

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)

REFERENCE TO BARCLAYS PLC INTERIM MANAGEMENT STATEMENT

Shareholders of Absa Group are advised that Barclays PLC (Barclays) released its 2011 Quarter Three interim management statement on 31 October 2011.

Although it makes no specific reference to our financial performance, part of Absa Group is included in the Africa Retail and Business Banking segment Barclays disclosed in the statement.

We draw shareholders' attention to the following excerpt from the abovementioned statement:

"Profit before tax increased 13%, or 25% excluding a one off pension credit of £54m in 2010. Income showed growth of 5% driven by improved performance in South Africa. Impairment charges improved by 11% reflecting more stable economic conditions with improved retail collections and commercial recoveries. Operating expenses increased 7% primarily reflecting inflationary pressures in South Africa and non recurrence of a pension credit in 2010."

Shareholders should note that Absa's contribution to Barclays Africa Retail and Business Banking excludes Absa Card and Absa Capital, was prepared in terms of Barclays accounting policies and includes Barclays consolidation adjustments, so it does not reflect Absa Group's performance for the period.

Johannesburg
31 October 2011

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Sponsor:

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