

For Immediate Release

11th October 2010

Proposed Disposal of the M&T Shareholding Posting of Circular

DUBLIN, Ireland (11th October 2010) – Allied Irish Banks, p.l.c. ("AIB") [NYSE:AIB] announces that it is convening an Extraordinary General Meeting to be held at 11.00 a.m. on 1 November 2010 (the "EGM") to consider and, if thought fit, pass a resolution to approve the proposed disposal of its approximately 22.4% shareholding (the "Shareholding") in M&T Bank Corporation ("M&T").

The Circular, including the EGM Notice convening an EGM of AIB to be held at 11.00 a.m. on 1 November 2010 at Bankcentre, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4, will be posted to shareholders today.

A copy of the Circular will shortly be available to download from the Company's website: <u>www.aibgroup.com/investorrelations</u> and via the National Storage Mechanism, which is located at http://www.hemscott.com/nsm.do.

A copy of the Circular will also shortly be available for inspection at:

Company Announcements Office,

Irish Stock Exchange,

28 Anglesea Street,

Dublin 2,

Ireland.

Tel: + 353 1 6174200.

Notes

1. converted at a rate of US\$1.3856 to €1

Additional Information

This is not a circular or equivalent document. Please read the whole Circular, in particular the risk factors set out in the Circular. You should not rely on any summary information as set out in this announcement.

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Morgan Stanley & Co. Limited and AIB Corporate Finance Limited ("AIB Corporate Finance") are acting as joint financial advisers to AIB in relation to AIB's disposal of its M&T shares. In addition, Morgan Stanley & Co. Limited and Morgan Stanley & Co. International plc are acting as sponsor and corporate broker, respectively, in connection with the disposal.

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This announcement contains "forward-looking statements", within the meaning of Section 27A of the U.S. Securities Act of 1933 (as amended) and Section 21E of the U.S. Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (as amended) regarding the belief or current expectations of AIB, AIB's Directors and other members of its senior management about AIB's business, and the transaction described in this announcement. Generally, words such as "may", "could", "will", "expect", "intend", "estimate", anticipate", "believe", "plan", "seek", "continue" or similar expressions identify forward-looking statements. All statements other than statements of historical fact are, or may be deemed to be, forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance. Rather, they are based on current views and assumptions and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors, many of which are outside the control of AIB and are difficult to predict, that may cause actual results to differ materially from any future results or developments expressed or implied from the forward-looking statements.

The forward-looking statements speak only as of the date of this announcement. Except as required by the Financial Regulator, the Irish Stock Exchange, the FSA, the London Stock Exchange plc or applicable law, AIB does not have any obligation to update or revise publicly any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, further events or otherwise. AIB expressly disclaims any obligation or undertaking to publicly release any updates

or revisions to any forward-looking statement contained in this announcement or incorporated by reference to reflect any change in AIB's expectations with regard thereto or any change in events, conditions or circumstances on which any such statement is based.