

**PRESS RELEASE**

**Draft Amendments to the Articles of Association**

Modena, 12 July 2016. Notice is hereby given that at today's meeting, the Board of Directors of BPER Bank, with the approval of the Board of Statutory Auditors, in accordance with the project of transformation of Bank's legal form from a cooperative to a joint-stock company, approved on 6 October 2015, has approved draft amendments to the Articles of Association to be submitted to the General Meeting of Members that will be called to decide on the transformation.

The draft includes measures designed, on the one hand, to eliminate certain aspects that are typical of cooperatives, being inconsistent with the different structure due to be adopted, and, on the other, to introduce certain refinements that should make the governance mechanisms even more effective in light of the size and complexity of the Bank, also taking into account industry best practices, with particular reference to those listed banks that are joint-stock companies.

The draft approved by the Board of Directors will be submitted to the Bank of Italy for its assessment, as required by current supervisory regulations.

The new text of the Articles of Association will be submitted to the General Meeting which is expected to be held in the last quarter of this year as provided for in the transformation plan. A detailed report explaining the project will be communicated to the market as required by current regulations.

**BANCA POPOLARE DELL'EMILIA ROMAGNA**  
Società cooperativa

The press release is also available in the 1INFO storage device.

**Contacts:**

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**Investor Relations**

**Gilberto Borghi**

Tel. (+39/059 2022194)

[gilberto.borghi@bper.it](mailto:gilberto.borghi@bper.it)

**General Secretariat**

**Emanuele Vasirani**

Tel. (+39/059 2022220)

[emanuele.vasirani@bper.it](mailto:emanuele.vasirani@bper.it)

**External Relations**

**Eugenio Tangerini**

Tel. (+39)059/2021330

[eugenio.tangerini@bper.it](mailto:eugenio.tangerini@bper.it)

[www.bper.it](http://www.bper.it) – [www.gruppobper.it](http://www.gruppobper.it)

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*This is a translation into English of the original in Italian. The Italian text shall prevail over the English version.*