

News release

Banco Popolare files a formal request for the issuance of financial instruments provided for by LD 185/08

Verona, 10 March 2009 – With regard to the publication on the Italian Republic's Official Gazette of 7th March 2009 of the Ministerial Decree of 25th February 2009, enacting Law Decree n. 185/08, Banco Popolare announces that it filed a formal request to the Ministry of Economics and Finance and to the Bank of Italy for the issuance of financial capital strengthening instruments indicated under Article 12 of the above Law Decree.

The Chief Executive Officer of Banco Popolare, Mr. Pier Francesco Saviotti, said: "This is an appropriate action, which also on the long term shall guarantee the Group's adequate capitalization, hence the possibility of raising our support to households and SMEs on our core franchise, in line with our banks' historical vocation".

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