ABSA GROUP LIMITED

(Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa) (Registration number: 1986/003934/06)

ISIN: ZAE000067237 JSE share code: ASA Issuer code: AMAGB

(Absa Group or Absa or the Group)

ABSA BANK LIMITED

(Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa) (Registration number: 1986/004794/06)

ISIN: ZAE000079810 JSE share code: ABSP

(Absa Bank)

REFERENCE TO ABSA GROUP IN BARCLAYS PLC INTERIM MANAGEMENT STATEMENT

Shareholders of Absa Group are advised that Barclays PLC released its 2010 Quarter One interim management statement on 30 April 2010.

The following excerpt from the abovementioned statement makes specific reference to the financial performance of the Absa Group excluding Absa Card and Absa Capital (in Sterling):

"Profit before tax at **Absa** increased 114% to £167m (2009: £78m) including a one-off credit relating to the Group's recognition of a pension fund surplus and the appreciation in the average value of the Rand against Sterling. Excluding these items, profit before tax increased 15%, driven by lower retail impairment."

Investors should note that this financial information has been derived from management accounts and has not been reviewed or reported on by the Group's auditors.

The full text of the interim management statement is available on the Barclays PLC website http://www.barclays.com.

Johannesburg 30 April 2010

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Sponsor:

J.P. Morgan Equities Limited