



MARKET RELEASE

12 January 2012

QBE Insurance Group Limited

TRADING HALT

The securities of QBE Insurance Group Limited (the "Company") will be placed in Trading Halt Session State at the request of the Company, pending the release of an announcement by the Company. Unless ASX decides otherwise, the securities will remain in Trading Halt Session State until the earlier of the commencement of normal trading on Monday, 16 January 2012 or when the announcement is released to the market.

Security Code: QBE

Kim-Ly Nguyen
Principal Adviser, Listings (Sydney)



12 January 2012

Ms K Nguyen
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Dear Ms Nguyen

Re: REQUEST FOR TRADING HALT

As discussed today, in view of media articles on various insurance-related matters, I request a trading halt in the ordinary shares of QBE Insurance Group Limited (**QBE**) (ASX Code: QBE) from the commencement of trading on Thursday, 12 January 2012.

I request that the trading halt remains in place until QBE makes a market release regarding topics such as preliminary 2011 results and 2012 worldwide reinsurance protections.

The trading halt is requested to facilitate an announcement by QBE which is likely before noon today.

For the purposes of Listing Rule 17.1, QBE provides the following information:

1. the trading halt is necessary as otherwise trading in QBE ordinary shares would continue on an uninformed basis; and
2. QBE is not aware of any reason why the trading halt should not be granted.

Yours sincerely

Duncan Ramsay
Company Secretary

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