

REGULATORY NEWS SERVICE (RNS)

SC **Parex** banka **Latvian** Gov appoints advisor for the sale of **Parex**

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Latvian Government appoints advisor for the sale of **Parex** banka **Latvian** Government has announced that it has selected Nomura International plc, the global investment bank, as strategic advisor for the sale of its stake in **Parex** banka.

Nils Melngailis Chairman of **Parex** banka commented: "The selection of the advisor in the sale of State's interest in **Parex** banka is very important; therefore, we are pleased that such a professional and experienced investment bank has been appointed. This marks a significant stage in **Parex** banka's further development."

The **Latvian** Government announced its intention to sell its interest in **Parex** banka in December 2008. During the selection process, a number of investment banks expressed their interest and commitment to advise on this transaction.

In accordance with the decision made by the **Latvian** Government on 24 February 2009, on 27 February 2009 changes were made in **Parex** banka's register of shareholders and the Privatisation Agency has become a shareholder of 85,14% shares of **Parex** banka. Nomura will act as sell side financial advisor and provide advice and assistance **Latvian** Privatisation Agency.

Nomura has had a presence in Central and Eastern Europe since 1991 and extensive expertise of M&A activity in the region. Its understanding of the Baltic banking

sector and dynamics of the local market will be central to the successful execution of this transaction.

About **Parex** banka:

Founded in 1992, **Parex** banka offers universal banking services throughout the Baltic region, the CIS and other European nations such as Germany, Switzerland and Sweden. **Parex** Group companies operate across the banking, finance, leasing, asset management and life insurance sectors. **Parex** banka is the only partner of American Express in **Latvia** and Lithuania, allowed to issue American Express credit cards. Since 05 December 2008, the state-owned Mortgage and Land Bank of **Latvia** has been the majority shareholder of **Parex** banka.

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<http://www.parexgroup.com/en/>

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