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ESPRIT
ESPRIT HOLDINGS LIMITED
(Incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability)
(STOCK CODE: 00330)

CLARIFICATION ANNOUNCEMENT

Reference is made to the announcement of the Company dated December 12, 2008 (the "**Announcement**") in relation to the appointment of Mr. Francesco Trapani ("**Mr. Trapani**") as an independent non-executive director of Esprit Holdings Limited (the "**Company**") with effect from December 12, 2008.

Pursuant to the requirements of Rule 13.51(2) of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited and in connection with the appointment of Mr. Trapani as set out in the Announcement, the board of the Company (the "**Board**") would like to clarify that Mr. Trapani has been the subject of certain administrative fines and Mr. Trapani has confirmed to the Company that the details of such administrative fines are as follows:-

1. Mr. Trapani has been sanctioned to pay an administrative fine as a non executive director of Banca Nazionale del Lavoro S.p.A. (a bank incorporated under the laws of Italy) ("**Banca Nazionale**") in connection with a procedure commenced by Banca d'Italia (Italian Central Bank) in connection with an alleged non compliance by the internal procedures of the Banca Nazionale to technical rules and instructions of the Banca d'Italia on organisational, accounting and information technology matters. Banca Nazionale filed an appeal against the fine, and such appeal is currently pending before the "Corte di Cassazione" (highest Italian judiciary authority in Italy).

The said procedure was commenced with the Decree of the Ministry of Economy n° 1138 dated August 4, 2005 against Banca Nazionale and all its directors and statutory auditors and not against Mr. Trapani for his personal acts. The procedure in question is not a criminal procedure but an administrative procedure according to the Legislative Decree N. 385 of September 1, 1993 (the Italian Consolidated Legislation on Banks and banking activity), which results in a decree of the Ministry of Economy on a proposal submitted by the Banca d'Italia. The said administrative fine to be paid amounted to Euro 45,000, which has been paid by the Banca Nazionale on behalf of Mr. Trapani. According to the applicable procedures, such amounts will have to be reimbursed by Mr. Trapani to Banca Nazionale in the event that the appeal is rejected.

2. Mr. Trapani has been sanctioned to pay an administrative fine as a non executive director of Banca Nazionale in connection with the procedure commenced by CONSOB (Italian Regulatory Authority on Securities and Financial Intermediaries) in connection with the offering to the general public of securities issued by Cirio S.p.A. (a company incorporated under the laws of Italy active in the food industry). The sanctions referred essentially to an alleged non compliance by Banca Nazionale of rules and procedures concerning investment services. Banca Nazionale filed an appeal against the fine, and such appeal is currently pending before the "Corte di Cassazione" (highest Italian judiciary authority in Italy).

The procedure was commenced with the Decree of the Ministry of Economy N 14605 dated February 11, 2005 against Banca Nazionale, all its directors and statutory auditors and some managers and not against Mr. Trapani for his personal acts. The procedure in question is not a criminal procedure but an administrative procedure according to the Legislative Decree N. 58 of February 24, 1998 (Italian Consolidated Legislation on Financial Intermediaries), which results in a decree of the Ministry of Economy on a proposal submitted by CONSOB. The said administrative fine to be paid amounted to Euro 18,000, which has been paid by the Banca Nazionale on behalf of Mr. Trapani. According to the applicable procedures, such amounts will have to be reimbursed by Mr. Trapani to Banca Nazionale in the event that the appeal is rejected.

In respect of the above, Mr. Trapani has confirmed that the said incidences being the subject of the relevant administrative fines were administrative in nature and did not involve allegations of dishonesty or fraud in respect of his personal conduct and that notwithstanding the foregoing, he has the character, experience and integrity and is able to demonstrate a standard of competence commensurate with his position as a director of a listed company.

Taking into account the confirmation from Mr. Trapani as referred to above, Mr. Trapani's valuable experience in the luxury industry acting as chief executive officer of the Bulgari group of companies, his directorship with Bulgari S.p.A., a company listed on the Italian Stock Exchange and his directorships with a number of companies within the Bulgari group as well as Mr. Trapani's other experience as referred to in the Announcement, the Board is satisfied that notwithstanding the incidences relating to the said administrative fines, Mr. Trapani has the character, experience and integrity and is able to demonstrate a standard of competence commensurate with his position as a director of a listed company and Mr. Trapani is a valuable addition to the Board.

By Order of the Board
Bella Chhoa Peck Lim
Company Secretary

Hong Kong, March 3, 2009

As at the date of this announcement, the Board comprises (i) Mr. Heinz Jürgen Krogner-Kornalik (Chairman), Mr. Chew Fook Aun and Mr. Thomas Johannes Grote as Executive Directors; (ii) Mr. Jürgen Alfred Rudolf Friedrich as Non-executive Director; and (iii) Mr. Paul Cheng Ming Fun (Deputy Chairman), Mr. Alexander Reid Hamilton, Dr. Hans-Joachim Körber, Mr. Raymond Or Ching Fai and Mr. Francesco Trapani as Independent Non-executive Directors.