



NEWS RELEASE

Milan, 27 February 2019 – With regard to the communication released on 20 February 2019, the Board of Directors of the Bank today has acknowledged the contents of the order of precautionary seizure notified by the Italian Financial Police in connection with the diamond sales, which indicates that the investigations being conducted by the Milan Public Prosecutor's Office involve some managers or former managers of the group, including the Bank's General Manager, Mr. Maurizio Faroni.

The Board of Directors has ordered his precautionary suspension from duty, as well as that of Mr. Pietro Gaspardo (the Bank's former Head of Retail Planning and Marketing) and Mr. Angelo Lo Giudice (the Bank's former Head of Compliance).

While underlining the precautionary nature of the measure, the Bank has full confidence in the work conducted by the investigating Authority, aimed at protecting all the people concerned.

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