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HSBC HOLDINGS PLC
Form 6-K
May 25, 2005

FORM 6-K

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

Report of Foreign Private Issuer
Pursuant to Rule 13a - 16 or 15d - 16 of
the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For the month of May 2005

HSBC Holdings plc

42nd Floor, 8 Canada
Square, London E14 5HQ, England

(Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover of Form 20-F or Form 40-F).

Form 20-F ☒ Form 40-F ☐

(Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information contained in this Form is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934).

Yes ☐ No ☒

(If "Yes" is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b): 82-)

HSBC HOLDINGS PLC

FIRST INTERIM DIVIDEND FOR 2005

SCRIP DIVIDEND ALTERNATIVE

On 3 May 2005, the Directors of HSBC Holdings plc declared a first interim dividend for 2005 of US\$0.14 per ordinary share payable on 6 July 2005 to shareholders on the Register on 20 May 2005. The dividend is payable in cash in United States dollars, sterling or Hong Kong dollars, or a combination of these currencies, with a scrip dividend alternative. The "Market Value" for the issue of new shares under the scrip dividend alternative is:

US\$15.8448 for each new share

The "Market Value" is the United States dollar equivalent of GBP8.656, being the average of the middle market quotations for the ordinary shares on the London Stock Exchange as derived from the Daily Official List for the five business days beginning on 18 May 2005 (the day on which the shares were first quoted ex-dividend).

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Dividends payable in cash in sterling or Hong Kong dollars on 6 July 2005 will be converted from United States dollars at the forward exchange rates quoted by HSBC Bank plc in London at or about 11.00 am on 27 June 2005. These exchange rates will be announced to the London, Hong Kong, New York, Paris and Bermuda stock exchanges.

Particulars of the dividend arrangements will be mailed to shareholders on or about 1 June 2005, and elections must be received by the Registrars by 22 June 2005.

N S Black

Assistant Secretary

HSBC Holdings plc

25 May 2005

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

HSBC Holdings plc

By:

Name: P A Stafford

Title: Assistant Group Secretary

Date: 25 May 2005