

**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”)**

**COMPLETION OF CLOSING RELATING TO THE STRATEGIC COMBINATION OF BARCLAYS’ AFRICAN OPERATIONS WITH ABSA GROUP**

All defined terms, unless otherwise stated herein, bear the same meaning as set out in the circular to shareholders dated 14 December 2012 (“Circular”).

**COMPLETION OF CLOSING**

Shareholders are referred to the finalisation announcement released on 22 July 2013 and the Circular in relation to the strategic combination of the Barclays’ African operations with Absa Group and the proposed change of name of “Absa Group Limited” to “Barclays Africa Group Limited”.

Shareholders are advised that the strategic combination of Barclays’ African businesses with Absa Group has closed. Today, Absa Group has acquired the entire issued share capital of Barclays Africa Limited and has issued 129,540,636 Consideration Shares to Barclays Africa Group Holdings Limited (a wholly owned subsidiary of Barclays). The Consideration Shares were listed on the JSE from the commencement of trading today.

The name change from “Absa Group Limited” to “Barclays Africa Group Limited” will proceed as announced on 22 July 2013, and will become effective 2 August 2013.

Johannesburg

31 July 2013

**Independent lead sponsor to Absa Group**

J.P. Morgan Equities South Africa Proprietary Limited

**Joint sponsor to Absa Group**

Absa Corporate and Investment Banking, a division of Absa Bank Limited