

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 or the Group)

ABSA GROUP TRADING STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2011.

In terms of paragraph 3.4(b) of the Listings Requirements of the JSE Limited, an issuer is required to publish a trading statement as soon as it becomes apparent that headline earnings per share and/or earnings per share for the next period to be reported on are expected, with a reasonable degree of certainty, to differ by at least 20% from those of the previous corresponding period.

Shareholders are advised that Absa Group`s headline earnings per share and diluted headline earnings per share for the year ended 31 December 2011 are expected to increase between 18% and 22% from 1122.6c and 1115.7c respectively.

Shareholders are advised that the financial information on which this trading statement is based has not been reviewed or reported on by the Group`s auditors.

Absa Group`s results for the year ended 31 December 2011 will be released on SENS on Friday, 10 February 2012.

Johannesburg

1 February 2012

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Sponsor:

J.P Morgan Equities Limited