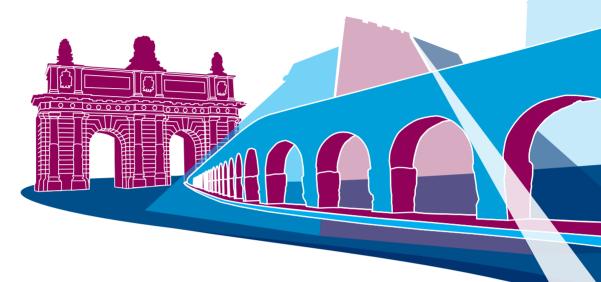
# **Securities Note**

dated 12 February 2010



# Bank of Valletta 4.8% - €50 MILLION

Subordinated Bonds 2020

With an option to increase by an additional €20 million in case of over-subscription.

This Securities Note is to be read in conjunction with the Registration document dated 20 May 2009, as supplemented on the 12 February 2010.

Sponsor



Manager & Registrar



## **SECURITIES NOTE**

This document is a Securities Note issued in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 6 of the Listing Rules issued by the Listing Authority and in accordance with the provisions of Commission Regulation (EC) No 809/2004 of 29 April 2004 implementing Directive 2003/71/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards information contained in a prospectus and dissemination of advertisements. This Securities Note is issued pursuant to the requirements of Listing Rule 6.4.3 of the Listing Rules and contains information about the Bonds being issued by **Bank of Valletta p.l.c.** Application has been made for the admission to listing and trading of the Bonds on the Malta Stock Exchange (ISIN MT0000021270). This Securities Note should be read in conjunction with the most updated Registration Document issued from time to time containing information about the Issuer.

## Dated 12 February 2010

The Bonds constitute the general, direct, unconditional, subordinated and unsecured obligations of the Issuer and shall at all times rank *pari passu*, without any priority or preference among themselves and with other subordinated debt. Thus the Bonds rank after other outstanding, unsubordinated and unsecured obligations of the Issuer, present and future.



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## 1. DEFINITIONS

Words and expressions and capitalised terms used in this Securities Note shall, except where the context otherwise requires and except where otherwise defined herein, bear the same meaning as the meaning given to such words, expressed and capitalised terms as indicated in the Registration Document issued by the Issuer on the 20 May 2009, as amended, supplemented and updated by the Supplement contained in this Securities Note.

Maturing Bonds The €46,567,062 6.15% subordinated bonds issued by the Issuer by virtue of an Offering

Memorandum dated 21 February 2000 and bearing ISIN MT0000021247;

Maturing Bondholders The persons, whether natural or legal, who, as at the Cut-Off Date, appear on the register

of members of the Issuer maintained by the CSD as being holders of the Maturing

Bonds;

Applicant A person or persons whose name or names (in the case of joint applicants) appear in the

registration details of an Application Form;

Application/s The application to subscribe for Bonds made by an Applicant/s by completing an

Application Form/s and delivering same to the Issuer, the Sponsor or to any of the other

Authorised Financial Intermediaries:

**Application Form** The form of application of subscription for Bonds, a specimen of which is contained in

Annex 2 of this Securities Note;

**Authorised Financial** 

Intermediaries

The persons referred to in Annex 1 of this Prospectus;

Bond(s) The €50,000,000 bonds of a face value of €100 per bond redeemable on the Redemption

Date, bearing interest at the rate of 4.8% per annum and redeemable at their nominal value; or in the case of over-subscription by investors and the exercise by the Issuer of the Over-Allotment Option, such higher value of bonds as in aggregate would not exceed

€20,000,000 in value of Bonds issued pursuant to this Prospectus;

Bondholder A holder of Bonds;
Bond Issue The issue of the Bonds;

Bond Issue Price The price of €100 per Bond;

Business Day Any day between Monday and Friday (both days included) on which commercial banks

in Malta settle payments and are open for normal banking business;

Cut-Off Date 11 February 2010;

Interest Payment Date 15 March and 15 September of each year between and including each of the years 2010

and the year 2020, provided that if any such day is not a Business Day such Interest Payment Date will be carried over to the next following day that is a Business Day;

Issue Date 15 March 2010;

Issue Period The period between 8 March 2010 to 12 March 2010 (or such earlier date as may be

determined by the Issuer in the event of over-subscription) during which time the Bonds

are in issue;

Official List The list prepared and published by the Malta Stock Exchange as its official list in

accordance with the Malta Stock Exchange Bye-Laws;

Over-Allotment Option At the sole and absolute discretion of the Issuer to increase the Bond Issue by a maximum

of an additional €20,000,000 4.8% Bonds in the event of over-subscription;

Redemption Date 15 March 2020;

**Redemption Value** The nominal value of each Bond;

Registration Document The registration document issued by the Issuer dated 20 May 2009, as amended,

supplemented and updated by virtue of the Supplement contained in this Securities

Note, forming part of the Prospectus.

Securities Note This document in its entirety;

Summary Note The summary note issued by the Issuer dated 12 February 2010 forming part of the

Prospectus;

**Supplement** The supplement to the Registration Document.



## 2. RISK FACTORS

#### 2.1 GENERAL

THE VALUE OF INVESTMENTS CAN GO UP OR DOWN AND PAST PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARILY INDICATIVE OF FUTURE PERFORMANCE. THE NOMINAL VALUE OF THE BONDS WILL BE REPAYABLE IN FULL UPON MATURITY. AN INVESTMENT IN THE BONDS INVOLVES CERTAIN RISKS INCLUDING THOSE DESCRIBED BELOW. PROSPECTIVE INVESTORS SHOULD CAREFULLY CONSIDER, WITH THEIR OWN INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL AND OTHER PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS, THE FOLLOWING RISK FACTORS AND OTHER INVESTMENT CONSIDERATIONS AS WELL AS ALL THE OTHER INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS PROSPECTUS BEFORE DECIDING TO MAKE AN INVESTMENT IN THE BONDS. THE SEQUENCE IN WHICH THE RISKS BELOW ARE LISTED IS NOT INTENDED TO BE INDICATIVE OF ANY ORDER OF PRIORITY OR OF THE EXTENT OF THEIR CONSEQUENCES.

NEITHER THIS SECURITIES NOTE, NOR ANY OTHER PARTS OF THE PROSPECTUS OR ANY OTHER INFORMATION SUPPLIED IN CONNECTION WITH THE BONDS: (I) IS INTENDED TO PROVIDE THE BASIS OF ANY CREDIT OR OTHER EVALUATION OR (II) SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS A RECOMMENDATION BY THE ISSUER OR THE SPONSOR OR ANY OF THE OTHER AUTHORISED FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES THAT ANY RECIPIENT OF THIS SECURITIES NOTE OR ANY OTHER PART OF THE PROSPECTUS OR ANY OTHER INFORMATION SUPPLIED IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROSPECTUS OR ANY BONDS, SHOULD PURCHASE ANY BONDS.

ACCORDINGLY PROSPECTIVE INVESTORS SHOULD MAKE THEIR OWN INDEPENDENT EVALUATION OF ALL RISK FACTORS, AND SHOULD CONSIDER ALL OTHER SECTIONS IN THIS DOCUMENT.

#### 2.2 FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This Securities Note contains "forward looking statements" which include, among others, statements concerning matters that are not historical facts and which may involve projections of future circumstances. These forward looking statements are subject to a number of risks, uncertainties and assumptions and important factors that could cause actual risks to differ materially from the expectations of the Issuer's Directors. No assurance is given that the future results or expectations will be achieved.

### 2.3 RISKS RELATING TO THE BONDS

- The existence of an orderly and liquid market for the Bonds depends on a number of factors, including the presence of willing buyers and sellers of the Issuer's Bonds at any given time. Such presence is dependent upon the individual decisions of investors over which the Issuer has no control. Accordingly, there can be no assurance that an active secondary market for the Bonds will develop, or, if it develops, that it will continue. Furthermore, there can be no assurance that an investor will be able to sell the Bonds at or above the Bond Issue Price or at all.
- No prediction can be made about the effect which any future public offerings of the Issuer's securities, or any takeover or merger activity involving the Issuer, will have on the market price of the Bonds prevailing from time to time.
- The Bonds are unsecured and subordinated to the claims of all holders of senior indebtedness. The Bonds constitute the general, direct, unconditional, subordinated and unsecured obligations of the Issuer and shall at all times rank *pari passu*, without any priority or preference among themselves and with other subordinated debt. Thus the Bonds rank after other present and future outstanding, unsubordinated and unsecured obligations of the Issuer. Subordination means that the rights and claims of Bondholders in respect of the payment of capital and interest on the Bonds will, in the event of dissolution and winding up of the Issuer, rank after the claims of all senior indebtedness and will not be repaid until all other senior indebtedness outstanding at the time has been settled.
- By purchasing the Bonds, the Bondholder agrees to waive his right of enforcement against the Issuer in
  the case of non-performance of the Issuer's obligations under the Bond, including the non-payment of
  interest and principal. The only remedy available to the Bondholder in the event of a default by the Issuer
  shall be the petitioning for the winding up of the Issuer, which shall constitute an Event of Default.

## 3. IMPORTANT INFORMATION

THIS SECURITIES NOTE, FORMING PART OF THE PROSPECTUS, CONTAINS INFORMATION ON AN ISSUE BY BANK OF VALLETTA P.L.C. (THE "ISSUER") OF €50,000,000 SUBORDINATED BONDS 2020 OF A NOMINAL VALUE OF €100, ISSUED AT PAR AND BEARING INTEREST AT THE RATE OF 4.8% PER ANNUM PAYABLE SEMI-ANNUALLY ON THE 15 MARCH AND ON THE 15 SEPTEMBER OF EACH YEAR. THE NOMINAL VALUE OF THE BONDS WILL BE REPAYABLE IN FULL AT MATURITY ON 15 MARCH 2020. IN THE EVENT OF OVER-SUBCRIPTION, THE ISSUER MAY, AT ITS SOLE DISCRETION, ISSUE ADDITIONAL BONDS NOT EXCEEDING €20,000,000 AT PAR.

THIS SECURITIES NOTE CONTAINS INFORMATION ABOUT THE ISSUER AND THE BONDS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE LISTING RULES, THE ACT, AND THE REGULATION. THIS SECURITIES NOTE, TOGETHER WITH THE REGISTRATION DOCUMENT DATED 20 MAY 2009, AS AMENDED, SUPPLEMENTED AND UPDATED BY VIRTUE OF THIS SECURITIES NOTE, AND THE SUMMARY NOTE IS HEREBY INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE AND FORMS A PROSPECTUS WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE PROSPECTUS DIRECTIVE 2003/71/EC.

NO BROKER, DEALER, SALESMAN OR OTHER PERSON HAS BEEN AUTHORISED BY THE ISSUER OR ITS DIRECTORS, TO ISSUE ANY ADVERTISEMENT OR TO GIVE ANY INFORMATION OR TO MAKE ANY REPRESENTATIONS IN CONNECTION WITH THE SALE OF BONDS OF THE ISSUER OTHER THAN THOSE CONTAINED IN THE PROSPECTUS AND IN THE DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO HEREIN IN CONNECTION, AND IF GIVEN OR MADE, SUCH INFORMATION OR REPRESENTATIONS MUST NOT BE RELIED UPON AS HAVING BEEN AUTHORISED BY THE ISSUER OR ITS DIRECTORS OR ADVISORS.

THE LISTING AUTHORITY ACCEPTS NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CONTENTS OF THIS PROSPECTUS, MAKES NO REPRESENTATIONS AS TO ITS ACCURACY OR COMPLETENESS AND EXPRESSLY DISCLAIMS ANY LIABILITY WHATSOEVER FOR ANY LOSS HOWSOEVER ARISING FROM OR IN RELIANCE UPON THE WHOLE OR ANY PART OF THE CONTENTS OF THIS PROSPECTUS.

THIS PROSPECTUS DOES NOT CONSTITUTE, AND MAY NOT BE USED FOR PURPOSES OF, AN OFFER OR INVITATION TO SUBSCRIBE FOR BONDS BY ANY PERSON IN ANY JURISDICTION (I) IN WHICH SUCH OFFER OR INVITATION IS NOT AUTHORISED OR (II) IN WHICH THE PERSON MAKING SUCH OFFER OR INVITATION IS NOT QUALIFIED TO DO SO OR (III) TO ANY PERSON TO WHOM IT IS UNLAWFUL TO MAKE SUCH OFFER OR INVITATION.

IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF ANY PERSONS IN POSSESSION OF THIS DOCUMENT AND ANY PERSONS WISHING TO APPLY FOR ANY BONDS ISSUED BY THE ISSUER TO INFORM THEMSELVES OF, AND TO OBSERVE AND COMPLY WITH, ALL APPLICABLE LAWS AND REGULATIONS OF ANY RELEVANT JURISDICTION. PROSPECTIVE APPLICANTS FOR ANY SECURITIES THAT MAY BE ISSUED BY THE ISSUER SHOULD INFORM THEMSELVES AS TO THE LEGAL REQUIREMENTS OF APPLYING FOR ANY SUCH BONDS AND ANY APPLICABLE EXCHANGE CONTROL REQUIREMENTS AND TAXES IN THE COUNTRIES OF THEIR NATIONALITY, RESIDENCE OR DOMICILE.

SAVE FOR THE ISSUE IN THE REPUBLIC OF MALTA, NO ACTION HAS BEEN OR WILL BE TAKEN BY THE ISSUER THAT WOULD PERMIT A PUBLIC OFFERING OF THE BONDS OR THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE PROSPECTUS (OR ANY PART THEREOF) OR ANY OFFERING MATERIAL IN ANY COUNTRY OR JURISDICTION WHERE ACTION FOR THAT PURPOSE IS REQUIRED. IN RELATION TO EACH MEMBER STATE OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AREA (OTHER THAN MALTA) WHICH HAS IMPLEMENTED DIRECTIVE 2003/71/EC OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL OF 4 NOVEMBER 2003 ON THE PROSPECTUS TO BE PUBLISHED WHEN SECURITIES ARE OFFERED TO THE PUBLIC OR ADMITTED TO TRADING OR WHICH, PENDING SUCH IMPLEMENTATION, APPLIES ARTICLE 3.2 OF SAID DIRECTIVE, THE BONDS CAN ONLY BE OFFERED TO "QUALIFIED INVESTORS" (AS DEFINED IN SAID DIRECTIVE) AS WELL AS IN ANY OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH DO NOT REQUIRE THE PUBLICATION BY THE ISSUER OF A PROSPECTUS PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 3 OF SAID DIRECTIVE.



THE BONDS HAVE NOT BEEN NOR WILL THEY BE REGISTERED UNDER THE UNITED STATES SECURITIES ACT, 1933 AS AMENDED, OR UNDER ANY FEDERAL OR STATE SECURITIES LAW AND MAY NOT BE OFFERED, SOLD OR OTHERWISE TRANSFERRED, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ITS TERRITORIES OR POSSESSIONS, OR ANY AREA SUBJECT TO ITS JURISDICTION (THE "U.S.") OR FOR THE BENEFIT OF, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, ANY U.S. PERSON (AS DEFINED IN REGULATION "S" OF THE SAID ACT). FURTHERMORE THE ISSUER WILL NOT BE REGISTERED UNDER THE UNITED STATES INVESTMENT COMPANY ACT, 1940 AS AMENDED AND INVESTORS WILL NOT BE ENTITLED TO THE BENEFITS SET OUT THEREIN.

A COPY OF THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN SUBMITTED TO THE LISTING AUTHORITY IN SATISFACTION OF THE LISTING RULES, THE MALTA STOCK EXCHANGE IN SATISFACTION OF THE MALTA STOCK EXCHANGE BYE-LAWS AND HAS BEEN DULY FILED WITH THE REGISTRAR OF COMPANIES. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ACT.

STATEMENTS MADE IN THIS PROSPECTUS ARE, EXCEPT WHERE OTHERWISE STATED, BASED ON THE LAW AND PRACTICE CURRENTLY IN FORCE IN MALTA AND ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGES THEREIN.

THE CONTENTS OF THE ISSUER'S WEBSITE OR ANY WEBSITE DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY LINKED TO THE ISSUER'S WEBSITE DO NOT FORM PART OF THIS PROSPECTUS. ACCORDINGLY NO RELIANCE OUGHT TO BE MADE BY ANY INVESTOR ON ANY INFORMATION OR OTHER DATA CONTAINED IN SUCH WEBSITES AS THE BASIS FOR A DECISION TO INVEST IN THE BONDS.

ALL THE ADVISORS TO THE ISSUER NAMED IN THE PROSPECTUS UNDER THE HEADING "ADVISORS TO THE ISSUER" UNDER SECTION 5 OF THE REGISTRATION DOCUMENT HAVE ACTED AND ARE ACTING EXCLUSIVELY FOR THE ISSUER IN RELATION TO THIS BOND ISSUE AND HAVE NO CONTRACTUAL, FIDUCIARY OR OTHER OBLIGATION TOWARDS ANY OTHER PERSON AND WILL ACCORDINGLY NOT BE RESPONSIBLE TO ANY INVESTOR OR ANY OTHER PERSON WHOMSOEVER IN RELATION TO THE TRANSACTIONS PROPOSED IN THE PROSPECTUS.

THE VALUE OF INVESTMENTS CAN GO UP OR DOWN AND PAST PERFORMANCE IS NOT NECESSARILY INDICATIVE OF FUTURE PERFORMANCE. THE NOMINAL VALUE OF THE BONDS WILL BE REPAYABLE IN FULL UPON MATURITY. PROSPECTIVE INVESTORS SHOULD CAREFULLY CONSIDER ALL THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE PROSPECTUS AS A WHOLE AND SHOULD CONSULT THEIR OWN INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL AND OTHER PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS BEFORE DECIDING TO MAKE AN INVESTMENT IN THE BONDS.

## 4. PERSONS RESPONSIBLE

This document includes information given in compliance with the Listing Rules for the purpose of giving information with regard to the Issuer and the Bonds. All of the Directors, whose names appear under the heading 'Board of Directors and Committees' in Section 10.1 of the Registration Document, accept responsibility for the information contained in this Securities Note.

To the best of the knowledge and belief of the Directors, who have taken all reasonable care to ensure that such is the case, the information contained in this Securities Note is in accordance with the facts and does not omit anything likely to affect the import of such information. The Directors accept responsibility accordingly.

## 5. KEY INFORMATION

## 5.1 INTEREST OF NATURAL AND LEGAL PERSONS INVOLVED IN THE ISSUE

Bank of Valletta p.l.c. shall act as Authorised Financial Intermediary and may, on an 'execution-only' basis, accept Applications for the account of its customers. Bank of Valletta p.l.c. will not be providing any advice to or exercise any discretion it may have with its customers in relation to the Bonds.

In addition, to the extent that this constitutes an interest in the Issue, Bank of Valletta p.l.c. also acts as the Manager and Registrar of the Issue.

#### 5.2 REASONS FOR THE ISSUE AND USE OF PROCEEDS

The net proceeds from the issue of the Bonds will constitute Additional Own Funds (Tier II capital) of the Issuer in terms of the Banking Rule BR/03/2008 Own Funds of Credit Institutions authorised under the Banking Act (Cap. 371 of the Laws of Malta) and will also be used by the Issuer to finance its redemption obligations of the Maturing Bonds and meet part of its general financing requirements.

#### 5.3 EXPENSES

Professional fees, costs related to publicity, advertising, printing, listing, registration, sponsor, management, registrar fees, a 0.75% selling commission, and other miscellaneous expenses in connection with this Bond Issue, are estimated not to exceed €725,000. Accordingly, the net amount of proceeds from the Bond Issue are estimated to be in the region of €49,425,000 and, in the case of the exercise of the over-allotment option, to be in the region of €69,275,000.

#### 5.4 ISSUE STATISTICS

Issuer: Bank of Valletta p.l.c., a company registered in Malta with registration number

C2833;

Amount: €50,000,000 subject to the Over-allotment Option described below;

Over-allotment Option: At the sole and absolute discretion of the Issuer, additional Bonds not

exceeding €20,000,000 in value may be issued at the Bond Issue Price in

the event of over-subscription;

Form: The Bonds will be issued in fully registered and dematerialised form and will

be represented in uncertificated form by the appropriate entry in the electronic

register maintained on behalf of the Issuer at the CSD;

Denomination: Euro (€);

Minimum amount per subscription: Minimum of €2,000 and multiples of €100 thereafter;

Redemption Date: 15 March 2020;

Event of Default: Winding up of the Issuer; Bond Issue Price: At par (€100) per Bond;

Status of the Bonds: The Bonds constitute the general, direct, unconditional, subordinated and

unsecured obligations of the Issuer and shall at all times rank pari passu, without any priority or preference among themselves and with other subordinated debt. Thus the Bonds rank after other outstanding, unsubordinated and

unsecured obligations of the Issuer, present and future;

Listing: Application has been made to the Listing Authority for the admissibility of the

Bonds to listing and to the Malta Stock Exchange for the Bonds to be listed

and traded on its Official List;

Issue Period: The period between 08 March 2010 to 12 March 2010 (or such earlier date

as may be determined by the Issuer in the event of over-subscription) during

which the Bonds are on offer;

Interest: 4.8% per annum;

Interest Payment Date(s): Semi annually on the 15 March and 15 September;

First Interest Payment Date: 15 September 2010; Redemption Value: 15 September 2010; At par (€100) per Bond;

Categories of Investors: The Bonds are open for subscription to the general public in Malta;

Underwriting: The Bonds are not underwritten:

Preferred Applicant: Maturing Bondholders; Manager & Registrar: Bank of Valletta p.l.c.;

Sponsor: Rizzo Farrugia & Co. (Stockbrokers) Limited;

Governing Law of Bonds: The Bonds are governed by and shall be construed in accordance with

Maltese law;

Jurisdiction: The Maltese Courts shall have exclusive jurisdiction to settle any disputes

that may arise out of or in connection with the Bonds.



#### 5.5 EXPECTED TIME-TABLE OF BOND ISSUE

Application Forms available Friday, February 19 2010 Preferred Applications to be submitted by Preferred Applicants Wednesday, March 03, 2010 Preferred Applications to be submitted by the Sponsor or any of the other Authorised Financial Intermediaries to the Issuer Thursday, March 04, 2010 Opening of subscription lists Monday, March 08, 2010 Closing of subscription lists Friday, March 12, 2010 Commencement of interest on the Bonds Monday, March 15, 2010 Announcement of basis of acceptance and allocation policy Monday, March 22, 2010 Expected dispatch of allotment advices and refunds of unallocated monies Monday, March 29, 2010

The Issuer reserves the right to close the Bond Issue before 12 March 2010 in the event of over-subscription, in which case, the remaining events set out above (other than the commencement of interest) shall be anticipated in the same chronological order in such a way as to retain the same number of Business Days between the said events.

## 6 INFORMATION CONCERNING THE SECURITIES TO BE ISSUED AND ADMITTED TO TRADING

#### 6.1 GENERAL

- 6.1.1 Each Bond forms part of a duly authorised issue of 4.8% Subordinated Bonds of a nominal value of €100 per Bond issued by the Issuer at par up to the principal amount of €50,000,000 (except as otherwise provided under clause 6.15 "Further Issues") subject to the exercise by the Issuer of the Over-Allotment Option described hereunder.
- 6.1.2 The Issuer may issue Bonds pursuant to the Over-Allotment Option up to an amount of €20,000,000 in value of Bonds so that in no event shall the aggregate nominal value of the Bonds outstanding at any time exceed €70,000,000.
- 6.1.3 The issue and allotment of the Bonds shall be subject to the listing thereof on the Official List of the MSE.
- 6.1.4 Subject to admission to listing of the Bonds to the Official List of the MSE, the Bonds have been assigned the following ISIN: MT0000021270.

## 6.2 LEGISLATION UNDER WHICH THE BONDS ARE CREATED

The issue of the Bonds is made in accordance with the requirements of the Listing Rules, the Act, and the Regulation.

## 6.3 REGISTRATION, FORM, DENOMINATION AND TITLE

- 6.3.1 Certificates will not be delivered to Bondholders in respect of the Bonds pursuant to the fact that the entitlement to Bonds will be represented in an uncertificated form by the appropriate entry in the electronic register maintained on behalf of the Issuer at the CSD. There will be entered in such electronic register the names, addresses, identity card numbers (in the case of natural persons), registration numbers (in the case of companies) and MSE account numbers of the Bondholders and particulars of the Bonds held by them respectively and a copy of such register will, at all reasonable times during business hours, be open to the inspection of the Bondholders at the registered office of the Issuer.
- 6.3.2 The CSD will issue, upon a request by the Bondholder, a statement of holdings to Bondholders evidencing their entitlement to Bonds held in the register kept by the CSD.
- 6.3.3 The Bonds will be issued in fully registered form, without interest coupons, in denominations of any integral multiple of €100 provided the minimum subscription amount of Bonds that can be subscribed for during the Issue Period is €2,000

6.3.4 Any person in whose name a Bond is registered may (to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law) be deemed and treated at all times, by all persons and for all purposes (including the making of any payments) as the absolute owner of such Bond. Title to the Bonds may be transferred as provided below under the heading 'Transferability of the Bonds' in section 6.13 of this Securities Note.

#### 6.4 CURRENCY OF THE BONDS

The currency of the Bonds is Euro (€).

#### 6.5 STATUS OF THE BONDS (RANKING & SUBORDINATION)

The Bonds are unsecured and subordinated to the claims of all holders of senior indebtedness. The Bonds constitute the general, direct, unconditional, subordinated and unsecured obligations of the Issuer and shall at all times rank *pari passu*, without any priority or preference among themselves and with other subordinated debt. Thus the Bonds rank after other outstanding, unsubordinated and unsecured obligations of the Issuer, present and future.

Subordination means that the rights and claims of Bondholders in respect of the payment of capital and interest on the Bonds will, in the event of dissolution and winding up of the Issuer, rank after the claims of all senior indebtedness and will not be repaid until all other senior indebtedness outstanding at the time has been settled. Subordination only comes into effect in the event of a dissolution and winding up of the Issuer where the assets of the Issuer are not sufficient to meet the claims of all the creditors of the Issuer and a ranking of the creditors' claims becomes necessary.

### 6.6 RIGHTS ATTACHED TO THE BONDS

There are no special rights attached to the Bonds other than the right of the Bondholders to payment of capital and interest and in accordance with the ranking as provided in this Securities Note.

#### 6.7 INTEREST

- 6.7.1 The Bonds shall bear interest from and including 15 March 2010 at the rate of 4.8% per annum on the nominal value thereof, payable semi-annually in arrears on each "Interest Payment Date". The first interest payment will be paid as at 15 September 2010. Provided that any Interest Payment Date which falls on a day other than a Business Day, will be carried over to the next following day that is a Business Day.
- 6.7.2 When interest is required to be calculated for any period of less than a year such interest shall be calculated on the basis of the actual number of days in such period divided by the actual number of days (365 or 366) in the respective year.

#### 6.8 PAYMENTS

6.8.1 Payment of the principal amount of the Bonds will be made in Euro by the Issuer to the person in whose name such Bonds are registered as at the close of business on the Redemption Date, with interest accrued up to the Redemption Date, by direct credit transfer into such bank account as the Bondholder may designate, from time to time, which is denominated in Euro and held with any licensed bank in Malta. The Issuer shall not be responsible for any loss or delay in transmission. Upon payment of the Redemption Value, the Bonds shall be redeemed and the appropriate entry made in the electronic register of the Bonds at the CSD. Provided that where the Bondholder's bank account number is not known, the principal amount is retained by the Issuer for collection by the Bondholder for remittance when the bank account number of the said Bondholder is made known to the Issuer. Such principal amount will be held in a non-interest bearing bank account with the Issuer.

In the case of Bonds held subject to usufruct, payment will be made against the joint instructions of all bare owners and usufructuaries. Before effecting payment the Issuer shall be entitled to request any legal documents deemed necessary concerning the entitlement of the bare owner/s and the usufructuary/ies to payment of the Bonds.



- 6.8.2 Payment of any instalment of interest on a Bond will be made to the person in whose name such Bond is registered at the close of business fifteen (15) days prior to the Interest Payment Date by means of a direct credit transfer into such bank account as the Bondholder may designate, from time to time, which is denominated in Euro and held with any licensed bank in Malta. The Issuer shall not be responsible for any loss or delay in transmission. Provided that where the Bondholder's bank account number is not known, the interest is retained by the Issuer for collection by the Bondholder entitled to such interest for remittance when the bank account number of the said Bondholder is made known to the Issuer. Such interest will be held in a non-interest bearing bank account with the Issuer.
- 6.8.3 All payments with respect to the Bonds are subject in all cases to any applicable fiscal or other laws and regulations prevailing in Malta. In particular, but without limitation, all payments of principal and interest by or on behalf of the Issuer in respect of the Bonds shall be made net of any amount which the Issuer is compelled by law to deduct or withhold for or on account of any present or future taxes, duties, assessments or other government charges of whatsoever nature imposed, levied, collected, withheld or assessed by or within the Republic of Malta or any authority thereof or therein having power to tax.
- 6.8.4 No commissions or expenses shall be charged by the Issuer to Bondholders in respect of such payments.
- 6.8.5 Unless previously purchased and cancelled as provided below, the Issuer will redeem the Bonds (together with payment of interest accrued thereon) at their nominal value on Redemption Date.
- 6.8.6 Subject to the provisions of section 6.8.7 the Issuer or any of its Subsidiaries may at any time purchase Bonds in the open market or otherwise and at any price. If purchases are made by tender, tenders shall be made available to all Bondholders alike.
- 6.8.7 All Bonds purchased by the Issuer on its own account will be cancelled forthwith and may not be reissued or resold. The re-purchase in terms of section 6.8.6 may be undertaken during the last five years before the Redemption Date in terms of Article 2.1.5 of Appendix I of the Banking Rule BR/03/2008. The cancellation of such Bonds shall be subject to the prior consent of the Malta Financial Services Authority who, in the event that such consent is forthcoming, will determine that such cancellation does not prejudice the Issuer's solvency.

### 6.9 YIELD

The gross yield calculated on the basis of the Interest, the Bond Issue Price and the Redemption Value of the Bonds at Redemption Date is 4.8% per annum.

## 6.10 MEETINGS OF BONDHOLDERS

- 6.10.1 The Terms and Conditions contained herein may be amended with the approval of Bondholders at a meeting called for that purpose in accordance with the terms hereunder.
- 6.10.2 In the event that the Issuer wishes to amend any of the Terms and Conditions of Issue of the Bonds it shall call a meeting of Bondholders by giving such Bondholders not less than fourteen (14) days notice, in writing, setting out in the notice the time, place and date set for the meeting and the matters to be discussed thereat.
- 6.10.3 A meeting of Bondholders shall only validly and properly proceed to business if there is quorum present at the commencement of the meeting. For this purpose a quorum shall be considered present if there are Bondholders present, in person or by proxy, accounting for at least fifty per cent (50%) in nominal value of the Bonds then outstanding.
- 6.10.4 Once a quorum is declared present by the Chairman of the meeting (who shall be the person who in accordance with the regulations of the Issuer would chair a general meeting of the Issuer's shareholders), the meeting may then proceed to business and the Directors or their representative shall present to the Bondholders the reasons why it is deemed necessary or desirable and appropriate that the Terms and Conditions of Issue of the Bonds ought to be amended as proposed by the Issuer. The meeting shall allow reasonable and adequate time to Bondholders to present their views to the Issuer and the other Bondholders. The meeting shall then put the matter as proposed by the Issuer to a vote of the Bondholders present.

- 6.10.5 The voting process shall be managed by the Company Secretary under the supervision and scrutiny of the Auditors of the Issuer.
- 6.10.6 The proposal placed before a meeting of Bondholders shall only be considered approved if at least seventy-five per cent (75%) in nominal value of the Bondholders present at the meeting shall have voted in favour of the proposal.
- 6.10.7 Notices shall be mailed to Bondholders at their registered addresses and shall be deemed to have been served at the expiration of twenty-four (24) hours after the letter containing the notice is posted, and in proving such service it shall be sufficient to prove that a prepaid letter containing such notice was properly addressed to such Bondholders at his registered address and posted.
- 6.10.8 Save for the above, the rules generally applicable to the Issuer during general meetings of shareholders shall apply.

### 6.11 AUTHORISATIONS AND APPROVALS

- 6.11.1 The Board of Directors of the Issuer authorised the Bond Issue pursuant to a board of directors resolution passed on the 29 January 2010.
- 6.11.2 The Listing Authority has authorised the Bonds as admissible to Listing pursuant to the Listing Rules by virtue of a letter dated 12 February 2010.
- 6.11.3 Application has been made to the Malta Stock Exchange for the Bonds being issued pursuant to this Prospectus to be listed and traded on the Official List of the Malta Stock Exchange.
- 6.11.4 The Bonds are expected to be admitted to the Malta Stock Exchange with effect from 29 March 2010 and trading is expected to commence on 30 March 2010.

#### 6.12 ISSUE DATE

The Issue Date of the Bonds is 15 March 2010.

## 6.13 TRANSFERABILITY OF THE BONDS

- 6.13.1 The Bonds are freely transferable and once admitted to the Official List of the MSE, shall be transferable in accordance with the rules and regulations of the MSE applicable from time to time.
- 6.13.2 Any person becoming entitled to a Bond in consequence of the death or bankruptcy of a Bondholder may, upon such evidence being produced as may from time to time properly be required by the Issuer, elect either to be registered himself as holder of the Bond or to have some person nominated by him registered as the transferee thereof. If the person so becoming entitled shall elect to be registered himself, he shall deliver or send to the CSD, a notice in writing signed by him stating that he so elects. If he shall elect to have another person registered he shall testify his election by transferring the Bond, or procuring the transfer of the Bond, in favour of that person.
- 6.13.3 All transfers and transmissions are subject in all cases to any pledge (duly constituted) of the Bonds and to any applicable laws and regulations.
- 6.13.4 The cost and expenses of effecting any registration of transfer or transmission, except for the expenses of delivery by any means other than regular mail (if any) and except, if the Issuer shall so require, the payment of a sum sufficient to cover any tax, duty or other governmental charge or insurance charges that may be imposed in relation thereto, will be borne by the Issuer.
- 6.13.5 The Issuer will not register the transfer or transmission of Bonds for a period of fifteen (15) days preceding the due date for any payment of interest on the Bonds.

#### 6.14 TAXATION

### 6.14.1 General

Investors and prospective investors are urged to seek professional advice as regards both Maltese and any foreign tax legislation which may be applicable to them in respect of the Bonds, including their acquisition, holding and disposal as well as any income/gains derived therefrom or made on their disposal. The following is a summary of the anticipated tax treatment applicable to Bondholders in so far as taxation in Malta is concerned. This information does not constitute legal or tax advice and does not purport to be exhaustive.



The information below is based on an interpretation of tax law and practice relative to the applicable legislation, as known to the Issuer at the date of the Prospectus, in respect of a subject on which no official guidelines exist. Investors are reminded that tax law and practice and their interpretation as well as the levels of tax on the subject matter referred to in the preceding paragraph, may change from time to time.

This information is being given solely for the general information of investors. The precise implications for investors will depend, among other things, on their particular circumstances and on the classification of the Bonds from a Maltese tax perspective, and professional advice in this respect should be sought accordingly.

#### 6.14.2 Interest

Since interest is payable in respect of a Bond which is the subject of a public issue, unless the Issuer is otherwise instructed by a Bondholder or if the Bondholder does not fall within the definition of "recipient" in terms of article 41(c) of the Income Tax Act (Cap. 123 of the Laws of Malta), interest shall be paid to such person net of a final withholding tax, currently at the rate of 15% of the gross amount of the interest, pursuant to article 33 of the Income Tax Act (Cap. 123, Laws of Malta). Bondholders who do not fall within the definition of a "recipient" do not qualify for the said rate and should seek advice on the taxation of such income as special rules may apply.

This withholding tax is considered as a final tax and a Maltese resident individual Bondholder need not declare the interest so received in his income tax return. No person shall be charged to further tax in respect of such income. However tax withheld shall in no case be available to any person for a credit against that person's tax liability or for a refund as the case may be.

In the case of a valid election made by an eligible Bondholder resident in Malta to receive the interest due without the deduction of final tax, interest will be paid gross and such person will be obliged to declare the interest so received in his income tax return and be subject to tax on it at the standard rates applicable to that person at that time. Additionally in this latter case the Issuer will advise the Inland Revenue on an annual basis in respect of all interest paid gross and of the identity of all such recipients unless the beneficiary is a non-resident of Malta. Any such election made by a resident Bondholder at the time of subscription may be subsequently changed by giving notice in writing to the Issuer. Such election or revocation will be effective within the time limit set out in the Income Tax Act.

In terms of article 12(1)(c) of the Income Tax Act, Bondholders who are not resident in Malta and satisfy the applicable conditions set out in the Income Tax Act are not taxable in Malta on the interest received and will receive interest gross, subject to the requisite declaration/evidence being provided to the Issuer in terms of law.

## 6.14.3 European Union Savings Directive

Non-residents of Malta should note that payment of interest to individuals and certain residual entities residing in another EU Member State is reported on an annual basis to the Malta Commissioner of Inland Revenue who will in turn exchange the information with the competent tax authority of the Member State where the recipient of interest is resident. This exchange of information takes place in terms of the EU Savings Directive 2003/48/EC.

## 6.14.4 Capital gains on transfer of the Bonds

On the assumption that the Bonds would not fall within the definition of "securities" in terms of article 5(1) (b) of the Income Tax Act, that is, "shares and stocks and such like instrument that participate in any way in the profits of the company and whose return is not limited to a fixed rate of return", no tax on capital gains is chargeable in respect of transfer of the Bonds.

## 6.14.5 Duty on documents and transfers

In terms of article 50 of the Financial Markets Act (Cap. 345 of the Laws of Malta) as the Bonds constitute financial instruments of a company quoted on a regulated market exchange, as is the MSE, redemptions and transfers of the Bonds are exempt from Maltese duty.

INVESTORS AND PROSPECTIVE INVESTORS ARE URGED TO SEEK PROFESSIONAL ADVICE AS REGARDS BOTH MALTESE AND ANY FOREIGN TAX LEGISLATION APPLICABLE TO THE ACQUISITION, HOLDING AND DISPOSAL OF BONDS AS WELL AS INTEREST PAYMENTS MADE BY THE ISSUER. THE ABOVE IS A SUMMARY OF THE ANTICIPATED TAX TREATMENT APPLICABLE TO THE BONDS AND TO BONDHOLDERS. THIS INFORMATION, WHICH DOES NOT CONSTITUTE LEGAL OR TAX ADVICE, REFERS ONLY TO BONDHOLDERS WHO DO NOT DEAL IN SECURITIES IN THE COURSE OF THEIR NORMAL TRADING ACTIVITY.

#### 6.15 FURTHER ISSUES

The Issuer may, from time to time, without the consent of the Bondholder, create and issue further debentures, debenture stock, bonds, loan notes, or any other debt securities either having the same terms and conditions as any outstanding debt securities of any series (including the Bonds) and so that such further issue shall be consolidated and form a single series with the outstanding debt securities of the relevant series (including the Bonds) or upon such terms as the Issuer may determine at the time of their issue.

## 6.16 EVENTS OF DEFAULT

The only circumstance under which the Bonds will become immediately due and repayable at their principal amount together with accrued interest before the Redemption Date shall be in the event of the winding up of the Issuer ("**Event of Default**"). Upon the occurrence of an Event of Default, all rights available to the Bondholders shall rank after all other unsubordinated and unsecured obligations of the Issuer.

### 6.17 LIMITED RECOURSE

The Bondholder agrees to waive his rights of enforcement against the Issuer in the case of non-payment of interest or other breach of the terms of the Bond. The only remedy available to the Bondholder shall be the petitioning for the winding up of the Issuer, which shall constitute an Event of Default.

## 7. TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE ISSUE

#### 7.1 CONDITIONS

7.1.1 The contract created by the acceptance of an Application shall be subject to the terms and conditions set out in this Securities Note and the Memorandum and Articles of the Issuer.

It is the responsibility of investors wishing to apply for the Bonds to inform themselves as to the legal requirements of so applying including any requirements relating to external transaction requirements in Malta and any exchange control in the countries of their nationality, residence or domicile.

If the Application Form is signed on behalf of another party or on behalf of a corporation or corporate entity or association of persons, the person signing will be deemed to have bound his principal, or the relative corporation, corporate entity, or association of persons and will be deemed also to have given the confirmations, warranties and undertakings contained in these terms and conditions on their behalf. Such intermediary may be requested to submit the relative power of attorney/resolution or a copy thereof duly certified by a lawyer or notary public if so required by the Registrar.

In the case of joint Applications, reference to the Applicant in these terms and conditions is a reference to each Applicant, and liability therefor is joint and several. In respect of a Bond held subject to usufruct, the name of the bare owner and the usufructuary shall be entered in the register. The usufructuary shall, for all intents and purposes, be deemed vis-à-vis the Issuer to be the holder of the Bond/s so held and shall have the right to receive interest on the Bond/s and to vote at meetings of the Bondholders but shall not, during the continuance of the Bond/s, have the right to dispose of the Bond/s so held without the consent of the bare owner and shall not be entitled to the repayment of principal on the Bond.

The Bonds have not been and will not be registered under the Securities Act of 1933 of the United States of America and accordingly may not be offered or sold within the United States or to or for the account or benefit of a U.S. person.



No person receiving a copy of the Prospectus or an Application Form in any territory other than Malta may treat the same as constituting an invitation or offer to such person nor should such person in any event use such Application Form, unless, in the relevant territory, such an invitation or offer could lawfully be made to such person or such Application Form could lawfully be used without contravention of any registration or other legal requirements.

It is the responsibility of any person outside Malta wishing to make any Application to satisfy himself/herself as to full observance of the laws of any relevant territory in connection therewith, including obtaining any requisite governmental or other consents, observing any other formalities required to be observed in such territory and paying any issue, transfer or other taxes required to be paid in such territory.

All notices sent to Bondholders shall be mailed to their registered addresses and shall be deemed to have been served at the expiration of twenty-four (24) hours after the letter containing the notice is posted, and in proving such service it shall be sufficient to prove that a prepaid letter containing such notice was properly addressed to such Bondholders at his registered address and posted. Save where the context requires otherwise, terms defined in the Prospectus bear the same meaning when used in the Application Form and in any other document issued pursuant to the Prospectus.

- 7.1.2 The amount of the Bond Issue is €50,000,000 subject to the Over-Allotment Option in virtue of which the Issuer may, at its sole and absolute discretion, issue additional Bonds not exceeding €20,000,000 in value, issued at par, in the event of over-subscription.
- 7.1.3 The subscription lists during the Issue Period will open at 08.30 hours on 08 March 2010 and will close as soon thereafter as may be determined by the Issuer but not later than 12.00 hours on 12 March 2010. In the case of corporate Applicants or Applicants having separate legal personality, the Application Form must be signed by a person authorised to sign and bind such Applicant. It shall not be incumbent on the Issuer or Registrar to verify whether the person or persons purporting to bind such an Applicant is or are in fact so authorised.

Applications in the name and for the benefit of minors shall be allowed provided that they are signed by both parent/s or the legal guardian/s and accompanied by a Public Registry birth certificate of the minor in whose name and for whose benefit the Application Form is submitted. Any Bonds allocated pursuant to such an Application shall be registered in the name of the minor as Bondholder, with interest and redemption monies payable to the parent/s / legal guardian/s signing the Application Form until such time as the minor attains the age of eighteen (18) years, following which all interest and redemption monies shall be paid directly to the registered holder, provided that the Issuer has been duly notified in writing of the fact that the minor has attained the age of eighteen (18) years. In the case of joint Applications, the joint holders shall nominate one of their number as their representative and his/her name will be entered in the register with such designation. The person whose name shall be inserted in the field entitled "Applicant" on the Application Form, or first-named in the register of Bondholders shall, for all intents and purposes, be deemed to be such nominated person by all those joint holders whose names appear in the field entitled "Additional Applicants" in the Application Form or joint holders in the register as the case may be. Such person shall, for all intents and purposes, be deemed to be the registered holder of the Bond/s so held.

7.1.4 Subject to all other terms and conditions set out in the Prospectus, the Issuer reserves the right to reject, in whole or in part, or to scale down any Application, and to present any cheques and/or drafts for payment upon receipt. The right is also reserved to refuse any Application which in the opinion of the Issuer is not properly completed in all respects in accordance with the instructions or is not accompanied by the required documents. Only original Application Forms will be accepted and photocopies/facsimile copies will not be accepted. Applicants shall not be entitled to submit multiple applications. If, notwithstanding this rule, multiple applications are received from the same Applicant the Issuer shall deem such multiple Applications to constitute one Application. Provided that an Application submitted by a Maturing Bondholder at pre-placement stage and another Application submitted by the same Maturing Bondholder during the Issue Period shall be deemed to constitute two separate Applications and shall be treated accordingly.

If any Application is not accepted, or if any Application is accepted for fewer Bonds than those applied for, the Application monies or the balance of the amount paid on Application will be returned by the Issuer without interest by direct credit into the Bondholder's bank account as indicated by the Bondholder on the Application Form. The Issuer shall not be responsible for any loss or delay in transmission.

- 7.1.5 The Bonds will be issued in multiples of €100. The minimum subscription amount of Bonds that can be applied for during the Issue Period is €2000.
- 7.1.6 Application Forms must be completed and lodged with the Issuer, the Sponsor or any of the other Authorised Financial Intermediaries except where Maturing Bondholders must apply on the pre-printed application form mailed to them by the Issuer.
- 7.1.7 All Application Forms must be accompanied by the full price of the Bonds applied for in euro and in cleared funds. Payment may be made either in cash or by cheque payable to "The Registrar BOV 2010 Bond Issue". In the event that cheques accompanying Application Forms are not honoured on their first presentation, the Issuer and the Registrar reserve the right to invalidate the relative Application.
- 7.1.8 Within five (5) Business Days from the closing of the subscription lists, the Issuer shall determine and announce the basis of acceptance of applications and allocation policy to be adopted through a press release in at least one local newspaper.
- 7.1.9 For the Purposes of the Prevention of Money Laundering and Funding of Terrorism Regulations 2003 as amended from time to time, all appointed Authorised Financial Intermediaries are under a duty to communicate, upon request, all information about clients as is mentioned in Articles 1.2(d) and 2.4 of the "Code of Conduct for Members of the Malta Stock Exchange" appended as Appendix IV to Chapter 3 of the Malta Stock Exchange Bye-Laws, irrespective of whether the said appointed Authorised Financial Intermediaries are Malta Stock Exchange Members or not. Such information shall be held and controlled by the Malta Stock Exchange in terms of the Data Protection Act (Cap. 440 of the Laws of Malta) for the purposes and within the terms of the Malta Stock Exchange Data Protection Policy as published from time to time.
- 7.1.10 By completing and delivering an Application Form/s, you, as the Applicant/s:
  - a Shall agree to have had the opportunity to read the Prospectus and to be deemed to have had notice of all information and representations concerning the Issuer and the issue of the Bonds contained therein:
  - b Shall warrant that the information submitted by you in the Application Form/s is true and correct in all respects and in the case where an MSE account number is indicated in the Application Form/s, such MSE account number is your correct account number. In the event of a discrepancy between the personal details (including name and surname and the Applicant's address) appearing on the Application Form/s and those held by the MSE in relation to the MSE account number indicated on the Application Form/s, the details held by the MSE shall be deemed to be the correct details of the Applicant;
  - c Accept that the Issuer and the MSE may process the personal data that you provide in the Application Form/s, for all purposes necessary and subsequent to the Bond Issue applied for in accordance with the Data Protection Act (Cap. 440 of the Laws of Malta);
  - d Acknowledge your right to request access to and rectification of the personal data relating to you as processed by the Issuer and/or the MSE. (Any such requests must be made in writing and sent to the Issuer at the address indicated in the Prospectus. The requests must further be signed by the Applicant to whom the personal data relates);
  - e Confirm that in making such Application/s no reliance was placed on any information or representation in relation to the Issuer or the issue of the Bonds other than those contained in this Prospectus and accordingly agree that no person responsible solely or jointly for the Prospectus or any part thereof will have any liability for any such other information or representation;
  - f Agree to provide the Registrar and/or the Issuer, as the case may be, with any information which they may request in connection with the Application/s;



- g Warrant, in connection with the Application/s, to have observed all applicable laws, obtained any requisite governmental or other consents, complied with all requisite formalities and paid any issue, transfer or other taxes due in connection with your Application/s in any territory and that you have not taken any action which will or may result in the Issuer or the Registrar acting in breach of the regulatory or legal requirements of any territory in connection with the issue of the Bond or your Application/s;
- h Warrant that all applicable exchange control or other such regulations (including those relating to external transactions) have been duly and fully complied with;
- i Represent that you are not a U.S. person (as such term is defined in Regulation S under the Securities Act of 1933 of the United States of America, as amended) as well as not to be accepting the invitation set out in the Prospectus from within the United States of America, its territories or its possessions, or any area subject to its jurisdiction (the "United States") or on behalf or for the account of anyone within the United States or anyone who is a U.S. person;
- j Agree that Rizzo, Farrugia & Co. (Stockbrokers) Limited in its capacity of Sponsor will not treat you as its customer by virtue of your Application/s to subscribe for the Bonds being accepted and that Rizzo, Farrugia & Co. (Stockbrokers) Limited do not owe duties or responsibilities towards you concerning the price of the Bonds or their suitability for you;
- k Agree that all documents in connection with the issue of the Bonds will be sent at your own risk and may be sent by post at the address (or, in the case of joint Applications, the address of the first named Applicant) as set out in the Application Form;
- I renounce to any rights you may have to set off any amounts which you may at any time owe the Issuer against any amount due under the terms of these Bonds;
- m acknowledge that in terms of Appendix 1 of Banking Rule BR/03/2008 Own Funds of Credit Institutions Authorised under the Banking Act, the Bonds shall become repayable before the Redemption Date only in the event of the winding up of the Issuer.

#### 7.2 DISTRIBUTION

During the Issue Period, Applications for subscription to the Bonds may be made through any branch of the Issuer, the Sponsor and any of the other Authorised Financial Intermediaries listed in Annex 1 of this Document. The Bonds are open for subscription to all categories of investors.

## 8. PLACING ARRANGEMENTS AND PUBLIC OFFER

The Bonds shall be available for subscription in two tranches: -

- a) By Preferred Applicants during the Pre-Placement Period pursuant to, *inter alia*, the provisions of Section 8.1 of this Securities Note;
- b) By the general public through the Issuer, the Sponsor or any of the other Authorised Financial Intermediaries pursuant to, *inter alia*, the provisions of Section 8.2 of this Securities Note.

The Bond Issue is not underwritten. The Issuer has not established an aggregate minimum subscription level for the Bond Issue. Accordingly, in the event that the Bond Issue is not fully subscribed, but provided that the Bonds are listed on the Official List of the Malta Stock Exchange, the subscribed portion of the Bonds shall be allocated to the respective Applicants in accordance with the terms of this Securities Note.

### 8.1 PRE-PLACEMENT PERIOD

- 8.1.1 The Issuer has reserved a portion of the Bonds which are equivalent to the value in Euro of the outstanding principal amount of the Maturing Bonds as at the Cut-Off Date together with the Cash-Top Up, as below defined, for subscription by Maturing Bondholders, (the "Reserved Portion"). Each Preferred Applicant shall receive a pre-printed application form by mail from the Issuer and shall submit same to the Issuer or the Sponsor or any other Authorised Financial Intermediaries by not later than the 3 March 2010 (for onward submission to the Registrar on the 4 March 2010), the "Preferred Application Period".
- 8.1.2 The terms contained in the said Application Form are to be deemed an integral part of the Terms and Conditions of Application for the Bonds.
- 8.1.3 The Issuer intends to allocate the Bonds to those Maturing Bondholders indicating their agreement by virtue of the submission of the duly completed Application Form to settle the consideration for the Bonds by surrendering in the Issuer's favour the Maturing Bonds of an equivalent value in Euro, with preference

over all other Applicants up to the level of the Reserved Portion. In applying for the Bonds in the Reserved Portion, the Maturing Bondholders will settle the consideration for the Bonds applied for by surrendering their respective Maturing Bonds to the Issuer. Such transfer shall be without prejudice to the rights of the Maturing Bondholders to receive interest on the Maturing Bonds up to and including the 15 March 2010.

- 8.1.4 Maturing Bondholders shall be preferred during the Preferred Application Period a) up to the amount of Maturing Bonds being surrendered to the Issuer, or b) in the event that less than €2000 in value of Maturing Bonds are being transferred together with the Cash Top-Up, the value of €2000.
- 8.1.5 The Reserved Portion is equal to the number of outstanding Maturing Bonds and the aggregate Cash Top-Ups, and accordingly, it is intended that all Applications submitted during the Preferred Application Period by Maturing Bondholders with respect to their holding of Maturing Bonds and the Cash Top-Up shall be satisfied in full.
- 8.1.6 Maturing Bondholders wishing to surrender their Maturing Bonds in exchange for the Bonds shall only be entitled to do so during the Preferred Application Period. Subsequent Applications by Maturing Bondholders are to be made by submitting the Application Form contained in Annex 2 and must be accompanied by cleared funds, at which stage, no preference shall be provided to their application.
- 8.1.7 The minimum application amount of Bonds for Applications lodged by Maturing Bondholders with Authorised Financial Intermediaries, the Issuer and/or the Sponsor during the Preferred Application Period is for €2000 in value. Applications in excess thereof shall be in multiples of €100.
  - All Maturing Bonds being surrendered to the Issuer for the purpose of acquiring Bonds shall be rounded up to the next €100 by settling the difference in cash (the "100 Top-Up"). Each €100 in value of Maturing Bonds surrendered to the Issuer shall entitle such Applicant to receive €100 in value of the Bonds issued by the Company.
- 8.1.8 In the event that Maturing Bondholders wish to surrender less than €2,000 in value of the Maturing Bonds in settlement of their Application for Bonds, such Maturing Bondholders shall be required to compensate for the difference between the €2,000 in value of the Bonds and the value in Euro of the Maturing Bonds being surrendered, by remitting the said amount in cleared funds, the "2000 Top-Up". The 100 Top-Up and the 2000 Top-Up shall be referred to as the "Cash Top-Up".
  - Maturing Bondholders wishing to apply for Bonds in excess of the aggregate of the value of the Maturing Bonds held by him/her and the Cash Top-Up shall be entitled to do so by completing a separate Application Form, subject to a minimum application amount of €2,000.
- 8.1.9 In the event that Maturing Bondholders wish to transfer more than €2000 in value of the Maturing Bonds in settlement of their Application for Bonds, such amount shall be preferred and the corresponding value of Bonds shall be allocated to him/her.
  - In the event that a Maturing Bondholder applies through the pre-printed Application Form for more Bonds than the value of Maturing Bonds held by him/her, subject to the Cash Top-Up, such amount in excess of the aggregate of his/her Maturing Bond and the Cash Top-Up, shall not be preferred but shall be disregarded and shall not participate together with other Applicants during the Offer Period.



#### Example

The following is an example of the manner in which the Reserved Portion shall be allocated: -

Value in € of Maturing Bonds	Cash Top-Up	Additional Cash Application	Preferred Allocation
€900	€1100		€2000
€900	€1100	€2000*	€2000
€2,050	€50		€2,100
€2,050	€50	€2000*	€2,100

<sup>\*</sup>Such additional amount applied for in cash shall not be preferred. Moreover to be eligible to participate in the Offer Period Maturing Bondholder shall be required to complete a separate Application Form (that contained in Annex 2 hereof) which shall participate during the Offer Period *pari passu* with other Applicants.

#### 8.2 PUBLIC OFFER

The Bonds shall be offered to the general public during the Issue Period.

#### 8.3 ALLOTMENT RESULTS

It is expected that an allotment advice to Applicants will be dispatched within 5 Business Days of the announcement of the allocation policy. The registration advice and other documents and any monies returnable to Applicants may be retained pending clearance of the remittance and any verification of identity as required by the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (Cap. 373 of the Laws of Malta) and regulations made thereunder. Such monies will not bear interest while retained as aforesaid.

## 9 ADMISSION TO TRADING AND DEALING ARRANGEMENTS

Application has been made to the Listing Authority for the admissibility of the Bonds to listing and to the Malta Stock Exchange for the Bonds to be listed and traded on its Official List. The Conditions contained herein shall be read in conjunction with the Bye-Laws of the MSE applicable from time to time.

## 10 CREDIT RATING

The Issuer is currently rated by one international rating agency, namely Fitch Ratings. The Issuer has been assigned the following investment grade rating: an "A-" by Fitch.

Obligations within the 'A' rating category by Fitch are considered as being in the high credit quality category. Such ratings denote a low expectation of credit risk. The capacity for timely payment of financial commitments is considered strong. This capacity may, nevertheless, be more vulnerable to changes in circumstances or in economic conditions than is the case for higher ratings.

## 11 DOCUMENTS ON DISPLAY

The following documents (or copies thereof), may be inspected at the registered office of the Issuer at 58, Zachary Street, Valletta VLT 1130, Malta:

- The Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Group;
- The Audited Financial Statements of the Group for each of the financial years ended 30 September 2009, 30 September 2008, 30 September 2007 and 30 September 2006;
- The Audited Financial Statements of each of the Subsidiaries for each of the financial years ended 30 September 2009, 30 September 2008 and 30 September 2007;
- The Unaudited Half-Yearly Report of the Group for the six months ended 31 March 2009;
- The Registration Document dated 20 May 2009, as supplemented on the 12 February 2010; and
- The Summary Note dated 12 February 2010.

The Group's Audited Financial Statements as well as the Unaudited Half-Yearly Report may also be inspected on the Issuer's website: www.bov.com

## ANNEX 1 – AUTHORISED FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

## Members of the Malta Stock Exchange

Tel: 2166 7866 Fax: 2182 1933

All Invest Company Limited

D.B.R. Investments Ltd

Valletta, VLT 1116

67, Republic Street, Valletta, VLT 1117

Rosewall Building, Level 2, Trig Villabate

M'Scala By Pass, Zabbar

Atlas Investment Services Ltd Tel: 2132 2590 Fax: 2132 2584

BOV Centre, Cannon Road, Santa Venera SVR 9030

Abate Rigord Street, Ta Xbiex XBX 1121 www.atlas.com.mt

Tel: 2131 2020 Fax: 2275 1733 Bank of Valletta p.l.c.

Financial Markets & Investments Division, www.bov.com

Calamatta Cuschieri & Co. Ltd Tel: 2568 8688 Fax: 2568 8256

5th Floor, Valletta Buildings, www.cc.com.mt

South Street, Valletta VLT 1103

Tel: 2122 4106 Fax: 2124 1101 **Charts Investment Management Services Ltd** 

Valletta Waterfront, Vault 17. Pinto Wharf www.charts.com.mt

Floriana FRN 1913

Curmi & Partners Ltd Tel: 2134 7331 Fax: 2134 7333

Finance House, Princess Elizabeth Street. www.curmiandpartners.com Ta Xbiex XBX 1102

Deber, Nigret Road Zurrieg ZRQ 3172 Tel: 2164 7763 Fax: 2164 7765

Financial Planning Services Ltd Tel: 2134 4255 Fax: 2134 1202

4. Marina Court. No 1. G Cali Street. Ta Xbiex XBX 1421

Tel: 2122 0002 Fax: 2124 3280 **FINCO Treasury Management Ltd** 

Level 5, The Mall Complex, The Mall, www.fincotrust.com Floriana FRN 1470

GlobalCapital Financial Management Ltd Tel: 2131 0088 Fax: 2328 2207

Operations centre, Balzan Valley Road www.globalcapital.com.mt Balzan BZN 1409

Hogg Capital Investments Ltd Tel: 2132 2872 Fax: 2134 2760

Regent House, Level 3, Suite 33, www.hoggcapital.com Bisazza Street, Sliema SLM 1641

Tel: 2597 2241 Fax: 2597 2494 HSBC Stockbrokers (Malta) Ltd

233, Republic Street www.hsbcmalta.com

Tel: 2558 1810 Fax: 2558 1150 Lombard Bank Malta p.l.c.

Bank of Valletta p.l.c. | Securities Note 21

www.lombardmalta.com

MPM Capital Investments Ltd

81 Vinci Buildings, B Bontadini Street B'Kara BKR 1732

**Quest Investment Services Ltd** 

101 Townsquare, Ix-Xatt ta' Qui-Si-Sana Sliema SLM 3112

Rizzo, Farrugia & Co. (Stockbrokers) Ltd

Airways House, Third Floor, High Street, Sliema SLM 1549 Tel: 2149 3250 Fax: 2149 3077

Tel: 2134 3500 Fax: 2131 3733 www.questinvestments.eu

Tel: 2258 3000 Fax: 2258 3001

www.rizzofarrugia.com

#### **Investment Services Providers**

**APS Bank Ltd** Tel: 2559 3400 Fax: 2567 1164/5

17, Republic Street, Valletta VLT 1111 www.apsbank.com.mt

Crystal Finance Investments Ltd Tel: 2122 6190 Fax: 2122 6188

6, Freedom Square, Valletta VLT 1011 www.crystal.com.mt

Growth Investments Ltd

Tel: 2123 4582 Fax: 2124 9811

Middlesea House, Floriana FRN 1442

www.growthinvestmentsonline.com

WWW.growamonoonminoonminoonminoonminoonminoonminoonminoonminoonminoonminoonminoonminoonminoonminoonminoonminoon

HSBC Bank Malta p.l.c. Tel: 2597 2209 Fax: 2597 2475

233, Republic Street Valletta VLT 1116 www.hsbcmalta.com

Island Financial Services Ltd Tel: 2385 5555 Fax: 2385 5238

Insurance House, Salvu Psaila Street, www.islandins.com

Birkirkara, BKR 9078

Jesmond Mizzi Financial Services Ltd

Tel: 2122 4410 Fax: 2122 3810

67, Flat 3, South Street, Valletta VLT 1105 www.jmfs.net

Michael Grech Financial Investment Services Ltd

Joseph Scicluna Investment Services Ltd

Tel: 2156 5707 Fax: 2156 5706

Level 3, Bellavista Court,

Gorg Borg Olivier Street, Gozo VCT 2517

MFSP Financial ManagementTel: 21322426 Fax: 21332190220 Immaculate Conception Str., Msidawww.mfsp.com.mt

No 1 Mican Court, J.F.Kennedy Square,
Victoria Gozo VCT 2580, Gozo
Tel: 2155 4492 Fax: 2155 9199
www.michaelgrechfinancial.com

MZ Investment Services Ltd

POBox 24/55, MZ house, St Rita Street
Tel: 2145 3739 Fax: 2145 3407
Rabat RBT1523
Tel: 2145 3739 Fax: 2145 3407
www.mzinvestments.com

Mercieca Financial Investment Services Ltd

'Mercieca', John F. Kennedy Square, Tel: 2155 3892 Fax: 2155 3892 Victoria Gozo VCT 2580

## **ANNEX 2 - SPECIMEN APPLICATION FORM**



## BANK OF VALLETTA p.l.c. Issue of 4.8% Subordinated BONDS 2020

	PPLICANT (see notes 2	to 7)					
	Non-Resident	Mi	nor (under 18)		Corporate/ of Persons	CIS-Prescribed Fund	
TI	TLE (Mr/Mrs/Ms/)	FULL NAME & S	SURNAME / REGISTI	ERED NAME			
ΑĽ	ADDRESS						
						POSTCODE	
M	SE A/C NO. (if applicab	le) I.D. CARE	O / PASSPORT / COM	IPANY REG. NO.	TEL. NO.	MOBILE NO.	
	DDITIONAL (JOINT) AF				(please use additi	onal Application Forms if space is not sufficient	
11	TLE (Mr/Mrs/Ms/)	FULL NAME & S	SURNAME			I.D. CARD / PASSPORT N	
TI	TLE (Mr/Mrs/Ms/)	FULL NAME & S	SURNAME			I.D. CARD / PASSPORT N	
М	INOR'S PARENTS / LE	GAL GUARDIAN	<b>/S</b> (see note 4)		(to	be completed ONLY if the Applicant is a mir	
TI	TLE (Mr/Mrs/Ms/)	FULL NAME & S	SURNAME			I.D. CARD / PASSPORT N	
TI	TLE (Mr/Mrs/Ms/)	FULL NAME & S	SURNAME			I.D. CARD / PASSPORT N	
	I/WE APPLY TO PU		•	es 8 and 9):			
	AMOUNT IN FIGURE	S	MOUNT IN WORDS				
						Itiples of €100 thereafter) at the	
RE	Bond Issue Price, a Document dated 20 application under the SIDENT - WITHHOLD	s defined in the D May 2009, as the Terms and Co DING TAX DECLA	e Securities Note ar supplemented on onditions as defined RATION (see note 10)	nd Summary Not the 12 February I in the said Pros	te dated 12 Feb y 2010 (the "Pr spectus.	Itiples of €100 thereafter) at the bruary 2010 and the Registration ospectus"), payable in full upon ted ONLY if the Applicant is a Resident of Ma	
RE	Bond Issue Price, a Document dated 20 application under th  ESIDENT - WITHHOLD  I/We elect to have	s defined in the O May 2009, as the Terms and Co OING TAX DECLA Final Withholding	Securities Note ar supplemented on anditions as defined RATION (see note 10) Tax deducted from r	nd Summary Not the 12 February I in the said Pros my/our interest.	te dated 12 Feb y 2010 (the "Pr pectus. (to be complet	oruary 2010 and the Registration ospectus"), payable in full upon	
RI	Bond Issue Price, a Document dated 20 application under th  ESIDENT - WITHHOLD  I/We elect to have  I/We elect to receive the terms of Section 6.14	s defined in the D May 2009, as the Terms and Control TAX DECLAR Final Withholding tive interest GROS.	Securities Note ar supplemented on anditions as defined RATION (see note 10) Tax deducted from r S (i.e. without deduct s Note dated 12 Februs	nd Summary Not the 12 February in the said Pros my/our interest. ion of withholding the ary 2010, unless the	te dated 12 Feby 2010 (the "Prepectus."  (to be completed tax).	oruary 2010 and the Registration ospectus"), payable in full upon	
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## Notes on how to complete this Application Form and other information

The following notes are to be read in conjunction with the Securities Note and Summary Note dated 12 February 2010 and the Registration Document dated 20 May 2009, as supplemented on the 12 February 2010

- This Application is governed by the Terms and Conditions contained in the Securities Note and Summary Note dated 12 February 2010 and the Registration Document dated 20 May 2009, as supplemented on the 12 February 2010 (the "Prospectus"). Capitalised terms not defined herein shall, unless the context otherwise requires, have the meaning ascribed to them in the Prospectus.
- 2. The Application Form is to be completed in BLOCK LETTERS.
- 3. Applicants are to insert full personal details in Panel B. In the case of an application by more than one person (including husband and wife) full details of all individuals including I.D. Card Numbers must be given in Panels B and C but the person whose name appears in Panel B shall, for all intents and purposes, be deemed to be the registered holder of the Bonds. Interest, redemption proceeds and any refund payments will be issued in the name of such Bondholder (vide note 7 below).
- 4. Applications in the name and for the benefit of minors shall be allowed provided that they are signed by both parents or by the legal guardian/s and accompanied by a Public Registry birth certificate of the minor in whose name and for whose benefit the Application Form is submitted. The relative box in Panel A must also be marked appropriately. Any Bonds allocated pursuant to such an Application shall be registered in the name of the minor as Bondholder, with interest and redemption proceeds payable to the parents or legal guardian/s signing the Application Form until such time as the minor attains the age of eighteen (18) years, following which all interests and redemption proceeds shall be payable directly to the registered holder, provided that the Issuer has been duly notified in writing of the fact that the minor has attained the age of eighteen (18) years.
- 5. Applicants who are Non-Resident in Malta for tax purposes, must indicate their passport number in Panel B and complete Panel G; the relative box in Panel A must also be marked appropriately.
- 6. In the case of a body corporate, the name of the entity, exactly as registered, and the registration number are to be inserted in Panel B. Applications must be signed by duly authorised representatives indicating the capacity in which they are signing.
- 7. APPLICANTS WHO HOLD SECURITIES ON THE MALTA STOCK EXCHANGE ARE TO INDICATE THEIR MSE ACCOUNT NUMBER IN PANEL B. APPLICANTS ARE TO NOTE THAT ANY SECURITIES ALLOTTED TO THEM WILL BE RECORDED BY THE MALTA STOCK EXCHANGE IN THE MSE ACCOUNT NUMBER QUOTED ON THE APPLICATION FORM EVEN IF THE DETAILS OF SUCH MSE ACCOUNT NUMBER, AS HELD BY THE MALTA STOCK EXCHANGE, DIFFER FROM ANY OR ALL OF THE DETAILS APPEARING OVERLEAF.
- 8. Applications must be for a minimum of €2,000 and thereafter in multiples of €100.
- 9. Payment in Euro may be made by cheque payable to 'The Registrar BOV 2010 Bond Issue'.
- 10. Only Applicants who hold a valid official Maltese Identity Card or Companies registered in Malta will be treated as resident in Malta. In such a case the Applicant may elect to have Final Withholding Tax, currently 15%, deducted from interest payments in which case such interest need not be declared in the Applicant's income tax return. The Applicant may elect to receive the interest gross (i.e. without deduction of Final Withholding Tax), but he/she will be obliged to declare interest so received on his/her return. Interest received by non-resident Applicants is not taxable in Malta and non-residents will receive interest gross. Authorised entities applying in the name of a Prescribed Fund will have Final Withholding Tax, currently 10%, deducted from interest payments. Applicants will receive their interest directly in a bank account held locally in Euro and such choice is to be indicated in Panel H. If any Application is not accepted, or is accepted for fewer Bonds after the closure of the Subscriptions Lists, than those applied for, the monies or the balance of the amount paid but not allocated, as the case may be, will be returned by direct credit into the Applicant's bank account as indicated in Panel H.
- 11. European Council Directive 2003/48/EC on the Taxation of Savings Income in the form of interest payments requires all payors established in the EU which pay interest to an individual resident in another EU Member State, to report the interest payment to the tax authorities of the Member State in which the payor is established. If the Applicant's permanent residential address is in an EU Member State or in another country to which the Directive applies (called a "specified territory") then the interest paid will be reported.
- 12. Subscription Lists will open at 08:30 hours on 8 March 2010 and will close as soon thereafter as may be determined by the Issuer, but not later than 12:00 hours on 12 March 2010. The Issuer reserves the right, however, to close the Bond Issue before the 12 March 2010, in the event of over-subscription. The Issuer reserves the right to refuse any Application which appears to be in breach of the terms and conditions of the Bond as contained in the Prospectus. Any Applications received by the Registrar after the Subscription Lists close will be rejected. Completed Application Forms are to be delivered at any of the Authorised Financial Intermediaries listed in the Prospectus, during the normal office hours. Remittances by post are made at the risk of the Applicant and the Issuer disclaims all responsibility for any such remittances not received by the closing of the Subscription Lists.
- 13. By completing and delivering an Application Form you (as the Applicant(s)):
  - a. acknowledge that the Issuer may process the personal data that you provide in the Application Form in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2001;
  - acknowledge that the Issuer may process such personal data for all purposes necessary for and related to the issue of the Bonds applied for; and
  - c. acknowledge that you, as the Applicant, have the right to request access to and rectification of the personal data relating to you, as processed by the Issuer. Any such requests must be made in writing and addressed to the Issuer. The requests must be signed by yourself, as the Applicant to whom the personal data relates.

The value of investments can go up or down and past performance is not necessarily indicative of future performance. The nominal value of the Bonds on offer will be repayable in full upon redemption. An investor should consult a licensed stockbroker or an investment advisor, licensed under the Investment Services Act (Cap. 370 of the Laws of Malta), for advice.



## BANK OF VALLETTA p.l.c. Issue of 4.8% Subordinated BONDS 2020

Please read the notes overleaf before completing this Application Form. Mark 'X' if applicable. APPLICANT/S **3** TEL. NO. MOBILE NO. Nominal value of Bank of Valletta p.l.c. 6.15% Bonds 2010 ("Maturing Bonds") held in Euro: Θ AMOUNT IN FIGURES Box 1 I/We apply to purchase and acquire the amount set out below in Bank of Valletta p.l.c. 4.8% Bonds 2020 at the € Bond Issue price (at par) pursuant to the Securities Note and Summary Note dated 12 February 2010 and the Registration Document dated 20 May 2009 as supplemented on the 12 February 2010 (the "Prospectus"). AMOUNT IN FIGURES Box 2 AMOUNT IN WORDS AMOUNT IN FIGURES Box 3 If your holding of the Maturing Bonds set out in Box 1 is less than €2,000, the amount of 4.8% Bonds 2020 which you can apply for and the amount set out in Box 2 must be €2,000. If your holding of the Maturing Difference payable on Application for rounding up Bonds set out in Box 1 is more than €2.000, the amount of 4.8% Bonds 2020 applied for and the amount purposes set out in Box 2 must not be less than €2.000 and not more than the amount of your holding of the Maturing Bonds set out in Box 1 rounded up to the nearest integral multiple of €100. See note 5 overleaf. € Application for an amount in excess of the said amounts may be made by completing a separate Application I/We elect to have Final Withholding Tax deducted from my/our interest. I/We elect to receive interest GROSS (i.e. without deduction of withholding tax) In terms of Section 6.14.2 of the Securities Note dated 12 February 2010, unless the Issuer is otherwise instructed by a Bondholder, or if the Bondholder does not fall within the definition of "Recipient" in terms of Article 41(c) of the Income Tax Act, interest shall be paid to such person net of a final withholding tax, currently at the rate of 15% of the gross amount of the interest pursuant to Article 33 of the Income Tax Act. NON-RESIDENT - DECLARATION FOR TAX PURPOSES (to be completed ONLY if the Applicant is a Non-Residen TAX COUNTRY TOWN OF BIRTH T I N (Tax Identification Number) COUNTRY OF BIRTH ISSUE DATE PASSPORT/NATIONAL I.D. CARD COUNTRY OF ISSUE ☐ I/We am/are **NOT** Resident in Malta but I/we am/are Resident in the European Union. I/We am/are NOT Resident in Malta and I/we am/are NOT Resident in the European Union. G INTEREST MANDATE (Completion of this section is MANDATORY) This Application Form is to be submitted in the case where the Applicant selects, as a method of payment for the Bank of Valletta p.l.c. 4.8% 2020 Bonds being applied for, to surrender to the Issuer all or part of the Maturing Bonds held by the Applicant as at the Cut-Off date, the nominal value of which is set out in Euro in Box 1 of Panel C above. By submitting this signed Application Form, Maturing Bondholders, shall be deemed to confirm that:

(a) their holding of the Maturing Bond indicated in this Application Form are being surrendered in favour of the Issuer; and

(b) this Application Form constitutes the Maturing Bondholders' irrevocable mandate to the Issuer to: surrender the said Maturing Bonds in the Issuer's favour and to pay the Cash Top-Up, if any, in consideration of the issue of 4.8% 2020 Bonds; and engage the services of such brokers or intermediaries as may be necessary to fully and effectively carry out all procedures necessary with the MSE for the surrender of the said Maturing Bonds and to to fully and effectively vest title in the appropriate number of 4.8% 2020 Bonds in the name of the Applicant. **G** I/We have fully understood the instructions for completing this Application Form, and am/are making this Application solely on the basis of the Prospectus, and subject to its Terms and Conditions which I/we fully accept. Furthermore, I/we confirm that this is the only Application Form I/we am/are submitting on my/our behalf or on behalf of the company or other entity I/we represent. Signature/s of Applicant/s Date (Both parents or legal guardian/s are/is to sign if Applicant is a minor)
(All parties are to sign in the case of a joint Application)
(Bare owner/s and usufractuary/ies to sign in case of Bondholdings that are subject to usufruct) AUTHORISED INTERMEDIARY'S STAMP AUTHORISED INTERMEDIARY'S CODE APPLICATION NUMBER



#### Notes on how to complete this Application Form and other information

The following notes are to be read in conjunction with the Securities Note and Summary Note dated 12 February 2010 and the Registration Document dated 20 May 2009, as supplemented on the 12 February 2010

- This Application is governed by the Terms and Conditions contained in the Securities Note and Summary Note dated 12 February 2010 and his application becomen dated 20 May 2009, as supplemented on the 12 February 2010 (the "Prospectus"). Capitalised terms not defined herein shall, unless the context otherwise requires, have the meanings ascribed to them in the Prospectus.
- The Application Form is to be completed in BLOCK LETTERS.
- 3. This Application Form is not transferable and entitles you to a preferential treatment as a Bondholder of Bank of Valletta p.l.c. 6.15% Bonds
- Interest and redemption proceeds will be issued in the name of the person as shown in Panel A.
- This Application Form is to be submitted in the case where the Applicant selects, as a method of payment for the Bank of Valletta p.l.c. 4.8% 2020 Bonds being applied for, to surrender to the Issuer all or part of the Maturing Bonds held by the Applicant as at the Cut-Off date, the nominal value of which is set out in Euro in Box 1 of Panel C overleaf. By submitting this signed Application Form, Maturing Bondholders, shall be deemed to confirm that:
  - (a) their holding of the Maturing Bond indicated in this Application Form are being surrendered in favour of the Issuer; and (b) this Application Form constitutes the Maturing Bondholders' irrevocable mandate to the Issuer to:
  - - i. surrender the said Maturing Bonds in the Issuer's favour and to pay the Cash Top-Up, if any, in consideration of the issue of 4.8% 2020 Bonds; and
    - ii. engage the services of such brokers or intermediaries as may be necessary to fully and effectively carry out all procedures necessary with the MSE for the surrender of the said Maturing Bonds and to fully and effectively vest title in the appropriate number of 4.8% 2020 Bonds in the name of the Applicant.
- The amount set out in Box 2 must be in multiples of  $\le$ 100. The issuer will be giving preference to Applications made by the holders of the Maturing Bonds up to their full amount rounded up to (a)  $\le$ 2,000, if less than  $\le$ 2,000 or (b) to the nearest integral multiple of  $\le$ 100. Any such Applicant must ensure that the relative Application Form is accompanied by payment of the difference between the full price of the amount of 4.8% 2020 Bonds applied for and the nominal value of the Maturing Bonds being transferred. The amount representing such differences, which is to be inserted in Box 3, may be made payable to 'The Registrar – BOV 2010 Bond Issue' which is to be attached to the Application Form being submitted to any Authorised Financial Intermediary listed in Annex 1 of the Securities Note dated 12 February 2010.
- Where the Applicant wishes to acquire a number of 4.8% 2020 Bonds having an aggregate value which exceeds the amount in respect of which preference is given as indicated in paragraph 6 above, the Applicant may do so through any of the Authorised Financial Intermediaries listed in Annex 1 of the Securities Note dated 12 February 2010, subject to availability.
- Applicants who are Non-Resident in Malta for tax purposes, must complete Panel E overleaf.
- In the case where a Maturing Bondholder is a body corporate, Applications must be signed by duly authorised representative/s indicating the capacity in which they are signing.
- 10. Only Applicants who hold a valid official Maltese Identity Card or Companies registered in Malta will be treated as residents in Malta. In such a case the Applicant may elect to have Final Withholding Tax, currently 15%, deducted from interest payments in which case such interest need not be declared in the Applicant's income tax return. The Applicant may elect to receive the interest gross (i.e. without deduction of Final Withholding Tax), but he/she will be obliged to declare interest so received on his/her return. Interest received by non-resident Applicants is not taxable in Malta and non-residents will receive interest gross. Authorised entities applying in the name of a Prescribed Fund will have Final Withholding Tax, currently 10% deducted from interest payments. Applicants will receive their interest directly in a bank account held locally in Euro and such choice is to be indicated in Panel F overleaf.
- European Council Directive 2003/48/EC on the Taxation of Savings Income in the form of interest payments requires all payors established in the EU which pay interest to an individual resident in another EU Member State, to report the interest payment to the tax authorities of the Member State in which the payor is established. If the Applicant's permanent residential address is in a EU Member State or in another country to which the Directive applies (called a "specified territory") then the interest paid will be reported.
- THE MSE ACCOUNT NUMBER HAS BEEN PRE-PRINTED IN PANEL B AND REFLECTS THE MSE ACCOUNT NUMBER ON THE ISSUER'S REGISTER AT THE CSD AS AT CLOSE OF BUSINESS 11 FEBRUARY 2010. APPLICANTS ARE TO NOTE THAT BONDS ALLOTTED TO THEM WILL BE RECORDED BY THE MALTA STOCK EXCHANGE IN THE MSE ACCOUNT NUMBER QUOTED ON THE APPLICATION FORM EVEN IF THE DETAILS OF SUCH MSE ACCOUNT NUMBER, AS HELD BY THE MALTA STOCK EXCHANGE, DIFFER FROM ANY OR ALL OF THE DETAILS APPEARING OVERLEAF.
- APPLICATIONS BY MATURING BONDHOLDERS ARE TO BE RECEIVED BY ANY OF THE AUTHORISED FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES LISTED IN ANNEX 1 OF THE SECURITIES NOTE DATED 12 FEBRUARY 2010 BY 4.00PM ON 3 MARCH 2010. The Issuer reserves the right to refuse any Application which appears to be in breach of the terms and conditions of the Bond as contained in the Prospectus. Any Applications received by the Registrar from Authorised Financial Intermediaries after 2.00pm on 4 March 2010 will be rejected. Completed Application Forms are to be delivered at any of the Authorised Financial Intermediaries as listed in the Securities Note dated 12 February 2010, during normal office hours. Remittances by post are made at the risk of the Applicant and the Issuer disclaims all responsibility for any such remittances not received by the cut-off time indicated above.
- By completing and delivering this Application Form you (as the Applicant(s)) shall acknowledge that the Issuer and the MSE may process by completing and delivering this Application Form you gas the Application Form for all purposes necessary and subsequent to the Bond Issue applied for in accordance with the Data Protection Act, Cap. 440 of the Laws of Malta. The Applicant has the right to request access to and rectification of the personal data relating to him/her, as processed by the Issuer and/or the MSE. Any such requests must be made in writing and sent to the Issuer at the address indicated in the Prospectus. The requests must further be signed by the Applicant to whom the personal data

The value of investments can go up or down and past performance is not necessarily indicative of future performance. The nominal value of the Bonds on offer will be repayable in full upon redemption. An investor should consult a licensed stockbroker or an investment advisor, licensed under the Investment Services Act (Cap. 370 of the Laws of Malta), for advice.

## **ANNEX 3 - SUPPLEMENT**

This Supplement constitutes a supplement within the meaning of Article 16 of the Prospectus Directive 2003/71/EC.

This Supplement is supplemental to, and should be read in conjunction with the Registration Document issued by the Issuer on the 20 May 2009. Terms defined in the Registration Document have the same meaning when used in this Supplement.

This Supplement contains information given in compliance with the Listing Rules of the Listing Authority for the purpose of giving information. The persons listed in Section 10.1 of the Registration Document accept responsibility for the information contained in this Supplement. To the best of their knowledge (who have taken all reasonable care to ensure that such is the case), the information contained herein is in accordance with the facts and does not omit anything likely to affect the import of such information. A copy of this Supplement has been delivered to the Listing Authority.

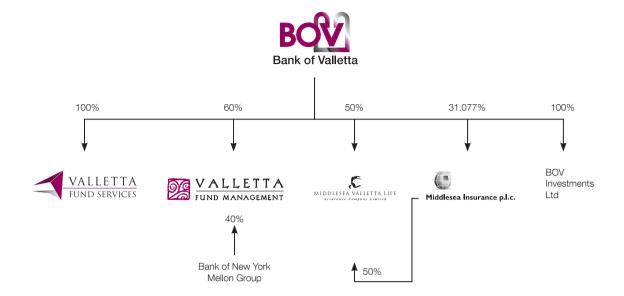
Save as disclosed, there has been no significant change and no significant matter has arisen since the publication of the Prospectus dated 20 May 2009.

This Supplement has been produced for the following purpose:

- i. To incorporate by reference the Audited Financial Statements of the Group and of each of the Subsidiaries for each of the financial years ended 30 September 2009;
- ii. To amend the definition of the term Prospectus with the following:-
  - "collectively the Registration Document, the Securities Note, the Summary Note, as such documents may be amended, updated, replaced and supplemented from time to time."
- iii. To amend Section 7 of the Registration Document to the effect that the references to the credit rating by Moody's Investors Service therein is to be deleted so that the said sections are to read as follows:
  - "The Issuer is currently rated by one international rating agency, namely Fitch Ratings. The Issuer has been assigned the following investment grade ratings: an "A-" by Fitch.
  - Obligations within the 'A' rating category by Fitch are considered as being in the high credit quality category. Such ratings denote a low expectation of credit risk. The capacity for timely payment of financial commitments is considered strong. This capacity may, nevertheless, be more vulnerable to changes in circumstances or in economic conditions than is the case for higher ratings."
- iv. To amend Section 7.1 of the Registration Document thereby replacing such sections with the below:
  - "Following approval by the shareholders of the Issuer during the annual general meeting held on the 16 December 2009 with effect from 15 January 2010, the amount of €40,000,000 from the Issuer's reserves was capitalised for the purpose of a bonus issue of 40,000,000 fully paid ordinary shares of a nominal value of €1.00 per share, representing 1 bonus share for every 4 shares held, allotted to the members appearing on the Register of Members as at the close of business on the Malta Stock Exchange on the 15 January 2010 (Eligible Members), thereby increasing the issued share capital from the current 160,000,000 shares to 200,000,000 shares of €1.00 each fully paid up, resulting in a paid up capital of €200,000,000."



v. To amend the organisational structure of the Group contained in Section 8.1 of the Registration Document thereby replacing same with the following chart:-



vi. To amend Section 8.1 of the Registration Document thereby replacing such section with the below:

"Pursuant to the various licences held, the Issuer provides a wide range of banking and other financial services. The objects of the Issuer essentially comprise the carrying on of the business of banking in all aspects including, without limitation, the transacting of all financial, monetary, investment and other business usually carried on by credit institutions.

The Issuer has a well-developed world-wide network of correspondent banks that provide it with the necessary backbone to service its customers in international banking and trade transactions. The Issuer has a number of representative offices in other countries, namely, Australia, Canada, Italy, Egypt, Tunisia and Libya. Although the Issuer has a presence in such other jurisdictions, the main market within which it competes is the Maltese market.

The Issuer is licensed by the MFSA:

- As a credit institution under the Banking Act (Cap. 371 of the Laws of Malta);
- To provide any investment service, to hold and control clients' money or customer assets and to deal for their own account or underwrite and to act as trustees or custodians of collective investment schemes in terms of the Investment Services Act (Cap. 370 of the Laws of Malta);

The Issuer is also authorised to act as a trustee by the MFSA in terms of the Trusts and Trustees Act (Cap. 31 of the Laws of Malta) and is also a regulated tied insurance intermediary of Middlesea Valletta Life Assurance Company Limited and Middlesea Insurance p.l.c.

The Issuer is the parent of the Group which incorporates three Subsidiaries, namely, Valletta Fund Management Limited, BOV Investments Limited and Valletta Fund Services Limited. The Group also has two affiliates, namely Middlesea Insurance p.l.c., and Middlesea Valletta Life Assurance Company Limited.

#### The Subsidiaries

Valletta Fund Management Limited ("VFM") is a joint venture between the Issuer and Insight Investment Management Limited, a member of the Bank of New York Mellon Group, that provides management services for investment companies. VFM is licensed by the MFSA to provide any investment service, to hold or control clients' money or customers' assets (but not to deal for own account or underwrite) in terms of the Investment Services Act (Cap. 370 of the Laws of Malta).

Valletta Fund Services Limited ("VFS") is a recognised fund administrator by the MFSA. VFS is a fully-owned subsidiary of the Issuer and was incorporated on the 27 September 2006 as a limited liability company.

BOV Investments Limited acts as an investment holding company.

#### The Associates

Middlesea Valletta Life Assurance Company Limited is a joint venture between Middlesea Insurance p.l.c. and the Issuer. It operates as a life assurance company and is licensed by the MFSA under the Insurance Business Act (Cap. 403 of the Laws of Malta).

Middlesea Insurance p.l.c. is licensed by the MFSA under the Insurance Business Act (Cap. 403 of the Laws of Malta) to carry on the business of insurance"

vii. To amend the Trend Information contained in Section 9.1 of the Registration Document thereby replacing such section with the below:

"During the latter half of the financial year of the Issuer, which ended on 30 September 2009, international financial markets witnessed a gradual stabilisation as major governments provided much needed liquidity and support to their respective economies in a bid to recover from one of the most severe global recessions in decades. As a result, almost all major economies exited the recession by the end of 2009. However, the Issuer believes that recovery is still underway and the rate and extent thereof is expected to be uneven across regions and countries.

Given Malta's open economy, it has not been immune to the global recession, although the impact has been more gradual and relatively mild when compared with other developed economies. In fact, Malta's economy has entered the recessionary phase late in the day, but is expected to lag behind the others before returning to positive growth. Consequently, the local situation could continue to be challenging in the short to medium term.

In light of the above, the Issuer has doubled its pre-tax profit over the equivalent period ending 30 September 2008. This was mainly the result of write-backs of some of the unrealised fair value markdowns on the Issuer's investment portfolio previously recognised in its accounts for financial year ended 30 September 2008 and the first six months of 2009 financial year. Provided that global financial markets continue to experience the current momentum, the Issuer expects to continue to claw-back some, but not all, of the previous mark-downs over time.

As a result of the significant reductions in interest rates by the major central banks, the net interest margin for the last financial year declined by €10.7 million or 8.5% year-on-year. In fact, the European Central Bank has lowered its refinancing rate from 4.25% in October 2008 to 1% by May 2009. In consequence, whilst loans and advances are re-priced downwards immediately, certain deposits take longer to re-price due to the fact that their rates are fixed for a specific tenor. Furthermore, in a reducing interest rate scenario, the Issuer experiences rate compression on certain balance sheet items (such as shareholder's equity). Interest margin was also negatively influenced by the increased competition for deposits on the local market. Such competition is expected to remain strong in the coming months.

With the downside risks receding, central banks and governments have indicated that they will start implementing their exit strategies from extreme monetary accommodation and huge fiscal deficits. This means that going forward, interbank interest rates should start to rise. However, official interest rates may still remain low for some time given that inflation remains subdued in most economies.



On the other hand, the Issuer experienced a 10% increase in net commissions and trading income over the previous year. The positive increase was registered in various sectors including foreign trade business, card business, investment banking, stockbroking and fund management and services. Such business is expected to continue to contribute positively to the bottom line, as the global economic scenario continues to improve.

The Issuer has also maintained its pledge to support the local economy and the business community in a responsible manner through the current economic downturn by providing credit to both the corporate and personal sectors. Growth of 6.8% in the loan portfolio was registered whilst preserving credit quality. The Issuer also experienced steady growth in customer deposits amounting to 3.05% over the previous year, notwithstanding fierce competition. The positive momentum in these sectors is expected to be maintained in the current financial year.

During the last financial year, the consolidated accounts of the Issuer include a charge representing its share of losses incurred by its associated entities. Losses incurred were specific to the Middlesea Group. Whereas the operations of Middlesea Insurance and Middlesea Valletta have performed satisfactorily, the operations of Progress Assicurazioni – the Middlesea subsidiary in Italy – have been most unsatisfactory, with substantial losses being reported. A re-capitalisation of the Middlesea Group through a rights issue has resulted in the Issuer raising its total shareholding in Middlesea Insurance to 31.077%.

Through its deliberate and conservative policies the Issuer also maintained high liquidity and strong capital ratios. Liquidity stood at 45% as opposed to the 30% regulatory requirement, whereas a Tier 1 capital ratio of 11.2% and a total capital ratio of 14% were well above European and US banking norms. Similarly, the Issuer's modest loan to deposit ratio at 69% means that the loan book is fully funded by retail liabilities, with no dependence for this purpose on the short term interbank market. Going forward, such prudent management of the balance sheet will continue to be observed."

viii. To amend Section 9.2 of the Registration Document thereby replacing such section with the below:

The following information is extracted from the Group's Audited Financial Statements for the years ended 30 September 2009, 30 September 2008, 30 September 2007 and 30 September 2006.

## SUMMARISED INCOME STATEMENTS

For the year ended 30 September				
	2009 €000	2008 €000	2007 €000	2006 €000
Net interest income	115,371	126,127	129,541	114,389
Net fee and commission income	37,870	32,966	34,487	31,073
Dividend Income	788	860	829	1,179
Trading (losses)/profits	17,236	(39,338)	4,798	16,154
Net gain/(losses) on investment securities & hedging instruments	1,518	(854)	(154)	184
Operating Income	172,783	119,761	169,501	162,979
Staff costs	(48,959)	(47,288)	(45,027)	(43,420)
General administrative expenses	(21,372)	(24,128)	(21,915)	(22,327)
Depreciation and amortisation	(6,724)	(6,354)	(6,976)	(6,641)
Net impairment (losses)/gains	(4,016)	(3,093)	352	(10,741)
Operating Profit	91,712	38,898	95,935	79,850
Share of (losses)/profits of associate & jointly controlled entitiy	(9,894)	1,705	5,795	9,499
Profit before tax	81,818	40,603	101,730	89,349
Income tax expense	(32,403)	(13,821)	(33,195)	(28,337)
Profit for the year	49,415	26,782	68,535	61,012
SUMMARISED BALANCE SHEETS As at 30 September				
The at do doptombol	2009	2008	2007	2006
	€000	€000	€000	€000
Assets				
Investments & short-term funds	2,746,375	2,934,381	2,821,964	2,891,090
Loans and advances to customers	3,245,899	3,039,184	2,621,232	2,299,377
Other assets	224,140	257,603	243,977	227,770
Total Assets	6,216,414	6,231,168	5,687,173	5,418,237
Liabilities				
Debt securities in issue, subordinated liabilities				
& amounts owed to banks	790,087	1,071,375	832,316	1,015,193
Amounts owed to customers	4,766,278	4,625,384	4,303,736	3,898,694
Other liabilities	225,414	141,019	150,063	135,251
Total Liabilities	5,781,779	5,837,778	5,286,115	5,049,138
EQUITY				
Total Equity	434,635	393,390	401,058	369,099
Total Liabilities and Equity	6,216,414	6,231,168	5,687,173	5,418,237



- ix. To amend Section 9.4 of the Registration Document thereby replacing such section with the below:
  - "Profit before taxation amounted to €81.8 million, slightly more than double the amount of profit registered the previous year, mainly due to write-backs of some of the unrealised fair value markdowns on the Issuer's investment portfolio recognised in its accounts for FY 2008 and the first six months of FY 2009;
  - The share of losses of jointly controlled and associated entities at €9.9 million, relates to the Issuer's share of losses incurred by the Middlesea Group in the period under review. Whereas the results of Middlesea Insurance and Middlesea Valletta were satisfactory, the results of its Italian subsidiary Progress Assicurazioni were dismal:
  - Net commission and trading income for the year was 10% above that earned in the previous year. Positive
    performance was registered across the board, including foreign trade business, card services, investment
    banking, stockbroking and fund management and services;
  - Net interest margin for FY 2009 has declined by €10.7 million or 8.5% year on year as a result of the sharp and sustained reduction in interest rates implemented by the ECB in its efforts to encourage liquidity and combat growing recessionary pressures;
  - Operating expenses have been maintained at fractionally below those of FY 2008, as a result of management's implementation of cost control measures, particularly in respect of discretionary expense items;
  - The loan book registered an increase of €207 million or 6.8% over FY 2008, thereby reaching the figure of €3.3 billion at year end;
  - The impairment charge for the year at €4 million is a little under €1 million up on the charge for FY 2008;
  - Customer deposits increased by €141 million over the year to stand at €4.8 billion for FY end 2009;
  - Return on equity stood at 19.8%;
  - Earnings per share amounted to €0.306;
  - Capital Adequacy ratio (statutory minimum 8%) stood at 14%;
  - Liquidity ratio (statutory minimum 30%) stood at 45%;
  - Loans to deposits ratio stood at 69%."
- x. To delete Section 9.5 of the Registration Document.
- xi. To amend Section 10.1 of the Registration Document to the effect that references to Mr Victor J. Cardona shall be replaced by the reference Dr Catherine Formosa and the CV contained in the Section 10.1 of the Registration Document be replaced by the following:-

"Dr Catherine Formosa

Group Company Secretary

Appointed BOV Group Company Secretary in October 2009. Dr Formosa read law at the University of Malta and joined the Bank in June 2000 where she headed the Legal Advice Section at the Bank's Legal Office. She is also the company secretary of Middlesea Valletta Life Assurance Company Limited and secretary to the Bank's Board Committees. Before joining the Bank, Dr Formosa worked at the Tax and Legal Department of PricewaterhouseCoopers."

xii. To amend Section 12.1 of the Registration Document thereby replacing such section with the below:-

"Full historical financial information for the four financial years ended 30 September 2009, 30 September 2008, 30 September 2007 and 30 September 2006 are set out in the financial statements of the Group as audited by Deloitte & Touche. The latest audited financial information available in respect of the Group relates to the financial year ended on 30 September 2009 and was approved for issuance by the Board of Directors on 30 October 2009."

xiii. To amend Section 12.3 of the Registration Document thereby replacing such section with the below:

"There has been no significant change in the financial or trading position of the Issuer or the Group which has occurred since 30 September 2009, being the date of the last audited financial information."

## Advisors to the Issuer:

## **Legal Advisors**

Camilleri Preziosi Level 3, Valletta Buildings South Street Valletta VLT 1103 Malta

## Manager & Registrar

Bank of Valletta p.l.c. 58, Zachary Street Valletta VLT 1130 Malta

## **Sponsor**

Rizzo Farrugia & Co. (Stockbrokers) Ltd Airways House, Third Floor High Street Sliema, SLM 1549 Malta