

Condensed results of the reviewed consolidated financial statements for the period ended 30 June 2019

Economic outlook

Global and Sub-Saharan Africa outlook

Global growth is expected to ease to 3.2% in 2019 from 3.6% in 2018 before picking up moderately to 3.5% in 2020 according to IMF forecasts. Growth expectations were lowered on account of the prevailing weakness in business and consumer confidence, prolonged uncertainty on Brexit and heightened trade tensions between the United States of America and China. There are significant downside risks to the projected growth pickup in 2020 as it is presuming stabilisation in the currently stressed emerging markets and developing economies and progress toward resolving trade policy differences.

Economic recovery in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) remains on track despite some larger markets, notably South Africa and Nigeria continuing to experience headwinds. Undoubtedly, the recovery remains fragile as indicated by first quarter GDP data, which confirmed ongoing difficulties driven by factors such as low fiscal buffers, adverse weather conditions, weak business and consumer confidence levels, and the weaker global backdrop, among others. The Southern Africa region is experiencing drought, impacting agriculture output and putting upward pressure on food prices. Growth in SSA is expected at 3.4% in 2019 and 3.6% in 2020 (IMF forecasts) as strong growth in many non-resource-intensive countries partially offsets the lacklustre performance of the region's largest economies.

Domestic economic outlook

The local economy remained resilient in the first few months of the year, rising by 4.3% year-on-year in the first quarter of 2019 (Q1 - 2019). Despite the promising start to the year we expect real GDP growth to slow down to 3.9% this year from 4.5% in 2018 as both the mining and non-mining sectors experience a more challenging environment. Key risks to growth include a weaker global environment and continued US-China trade tensions. This has resulted in the global demand for diamonds softening significantly in 2019 due to higher polished inventories and as demand for high-end jewellery stagnates. Secondly, Southern African Customs Union (SACU) revenue pool projections are likely to disappoint over the medium term due to the fiscal risks facing the South African economy and continued weak GDP growth performance.

The outlook for the non-mining sector is also uncertain. The current drought is likely to negatively impact the agricultural sector where conditions are expected to deteriorate further looking at the prevailing grazing and water situation. The drought also poses a threat to water-dependent manufacturing industries.

Inflation and interest rate outlook

Headline inflation remained below the lower band of the Central Bank's objective range of 3 - 6% in the second quarter (Q2 - 2019) mainly reflecting base effects associated with the increase in public transport fares and electricity tariffs in the second quarter of 2018. We expect inflation to remain at modest levels even as it moves above 3%. Upward inflation pressures will come from public servants salary and minimum wage increase, domestic currency weakness and drought in Southern Africa leading to an increase in food prices. However, this is counterweighed by lower global oil prices and weaker domestic demand. Therefore we expect inflation to remain within the Central Bank's 3 - 6% objective range in the medium term.

The central bank reduced the bank rate by 25 basis points from 5% to 4.75% in August 2019 responding to growth concerns amid weaker global and regional economic growth. On the back of the positive inflation outlook we expect the bank rate to remain unchanged at 4.75% but see an increased possibility of another 25 basis points cut due to expectations of looser global monetary policy.

Financial performance

Statement of comprehensive income

Despite the challenging environment we operate in, a steady growth in income across the business segments relative to the previous year has characterised our performance for the period under review. We achieved a profit before tax of P387 million on statutory basis representing growth of 49% year-on-year. This performance was influenced by growth in income, contained costs and favourable credit losses. Total income is up year-on-year by 9% translating to an increase of P67 million, propelled by

balance sheet growth of 6% and an increase in our net fees and commission income by 5% year-on-year. We continued to drive momentum across all our key segments to negate the effects of compressed margins arising from an increase in cost of funding.

Net interest income increased 8% year-on-year, mainly driven by balance sheet growth. The business remained resilient in its selected market segments and continued to drive credit growth.

Operating costs were well contained with the business achieving a cost to income ratio of 53% for the period ended 30 June 2019. This is in line with our strategy to achieve cost to income ratio of lower 50's. We incurred total costs of P431 million on a statutory basis representing an increase of 8% year-on-year on a normalised view costs grew by 4%. We continue to seek opportunities to realise cost efficiencies to ensure a sustainable business operation.

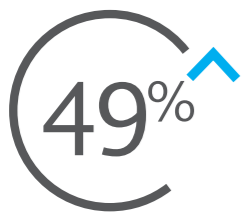
On a year-on-year basis our credit losses decreased by 110% in comparison to the previous year with an overall net recovery of P8 million for the period ending 30 June 2019. Our year-to-date expected credit losses performance has benefited from a significant recovery from one of our corporate clients, our enhanced collections capability and conservative credit extension to high risk sectors.

Statement of financial position

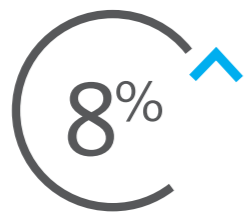
Loans and advances to customers grew 12% year-on-year to P12.8 billion from P11.4 billion. The growth in loans was realised across all business segments as we continue to focus on client penetration and acquisition to drive up our volumes. Customer liabilities increased by 7% year-on-year to P13 billion from P12 billion driven by positive growth across our business segments. Our balance sheet position remains solid at a total financial position of P17.9 billion, with strong liquidity and capital adequacy levels. Our regulatory capital position stood at P2.5 billion representing a ratio of 18% against the regulatory limit of 15% and liquid assets ratio was well above the regulatory minimum of 10%.

Key performance highlights

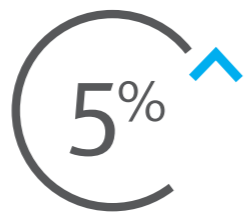
Profit before tax



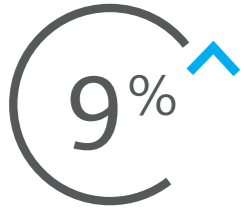
Net interest income



Net fee and commission income



Total income



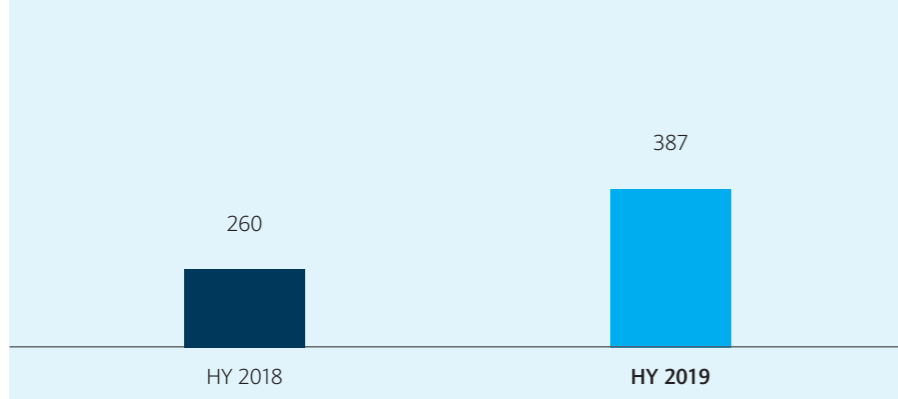
Cost to income ratio



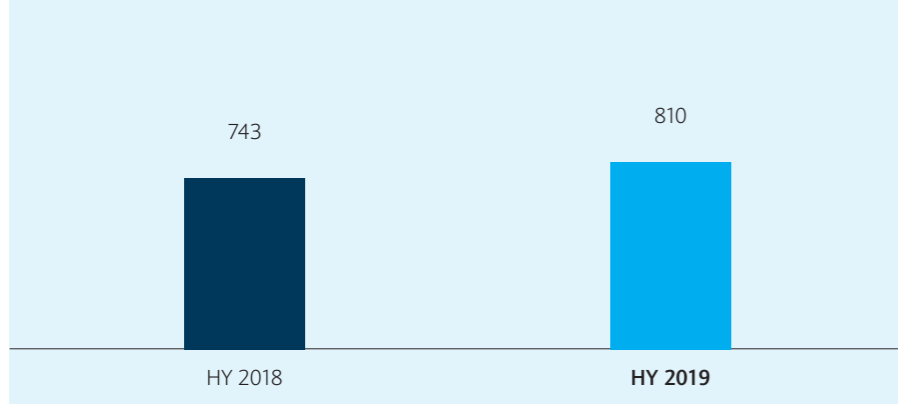
Return on equity



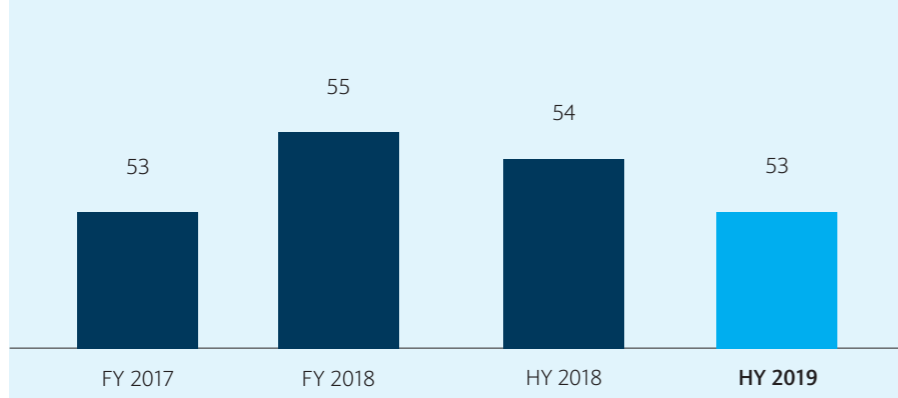
Profit before tax (P'million)



Total income (P'million)



Cost to income ratio %



Consolidated statement of comprehensive income

For the period ended 30 June 2019

	Reviewed half year ended 30 June 2019 P'000	Reviewed half year ended 30 June 2018 P'000	% Change
Effective interest income	663 508	596 204	11%
Effective interest expense	(132 532)	(105 926)	25%
Net interest income	530 976	490 278	8%
Fee and commission income	226 653	193 860	17%
Fee and commission expense	(40 347)	(17 151)	135%
Net fee and commission income	186 306	176 709	5%
Net trading and investing income	82 513	74 598	11%
Other income	9 954	1 509	560%
Total income	809 749	743 094	9%
Expected credit losses	8 254	(85 172)	(110%)
Net operating income	818 003	657 922	24%
Staff costs	(232 678)	(215 780)	8%
Infrastructure costs	(55 720)	(53 711)	4%
Administration and general expenses	(142 302)	(128 851)	10%
Operating expenses	(430 700)	(398 342)	8%
Profit before tax	387 303	259 580	49%
Taxation	(88 523)	(58 497)	51%
Profit for the period	298 780	201 083	49%
Other comprehensive income (OCI)			
Items that are or may be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss:			
Financial assets at fair value through OCI			
Net gain/(loss) on Financial assets at fair value through OCI	2 015	(632)	(419%)
	2 015	(632)	(419%)
Total other comprehensive income/(loss) for the period, net of tax	2 015	(632)	(419%)
Total comprehensive income for the period, net of tax	300 795	200 451	50%
Earnings per share			
Basic and diluted (thebe per share)	35.06	23.52	49%

Condensed consolidated statement of changes in equity

For the period ended 30 June 2019

	Stated capital P'000	General risk reserve P'000	Fair value reserves P'000	Available-for-sale investments revaluation reserve	Share-based payment reserve P'000	Retained earnings P'000	Share capital reserve P'000	Total equity attributable to shareholders P'000
Balance at 1 January 2018	17 108	107 206	-	(270)	6 104	1 820 410	2 060	1 952 618
Decrease resulting from adoption of IFRS 9 restated ^{note 4}	-	-	(270)	270	-	(149 909)	-	(149 909)
Profit for the period	-	-	-	-	-	201 081	-	201 081
Other comprehensive income for the period	-	-	(632)	-	-	-	-	(632)
Total comprehensive income for the period	-	-	(632)	-	-	201 081	-	200 449
Payment of dividends	-	-	-	-	-	(180 002)	-	(180 002)
Recognition of share based payments	-	-	-	-	784	-	-	784
Total transactions with owners	-	-	-	-	784	(180 002)	-	(179 218)
Balance at 30 June 2018 ^{note 4}	17 108	107 206	(902)	-	6 888	1 691 580	2 060	1 823 940
Balance at 1 July 2018	17 108	107 206	(902)		6 888	1 691 580	2 060	1 823 940
Profit for the period	-	-	-	-	-	253 463	-	253 463
Other comprehensive loss for the period	-	-	162	-	-	-	-	162
Total comprehensive income for the period	-	-	162	-	-	253 463	-	253 625
Payment of dividends	-	-	-	-	-	(79 933)	-	(79 933)
Recognition of share based payments	-	-	-	-	(3 740)	-	-	(3 740)
Transfers from/(to) retained earnings	-	11 141	-	-	-	(11 141)	-	-
Total transactions with owners	-	11 141	-	-	(3 740)	(91 074)	-	(83 673)
Balance at 31 December 2018	17 108	118 347	(740)	-	3 148	1 853 969	2 060	1 993 892
Balance at 1 January 2019	17 108	118 347	(740)		3 148	1 853 969	2 060	1 993 892
Decrease resulting from adoption of IFRS 16	-	-	-	-	-	(552)	-	(552)
Profit for the period	-	-	-	-	-	298 780	-	298 780
Other comprehensive income for the period	-	-	2 015	-	(357)	-	-	1 658
Total comprehensive income for the period	-	-	2 015	-	(357)	298 780	-	300 438
Payment of dividends	-	-	-	-	-	(189 998)	-	(189 998)
Recognition of share based payments	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers from/(to) retained earnings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total transactions with owners	-	-	-	-	-	(189 998)	-	(189 998)
Balance at 30 June 2019	17 108	118 347	1 275	-	2 791	1 962 199	2 060	2 103 780



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Condensed results of the reviewed consolidated financial statements for the period ended 30 June 2019

Normalised view vs IFRS view

Absa Group Limited is on a journey to separate from Barclays Plc, a process expected to be completed by June 2020. As a consequence of the foregoing, the Group is required to incur certain costs as part of the separation from Barclays Plc. These costs are necessary to ensure a seamless separation of the African entities from Barclays Plc.

These separation costs are governed by a Transitional Services Agreement (TSA) with Absa Group

Limited that defines the nature and terms of the costs. The separation costs will form part of the operating expenditure until the separation is complete.

The below statements show a reconciliation of the IFRS view and what is called the normalised view. Normalised view is essentially a term that is meant to give the market a view of underlying performance of the business when we exclude the once off transitional costs referred to above.

Normalised view vs IFRS view consolidated statement of comprehensive income for the period ended 30 June 2019

	IFRS View 30 June 2019 P'000	Barclays PLC Separation costs 30 June 2019 P'000	Normalised view 30 June 2019 P'000	IFRS View 30 June 2018 P'000	Barclays PLC Separation costs 30 June 2018 P'000	Normalised view 30 June 2018 P'000	Change in normalised results vs prior year %
Effective interest income	663 508	-	663 508	596 204	-	596 204	11%
Effective interest expense	(132 532)	-	(132 532)	(105 926)	-	(105 926)	25%
Net interest income	530 976	-	530 976	490 278	-	490 278	8%
Fee and commission income	226 653	-	226 653	193 860	-	193 860	17%
Fee and commission expense	(40 347)	(31)	(40 316)	(17 151)	-	(17 151)	135%
Net fee and commission income	186 306	(31)	186 337	176 709	-	176 709	5%
Net trading income	82 513	(1 639)	84 152	74 598	-	74 598	13%
Other income	9 954	-	9 954	1 509	-	1 509	560%
Total income	809 749	(1 670)	811 419	743 094	-	743 094	9%
Expected credit losses on loans and advances	8 254	-	8 254	(85 172)	-	(85 172)	(110%)
Net operating income	818 003	(1 670)	819 673	657 922	-	657 922	24%
Staff costs	(232 678)	(471)	(232 207)	(215 780)	-	(215 780)	8%
Infrastructure costs	(55 720)	(14)	(55 706)	(53 711)	-	(53 711)	4%
Administration and general expenses	(142 302)	(15 782)	(126 520)	(128 851)	(102)	(128 749)	(2%)
Operating expenses	(430 700)	(16 267)	(412 763)	(398 342)	(102)	(398 240)	4%
Profit before tax	387 303	(17 937)	405 240	259 580	(102)	259 682	56%
Taxation	(88 523)	3 946	(92 469)	(58 497)	22	(58 519)	58%
Profit for the period	298 780	(13 991)	312 771	201 083	(80)	201 163	55%

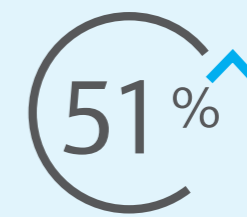
Normalised view vs IFRS view consolidated statement of financial position as at 30 June 2019

	IFRS view 30 June 2019 P'000	Barclays PLC Separation costs 30 June 2019 P'000	Normalised view 30 June 2019 P'000	*Restated IFRS view 30 June 2018 P'000	Barclays PLC Separation costs 30 June 2018 P'000	Normalised view 30 June 2018 P'000	Change in normalised results vs prior year %
Assets							
Cash	333 488	-	333 488	319 161	-	319 161	4%
Balances at the Central Bank	1 426 826	-	1 426 826	1 763 876	-	1 763 876	(19%)
Trading portfolio assets	67 232	-	67 232	83 935	-	83 935	(20%)
Derivative financial instruments	32 818	-	32 818	20 989	-	20 989	56%
Financial assets at fair value through OCI	1 378 031	-	1 378 031	1 508 545	-	1 508 545	(9%)
Loans and advances to banks	956 305	-	956 305	778 501	-	778 501	23%
Due from related companies	578 620	(6 019)	584 639	698 938	-	698 938	(16%)
Loans and advances to customers	12 769 413	-	12 769 413	11 353 334	-	11 353 334	12%
Other receivables	174 101	(85)	174 186	202 176	-	202 176	(14%)
Property, plant and equipment	185 888	-	185 888	134 388	-	134 388	38%
Intangible assets	978	-	978	764	-	764	28%
Deferred tax assets	59 538	-	59 538	80 654	-	80 654	(26%)
Total assets	17 963 238	(6 104)	17 969 342	16 945 261	-	16 945 261	6%
Equity and liabilities							
Liabilities							
Deposits from banks	621 993	-	621 993	290 084	-	290 084	114%
Due to related companies	718 415	20	718 395	1 464 986	-	1 464 986	(51%)
Customer deposits	12 994 203	-	12 994 203	12 111 557	-	12 111 557	7%
Derivative financial instruments	28 846	-	28 846	14 872	-	14 872	94%
Other payables	504 903	6 458	498 445	698 788	58	698 788	(29%)
Provisions	39 114	-	39 114	32 965	-	32 965	19%
Current tax payable	4 745	1 409	3 336	123	22	123	2 612%
Debt securities in issue	588 934	-	588 934	253 510	-	253 510	132%
Subordinated debt	358 305	-	358 305	254 436	-	254 436	41%
Total liabilities	15 859 458	7 886	15 851 572	15 121 321	80	15 121 321	5%
Shareholders' equity							
Stated capital	17 108	-	17 108	17 108	-	17 108	-
General risk reserves	118 347	-	118 347	107 206	-	107 206	10%
Fair value reserves	1 275	-	1 275	(902)	-	(902)	(241%)
Share-based payment reserve	2 791	-	2 791	6 888	-	6 888	(59%)
Share capital reserve	2 060	-	2 060	2 060	-	2 060	-
Retained income	1 962 199	(13 991)	1 976 190	1 691 580	(80)	1 691 580	17%
Total equity attributable to equity holders	2 103 780	(13 991)	2 117 771	1 823 940	(80)	1 823 940	16%
Total equity and liabilities	17 963 238	(6 104)	17 969 342	16 945 261	-	16 945 261	6%

Normalised
profit before tax



Normalised costs
to income ratio



Normalised
return on equity



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