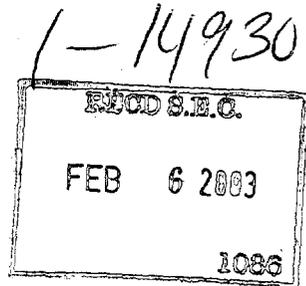




03006303



February 6, 2003

Mr. Brian Johnson
Branch Chief
Securities and Exchange Commission
Branch of Filer Support 2
Room 1004 -- STOP/1-4
450 Fifth Street, NW
Judiciary Plaza
Washington, DC 20549

PROCESSED

FEB 11 2003

**THOMSON
FINANCIAL**

Dear Mr. Johnson:

The New York Stock Exchange certifies approval for listing and registration under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, HSBC Holdings plc, \$1,400,000,000 5.25% Subordinated Notes due 2012 and requests immediate acceleration of registration. Adequate distribution assured. Form 8-A received on February 6, 2003. Tentative listing date – February 10, 2003.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Paras Madho".