

|PRESS RELEASE|

11th September 2015

Letshego Shows Sound Performance; Accelerates Strategy

- *Earnings per share up by 6%*
- *16% increase in advances*
- *8% increase in profit after tax to P402 million*

GABORONE – Letshego Holdings Limited Group on 11th September 2015 shared the Group’s consolidated financial results for the six months ended 30th June 2015 before key stakeholders. The pan-African financial services Group continues to export the Botswana success story and fly the Botswana flag high as a key example of the potential for home grown brands to at once thrive as well as truly make a difference across the continent.

The impact of the Group is seen in the financial performance of Letshego as well as in its environmental and social governance, impacting lives across Africa, with over 260,000 customers being served. “Our role as a financial service provider does not end in financial support or transactions with customers. Rather, it is a responsibility we continue to remind ourselves of to support and uplift individuals, families and communities through simple, affordable and appropriate solutions,” noted Group Managing Director, Chris Low. “It is an added benefit for us to see that we are, at the same time, able to reward the many loyal shareholders who place their trust in us each and every day.”

Underlying performance was positive, with interest income increasing by 10%. The strong growth in noninterest income (55% on prior period to P202 million) indicates progress in the Group’s efforts to diversify its revenue streams. Cost of borrowings remained consistent with prior periods; however, interest expense that makes this up includes foreign exchange losses on open inter group positions amounting to P50 million. Overall, costs increased by 8% and due to using more conservative impairment estimates, the charge for the first six months was P70 million.

A lower than normal tax charge was recorded following the resolution during the current period of some historical tax assessments from certain tax authorities. Overall, this resulted in an increase in profit after tax of 8% to P402 million, translating into an EPS increase of 6% to 18.5 thebe (basic). The Group’s capital adequacy is high, with its capital to risk weighted assets standing at 60%. Further, cash resources of over P283 million bolster the Group’s liquidity. The quality of the advances book was within target levels with an impairment charge on the net portfolio at 2.5%, as the underlying asset saw an increase of 16%.

“The Board and management continue to seek and review potential inorganic expansion options that offer opportunities to accelerate Letshego’s strategy. We have a positive outlook and expect sustained performance, growth and returns, as we continued in our quest to ensure financial inclusion across the African continent, and a further iteration of a Botswana brand being exported across Africa. Value for all of our stakeholders has been, and remains, a priority,” concluded Low.

The Board has resolved to award an interim dividend of P196 million, at 9 thebe per share (gross of tax), translating to an annualised dividend yield of approximately 6%.

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NOTES TO THE EDITOR:

More about Letshego:

Rooted in Botswana, Letshego has branched out across Africa and borne fruit across the continent, ploughing back returns into the Botswana economy via its BITC accredited head office situated in Gaborone. With a market capitalisation of BWP 7 billion, Letshego currently stands as Botswana's *largest indigenous listed entity*. Letshego also ranks as the most profitable indigenous listed entity, having reported P970 million profit for the eleven months ended 31 December 2014. The Group employs about 1,500 team members, equally split between men and women, who service a customer base of over 265,000 through some 250 access points, including over 500 direct agents. The Group can now also boast being one of the Top 30 listed companies in Africa (excluding South Africa) by market capitalisation. The positioning is highlighted as part of a survey done by London-based firm, Hartland-Peel.