

25 August 2011

PRESS RELEASE

PROLONGATION OF SWAP FACILITY AGREEMENT WITH THE BANK OF ENGLAND

The Governing Council of the European Central Bank (ECB) has decided, in agreement with the Bank of England, to extend the liquidity swap arrangement with the Bank of England up to 28 September 2012. The swap facility agreement established on 17 December 2010 had been authorised until the end of September 2011.

The related announcement by the Bank of England is available at:

<http://www.bankofengland.co.uk>.

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