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BMPS – Extraordinary Shareholders' Meeting summoned for 28 August to vote on merger of BAM with Banca Monte dei Paschi

Siena, 21 July 2008 An Extraordinary Meeting of the shareholders of Banca Monte dei Paschi di Siena has been summoned to take place on 28 August at 9 a.m. CET, at the auditorium of Viale Mazzini 23, Siena. BMPS shareholders will be called upon to vote for the planned merger by incorporation of Banca Agricola Mantovana (BAM) in the parent company Banca Monte dei Paschi di Siena.

The operation is in line with the guidelines emerging from the Group's 2008-2011 Business Plan, approved by the BMPS Board of Directors on 10 March this year. The plan envisages profound structural redesign of the Montepaschi Group and rationalisation of the network via corporate operations, which include the integration of Banca Agricola Mantovana, whose capital is wholly owned by BMPS. The merger will lead to cancellation of all ordinary shares and there will not be any assignment of shares or any share exchange ratio.

This press release will be available on the website at the address: www.mps.it

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