

Helsinki/Oslo/Stockholm, November 12, 1999

MeritaNordbanken extends the offer period to acquire all the shares in Christiania Bank

Having noted that a parliamentary decision concerning its offer to acquire all the shares in Christiania Bank og Kreditkasse will not take place within the original offer period, MeritaNordbanken has decided to extend the offer period further to Friday, December 3, 1999, 5.00 p.m.

MeritaNordbanken has offered to pay NOK 44.00 in cash for each share in Christiania Bank. The original offer period stated in the offer document of September 24, 1999 was to end on October 29, 1999 at 5.00 p.m. In a press release issued on October 28, 1999, it was announced that the offer period had been extended to Friday, November 12, 1999, 5.00 p.m.

Now that the offer period has been further extended to December 3, 1999, the shareholders' withdrawal rights as described in the offer document have also been extended accordingly.

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Not to be distributed in Australia, Canada and Japan.

MeritaNordbanken, the leading bank group 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. The Group's service network comprises some 800 branch offices in Finland and Sweden, over 1,000 Swedish post offices and a wide range of effective telephone and Internet banking facilities. More than a million customers use the Group's electronic banking services. Household savings under management total almost EUR 45 billion. Outside the Nordic region, the Group has a presence in 19 countries. The two holding companies, Merita Plc and Nordbanken Holding AB (publ), are listed in Helsinki and Stockholm, respectively.

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