OP-Pohjola Group Central Cooperative Stock exchange release 6 March 2014, 4:30 pm

## Announcement under Chapter 9, Section 5 of the Securities Markets Act: OP-Pohjola Group Central Cooperative's shareholding in Pohjola Bank plc

In accordance with Chapter 9, Section 5 of the Securities Markets Act, OP-Pohjola Group Central Cooperative hereby announces that it has purchased Pohjola Bank plc shares with the result that its shareholding exceeds  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the total votes conferred by Pohjola Bank plc shares. OP-Pohjola Group Central Cooperative alone holds 47.22% of Pohjola Bank plc shares and 66.72% of the votes. Together with its controlled corporations' holdings, OP-Pohjola Group Central Cooperative holds 47.28% of Pohjola Bank plc shares and 66.75% of the votes.

The acceptances by those who have issued their acceptance of the bid by 5 March 2014 would increase the total shareholding of OP-Pohjola Group Central Cooperative in Pohjola Bank plc to 75.00% of all Pohjola Bank plc shares and the votes conferred by the shares to 86.35% of all the votes, if the bid were completed.

OP-Pohjola Group Central Cooperative

Carina Geber-Teir
Chief Communications Officer

DISTRIBUTION NASDAQ OMX Helsinki London Stock Exchange Major media pohjola.com, op.fi

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT: Harri Luhtala, CFO, tel. +358 (0) 252 2433 Carina Geber-Teir, tel. +358 (0)40 502 4607

OP-Pohjola Group is Finland's leading financial services group providing a unique range of banking, investment and insurance services. The Group has the mission of promoting the sustainable prosperity, well-being and security of its owner-members, customers and operating regions through its local presence. Its objective is to offer the best and most versatile package of loyal customer benefits on the market. OP-Pohjola Group consists of some 180 member cooperative banks and the Group's central institution, OP-Pohjola Group Central Cooperative, with its subsidiaries and closely-related companies, the largest of which is the listed company Pohjola Bank plc. With a staff of 12,000 OP-Pohjola Group posted consolidated earnings of 705 million euros before tax in 2013 and had total assets of 101 billion euros on 31 December 2013. The group has 4.3 million customers.

www.op.fi