

20 July 2009

BARCLAYS PLC

Absa Group Limited and Absa Bank Limited announce Directorate Change

Shareholders are advised that Ms Gill Marcus, Chairperson of Boards of Directors of Absa Group Limited and Absa Bank Limited, has been appointed as Governor of the South African Reserve Bank with effect from 9 November 2009.

Ms Marcus will therefore step down as Chairperson of both the Boards of Absa Group and Absa Bank with immediate effect.

Mr. Dave Brink, currently the Deputy Chairperson of Absa will assume the role of Chairperson of both Absa Group and Absa Bank in the interim. The Board will follow the necessary governance process to appoint a Chairperson and shareholders will be advised accordingly of the decision. This appointment will, as per the Articles of Association of Absa, be confirmed at the Annual General Meeting of shareholders in 2010.

Ms Maria Ramos, Group CE, for Absa said "Gill has provided significant leadership to the Group in her role as Chairperson. She will be sorely missed for her guidance and wisdom and I wish her well in her new role."

The Board of Absa wish to thank Ms Marcus for her inspirational leadership and support during her tenure at Absa.

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