

31 October 2006

## **REDEMPTION OF SUBORDINATED NOTES**

HSBC Bank plc announces that it has today sent notice to the holders of its £150,000,000 9¼% Step-up Undated Subordinated Notes (Series 25) (the “Notes”) of its exercise of its right to call for early redemption of all such Notes on 7 December 2006.

*ends/more*

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**Note to editors:**

**HSBC Bank plc**

HSBC Bank plc is a wholly owned subsidiary of HSBC Holdings plc, and a member of the HSBC Group. The Group serves over 125 million customers worldwide through some 9,500 offices in 76 countries and territories in Europe, the Asia-Pacific region, the Americas, the Middle East and Africa. With assets of US\$1,738 billion at 30 June 2006, HSBC is one of the world’s largest banking and financial services organisations. HSBC is marketed worldwide as ‘the world’s local bank’.

*ends/all*