

PRESS RELEASE

The Bank of Italy has granted authorisation for the merger of Banca Lombarda e Piemontese into Banche Popolari Unite

Bergamo and Brescia , 26th January 2007 – With resolution No. 93 dated today (protocol No. 96656 of the same date), the Bank of Italy has granted authorisation for the merger of Banca Lombarda e Piemontese into Banche Popolari Unite, in response to the application filed by the latter on 18th December 2006.

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Copy of this press release is available on the websites: www.bpubanca.it and www.bancalombarda.it

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