

9<sup>th</sup> August, 2005

#### **COMPANY ANNOUNCEMENT**

The following is a Company Announcement issued by Lombard Bank Malta p.l.c. pursuant to the Malta Financial Services Authority Listing Rules 8.6.19.

G. A. Fairclough Company Secretary



#### **Review of Performance**

This report is published in terms of Chapters 8 and 9 of the Listing Rules of The Listing Authority, Malta Financial Services Authority. Figures in the report have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of International Financial Reporting Standards, and the underlying accounting policies are the same as those adopted in Lombard Bank Malta p.l.c.'s (the "Bank") last published annual accounts. The published figures, which are in compliance with International Accounting Standard 34: Interim Financial Reporting, have been extracted from the Bank's unaudited accounts for the six months ended 30 June 2005, as approved by the Board of Directors on 9 August 2005.

Lombard Bank Malta p.l.c. and its subsidiaries registered a pre-tax profit of Lm1.56 million for the six months ended 30 June 2005, an improvement of 43 per cent on 2004's Lm1.09 million. Earnings per share rose from 17.5 cents in 2004 to 24.3 cents, with an annualised pre-tax return on average shareholders' funds increasing from 18.1 per cent in 2004 to 22.6 per cent.

- Profit attributable to shareholders was Lm1.01 million, an increase of 43 per cent over Lm0.71 million earned during the corresponding 2004 period.
- Net interest income grew by 27 per cent over same period last year and contributed Lm2.09 million to total operating income.
- Operating income increased by 15 per cent over prior year, to reach Lm2.48 million.
- Administrative expenses were up by 3 per cent to Lm1.01 million from last year's Lm0.98 million. The Group's Cost-to-Income ratio improved to 40.7 per cent from last year's 45.6 per cent.
- During the period, there was a net release in impairment provision of Lm136,000.
- Customer Deposits amounted to Lm164.17 million at 30 June 2005.
- Loans and Advances to customers at Lm74.56 million were up 8 per cent over 31 December 2004.
- Total assets stood at Lm185.20 million as at 30 June 2005 compared with Lm182.99 million at 31 December 2004.
- Shareholders' Funds rose by Lm1.01 million to Lm14.37 million through the six month period.



The Board of Directors is satisfied that despite market challenges characterised by stiff competition and a low interest rate environment, the Bank's robust operating fundamentals, prudent management and high quality customer base continued to produce strong results. The Bank's investment in the development of systems, processes and human resources has contributed to this performance and the Board is optimistic that this will continue to underpin further business expansion. The Board of Directors is committed to continue looking for opportunities that will secure benefits for all stakeholders. These half-yearly results are encouraging and for the remainder of the current financial year, the Board is confident that the emphasis on a selective business approach will support further growth while at the same time generate sustainable earnings contributing to increased shareholder value.

#### Profit and Loss Account

	Group		Bar	nk
	01.01.05 to 30.06.05	01.01.04 to 30.06.04	01.01.05 to 30.06.05	01.01.04 to 30.06.04
	Lm 000	Lm 000	Lm 000	Lm 000
Interest receivable and similar income - on loans, advances and balances with Central Bank of Malta - on debt securities	3,161 1,175	3,137 981	3,161 1,175	3,137 981
Interest payable	(2,243)	(2,470)	(2,243)	(2,470)
Net interest income Fees and commissions receivable Fees and commissions payable Dividend income Trading profits Other operating income	2,093 233 (7) 10 144 8	1,648 236 (8) 23 237 20	2,093 227 (6) 10 144 8	1,648 225 (4) 23 237 20
Operating income Administrative expenses Depreciation Net impairment releases/(charges) Release of provision for liabilities and other charges Amortisation of goodwill	2,481 (1,011) (48) 136 6	2,156 (983) (35) (43)	2,476 (992) (47) 136 6	2,149 (972) (34) (43)
Profit before tax	1,564	1,094	1,579	1,100
Taxation	(558)	(387)	(558)	(387)
Profit after tax	1,006	707	1,021	713
Attributable to: Equity holders of the parent Minority interest	1,010 (4)  1,006 ====	708 (1)  707	1,021  1,021 ====	713  713
Earnings per share	24.3c	17.5c	24.6c	17.6c

### Balance Sheet

At 30 June 2005

	Gro	up	Bank		
	30.06.05	31.12.04	30.06.05	31.12.04	
	Lm 000	Lm 000	Lm 000	Lm 000	
ASSETS					
Balances with Central Bank of Malta,					
Treasury Bills and cash	34,180	40,312	34,180	40,312	
Cheques in course of collection	474	334	474	334	
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	3	16	3	16	
Investments	23,616	26,794	23,434	26,639	
Loans and advances to banks	46,592	41,045	46,586	41,045	
Loans and advances to customers	74,555	69,067	74,592	69,079	
Shares in subsidiary companies	-	-	154	154	
Tangible assets	2,028	1,899	2,027	1,898	
Deferred tax asset	575	602	575	602	
Other assets	198	187	196	181	
Prepayments and accrued income	2,980	2,737	2,980	2,737	
Total Assets	185,201 =====			182,997	
LIABILITIES					
Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss	3	15	3	15	
Amounts owed to banks	75	102	75	102	
Amounts owed to customers	164,171	164,578	164,205	164,636	
Other liabilities		3,216		3,194	
Accruals and deferred income	1,874	1,720	1,874	1,720	
	170,827	169,631	170,852	169,667	

### Balance Sheet

At 30 June 2005

	Group		Bai	nk	
	30.06.05 31.12.04		30.06.05	31.12.04	
	Lm 000	Lm 000	Lm 000	Lm 000	
Equity					
Called up issued share capital Share premium Other reserve	2,103 4,877 111	2,057 4,537 111	2,103 4,877 111	2,057 4,537 111	
Property revaluation reserve Investment revaluation reserve Profit and loss account	126 167 6,930	126 148 6,321	126 142 6,990	126 129 6,370	
<b>Total equity attributable to equity holders of the parent</b> Minority interests	14,314	13,300	14,349	13,330	
Total Equity	14,374	13,362		13,330	
Total Liabilities and Equity	185,201 =====	182,993 =====	185,201 =====	182,997 =====	
MEMORANDUM ITEMS					
Contingent liabilities	2,085 ====	2,999 ====	2,085 ====	2,999 ====	
Commitments	25,360 =====	22,673	25,360 =====	22,673 =====	

#### Cash Flow Statement

	Group		Bank		
	01.01.05 01.01.04 to to 30.06.05 30.06.04		01.01.05 to 30.06.05	01.01.04 to 30.06.04	
	Lm 000	Lm 000	Lm 000	Lm 000	
Cash flows from operating activities Interest and commission receipts Interest and commission payments Payments to employees and suppliers	3,330 (2,075) (1,066)	3,489 (2,551) (948)		3,476 (2,544) (938)	
Operating profit/(loss) before changes in operating assets/liabilities	189	(10)	205	(6)	
(Increase)/decrease in operating assets: Deposits with Central Bank of Malta Loans and advances to banks and customers Treasury Bills with contractual maturity of over three months Other receivables	3,427 (5,937) 15,755 (12)	(1,252) (4,674) (11,009) 5	3,427 (5,962) 15,755 (15)	(1,252) (4,677) (11,009) 5	
Increase/(decrease) in operating liabilities: Amounts owed to customers Other payables	(407) 1,117	(5,044) 615	(431) 1,131	(5,073) 614	
Net cash from/(used in) operating activities before income tax Tax paid	14,132 (168)	(21,369) (148)	14,110 (168)	(21,398) (148)	
Net cash from/(used in) operating activities	13,964	(21,517)	13,942	(21,546)	
Cash flows from investing activities Dividends received Interest received from investments Proceeds on maturity/disposal of investments Purchase of investments Purchase of property, plant and equipment	10 1,161 3,250 (17) (176)	15 963 1,232 (548) (303)	- (176)	1,232 (522) (303)	
Net cash flows from investing activities	4,228	1,359	4,245	1,385	

#### Cash Flow Statement

	Group		Bank		
	01.01.05 to 30.06.05	01.01.04 to 30.06.04	01.01.05 to 30.06.05	01.01.04 to 30.06.04	
	Lm 000	Lm 000	Lm 000	Lm 000	
Cash flows from financing activities Dividends paid	(13)	(10)	(13)	(10)	
Cash used in financing activities	(13)	(10)	(13)	(10)	
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	18,179	(20,168)	18,174	(20,171)	
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	54,172	79,084	54,172	79,084	
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	72,351	58,916	72,346	58,913	

### Statement of Changes in Equity

For the Period 1 January to 30 June 2005

#### Group

#### Attributable to equity holders of the parent

Is	Called up sued Share Capital Lm 000	Share Premium Lm 000	Other Reserve Lm 000	Property Revaluation Reserve Lm 000	Investment Revaluation Reserve Lm 000	Profit and Loss Account Lm 000	Total Lm 000	Minority Interest Lm 000	Total Equity Lm 000
At 1 January 2004	2,026	4,341	111	126	41	5,000	11,645	61	11,706
Dividends payable	-	-	-	-	=	(237)	(237)	-	(237)
Rights issue of ordinary shares Net profit on available-for-sale assets recognised it	31 n	196	-	-	-	-	227	-	227
Investment Revaluation Reserve	-	-	-	-	89	-	89	1	90
Profit for the period	-	-	-	-	-	708	708	(1)	707
At 30 June 2004	2,057	4,537	111	126	130	5,471	12,432	61	12,493
	====	====	===	===	===	====	=====	===	
At 1 January 2005	2,057	4,537	111	126	148	6,321	13,300	62	13,362
Dividends payable	-	-	-	-	-	(401)	(401)	-	(401)
Rights issue of ordinary shares Net profit on available-for-sale assets recognised it	46 n	340	-	-	-	-	386	-	386
Investment Revaluation Reserve	-	-	-	-	19	-	19	2	21
Profit for the period	-	-	-	-	-	1,010	1,010	(4)	1,006
At 30 June 2005	2,103	4,877	111	126	167	6,930	14,314	60	14,374
Tive o dulle 2000	====	====	===	===	===	====	=====	===	=====

### Statement of Changes in Equity

Dank	Called Up Issued Share Capital	Share Premium	Other Reserve	Property Revaluation Reserve	Investment Revaluation Reserve	Profit and Loss Account	Total
	Lm 000	Lm 000	Lm 000	Lm 000	Lm 000	Lm 000	Lm 000
At 1 January 2004 Dividends payable	2,026	4,341	111	126	36	5,016 (237)	11,656 (237)
Rights issue of ordinary shares Net profit on available-for-sale assets recognised in	31	196	-	-	-	<del>-</del>	227
Investment Revaluation Reserve	-	-	-	-	84	- 712	84
Profit for the period	- 	- 		- 	- 	713	713
At 30 June 2004	2,057 ====	4,537 ====	111 ===	126 ===	120 ===	5,492 ====	12,443
At 1 January 2005	2,057	4,537	111	126	129	6,370	13,330
Dividends payable Rights issue of ordinary shares Net profit on available-for-sale assets recognised in	46	340	-	-	-	(401) -	(401) 386
Investment Revaluation Reserve Profit for the period	- -	-	-	-	13	1,021	13 1,021
At 30 June 2005	2,103 ====	4,877 ====	111 ===	126 ===	142 ===	6,990 ====	14,349