NEWS RELEASE

Verona, 21 October 2016

Moody's: update on Banco Popolare's ratings

We herewith inform that yesterday evening Moody's Investor Service concluded the review for upgrade on our Group's rating initiated on 13 April 2016, increasing the long-term deposit rating from "Ba2" to "Ba1" (with stable outlook), the long-term senior debt rating from "Ba3" to "Ba2" (with negative outlook) and the Baseline Credit Assessment from "b2" to "b1".

This rating action follows the approval of the Merger Plan between Banco Popolare and Banca Popolare di Milano, which was given by the EGMs of the two banks on 15 October.

For further information, please see the press release published by Moody's Investors Service.

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