

HSBC HOLDINGS PLC
THIRD INTERIM DIVIDEND FOR 2008

SCRIP DIVIDEND ALTERNATIVE

38,963,783 ordinary shares of US\$0.50 each have been issued by HSBC Holdings plc to shareholders who elected to receive the scrip dividend alternative for the third interim dividend for 2008, payable on 14 January 2009. The shares rank pari passu with the existing issued ordinary shares of the Company.

Application has been made to the Financial Services Authority for the shares to be admitted to the Official List and to the London Stock Exchange for the shares to be admitted to trading. Dealings are expected to commence on 14 January 2009.

P A Stafford

Deputy Group Company Secretary

14 January 2009