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**Bank of London and The Middle East plc (BLME)
Announces Intention to List on NASDAQ Dubai**

London / Dubai, 16th September 2013: BLME, the largest Islamic Bank in Europe, today announces its intention to list on NASDAQ Dubai under the name 'BLME Holdings'. BLME will be listing 195,733,691 shares on NASDAQ Dubai with no new capital being raised and no new shares being issued. The listing price is expected to be \$2.57¹ for each consolidated share², implying a market capitalisation of approximately US\$503 million.

BLME sees significant potential for expansion in the GCC and the UK across its three key business areas; Corporate Banking, Treasury and Wealth Management, which includes Asset Management, Private Banking and Islamic Capital Markets. BLME has an established client base across the Gulf and continues to attract new clients.

Humphrey Percy, BLME's Chief Executive Officer, said:

"We are delighted to announce our intention to list on NASDAQ Dubai, as the Middle East's international exchange with excellent links to regional and global investors. With HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum's commitment to establishing Dubai as the economic capital of Islamic finance and BLME's position as a market leading Sharia'a compliant Bank, NASDAQ Dubai is the exchange of choice for BLME.

"With the opening of our representative office in Dubai, we are now well positioned at the heart of the Islamic finance industry across the UK and GCC and look forward to growing along with the sector. With the Islamic finance industry's global assets currently estimated at US\$ 1.1 trillion and predicted to exceed US\$ 2 trillion by the year 2015, this is a very exciting time for both BLME and the sector."



BLME believes that this is the right time for listing given the current market conditions and the increasingly prominent role of Dubai in Islamic finance. BLME will work in coming weeks with market participants to familiarise them with BLME and with trading on NASDAQ Dubai.

The purchase of new shares or the sale of existing shares will be handled by appointed independent brokers. Baker & McKenzie Habib Al Mulla is acting as the Sponsor for the Admission, handling regulatory and legal matters with the Regulator and the Exchange. EFG Hermes is acting as BLME's Corporate Broker and Listing Manager.

1 Calculated using an exchange rate of US\$1.5826 to GBE1.00 as at close of business on 12th September 2013. The expected Admission price of \$2.57 is based on a Director's valuation supported by the weighted average share price achieved through private transactions of BLME shares via an off market trading facility operated over the last four years. The Admission price also references the Price to Book ratio of the listed banking sector.

2 One BLME Holdings share equals 25 original BLME shares.

End

About BLME

BLME is an independent wholesale Sharia'a compliant Bank based in London and is a leading provider of finance to the UK mid-market. BLME received FSA authorisation in July 2007 and is the largest of its peers in Europe. Led by a management team that brings together a combination of experienced international bankers and leading experts in Islamic finance, BLME has three key business areas; Corporate Banking, Treasury and Wealth Management, which includes Asset Management and Private Banking.

Key highlights:

- BLME has a strong, diverse client base in the UK and an established market presence in the GCC with a representative office in the Dubai International Financial Centre.
- BLME has grown significantly since its launch in 2007 and in 2012 BLME's balance sheet exceeded the £1 billion (\$1.55 billion) mark
- BLME is a leading provider of Sharia'a compliant financial products within the Islamic finance market place. The Bankers 2012 report on Islamic finance stated that the industry had entered its 6th consecutive year of growth with a compound annual growth rate of 19%.
- In 2013 BLME has won Best International Asset Manager of the Year from Zawya/Reuters, and Best Islamic Bank in Europe from both Islamic Finance News and Global Finance Magazine.

Additional Information

For further information on Baker & McKenzie Habib Al Mulla or EFG Hermes, please visit:

- www.bakermckenzie.com
- www.efg-hermes.com



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