

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" or "Absa Group")

ANNOUNCEMENT IN RELATION TO THE PROPOSED STRATEGIC COMBINATION OF BARCLAYS AFRICAN OPERATIONS WITH ABSA GROUP LIMITED, AND THE PROPOSED CHANGE OF NAME OF "ABSA GROUP LIMITED" TO "BARCLAYS AFRICA GROUP LIMITED" ("THE TRANSACTION")

Further to our announcement dated 6 December 2012, the circular to shareholders posted on 14 December 2012 and the results of the general meeting announcement on 25 February 2013, shareholders are reminded that the Transaction remains subject to various conditions precedent as set out in the circular, including, inter alia, various regulatory approvals.

While good progress continues to be made, the indicative corporate actions timetable in the circular is no longer applicable. However, it is still expected that the Transaction will be completed within the dates allowed for under the sale and purchase agreement entered into between Absa Group, Barclays Africa Group Holdings Limited and Barclays Bank PLC. A further announcement, setting out a revised corporate actions timetable with regards to the Transaction will be released in due course.

Johannesburg

5 April 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