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Fitch Ratings is also recognised in the US by the Federal Reserve, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, the Federal Deposit Insurance Commission, the Office of Thrift Supervision, the National Credit Union Administration, the National Association of Insurance Commissioners, the Department of Labour, the North American Securities Administrators Association, the National Association of Securities Dealers, the New York and Philadelphia Stock Exchanges and many state securities and legal investment authorities.

Fitch Ratings currently maintains coverage of approximately 6,000 financial institutions, including over 3,200 banks and 2,400 insurance companies. Finance & leasing companies, broker-dealers, managed funds, and covered bonds make up the remainder of the company's financial institution coverage universe. Additionally, Fitch currently rates over 1,700 corporate issuers, 100 sovereigns, 150 Sub-sovereigns and 94,000 US municipal transactions.

The company currently has over 7,220 U.S. structured finance transactions under surveillance, comprising 3,970 RMBS pools, 4,910 CMBS and 2,000 ABS deals. Fitch also maintains surveillance on approximately 1,120 European and 260 Asia-Pacific structured finance transactions. The company currently employs more than 2,000 professionals at its 49 offices worldwide.

Ratings and Reviews in Progress

A number of banks, insurance companies, structured finance transactions, corporates and local governments are in the process of being reviewed and will be released shortly.

- Access Bank PLC
- Airports Company South Africa Ltd
- Aveng Ltd
- City of Johannesburg Metropolitan Municipality
- Development Bank of Southern Africa
- FirstRand Bank Holdings Ltd
- FirstRand Bank Ltd
- First Bank of Nigeria PLC
- Guaranty Trust Bank PLC
- Nkangala District Municipality
- Investec Bank Ltd
- Investec Limited
- Pick 'n Pay Stores Ltd
- Sanlam Capital Markets Ltd
- Stanbic IBTC Bank PLC
- Steinhoff International Ltd
- Super Group Ltd

Monthly Ratings Update (At 31 October 2008)

Bank Ratings

National Ratings Affirmed

Imperial Bank Limited

Intercontinental Bank PLC

International Ratings Affirmed

Intercontinental Bank PLC

Corporate Ratings

National Ratings Affirmed

Denel (Pty) Ltd

TCTA - Berg Water Project

TCTA - Vaal River Eastern Sub-System Augmentation Project

National Ratings Upgraded

Umgeni Water

Fund and Asset Manager Ratings

Nil

Structured Finance Ratings

National Ratings Affirmed

Sanlam Home Loans 103 (Pty) Ltd

ZAR400m Class A Series A2: 'AAA(zaf)'; Outlook Stable

ZAR100m Class A Series A3: 'AAA(zaf)'; Outlook Stable

ZAR355m Class A Series A5: 'AAA(zaf)'; Outlook Stable

ZAR176m Class A Series A6: 'AAA(zaf)'; Outlook Stable

ZAR295m Class A Series A8: 'AAA(zaf)'; Outlook Stable

ZAR319m Class A Series A9: 'AAA(zaf)'; Outlook Stable

ZAR356m Class A Series A10: 'AAA(zaf)'; Outlook Stable

ZAR535m Class A Series A11: 'AAA(zaf)'; Outlook Stable

ZAR45m Class A Series A12: 'AAA(zaf)'; Outlook Stable

ZAR29m Class B Series B2: 'AA(zaf)'; Outlook Stable

ZAR36m Class B Series B4: 'AA(zaf)'; Outlook Stable

ZAR12m Class B Series B5: 'AA(zaf)'; Outlook Stable

ZAR75m Class B Series B7: 'AA(zaf)'; Outlook Stable

ZAR48m Class B Series B8: 'AA(zaf)'; Outlook Stable

ZAR54m Class C Series C2: 'A(zaf)'; Outlook Stable

ZAR35m Class C Series C3: 'A(zaf)'; Outlook Stable

ZAR23m Class D Series D2: 'BBB(zaf)'; Outlook Stable

ZAR17m Class D Series D3: 'BBB(zaf)'; Outlook Stable

Thekwini Fund 3 (Pty) Ltd

ZAR1366m Class A1 Series A1: 'AAA (zaf)'; Outlook Stable

ZAR305m Class A2 Series A2: 'AAA (zaf)'; Outlook Stable

ZAR195m Class A3 Series A3: 'AAA (zaf)'; Outlook Stable

ZAR29m Class C Series C: 'BBB (zaf)'; Outlook Positive

Thekwini Fund 4 (Pty) Ltd

ZAR1585m Class A1 Series A1: 'AAA (zaf)'; Outlook Stable

ZAR643m Class A2 Series A2: 'AAA (zaf)'; Outlook Stable

ZAR107m Class A3 Series A3: 'AAA (zaf)'; Outlook Stable

ZAR50m Class C Series C: 'BBB (zaf)'; Outlook Stable

Thekwini Fund 5 (Pty) Ltd

ZAR1795m Class A1 Series A1: 'AAA (zaf)'; Outlook Stable

ZAR787m Class A2 Series A2: 'AAA (zaf)'; Outlook Stable

ZAR253m Class A3 Series A3: at 'AAA (zaf)'; Outlook Stable

ZAR105 Class B Series B: 'A (zaf)'; Outlook Stable

ZAR60m Class C Series C: 'BBB (zaf)'; Outlook Stable

National Ratings New Ratings

Sanlam Home Loans 103 (Pty) Ltd

ZAR445m Class A Series A13: 'AAA(zaf)'; Outlook Stable

ZAR295m Class A Series A1U: 'AAA(zaf)'; Outlook Stable

ZAR79m Class A Series A15: 'AAA(zaf)'; Outlook Stable

ZAR34m Class B Series B9: 'AA(zaf)'; Outlook Stable

ZAR22m Class C Series C4: 'A(zaf)'; Outlook Stable

ZAR45m Class C Series C1U: 'A(zaf)'; Outlook Stable

ZAR50m Class D Series D1U: 'BBB(zaf)'; Outlook Stable

National Ratings Upgraded

Thekwini Fund 3 (Pty) Ltd

ZAR105m Class B Series B: 'A+ (zaf)' from 'A (zaf)'; Outlook Positive

Thekwini Fund 4 (Pty) Ltd

ZAR115m Class B Series B: 'A+ (zaf)' from 'A (zaf)'; Outlook Positive

Banks and Finance Company Ratings

National Ratings

	Ratings			Last changed			Equity		
	Short term	Long term	Supp.	Short term	Long term	Supp.	(ZARm)	At	Outlook
ABSA Group Ltd	F1+(zaf)	AAA(zaf)	1		07/05↑	08/05↑	42,782	12/07	Stable
ABSA Bank Ltd	F1+(zaf)	AAA(zaf)	1	09/94	07/05↑	08/05↑	30,884	12/07	Stable
Development Bank of Southern Africa	F1+(zaf)	AAA(zaf)	2	12/94	12/94	10/95	15,770	03/08	Stable
FirstRand Bank Holdings Ltd	F1+(zaf)	AA-(zaf)	5		09/08↓		42,657	06/08	Stable
FirstRand Bank Ltd	F1+(zaf)	AA(zaf)	2	09/91	09/08↓	09/95	27,720	06/08	Stable
Genbel Securities Ltd	F1(zaf)	A+(zaf)	2	09/98	11/07↑	10/06↑	1,354	12/07	Stable
Sanlam Capital Markets Limited ^b	F1(zaf)	A+(zaf)	2	07/04	11/07↑	10/06↑	539	12/07	Stable
Imperial Bank Ltd	F1+(zaf)	AA-(zaf)	2	11/07↑	11/07↑	12/98	2,397	12/07	Stable
Investec Bank Ltd	F1+(zaf)	AA-(zaf)	2	12/07↑	12/07↑	11/04↑	11,469	03/08	Stable
Land & Agricultural Development Bank	F1+(zaf)	AA(zaf)	2	10/91	11/07↑	12/95	1,696	03/07	Stable
Nedbank Group Limited ^a	F1+(zaf)	AA-(zaf)	2	11/07↑	11/07↑	03/97	31,704	12/07	Stable
Nedbank Ltd	F1+(zaf)	AA(zaf)	2	04/93	11/07↑	04/95	29,396	12/07	Stable
South African Bank of Athens Ltd	F1+(zaf)	AA-(zaf)	2	11/07↑	11/07↑		85.7	12/07	Stable
The Standard Bank Group Ltd	F1+(zaf)		5	06/94		07/99	62,408	12/07	
The Standard Bank of South Africa Ltd	F1+(zaf)	AA+(zaf)	2	06/04	06/04	11/95	33,188	12/07	Negative

▲ ▼ ◆ These icons indicate that ratings are on Watch, with ▲ indicating "Positive Watch", ▼ indicating "Negative Watch" and ◆ indicating "Evolving"

^a Previously Nedcor Limited

^b Previously Gensec Bank

Banks and Finance Company Ratings

Bond Issues/Medium Term Note Programs Cont.

	Rating	At
ABSA Bank Ltd		
Subordinated unsecured callable notes due 2014 (AB02)	AA+(zaf)	08/05
ABSA Bank Ltd		
European medium term note programme (EUR2bn)		
Senior notes		
• Long term international foreign currency	A	06/07
• Short term international foreign currency	F1	06/07
Senior unsecured notes due 2012 (EUR600)	A	07/07
Subordinated notes		
• Long term international foreign currency	A-	06/07
ABSA Bank Ltd		
Domestic medium term note programme (ZAR15bn)		
Senior notes		
• Long term international local currency	A	04/08
• Long term national	AAA(zaf)	08/05
Subordinated notes		
• Long term international local currency	A-	04/08
• Long term national	AA+(zaf)	08/05
Calyon Corporate and Investment Bank		
Domestic medium term note programme (ZAR4bn) - Senior Notes		
• Long term international local currency	AA-	08/08
• Long term national	AAA(zaf)	05/05
FirstRand Bank Ltd		
Domestic medium term note programme (ZAR5bn)		
Senior notes		
• Long term international local currency	BBB+	09/08
• Long term national	AA(zaf)	09/08
Subordinated notes		
• Long term international local currency	BBB	09/08
• Long term national	AA-(zaf)	09/08
Upper Tier 2 floating rate notes (ZAR440m)		
• Long term national	AA-(zaf)	09/08
Upper Tier 2 mixed rate notes (ZAR628m)		
• Long term national	AA-(zaf)	09/08
FirstRand Bank Ltd		
European medium term note programme (USD1.5bn)		
Senior notes		
• Long term international foreign currency	BBB+	09/08
• Short term international foreign currency	F2	07/07
Senior unsecured notes due 2012 (EUR500)	BBB+	09/08
Subordinated notes		
• Long term International foreign currency	BBB	09/08
Imperial Bank Ltd		
Subordinated unsecured callable notes (ZAR500m)	A+(zaf)	11/07
Subordinated unsecured callable notes (ZAR165m)	A+(zaf)	11/07

Bond Issues/Medium Term Note Programs Cont.

	Rating	At
Investec Bank Ltd		
European medium term note programme (USD1.5bn)		
Senior notes		
• Long term international foreign currency	BBB+	12/07
• Short term international foreign currency	F2	12/07
Subordinated notes		
• Long term International foreign currency	BBB	12/07
Sanlam Capital Markets Ltd		
• Guaranteed obligations	AA-(zaf)	07/07
The Standard Bank of South Africa Ltd		
European medium term note programme (USD1bn)		
Senior notes		
• Long term international foreign currency	A-	08/07
• Short term international foreign currency	F2	08/07
Senior unsecured notes due 2012 (USD500m)	A-	08/07
Subordinated notes		
• Long term international foreign currency	BBB+	08/07

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International Ratings

	Ratings				Support rating floor	Last changed			Equity		
	S. term	L. term	Indiv.	Supp.		S. term	L. term	Supp.	(USDm)	At	Outlook
ABSA Group Ltd	F1	A	B/C	1		09/06↑	09/06↑	08/05	6,249.6	12/07	Stable
Local currency		A					04/08↓				Stable
ABSA Bank Ltd	F1	A	B/C	1		09/06↑	09/06↑	08/05	4,535.1	12/07	Stable
Local currency		A					04/08↓				Stable
FirstRand Bank Holdings Ltd	F3	BBB	B/C	5		09/08↓	09/08↓		5,458.3	06/08	Stable
FirstRand Bank Ltd	F2	BBB+	B/C	2	BBB-	08/05↑	09/08↓	05/97↓	3,547.0	06/08	Stable
Local currency		BBB+					09/08↓				Stable
Investec Ltd	F2	BBB+	B/C	5		12/07↑	12/07↑	03/02↓	1,797.7	03/08	Stable
Investec Bank Ltd	F2	BBB+	B/C	2	BBB-	12/07↑	12/07↑	11/04↑	1,415.9	03/08	Stable
Nedbank Group Ltd	F3	BBB	B/C	2			10/05↑	07/05↑	4,655.5	12/07	Stable
Local currency		BBB					07/05				Stable
Nedbank Ltd	F2	BBB+	B/C	2		06/07↑	06/07↑	12/03↓	4,080.6	12/07	Stable
Local currency		BBB+					12/03↓				Stable
The Standard Bank Group Ltd			B/C	5				07/98↓	9,164.2	12/07	
The Standard Bank of SA Ltd	F2	A-	B/C	2	BBB-	08/05↑	07/07↑	07/98↓	4,873.4	12/07	Negative
Local currency		A-					05/03↑				Negative

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Other Banks and Finance Company Ratings

National

Nigerian banks	Ratings		Last changed		Equity	
	S.term	L.term	S.term	L.term	(NGNbn)	At
Access Bank Plc	F3 (nga)	BBB(nga)	12/07	12/07	172.0	09/08
Diamond Bank Plc	F2(nga)	A-(nga)	10/07↓	10/07↓	117.3	04/08
Ecobank Nigeria Plc	F2(nga)	BBB+(nga)	07/08	07/08	34.8	12/07
First Bank of Nigeria Plc	F1(nga)	A+(nga)			355.6	03/08
Guaranty Trust Bank Plc	F1+(nga)	AA-(nga)	10/06	10/06	163.3	02/08
Intercontinental Bank Plc	F1(nga)	A+(nga)	10/06	08/07↑	208.9	02/08
Stanbic IBTC Bank PLC	F1+(nga)	AAA(nga)	09/07↑	09/07↑	76.0	12/07
Oceanic Bank International Plc	F2 (nga)	BBB+(nga)	04/08	04/08	223.1	09/07
Union Bank of Nigeria Plc	F1(nga)	A+(nga)	05/07	05/07	125.6	03/08
United Bank for Africa Plc	F1(nga)	A+(nga)	08/02	08/02	168.1	09/07
Zenith Bank Plc	F1+(nga)	AA-(nga)	11/07	11/07	339.4	06/08

▲ ▼ ◆ These icons indicate that ratings are on Watch, with ▲ indicating "Positive Watch", ▼ indicating "Negative Watch" and ◆ indicating "Evolving"

International Nigerian Banks

Nigerian banks	Ratings				Last changed			Equity		
	S.term	L.term	Indiv.	Support rating floor	S.term	L.term	Indiv.	(USDm)	At	Outlook
Diamond Bank Plc	B	B	D	4 B	10/07	10/07	10/07	993.9	04/08	Stable
Ecobank Nigeria Plc	B	B	D/E	4	07/08	07/08	07/08	295.2	12/07	Stable
First Bank of Nigeria Plc	B	B+	D	4 B+	11/06	11/06	11/06	3,014.4	03/08	Stable
Guaranty Trust Bank Plc	B	B+	D	4 B	10/06	10/06	10/06	1,384.3	02/08	Positive
Intercontinental Bank Plc	B	B+	D	4 B+	08/07	08/07	08/07	1,770.3	02/08	Stable
Oceanic Bank International Plc	B	B	D	4 B	04/08	04/08	04/08	1,775.9	09/07	Stable
Union Bank of Nigeria Plc	B	B+	D	4 B+	05/07	05/07	05/07	1,064.3	03/08	Stable
United Bank for Africa Plc	B	B+	D	4 B+	05/08	05/08	05/08	1,337.7	09/07	Stable
Zenith Bank Plc	B	B+	D	4 B+	11/07	11/07	11/07	2,834.8	06/08	Positive

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Bond Issues/Medium Term Note Programs

	Rating	At
Guaranty Trust Bank Plc		
Senior notes - Long-term (USD350m)	B+	01/07
Global medium-term note programme (USD2bn)		
Senior unsecured notes		
• Long term international foreign currency	B+	08/08
• Recovery rating	RR4	08/08
Subordinated notes		
• Long term international foreign currency	B-	08/08
• Recovery rating	RR6	08/08
Senior short term debt		
• Short term international foreign currency	B	08/08

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International Kenyan Banks

Kenyan banks	Ratings				Last changed			Equity		
	S.term	L.term	Indiv.	Support rating floor	S.term	L.term	Indiv.	(USDm)	At	Outlook
Commercial Bank of Africa Ltd	B	B	D	5 NF		12/07↑	↑07/06	67.5	12/07	Stable
CFC Stanbic Holdings Ltd	B	BB-	D	3		06/08	08/02↓	79.7	12/07	Negative
NIC Bank Ltd	B	B-	D	5 NF		11/01↓		75.6	12/07	Stable

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International Banks Operating in South Africa^a

	Short-term	Long-term	Indiv.	Supp.	Outlook
ABN AMRO Bank N.V.	F1+	AA-		1	Stable
Bank of Baroda	F3	BBB-	C/D	2	Stable
Bank of China Ltd Johannesburg Branch (trading as Bank of China Johannesburg branch)	F1	A	D	1	Stable
Bank of Taiwan			C	1	Stable
Calyon Corporate & Investment Bank	F1+	AA-	C	1	Stable
China Construction Bank Corporation - Johannesburg Branch	F1	A	D	1	Stable
Citibank N.A.	F1+▼	AA-▼	B▼	1	RWN
Commerzbank AG	F1▼	A▼	B/C	1	RWN
Deutsche Bank AG	F1+	AA-	B	1	Stable
HSBC Bank Plc	F1+	AA	A/B	1	Stable
JP Morgan Chase Bank N.A. (Johannesburg Branch)	F1+	AA-	B	1	Stable
Societe Generale (SG)	F1+	AA-	B	1	Stable
Standard Chartered Bank - Johannesburg Branch	F1	A+	B	1	Stable
State Bank of India	F3	BBB-	C	2	Stable

▲ ▼ ◆ These icons indicate that ratings are on Watch, with ▲ indicating "Positive Watch", ▼ indicating "Negative Watch" and ◆ indicating "Evolving"

Representative Offices*

	Short-term	Long-term	Indiv	Supp.	Support rating floor	Outlook
Banco BPI S.A.	F1	A+	B	2	BBB-	Stable
Banco Espirito Santo e Comercial de Lisboa	F1	A+	B	2	BBB-	Stable
Banco Privado Português, S..A.	F3	BBB	C	5	NF	Stable
Banco Santander Totta S.A	F1+	AA▼	B	1		RWN
Bank Leumi Le - Israel BM	F2	A-	C	1	A-	Stable
Bank of Cyprus Group						
Bank of India			C/D	2		
Barclays Bank Plc	F1+	AA	B	1	AA-	Negative
Barclays Private Clients International Ltd						
Bayerische Hypo - und Vereinsbank Aktiengesellschaft	F1	A	B/C	1	A-	Negative
BNP Paribas Johannesburg	F1+	AA	A/B	1	A-	Stable
Credit Suisse	F1+	AA-	B	1	A-	Stable
Credit Suisse Securities (Europe) Ltd						
Dresdner Bank AG	F1+▼	A+▼	C	1	A-	RWN
Dresdner Kleinwort Ltd						
Export - Import Bank of India	F3	BBB-		2	BBB-	Stable
Fairbairn Private Bank (Isle of Man) Ltd						
Fairbairn Private Bank (Jersey) Ltd						
First Bank of Nigeria	B	B+	D	4	B+	Stable
Fortis Bank (Nederland) N.V.	F1+	A+		1	A+	Stable
Hellenic Bank Public Company Ltd						
HSBC Bank International Ltd						
ICICI Bank Ltd	F3	BBB-	C	2	BBB-	Stable
ING Bank (Switzerland) Ltd						
JSCB Imexbank						
Lloyds TSB Offshore Ltd						
Millennium BCP						
National Bank of Egypt	B	BB+	D/E	3	BB+	Stable
Natixis Southern Africa	F1	A+	D	1		Stable
Société Générale Representative Office for S.A.	F1+	AA-	B	1	A-	Stable
Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation	F1	A+	B/C	1	A-	Stable
The Bank of New York Mellon (The), Johannesburg Rep. Office	F1+	AA-	A/B	2	BBB+	Stable
Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ	F1	A+	B/C	1	A-	Stable
The Rep. Off. for Southern and Eastern Africa of The Export-Import Bank of China	F1	A+		1	A+	Stable
The Royal Bank of Scotland Plc	F1+	AA-	B/C	1	AA-	Stable
The Mauritius Commercial Bank Ltd						

Representative Offices* (cont.)

	Short-term	Long-term	Indiv	Supp.	Support rating floor	Outlook
UBS AG	F1+	A+	B/C	1	A-	Stable
Union Bank of Nigeria Plc	B	B+	D	4	B+	Stable
Vnesheconombank	F2	BBB+	N/R	2	BBB+	Negative
Wachovia Bank N.A.	F1+	A+ [▲]	B [▲]	2	BBB-	RWP
WestLB AG	F1	A-	E	1	A-	Stable
Zenith Bank Plc	B	B+	D	4	B+	Positive

[▲] [▼] [◆] These icons indicate that ratings are on Watch, with [▲] indicating "Positive Watch", [▼] indicating "Negative Watch" and [◆] indicating "Evolving"
^a Ratings are for the main parent company

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Fund and Asset Manager Ratings

National Ratings

	Assets under management		Ratings	
	(ZARm)	Long term	Volatility	Last changed
Investec Corporate Money Market Fund	659	AAA(zaf)	V1+(zaf)	01/08
Investec Money Market Fund	10,000	AAA(zaf)	V1(zaf)	01/08
Sanlam Alternative Income Fund	3,103	AA-(zaf)		07/08
Standard Bank Corporate Money Market Fund	7,600	AAA(zaf)	V1+(zaf)	07/08

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Structured Finance Ratings

Structured Finance Ratings

	Class/series	Size (ZAR)	Ratings	
			Long-term	Short-term
Accelerator Fund 1 (Pty) Limited				
Secured floating rate notes (VAF A3)	A3	318,801,455.00	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (VAF1B)	B	32,808,813.00	A-(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (VAF1C)	C	24,174,914.00	BBB-(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (VAF1D)	D	4,316,949.00		
Accelerator Fund 2 (Pty) Limited				
Secured floating rate notes (VAF A5)	A5	388,361,520.00		
Secured floating rate notes (VAF2A6)	A6	463,270,277.00	AAA(zaf)	F1+(zaf)
Secured floating rate notes (VAF2B)	B	67,945,725.00	AA-(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (VAF2C)	C	35,262,971.00	A(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (VAFD1)	D	121,270,217.00		
Asset Backed Arbitrated Securities (Pty) Limited				
Asset backed commercial paper				
ABACAS Premier Series	1	3,500,000,000		F1+(zaf)
ABACAS Global Corporate Series	2	3,800,000,000		F1+(zaf)
Blue Granite Investments N° 1 (Pty) Limited				
Secured floating rate notes (BLG1A1)	A1	625,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (BLG1A2)	A2	2,304,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured fixed rate notes (BLG1A3)	A3	605,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (BLG1A4)	A4	500,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (BLG1B)	B	102,000,000	AA(zaf)	
Blue Granite Investments N° 2 (Pty) Limited				
Secured floating rate notes (BLG2A1)	A1	553,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (BLG2A2)	A2	1,348,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured fixed rate notes (BLG2A3)	A3	662,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (BLG2B)	B	160,000,000	AA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (BLG2C)	C	102,000,000	A(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (BLG2D)	D	68,000,000	BBB(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (BLG2E)	E	63,000,000	BB(zaf)	
Blue Granite Investments N° 3 (Pty) Limited				
Secured floating rate notes (BLG3A0)	A0	300,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (BLG3A1)	A1	383,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (BLG3A2)	A2	1,022,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured fixed rate notes (BLG3A3)	A3	930,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (BLG3B)	B	171,000,000	AA(zaf)	
Blue Granite Investments N° 4 (Pty) Limited				
Secured floating rate notes (BLG4A0)	A0	350,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate note (BLG4A1)	A1	2,302,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (BLG4A2)	A2	1,650,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (BLG4B)	B	460,000,000	AA(zaf)	
Blue Titanium Conduit Limited				
Asset backed commercial paper		8,079,000,000		F1+(zaf)
Fintech Receivables 2 (Pty) Limited				
Commercial paper				F1+(zaf)
Secured floating rate notes (FR2A1B)	A1B	300,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured fixed rate notes (FR2A2A)	A2A	50,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (FR2A2B)	A2B	306,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (FR2B2B)	B2B	31,000,000	AA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (FR2C2B)	C2B	44,000,000	A(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (FR2D1B)	D1B	20,000,000	BBB(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (FR2D2B)	D2B	32,000,000	BBB(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (FR2E3B)	E3B	14,000,000	BB+(zaf)	

Structured Finance Ratings (cont.)

	Class/series	Size (ZAR)	Ratings	
			Long-term	Short-term
Fresco 2 Investments Limited				
Secured floating rate notes (FRE2A1)	A1	650,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured fixed rate notes (FRE2A2)	A2	370,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (FRE2B1)	B1	360,000,000	AA(zaf)	
Secured fixed rate notes (FRE2B2)	B2	40,000,000	AA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (FRE2C)	C	280,000,000	A+(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (FRE2D)	D	140,000,000	A-(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (FRE2E)	E	100,000,000	BBB(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (FRE2F)	F	60,000,000	BBB-(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (FRE2G)	G	60,000,000	BB(zaf)	
Grainflow Investments (Pty) Limited				
Asset backed commercial paper		500,000,000		F1+(zaf)
GreenHouse Funding (Pty) Ltd				
Secured floating rate notes (GRN1A1)	A1	291,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (GR1A2A)	A2A	1,407,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (GRN1B)	B	98,000,000	AA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (GRN1C)	C	76,000,000	A(zaf) BBB+(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (GRN1D)	D	39,000,000	BBB-(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes ^a (GRN1E)	E	64,000,000		
Growthpoint Note Issuer Company (Pty) Limited				
Secured floating rate notes (GPT1A1)	A1	537,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (GPT1A2)	A2	672,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (GPT1B1)	B1	125,000,000	AA-(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (GPT1B2)	B2	121,000,000	AA-(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (GPT1C1)	C1	88,000,000	A-(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (GPT1C2)	C2	93,000,000	A-(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (GPT1D1)	D1	55,000,000	BBB(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (GPT1D2)	D2	83,000,000	BBB(zaf)	
HomePlan Financial Solutions (Pty) Limited				
Secured floating rate notes (Private Placement)	A	675,000,000		AAA(zaf)
Home Obligor Mortgage Enhanced Securities (Pty) Limited (Series 1)				
Secured floating rate notes (HMS1B1)	B1	852,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (HMS1B2)	B2	670,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (HMS1B3)	B3	600,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (HMS1B4)	B4	396,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (HMS1B5)	B5	219,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (HMS1B6)	B6	44,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (HMS1C1)	C1	106,000,000	AA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (HMS1C2)	C2	130,000,000	AA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (HMS1D1)	D1	60,000,000	A(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (HMS1D2)	D2	73,000,000	A(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (HMS1E1)	E1	34,000,000	BBB(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (HMS1E2)	E2	41,000,000	BBB(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (HMS1F1)	F1	15,000,000	BB(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (HMS1F2)	F2	19,000,000	BB(zaf)	
iNdwa Investments Limited				
Asset backed commercial paper		10,354,000,000		F1+(zaf)

Structured Finance Ratings (cont.)

	Class/series	Size (ZAR)	Ratings	
			Long-term	Short-term
Ikhaya RMBS 1 (Pty) Limited				
Secured floating rate notes (IKH1A2)	A2	150,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (IKH1A3)	A3	150,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (IKH1A4)	A4	150,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (IKH1A5)	A5	1,113,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (IKH1B)	1B	71,000,000	AA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (IKH1C)	1C	57,000,000	A(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (IKH1D)	1D	44,000,000	BBB(zaf)	
Ikhaya RMBS 2 (Pty) Limited				
Secured floating rate notes (IKH2A2)	2A2	1,870,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (IKH2A3)	2A3	100,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (IKH2B)	2B	151,000,000	AA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (IKH2C)	2C	128,000,000	A(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (IKH2D)	2D	85,000,000	BBB(zaf)	
iNkotha Investments Limited				
Secured floating rate notes		4,571,000,000		F1(zaf)
iVuzi Investments Limited				
Secured floating rate notes (IVA)		4,595,000,000		F1+(zaf)
NBC Future Guard (Pty) Limited				
Secured floating rate notes (NBC1A)	A	466,300,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (NBC1B)	B	33,700,000	BBB(zaf)	
Nqaba Finance 1(Pty) Limited				
Secured floating rate notes (NQF1A1)	A1	696,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (NQF1A2)	A2	376,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (NQF1A3)	A3	320,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (NQF1A4)	A4	304,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (NQF1B1)	B1	32,000,000	AA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (NQF1B2)	B2	32,000,000	AA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (NQF1B3)	B3	14,000,000	AA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (NQF1C1)	C1	32,000,000	A(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (NQF1C2)	C2	32,000,000	A(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (NQF1C3)	C3	14,000,000	A(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (NQF1D1)	D1	24,000,000	BBB(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (NQF1D2)	D2	24,000,000	BBB(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (NQF1D3)	D3	11,000,000	BBB(zaf)	
Octane ABS 1 Limited				
Secured floating rate notes (OCT1A1)	A1	444,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (OCT1A2)	A2	324,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (OCT1A3)	A3	324,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (OCT1A4)	A4	616,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (OCT1B1)	B1	99,000,000	AA-zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (OCT1C1)	C1	99,000,000	A-(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (OCT1D1)	D1	57,000,000	BBB(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (OCT1E1)	E1	14,000,000	BB-(zaf)	
Prime Realty Obligors Packaged Securities series 2				
Secured floating rate notes (PRPS2A1)	A1	524,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured fixed rate notes (PRPS2A2)	A2	621,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (PRPS2B1)	B1	195,000,000	AA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (PRPS2C1)	C1	222,000,000	A-(zaf)	
Procul (Pty) Limited				
Secured fixed rate notes (PROA11)	A	1,000,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (PROA21)	A	282,000,000	AAA(zaf)	

Structured Finance Ratings (cont.)

	Class/series	Size (ZAR)	Ratings	
			Long-term	Short-term
Sanlam Home Loans 102 (Pty) Limited				
Asset backed commercial paper				F1+(zaf)
Sanlam Home Loans 103 (Pty) Limited				
Secured floating rate notes (SHLA2)	A2	400,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (SHLA3)	A3	100,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (SHLA5)	A5	355,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (SHLA6)	A6	176,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (SHLA8)	A8	295,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (SHLA9)	A9	319,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (SHLA10)	A10	356,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (SHLA11)	A11	535,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured fixed rate notes (SHLA12)	A12	45,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (SHLA13)	A13	445,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (SHLA15)	A15	79,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (SHLA1U)	A1U	295,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (SHLB2)	B2	29,000,000	AA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (SHLB4)	B4	36,000,000	AA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (SHLB5)	B5	12,000,000	AA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (SHLB7)	B7	75,000,000	AA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (SHLB8)	B8	48,000,000	AA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (SHLB9)	B9	34,000,000	AA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (SHLC2)	C2	54,000,000	A(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (SHLC3)	C3	35,000,000	A(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (SHLC4)	C4	22,000,000	A(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (SHLC1U)	C1U	45,000,000	A(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (SHLD2)	D2	23,000,000	BBB(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (SHLD3)	D3	17,000,000	BBB(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (SHLD1U)	D1U	50,000,000	BBB(zaf)	
Sanlam Personal Loans 102 (Pty) Limited				
Asset backed commercial paper		1,077,000,000		F1+(zaf)
South African Securitisation Programme-series 1 (Equipment Rentals Securitisation Series)				
Secured floating rate notes (ERS1A)	A	613,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (ERS1B)	B	44,000,000	A(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (ERS2B)	B	23,000,000	A(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (ERS1C)	C	13,000,000	BBB(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (ERS2C)	C	9,000,000	BBB(zaf)	
Synthesis Funding Limited				
Asset backed commercial paper		7,718,000,000.		F1+(zaf)
The Thekwini Fund 3 (Pty) Limited				
Secured floating rate notes (THE3A1)	A1	156,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (THE3A2)	A2	305,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured fixed rate notes (THE3A3)	A3	195,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (THE3B)	B	73,000,000	A+(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (THE3C)	C	29,000,000	BBB(zaf)	
The Thekwini Fund 4 (Pty) Limited				
Secured floating rate notes (THE4A1)	A1	319,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (THE4A2)	A2	643,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured fixed rate notes (THE4A3)	A3	107,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (THE4B)	B	113,000,000	A+(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (THE4C)	C	50,000,000	BBB(zaf)	

Structured Finance Ratings (cont.)

	Class/series	Size (ZAR)	Ratings	
			Long-term	Short-term
The Thekwini Fund 5 (Pty) Limited				
Secured floating rate notes (THE5A1)	A1	850,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (THE5A2)	A2	787,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured fixed rate notes (THE5A3)	A3	253,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (THE5B)	B	105,000,000	A(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (THE5C)	C	60,000,000	BBB(zaf)	
The Thekwini Fund 6 (Pty) Limited				
Secured floating rate notes (THE6A1)	A1	300,000,00	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (THE6A2)	A2	1,199,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (THE6A3)	A3	400,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (THE6B)	B	63,000,000	A+(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (THE6C)	C	38,000,000	BBB(zaf)	
The Thekwini Fund 7 (Pty) Limited				
Secured floating rate notes (THE7A1)	A1	300,000,00	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (THE7A2A)	A2A	965,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (THE7A2BU)	B	560,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating fixed notes (THE7A3)	A3	500,000,000	AAA(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (THE7B)	B	120,000,000	A(zaf)	
Secured floating rate notes (THE7C)	C	55,000,000	BBB(zaf)	
Thekwini Warehousing Conduit (Pty) Limited				
Asset backed commercial paper	Senior	4,219,200,000		F1+(zaf)
Asset backed commercial paper	Mezzanine	66,200,000		F1/A(zaf)
Asset backed commercial paper	Junior	102,100,000		F2/BBB(zaf)

^a Class E (rated only for ultimate payment of principal and not payment of interest)

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Corporate Ratings

National

	Short-term		Long-term		Outlook	Last changed
	Rating	Last changed	Rating	Last changed		
Airports Company South Africa Ltd	F1+(zaf)	02/07	AA(zaf)	02/07	Stable	02/07
Domestic Medium term note Programme			AA(zaf)	02/07		
AngloGold Ashanti Ltd	F1+(zaf)	08/03	AA-(zaf)	11/05↓	Stable	11/05
Aveng Ltd	F1(zaf)	02/02	A(zaf)	02/02	Positive	12/07
Barloworld Ltd	F1(zaf)	07/04	AA-(zaf)	07/04	Negative	06/07
Barloworld Ltd: Senior unsecured ZAR Bond (BAW1) - due 29 July 2011			AA-(zaf)	07/04		
Bidvest Group Ltd (The)	F1(zaf)	12/01	AA-(zaf)	12/01	Negative	04/08
Denel (Pty) Ltd	F1+(zaf)	03/04	AA(zaf)	07/02	Stable	03/04
Eskom Holdings Ltd	F1+(zaf)	07/91	AAA(zaf)	08/90	Negative	08/07
Impala Platinum Holdings Ltd	F1+(zaf)	05/08	AA(zaf)	05/08	Stable	05/08
Mercedes-Benz South Africa (Pty) Ltd (Formerly DaimlerChrysler S.A. (Pty) Ltd) DMTN Programme (ZAR 18bn) Senior unsec. bond (DC03)- due 26 May 2011	F1+(zaf)	06/08	AA+(zaf)	06/08		
			AA+(zaf)	05/06		
Harmony Gold Mining Company Ltd	F3(zaf)	10/06↓	BBB(zaf)	10/06↓	Negative	10/07
Namibia Power Corporation (Pty) Ltd	F2(zaf)	12/05	A-(zaf)	11/07	Stable	12/05
MTN Group Ltd			AA-(zaf)	07/08↑	Stable	06/06
Pick n' Pay Stores Ltd	F1(zaf)	08/92	A+(zaf)	08/97↑	Stable	03/04
Rand Water	F1+(zaf)	06/08	AA+(zaf)	06/08	Stable	06/08
Redefine Income Fund Ltd						
Senior secured debt			A-(zaf)	07/03	Positive	02/08
Senior unsecured debt			BBB(zaf)	07/03	Positive	02/08
Unsecured, subordinated debentures			BB(zaf)	07/03	Positive	02/08
Sappi Manufacturing (Pty) Ltd	F1+(zaf)	08/03	AA-(zaf)	08/03	Stable	03/04
Steinhoff International Holdings Ltd						
Unitrans Services (Pty) Ltd	F1(zaf)	11/03	A(zaf)	04/07	Stable	01/06↓
DMTN Programme			A(zaf)	04/07		
Super Group Ltd	F2(zaf) ▾	02/04	A-(zaf) ▾	12/01		01/08
TCTA - Berg Water Project	F1+(zaf)	06/04	AA+(zaf)	06/04	Stable	
TCTA - Vaal River Eastern Sub-System Augmentation Project	F1+(zaf)	11/05	AA+(zaf)	11/05	-	-
†Transnet Ltd (T004, T011, T018)	F1+(zaf)	07/92	AAA(zaf)	07/92	Stable	03/04
Umgeni Water	F1+(zaf)	08/92	AA+(zaf)	10/08	Stable	03/04

† Refers to government guaranteed debt only ▲ ▾ ◆ These icons indicate that ratings are on Watch, with ▲ indicating "Positive Watch", ▾ indicating "Negative Watch" and ◆ indicating "Evolving"

International

	Short-term		Long-term		Outlook	Last changed
	Rating	Last changed	Rating	Last changed		
Eskom Holdings Ltd (local currency)			A	09/05	Negative	08/07
Impala Platinum Holdings Ltd	F2	05/08	BBB+	05/08	Stable	05/08
Namibia Power Corporation (Pty) Ltd	F3	12/05	BBB-	12/05	Stable	12/05
Harmony Gold Mining Company Ltd	B	06/07	BB+	06/07	Negative	10/07

† Refers to government guaranteed debt only ▲ ▾ ◆ These icons indicate that ratings are on Watch, with ▲ indicating "Positive Watch", ▾ indicating "Negative Watch" and ◆ indicating "Evolving"

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Insurance Ratings

National

	National insurer financial strength	Short-term		Long-term		Outlook
		Rating	Last changed	Rating	Last changed	
AIG South Africa Limited	AAA(zaf)			-	09/08	RWN
AIG Life South Africa Limited	AAA(zaf)			-	09/08	RWN
Home Loan Guarantee Company	AA+(zaf)			-	08/03	Stable
Liberty Group Limited	AA+(zaf)			AA(zaf)	06/08	Stable
Metropolitan Life Limited	AA(zaf)			AA-(zaf)	11/07	Stable
Metropolitan Holdings Limited				A+(zaf)	11/07	Stable
Momentum Group Limited	AA+(zaf)			AA(zaf)	11/05	Stable
Old Mutual Life Assurance Company (SA) Limited	AAA(zaf)			AAA(zaf)	10/05	Stable
Sanlam Limited	-			AA-(zaf)	04/07	Stable
Sanlam Life Insurance Limited	AA+(zaf)	F1+(zaf)	04/07	AA(zaf)	04/07	Stable
Santam Limited	AA+(zaf)			AA(zaf)	04/07	Stable

Bond Issue

	Rating	At
Liberty Group Limited		
Subordinated unsecured callable bonds (ZAR2bn)	AA-(zaf)	06/08
Metropolitan Life Limited		11/07
Subordinated unsecured callable notes (R500m)	A+(zaf)	
Old Mutual Life Assurance Company (South Africa) Limited		
Unsecured subordinated callable notes (ZAR3bn)	AA+(zaf)	10/05
Sanlam Life Insurance		
Subordinated bonds (ZAR2bn)	AA-(zaf)	08/06
Santam Limited		
Subordinated bonds (ZAR600m)	AA-(zaf)	05/07
Subordinated bonds (ZAR400m)	AA-(zaf)	11/07

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International Public Finance Ratings

International

	Short-term		Long-term		Outlook	Last changed
	Rating	Last changed	Rating	Last changed		
Nkangala District Municipality			BBB+	11/07	Stable	10/06

National

	Short-term		Long-term		Outlook	Last changed
	Rating	Last changed	Rating	Last changed		
City of Johannesburg Metropolitan Municipality (ZAR1bn) bond maturing 2010 - (CoJ01)	F1+(zaf)	07/08	AA-(zaf)	07/08	Stable	04/07
(ZAR1bn) unsecured partially guaranteed bond (CoJ02)			AA+(zaf))	04/07		
Nkangala District Municipality	F1(zaf)	08/97	AA-(zaf)	11/07	Stable	11/07

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Sovereign Ratings and Assessments

Sovereign Ratings and Assessments

Issuer name	Foreign currency				Local currency			
	Long term rating	Date	Short term rating	Outlook	Long term rating	Date	Outlook	Country ceiling
Abu Dhabi	AA	14 Aug 08	F1+	Stable	AA	14 Aug 08	Stable	AA+
Argentina	RD	14 Dec 05	B		B	21 Feb 08	Stable	B+
Armenia	BB	03 Jul 08	B	Stable	BB	03 Jul 08	Stable	BB+
Aruba	BBB	30 Aug 07	F3	Stable	BBB	30 Aug 07	Stable	A-
Australia	AA+	22 May 08	F1+	Stable	AAA	22 May 08	Stable	AAA
Austria	AAA	15 Feb 08	F1+	Stable	AAA	15 Feb 08	Stable	AAA
Azerbaijan	BB+	29 Feb 08	B	Stable	BB+	29 Feb 08	Stable	BB+
Bahrain	A	24 Aug 07	F1	Stable	A+	24 Aug 07	Stable	A+
Belgium	AA+	16 Jun 08	F1+	Stable	AA+	16 Jun 08	Stable	AAA
Benin	B	07 May 08	B	Stable	B	07 May 08	Stable	BBB-
Bermuda	AA+	14 Aug 08	F1+	Stable	AAA	14 Aug 08	Stable	AAA
Bolivia	B-	15 Jul 08	B	Stable	B-	15 Jul 08	Stable	B-
Brazil	BBB-	29 May 08	F3	Stable	BBB-	29 May 08	Stable	BBB
Bulgaria	BBB	15 Aug 08	F3	Negative	BBB+	15 Aug 08	Negative	A-
Cameroon	B	07 Apr 08	B	Stable	B-	06 Mar 07	Stable	BBB-
Canada	AAA	20 Jun 08	F1+	Stable	AAA	20 Jun 08	Stable	AAA
Cape Verde	B+	11 Mar 08	B	Positive	BB-	11 Mar 08	Positive	BB-
Chile	A	14 May 08	F1	Positive	A+	14 May 08	Positive	AA
China	A+	06 Nov 07	F1	Stable	AA-	06 Nov 07	Stable	A+
Colombia	BB+	28 Aug 08	B	Stable	BBB-	28 Aug 08	Stable	BBB-
Costa Rica	BB	01 Nov 07	B	Stable	BB+	01 Nov 07	Stable	BB+
Croatia	BBB-	20 Aug 08	F3	Stable	BBB+	20 Aug 08	Stable	BBB+
Cyprus	AA-	10 Mar 08	F1+	Stable	AA-	10 Mar 08	Stable	AAA
Czech Republic	A+	04 Mar 08	F1	Stable	AA-	04 Mar 08	Stable	AA+
Denmark	AAA	18 Dec 07	F1+	Stable	AAA	18 Dec 07	Stable	AAA
Dominican Republic	B	25 Sep 08	B	Stable	B	25 Sep 08	Stable	B+
Ecuador	CCC	30 Oct 07	C	Stable				B-
Egypt	BB+	18 Aug 08	B	Stable	BBB	18 Aug 08	Stable	BB+
El Salvador	BB+	27 Feb 08	B	Stable	BB+	27 Feb 08	Stable	BBB-
Estonia	A	31 Jan 08	F1	Negative	A+	31 Jan 08	Negative	AA
Finland	AAA	11 Dec 07	F1+	Stable	AAA	11 Dec 07	Stable	AAA
France	AAA	03 Sep 07	F1+	Stable	AAA	03 Sep 07	Stable	AAA
Gabonese Republic	BB-	29 Oct 07	B	Stable	BB-	29 Oct 07	Stable	BBB-
Georgia	B+	08 Aug 08	B	Negative	B+	08 Aug 08	Negative	B+
Germany	AAA	06 Nov 07	F1+	Stable	AAA	06 Nov 07	Stable	AAA
Ghana	B+	07 Feb 08	B	Stable	B+	07 Feb 08	Stable	B+
Greece (Hellenic Republic)	A	13 May 08	F1	Positive	A	13 May 08	Positive	AAA
Guatemala	BB+	26 Jun 08	B	Stable	BB+	26 Jun 08	Stable	BBB-
Hong Kong (Special Admin Region,PRC)	AA	07 Jul 08	F1+	Stable	AA+	07 Jul 08	Stable	AAA
Hungary	BBB+	05 Nov 07	F2	Stable	A-	05 Nov 07	Stable	A+
Iceland	▼A	30 Sep 08	▼F2		AA	30 Sep 08		A
India	BBB-	15 Jul 08	F3	Stable	BBB-	15 Jul 08	Negative	BBB-
Indonesia, Republic of	BB	14 Feb 08	B	Stable	BB-	14 Feb 08	Stable	BB+
Ireland	AAA	30 Sep 08	F1+	Stable	AAA	30 Sep 08	Stable	AAA
Israel	A	11 Feb 08	F1	Stable	A+	11 Feb 08	Stable	AA-
Italy	AA-	06 Dec 07	F1+	Stable	AA-	06 Dec 07	Stable	AAA
Jamaica	B+	12 Oct 07		Stable	B+	12 Oct 07	Stable	BB-
Japan	AA	14 Dec 07	F1+	Stable	AA-	14 Dec 07	Stable	AAA

Sovereign Ratings and Assessments (cont.)

Issuer name	Foreign currency				Local currency			Country ceiling
	Long term rating	Date	Short term rating	Outlook	Long term rating	Date	Outlook	
Kazakhstan	BBB	17 Dec 07	F3	Negative	BBB+	17 Dec 07	Negative	BBB+
Kenya	B+	30 Jan 08	B	Negative	BB	30 Jan 08	Negative	BB-
Korea	A+	16 Jul 08	F1	Stable	AA	16 Jul 08	Stable	AA
Kuwait	AA	04 Sep 08	F1+	Stable	AA	04 Sep 08	Stable	AA+
Latvia	BBB+	23 Jul 08	F2	Negative	A	23 Jul 08	Negative	A+
Lebanon	B	12 Sep 08	B	Stable	B	12 Sep 08	Stable	B
Lesotho	BB	29 Aug 07	B	Stable	BB	29 Aug 07	Stable	A
Lithuania	A	07 Dec 07	F1	Negative	A+	07 Dec 07	Negative	AA
Luxembourg	AAA	02 May 08	F1+	Stable	AAA	02 May 08	Stable	AAA
Macedonia	BB+	14 Aug 07	B	Positive	BB+	14 Aug 07	Positive	BBB
Malawi	B-	27 Mar 08	B	Stable	B-	27 Mar 08	Stable	B-
Malaysia	A-	22 Jan 08	F2	Positive	A+	22 Jan 08	Stable	A
Mali	B-	03 Mar 08	B	Stable	B-	24 Mar 08	Stable	BBB-
Malta	A+	05 Sep 08	F1	Stable	A+	05 Sep 08	Stable	AAA
Mexico	BBB+	10 Jul 08	F2	Stable	A	10 Jul 08	Stable	A
Moldova	B-	15 Sep 08	B	Stable	B	15 Sep 08	Stable	B-
Mongolia	B+	03 Jun 08	B	Stable	B+	03 Jun 08	Stable	B+
Morocco, Kingdom of	BBB-	10 Jul 08	F3	Stable	BBB	10 Jul 08	Stable	BBB
Mozambique	B	24 Sep 08	B	Stable	B+	24 Sep 08	Stable	B
Namibia	BBB-	09 Oct 07	F3	Stable	BBB	09 Oct 07	Stable	A
New Zealand	AA+	03 Dec 07	F1+	Stable	AAA	03 Dec 07	Stable	AAA
Nigeria	BB-	23 May 08	B	Stable	BB	23 May 08	Stable	BB-
Nigerian Kwara State	B+	14 April 8		Stable	B+	14 April 08	Stable	
Netherlands	AAA	26 Oct 07	F1+	Stable	AAA	26 Oct 07	Stable	AAA
Norway	AAA	18 Dec 07	F1+	Stable	AAA	18 Dec 07	Stable	AAA
Panama	BB+	29 Jan 08	B	Positive	BB+	29 Jan 08	Positive	BBB+
Papua New Guinea	B+	13 Mar 08	B	Stable	B+	13 Mar 08	Stable	B+
Peru	BBB-	02 Apr 08	F3	Stable	BBB	02 Apr 08	Stable	BBB
Philippines	BB	27 Jun 08	B	Stable	BB+	27 Jun 08	Stable	BB+
Poland	A-	09 Jun 08	F2	Stable	A	09 Jun 08	Stable	AA-
Portugal	AA	23 Jul 08	F1+	Stable	AA	23 Jul 08	Stable	AAA
Ras Al Khaimah	A	23 Jan 08	F1	Stable	A	23 Jan 08	Stable	AA+
Romania	BBB	31 Jan 08	F3	Negative	BBB+	31 Jan 08	Negative	A-
Russia Federation	BBB+	02 Jul 08	F2	Stable	BBB+	02 Jul 08	Stable	A-
Rwanda	B-	29 Feb 08	B	Positive	B	29 Feb 08	Positive	B-
San Marino	AA	01 Oct 07	F1+	Stable				AAA
Saudi Arabia	AA-	09 Jul 08	F1+	Stable	AA-	09 Jul 08	Stable	AA
Serbia	BB-	02 Aug 07	B	Stable	BB-	02 Aug 07	Stable	BB-
Singapore	AAA	07 Mar 08	F1+	Stable	AAA	07 Mar 08	Stable	AAA
Slovakia	A+	08 Jul 08	F1	Stable	A+	08 Jul 08	Stable	AAA
Slovenia	AA	16 Oct 07	F1+	Stable	AA	16 Oct 08	Stable	AAA
South Africa	BBB+	17 Jun 08	F2	Stable	A	17 Jun 08	Stable	A
Spain	AAA	02 Jun 08	F1+	Stable	AAA	02 Jun 08	Stable	AAA
Sri Lanka	B+	03 Apr 08	B	Stable	B+	03 Apr 08	Stable	B+
Suriname	B	11 Jun 08		Stable	B+	11 Jul 08	Stable	B
Sweden	AAA	18 Dec 07	F1+	Stable	AAA	18 Dec 07	Stable	AAA
Switzerland	AAA	08 Jul 08	F1+	Stable	AAA	08 Jul 08	Stable	AAA
Taiwan	A+	04 Dec 07	F1	Stable	AA	04 Dec 07	Stable	AA
Thailand	BBB+	23 May 08	F2	Stable	A	23 May 08	Stable	A-

Sovereign Ratings and Assessments (cont.)

Issuer name	Foreign currency				Local currency			Country ceiling
	Long term rating	Date	Short term rating	Outlook	Long term rating	Date	Outlook	
Tunisia	BBB	18 Sep 08	F2	Stable	A-	18 Sep 08	Stable	BBB+
Turkey	BB-	12 Dec 07	B	Stable	BB	12 Dec 07	Stable	BB
Uganda	B	11 Jun 08	B	Stable	B	11 Jun 08	Stable	B
Ukraine	BB-	25 Sep 08	B	Negative	BB-	25 Sep 08	Negative	BB-
United Kingdom	AAA	21 Aug 08	F+	Stable	AAA	21 Aug 08	Stable	AAA
United States of America	AAA	09 May 08	F1+	Stable	AAA	09 May 08	Stable	AAA
Uruguay	BB-	13 Jun 08	B	Stable	BB	13 Jun 08	Stable	BB+
Venezuela	BB-	18 Oct 07	B	Negative	BB	18 Oct 07	Negative	BB-
Vietnam	BB-	29 May 08	B	Negative	BB	29 May 08	Negative	BB-

▲, ▼, ◆ These icons indicate that ratings are on Watch, with ▲ indicating "Positive Watch", ▼ indicating "Negative Watch" and ◆ indicating "Evolving"

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Rating Definitions

Introduction

Fitch credit ratings are an opinion on the ability of an entity or of a securities issue to meet financial commitments, such as interest, preferred dividends, or repayment of principal, on a timely basis. Fitch credit ratings apply to a variety of entities and issues, including but not limited to sovereigns, governments, structured financings, and corporations; debt, preferred/preference stock, bank loans, and counterparties as well as the financial strength of insurance companies and financial guarantors.

Credit ratings are used by investors as indications of the likelihood of getting their money back in accordance with the terms on which they invested. Thus, the use of credit ratings defines their function: “investment grade” ratings (international Long-term ‘AAA’ - ‘BBB’ categories; Short-term ‘F1’ - ‘F3’) indicate a relatively low probability of default, while those in the “speculative” or “non-investment grade” categories (international Long-term ‘BB’ - ‘D’; Short-term ‘B’ - ‘D’) either signal a higher probability of default or that a default has already occurred. Ratings imply no specific prediction of default probability. However, for example, it is relevant to note that over the long term, defaults on ‘AAA’ rated U.S. corporate bonds have averaged less than 0.10% per annum, while the equivalent rate for ‘BBB’ rated bonds was 0.35%, and for ‘B’ rated bonds, 3.0%.

Entities or issues carrying the same rating are of similar but not necessarily identical credit quality since the rating categories do not fully reflect small differences in the degrees of credit risk.

Fitch credit and other ratings are not recommendations to buy, sell, or hold any security. Ratings do not comment on the adequacy of market price, the suitability of any security for a particular investor, or the tax-exempt nature or taxability of any payments of any security. The ratings are based on information obtained from issuers, other obligors, underwriters, their experts, and other sources Fitch believes to be reliable. Fitch does not audit or verify the truth or accuracy of such information. Ratings may be changed or withdrawn as a result of changes in, or the unavailability of, information or for other reasons.

Our program ratings relate only to standard issues made under the program concerned; it should not be assumed that these ratings apply to every issue made under the program. In particular, in the case of non-standard issues, i.e. those that are linked to the credit of a third party or linked to the performance of an index, ratings of these issues may deviate from the applicable program rating.

Credit ratings do not directly address any risk other than credit risk. In particular, these ratings do not deal with the risk of loss due to changes in market interest rates and other market considerations.

General Rating Definitions

A **Rating Outlook** indicates the direction a rating is likely to move over a one to two-year period. Outlooks may be positive, stable or negative. A positive or negative Rating Outlook does not imply a rating change is inevitable. Similarly, ratings for which outlooks are 'stable' could be upgraded or downgraded before an outlook moves to positive or negative if circumstances warrant such an action. Occasionally, Fitch Ratings may be unable to identify the fundamental trend. In these cases, the Rating Outlook may be described as evolving.

- *Italics* Indicate a rating change since the previous listing.
- ↑ Indicates that the rating was upgraded.
- ↓ Indicates that the rating was downgraded.
- **Bold** indicates a new rating added since the previous listing.
- ▲ ▼ ◆ Rating Watch: Indicates positive, negative or evolving.
- † Indicates National Guarantee.
- (*n) Indicates Joint Issues.

International Credit Ratings

Fitch's international credit ratings are applied to the spectrum of corporate, structured, and public finance entities and issues. They cover sovereign (including supranational and subnational), financial, bank, insurance, and other corporate entities and the securities they issue, as well as municipal and other public finance entities, and securities backed by receivables or other financial assets, and counterparties. When applied to an entity; these Long- and Short-term ratings assess its general creditworthiness on a senior basis. When applied to specific issues and programs, these ratings take into account the relative preferential position of the holder of the security and reflect the terms, conditions, and covenants attaching to that security.

International credit ratings assess the capacity to meet foreign currency or local currency commitments. Both "foreign currency" and "local currency" ratings are internationally comparable assessments. The local currency rating measures the probability of payment within the relevant sovereign state's currency and jurisdiction and therefore, unlike the foreign currency rating, does not take account of the possibility of foreign exchange controls limiting transfer into foreign currency.

Other Ratings

Fitch also provides specialised ratings of servicers of performing and nonperforming multifamily and commercial mortgages, cash flow bond ratings, and volatility ratings of collateralised mortgage obligations and bond funds. In addition, we provide Individual and Support ratings of banks, which assess the likelihood that they will get into difficulties and, in the event of this actually happening, whether they would indeed receive support. In particular cases Fitch offers National Ratings, which are an assessment of credit quality relative to the rating of the "best" credit risk in a country. This "best" risk will normally, although not always, be assigned to all financial commitments issued or guaranteed by the sovereign state. For particular countries Fitch also assigns National Insurance Financial Strength Ratings using a scale unique to such ratings.

Analytical Considerations

When assigning ratings, Fitch considers the historical and prospective financial condition, quality of management, and operating performance of the issuer and of any guarantor, any special features of a specific issue or guarantee, the issuer's relationship to other obligations of the issuer, as well as developments in the economic and political environment that might affect the issuer's financial strength and credit quality. In the case of a structured financing, the quality of its underlying assets and the integrity of its legal structure are considered. In the case of banks, for which sector there is a history of rescue by sovereign "lenders of last resort" or by major shareholders, the potential strength of any such support is also taken into account in the ratings.

Investment-grade ratings reflect expectations of timeliness of payment. However, ratings of different classes of obligations of the same issuer may vary based on expectations of recoveries in the event of a default or liquidation. Recovery expectations, which are the amounts expected to be received by investors after a security defaults, are a relatively minor consideration in investment grade ratings, but we do use "notching" of particular issues to reflect their degree of preference in a winding up, liquidation, or reorganization, as well as other factors. Recoveries do, however, gain in importance at lower rating levels, because of the greater likelihood of default, and become the major consideration at the 'DDD' category. Factors that affect recovery expectations include collateral and seniority relative to other obligations in the capital structure.

Foreign currency ratings are typically subject to a "country ceiling". A sovereign government's powers of taxation and foreign exchange control mean that its Long-

term foreign currency rating sets a ceiling for the ratings of other issuers within its jurisdiction. If Fitch has not formally rated a sovereign state, we can establish an assessment which serves as a ceiling for other Fitch-rated issuers in the country in question. We also note that it is possible to achieve a rating above the country ceiling by means of financial or legal structuring. The sovereign state's local currency rating will also generally be the highest rating of any entity in its jurisdiction, but entities with particular strengths may on occasion exceed it.

Fitch bases the rating differential between preferred/preference stock and senior and subordinated debt on the issuer's senior debt rating, the specific terms and conditions of the preferred instrument, the amount of preferred stock and of subordinated debt in the capital structure, coverage ratios, the use of proceeds from a preferred issue, the issuer's rating outlook, and the influence of regulators on the issuer's ability to pay preferred dividends. For rating purposes, Fitch generally treats preferred stock in a manner similar to that it adopts for deeply subordinated debt. The degree of "notching", or number of rating grades below senior debt, will be narrower for investment-grade entities and wider for those in the speculative grades.

Fitch's approach to rating unsecured bank loans is similar to that for other unsecured debt. Ratings of secured loans, however, incorporate a higher weighting of the value of potential recoveries to reflect the importance of recoveries to investors in these loans. Thus, speculative ratings will be influenced more by recoveries than investment-grade ratings.

Variable rate demand obligations and other securities which contain a demand feature will have a dual rating, such as 'AAA/F1+'. The first rating denotes Long-term ability to make principal and interest payments. The second rating denotes ability to meet a demand feature in full and on time.

International Long-Term Ratings

The following ratings scale applies to foreign currency and local currency ratings.

Investment Grade

AAA

Highest Credit Quality. 'AAA' ratings denote the lowest expectation of credit risk. They are assigned only in case of exceptionally strong capacity for timely payment of financial commitments. This capacity is highly unlikely to be adversely affected by foreseeable events.

AA

Very High Credit Quality. 'AA' ratings denote a very low expectation of credit risk. They indicate very strong capacity for timely payment of financial commitments. This capacity is not significantly vulnerable to foreseeable events.

A

High Credit Quality. 'A' ratings denote a low expectation of credit risk. The capacity for timely payment of financial commitments is considered strong. This capacity may, nevertheless, be more vulnerable to changes in circumstances or in economic conditions than is the case for higher ratings.

BBB

Good Credit Quality. 'BBB' ratings indicate that there is currently a low expectation of credit risk. The capacity for timely payment of financial commitments is considered adequate, but adverse changes in circumstances and in economic conditions are more likely to impair this capacity. This is the lowest investment-grade category.

Speculative Grade

BB

Speculative. 'BB' ratings indicate that there is a possibility of credit risk developing, particularly as the result of adverse economic change over time; however, business or financial alternatives may be available to allow financial commitments to be met. Securities rated in this category are not investment grade.

B

Highly Speculative. 'B' ratings indicate that significant credit risk is present, but a limited margin of safety remains. Financial commitments are currently being met; however, capacity for continued payment is contingent upon a sustained, favourable business and economic environment.

CCC, CC, C

High Default Risk. Default is a real possibility. Capacity for meeting financial commitments is solely reliant upon sustained, favourable business or economic developments. A 'CC' rating indicates that default of some kind appears probable. 'C' ratings signal imminent default.

DDD, DD, D

Default. The ratings of obligations in this category are based on their prospects for achieving partial or full recovery in a reorganization or liquidation of the obligor. While expected recovery values are highly speculative and cannot be estimated with any precision, the following serve as general guidelines. 'DDD' obligations have the highest potential for recovery, around 90% - 100% of outstanding amounts and accrued interest. 'DD' indicates potential recoveries in the range of 50% - 90% and 'D' the lowest recovery potential, i.e., below 50%.

Entities rated in this category have defaulted on some or all of their obligations. Entities rated 'DDD' have the highest prospect for resumption of performance or continued operation with or without a formal reorganization process. Entities rated 'DD' and 'D' are generally undergoing a formal reorganization or liquidation process; those rated 'DD' are likely to satisfy a higher portion of their outstanding obligations, while entities rated 'D' have a poor prospect of repaying all obligations.

International Short-Term Ratings

The following ratings scale applies to foreign currency and local currency ratings. A Short-term rating has a time horizon of less than 12 months for most obligations, or up to three years for US public finance securities, and thus places greater emphasis on the liquidity necessary to meet financial commitments in a timely manner.

F1

Highest Credit Quality. Indicates the strongest capacity for timely payment of financial commitments; may have an added "+" to denote any exceptionally strong credit feature.

F2

Good Credit Quality. A satisfactory capacity for timely payment of financial commitments, but the margin of safety is not as great as in the case of the higher ratings.

F3

Fair Credit Quality. The capacity for timely payment of financial commitments is adequate; however, near-term adverse changes could result in a reduction to non-investment grade.

B

Speculative. Minimal capacity for timely payment of financial commitments, plus vulnerability to near-term adverse changes in financial and economic conditions.

C

High Default Risk. Default is a real possibility. Capacity for meeting financial commitments is solely reliant upon a sustained, favourable business and economic environment.

D

Default. Denotes actual or imminent payment default.

Notes to Long-Term and Short-Term Ratings

"+" or "-" may be appended to a rating to denote relative status within major rating categories. Such suffixes are not added to the 'AAA' Long-term rating category, to categories below 'CCC', or to Short-term ratings other than 'F1'.

'NR' indicates that Fitch Ratings does not rate the issuer or issue in question.

'Withdrawn': A rating is withdrawn when Fitch Ratings deems the amount of information available to be inadequate for rating purposes, or when an obligation matures, is called, or refinanced.

Rating Watch: Ratings are placed on Rating Watch to notify investors that there is a reasonable probability of a rating change and the likely direction of such change. These are designated as "Positive", indicating a potential upgrade, "Negative", for a potential downgrade, or "Evolving", if ratings may be raised, lowered or maintained. Rating Watch is typically resolved over a relatively short period.

A **Rating Outlook** indicates the direction a rating is likely to move over a one to two-year period. Outlooks may be positive, stable or negative. A positive or negative Rating Outlook does not imply a rating change is inevitable. Similarly, ratings for which outlooks are 'stable' could be upgraded or downgraded before an outlook moves to positive or negative if circumstances warrant such an action. Occasionally, Fitch Ratings may be unable to identify the fundamental trend. In these cases, the Rating Outlook may be described as evolving.

National Ratings

National Credit Ratings

For those countries in which foreign and local currency sovereign ratings are below 'AAA', and where there is a demand for such ratings, Fitch will provide national ratings. The national rating scale provides a relative measure of creditworthiness for rated entities only within the country concerned. Under this rating scale, a "AAA" Long-term national rating will be assigned to the best relative risk within that country, which, in most cases, will be the sovereign state.

The national rating scale is not based on default probabilities: it merely ranks the degree of perceived risk relative to the best credit risk in that same country. Like local currency ratings, national ratings exclude the effects of sovereign and transfer risk and exclude the possibility that investors may be unable to repatriate any due interest and principal repayments. However, unlike local currency ratings, national ratings are not internationally comparable and they are identified by the addition of a special identifier for the country concerned, such as "AAA(zaf)" for national ratings in South Africa.

National Short-Term Credit Ratings

F1(xxx)

Indicates the strongest capacity for timely payment of financial commitments relative to other issuers or issues in the same country. Under Fitch's national rating scale, this rating is assigned to the "best" credit risk relative to all others in the same country and is normally assigned to all financial commitments issued or guaranteed by the sovereign state. Where the credit risk is particularly strong, a "+" is added to the assigned rating.

F2(xxx)

Indicates a satisfactory capacity for timely payment of financial commitments relative to other issuers or issues in the same country. However, the margin of safety is not as great as in the case of the higher ratings.

F3(xxx)

Indicates an adequate capacity for timely payment of financial commitments relative to other issuers or issues in the same country. However, such capacity is more susceptible to near-term adverse changes than for financial commitments in higher rated categories.

B(xxx)

Indicates an uncertain capacity for timely payment of financial commitments relative to other issuers or issues in the same country. Such capacity is highly susceptible to near-term adverse changes in financial and economic conditions.

C(xxx)

Indicates a highly uncertain capacity for timely payment of financial commitments relative to other issuers or issues in the same country. Capacity or meeting financial commitments is solely reliant upon a sustained, favourable business and economic environment.

D(xxx)

Indicates actual or imminent payment default.

Notes to Long-Term and Short-Term National Ratings

A special identifier for the country concerned will be added to all national ratings. For illustrative purposes, (xxx) has been used, as above.

“+” or “-” may be appended to a national rating to denote relative status within a major rating category. Such suffixes are not added to the ‘AAA(xxx)’ Long-term national rating category, to categories below ‘CCC(xxx)’ or to Short-term national ratings other than ‘F1(xxx)’.

Rating Watch: *Ratings are placed on Rating Watch to notify investors that there is a reasonable probability of a rating change and the likely direction of such change. These are designated as “Positive”, indicating a potential upgrade, “Negative”, for a potential downgrade, or “Evolving”, if ratings may be raised, lowered or maintained. Rating Watch is typically resolved over a relatively short period.*

In certain countries, regulators have established credit rating scales, to be used within their domestic markets, using specific nomenclature. In these countries, our National Short-term Rating definitions for F1+(xxx), F1(xxx), F2(xxx) and F3(xxx) may be substituted by the regulatory scales, e.g. A1+, A1, A2 and A3.

National Long-Term Credit Ratings

AAA(xxx)

‘AAA’ national ratings denote the highest rating assigned by Fitch in its national rating scale for that country. This rating is assigned to the “best” credit risk relative to all other issuers or issues in the same country and will normally be assigned to all financial commitments issued or guaranteed by the sovereign state.

AA(xxx)

‘AA’ national ratings denote a very strong credit risk relative to other issuers or issues in the same country. The credit risk inherent in these financial commitments differs only slightly from the country’s highest rated issuers or issues.

A(xxx)

‘A’ national ratings denote a strong credit risk relative to other issuers or issues in the same country. However, changes in circumstances or economic conditions may

affect the capacity for timely repayment of these financial commitments to a greater degree than for financial commitments denoted by a higher rated category.

BBB(xxx)

'BBB' national ratings denote an adequate credit risk relative to other issuers or issues in the same country. However, changes in circumstances or economic conditions are more likely to affect the capacity for timely repayment of these financial commitments than for financial commitments denoted by a higher rated category.

BB(xxx)

'BB' national ratings denote a fairly weak credit risk relative to other issuers or issues in the same country. Within the context of the country, payment of these financial commitments is uncertain to some degree and capacity for timely repayment remains more vulnerable to adverse economic change over time.

B(xxx)

'B' national ratings denote a significantly weak credit risk relative to other issuers or issues in the same country. Financial commitments are currently being met but a limited margin of safety remains and capacity for continued timely payments is contingent upon a sustained, favourable business and economic environment.

CCC(xxx), CC(xxx), C(xxx)

These categories of national ratings denote an extremely weak credit risk relative to other issuers or issues in the same country. Capacity for meeting financial commitments is solely reliant upon sustained, favourable business or economic developments.

DDD(xxx), DD(xxx), D(xxx)

These categories of national ratings are assigned to entities or financial commitments which are currently in default.

South Africa

International Local Currency-National Scale Mapping Table

South African national rating	International local currency rating
AAA(zaf)	A
AA+(zaf)	A-
AA(zaf)	A-
	BBB+
AA-(zaf)	BBB+
	BBB
A+(zaf)	BBB
A(zaf)	BBB-
A-(zaf)	BBB-
	BB+
BBB+(zaf)	BB+
BBB(zaf)	BB+
	BB
BBB-(zaf)	BB
BB+(zaf)	BB
	BB-
BB(zaf)	BB-
BB-(zaf)	BB-
	B+
B+(zaf)	B+
	B
B(zaf)	B
	B-
B-(zaf)	B-
CCC(zaf)	CCC
CC(zaf)	CC
C(zaf)	C
D(zaf)	D

Source: Fitch

The table indicates the potential International local currency rating that could be assigned to an entity that had been assigned a South African National scale rating. This type of table is used as a tool by analysts working on both National ratings and International local currency ratings to ensure consistency between the two scales, and Fitch's expectation is that the rating relationships between National and International local currency ratings will typically correspond as indicated. The same core policies and methodologies are applied on a consistent basis in assigning National and International ratings. However, a rating committee has the discretion to identify the most appropriate rating to assign in each case. It is possible that a rating committee might come to a different rating than the mapping relationship indicated by the mapping table. Such a deviation from the mapping relationship is only expected in the small minority of cases, and any such deviations would be visible from the International local currency rating assigned.

Bank Individual and Support Ratings

Support Ratings

The Support Ratings do not assess the quality of a bank. Rather, they are Fitch's assessment of whether the bank would receive support should this be necessary. We emphasize that these ratings constitute Fitch's opinions, although we may discuss the principals underlying them with the supervisory authorities for their comment or endorsement.

1

A bank for which there is an extremely high probability of external support. The potential provider of support is very highly rated in its own right and has a very high propensity to support the bank in question. This probability of support indicates a minimum Long-term rating floor of 'A-'.

2

A bank for which there is a high probability of external support. The potential provider of support is highly rated in its own right and has a high propensity to provide support to the bank in question. This probability of support indicates a minimum Long-term rating floor of 'BBB-'.

3

A bank for which there is a moderate probability of support because of uncertainties about the ability or propensity of the potential provider of support to do so. This probability of support indicates a minimum Long-term rating floor of 'BB-'.

4

A bank for which there is a limited probability of support because of significant uncertainties about the ability or propensity of any possible provider of support to do so. This probability of support indicates a minimum Long-term rating floor of 'B'.

5

A bank for which external support, although possible, cannot be relied upon. This may be due to a lack of propensity to provide support or to very weak financial ability to do so. This probability of support indicates a Long-term rating floor no higher than 'B-' and in many cases no floor at all.

Note

We emphasize that in our Support rating we are not analyzing how "good" or "bad" a bank is, but merely whether in our opinion it would receive support if it ran into difficulties.

Bank Individual and Support Ratings

Individual Ratings

Fitch's Individual Ratings, which are internationally comparable, attempt to assess how a bank would be viewed if it were entirely independent and could not rely on external support. These ratings are designed to assess a bank's exposure to, appetite for, and management of risk, and thus represent our view on the likelihood that it would run into significant difficulties such that it would require support. The principal factors we analyze to evaluate the bank and determine these ratings include profitability and balance sheet integrity, franchise, management, operating environment, and prospects. Consistency is an important consideration.

A

A very strong bank. Characteristics may include outstanding profitability and balance sheet integrity, franchise, management, operating environment, or prospects.

B

A strong bank. There are no major concerns regarding the bank. Characteristics may include strong profitability and balance sheet integrity, franchise, management, operating environment or prospects.

C

An adequate bank which, however, possess one or more troublesome aspects. There may be some concerns regarding its profitability and balance sheet integrity, franchise, and management, operating environment or prospects.

D

A bank which has weaknesses of internal and/or external origin. There are concerns regarding its profitability and balance sheet integrity, franchise, management, operating environment or prospects. Banks in emerging markets are necessarily faced with a greater number of potential deficiencies of external origin.

E

A bank with very serious problems which either requires or is likely to require external support.

Note

In addition, we use gradations among these five ratings, i.e. A/B, B/C, C/D and D/E.

Insurer Financial Strength Ratings

The International Insurer Financial Strength Rating (IFS Rating) provides an assessment of the financial strength of an insurance organization and its capacity to meet senior obligations to policyholders and contract holders on a timely basis. The IFS Rating is assigned to the insurance organization itself, and no liabilities or obligations of the insurer are specifically rated unless otherwise stated (for example, Fitch Ratings may separately rate the debt obligations of an insurer). The IFS Rating can be assigned to insurance and reinsurance companies in all insurance sectors, including the life & health, property & casualty, mortgage, financial guaranty and title insurance sectors, as well as managed care companies such as health maintenance organizations.

The IFS Rating does not address the willingness of an insurance organization's management to honor its company's obligations, nor the quality of an insurer's claims-handling services. In the context of the rating, the timeliness of payments is considered relative to both contract and/or policy terms and also recognizes the possibility of acceptable delays caused by circumstances unique to the insurance industry, such as claims reviews, fraud investigations, and coverage disputes.

The IFS Rating is based on a comprehensive analysis of relevant factors that in large part determine an insurance organization's financial strength, including its regulatory solvency characteristics, liquidity, operating performance, financial flexibility, balance sheet strength, management quality, competitive positioning, and long-term business viability.

This is an international-scale rating, and incorporates relevant economic and political risks that could impair an insurance organization's capacity to meet its obligations. As a result, in most cases it would be rare for an insurance organization to achieve an IFS Rating that would be higher than the international long-term local currency ratings assigned to the obligations of its sovereign state of domicile. One exception could be cases in which foreign parental support commitments are in place. Other exceptions could include cases in which, due to the international nature of an insurer's business, a major portion of its business and financial resources are not exposed to the economic and political risks of its sovereign state. Since the IFS Rating is not assigned to any specific obligations of the insurer, the rating does not take into account the potential for government restrictions that could prevent specific obligations from being met on a timely basis, such as exchange controls placed on obligations owed in a foreign currency.

AAA

Exceptionally Strong. Insurers assigned this highest rating are viewed as possessing exceptionally strong capacity to meet policyholder and contract obligations. For such companies, risk factors are minimal and the impact of any adverse business and economic factors is expected to be extremely small.

AA

Very Strong. Insurers are viewed as possessing very strong capacity to meet policyholder and contract obligations. Risk factors are modest, and the impact of any adverse business and economic factors is expected to be very small.

A

Strong. Insurers are viewed as possessing strong capacity to meet policyholder and contract obligations. Risk factors are moderate, and the impact of any adverse business and economic factors is expected to be small.

BBB

Good. Insurers are viewed as possessing good capacity to meet policyholder and contract obligations. Risk factors are somewhat high, and the impact of any adverse business and economic factors is expected to be material, yet manageable.

BB

Moderately Weak. Insurers are viewed as moderately weak with an uncertain capacity to meet policyholder and contract obligations. Though positive factors are present, overall risk factors are high, and the impact of any adverse business and economic factors is expected to be significant.

B

Weak. Insurers are viewed as weak with a poor capacity to meet policyholder and contract obligations. Risk factors are very high, and the impact of any adverse business and economic factors is expected to be very significant.

CCC, CC, C

Very Weak. Insurers rated in any of these three categories are viewed as very weak with a very poor capacity to meet policyholder and contract obligations. Risk factors are extremely high, and the impact of any adverse business and economic factors is expected to be insurmountable. A 'CC' rating indicates that some form of insolvency or liquidity impairment appears probable. A 'C' rating signals that insolvency or a liquidity impairment appears imminent.

DDD,DD,D

Distressed. These ratings are assigned to insurers that have either failed to make payments on their obligations in a timely manner, are deemed to be insolvent, or have been subjected to some form of regulatory intervention. Within the 'DDD'-'D' range, those companies rated 'DDD' have the highest prospects for resumption of business operations or, if liquidated or wound down, of having a vast majority of their obligations to policyholders and contract holders ultimately paid off, though on a delayed basis (with recoveries expected in the range of 90%-100%). Those rated 'DD' show a much lower likelihood of ultimately paying off material amounts of their obligations in a liquidation or wind down scenario (in a range of 50%-90%). Those rated 'D' are ultimately expected to have very limited liquid assets available to fund obligations, and therefore any ultimate payoffs would be quite modest (at under 50%).

Notes

"+" or "-" may be appended to a rating to indicate the relative position of a credit within the rating category. Such suffixes are not added to ratings in the 'AAA' category or to ratings below the 'CCC' category.

Ratings of 'BBB-' and higher are considered to be "secure", and those of 'BB+' and lower are considered to be "vulnerable".

A Rating Outlook indicates the direction a rating is likely to move over a one to two-year period. Outlooks may be positive, stable or negative. A positive or negative Rating Outlook does not imply a rating change is inevitable. Similarly, ratings for which outlooks are "stable" could be upgraded or downgraded before an outlook moves to positive or negative if circumstances warrant such an action. Occasionally, Fitch Ratings may be unable to identify the fundamental trend, and in these cases, the Rating Outlook may be described as "evolving". Rating Watch: Ratings are placed on Rating Watch to notify investors that there is a reasonable probability of a rating change and the likely direction of such change. These are designated as "Positive", indicating a potential upgrade, "Negative", for a potential downgrade, or "Evolving", if ratings may be raised, lowered or maintained. Rating Watch is typically resolved over a relatively short period.

National Insurer Financial Strength Ratings

National ratings exclude the impact of sovereign risk and make use of the full rating scale from 'AAA' to 'C' as indicated below. It is important to note that each National rating scale is unique and is defined to serve the needs of the local market in question.

It is not related to the financial strength rating scale of any other national market. Comparisons between different national scales or between an individual national scale and the international financial strength rating scale are therefore inappropriate and potentially misleading. In order to ensure proper identification of the national market to which the rating applies, national market ratings carry a unique identifier which relates to that sovereign state, e.g. 'AAA(arg)'.

AAA(XXX)

Relative to other insurers in the same national market, insurers in this category have the highest capacity to meet policyholder obligations and provide policyholder benefits. Compared with other insurers in the same national market, these insurers have the lowest susceptibility to the effect of adverse business and economic factors.

AA(xxx)

Relative to other insurers in the same national market, insurers in this category have a very high capacity to meet policyholder obligations and provide policyholder benefits. Compared with other insurers in the same national market, these insurers have a very low susceptibility to the effect of adverse business and economic factors.

A(XXX)

Relative to other insurers in the same national market, insurers in this category have a high capacity to meet policyholder obligations and provide policyholder benefits. Compared with other insurers in the same national market, these insurers have a low susceptibility to the effect of adverse business and economic factors.

BBB(XXX)

Relative to other insurers in the same national market, insurers in this category have an acceptable capacity to meet policyholder obligations and provide policyholder benefits. Compared with other insurers in the same national market, these insurers have some susceptibility to the effect of adverse business and economic factors.

Notes

"+" or "-" are used with a rating symbol to indicate the relative position of a credit within the rating category. They are not used for the 'AAA' category.

The ISO Country Code is placed as a suffix in parentheses immediately following the rating letters to indicate the identity of the national market within which the rating applies. For illustrative purposes '(xxx)' has been used above.

Short-Term Insurer Financial Strength Ratings

A Fitch Short-Term Insurer Financial Strength Rating (ST-IFS Rating) provides an assessment of the near-term financial health of an insurance organization, and its capacity to meet senior obligations to policyholders and contract holders that would be expected to be due within one year. The analysis supporting the ST-IFS Rating encompasses all of the factors considered within the context of the IFS Rating, but with greater weighting given to an insurer's near-term liquidity, financial flexibility and regulatory solvency characteristics, and less weight given to longer-term issues such as competitiveness and earnings trends.

Fitch will only assign a ST-IFS Rating to insurers that also have been assigned an IFS Rating. Currently, ST-IFS Ratings are used primarily by U.S. life insurance companies that sell short-term funding agreements.

The ST-IFS Rating uses the same international ratings scale used by Fitch for short-term debt and issuer ratings. Ratings of F1, F2 and F3 are considered to be 'Secure', while those of 'B' and below are viewed as 'Vulnerable'.

F1

Insurers are viewed as having a STRONG capacity to meet their near-term obligations. When an insurer rated in this rating category is designated with a (+) sign, it is viewed as having a VERY STRONG capacity to meet near-term obligations.

F2

Insurers are viewed as having a MODERATELY STRONG capacity to meet their near-term obligations.

F3

Insurers are viewed as having a MODERATE capacity to meet their near-term obligations, and a near-term adverse change in business or economic factors would likely move the insurer to a 'vulnerable' rating category.

B

Insurers are viewed as having a WEAK capacity to meet their near-term obligations.

C

Insurers are viewed as having a VERY WEAK capacity to meet their near-term obligations.

D

Insurers have either been unable to meet near-term obligations, or the failure to meet such obligations is imminent.

National Insurance Claims-Paying Ability Ratings

AAA

Relative to other insurers in the same National market, insurers in this category have the highest capacity to meet policyholder obligations and provide policyholder benefits. Compared with other insurers in the same National market, these insurers have the lowest susceptibility to the effect of adverse business and economic factors.

AA

Relative to other insurers in the same National market, insurers in this category have a very high capacity to meet policyholder obligations and provide policyholder benefits. Compared with other insurers in the same National market, these insurers have a very low susceptibility to the effect of adverse business and economic factors.

A

Relative to other insurers in the same National market, insurers in this category have a high capacity to meet policyholder obligations and provide policyholder benefits. Compared with other insurers in the same National market, these insurers have a low susceptibility to the effect of adverse business and economic factors.

BBB

Relative to other insurers in the same National market, insurers in this category have an acceptable capacity to meet policyholder obligations and provide policyholder benefits. Compared with other insurers in the same National market, these insurers have some susceptibility to the effect of adverse business and economic factors.

BB

Relative to other insurers in the same National market, insurers in this category have a speculative capacity to meet policyholder obligations and provide policyholder benefits. Compared with other insurers in the same National market, these insurers have a moderate susceptibility to the effect of adverse business and economic factors.

B

Relative to other insurers in the same National market, insurers in this category have a vulnerable capacity to meet policyholder obligations and provide policyholder benefits. Compared with other insurers in the same National market, these insurers have significant susceptibility to the effect of adverse business and economic factors.

CCC, CC, C

Relative to other insurers in the same National market, insurers in this category have a highly vulnerable capacity to meet policyholder obligations and provide policyholder benefits. The insurer may be under the supervision of an insurance regulator and already may not be making all payments in a timely fashion.

D

Insurers, which have been placed in liquidation by insurance regulators for which policy or claims payments are being controlled, delayed or reduced.

Notes

“+” Or “-” are used with a rating symbol to indicate the relative position of a credit within the rating category. They are not used for the ‘AAA’ and ‘D’ categories.

The ISO International Code Suffix is placed in parenthesis immediately following the rating letters to indicate the identity of the National market within which the rating applies.

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Source: Fitch

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