



Gerald (Gerry) Byrne Appointed Head of AIB Poland Division

11th January 2001

Following Michael Buckley's appointment as AIB Chief Executive Designate in October 2000, AIB has today announced that Mr Buckley's successor as Head of AIB Poland will be Gerry Byrne, currently Managing Director of Ark Life, AIB's insurance division.

Mr Byrne will take up his new post with immediate effect and will be based in Warsaw. His appointment as Head of AIB Poland also means that Mr Byrne will join the AIB Group Executive Committee. This committee is responsible for setting corporate strategy and overseeing the management of AIB Group.

Mr Byrne joined AIB in 1973 and has a wide range of banking experience both at branch and department level (full career details attached). He was appointed Managing Director, Ark Life in 1997.

Commenting on the appointment of Mr Byrne as his successor as Head of AIB's Poland Division, Michael Buckley, AIB Chief Executive Designate said:-

"Gerry takes up his new role at an extremely exciting and challenging time for AIB's Poland Division. The merger of WBK and Bank Zachodni is well underway. Gerry will be leading the AIB Poland team as they work to maximise the significant potential of the new bank and realise other strategic opportunities in line with AIB's ambition to create one of the top tier financial services companies in Poland. Gerry's wide range of skills and experience are ideally suited to the task and I wish him every success".

Mr Byrne is 44 and is married with three daughters and a son.