

<u>Ireland recognises Danske Bank as a Primary Dealer in</u> <u>Irish Government Bonds</u>

The National Treasury Management Agency (NTMA) is pleased to announce that it recognises Danske Bank as a Primary Dealer in Irish Government bonds.

The NTMA is confident that the Irish Government bond market will benefit significantly from the strong presence which Danske Bank has in other European sovereign bond markets as a Primary Dealer.

Danske Bank is already an active participant in the Irish Government bond market and the NTMA expects its joining the Primary Dealer group will add to the depth and liquidity of the market and further enhance the profile of Irish Government bonds for investors.

The recognition of Danske Bank brings the number of Primary Dealers to sixteen:

Barclays Capital, London BNP Paribas, London Credit Agricole CIB London Citigroup Global Markets, London Danske Bank, Copenhagen Davy Stockbrokers, Dublin Deutsche Bank, Frankfurt and London Goldman Sachs International, London HSBC, Paris ING Bank NV, Amsterdam J.P. Morgan, London Merrill Lynch International, London Nomura International plc, London Royal Bank of Scotland, London Société Générale, Paris UBS Limited, London

The Primary Dealers bid in competitive auctions of Irish Government bonds and make a two way market in the bonds at all times. They are also market makers in Irish Government bonds on the major electronic trading platforms.

National Treasury Management Agency 14 October 2010