



Preliminary Announcement of Results 2002
19th February 2003

Highlights AIB Group Annual Results 2002

Adjusted earnings per share EUR 123.0c, up 6% over 2001 market base(1) of EUR 116.0c
Attributable profit – 1,037m, up 4%(2)
Return on equity 22.4%
Tier 1 capital ratio 6.9%
Total dividend of EUR 49.06c, up 12%
Income/Costs gap + 2%(3)
Operating profit before provisions up 10%(2)
Credit provision charge equals 0.37% of average loans
Other provisions increased to – 57m
Divisional operating profit before provisions
"AIB Bank ROI up 5%
Banking operations up 11%
Ark Life down 32%
"USA up 4%
"AIB Bank GB & NI up 9%
"Capital Markets up 14%
"Poland up 36%(3)

AIB Group Chief Executive Michael Buckley said: "2002 was a year of slowing economies and difficult financial markets. AIB also had to deal with the foreign exchange trading fraud in Allfirst. The 6% growth in adjusted earnings per share represents a strong performance in these circumstances. Strong growth in customer revenues was combined with our longstanding prudent approach to risk assessment.

"Business volume growth in Ireland, Britain and Northern Ireland was very buoyant with significant market share gains. Our operating and credit risk management performance in Poland was good in a challenging business environment. The Allfirst business remains stable as we finalise the transition to M&T Bank. We look forward to another strong underlying profit performance in 2003."

Footnotes (1) to (3) relate to performance highlights above

(1) 2001 adjusted to exclude the exceptional item (exceptional foreign exchange dealing losses – see note 6(b) for further details), the profit from the sale of AIB's interest in KCH, Poland restructuring costs and the additional unallocated credit provision.

(2) Excluding the exceptional item in 2001.

(3) Excluding restructuring and integration costs in continuing businesses.

(4) Exceptional foreign exchange dealing losses (see note 6(b)).

Forward-Looking Statements

A number of statements we make in this document will not be based on historical fact, but will be "forward-looking" statements within the meaning of the United States Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Actual results may differ materially from those projected in the "forward-looking" statements. Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those in the

?forward-looking? statements include, but are not limited to, global, national, regional economic conditions, levels of market interest rates, credit or other risks of lending and investment activities, competitive and regulatory factors and technology change.

Adjusted earnings per share

The 2001 results included the profit from the sale of AIB?s interest in Keppel Capital Holdings Ltd (?KCH?), Poland restructuring costs, an additional unallocated credit provision. The following table shows the impact of the above items on the 2001 adjusted earnings per share as a base for 2002 comparison with 2001.

	Year	Year	
	2002	2001	
		before	%
Adjusted earnings per share		exceptional(4)	Change
As reported	123.0c	119.4c	3
Profit from the sale of AIB?s interest in KCH	?	10.8c	
Poland restructuring costs	?	(2.3c)	
Additional unallocated credit provision	?	(5.1c)	
Net impact on adjusted earnings per share	?	3.4c	
Underlying	123.0c	116.0c	6

Allied Irish Banks, p.l.c. (AIB Group) today announced its results for the year ended 31 December 2002.

Profit attributable to ordinary shareholders amounted to ? 1,037 million, a 114% increase over the year ended 31 December 2001. Profit attributable to ordinary shareholders in 2001 was reduced by exceptional foreign exchange dealing losses of ? 513 million after taxation. Basic earnings per share for the year amounted to EUR 119.4c, an increase of 112%. Adjusted earnings per share, which excludes goodwill amortisation and the exceptional item in 2001, increased by 3% to EUR 123.0c.

Dividend

The Board is recommending a final dividend payable on 25 April 2003 of EUR 31.81c per share to shareholders on the Company?s register of members at the close of business on 28 February 2003. The final dividend, together with the interim dividend of EUR 17.25c per share, amounts to a total dividend of EUR 49.06c per share, an increase of 12% on 2001.

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