

## **BANCO DE SABADELL, S.A.**

Auditor's report on "Information regarding the Internal Control System over Financial Reporting (ICSFR)" of Banco de Sabadell, S.A. for the 2019 financial year



*This version of our report is a free translation of the original, which was prepared in Spanish. All possible care has been taken to ensure that the translation is an accurate representation of the original. However, in all matters of interpretation of information, views or opinions, the original language version of our report takes precedence over this translation.*

## Auditor's report on "Information Regarding the Internal Control System over Financial Reporting (ICSFR)" of Banco de Sabadell, S.A. for the 2019 financial year

To the Board of Directors of Banco de Sabadell, S.A.,

In accordance with the request of the Board of Directors of Banco de Sabadell, S.A. and its subsidiaries ("the Group") and our engagement letter dated 14 November 2019, we have applied certain procedures in respect of the attached "Information regarding the Internal Control System over Financial Reporting" ("ICSFR"), included in Annual Corporate Governance Report in section F for listed companies of Group Banco de Sabadell for the 2019 financial year, which includes a summary of the Group's internal control procedures relating to its annual financial information.

The Board of Directors is responsible for adopting the necessary measures to reasonably ensure the implementation, maintenance and supervision of an appropriate internal control system, and for developing improvements to that system and preparing and establishing the content of the accompanying Information regarding the ICSFR.

In this regard, it should be borne in mind that, regardless of the quality of the design and operating efficiency of the internal control system used by the Group in relation to its annual financial information, only a reasonable, but not absolute, degree of assurance may be obtained in relation to the objectives it seeks to achieve, due to the limitations inherent in any internal control system.

In the course of our audit work on the consolidated annual accounts and in accordance with Spanish Auditing Standards, the sole purpose of our evaluation of the Group's internal control system is to enable us to establish the scope, nature and timing of our audit procedures in respect of the Group's annual accounts. Accordingly, our internal control evaluation, performed for the purposes of our audit, is not sufficient in scope to enable us to issue a specific opinion on the effectiveness of such internal control over the regulated annual financial information.

For the purposes of the present report, we have exclusively applied the specific procedures described below, as indicated in the "Guidelines concerning the auditor's Report on the Information regarding the Internal Control System over Financial Reporting for listed entities" published by the National Securities Market Commission on its web site, which sets out the work to be performed, the scope of such work and the content of this report. In view of the fact that, in any event, the scope of the work resulting from these procedures is reduced and substantially less than the scope of an audit or review of the internal control system, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness thereof, its design or operational efficiency, in relation to the Group's annual financial information for the 2019 financial year described in the accompanying Information regarding the ICSFR. Had we applied additional procedures to those determined by the aforementioned Guidelines, or had we performed an audit or review of the internal control system in relation to the regulated annual financial information, other matters could have come to light in respect of which you would have been informed.

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In addition, provided that this special work neither constitutes an account audit it is not even submitted to the Law of Account audit, we do not express an opinion of audit in the terms foreseen in the mentioned regulation.

The procedures applied were as follows:

1. Reading and understanding the information prepared by the Group in relation to the ICSFR – as disclosed in the Directors' Report – and the evaluation of whether such information includes all the information required as per the minimum content set out in Section F regarding the description of the ICSFR, in the model of the Annual Corporate Governance Report, as established in Circular nº 7/2015 of the National Securities Market Commission dated December 22, 2015 and in Circular nº 2/2018 of the National Securities Market Commission dated June 12, 2018.
2. Making enquiries of personnel in charge of preparing the information mentioned in point 1 above in order to: (i) obtain an understanding of the preparation process; (ii) obtain information that enables us to assess whether the terminology used is in line with the framework of reference; (iii) obtain information as to whether the control procedures described have been implemented and are functioning in the Group.
3. Review of supporting documentation explaining the information described in point 1 above and which mainly comprises the information made directly available to the persons responsible for preparing the information on the ICSFR. Such documentation includes reports prepared by the internal audit function, senior management and other internal and external specialists in support of the functions of the audit committee.
4. Comparison of the information described in point 1 above with our knowledge of the Group's ICSFR, obtained by means of the application of the procedures performed within the framework of the audit engagement on the consolidated annual accounts.
5. Reading the minutes of meetings of the board of directors, audit committee and other committees of the Group, for the purposes of evaluating the consistency between the matters dealt with therein in relation to the ICSFR and the information described in point 1 above.
6. Obtaining a representation letter concerning the work performed, duly signed by the persons responsible for the preparation and drafting of the information mentioned in point 1 above.

As a result of the procedures applied in relation to the Information regarding the ICSFR, no inconsistencies or incidents have been identified which could affect such information.



This report has been prepared exclusively within the framework of the requirements of article 540 of the revised Spanish Companies Act and Circular nº 5/2013 of the National Securities Market Commission, dated June 12, 2013, as modified by Circular nº 7/2015 of the National Securities Market Commission, dated December 22, 2015 and by Circular nº 2/2018 of the National Securities Market Commission dated June 12, 2018, for the purposes of describing the ICSFR in Annual Corporate Governance Reports.

PricewaterhouseCoopers Auditores, S.L.

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Original in Spanish signed by  
Raúl Ara Navarro

30 January, 2020