COMMISSIONING OF ABSA PLACE

REMARKS

BY

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SECOND DEPUTY GOVERNOR, BANK OF GHANA

Absa Place, Ridge, Accra | Thursday, September 25, 2026 | 3:00pm

Your Excellency Professor Jane Naana Opoku-Agyemang, Vice President of the Republic of Ghana;

Honourable Ministers present;

Acting Director-General of the Securities and Exchange Commission, Dr James Klutse Avedzi;

Members of the Diplomatic Corps;

Group Executive: Africa Regions, Absa Group, Mr Charles Russon;

Members of the Absa Bank Ghana Board;

Managing Director of Absa Bank Ghana LTD, Dr Edward Nartey Botchway and members of the Country management Committee;

Distinguished guests;

Ladies and gentlemen:

Good afternoon.

It is my utmost pleasure to join you today for the official commissioning of Absa Place, the new state-of-the-art Head Office of Absa Bank Ghana Ltd.

The completion of this edifice marks an important milestone for an institution that has been an integral part of Ghana's banking history for more than a century. On behalf of the Governor, the First Deputy and the Bank of Ghana, I congratulate the Board, Management and staff of Absa Bank Ghana Ltd, the Absa Group, and everyone whose dedication and expertise brought this landmark project to fruition.

Absa Place represents a significant investment. It reflects confidence in the institution's future and a clear commitment to building the infrastructure needed to support its long-term growth and continued contribution to Ghana's financial sector.

For a bank, however, the value of such an investment must extend beyond the, physical structure. It should be matched by the strength of its governance, the resilience of its operations, the soundness of its decisions, and the trust it earns and sustains among its customers and the wider public. Ultimately, the significance of Absa Place will be measured not by its architecture, but by how effectively it supports these institutional responsibilities.

Distinguished guests, the financial services industry is evolving rapidly. Digital platforms, new payment systems, changing customer expectations and growing interconnectedness are reshaping how banking services are designed, delivered and consumed. These developments create real opportunities: wider access, greater efficiency, and more convenient, responsive service for customers.

They also bring risks that must be properly diagnosed and effectively mitigated. As financial institutions grow more dependent on technology and interconnected systems, operational resilience, cybersecurity, data protection and sound risk management become ever more critical. Innovation must be matched by strong controls and appropriate safeguards, so that confidence in the financial system is protected, not put at risk.

It is our expectation that this new facility will give Absa Bank a more resilient operating environment, one that facilitates collaboration, supports reliable operations, strengthens service delivery, and enables the Bank to serve its customers securely, efficiently and with confidence.

As a systemically important bank in Ghana's financial sector, Absa Bank Ghana carries responsibilities that extend well beyond its commercial interests. Its financial and operational strength affects depositors, businesses, employees, counterparties, and confidence in the wider financial system. This demands prudent risk management, adequate capital, strong liquidity, regulatory compliance and responsible conduct, consistently applied.

In this light, the commissioning of Absa Place marks not only the completion of a corporate building, but the beginning of a responsibility: to use this investment to strengthen the institution and enhance the experience of the customers and businesses it serves. Absa Place should reinforce a culture in which innovation is responsible, growth is sustainable, and trust is earned through consistent conduct.

The Bank of Ghana will continue to support innovation that improves access and efficiency, while maintaining the safeguards required to protect customers and preserve financial stability. We expect Absa Bank Ghana Ltd, and the banking industry more broadly, to approach innovation with the same seriousness it applies to capital conservation, liquidity and credit risk management.

I commend the Board for its stewardship of this project and the Management team for bringing it to fruition. May the investment represented by Absa Place strengthen Absa Bank as a well-governed and resilient institution, one that continues to serve its customers responsibly and contribute to the stability and development of Ghana's financial sector.

Congratulations once again.

God bless Absa Bank. God bless Ghana.

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