



PRESS RELEASE

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Assessment of the recapitalization plans as foreseen by the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

On 28th September 2012 Bank of Spain released the results of the bottom-up stress test carried out by Oliver Wyman on a set of 17 Spanish banking groups, in compliance with the terms subscribed in the Memorandum of Understanding within the framework of the financial assistance programme for the capitalisation of the Spanish banking sector.

Leaving aside the pre-defined group of institutions already owned by the Fund for Orderly Bank Restructuring (FROB), the rest of institutions and groups with capital needs resulting from the stress test have submitted to Bank of Spain, and to the services of the European Commission under the terms of the MoU, a plan detailing the capital generating actions proposed to be implemented in order to meet the additional required owned funds, together with their respective implementation terms.

As a consequence of the analysis of the aforementioned plans, Bank of Spain has reached the conclusion, which is shared by the services of the European Commission (DG Competition), that two of these institutions, Banco Popular and Ibercaja will be able to meet their capital needs by their own means in accordance with the terms laid down in the MoU by the end of December 2012. The rest of them, Banco Mare Nostrum, Caja3, Ceiss and Liberbank, are expected to resort to public support within the framework of their capitalisation processes.

Banco Mare Nostrum, Caja3, Ceiss and Liberbank have submitted restructuring plans to the Bank of Spain and the European Commission, as required under Spanish legislation and European Union State Aid rules and as foreseen by the MoU, on which a decision should be taken before the end of the year.

This will ensure that all Spanish banks covered by the stress test will be fully recapitalised by the end of the year.

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