

# Comunicato Stampa

DIFFUSO A CURA DEL SERVIZIO SEGRETERIA PARTICOLARE

Rome, 23 December 2013

The Extraordinary General Meeting of Shareholders of the Bank of Italy held today approved the amendments to the Bank's Statute that will bring it into line with the provisions of Decree Law 133/2013.

The Governor's address to the EGM explaining the proposed changes was immediately distributed to the press and should be referred to for further details. The changes had been examined and discussed by the Board of Directors and the Board of Auditors on 20 December last.

The Governor pointed out that the parliamentary procedure for the ratification of Decree Law 133/2012 is not yet concluded. Consequently, some amendments to the Decree already proposed by Parliament - specifically, the ceiling on individual percentage shareholdings in the Bank, the time limit given to each shareholder to dispose of any shareholdings in excess, and the requirement that institutions eligible to hold shares in the Bank's capital have their registered head office in Italy - are incorporated in the new text by means of a simple reference to the Decree Law. Once the Decree has been ratified an EGM will be re-called to approve any other changes needed to ensure that the Statute is fully compliant with the law.

The Decree Law fixes the increase in the Bank's capital at €7.5 billion, which is the upper limit of the €5-7.5 billion band suggested in the technical report drawn up with the assistance of three high-profile independent experts and submitted by the Bank to the Ministry for the Economy and Finance on 23 October 2013. The Bank's capital will consist of bearer shares of the value stated in the Decree Law; the present shares will be cancelled and new shares will be issued.

The changes in the shares will have no effect on the "supervisory capital" of the banks with shareholdings on 31 December 2013, the reference date of the Eurosystem's Asset Quality Review.