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Bank of Ireland Announces New Appointment to Court of Directors

8 December 1998

Mr Roy Bailie, OBE has been appointed to the Court of Directors of Bank of Ireland with effect from 1 January 1999. Mr Bailie is Chairman of W & G Baird Holdings Ltd, a privatly owned printing group based in Northern Ireland and Chairman of the Northern Ireland Tourist Board. He is also a director of the Bank of England and UTV plc.

Mr Bailie has been a member of the Northern Ireland Advisory Board of the Bank of Ireland since 1994.

8 December 1998

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Mr Brian Williamson Leaves Bank of Ireland Court of Directors

24 November 1998

Mr R. Brian Williamson, a Non-Executive Director of Bank of Ireland, has advised that he intends to resign from the Court of Directors with effect from 30 November 1998 in order to devote more time to his new role as Chairman of LIFFE, The London International Financial Futures and Options Exchange. Mr Willamson was first appointed to the Court in 1990.

24 November 1998

For further information:

David Holden, Head of Group Public Affairs 01-604 3833

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Bank of Ireland Announces Sale of Interests in Citizens to Royal Bank of Scotland Group

4 September 1998

Bank of Ireland Group ("Bank of Ireland") today announced that it had sold its 23.5% shareholding and other interests in Citizens Financial Group ("Citizens") to the Royal Bank of Scotland Group ("RBOS") for an aggregate consideration of US\$762.5 million (IR£544.6 million), in cash, comprised of US\$752.5 million in respect of its 23.5% shareholding and US\$10 million in respect of unrealised tax losses held by Citizens.

The sale to RBOS took place under the terms of the stockholder agreement entered into between Bank of Ireland and RBOS at the time of the merger of Bank of Ireland's New England retail banking interests with Citizens. Bank of Ireland also disposed of Floating Rate Capital Securities that it held in Citizens to RBOS (at par and including interest due) for US\$35.5 million.

The sale completes the withdrawal by Bank of Ireland from its US retail banking interests in New England and will result in an estimated exceptional profit before taxation of c.IR£153 million for the six month period ending 30th September 1998, equivalent to an estimated exceptional increase in EPS of c.IR28p. In addition, after writing back goodwill previously written off to reserves, the transaction results in an improvement to Bank of Ireland's shareholders funds of c.IR£345 million.

Maurice Keane, Group Chief Executive of Bank of Ireland commented,

"We have enjoyed an excellent relationship with RBOS and Citizens management over the last two years, during which the value of our investment in Citizens has increased

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substantially. We believe US\$762.5 million represents a fair and reasonable valuation of our interests in Citizens, and we have completed our withdrawal from retail banking in New England on a positive note."

Citizens is headquartered in Providence, Rhode Island, USA. It has banking operations in Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Rhode Island. Bank of Ireland's investment in Citizens is recorded as an associated undertaking and was valued at US\$435 million in April 1996. Under UK and Irish GAAP, Bank of Ireland's share of profits before taxation in relation to its investment in Citizens for the year ended 31st March 1998 was IR£55.5 million and its share of net assets at 31st March 1998 was IR£181.7 million. Pending investment in new businesses, the proceeds from the sale will be used to fund Bank of Ireland's existing businesses.

4 September 1998

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As Paul D'Alton is off-site, please route enquiries through David Holden in the first instance.

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Bank of Ireland Exercises
Option to Require Royal Bank
of Scotland Group to Purchase
its 23.5% Shareholding in
Citizens

14 August 1998

Bank of Ireland announces that it served notice yesterday on Royal Bank Group exercising its option, which can be withdrawn at Bank of Ireland's discretion, to require Royal Bank Group to purchase all of Bank of Ireland's shares in Citizens for cash.

The stockholders agreement entered into between Bank of Ireland and Royal Bank Group in April 1996 in relation to their joint ownership of Citizens provides Bank of Ireland with an option to enable it to require Royal Bank Group to acquire its shareholding in Citizens at any time after April 1997.

A process is now underway to determine the value at which a transfer would take place. A further announcement will be made if and when appropriate.

For further information please contact:

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Bank of Ireland, Perot Systems, Launch Joint Technology Compan

30 July 1998

DUBLIN, Ireland, 30 July 1998 - In a move to strengthen its financial technology leadership and to exploit the growing European market for IT (information technology) services, Bank of Ireland today announced the formation of a joint technology venture with Perot Systems Corporation, the Dallas-based computer services company.

Platform For Europe

The new entity - called PS Information Resource (Ireland) Ltd - will initially focus on enhancing and extending the data centre operations of Bank of Ireland. The intention is to not only remain as a technology provider to Bank of Ireland, but to extend this and related services to third party clients contracting with Perot Systems throughout Europe.

"Over time, the venture's
Cabinteely-based data centre will
provide technology operations
management services to companies
throughout Europe," predicted Pat
McDowell, deputy group chief
executive of Bank of Ireland. "With the
advent of EMU and a single currency,
the potential for pan-European
services is enormous. Our objective is
to be at the forefront of
technology-enabled services"

Under the terms of the joint venture, PS Information will be a jointly owned entity providing earnings to both Bank of Ireland and Perot Systems. It will be overseen by a board of directors composed of equal representation from 6-6-6-6-6-6-6-6

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both parent companies. The new company will be run by a management team drawn from Perot Systems and Bank of Ireland under chief executive John Furniss of Perot Systems.

Job Creation, Not Cost Cutting

Some 204 bank IT staff will transfer to the new company and the business plan envisages that employee numbers will grow by 342 over the next five years as PS Information takes on third-party work from Irish and other European companies.

Announcing the details of the joint venture, Tanaiste, and Minister for Enterprise, Trade & Employment, Mary Harney praised the innovative approach by both parties.

"Partnerships such as this between a major Irish company and a global technology specialist are of major significance in developing internationally tradable skills and in generating employment in the information technology world. I applaud those involved at Bank of Ireland, Perot Systems and at Enterprise Ireland," she said. "By positioning Ireland as a hub for the delivery of value-added IT services, PS Information will undoubtedly open up many opportunities."

Ross Perot, chairman & chief executive officer of Perot Systems said,

"This is a win-win situation for Perot Systems and Bank of Ireland. PS Information will be a leader in operations management, as the technology environment transforms from the mainframe data centres of old to the network-based world of the future. It will be our privilege to work with a pre-eminent partner such as Bank of Ireland. Together, we will create a European computing utility with the ability to serve industries across Europe and address problems with technology-enabled solutions."

"Like Perot Systems' strategic partnership with Swiss Bank Corporation (now UBS AG) announced in 1996, this venture is another example of Perot Systems' strategy of forming innovative alliances with key partners worldwide," said John King, head of Perot Systems' Global Financial Services division.

He continued:

"This important business relationship, which will expand over time, is about creating revenue and jobs, and is not the cost-cutting, job-elimination model of simple outsourcing."

Software Development & Consulting

Mr Perot also announced plans for the establishment of a separate Perot Systems office in Dublin that will provide services to the bank and other European clients. Plans for this facility grew out of discussions with the IDA regarding the possibility of establishing an Irish-based IT export business. It is estimated that up to 156 new jobs will be created in this operation.

A wholly-owned Perot Systems entity, the Irish office will focus on the growing areas of Internet/intranet and network-centric computing, as well as customer information management technologies, client-server computing and IT consulting and will provide these services to clients in several industries across Europe.

International Expansion

Today's announcement further widens Perot Systems' presence in Europe, which now accounts for more than a third of the company's annual revenue. With offices and subsidiaries in France, Germany, The Netherlands, Switzerland and the UK, Perot Systems services such leading European companies as Swiss Bank Corporation/UBS AG, British Telecom, East Midlands Electricity, and KLM.

Perot Systems, based in Dallas, Texas, is a leading information technology services and business transformation company with 1997 revenue of more than US\$780 million. Perot Systems serves major clients in the financial services, healthcare, energy, manufacturing, telecommunications and travel/transportation industries in North America, Europe and Asia. Perot Systems has more than 5,600 employees worldwide.

Bank of Ireland is the leading financial services group in Ireland with assets of almost IR£40 billion (US\$54 billion) and 14,500 staff worldwide. For the year ended 31 March 1998 the Bank reported pre-tax profits of IR£530 million (US\$722)

million). The Bank is quoted on the stock exchanges in Dublin, London and New York.

Bank of Ireland has a 40% share of the retail banking market in Ireland and operates a number of business units and financial subsidiaries providing services ranging from life assurance to stockbroking, from asset management to mortgages.

Outside Ireland, Bank of Ireland has a strong presence in the UK mortgage sector, through its ownership of Bristol & West, one of the top ten building societies. The Bank owns a 23.5% shareholding in Citizens Finance Group, the third largest retail bank in New England and a top 50 US bank. The Bank also has a growing business in global asset management, particularly in North America and Australia.

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More information on Perot Systems can be found through the World Wide Web at www.perotsystems.com

More information on Bank of Ireland can be found through http://www.bankofireland.ie

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Citizens Financial Group Results For The Nine Months to 30 June 1998

28 July 1998

Citizens Financial Group, in which Bank of Ireland has a 23.5% shareholding, has reported US GAAP earnings of US\$150.5 million after tax for the nine months to 30 June 1998. This compares with US\$142.3 million for the comparable period in 1997 which included an after tax gain of US\$27.8 million from the sale of mortgage servicing rights. Excluding this gain operating earnings increased by 31%. Profits before tax and exceptional items were US\$229.6 million in US GAAP (Irish GAAP US\$269.0 million) compared to US\$190.8 million in US GAAP (Irish GAAP US\$224.8 million) for the equivalent period in 1997.

Total Assets were US\$17.0 billion up 8% on June 1997 reflecting continued asset growth and the acquisition of The Bank of New Haven in August 1997.

Citizens is headquartered in Providence, Rhode Island. It has 274 branch offices, operating as Citizens Bank in Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Rhode Island.

For further information:

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Form 20-F Filing With SEC

24 July 1998

In relation to its listing of American Depository Receipts (ADRs) on the New York Stock Exchange, Bank of Ireland filed with the US Securities and Exchange Commission, on 17 July 1998, its Annual Report on Form 20-F pursuant to the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934.

For further information:

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Bank of Ireland Stock Alternative Scheme

10 July 1998

Bank of Ireland has announced that 52% of its Stockholders have elected to take new units of Ordinary Stock in lieu of part or all of their Final Dividend for 1997/98 under the Bank's Stock Alternative Scheme.

As a result, the total cash dividend to be paid today, 10 July 1998, is reduced by IR£20.7 million (25.3%) and 1,583,656 new units of Ordinary Stock have been created.

The Stock Exchange has granted permission for admission of the new units of Ordinary Stock to the Official List and dealing in the new units are expected to begin today, 10 July 1998.

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Lifetime Announces Record Sales For 6 Months to June 1998

9 July 1998

Lifetime Assurance, the bancassurance arm of Bank of Ireland, today announced very strong figures for the first half of 1998. Total regular premium sales amounted to £17.5 million, an increase of almost 70% on the same period last year. At £66.9 million, sales of single premium products were up by over 100% on the first half of 1997.

Sales of investment products were particularly positive, reflecting consumer demand for products offering good returns in a low interest rate environment. Sales of regular premium investment products (PIPs and PEPs) increased by well over 100% to £9.9 million (£4.1 million in the 6 months to June 1997).

Sales of core life assurance products also showed substantial growth, rising to £2.4 million, despite a sluggish market for these products.

Commenting on the performance of the life market, Mr Roy Keenan, managing director of Lifetime, said that it was a matter of some concern that even with the buoyancy in the economy, consumers are not addressing their life assurance needs, even though market research indicates that many are seriously under-insured.

Pension sales continued to move ahead with growth of 15% on last June. Awareness of the need to make personal provision for retirement is increasing all the time and this is a very positive development. The proposals in the National Pensions Policy Document should further increase awareness and pave the way for Ireland to avoid the "Pensions Time Bomb" that is a matter of major concern for many of our European

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neighbours.

"However, while more and more consumers are taking steps to address their retirement income needs by taking out pensions, it is vital that attention is paid to the adequacy of such pension provisions," said Mr Keenan. "The act of buying a pension is not enough - sufficient funds must be put by if desired standards of living are to be maintained after retirement."

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Bank of Ireland Annual General Court

1 JULY 1998

OPENING STATEMENT BY THE GOVERNOR, MR. HOWARD E. KILROY

Fellow Stockholders of Bank of Ireland,

Welcome to the 1998 Annual General Court. It is a pleasure to see you here in such numbers to celebrate the continuing success of the Bank at the end of a vintage year.

From a business perspective, 1997/98 has been an excellent year for our Group. Our core businesses have performed superbly and our recent acquisitions - Bristol & West and New Ireland - have fully justified our investment in them. Your interests have been significantly enhanced by the Group's investment in Britain, which was completed just after last year's Annual General Court. Bristol & West, which now incorporates Bank of Ireland Mortgages, contributed profits to the Group of IR£92.3 million for the eight month period from end July 1997 to March 31 1998 - a very satisfactory out turn which met our best expectations. New Ireland, the acquisition of which was completed in December 1997, also had an excellent start as part of the Group and has traded very well in the opening months of the current year.

Since last year's AGC, the Group has more than doubled its total assets. The rapid growth in our share price also saw us double our market capitalisation Our very strong financial performance allowed us to increase the dividend by 30% - a gross equivalent of 16.5% allowing for the impact of the reduced tax credit. We have announced our intention to have regard to the elimination of the tax credit next year, even if this should result in reduced dividend cover.

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Dividend policy is, of course, a reflection of our view of the long-term potential of the Group. This year, we reported a 34% increase in pre-tax profits - a proportion of which came from new businesses, but with a healthy share generated by volume increases in our established enterprises in Ireland and elsewhere. We are gaining the benefits of the buoyancy in the Irish economy and we are also very well positioned in the business sectors in which we have elected to compete abroad. There is an encouraging momentum to our business which is evident in current year trading and which gives us cause for continued optimism regarding the immediate and medium term future.

Needless to say, banks are particularly susceptible to the economic and business environments in which they find themselves and Bank of Ireland is fortunate that its principal businesses are all located in economies which are enjoying varying degrees of success at present. We hope that this will remain the case and we have every reason to expect that Ireland, in particular, will continue its economic progress.

The achievement of Ireland's political leaders, North and South, in negotiating the Good Friday agreement and then securing such a strong electoral mandate for it, underpins future economic progress. Ireland still has much untapped economic potential which will be released in a peaceful environment in which greater cross-border economic co-operation can be achieved. We will do everything possible to facilitate business linkages between the two parts of the country and we expect to see an acceleration of such activity as the peace becomes more firmly rooted.

Before we get to the business of the meeting, I want to take this opportunity to formally welcome Maurice Keane to his first Annual General Court as Group Chief Executive. As you know, Maurice took up the reins on 1 February this year following the retirement of Pat Molloy and his tenure has started in fine style as the Group goes from strength to strength. I would also like to welcome Lord Armstrong of Illminster and John Burke, the former Chairman and current Chief Executive respectively of Bristol & West.

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Citizens Financial Group Half-Year Results

7 May 1998

Citizens Financial Group, in which Bank of Ireland has a 23.5% shareholding, has reported US GAAP earnings of US\$100.5 million after tax for the six months to March 31 1998. This compares with US\$97.1 million for the comparable period in 1997 which included an after tax gain of US\$27.8 million from the sale of mortgage servicing rights. Excluding this gain operating earnings increased by 45%. Profits before tax and exceptional items were US\$151.1 million in US GAAP (Irish GAAP US\$178.9 million) compared to US\$115.8 million in US GAAP (Irish GAAP US\$135.5 million) for the equivalent period in 1997.

Total Assets were US\$16.8 billion up 8% on March 1997 reflecting strong asset growth and the acquisition of The Bank of New Haven in August 1997.

Citizens is headquartered in Providence, Rhode Island. It has 274 branch offices, operating as Citizens Bank in Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Rhode Island.

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Citizens to Acquire Branches of Connecticut Bank

29 April 1998

Citizens Financial Group Inc (Citizens) which is 23.5% owned by Bank of Ireland, has announced that it has agreed to acquire four of the five branches in New Haven County, Connecticut, currently owned by Branford Savings Bank, the Connecticut subsidiary of Long Island based North Fork Bancorp. The consideration will be approximately US\$6 million payable in cash. This represents a premium of approximately 9% on deposits of US\$67 million. Also included in the sale is US\$6 million of consumer loans, mostly home equity lines.

The acquisition will strengthen Citizens' presence in the New Haven area and is in line with Citizens' strategy of selectively expanding its branch network in Southern Connecticut. It is the fifth acquisition by Citizens in Connecticut since 1993 and brings the number of branches there to 43.

Completion, which is subject to regulatory approval, is expected to take place later this summer. Citizens will finance the acquisition from its own resources.

Bank of Ireland owns 23.5% of Citizens, with the remaining 76.5% being owned by The Royal Bank of Scotland Group.

29 April 1998

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Citizens Financial Group Expands in Massachusetts

7 April 1998

Citizens Financial Group Inc ("Citizens"), which is 23.5% owned by Bank of Ireland, has agreed to acquire Woburn National Corporation, parent of Woburn National Bank for US\$45 million, payable in cash. This price represents around 2.6 times book value.

Woburn National Bank, a federally chartered commercial bank, currently has around \$160 million of assets and operates from 5 branches in and around Woburn, north of Boston, Massachusetts. The acquisition will strengthen Citizens' supercommunity franchise in Massachusetts to 105 branches and around US\$5.5 billion of assets, and improve its commercial business mix.

Completion, which is subject to shareholder approval and regulatory consents, is expected to take place in the late summer of 1998. Citizens will finance the acquisition from its own resources.

Bank of Ireland owns 23.5% of Citizens, with the remaining 76.5% being owned by The Royal Bank of Scotland Group.

7 April 1998

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