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POSSIBLE SALE OF US CARD AND RETAIL SERVICES BUSINESS

The Directors of HSBC Holdings plc ("HSBC") note the recent press speculation concerning a possible sale of HSBC's card and retail services business in the United States (the "Business").

HSBC confirms that it is in discussions regarding a possible sale of the Business. These discussions are ongoing and no decision has yet been made to proceed with any transaction.

HSBC will make a further statement if or when appropriate.

By Order of the Board
R G Barber
Group Company Secretary

The Board of Directors of HSBC Holdings plc as at the date of this announcement are: D J Flint, S T Gulliver, S A Catz†, L M L Cha†, M K T Cheung†, J D Coombe†, R A Fairhead†, A A Flockhart, J W J Hughes-Hallett†, W S H Laidlaw†, J R Lomax†, I J Mackay, G Morgan†, N R N Murthy†, Sir Simon Robertson†, J L Thornton† and Sir Brian Williamson†.

† Independent non-executive Director

HSBC Holdings plc

Incorporated in England with limited liability. Registered in England: number 617987

Registered Office and Group Head Office:

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