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To whom it may concern

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Notice Concerning Change to Shareholder Return Policy

THE AKITA BANK, LTD. (President: Kosuke Ashida) (the "Bank") hereby announces that, at a meeting of the Board of Directors held today, it has resolved to change its shareholder return policy. The details are as follows.

1 Details of change

Before change	<p>Considering the public nature of a bank, the Bank's basic dividend policy is to enhance internal reserves necessary for sound management and smooth fund supply, and to maintain stable dividends.</p> <p>Based on this basic policy, and taking into account the business outlook and the market environment, the Bank aims to enhance shareholder profits and improve capital efficiency with a target dividend payout ratio of 30% or more to profit attributable to owners of parent.</p>
After change	<p>Considering the public nature of a bank, the Bank's basic dividend policy is to enhance internal reserves necessary for sound management and smooth fund supply, and to maintain stable dividends.</p> <p><u>Under this basic policy, the Bank aims to increase dividends per share through profit growth with a target dividend payout ratio of at least 40% to profit attributable to owners of parent. At the same time, the Bank aims to conduct agile purchase of treasury shares on the premise of securing sufficient capital, taking into account the effects of improving capital efficiency and investment opportunities for medium- to long-term growth, as well as the market environment, among others.</u></p>

2 Reason for change

The Bank Group launched its 3-year medium-term management plan from April 2025. The Bank positions this plan as the second phase of the AKITA BANK Group Vision for 2030, "Creating Value. Connecting to the Future." Under the plan, we have established three basic policies, "Establishing business models for value co-creation," "Cultivating regional resources and creating high added values," and "Enhancing human capital," aiming to enhance corporate value over the medium- to long-term.

In addition, the Bank has decided to change its shareholder return policy in order to realize sustainable profit growth through steady implementation of the plan and to clarify its stance of aiming to pay out progressive dividends, as well as to further enhance shareholder returns by raising the dividend payout ratio target to 40% or more.

3 Time to apply change

We apply the change from fiscal 2025 (the fiscal year ending March 31, 2026).