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Group Secretariat

3rd Floor Absa Towers East
170 Main Street Johannesburg 2001
PO Box 7735 Johannesburg 2000
Tel 011 350 4000
Fax 011 350 4928
Swift Address: ABSA ZA JJ
<http://www.absa.co.za>

Groep Sekretariaat

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26 November 2003



Office of International Corporate Finance
Division of Corporate Finance
Securities and Exchange Commission
Washington DC 20549-0302
USA

FAX: 09 1 202 942 9624

Dear Sir/Madam

ABSA GROUP LIMITED: FILE REFERENCE 082-04569

Please see attached cautionary announcement released on Monday, 24 November 2003.

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us at the above address or telephone number.

Yours faithfully


W R SOMERVILLE
GROUP COMPANY SECRETARY

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ABSA Group Limited/Groep Beperk, Reg No 1986/003934/06

Directors/Direktore: DC Cronjé (Chairman/Voorsitter) DC Brink (Deputy Chairman/Adjunk-voorsitter) *ER Bosman (Group Chief Executive/Groep Uitvoerende Hoof)
*GR Pardoe (Deputy Group Chief Executive/Adjunk Groep Uitvoerende Hoof) DC Arnold ~~ND Bant~~ L Boyd BP Connellan AS du Plessis *PJ du Toit G Griffin
LN Jonker P du P Kruger TMG Sexwale FA Sonn PEI Swartz T van Wyk (10/11/2003)

*Executive Directors/Uitvoerende Direksure

Secretary/Sekretaris: WR Somerville



Absa Group Limited
(Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)
(Registration number 1986/003934/06)
JSE code: ASA Issuer code: AMQB
ISIN: ZAE000013389
("Absa")

Cautionary announcement

Shareholders are advised that Absa is in advanced negotiations with regard to the introduction of Empowerment Shareholders at the Absa Group level. These negotiations include the appointment of a consortium led by Messrs Tokyo Sexwale and Lesile Maasdorp and Mrs Nthobeni Angel to assist in the formation of an appropriate empowerment grouping. The grouping is to be broad-based and representative of a countrywide spectrum of empowerment parties. The process is well underway and appropriate announcements will be made in due course. It is envisaged that a holding of 10% will be made available for this purpose.

Should these negotiations be successfully concluded it may have an effect on the price at which Absa shares trade on the JSE Securities Exchange South Africa. Accordingly, shareholders are advised to exercise caution when trading in Absa's shares until further announcements are made. The proposed transaction is subject to the necessary shareholder and regulatory approvals.

Johannesburg
24 November 2003

Lead sponsor

 **Merrill Lynch**
Global Markets & Investment Banking Group
Merrill Lynch South Africa (Pty) Ltd
Registration number 1997/00000000
Registered Member and Member of the
JSE Securities Exchange South Africa

Co-sponsor

 **Absa**
Corporate & Merchant Bank
Corporate Finance
Absa Bank Limited
Reg. No. 1986/004794/06

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25 November 2003

Office of International Corporate Finance
Division of Corporate Finance
Securities and Exchange Commission
Washington DC 20549-0302
USA

FAX: 09 1 202 942 9624

Dear Sir/Madam

ABSA GROUP LIMITED: FILE REFERENCE NO. 082-04569: INTERIM RESULTS

Please note that the interim financial results of Absa Group Limited for the period ended 30 September 2003 were released on Monday, 24 November 2003.

The interim results may be viewed on the Absa website, <http://www.absa.co.za>

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us at the above address or telephone number.

Yours faithfully

W R SOMERVILLE
GROUP COMPANY SECRETARY

ABSA Group Limited/Groep Beperk, Reg No 1986/003934/06

Directors/Direktore: DC Cronjé (Chairman/Voorsitter) DC Brink (Deputy Chairman/Adjunkvoorsitter) *ER Bosman (Group Chief Executive/Groep Uitvoerende Hoof)
NB Barni L Boyd BP Connellan AS du Plessis *EJ du Toit G Griffin LN Jonker P du P Kruger ~~DE Mostert~~ TMG Sexwale FA Sonn PEI Swartz
T van Wyk (15/2001) *GR Fardoe

*Executive Directors/Uitvoerende Direktore

Secretary/Sekretaris: WR Somerville

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