

# Independant Non-Executive Director Update BLME Holdings

**London/Dubai, 26 September, 2016**; The Board of Directors of BLME Holdings plc has announced that it has decided to treat Mr. Michael Williams as an Independent Non-Executive Director with effect from 26 September 2016.

Mr. Williams was the Senior Independent Director of BLME Holdings plc prior to his appointment as Interim CEO in May 2015, a role he fulfilled until March 2016 when he returned to being a Non-Executive director. Now that six months has passed since Mr. Williams ceased to be Interim CEO, the Board considered it was appropriate to re-assess his independent status and concluded that Mr. Williams should be re-designated as an independent director.

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## **Michael Williams**

## Independent Non-Executive Director

Michael Williams was appointed Chief Executive Officer of BLME Holdings plc in May 2015 having been a Non-Executive Director since 2012 holding the positions of Chairman of the Nominations Committee and of the Risk Committee of BLME Holdings plc. He is a qualified banker with an extensive background in international finance. He has held a number of senior and board level positions in the UK and in the Middle East. Prior to this he was Chief Executive Officer of the International Bank of Qatar in Doha before which he was in Dubai as the Chief Executive Officer of the National Bank of Fujairah, having previously been the Managing Director of Nomura Bank International Plc for 6 years. Michael started his career with Barclays Bank Group working for them for 25 years holding a number of senior positions including Managing Director of Barclays Global Services and Corporate Banking Director at Barclays Bank PLC.

#### 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. BLME is 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; Wealth Management, Corporate Banking and Treasury providing a wide range of financing solutions and investment opportunities.