transaction Documents ranking senior to any payment due in respect to the

Covered Bonds according to the applicable Priority of Payments. The Guaranteed Amounts include any Guaranteed Amount that was timely paid by or on behalf of the Issuer to the Bondholders to the extent it has been clawed back and recovered from the Bondholders by the receiver or liquidator, in bankruptcy or other insolvency or similar proceedings for the Issuer named or identified in the order, and has not been paid or recovered from any other source (the "Clawed Back Amounts").

**Guarantor Default Notice** has the meaning given to it in Condition 14.3 (*Guarantor Events of Default*).

**Guarantor Event of Default** has the meaning given to it in Condition 14.3 (*Guarantor Events of Default*).

**Guarantor** means Mediobanca Covered Bond S.r.l., a limited liability company incorporated under the laws of the Republic of Italy, whose registered office at Galleria Del Corso No. 2, Milan, Italy, Fiscal Code and registration with the Companies Register in Milan No. 03915310969, enrolled under No. 34916 in the general register held by the Bank of Italy pursuant to article 106 of the Banking Act, under the direction and coordination of Mediobanca – Banca di Credito Finanziario S.p.A.

Guarantor Payment Account means the euro denominated account established in the name of the Guarantor with the Paying Agent with number 800882300 (Iban code: IT 96 R 03479 01600 000800882300), or such other substitute account as may be opened in accordance with the Cash Management Agreement into which the Cash Manager (on behalf of the Guarantor) will credit by 9:00 a.m. of each Due for Payment Date the amounts due from time to time under the Covered Bonds and out of which the Paying Agent will make the payments due in favour of the Bondholders on behalf of the Guarantor after to the service of an Issuer Default Notice.

**Guarantor Payment Date** means (a) prior to the delivery of a Guarantor Default Notice, the date falling on the 28th day of January, April, July and October or, if such day is not a Business Day, the immediately following Business Day; and (b) following the delivery of a Guarantor Default Notice, any day on which any payment is required to be made by the Representative of the Bondholders in accordance with the Post-Enforcement Priority of Payments, the relevant Terms and Conditions and the Intercreditor Agreement. The first Guarantor Payment Date will fall on January 28, 2011.

**Index-Linked Interest Covered Bond** means a Covered Bond specified as such in the relevant Final Terms.

**Index-Linked or Other Variable-Linked Interest Provisions** means the relevant provisions of Condition 6 (*Floating Rate and Index-Linked or Other Variable-Linked Interest Provisions*).

**Initial Portfolio** (*Portafoglio Iniziale*) means the portfolio of receivables arising from Residential Mortgage Loan Agreement purchased by the Guarantor on November 30, 2011 pursuant to Article 2 of the Master Purchase Agreement in order to allow Mediobanca to issue the First Series of the Covered Bonds.

**Initial Subordinated Loan Agreement** (*Contratto di Finanziamento Subordinato Iniziale*) means the subordinated loan agreement entered into between the Subordinated Lender and the Guarantor on November 30, 2011.

**Initial Subordinated Loan** (*Finanziamento Subordinato Iniziale*) means the subordinated loan granted by the Subordinated Lender in favour of the Guarantor pursuant to the Initial Subordinated Loan Agreement.

**Initial Valuation Date** (*Data di Valutazione Iniziale*) means, with reference to the Initial Portfolio, the date falling on September 30, 2011.

**Initial Transfer Date** (*Data di Cessione Iniziale*) means, with reference to the Initial Portfolio, the date on which the Publicities provided for in Article 2.5 of the Master Purchase Agreement has been carried out.

**Insolvency Event** means in respect of any company, entity or corporation that:

- (i) such company, entity or corporation has become subject to any applicable bankruptcy, liquidation, administration, insolvency, composition or reorganisation (including, without limitation, "fallimento", "liquidazione coatta amministrativa", "concordato preventivo" and "amministrazione straordinaria", each such expression bearing the meaning ascribed to it by the laws of the Republic of Italy, and including the seeking of liquidation, winding-up, reorganisation, dissolution, administration) or similar proceedings or the whole or any substantial part of the undertaking or assets of such company, entity or corporation are subject to a pignoramento or any procedure having a similar effect (other than in the case of the Guarantor, any portfolio of assets purchased by the Guarantor for the purposes of further programme of issuance of Covered Bonds), unless in the opinion of the Representative of the Bondholders, (who may in this respect rely on the advice of a legal adviser selected by it), such proceedings are being disputed in good faith with a reasonable prospect of success; or
- (ii) an application for the commencement of any of the proceedings under (i) above is made in respect of or by such company, entity or corporation or such proceedings are otherwise initiated against such company or corporation and, in the opinion of the Representative of the Bondholders (who may in this respect rely on the advice of a legal adviser selected by it), the commencement of such proceedings are not being disputed in good faith with a reasonable prospect of success; or
- (iii) such company, entity or corporation takes any action for a re-adjustment of deferment of any of its obligations or makes a general assignment or an arrangement or composition with or for the benefit of its creditors (other than, in case of the Guarantor, the creditors under the Transaction Documents) or is granted by a competent court a moratorium in respect of any of its indebtedness or any guarantee of any indebtedness given by it or applies for suspension of payments (other than, in respect of the Issuer, the issuance of a resolution pursuant to Article 74 of the Consolidated Banking Act); or
- (iv) an order is made or an effective resolution is passed for the winding-up, liquidation or dissolution in any form of such company, entity or corporation or any of the events under article 2448 of the Civil Code occurs with respect to such company, entity or corporation (except in any such case a winding-up or other proceeding for the purposes of or pursuant to a solvent amalgamation or reconstruction, the terms of which have been previously approved in writing by the Representative of the Bondholders); or
- (v) such company, entity or corporation becomes subject to any proceedings equivalent or analogous to those above under the law of any jurisdiction in which such company or corporation is deemed to carry on business.

**Integration Assets** (*Attivi Idonei Integrativi*) means, in accordance with article 2, sub-paragraph 3.2 and 3.3 of MEF Decree, each of the following assets:

(i) deposits held with banks which have their registered office in the European Economic Area or Switzerland or in a country for which a 0% risk weight is applicable in accordance with the Bank of Italy's prudential regulations for banks -standardised approach; and

(ii) securities issued by the banks indicated in item (i) above, which have a residual maturity not exceeding one year.

**Integration Assets Limit** (*Limite per gli Attivi Idonei Integrativi*) means the maximum percentage of Integration Assets (taking into account the Liquidity) which may be comprised in the Cover Pool pursuant to the Covered Bonds Law, i.e. 15% of the Cover Pool.

**Intercreditor Agreement** (*Accordo tra Creditori*) means the agreement entered into on or about the First Issue Date between the Guarantor and the other Secured Creditors.

**Interest Amount** means, in relation to any Series of Covered Bonds and a CB Interest Period, the amount of interest payable in respect of that Series for that CB Interest Period.

**Interest Available Funds** (Fondi Disponibili in Linea Interessi) means, on each Guarantor Payment Date:

- any interest collected by the Servicer and/or by the Guarantor in respect of the Assets and credited into the Transaction Account during the Collection Period preceding the relevant Guarantor Payment Date;
- (ii) all recoveries in the nature of interest and penalties received by the Servicer and/or by the Guarantor and credited into the Transaction Account during the Collection Period preceding the relevant Guarantor Payment Date;
- (iii) all amounts of interest accrued (net of any withholding or deduction or expenses, if due) and paid on the Accounts during the Collection Period preceding the relevant Guarantor Payment Date;
- (iv) all interest amounts received from the Eligible Investments during the preceding Collection Period;
- (v) any amounts other than in respect of principal received under the Cover Pool Swaps;
- (vi) any amounts other than in respect of principal received under each Covered Bond Swap other than the Swap Collateral;
- (vii) any swap termination payments received from a Swap Counterparty under a Swap Agreement, provided that such amounts will first be used to pay a Replacement Swap Counterparty to enter into a Replacement Swap Agreement, unless a Replacement Swap Agreement has already been entered into by or on behalf of the Guarantor;
- (viii) prior to the service of a Issuer Default Notice on the Guarantor amounts standing to the credit of the Reserve Account in excess of the Required Reserve Amount and following the service of a Issuer Default Notice on the Guarantor, any amounts standing to the credit of the Reserve Account;
- (ix) all amounts to be allocated from the Principal Available Funds as Interest Shortfall Amount;
- (x) any amounts (other than the amounts already allocated under other items of the Interest Available Funds or Principal Available Funds) received by the Guarantor during the immediately preceding Collection Period.

**Interest Commencement Date** means the Issue Date of the Covered Bonds or such other date as may be specified as the Interest Commencement Date in the relevant Final Terms.

**Interest Coverage Test** means the test to be calculated pursuant to the terms of the Portfolio Management Agreement so that the amount of interest and other revenues generated by the assets included in the Cover Pool (including the payments of any nature expected to be received by the Guarantor with respect to any Swap Agreement), net of the costs borne by the Guarantor (including the payments of any nature expected to be born or due with respect to any Swap Agreement), shall be at least equal to the amount of interests and costs due on all Series of Covered Bonds issued under the Programme.

**Interest Determination Agent** means BNP Paribas Securities Services, Milan Branch which is appointed to act as interest determination agent pursuant to the Cash Management Agreement.

Interest Determination Date has the meaning given in the relevant Final Terms.

**Interest Shortfall Amount** means, on each Guarantor Payment Date, the amount due and payable under items from (i) to (vi) of the Pre-Issuer Event of Default Interest Priority of Payment, to the extent that the Interest Available Funds are not sufficient, on such Guarantor Payment Date, to make such payments in full.

**ISDA Definitions** means the 2006 ISDA Definitions, as amended and updated as at the date of issue of the first Series of the Covered Bonds of the relevant Series (as specified in the relevant Final Terms) as published by the International Swaps and Derivatives Association, Inc.

**ISDA Determination** means that the Rate of Interest will be determined in accordance with Condition 6(c) (*ISDA Determination*).

**Issue Date** (*Data di Emissione*) means each date on which any Series of Covered Bond will be issued in the context of the Programme.

Issuer means Mediobanca.

**Issuer Default Notice** has the meaning given to it in Condition 14.1 (*Issuer Events of Default*).

**Issuer Default Notice Date** means the date on which the Guarantor has received the Issuer Default Notice sent by the Representative of the Bondholders.

**Issuer Event of Default** has the meaning given to it in Condition 14.1 (Issuer Events of Default).

**Issuer Payment Account** means the euro denominated account established in the name of the Issuer with the Paying Agent with number 800882200 (Iban code: IT 76 Q 03479 01600 000800882200), or such other substitute account as may be opened in accordance with the Cash Management Agreement, into which the Issuer will credit by 9:00 a.m. of each CB Payment Date the amounts due from time to time under the Covered Bonds and out of which the Paying Agent will make the payments due in favour of the Bondholders on behalf of the Issuer prior to the service of an Issuer Default Notice.

**Joint Resolution** means the resolution of 22 February, 2008 jointly issued by CONSOB and Bank of Italy as amended from time to time.

Latest Maturing Covered Bonds means, at any time, the Series of Covered Bonds that has or have the latest Maturity Date or Extended Maturity Date (if the relevant Series of Covered Bonds is subject to an Extended Maturity Date and the relevant Extension Period has already started) as specified in the relevant Final Terms.

**Latest Valuation** means, at any time with respect to any Real Estate Asset, the value given to the relevant Real Estate Asset by the most recent valuation (to be performed in accordance with the

requirements provided for under the prudential regulations for banks issued by the Bank of Italy) addressed to the Seller or obtained from an independently maintained valuation model, acceptable to reasonable and prudent institutional mortgage lenders in Italy.

**Life of the Programme** means the period of time comprised between the First Issue Date and the latest of (i) the date on which the Revolving Period has elapsed and (ii) the Programme End Date.

**Liquidity** (*Liquidità*) means any and all amounts from time to time standing to the credit of the Accounts (other than the Quota Capital Account).

**Main Financial Centre** means, in relation to any currency, the main financial centre for that currency provided, however, that:

- (i) in relation to Euro, it means the main financial centre of such Member State of the European Communities as is selected (in the case of a payment) by the payee or (in the case of a calculation) by the Interest Determination Agent and/or the Paying Agent (as the case may be); and
- (ii) in relation to Australian dollars, it means either Sydney or Melbourne and, in relation to New Zealand dollars, it means either Wellington or Auckland; in each case as is selected (in the case of a payment) by the payee or (in the case of a calculation) by the Interest Determination agent and/or the Paying Agent (as the case may be).

Mandatory Test means the tests provided for under article 3 of MEF Decree.

**Mandatory Test Verification** has the meaning ascribed to it in Clause 3 of the Asset Monitor Agreement.

Margin has the meaning given in the relevant Final Terms.

**Master Definitions Agreement** (*Accordo Quadro sulle Definizioni*) means the master definitions agreement entered into on or about the First Issue Date between, inter alios, the Issuer, the Guarantor, the Seller and the Representative of the Bondholders, containing all the definitions of the terms used in the Transaction Documents.

**Master Purchase Agreement** (*Contratto Quadro di Cessione*) means the master purchase agreement entered into on November 30, 2011 between, inter alios, the Guarantor and the Seller.

**Maturity Date** (*Data di Scadenza Convenzionale*) means the date on which final redemption payments in relation to a specific Series of Covered Bonds become due in accordance with the Final Terms.

**Maximum Rate of Interest** has the meaning given in the relevant Final Terms.

**Maximum Redemption Amount** has the meaning given in the relevant Final Terms.

**Mediobanca Group** (*Gruppo Mediobanca*) means the Mediobanca Banking Group.

**Mediobanca International** means Mediobanca International (Luxembourg) S.A., a *société anonyme* subject to Luxembourg law and having its registered office at 14 Boulevard Roosevelt L-2450 Luxembourg, registered at the Luxembourg trade and companies registry under registration number B 112885.

**Meeting** has the meaning set out in the Rules.

**MEF Decree** means the decree issued by the Minister of Economy and Finance on 14 December 2006, No. 310 in relation to the covered bonds.

**Minimum Rate of Interest** has the meaning given in the relevant Final Terms.

**Minimum Redemption Amount** has the meaning given in the relevant Final Terms.

**Monte Titoli Account Holders** means any authorised financial intermediary institution entitled to hold accounts on behalf of its customers with Monte Titoli (as *intermediari aderenti*) in accordance with Article 83-quater of Legislative Decree No. 58/98 and includes any depositary banks approved by Clearstream and Euroclear.

Monte Titoli means Monte Titoli S.p.A.

**Mortgage Loan General Criteria** (*Criteri Generali dei Crediti Ipotecari*) means the general criteria on the basis of which shall be selected the Mortgage Loans to be included in each Portfolio, as specified in the Schedule 1 – Part I – Section I to the Master Purchase Agreement.

**Mortgage Loan Agreement** means any Residential Mortgage Loan Agreement or Commercial Mortgage Loan Agreement out of which the Receivables arise.

**Mortgage Loan** means a Residential Mortgage Loan or a Commercial Mortgage Loan, as the case may be, the claims in respect of which have been and/or will be transferred by the Seller to the Guarantor pursuant to the Master Purchase Agreement.

**Mortgages** (*Ipoteche*) means the mortgages created on the Real Estate Assets pursuant to Italian law in order to secure claims in respect of the Receivables.

**Negative Carry Factor** means (i) nil if the relevant Covered Bond has a corresponding Cover Pool Swap structured as Total Balance Guaranteed Swap, otherwise (ii) a percentage calculated by reference to the interest rate due on the relevant Covered Bond to the extent that such percentage is in line with the S&P criteria applicable from time to time.

**Offer Date** (*Data di Offerta*) means (i) with respect to the purchase of each Subsequent Portfolio, a date falling not later than the fourth Business Day preceding each Issue Date, and (ii) with respect to the purchase of each Further Portfolio, a date falling not later than the fourth Business Day preceding each Guarantor Payment Date, i.e. the date within which the Seller may send to the Guarantor the Transfer Proposal pursuant to Article 3.2 of the Master Purchase Agreement.

**Optional Redemption Amount (Call)** means, in respect of any Series of Covered Bonds, the principal amount of such Series or such other amount as may be specified in, or determined in accordance with, the relevant Final Terms.

**Optional Redemption Amount (Put)** means, in respect of any Series of Covered Bonds, the principal amount of such Series or such other amount as may be specified in, or determined in accordance with, the relevant Final Terms.

**Optional Redemption Date (Call)** has the meaning given in the relevant Final Terms.

**Optional Redemption Date (Put)** has the meaning given in the relevant Final Terms.

**Organisation of the Bondholders** means the association of the Bondholders, organised pursuant to the Rules.

**Other Variable-Linked Interest Covered Bonds** means together the Credit Linked Interest Covered Bonds and the Credit and Equity Linked Interest Covered Bonds.

**Outstanding Principal Balance** means, at any date, in relation to a Mortgage Loan, and/or any other Asset and/or any Eligible Investment, the aggregate nominal principal amount outstanding of such Mortgage Loan or such other Asset or such Eligible Investment at such date.

Partly-Paid Covered Bond means a Covered Bond specified as such in the relevant Final Terms.

Partly-Paid Provisions means Condition 8 (Partly-Paid Provisions).

**Paying Agent** means BNP Paribas Securities Services, Milan Branch which is appointed to act as paying agent under the terms of the Cash Management Agreement, and any of its successors.

**Payment Business Day** means a day on which banks in the relevant Place of Payment are open for payment of amounts due in respect of debt securities and for dealings in foreign currencies and any day which is:

- (i) if the currency of payment is euro, a TARGET Settlement Day and a day on which dealings in foreign currencies may be carried on in each (if any) Additional Financial Centre; or
- (ii) if the currency of payment is not euro, a day on which dealings in foreign currencies may be carried on in the Main Financial Centre of the currency of payment and in each (if any) Additional Financial Centre.

**Person** means any individual, company, corporation, firm, partnership, joint venture, association, organisation, state or agency of a state or other entity, whether or not having separate legal personality.

**Place of Payment** means, in respect of any Bondholders, the place at which such Bondholder receives payment of interest or principal on the Covered Bonds.

Pledge Account means, collectively, the Accounts listed under Schedule 4 to the Deed of Pledge.

**Pledged Claims** has the meaning attributed to in Clause 2.1 of the Deed of Pledge.

**Portfolio Management Agreement** means the agreement entered into on or about the First Issue Date between the Issuer, the Seller, the Servicer, the Test Report Provider, the Guarantor, the Calculation Agent and the Representative of the Bondholders.

**Portfolio** (*Portafoglio*) means, collectively, the Initial Portfolio, any Subsequent Portfolios and any Further Portfolios which will be purchased by the Guarantor in accordance with the terms of the Master Purchase Agreement.

**Post-Guarantor Event of Default Priority of Payment** means the order of priority pursuant to which the Available Funds shall be applied, on each Guarantor Payment Date, following the service of a Guarantor Default Notice, in accordance with Clause 5.4 of the Intercreditor Agreement.

**Post-Issuer Event of Default Priority of Payment** means the order of priority pursuant to which the Available Funds shall be applied, on each Guarantor Payment Date, following the service of an Issuer Default Notice, but prior to the service of a Guarantor Default Notice, in accordance with Clause 5.3 of the Intercreditor Agreement.

**Potential Commingling Amounts** means, at any date, an amount equal to the maximum monthly Collections related to the last six months or any higher amount which is in line with the criteria of S&P applicable from time to time.

**Potential Set-Off Amounts** means an amount calculated on a quarterly basis by the Servicer and communicated to the Rating Agency as a percentage of the Cover Pool that the Servicer determines as potentially subject to set-off risk by the relevant Debtors, taking into consideration the portion of the Debtors having current and deposit accounts opened with the Seller.

**Pre-Issuer Event of Default Interest Priority of Payment** means the order of priority pursuant to which the Interest Available Funds shall be applied, on each Guarantor Payment Date, prior to the service of an Issuer Default Notice, in accordance with Clause 5.1 of the Intercreditor Agreement.

**Pre-Issuer Event of Default Principal Priority of Payment** means the order of priority pursuant to which the Principal Available Funds shall be applied, on each Guarantor Payment Date, prior to the service of an Issuer Default Notice, in accordance with Clause 5.2 of the Intercreditor Agreement.

**Pre-Issuer Event of Default Priority of Payment** means, as applicable, the Pre-Issuer Event of Default Interest Priority of Payment or the Pre-Issuer Event of Default Principal Priority of Payment.

**Pre-Maturity** Account means a Euro denominated bank account IBAN No. IT38Q1063101600000070200429, which will be held in the name of the Guarantor with the Account Bank for so long as it qualifies as an Eligible Institution for the deposit of liquidity in the cases and for the purposes set out in Clause 7 of the Portfolio Management Agreement.

# **Pre-Maturity Collateral Amount** means the aggregate of:

- (i) amounts standing to the credit of the Pre-Maturity Account; and
- (ii) the principal amount of the Eligible Investments and the Eligible Assets and Integration Assets that are in line with the criteria of the Eligible Investments.

**Pre-Maturity Test** means, with reference to a Series or Tranche of Covered Bond to which such test is applicable under the relevant Final Terms, the test provided for under Clause 7 of the Portfolio Management Agreement intended to provide liquidity for such Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds when the Issuer's credit ratings fall below a certain level.

**Pre-Maturity Test Date** means each Business Day prior to the occurrence of an Issuer Event of Default on which the Guarantor or the Test Report Provider will determine if the Pre-Maturity Test has been breached in respect of the Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds to which such Test is applicable under the relevant Final Terms.

**Pre-Maturity Test Notice** has the meaning ascribed to it in Condition 10 (k).

# **Premium Interests** means, on any Guarantor Payment Date:

(A) prior to the occurrence of an Issuer Event of Default, an amount equal to the positive difference between (a) the sum of the Interest Available Funds, with respect to the immediately preceding Collection Period, and (b) the algebraic sum of the amounts due by the Guarantor under items from (i) to (xi) (included) of the Pre-Issuer Event of Default Interest Priority of Payments; or

- (B) following the occurrence of an Issuer Event of Default but prior to the occurrence of a Guarantor Event of Default, an amount equal to the positive difference between (a) the sum of the Available Funds with respect to the immediately preceding Collection Period and (b) the algebraic sum of the amounts due by the Guarantor under items from (i) to (ix) (included) of the Post-Issuer Event of Default Priority of Payments; or
- (C) following the occurrence of a Guarantor Event of Default, an amount equal to the positive difference between (a) the sum of the Available Funds with respect to the immediately preceding Collection Period and (b) the algebraic sum of the amounts due by the Guarantor under items from (i) to (vii) (included) of the Post-Guarantor Event of Default Priority of Payments.

**Principal Amount Outstanding** means, on any date: (a) in relation to a Covered Bond, the principal amount of that Covered Bond upon issue less the aggregate amount of any principal payments in respect of that Covered Bond which have become due and payable (and been paid) on or prior to that date; and (b) in relation to the Covered Bonds outstanding at any time, the aggregate of the amount in (a) in respect of all Covered Bonds outstanding.

## Principal Available Funds means, on each Guarantor Payment Date:

- (b) all principal amounts collected by the Servicer and/or the Guarantor in respect of the Cover Pool and credited to the Transaction Account during the Collection Period preceding the relevant Guarantor Payment Date;
- (c) all other recoveries in the nature of principal collected by the Servicer and/or the Guarantor and credited to the Transaction Account during the Collection Period preceding the relevant Guarantor Payment Date;
- (d) all proceeds deriving from the sale, if any, of the Assets;
- (e) all amounts in respect of principal (if any) received under any Swap Agreements other than the Swap Collateral;
- (f) the amounts standing to the credit of the Pre-Maturity Account.

**Priorities of Payments** (*Ordine di Priorità dei Pagamenti*) means each of the orders in which the Available Funds shall be applied on each Guarantor Payment Date in accordance with the Terms and Conditions and the Intercreditor Agreement.

**Program Debtor** means any Counterparty who is or may become the debtor of any of the claims and rights over which the Pledge is hereby created other than the Debtors.

**Programme End Date** means the earlier between (i) the date falling on a year and one day after the Covered Bonds have been redeemed in full at their relevant Maturity Date (or Extended Maturity Date, if applicable pursuant to the relevant Final Terms) and (ii) in case of prepayment in full of the Covered Bonds, the date falling on two years and one day after the Covered Bonds have been redeemed in full.

**Programme** (*Programma*) means the covered bonds issue programme which Mediobanca intends to carry out pursuant to article 7-bis of Law 130/99 through the issuance of several Series of Covered Bond in a 10 (ten) years period from the First Issue Date.

**Programme Agreement** means the agreement entered into on or about the First Issue Date between the Issuer, the Seller, the Guarantor, the Representative of the Bondholders and the Initial Dealer.

**Programme Resolution** has the meaning set out in the Rules.

**Publicity** (*Pubblicità*) means, in relation to each Portfolio, collectively: (i) the publication on the Official Gazette of the Republic of Italy of the transfer notice of such Portfolio, substantially in the form attached under Schedule 5 to the Master Purchase Agreement and (ii) the filing of an application for the registration of such assignment with the competent Companies' Register.

**Public Assets** (*Attivi Pubblici*) means, collectively, the Public Entities Receivables and Public Entities Securities.

**Public Assets General Criteria** (*Criteri Generali degli Attivi Pubblici*) means the general criteria on the basis of which shall be selected the Public Assets to be included in each Subsequent Portfolio and/or Further Portfolio, as specified in the Schedule 1 – Part I – Section II to the Master Purchase Agreement.

**Public Entity Receivables** means, pursuant to article 2, sub-paragraph 1, of MEF Decree, any receivables owned by or receivables which have been benefit of a guarantee eligible for credit risk mitigation granted by:

- (i) Public Entities, including ministerial bodies and local or regional bodies, located within the European Economic Area or Switzerland for which a risk weight not exceeding 20% is applicable in accordance with the Bank of Italy's prudential regulations for banks standardised approach; and
- (ii) Public Entities, located outside the European Economic Area or Switzerland, for which a 0% risk weight is applicable in accordance with the Bank of Italy's prudential regulations for banks standardised approach or regional or local public entities or non-economic administrative entities, located outside the European Economic Area or Switzerland, for which a risk weight not exceeding 20% is applicable in accordance with the Bank of Italy's prudential regulations for banks standardised approach, provided that, the Public Entities Receivables described under item (ii) above may not amount to more than 10% of the aggregate nominal value of the Cover Pool.

**Public Entity Securities** means pursuant to article 2, sub-paragraph 1, of MEF Decree, any securities issued by or which have benefit of a guarantee eligible for credit risk mitigation granted by:

- (i) Public Entities, including ministerial bodies and local or regional bodies, located within the European Economic Area or Switzerland for which a risk weight not exceeding 20% is applicable in accordance with the Bank of Italy's prudential regulations for banks standardised approach; and
- (ii) Public Entities, located outside the European Economic Area or Switzerland, for which a 0% risk weight is applicable in accordance with the Bank of Italy's prudential regulations for banks standardised approach or regional or local public entities or non-economic administrative entities, located outside the European Economic Area or Switzerland, for which a risk weight not exceeding 20% is applicable in accordance with the Bank of Italy's prudential regulations for banks standardised approach, provided that, the Public Entities Securities described under item (ii) above may not amount to more than 10% of the aggregate nominal value of the Cover Pool.

**Public Loan** (*Finanziamento Pubblico*) means any loans granted by any entity referred to in Article 2, paragraph 1(c), n. 1) and 2) of MEF Decree, or secured by the same entities in compliance with the provisions of Article 2, paragraph 1(c) of the MEF Decree.

**Put Option** has the meaning given in the relevant Final Terms.

**Put Option Notice** means a notice which must be delivered to the Paying Agent by any Bondholder wanting to exercise a right to redeem Covered Bonds at the option of the Bondholder.

**Put Option Receipt** means a receipt issued by the Paying Agent to a depositing Bondholder upon deposit of Covered Bonds with the Paying Agent by any Bondholder wanting to exercise a right to redeem Covered Bonds at the option of the Bondholder.

**Quarterly Report** (*Rendiconto Trimestrale*) means the quarterly report prepared by the Servicer pursuant to Article 3.13 of the Servicing Agreement to be sent by the Servicer within the Quarterly Report Date to the Guarantor, the Seller, the Issuer, the Asset Monitor, the Rating Agency, the Calculation Agent, the Corporate Services Provider, the Swap Counterparties and the Representative of the Bondholders.

**Quarterly Report Date** (*Data di Rendiconto Trimestrale*) means the date falling on the 14th day of January, April, July and October or, if such day is not a Business Day, the immediately following Business Day.

**Quota Capital Account** means the Euro denominated account IBAN No. IT75P1063101600000070092700 opened with Mediobanca – Banca di Credito Finanziario S.p.A., where the issued and paid-up corporate capital account of the Guarantor has been deposited.

**Quotaholders' Agreement** means the agreement entered into on or about the First Issue Date between the Guarantor, the Quotaholders and the Representative of the Bondholders.

**Quotaholders** means Chebanca! S.p.A. and SPV Holding S.r.l. and each assignee of the relevant participation in the issued and paid-up corporate capital of the Guarantor.

**Rate of Interest** means the rate or rates (expressed as a percentage per annum) of interest payable in respect of the Series of Covered Bonds specified in the relevant Final Terms or calculated or determined in accordance with the provisions of the Terms and Conditions and/or the relevant Final Terms.

Rating Agency means S&P.

**Real Estate Asset** (*Immobile*) means any real estate asset mortgaged as security of a Receivable under a Mortgage Loan Agreement.

**Redemption Amount** means, as appropriate, the Final Redemption Amount, the Early Redemption Amount (Tax), the Optional Redemption Amount (Call), the Optional Redemption Amount (Put), the Early Termination Amount or such other amount in the nature of a redemption amount as may be specified in, or determined in accordance with the provisions of, the relevant Final Terms.

**Reference Banks** has the meaning given in the relevant Final Terms or, if none, four major banks selected by the Interest Determination Agent in the market that is most closely connected with the Reference Rate.

**Reference Price** has the meaning given in the relevant Final Terms.

**Reference Rate** has the meaning given in the relevant Final Terms.

# Regular Period means:

- (i) in the case of Covered Bonds where interest is scheduled to be paid only by means of regular payments, each period from and including the Interest Commencement Date to but excluding the first CB Payment Date and each successive period from and including one CB Payment Date to but excluding the next CB Payment Date;
- (ii) in the case of Covered Bonds where, apart from the first CB Interest Period, interest is scheduled to be paid only by means of regular payments, each period from and including a Regular Date falling in any year to but excluding the next Regular Date, where "Regular Date" means the day and month (but not the year) on which any CB Payment Date falls; and
- (iii) in the case of Covered Bonds where, apart from one CB Interest Period other than the first CB Interest Period, interest is scheduled to be paid only by means of regular payments, each period from and including a Regular Date falling in any year to but excluding the next Regular Date, where "Regular Date" means the day and month (but not the year) on which any CB Payment Date falls other than the CB Payment Date falling at the end of the irregular CB Interest Period.

**Relevant Clearing System** means Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxemburg and/or any other clearing system (other than Monte Titoli) specified in the relevant Final Terms as a clearing system through which payments under the Covered Bonds may be made.

**Relevant Date** means, in relation to any payment, whichever is the later of (a) the date on which the payment in question first becomes due and (b) if the full amount payable has not been received in the Main Financial Centre of the currency of payment by the Paying Agent on or prior to such due date, the date on which (the full amount having been so received) notice to that effect has been given to the Bondholders.

**Relevant Dealer(s)** means, in relation to a Series, the Dealer(s) which is/are party to any agreement in writing entered into with the Issuer and the Guarantor for the issue by the Issuer and the subscription by such Dealer(s) of such Series pursuant to the Programme Agreement.

**Relevant Financial Centre** has the meaning given in the relevant Final Terms.

**Relevant Screen Page** means the page, section or other part of a particular information service (including, without limitation, Reuters) specified as the Relevant Screen Page in the relevant Final Terms, or such other page, section or other part as may replace it on that information service or such other information service, in each case, as may be nominated by the Person providing or sponsoring the information appearing there for the purpose of displaying rates or prices comparable to the Reference Rate.

**Relevant Time** has the meaning given in the relevant Final Terms.

**Representative of the Bondholders** (*Rappresentante dei Portatori dei Covered Bond*) means the entity that will act as representative of the holders of each series of Covered Bonds pursuant to the Transaction Documents.

**Required Redemption Amount** means the Euro Equivalent of the Principal Amount Outstanding in respect of the relevant Covered Bond, multiplied by [1 + (Negative Carry Factor x (days to the Maturity Date of the relevant Series of Covered Bond (or the Extended Maturity Date if applicable)/365)].

Required Reserve Amount means, if the Issuer's short term, unsecured, unsubordinated and unguaranteed debt obligations are rated at least A-1+ by S&P, nil or such other amount as the Issuer shall direct the Guarantor from time to time and otherwise, an amount which will be determined on each Calculation Date and which will be equal to the aggregate amount of (a) one fourth of the annual amount payable under items (ii) and (iv) of the Pre-Issuer Event of Default Interest Priority of Payment; (b) any interest amounts due to the Covered Bond Swap Counterparties in respect of each relevant Covered Bond Swap on the second Guarantor Payment Date following each relevant Calculation Date or, if no Covered Bond Swap has been entered into in relation to a Series of Covered Bonds, the interest amounts accrued until the relevant Calculation Date plus the interest amounts due in relation to that Series of Covered Bonds on the second Guarantor Payment Date following each relevant Calculation Date and (c) Euro 250,000.00.

**Reserve Account** means the euro denominated account established in the name of the Guarantor with the Account Bank, IBAN: IT84O1063101600000070200427, or such other substitute account as may be opened in accordance with the Cash Management Agreement.

**Residential Mortgage Loan Agreement** means any residential mortgage loan agreement out of which Receivables arise.

**Residential Mortgage Loan** means, pursuant to article 2, sub-paragraph 1, of MEF Decree, a residential mortgage loan in respect of which the relevant amount outstanding added to the principal amount outstanding of any higher ranking mortgage loans secured by the same property, does not exceed 80 per cent of the value of the property and for which the hardening period with respect to the perfection of the relevant mortgage has elapsed.

**Revolving Period** means the period of 10 (ten) years from the date of the First Issue Date in which Mediobanca may issue several Series of Covered Bonds under the Programme pursuant to art. 7-bis of the Law 130/99.

**Rules** (*Regolamento dei Portatori dei Covered Bond*) means the rules of the organisation of the Bondholders, attached to the Conditions and forming an integral part thereof.

**Retention Amount** means an amount equal to Euro 50,000.

**S&P** means Standard and Poor's Rating Services, a division of McGraw Hill Companies.

# **Scheduled Due for Payment Date** means:

- (i) (a) the date on which the Scheduled Payment Date in respect of the relevant Guaranteed Amounts is reached, and (b) only with respect to the first Scheduled Payment Date immediately after the occurrence of an Issuer Event of Default, the later of (i) the day which is two Business Days following the service of the Issuer Default Notice on the Guarantor in respect of such Guaranteed Amounts and (ii) the relevant Scheduled Payment Date; or
- (ii) if the applicable Final Terms specified that an Extended Maturity Date is applicable to the relevant Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds, the Scheduled Payment Date that would have applied if the Maturity Date of such series or tranche of Covered Bonds had been the Extended Maturity Date or such other Scheduled Payment Date(s) as specified in the relevant Final Terms.

**Scheduled Interest** means in respect of each Scheduled Payment Date following the service of an Issuer Default Notice to the Guarantor, an amount equal to the amount in respect of interest which would have been due and payable under the Covered Bonds on such Scheduled Payment Date as

specified in the Terms and Conditions falling on or after the service of an Issuer Default Notice to the Guarantor (but excluding any Excluded Scheduled Interest Amounts).

**Scheduled Payment Date** means, in relation to any payments due under the Guarantee, each CB Payment Date or, if applicable under the relevant Final Terms, each Optional Redemption Date.

**Scheduled Principal** means in respect of each Scheduled Payment Date following the service of an Issuer Default Notice to the Guarantor, an amount equal to the amount in respect of principal which would have been due and repayable under the Covered Bonds on such Scheduled Payment dates as specified in the Terms and Conditions (but excluding any Excluded Scheduled Principal Amount).

**Screen Rate Determination** means that the Rate of Interest will be determined in accordance with Condition 6 (b) (*Screen Rate Determination*).

**Secured Creditors** (*Creditori Garantiti*) means the Bondholders, the Seller, the Servicer, the Subordinated Lender, the Investment Manager, the Calculation Agent, the Representative of the Bondholders, the Asset Monitor, the Cover Pool Swap Counterparty, the Covered Bond Swap Counterparty, the Account Bank, the Paying Agent, the Test Report Provider, the Interest Determination Agent, the Corporate Servicer and the Portfolio Manager (if any).

**Security Interest** (*Garanzia degli Attivi*) means any Mortgage, charge, pledge, lien, encumbrance and any other security interest or personal guarantee (garanzie reali o personali) granted in favour of the Seller in relation to each Mortgage Loan, Mortgage Loan Agreement or Receivables (except for the fidejussioni omnibus which have not been granted exclusively in relation to or in connection with the Mortgage Loans, Mortgage Loan Agreements or Receivables).

**Segregation Event** has the meaning given to it in Condition 13.1 (Segregation Event).

**Selected Assets** means the Eligible Assets and the Integration Assets selected by the Portfolio Manager or by the Servicer pursuant to Clause 5 of the Portfolio Management Agreement.

**Seller** (*Cedente*) means CheBanca in its capacity as such pursuant to the Master Purchase Agreement.

**Series** or **Series of Covered Bonds** (*Serie*) means each series of Covered Bonds issued in the context of the Programme.

**Servicer** means CheBanca in its capacity as such pursuant to the Servicing Agreement.

**Servicing Agreement** (*Contratto di Servicing*) means the agreement entered into, on November 30, 2011, between the Guarantor and the Servicer.

**Settlement Report Date** means the fifth Business Day before the Guarantor Payment Date.

**Specific Criteria** (*Criteri Specifici*) means the eligibility criteria, other than the General Criteria, related to each Portfolio, as specified (i) in the Schedule I – Part II of the Master Purchase Agreement, with respect to the Initial Portfolio and (ii) in the Schedule I – Part III of the Master Purchase Agreement, with respect to each Subsequent Portfolio and Further Portfolio.

**Specified Currency** means the currency as may be agreed from time to time by the Issuer and the relevant Dealer(s) (as set out in the applicable Final Terms).

**Specified Denomination(s)** has the meaning given in the relevant Final Terms, as agreed between the Issuer and the relevant Dealer(s).

**Specified Office** means (i) in the case of the Interest Determination Agent, Bnp Paribas Securities services, Via Ansperto 5, 20123 Milano, Italy; or (ii) in the case of any other Paying Agent, the offices specified in the relevant Final Terms; or (iii) in the case of the Calculation Agent, CheBanca, Viale Bodio 37, Palazzo 4, 20158 Milano, or, in each case, such other office in the same city or town as such agent may specify by notice to the Issuer and the other parties to the Cash Management Agreement in the manner provided therein.

**Subordinated Lender** means CheBanca, in its capacity as such pursuant to the Subordinated Loan Agreement.

**Subordinated Loan Agreement** (*Contratto di Finanziamento Subordinato*) means, collectively, the Initial Subordinated Loan Agreement and each Subsequent Subordinated Loan Agreement.

**Subordinated Loan** (*Finanziamento Subordinato*) means each subordinated loan granted by the Subordinated Lender in favour of the Guarantor pursuant to the Subordinated Loan Agreement.

**Subsequent Portfolios** (*Portafogli Successivi*) means any portfolio of Eligible Assets which may be purchased by the Guarantor in order to allow Mediobanca to issue other Series of Covered Bonds during the Revolving Period pursuant to the terms and subject to the conditions of the Master Purchase Agreement.

**Subsequent Subordinated Loan Agreement** (*Contratto di Finanziamento Subordinato Successivo*) means each subordinated loan agreement entered into between the Subordinated Lender and the Guarantor prior to each Issue Date, other than the First Issue Date.

**Subsequent Subordinated Loan** (Finanziamento Subordinato Successivo) means each subordinated loan granted by the Subordinated Lender in favour of the Guarantor pursuant to each Subsequent Subordinated Loan Agreement.

**Subsidiary** has the meaning given to it in Article 2359 of the Italian Civil Code.

**Suspension Period** means the period of suspension of payments pursuant to Article 74 of the Italian Banking Act.

**Swap Agreements** means (i) the Cover Pool Swap Agreement and (ii) the Covered Bond Swap Agreement.

**Swap Collateral Account** means the bank account which shall be established in the name of the Guarantor with the Account Bank for so long as it qualifies as an Eligible Institution or with another Eligible Institution for the deposit of the collateral due to the Guarantor by the Swap Counterparties under the relevant Credit Support Annex if and to the extent that such deposit is necessary under the Swap Agreements.

**TARGET Settlement Day** means any day on which the TARGET2 is open for the settlement of payments in Euro.

**TARGET2** means the Trans-European Automated Real-time Gross Settlement Express Transfer payment system which utilises a single shared platform and which was launched on 19 November 2007.

**Tax** (*Tassa*) means any present or future taxes, duties, assessments or governmental charges of whatever nature imposed, levied, collected, withheld or assessed by the Republic of Italy or any political sub-division thereof or any authority thereof or therein.

**Tax Deduction** means a deduction or withholding for or on account of Tax.

**Terms and Conditions** means the terms and conditions attached as Schedule 1 to the Intercreditor Agreement.

**Test Grace Period** means the period starting on the date on which the breach of any Test is notified by the Test Report Provider and ending on the following Calculation Date.

**Test Performance Report** means the report to be delivered, on each Calculation Date, by the Calculation Agent pursuant to Clause 3 of the Portfolio Management Agreement.

**Tests** means, collectively, the Mandatory Tests, the Asset Coverage Test, the Amortisation Test and the Pre–Maturity Test.

**Total Balance Guaranteed Swap** is a swap agreement aimed at providing a complete hedge against interest rate differentials in the SPV (*i.e.* the Guarantor), including the negative carry eventually arising between the interests matured on the Accounts and on the Integration Assets and Eligible Investments (if any) and the coupons to be paid on the outstanding Covered Bonds.

**Transaction Account** means the euro denominated account established in the name of the Guarantor with the Account Bank, IBAN: IT61P1063101600000070200428, or such other substitute account as may be opened in accordance with the Cash Management Agreement.

**Transaction Documents** (*Documenti del Programma*) means the Master Purchase Agreement, the Servicing Agreement, the Cash Management Agreement, the Portfolio Management Agreement, the Programme Agreement, the Intercreditor Agreement, the Subordinated Loan Agreement, the Asset Monitor Agreement, the Guarantee, the Corporate Services Agreement, the Swap Agreements, the Quotaholders' Agreement, the Deed of Pledge, the Deed of Charge and the Master Definitions Agreement.

**Transfer Date** (*Data di Cessione*) means (i) with reference to the Initial Portfolio, the date on which have been carried out the Publicities pursuant to Clause 2.5 of the Master Purchase Agreement, and (ii) with reference to each Subsequent Portfolios, the date on which have been carried out the Publicities pursuant to Clause 3.6 of the Master Purchase Agreement.

**Transfer Proposal** (*Proposta di Cessione*) means the transfer proposal sent by the Seller to the Guarantor in relation to each Subsequent Portfolio or Further Portfolio pursuant to Clause 3.2 of the Master Purchase Agreement.

**Valuation Date** (*Data di Valutazione*) means, in respect of the Initial Portfolio, the Initial Valuation Date and, in respect of each Subsequent Portfolio, the date on which the economic effects of the transfer of the relevant Portfolio will commence.

**Zero Coupon Covered Bond** means a Covered Bond specified as such in the relevant Final Terms.

**Zero Coupon Provisions** means Condition 7 (Zero Coupon Provisions).

## 2.2 Interpretation

In these Conditions:

(i) any reference to principal shall be deemed to include the Redemption Amount, any additional amounts in respect of principal which may be payable under Condition 12 (Taxation), any premium payable in respect of a Series of Covered Bonds and any other amount in the nature of principal payable pursuant to these Conditions;

- (ii) any reference to interest shall be deemed to include any additional amounts in respect of interest which may be payable under Condition 12 (Taxation) and any other amount in the nature of interest payable pursuant to these Conditions;
- (iii) if an expression is stated in Condition 2 (a) (Definitions) to have the meaning given in the relevant Final Terms, but the relevant Final Terms give no such meaning or specify that such expression is "not applicable" then such expression is not applicable to the Covered Bonds;
- (iv) any reference to a Transaction Document shall be construed as a reference to such Transaction Document, as amended and/or supplemented up to and including the Issue Date of the relevant Covered Bonds;
- (v) any reference to a party to a Transaction Document (other than the Issuer and the Guarantor) shall, where the context permits, include any Person who, in accordance with the terms of such Transaction Document, becomes a party thereto subsequent to the date thereof, whether by appointment as a successor to an existing party or by appointment or otherwise as an additional party to such document and whether in respect of the Programme generally or in respect of a single Series only; and
- (vi) any reference in any legislation (whether primary legislation or regulations or other subsidiary legislation made pursuant to primary legislation) shall be construed as a reference to such legislation as the same may have been, or may from time to time be, amended or reenacted.

## 3. DENOMINATION, FORM AND TITLE

- 3.1 The minimum denomination of each Covered Bond admitted to trading on a regulated market within the European Economic Area or offered to the public in a Member State of the European Economic Area in circumstances which require the publication of a prospectus under the Prospectus Directive will be €100,000 (or, if the Covered Bonds are denominated in a currency other than euro, the equivalent amount in such currency).
- 3.2 The Covered Bonds are and will be issued in dematerialised form (forma dematerializzata) and will be wholly and exclusively deposited with Monte Titoli in accordance with the provisions of (i) Article 83-bis and ff. of the Legislative Decree no. 58 of 24 February 1998 and (ii) the Joint Resolution, as subsequently amended and supplemented from time to time, through the relevant Monte Titoli Account Holder.
- 3.3 Covered Bond will at all time be evidenced by, and title thereto will be transferable by means of, book-entries in accordance with the provisions of (i) Article 83-bis and ff. of the Legislative Decree no. 58 of 24 February 1998 and (ii) the Joint Resolution, as subsequently amended and supplemented from time to time. The Covered Bonds will be held by Monte Titoli on behalf of the Bondholders until redemption or cancellation thereof for the account of the relevant Monte Titoli Account Holder. Monte Titoli shall act as depository for Clearstream and Euroclear.
- **3.4** No certificate or physical document of title will be issued in respect of the Covered Bonds.

# 4. STATUS AND GUARANTEE

4.1 Status of the Covered Bonds: The Covered Bonds constitute direct, unconditional, unsecured and unsubordinated obligations of the Issuer and will rank pari passu without preference among themselves and (save for any applicable statutory provisions) at least equally with all other present and future unsecured and unsubordinated obligations of the Issuer from time to time outstanding. In the event of a compulsory winding-up (liquidazione coatta amministrativa) of the Issuer, any funds

realised and payable to the Bondholders will be collected by the Guarantor on their behalf and will be included in the Cover Pool, in accordance with the provisions of Article 4, Paragraph 3 of the MEF Decree.

- 4.2 Status of the Guarantee: The payment of Guaranteed Amounts in respect of each Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds when due for payment pursuant to the Conditions will be unconditionally and irrevocably guaranteed by the Guarantor in accordance with the Guarantee pursuant to which the obligations of the Guarantor constitute direct and unconditional, unsubordinated and limited recourse obligations of the Guarantor, collateralised by the Cover Pool as provided under the Covered Bonds Law and these Conditions. The recourse of the Bondholders to the Guarantor under the Guarantee will be limited to the amounts received or recovered by the Guarantor in respect of the assets comprised into the Cover Pool. Payments made by the Guarantor under the Guarantee will be made subject to, and in accordance with, the relevant Priority of Payments.
- 4.3 The obligations of the Guarantor under the Guarantee constitute direct and unconditional, unsubordinated and limited recourse obligations of the Guarantor, collateralised by the Cover Pool as provided under the Covered Bonds Law. The recourse of the Bondholders to the Guarantor under the Guarantee will be limited to the assets of the Cover Pool subject to, and in accordance with, the relevant Priority of Payments pursuant to which specified payments will be made to other parties prior to payments to the Bondholders

# 5. FIXED RATE PROVISIONS

This Condition 5 is applicable to the Covered Bonds only if the "Fixed Rate Provisions" are specified in the relevant Final Terms as being applicable.

- (a) Accrual of interest: The Covered Bonds bear interest on their outstanding principal amount from the Interest Commencement Date at the Rate of Interest payable in arrear on each CB Payment Date, subject as provided in Condition 11 (Payments). Each Covered Bond will cease to bear interest from the due date for final redemption unless payment of the Redemption Amount is improperly withheld or refused, in which case it will continue to bear interest in accordance with this Condition 5 (both before and after judgment) until the day on which all sums due in respect of such Covered Bond up to that day are received by the relevant Bondholders or on their behalf by the Paying Agent.
- (b) Fixed Coupon Amount: The amount of interest payable in respect of each Covered Bond for any CB Interest Period shall be the relevant Fixed Coupon Amount and, if the Covered Bonds are in more than one Specified Denomination, shall be the relevant Fixed Coupon Amount in respect of the relevant Specified Denomination.
- (c) Calculation of interest amount: The amount of interest payable in respect of each Covered Bond for any period for which a Fixed Coupon Amount is not specified shall be calculated by applying the Rate of Interest to the Calculation Amount, multiplying the product by the relevant Day Count Fraction, rounding the resulting figure to the nearest sub-unit of the Specified Currency (half a sub-unit being rounded upwards) and multiplying such rounded figure by a fraction equal to the Specified Denomination of such Covered Bond divided by the Calculation Amount. For this purpose a "sub-unit" means, in the case of any currency other than euro, the lowest amount of such currency that is available as legal tender in the country of such currency and, in the case of euro, means one cent.

# 6. FLOATING RATE AND INDEX-LINKED OR OTHER VARIABLE-LINKED INTEREST PROVISIONS

This Condition 6 is applicable to the Covered Bonds only if the "Floating Rate Provisions" or the "Index-Linked or Other Variable-Linked Interest Provisions" are specified in the relevant Final Terms as being applicable.

- (a) Accrual of interest: The Covered Bonds bear interest on their outstanding principal amount from the Interest Commencement Date at the Rate of Interest payable in arrear on each CB Payment Date, subject as provided in Condition 11 (Payments). Each Covered Bond will cease to bear interest from the due date for final redemption unless payment of the Redemption Amount is improperly withheld or refused, in which case it will continue to bear interest in accordance with this Condition (both before and after judgment) ) until the day on which all sums due in respect of such Covered Bond up to that day are received by the relevant Bondholders or on their behalf by the Paying Agent.
- (b) Screen Rate Determination: If Screen Rate Determination is specified in the relevant Final Terms as the manner in which the Rate(s) of Interest is/are to be determined, the Rate of Interest applicable to the Covered Bonds for each CB Interest Period will be determined by the Interest Determination Agent on the following basis:
  - (i) if the Reference Rate is a composite quotation or customarily supplied by one entity, the Interest Determination Agent will determine the Reference Rate which appears on the Relevant Screen Page as of the Relevant Time on the relevant Interest Determination Date;
  - (ii) in any other case, the Interest Determination Agent will determine the arithmetic mean of the Reference Rates which appear on the Relevant Screen Page as of the Relevant Time on the relevant Interest Determination Date;
  - (iii) if, in the case of (i) above, such rate does not appear on that page or, in the case of(ii) above, fewer than two such rates appear on that page or if, in either case, theRelevant Screen Page is unavailable, the Interest Determination Agent will:
    - (A) request the main Relevant Financial Centre office of each of the Reference Banks to provide a quotation of the Reference Rate at approximately the Relevant Time on the Interest Determination Date to prime banks in the Relevant Financial Centre interbank market in an amount that is representative for a single transaction in that market at that time; and
    - (B) determine the arithmetic mean of such quotations; and
  - (iv) if fewer than two such quotations are provided as requested, the Interest Determination Agent will determine the arithmetic mean of the rates (being the nearest to the Reference Rate, as determined by the Interest Determination Agent) quoted by major banks in the Main Financial Centre of the Specified Currency, selected by the Interest Determination Agent, at approximately 11.00 a.m. (local time in the Main Financial Centre of the Specified Currency) on the first day of the relevant CB Interest Period for loans in the Specified Currency to leading European banks for a period equal to the relevant CB Interest Period and in an amount that is representative for a single transaction in that market at that time,

and the Rate of Interest for such CB Interest Period shall be the sum of the Margin and the rate or (as the case may be) the arithmetic mean so determined; provided, however, that if the Interest Determination Agent is unable to determine a rate or (as the case may be) an arithmetic mean in accordance with the above provisions in relation to any CB Interest

- Period, the Rate of Interest applicable to the Covered Bonds during such CB Interest Period will be the sum of the Margin and the rate or (as the case may be) the arithmetic mean last determined in relation to the Covered Bonds in respect of a preceding CB Interest Period.
- (c) ISDA Determination: If ISDA Determination is specified in the relevant Final Terms as the manner in which the Rate(s) of Interest is/are to be determined, the Rate of Interest applicable to the Covered Bonds for each CB Interest Period will be the sum of the Margin and the relevant ISDA Rate where "ISDA Rate" in relation to any CB Interest Period means a rate equal to the Floating Rate (as defined in the ISDA Definitions) that would be determined by the Interest Determination Agent under an interest rate swap transaction if the Interest Determination Agent were acting as Interest Determination Agent for that interest rate swap transaction under the terms of an agreement incorporating the ISDA Definitions and under which:
  - (i) the Floating Rate Option (as defined in the ISDA Definitions) is as specified in the relevant Final Terms;
  - (ii) the Designated Maturity (as defined in the ISDA Definitions) is a period specified in the relevant Final Terms; and
  - (iii) the relevant Reset Date (as defined in the ISDA Definitions) is either (A) if the relevant Floating Rate Option is based on the London inter-bank offered rate (LIBOR) for a currency, the first day of that CB Interest Period or (B) in any other case, as specified in the relevant Final Terms.
- (d) Index-Linked or Other Variable-Linked Interest: If the Index-Linked or Other Variable-Linked Interest Provisions are specified in the relevant Final Terms as being applicable, the Rate(s) of Interest applicable to the Covered Bonds for each CB Interest Period will be determined in the manner specified in the relevant Final Terms.
- (e) *Maximum or Minimum Rate of Interest*: If any Maximum Rate of Interest or Minimum Rate of Interest is specified in the relevant Final Terms, then the Rate of Interest shall in no event be greater than the maximum or be less than the minimum so specified.
- (f) Calculation of Interest Amount: The Interest Determination Agent will, as soon as practicable after the time at which the Rate of Interest is to be determined in relation to each CB Interest Period, calculate the Interest Amount payable in respect of each Covered Bond for such CB Interest Period. The Interest Amount will be calculated by applying the Rate of Interest for such CB Interest Period to the Calculation Amount, multiplying the product by the relevant Day Count Fraction, rounding the resulting figure to the nearest sub-unit of the Specified Currency (half a sub-unit being rounded upwards) and multiplying such rounded figure by a fraction equal to the Specified Denomination of the relevant Covered Bond divided by the Calculation Amount. For this purpose a "sub-unit" means, in the case of any currency other than Euro, the lowest amount of such currency that is available as legal tender in the country of such currency and, in the case of euro, means one cent.
- (g) Calculation of other amounts: If the relevant Final Terms specifies that any other amount is to be calculated by the Interest Determination Agent, then the Interest Determination Agent will, as soon as practicable after the time or times at which any such amount is to be determined, calculate the relevant amount. The relevant amount will be calculated by the Interest Determination Agent in the manner specified in the relevant Final Terms.

- (h) Publication: The Interest Determination Agent will cause each Rate of Interest and Interest Amount determined by it, together with the relevant CB Payment Date, and any other amount(s) required to be determined by it together with any relevant payment date(s) to be notified to the Paying Agent(s) and each competent authority, stock exchange and/or quotation system (if any) by which the Covered Bonds have then been admitted to listing, trading and/or quotation as soon as practicable after such determination but (in the case of each Rate of Interest, Interest Amount and CB Payment Date) in any event not later than the first day of the relevant CB Interest Period. Notice thereof shall also promptly be given to the Bondholders. The Interest Determination Agent will be entitled to recalculate any Interest Amount (on the basis of the foregoing provisions) without notice in the event of an extension or shortening of the relevant CB Interest Period. If the Calculation Amount is less than the minimum Specified Denomination, the Interest Determination Agent shall not be obliged to publish each Interest Amount but instead may publish only the Calculation Amount and the Interest Amount in respect of a Covered Bond having the minimum Specified Denomination.
- (i) Notifications etc: All notifications, opinions, determinations, certificates, calculations, quotations and decisions given, expressed, made or obtained for the purposes of this Condition by the Interest Determination Agent will (in the absence of manifest error) be binding on the Issuer, the Guarantor, the Paying Agent(s), the Bondholders and (subject as aforesaid) no liability to any such Person will attach to the Interest Determination Agent in connection with the exercise or non-exercise by it of its powers, duties and discretions for such purposes.

# 7. ZERO COUPON PROVISIONS

This Condition 7 is applicable to the Covered Bonds only if the "Zero Coupon Provisions" are specified in the relevant Final Terms as being applicable.

- (a) Late payment on Zero Coupon Covered Bonds: If the Redemption Amount payable in respect of any Zero Coupon Covered Bond is improperly withheld or refused, the Redemption Amount shall thereafter be an amount equal to the sum of:
  - (i) the Reference Price; and
  - (ii) the product of the Accrual Yield (compounded annually) being applied to the Reference Price on the basis of the relevant Day Count Fraction from (and including) the Issue Date to (but excluding) whichever is the earlier of (i) the day on which all sums due in respect of such Covered Bond up to that day are received by or on behalf of the relevant Bondholder and (ii) the day which is seven days after the Interest Determination Agent has notified the Bondholders that it has received all sums due in respect of the Covered Bonds up to such seventh day (except to the extent that there is any subsequent default in payment).

## 8. PARTLY-PAID PROVISIONS

This Condition 8 is applicable to the Covered Bonds only if the "Partly-Paid Provisions" are specified in the relevant Final Terms as being applicable.

(a) Rate of Interest: Interest will accrue on the paid up nominal amount of such Covered Bonds or as otherwise specified in the applicable Final Terms.

# 9. DUAL CURRENCY PROVISIONS

- (a) *Application:* This Condition 9 is applicable to the Covered Bonds only if the Dual Currency Provisions are specified in the relevant Final Terms as being applicable.
- (b) Rate of Interest: If the rate or amount of interest falls to be determined by reference to an exchange rate, the rate or amount of interest payable shall be determined in the manner specified in the relevant Final Terms.

#### 10. REDEMPTION AND PURCHASE

- (a) Scheduled redemption: To the extent outstanding, the Covered Bonds will be redeemed at their Final Redemption Amount on the Maturity Date, subject as provided in Condition 10 (b) (Extension of maturity) and Condition 11 (Payments).
- (b) Extension of maturity: Without prejudice to Conditions 13 (Segregation Event) and 14 (Events of Default), if an Extended Maturity Date is specified as applicable in the relevant Final Terms for a Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds and the Issuer has failed to pay the Final Redemption Amount on the Maturity Date specified in the relevant Final Terms and, the Guarantor or the Calculation Agent on its behalf determines that the Guarantor has insufficient moneys available under the relevant Priority of Payments to pay the Guaranteed Amounts corresponding to the Final Redemption Amount in full in respect of the relevant Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds on the date falling on the Extension Determination Date, then (subject as provided below), payment of the unpaid amount by the Guarantor under the Guarantee shall be deferred until the Extended Maturity Date provided that any amount representing the Final Redemption Amount due and remaining unpaid after the Extension Determination Date may be paid by the Guarantor on any relevant Payment Date thereafter up to (and including) the relevant Extended Maturity Date.

The Guarantor shall notify the relevant holders of the Covered Bonds (in accordance with Condition 19 (*Notices*), any relevant Swap Counterparties, the Rating Agency, the Representative of the Bondholders and the Paying Agent as soon as reasonably practicable and in any event at least one Business Day prior to the date specified in the preceding paragraph of any inability of the Guarantor to pay in full on the Extension Determination Date the Guaranteed Amounts corresponding to the Final Redemption Amount in respect of the Covered Bonds pursuant to the Guarantee. Any failure by the Guarantor to notify such parties shall not affect the validity or effectiveness of the extension nor give rise to any rights in any such party.

In these circumstances, on the Extension Determination Date the Guarantor shall pay (i) Guaranteed Amounts constituting the Scheduled Interest in respect of each such Covered Bond and (ii) to the extent that the Guarantor has sufficient Available Funds (as defined below), in part and pro rata (after paying or providing for payment of higher ranking or pari passu amounts in accordance with the relevant Priority of Payments) the Final Redemption Amount in respect of the Series or Tranches of Covered Bonds. The obligation of the Guarantor to pay any amounts in respect of the balance of the Final Redemption Amount not so paid shall be deferred as described above.

Interest will continue to accrue on any unpaid amount during such extended period and be payable on the Maturity Date and on each Scheduled Payment Date up to and on the Extended Maturity Date.

(c) *Redemption for tax reasons*: The Covered Bonds may be redeemed at the option of the Issuer in *whole*, but not in part:

- (i) at any time (if neither the Floating Rate Provisions nor the Index-Linked or Other Variable-Linked Interest Provisions are specified in the relevant Final Terms as being applicable); or
- (ii) on any CB Payment Date (if the Floating Rate Provisions or the Index-Linked or Other Variable-Linked Interest Provisions are specified in the relevant Final Terms as being applicable),

on giving not less than 30 nor more than 60 days' notice to the Bondholders (which notice shall be irrevocable), at their Early Redemption Amount (Tax), together with interest accrued (if any) to the date fixed for redemption, if:

- (A) the Issuer has or will become obliged to pay additional amounts as provided or referred to in Condition 12 (Taxation) as a result of any change in, or amendment to, the laws or regulations of Italy or any political subdivision or any authority thereof or therein having power to tax, or any change in the application, administration or official interpretation of such laws or regulations (including a holding by a court of competent jurisdiction), which change or amendment becomes effective on or after the date of issue of the first Series or Tranche of the Covered Bonds; and
- (B) such obligation cannot be avoided by the Issuer taking reasonable measures available to it,

provided, however, that no such notice of redemption shall be given earlier than:

- (1) where the Covered Bonds may be redeemed at any time, 90 days prior to the earliest date on which the Issuer would be obliged to pay such additional amounts if a payment in respect of the Covered Bonds were then due; or
- (2) where the Covered Bonds may be redeemed only on a CB Payment Date, 60 days prior to the CB Payment Date occurring immediately before the earliest date on which the Issuer would be obliged to pay such additional amounts if a payment in respect of the Covered Bonds were then due.

Prior to the publication of any notice of redemption pursuant to this paragraph, the Issuer shall deliver to the Paying Agent (A) a certificate signed by two directors of the Issuer stating that the Issuer is entitled to effect such redemption and setting forth a statement of facts showing that the conditions precedent to the right of the Issuer so to redeem have occurred of and (B) an opinion of independent legal and fiscal advisers of recognised standing to the effect that the Issuer has or will become obliged to pay such additional amounts as a result of such change or amendment and (C) a certificate signed by two directors of the Issuer stating that the Issuer shall have the amounts necessary in order to effect the early repayment at the date fixed for the redemption. Upon the expiry of any such notice as is referred to in this Condition 10 (c) (Redemption for tax reason), the Issuer shall be bound to redeem the Covered Bonds in accordance with this Condition 10 (c) (Redemption for tax reason).

(d) Redemption at the option of the Issuer: If the "Call Option" is specified in the relevant Final Terms as being applicable, the Covered Bonds may be redeemed at the option of the Issuer in whole or, if so specified in the relevant Final Terms, in part on any Optional Redemption Date (Call) at the relevant Optional Redemption Amount (Call) on the Issuer's giving not less than 15 nor more than 30 days' notice to the Bondholders in accordance with Condition 19 (which notice shall be irrevocable and shall oblige the Issuer to redeem the Covered Bonds

- on the relevant Optional Redemption Date (Call) at the Optional Redemption Amount (Call) plus accrued interest (if any) to such date).
- (e) Partial redemption: If the Covered Bonds are to be redeemed in part only on any date in accordance with Condition 10 (d) (Redemption at the option of the Issuer), the Covered Bonds to be redeemed in part shall be redeemed in the principal amount specified by the Issuer and the Covered Bonds will be so redeemed in accordance with the rules and procedures of Monte Titoli and/or any other Relevant Clearing System (to be reflected in the records of such clearing systems as a pool factor or a reduction in principal amount, at their discretion), subject to compliance with applicable law, the rules of each competent authority, stock exchange and/or quotation system (if any) by which the Covered Bonds have then been admitted to listing, trading and/or quotation. The notice to Bondholders referred to in Condition 10 (d) (Redemption at the option of the Issuer) shall specify the proportion of the Covered Bonds so to be redeemed. If any Maximum Redemption Amount or Minimum Redemption Amount is specified in the relevant Final Terms, then the Optional Redemption Amount (Call) shall in no event be greater than the maximum or be less than the minimum so specified.
- (f) Redemption at the option of Bondholders: If the "Put Option" is specified in the relevant Final Terms as being applicable, the Issuer shall, at the option of any Bondholder redeem such Covered Bonds held by it on the Optional Redemption Date (Put) specified in the relevant Put Option Notice at the relevant Optional Redemption Amount (Put) together with interest (if any) accrued to such date. In order to exercise the option contained in this Condition 10 (f) (Redemption at the option of the Bondholders), the Bondholder must, not less than 15 nor more than 30 days before the relevant Optional Redemption Date (Put), deposit with the Paying Agent a duly completed Put Option Notice in the form obtainable from the Paying Agent. The Paying Agent with which a Put Option Notice is so deposited shall deliver a duly completed Put Option Receipt to the deposit in Bondholder. Once deposited in accordance with this Condition 10 (f) (Redemption at the option of the Bondholders), no duly completed Put Option Notice may be withdrawn; provided, however, that if, prior to the relevant Optional Redemption Date (Put), any Covered Bonds become immediately due and payable or, upon due presentation of any such Covered Bonds on the relevant Optional Redemption Date (Put), payment of the redemption moneys is improperly withheld or refused, the Paying Agent shall mail notification thereof to the Bondholder at such address as may have been given by such Bondholder in the relevant Put Option Notice and shall hold such Covered Bond against surrender of the relevant Put Option Receipt. For so long as any outstanding Covered Bonds are held by the Paying Agent in accordance with this Condition 10 (f) (Redemption at the option of the Bondholders), the Bondholder and not the Paying Agent shall be deemed to be the holder of such Covered Bonds for all purposes.
- (g) No other redemption: The Issuer shall not be entitled to redeem the Covered Bonds otherwise than as provided in Conditions 10 (a) (Scheduled redemption) to (f) (Redemption at the option of Bondholders) above.
- (h) Early redemption of Zero Coupon Covered Bonds: Unless otherwise specified in the relevant Final Terms, the Redemption Amount payable on redemption of a Zero Coupon Covered Bonds at any time before the Maturity Date shall be an amount equal to the sum of:
  - (i) the Reference Price; and
  - (ii) the product of the Accrual Yield (compounded annually) applied to the Reference Price from (and including) the Issue Date to (but excluding) the date fixed for

redemption or (as the case may be) the date upon which the Covered Bonds become due and payable.

Where such calculation is to be made for a period which is not a whole number of years, the calculation in respect of the period of less than a full year shall be made on the basis of such Day Count Fraction as may be specified in the Final Terms for the purposes of this Condition 10 (h) or, if none is so specified, a Day Count Fraction of 30E/360.

- (i) Cancellation: All Covered Bonds so redeemed shall be cancelled and may not be reissued.
- (j) *Purchase*: The Issuer or any of its Subsidiaries may at any time purchase Covered Bonds in the open market or otherwise and at any price. The Guarantor shall not purchase any Covered Bonds at any time.
- (k) *Pre-Maturity Liquidity*: if the Pre-Maturity Test is specified as applicable in the relevant Final Terms for a Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds, on each Pre-Maturity Test Date prior to the occurrence of an Issuer Event of Default, the Test Report Provider will determine if the Pre-Maturity Test has been breached, and if so, it shall immediately notify the Issuer, the Seller, the Guarantor and the Representative of Bondholders.

The Issuer will fail and be in breach of the Pre-Maturity Test on a Pre-Maturity Test Date in relation to the relevant Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds if the Issuer's short-term credit rating from *S&P* falls to A-2 (or lower) and the Maturity Date of the relevant Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds will fall within 12 months following the relevant Pre-Maturity Test Date.

If the Pre-Maturity Test is breached in respect of a Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds, the Issuer and the Guarantor will be required to (A) ensure that, on or before the immediately following Calculation Date, the Pre-Maturity Collateral Amount will have a value equal to the Required Redemption Amount in respect of such Series or Tranche or, alternatively, (B) that a guarantee is provided in respect of the payment of the Final Redemption Amount on the relevant Maturity Date for that Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds, in order to comply with the S&P criteria applicable from time to time.

On the Pre-Maturity Test Date on which the breach of the Pre-Maturity Test has occurred, the Test Report Provider shall deliver a notice to the Representative of the Bondholders, the Garantor, the Seller and the Issuer evidencing such a breach (the "Pre-Maturity Test Notice").

In order to ensure compliance with or cure a breach of the Pre-Maturity Test under (A) above, the Guarantor may, among others:

- (i) offer to sell Selected Assets in accordance with the Portfolio Management Agreement, and subject to any right of pre-emption enjoyed by the Seller; and/or
- (ii) purchase Public Assets or Asset Backed Securities or Integration Assets from the Seller or Additional Seller (if any) provided that such Public Assets or Asset Backed Securities or Integration Assets are in line with the criteria of the Eligible Investments.

Should the relevant breach have not been remedied prior to the end of the Test Grace Period, the Representative of the Bondholders shall deliver a Breach of Test Notice to the Issuer, the Seller and the Guarantor. Should the relevant Test has not been remedied within the following three months, the Representative of the Bondholders may (but is not obliged to)

deliver an Issuer Default Notice to the Issuer, the Seller and the Guarantor in compliance with the Rules.

The Test Report Provider and the Guarantor shall ensure that any applicable contributions made by the Seller or the proceeds of any applicable sale of the Selected Assets shall be recorded to the credit of a purposely-opened account (the "**Pre-Maturity Account**").

Following service of an Issuer Default Notice to the Guarantor (due to the breach of the Pre-Maturity Test), the Guarantor shall apply funds standing to the Pre-Maturity Account to repay the relevant Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds on its Maturity Date.

If the Issuer fully repays the relevant Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds on the Maturity Date thereof any amount of cash standing to the credit of the Pre-Maturity Account after such repayment shall be applied in accordance with the relevant Priority of Payments, unless:

- (a) the Issuer is failing the Pre-Maturity Test in respect of any other Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds to which such Test is applicable under the relevant Final Terms, in which case the cash will be transferred to the relevant Series or Tranche Pre-Maturity Account in order to provide liquidity for that other Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds; or
- (b) the Issuer is not failing the Pre-Maturity Test in respect of any other Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds, but the Issuer elects to retain the cash on the Pre-Maturity Account in order to provide liquidity for any future Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds to which such Test is applicable under the relevant Final Terms.

# 11. PAYMENTS

- (a) Payments through clearing systems: Payment of interest and repayment of principal in respect of the Covered Bonds will be credited, in accordance with the instructions of Monte Titoli, by the Paying Agent on behalf of the Issuer or the Guarantor (as the case may be) to the accounts of those banks and authorised brokers whose accounts with Monte Titoli are credited with those Covered Bonds and thereafter credited by such banks and authorised brokers from such aforementioned accounts to the accounts of the beneficial owners of those Covered Bonds or through the Relevant Clearing Systems to the accounts with the Relevant Clearing Systems of the beneficial owners of those Covered Bonds, in accordance with the rules and procedures of Monte Titoli and of the Relevant Clearing Systems, as the case may be.
- (b) Payments subject to fiscal laws: All payments in respect of the Covered Bonds are subject in all cases to any applicable fiscal or other laws and regulations in the place of payment, but without prejudice to the provisions of Condition 12 (Taxation). No commissions or expenses shall be charged to Bondholders in respect of such payments.
- (c) Payments on Business Days: If the due date for payment of any amount in respect of any Covered Bond is not a Payment Business Day in the Place of Payment, the Bondholder shall not be entitled to payment in such place of the amount due until the next succeeding Payment Business Day in such place and shall not be entitled to any further interest or other payment in respect of any such delay.

## 12. TAXATION

(a) Gross up by Issuer: All payments of principal and interest in respect of the Covered Bonds by or on behalf of the Issuer shall be made free and clear of, and without withholding or deduction for or on account of, any present or future Taxes, unless the withholding or deduction of such Taxes is

required by law. In that event, the Issuer shall pay such additional amounts as will result in receipt by the Bondholders after such withholding or deduction of such amounts as would have been received by them had no such withholding or deduction been required, except that no such additional amounts shall be payable in respect of any Covered Bond:

- (i) in respect of any payment or deduction of any interest, principal or proceed of any Covered Bonds on account of imposta sostitutiva pursuant to Decree No. 239 and related regulations of implementation which have been or may be enacted and in all circumstances in which the procedures set forth in Decree No. 239 have not been met or complied with; or
- (ii) in respect of any Covered Bond where such withholding or deduction is required pursuant to Presidential Decree No. 600 of 29 September 1973, as amended; or
- (iii) in respect of any Covered Bond where such withholding or deduction is required pursuant to Italian Law Decree No. 512 of 30 September 1983, converted into Law No. 649 of 25 November 1983, as amended;
- (iv) held by or on behalf of a Bondholder which is liable to such Taxes in respect of such Covered Bonds by reason of its having some connection with the jurisdiction by which such Taxes have been imposed, levied, collected, withheld or assessed other than the mere holding of the Covered Bonds;
- (v) where such withholding or deduction is required to be made pursuant to European Council Directive 2003/48/EC or any other Directive implementing the conclusions of the ECOFIN Council meeting of 26-27 November 2000 on the taxation of savings income or any law or agreement implementing or complying with, or introduced in order to conform to, such Directive; or
- (vi) held by or on behalf of a Bondholder who would have been able to avoid such withholding or deduction by presenting the relevant Covered Bond to another Paying Agent in a Member State of the EU.
- (b) Taxing jurisdiction: If the Issuer becomes subject at any time to any taxing jurisdiction other than the Republic of Italy, references in these Conditions to the Republic of Italy shall be construed as references to the Republic of Italy and/or such other jurisdiction.

# 13. SEGREGATION EVENT

### 13.1 Segregation Event

A Segregation Event will occur upon the notification by the Test Report Provider that (i) a breach of the Mandatory Tests and/or the Asset Coverage Test (as detailed in the relevant Test Performance Report) has not been remedied within the Test Grace Period and/or (ii) a breach of the Pre-Maturity Test (as detailed in the Pre-Maturity Test Notice), has not been remedied within the three following months.

Upon the occurrence of a Segregation Event the Representative of the Bondholders will serve notice (the "**Breach of Test Notice**") on the Issuer and the Guarantor that a Segregation Event has occurred.

In such case:

(a) no further Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds may be issued by the Issuer;

(b) the purchase price for any Eligible Assets or Integration Assets to be acquired by the Guarantor shall be paid only using the proceeds of the Subordinated Loan, except where the breach referred to in the Breach of Test Notice is related to the Interest Coverage Test and may be cured by using the Available Funds.

#### It is understood that:

- (i) the consequences set out in paragraph (a) and (b) above shall be applied at any time if a Test is not compliant with the Covered Bond Law and/or the provisions of the Portfolio Management Agreement;
- (ii) following the occurrence of a Segregation Event and until an Issuer Default Notice has been delivered, payments due under the Covered Bonds will continue to be made by the Issuer.

After the service of a Breach of Test Notice on the Guarantor, the Guarantor (or the Servicer on behalf of the Guarantor) may sell the Eligible Assets and the Integration Assets included in the Cover Pool in accordance with the Portfolio Management Agreement, subject to the rights of pre-emption in favour of the Seller in respect of such Eligible Assets and Integration Assets pursuant to the Master Purchase Agreement and the Portfolio Management Agreement.

#### 14. EVENTS OF DEFAULT

# 14.1 Issuer Events of Default

If any of the following events (each, an "Issuer Event of Default") occurs:

- (a) Non payment: Default is made by the Issuer (a) for a period of 14 days or more in the payment of any principal or redemption amount due on the relevant CB Payment Date in respect of the Covered Bonds of any Series or Tranche, or (b) for a period of 14 days or more in the payment of any interest amount due on the relevant CB Payment Date in respect of the Covered Bonds of any Series or Tranche; or
- (b) Breach of Tests: Following the delivery of a Breach of Test Notice, the Mandatory Test and the Asset Coverage Test as well as the Pre-Maturity Test (to the extent applicable) have not been cured within the immediately succeeding Calculation Date; or
- (c) Breach of other obligations: The Issuer has incurred into a material default in the performance or observance of any of its obligations under or in respect of the outstanding Covered Bonds of any Series or Tranche (other than any obligation for the payment of principal, redemption amount or interest in respect of the Covered Bonds of any Series or Tranche and/or any obligation to ensure compliance of the Cover Pool with the Mandatory Test and the Asset Coverage Test as well as the Pre-Maturity Test (to the extent applicable) or any other Transaction Document to which the Issuer is a party and (unless certified by the Representative of the Bondholders, in its sole opinion, to be incapable of remedy) such default remains unremedied for more than 30 days after the Representative of the Bondholders has promptly given written notice thereof to the Issuer, certifying that such default is, in its opinion, materially prejudicial to the interests of the Bondholders and specifying whether or not such default is capable of remedy; or
- (d) Insolvency: An Insolvency Event occurs in respect of the Issuer; or
- (e) Suspension of payments: A resolution pursuant to Article 74 of the Consolidated Banking Act is issued in respect of the Issuer,

the Representative of the Bondholders shall promptly serve to the Issuer, the Seller and the Guarantor a notice declaring that an Issuer Event of Default has occurred (the "Issuer Default Notice"), specifying, in case of the Issuer Event of Default referred to under (e) (Suspension of payments) above, that the Issuer Event of Default may be of temporary nature. It being understood that (i) a breach of the Mandatory Test or the Asset Coverage Test to the extent that it has not been cured, constitutes an Issuer Event of Default unless the Representative of the Bondholders, having exercised its discretion, resolves otherwise or an Extraordinary Resolution is passed resolving otherwise and (ii) the Representative of the Bondholders may (but is not obliged to) serve an Issuer Default Notice in accordance with the Rules in the case of a breach of the Pre-Maturity Test (if applicable) to the extent that it has not been cured.

# 14.2 Effect of the service of an Issuer Default Notice

Upon the service of an Issuer Default Notice to the Issuer, the Seller and the Guarantor:

- (a) No further issue: No further Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds may be issued by the Issuer;
- (b) Acceleration against the Issuer: All Series of Covered Bonds will become immediately due and payable by the Issuer and they will rank pari passu among themselves against the Issuer;
- (c) Enforcement: The Representative of the Bondholders may, at its discretion and without further notice, take such steps and/or institute such proceedings against the Issuer as it may think fit to enforce the payments due by the Issuer, but it shall not be bound to take any such proceeding or steps unless requested or authorised by an Extraordinary Resolution of the Bondholders;
- (d) Guarantee: Without prejudice to paragraph (c) (Acceleration against the Issuer) above, interest and principal falling due on the Covered Bonds will be payable by the Guarantor at the time and in the manner provided under these Conditions, subject to and in accordance with the terms of the Guarantee and the relevant Priority of Payments;
- (e) Disposal of Assets: The Guarantor shall sell the Eligible Assets and the Integration Assets included in the Cover Pool in accordance with the Portfolio Management Agreement;
- (f) *Tests: the* Amortisation Test shall apply;

provided that, (A) in case of the Issuer Event of Default referred to under Condition 14.1 (d) (Insolvency) above, (i) the payments due by the Issuer in favour of the Bondholders under the Terms and Conditions shall be directly made by the Guarantor on any Scheduled Due for Payment Date under the Guarantee and (ii) the Guarantor shall exercise, on an exclusive basis and in compliance with the provisions of art. 4 of the MEF Decree, the rights of the Bondholders against the Issuer and any amount recovered from the Issuer will be part of the Available Funds; and (B) in case of the Issuer Event of Default referred to under Condition 14.1 (e) (Suspension of payments) above, the effects listed in items (a) (No further issue), (d) (Guarantee) and (e) (Disposal of Assets) of this Condition 14.2 (Effect of the service of an Issuer Default Notice) will only apply for as long as the suspension of payments will be in force and effect (the "Suspension Period"); being understood that the effects listed in items (b) (Acceleration against the Issuer), (c) (Enforcement) and (f) (Tests) will not be applicable (i.e. during the Suspension Period the Mandatory Test and the Asset Coverage Test shall continue to be applied). Accordingly (i) the Guarantor, in accordance with MEF Decree, shall be responsible for the payments of the amounts due and payable under the Covered Bonds during the Suspension Period and (ii) at the end of the Suspension Period the Issuer shall be

responsible for meeting the payment obligations under the Covered Bonds (and for the avoidance of doubts, the Covered Bonds then outstanding will not be deemed to be accelerated against the Issuer).

# 14.3 Guarantor Events of Default

If any of the following events (each, a "Guarantor Event of Default") occurs:

- (a) Non payment: Default is made by the Guarantor for a period of 14 days or more in the payment by the Guarantor of any amounts due for payment in respect of the Covered Bonds of any Series or Tranche; or
- (b) *Breach of Test:* On any Calculation Date a breach of the Amortisation Test occurs (to the *extent* that such breach has not cured within the following Calculation Date);
- (c) Breach of other obligations: Default is made in the performance by the Guarantor of any material obligation under or in respect of the Covered Bonds of any Series or Tranche (other than any obligation for the payment of principal, redemption amount or interest in respect of the Covered Bonds of any Series or Tranche and/or any obligation to ensure compliance of the Cover Pool with the Amortisation Test) or any other Transaction Document to which the Guarantor is a party and (unless certified by the Representative of the Bondholders, in its sole opinion, to be incapable of remedy) such default remains unremedied for more than 30 days after the Representative of the Bondholders has given written notice thereof to the Guarantor, certifying that such default is, in its opinion, materially prejudicial to the interests of the Bondholders and specifying whether or not such default is capable of remedy;
- (d) *Insolvency*: An Insolvency Event occurs in respect of the Guarantor;

then the Representative of the Bondholders (i) in cases under (a), (b) and (d) above, may but shall, if so directed by an Extraordinary Resolution of the Bondholders, and (ii) in case under (c) above, shall, if so directed by an Extraordinary Resolution of the Bondholders, serve to the Issuer, the Seller and the Guarantor a notice declaring that a Guarantor Event of Default has occurred (the "Guarantor Default Notice").

# 14.4 Effect of the service of a Guarantor Default Notice

Upon the service of a Guarantor Default Notice to the Issuer, the Seller and the Guarantor:

- (a) Acceleration of the Covered Bonds: All Series of Covered Bonds then outstanding will become immediately due and payable by the Guarantor and will rank pari passu among themselves in accordance with the Post-Guarantor Event of Default Priority of Payments;
- (b) *Disposal of Assets*: The Guarantor shall immediately sell all assets included in the Cover Pool in accordance with the procedures set out in the Portfolio Management Agreement;
- (c) Guarantee: The Representative of the Bondholders, subject to and in accordance with the terms of the Guarantee, on behalf of the Bondholders, shall have a claim against the Guarantor for an amount equal to the Principal Amount Outstanding on each Covered Bond, together with accrued interest and any other amount due under the Covered Bonds (other than additional amounts payable under Condition 12 (a) (Gross up by the Issuer)) in accordance with the Post-Guarantor Event of Default Priority of Payments; and
- (d) *Enforcement*: The Representative of the Bondholders may, at its discretion and without further notice, take such steps and/or institute such proceedings against the Issuer or the Guarantor (as the case may be) as it may think fit to enforce such payments, but it shall not

be bound to take any *such* proceedings or steps unless requested or authorised by an Extraordinary Resolution of the Bondholders and then only if it is indemnified and/or secured to its satisfaction.

## 14.5 Determinations, etc:

All notifications, opinions, determinations, certificates, calculations, quotations and decisions given, expressed, made or obtained for the purposes of this Condition 14 by the Representative of the Bondholders shall (in the absence of wilful default, bad faith or manifest error) be binding on the Issuer, the Seller, the Guarantor and all Bondholders and (in such absence as aforesaid) no liability to the Bondholders, the Issuer, the Seller or the Guarantor shall attach to the Representative of the Bondholders in connection with the exercise or non exercise by it of its powers, duties and discretions hereunder.

# 15. PRESCRIPTION

Claims for payment under the Covered Bonds shall become void unless made within ten years (in respect of principal) or five years (in respect of interest) from the due date thereof.

#### 16. REPRESENTATIVE OF THE BONDHOLDERS

- (a) Organisation of the Bondholders: The Organisation of the Bondholders shall be established upon, and by virtue of, the issue of the first Series of Covered Bonds under the Programme and shall remain in force and in effect until repayment in full or cancellation of all the Covered Bonds of whatever Series.
  - The appointment of the Representative of the Bondholders as legal representative of the Organisation of the Bondholders is made by the Bondholders subject to and in accordance with the Rules.
- (b) Initial appointment: In the Programme Agreement, the Dealers have appointed the Representative of the Bondholders to perform the activities described in the Intercreditor Agreement, in the Programme Agreement, in these Conditions (including the Rules), and in the other Transaction Documents and the Representative of the Bondholders has accepted such appointment for the period commencing on the Issue Date and ending (subject to early termination of its appointment) on the date on which all of the Covered Bonds of whatever Series have been cancelled or redeemed in accordance with their respective terms and conditions.
- (c) Acknowledgment by Bondholders: Each Bondholder, by reason of holding Covered Bonds:
  - (i) recognises the Representative of the Bondholders as its representative and (to the fullest extent permitted by law) agrees to be bound by the Transaction Documents;

and

(ii) acknowledges and accepts that the Dealers shall not be liable in respect of any loss, liability, claim, expenses or damage suffered or incurred by any of the Bondholders as a result of the performance by the Representative of the Bondholders of its duties or the exercise of any of its rights under the Transaction Documents.

#### 17. AGENTS

In acting under the Cash Management Agreement and in connection with the Covered Bonds, the Paying Agents act solely as agents of the Issuer and, following service of an Issuer Default Notice or a Guarantor Default Notice, as agents of the Guarantor and do not assume any obligations towards or relationship of agency or trust for or with any of the Bondholders.

The Paying Agent and its initial Specified Office is set out in these Conditions. Any additional Paying Agents and their Specified Offices are specified in the relevant Final Terms. The Issuer and the Guarantor reserve the right at any time to vary or terminate the appointment of any Paying Agent and to appoint a successor paying agent and additional or successor paying agents; *provided*, *however*, *that*:

- (a) the Issuer and the Guarantor shall at all times maintain a paying agent; and
- (b) the Issuer and the Guarantor shall at all times maintain a paying agent in an EU member state that will not be obliged to withhold or deduct Tax pursuant to European Council Directive 2003/48/EC or any other Directive implementing the conclusions of the ECOFIN Council meeting of 26-27 November 2000, or any law or agreement implementing or complying with, or introduced in order to conform to, such Directive; and
- (c) if and for so long as the Covered Bonds are admitted to listing, trading and/or quotation by any competent authority, stock exchange and/or quotation system which requires the appointment of a Paying Agent in any particular place, the Issuer and the Guarantor shall maintain a Paying Agent having its specified office in the place required by such competent authority, stock exchange and/or quotation system.

Notice of any change in any of the Paying Agents or in their Specified Offices shall promptly be given to the Bondholders.

# 18. FURTHER ISSUES

The Issuer may from time to time, without the consent of the Bondholders, create and issue further Covered Bonds under the Programme, provided that the Rating Agency will have confirmed in writing that such issuance does not adversely affect the then current ratings of the then outstanding Covered Bonds.

# 19. NOTICES

- (a) Notices given through Monte Titoli: Any notice regarding the Covered Bonds, as long as the Covered Bonds are held through Monte Titoli, shall be deemed to have been duly given if given through the systems of Monte Titoli.
- (b) Other publication: The Representative of the Bondholders shall be at liberty to sanction any other method of giving notice to Bondholders if, in its opinion, such other method is reasonable having regard to market practice then prevailing and to the rules of the competent authority, stock exchange and/or quotation system by which the Covered Bonds are then admitted to listing, trading and/or quotation and provided that notice of such other method is given to the holders of the Covered Bonds in such manner as the Representative of the Bondholders shall require.

# 20. ROUNDING

For the purposes of any calculations referred to in these Conditions (unless otherwise specified in these Conditions or the relevant Final Terms), (a) all percentages resulting from such calculations will be rounded, if necessary, to the nearest one hundred-thousandth of a percentage point (with 0.000005 per cent. being rounded up to 0.00001 per cent.), (b) all United States dollar amounts used in or resulting from such calculations will be rounded to the nearest cent (with one half cent

being rounded up), (c) all Japanese Yen amounts used in or resulting from such calculations will be rounded downwards to the next lower whole Japanese Yen amount, and (d) all amounts denominated in any other currency used in or resulting from such calculations will be rounded to the nearest two decimal places in such currency, with 0.005 being rounded upwards.

## 21. GOVERNING LAW AND JURISDICTION

- (a) Governing law: These Covered Bonds are governed by, and will be construed in accordance with, the laws of the Republic of Italy.
- (b) *Jurisdiction*: The courts of Milan have exclusive competence for the resolution of any dispute that *may* arise in relation to the Covered Bonds or their validity, interpretation or performance.
- (c) *Relevant legislation*: Anything not expressly provided for in these Conditions will be governed by the *provisions* of the Covered Bonds Law.

#### RULES OF THE ORGANISATION OF THE BONDHOLDERS

# TITLE I GENERAL PROVISIONS

#### 1. GENERAL

- 1.1 The Organisation of the Bondholders in respect of each Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds issued under the Programme by Mediobanca Banca di Credito Finanziario S.p.A. is created concurrently with the issue and subscription of the Covered Bonds of each such Series or Tranche and is governed by these Rules of the Organisation of the Bondholders (the "Rules").
- 1.2 These Rules shall remain in force and effect until full repayment or cancellation of all the Covered Bonds of whatever Series or Tranche.
- 1.3 The contents of these Rules are deemed to be an integral part of the Terms and Conditions of the Covered Bonds of each Series or Tranche issued by the Issuer.

#### 2. DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

## 2.1 Definitions

In these Rules, the terms below shall have the following meanings:

**Block Voting Instruction** means, in relation to a Meeting, a document issued by the Paying Agent stating *inter alia*:

- (a) that the Blocked Notes specified therein will not be released until a specified date which falls after the conclusion of the Meeting;
- (b) that the Paying Agent has been instructed by the holder of the relevant Notes to cast the votes attributable to such Blocked Notes in a particular way on each resolution to be put to the relevant Meeting and that during the period of 48 hours before the time fixed for the Meeting such instructions may not be amended or revoked; and
- (c) authorising a Proxy to vote in accordance with such instructions.

**Blocked Covered Bonds** means Covered Bonds which have been blocked in an account with a clearing system or otherwise are held to the order of or under the control of the Paying Agent for the purpose of obtaining a Block Voting Instruction or a Voting Certificate on terms that they will not be released until after the conclusion of the Meeting in respect of which the Block Voting Instruction or Voting Certificate is required.

**Chairman** means, in relation to any Meeting, the person who takes the chair in accordance with Article 27 (*Chairman of the Meeting*).

Event of Default means an Issuer Event of Default or a Guarantor Event of Default.

**Extraordinary Resolution** means a resolution passed at a Meeting, duly convened and held in accordance with the provisions contained in these Rules by a majority of not less than three quarters of the votes cast.

**Holder** means in respect of Covered Bonds, the ultimate owner of such Covered Bonds.

**Liabilities** means losses, liabilities, inconvenience, costs, expenses, damages, claims, actions or demands, judgments, proceeding or other liabilities whatsoever (including, without limitation, in respect of taxes, duties, levies and other charges) and including value added, taxes or similar tax charged or chargeable in respect thereof and legal fees and expenses on a full indemnity basis.

**Meeting** means a meeting of Bondholders (whether originally convened or resumed following an adjournment).

**Monte Titoli Account Holder** means any authorised financial intermediary institution entitled to hold accounts on behalf of its customers with Monte Titoli (as *intermediari aderenti*) in accordance with Article 83-quater of the Legislative Decree no. 58 of 24 February 1998 and includes any depository banks appointed by the Relevant Clearing System.

**Ordinary Resolution** means any resolution passed at a Meeting, duly convened and held in accordance with the provisions contained in these Rules by a majority of more than 50% of the votes cast;

**Programme Resolution** means an Extraordinary Resolution passed at a single meeting of the Bondholders of all Series, duly convened and held in accordance with the provisions contained in these Rules to direct the Representative of the Bondholders to take steps and/or institute proceedings against the Issuer or the Guarantor pursuant to Condition 14.2 (*Effect of the service of an Issuer Default Notice*) and 14.4 (*Effect of the service of a Guarantor Default Notice*).

**Proxy** means a person appointed to vote under a Voting Certificate as a proxy or a person appointed to vote under a Block Voting Instruction, in each case other than:

- (a) any person whose appointment has been revoked and in relation to whom the Paying Agent has been notified in writing of such revocation by the time which is 48 hours before the time fixed for the relevant Meeting; and
- (b) any person appointed to vote at a Meeting which has been adjourned for want of a quorum and who has not been reappointed to vote at the Meeting when it is resumed.

Rating Agency means Standard & Poor's Rating Services, a division of McGraw Hill Companies.

**Resolutions** means the Ordinary Resolutions and the Extraordinary Resolutions, collectively.

**Series Reserved Matter** has the meaning given to it under Article 7 below.

**Swap Rate** means, in relation to a Covered Bond or Series of Covered Bonds, the exchange rate specified in the respective Swap Agreement relating to such Covered Bond or Series of Covered Bonds or, if the respective Swap Agreement has terminated, the applicable spot rate.

**Transaction Party** means any person who is a party to a Transaction Document.

**Voter** means, in relation to a Meeting, the Holder or a Proxy named in a Voting Certificate, the bearer of a Voting Certificate issued by the Paying Agent or a Proxy named in a Block Voting Instruction.

**Voting Certificate** means, in relation to any Meeting, a certificate issued by the Monte Titoli Account Holder in accordance with the Joint Resolution, as subsequently amended and supplemented, stating *inter alia*:

(a) that the Blocked Notes specified therein will not be released until a specified date which falls after the conclusion of the Meeting; and

(b) that the bearer of such certificate is entitled to attend and vote at such Meeting in respect of such Blocked Notes.

**Written Resolution** means a resolution in writing signed by or on behalf of one or more persons holding or representing at least 75 per cent of the Outstanding Principal Balance of the Covered Bonds, whether contained in one document or several documents in the same form, each signed by or on behalf of one or more of such Bondholders.

- **24 hours** means a period of 24 hours including all or part of a day on which banks are open for business both in the place where any relevant Meeting is to be held and in the place where the Paying Agent has its specified office; and
- **48 hours** means two consecutive periods of 24 hours Unless otherwise provided in these Rules, or unless the context requires otherwise, words and expressions used in these Rules shall have the meanings and the construction ascribed to them in the Conditions.

# 2.2 Interpretation

In these Rules:

- (a) any reference herein to an "**Article**" shall, except where expressly provided to the contrary, be a reference to an article of these Rules of the Organisation of the Bondholders;
- (b) a "**successor**" of any party shall be construed so as to include an assignee or successor in title of such party and any person who under the laws of the jurisdiction of incorporation or domicile of such party has assumed the rights and obligations of such party under any Transaction Document or to which, under such laws, such rights and obligations have been transferred; and
- (c) any reference to any "**Transaction Party**" shall be construed so as to include its and any subsequent successors and transferees in accordance with their respective interests.

#### 2.3 Separate Series

Subject to the provisions of the next sentence, the Covered Bonds of each Series shall form a separate Series of Covered Bonds and accordingly, unless for any purpose the Representative of the Bondholders in its absolute discretion shall otherwise determine, the provisions of this sentence and of Articles 3 (*Purpose of the Organisation of the Bondholders*) to 23 (*Meetings and Separate Series*) and 27 (*Duties and Powers of the Representative of the Bondholders*) to 34 (*Powers to Act on Behalf of the Guarantor*) shall apply *mutatis mutandis* separately and independently to the Covered Bonds of each Series. However, for the purposes of this Article 2.3:

- (a) Articles 25 (Appointment, Removal and Remuneration) and 26 (Resignation of the Representative of the Bondholders); and
- (b) insofar as they relate to a Programme Resolution, Articles 3 (Purpose of the Organisation of the Bondholders) to 23 (Meetings and Separate Series) and 27 (Duties and Powers of the Representative of the Bondholders) to 34 (Powers to Act on Behalf of the Guarantor),

the Covered Bonds shall be deemed to constitute a single Series and the provisions of such Articles shall apply to all the Covered Bonds together as if they constituted a single Series and, in such Articles, the expressions "Covered Bonds" and "Bondholders" shall be construed accordingly.

# 3. PURPOSE OF THE ORGANISATION OF THE BONDHOLDERS

- **3.1** Each Covered Bondholder is a member of the Organisation of the Bondholders.
- **3.2** The purpose of the Organisation of the Bondholders is to co-ordinate the exercise of the rights of the Bondholders and, more generally, to take any action necessary or desirable to protect the interest of the Bondholders.

# TITLE II MEETINGS OF THE BONDHOLDERS

#### 4. CONVENING A MEETING

## 4.1 Convening a Meeting

The Representative of the Bondholders, the Guarantor or the Issuer may convene separate or combined Meetings of the Bondholders at any time and the Representative of the Bondholders shall be obliged to do so upon the request in writing by Bondholders representing at least one-tenth of the aggregate Outstanding Principal Balance of the Covered Bonds.

The Representative of the Bondholders, the Guarantor or the Issuer or (in relation to a meeting for the passing of a Programme Resolution) the Bondholders of any Series may at any time and the Issuer shall upon a requisition in writing signed by the holders of not less than one-tenth of the Outstanding Principal Balance of the Covered Bonds for the time being outstanding (the "Requisitioning Bondholders") convene a meeting of the Bondholders and if the Issuer makes default for a period of seven days in convening such a meeting the same may be convened by the Representative of the Bondholders or the Requisitioning Bondholders. The Representative of the Bondholders may convene a single meeting of the Bondholders of more than one Series if in the opinion of the Representative of the Bondholders there is no conflict between the holders of the Covered Bonds of the relevant Series, in which event the provisions of this Schedule shall apply thereto mutatis mutandis.

#### 4.2 Meetings convened by Issuer

Whenever the Issuer is about to convene a Meeting, it shall immediately give notice in writing to the Representative of the Bondholders specifying the proposed day, time and place of the Meeting, and the items to be included in the agenda.

# 4.3 Time and place of Meetings

Every Meeting will be held on a date and at a time and place selected or approved by the Representative of the Bondholders.

## 5. NOTICE

# 5.1 Notice of Meeting

At least 21 days' notice (exclusive of the day notice is delivered and of the day on which the relevant Meeting is to be held), specifying the day, time and place of the Meeting, must be given to the relevant Bondholders and the Paying Agent, with a copy to the Issuer and the Guarantor, where the Meeting is convened by the Representative of the Bondholders, or with a copy to the Representative of the Bondholders, where the Meeting is convened by the Issuer.

# 5.2 Content of notice

The notice shall set out the full text of any resolution to be proposed at the Meeting unless the Representative of the Bondholders agrees that the notice shall instead specify the nature of the resolution without including the full text and shall state that the Voting Certificate for the purpose of such Meeting may be obtained from a Monte Titoli Account Holder in accordance with the provisions of the Joint Resolution and that for the purpose of obtaining Voting Certificates from the Paying Agent or appointing Proxies under a Block Voting Instruction, Bondholders must (to the satisfaction of the Paying Agent) be held to the order of or placed under the control of the Paying Agent or blocked in an account with a clearing system not later than 48 hours before the relevant Meeting.

# 5.3 Validity notwithstanding lack of notice

A Meeting is valid notwithstanding that the formalities required by this Article are not complied with if the Bondholders constituting the Outstanding Principal Balance of the Covered Bonds, the holders of which are entitled to attend and vote are represented at such Meeting and the Issuer and the Representative of the Bondholders are present.

#### 6. CHAIRMAN OF THE MEETING

# 6.1 Appointment of Chairman

An individual (who may, but need not be, a Bondholder), nominated by the Representative of the Bondholders may take the chair at any Meeting, but if:

(a) the Representative of the Bondholders fails to make a nomination;

or

(b) the individual nominated declines to act or is not present within 15 minutes after the time fixed for the Meeting,

the Meeting shall be chaired by the person elected by the majority of the Voters present, failing which, the Issuer shall appoint a Chairman. The Chairman of an adjourned Meeting need not be the same person as was Chairman at the original Meeting.

# 6.2 Duties of Chairman

The Chairman ascertains that the Meeting has been duly convened and validly constituted, manages the business of the Meeting, monitors the fairness of proceedings, leads and moderates the debate, and determines the mode of voting.

# 6.3 Assistance to Chairman

The Chairman may be assisted by outside experts or technical consultants, specifically invited to assist in any given matter, and may appoint one or more vote counters, who are not required to be Bondholders.

# 7. QUORUM

The quorum at any Meeting will be:

(a) in the case of an Ordinary Resolution, one or more persons (including the Issuer if at any time it owns any of the relevant Covered Bonds) holding or representing at least 50 per cent of the Outstanding Principal Balance of the Covered Bonds of the relevant Series for the time being outstanding or, at an adjourned Meeting, one or more persons being or representing Bondholders, whatever the Outstanding Principal Balance of the Covered Bonds so held or represented; or

- (b) in the case of an Extraordinary Resolution or a Programme Resolution (including the Issuer if at any time it owns any of the relevant Covered Bonds) (subject as provided below), one or more persons holding or representing at least 50 per cent. of the Outstanding Principal Balance of the Covered Bonds of the relevant Series for the time being outstanding or, at an adjourned Meeting, one or more persons being or representing Bondholders of the relevant Series for the time being outstanding, whatever the Outstanding Principal Balance of the Covered Bonds so held or represented; or
- (c) at any meeting the business of which includes any of the following matters (other than in relation to a Programme Resolution) (each of which shall, subject only to Article 32 (*Waiver*), only be capable of being effected after having been approved by Extraordinary Resolution) namely:
  - (i) reduction or cancellation of the amount payable or, where applicable, modification of the method of calculating the amount payable or modification of the date of payment or, where applicable, modification of the method of calculating the date of payment in respect of any principal or interest in respect of the Covered Bonds;
  - (ii) alteration of the currency in which payments under the Covered Bonds are to be made;
  - (iii) alteration of the majority required to pass an Extraordinary Resolution;
  - (iv) any amendment to the Guarantee or the Deed of Pledge or the Deed of Charge (except in a manner determined by the Representative of the Bondholders not to be materially prejudicial to the interests of the Bondholders of any Series);
  - (v) except in accordance with Articles 30 (*Amendments and Modifications*) and 32 (*Waiver*), the sanctioning of any such scheme or proposal to effect the exchange, conversion or substitution of the Covered Bonds for, or the conversion of such Covered Bonds into, shares, bonds or other obligations or securities of the Issuer or the Guarantor or any other person or body corporate, formed or to be formed; and
  - (vi) alteration of this Article 7(c)(i),

(each a "Series Reserved Matter"), the quorum shall be one or more persons (including the Issuer if at any time it owns any of the relevant Covered Bonds) being or representing holders of not less two-thirds of the aggregate Outstanding Principal Balance of the Covered Bonds of such Series for the time being outstanding or, at any adjourned meeting, one or more persons being or representing not less than one-third of the aggregate Outstanding Principal Balance of the Covered Bonds of such Series for the time being outstanding.

# 8. ADJOURNMENT FOR WANT OF QUORUM

- **8.1** If a quorum is not present for the transaction of any particular business within 15 minutes after the time fixed for any Meeting, then, without prejudice to the transaction of the business (if any) for which a quorum is present:
  - (a) if such Meeting was convened upon the request of Bondholders, the Meeting shall be dissolved; and
  - (b) in any other case, the Meeting shall stand adjourned to the same day in the next week (or if such day is a public holiday the next succeeding business day) at the same time and place (except in the case of a meeting at which an Extraordinary Resolution is to be proposed in

which case it shall stand adjourned for such period, being not less than 13 clear days nor more than 42 clear days, and to such place as may be appointed by the Chairman either at or subsequent to such meeting and approved by the Representative of the Bondholders).

8.2 If within 15 minutes (or such longer period not exceeding 30 minutes as the Chairman may decide) after the time appointed for any adjourned meeting a quorum is not present for the transaction of any particular business, then, subject and without prejudice to the transaction of the business (if any) for which a quorum is present, the Chairman may either (with the approval of the Representative of the Bondholders) dissolve such meeting or adjourn the same for such period, being not less than 13 clear days (but without any maximum number of clear days), and to such place as may be appointed by the Chairman either at or subsequent to such adjourned meeting and approved by the Representative of the Bondholders.

# 9. ADJOURNED MEETING

Except as provided in Article 8 (*Adjournment for Want of Quorum*), the Chairman may, with the prior consent of any Meeting, and shall if so directed by any Meeting, adjourn such Meeting to another time and place. No business shall be transacted at any adjourned meeting except business which might have been transacted at the Meeting from which the adjournment took place.

#### 10. NOTICE FOLLOWING ADJOURNMENT

### 10.1 Notice required

Article 5 (*Notice*) shall apply to any Meeting which is to be resumed after adjournment for lack of a quorum except that:

- (a) 10 days' notice (exclusive of the day on which the notice is delivered and of the day on which the Meeting is to be resumed) shall be sufficient; and
- (b) the notice shall specifically set out the quorum requirements which will apply when the Meeting resumes.

# 10.2 Notice not required

Except in the case of a Meeting to consider an Extraordinary Resolution, it shall not be necessary to give notice of resumption of any Meeting adjourned for reasons other than those described in Article 8 (*Adjournment for Want of Quorum*).

## 11. PARTICIPATION

The following categories of persons may attend and speak at a Meeting:

Voters;

the directors and the auditors of the Issuer and the Guarantor;

representatives of the Issuer, the Guarantor and the Representative of the Bondholders;

financial advisers to the Issuer, the Guarantor and the Representative of the Bondholders;

legal advisers to the Issuer, the Guarantor and the Representative of the Bondholders; and

any other person authorised by virtue of a resolution of such Meeting or by the Representative of the Bondholders.

#### 12. VOTING CERTIFICATES AND BLOCK VOTING INSTRUCTIONS

- **12.1** A Covered Bondholder may obtain a Voting Certificate in respect of a Meeting by requesting its Monte Titoli Account Holder to issue a certificate in accordance with the Joint Resolution.
- A Covered Bondholder may also obtain from the Paying Agent or require the Paying Agent to issue a Block Voting Instruction by arranging for such Covered Bonds to be (to the satisfaction of the Paying Agent) held to its order or under its control or blocked in an account in a Relevant Clearing System (other than Monte Titoli) not later than 48 hours before the time fixed for the relevant Meeting.
- **12.3** A Voting Certificate or Block Voting Instruction shall be valid until the release of the Blocked Covered Bonds to which it relates.
- So long as a Voting Certificate or Block Voting Instruction is valid, the named therein as Holder or Proxy (in the case of a Voting Certificate issued by a Monte Titoli Account Holder), the bearer thereof (in the case of a Voting Certificate issued by the Paying Agent), and any Proxy named therein (in the case of a Block Voting Instruction issued by the Paying Agent) shall be deemed to be the Holder of the Covered Bonds to which it relates for all purposes in connection with the Meeting to which such Voting Certificate or Block Voting Instruction relates.
- **12.5** A Voting Certificate and a Block Voting Instruction cannot be outstanding simultaneously in respect of the same Covered Bonds.
- **12.6** References to the blocking or release of Covered Bonds shall be construed in accordance with the usual practices (including blocking the relevant account) of any Relevant Clearing System.

## 13. VALIDITY OF BLOCK VOTING INSTRUCTIONS

A Block Voting Instruction or a Voting Certificate issued by a Monte Titoli Account Holder shall be valid for the purpose of the relevant Meeting only if it is deposited at the Specified Offices of the Paying Agent, or at any other place approved by the Representative of the Bondholders, at least 24 hours before the time fixed for the relevant Meeting. If a Block Voting Instruction or a Voting Certificate is not deposited before such deadline, it shall not be valid unless the Chairman decides otherwise before the Meeting proceeds to business. If the Representative of the Bondholders so requires, a notarised copy of each Block Voting Instruction and satisfactory evidence of the identity of each Proxy named in a Block Voting Instruction or of each Holders or Proxy named in a Voting Certificate issued by a Monte Titoli Account Holder shall be produced at the Meeting but the Representative of the Bondholders shall not be obliged to investigate the validity of a Block Voting Instruction or a Voting Certificate or the identity of any Proxy or any holder of the Covered Bonds named in a Voting Certificate or a Block Voting Instruction or the identity of any Holder named in a Voting Certificate issued by a Monte Titoli Account Holder.

# 14. VOTING BY SHOW OF HANDS

- **14.1** Every question submitted to a Meeting shall be decided in the first instance by a vote by a show of hands.
- 14.2 Unless a poll is validly demanded before or at the time that the result is declared, the Chairman's declaration that on a show of hands a resolution has been passed or passed by a particular majority or rejected, or rejected by a particular majority, shall be conclusive without proof of the number of votes cast for, or against, the resolution.

# 15. VOTING BY POLL

# 15.1 Demand for a poll

A demand for a poll shall be valid if it is made by the Chairman, the Issuer, the Guarantor, the Representative of the Bondholders or any one or more Voters, whatever the Outstanding Principal Balance of the Covered Bonds held or represented by such Voter. A poll may be taken immediately or after such adjournment as is decided by the Chairman but any poll demanded on the election of a Chairman or on any question of adjournment shall be taken immediately. A valid demand for a poll shall not prevent the continuation of the relevant Meeting for any other business. The result of a poll shall be deemed to be the resolution of the Meeting at which the poll was demanded as at the date of the taking of the poll.

# 15.2 The Chairman and a poll

The Chairman sets the conditions for the voting, including for counting and calculating the votes, and may set a time limit by which all votes must be cast. Any vote which is not cast in compliance with the terms specified by the Chairman shall be null and void. After voting ends, the votes shall be counted and, after the counting, the Chairman shall announce to the Meeting the outcome of the vote.

#### 16. VOTES

#### 16.1 Voting

Each Voter shall have:

- (a) on a show of hands, one vote; and
- (b) on a poll every person who is so present shall have one vote in respect of each €1.00 or such other amount as the Representative of the Bondholders may in its absolute discretion stipulate (or, in the case of meetings of holders of Covered Bonds denominated in another currency, such amount in such other currency as the Representative of the Bondholders in its absolute discretion may stipulate).

# **16.2** Block Voting Instruction

Unless the terms of any Block Voting Instruction or Voting Certificate state otherwise in the case of a Proxy, a Voter shall not be obliged to exercise all the votes to which such Voter is entitled or to cast all the votes he exercises the same way.

# 16.3 Voting tie

In the case of a voting tie, the relevant Resolution shall be deemed to have been rejected.

## 17. VOTING BY PROXY

# 17.1 Validity

Any vote by a Proxy in accordance with the relevant Block Voting Instruction or Voting Certificate appointing a Proxy shall be valid even if such Block Voting Instruction or Voting Certificate or any instruction pursuant to which it has been given had been amended or revoked provided that none of the Issuer, the Representative of the Bondholders or the Chairman has been notified in writing of such amendment or revocation at least 24 hours prior to the time set for the relevant Meeting.

#### 17.2 Adjournment

Unless revoked, the appointment of a Proxy under a Block Voting Instruction or a Voting Certificate in relation to a Meeting shall remain in force in relation to any resumption of such Meeting following an adjournment save that no such appointment of a Proxy in relation to a meeting originally convened which has been adjourned for want of a quorum shall remain in force in relation to such meeting when it is resumed. Any person appointed to vote at such Meeting must be re-appointed under a Block Voting Instruction or Voting Certificate to vote at the Meeting when it is resumed.

#### 18. RESOLUTIONS

# 18.1 Ordinary Resolutions

Subject to Article 18.2 (*Extraordinary Resolutions*), a Meeting shall have the following powers exercisable by Ordinary Resolution, to:

(a) grant any authority, order or sanction which, under the provisions of these Rules or of the Conditions, is required to be the subject of an Ordinary Resolution or required to be the subject of a resolution or determined by a Meeting and not required to be the subject of an Extraordinary Resolution;

and

(b) to authorise the Representative of the Bondholders or any other person to execute all documents and do all things necessary to give effect to any Ordinary Resolution.

#### 18.2 Extraordinary Resolutions

A Meeting, in addition to any powers assigned to it in the Conditions, shall have power exercisable by Extraordinary Resolution to:

- (a) sanction any compromise or arrangement proposed to be made between the Issuer, the Guarantor, the Representative of the Bondholders or any of them;
- (b) approve any modification, abrogation, variation or compromise in respect of (a) the rights of the Representative of the Bondholders, the Issuer, the Guarantor, the Bondholders or any of them, whether such rights arise under the Transaction Documents or otherwise, and (b) these Rules, the Conditions or of any Transaction Document or any arrangement in respect of the obligations of the Issuer under or in respect of the Covered Bonds, which, in any such case, shall be proposed by the Issuer, the Representative of the Bondholders and/or any other party thereto;
- (c) assent to any modification of the provisions of these Rules or the Transaction Documents which shall be proposed by the Issuer, the Guarantor, the Representative of the Bondholders or of any Covered Bondholder;
- (d) in accordance with Article 25 (*Appointment, Removal and Remuneration*), appoint and remove the Representative of the Bondholders;
- (e) discharge or exonerate, whether retrospectively or otherwise, the Representative of the Bondholders from any liability in relation to any act or omission for which the Representative of the Bondholders has or may become liable pursuant or in relation to these Rules, the Conditions or any other Transaction Document;
- (f) grant any authority, order or sanction which, under the provisions of these Rules or of the Conditions, must be granted by an Extraordinary Resolution;

- (g) authorise and ratify the actions of the Representative of the Bondholders in compliance with these Rules, the Intercreditor Agreement and any other Transaction Document;
- (h) waive the occurrence of an Issuer Event of Default, Guarantor Event of Default or a breach of test, and direct the Representative of the Bondholders to suspend the delivery of the relevant Issuer Default Notice, Guarantor Default Notice, or Breach of Test Notice;
- to appoint any person (whether Bondholders or not) as a committee to represent the interests of the Bondholders and to confer on any such committee any powers which the Bondholders could themselves exercise by Extraordinary Resolution;
- (j) authorise the Representative of the Bondholders or any other person to execute all documents and do all things necessary to give effect to any Extraordinary Resolution; and
- (k) may, in case of failure by the Representative of the Bondholders to send an Issuer Default Notice, Guarantor Default Notice or Breach of Test Notice, direct the Representative of the Bondholders to deliver such notices as a result of an Issuer Event of Default pursuant to Condition 14.1 (Issuer Events of Default) or a Guarantor Event of Default pursuant to Condition 14.3 (Guarantor Events of Default).

# 18.3 Programme Resolutions

A Meeting shall have power exercisable by a Programme Resolution to direct the Representative of the Bondholders to take steps and/or institute proceedings against the Issuer or the Guarantor pursuant to Condition 14.2 (*Effect of the service of an Issuer Default Notice*) or Condition 14.4 (*Effect of the service of a Guarantor Default Notice*), a the case may be.

### 18.4 Other Series of Covered Bonds

No Ordinary Resolution or Extraordinary Resolution other than a Programme Resolution that is passed by the Holders of one Series of Covered Bonds shall be effective in respect of another Series of Covered Bonds unless it is sanctioned by an Ordinary Resolution or Extraordinary Resolution (as the case may be) of the Holders of Covered Bonds then outstanding of that other Series.

# 19. EFFECT OF RESOLUTIONS

#### 19.1 Binding nature

Subject to Article 18.4 (*Other Series of Covered Bonds*), any resolution passed at a Meeting of the Bondholders duly convened and held in accordance with these Rules shall be binding upon all Bondholders, whether or not present at such Meeting and or not voting. A Programme Resolution passed at any Meeting of the holders of the Covered Bonds of all Series shall be binding on all holders of the Covered Bonds of all Series, whether or not present at the meeting.

# 19.2 Notice of voting results

Notice of the results of every vote on a resolution duly considered by Bondholders shall be published (at the cost of the Issuer) in accordance with the Conditions and given to the Paying Agent (with a copy to the Issuer, the Guarantor and the Representative of the Bondholders within 14 days of the conclusion of each Meeting).

## 19.3 Challenge to resolutions

Any absent or dissenting Bondholder has the right to challenge Resolutions which are not passed in compliance with the provisions of these Rules.

#### 20. MINUTES

Minutes shall be made of all resolutions and proceedings of each Meeting and entered in books provided by the Issuer for that purpose. The Minutes shall be signed by the Chairman and shall be *prima facie* evidence of the proceedings therein recorded.

Unless and until the contrary is proved, every Meeting in respect of which minutes have been signed by the Chairman shall be regarded as having been duly convened and held and all resolutions passed or proceedings transacted shall be regarded as having been duly passed and transacted.

#### 21. WRITTEN RESOLUTION

A Written Resolution shall take effect as if it were an Extraordinary Resolution or, in respect of matters required to be determined by Ordinary Resolution, as if it were an Ordinary Resolution.

#### 22. INDIVIDUAL ACTIONS AND REMEDIES

Each Bondholder has accepted and is bound by the provisions of Clause 18 (*Limited Recourse*) of the Intercreditor Agreement and Clause 6 (*Limited Recourse*) of the Guarantee and, accordingly, if any Bondholder is considering bringing individual actions or using other individual remedies to enforce his/her rights under the Covered Bonds and the Guarantee, any such action or remedy shall be subject to a Meeting not passing an Extraordinary Resolution objecting to such individual action or other remedy on the grounds that it is not consistent with such Condition. In this respect, the following provisions shall apply:

- (a) the Bondholder intending to enforce his/her rights under the Covered Bonds will notify the Representative of the Bondholders of his/her intention;
- (b) the Representative of the Bondholders will, without delay, call a Meeting in accordance with these Rules (including, for the avoidance of doubt, Article 23.1 (*Choice of Meeting*);
- (c) if the Meeting passes an Extraordinary Resolution objecting to the enforcement of the individual action or remedy, the Bondholder will be prevented from taking such action or remedy (without prejudice to the fact that after a reasonable period of time, the same matter may be resubmitted for review of another Meeting); and
- (d) if the Meeting of Bondholders does not object to an individual action or remedy, the Bondholder will not be prohibited from taking such individual action or remedy.

# 23. MEETINGS AND SEPARATE SERIES

## 23.1 Choice of Meeting

If and whenever the Issuer shall have issued and have outstanding Covered Bonds of more than one Series the foregoing provisions of this Schedule shall have effect subject to the following modifications:

- (a) a resolution which in the opinion of the Representative of the Bondholders affects the Covered Bonds of only one Series shall be deemed to have been duly passed if passed at a separate meeting of the holders of the Covered Bonds of that Series;
- (b) a resolution which in the opinion of the Representative of the Bondholders affects the Covered Bonds of more than one Series but does not give rise to a conflict of interest between the holders of Covered Bonds of any of the Series so affected shall be deemed to have been

duly passed if passed at a single meeting of the holders of the Covered Bonds of all the Series so affected;

- (c) a resolution which in the opinion of the Representative of the Bondholders affects the Covered Bonds of more than one Series and gives or may give rise to a conflict of interest between the holders of the Covered Bonds of one Series or group of Series so affected and the holders of the Covered Bonds of another Series or group of Series so affected shall be deemed to have been duly passed only if passed at separate meetings of the holders of the Covered Bonds of each Series or group of Series so affected;
- (d) a Programme Resolution shall be deemed to have been duly passed only if passed at a single meeting of the Bondholders of all Series; and
- (e) to all such meetings all the preceding provisions of these Rules shall *mutatis mutandis* apply as though references therein to Covered Bonds and Bondholders were references to the Covered Bonds of the Series or group of Series in question or to the holders of such Covered Bonds, as the case may be.

## 23.2 Denominations other than euro

If the Issuer has issued and has outstanding Covered Bonds which are not denominated in euro in the case of any Meeting or request in writing or Written Resolution of holders of Covered Bonds of more than one currency (whether in respect of the meeting or any adjourned such Meeting or any poll resulting therefrom or any such request or Written Resolution) the Outstanding Principal Balance of such Covered Bonds shall be the equivalent in euro at the relevant Swap Rate. In such circumstances, on any poll each person present shall have one vote for each €1.00 (or such other euro amount as the Representative of the Bondholders may in its absolute discretion stipulate) of the Principal Amount Outstanding of the Covered Bonds (converted as above) which he holds or represents.

# 24. FURTHER REGULATIONS

Subject to all other provisions contained in these Rules, the Representative of the Bondholders may, without the consent of the Issuer, prescribe such further regulations regarding the holding of Meetings and attendance and voting at them and/or the provisions of a Written Resolution as the Representative of the Bondholders in its sole discretion may decide.

# TITLE III THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE BONDHOLDERS

# 25. APPOINTMENT, REMOVAL AND REMUNERATION

## 25.1 Appointment

The appointment of the Representative of the Bondholders takes place by Extraordinary Resolution of the Bondholders in accordance with the provisions of this Article 25, except for the appointment of the first Representative of the Bondholders which will be KPMG Fides Servizi di Amministrazione S.p.A. appointed under the Programme Agreement.

#### 25.2 Identity of the Representative of the Bondholders

Save for KPMG Fides Servizi di Amministrazione S.p.A. as first Representative of the Bondholders under the Programme, the Representative of the Bondholders shall be:

- (a) a bank incorporated in any jurisdiction of the European Union or a bank incorporated in any other jurisdiction acting through an Italian branch; or
- (b) a company or financial institution enrolled with the register held by the Bank of Italy pursuant to Article 107 of the Banking Law; or
- (c) any other entity which is not prohibited from acting in the capacity of Representative of the Bondholders pursuant to the law.

The directors and auditors of the Issuer and those who fall within the conditions set out in Article 2399 of the Italian Civil Code cannot be appointed as Representative of the Bondholders and, if appointed as such, they shall be automatically removed.

# 25.3 Duration of appointment

Unless the Representative of the Bondholders is removed by Extraordinary Resolution of the Bondholders pursuant to Article 18.2 (*Extraordinary Resolutions*) or resigns pursuant to Article 26 (*Resignation of the Representative of the Bondholders*), it shall remain in office until full repayment or cancellation of all Series of Covered Bonds.

# 25.4 After termination

In the event of a termination of the appointment of the Representative of the Bondholders for any reason whatsoever, such representative shall remain in office until the substitute Representative of the Bondholders, which shall be an entity specified in Article 25.2 (*Identity of the Representative of the Bondholders*), accepts its appointment, and the powers and authority of the Representative of the Bondholders whose appointment has been terminated shall, pending the acceptance of its appointment by the substitute, be limited to those necessary to perform the essential functions required in connection with the Covered Bonds.

## 25.5 Remuneration

The Issuer, and following an Issuer Event of Default and delivery of an Issuer Default Notice, the Guarantor, shall pay to the Representative of the Bondholders an annual fee for its services as Representative of the Bondholders from the First Issue Date, as agreed either in the initial agreement(s) for the issue of and subscription for the Covered Bonds or in a separate fee letter. Such fees shall accrue from day to day and shall be payable in accordance with the priority of payments set out in the Intercreditor Agreement up to (and including) the date when all the Covered Bonds of whatever Series shall have been repaid in full or cancelled in accordance with the Conditions. Such fees may be increased, in accordance with the provisions of the Programme Agreement, in the event that the Representative of the Bondholders undertakes duties of exceptional nature.

# 26. RESIGNATION OF THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE BONDHOLDERS

The Representative of the Bondholders may resign at any time by giving at least three calendar months' written notice to the Issuer and the Guarantor, without needing to provide any specific reason for the resignation and without being responsible for any costs incurred as a result of such resignation. The resignation of the Representative of the Bondholders shall not become effective until a new Representative of the Bondholders has been appointed in accordance with Article 25.1 (*Appointment*) and such new Representative of the Bondholders has accepted its appointment, provided that if Bondholders fail to select a new Representative of the Bondholders within three months of written notice of resignation delivered by the Representative of the Bondholders, the Representative of the Bondholders may appoint a successor which is a qualifying entity pursuant to Article 25.2 (*Identity of the Representative of the Bondholders*).

## 27. DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE BONDHOLDERS

## 27.1 Representative of the Bondholders as legal representative

The Representative of the Bondholders is the legal representative of the Organisation of the Bondholders and has the power to exercise the rights conferred on it by the Transaction Documents in order to protect the interests of the Bondholders.

#### 27.2 Meetings and resolutions

Unless any Resolution provides to the contrary, the Representative of the Bondholders is responsible for implementing all resolutions of the Bondholders. The Representative of the Covered Bondholders has the right to convene and attend Meetings (together with its advisors at the Issuer's expenses provided that such expenses are reasonably incurred and duly documented) to propose any course of action which it considers from time to time necessary or desirable.

#### 27.3 Delegation

The Representative of the Bondholders may in the exercise of the powers, discretions and authorities vested in it by these Rules and the Transaction Documents:

- (a) act by responsible officers or a responsible officer for the time being of the Representative of the Bondholders;
- (b) whenever it considers it expedient and in the interest of the Bondholders, whether by power of attorney or otherwise, delegate to any person or persons or fluctuating body of persons some, but not all, of the powers, discretions or authorities vested in it as aforesaid.

Any such delegation may be made upon such conditions and subject to such regulations (including power to sub-delegate) as the Representative of the Bondholders may think fit in the interest of the Bondholders. The Representative of the Bondholders shall not, other than in the normal course of its business, be bound to supervise the acts or proceedings of such delegate or subdelegate and shall not in any way or to any extent be responsible for any loss incurred by reason of any misconduct, omission or default on the part of such delegate or subdelegate, *provided that* the Representative of the Bondholders shall use all reasonable care in the appointment of any such delegate and shall be responsible for the instructions given by it to such delegate. The Representative of the Bondholders shall, as soon as reasonably practicable, give notice to the Issuer and the Guarantor of the appointment of any delegate and any renewal, extension and termination of such appointment, and shall procure that any delegate shall give notice to the Issuer and the Guarantor of the appointment of any sub-delegate as soon as reasonably practicable.

## 27.4 Judicial proceedings

The Representative of the Bondholders is authorised to represent the Organisation of the Bondholders in any judicial proceedings including any Insolvency Event in respect of the Issuer and/or the Guarantor.

# 27.5 Consents given by Representative of Bondholders

Any consent or approval given by the Representative of the Bondholders under these Rules and any other Transaction Document may be given on such terms as the Representative of the Bondholders deems appropriate and, notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in the Rules or in the Transaction Documents, such consent or approval may be given retrospectively.

The Representative of the Bondholders may give any consent or approval, exercise any power, authority or discretion or take any similar action if it is satisfied that the interests of the Bondholders will not be materially prejudiced thereby.

#### 27.6 Discretions

Save as expressly otherwise provided herein, the Representative of the Bondholders shall have absolute discretion as to the exercise or non-exercise of any right, power and discretion vested in the Representative of the Bondholders by these Rules or by operation of law.

# 27.7 Obtaining instructions

In connection with matters in respect of which the Representative of the Bondholders is entitled to exercise its discretion hereunder (including but not limited to forming any opinion in connection with the exercise or non exercise of any discretion), the Representative of the Bondholders has the right (but not the obligation) to convene a Meeting or Meetings in order to obtain the Bondholders' instructions as to how it should act. Prior to undertaking any action, the Representative of the Bondholders shall be entitled to request that the Bondholders indemnify it and/or provide it with security as specified in Article 28.2 (Specific limitations).

#### 27.8 Remedy

The Representative of the Bondholders may determine whether or not a default in the performance by the Issuer or the Guarantor of any obligation under the provisions of these Rules, the Covered Bonds or any other Transaction Documents may be remedied, and if the Representative of the Bondholders certifies that any such default is, in its opinion, not capable of being remedied, such certificate shall be conclusive and binding upon the Issuer, the Bondholders, the other creditors of the Guarantor and any other party to the Transaction Documents.

### 28. EXONERATION OF THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE BONDHOLDERS

## 28.1 Limited obligations

The Representative of the Bondholders shall not assume any obligations or responsibilities in addition to those expressly provided herein and in the Transaction Documents.

## 28.2 Specific limitations

Without limiting the generality of the Article 28.1 (*Limited obligations*), the Representative of the Bondholders:

- (a) shall not be under any obligation to take any steps to ascertain whether an Issuer Event of Default or a Guarantor Event of Default or any other event, condition or act, the occurrence of which would cause a right or remedy to become exercisable by the Representative of the Bondholders hereunder or under any other Transaction Document, has occurred and, until the Representative of the Bondholders has actual knowledge or express notice to the contrary, it shall be entitled to assume that no Issuer Event of Default or a Guarantor Event of Default or such other event, condition or act has occurred;
- (b) shall not be under any obligation to monitor or supervise the observance and performance by the Issuer or the Guarantor or any other parties of their obligations contained in these Rules, the Transaction Documents or the Conditions and, until it shall have actual knowledge or express notice to the contrary, the Representative of the Bondholders shall be entitled to

assume that the Issuer or the Guarantor and each other party to the Transaction Documents are duly observing and performing all their respective obligations;

- (c) shall not be under any obligation to disclose (unless and to the extent so required under the Conditions, the terms of any Transaction Documents or by applicable law) to any Bondholders or other Secured Creditor or any other party, any information (including, without limitation, information of a confidential, financial or price sensitive nature) made available to the Representative of the Bondholders by the Issuer, the Guarantor or any other person in respect of the Cover Pool or, more generally, of the Programme and no Bondholders shall be entitled to take any action to obtain from the Representative of the Bondholders any such information.
- (d) except as expressly required in these Rules or any Transaction Document, shall not be under any obligation to give notice to any person of its activities in performance of the provisions of these Rules or any other Transaction Document;
- (e) shall not be responsible for investigating the legality, validity, effectiveness, adequacy, suitability or genuineness of these Rules or of any Transaction Document, or of any other document or any obligation or rights created or purported to be created hereby or thereby or pursuant hereto or thereto, nor shall it be responsible for assessing any breach or alleged breach by the Issuer, the Guarantor and any other Party to the transaction, and (without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing) it shall not have any responsibility for or have any duty to make any investigation in respect of or in any way be liable whatsoever for:
  - (i) the nature, status, creditworthiness or solvency of the Issuer or the Guarantor;
  - the existence, accuracy or sufficiency of any legal or other opinion, search, report, certificate, valuation or investigation delivered or obtained or required to be delivered or obtained at any time in connection herewith;
  - (iii) the suitability, adequacy or sufficiency of any collection procedure operated by the Servicer or compliance therewith;
  - (iv) the failure by the Guarantor to obtain or comply with any licence, consent or other authorisation in connection with the purchase or administration of the assets contained in the Cover Pool; and
  - any accounts, books, records or files maintained by the Issuer, the Guarantor, the Servicer and the Paying Agent or any other person in respect of the Cover Pool or the Covered Bonds;
- (f) shall not be responsible for the receipt or application by the Issuer of the proceeds of the issue of the Covered Bonds or the distribution of any of such proceeds to the persons entitled thereto;
- (g) shall have no responsibility for procuring or maintaining any rating of the Covered Bonds by any credit or rating agency or any other person;
- (h) shall not be responsible for investigating any matter which is the subject of any recital, statement, warranty, representation or covenant by any party other than the Representative of the Bondholders contained herein or in any Transaction Document or any certificate, document or agreement relating thereto or for the execution, legality, validity, effectiveness, enforceability or admissibility in evidence thereof;

- (i) shall not be liable for any failure, omission or defect in registering or filing or procuring registration or filing of or otherwise protecting or perfecting these Rules or any Transaction Document;
- (j) shall not be bound or concerned to examine or enquire into or be liable for any defect or failure in the right or title of the Guarantor in relation to the assets contained in the Cover Pool or any part thereof, whether such defect or failure was known to the Representative of the Bondholders or might have been discovered upon examination or enquiry or whether capable of being remedied or not;
- (k) shall not be under any obligation to guarantee or procure the repayment of the Receivables contained in the Cover Pool or any part thereof;
- (l) shall not be responsible for reviewing or investigating any report relating to the Cover Pool or any part thereof provided by any person;
- (m) shall not be responsible for or have any liability with respect to any loss or damage arising from the realisation of the Cover Pool or any part thereof;
- shall not be responsible (except as expressly provided in the Conditions) for making or verifying any determination or calculation in respect of the Covered Bonds, the Cover Pool or any Transaction Document;
- (o) shall not be under any obligation to insure the Cover Pool or any part thereof;
- (p) shall, when in these Rules or any Transaction Document it is required in connection with the exercise of its powers, trusts, authorities or discretions to have regard to the interests of the Bondholders, have regard to the overall interests of the Bondholders of each Series as a class of persons and shall not be obliged to have regard to any interests arising from circumstances particular to individual Bondholders whatever their number and, in particular but without limitation, shall not have regard to the consequences of such exercise for individual Bondholders (whatever their number) resulting from their being for any purpose domiciled or resident in, or otherwise connected with, or subject to the jurisdiction of, any particular territory or taxing authority, and the Representative of the Bondholders shall not be entitled to require, nor shall any Bondholders be entitled to claim, from the Issuer, the Guarantor, the Representative of the Bondholders or any other person any indemnification or payment in respect of any tax consequence of any such exercise upon individual Bondholders;
- (q) shall not, if in connection with the exercise of its powers, trusts, authorities or discretions, it is of the opinion that the interest of the holders of the Covered Bonds of any one or more Series would be materially prejudiced thereby, exercise such power, trust, authority or discretion without the approval of such Bondholders by Extraordinary Resolution or by a written resolution of such Bondholders of not less than 75 per cent. of the Outstanding Principal Balance of the Covered Bonds of the relevant Series then outstanding;
- (r) shall, as regards at the powers, trusts, authorities and discretions vested in it by the Transaction Documents, except where expressly provided therein, have regard to the interests of both the Bondholders and the other creditors of the Guarantor but if, in the opinion of the Representative of the Bondholders, there is a conflict between their interests the Representative of the Bondholders will have regard solely to the interest of the Bondholders;

- (s) may refrain from taking any action or exercising any right, power, authority or discretion vested in it under these Rules or any Transaction Document or any other agreement relating to the transactions herein or therein contemplated until it has been indemnified and/or secured and/or pre-funded to its satisfaction against any and all actions, proceedings, claims and demands which might be brought or made against it and against all Liabilities suffered, incurred or sustained by it as a result. Nothing contained in these Rules or any of the other Transaction Documents shall require the Representative of the Bondholders to expend or risk its own funds or otherwise incur any financial liability in the performance of its duties or the exercise of any right, power, authority or discretion hereunder if it has grounds for believing the repayment of such funds or adequate indemnity against, or security for, such risk or liability is not reasonably assured provided that the Representative of the Bondholders shall be indemnified and/or secured to its satisfaction beforehand if it so requests in conjunction with the exercise of any right, power authority or discretion hereunder; and
- (t) shall not be liable or responsible for any Liabilities directly or indirectly suffered or incurred by the Issuer, the Guarantor, any Bondholders or any other Secured Creditors or any other person which may result from anything done or omitted to be done by it in accordance with the provisions of these Rules or the Transaction Documents except insofar as the same are incurred as a result of fraud (*frode*), gross negligence (*colpa grave*) or wilful default (*dolo*) of the Representative of the Bondholders.

#### 28.3 Security

The Representative of the Bondholders shall be entitled to exercise all the rights granted by the Guarantor in favour of the Representative of the Bondholders on behalf of the Bondholders and the other Secured Creditors under the Security.

The Representative of the Bondholders, acting on behalf of the Bondholders and the other Secured Creditors, may:

- (a) prior to enforcement of the Security, appoint and entrust the Guarantor to collect, in the Bondholders and the other Secured Creditors' interest and on their behalf, any amounts deriving from the Security and may instruct, jointly with the Guarantor, the obligors whose obligations form part of the Security to make any payments to be made thereunder to an Account of the Guarantor;
- (b) acknowledge that the Accounts to which payments have been made in respect of the Security shall be deposit accounts for the purpose of article 2803 of the Italian civil code and agree that such Accounts shall be operated in compliance with the provisions of the Cash Management and Agency Agreement and the Intercreditor Agreement; and
- (c) agree that all funds credited to the Accounts from time to time shall be applied prior to enforcement of the Security, in accordance with the Conditions and the Intercreditor Agreement.

The Representative of the Bondholders shall not be entitled to collect, withdraw or apply, or issue instructions for the collection, withdrawal or application of, cash deriving from time to time from the Security, under the Security, except in accordance with the foregoing, the Conditions and the Intercreditor Agreement.

#### 28.4 Illegality

No provision of these Rules shall require the Representative of the Bondholders to do anything which may be illegal or contrary to applicable law or regulations or to expend moneys or otherwise take risks in the performance of any of its duties, or in the exercise of any of its powers or discretion. The Representative of the Bondholders may refrain from taking any action which would or might, in its opinion, be contrary to any law of any jurisdiction or any regulation or directive of any agency of any state, or if it has reasonable grounds to believe that it will not be reimbursed for any funds it expends, or that it will not be indemnified against any loss or liabilities which it may incur as a consequence of such action. The Representative of the Bondholders may do anything which, in its opinion, is necessary to comply with any such law, regulation or directive as aforesaid.

#### 29. RELIANCE ON INFORMATION

#### 29.1 Advice

The Representative of the Bondholders may act on the advice of a certificate or opinion of, or any written information obtained from, any lawyer, accountant, banker, broker, tax advisor, credit or rating agency or other expert, whether obtained by the Issuer, the Guarantor, the Representative of the Bondholders or otherwise, and shall not be liable for any loss occasioned by so acting. Any such opinion, advice, certificate or information may be sent or obtained by letter, telegram, e-mail or fax transmission and the Representative of the Bondholders shall not be liable for acting on any opinion, advice, certificate or information purporting to be so conveyed although the same contains some error or is not authentic.

#### 29.2 Certificates of Issuer and/or Guarantor

The Representative of the Bondholders may require, and shall be at liberty to accept (a) as sufficient evidence:

- (a) as to any fact or matter *prima facie* within the Issuer's or the Guarantor's knowledge, a certificate duly signed by a director of the Issuer or (as the case may be) the Guarantor;
- (b) that such is the case, a certificate of a director of the Issuer or (as the case may be) the Guarantor to the effect that any particular dealing, transaction, step or thing is expedient, and the Representative of the Bondholders shall not be bound in any such case to call for further evidence or be responsible for any loss that may be incurred as a result of acting on such certificate unless any of its officers in charge of the administration of these Rules shall have actual knowledge or express notice of the untruthfulness of the matters contained in the certificate.

#### 29.3 Resolution or direction of Bondholders

The Representative of the Bondholders shall not be responsible for acting upon any resolution purporting to be a Written Resolution or to have been passed at any Meeting in respect whereof minutes have been made and signed or a direction of the requisite percentage of Bondholders, even though it may subsequently be found that there was some defect in the constitution of the Meeting or the passing of the Written Resolution or the giving of such directions or that for any reason the resolution purporting to be a Written Resolution or to have been passed at any Meeting or the giving of the direction was not valid or binding upon the Bondholders.

#### 29.4 Certificates of Monte Titoli Account Holders

The Representative of the Bondholders, in order to ascertain ownership of the Covered Bonds, may fully rely on the certificates issued by any Monte Titoli Account Holder in accordance with the Joint Resolution, which certificates are to be conclusive proof of the matters certified therein.

#### 29.5 Clearing Systems

The Representative of the Bondholders shall be at liberty to call for and to rely on as sufficient evidence of the facts stated therein, a certificate, letter or confirmation certified as true and accurate and signed on behalf of such clearing system as the Representative of the Bondholders considers appropriate, or any form of record made by any clearing system, to the effect that at any particular time or throughout any particular period any particular person is, or was, or will be, shown its records as entitled to a particular number of Covered Bonds.

#### 29.6 Rating Agency

The Representative of the Bondholders shall be entitled to assume, for the purposes of exercising any power, authority, duty or discretion under or in relation to these Rules that such exercise will not be materially prejudicial to the interests of the Bondholders of any Series or of all Series for the time being outstanding if the Rating Agency has confirmed that the then current rating of the Covered Bonds of any such Series or all such Series (as the case may be) would not be adversely affected by such exercise, or have otherwise given their consent.

If the Representative of the Bondholders, in order properly to exercise its rights or fulfil its obligations, deems it necessary to obtain the views of the Rating Agency as to how a specific act would affect any outstanding rating of the Covered Bonds, the Representative of the Bondholders may inform the Issuer, which will then obtain such views at its expense on behalf of the Representative of the Bondholders or the Representative of the Bondholders may seek and obtain such views itself at the cost of the Issuer.

#### 29.7 Certificates of Parties to Transaction Document

The Representative of the Bondholders shall have the right to call for or require the Issuer or the Guarantor to call for and to rely on written certificates issued by any party (other than the Issuer or the Guarantor) to the Intercreditor Agreement or any other Transaction Document,

- (a) in respect of every matter and circumstance for which a certificate is expressly provided for under the Conditions or any Transaction Document;
- (b) as any matter or fact *prima facie* within the knowledge of such party; or
- (c) as to such party's opinion with respect to any issue and the Representative of the Bondholders shall not be required to seek additional evidence in respect of the relevant fact, matter or circumstances and shall not be held responsible for any Liabilities incurred as a result of having failed to do so unless any of its officers has actual knowledge or express notice of the untruthfulness of the matter contained in the certificate.

#### 29.8 Auditors

The Representative of the Bondholders shall not be responsible for reviewing or investigating any auditors' report or certificate and may rely on the contents of any such report or certificate.

#### 30. AMENDMENTS AND MODIFICATIONS

**30.1** The Representative of the Bondholders may from time to time and without the consent or sanction of the Bondholders concur with the Issuer and/or the Guarantor and any other relevant parties in making any modification (and for this purpose the Representative of the Bondholders may disregard whether any such modification relates to a Series Reserved Matter) as follows:

(a) to these Rules, the Conditions and/or the other Transaction Documents which in the opinion of the Representative of the Bondholders (which may be based on the advice of, or information obtained from, any lawyer, accountant, banker, tax advisor, or other expert or confirmation of rating) may be expedient to make *provided that* the Representative of the Bondholders is of the opinion that such modification will not be materially prejudicial to the interests of any of the Bondholders of any Series;

and

- (b) to these Rules, the Conditions or the other Transaction Documents which is of a formal, minor or technical nature or, which in the opinion of the Representative of the Bondholders (which may be based on the advice of, or information obtained from, any lawyer, accountant, banker, tax advisor, or other expert or confirmation of rating) is to correct a manifest error or an error established as such to the satisfaction of the Representative of the Bondholders or to comply with mandatory provisions of law.
- **30.2** Any such modification shall be binding upon the Bondholders and, unless the Representative of the Bondholders otherwise agrees, shall be notified by the Issuer or the Guarantor (as the case may be) to the Bondholders in accordance with Condition 19 (Notices) as soon as practicable thereafter.
- 30.3 The Representative of the Bondholders shall be bound to concur with the Issuer and the Guarantor and any other party in making any of the above-mentioned modifications if it is so directed by an Extraordinary Resolution or and if it is indemnified and/or secured and/or pre-funded to its satisfaction against all Liabilities to which it may thereby render itself liable or which it may incur by so doing.

#### **30.4** Establishing an error

In establishing whether an error has occurred as such, the Representative of the Bondholders may have regard to any evidence on which the Representative of the Bondholders considers it appropriate to rely and may, but shall not be obliged to, have regard to any of the following:

- (a) a certificate from the Arranger:
  - (i) stating the intention of the parties to the relevant Transaction Document; and
  - (ii) confirming nothing has been said to, or by, investors or any other parties which is in any way inconsistent with such stated intention; and
  - (iii) stating the modification to the relevant Transaction Documents that is required to reflect such intention;
- (b) confirmation from the Rating Agency that, after giving effect to such modification, the Covered Bonds shall continue to have the same credit ratings as those assigned to them immediately prior to the modification.

#### 31. WAIVER

#### 31.1 Waiver of Breach

The Representative of the Bondholders may at any time and from time to time in its sole direction, without prejudice to its rights in respect of any subsequent breach, condition, event or act, but only if, and in so far as, in its opinion the interests of the Holders of the Covered Bonds then outstanding shall not be materially prejudiced thereby:

- (a) authorise or waive, on such terms and subject to such conditions (if any) as it may decide, any proposed breach or breach of any of the covenants or provisions contained in the Guarantee or any of the obligations of or rights against the Guarantor under any other Transaction Documents; or
- (b) determine that any Event of Default shall not be treated as such for the purposes of the Transaction Documents, without any consent or sanction of the Bondholders.

### 31.2 Binding Nature

Any authorisation, waiver or determination referred in Article 31.1 (Waiver of Breach) shall be binding on the Bondholders.

#### 31.3 Restriction on powers

The Representative of the Bondholders shall not exercise any powers conferred upon it by this Article 31 (Waiver) in contravention of any express direction by an Extraordinary Resolution of the holders of the Covered Bonds then outstanding or of a request or direction in writing made by the holders of not less than 25 per cent in aggregate Outstanding Principal Balance of the Covered Bonds (in the case of any such determination, with the Covered Bonds of all Series taken together as a single Series as aforesaid), and at all times then only if it shall be indemnified and/or secured and/or pre-funded to its satisfaction against all Liabilities to which it may thereby render itself liable or which it may incur by so doing but so that no such direction or request:

- (a) shall affect any authorisation, waiver or determination previously given or made; or
- (b) authorise or waive any such proposed breach or breach relating to a Series Reserved Matter unless holders of Covered Bonds of each Series has, by Extraordinary Resolution, so authorised its exercise.

#### 31.4 Notice of waiver

Unless the Representative of the Bondholders agrees otherwise, the Issuer shall cause any such authorisation, waiver or determination to be notified to the Bondholders and the Secured Creditors, as soon as practicable after it has been given or made in accordance with Condition 19 (Notices).

#### 32. INDEMNITY

Pursuant to the Programme Agreement, the Issuer has covenanted and undertaken to reimburse, pay or discharge (on a full indemnity basis) upon demand, to the extent not already reimbursed, paid or discharged by the Bondholders, all costs, liabilities, losses, charges, expenses, damages, actions, proceedings, claims and demands duly documented and properly incurred by or made against the Representative of the Bondholders or any entity to which the Representative of the Bondholders has delegated any power authority or discretion in relation to the exercise or purported exercise of its powers, authorities and discretions and the performance of its duties under and otherwise in relation to these Rules and the Transaction Documents, including but not limited to legal and travelling expenses, and any stamp, issue, registration, documentary and other taxes or duties paid by the Representative of the Bondholders in connection with any action and/or legal proceedings brought or contemplated by the Representative of the Bondholders pursuant to the Transaction Documents against the Issuer, or any other person to enforce any obligation under these Rules, the Covered Bonds or the Transaction Documents except insofar as the same are incurred as a result of fraud (frode), gross negligence (colpa grave) or wilful default (dolo) of the Representative of the Bondholders.

#### 33. LIABILITY

Notwithstanding any other provision of these Rules, the Representative of the Bondholders shall not be liable for any act, matter or thing done or omitted in any way in connection with the Transaction Documents, the Covered Bonds or the Rules except in relation to its own fraud (*frode*), gross negligence (*colpa grave*) or wilful default (*dolo*).

# TITLE IV THE ORGANISATION OF THE BONDHOLDERS AFTER SERVICE OF A GUARANTOR DEFAULT NOTICE

#### 34. POWERS TO ACT ON BEHALF OF THE GUARANTOR

It is hereby acknowledged that, upon service of a Guarantor Default Notice or, prior to service of a Guarantor Default Notice, following the failure of the Guarantor to exercise any right to which it is entitled, pursuant to the Intercreditor Agreement the Representative of the Bondholders, in its capacity as legal representative of the Organisation of the Bondholders, shall be entitled (also in the interests of the Secured Creditors) pursuant to Articles 1411 and 1723 of the Italian Civil Code, to exercise certain rights in relation to the Cover Pool. Therefore, the Representative of the Bondholders, in its capacity as legal representative of the Organisation of the Bondholders, will be authorised, pursuant to the terms of the Intercreditor Agreement, to exercise, in the name and on behalf of the Guarantor and as *mandatario in rem propriam* of the Guarantor, any and all of the Guarantor's Rights under certain Transaction Documents, including the right to give directions and instructions to the relevant parties to the relevant Transaction Documents.

# TITLE V GOVERNING LAW AND JURISDICTION

#### 35. GOVERNING LAW

These Rules are governed by, and will be construed in accordance with, the laws of the Republic of Italy.

#### 36. JURISDICTION

The courts of Milan have exclusive competence for the resolution of any dispute that may arise in relation to the Covered Bonds or their validity, interpretation or performance.

#### FORM OF THE FINAL TERMS

Set out below is the form of Final Terms which, subject to any necessary amendments, will be completed for each Series/Tranche of Covered Bonds issued under the Programme. Text in this section appearing in italics does not form part of the Final Terms but denotes directions for completing the Final Terms.

# Mediobanca – Banca di Credito Finanziario S.p.A.

**Issue of** [currency] [aggregate principal amount] [description] **Covered Bonds due** [maturity]

Guaranteed by Mediobanca Covered Bond S.r.l.

under the €5,000,000,000 Covered Bond Programme

SERIES NO [•]

[TRANCHE NO [•]]

[DEALER(S)]

The date of this Final Terms is [●]

[The Base Prospectus referred to below (as completed by these Final Terms) has been prepared on the basis that, except as provided in sub-paragraph (ii) below, any offer of Covered Bonds in any Member State of the European Economic Area which has implemented the Prospectus Directive (2003/71/EC, as from time to time amended) (the **Prospectus Directive**) (each, a **Relevant Member State**) will be made pursuant to an exemption under the Prospectus Directive, as implemented in that Relevant Member State, from the requirement to publish a prospectus for offers of the Covered Bonds. Accordingly any person making or intending to make an offer of the Covered Bonds may only do so:

- (i) in circumstances in which no obligation arises for the Issuer or any Dealer to publish a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive or supplement a prospectus pursuant to Article 16 of the Prospectus Directive, in each case, in relation to such offer; or
- (ii) in those Public Offer Jurisdictions mentioned in Paragraph [●] of Part A below, provided such person is one of the persons mentioned in Paragraph [●] of Part A below and that such offer is made during the Offer Period specified for such purpose therein.

Neither the Issuer nor any Dealer has authorised, nor do they authorise, the making of any offer of Covered Bonds in any other circumstances.]<sup>1</sup>

[The Base Prospectus referred to below (as completed by these Final Terms) has been prepared on the basis that any offer of Covered Bonds in any Member State of the European Economic Area which has implemented the Prospectus Directive (2003/71/EC, as from time to time amended) (each, a **Relevant Member State**) will be made pursuant to an exemption under the Prospectus Directive, as implemented in that Relevant Member State, from the requirement to publish a prospectus for offer of the Covered Bonds. Accordingly any person making or intending to make an offer in that Relevant Member State of the Covered Bonds may only do so in circumstances in which no obligation arises for the Issuer or any Dealer to publish a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive or supplement a prospectus pursuant to Article 16 of the Prospectus Directive, in each case, in relation to such offer. Neither the Issuer nor any Dealer has authorised, nor do they authorise, the making of any offer of Covered Bonds in any other circumstances.]<sup>2</sup>

Terms used herein shall be deemed to be defined as such for the purposes of the Conditions (the Conditions) set forth in the prospectus dated [●] 2011 [and the supplement[s] to the prospectus dated [insert date] [delete if not applicable]] which [together] constitute[s] a base prospectus (the Base Prospectus) for the purposes of the Prospectus Directive (Directive 2003/71/EC, as from time to time amended) (the Prospectus Directive). This document constitutes the Final Terms of the Covered Bonds described herein for the purposes of Article 5.4 of the Prospectus Directive. These Final Terms contain the final terms of the Covered Bonds and must be read in conjunction with such Base Prospectus [as supplemented from time to time]. Full information on the Issuer, the Guarantor and the offer of the Covered Bonds described herein is only available on the basis of the combination of these Final Terms and the Base Prospectus [as so supplemented]. The Base Prospectus [, including the supplement[s]] [is/are] available for viewing [at [website]] [and] during normal business hours at [address] [and copies may be obtained from [address]].

[The purchase of Covered Bonds involves substantial risks and is suitable only for investors who have the knowledge and experience in financial and business matters necessary to enable them to evaluate the risks and the merits of an investment in the Covered Bonds. Before making an investment decision, prospective purchasers of Covered Bonds should ensure that they understand the nature of the Covered Bonds and the extent of their exposure to risks and that they consider carefully, in the light of their own financial circumstances, financial condition and investment objectives, all the information set forth in the Base

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Include where a non-exempt offer of Covered Bond is anticipated.

Include where an exempt offer of Covered Bond is anticipated.

Prospectus (including "Risk Factors" on pages [●] to [●] thereof) [and the supplement thereto] referred to above and these Final Terms.

No person has been authorised to give any information or make any representation not contained in or not consistent with these Final Terms, or any other information supplied in connection with the Covered Bonds and, if given or made, such information or representation must not be relied upon as having been authorised by the Issuer or the Dealer.

By investing in the Covered Bonds each investor represents that:

- (a) Non-Reliance. It is acting for its own account, and it has made its own independent decisions to invest in the Covered Bonds and as to whether the investment in the Covered Bonds is appropriate or proper for it based upon its own judgement and upon advice from such advisers as it has deemed necessary. It is not relying on any communication (written or oral) of the Issuer or the Dealers as investment advice or as a recommendation to invest in the Covered Bonds, it being understood that information and explanations related to the terms and conditions of the Covered Bonds shall not be considered to be investment advice or a recommendation to invest in the Covered Bonds. No communication (written or oral) received from the Issuer or the Dealers shall be deemed to be an assurance or guarantee as to the expected results of the investment in the Covered Bonds.
- (b) Assessment and Understanding. It is capable of assessing the merits of and understanding (on its own behalf or through independent professional advice), and understands and accepts the terms and conditions and the risks of the investment in the Covered Bonds. It is also capable of assuming, and assumes, the risks of the investment in the Covered Bonds.
- (c) Status of Parties. Neither the Issuer nor the Dealers is acting as a fiduciary for or adviser to it in respect of the investment in the Covered Bonds.]

[Include whichever of the following apply or specify as "Not Applicable" (N/A). Note that the numbering should remain as set out below, even if "Not Applicable" is indicated for individual paragraphs or subparagraphs. Italics denote guidance for completing the Final Terms.]

When completing any final terms, or adding any other final terms or information, consideration should be given as to whether such terms or information constitute "significant new factors" and consequently trigger the need for a supplement to the Prospectus under Article 16 of the Prospectus Directive.]

#### PART A - CONTRACTUAL TERMS

1.	(i)	Issuer:	Mediobanca – Banca di Credito Finanziario S.p.A.		
	(ii)	Guarantor:	Mediobanca Covered Bond S.r.l.		
2.	(i)	Series Number:	[•]		
	(ii)	Tranche Number:	[•]		
3.		Specified Currency or Currencies:	[•]		
4.		Aggregate Nominal Amount:	[•]		
	(i)	Series:	[•]		
	(ii)	Tranche:	[•]		
5.		Issue Price:	[•] per cent. of the aggregate nominal amount [plus		

accrued interest from [insert date] (in the case of fungible issues only, if applicable)].

6. (i) Specified Denominations:

[ullet]

(Covered Bonds including Covered Bonds denominated in Sterling, in respect of which the issue proceeds are to be accepted by the Issuer in the United Kingdom or whose issue otherwise constitutes a contravention of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 and which have a maturity of less than one year must have a minimum redemption value of £100,000 (or its equivalent in other currencies).)

(ii) Calculation Amount:

[•]

7. (i) Issue Date:

[•]

(ii) Interest Commencement Date:

[Specify/Issue Date/Not Applicable]

8. Maturity Date:

[Specify date or (for Business Day Convention other than following) CB Payment Date falling in relevant month and year.]

9. (i) Extended Maturity Date:

[Not applicable / Specify date or (for Floating Rate Covered Bonds) CB Payment Date falling in or nearest to the relevant month and year]

(ii) Pre-Maturity Test:

[Applicable/Not Applicable] (Applicable to the extent that the Extended Maturity Date is Not Applicable)

10. Interest Basis:

[[•] per cent. Fixed Rate]

[[Specify reference rate] +/- [Margin] per cent. Floating Rate]

[Zero Coupon]

[Index-Linked or Other Variable-Linked Interest]

[Dual Currency]

[Other (Specify)]

(further particulars specified below)

11. Redemption/Payment Basis:

[Redemption at par]

[Index-Linked or Other Variable-Linked

Redemption]

[Dual Currency]

[Instalment]

[Other (Specify)]

12. Change of Interest or [Specify details of any provision for convertibility of

Redemption/Payment Basis: Covered Bonds into another interest or redemption/

payment basis]

13. Put/Call Options: [Not Applicable]

[Investor Put]

[Issuer Call]

[(further particulars specified below)]

14. [Date [Board] approval for issuance

of Covered Bonds [and Guarantee]

[respectively]] obtained:

[•] [and [•], respectively

(N.B. Only relevant where Board (or similar)

authorisation is required for the particular tranche

of Covered Bonds or related Guarantee)]

15. Method of distribution: [Syndicated/Non-syndicated]

16. Taxation: [●]

#### PROVISIONS RELATING TO INTEREST (IF ANY) PAYABLE

17. **Fixed Rate Provisions** [Applicable]

(If not applicable, delete the remaining sub-

paragraphs of this paragraph)

(i) Rate(s) of Interest: [•] per cent. per annum [payable [annually/semi-

annually/quarterly/monthly/other (specify)] in

arrear]

(ii) CB Payment Date(s): [●] in each year [adjusted in accordance with [specify

Business Day Convention and any applicable Business Centre(s) for the definition of "Business

Day"]/not adjusted]

(iii) Fixed Coupon Amount[(s)]: [●] per Calculation Amount

(iv) Broken Amount(s): [●] per Calculation Amount, payable on the CB

Payment Date falling [in/on] [●]

(v) Adjustment to Interest Period end

Date

[Applicable/Not Applicable]

(vi) Day Count Fraction: [30/360/Actual/Actual (ICMA)/Other]

(vii) Other terms relating to the method [N

of calculating interest for Fixed Rate

Covered Bonds:

[Not Applicable/give details]

18. **Floating Rate Provisions** [Applicable/Not Applicable]

(If not applicable, delete the remaining sub-

paragraphs of this paragraph)

(i) CB Interest Period(s): [●]

(ii) Specified Period: [●]

(Specified Period and CB Payment Dates are alternatives. A Specified Period, rather than CB Payment Dates, will only be relevant if the Business Day Convention is the FRN Convention, Floating Rate Convention or Eurodollar Convention.

Otherwise, insert "Not Applicable")

(iii) CB Payment Dates: [●]

(Specified Period and Specified CB Payment Dates are alternatives. If the Business Day Convention is the FRN Convention, Floating Rate Convention or Eurodollar Convention, insert "Not Applicable")

(iv) First CB Payment Date: [●]

(v) Business Day Convention: [Floating Rate Convention/Following Business Day

Convention/Modified Following Business Day Convention/Preceding Business Day

Convention/Other (give details)]

(vi) Adjustment to Interest Period end [Applicable/Not Applicable]

Date

(x)

(vii) Additional Business Centre(s): [Not Applicable/give details]

(viii) Manner in which the Rate(s) of [Screen Rate Determination/ISDA

Interest is/are to be determined: Determination/Other (give details)]

(ix) Party responsible for calculating the [[Name] shall be the Calculation Agent]

Rate(s) of Interest and/or Interest
Amount(s) (if not the Interest

Screen Rate Determination:

Determination Agent):

[Applicable/Not Applicable]

(If not applicable, delete the remaining sub-

paragraphs of this paragraph (vii))

• Reference Rate: [ ] [LIBOR/EURIBOR / other (*give details*)]

• Interest Determination Date(s): [•]

• Relevant Screen Page: [For example, Reuters LIBOR 01/EURIBOR 01]

• Relevant Time: [For example, 11.00 a.m. London time/Brussels time]

• Relevant Financial Centre: [For example, London/Euro-zone (where Euro-zone

means the region comprised of the countries whose

lawful currency is the euro] (xi) ISDA Determination: [Applicable/Not Applicable] (If not applicable, delete the remaining subparagraphs of this paragraph (viii)) • Floating Rate Option: [•] • Designated Maturity: [•] • Reset Date: [•] (xii) Margin(s): [+/-] [•] per cent. per annum Minimum Rate of Interest: (xiii) [•] per cent. per annum (xiv) Maximum Rate of Interest: [•] per cent. per annum (xv) **Day Count Fraction:** [•] (xvi) Fall back provisions, rounding [•] provisions, denominator and any other terms relating to the method of calculating interest on Floating Rate Covered Bonds, if different from those set out in the Conditions: **Zero Coupon Provisions** [Applicable/Not Applicable] (If not applicable, delete the remaining subparagraphs of this paragraph) (i) [Amortisation/Accrual] Yield: [•] per cent. per annum Calculated as [include details of method of calculation in summary form] on the Issue Date on the basis of the Issue Price (ii) Reference Price:  $\lceil \bullet \rceil$ (iii) other formula/basis of Consider whether it is necessary to specify a Day Any determining amount payable: Count Fraction for the purposes of Condition 10(h) (Early redemption of Zero Coupon Covered Bonds) or Condition 7(a) (Late payment on Zero Coupon Covered Bonds) **Index-Linked** Other [Applicable/Not Applicable]  $\mathbf{or}$ Variable-Linked **Interest** (If not applicable, delete the remaining sub-**Provisions** 

19.

20.

(i)

(ii)

Index/Formula/other variable:

Party responsible for calculating the

interest due (if not the Paying

229

[•]

paragraphs of this paragraph)

[Give or annex details]

Agent):

- (iii) Provisions for determining the [●]
  Rate(s) of Interest and Interest
  Amount(s) where calculated by
  reference to Index and/or Formula
  and/or other variable:
- (vi) Interest Determination Date(s): [●]
- (v) Provisions for determining Coupon Rate(s) of Interest and Interest Amount(s) where calculation by reference to Index and/or Formula and/or other variable is impossible or impracticable or otherwise disrupted:
- (vi) Interest or calculation period(s): [●]
- (vii) Specified Period: [●]

(Specified Period and CB Payment Dates are alternatives. A Specified Period, rather than CB Payment Dates, will only be relevant if the Business Day Convention is the FRN Convention, Floating Rate Convention or Eurodollar Convention. Otherwise, insert "Not Applicable")

(viii) CB Payment Dates: [●]

(Specified Period and Specified [•] Payment Dates are alternatives. If the Business Day Convention is the FRN Convention, Floating Rate Convention or Eurodollar Convention, insert "Not Applicable")

(ix) Business Day Convention: [Floating Rate Convention/Following Business Day

Convention/Modified Following Business Day

[•]

Convention/Modified Following Business Day Convention/Preceding Business Day

Convention/Other (*give details*)]

(x) Adjustment to Interest Period end [Applicable/Not Applicable]
Date

(xi) Additional Business Centre(s): [●]

(xiii) Minimum Rate/Amount of Interest: [●] per cent. per annum

(xiii) Maximum Rate/Amount of Interest: [●] per cent. per annum

(xiv) Day Count Fraction: [●]

21. **Dual Currency Bond Provisions** [Applicable/Not Applicable]

(If not applicable, delete the remaining sub-

	(i)	Rate of Exchange/method of calculating Rate of Exchange:	[give details]
	(ii)	Party, if any, responsible for calculating the principal and/or interest due (if not the Paying Agent):	[•]
	(iii)	Provisions applicable where calculation by reference to Rate of Exchange impossible or impracticable:	[•]
	(iv)	Person at whose option Specified Currency(ies) is/are payable:	[•]
PROV	ISIONS	RELATING TO REDEMPTION	
22.		Call Option	[Applicable/Not Applicable]
			(If not applicable, delete the remaining sub- paragraphs of this paragraph)
	(i)	Optional Redemption Date(s):	[•]
	(ii)	Optional Redemption Amount(s) of Covered Bonds and method, if any, of calculation of such amount(s):	[●] per Calculation Amount
	(iii)	If redeemable in part:	
		Minimum Redemption Amount:	[●] per Calculation Amount
		Maximum Redemption Amount:	[•] per Calculation Amount
	(iv)	Notice period:	[•]
23.		<b>Put Option</b>	[Applicable/Not Applicable]
			(If not applicable, delete the remaining sub- paragraphs of this paragraph)
	(i)	Optional Redemption Date(s):	[•]
	(ii)	Optional Redemption Amount(s) of each Covered Bond and method, if any, of calculation of such amount(s):	[•] per Calculation Amount
	(iii)	Notice period:	[•]

24.

**Covered Bonds** 

**Final Redemption Amount of** [[●] per Calculation Amount/other]

[Include the following in cases where the Final Redemption Amount is Index-Linked or other Variable-Linked]

(N.B. If the Final Redemption Amount is other than 100 per cent. of the principal amount, the Notes will be derivative securities for the purposes of the Prospectus Directive and the requirements of Annex XII to the Commission Regulation No. 809/2004 will apply)

In cases where the Final Redemption Amount is Index-Linked or other variable-linked:

(i) Index/Formula/variable:

[give or annex details]

- (ii) Party responsible for calculating the Final Redemption Amount (if not the Paying Agent):
- (iii) Provisions for determining Final [●]

  Redemption Amount where
  calculated by reference to Index
  and/or Formula and/or other
  variable:
- (iv) Date for determining Final [•]

  Redemption Amount where
  calculation by reference to Index
  and/or Formula and/or other
  variable:
- (v) Provisions for determining Final [•] Redemption **Amount** where calculation by reference to Index and/or Formula and/or other variable is impossible or impracticable otherwise or disrupted:
- (vi) Minimum Final Redemption [●] per Calculation Amount Amount:
- (vii) Maximum Final Redemption [●] per Calculation Amount Amount:

[Include the following in cases where the Final Redemption Amount is linked to Dual Currency Bond provisions]

(i) Rate of Exchange/method of [Give details] calculating Rate of Exchange:

- (ii) Calculation Agent, if any, [] responsible for calculating the Final Redemption Amount:
- (iii) Provisions applicable where calculation by reference to Rate of Exchange is impossible or impracticable:
- (iv) Person at whose option Specified [] Currency(ies) is/are payable:

[In the case of Credit-Linked Bonds, include (i) Final Redemption Amount if no Credit Event, (ii) Final Redemption Amount upon Credit Event (including Valuation Method, where applicable), and (iii) Final Redemption Amount upon Uncured Default being cured or Final Redemption where the Uncured Default is not cured]

#### 25. Early Redemption Amount

Early redemption amount(s) per Calculation Amount payable on redemption for taxation reasons or on acceleration following a Guarantor Event of Default or other early redemption and/or the method of calculating the same (if required or if different from that set out in the Conditions): [Not Applicable/give details]

(If both the Early Redemption Amount and the Early Termination Amount are the principal amount of the Covered Bonds/specify the Early Redemption Amount and/or the Early Termination Amount if different from the principal amount of the Covered Bonds)]

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO THE COVERED BONDS

26. Additional Financial Centre(s) or other special provisions relating to payment dates:

[Not Applicable/give details]

[Note that this paragraph relates to the date and place of payment, and not interest period end dates, to which sub paragraphs 16(ii), 17(vi) and 19(x) relate]

27. Details relating to Covered Bonds issued on a partly paid basis: amount of each payment comprising the Issue Price and date on which each payment is to be made and consequences (if any) of failure to pay, including any right of the Issuer to forfeit the Covered Bonds and

[Not Applicable/give details]

interest due on late payment:

Details relating to Covered Bonds for [Not Applicable/give details] which principal is repayable in instalments: amount of each

payment is to be made:

instalment, date on which

[29. Redenomination provisions:] [Redenomination [not] applicable (If

each

Redenomination is applicable, specify the terms of the redenomination in an annex to the Final Terms)]

30. Other terms or special conditions: [Not Applicable/give details]

(When adding any other final terms consideration should be given as to whether such terms constitute "significant new factors" and consequently trigger the need for a supplement to the Base Prospectus under Article 16 of the Prospectus Directive.)

#### **DISTRIBUTION**

28.

31. (i) If syndicated, names and address of [Not Applicable/give names] Managers:

(ii) Stabilising Manager(s) (if any): [Not Applicable/give name]

32. If non-syndicated, name and address [Not Applicable/give name]

of Dealer:

33. U.S. Selling Restrictions: [Reg. S Compliance Category, TEFRA C/ TEFRA D/

TEFRA not applicable]

34. Additional selling restrictions: [Not Applicable/give details]

35. Non-exempt offer: [Not Applicable] [An offer of the Covered Bonds may

be made by the Managers and [specify if applicable] other than pursuant to Article 3(2) of the Prospectus Directive in [specify relevant Member State(s) — which must be jurisdictions where the Prospectus and any supplements have been passported] ("Public Offer Jurisdictions") during the period from [specify date] until [specify date] ("Offer Period"). See further Paragraph 10 of Part B below.

36. [Date of [Subscription Agreement] [●]]

#### PURPOSE OF FINAL TERMS

These Final Terms comprise the final terms required for issue and admission to trading on [the regulated market of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange/specify other regulated market] of the Covered Bonds described herein] pursuant to the €5,000,000,000 Covered Bond Programme of Mediobanca − Banca di Credito Finanziario S.p.A.

#### [INFORMATION RELATING TO THE ISSUER

The following information relating to the Issuer is provided pursuant to Article 2414 of the Italian Civil Code.

Mediobanca – Banca di Credito Finanziario S.p.A. is an Italian company with its registered office at Piazzetta E. Cuccia 1, Milan, Italy, registered at the Companies' Registry of the Chamber of Commerce in Milan under registration number 00714490158.

The Issuer shall engage in the activities described below:

- (a) the raising of funds and provision of credit in any forms permitted, especially medium- and long-term credit to corporates; and
- (b) within the limits laid down by current regulations, the execution of all banking, financial and intermediation-related transactions and/or services and the carrying out of any transactions deemed to be instrumental to or otherwise connected with achievement of the Issuer's purpose.

As part of its supervisory and coordinating activities in its capacity as parent company of the Mediobanca Banking Group (the "**Group**") within the meaning of Article 61/4 of Legislative Decree No. 385 dated 1 September 1993, the Issuer shall also issue directives to member companies of the Group to comply with instructions given by the Bank of Italy in the interests of maintaining the Group's stability.

At the time of the issuance the share capital is equal to [430,564,606.00], consisting of [861,129,212] ordinary shares with a nominal value of Euro 0.50 each and the reserves and retained earnings are equal to [4,356,951,536.04] [DETAILS IN SQUARE BRACKETS TO BE CHECKED AT THE RELEVANT ISSUE DATE].

#### RESPONSIBILITY

The Issuer and the Guarantor accept responsibility for the information contained in these Final Terms. [(Relevant third party information) has been extracted from (specify source). Each of the Issuer and the Guarantor confirms that such information has been accurately reproduced and that, so far as it is aware, and is able to ascertain from information published by (specify source), no facts have been omitted which would render the reproduced information inaccurate or misleading.]

Signed on behalf of Mediobanca – Banca di Credito Finanziario S.p.A. (as Issuer)
By:
Duly authorised
Signed on behalf of Mediobanca Covered Bond S.r.l. (as Guarantor)
By:
Duly authorized

#### **PART B – OTHER INFORMATION**

#### 1. LISTING AND ADMISSION TO TRADING

(i) Listing [Luxembourg/(specify other)/None]

(ii) Admission to trading [Application [is expected to be/has been] made by the

Issuer (or on its behalf) for the Covered Bonds to be admitted to trading on [the regulated market of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange/specify other regulated

*market*] with effect from [●].] [Not Applicable.]

(Where documenting a fungible issue need to indicate that original Covered Bonds are already admitted to trading.)

(iii) Estimate of the total expenses [●] related to admission to trading

#### 2. RATING

Rating:

[The Covered Bonds to be issued have been rated [rating(s)] by [credit rating agency/agencies]. [This credit rating has / These credit ratings have] been issued by [full name of legal entity which has given the rating] which [is/is not] established in the European Union and [is/is not] registered under Regulation (EC) No. 1060/2009 (as amended by Regulation (EU) No. 513/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 May 2011) of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 September 2009 on credit rating agencies.].

[The above disclosure should reflect the rating allocated to the Covered Bonds of the type being issued under the Programme generally or, where the issue has been specifically rated, that rating.]

[3.] [NOTIFICATION]

[The CSSF [has been requested to provide/has provided – include first alternative for an issue which is contemporaneous with the establishment or update of the Programme and the second alternative for subsequent issues] the [names of competent authorities of host Member States] with a certificate of approval attesting that the Base Prospectus has been drawn up in accordance with the Prospectus Directive.]

#### 4. [INTERESTS OF NATURAL AND LEGAL PERSONS INVOLVED IN THE ISSUE/OFFER]

[Need to include a description of any interest, including conflicting ones, that is material to the issue/offer, detailing the persons involved and the nature of the interest. May be satisfied by the inclusion of the following statement:

"Save as discussed in ["Subscription and Sale"], so far as the Issuer is aware, no person involved in

the offer of the Covered Bonds has an interest material to the offer."]

(When adding any other description, consideration should be given as to whether such matters described constitute "significant new factors" and consequently trigger the need for a supplement to the Prospectus under Article 16 of the Prospectus Directive.)

#### [Fixed Rate Covered Bonds only – YIELD 5.

Indication of yield: [•]

> Calculated as [include details of method of calculation in summary form] on the Issue Date.

> As set out above, the yield is calculated at the Issue Date on the basis of the Issue Price. It is not an indication of future yield.]

#### 6. [Floating Rate Covered Bonds only - HISTORIC INTEREST RATES

Details of historic [LIBOR/EURIBOR/other] rates can be obtained from [Reuters].]

#### [Index-Linked or Other Variable-Linked Covered Bonds only - PERFORMANCE OF 7. INDEX/FORMULA/OTHER VARIABLE, EXPLANATION OF EFFECT ON VALUE OF INVESTMENT AND ASSOCIATED RISKS AND OTHER INFORMATION CONCERNING THE UNDERLYING

Need to include details of where past and future performance and volatility of the index/formula/other variable can be obtained and a clear and comprehensive explanation of how the value of the investment is affected by the underlying and the circumstances when the risks are most evident. [Where the underlying is an index need to include the name of the index and a description if composed by the Issuer and if the index is not composed by the Issuer need to include details of where the information about the index can be obtained. Where the underlying is not an index need to include equivalent information.] Include other information concerning the underlying required by Paragraph 4.2 of Annex XII of the Prospectus Directive Regulation.]

The Issuer [intends to provide post-issuance information [specify what information will be reported and where it can be obtained] [does not intend to provide post-issuance information.]

#### 8. [[Dual Currency Covered Bonds only] PERFORMANCE OF RATE[S] OF EXCHANGE AND EXPLANATION OF EFFECT ON VALUE OF INVESTMENT

Need to include details of where past and future performance and volatility of the relevant rate[s] can be obtained and a clear and comprehensive explanation of how the value of the investment is affected by the underlying and the circumstances when the risks are most evident.]

#### OPERATIONAL INFORMATION 9.

ISIN Code:	[•]
Common Code:	[•]

Any Relevant Clearing System(s) other than [Not Applicable/qive name(s) and number(s)] Euroclear Bank S.A./N.V. and Clearstream Banking, societe anonyme and the relevant identification

number(s): Delivery: Delivery [against/free of] payment Names and Specified Offices of additional Paying  $[\bullet]$ Agent(s) (if any): Calculation [•] Agent(s), Listing Agent(s) Representative of the Bondholders (if any): TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE OFFER Offer Period: []to[] Offer Amount: []Offer Price: [Issue Price][specify] Conditions to which the offer is subject: [Not Applicable/give details] Description of the application process: [Not Applicable/give details] Description of possibility to reduce subscriptions [Not Applicable/give details] and manner for refunding excess amount paid by applicants: Details of the minimum and/or maximum amount [Not Applicable/give details] of application: Details of the method and time limits for paying up [Not Applicable/give details] and delivering the Notes: Manner in and date on which results of the offer are [Not Applicable/give details] to be made public: Procedure for exercise of any right of pre-emption, [Not Applicable/give details] negotiability of subscription rights and treatment of subscription rights not exercised: Categories of potential investors to which the Notes [Not Applicable/give details] are offered and whether tranche(s) have been reserved for certain countries: Process for notification to applicants of the amount [Not Applicable/give details] allotted and the indication whether dealing may begin before notification is made: Amount of any expenses and taxes specifically [Not Applicable/give details] charged to the subscriber or purchaser: Name(s) and address(es), to the extent known to the [None/give details] Issuer, of the placers in the various countries where

10.

the offer takes place.

## **USE OF PROCEEDS**

The net proceeds of the issue of each Series and	or Tranche of Covered	l Bonds will be	e used for the	e general
corporate purposes of the Issuer.				

#### SUBSCRIPTION AND SALE

#### **European Economic Area**

In relation to each Member State of the European Economic Area which has implemented the Prospectus Directive (each, a "Relevant Member State"), each Dealer has represented and agreed, and each further dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to represent and agree, that with effect from and including the date on which the Prospectus Directive is implemented in that Relevant Member State (the "Relevant Implementation Date") it has not made and will not make an offer of Covered Bonds which are the subject of the offering contemplated by this Base Prospectus to the public in that Relevant Member State other than:

- (a) to any legal entity which is a qualified investor as defined in the Prospectus Directive;
- (b) to fewer than 100, or if the Relevant Member State has implemented the relevant provisions of the 2010 PD Amending Directive, 150, natural or legal persons (other than qualified investors as defined in the Prospectus Directive) as permitted under the Prospectus Directive; or (d) in any other circumstances falling within Article 3(2) of the Prospectus Directive;

provided that no such offer of Covered Bonds shall require the Issuer or any Dealer to publish a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive.

For the purposes of this provision, the expression an "offer of Covered Bonds to the public" in relation to any Covered Bonds in any Relevant Member State means the communication in any form and by any means of sufficient information on the terms of the offer and the Covered Bonds to be offered so as to enable an investor to decide to purchase or subscribe the Covered Bonds, as the same may be varied in that Member State by any measure implementing the Prospectus Directive in that Member State and the expression "Prospectus Directive" means Directive 2003/71/EC (and amendments thereto, including the 2010 PD Amending Directive, to the extent implemented in the Relevant Member State), and includes any relevant implementing measure in each Relevant Member State and the expression "2010 PD Amending Directive" means Directive 2010/73/EU.

#### **United States of America**

The Covered Bonds have not been and will not be registered under the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the **Securities Act**) and may not be offered or sold within the United States of America or to, or for the account or benefit of, U.S. persons except in certain transactions exempt from the registration requirements of the Securities Act. Terms used in this paragraph have the meanings given to them by Regulation S under the Security Act.

The Covered Bonds are subject to U.S. tax law requirements and may not be offered, sold or delivered within the United States of America or its possessions or to a U.S. person, except in certain transactions permitted by U.S. tax regulations. Terms used in this paragraph have the meanings given to them by the U.S. Internal Revenue Code and regulations thereunder.

Each Dealer has represented and agreed and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to represent and agree that, it will not offer, sell or deliver Covered Bonds, (a) as part of their distribution at any time or (b) otherwise until 40 days after the completion of the distribution, as determined and certified to the Issuer by the relevant Dealer or, in case of an issue of the Covered Bonds on a syndicated basis, the relevant lead manager, of all Covered Bonds of the Tranche of which such Covered Bonds are a part within the United States of America or to, or for the account or benefit of, U.S. persons. Each Dealer has

further agreed, and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to agree, that it will have sent to each dealer to which it sells Covered Bonds during the distribution compliance period relating thereto a confirmation or other notice setting forth the restrictions on offers and sales of the Covered Bonds within the United States of America or to, or for the account or benefit of, U.S. persons.

In addition, until 40 days after the commencement of the offering of Covered Bonds comprising any Series or Tranche, any offer or sale of Covered Bonds within the United States of America by any dealer (whether or not participating in the offering) may violate the registration requirements of the Securities Act.

Each Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds may also be subject to such further United States selling restrictions as the Issuer and the relevant Dealer may agree and as indicated in the relevant Final Terms.

#### **United Kingdom**

In relation to each Series or Tranche of Covered Bonds, each Dealer subscribing for or purchasing such Covered Bonds represents to and agrees with the Issuer and each other such Dealer (if any) that:

- 1. it has only communicated or caused to be communicated and will only communicate or cause to be communicated an invitation or inducement to engage in investment activity (within the meaning of Section 21 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (the FSMA)) received by it in connection with the issue of the Covered Bonds in circumstances in which Section 21(1) of the FSMA does not apply to the Issuer or the Guarantor; and
- 2. it has complied and will comply with all applicable provisions of the FSMA with respect to anything done by it in relation to the Covered Bonds in, from or otherwise involving the United Kingdom.

#### Republic of Italy

The offering of Covered Bonds has not been registered pursuant to Italian securities legislation and, accordingly, no Covered Bonds may be offered, sold or delivered, nor may copies of the Base Prospectus or of any other document relating to any Covered Bonds be distributed in the Republic of Italy, except, in accordance with all Italian securities, tax and exchange control and other applicable laws and regulations:

- 1. to qualified investors (*investitori qualificati*), as defined in Article 34-*ter*, first paragraph, letter b) of CONSOB Regulation No. 11971 of 14 May 1999, as amended (Regulation No. 11971); or
- 2. in other circumstances which are exempted from the rules on public offerings, as provided under Legislative Decree No. 58 of 24 February 1998, as amended (the "**Financial Services Act**") or Regulation No. 11971.

Any offer, sale or delivery of the Covered Bonds or distribution of copies of this Base Prospectus or any other document relating to the Covered Bonds in the Republic of Italy must be:

a. made by an investment firm, bank or financial intermediary permitted to conduct such activities in the Republic of Italy in accordance with the Financial Services Act, CONSOB Regulation No. 16190 of 29 October 2007 and Legislative Decree No. 385 of 1 September 1993 (in each case, as amended); and

b. in compliance with any other applicable laws and regulations or requirement imposed by CONSOB or the Bank of Italy or other Italian authority.

#### Japan

The Covered Bonds have not been and will not be registered under the Securities and Exchange Law of Japan (the "Securities and Exchange Law") and each of the Dealers and each of its affiliates has represented and agreed that it has not offered or sold and it will not offer or sell any Covered Bonds, directly or indirectly, in Japan or to, or for the benefit of, any resident of Japan (which term as used herein means any person resident in Japan, including any corporation or other entity organized under the laws of Japan), or to others for re-offering or resale, directly or indirectly, in Japan or to a resident of Japan, except pursuant to an exemption from the registration requirements of, and otherwise in compliance with, the Securities and Exchange Law and any other applicable laws, regulations, and ministerial guidelines of Japan.

#### General

Each Dealer has represented, warranted and agreed that it has complied and will comply with all applicable laws and regulations in each country or jurisdiction in or from which it purchases, offers, sells or delivers Covered Bonds or possesses, distributes or publishes this Prospectus or any Final Terms or any related offering material, in all cases at its own expense. Persons into whose hands the Base Prospectus or any Final Terms comes are required by the Issuer and the Dealers to comply with all applicable laws and regulations in each country or jurisdiction in or from which they purchase, offer, sell or deliver Covered Bonds or have in their possession or distribute such offering material, in all cases at their own expenses.

Each Dealer has agreed and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to agree that it will comply with all relevant laws, regulations and directives in each jurisdiction in which it purchases, offers, sells or delivers Covered Bonds or has in its possession or distributes the Base Prospectus, any other offering material or any Final Terms and neither the Issuer nor any other Dealer shall have responsibility therefore (with specific reference to the jurisdictions of the United States of America, United Kingdom, Japan and the Republic of Italy, see above).

The Programme Agreement provides that the Dealers shall not be bound by any of the restrictions relating to any specific jurisdiction (set out above) to the extent that such restrictions shall, as a result of change(s) or change(s) in official interpretation, after the date hereof, of applicable laws and regulations, no longer be applicable but without prejudice to the obligations of the Dealers described in this paragraph headed "General".

Selling restrictions may be supplemented or modified with the agreement of the Issuer. Any such supplement or modification will be set out in the relevant Final Terms (in the case of a supplement or modification relevant only to a particular Series or Tranche) or (in any other case) in a supplement to this Base Prospectus.

#### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

#### Listing, admission to trading and minimum denomination

Application has been made to the Luxembourg Stock Exchange for the Covered Bonds issued under the Programme to be admitted to the Official List and trading on the regulated market of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange.

Covered Bonds may be listed on such other stock exchange as the Issuer and the Relevant Dealer(s) may agree, as specified in the relevant Final Terms, or may be issued on an unlisted basis.

The Covered Bonds will be issued with a minimum denomination of € 100,000 (or, if the Covered Bonds are denominated in a currency other than Euro, the equivalent amount in such currency).

#### **Authorisations**

The establishment of the Programme was authorised by a resolution of the Board of Directors of the Issuer on February 24, 2009.

The granting of the Guarantee was authorised by a resolution of the Board of Directors of the Guaranter on October 17, 2011.

The Issuer has obtained or will obtain from time to time all necessary consents, approvals and authorisations in connection with the issue and performance of the Covered Bonds.

#### **Clearing of the Covered Bonds**

The Covered Bonds have been accepted for clearance through Monte Titoli, Euroclear and Clearstream. In particular, the Covered Bonds will be issued in dematerialised form and held on behalf of the beneficial owners, until redemption or cancellation thereof, by Monte Titoli for the account of the relevant Monte Titoli Account Holders (including Euroclear and Clearstream). The relevant Final Terms shall specify any other clearing system as shall have accepted the relevant Covered Bonds for clearance together with any further appropriate information.

#### Common codes and ISIN numbers

The appropriate common code and the International Securities Identification Number in relation to the Covered Bonds of each Series or Tranche will be specified in the Final Terms relating thereto.

#### The Representative of the Bondholders

Pursuant to the provisions of the Terms and Conditions and the Rules, there shall be at all times a Representative of the Bondholders appointed to act in the interest and behalf of the Bondholders. The initial Representative of Bondholders shall be KPMG Fides Servizi di Amministrazione S.p.A.

#### No material litigation

Save as disclosed on pag. 80 under the section "Description of the Issuer", paragraph "Legal and Arbitration Proceedings" of this Base Prospectus, Mediobanca is not or has not been involved in any governmental, legal, arbitration or administrative proceedings in the 12 months preceding the date of this document relating to claims or amounts which may have, or have had in the recent past, a significant effect on the Mediobanca financial position or profitability and, so far as Mediobanca is aware no such litigation, arbitration or administrative proceedings are pending or threatened.

The Guarantor is not or has not been involved in any governmental, legal, arbitration or administrative proceedings in the 12 months preceding the date of this document relating to claims or amounts which may have, or have had in the recent past, a significant effect on the Guarantor financial position or profitability and, so far as the Guarantor is aware no such litigation, arbitration or administrative proceedings are pending or threatened.

#### No material adverse change and no significant change

In the case of Mediobanca (a) since 30 September 2011 (being the day on which the latest available interim financial statements have been prepared) there has been no significant change in the financial condition of Mediobanca or its subsidiaries, and (b) since 30 June 2011 (being the last day of the financial period in respect of which the most recent audited annual financial statements of Mediobanca have been prepared) there has been no material adverse change in the financial condition of Mediobanca or its subsidiaries.

In the case of the Guarantor since 30 June 2011 (being the last day of the financial period in respect of which the most recent audited and available financial statements of the Guarantor have been prepared) there has been no significant change, nor material adverse change, in the financial or other position or prospects of the Guarantor.

#### **Luxembourg Listing Agent**

The Issuer has undertaken to maintain a listing agent in Luxembourg so long as Covered Bonds are listed on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange.

#### **Documents available for inspection**

For so long as the Programme remains in effect or any Covered Bonds shall be outstanding and listed on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange, copies and, where appropriate, English translations of the following documents may be inspected during normal business hours at the registered office of the Issuer and at the Representative of the Bondholders, namely:

- (a) the Transaction Documents;
- (b) the Issuer's memorandum of association (*Atto Costitutivo*) and by-laws (*Statuto*) as of the date hereof;
- (c) the Guarantor's memorandum of association (*Atto Costitutivo*) and by-laws (*Statuto*) as of the date hereof;
- (d) the audited published consolidated annual financial statements of Mediobanca as at and for the years ended 30 June 2011 and 30 June 2010;
- (e) the audited annual financial statements of the Guarantor as at and for the years ended 30 June 2011 and 30 June 2010;
- (f) a copy of this Base Prospectus together with any supplement thereto, if any, or further Base Prospectus;
- (g) any reports, letters, balance sheets, valuations and statements of experts included or referred to in the Base Prospectus (other than consent letters);
- (h) any Final Terms relating to Covered Bonds which are admitted to listing, trading and/or quotation by any listing authority, stock exchange and/or quotation system. In the case of any Covered Bonds which are not admitted to listing, trading and/or quotation by any listing authority, stock exchange

and/or quotation system, copies of the relevant Final Terms will only be available for inspection by the relevant Bondholders;

- (i) any supplement to this Base Prospectus; and
- (j) any other document incorporated by reference.

Copies of all the documents mentioned under (a) to (j) (with the exception of (g)) may be inspected during normal business hours at the Specified Office of the Luxembourg Listing Agent.

After the date of issue of any Index-Linked Interest Covered Bonds, Equity-Linked Covered Bonds, Credit Linked Covered Bonds or other variable-linked Covered Bonds, no additional information in relation to the underlying assets, index, securities, or other variable of such Covered Bonds will be provided by the Issuer.

#### Post-issuance transaction information

Unless otherwise required by any applicable laws or regulations, the Issuer does not intend to provide any post-issuance information in relation to any assets underlying issues of Covered Bonds constituting derivative securities.

#### **Publication on the Internet**

This Base Prospectus, any supplement thereto and the Final Terms will be available on the internet site of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange, at www.bourse.lu

#### Accounts

Reconta Ernst & Young S.p.A. with registered under No. 2 in the Special Register (*Albo Speciale*) maintained by CONSOB and set out in Article 161 of the Testo Unico delle Disposizioni in Materia di Mercati Finanziari and under No. 70945 in the Register of Accounting Auditors (*Registro dei Revisori Contabili*), in compliance with the provisions of Legislative Decree No. 88 of 27 January 1992, and is also a member of the ASSIREVI - Associazione Nazionale Revisori Contabiliare the independent auditors of the Issuer and have given their agreement to include their reports (i) on the financial statements of the Issuer as of and for the two years ended June 30, 2010 and 2011 herein incorporated by reference, and (ii) on the financial statements of the Guarantor as of and for the two years ended June 30, 2010 and 2011 herein incorporated by reference. The business address of Reconta Ernst & Young S.p.A. is Via Romagnosi, 18/A 00196 Roma, Italy.

#### GLOSSARY

# PLEASE REFER TO THE DEFINITIONS INCLUDED IN THE T&C

#### ISSUER MEDIOBANCA – Banca di Credito Finanziario S.p.A. Piazzetta E. Cuccia, 1 20124 Milan Italy GUARANTOR Mediobanca Covered Bond S.r.l. Galleria Del Corso, 2 20121 Milan Italy REPRESENTATIVE OF THE BONDHOLDERS KPMG Fides Servizi di Amministrazione S.p.A. Via Vittor Pisani, 27 20124 Milan Italy SELLER – SERVICER – TEST REPORT PROVIDER – SUBORDINATED LENDER - CALCULATION AGENT - CASH MANAGER CheBanca! S.p.A. Via Manuzio, 7 20124 Milan Italy ACCOUNT BANK - INVESTMENT MANAGER - COVER CORPORATE SERVICER POOL SWAP COUNTERPARTY - COVERED BOND **SWAP COUNTERPARY** MEDIOBANCA – Banca di Credito Finanziario S.p.A. Studio Dattilo Commercialisti Associati Piazzetta E. Cuccia, 1 Galleria Del Corso, 2 20121 Milan 20121 Milan Italy Italy PAYING AGENT AND INTEREST LUXEMBOURG LISTING AGENT **DETERMINATION AGENT BNP Paribas Securities Services, Milan Branch BNP Paribas Securities Services,** Via Ansperto, 5 Luxembourg Branch 20123 Milan 33, Rue de Gasperich Howald - Hesprange Italy L-2085 Luxembourg ASSET MONITOR Mazars S.p.A. Corso di Porta Vigentina, 35, 20122 Milan Italy LEGAL ADVISERS TO THE ISSUER AND THE GUARANTOR As to English law As to Italian law Legance Studio Legale Associato **Gide Loyrette Nouel LLP** Via Dante, 7 125 Old Broad Street London EC2N 1AR 20121 Milan Italy ARRANGER MEDIOBANCA - Banca di Credito Finanziario S.p.A. Piazzetta E. Cuccia, 1 20121 Milan Italy AUDITORS TO THE ISSUER AND THE GUARANTOR Reconta Ernst & Young S.p.A. Via della Chiusa, 2 20123 Milan Italy