

Letshego Subsidiary, Afb Ghana, expands bond funding by GHS200mn, while maintaining a strong credit rating of BBB+ (GH)

Afb Ghana Bonds rank 3 notches above investment grade

- Afb increases bond funding programme by two thirds, or GHS200 million (*approx. BWP432mn*)
- ‘Global Credit Rating’ affirms Afb Ghana Plc’s bonds secure stable rating of **BBB+(GH)** for the last 12 month period
- New bonds issued to value of GHS95million (*approx. BWP205mn*)
- Afb Ghana, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Letshego Group, leverages the listing of bonds on the Ghana Fixed Income Market (GFIM) of the Ghana Stock Exchange, to support the subsidiary’s capital funding strategy

Accra, Ghana – Monday, 9 July 2018: To support the inclusive finance entity’s ongoing expansion strategy, Afb Ghana has increased its bond issue by two thirds, to total GHS300million (*approx. BWP648mn*). Afb’s bonds have managed to secure a solid rating for the last year thanks to Afb’s solid track record and positive business potential for the medium term.

Global Credit Rating attributes the positive rating track record to Afb Ghana’s “*sustainable multi-lending product strategy executed by leveraging on the expertise of its parent Letshego Holdings Limited (“Letshego”), increased funding diversification, strong capitalisation and enhanced earnings profile.*” Looking forward, the rating agency’s interest lies in reviewing Afb Ghana’s recently launched mobile Qwikloan solution, with other new offerings and digital ventures, such as Afb Ghana’s Education Eco-System solution being a key consideration for the rating horizon.

Arnold Parker, Afb Ghana’s Chief Executive Officer commented, “*Our bond programme remains a valuable element of our funding strategy in Ghana. Our increased access to funding not only secures more capital to support expansion strategies, but also achieves cost efficiencies in securing local currency funding as well as extended terms – all elements which contribute to diversifying our risk.*”

Afb Ghana has recently raised an additional GHS95 million in new bond issues from predominantly local investors. The issue of the new 5, 6 and 7 year bonds was again oversubscribed, and again attributable to the strong track record of Afb and the investment grade rating of the listed bonds.

Parker added, “*Our bond credit rating of BBB+(GH) sits three notches above investment grade – a noteworthy achievement for any expanding business. Letshego and Afb Ghana remain committed to focusing our growth strategy in Ghana to leverage local business potential, and secure sustainable growth for the long term.*”

Ends.

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NOTES TO EDITORS:

About afb (Ghana) Ltd

afb Ghana is a licensed financial services provider in Ghana, providing loans to individuals across both the public and private sectors, as well as supporting Micro and Small Entrepreneurs. Since the conclusion of the successful acquisition by Letshego Holdings Ltd in Jan 2017, afb Ghana qualifies as a wholly owned subsidiary of the Letshego Group - an inclusive finance group with more than 20 years experience in Africa, and a current footprint of 11 Sub Saharan Markets. afb Ghana first opened its doors in 2010 and has since grown to a staff compliment of over 290 employees, spread across 26 outlets, enjoying an expanded customer reach through strategic partnerships, innovative technology and digital delivery channels. For more info visit www.afb.com.gh / www.letshego.com

About Letshego Holdings Limited (“Letshego Group”)

The Letshego Group is a proudly African multinational organisation, headquartered and listed in Botswana and focused on delivering inclusive finance solutions to underserved populations across 11 Sub Saharan Markets.

With a staff compliment of over 3,000 – including both direct and indirect sales agents - and more than four hundred thousand customers, Letshego is synonymous with leveraging innovation and technology to improve the lives of individuals who have limited access to traditional financial services.

In 2018, Letshego celebrates 20 years of supporting regional communities, with strong progress towards the Group’s ambition to be Africa’s leading inclusive finance organisation.

For more info visit www.letshego.com