

Standard Chartered Bank Botswana Limited

Audited Financial Results for the Year ended 31st December 2020

The directors have pleasure in announcing the Group (Standard Chartered Bank Botswana and its subsidiaries*) audited financial results of the Bank for the year ended 31 December 2020 together with comparative figures for 2019.

Key Financial highlights



Economic Environment

Global Economy

The COVID shock has been unprecedented in modern times. In addition to the impact on lives, the economic damage is expected to last for years to come. Governments and corporates alike have suffered profound negative effects to their fiscus and Balance Sheets; repairing them is likely to be a multi-year process. However, the economic shock in 2020 could have been much more severe without the quick and dramatic response from Central Banks and Governments globally.

Global GDP is expected to grow by around 5.4 per cent in 2021, well above the average of 3.7 per cent for the ten years between 2010 to 2019. However, this follows a contraction of about 3.4 per cent in 2020, the worst performance since the Great Depression of 1929-31. Recovery could strengthen in the second half of 2021 as investment picks up around the world. With the global recovery under way, many countries will then be expected to be close to their forward-looking long-term – or future potential – growth levels by the end of the next two years. The outlook remains highly uncertain, with key zones like Euro area and important markets like India very unlikely to return to 2019 GDP levels until 2022. A wide availability and speedy distribution of Covid-19 vaccines, and efficacy thereof will likely support a stronger economic growth, while disruptions in distribution will hold it back. The current (and any future) resurgence of the virus with potentially disruptive mutations in many countries could also force governments to tighten restrictions on economic activity for longer than anticipated.

Regional Economy

2021 could potentially be a year of technical recovery for Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) economies, which are collectively forecast to experience a modest recovery of 3.2%. This is following an estimated degrowth of 2.6% in 2020, comparing unfavourably with a 3.9% growth in 2019. Supply chains, trade and investments were severely disrupted for the better part of 2020 leading to pronounced current account deficits amongst exporting nations, Botswana included. Most of the economies in the region will be unlikely to return to pre-COVID GDP levels within the near term given the disruption the pandemic brought, with attendant reduced per capita income, increased poverty levels and a suffocated informal sector.

There remains some hope though, oil producers such as Nigeria and Angola should benefit from higher oil prices in 2021, but output levels will be subject to OPEC driven quotas. However, future potential of hydrocarbon led production faces uncertain investment fortunes. The region will surely benefit from a successful Covid-19 vaccine roll-out, particularly if this leads to a consistent lifting of cross boarder travel and successful resumption of regional trade. Unfortunately, there are muted concerns around funding and logistical issues surrounding anticipated rollout, suggesting that the mere existence of vaccines may not make uniform positive impact on domestic economic recovery prospects across SSA economies, at least in the near term.

Local Economy

A rebound is widely anticipated for the local economy, with the 2021 growth rate pegged at 8.8% up from a forecast 7.7% contraction in 2020. Much of this recovery is dependent on the world economy itself rebounding, a wide availability and efficacy of Covid-19 vaccines, recovery in diamond markets (demand and prices) as well as opening up of international travel, among others. The Government has in place a comprehensive Economic Recovery and Transformation Plan to capture all possibilities and propel a re-bound. There are high expectations that vaccine roll out will progress well into 2021 across the country and reach the majority of the target population by the end of the year. The Central Bank maintained the Bank Rate at a record low of 3.75% at its February 2021 Monetary Policy Committee meeting. Inflation rose to 2.4% in February, the seventeenth consecutive month for which it has been below the Central Bank's 3-6% objective range. While recent revenue measures announced in the 2021 budget would likely add to inflationary pressures, an accommodative monetary policy is still to be expected until risks to the economic recovery have subsided significantly.

Business Performance

Statement for Profit or Loss

	2020 P'000	2019 P'000
Net Interest Income	464,263	435,659
Other Income	289,004	287,941
Operating income	753,267	723,600
Operating Expenses	(657,891)	(621,834)
Profit Before Impairment and Tax	95,376	101,766
Impairment Charges	(41,305)	(32,187)
Liability written off	48,049	-
Profit Before Tax	102,120	69,579
Tax for the year	(52,397)	(14,734)
Net Profit for the Year	49,723	54,845

Despite a good start of the year, the Business was not spared from the negative impacts of COVID-19 which set in, in earnest at the beginning of the second Quarter. In particular, the national lockdown, which ran from April into early May of 2020 resulted in a substantial reduction in transaction volumes thereby impacting our non-funded income. This was also compounded by a temporary 25% fee discount we offered to clients on our digital platforms partly in a bid to drive movement of people away from our physical branches. Our margin business was also impacted from two perspectives, firstly, sales activity was severely curtailed during the lockdown period, and as expected, recovering with a pronounced lag throughout the rest of the year although never reaching pre-COVID-19 levels. Secondly, we saw successive policy rate cuts by the Monetary Policy Committee of the Central Bank in a bid to assist in promoting the much-desired economic activity, the rate cuts accumulated to a full 100 bps thereby affecting our gross interest earnings significantly.

Despite the severely challenging business environment, decisive steps were taken by management to defend business gains from the last 3 years. Appropriate liability management strategies were deployed, resulting in a double-digit reduction in interest expense, leading to an overall increase in Net interest income. Our Financial Markets business fully exploited the volatility we saw across all our major currencies, resulting in an overall growth in our trading income, which was at 24% on gross basis. Underlying costs were broadly flat with a 1% increase over prior levels, although a once off restructuring provision of P23 million drove an overall 6% increase in reported costs.

The 1% growth is attributable, mainly, to expenditures incurred in protecting our staff and clients against COVID-19, as well as contributing to efforts by Government and communities in responding to the same.

Against a corresponding increase in digitisation costs is a 16% decrease in administrative expenditures as training and business meetings have been substantially virtualised, thereby obviating a bigger portion of travelling and accommodation needs. Underlying credit provisions went up 28%, reflecting a credit market impacted by COVID-19. Provisions for Expected Credit Losses (ECL) were higher in particular for our corporate segments as our clients were either directly or indirectly affected by the COVID-19 misfortunes in the mining, tourism and real estate sectors, being among the hardest hit areas of the economy. However, the increase in credit provisions was entirely off set by a once-off transaction in which a P48 million liability of a consolidated entity, being a loan owed by the Standard Chartered Botswana Education Trust to Standard Chartered UK was written off.

Our underlying profits, net of the two once off items mentioned above grew 11% YoY with statutory profits recording a 47% growth to P102 million. Tax charges for the year is higher due to a P37 million deferred tax asset write-off.

Segment Performance

	2020 P'000	2019 P'000
Statement for Profit or Loss		
Consumer, Private and Business Banking	507,395	493,941
Corporate, Commercial and Institutional Banking	252,616	197,471
Total Net Operating income	760,011	691,412
Operating Expenses		
Consumer, Private and Business Banking	(462,628)	(417,695)
Corporate, Commercial and Institutional Banking	(195,263)	(204,138)
Total Operating Expenses	(657,891)	(621,833)
Operating Profit Before tax		
Consumer, Private and Business Banking	44,767	76,246
Corporate, Commercial and Institutional Banking	57,353	(6,667)
Operating Profit Before tax	102,120	69,579

Consumer, Private and Business Banking Segment

In redefining our client channels and product constructs, we have, during the year, transformed our Retail business, and consequently renamed it the Consumer, Private and Business Banking, CPBB. The segment registered a 3% growth in income, driven by a 6% growth in client assets. The growth was however slowed down by successive policy rate cuts. Non-interest income was also 4% down on account of substantially reduced transaction volumes during lockdown periods. However, the non-funded income base was expanded during the year with a successful rollout of Cash Depositing ATMs across the country, a main feature of the Bank's reconfigured client interface centres (Express Banking Centres). These centres come with increased convenience for clients, but a lower cost to serve to the Bank. Overall profitability was down on account of once off provisions in 2020.

Corporate, Commercial and Institutional Banking Segment

The segment saw a 28% y-o-y growth in income as the commercial sub segment finally transformed into profitability. A strong run in client transactions, including Corporate Finance delivered a 10% growth on non-funded income, with another 4% growth in trade income coming from currency trades. There was also a strong conversion rate on the lending business including trade facilities resulting in a 7% growth in margin income. Costs were contained closely to a 4% reduction, although credit impairments grew 2.9 times to P20 million mainly driven by COVID-19 impacts on clients. However, there were no significant write offs. The segment emerged from a marginal loss in the prior year to record a profit before tax of P57 million.

Net Interest Income and margin

	2020 P'000	2019 P'000
Net Interest Income	464,263	435,659
Average Interest-earning Assets	13,624,225	13,364,632
Average Interest-bearing Liabilities	10,472,800	10,802,096
Avg. Gross Rate Earned	5.47%	5.70%
Avg. Net Interest Margin (%)	4.21%	3.84%
Avg. Net Interest Spread (%)	3.93%	3.69%
Avg. Rate paid (%)	2.55%	2.80%

Net Interest Income went up 7% as liability management strategies paid off, resulting in a 25-bps reduction in the average interest rate paid. A 2% increase in average interest earning assets marginally offset the overall effects of successive policy rate cuts that led to a 23-bps point reduction in gross yield.

Average Net Interest margins and spreads were also up 37-bps and 24 bps respectively, reflecting a laser focus approach to balance sheet management.

Credit Quality

	2020 P'000	2019 P'000
Gross loans and Advances to customers	8,324,388	8,107,844
Of which Stage 1 and 2	8,109,709	7,922,452
Of which Stage 3	214,679	185,392
Expected Credit loss provisions	208,708	188,617
Of which Stage 1 and 2	86,073	91,114
Of which Stage 3	122,635	97,503
Net loans and Advances to customers	8,115,680	7,919,227
Of which Stage 1 and 2	8,023,636	7,831,338
Of which Stage 3	92,044	87,889
Collateral	3,901,826	4,732,901
Stage 1 and stage 2 exposures	3,656,509	4,099,782
Stage 3 exposures	245,317	633,119

Our approach to credit risk management was promptly adjusted at the onset of COVID-19; the frequency and scope of stress tests were increased; our credit appetite was also adjusted across product groups and client engagements were elevated. This was to ensure protection of the asset book, while at the same time enhancing origination discipline. Deterioration in asset quality was broadly contained to a bare minimum as the NPL ratio edged up only 30-bps to 2.6%, thus remaining well below industry averages. Migration of exposures to Stage 3 (from 1 & 2) represented 0.72% of Gross loans (or 28% of total ECL provisions held). Relief to clients due to COVID-19 impact was offered based on good performance pre-COVID-19, and a total of P735 million was offered to deserving clients, who have since resumed normal debt servicing schedules.

Balance Sheet and Liquidity

	2020 P'000	2019 P'000
Assets		
Loans and advances to banks	2,501,471	3,458,459
Loans and advances to customers	8,115,680	7,919,227
Other Assets	3,447,553	4,352,641
Total assets	14,064,704	15,730,327
Liabilities		
Deposits from other banks	436,471	1,020,928
Deposits from customers	11,849,610	12,875,805
Other Liabilities	718,636	725,747
Total liabilities	13,004,717	14,622,480
Equity	1,059,987	1,107,847
Advances-to-deposits Ratio (%)	68	61
Liquid Assets Ratio (%)	17.2	24.5

Overall Balance sheet size went down 11% driven mainly by a combined P852 million reduction in low yield assets, with a corresponding reduction in pricier client deposits and inter bank borrowings. Senior debt instruments (SCB 003) that matured during the year were also not rolled over as part of a broader capital management plan. However, our higher margin assets, particularly driven by household credit went up 2%. Assets to deposit Ratio climbed 7% up as a direct result of controlled liability reduction. All in all, the Balance Sheet remained fairly stable and resilient, delivering increased margins.

Risk Weighted Assets

	2020 P'000	2019 P'000
By Risk Type		
Credit	6,921,071	7,118,133
Market	33,959	49,952
Operational	722,185	761,215
Total RWAs	7,677,215	7,929,300

Risk Weighted Assets (RWAs) were 3% down y-o-y despite a pronounced pressure on credit quality. Strategies that included closer limit reviews and a more selective approach to credit extension on the face of COVID-19 led to the decline in RWA, which conversely delivered increased returns. The composition and/or mix of RWA remained broadly unchanged from what it was in 2019.

Capital Base and ratios

	2020 P'000	2019 P'000
CET1 Capital	552,611	646,214
Additional Tier 1 Capital (AT1)	400,000	400,000
Tier 1 Capital	952,611	1,046,214
Tier 2 Capital	397,273	477,977
Total Capital	1,349,884	1,524,191
Capital Adequacy Ratio (%)	17.6	19.2
Regulatory Threshold (%)	12.5	15*

* In April 2020 the central Bank revised the minimum regulatory CAR from 15% to 12.5% as part of the broader COVID-19 relief measures offered to local regulated Banks.

The Bank's capital position remained strong throughout the year, sources diversified and quality optimal.

Outlook

Given the somewhat renewed optimism on economic recovery prospects, informed mainly by COVID-19 vaccine availability and early signs of recovery in some sectors, 2021 could turn out a better year than 2020, but unlikely to deliver better than pre-COVID 19 business momentum. We will lean more on enhancing client experience through improved internal productivity, expanded product offering and a faster pace in delivering our digital agenda. The immediate future does look uncertain, but our focus on delivering best possible risk adjusted returns to investors remain, while we will not compromise on quality of service to our clients.

We will continue to prioritise health and safety for our staff and clients in the face of COVID-19 pandemic, and work with our communities in mitigating impacts of the scourge.

Dividend Declaration

A final dividend of 16 thebe per ordinary share has been proposed. Subject to final regulatory approvals, this dividend will be payable on or about 19th May 2021 to those shareholders registered at close of business on 7th May 2021 with an ex-dividend date of 5th May 2021.

Independent Auditors Report

Our independent auditors Ernst & Young have audited the consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020 and expressed an unqualified audit opinion.

By order of the Board



Doreen Khama
Chairperson

Gaborone

10 March 2021



Mpho Masupe
Managing Director

Key Financial highlights



CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT FOR PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

	31 Dec 20 P'000	31 Dec 19 P'000
Interest revenue calculated using the effective interest method	745,154	762,047
Interest expense calculated using the effective interest method	(280,891)	(326,388)
Net interest income	464,263	435,659
Fee and commission income	229,779	238,387
Fee and commission expense	(29,151)	(35,459)
Net fee and commission income	200,628	202,928
Net trading income	88,376	85,013
Credit loss expense on financial assets	(41,305)	(32,187)
Liability written off	48,049	-
Net operating income	760,011	691,413
Operating expenses		
Staff expenses	(252,344)	(225,119)
Other expenses	(405,547)	(396,715)
Total operating expenses	(657,891)	(621,834)
Profit before income tax	102,120	69,579
Income tax expense	(52,397)	(14,734)
Total comprehensive income for the year	49,723	54,845
Number of ordinary shares in issue during the year	298,350,611	298,350,611
Treasury Shares	2,506,145	2,506,145
	295,844,466	295,844,466
Basic and diluted earnings per share (thebe)	16.67	18.38
Dividend per share (thebe) - declared in the year	16.00	7.99

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	31 Dec 20 P'000	31 Dec 19 P'000
Assets		
Cash and balances with central bank	975,991	870,350
Loans and advances to banks	2,501,471	3,458,459
Investment securities	2,113,719	3,073,599
Loans and advances to customers	8,115,680	7,919,227
Other assets	168,809	182,514
Tax refundable	-	1,665
Property and equipment and right-of-use assets	112,720	131,883
Intangible assets and goodwill	38,781	31,327
Deferred taxation	37,534	61,305
Total assets	14,064,704	15,730,327
Liabilities		
Deposits from other banks	436,471	1,020,928
Deposits from customers	11,849,610	12,875,805
Unsettled Treasury bills	29,878	-
Other liabilities	268,503	286,251
Restructuring provision	23,158	-
Taxation payable	8,097	496
Senior and subordinated debt	389,000	439,000
Total liabilities	13,004,717	14,622,480
Equity		
Stated capital	179,273	179,273
Additional Capital Contribution	428,213	428,213
Reserves	452,501	500,361
Total equity	1,059,987	1,107,847
Total liabilities and equity	14,064,704	15,730,327

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

	31 Dec 20 P'000	31 Dec 19 P'000
Net cash (utilised) / generated from operating activities:		
Profit for the year	49,723	54,845
Adjustments for:		
Interest income	(745,154)	(762,047)
Interest expense	280,891	323,747
- Taxation	52,397	14,734
- Depreciation	30,243	23,792
- Amortisation on intangibles	14,403	14,912
- Profit on disposal of assets	-	(140)
- Net impairment loss on loans and advances	25,058	26,168
- Movement in operating lease accrual	-	(5,908)
- Unrealised foreign exchange (gains)/losses	(1,614)	243
- Liability written off	(48,049)	-
Movement in provisions	23,158	(30,674)
Change in investment securities	978,246	974,490
Change in loans and advances to customers	(221,511)	(460,160)
Change in other assets	12,319	61,626
Change in deposits from other banks	(584,458)	266,499
Change in amounts due from customers	(1,026,195)	535,144
Payment of unsettled Treasury bills	-	(1,348,939)
Change in other liabilities	47,206	(25,752)
Net cash generated from operating activities	(643,330)	140,441
Cash flow from investing activities		
Acquisition of property and equipment	(11,308)	(111,299)
Acquisition of intangibles	(21,857)	(16,873)
Proceeds from sale of assets	-	140
Net cash used in investing activities	(33,165)	(128,032)
Cash flow from financing activities		
Redemption of senior debt	(50,000)	(247,260)
Interest paid on senior and subordinated debt	(25,005)	(32,293)
Lease liability interest payments	(2,184)	-
Lease liability capital payments	(13,210)	-
Dividends paid	(54,419)	(23,844)
Distribution payment to holders of subordinated capital securities	(30,035)	(30,889)
Net cash generated from / (used in) financing activities	(174,852)	(334,286)
(Decrease) / increase in cash and cash equivalents	(851,347)	(321,878)
Cash and cash equivalents:		
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January 2020	4,264,337	4,687,481
Net foreign exchange differences	64,472	(36,795)
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 Dec 2020	3,477,462	4,328,809

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Group	Stated Capital P'000	Revaluation reserve P'000	Statutory credit risk reserve P'000	Retained earnings P'000	Capital Contribution P'000	Treasury Share reserve P'000	Fair value reserve P'000	Total P'000
Balances 1 January 2019	179,273	23,691	19,152	483,734	428,213	(31,566)	6,282	1,108,779
Total comprehensive income								
Profit for the year	-	-	-	54,845	-	-	-	54,845
Other movements	-	-	-	(1,675)	-	-	-	(1,675)
Other comprehensive income								
Fair value adjustment: items measured at fair value through other comprehensive income	-	2,005	-	-	-	-	(1,374)	631
Transactions with owners of the bank								
Dividends to equity holders - paid	-	-	-	(23,844)	-	-	-	(23,844)
Issue of share capital	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Distributions to holders of subordinated capital securities	-	-	-	(30,889)	-	-	-	(30,889)
Balance at 31 December 2019	179,273	25,696	19,152	482,171	428,213	(31,566)	4,908	1,107,847
Balances 1 January 2020	179,273	25,696	19,152	482,171	428,213	(31,566)	4,908	1,107,847
Total comprehensive income								
Profit for the year	-	-	-	49,723	-	-	-	49,723
Other movements	-	-	-	(244)	-	-	-	(244)
Other comprehensive income								
Fair value adjustment: items measured at fair value through other comprehensive income	-	-	-	-	-	-	(12,886)	(12,886)
Transactions with owners of the bank								
Dividends to equity holders - paid	-	-	-	(54,419)	-	-	-	(54,419)
Distributions to holders of subordinated capital securities	-	-	-	(30,035)	-	-	-	(30,035)
Balance at 31 December 2020	179,273	25,696	19,152	447,197	428,213	(31,566)	(7,978)	1,059,987

* The financial statements of SCB Insurance Agency and Botswana Education Trust have been consolidated using uniform accounting policies for like transactions and other events in similar circumstances.

** Cash and cash equivalent are cash balances and balances held with Central Bank and other financial institutions with maturity of 0-3 months.

CONSOLIDATED SEGMENTAL REPORTING

	Retail Banking	Corporate, Commercial and Institutional Banking	Total
2020 Profit or Loss			
Net interest revenue calculated using the effective interest method	348,652	115,611	464,263
Net fee and commission income	149,320	51,308	200,628
Net trading income	30,796	57,580	88,376
Credit loss expense on financial	(21,373)	(19,932)	(41,305)
Liability written off	-	48,049	48,049
Net operating income	507,395	252,616	760,011
Operating expenses	(462,628)	(195,263)	(657,891)
Segment profit (loss) before taxation	44,767	57,353	102,120
Income tax expense	-	-	(52,397)
Profit for the year			49,723
Statement of financial Position			
Investment securities	-	2,113,719	2,113,719
Loans and advances to customers	7,071,323	1,044,357	8,115,680
Other assets for reportable segments	160,116	3,675,189	3,835,305
Total assets for reportable segments	7,231,439	6,833,265	14,064,704
Deposits from non bank customers	4,149,434	7,700,176	11,849,610
Other liabilities for reportable segments	(53,027)	1,218,279	1,165,251
Total liabilities for reportable segments	4,096,407	8,918,455	13,014,861

	Retail Banking	Corporate, and Institutional Banking	Commercial Banking	Total
2019 Profit or Loss				
Net interest revenue calculated using the effective interest method	328,598	84,823	22,238	435,659
Net fee and commission income	156,671	36,731	9,526	202,928
Net trading income	33,750	35,891	15,372	85,013
Credit loss expense on financial	(25,078)	(8,337)	1,228	(32,187)
Net operating income	493,941	149,108	48,364	691,413
Operating expenses	(417,695)	(131,660)	(72,479)	(621,834)
Segment profit (loss) before taxation	76,246	17,448	(24,115)	69,579
Income tax expense	-	-	-	(14,734)
Profit for the year				54,845
Statement of financial Position				
Investment securities	-	3,073,599	-	3,073,599
Loans and advances to customers	6,674,082	1,027,225	217,920	7,919,227
Other assets for reportable segments	115,622	4,628,545	3,509	4,747,676
Total assets for reportable segments	6,789,704	8,729,369	221,429	15,740,501
Deposits from non bank customers	3,851,931	8,022,577	1,001,297	12,875,805
Other liabilities for reportable segments	14,352	1,789,892	(49,546)	1,754,698
Total liabilities for reportable segments	3,866,283	9,812,469	951,751	14,630,503

