PRESS RELEASE

DEXIA CREDIOP : rating action by Moody's

On May 10th, 2011, Moody's announced a downgrading of Dexia Crediop's long term rating to Baa2 from A2 and of its short term rating to Prime-2 from Prime-1.

Dexia Crediop takes note of the conclusions reached by the rating Agency and strongly regrets that key elements have obviously not been factored in by Moody's. In any case, Dexia Crediop wishes to point out that this downgrading is not expected to have a material impact on Dexia Crediop outstanding commitments.

In our view, the following elements should have deserved closer attention:

- The proven superior asset quality of Dexia Crediop's portfolio: this portfolio is mainly composed of loans to Italian local authorities and supported by reported non performing loans of only 0,002% of the total loan book, with no credit write-off of any significance in recent years.

- The strong solvency position of Dexia Crediop, fostered by the deleveraging process: as at 31st December, 2010, Dexia Crediop consolidated Tier 1 Ratio stood at 15,07% (against less than 9% in 2008), and consolidated Total Capital Ratio at 20,56%.

- The liquidity gap decreased by some 10 billion euro (close to a 50% reduction) between end-2008 and end-2010, thanks to the deleveraging policy carried out by Dexia Crediop. Moreover, the recourse to ECB funding also decreased by 50% in the same period and in addition the bank has implemented a successful diversification of its funding sources.

- The financial conditions of new commercial production 2009-2010 were consistent with the cost of funding raised in the same period, in effect delivering a net margin at an historical high. Furthermore, the development of fee-generating business will continue, in line with Dexia Crediop's refocusing strategy.

- The operating costs declined by 18% since 31st December, 2008, as a result of ongoing cost control.

Dexia Crediop, which remains a core entity in the Dexia Group, will benefit, if necessary, from the group's financial support until it is disposed of following the European Commission decision. The statement made by Moody's about a potential weakening of Dexia Crediop's parental support is therefore incorrect and may be detrimental to the interest of the Group and Dexia Crediop.

Finally, the unaudited results for 1Q 2011 are strongly positive and meet the expectations of the financial plan.

Given the above positive items we expect the transformation of Dexia Crediop's business model to deliver a sustainable level of profitability over the long run not reflected in the conclusions of Moody's recent review of this company.

Rome, 11th May, 2011

Dexia Crediop *is the bank founded in 1919 as Consorzio di Credito per le Opere Pubbliche with the aim of directing domestic savings to finance public works and infrastructures for the development of the Country. For over ninety years Dexia Crediop is the reference point in Italy for the central government and territorial entities and for companies directly connected with them,for companies that manage local public services and businesses that invest in energy, infrastructure and transport sectors in Italy. Dexia Crediop is 70% controlled by the Franco-Belgian bank Dexia and owned by Banca Popolare di Milano, Banco Popolare and Banca Popolare dell'Emilia Romagna with a 10% share each.*