OP-Pohjola Group Central Cooperative Stock exchange release 9 April 2014, 12.00

## 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, based on its tender offer for the shares, with the result that its holding exceeds two-thirds and the threshold of 90% of all Pohjola Bank plc shares and the threshold of 90% of the votes conferred by the shares. The execution of the trades on 8 April 2014 based on the tender offer has increased the total shareholding of OP-Pohjola Group Central Cooperative in Pohjola Bank plc to 94.05% of all Pohjola shares and the votes conferred by the shares to 96.78% of all the votes.

OP-Pohjola Group Central Cooperative Carina Geber-Teir Chief Communications Officer

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OP-Pohjola Group is Finland's leading financial services group providing a unique range of banking, investment and insurance services. The Group's mission is to promote the 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. The Group has a staff of 12,000. OP-Pohjola Group posted earnings before tax of EUR 705 million in 2013 and had total assets of EUR 101 billion on 31 December 2013. The Group has 4.3 million customers.