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## NB Kommunlån to merge with NB Hypotek

Nordbanken's Board of Directors has decided to combine the operations of its subsidiaries NB Kommunlån AB and NB Hypotek AB. For this purpose the companies will be merged, and all long-term financing will be concentrated in NB Hypotek.

The merger is part of steps being taken within the Group to coordinate subsidiaries engaging in a similar type of business. It is facilitated by the fact that Moody's Investors Service has assigned NB Hypotek the same long-term-debt rating as that held by NB Kommunlån, i.e. Aa3. This will make it possible to raise funding for loans to the municipal sector on attractive terms also in the future.

The merger process will be completed during the autumn.

Further information:

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*MeritaNordbanken, one of the leading bank groups in the Nordic region, provides a broad spectrum of financial products and services to more than 6.5 million private individuals and 400,000 companies and institutions. Its service network comprises 800 branch offices in Finland and Sweden, some 1,000 Swedish post offices and a wide range of effective telephone and Internet banking facilities. More than a million customers use MeritaNordbanken's network banking services. Customer savings under management total almost EUR 45 billion. Outside the Nordic region, the Group has a presence in 19 countries. The Group's two holding companies, Merita and Nordbanken Holding, are listed in Helsinki and Stockholm, respectively.*