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)

ABSA BANK LIMITED

(Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)

(Registration number: 1986/004794/06)

ISIN: ZAE000079810 JSE share code: ABSP

(Absa Bank)

ABSA LAUNCHES INVESTIGATION INTO PRE-RELEASED RESULTS

Absa has commenced with a formal investigation into the circumstances that led to its interim results being published in the Financial Mail on 04 August ahead of the scheduled date.

"We regard this matter as extremely serious and will be enlisting the services of an appropriate independent party to conduct the investigation," said Absa's Group Chief Executive, Maria Ramos.

Absa has already met with senior representatives of the JSE and they have agreed to work together to finalise this matter.

05 August 2010

Sponsor:

J.P. Morgan Equities Limited