



AIB Group Results 1999

16th February 2000

Profit before taxation EUR1,132m

Earnings per share EUR 89.5c

Attributable profit up 20% to EUR 761m

Second half operating profit up 10% on first half

Net Interest Margin stable in second half at 3.27%

Total dividend up 20%

Return on equity of 23.5%

Commenting on the results, AIB Group Chief Executive Tom Mulcahy said:

‘I am pleased to report a 20% growth in basic earnings per share and a 20% growth in the total dividend. This leads to a five-year compound growth in earnings per share of 18% and dividend per share of 19%. AIB Group has benefited from its very strong position in Ireland, excellent UK results, its re-positioned and newly branded franchise in USA and the creation of a new division in Poland where we are targeting a 10% share of the Polish market.

‘These strong results have been achieved while investing in technology, infrastructure development in Poland and new business initiatives throughout the Group.

‘Our scale and our diversified business gives us a well rounded platform to avail of the many opportunities e-Business will bring.’

Allied Irish Banks, p.l.c.

Allied Irish Banks, p.l.c. (AIB Group) today announced its results for the year ended 31 December 1999.

Group profit before taxation amounted to EUR1,132 million compared with EUR1,049 million for the year ended 31 December 1998. Group profit before disposals amounted to

EUR1,115 million and was up 10% on the 1998 profit before disposals figure of EUR1,017 million.

Profit attributable to ordinary shareholders amounted to EUR761 million, an increase of 20%. Basic earnings per share for the year amounted to EUR89.5c, also an increase of 20%.

Dividend

The Board is recommending a final dividend payable on 20 April 2000 of EUR21.85c per share to shareholders on the company's register of members at the close of business on 10 March 2000. The final dividend, together with the interim dividend of EUR11.85c per share, amounts to a total dividend of EUR33.70c per share, an increase of 20% on 1998.

Annual General Meeting

The annual general meeting will be held at Bankcentre, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4 at 12 noon on Wednesday 19 April 2000.