

NEWS RELEASE

Banco Popolare: Angelo Benelli co-opted to the Board of Directors

Verona, 13 December 2011 – In today's meeting, the Board of Directors of Banco Popolare approved the co-option as director, pursuant to art. 2386 of the Italian civil code and to art. 29.11 of the Articles of Association, of Mr. **Angelo Benelli**, who will hold the office until the next Shareholders' Meeting.

The Board of Directors also verified that Mr. Angelo Benelli meets the integrity, professional and independence requirements provided for by art. 148, paragraph 3, of T.U.F. as well as the independence requirement provided for by the Corporate Governance Code of Borsa Italiana.

Angelo Benelli has been, among other things, director of Banca Popolare di Lodi S.p.A. (since 1 July 2007) and vice president of the Fondazione Banca Popolare di Lodi (since 2008). He is a member of the Lodi Bar Association since 28 April 1968, where he has been practicing law in the areas of civil and commercial litigation.

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