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Terms used and not otherwise defined in this announcement have the meaning given to such terms in the circular published by Allied Irish Banks, p.l.c. on 10 October 2017.



6 December 2017

## **ALLIED IRISH BANKS, P.L.C. (“AIB BANK”)**

### **Resolution strategy for AIB Bank and its subsidiaries (“AIB” or the “AIB Group”): High Court approval of the Scheme and the related AIB Bank reduction of capital**

As announced on 2 October 2017, AIB Bank intends to implement a corporate reorganisation pursuant to which a new company, AIB Group plc (“**AIB HoldCo**”) will be introduced as the holding company of the AIB Group. This new corporate structure will be implemented by means of a scheme of arrangement under Chapter 1 of Part 9 of the Companies Act 2014 (and a related reduction of capital of AIB Bank) (the “**Scheme**”).

On 3 November 2017, at the High Court convened Court Meeting and the EGM of AIB Bank, AIB Bank shareholders approved the resolutions necessary to implement the Scheme.

#### **High Court Approval**

AIB Bank is pleased to announce that today, 6 December 2017, the High Court sanctioned the Scheme (including the AIB Bank reduction of capital) on the basis of the terms set out in the Circular (without modification). A formal order confirming the decision of the High Court is expected to be issued shortly (the “**Court Order**”).

#### **Scheme Record Time and Effective Date**

The Scheme will become effective immediately upon the filing of the Court Order with the Companies Registration Office.

It is proposed that the High Court Order will be filed and the Scheme will become effective no later than Friday, 8 December 2017, within the 21 day time period required under the Companies Act 2014.

#### **Application for admission of AIB HoldCo Shares**

Applications have been made by AIB HoldCo for admission of the entire issued ordinary share capital of AIB HoldCo to the primary listing segment of the Official List of the Irish Stock Exchange and to the premium listing segment of the Official List of the FCA and to trading on the Irish Stock Exchange’s Main

Securities Market and the London Stock Exchange's main market for listed securities ("**Main Markets**") (together "**Admission**").

It is expected that Admission will become effective and that dealings in AIB HoldCo Shares on the Main Markets will commence at 8.a.m on Monday, 11 December 2017.

- Ends -

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## **FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS**

This announcement may contain certain forward-looking statements with respect to the financial condition, results of operations and business of the AIB Group and certain plans and objectives of the AIB Bank Board or the AIB HoldCo Board. These forward-looking statements can be identified by the fact that they do not relate only to historical or current facts. Forward-looking statements often use words such as “anticipate”, “target”, “expect”, “estimate”, “intend”, “plan”, “goal”, “believe”, “will”, “may”, “should”, “would”, “could”, their negative or other variations or other words of similar meaning. These statements are based on assumptions and assessments made by the AIB Bank Board or (as the case may be) the AIB HoldCo Board in light of their respective experiences and its perceptions of historical trends, current conditions, expected future developments and other factors they believe appropriate. By their nature, forward-looking statements involve risk and uncertainty and the factors described in the context of such forward-looking statements in this announcement could cause actual results or developments to differ materially from those expressed in, reflected or contemplated in, or implied by, such forward-looking statements. As a result, investors should not rely on such forward-looking statements in making their investment decisions. No representation or warranty is made as to the achievement or reasonableness of, and no reliance should be placed on, such forward-looking statements.

Should one or more of these risks or uncertainties materialise, or should underlying assumptions prove incorrect, actual results may vary materially from those described in this announcement. None of AIB Bank, the AIB Bank Board, AIB HoldCo or the AIB HoldCo Board assume any obligation to update or correct the information contained in this announcement, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except to the extent legally required.

The statements contained in this announcement are made as at the date of this announcement, unless some other time is specified in relation to them, and publication of this announcement shall not give rise to any implication that there has been no change in the facts set out in this announcement since such date. Nothing contained in this announcement shall be deemed to be a forecast, projection or estimate of the future financial performance of the AIB Group except where expressly stated.

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The information contained in this announcement is for background purposes only and does not purport to be full or complete. No reliance may be placed for any purpose on the information contained in this announcement or its accuracy, fairness or completeness.

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## **NOTICE TO INVESTORS IN THE UNITED STATES**

The Scheme relates to the shares of an Irish company (a “foreign private issuer” as defined under Rule 3b-4 under the U.S. Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “**Exchange Act**”)) and is proposed to be made by means of a scheme of arrangement and related reduction of capital of AIB Bank provided for under, and governed by, Irish law. Neither the proxy solicitation rules nor the tender offer rules under the Exchange Act will apply to the Scheme. Accordingly, the AIB HoldCo Shares to be issued pursuant to the Scheme have not been and will not be registered under the U.S. Securities Act of 1933 (the “**Securities Act**”) or under the relevant securities laws of any State or territory or other jurisdiction of the United States, and are expected to be offered in the United States in reliance upon the exemption from the registration requirements of the Securities Act provided by section 3(a)(10) thereof and exemptions provided under the laws of the States of the United States in which eligible Scheme Shareholders may reside.

The AIB HoldCo Shares to be issued under or in connection with the Scheme to a Scheme Shareholder who is neither an affiliate, for the purpose of the Securities Act, of AIB Bank or AIB HoldCo on or prior to the time the Scheme becomes effective nor an affiliate of AIB HoldCo at the Scheme Effective Time would not be “restricted securities” under the Securities Act. Scheme Shareholders who are affiliates of AIB Bank or AIB HoldCo on or prior to the Scheme Effective Time or affiliates of AIB HoldCo after the Scheme Effective Time may, under Rule 145(d) under the Securities Act, be subject to timing, manner of sale and volume restrictions on the sale of AIB HoldCo Shares received in connection with the Scheme.

The Scheme is subject to the disclosure requirements and practices applicable in Ireland to schemes of arrangement and capital reductions, which differ from the disclosure and other requirements of U.S. securities laws.

None of the securities referred to in this announcement have been approved or disapproved by the US Securities and Exchange Commission, any state securities commission in the United States or any other US regulatory authority, nor have such authorities passed upon or determined the adequacy or accuracy of the information contained in this announcement. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offence in the United States.