## Commonwealth Bank Australia

Commonwealth Bank of Australia. A.B.N. 48 123 123 124

Incorporated in Australia with limited liability

#### **ASB Finance Limited, London Branch**

Incorporated in New Zealand with limited liability

Unconditionally and irrevocably guaranteed (in the case of Notes issued by ASB Finance Limited, London Branch) by

#### ASB Bank Limited

Incorporated in New Zealand with limited liability

## U.S.\$35,000,000,000 Euro Medium Term Note Programme

All references in the Programme Circular to ASB Finance Limited, London Branch shall, for the purpose of the disclosure requirement of the Prospectus Directive (as defined below), be construed as references to ASB Finance Limited.

Commonwealth Bank of Australia ("CBA") and ASB Finance Limited, London Branch ("ASB Finance" and, together with CBA, the "Issuers") may from time to time issue Euro Medium Term Notes (the "Notes") in any form contemplated in "Conditions of the Notes" herein and as described in "Description of the Programme" herein. The payment of all amounts payable in respect of Notes issued by ASB Finance will be unconditionally and irrevocably guaranteed by ASB Bank Limited ("ASB" or the "Guarantor").

The Notes will be issued from time to time to one or more of the Dealers specified on page 7 (each a "Dealer" and together the "Dealers", which expression shall include any additional Dealers appointed under the Programme (as defined below) from time to time). The relevant Issuer may agree with any Dealer and The Law Debenture Trust Corporation p.l.c. (the "Trustee") as trustee for the holders of the Notes that Notes may be issued in a form not contemplated by the "Conditions of the Notes" herein, in which case supplementary listing particulars, if appropriate, will be published which will describe the effect of the agreement reached in relation to such Notes.

An investment in Notes issued under the Programme involves certain risks. For a discussion of these risks see "Risk Factors".

Application has been made to the Financial Services Authority acting in its capacity as the competent authority under the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000 (the "UK Listing Authority") for Notes to be issued during the period of 12 months from the date of this Programme Circular under this U.S.\$35,000,000,000 Euro Medium Term Note Programme (the "Programme") to be admitted to the official list of the UK Listing Authority (the "Official List") and to the London Stock Exchange plc (the "London Stock Exchange") for such Notes to be admitted to trading on the London Stock Exchange's Gilt Edged and Fixed Interest market. References in this Programme Circular to Notes being "listed" (and all related references) shall mean that such Notes have been admitted to trading on the London Stock Exchange's Gilt Edged and Fixed Interest Market and have been admitted to the Official List. The London Stock Exchange's Gilt Edged and Fixed Interest Market is a regulated market for the purposes of Directive 93/22/EEC (the "Investment Services Directive"). Notice of the aggregate nominal amount of, interest (if any) payable in respect of, the issue price of, and any other terms and conditions not contained herein which are applicable to, each Series of Notes will be set forth in a Final Terms supplement (each a "Final Terms") which, with respect to Notes to be listed on the London Stock Exchange, will be delivered to the UK Listing Authority and the London Stock Exchange.

This document is issued in replacement of a Programme Circular dated 14 October 2005 and accordingly supersedes that earlier Programme Circular. This does not affect any Notes issued under the Programme prior to the date of this Programme Circular.

Arranged by:

**UBS Investment Bank** 

Citigroup Credit Suisse First Boston Dresdner Kleinwort JPMorgan Merrill Lynch International Nomura International Commonwealth Bank of Australia Deutsche Bank HSBC Lehman Brothers Morgan Stanley UBS Investment Bank This Programme Circular comprises a base prospectus of each Issuer, as explained in the following paragraph, for the purposes of Article 5.4 of Directive 2003/71/EC (the "Prospectus Directive").

CBA accepts responsibility for the information contained in the CBA Base Prospectus. The "CBA Base Prospectus" includes the information contained in this Programme Circular except for any of the information contained herein under the headings, "Issuers - ASB Finance Limited, London Branch" and "Guarantor - ASB Bank Limited" on page 6, under the headings "Risk Factors - ASB Finance" and "Risk Factors - ASB" on page 12, under the headings "ASB Finance Limited, London Branch" and "Directors of ASB Finance Limited, London Branch" on pages 66 and 67 and under the headings "ASB Bank Limited" and "Directors of ASB Bank Limited" on pages 68 to 74 (inclusive). Each of ASB and ASB Finance accepts responsibility for the information contained in the ASB Finance Base Prospectus. The "ASB Finance Base Prospectus" includes the information contained in this Programme Circular except for any of the information contained herein under the headings "Issuers - Commonwealth Bank of Australia" on pages 5 and 6, under the headings "Risk Factors - CBA" on pages 11 and 12 and, under the headings "Commonwealth Bank of Australia" and "Directors of Commonwealth Bank of Australia" on pages 58 to 65 (inclusive). To the best of the knowledge of each of CBA, ASB Finance and ASB (which have each taken all reasonable care to ensure that such is the case) the information contained in the Base Prospectus for which it has taken responsibility in accordance with the preceding sentences of this paragraph, is in accordance with the facts and does not omit anything likely to affect the import of such information.

Copies of the Final Terms will be available from the registered office of CBA at Level 7, 48 Martin Place, Sydney, NSW 2000, Australia, the London branch office of ASB Finance (currently Senator House, 85 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4V 4HA) and the specified office set out below of each of the Paying Agents (as defined below).

The fact that ASB is New Zealand's fourth largest bank has been extracted from AC Nielsen Consumer Finance Monitor. ASB confirms that such information has been accurately reproduced and that, so far as it is aware, and is able to ascertain from information published by AC Nielsen Consumer Finance Monitor, no facts have been omitted which would render the reproduced information inaccurate or misleading.

This Programme Circular is to be read in conjunction with all documents which are deemed to be incorporated herein by reference (see "Documents Incorporated by Reference"). This Programme Circular shall, save as specified herein, be read and construed on the basis that such documents are so incorporated and form part of this Programme Circular.

Neither the Dealers (which term in this paragraph and the third paragraph below includes Commonwealth Bank of Australia in its capacity as a dealer but does not include Commonwealth Bank of Australia in its capacity as an issuer of the Notes) nor the Trustee have separately verified the information contained herein. Accordingly, no representation, warranty or undertaking, express or implied, is made and no responsibility or liability is accepted by the Dealers or the Trustee as to the accuracy or completeness of the information contained in this Programme Circular or any further information supplied by each of CBA, ASB Finance and ASB in connection with the Notes.

No person has been authorised to give any information or to make any representation not contained in this Programme Circular or any further information supplied in connection with the Notes and, if given or made, such information or representation must not be relied upon as having been authorised by either Issuer, the Guarantor, any of the Dealers or the Trustee.

Neither this Programme Circular nor any further information supplied in connection with the Notes is intended to provide the basis of any credit or other evaluation and should not be considered as a recommendation by either Issuer, the Guarantor, any of the Dealers or the Trustee that any recipient of this Programme Circular or any further information supplied in connection with the Notes should purchase any of the Notes. Each investor contemplating purchasing Notes should make its own independent investigation of the condition and affairs,

and its own appraisal of the creditworthiness, of the relevant Issuer and the Guarantor (where the relevant Issuer is ASB Finance). Neither this Programme Circular nor any further information supplied in connection with the Notes constitutes an offer or invitation by or on behalf of either Issuer, the Guarantor, any of the Dealers or the Trustee to any person to subscribe for or to purchase any of the Notes.

The delivery of this Programme Circular does not at any time imply that the information contained herein concerning CBA, ASB Finance and/or ASB is correct at any time subsequent to the date hereof or that any further information supplied in connection with the Notes is correct as of any time subsequent to the date indicated in the document containing the same. The Dealers and the Trustee expressly do not undertake to review the financial or other condition or affairs of CBA, ASB Finance or ASB and any of their respective subsidiaries during the life of the Programme. Investors should review, *inter alia*, the most recent financial statements of the relevant Issuer and the Guarantor (where the relevant Issuer is ASB Finance) when deciding whether or not to purchase any of the Notes.

The distribution of this Programme Circular and the offer or sale of the Notes may be restricted by law in certain jurisdictions. Persons into whose possession this Programme Circular or any Notes come must inform themselves about, and observe, any such restrictions. In particular, there are restrictions on the distribution of this Programme Circular and the offer or sale of the Notes in the United States of America, the European Economic Area (including the United Kingdom), Japan, Australia and New Zealand (see "Subscription and Sale").

The Notes have not been and will not be registered under the United States Securities Act of 1933 and include Notes in bearer form that are subject to U.S. tax law requirements. Subject to certain exceptions, Notes may not be offered, sold or delivered within the United States or to U.S. persons (see "Subscription and Sale").

Any reference herein to an agreement between either Issuer, the Guarantor (where the relevant Issuer is ASB Finance) and the relevant Dealer shall, in the case of Notes being, or intended to be, subscribed by more than one Dealer, be to an agreement between such Issuer, the Guarantor (where the relevant Issuer is ASB Finance) and all such Dealers.

In this Programme Circular, references to "U.S. dollars", "USD" and "U.S.\$" are to United States dollars, references to "JPY", "Yen" and "¥" are to Japanese yen, references to "Sterling", "GBP" and "£" are to pounds sterling, references to "AUD" and "A\$" are to Australian dollars, references to "NZD" and "NZ\$" are to New Zealand dollars, references to "HKD" are to Hong Kong dollars, references to "CHF" are to Swiss Francs and references to "euro" and "€" refer to the currency introduced at the start of the third stage of European economic and monetary union pursuant to the Treaty establishing the European Community, as amended.

In connection with the issue of any Tranche of Notes, the Dealer or Dealers (if any) named as the Stabilising Manager(s) (or persons acting on behalf of any Stabilising Manager(s)) in the applicable Final Terms may over-allot Notes (provided that, in the case of any Tranche of Notes to be admitted to trading on a regulated market in the European Economic Area, the aggregate principal amount of Notes allotted does not exceed 105 per cent. of the aggregate principal amount of the relevant Tranche) or effect transactions with a view to supporting the market price of the Notes at a level higher than that which might otherwise prevail. However, there is no assurance that the Stabilising Manager(s) (or persons acting on behalf of a Stabilising Manager) will undertake stabilisation action. Any stabilisation action may begin on or after the date on which adequate public disclosure of the terms of the offer of the relevant Tranche of Notes is made and, if begun, may be ended at any time, but it must end no later than the earlier of 30 days after the issue date of the relevant Tranche of Notes and 60 days after the date of the allotment of the relevant Tranche of Notes.

### **Table of Contents**

|  | Page |
|--|------|
| Summary of Terms and Conditions of the Programme and the Notes | 5    |
| Risk Factors   | 11   |
| Documents Incorporated by Reference                            | 16   |
| Form of the Notes  | 17   |
| Conditions of the Notes  | 32   |
| Use of Proceeds  | 57   |
| Commonwealth Bank of Australia                                 | 58   |
| Directors of Commonwealth Bank of Australia                    | 63   |
| ASB Finance Limited, London Branch                             | 66   |
| Directors of ASB Finance Limited, London Branch                | 67   |
| ASB Bank Limited   | 68   |
| Directors of ASB Bank Limited                                  | 73   |
| Subscription and Sale  | 75   |
| General Information  | 79   |
| Financial Information  | F-1  |

#### Summary of Terms and Conditions of the Programme and the Notes

This summary must be read as an introduction to this Programme Circular and any decision to invest in any Notes should be based on a consideration of this Programme Circular as a whole, including the documents incorporated by reference. Following the implementation of the relevant provisions of the Prospectus Directive in each Member State of the European Economic Area no civil liability will attach to CBA, ASB Finance or ASB in any such Member State in respect of this Summary, including any translation hereof, unless it is misleading, inaccurate or inconsistent when read together with the other parts of this Programme Circular. Where a claim relating to information contained in this Programme Circular is brought before a court in a Member State of the European Economic Area, the plaintiff may, under the national legislation of the Member State where the claim is brought, be required to bear the costs of translating the Programme Circular before the legal proceedings are initiated.

Words and expressions defined in "Form of the Notes" and "Conditions of the Notes" below shall have the same meanings in this summary:

#### **Issuers:**

#### Commonwealth Bank of Australia

Summary Information

CBA is a public company with an ordinary share capital of A\$13,900 million. Its headquarters are in Sydney, NSW, Australia. CBA and its subsidiaries together provide a wide range of banking, financial and related services in Australia.

At 30 June 2006, CBA and its consolidated subsidiaries had total assets of A\$369,103 million, deposits and other public borrowings of A\$173,227 million and total regulatory capital of A\$20,916 million. Net profit after income tax, for the year ended 30 June 2006 was A\$3,928 million.

#### Business

CBA, with a full-time equivalent staff of more than 35,000, provides a wide range of banking, financial and related services through a network of over 1,000 branches and service centres and 3,800 agencies throughout Australia and, internationally, through New Zealand, United Kingdom, United States of America, Japan, Singapore, Hong Kong, Grand Cayman, Philippines, Fiji, Indonesia, China and Vietnam. These services include general banking, finance company activities, life insurance and funds management.

CBA is Australia's largest bank in terms of housing loans and retail deposits.

Based on consolidated global assets, CBA is the second largest Australian bank.

CBA has four customer facing business units:

#### Retail Banking Services

Retail Banking Services' (RBS) role is to deliver customised service, focusing on meeting the financial needs of retail customers seeking accessible and affordable banking.

#### Premium Business Services

Premium Business Services (PBS) looks after the financial needs of business customers from local community business through to institutional clients as well as high net worth individuals.

#### Wealth Management

Wealth Management provides strategic and operational support for all distribution of investment and insurance products and is responsible for the management of all Commonwealth Bank property.

#### International Financial Services

International Financial Services (IFS) is focused on developing offshore growth opportunities for the Bank in the Asia Pacific region. It incorporates offshore operations in New Zealand, China, India, Indonesia, Hong Kong, Vietnam and Fiji.

#### **ASB Finance Limited**

ASB Finance Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary of ASB, incorporated for the purpose of raising funds from offshore institutional debt markets to fund operations of ASB.

ASB Finance Limited was incorporated in New Zealand with limited liability on 18 October 1994 pursuant to the Companies Act 1993. ASB Finance Limited is governed by its constitution, the Companies Act 1993 and the Financial Reporting Act 1993.

During the period January 2000 to August 2004, ASB Finance Limited operated a branch in Sydney, Australia. The Sydney branch has now ceased operations. ASB Finance Limited has not traded in the period following the closing of the Sydney based branch until the recent establishment of the ASB Finance Limited, London branch in July 2006. The primary activities of ASB Finance, London Branch is to raise funds from offshore institutional debt markets under approved debt issuance programmes and to on-lend those funds to ASB. As at 30 June 2006, ASB Finance had total assets of NZ\$22,100. Net loss after tax for the year ended 30 June 2006 was NZ\$4,600.

#### **Guarantor:**

#### **ASB Bank Limited**

Summary of Information

ASB is the parent company of a group comprising itself and a number of special purpose subsidiaries.

ASB was re-registered pursuant to the Companies Re-registration Act 1993 on 30 June 1995 with the company number AK398445. ASB is governed by its constitution, the Companies Act 1993, the Reserve Bank of New Zealand Act 1989 and the Financial Reporting Act 1993.

ASB is a full service, nationally operating bank. ASB is a wholly owned subsidiary of ASB Holdings Limited which in turn is owned 100 per cent. by CBA.

ASB is New Zealand's fourth largest bank based on total assets and, according to the AC Nielsen Consumer Finance Monitor, the most significant retail bank in the Auckland and Northland areas, which account for an estimated one third of the country's population. The same survey rated ASB as New Zealand's most favourite and recommended bank of all major banks by participants.

As at 30 June 2006, ASB had total assets of NZ\$44,568 million (including total advances of NZ\$39,034 million) and total deposits of NZ\$41,066 million. Net profit after tax for the year to 30 June 2006 was NZ\$440 million.

ASB's risk-weighted capital ratio as at 30 June 2006 was 10.60 per cent. against a Reserve Bank of New Zealand requirement of 8 per cent.

#### Business Overview

ASB is a full service, nationally operating bank and financial services company. It provides a seamless, total service that covers a comprehensive range of financial options that can be tailored to the needs of 1,080,000 international, corporate, business, rural and personal customers.

**Risk Factors:** 

There are certain factors that may affect each Issuer's ability to fulfil its obligations under Notes issued under the Programme and the Guarantor's ability to fulfil its obligations under the Guarantee. These include the Issuers' and the Guarantor's exposure to adverse changes in the Australian, New Zealand and global economies and risks relating to volatility of interest rates and increased competition. In addition, there are certain factors which are material for the purpose of assessing the market risks associated with Notes issued under the Programme.

Arranger:

**UBS** Limited

**Dealers:** 

Citigroup Global Markets Limited Commonwealth Bank of Australia

Credit Suisse First Boston (Europe) Limited

Deutsche Bank AG, London Branch Dresdner Bank AG London Branch

HSBC Bank plc

J.P. Morgan Securities Ltd.

Lehman Brothers International (Europe)

Merrill Lynch International

Morgan Stanley & Co. International Limited

Nomura International plc

**UBS** Limited

Under the Programme Agreement, other institutions may be appointed Dealers either in relation to the Programme as a whole or in relation to specific issues thereunder.

Certain restrictions:

Each issue of Notes denominated in a currency in respect of which particular laws, guidelines, regulations, restrictions or reporting requirements apply will only be issued in circumstances which comply with such laws, guidelines, regulations, restrictions or reporting requirements from time to time including the following restrictions applicable at the date of this Programme Circular.

#### Notes having a maturity of less than one year

Notes issued by ASB Finance having maturity of less than one year will be issued (i) to a limited class of professional investors and will have a denomination of at least £100,000 (or an amount of equivalent value denominated wholly or partly in a currency other than sterling) and no part thereof will be transferable unless the redemption value of that part is not less than £100,000 (or such an equivalent amount) or (ii) in any other circumstances which do not violate section 19 of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000.

Issuing and Principal Paying Agent and Agent Bank: Deutsche Bank AG, London Branch

Registrar:

Deutsche Bank Luxembourg S.A.

Trustee:

The Law Debenture Trust Corporation p.l.c.

Amount:

Up to U.S.\$35,000,000,000 (or equivalent nominal amount)

outstanding at any one time subject to increase as provided in the

Programme Agreement.

**Description:** 

Euro Medium Term Note Programme.

**Currencies:** 

U.S. dollars, euro, Yen, Sterling, Australian dollars, New Zealand dollars, Swiss Francs and such other currencies as may be agreed

with the relevant Dealer.

**Maturities:** 

Subject to any applicable laws and regulations, any original maturity.

**Issue Price:** 

Notes may be issued at par or at a discount to, or premium over, par and either on a fully or partly paid basis.

•

Form:

The Notes will be issued in bearer and/or registered form and may on issue be represented by one or more global Notes.

**Fixed Rate Notes:** 

Fixed interest will be payable in arrear on a specified date or dates in each year and on redemption and will be calculated on the basis of such Day Count Fraction as may be agreed between the relevant Issuer and the relevant Dealer.

Floating Rate Notes:

Floating Rate Notes will bear interest at a rate determined on the same basis as the floating rate under a notional interest rate swap transaction in the relevant Specified Currency governed by an agreement incorporating the 2000 ISDA Definitions, published by the International Swaps and Derivatives Association, Inc. and as amended and updated as at the Issue Date of the first Tranche of the Notes, or on the basis of a reference rate appearing on an agreed screen page of a commercial quotation service or on such other basis as may be specified in the applicable Final Terms.

The Margin (if any) relating to such floating rate will be specified in the applicable Final Terms.

**Index Linked Notes:** 

Payments of principal in respect of Index Linked Redemption Notes or of interest in respect of Index Linked Interest Notes will be calculated by reference to such index, commodity, currency or event (or any combination of the same) and/or formula or formulae as the relevant Issuer and the relevant Dealer may agree.

Other provisions in relation to Floating Rate Notes and Index Linked Interest Notes: Floating Rate Notes and Index Linked Interest Notes may also have a minimum interest rate, a maximum interest rate or both.

Interest on Floating Rate Notes and Index Linked Interest Notes will be payable on Interest Payment Dates, as agreed at the time of agreement to issue, and will be calculated on the basis of the Day Count Fraction specified in the applicable Final Terms.

Details of the interest rate applicable to the then current Interest Period in respect of the Floating Rate Notes or Index Linked Interest Notes of any Series will be available from the Agent.

**Dual Currency Notes:** 

Payments in respect of Dual Currency Notes (whether in respect of principal or interest and whether at maturity or otherwise) will be made in such currencies, and based upon such rates of exchange, as the relevant Issuer and the relevant Dealer may agree.

Zero Coupon Notes:

Zero Coupon Notes may be offered and sold at a discount to their nominal amount and will not bear interest other than in relation to interest due after the Maturity Date.

Low Interest (discount) Notes:

Low Interest (discount) Notes will be offered and sold at a discount to their nominal amount and will bear interest at a rate lower than would otherwise be payable if they were issued at or about par.

High Interest (premium) Notes:

High Interest (premium) Notes will be offered and sold at a premium to their nominal amount and will bear interest at a rate higher than would otherwise be payable if they were issued at or about par.

Redemption:

The applicable Final Terms will indicate either that the Notes of that Tranche cannot be redeemed prior to their stated maturity, other than in specified instalments or for taxation reasons, or that such Notes will be redeemable at the option of the relevant Issuer (in specified amounts if the applicable Final Terms so indicates) and/or at the option of the holder(s) of such Notes on a date or dates specified prior to such stated maturity and at a price or prices and on such other terms as may be indicated in the applicable Final Terms.

The applicable Final Terms may provide that Notes may be redeemed in two or more instalments and on such dates and on such other terms as may be indicated in such Final Terms. Notes issued by ASB Finance having a maturity of less than one year may be subject to restrictions on their denomination and distribution, see "Certain Restrictions - Notes having a maturity of less than one year" above.

**Denominations of** Notes:

The Notes will be issued in such denominations as may be agreed between the relevant Issuer and the relevant Dealer save that the minimum denomination of each Note will be such amount as may be allowed or required from time to time by the relevant central bank (or equivalent body) or any laws or regulations applicable to the relevant Specified Currency, see "Certain Restrictions - Notes having a maturity of less than one year" above, and save that the minimum denomination of each Note admitted to trading on a regulated market within the European Economic Area or offered to the public in a Member State of the European Economic Area in circumstances which require the publication of a prospectus under the Prospectus Directive will be €1,000 (or, if the Notes are denominated in a currency other than euro, the equivalent amount in such currency).

Taxation:

All payments in respect of the Notes will be made without withholding or deduction for or on account of withholding taxes of the Commonwealth of Australia (in the case of Notes issued by CBA) or New Zealand or the United Kingdom (in the case of Notes issued by ASB Finance) and (in either case) any Taxing Jurisdiction, and in the event of a requirement to withhold arising such additional payments will be made in respect of the Notes as will result (after deduction of the Taxes) in payment to the holders of the Notes of the amounts which would otherwise have been payable provided that withholding does not arise in consequence of the holder of the Notes being connected with the Commonwealth of Australia (in the case of Notes issued by CBA) or New Zealand or the United Kingdom (in the case of Notes issued by ASB Finance) or (in either case) such Taxing Jurisdiction otherwise than by reason only of the holding of Notes or Coupons and subject to the other exceptions as set out in Condition 9. A "Taxing Jurisdiction" is any jurisdiction named in the applicable Final Terms as being the jurisdiction wherein the relevant Issuer's borrowing office is located for the relevant Series of Notes if such borrowing office is not located in the Commonwealth of Australia (in the case of Notes issued by CBA) or London (in the case of Notes issued by ASB Finance).

Status of the **Unsubordinated Notes:** 

The Unsubordinated Notes will constitute direct, unconditional and unsecured obligations of the relevant Issuer and will rank without any preference or priority amongst themselves and pari passu with all other present and future unsecured and unsubordinated obligations (other than in respect of statutorily preferred creditors) of the relevant Issuer subject as provided in the second and third paragraphs of Condition 3(a) and in Condition 4.

**Negative Pledge for Unsubordinated Notes:** 

In each Tranche of Unsubordinated Notes there will be a negative pledge given by the relevant Issuer, the terms of which are set out in Condition 4.

**Events of Default for Unsubordinated Notes:** 

Events of Default for each Tranche of Unsubordinated Notes, including a cross default provision, are set out in Condition 11.

Status and other **Notes:** 

Each Tranche of Subordinated Notes issued by CBA will rank pari terms of Subordinated passu with all other present and future outstanding unsecured subordinated indebtedness of CBA unless the terms of such other unsecured subordinated indebtedness of CBA expressly provide for it to rank ahead of or junior to the Notes of that Series. Each Tranche of Subordinated Notes issued by CBA will rank senior to all share capital of CBA (including without limitation preference shares, if any, of CBA).

The status of each Tranche of Subordinated Notes issued by ASB Finance and any negative pledge applicable to such Subordinated Notes will be set out in the applicable Final Terms.

**Issuer Covenant:** 

If the Issuer of the Notes is ASB Finance, it covenants that the proceeds of any issue will be lent to ASB pursuant to a loan agreement in the same currency and on the same financial terms with the addition of such margin or amounts as the Issuer may determine.

Status of the Guarantee:

The Guarantor has, in the Trust Deed, unconditionally and irrevocably guaranteed the due and punctual payment of the principal of, and interest on, all Notes issued by ASB Finance and all other amounts payable by ASB Finance under or pursuant to the Trust Deed.

The obligations of the Guarantor under the Guarantee constitute:

- (a) in the case of Unsubordinated Notes issued by ASB Finance, direct, unconditional and unsecured obligations of the Guarantor and will rank without any preference or priority amongst themselves and pari passu with all other present and future unsecured and unsubordinated obligations (other than statutorily preferred creditors) of the Guarantor subject as provided in Condition 4; and
- (b) in the case of Subordinated Notes issued by ASB Finance, direct, unconditional and unsecured obligations of the Guarantor and will rank as set out in the applicable Final Terms and supplemental trust deed.

Events of Default for Subordinated Notes:

Events of Default for each Tranche of Subordinated Notes issued by CBA are set out in Condition 11. Events of Default for each Tranche of Subordinated Notes issued by ASB Finance will, if relevant, be set out in the applicable Final Terms.

Listing:

Application has been made to the UK Listing Authority for Notes issued under the Programme to be admitted to the Official List and to the London Stock Exchange for such Notes to be admitted to trading on the London Stock Exchange's Gilt Edged and Fixed Interest Market.

Notes may be listed or admitted to trading, as the case may be, on other or further stock exchanges or markets agreed between the relevant Issuer, the Guarantor (where the relevant Issuer is ASB Finance) and the relevant Dealer in relation to the Series. Notes which are neither listed nor admitted to trading on any market may also be issued.

The applicable Final Terms will state whether or not the relevant Notes are to be listed and/or admitted to trading and, if so, on which stock exchanges and/or markets.

Governing Law:

English.

#### **Risk Factors**

CBA believes that the factors set out below under the heading "CBA" may affect its ability to fulfil its obligations under Notes issued under the Programme. ASB Finance believes that the factors set out below under the heading "ASB Finance" may affect its ability to fufil its obligations under Notes issued under the Programme. ASB believes that the factors set out below under the heading "ASB" may affect its ability to fulfil its obligations under the Guarantee. Most of these factors are contingencies which may or may not occur and neither Issuer nor the Guarantor is in a position to express a view on the likelihood of any such contingency occurring.

In addition, factors which are material for the purpose of assessing the market risks associated with Notes issued by the Issuers under the Programme are also described below.

Each of the Issuers and the Guarantor believes that the factors described below represent the principal risks inherent in investing in Notes issued under the Programme, but the inability of the relevant Issuer or the Guarantor (in the case of Notes issued by ASB Finance) to pay interest, principal or other amounts on or in connection with any Notes may occur for other reasons and neither Issuer nor the Guarantor represents that the statements below regarding the risks of holding any Notes are exhaustive. Prospective investors should also read the detailed information set out elsewhere in this Programme Circular and reach their own views prior to making any investment decision.

#### **CBA**

A downturn in the Australian, New Zealand and global economies could adversely impact CBA's results

As a financial group whose core businesses are banking, life insurance and funds management, CBA's performance is affected by the state of the Australian, New Zealand and global economies. CBA's results in recent years have benefited from historically high rates of growth of the Australian and New Zealand economies, low unemployment and historically low rates of inflation. CBA can give no assurances as to the likely states of the Australian and New Zealand economies, which can be influenced by many factors outside its control.

A material downturn in the Australian and New Zealand economies could adversely impact CBA's future results and could potentially result in an increase in the amount overdue on individual loans. Recessive economic cycles also have a negative influence on CBA's liquidity levels, credit defaults of corporations and other borrowers and CBA's return on assets. CBA's banking business is affected by market conditions in that there may be less demand for loan products or certain customers may face financial difficulty. In particular, a significant decrease in the Australian and New Zealand housing market could adversely affect CBA's home mortgage portfolio. Furthermore, continued weakness in global markets could result in a decline in CBA's revenues from its funds management and insurance businesses.

CBA is subject to extensive regulation, which could impact its results

CBA's banking and insurance activities are subject to extensive regulation, mainly relating to liquidity levels, solvency, provisioning and insurance policy terms and conditions. The requirement to maintain certain levels of regulatory capital determines the level of CBA's lending activity or, alternatively, requires the issue of additional equity capital or subordinated debt, which are additional sources of its funds. Any change in regulation to increase the requirements for capital adequacy could have an adverse impact on CBA's results of operations.

Market, interest rate and currency risks could adversely impact CBA's results

CBA is subject to the risks typical of banking, insurance and funds management activities, such as interest rate fluctuations, exchange rate variations and capital and equity market volatility. Many of these risks are outside its control and could adversely impact its future results. The results of CBA's banking and insurance operations are affected by CBA's management of interest rate sensitivity. Activity in the securities markets generally also affects its banking, funds management and insurance businesses. CBA also offer a number of financial products that expose it to risks associated with fluctuations in interest rates, securities prices or the value of real estate assets.

CBA faces intense competition, which could adversely impact its results CBA faces intense competition in all of its principal areas of operation and markets, principally in Australia and New Zealand. Competition in the banking and funds management markets has, however, had the most significant effect on its results of operations.

Liquidity and funding, operational and life insurance risks could adversely impact CBA's results CBA is subject to liquidity and funding risks, operational risks and life insurance risks, which could adversely impact its future results. Liquidity policies are in place to manage liquidity in a day-to-day sense and also under crisis assumptions. CBA's funding policy augments its liquidity policy with its aim to assure CBA has a stable diversified funding base without over-reliance on any one market sector.

#### **ASB** Finance

Factors affecting ASB Finance

ASB Finance is a funding vehicle for ASB, which is itself a wholly-owned subsidiary of CBA. As such, its principal purpose is to raise funds from offshore institutional debt markets to fund operations of ASB. Notes issued under the Programme by ASB Finance are guaranteed by ASB on a subordinated or on an unsubordinated basis, as specified in the applicable Final Terms, pursuant to the Trust Deed. ASB Finance is affected by the same risk factors which affect CBA's ability to fulfil its obligations under the Notes issued under the Programme.

#### **ASB**

Factors affecting ASB Bank Limited

ASB Bank Limited is a wholly-owned subsidiary of CBA and as such, is affected by the same risk factors which affect CBA's ability to fulfil its obligations under the Notes issued under the Programme as its operations are similar in scope to those of CBA. There are no additional risk factors solely affecting ASB.

## Factors which are material for the purpose of assessing the market risks associated with Notes issued under the Programme

The Notes may not be a suitable investment for all investors

Each potential investor in the Notes must determine the suitability of that investment in light of its own circumstances. In particular, each potential investor should:

- (i) have sufficient knowledge and experience to make a meaningful evaluation of the Notes, the merits and risks of investing in the Notes and the information contained or incorporated by reference in this Programme Circular or any applicable supplement;
- (ii) have access to, and knowledge of, appropriate analytical tools to evaluate, in the context of its particular financial situation, an investment in the Notes and the impact the Notes will have on its overall investment portfolio;
- (iii) have sufficient financial resources and liquidity to bear all of the risks of an investment in the Notes, including Notes with principal or interest payable in one or more currencies, or where the currency for principal or interest payments is different from the potential investor's currency;
- (iv) understand thoroughly the terms of the Notes and be familiar with the behaviour of any relevant indices and financial markets; and
- (v) be able to evaluate (either alone or with the help of a financial adviser) possible scenarios for economic, interest rate and other factors that may affect its investment and its ability to bear the applicable risks.

Some Notes are complex financial instruments. Sophisticated institutional investors generally do not purchase complex financial instruments as stand-alone investments. They purchase complex financial instruments as a way to reduce risk or enhance yield with an understood, measured, appropriate addition of risk to their overall portfolios. A potential investor should not invest in Notes which are complex financial instruments unless it has the expertise (either alone or with a financial adviser) to evaluate how the Notes will perform under changing conditions, the resulting effects on the value of the Notes and the impact this investment will have on the potential investor's overall investment portfolio.

Risks related to the structure of a particular issue of Notes

A wide range of Notes may be issued under the Programme. A number of these Notes may have features which contain particular risks for potential investors. Set out below is a description of the most common such features:

Notes subject to optional redemption by the Issuer

An optional redemption feature of Notes is likely to limit their market value. During any period when the relevant Issuer may elect to redeem Notes, the market value of those Notes generally will not rise substantially above the price at which they can be redeemed. This also may be true prior to any redemption period.

The relevant Issuer may be expected to redeem Notes when its cost of borrowing is lower than the interest rate on the Notes. At those times, an investor generally would not be able to reinvest the redemption proceeds at an effective interest rate as high as the interest rate on the Notes being redeemed and may only be able to do so at a significantly lower rate. Potential investors should consider reinvestment risk in light of other investments available at that time.

#### Index Linked Notes and Dual Currency Notes

The Issuers may issue Notes with principal or interest determined by reference to an index or formula, to changes in the prices of securities or commodities, to movements in currency exchange rates or other factors (each, a "Relevant Factor"). In addition, the Issuers may issue Notes with principal or interest payable in one or more currencies which may be different from the currency in which the Notes are denominated. Potential investors should be aware that:

- (i) the market price of such Notes may be volatile;
- (ii) they may receive no interest;
- (iii) payment of principal or interest may occur at a different time or in a different currency than expected;
- (iv) they may lose all or a substantial portion of their principal;
- (v) a Relevant Factor may be subject to significant fluctuations that may not correlate with changes in interest rates, currencies or other indices;
- (vi) if a Relevant Factor is applied to Notes in conjunction with a multiplier greater than one or contains some other leverage factor, the effect of changes in the Relevant Factor on principal or interest payable likely will be magnified; and
- (vii) the timing of changes in a Relevant Factor may affect the actual yield to investors, even if the average level is consistent with their expectations. In general, the earlier the change in the Relevant Factor, the greater the effect on yield.

The historical experience of an index should not be viewed as an indication of the future performance of such index during the term of any Index Linked Notes. Accordingly, potential investors should consult their own financial and legal advisers about the risk entailed by an investment in any Index Linked Notes and the suitability of such Notes in light of their particular circumstances.

#### Partly-paid Notes

The Issuers may issue Notes where the issue price is payable in more than one instalment. Failure to pay any subsequent instalment could result in an investor losing all of his investment.

Variable rate Notes with a multiplier or other leverage factor

Notes with variable interest rates can be volatile investments. If they are structured to include multipliers or other leverage factors, or caps or floors, or any combination of those features or other similar related features, their market values may be even more volatile than those for securities that do not include those features.

#### Inverse Floating Rate Notes

Inverse Floating Rate Notes have an interest rate equal to a fixed rate minus a rate based upon a reference rate such as LIBOR. The market values of those Notes typically are more volatile than market values of other conventional floating rate debt securities based on the same reference rate (and with otherwise comparable terms). Inverse Floating Rate Notes are more volatile because an increase in the reference rate not only decreases the interest rate of the Notes, but may also reflect an increase in prevailing interest rates, which further adversely affects the market value of these Notes.

#### Fixed/Floating Rate Notes

Fixed/Floating Rate Notes may bear interest at a rate that converts from a fixed rate to a floating rate, or from a floating rate to a fixed rate. Where the relevant Issuer has the right to effect such a conversion, this will affect the secondary market and the market value of the Notes since the relevant Issuer may be expected to convert the rate when it is likely to produce a lower overall cost of borrowing. If the relevant Issuer converts from a fixed rate to a floating rate in such circumstances, the spread on the Fixed/Floating Rate Notes may be less favourable than then prevailing spreads on comparable Floating Rate Notes tied to the same reference rate. In addition, the new floating rate at any time may be lower than the rates on other Notes. If the relevant Issuer converts from a floating rate to a fixed rate in such circumstances, the fixed rate may be lower than then prevailing rates on its Notes.

#### Notes issued at a substantial discount or premium

The market values of securities issued at a substantial discount or premium from their principal amount tend to fluctuate more in relation to general changes in interest rates than do prices for conventional interest-bearing securities. Generally, the longer the remaining term of the securities, the greater the price volatility as compared to conventional interest-bearing securities with comparable maturities.

#### The Issuers' obligations under Subordinated Notes are subordinated

The Issuers' obligations under Subordinated Notes will be unsecured and subordinated and will rank junior in priority of payment to Senior Liabilities. "Senior Liabilities" means any direct, unconditional and unsecured obligations of the Issuers. Although Subordinated Notes may pay a higher rate of interest than comparable Notes which are not subordinated, there is a real risk that an investor in Subordinated Notes will lose all or some of his investment should the Issuer become insolvent.

#### Risks related to Notes generally

Set out below is a brief description of certain risks relating to the Notes generally:

#### Modification, waivers and substitution

The Conditions of the Notes contain provisions for calling meetings of Noteholders to consider matters affecting their interests generally. These provisions permit defined majorities to bind all Noteholders including Noteholders who did not attend and vote at the relevant meeting and Noteholders who voted in a manner contrary to the majority.

The Conditions of the Notes also provide that the Trustee may, without the consent of Noteholders, agree to (i) any modification of, or to the waiver or authorisation of any breach or proposed breach of, any of the provisions of Notes or (ii) determine without the consent of the Noteholders that any Event of Default or potential Event of Default shall not be treated as such or (iii) the substitution of another company as principal debtor under any Notes in place of the relevant Issuer, in the circumstances described in Condition 13 of the Conditions of the Notes.

#### EU Savings Directive

Under EC Council Directive 2003/48/EC on the taxation of savings income, Member States are required to provide to the tax authorities of another Member State details of payments of interest (or similar income) paid by a person within its jurisdiction to an individual resident in that other Member State. However, for a transitional period, Belgium, Luxembourg and Austria are instead required (unless during that period they elect otherwise) to operate a withholding system in relation to such payments (the ending of such transitional period being dependent upon the conclusion of certain other agreements relating to information exchange with certain other countries). A number of non-EU countries and territories including Switzerland have adopted similar measures (a withholding system in the case of Switzerland).

If, following implementation of this Directive, a payment were to be made or collected through a Member State which has opted for a withholding system and an amount of, or in respect of tax were to be withheld from that payment, neither the relevant Issuer nor any Paying Agent nor any other person would be obliged to pay additional amounts with respect to any Note as a result of the imposition of such withholding tax. If a withholding tax is imposed on payment made by a Paying Agent following implementation of this Directive, the relevant Issuer will be required to maintain a Paying Agent in a Member State that will not be obliged to withhold or deduct tax pursuant to the Directive.

#### Change of law

The Conditions of the Notes are based on English law in effect as at the date of this Programme Circular. No assurance can be given as to the impact of any possible judicial decision or change to English law or administrative practice after the date of this Programme Circular.

#### Risks related to the market generally

Set out below is a brief description of the principal market risks, including liquidity risk, exchange rate risk, interest rate risk and credit risk:

#### The secondary market generally

Notes may have no established trading market when issued, and one may never develop. If a market does develop, it may not be very liquid. Therefore, investors may not be able to sell their Notes easily or at prices that will provide them with a yield comparable to similar investments that have a developed secondary market. This is particularly the case for Notes that are especially sensitive to interest rate, currency or market risks, are designed for specific investment objectives or strategies or have been structured to meet the investment requirements of limited categories of investors. These types of Notes generally would have a more limited secondary market and more price volatility than conventional debt securities. Illiquidity may have a severely adverse effect on the market value of Notes.

#### Exchange rate risks and exchange controls

The relevant Issuer will pay principal and interest on the Notes and, where the relevant Issuer is ASB Finance, the Guarantor will make any payments under the Guarantee in the Specified Currency. This presents certain risks relating to currency conversions if an investor's financial activities are denominated principally in a currency or currency unit (the "Investor's Currency") other than the Specified Currency. These include the risk that exchange rates may significantly change (including changes due to devaluation of the Specified Currency or revaluation of the Investor's Currency) and the risk that authorities with jurisdiction over the Investor's Currency may impose or modify exchange controls. An appreciation in the value of the Investor's Currency relative to the Specified Currency would decrease (1) the Investor's Currency-equivalent yield on the Notes, (2) the Investor's Currency-equivalent value of the principal payable on the Notes and (3) the Investor's Currency-equivalent market value of the Notes.

Government and monetary authorities may impose (as some have done in the past) exchange controls that could adversely affect an applicable exchange rate. As a result, investors may receive less interest or principal than expected, or no interest or principal.

#### Interest rate risks

Investment in Fixed Rate Notes involves the risk that subsequent changes in market interest rates may adversely affect the value of the Fixed Rate Notes.

#### Credit ratings may not reflect all risks

One or more independent credit rating agencies may assign credit ratings to the Notes. The ratings may not reflect the potential impact of all risks related to structure, market, additional factors discussed above, and other factors that may affect the value of the Notes. A credit rating is not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold securities and may be revised or withdrawn by the rating agency at any time.

#### Legal investment considerations may restrict certain investments

The investment activities of certain investors are subject to legal investment laws and regulations, or review or regulation by certain authorities. Each potential investor should consult its legal advisers to determine whether and to what extent (1) Notes are legal investments for it, (2) Notes can be used as collateral for various types of borrowing and (3) other restrictions apply to its purchase or pledge of any Notes. Financial institutions should consult their legal advisors or the appropriate regulators to determine the appropriate treatment of Notes under any applicable risk-based capital or similar rules.

#### **Documents Incorporated by Reference**

The following documents which have been previously published and have been filed with the Financial Services Authority shall be incorporated in and form part of this Programme Circular:

- (a) the auditors reports and audited consolidated and non-consolidated annual financial statements for the financial years ended 30 June 2006 (contained in the Annual Report 2006), and 30 June 2005 (contained in the Annual Report 2005), of CBA; and
- (b) the auditors reports and audited consolidated and non-consolidated annual financial statements for the financial years ended 30 June 2006 and 30 June 2005 of ASB,

Following the publication of this Programme Circular a supplement may be prepared by the relevant Issuer and approved by the UK Listing Authority in accordance with Article 16 of the Prospectus Directive. Statements contained in any such supplement (or contained in any document incorporated by reference therein) shall to the extent applicable (whether expressly by implication or otherwise) be deemed to modify or supersede statements contained in this Programme Circular or in a document which is incorporated by reference in this Programme Circular by way of a supplement prepared in accordance with Article 16 of the Prospectus Directive. Any statement so modified or superseded shall not except as so modified or superseded, constitute a part of this Programme Circular.

Copies of documents incorporated by reference in this Programme Circular will be available from the branch in London of Commonwealth Bank of Australia and from the London office of Deutsche Bank AG, London Branch specified at the end of this Programme Circular.

Each Issuer and the Guarantor (where the relevant Issuer is ASB Finance) will, in the event of any significant new factor, material mistake or inaccuracy relating to information included in this Programme Circular which is capable of affecting the assessment of any Notes issued by it, prepare a supplement to this Programme Circular or publish a new Programme Circular for use in connection with any subsequent issue of Notes. Each Issuer has undertaken to the Dealers in the Programme Agreement (as defined in "Subscription and Sale") that it will comply with section 87G of the FSMA.

#### Form of the Notes

The Notes of each Tranche in bearer form ("Bearer Notes") will initially be represented by one or more temporary global Notes in bearer form without Coupons, Receipts or Talons (each as defined in "Conditions of the Notes") which will be deposited on the issue date with a common depositary on behalf of Euroclear Bank S.A./N.V. ("Euroclear") and Clearstream Banking, société anonyme ("Clearstream, Luxembourg").

If an interest payment date for any Bearer Notes occurs whilst such Notes are represented by a temporary global Note, the related interest payment will be made through Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg against presentation of the temporary global Note only to the extent that certification of non-U.S. beneficial ownership (in the form set out in the temporary global Note) has been received by Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg. On or after the date (the "Exchange Date") which is 40 days after the date on which the temporary global Note is issued, provided that certification of non-U.S. beneficial ownership has been received, interests in the temporary global Note will be exchanged either for (i) interests in a permanent global Note in bearer form or (ii), at the option of the relevant Issuer, Notes in definitive bearer form. No payments of interest will be made on a temporary global Note after the Exchange Date. Payments of principal, premium (if any) or interest (if any) on a permanent global Note will be made through Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg against presentation or surrender, as the case may be, of the permanent global Note without any requirement for certification of non-U.S. beneficial ownership. The applicable Final Terms will specify whether a permanent global Note will be exchangeable in whole for security-printed definitive Bearer Notes (i) upon at least 45 days' written notice expiring at least 30 days after the Exchange Date from the holders of interests in the permanent global Note or (ii) only upon the occurrence of an Exchange Event. For these purposes, "Exchange Event" means that (i) the relevant Issuer has been notified that both Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg have been closed for business for a continuous period of 14 days (other than by reason of holiday, statutory or otherwise) or have announced an intention permanently to cease business or have in fact done so and no successor clearing system satisfactory to the Trustee is available or (ii) the relevant Issuer has or will become subject to adverse tax consequences which would not be suffered were the Notes represented by the permanent global Note to be in definitive form. The relevant Issuer will promptly give notice to Noteholders in accordance with Condition 16 if an Exchange Event occurs. In the event of the occurrence of an Exchange Event, Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg (acting on the instructions of any holder of an interest in such permanent global Note) or the Trustee may give notice to the Agent requesting exchange and, in the event of the occurrence of an Exchange Event as described in (ii) above, the relevant Issuer may also give notice to the Agent requesting exchange. Any such exchange shall occur not later than 60 days after the date of receipt of the first relevant notice by the Agent. At present, neither Euroclear nor Clearstream, Luxembourg regard Notes in global form as fungible with Notes in definitive form. Temporary and permanent global Notes and definitive Bearer Notes will be issued by the Agent acting on behalf of the relevant Issuer.

The Notes of each Tranche in registered form ("Registered Notes") will either (i) initially be represented by one or more temporary global Notes in bearer form which will be deposited with a common depositary for Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg and will be exchangeable for definitive Registered Notes in whole upon not less than 30 days' written notice from the holders of interests in the relevant temporary global Note or (ii) be issued in definitive registered form.

The following legend will appear on all Bearer Notes and Coupons: "Any United States person (as defined in the United States Internal Revenue Code) who holds this obligation will be subject to limitations under the United States income tax laws including the limitations provided in sections 165(j) and 1287(a) of such Code."

For so long as any of the Notes are represented by a global Note held on behalf of Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg, each person who is for the time being shown in the records of Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg as the holder of a particular nominal amount of such Notes (in which regard any certificate or other document issued by Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg as to the nominal amount of such Notes standing to the account of any person shall be conclusive and binding for all purposes save in the case of manifest error) shall be treated by the relevant Issuer, the Trustee, any Paying Agent and any Transfer Agent as the holder of such nominal amount of Notes for all purposes other than with respect to payments on the Notes for which purpose the bearer of the relevant global Note shall be

treated by the relevant Issuer, the Trustee and any Paying Agent as the holder of such Notes in accordance with and subject to the terms of the relevant global Note and the Trust Deed and the terms "Noteholder" and "holder of Notes" and related expressions shall be construed accordingly. Notes held in Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg and which are represented by a global Note will only be transferable, and payment in respect of them will only be made, in accordance with the rules and procedures for the time being of Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg, as the case may be.

Any reference herein to Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg shall, whenever the context so permits, be deemed to include a reference to any additional or alternative clearance system agreed between the relevant Issuer, the Agent, the Trustee and the relevant Dealer.

#### **Applicable Final Terms**

Set out below is the form of Final Terms which will be completed for each Tranche of Notes issued under the Programme.

[Date]

#### [Commonwealth Bank of Australia/ASB Finance Limited, London Branch]

Issue of [Aggregate Nominal Amount of Tranche] [Title of Notes] [Guaranteed by ASB Bank Limited] under the U.S.\$35,000,000,000 Euro Medium Term Note Programme

#### Part A - Contractual Terms

Terms used herein shall be deemed to be defined as such for the purposes of the Conditions set forth in the Programme Circular dated 13 October 2006 which constitutes a base prospectus for the purposes of the Prospectus Directive (Directive 2003/71/EC) (the "Prospectus Directive"). This document constitutes the Final Terms of the Notes described herein for the purposes of Article 5.4 of the Prospectus Directive and must be read in conjunction with the Programme Circular. Full information on the Issuer and the offer of the Notes is only available on the basis of the combination of these Final Terms and the Programme Circular. The Programme Circular is available for viewing at the [registered/head] office of the Issuer at [Level 7, 48 Martin Place, Sydney, NSW 2000, Australia/the London Branch office of ASB Finance (currently Senator House, 85 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4V 4HA)] and copies may be obtained from the Agent at Winchester House, 1 Great Winchester Street, London EC2N 2DB, England.

[The following alternative language applies if the first tranche of an issue which is being increased was issued under a Programme Circular with an earlier date.]

Terms used herein shall be deemed to be defined as such for the purposes of the Conditions (the "Conditions") set forth in the Programme Circular dated [original date]. This document constitutes the Final Terms of the Notes described herein for the purposes of Article 5.4 of the Prospectus Directive (Directive 2003/71/EC) (the "Prospectus Directive") and must be read in conjunction with the Programme Circular dated 13 October 2006 which constitutes a base prospectus for the purposes of the Prospectus Directive, save in respect of the Conditions which are extracted from the Programme Circular dated [original date] and are attached hereto. Full information on the Issuer [and the Guarantor] and the offer of the Notes is only available on the basis of the combination of these Final Terms and the Programme Circulars dated [original date] and 13 October 2006. Copies of such Programme Circulars are available for viewing at the [registered/head] office of CBA at Level 7, 48 Martin Place, Sydney, NSW 2000, Australia and the London Branch office of ASB Finance (currently Senator House, 85 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4V 4HA) and copies may be obtained from the Agent at Winchester House, 1 Great Winchester Street, London EC2N 2DB, England.

[Include whichever of the following apply or specify as "Not Applicable". Note that the numbering should remain as set out below, even if "Not Applicable" is indicated for individual paragraphs or sub-paragraphs. Italics denote directions for completing the Final Terms.]

[When adding any other final terms or information consideration should be given as to whether such terms or information constitute "significant new factors" and consequently trigger the need for a supplement to the Programme Circular under Article 16 of the Prospectus Directive.]

[If the Notes issued by ASB Finance Limited, London Branch have a maturity of less than one year, the minimum denomination and minimum transfer amounts may need to be £100,000 or its equivalent in any other currency.]

| 1.  | [(i)] | Issuer:  |  | monwealth Bank of Australia/ASB<br>nce Limited, London Branch]   |
|-----|-------|--|--|--|
|     | [(ii) | Guarantor:   | ASB  | Bank Limited]  |
| 2.  | Form  | m of Notes:  | speci  | rer/Registered/Bearer and Registered –<br>fy whether exchanges of Bearer for<br>stered Notes are permitted]  |
| 3.  | (i)   | Series of which Notes are to be treated as forming part: | [  | ]  |
|     | (ii)  | Tranche Number:  | that   | ]<br>Ingible with an existing Series, details of<br>Series, including the date on which the<br>is become fungible)   |
| 4.  | Spe   | cified Currency or Currencies:                           | [  | ]  |
| 5.  | Agg   | regate Nominal Amount:                                   |  |  |
|     | (i)   | Series:  | [  | ]  |
|     | (ii)  | Tranche:   | [  | ]  |
| 6.  | Issu  | e Price of Tranche:                                      | date   | ] per cent. of the Aggregate Nominal ant [plus accrued interest from [insert (in the case of fungible issues only, if (cable)]   |
| 7.  | Spe   | cified Denominations:                                    | [  | ]  |
|     |       |  | to tree<br>exche<br>Euro<br>wher<br>publi<br>€1,00         | If an issue of Notes is (i) NOT admitted ading on an European Economic Area ange; and (ii) only offered in the pean Economic Area in circumstances e a prospectus is not required to be ished under the Prospectus Directive the 00 minimum denomination is not ired.) |
| 8.  | (i)   | Issue Date:  | [  | ]  |
|     | (ii)  | Interest Commencement Date:                              | [  | ]  |
| 9.  | Mat   | turity Date:   | Floa   | d rate – specify date/ ting rate – Interest Period End Date ng in or nearest to [specify month]]   |
| 10. | Inte  | erest Basis:   | [Float<br>[Zero<br>[Low<br>[Hig<br>[Indo<br>[Duat<br>[spec | ed Rate] ating Rate] o Coupon] Interest (discount)] h Interest (premium)] ex Linked Interest] al Currency Interest] aify other] her particulars specified below)   |

| 11.         | Rede  | empti | on/Payment Basis:   | [Redemption at par] [Index Linked Redemption] [Dual Currency Redemption] [Partly-Paid] [Instalment] [specify other] (N.B. If the Final Redemption Amount is other than 100 per cent. of the nominal value the Notes will be derivative securities for the purposes of the Prospectus Directive and the requirements of Annex XII will apply.)   |
|-------------|-------|-------|---|---|
| 12.         |       |       | f Interest Basis or Redemption/<br>Basis:                                     | [Specify details of any provision for change of<br>Notes into another Interest Basis or<br>Redemption/Payment Basis]  |
| 13.         | Put/  | Call  | Options:  | [Investor Put] [Issuer Call] [(further particulars specified below)]  |
| 14.         | (i)   | Stat  | us of the Notes:  | [Unsubordinated/Subordinated – if Issuer of<br>Subordinated Notes is ASB Finance, give<br>details]  |
|             | (ii)  | Stat  | us of the Guarantee:  | [Unsubordinated/Subordinated – only applicable if Issuer of Notes is ASB Finance – if the Guarantee is Subordinated, give details]  |
| <b>1</b> 5. | Met   | hod o | of distribution:  | [Syndicated/Non-syndicated]   |
|             |       |       | S RELATING TO INTEREST (IF ate Note Provisions                                | ANY) PAYABLE [Applicable/Not Applicable] (If not applicable, delete the remaining   |
|             |       |       |   | sub-paragraphs of this paragraph)   |
|             | (i)   | Rate  | e[(s)] of Interest:   | [ ] per cent. per annum [payable [annually/semi-annually/quarterly] in arrear] (If payable other than annually, consider amending Condition 5)  |
|             | (ii)  | (A)   | Interest Period End Date(s) [and Interest Payment Date(s)]:                   | [ ] in each year up to and including the Maturity Date]/[specify other] (NB: This will need to be amended in the case of long or short coupons)   |
|             |       | (B)   | Interest Payment Date(s) (if different from the Interest Period End Date(s)): | [(i) In respect of an Interest Period other than the Interest Period ending on but excluding the Maturity Date,] [ ] Business Day(s) after the Interest Period End Final Date in respect of the relevant Interest Period [and (ii) in respect of the Interest Period ending on but excluding the Maturity Date, the Maturity Date/[specify other] (NB: If final Interest Payment Date different from final Interest Period End Date, consider amending the definition of Maturity Date) |
|             | (iii) | Fixe  | ed Coupon Amount(s):  | [[ ] per [ ] in nominal amount/Not<br>Applicable] (NB: If Fixed Coupon Amount(s) is<br>specified, Interest Period End Date(s) should<br>be specified as Not Applicable in item (iv)<br>below)   |

|     |        | (A)    | Interest Period End Date(s):  | [Following Business Day Convention/Modified Following Business Day Convention/ Preceding Business Day Convention/other (give details)/Not Applicable]   |
|-----|--------|--------|---|---|
|     |        | (B)    | Interest Payment Date(s):   | [Following Business Day Convention/Modified Following Business Day Convention/ Preceding Business Day Convention/other (give details)/Not Applicable]   |
|     | (v)    | Add    | itional Business Centre(s):   | [specify/Not Applicable] (N.B. Only relevant where Business Day Convention is applicable)   |
|     | (vi)   | Brol   | ken Amount(s):  | [Insert particulars of any initial or final<br>broken interest amounts which do not<br>correspond with the Fixed Coupon Amount]   |
|     | (vii)  | Day    | Count Fraction:   | [Actual/365 or Actual/Actual (ISDA) Actual/365 (Fixed) Actual/365 (Sterling) Actual/360 30E/360 or Eurobond Basis Actual/Actual (ICMA) 30/360 (Fixed) or 30/360, unadjusted specify other] [(NB: Actual/Actual (ICMA) is normally appropriate for Fixed Rate Notes except for Fixed Rate Notes denominated in U.S. dollars for which 30/360 (Fixed) or 30/360, unadjusted is normally appropriate)]   |
|     | (viii) | ) Deta | ermination Date(s):   | [ ] in each year [Insert interest payment dates except where there are long or short periods. In these cases, insert regular interest payment dates. NB: Only relevant where Day Count Fraction is Actual/Actual (ICMA)]  |
|     | (ix)   | of c   | er terms relating to the method alculating interest for Fixed e Notes:                        | [None/give details]   |
| 17. | Floa   | ating  | g Rate Note Provisions  | [Applicable/Not Applicable] (If not applicable, delete the remaining sub-paragraphs of this paragraph)  |
|     | (i)    | (A)    | Specified Period(s)/Specified<br>Interest Period End Dates [and<br>Interest Payment Date(s)]: | £ ]   |
|     |        | (B)    | Interest Payment Date(s) (if different from the Specified Interest Period End Date(s)):       | [(i) In respect of an Interest Period other than the Interest Period ending on but excluding the Maturity Date,] [ ] Business Day(s) after the Interest Period End Final Date in respect of the relevant Interest Period [and (ii) in respect of the Interest Period ending on but excluding the Maturity Date, the Maturity Date]/[specify other] (NB: If final Interest Payment Date different from final Specified Interest Period End Date consider amending the definition of Maturity Date) |

(iv) Business Day Convention:

| ( <b>n</b> ) | Business Day Convention:   |   |
|--------------|--|---|
|              | (A) Interest Period End Date(s):   | [Floating Rate Convention/Following Business Day Convention/Modified Following Business Day Convention/Preceding Business Day Convention/[specify other]/Not Applicable]  |
|              | (B) Interest Payment Date(s):  | [Floating Rate Convention/Following Business<br>Day Convention/Modified Following Business<br>Day Convention/Preceding Business Day<br>Convention/[specify other]/Not Applicable]   |
| (iii)        | Additional Business Centre(s):   | [ ]   |
| (iv)         | Manner in which the Rate of Interest and Interest Amount are to be determined:                       | [Screen Rate Determination/ISDA Determination/specify other]  |
| (v)          | Party responsible for calculating<br>the Rate of Interest and Interest<br>Amount (if not the Agent): | [ ]   |
| (vi)         | Screen Rate Determination:   |   |
| _            | Reference Rate:  | [ ] (Either LIBOR, EURIBOR or other, although additional information is required if other – including fallback provisions in the Agency Agreement)  |
| -            | Interest Determination Date(s):  | [ ] (Second London business day prior to the start of each Interest Period if LIBOR (other than Sterling LIBOR or euro LIBOR), first day of each Interest Period if Sterling LIBOR and the second day on which the TARGET System is open prior to the start of each Interest Period if EURIBOR or euro LIBOR) |
|              | Relevant Screen Page:  | [ ] (In the case of EURIBOR, if not EURIBOR 01 ensure it is a page which shows a composite rate or amend the fallback provisions appropriately)   |
| (vii)        | ISDA Determination:  |   |
| _            | Floating Rate Option:  | [ ]   |
| -            | Designated Maturity:   | [ ]   |
| _            | Reset Date:  | [ ]   |
| (viii        | ) Margin(s):   | [+/-] [ ] per cent. per annum   |
| (ix)         | Minimum Rate of Interest:  | [ ] per cent. per annum   |
| (x)          | Maximum Rate of Interest:  | [ ] per cent. per annum   |

|     | (xi)  | Day                   | Count Fraction:   | Actual Actual Actual 30/36 30E/3          | nal/365 or Actual/Actual (ISDA) al/365 (Fixed) al/365 (Sterling) al/360 60 (Floating) or 360/360 or Bond Basis 360 or Eurobond Basis r] Condition 5)  |
|-----|-------|-----------------------|---|---|---|
|     | (xii) | prov<br>to th<br>on F | back provisions, rounding isions and any other terms relating ne method of calculating interest loating Rate Notes, if different a those set out in the Conditions: | [   | ]   |
| 18. | (The  | se pr<br>rest (       | upon Note Provisions vovisions also apply to Low discount) and High Interest a) Notes)  | (If n                                     | licable/Not Applicable]<br>ot applicable, delete the remaining<br>paragraphs of this paragraph)   |
|     | (i)   | Amo                   | ortisation Yield:   | [   | ] per cent. per annum   |
|     | (ii)  | Refe                  | rence Price:  | [   | ]   |
|     | (iii) |                       | other formula/basis of<br>rmining amount payable:   | [   | 1   |
|     | (iv)  |                       | Count Fraction in relation to Coupon Notes:   | (Con                                      | ditions 5(d) and 6(f) apply/specify other] sider applicable day count fraction if not dollar denominated)   |
| 19. | Ind   | ex L                  | inked Note Provisions   | (If n                                     | licable/Not Applicable]<br>ot applicable, delete the remaining<br>paragraphs of this paragraph)   |
|     | (i)   | Inde                  | ex/Formula:   | [give                                     | or annex details]   |
|     | (ii)  | calc                  | culation Agent responsible for<br>ulating the principal and/or<br>rest due:   | [   | ]   |
|     | (iii) | by r                  | visions applicable where calculation reference to Index and/or Formula mpossible or impracticable:  | disri                                     | l to include a description of market uption or settlement disruption events and stment provisions]  |
|     | (iv)  | (A)                   | Specified Period(s)/Specified<br>Interest Period End Dates [and<br>Interest Payment Date(s)]:   | [   | )   |
|     |       | (B)                   | Interest Payment Date(s) (if different from the Specified Interest Period End Date(s)):   | than exch Day( Date Perio Perio (NB) from | in respect of an Interest Period other the Interest Period ending on but uding the Maturity Date, [ ] Business (s) after the Interest Period End Final in respect of the relevant Interest od [and (ii) in respect of the Interest od ending on but excluding the Maturity of the Maturity Date [specify other] if final Interest Payment Date different in final Specified Interest Period End Date ider amending the definition of Maturity (s) |

|     | (v)    | Bus   | iness Day Convention:  |   |   |
|-----|--------|-------|--|---|---|
|     |        | (A)   | Interest Period End Date(s):   | Day<br>Day  | ting Rate Convention/Following Business<br>Convention/Modified Following Business<br>Convention/Preceding Business Day<br>ention/specify other/Not Applicable]  |
|     |        | (B)   | Interest Payment Date(s):  | Day<br>Day  | ting Rate Convention/Following Business<br>Convention/Modified Following Business<br>Convention/Preceding Business Day<br>ention/specify other/Not Applicable]  |
|     | (vi)   | Add   | litional Business Centre(s):   | [   | 1   |
|     | (vii)  | Min   | imum Rate of Interest:   | [   | ] per cent. per annum   |
|     | (viii) | ) Max | ximum Rate of Interest:  | [   | ] per cent. per annum   |
|     | (ix)   | Day   | Count Fraction:  | [   | 1   |
| 20. | Dua    | ıl Cı | arrency Note Provisions  | (If no  | licable/Not Applicable]<br>ot applicable, delete the remaining<br>paragraphs of this paragraph)   |
|     | (i)    |       | e of Exchange/method of<br>culating Rate of Exchange:  | [give   | details]  |
|     | (ii)   | for   | culation Agent, if any, responsible calculating the principal and/or crest payable:          | [   | ]   |
|     | (iii)  | calc  | visions applicable where sulation by reference to Rate of hange impossible or impracticable: | disru   | l to include a description of market uption or settlement disruption events and stment provisions]  |
|     | (iv)   |       | son at whose option Specified rency(ies) is/are payable:                                     | [   | ]   |
| PR  | ovis   | ION   | S RELATING TO REDEMPTION   |   |   |
| 21. | Issu   | er C  | all:   | (If n   | licable/Not Applicable]<br>ot applicable, delete the remaining<br>oaragraphs of this paragraph)   |
|     | (i)    | Opt   | tional Redemption Date(s):   | [   | ]   |
|     | (ii)   | Not   | cional Redemption Amount of each the and method, if any, of calculation such amount(s):      | [<br>Deno   | ] per Note of [ ] Specified omination   |
|     | (iii)  | If r  | edeemable in part:   |   |   |
|     |        | (a)   | Minimum Redemption Amount:   | [   | ]   |
|     |        | (b)   | Higher Redemption Amount:  | [   | ]   |
|     | (iv)   |       | cice period (if other than as set in the Conditions):  | diffe<br>the in<br>prac<br>throis<br>system<br>notice<br>exam | ] . If setting notice periods which are rent to those provided in the Conditions, Issuer is advised to consider the ticalities of distribution of information ugh intermediaries, for example, clearing was and custodians, as well as any other we requirements which may apply, for apple, as between the Issuer and the Agent trustee) |

| 22. | Investor | Put.  |
|-----|----------|-------|
| 44. | THACSON  | 1 uu. |

[Applicable/Not Applicable]
(If not applicable, delete the remaining sub-paragraphs of this paragraph)

(i) Optional Redemption Date(s):

of such amount(s):

(ii) Optional Redemption Amount of each

Note and method, if any, of calculation

[ ] per Note of [ ] Specified Denomination

]

(iii) Notice period (if other than as set out in the Conditions):

(N.B. If setting notice periods which are different to those provided in the Conditions, the Issuer is advised to consider the practicalities of distribution of information through intermediaries, for example, clearing systems and custodians, as well as any other notice requirements which may apply, for example, as between the Issuer and the Agent or Trustee)

23. Final Redemption Amount of each Note:

[[ ] per Note of [ ] Specified Denomination/specify other/see Appendix]

(N.B. In relation to any issue of Notes which are expressed at paragraph 7 above to have a minimum denomination and tradeable amounts above such minimum denomination which are smaller than it the following wording should be added: "For the avoidance of doubt, in the case of a holding of Notes in an integral multiple of [] in excess of [] as envisaged in paragraph 7 above, such holding will be redeemed at its nominal amount.")

(N.B. If the Final Redemption Amount is other than 100 per cent. of the nominal value the Notes will be derivative securities for the purposes of the Prospectus Directive and the requirements of Annex XII will apply)

24. Early Redemption Amount of each Note payable on redemption for taxation reasons or on event of default and/or the method of calculating the same (if required or if different from that set out in Condition 6(g)):

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO THE NOTES

25. Any applicable Taxing Jurisdiction:

[specify]

26. Form of Notes:

#### [Bearer Notes:

1

Temporary Global Note exchangeable for a Permanent Global Note which is exchangeable for Definitive Notes [on 45 days' notice/only upon an Exchange Event]]

[Temporary Global Note exchangeable for Definitive Notes on and after the Exchange Date]

[Permanent Global Note exchangeable for Definitive Notes [on 45 days' notice/only upon an Exchange Event]]

#### [Registered Notes:

[Temporary Global Note exchangeable for Definitive Registered Notes/Definitive Registered Notes]]

27. Additional Financial Centre(s) or other special provisions relating to Payment Dates:

[Note Applicable/give details] (Note that this item relates to the place of payment and not Interest Period End Dates to which items 17(v), 18(iii) and 20(vi) relate)

28. Talons for future Coupons or Receipts to be attached to Definitive Notes (and dates on which such Talons mature):

[Yes/No. If yes, give details]

29. Details relating to Partly-Paid Notes:
amount of each payment comprising the
Issue Price and date on which each
payment is to be made and consequences
of failure to pay, including any right of the
Issuer to forfeit the Notes and interest due
on late payment:

[Not Applicable/give details. NB: a new form of Temporary Global Note and/or Permanent Global Note may be required for Partly-Paid issues]

30. Details relating to Instalment Notes: amount of each instalment, date on which each payment is to be made:

[Not Applicable/give details]

31. Redenomination applicable:

Redenomination [not] applicable [(if Redenomination is applicable, specify all relevant provisions in the applicable Final Terms)]

32. Other final terms:

[Not Applicable/give details]
(When adding any other final terms consideration should be given as to whether such terms constitute "significant new factors" and consequently trigger the need for a supplement of the Programme Circular under Article 16 of the Prospectus Directive.)

#### DISTRIBUTION

33. (i) If syndicated, names [and addresses]\*\*
of Managers [and underwriting
commitments]\*\*:

[Not Applicable/give names and addresses and underwriting commitments]\*\*

(Include names and addresses of entities agreeing to underwrite the issue on a firm commitment basis and names and addresses of the entities agreeing to place the issue without a firm commitment or on a "best efforts" basis if such entities are not the same as the Managers.)\*\*

(ii) Date of Syndication Agreement\*\*\*:

[ ]\*\*\*

(iii) Stabilising Dealer (if any):

[Not Applicable/give name]

34. If non-syndicated, name [and address]\*\*
of relevant Dealer:

[Not Applicable/give name and address]\*\*

35. Total commission and concession\*\*:

[ ] per cent. of the Aggregate Nominal Amount\*\*

- 36. Whether TEFRA D or TEFRA C rules applicable or TEFRA rules not applicable: [TEFRA D/TEFRA C/TEFRA not applicable] 37. Additional selling restrictions: [Not Applicable/give details]
- [LISTING AND ADMISSION TO TRADING APPLICATION

These Final Terms comprise the final terms required to list and have admitted to trading the issue of Notes described herein pursuant to the U.S.\$35,000,000,000 Euro Medium Term Note Programme of Commonwealth Bank of Australia and ASB Finance Limited, London Branch.]

Duly authorised

| RESPONSIBILITY  |  |
|---|--|
| The Issuer [and the Guarantor] accept[s] responsible Final Terms. [[ ] has been extracted from [ that such information has been accurately reproduct to ascertain from information published by [ ], render the reproduced information inaccurate or materials. | ]. The Issuer [and the Guarantor] confirms aced and that, so far as it is aware and is able no facts have been omitted which would |
| Signed on behalf of the Issuer:   | [Signed on behalf of the Guarantor:  |
| By:   | Ву:  |

Duly authorised]

#### Part B - Other Information

| 1. | LISTING  |   |
|----|--|---|
|    | (i) Listing:   | [London/Luxembourg/other (specify)/None]  |
|    | (ii) Admission to trading:   | [Application has been made for the Notes to be admitted to trading on [ ] with effect from [ ].] [Not Applicable.]  |
|    |  | (Where documenting a fungible issue need to indicate that original securities are already admitted to trading.) **  |
|    | (iii) Estimate of total expenses related to admission to trading*: | [ ]*  |
| 2. | RATINGS  |   |
|    | Ratings:   | The Notes to be issued have [not] been rated[:  |
|    |  | [S & P: [ ]]  |
|    |  | [Moody's: [ ]]  |
|    |  | [[Other]: [ ]]]   |
|    |  | [Need to include a brief explanation of the meaning of the ratings if this has previously been published by the rating provider.]**   |
|    |  | (The above disclosure should reflect the rating allocated to Notes of the type being issued under the Programme generally or, where the issue has been specifically rated, that rating.)    |
| 3. |  | ided the [names of competent authorities of host oval attesting that the Programme Circular has rospectus Directive.  |
| 4. | [Save for any fees payable to the [Manag                           | AL PERSONS INVOLVED IN THE ISSUE pers/Dealers, so far as the Issuer is aware, no has an interest material to the offer.] – Amend as   |
| 5. | REASONS FOR THE OFFER, ESTIMATE EXPENSES                           | ATED NET PROCEEDS AND TOTAL   |
|    | [(i) Reasons for the offer   | [ ]   |
|    |  | (See "Use of Proceeds" wording in Programme<br>Circular – if reasons for offer different from<br>making profit and/or hedging certain risks<br>will need to include those reasons here.)]** |

|    | [(ii)] Estimated net proceeds:   | [ ]  |
|----|----------------------------------|--|
|    |                                  | (If proceeds are intended for more than one use will need to split out and present in order of priority. If proceeds insufficient to fund all proposed uses state amount and sources of other funding.)**  |
|    | [(iii)]Estimated total expenses: | [ ] [Expenses are required to be broken down into each principal intended "use" and presented in order of priority of such "uses".]  |
|    |                                  | (If the Notes are derivative securities to which Annex XII applies (i) above is required where the reasons for the offer are different from making profit and/or hedging certain risks regardless of the minimum denomination of the securities and where this is the case disclosure of net proceeds and total expenses at (ii) and (iii) are also required.) |
| 6. | YIELD (Fixed Rate Notes only)    |  |
|    | Indication of yield:             | [ ]  |
|    |                                  | [Calculated as [include details of method of calculation in summary form] on the Issue Date.]***   |
|    |                                  | The yield is calculated at the Issue Date on<br>the basis of the Issue Price. It is not an   |

7. **HISTORIC INTEREST RATES** (Floating Rate Notes only)\*\*
Details of historic [LIBOR/EURIBOR/other] rates can be obtained from [Reuters].]

# 8. PERFORMANCE OF INDEX/FORMULA, EXPLANATION OF EFFECT ON VALUE OF INVESTMENT AND ASSOCIATED RISKS AND OTHER INFORMATION CONCERNING THE UNDERLYING (Index-Linked Notes only)

[Need to include details of where past and future performance and volatility of the index/formula can be obtained.]

[Need to include a clear and comprehensive explanation of how the value of the investment is affected by the underlying and the circumstances when the risks are most evident.]\*\*

indication of future yield.

[Where the underlying is an index need to include the name of the index and a description if composed by the Issuer and if the index is not composed by the Issuer need to include details of where the information about the index can be obtained. Where the underlying is not an index need to include equivalent information.]

## 9. PERFORMANCE OF RATE[S] OF EXCHANGE AND EXPLANATION OF EFFECT ON VALUE OF INVESTMENT (Dual Currency Notes only)

[Need to include details of where past and future performance and volatility of the relevant rates can be obtained.]

[Need to include a clear and comprehensive explanation of how the value of the investment is affected by the underlying and the circumstances when the risks are most evident.]\*\*

#### 10. OPERATIONAL INFORMATION

| (1)   | ISIN Code:   | L J   |
|-------|--|---|
| (ii)  | Common Code:   | [ ]   |
| (iii) | Any clearing system(s) other than<br>Euroclear Bank S.A./N.V. and<br>Clearstream Banking, société<br>anonyme and the relevant<br>identification number(s): | [Not Applicable/give name(s) and number(s)] |
| (iv)  | Delivery:  | Delivery [against/free of] payment          |
| (v)   | Names and addresses of additional Paying Agent(s) (if any):  | [ ]   |

For the purpose of calculating the U.S. dollar equivalent of the nominal amount of Notes outstanding under the Programme from time to time, (i) Zero Coupon Notes, Low Interest (discount) Notes and High Interest (premium) Notes will be included in such nominal amount by reference to the net proceeds received by the relevant Issuer for the relevant issue, (ii) Dual Currency Notes and Index Linked Notes shall be included in such nominal amount by reference to the original nominal amount of the relevant issue, (iii) the nominal amount of Partly-Paid Notes will be taken into account regardless of the amount of the subscription price paid and (iv) the U.S. dollar equivalent of Notes denominated in another Specified Currency shall be determined as of the date of agreement to issue such Notes (the "Agreement Date") on the basis of the Exchange Rate on such date. As used in this paragraph, the "Exchange Rate" against U.S. dollars for any currency means the spot rate for the sale of U.S. dollars against the purchase of such currency in the London foreign exchange market on the Agreement Date quoted by any leading bank selected by the relevant Issuer and approved by the Trustee.

#### Notes:

- \* Delete if the minimum denomination is less than €50,000.
- \*\* Delete if the minimum denomination is €50,000.
- \*\*\* Delete if the minimum denomination is £50,000 unless the Notes are derivative securities for the purposes of Annex XII of the Prospectus Directive Regulation.

#### **Conditions of the Notes**

The following are the Conditions of the Notes which (subject to amendment) will be incorporated by reference into each global Note and will be endorsed upon each definitive Note provided that the applicable Final Terms in relation to any Note may specify other conditions which shall, to the extent so specified or to the extent inconsistent with the following Conditions, replace or modify the following Conditions for the purpose of such Note. The applicable Final Terms will be endorsed upon, or attached to, each global Note and definitive Note.

This Note is one of a Series of Euro Medium Term Notes (all of the Euro Medium Term Notes from time to time issued by whichever of Commonwealth Bank of Australia ("CBA") or ASB Finance Limited, London Branch, ("ASB Finance" and, together with CBA, the "Issuers") is specified as the Issuer in the applicable Final Terms (as defined below) which are for the time being outstanding being hereinafter referred to as the "Notes", which expression shall include (i) in relation to any Notes represented by a global Note, units of the lowest Specified Denomination in the Specified Currency of the relevant Notes, (ii) definitive Notes issued in exchange (or part exchange) for a global Note and (iii) any global Note) constituted by a Trust Deed dated 28 October 1992 (as modified and/or restated from time to time, the "Trust Deed") and most recently made between the Issuers, ASB Bank Limited as guarantor of all amounts payable in respect of Notes issued by ASB Finance (the "Guarantor") and The Law Debenture Trust Corporation p.l.c. (the "Trustee" which expression shall, wherever the context so admits, include such company and all other persons or companies for the time being trustee or trustees for the holders of the Notes) as trustee for the holders of the Notes (the "Noteholders"). Copies of the Trust Deed together with copies of the Amended and Restated Agency Agreement (the "Agency Agreement") dated 13 October 2006 and made between the Issuers, the Guarantor, the Trustee, Deutsche Bank AG, London Branch as agent (the "Agent" which expression shall include any successor as agent), Deutsche Bank Luxembourg S.A. as registrar (the "Registrar" which expression shall include any successor as registrar) and the paying agents and transfer agents named therein (the "Paying Agents" and the "Transfer Agents", which expressions shall include any additional or successor paying agents and transfer agents) are available for inspection at the registered office for the time being of the Trustee, being at the date hereof at Fifth Floor, 100 Wood Street, London EC2V 7EX, and at the specified office of each of the Paying Agents. Copies of the applicable Final Terms are available for viewing at the registered office of CBA at Level 7, 48 Martin Place, Sydney, NSW 2000, Australia and the London Branch Office of ASB Finance (currently Senator House, 85 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4V 4HA) and copies may be obtained from the Agent at Winchester House, 1 Great Winchester Street, London EC2N 2DB, England save that, if this Note is neither admitted to trading on a regulated market in the European Economic Area nor offered in the European Economic Area in circumstances where a prospectus is required to be published under the Prospectus Directive, the applicable Final Terms will only be obtainable by a Noteholder holding one or more Notes and such Noteholder must produce evidence satisfactory to the Issuer, the Guarantor (where the relevant Issuer is ASB Finance) and the Trustee or, as the case may be, and the relevant Paying Agent as to its holding of such Notes and identity. The Noteholders, the Receiptholders and the Couponholders are deemed to have notice of, and are entitled to the benefit of, all the provisions of the Trust Deed, the Agency Agreement and the applicable Final Terms which are applicable to them. The statements in the Conditions include summaries of, and are subject to, the detailed provisions of the Trust Deed.

As used herein, "Series" means each original issue of Notes together with any further issues expressed to form a single series with the original issue and the terms of which (save for the Issue Date or Interest Commencement Date, as the case may be, the Issue Price and the amount of the first payment of interest (if any), all as indicated in the applicable Final Terms) are otherwise identical (including whether or not they are listed) and shall be deemed to include the temporary and (where applicable) permanent global Notes and the definitive Notes of such issues and the expressions "Notes of this Series" and "holders of Notes of this Series" and related expressions shall be construed accordingly. As used herein, "Tranche" means all Notes of the same Series with the same Issue Date.

The applicable Final Terms (which term, as used herein, means, in relation to this Note, Part A of the Final Terms attached hereto or endorsed hereon) may specify other Conditions which shall, to the extent so specified or to the extent inconsistent with these Conditions, replace these Conditions for the purposes of this Note.

If this Note is issued by CBA, references in these Conditions to Guarantor and Guarantee, and related expressions, are not applicable.

The Noteholders, the holders for the time being of the Receipts (as defined below) (the "Receiptholders"), the holders for the time being of the Coupons (as defined below) (the "Couponholders") and the holders for the time being of the Talons (as defined below) (the "Talonholders") are entitled to the benefit of, are bound by, and are deemed to have notice of, all the provisions relating to the Notes contained in the Trust Deed, the applicable Final Terms and the Agency Agreement which are applicable to them. Words and expressions defined in the Trust Deed or defined or set out in the applicable Final Terms shall have the same meanings where used in these Conditions unless the context otherwise requires or unless otherwise stated. Copies of the applicable Final Terms are available for inspection by the holders of Notes of this Series at the office of the Agent set out at the end of these Conditions. The statements in these Conditions are summaries of the detailed provisions of the Trust Deed which provisions shall have precedence over these Conditions if there is any inconsistency.

#### 1 Form, Denomination and Title

The Notes of this Series are Bearer Notes and/or Registered Notes as specified in the applicable Final Terms and are in the Specified Currency and in the Specified Denomination(s). Definitive Notes of this Series (if issued) will be serially numbered. This Note is an Unsubordinated Note or a Subordinated Note as indicated in the applicable Final Terms. This Note is also a Fixed Rate Note, a Floating Rate Note, a Zero Coupon Note, a Low Interest (discount) Note, a High Interest (premium) Note, an Index Linked Interest Note, a Dual Currency Interest Note or any appropriate combination thereof depending upon the Interest Basis specified in the applicable Final Terms and is a Dual Currency Redemption Note, an Index Linked Redemption Note, an Instalment Note or a Partly-Paid Note, or a combination of any of the foregoing, depending on the Redemption/Payment Basis specified in the applicable Final Terms. If this Note is a definitive Bearer Note, it is issued with Coupons for the payment of interest ("Coupons") and, if applicable, Talons for further Coupons ("Talons") attached, unless it is a Zero Coupon Note in which case references to interest (other than in relation to interest due after the Maturity Date) and Coupons or Talons in these Conditions are not applicable. If this Note is a definitive Bearer Note redeemable in instalments, it is issued with Receipts ("Receipts") for the payment of instalments of principal prior to the final Maturity Date attached. Wherever Dual Currency Notes, Index Linked Notes, Low Interest (discount) Notes or High Interest (premium) Notes are issued to bear interest on a fixed or floating rate basis or on a non-interest-bearing basis, the provisions in these Conditions relating to Fixed Rate Notes, Floating Rate Notes and Zero Coupon Notes respectively shall, where the context so admits, apply to such Dual Currency Notes, Index Linked Notes, Low Interest (discount) Notes or High Interest (premium) Notes. In the case of Dual Currency Notes, references to the Specified Currency in relation to any payment or calculation of a payment are to the currency in which that payment is required to be made. This Note is also an Index Linked Note where payment in respect of principal (each an "Index Linked Redemption Note") and/or interest (each an "Index Linked Interest Note") is linked to an Index and/or a Formula, and the appropriate provisions of these Conditions will apply accordingly. References in these Conditions, except in this paragraph, Condition 7 and Condition 10, to Coupons or Couponholders shall be deemed to include references to Talons or Talonholders and Receipts or Receiptholders.

Subject as set out below, title to the definitive Bearer Notes and the Coupons will pass by delivery and title to the definitive Registered Notes will pass upon the registration of transfers in accordance with the provisions of the Agency Agreement and the Trust Deed. The holder of each Coupon, whether or not such Coupon is attached to a Bearer Note, in his capacity as such, shall be subject to, and bound by, all the provisions contained in the relevant Note. Subject as set out below, the Issuer, the Guarantor (where the relevant Issuer is ASB Finance), the Trustee, any Paying Agent and any Transfer Agent may (to the fullest extent permitted by applicable laws) deem and treat the bearer of any Bearer Note or Coupon and the registered holder of any Registered Note as the absolute owner thereof (whether or not such Note or Coupon shall be overdue and notwithstanding any notation of ownership or writing thereon or notice of any previous loss or theft thereof) for all purposes but, in the case of any global Note, without prejudice to the provisions set out below.

For so long as any Notes are represented by a global Note held on behalf of Euroclear Bank S.A./N.V. ("Euroclear") and/or Clearstream Banking société anonyme ("Clearstream,

Luxembourg"), each person who is for the time being shown in the records of Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg as the holder of a particular nominal amount of such Notes (in which regard any certificate or other document issued by Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg as to the nominal amount of such Notes standing to the account of any person shall be conclusive and binding for all purposes save in the case of manifest error) shall be treated by the Issuer, the Guarantor (where the relevant Issuer is ASB Finance), the Trustee and any Paying Agent as the holder of such nominal amount of Notes for all purposes other than with respect to payments on the Notes for which purpose the bearer of the relevant global Note shall be treated by the Issuer, the Guarantor (where the relevant Issuer is ASB Finance), the Trustee and any Paying Agent as the holder of such Notes in accordance with and subject to the terms of the relevant global Note and the Trust Deed and the terms "Noteholder" and "holder of Notes" and related expressions shall be construed accordingly.

Any reference herein to Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg shall, except in the preceding paragraph and in Condition 16, wherever the context so permits, be deemed to include a reference to any additional or alternative clearance system approved by the Trustee and specified in the applicable Final Terms.

Notes which are represented by a global Note held on behalf of Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg will only be transferable in accordance with the rules and procedures for the time being of Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg, as the case may be.

#### 2 Transfer and Exchange

- A Registered Note may be transferred in whole or in part (in the nominal amount of the lowest (a) Specified Denomination or any integral multiple thereof) by the deposit by the transferor of the Registered Note for registration of the transfer at the specified office of a Transfer Agent with the form of transfer endorsed on the Registered Note duly completed and executed by or on behalf of the transferor and upon the relevant Transfer Agent (after due and careful enquiry) being satisfied with the documents of title and the identity of the person making the request and subject to such reasonable regulations as the Issuer and the Registrar may (with the prior approval of the Trustee) prescribe. Subject as provided above, the relevant Transfer Agent will, within fourteen days of the request (or such longer period as may be required to comply with any applicable fiscal or other laws or regulations), deliver at its specified office to the transferee or (at the risk of the transferee) send by mail to such address as the transferee may request a new Registered Note of a like aggregate nominal amount to the Registered Note (or the relevant part of the Registered Note) transferred. In the case of the transfer of part only of a Registered Note, a new Registered Note in respect of the balance of the Registered Note not transferred will be so delivered or (at the risk of the transferor) sent to the transferor.
- (b) A definitive Bearer Note (provided that all unmatured Coupons appertaining to the definitive Bearer Note are attached) may, where the applicable Final Terms so permits, be exchanged for a Registered Note of a like aggregate nominal amount by surrender of the definitive Bearer Note and Coupons to a Transfer Agent at its specified office, together with a written request for the exchange in the form for the time being available from the specified office of any Transfer Agent, provided that a definitive Bearer Note surrendered in exchange for a Registered Note after a Record Date (as defined in Condition 7(b)) and on or before the next following Interest Payment Date is not required to be surrendered with the Coupon maturing on the Interest Payment Date. Interest on a Registered Note issued on exchange will accrue as from that immediately preceding Interest Period End Date, except where issued in respect of a definitive Bearer Note surrendered after a Record Date and on or before the next following Interest Payment Date, in which event interest shall accrue as from the Interest Period End Date next following the date of exchange. Within fourteen days of the request, the relevant Transfer Agent will deliver at its specified office to the holder or (at the risk of the holder) send by mail to such address as may be specified by the holder in the request a Registered Note of a like aggregate nominal amount to the definitive Bearer Note exchanged.
- (c) No exchange of a Registered Note for a definitive Bearer Note will be permitted. Definitive Bearer Notes of one Specified Denomination may not be exchanged for definitive Bearer Notes of another Specified Denomination.
- (d) In the event of a partial redemption of Notes under Condition 6(c), the Issuer shall not be required:

- (i) to register the transfer of Registered Notes (or parts of Registered Notes) or to exchange definitive Bearer Notes for Registered Notes during the period beginning on the sixty-fifth day before the date of the partial redemption and ending on the day on which notice is given specifying the serial numbers of Notes called (in whole or in part) for redemption (both inclusive); or
- (ii) to register the transfer of any Registered Note, or part of a Registered Note, called for partial redemption; or
- (iii) to exchange any definitive Bearer Note called for partial redemption;

except that a definitive Bearer Note called for partial redemption may be exchanged for a Registered Note which is simultaneously surrendered not later than the relevant Record Date.

- (e) Noteholders will not be required to bear the costs and expenses of effecting any registration of transfer or any exchange as provided above, except for any costs or expenses of delivery other than at the specified office of a Transfer Agent or by regular mail and except that the Issuer may require the payment of a sum sufficient to cover any stamp duty, tax or other governmental charge that may be imposed in relation to the registration or exchange.
- (f) The names of the initial Registrar and other initial Transfer Agents and their initial specified offices in respect of this Series of Notes are set out at the end of these Conditions. Each of the Issuer and the Guarantor (where the relevant Issuer is ASB Finance) reserves the right, subject to the approval of the Trustee, at any time to vary or terminate the appointment of the Registrar or any other Transfer Agent and to appoint another Registrar or additional or other Transfer Agents provided that it will at all times maintain a Registrar and another Transfer Agent each having a specified office in a place approved by the Trustee which, in the case of the Registrar and so long as any Notes of this Series are admitted to the official list (the "Official List") of the UK Listing Authority and to trading on the London Stock Exchange ple's market for listed securities or on another stock exchange, shall be in London or such other place as may be required by that stock exchange. Notice of any termination or appointment and of any changes in specified offices will be given to the holders of the Notes of this Series promptly by the Issuer in accordance with Condition 16.

#### 3 Status of the Notes and the Guarantee, Subordination and ASB Finance Covenant

(a) Status of the Unsubordinated Notes

If the Notes of this Series are Unsubordinated Notes, the Notes of this Series and the relative Coupons (if any) are direct, unconditional and unsecured obligations of the Issuer and rank without any preference or priority among themselves and *pari passu* with all other present and future unsecured and unsubordinated obligations (other than in respect of statutorily preferred creditors) of the Issuer subject to the provisions of the following paragraphs (if the Issuer is CBA) and of Condition 4.

If the Issuer is CBA, section 13A(3) of the Banking Act 1959 of the Commonwealth of Australia provides that, in the event of a bank becoming unable to meet its obligations or suspending payment, the assets of the bank in Australia shall be available to meet its deposit liabilities in Australia in priority to all other liabilities of the bank.

If the Issuer is CBA, section 16(2) of the Banking Act 1959 of the Commonwealth of Australia provides that, despite anything contained in any law relating to the winding up of companies, but subject to section 13A(3) of the Banking Act 1959, the debts of a bank to the Australian Prudential Regulatory Authority ("APRA") in respect of APRA's costs (including costs in the nature of remuneration and expenses) of being in control of a bank's business or of having an administrator in control of a bank's business have priority in a winding up of the bank over all other unsecured debts.

If the Issuer is CBA, section 86 of the Reserve Bank Act 1959 of the Commonwealth of Australia provides that notwithstanding anything contained in any law relating to the winding up of companies, but subject to section 13A(3) of the Banking Act 1959, debts due to the Reserve Bank of Australia by a bank shall, in the winding up, have priority over all other debts other than debts due to the Commonwealth of Australia.

(b) Status and Subordination of the Subordinated Notes

If the Notes of this Series are Subordinated Notes issued by CBA, the Notes of this Series and

the relative Coupons (if any) will, in the event of the winding up of CBA, be unsecured and subordinated obligations of CBA.

Accordingly, in the event of the winding up of CBA, all amounts paid from the assets of CBA to the Trustee will be held on trust for the Other Creditors admitted in the winding up of CBA upon the terms set out in clause 9(B) of the Twentieth Supplemental Trust Deed.

For the purposes of the Notes, "Other Creditors" means all creditors of CBA (including but not limited to the depositors of CBA in Australia) other than:

- (i) the holders of the Notes of this Series;
- (ii) creditors whose claims against CBA by the terms of any agreement, deed or instrument applicable to such creditors rank *pari passu* with the claims of the holders of the Notes of this Series; and
- (iii) creditors whose claims against CBA by the terms of any agreement, deed or instrument applicable to such creditors rank junior to the claims of the holders of the Notes of this Series.

The Notes of this Series shall rank *pari passu* with all other present and future outstanding unsecured subordinated indebtedness of CBA unless the terms of such other unsecured subordinated indebtedness of CBA expressly provide for it to rank ahead of or junior to the Notes of this Series. The Notes of this Series shall rank senior to all share capital of CBA (including without limitation preference shares, if any, of CBA).

The Notes of this Series do not represent a deposit liability of CBA for the purposes of the Banking Act 1959 of the Commonwealth of Australia.

Section 13A(3) of the Banking Act 1959 of the Commonwealth of Australia provides that, in the event of a bank becoming unable to meet its obligations or suspending payment, the assets of the bank in Australia shall be available to meet its deposit liabilities in Australia in priority to all other liabilities of the bank.

Section 16(2) of the Banking Act 1959 of the Commonwealth of Australia provides that, despite anything contained in any law relating to the winding up of companies, but subject to section 13A(3) of the Banking Act of 1959, the debts of a bank to the APRA in respect of APRA's costs (including costs in the nature of remuneration and expenses) of being in control of a bank's business or of having an administrator in control of a bank's business have priority in a winding up of the bank over all other unsecured debts.

Section 86 of the Reserve Bank Act 1959 of the Commonwealth of Australia provides that notwithstanding anything contained in any law relating to the winding up of companies, but subject to Section 13A(3) of the Banking Act 1959, debts due to the Reserve Bank of Australia by a bank shall, in the winding up, have priority over all other debts other than the debts due to the Commonwealth of Australia.

Nothing in the Conditions of the Notes of this Series shall be construed or deemed to limit the amount of senior debt, deposits and other obligations which rank senior to the Notes of this Series, including other unsecured subordinated obligations of CBA ranking senior to the Notes of this Series, that may be hereafter incurred or assumed by CBA.

Subject to applicable law, no holder of the Notes of this Series may exercise or claim any right of set-off in respect of any amounts owed to it by CBA arising under or in connection with the Notes of this Series and each such holder shall, by virtue of his subscription, purchase or holding of any such Note of this Series, be deemed to have waived all such rights of set-off.

Notwithstanding anything else in these Conditions, the obligations of CBA to make payments of interest in respect of the Notes of this Series is conditional upon CBA being Solvent at the time of payment. No interest is payable at any time with respect to the Notes of this Series except to the extent that CBA may make the payment and still be Solvent immediately after doing so.

If CBA would not remain Solvent after payment of the whole of any interest amount referred to above, but would remain Solvent immediately after payment of a portion of those moneys, then that proportion of the amounts payable to holders of any Notes of this Series will be due to and paid to those holders rateably (as to their respective due proportion only).

For the purposes of this Condition, CBA is taken to be "Solvent" if: (a) it is able to pay its debts to Unsubordinated Creditors as they fall due; and (b) its Assets exceed its Liabilities.

A report as to whether CBA is Solvent signed by 2 Authorised Officers of CBA or the auditors of CBA or, if CBA is being wound up, its liquidator, will, unless the contrary is proved, be evidence of the information set out in that report. Neither the Trustee nor any Paying Agent is obliged to obtain any such report prior to any due date for payment on the Notes or at any other time. In the absence of such a report the Trustee and the holder of any Note is entitled to assume (unless the contrary is proved) that CBA is and will after any payment be Solvent.

For the purpose of this Condition:

"Assets" means the unconsolidated gross assets of CBA as shown by the latest published audited accounts of CBA as adjusted for events subsequent to the date of such accounts in the manner and to the extent the directors, the auditor or, if relevant, the liquidator, of CBA determines to be appropriate; and

"Liabilities" means the unconsolidated gross liabilities of CBA as shown by the latest published audited accounts of CBA as adjusted for events subsequent to the date of such accounts in the manner and to the extent the directors, the auditor or, if relevant, the liquidator, of CBA determines to be appropriate.

If the Notes of this Series are Subordinated Notes issued by ASB Finance, the status and subordination of the Notes of this Series will be as set out in the applicable Final Terms.

#### (c) Status of the Guarantee

The Guarantor has, in the Trust Deed, unconditionally and irrevocably guaranteed the due and punctual payment of the principal of, and interest on, all Notes issued by ASB Finance and all other amounts payable by ASB Finance under or pursuant to the Trust Deed (the "Guarantee").

The obligations of the Guarantor under the Guarantee constitute:

- (i) in the case of Senior Notes issued by ASB Finance, direct, unconditional and unsecured obligations of the Guarantor and will rank without any preference or priority amongst themselves and pari passu with all other present and future unsecured and unsubordinated obligations (other than statutorily preferred creditors) of the Guarantor subject as provided in Condition 4.
- (ii) in the case of Subordinated Notes issued by ASB Finance, unconditional and unsecured obligations of the Guarantor and will rank as set out in the applicable Final Terms and a supplemental trust deed.

### (d) Issuer Covenant

If the Issuer of the Notes is ASB Finance, it covenants that the proceeds of any issue will be lent to the Guarantor pursuant to a loan agreement in the same currency and on the same financial terms with the addition of such margin or amounts as the Issuer may determine.

# 4 Negative Pledge

#### (a) Unsubordinated Notes

If the Notes of this Series are Unsubordinated Notes, as long as any of the Notes of this Series or the relative Coupons (if any) remains outstanding (as defined in the Trust Deed):

- (i) the Issuer will not create or have outstanding any mortgage, pledge or other charge, upon or with respect to, any of its present or future assets or revenues to secure repayment of, or to secure any guarantee or indemnity in respect of, any external indebtedness without, at the same time, according to the Notes of this Series the same security or such other security as shall in the opinion of the Trustee be not materially less beneficial to the interests of the holders of the Notes of this Series or as shall be approved by an Extraordinary Resolution (as defined in the Trust Deed) of the holders of the Notes of this Series; and
- (ii) the Guarantor (where the Issuer of the Unsubordinated Notes is ASB Finance), will not create or have outstanding any mortgage, pledge or other charge, upon or with respect to, any of its present or future assets or revenues to secure repayment of, or to secure any guarantee or indemnity in respect of, any external indebtedness without, at the same time, according to the Guarantee of the Notes of this Series the same security or such other security as shall in the opinion of the Trustee be not materially less beneficial to the interests of the holders of the Notes of this Series or as shall be approved by an Extraordinary Resolution of the holders of the Notes of this Series.

(b) Subordinated Notes

If the Notes of this Series are Subordinated Notes, this Condition 4 shall not be applicable to the Notes of this Series.

(c) Interpretation

For the purpose of this Condition "external indebtedness" means any obligation for the repayment of borrowed money in the form of or represented by bonds, notes, debentures or other securities:

- (i) which are initially offered outside the Commonwealth of Australia (if the Issuer is CBA) or New Zealand (if the Issuer is ASB Finance) with the consent of the Issuer in an amount exceeding 50 per cent. of the aggregate nominal amount of the relevant issue; and
- (ii) which are, or are capable of being, quoted, listed or ordinarily traded on any stock exchange or on any recognised securities market.

### 5 Interest

- (a) Interest on Fixed Rate Notes
- (1) Each Fixed Rate Note bears interest on its outstanding nominal amount (or, if it is a Partly-Paid Note, the amount paid up) from and including the Interest Commencement Date at the rate(s) per annum equal to the Rate(s) of Interest specified in the applicable Final Terms. Interest will accrue in respect of each Interest Period (which expression shall in these Conditions mean the period from (and including) an Interest Period End Date (or if none the Interest Commencement Date) to (but excluding) the next (or first) Interest Period End Date (each such latter date the "Interest Period End Final Date" for the relevant Interest Period)). Interest will be payable in arrear on the Interest Payment Date(s) in each year up to (and including) the Maturity Date. If an Interest Payment Date falls after the Interest Period End Final Date in respect of the relevant Interest Period, no additional interest or other amount shall be payable as a result of such interest being payable on such later date.

If Fixed Coupon Amount is specified in the applicable Final Terms, the amount of interest payable on each Interest Payment Date in respect of the Interest Period ending on (but excluding) the Interest Period End Final Date in respect of such Interest Period will amount to the Fixed Coupon Amount or the Broken Amount (if any) so specified.

Interest will be paid subject to and in accordance with the provisions of Condition 7 (unless otherwise specified in the applicable Final Terms). Interest will cease to accrue on each Fixed Rate Note (or, in the case of the redemption of part only of a Fixed Rate Note, that part only of such Note) on the due date for redemption thereof or, if different, the last Interest Period End Date in respect thereof unless, upon due presentation thereof, payment of principal is improperly withheld or refused, in which event interest will continue to accrue (as well after as before any judgment) until, but excluding, whichever is the earlier of (A) the day on which all sums due in respect of such Fixed Rate Note up to that day are received by or on behalf of the holder of such Fixed Rate Note and (B) the day which is seven days after the date on which the Agent has notified the holder in accordance with Condition 16 that it has received all sums due in respect thereof up to that date.

(2) If Business Day Convention is specified in the applicable Final Terms as applying to an Interest Period End Date or if interest is required to be calculated for a period (the "Relevant Period") other than a full Interest Period, the amount of interest shall be calculated by applying the Rate of Interest to each Specified Denomination, multiplying such sum by the applicable Day Count Fraction, and rounding the resultant figure to the nearest sub-unit of the relevant Specified Currency, half of any such sub-unit being rounded upwards or otherwise in accordance with applicable market convention.

In this Condition 5(a), each of "Day Count Fraction" and "Business Day Convention" has the meaning given to it in Condition 5(c).

In these Conditions "sub-unit" means, with respect to any currency other than euro, the lowest amount of such currency that is available as legal tender in the country of such currency and, with respect to euro, means one cent.

- (b) Interest on Floating Rate Notes and Index Linked Interest Notes
- (1) Interest Period End Dates and Interest Payment Dates
  Each Floating Rate Note and Index Linked Interest Note bears interest on its nominal amount

from time to time outstanding (or, if it is a Partly-Paid Note, the amount paid up) in respect of each Interest Period (which expression shall in these Conditions mean the period from (and including) a Specified Interest Period End Date (or if none the Interest Commencement Date to (but excluding) the next (or first) Specified Interest Period End Date (each such latter date the "Interest Period End Final Date" for the relevant Interest Period)). For the purposes of this Condition 5(b), "Interest Period End Date" shall mean either:

- (A) the Specified Interest Period End Date(s) in each year specified in the applicable Final Terms: or
- (B) if no Specified Interest Period End Date(s) is/are specified in the applicable Final Terms, each date which falls the number of months or other period specified as the Specified Period in the applicable Final Terms after the preceding Interest Payment Date or, in the case of the first Interest Period End Date, after the Interest Commencement Date.

Interest will be payable in arrear on the Interest Payment Date(s) in each year up to (and including) the Maturity Date. If an Interest Payment Date falls after an Interest Period End Final Date in respect of the relevant Interest Period, no additional interest or other amount shall be payable as a result of such interest being payable on such later date.

- (2) Interest Payments and Accrual
  - Interest will be paid subject to and in accordance with the provisions of Condition 7 (unless otherwise specified in the applicable Final Terms). Interest will cease to accrue on each Floating Rate Note or Index Linked Interest Note (or, in the case of the redemption of part only of a Floating Rate Note or Index Linked Interest Note, that part only of such Note) on the Interest Period End Final Date for the last Interest Period unless, upon due presentation thereof, payment of principal is improperly withheld or refused, in which event interest will continue to accrue (as well after as before any judgement) until, but excluding, whichever is the earlier of (A) the day on which all sums due in respect of such Floating Rate Note or Index Linked Interest Note up to that day are received by or on behalf of the holder of such Floating Rate Note or Index Linked Interest Note and (B) the day which is seven days after the date on which the Agent has notified the holder in accordance with Condition 16 that it has received all sums due in respect thereof up to that date.
- (3) Rate of Interest

The Rate of Interest payable from time to time in respect of each Floating Rate Note and Index Linked Interest Note will be determined in the manner specified in the applicable Final Terms.

(4) ISDA Determination for Floating Rate Notes

Where ISDA Determination is specified in the applicable Final Terms as the manner in which the Rate of Interest is to be determined, the Rate of Interest for each Interest Period specified in the applicable Final Terms will be the relevant ISDA Rate plus or minus (as indicated in the applicable Final Terms) the Margin (if any). For the purposes of this Condition 5(b)(4), "ISDA Rate" for an Interest Period means a rate equal to the Floating Rate that would be determined by the Agent or other person specified in the applicable Final Terms under an interest rate swap transaction if the Agent or that other person were acting as Calculation Agent for that swap transaction under the terms of an agreement incorporating the 2000 ISDA Definitions, as published by the International Swaps and Derivatives Association, Inc. and as amended and updated as at the Issue Date of the first Tranche of the Notes, (the "ISDA Definitions") and under which:

- (A) the Floating Rate Option is as specified in the applicable Final Terms;
- (B) the Designated Maturity is a period specified in the applicable Final Terms; and
- (C) the relevant Reset Date is either (i) if the applicable Floating Rate Option is based on the London inter-bank offered rate (LIBOR) for a currency or on the Euro-zone inter-bank offered rate (EURIBOR) for calculations of payments in euro, the first day of that Interest Period or (ii) in any other case, as specified in the applicable Final Terms.

For the purposes of this Condition 5(b)(4), "Floating Rate", "Calculation Agent", "Floating Rate Option", "Designated Maturity" and "Reset Date" have the meanings given to those terms in the ISDA Definitions.

When this Condition 5(b)(4) applies, in respect of each relevant Interest Period:

- (i) the Rate of Interest for such Interest Period will be the rate of interest determined by the Agent or other person specified in the applicable Final Terms in accordance with this Condition 5(b)(4); and
- (ii) the Agent or other person specified in the applicable Final Terms will be deemed to have discharged its obligations under Condition 5(b)(8) in respect of the determination of the Rate of Interest if it has determined the Rate of Interest in respect of such Interest Period in the manner provided in this Condition 5(b)(4).
- (5) Screen Rate Determination for Floating Rate Notes

Where Screen Rate Determination is specified in the applicable Final Terms as the manner in which the Rate of Interest is to be determined, the Rate of Interest for each Interest Period will, subject as provided below, be either:

- (A) the offered quotation; or
- (B) the arithmetic mean (rounded if necessary to the fourth decimal place, with 0.00005 being rounded upwards) of the offered quotations,

(expressed as a percentage rate per annum) for the Reference Rate (specified in the applicable Final Terms) which appears or appear, as the case may be, on the Relevant Screen Page as at 11.00 a.m. (London time, in the case of LIBOR, or Brussels time, in the case of EURIBOR) on the Interest Determination Date in question plus or minus (as indicated in the applicable Final Terms) the Margin (if any), all as determined by the Agent or other person specified in the applicable Final Terms. If five or more such offered quotations are available on the Relevant Screen Page, the highest (or, if there is more than one such highest rate, one only of such rates) and the lowest (or, if there is more than one such lowest rate, one only of such rates) shall be disregarded by the Agent or that other person for the purpose of determining the arithmetic mean (rounded as provided above) of such offered quotations.

The Agency Agreement contains provisions for determining the Rate of Interest in the event that the Relevant Screen Page is not available or if, in the case of (A) above, no such offered quotation appears or, in the case of (B) above, fewer than three such offered quotations appear, in each case as at the time specified in the preceding paragraph. Such provisions will apply to each Floating Rate Note where Screen Rate Determination is specified in the applicable Final Terms as the manner in which the Rate of Interest is to be determined.

If the Reference Rate from time to time in respect of Floating Rate Notes is specified in the applicable Final Terms as being other than LIBOR or EURIBOR, the Rate of Interest in respect of such Notes will be determined as provided in the applicable Final Terms.

- (6) Minimum and/or Maximum Rate of Interest
  - If the applicable Final Terms specifies a minimum Rate of Interest for any Interest Period, then, in the event that the Rate of Interest in respect of any such Interest Period determined in accordance with the above provisions is less than such minimum Rate of Interest, the Rate of Interest for such Interest Period shall be such minimum Rate of Interest. If the applicable Final Terms specifies a maximum Rate of Interest for any Interest Period, then, in the event that the Rate of Interest in respect of any such Interest Period determined in accordance with the above provisions is greater than such maximum Rate of Interest, the Rate of Interest for such Interest Period shall be the maximum Rate of Interest.
- (7) Business Day, Interest Determination Date and Relevant Screen Page
- (i) In this Condition, "Business Day" has the meaning given to it in Condition 5(c).
- (ii) In this Condition, "Interest Determination Date" has the meaning set out in the applicable Final Terms.
- (iii) In this Condition, "Relevant Screen Page" has the meaning set out in the applicable Final Terms.
- (8) Determination of Rate of Interest and Calculation of Interest Amount

  The Agent, in the case of Floating Rate Notes, the Calculation Agent specified in the applicable
  Final Terms, in the case of Index Linked Interest Notes, or other person specified in the
  applicable Final Terms will, as soon as practicable after 11.00 a.m. (London time) (or, if
  different, such other time as is customary in the principal financial centre of the country of the

Specified Currency) on each Interest Determination Date, determine the Rate of Interest and calculate the amount of interest payable in respect of each Specified Denomination (each an "Interest Amount") for the relevant Interest Period.

Each Interest Amount shall be calculated by applying the Rate of Interest to a Specified Denomination, multiplying such sum by the applicable Day Count Fraction (as defined in Condition 5(c)), and rounding the resultant figure to the nearest sub-unit of the relevant Specified Currency, half of any such sub-unit being rounded upwards or otherwise in accordance with applicable market convention.

The determination of the Rate of Interest and calculation of each Interest Amount by the Agent or other person specified in the applicable Final Terms shall (in the absence of manifest error) be final and binding upon all parties.

- (9) Notification of Rate of Interest and Interest Amount
  - The Agent will cause the Rate of Interest and the Interest Amount for each Interest Period and the relevant Interest Period End Date and, if different, the relevant Interest Payment Date to be notified to the Issuer, the Trustee and, in the case of Floating Rate Notes or Index Linked Interest Notes which are listed on a stock exchange, that stock exchange as soon as possible but in any event not later than the second Business Day after their determination and will cause notice of such information to be given to the holders of the Notes of this Series in accordance with Condition 16 not later than the fourth Business Day after their determination. Each Interest Amount, Interest Period End Date and Interest Payment Date so notified may subsequently be amended (or appropriate alternative arrangements made by way of adjustment) without notification as aforesaid in the event of an extension or shortening of the Interest Period. Any such amendment will be promptly notified to any stock exchange on which the Notes affected thereby are for the time being listed.
- (10) Determination or Calculation by Trustee

If for any reason the Agent, the Calculation Agent or other person specified in the applicable Final Terms does not at any time determine the Rate of Interest or calculate any Interest Amount as provided in this Condition, the Trustee shall determine the Rate of Interest at such rate as, in its absolute discretion (having such regard as it shall think fit to the foregoing provisions of this Condition 5 but subject always to any minimum or maximum Rate of Interest specified in the applicable Final Terms), it shall deem fair and reasonable in all the circumstances and/or, as the case may be, the Trustee shall calculate the Interest Amount in such manner as it shall deem fair and reasonable in all the circumstances and each such determination or calculation shall be deemed to have been made by the Agent, the Calculation Agent or other person specified in the applicable Final Terms.

- (11) Notifications, etc. to be final
  - All notifications, opinions, determinations, certificates, calculations, quotations and decisions given, expressed, made or obtained for the purposes of the provisions of this Condition by the Agent, the Calculation Agent or the Trustee will (in the absence of default, bad faith or manifest error by them or any of their directors, officers, employees or agents) be binding on the Issuer, the Guarantor (where the relevant Issuer is ASB Finance), the Trustee, the Agent, the Calculation Agent, the Paying Agents and all holders of the Notes of this Series and Coupons relating thereto and (in the absence of any default, bad faith or manifest error as referred to above) no liability to the Issuer, the Guarantor (where the relevant Issuer is ASB Finance) or the holders of the Notes of this Series and Coupons relating thereto shall attach to the Agent, the Calculation Agent or the Trustee in connection with the exercise or non-exercise by them of their powers, duties and discretions under this Condition.
- (c) Day Count Fraction and Business Day Convention
- (i) Day Count Fraction
  - "Day Count Fraction" means, unless otherwise specified in the applicable Final Terms:
- (1) if "Actual/365" or "Actual/Actual (ISDA)" is specified in the applicable Final Terms, the actual number of days in, for the purposes of Condition 5(a), the Interest Period or the Relevant Period, as the case may be, and, for the purposes of Condition 5(b), the Interest Period, in each case divided by 365 (or, if any portion of the relevant period falls in a leap year, the sum of (A) the actual number of days in that portion of the relevant period falling in a leap year divided by 366 and (B) the actual number of days in that portion of the relevant period falling in a non-leap year divided by 365);

- (2) if "Actual/365 (Fixed)" is specified in the applicable Final Terms, the actual number of days in, for the purposes of Condition 5(a), the Interest Period or the Relevant Period, as the case may be, and, for the purposes of Condition 5(b), the Interest Period, in each case divided by 365;
- if "Actual/365 (Sterling)" is specified in the applicable Final Terms, the actual number of days in, for the purposes of Condition 5(a), the Interest Period or the Relevant Period, as the case may be, and, for the purposes of Condition 5(b), the Interest Period, in each case divided by 365 or, in the case of the relevant period falling in a leap year, 366;
- (4) if "Actual/360" is specified in the applicable Final Terms, the actual number of days in, for the purposes of Condition 5(a), the Interest Period or the Relevant Period, as the case may be, and, for the purposes of Condition 5(b), the Interest Period, in each case divided by 360;
- if "30/360 (Floating)", "360/360" or "Bond Basis" is specified in the applicable Final Terms, the number of days in the Interest Period divided by 360 (the number of days to be calculated on the basis of a year of 360 days with 12 30-day months (unless (a) the last day of the Interest Period is the 31st day of a month but the first day of the Interest Period is a day other than the 30th or 31st day of a month, in which case the month that includes that last day shall not be considered to be shortened to a 30-day month, or (b) the last day of the Interest Period is the last day of the month of February, in which case the month of February shall not be considered to be lengthened to a 30-day month);
- if "30E/360" or "Eurobond Basis" is specified in the applicable Final Terms, the number of days in, for the purposes of Condition 5(a), the Interest Period or the Relevant Period, as the case may be, and, for the purposes of Condition 5(b), the Interest Period, in each case divided by 360 (the number of days to be calculated on the basis of a year of 360 days with 12 30-day months, without regard to the date of the first day or last day of the relevant period, unless, in the case of the final relevant period, the Maturity Date is the last day of the month of February, in which case the month of February shall not be considered to be lengthened to a 30-day month);
- (7) if "Actual/Actual (ICMA)" is specified in the applicable Final Terms:
  - (A) in the case of Notes where the number of days in the Interest Period or the Relevant Period, as the case may be, from (and including) the most recent Interest Period End Date (or, if none, the Interest Commencement Date) to (but excluding) the relevant payment date (the "Accrual Period") is equal to or shorter than the Determination Period during which the Accrual Period ends, the number of days in such Accrual Period divided by the product of (1) the number of days in such Determination Period and (2) the number of Determination Dates that would occur in one calendar year assuming interest was to be payable in respect of the whole of that year; or
  - (B) in the case of Notes where the Accrual Period is longer than the Determination Period during which the Accrual Period ends, the sum of:
    - (1) the number of days in such Accrual Period falling in the Determination Period in which the Accrual Period begins divided by the product of (x) the number of days in such Determination Period and (y) the number of Determination Dates that would occur in one calendar year assuming interest was to be payable in respect of the whole of that year; and
    - (2) the number of days in such Accrual Period falling in the next Determination Period divided by the product of (x) the number of days in such Determination Period and (y) the number of Determination Dates that would occur in one calendar year assuming interest was to be payable in respect of the whole of that year; and
- (8) if "30/360 (Fixed)" or "30/360, unadjusted" is specified in the applicable Final Terms, the number of days in the Interest Period or the Relevant Period, as the case may be, (such number of days being calculated on the basis of a year of 360 days with 12 30-day months) divided by 360.
  - "Determination Period" means the period from (and including) a Determination Date (as specified in the applicable Final Terms) to (but excluding) the next Determination Date (including, where either the Interest Commencement Date or the final Interest Period End Date is not a Determination Date, the period commencing on the first Determination Date prior to, and ending on the first Determination Date falling after, such date).

## (ii) Business Day Convention

If any Interest Period End Date (or other date) which is specified in the applicable Final Terms to be subject to adjustment in accordance with a Business Day Convention would otherwise fall on a day which is not a Business Day, then, if the Business Day Convention specified is:

- (1) in the case where a Specified Period is specified in accordance with Condition 5(b)(1)(B) above, the Floating Rate Convention, such Interest Period End Date (or other date) shall be postponed to the next day which is a Business Day unless it would thereby fall into the next calendar month, in which event (a) such Interest Period End Date (or other date) shall be brought forward to the immediately preceding Business Day and (b) after the foregoing paragraph (a) shall have applied, each subsequent Interest Period End Date (or other date) shall be the last Business Day of the last month which falls in the Interest Period after the preceding applicable Interest Period End Date occurred; or
- (2) the Following Business Day Convention, such Interest Period End Date (or other date) shall be postponed to the next day which is a Business Day; or
- (3) the Modified Following Business Day Convention, such Interest Period End Date (or other date) shall be postponed to the next day which is a Business Day unless it would thereby fall into the next calendar month, in which event such Interest Period End Date (or other date) shall be brought forward to the immediately preceding Business Day; or
- (4) the Preceding Business Day Convention, such Interest Period End Date (or other date) shall be brought forward to the immediately preceding Business Day.

#### In this Condition:

"Business Day" means (unless otherwise stated in the applicable Final Terms):

- (A) a day on which commercial banks and foreign exchange markets settle payments and are open for general business (including dealing in foreign exchange and foreign currency deposits) in London and, if any Additional Business Centre(s) is specified in the applicable Final Terms, in such Additional Business Centre(s); and
- (B) either (1) in relation to any sum payable in a Specified Currency other than euro, a day (other than a Saturday or Sunday) on which commercial banks and foreign exchange markets settle payments in the principal financial centre of the country of the relevant Specified Currency (if other than London) or (2) in relation to any sum payable in euro, a day on which the Trans-European Automated Real-Time Gross Settlement Express Transfer (TARGET) System ("TARGET") is open.
- (d) Zero Coupon Notes, Low Interest (discount) Notes and High Interest (premium) Notes

Where a Zero Coupon Note, Low Interest (discount) Note or High Interest (premium) Note becomes due and repayable prior to the Maturity Date and is not paid when due, the amount due and repayable shall be the Amortised Face Amount of such Note as determined in accordance with Condition 6(f). As from the Maturity Date any overdue principal of such Note shall bear interest at a rate per annum equal to the Amortisation Yield. Such interest shall continue to accrue (as well after as before any judgment) until whichever is the earlier of (A) the day on which all sums due in respect of such Note up to that day are received by or on behalf of the holder of such Note and (B) the day which is seven days after the date on which the Agent has notified the holder in accordance with Condition 16 that it has received all sums due in respect thereof up to that date. Unless otherwise specified in the applicable Final Terms, such interest will be calculated on the basis of a 360-day year consisting of 12 months of 30 days each and, in the case of an incomplete month, the actual number of days elapsed.

#### (e) Dual Currency Interest Notes

In the case of Dual Currency Interest Notes where the rate of interest falls to be determined by reference to the Rate of Exchange, the provisions for determining the rate of interest, accrual of interest, calculation of interest amounts, determination of interest payment dates and other relevant provisions shall be specified in the applicable Final Terms and payment shall be made in accordance with Condition 7.

#### (f) Partly-Paid Notes

In the case of Partly-Paid Notes (other than Partly-Paid Notes which are Zero Coupon Notes) interest will accrue on the paid up nominal amount of such Notes and otherwise as indicated in the applicable Final Terms.

### 6 Redemption and Purchase

## (a) Final Redemption

Unless previously redeemed or purchased and cancelled as provided below, each Note of this Series will be redeemed at its Final Redemption Amount in the relevant Specified Currency on the Maturity Date (as specified in the applicable Final Terms).

# (b) Redemption for Tax Reasons

The Notes of this Series may be redeemed, subject to the prior consent of APRA if the Notes of this Series are Subordinated Notes issued by CBA, at the option of the Issuer in whole, but not in part, at any time (in the case of Notes other than Floating Rate Notes, Index Linked Interest Notes and Dual Currency Interest Notes) or on any Interest Period End Date (in the case of Floating Rate Notes, Index Linked Interest Notes and Dual Currency Interest Notes), on giving not less than 30 nor more than 60 days' notice in accordance with Condition 16 (which notice shall be irrevocable), at the Early Redemption Amount provided in, or calculated in accordance with, paragraph (g) or (h) (as applicable) below, together with (if provided in such paragraphs) interest accrued up to, but excluding, the date fixed for redemption, if the Issuer or the Guarantor (where the relevant Issuer is ASB Finance) satisfies the Trustee immediately prior to the giving of such notice that (i) it has or will become obliged to pay additional amounts as provided or referred to in Condition 9 or the Guarantor (in the case of Notes issued by ASB Finance) would be unable for reasons outside its control to procure payment by ASB Finance and in making payment itself would be required to pay such additional amounts or (ii) (if the Issuer is ASB Finance) in order to reduce the applicable level of any New Zealand non-resident withholding tax (under current law or change of law) to zero, the Issuer becomes obliged to pay approved issuer levy at a rate exceeding the rate of the levy being charged at the date of issue of the Notes under section 86J of the Stamp and Cheque Duties Act 1971 of New Zealand or incurs any other cost in excess of that applicable under New Zealand law at the date of issue of the Notes, in each case as a result of any change in, or amendment to, the laws or regulations of the Commonwealth of Australia (if the Issuer is CBA) or New Zealand or the United Kingdom (if the Issuer is ASB Finance) or (in either case) a Taxing Jurisdiction (as defined in Condition 9) or any political subdivision or any authority thereof or therein having power to tax, or any change in the application or official interpretation of such laws or regulations (including the manner of exercising any official discretion thereunder), which change or amendment becomes known generally or to the Issuer or the Guarantor (where the relevant Issuer is ASB Finance) on or after the Issue Date (or, in the case of a second or subsequent Tranche of Notes of this Series, the Issue Date for the original Tranche) provided that no such notice of redemption shall be given in respect of the Notes of this Series earlier than 90 days prior to the earliest date on which the Issuer or the Guarantor (where the relevant Issuer is ASB Finance) would be obliged to pay such additional amounts and, for the purpose only of determining the earliest date on which such notice may be given, it shall be deemed that a payment, in respect of which the Issuer or the Guarantor (where the relevant Issuer is ASB Finance) would be obliged to pay such additional amounts, is due in respect of the Notes of this Series on the day on which any such change or amendment becomes effective.

### (c) Redemption at the Option of the Issuer (Issuer Call)

If Issuer Call is specified in the applicable Final Terms, the Issuer may, subject to the prior written consent of APRA if the Notes of this Series are Subordinated Notes issued by CBA, on any Optional Redemption Date specified in the applicable Final Terms at its option, on giving not less than five Business Days' notice or such other notice period specified in the applicable Final Terms to the holders of the Notes of this Series (which notice shall be irrevocable) in accordance with Condition 16, redeem all or from time to time some only of the Notes of this Series then outstanding on the relevant Optional Redemption Date and at the Optional Redemption Amount indicated in the applicable Final Terms together with (in the case of Fixed Rate Notes) interest accrued up to, but excluding, the relevant Optional Redemption Date. In the event of a redemption of some only of such Notes, such redemption must be for an amount being equal to the Minimum Redemption Amount or a Higher Redemption Amount (if any) specified in the applicable Final Terms. In the case of a partial redemption of Notes, Notes to be redeemed will be selected individually by lot in such place as the Trustee may approve and in such manner as the Trustee shall deem to be appropriate and fair (without involving any part only of a Bearer Note) not less than 40 days prior to the date fixed for redemption. In the case of a

partial redemption where some or all of the Notes are represented by a global Note held on behalf of Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg, such redemption with respect to those Notes will take place in accordance with the procedures of Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg from time to time. Each notice of redemption will specify the date fixed for redemption and, in the case of a partial redemption, the aggregate nominal amount, and, where some or all of the Notes are in definitive form, the serial numbers, of the Notes to be redeemed and, in each case, the aggregate nominal amount of the Notes of this Series which will be outstanding after the partial redemption. In addition, in the case of a partial redemption of a Series of Notes which includes Registered Notes, the Issuer will publish an additional notice of redemption not less than 80 nor more than 95 days before the date fixed for redemption which notice will specify the period during which exchanges or transfers of Notes may not be made as provided in Condition 2.

(d) Redemption at the Option of the Noteholders (Investor Put)

If Investor Put is specified in the applicable Final Terms, upon any Noteholder giving to the Issuer in accordance with Condition 16 not less than 30 nor more than 60 days' notice (the "notice period"), the Issuer will, upon the expiry of such notice redeem in whole (but not in part) the Notes the subject of the notice on the Optional Redemption Date and at the Optional Redemption Amount indicated in the applicable Final Terms together with (in the case of Fixed Rate Notes) interest accrued up to, but excluding, the Optional Redemption Date.

To exercise the right to require redemption of this Note the holder of this Note must, if this Note is in definitive form, and held outside Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg, deliver, at the specified office of any Paying Agent (in the case of Bearer Notes) or the Registrar (in the case of Registered Notes) on any business day (as defined in Condition 7(h)) falling within the notice period a duly signed and completed notice of exercise in the form (for the time being current) obtainable from any specified office of any Paying Agent or from the Registrar (a "Put Notice") and, in the case of a Put Notice in respect of Bearer Notes, in which the holder must specify a bank account outside Australia to which payment is to be made under this Condition. If this Note is in definitive form, the Put Notice must be accompanied by this Note or evidence satisfactory to the Paying Agent concerned that this Note will, following delivery of the Put Notice, be held to its order or under its control.

If this Note is represented by a Global Note or is in definitive form and held through Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg, to exercise the right to require redemption of this Note the holder of this Note must, within the notice period, give notice to the Agent of such exercise in accordance with the standard procedures of Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg (which may include notice being given on his instruction by Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg or any common depositary for them to the Agent by electronic means) in a form acceptable to Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg from time to time and, if this Note is represented by a Global Note, at the same time present or procure the presentation of the relevant Global Note to the Agent for notation accordingly.

A Put Notice or other notice given by a holder of any Note pursuant to this Condition 6(d), once delivered, shall be irrevocable and the Issuer shall redeem all Notes delivered therewith on the applicable redemption date.

#### (e) Final Terms

The applicable Final Terms indicates that either (1) this Note cannot be redeemed prior to its Maturity Date except as provided in paragraph (b) above or (2) that this Note will be redeemable at the option of the Issuer and/or the holder of this Note prior to such Maturity Date in accordance with the provisions of paragraphs (c) and/or (d) above an Optional Redemption Date and at an Optional Redemption Amount and in any Minimum Redemption Amount or Higher Redemption Amount indicated therein or (3) that this Note will be redeemable in instalments and the relevant Instalment Amounts and Instalment Dates.

- (f) Zero Coupon Notes, Low Interest (discount) Notes and High Interest (premium) Notes
- (1) The amount payable in respect of any Zero Coupon Note, Low Interest (discount) Note or High Interest (premium) Note upon redemption of such Note pursuant to paragraph (b), (c) or (d) above or upon its becoming due and repayable as provided in Condition 11 shall be the Amortised Face Amount (calculated as provided below) of such Note.
- (2) Subject to the provisions of sub-paragraph (3) below, the Amortised Face Amount of any Zero Coupon Note, Low Interest (discount) Note or High Interest (premium) Note shall be the sum of

- (A) the sum of (i) the Reference Price and (ii) the aggregate amortisation of the difference between the Reference Price and the nominal amount of the Note from, and including, the Issue Date to, but excluding, the date on which the Note is redeemed or becomes due and repayable as provided in Condition 11 at a rate per annum (expressed as a percentage) equal to the Amortisation Yield compounded annually and (B) interest (if any) accrued but unpaid to, but excluding, the date on which the Note is redeemed or becomes due and repayable as provided in Condition 11. Unless otherwise specified in the applicable Final Terms, where such calculation is to be made for a period other than a full year, it shall be made on the basis of a 360-day year consisting of 12 months of 30 days each and, in the case of an incomplete month, the actual number of days elapsed.
- (3)If the amount payable in respect of any Zero Coupon Note, Low Interest (discount) Note or High Interest (premium) Note upon redemption of such Note pursuant to paragraph (b), (c) or (d) above or upon its becoming due and repayable as provided in Condition 11 is not paid when due, the amount due and repayable in respect of such Note shall be the Amortised Face Amount of such Note calculated pursuant to sub-paragraph (2) above, except that such sub-paragraph shall have effect as though the reference therein to the date on which the Note becomes due and repayable was replaced by a reference to the date (the "Reference Date") which is the earlier of (A) the date on which all sums due in respect of the Note up to that day are received by or on behalf of the holder thereof and (B) the date on which the Agent has notified the holder in accordance with Condition 16 that it has received all sums due in respect thereof up to that date. The calculation of the Amortised Face Amount in accordance with this subparagraph will continue to be made, after as well as before judgment, until the Reference Date unless the Reference Date falls on or after the Maturity Date, in which case the amount due and repayable shall be the nominal amount of such Note together with any interest which may accrue in accordance with Condition 5(c).

# (g) Early Redemption Amounts

For the purposes of paragraph (b) above and Condition 11, unless otherwise indicated in the applicable Final Terms, Notes (other than Index Linked Redemption Notes and Dual Currency Redemption Notes) will be redeemed at their Early Redemption Amount, being (1) in the case of Fixed Rate Notes or Floating Rate Notes (other than Low Interest (discount) Notes and High Interest (premium) Notes) the Final Redemption Amount (2) in the case of Zero Coupon Notes, Low Interest (discount) Notes or High Interest (premium) Notes at the Amortised Face Amount of such Notes determined in accordance with paragraph (f) above, in each case in the relevant Specified Currency together with, in the case of Fixed Rate Notes redeemed pursuant to paragraph (b) above, interest accrued to, but excluding, the date fixed for redemption.

(h) Index Linked Redemption Notes and Dual Currency Redemption Notes In respect of an Index Linked Redemption Note or a Dual Currency Redemption Note where the amount payable in respect of principal upon redemption (the "Final Redemption Amount") falls to be determined by reference to the Index and/or the Formula or, as the case may be, the Rate of Exchange, the Final Redemption Amount shall be determined in accordance with the Index and/or the Formula or, as the case may be, the Rate of Exchange in the manner specified in the applicable Final Terms and each such Index Linked Redemption Note or Dual Currency Redemption Note shall, unless previously redeemed or purchased and cancelled as provided below, be redeemed at the applicable Final Redemption Amount together, where relevant, with interest accrued to, but excluding, the date fixed for redemption on the Maturity Date. In respect of an Index Linked Redemption Note or a Dual Currency Redemption Note where the amount payable on an early redemption (including an early redemption pursuant to Condition 11) in respect of principal only, principal and interest or interest only (the "Early Redemption Amount") falls to be determined in whole or in part by reference to the Index and/or the Formula or, as the case may be, the Rate of Exchange, the Early Redemption Amount shall be calculated in accordance with the applicable Final Terms and shall be paid together with, in the case of a Fixed Rate Note where the Early Redemption Amount is calculated in respect of principal only, interest accrued to, but excluding, the date fixed for redemption.

# (i) Purchase and Cancellation

The Issuer or the Guarantor (where the relevant Issuer is ASB Finance) may (subject as provided below and subject to the prior consent of APRA if the Notes of this Series are Subordinated Notes issued by CBA) at any time purchase Notes of this Series (provided that all unmatured Coupons appertaining to such Notes, if in definitive bearer form, are attached

thereto or surrendered therewith) in any manner and at any price. If purchases are made by tender, tenders must be made available to all holders of Notes of this Series alike.

All Notes of this Series together, in the case of definitive Notes in bearer form, with all unmatured Coupons appertaining thereto, purchased by or on behalf of the Issuer (other than those purchased in the ordinary course of the business of dealing in securities) will be cancelled forthwith.

# (j) Partly-Paid Notes

Partly-Paid Notes will be redeemed, whether at maturity, early redemption or otherwise, in accordance with the provisions of this Condition as modified by the provisions of the applicable Final Terms.

# (k) Instalments

Each Note which is redeemable in instalments will be redeemed in the Instalment Amounts and on the Instalment Dates, in the case of all instalments other than the final instalment by (in the case of Bearer Notes in definitive form) surrender of the relevant Receipt (which must be presented with the Note to which it appertains) or by (in the case of Notes represented by a global Note) presentation and endorsement of the global Note, and (in the case of the final instalment) by surrender of the relevant Note, all in accordance with Condition 7.

# 7 Payments and Exchange of Talons

- (a) Payments in respect of definitive Bearer Notes
- (1) Payments of principal and interest (if any) in respect of definitive Bearer Notes (if issued) will (subject as provided below) be made against surrender (or, in the case of part payment only, presentation and endorsement) of definitive Bearer Notes, Receipts or Coupons (which expression, in this Condition and Condition 10, shall not include Receipts or Talons), as the case may be, at any specified office of any Paying Agent outside Australia.
- (2) In the case of Bearer Notes in definitive form, payments of principal in respect of instalments (if any), other than the final instalment, will (subject as provided below) be made against surrender (or, in the case of part payment only, presentation and endorsement) of the relevant Receipt. Payment of the final instalment will be made against surrender (or, in the case of part payment only, presentation and endorsement) of the relevant definitive Bearer Note. Each Receipt must be presented for payment of such instalment together with the relevant definitive Bearer Note against which the amount will be payable in respect of that instalment. If any definitive Bearer Notes are redeemed or become repayable prior to the Maturity Date in respect thereof, principal will be payable on surrender of each such Note together with all unmatured Receipts appertaining thereto. Unmatured Receipts and Receipts presented without the definitive Bearer Notes to which they appertain do not constitute obligations of the Issuer.
- (3) All payments of principal and interest with respect to definitive Bearer Notes will be made outside Australia and (except as otherwise provided in paragraph (d) below) the United States. Payments in any currency other than euro in respect of definitive Bearer Notes will (subject as provided below) be made by transfer to an account (in the case of payment in Yen to a non-resident of Japan, a non-resident account) in the Specified Currency maintained by the payee with a bank in the principal financial centre of the country of the Specified Currency (or, if the Specified Currency is Australian dollars, in London or another place outside Australia) provided that if at any time such payments cannot (in the opinion of the Trustee) be so made, then payments will be made outside Australia in such other manner as the Issuer may, with the prior written approval of the Trustee, determine and notify in accordance with Condition 16. Payments in euro in respect of definitive Bearer Notes will be made by transfer to a euro account outside Australia (or any other account outside Australia to which euro may be transferred) specified by the payee.
- Payments in respect of definitive Registered Notes
  Payments of principal in respect of definitive Registered Notes will (subject as provided in this Condition) be made against presentation and surrender of such Registered Notes at the specified office outside Australia of the Registrar by a cheque in the Specified Currency drawn on a bank in the principal financial centre of the country of the Specified Currency. Payments of interest in respect of definitive Registered Notes will (subject as provided in this Condition) be made by a cheque in the Specified Currency drawn on a bank in the principal financial centre of the country of the Specified Currency and posted on the business day in the city in which the Registrar has its specified office immediately preceding the relevant due date to the holder (or

to the first named of joint holders) of the Registered Note appearing on the register at the close of business on the fifteenth day before the relevant due date (the "Record Date") at his address shown on the register on the Record Date. Upon application of the holder to the specified office of the Registrar not less than three business days in the city in which the Registrar has its specified office before the due date for any payment in respect of a Registered Note, the payment of principal and/or interest may be made (in the case of payment of principal against presentation and surrender of the relevant Registered Note as provided above) by transfer on the due date to an account in the Specified Currency maintained by the payee with a bank in the principal financial centre of the country of the Specified Currency subject to the provisions of the following two sentences. If the Specified Currency is Australian dollars, payment will be made (in the case of a transfer to a bank account) by transfer to an account in London or another place outside Australia and, if the Specified Currency is Yen, payment will be made (in the case of payment to a non-resident of Japan) by cheque drawn on, or by transfer to a non-resident account. If the Specified Currency is euro, payment will be made to a euro account outside Australia (or any other account outside Australia to which euro may be transferred), as the case may be, specified by the payee.

- (c) Payments in respect of global Notes
- (1) Payments of principal and interest (if any) in respect of Notes represented by any global Note will (subject as provided below) be made in the manner specified in the relevant global Note against presentation and endorsement or surrender, as the case may be, of such global Note at the specified office of any Paying Agent outside Australia. A record of each payment made on such global Note, distinguishing between any payment of principal and interest, will be made on such global Note by the Paying Agent to which such global Note is presented for the purpose of making such payment, and such record shall (save in the case of manifest error) be conclusive evidence that the payment in question has been made.
- The holder of a global Note shall be the only person entitled to receive payments in respect of Notes represented by such global Note and the Issuer or, as the case may be, the Guarantor (where the relevant Issuer is ASB Finance) will be discharged by payment to, or to the order of, the holder of such global Note in respect of each amount so paid. Each of the persons shown in the records of Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg as the holder of a particular nominal amount of Notes must look solely to Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg, as the case may be, for his share of each payment so made by the Issuer or, as the case may be, the Guarantor (where the relevant Issuer is ASB Finance) to, or to the order of, the holder of the relevant global Note. Subject to Condition 12 and the Trust Deed, no person other than the holder of a global Note shall have any claim against the Issuer or, as the case may be, the Guarantor (where the relevant Issuer is ASB Finance) in respect of any payments due on that global Note.
- (d) Payments of interest in U.S. dollars in respect of Bearer Notes

  Notwithstanding the foregoing, payments of interest in U.S. dollars in respect of Bearer Notes
  will only be made at the specified office of any Paying Agent in the United States (which
  expression, as used herein, means the United States of America (including the States and
  District of Columbia, its territories, its possessions and other areas subject to its jurisdiction))
  (1) if (A) the Issuer shall have appointed Paying Agents with specified offices outside the United
  States with the reasonable expectation that such Paying Agents would be able to make payment
  at such specified offices outside the United States of the full amount of interest on the Bearer
  Notes in the manner provided above when due, (B) payment of the full amount of such interest
  at all such specified offices outside the United States is illegal or effectively precluded by
  exchange controls or other similar restrictions and (C) such payment is then permitted under
  United States law and (2) at the option of the relevant holder if such payment is then
  permitted under United States law without involving, in the opinion of the Issuer, adverse tax
  consequences to the Issuer.
- (e) [This paragraph is no longer applicable]
- (f) Payments subject to applicable laws

  Payments in respect of the Notes will be subject in all cases to any fiscal or other laws and regulations applicable thereto but without prejudice to the provisions of Condition 9.
- (g) Unmatured Receipts, Coupons and Talons
- (1) Fixed Rate Notes in definitive bearer form (other than Long Maturity Notes (as defined in subparagraph (2)), Index Linked Notes and Dual Currency Notes) should be presented for

redemption together with all unmatured Coupons (which expression shall include Coupons falling to be issued on exchange of Talons which will have matured on or before the relevant redemption date) appertaining thereto, failing which, the amounts of any missing unmatured Coupons (or, in the case of payment of principal not being made in full, that proportion of the aggregate amount of such missing unmatured Coupons that the sum of principal so paid bears to the total principal amount due) will be deducted from the sum due for payment. Any amount of principal so deducted will be paid in the manner mentioned above against surrender of the relative missing Coupons at any time in the period expiring 10 years after the Relevant Date (as defined in Condition 9) for the payment of such principal, whether or not such Coupon would otherwise have become void pursuant to Condition 10 or, if later, five years from the due date for payment of such Coupon. Upon any Fixed Rate Note in definitive bearer form becoming due and repayable prior to its Maturity Date, all unmatured Receipts and Talons (if any) appertaining thereto will become void and no payments in respect of any such Receipts and no further Coupons in respect of any such Talons will be made or issued, as the case may be.

- (2) Upon the due date for redemption of any Floating Rate Note, Long Maturity Note, Dual Currency Note or Index Linked Note in definitive bearer form, any unmatured Receipts, Coupons or Talons relating to such Note (whether or not attached) shall become void and no payment or exchange, as the case may be, shall be made in respect of them. Where any such Note is presented for redemption without all unmatured Receipts, Coupons or Talons relating to it, redemption shall be made only against the provision of such indemnity as the Issuer may require. A Long Maturity Note is a Fixed Rate Note (other than a Fixed Rate Note which on issue had a Talon attached) whose nominal amount on issue is less than the aggregate interest payable thereon provided that such Note shall cease to be a Long Maturity Note on the Fixed Interest Date on which the aggregate amount of interest remaining to be paid after that date is less than the nominal amount of such Note.
- (h) Payments due on non-business days

If any date for payment of principal in respect of any Registered Note or any amount in respect of any Bearer Note, Receipt or Coupon is not a business day, then the holder thereof shall not be entitled to payment at the place of presentation of the amount due until the next following business day (unless otherwise specified in the applicable Final Terms) and shall not be entitled to any interest or other sum in respect of any such postponed payment. In addition if any date for the payment of interest by transfer to an account specified by the holder in respect of any Registered Note is not a business day, then the holder shall not be entitled to payment to such account until the next following business day and shall not be entitled to any interest or other sum in respect of any such postponed payment. In this Condition "business day" means, subject as provided in the applicable Final Terms:

- a day on which commercial banks and foreign exchange markets settle payments and are open for general business (including dealing in foreign exchange and foreign currency deposits) in:
  - (A) the relevant place of presentation;
  - (B) London; and
  - (C) any Additional Financial Centre specified in the applicable Final Terms; and
- (ii) either (1) in relation to any sum payable in a Specified Currency other than euro, a day on which commercial banks and foreign exchange markets settle payments and are open for general business (including dealing in foreign exchange and foreign currency deposits) in the principal financial centre of the country of the relevant Specified Currency (if other than the place of presentation, London and any Additional Financial Centre) or (2) in relation to any sum payable in euro, a day on which the TARGET System is open.
- (i) Payment of accrued interest

If the due date for redemption of any interest bearing Bearer Note in definitive form is not a due date for the payment of interest relating thereto, interest accrued in respect of such Note from, and including, the last preceding due date for the payment of interest (or, if none, from the Interest Commencement Date) will be paid only against surrender (or, in the case of part payment, presentation and endorsement) of such Note.

# (j) Exchange of Talons

On and after the Interest Payment Date on which the final Coupon comprised in any Coupon sheet matures, the Talon (if any) forming part of such Coupon sheet may be surrendered at the specified office of the Paying Agent in Luxembourg (or any other Paying Agent notified by the Issuer to the Noteholders in accordance with Condition 16 for the purposes of this paragraph) in exchange for a further Coupon sheet including (if such further Coupon sheet does not include Coupons to, and including, the final date for the payment of interest due in respect of the Bearer Note in definitive form to which it appertains) a further Talon, subject to the provisions of Condition 10. Each Talon shall, for the purposes of these Conditions, be deemed to mature on the Interest Payment Date on which the final Coupon comprised in the Coupon sheet in which that Talon was included on issue matures.

# (k) Initial Paying Agents

The names of the initial Agent and the other initial Paying Agents and their initial specified offices in respect of this Series of Notes are set out below. The Issuer may at any time, with the approval of the Trustee, vary or terminate the appointment of any Paying Agent and appoint additional or other Paying Agents, provided that it will, so long as any of the Notes of this Series is outstanding, maintain (i) an Agent, (ii) a Paying Agent (which may be the Agent) having a specified office in a leading financial centre in Europe approved by the Trustee, (iii) so long as any Notes of this Series are admitted to the Official List and to trading on the London Stock Exchange plc's market for listed securities or on another stock exchange, a Paying Agent (which may be the Agent) having a specified office in London or other place as may be required by that stock exchange and (iv) a Paying Agent in a Member State of the European Union that is not obliged to withhold or deduct tax pursuant to European Council Directive 2003/48/EC or any law implementing or complying with, or introduced in order to conform to, such Directive. In addition, the Issuer shall forthwith appoint a Paying Agent having a specified office in New York City in the circumstances described in paragraph (d) of this Condition. Any such variation, termination or change shall only take effect (other than in the case of insolvency, when it shall be of immediate effect) after not less than 30 days' prior notice thereof shall have been given to the holders of the Notes of this Series in accordance with Condition 16 and provided further that neither the resignation nor the removal of the Agent shall take effect, except in the case of insolvency as aforesaid, until a new Agent approved by the Trustee has been appointed. Notice of any change in or addition to the Paying Agents or their specified offices will be given by the Issuer promptly in accordance with Condition 16.

# 8 [This Condition is no longer applicable].

### 9 Taxation

All payments of, or in respect of, principal and interest on the Notes of this Series will be made without withholding or deduction for, or on account of, any present or future taxes, duties, assessments or governmental charges of whatever nature ("Taxes") imposed or levied by or on behalf of the Commonwealth of Australia (if the Issuer is CBA) or New Zealand or the United Kingdom (if the Issuer is ASB Finance) and (in either case) any Taxing Jurisdiction or any political sub-division thereof or any authority thereof or therein having power to tax unless such Taxes are required by law to be withheld or deducted. In that event, the Issuer or the Guarantor (where the relevant Issuer is ASB Finance) will pay such additional amounts of, or in respect of, principal and/or interest as will result (after deduction of the Taxes) in payment to the holders of the Notes of this Series and/or the Coupons relating thereto of the amounts which would otherwise have been payable in respect of the Notes of this Series or, as the case may be, Coupons relating thereto, except that no such additional amounts shall be payable with respect to any Note of this Series or Coupon relating thereto presented for payment:

- (a) by or on behalf of a holder who is subject to such Taxes in respect of such Note or Coupon by reason of his being connected with the Commonwealth of Australia (if the Issuer is CBA) or New Zealand or the United Kingdom (if the Issuer is ASB Finance) and (in either case) a Taxing Jurisdiction other than by reason only of the holding of the Note or Coupon;
- (b) if the Issuer is CBA, by or on behalf of a holder who is an associate (as that term is defined in section 128F of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1936 of Australia (the "Australian Tax Act")) of the Issuer and the payment being sought is not, or will not be, exempt from interest withholding tax because of section 128F(6) of the Australian Tax Act;

- (c) if the Issuer is ASB Finance, with respect to any withholding or deduction for or on account of New Zealand resident withholding tax;
- (d) if the Issuer is ASB Finance, by or on behalf of a holder if such withholding or deduction may be avoided (and has not been so avoided) by complying with any statutory requirement or by making a declaration of non-residence or other similar claim for exemption to any authority of or in New Zealand, unless such holder proves that he is not entitled so to comply or to make such declaration or claim;
- (e) more than 30 days after the Relevant Date, except to the extent that the holder thereof would have been entitled to such additional amount on presenting the same for payment on the last day of such period of 30 days;
- (f) where such withholding or deduction is imposed on a payment to an individual and is required to be made pursuant to European Council Directive 2003/48/EC or any law implementing or complying with, or introduced in order to conform to, such Directive; or
- (g) by or on behalf of a holder who would be able to avoid such withholding or deduction by presenting the relevant Note, Receipt or Coupon to another Paying Agent in a member state of the European Union which does not impose such withholding or deduction.

The "Relevant Date" in relation to any Note or Coupon of this Series means whichever is the later of:

- (i) the date on which payment in respect of such Note or Coupon first becomes due and payable; or
- (ii) if the full amount of the moneys payable in respect of such Note or Coupon has not been duly received by the Agent or the Trustee on or prior to such date, the date on which notice is duly given to the Noteholders of this Series in accordance with Condition 16 that such moneys have been so received.

The "Taxing Jurisdiction" in relation to any Note or Coupon of this Series means the jurisdiction, if any, named in the applicable Final Terms as being the jurisdiction wherein the Issuer's borrowing office is located for this Series of Notes if such borrowing office is not located in the Commonwealth of Australia (if the Issuer is CBA) or the United Kingdom (if the Issuer is ASB Finance).

References in these Conditions to principal and interest shall be deemed also to refer (as appropriate) (i) to any additional amounts which may be payable under this Condition 9 or under any obligation undertaken in addition hereto or in substitution herefor pursuant to the Trust Deed, (ii) in relation to Zero Coupon Notes, Low Interest (discount) Notes or High Interest (premium) Notes, to the Amortised Face Amount, (iii) in relation to Index Linked Redemption Notes, to the Final Redemption Amount or Early Redemption Amount, (iv) in relation to Dual Currency Notes, to the principal and interest in the relevant Specified Currency and (v) to any premium which may be payable in respect of the Notes.

If the Issuer is ASB Finance, where used in the remaining provisions of this Condition, "Interest" means interest (as defined under New Zealand taxation legislation) for withholding tax purposes, which under current legislation includes the excess of the redemption amount over the issue price of any Note as well as coupon interest paid on such Note.

# New Zealand Resident Withholding Tax

To the extent New Zealand law requires, ASB Finance and the Guarantor (where the relevant Issuer is ASB Finance) will deduct New Zealand resident withholding tax from the payment of Interest to the holder of any Note, on any Interest Payment Date or the Maturity Date, if:

- (a) the recipient is a resident of New Zealand for income tax purposes or such recipient carries on business in New Zealand through a fixed establishment (as defined for New Zealand income tax purposes) in New Zealand (a "New Zealand Holder"); and
- (b) at the time of such payment the New Zealand Holder does not hold a valid certificate of exemption for New Zealand resident withholding tax purposes.

Prior to any Interest Payment Date or the Maturity Date, any New Zealand Holder:

(a) must notify ASB Finance and the Guarantor (as the case may be) that the New Zealand Holder is the holder of a Note; and

(b) must notify ASB Finance and the Guarantor (as the case may be) or any Paying Agent of any circumstances, and provide ASB Finance and the Guarantor (as the case may be) or the relevant Paying Agent with any information, that may enable ASB Finance or the Guarantor (as the case may be) to make the payment of Interest to the New Zealand Holder without deduction on account of New Zealand resident withholding tax.

The New Zealand Holder must notify ASB Finance and the Guarantor (as the case may be) prior to any Interest Payment Date or the Maturity Date, of any change in the New Zealand Holder's circumstances from those previously notified that could affect the payment obligations of ASB Finance in respect of this Note or (as the case may be) the payment obligations of the Guarantor under guarantee of that Note. By accepting payment of the full face amount of a Note or any Interest thereon on any Interest Payment Date or the Maturity Date, the New Zealand Holder undertakes to indemnify ASB Finance and the Guarantor (as the case may be) for all purposes in respect of any liability ASB Finance and the Guarantor (as the case may be) may incur for not deducting any amount from such payment on account of New Zealand resident withholding tax.

Only a New Zealand Holder will be obliged to make the notification referred to above and no other holder will be required to make any certification that it is not a New Zealand Holder.

#### New Zealand Non-Resident Withholding Tax

To the extent that New Zealand law requires ASB Finance under the Notes or the Guarantor under the guarantee of Notes issued by ASB Finance to deduct New Zealand non-resident withholding tax from the payment of interest in respect of a Note, ASB Finance and the Guarantor may, and intends (for so long as the relevant party does not incur any increased cost or detriment from doing so) to reduce the applicable rate of non-resident withholding tax to zero per cent by registering the Notes with the New Zealand Inland Revenue Department and paying, on the relevant party's own account, an approved issuer levy (which is currently equal to 2 per cent. of the relevant interest payment). The approved issuer levy regime will not apply to payments to an "associate" (as defined under the Income Tax Act of New Zealand).

Where interest is paid in respect of a Note and the recipient:

- (a) is not a New Zealand Holder; and
- (b) derives such interest jointly with one or more persons, and one or more of those persons is a resident in New Zealand for income tax purposes,

the approved issuer levy regime will not apply to the non-New Zealand Holder and (subject to any applicable double tax treaty) the New Zealand non-resident withholding tax imposed will equate to the applicable rate of New Zealand resident withholding tax.

### 10 Prescription

Claims for payment of principal under the Notes (whether in bearer or registered form) shall be prescribed upon the expiry of 10 years, and claims for payment of interest (if any) in respect of the Notes (whether in bearer or registered form) shall be prescribed upon the expiry of five years, in each case from the Relevant Date (as defined in Condition 9) therefor subject to the provisions of Condition 7. There shall not be included in any Coupon sheet issued on exchange of a Talon any Coupon the claim for payment in respect of which would be void pursuant to this Condition or Condition 7.

# 11 Events of Default

(a) Unsubordinated Notes

If the Notes of this Series are Unsubordinated Notes, the Trustee at its discretion may, and if so requested in writing by Noteholders holding at least one-fifth in nominal amount of the Notes of this Series then outstanding or if so directed by an Extraordinary Resolution shall (subject to the Trustee having been indemnified or provided with security to its satisfaction), give notice to the Issuer or the Guarantor (where the relevant Issuer is ASB Finance) (but, in the case of any of the events mentioned in paragraphs (ii), (iii), (iv) and (v) below only if the Trustee shall first have certified in writing that such event is, in its opinion, materially prejudicial to the interests of such Noteholders) that the Notes of this Series are, and they shall immediately become, due and repayable at the amount provided in, or calculated in accordance with, Condition 6(g) or 6(h) (as applicable), together with accrued interest as provided in the Trust Deed, if any of the following events ("Events of Default") shall occur:

- (i) the Issuer and (where the relevant Issuer is ASB Finance) the Guarantor fails to pay the principal of the Notes of this Series when due or fails to pay any interest due thereon within 14 days of the due date; or
- (ii) the Issuer or the Guarantor (where the relevant Issuer is ASB Finance) defaults in performance or observance of or compliance with any of its other undertakings set out in the Notes of this Series or the Trust Deed which default is incapable of remedy or which, if capable of remedy, is not, in the opinion of the Trustee, remedied within 30 days after notice of such default shall have been given to the Issuer and the Guarantor (if the relevant Issuer is ASB Finance) by the Trustee; or
- (iii) (A) any other present or future indebtedness of the Issuer or the Guarantor (where the relevant Issuer is ASB Finance) for or in respect of moneys borrowed or raised (not being moneys borrowed or raised in the ordinary course of business) becomes due and payable prior to its stated maturity as a result of a default by the Issuer or the Guarantor (where the relevant Issuer is ASB Finance); or
  - (B) any such indebtedness is not paid when due or (as the case may be) within any applicable grace period therefor; or
  - (C) the Issuer or the Guarantor (where the relevant Issuer is ASB Finance) fails to pay when due or expressed to be due any amount payable or expressed to be payable by it under any present or future guarantee or indemnity for any moneys borrowed or raised (not being a guarantee or indemnity given in the ordinary course of business); or
  - (D) any mortgage, charge, pledge or other encumbrance, present or future, created or assumed by the Issuer or the Guarantor (where the relevant Issuer is ASB Finance) becomes enforceable and the holder thereof takes any steps to enforce the same; or
- (iv) the Issuer or the Guarantor (where the relevant Issuer is ASB Finance) becomes insolvent or its debts are not paid as they mature or the Issuer or the Guarantor (where the relevant Issuer is ASB Finance) applies for or consents to or suffers the appointment of a liquidator or receiver of the Issuer or the Guarantor (where the relevant Issuer is ASB Finance) or the whole or any part of the undertaking, property, assets or revenues of the Issuer or the Guarantor (where the relevant Issuer is ASB Finance) or takes any proceeding under any law for a readjustment or deferment of its obligations or any part thereof or makes or enters into a general assignment or an arrangement or composition with or for the benefit of its creditors; or
- (v) any law is passed the effect of which is to dissolve the Issuer or the Guarantor (where the relevant Issuer is ASB Finance) or the Issuer (where the relevant Issuer is CBA) or the Guarantor (where the relevant Issuer is ASB Finance) ceases to carry on a general banking business in the Commonwealth of Australia (if the Issuer is CBA) or New Zealand (if the Issuer is ASB Finance) or the Issuer (where the relevant Issuer is CBA) or the Guarantor (where the relevant Issuer is ASB Finance) ceases to be authorised to carry on a general banking business within the Commonwealth of Australia (if the Issuer is CBA) or New Zealand (if the Issuer is ASB Finance); or
- (vi) (where the relevant Issuer is ASB Finance) the Guarantee ceases to be, or is claimed by the Issuer or the Guarantor not to be, in full force and effect.
- (b) Subordinated Notes issued by CBA
- (i) If the Notes of this Series are Subordinated Notes issued by CBA and if default is made in the payment of any principal or interest due in respect of the Notes of this Series and such default continues for a period of 15 days the Trustee may, subject as provided below, at its discretion and without further notice, institute proceedings for the winding up of CBA in Australia (but not elsewhere) but may take no further action in respect of such default, provided that the Trustee shall not have the right to institute such proceedings if CBA withholds or refuses any such payment (A) in order to comply with any fiscal or other law or regulation (including without limitation the regulations issued by APRA) or with the order of any court of competent jurisdiction, in each case applicable to such payment, or (B) (subject as provided in the Trust Deed) in case of doubt as to the validity or applicability of any such law, regulation or order, in accordance with advice given as to such validity or applicability, at any time during the said period of 15 days, by independent legal advisers acceptable to the Trustee.
- (ii) If, otherwise than for the purposes of a reconstruction or amalgamation on terms previously approved in writing by the Trustee or by an Extraordinary Resolution of the holders of the Notes of this Series (A) an order is made or an effective resolution is passed for the winding up of CBA in Australia (but not elsewhere) or (B) any law is passed the effect of which is to

dissolve CBA or (C) CBA ceases to carry on a general banking business in the Commonwealth of Australia or (D) CBA ceases to be authorised to carry on a general banking business within the Commonwealth of Australia, then, in any such case, the Trustee may, subject as provided below, at its discretion, give notice to CBA that the Notes of this Series are, and they shall accordingly thereby forthwith become, immediately due and repayable at their principal amount, plus accrued interest as provided in the Trust Deed.

- (iii) Without prejudice to paragraphs (i) and (ii) above, the Trustee may, subject as provided below, at its discretion and without further notice, institute such proceedings against CBA as it may think fit to enforce any obligation, condition or provision binding on CBA under the Notes of this Series, the relative Coupons or the Trust Deed (other than any obligation for the payment of any principal or interest in respect of the Notes of this Series), provided that CBA shall not as a consequence of such proceedings be obliged to pay any sum or sums representing or measured by reference to principal or interest in respect of the Notes of this Series sooner than the same would otherwise have been payable by it or any damages.
- (iv) The Trustee shall be bound to take action as referred to in paragraphs (i), (ii) and/or (iii) above if it shall have been so requested in writing by holders of the Notes of this Series holding at least one-fifth in nominal amount of the Notes of this Series then outstanding or if so directed by an Extraordinary Resolution. The Trustee is not obliged to take action as referred to in paragraphs (i), (ii) and/or (iii) above unless it has been indemnified and/or secured to its satisfaction.
- (v) No holder of Notes shall be entitled to proceed directly against CBA pursuant to paragraph (iii) above unless the Trustee, having become bound so to proceed, fails to do so within a reasonable period and such failure is continuing. No such holder shall be entitled either to institute proceedings in Australia (or elsewhere) for the winding up of CBA or to submit a claim in such winding up, except that if the Trustee, having become bound to institute such proceedings as aforesaid, fails to do so, or, being able and bound to submit a claim in such winding up, fails to do so, in each case within a reasonable period and such failure is continuing, then any such holder may, on giving an indemnity satisfactory to the Trustee, in the name of the Trustee (but not otherwise), himself institute proceedings for the winding up of CBA in Australia (but not elsewhere) and/or submit a claim in such winding up to the same extent (but not further or otherwise) that the Trustee would have been entitled to do so.

### 12 Enforcement of Rights

If the Notes of this Series are Unsubordinated Notes, no holder of a Note or Coupon of this Series is entitled to proceed directly against the Issuer or the Guarantor (where the relevant Issuer is ASB Finance) unless the Trustee, having become bound so to proceed, fails to do so within a reasonable time and such failure is continuing.

# 13 Meetings of Noteholders; Modifications of Conditions; Substitution; Waiver

The Trust Deed contains provisions for convening meetings of holders of the Notes of this Series to consider any matters affecting their interests, including modifications of the terms and conditions of the Notes of this Series and the Trust Deed. Any such modification must be authorised by an Extraordinary Resolution which is defined in the Trust Deed to mean a resolution passed by a majority consisting of not less than three-quarters of the votes cast at a meeting of the holders of the Notes of this Series duly convened and held and, if the Notes of this Series are Subordinated Notes and issued by CBA, any such modification which affects the subordination or stated maturity of the Notes of this Series (being a modification of Condition 3, 6(b), 6(c), 6(d), 6(i) or 11) may only be made with the prior consent of APRA. The quorum at any such meeting for passing an Extraordinary Resolution will be one or more persons holding or representing a clear majority in nominal amount of the Notes of this Series for the time being outstanding or, at any adjourned meeting, one or more persons being or representing the holders of the Notes of this Series whatever the nominal amount of Notes of this Series so held or represented; provided that at any meeting the business of which includes the modification of certain terms, including any reduction or cancellation of, or modification of the method of calculating, the amount payable in respect of the Notes of this Series, any modification of, or of the method of calculating, the date of payment of principal or interest in respect of the Notes of this Series or any modification of the currency of payment of the Notes of this Series or the Coupons relating thereto, the quorum will be one or more persons holding or representing not less than two-thirds, or at any adjourned such meeting, not less than one-third, in nominal amount of Notes of this Series for the time being outstanding. A resolution duly passed at a meeting of holders of the Notes of this Series shall be binding on all the holders of the Notes of this Series (whether present at the meeting or not) and on all the holders of Coupons relating thereto.

The Trustee may agree without the consent of the holders of the Notes of this Series or the holders of Coupons relating thereto to any modifications to the terms and conditions of the Notes of this Series or the Coupons relating thereto or to the provisions of the Trust Deed which in its opinion are of a formal, minor or technical nature, are made to correct a manifest error or (not being such a modification as is mentioned in the proviso to the third sentence of the preceding paragraph) are not materially prejudicial to the interests of the holders of the Notes of this Series provided that, if the Notes of this Series are Subordinated Notes and issued by CBA, any such modification which affects the subordination or stated maturity of the Notes of this Series (being a modification of Condition 3, 6(b), 6(c), 6(d), 6(i) or 11) may only be agreed to by the Trustee if the prior consent of APRA has been obtained.

The Trustee may also agree without the consent of the holders of the Notes of this Series or the holders of the Coupons relating thereto to the substitution of any other corporation in place of the Issuer as principal debtor under the Trust Deed, the Notes of this Series and the Coupons relating thereto, or the Guarantor (where the relevant Issuer is ASB Finance) under the Trust Deed, subject as provided in the Trust Deed.

The Trustee may without the consent of the holders of the Notes of this Series or the holders of Coupons relating thereto authorise or waive any breach or proposed breach by the Issuer or the Guarantor of any of the provisions of the Trust Deed and/or the Notes of this Series or the Coupons relating thereto or determine that any act or omission which constitutes, or would or might on its own or together with any other act or omission constitute, an Event of Default which, in the opinion of the Trustee, is not materially prejudicial to the interests of the holders of the Notes of this Series shall, notwithstanding Condition 11, not be an Event of Default.

The Trustee shall, in connection with the exercise by it of any of the powers, trusts or discretions (including, without limitation, any modification, waiver, authorisation, determination or substitution) vested in it by the Trust Deed or these Conditions, have regard to the interests of the holders of the Notes of this Series or the holders of the Coupons relating thereto as a class and in particular, but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, shall not have regard to the consequences of the exercise of any of its powers, trusts or discretions for individual holders of the Notes of this Series or Coupons relating thereto, resulting from their being for any purpose domiciled or resident in, or otherwise connected with, or subject to the jurisdiction of, any particular territory and the Trustee shall not be entitled to require, nor shall any holder of a Note of this Series or any holder of a Coupon relating thereto be entitled to claim, from the Issuer or any other person, any indemnification or payment in respect of any tax consequence of any such exercise upon individual holders of the Notes of this Series or Coupons relating thereto except to the extent already provided for in Condition 9 and/or any undertaking given in addition to, or in substitution for, Condition 9 pursuant to the Trust Deed.

# 14 Indemnification of the Trustee

The Trust Deed contains provisions for the indemnification of the Trustee and for its relief from responsibility, including provisions relieving it from taking proceedings to enforce repayment unless indemnified to its satisfaction. The Trustee is entitled to enter into business transactions with the Issuer and/or any entity controlled by it without accounting for any profit resulting therefrom.

# 15 Replacement of Notes and Coupons

If any Note (including a global Note) or Coupon is mutilated, defaced, stolen, destroyed or lost, it may be replaced at the specified office of the Agent on payment by the claimant of such costs as may be incurred in connection therewith and on such terms as to evidence, indemnity and otherwise as the Issuer may reasonably require. Mutilated or defaced Notes or Coupons must be surrendered before replacement Notes or Coupons will be issued.

#### 16 Notices

- (a) All notices regarding Registered Notes of this Series (if any) will be valid if mailed to the holders (or the first named of joint holders) at their respective addresses in the register of holders and will be deemed to have been given on the fourth weekday after the date of mailing.
- (b) All notices regarding the Bearer Notes of this Series (if any) will be valid if published in one leading London daily newspaper (which is expected to be the Financial Times) or, if this is not practicable, one other English language daily newspaper approved by the Trustee with general circulation in Europe and shall, if published more than once, be deemed to be given on the date

of the first such publication. Holders of Coupons appertaining to Bearer Notes in definitive form of this Series will be deemed for all purposes to have notice of the contents of any notice given to the holders of the Bearer Notes of this Series in accordance with this paragraph (b).

- (c) Until such time as any definitive Notes are issued, there may, so long as all the global Notes for this Series are held in their entirety on behalf of Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg, be substituted, in relation only to this Series, for such publication as aforesaid the delivery of the relevant notice to Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg, as appropriate, for communication by it or them to the holders of the Notes of this Series. Any such notice shall be deemed to have been given to the holders of the Notes of this Series the day on which the said notice was given to Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg, as the case may be.
- (d) Notwithstanding paragraph (b) of this Condition 16, in any case where the identity and addresses of all the holders of Bearer Notes in definitive form is known to the Issuer, notices to such holders may be given individually by recorded delivery mail to such addresses and will be deemed to have been given when received at such addresses.
- (e) Notices to be given to the Issuer by any holder of Notes under Condition 6(d) shall be in writing and given by lodging the same, together with the relative definitive Note or Notes, with the Agent. Whilst any Notes are represented by a global Note held on behalf of Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg, such notices may be given by a holder of any Notes so represented to the Agent via Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg, as the case may be, in such manner as the Agent and Euroclear and/or Clearstream, Luxembourg may approve for this purpose.

# 17 Further Issues

The Issuer shall be at liberty from time to time without the consent of the holders of the Notes of this Series or the Coupons (if any) relating thereto to create and issue further Notes ranking pari passu in all respects (or in all respects save for the Issue Date or Interest Commencement Date, as the case may be, the Issue Price and the amount of the first payment of interest (if any) on such further Notes) and so that the same shall be consolidated and form a single series with the outstanding Notes of a particular Series (including the Notes of this Series). The Trust Deed contains provisions for convening a single meeting of the holders of the Notes of this Series and the holders of Notes of other Series in certain circumstances where the Trustee so decides.

### 18 Disapplication of Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999

No rights are conferred on any person under the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999 to enforce any term of any Note but this does not affect any right or remedy of any person which exists or is available apart from that Act.

#### 19 Governing Law

The Notes of this Series, the Coupons (if any) relating thereto and the Trust Deed are governed by, and will be construed in accordance with, English law and the Issuer and the Guarantor have, in the Trust Deed, submitted to the jurisdiction of the courts of England and (where the Issuer is CBA) to the courts of the Commonwealth of Australia or (in the case of the Guarantor and where the Issuer is ASB Finance) New Zealand for all purposes in connection with the Notes of this Series, any Coupons relating thereto and the Trust Deed and CBA has appointed the General Manager, Europe from time to time of CBA located at its London branch (currently at Senator House, 85 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4V 4HA) to receive service of process in any action which may be instituted in England based on any of such Notes or Coupons or the Trust Deed. Each of ASB Finance and the Guarantor agrees that the service of process in any action which may be instituted in England based on any of such Notes of Coupons or the Trust Deed may be served on it by being delivered to ASB Finance Limited, London Branch (currently at Senator House, 85 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4V 4HA).

# **Use of Proceeds**

The net proceeds from each issue of Notes will be applied by the relevant Issuer for its general corporate purposes (where the relevant Issuer is CBA) or on-lent to the Guarantor, to be applied by the Guarantor for its general corporate purposes (where the relevant Issuer is ASB Finance), which include making a profit. If, in respect of any particular issue, there is a particular identified use of proceeds, this will be stated in the applicable Final Terms.

# Commonwealth Bank of Australia

## **Summary Information**

Commonwealth Bank of Australia (the "Bank") is a public company with an ordinary share capital of A\$13,900 million. The Bank is governed by, and operates in accordance with the objects set out within, its Constitution, the Corporations Law of Australia, the Australian Stock Exchange Limited Listing Rules and certain provisions of the Commonwealth Banks Act 1959 as amended (the "1959 Act") (which constitute the corporate governance regime of Australia). The objects of Commonwealth Bank of Australia include providing integrated financial services including retail, business and institutional banking, superannuation, life insurance, general insurance, funds management, broking services and finance company activities. The Bank was incorporated on 17 April 1991 in the Australian Capital Territory and has Australian Business Number 48 123 123 124. Its headquarters are at Level 7, 48 Martin Place Sydney, NSW 2000, Australia, telephone number +61 2 9378 2000. The Bank and its subsidiaries together provide a wide range of banking, financial and related services in Australia.

At 30 June 2006, the Bank and its consolidated subsidiaries had total assets of A\$369,103 million, deposits and other public borrowings of A\$173,227 million and total regulatory capital of A\$20,916 million. Net profit after income tax, for the year ended 30 June 2006 was A\$3,928 million.

### **History and Recent Developments**

The origins of the Bank lie in the former Commonwealth Bank of Australia which was established in 1911 by an Australian Act of Parliament to conduct commercial and savings banking business.

Its functions were later expanded to encompass those of a central bank. Subsequent legislative amendment in 1959 created a separate Reserve Bank of Australia to take over the central bank functions.

In December 1990, the Commonwealth Banks Restructuring Act 1990 was passed, which provided for:

- the conversion of the Bank into a public company with a share capital, governed by its then Memorandum and Articles of Association but subject to certain overriding provisions of the 1959 Act this conversion occurred on 17 April 1991;
- Commonwealth Bank of Australia to become the successor in law of the State Bank of Victoria – this occurred on 1 January 1991; and
- the issue of shares in the Bank to the Australian public.

An offer of just under 30 per cent. of the issued shares in the Bank was made to members of the Australian public and staff of the Bank in July/August 1991, to strengthen the Bank's capital base following its acquisition of State Bank of Victoria and to provide a sound foundation for further development of the Bank's business. The offer closed on 14 August 1991 and was fully subscribed.

In October 1993, the Australian Government sold a portion of the Commonwealth of Australia's shareholding in the Bank, reducing its shareholding to 50.4 per cent. of the total number of issued voting shares.

In June/July 1996, the Australian Government made a public offer of its remaining 50.4 per cent. shareholding in the Bank. The offer was fully subscribed. In conjunction with this offer, the Bank, pursuant to a Buy-back Agreement between the Bank and the Commonwealth of Australia, agreed to buy back 100 million shares in the Bank from the Commonwealth of Australia. The public offer and buy-back were effected on 22 July 1996.

As part of its capital management programme, in December 1997 and March 1999 further buybacks of approximately 38.1 million and 27.3 million shares respectively were undertaken. The Bank also successfully completed an off-market share buy-back utilising a tender process in November 1999, buying back 2.2 per cent. of its ordinary shares for A\$553 million. In November 2000, an on-market buy-back programme resulted in the purchase of 0.8 million ordinary shares for A\$23.5 million and an off-market buy-back in March 2001 resulted in the purchase of 25.1 million ordinary shares for A\$700 million. A further off-market buyback in March 2004 resulted in the purchase of 19.4 million shares for \$532 million. This brings the total amount of capital the Bank has returned to shareholders since 1996 to A\$4.2 billion.

On 10 March 2000, the Bank and Colonial Limited ("Colonial") announced their intention to merge, with 7 Bank shares being offered for 20 Colonial shares. The merger received final approval from the Supreme Court of Victoria on 31 May 2000 and was completed on 13 June 2000.

On 22 August 2000, the Bank purchased the 25 per cent. minority interest in ASB Group in New Zealand for NZD560 million (A\$430 million). This gives the Bank a 100 per cent. interest in ASB Group.

The Bank became the successor in law to the State Bank of New South Wales (known as Colonial State Bank) and to all the assets and liabilities of State Bank of New South Wales effective on 4 June 2001 pursuant to legislation.

In relation to the Commonwealth of Australia's guarantee of the Bank's liabilities, transitional arrangements for the phasing out of that guarantee commenced on 19 July 1996.

Under these arrangements, section 117(1) of the 1959 Act provided for the Commonwealth of Australia to guarantee the due payment of the following amounts:

- (a) any amount that was payable by the Bank before the end of the day on 19 July 1999 in respect of a demand deposit made with the Bank;
- (b) any amount that is payable by the Bank at any time in respect of a term deposit made with the Bank before the end of the day on 19 July 1999; and
- (c) any amount that:
  - (i) is not in respect of a demand deposit or a term deposit; and
  - (ii) is payable by the Bank under a contract that was entered into, or any other instrument that was executed, issued, endorsed or accepted before 7.00 a.m. (Sydney time) on 19 July 1996 by the Bank.

Accordingly, Notes issued from the date of this Programme Circular are not guaranteed by the Commonwealth of Australia.

## Business

The Bank, with a full-time equivalent staff of more than 35,000, provides a wide range of banking, financial and related services through a network of over 1,000 branches and service centres and around 3,800 agencies throughout Australia and, internationally, through New Zealand, United Kingdom, United States of America, Japan, Singapore, Hong Kong, Grand Cayman, Philippines, Fiji, Indonesia, China and Vietnam. These services include general banking, finance company activities, life insurance and funds management.

The Bank is Australia's largest bank in terms of housing loans and retail deposits.

Based on consolidated global assets, the Bank is the second largest Australian bank.

Commonwealth Bank of Australia provides a wide range of banking, financial and related services, primarily in Australia and New Zealand. These services include personal, business and corporate banking, life insurance and funds management. On 13 June 2000 the Bank acquired 100 per cent. of Colonial Limited, significantly increasing its wealth management capabilities.

The Bank has four customer facing business units:

### **Retail Banking Services**

Retail Banking Services' role is to deliver customised service, focusing on meeting the financial needs of retail customers seeking accessible and affordable banking.

# **Premium Business Services**

Premium Business Services (PBS) looks after the financial needs of business customers from local community business through to institutional clients as well as high net worth individuals.

# Wealth Management

Wealth Management provides strategic and operational support for all distribution of investment and insurance products and is responsible for the management of all Commonwealth Bank property.

### **International Financial Services**

International Financial Services (IFS) is focused on developing offshore growth opportunities for the Bank in the Asia Pacific region. It incorporates offshore operations in New Zealand, China, India, Indonesia, Hong Kong, Vietnam and Fiji.

In addition, there are four support divisions. These are:

## Financial and Risk Management

Financial and Risk Management provides a range of professional services to business units as well as to external clients. These services include specialist advice, strategies, information and policies on financial, risk and capital management matters as well as comprehensive investor relations.

## **Technology Services**

Technology Services ("TS") provides Information Technology and Telecommunications ("IT&T") leadership across the Bank. The division facilitates the delivery of best practice IT&T services and strategic planning practices. TS also helps Business Units with the implementation of new project initiatives, while maintaining the optimisation of existing operations.

# **People Services**

People Services (previously Group Human Resources) supports each business unit through recruitment, employee relations, HR administration, remuneration benefits, occupational health and safety, project work and leadership development training.

### Office of the CEO

Office of the CEO brings together functions that support the Bank's Board, executive and businesses in four key areas – Group Strategic Development, Communication, Community and Reputation, Legal and Secretariat.

# **Summary of Accounts**

The following table sets out certain summary financial data relating to the Bank. This data has been extracted without material adjustment from the published consolidated financial statements of the Bank.

|  | As at/year ended 30 June |         |         |         |         |
|--|--------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
|  | 2006                     | 2005    | 2004    | 2003    | 2002    |
| Balance Sheet  | (in millions A\$)        |         |         |         |         |
| Total assets   | 369,103                  | 337,404 | 305,995 | 265,110 | 249,648 |
| Lending assets(1)  | 266,096                  | 235,862 | 204,410 | 173,544 | 159,591 |
| Deposits and other public borrowings<br>Shareholders' equity attributable to | 173,227                  | 168,026 | 163,177 | 140,974 | 132,800 |
| members of the chief entity  | 20,835                   | 20,854  | 22,405  | 20,024  | 19,030  |
| Profit and Loss Account  |                          |         |         |         |         |
| Net interest income  | 6,514                    | 6,026   | 5,410   | 5,026   | 4,710   |
| Other operating income   | 5,772                    | 5,252   | 5,081   | 4,373   | 4,358   |
| Other expenses(2), charge for bad and doubtful debts and superannuation      |                          |         |         |         |         |
| expenses   | 6,427                    | 6,266   | 6,849   | 6,178   | 5,973   |
| Operating profit before abnormal items Income tax on operating profit before | 5,859                    | 5,012   | 3,642   | 3,221   | 3,095   |
| abnormal items   | (1,900)                  | (1,602) | (1,262) | (958)   | (916)   |
| Operating profit after income tax  | 3,959                    | 3,410   | 2,380   | 2,263   | 2,179   |
| Outside equity interests   | (31)                     | (10)    | (9)     | (6)     | (1)     |
| Appraisal value uplift   |                          |         | 201     | (245)   | 477     |
| Net profit attributable to members of  |                          |         |         |         |         |
| the chief entity   | 3,928                    | 3,400   | 2,572   | 2,012   | 2,655   |

#### Notes:

## **Audit Committee**

The Audit Committee of CBA consists of C R Galbraith, W G Kent, F D Ryan (Chairman) and B K Ward.

The Charter of the Audit Committee incorporates a number of policies and practices to ensure that the Committee is independent and effective. Among these are:

- (a) The Audit Committee consists entirely of independent non-executive Directors, all of whom have familiarity with financial management and at least one has expertise in financial accounting and reporting. The Chairman of the Bank is not permitted to be the Chairman of the Audit Committee;
- (b) At least twice a year the Audit Committee meets the external auditors and the chief internal audit executive and also separately with the external Auditors independently of management;
- (c) The Audit Committee is responsible for nominating the external auditor to the Board for appointment by shareholders. The Audit Committee approves the terms of the contract with the external auditor, agrees the annual audit plan and approves payments to the Auditor;
- (d) The Audit Committee discusses and receives assurances from the external auditors on the quality of the Bank's systems, its accounting processes and its financial results. It also receives a report from the Auditors on any significant matters raised by the Auditors with management;

Includes loans, advances, lease financing and bills discounted (after deducting provisions for debts considered bad or doubtful). Includes bank acceptances.

<sup>(2)</sup> Includes amortisation of goodwill.

- (e) All material accounting matters requiring exercise of judgement by management are specifically reviewed by the Audit Committee and reported on by the Committee to the Board; and
- (f) Certified assurances are received by the Audit Committee and the Board that the Auditors meet the independence requirements as recommended by the Corporations Act and the Securities and Exchange Commission of the U.S.A..

In carrying out these functions, the Audit Committee:

- (i) Reviews the financial statements and reports of CBA;
- (ii) Reviews accounting policies to ensure compliance with current laws, relevant regulations and accounting standards;
- (iii) Conducts any investigations relating to financial matters, records, accounts and reports which it considers appropriate;
- (iv) Reviews all material matters requiring exercise of judgment by management and reports those matters to the Board of Directors of CBA;
- (v) The Audit Committee regularly considers, in the absence of management and the external auditor, the quality of the information received by the Audit Committee and, in considering the financial statements, discusses with management and the external auditor;
- (vi) The financial statements and their conformity with accounting standards, other mandatory reporting and statutory requirements; and
- (vii) The quality of the accounting policies applied and any other significant judgments made.

The external audit partner attends meetings of the Audit Committee by invitation and attends the meetings of the Board of Directors when the annual and half yearly accounts are approved and signed.

The Audit Committee, at least annually, meets separately with each of the chief internal audit executive and the external auditor, without management, as part of the process of ensuring independence of the audit functions.

The Audit Committee is responsible for oversight of management in the preparation of the Bank's financial statements and financial disclosures. The Audit Committee relies on the information provided by management and the external auditor. The Audit Committee does not have the duty to plan or conduct audits to determine whether CBA's financial statements and disclosures are complete and accurate.

# **Directors of Commonwealth Bank of Australia**

The Board of the Bank consists of ten directors including the Chairman, one executive director and eight other members with wide financial and commercial knowledge and experience No director has any actual or potential conflict of interest between his or her duties to Commonwealth Bank of Australia and his or her private interests or other duties. The business address of the directors of CBA is: Level 7, 48 Martin Place, Sydney NSW2000 Australia.

The members of the Board are:

### John M Schubert, Chairman

Dr Schubert has been a member of the Board since 1991 and Chairman since November 2004. He is Chairman of the Nominations Committee and a member of the Risk and People & Remuneration Committees. He holds a Bachelor's Degree and PhD in Chemical Engineering and has experience in the petroleum, mining and building materials industries. Dr Schubert is the former Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Pioneer International Limited and the former Chairman and Managing Director of Esso Australia Ltd.

Chairman: G2 Therapies Limited.

Director: BHP Billiton Limited, BHP Billiton plc, Qantas Airways Limited.

Other Interests: Academy of Technological Science (Fellow), Institute of Engineers (Fellow), and AGSM Advisory Board (Member).

Dr Schubert is a resident of New South Wales. Age 62.

### Ralph J Norris, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer

Mr Norris' appointment as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer was announced on 14 June 2005 with effect from 22 September 2005. Mr Norris has been Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director of Air New Zealand since February 2002 and has been a Director of that company since August 1998. He retired from the Board in August 2005 to take up his position with the Bank.

Prior to his appointment at Air New Zealand, Mr Norris had a 30 year career in banking. He was Chief Executive Officer of ASB Bank Limited from March 1991 until September 2001 and Head of International Financial Services from August 1999 until 2001.

In August 2005, Mr Norris retired from the Board of Fletcher Building Limited where he had been a Director since 2001.

Other Interests: Mr Norris was awarded a Distinguished Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to business in January 2006. He is a Fellow of the New Zealand Institute of Management and the New Zealand Computer Society. He is Chair of the Commonwealth Bank Foundation.

Mr Norris has become a resident of New South Wales. Age 56.

## Reg J Clairs, AO

Mr Clairs has been a member of the Board since March 1999 and is Chairman of the People & Remuneration Committee and a member of the Risk Committee. As the former Chief Executive Officer of Woolworths Limited, he had 33 years' experience in retailing, branding and customer service.

Director: David Jones Limited and The Cellnet Group. Deputy Chairman: National Australia Dav Council.

Other Interests: Institute of Company Directors (Member).

Mr Clairs is a resident of Queensland. Age 67.

# A B (Tony) Daniels, OAM

Mr Daniels has been a member of the Board since March 2000 and is a member of the People & Remuneration and Risk Committees. He has extensive experience in manufacturing and distribution, being Managing Director of Tubemakers of Australia for eight years to December

1995, during a long career with that company. He has also worked with government in superannuation, competition policy and export facilitation.

Director: Australian Gas Light Company and O'Connell St Associates.

Other Interests: Australian Institute of Company Directors (Fellow) and Australian Institute of Management (Fellow).

Mr Daniels is a resident of New South Wales. Age 70.

#### Colin R Galbraith, AM

Mr Galbraith has been a member of the Board since June 2000 and is a member of the Nominations, Audit and Risk Committees. He was previously a Director of Colonial Limited, appointed 1996. He is a partner of Allens Arthur Robinson, Lawyers.

Chairman: BHP Billiton Community Trust.

Director: GasNet Australia (Group) and OneSteel Limited.

Other Interests: Council of Legal Education in Victoria (Honorary Secretary), CARE Australia (Director) and Royal Melbourne Hospital Neuroscience Foundation (Trustee).

Mr Galbraith is a resident of Victoria. Age 57.

#### Carolyn Kay

Ms Kay has been a member of the Board since March 2003 and is a member of the People & Remuneration and Risk Committees. She holds Bachelor Degrees in Law and Arts and a Graduate Diploma in Management. She has extensive experience in international finance. She was a senior executive at Morgan Stanley in London and Melbourne for 10 years and prior to that she worked in international banking and finance both as a lawyer and banker in London, New York and Melbourne.

Director: Mayne Group Limited and Deputy Chair Victorian Funds Management Corporation. Other Interests: Australian Institute of Company Directors (Fellow).

Ms Kay is a resident of New South Wales. Age 43.

# Warwick G Kent, AO

Mr Kent has been a member of the Board since June 2000 and is a member of the Audit and Risk Committees. He was previously a Director of Colonial Limited, appointed 1998. He was Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Bank West until his retirement in 1997. Prior to joining BankWest, Mr Kent had a long and distinguished career with Westpac Banking Corporation.

Chairman: Coventry Group Limited and West Australian Newspapers Holdings Limited.

Director: Perpetual Trustees Australia Limited Group (retired 31 July 2005), and Hoyts Corporation Pty Ltd. Other Interests: Walter and Eliza Hall Trust (Trustee), Australian Institute of Company Directors (Fellow), Australian Society of CPAs (Fellow), Australian Institute of Bankers (Fellow) and the Chartered Institute of Company Secretaries (Fellow). Mr Kent is a resident of Western Australia. Age 69.

# Fergus D Ryan

Mr Ryan has been a member of the Board since March 2000 and is Chairman of the Audit Committee and a member of the Risk Committee. He has extensive experience in accounting, audit, finance and risk management. He was a senior partner of Arthur Andersen until his retirement in August 1999 after 33 years with that firm including five years as Managing Partner Australasia. Until November 2002, he was Strategic Investment Co-ordinator and Major Projects Facilitator for the Commonwealth Government.

Member: Prime Minister's Community Business Partnership and Council of the National Library of Australia.

Director: Australian Foundation Investment Company Limited and Clayton Utz.

Other Interests: Committee for Melbourne (Patron), Pacific Institute (Counsellor) and Special Committee for Mature Age Workers (Chairman).

Mr Ryan is a resident of Victoria. Age 62.

#### Frank J Swan

Mr Swan has been a member of the Board since July 1997 and is Chairman of the Risk Committee and a member of the Nominations Committee. He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree and has 23 years senior management experience in the food and beverage industries.

Chairman: Foster's Group Limited and Centacare Catholic Family Services. Director: National Foods Limited.

Other Interests: Institute of Directors (Fellow), Australian Institute of Company Directors (Fellow) and Australian Institute of Management (Fellow).

Mr Swan is a resident of Victoria. Age 64.

## Barbara K Ward

Ms Ward has been a member of the Board since 1994 and is a member of the Audit and Risk Committees. She holds a Bachelor of Economics and Master of Political Economy and has experience in policy development and public administration as a senior ministerial adviser and experience in the transport and aviation industries, most recently as Chief Executive of Ansett Worldwide Aviation Services.

Chairperson: Country Energy.

Director: Lion Nathan Limited, Record Investments Limited, Multiplex Limited and Multiplex Funds Management Limited.

Other Interests: Sydney Opera House Trust (Trustee), Australia Day Council of New South Wales (Member) and Australian Institute of Company Directors (Member).

Ms Ward is a resident of New South Wales. Age 51.

#### Jane Hemstritch

Mrs Hemstritch is Managing Director - Asia Pacific, Accenture Limited, having been appointed to that role in November 2004. She is a member of Accenture's global executive leadership team and oversees the management of Accenture's business portfolio in Asia Pacific. Mrs Hemstritch joined the company in 1982, became a partner in 1988 and has held several leadership roles within that organisation prior to being appointed to her current position. She holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Biochemistry and Physiology and has professional expertise in technology, communications, change management and accounting. She also has experience across the financial services, telecommunications, government, energy and manufacturing sectors and in business expansion in Asia.

Other Interests: Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia (Fellow), Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (Fellow), Business Council of Australia (member) and Chief Executive Women Inc. (member).

Mrs Hemstritch is a resident of Victoria and is aged 53.

# David J Turner, appointed 1 August 2006

Mr Turner is CEO of Brambles, having occupied that role since October 2003. He joined Brambles as Chief Financial Officer in August 2001 having previously been Finance Director of GKN plc. Mr Turner has also served as a member of the Board of Whitbread plc from December 2000 until March 2006. He is a Fellow of The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales and has wide experience in finance, international business and governance.

Director: Brambles Enterprises Limited, Brambles Finance Limited, Brambles Holdings (UK) Limited, Brambles Industries Limited, Brambles Industries plc, Brambles Limited, CHEP International Inc.

Mr Turner is a resident of New South Wales. Age 61.

# **ASB Finance Limited, London Branch**

ASB Finance Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary of ASB Bank Limited, incorporated with the objects and for the purpose of raising funds from offshore institutional debt markets to fund operations of ASB Bank Limited.

ASB Finance Limited was incorporated in New Zealand with limited liability on 18 October 1994 pursuant to the Companies Act 1993. ASB Finance is governed by, and operates in accordance with the objects set out within, its constitution, the Companies Act 1993 and the Financial Reporting Act 1993 (which constitute the corporate governance regime of New Zealand applicable to ASB Finance Limited).

During the period January 2000 to August 2004, ASB Finance Limited operated a branch in Sydney, Australia. The Sydney branch has now ceased operations. ASB Finance Limited has not traded in the period following the closing of the Sydney based branch until the recent establishment of the ASB Finance Limited, London Branch in July 2006. The primary activities of ASB Finance Limited, London Branch is to raise funds from offshore institutional debt markets under approved debt issuance programmes and on-lend those funds to ASB Bank Limited.

ASB Finance Limited does not have an Audit Committee.

# **Directors of ASB Finance Limited, London Branch**

## KD (Kerry) Francis

Mr Francis joined the ASB Group in 1986. He has over 25 years experience in Banking and Merchant Banking and his role as Head of Treasury and Financial Markets encompasses responsibility for ASB Bank's Treasury, Financial Markets, Trade and International.

## S B (Stewart) McRobie

Mr McRobie joined the ASB Group in 2006. He has 25 years experience in the Financial Services Industry and his role of Head of Group Finance and Rick Management encompasses responsibility for Finance, Taxation, Risk Management and Audit, Property, Credit Policy and Reporting, Basel II and Procurement across all ASB Group companies.

#### **Alternate Director**

# L A (Linley) Wood

Ms Wood joined the ASB Group in 1988. With over 20 years experience in corporate and taxation law across a range of industries, she is currently the Head of Corporate Affairs, with responsibility for Legal and Secretariat Services, Corporate Communications and Strategy and Planning across all ASB Group companies.

The business address for the directors of ASB Finance is: Level 9, ASB Bank Centre, 135 Albert Street, PO Box 35, Auckland, New Zealand. No director has any actual of potential conflict of interest between his or her duties to ASB Finance Limited, London Branch and his or her private interests or other duties.

# **ASB Bank Limited**

#### **Summary Information**

ASB Bank Limited ("ASB") is the parent company of a group comprising itself and a number of special purpose subsidiaries.

ASB was re-registered pursuant to the Companies Re-registration Act 1993 on 30 June 1995 with the company number AK398445. ASB is governed by, and operates in accordance with the objects set out within, its constitution, the Companies Act 1993, the Reserve Bank of New Zealand Act 1989 and the Financial Reporting Act 1993 (which constitute the corporate governance regime of New Zealand applicable to ASB).

ASB's registered office is at Level 9, ASB Bank Centre, 135 Albert Street, Auckland, New Zealand, telephone number +64 9377 8930.

ASB is a full service, nationally operating bank. ASB is a wholly owned subsidiary of ASB Holdings Limited which in turn is 100% owned by the Commonwealth Bank of Australia.

ASB is New Zealand's fourth largest bank based on total assets and, according to the AC Nielsen Consumer Finance Monitor, the most significant retail bank in the Auckland and Northland areas, which account for an estimated one third of the country's population. The same survey rated ASB as New Zealand's most favourite and recommended bank of all major banks by participants.

ASB's Board of Directors and management operate autonomously from the Board of Directors and management of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia.

As at 30 June 2006, ASB had total assets of NZ\$44,568 million (including total advances of NZ\$39,034 million) and total deposits of NZ\$41,066 million. Net profit after tax for the twelve months to 30 June 2006 was NZ\$440 million.

ASB's risk-weighted capital ratio as at 30 June 2006 was 10.60 per cent, against a Reserve Bank of New Zealand requirement of 8 per cent.

Unless otherwise stated, the financial information contained in this section has been extracted without material adjustment from the audited published consolidated financial statements of ASB.

# **History and Recent Developments**

The Auckland Savings Bank was founded in June 1847.

Following deregulation of the banking industry in late 1986, it became a full-service bank offering personal, corporate and business banking services and treasury operations, and changed its name to ASB Bank in August 1987. As a result of the Trustee Banks Restructuring Act 1988, ASB Bank Limited was incorporated on 16 August 1988 in New Zealand.

The Commonwealth Bank of Australia acquired a 75 per cent. shareholding in February 1989, with the ASB Bank Community Trust retaining a 25 per cent. shareholding.

In 1992 ASB commenced its national expansion programme by moving outside its traditional Auckland and Northland areas of operation.

On 30 March 1999, the direct shareholding of ASB Bank Limited changed from Commonwealth Investments New Zealand Limited (75 per cent.) and ASB Bank Community Trust (25 per cent.) to being a wholly owned subsidiary of ASB Group Limited; ASB Group Limited then being owned by the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (75 per cent.) and the ASB Bank Community Trust (25 per cent.).

On 3 October 2000, the Commonwealth Bank of Australia purchased the remaining 25 per cent of ASB Group Limited from the ASB Bank Community Trust.

Effective 1 July 2001, Commonwealth Bank of Australia restructured their New Zealand operations and moved the ultimate New Zealand ownership of ASB Bank Limited to ASB Holdings Limited. Commonwealth Bank of Australia owns 100 per cent. of ASB Holdings Limited, who in turn owns 100 per cent. of ASB Bank Limited.

#### **Business Overview**

ASB is a full service, nationally operating bank and financial services company. It provides a seamless, total service that covers a comprehensive range of financial options that can be tailored to the needs of 1,080,000 international, corporate, business, rural and personal customers.

#### Personal Banking

ASB is New Zealand's pre-eminent personal bank, and a recognised leader in customer service through the practical application of leading edge technology and community support. ASB has been at the forefront of introducing advanced interactive electronic banking and self service, and has amongst the widest penetration of Internet and mobile phone banking of any bank in Australasia.

Long recognised for their strength in the home loan market, ASB increased its residential mortgage lending by 16% to NZ\$29.2 billion during the financial year ended June 2006.

### **Direct Banking**

BankDirect is the ASB's 'virtual bank brand' with a strong focus on the direct home lending market. Customer interaction with BankDirect is undertaken through the Internet, self service or telephone.

### **Business and Rural Banking**

ASB is a credible supplier of financial services to businesses and farmers, and its strong capabilities make it the preferred financial partner for many leading businesses. Its point of difference is offering innovative, flexible solutions and delivering its services through the use of advanced, online technology.

# International and Institutional Banking

ASB specialises in those international and institutional services in which it can make a significant contribution, especially those where advanced technologies offer customer benefits. Treasury and electronic transactional processing are two areas where ASB offers cost effective, innovative solutions.

#### **Investment Services**

Through ASB Group Investments Limited, customers can invest in a range of international and domestic managed funds and retirement savings options, and access an investment advisory service.

#### **Insurance Services**

Customers' insurance needs are met through a range of life, borrowers' protection, health, and fire and general insurance offerings, available direct or through ASB's insurance advisory service.

## **Share Trading**

ASB Securities Limited is full service share broking operation and a member of the New Zealand Exchange (NZX). Customers can choose the type of service that best suit their needs, including advisory service, online share trading and discount trading.

### **Trade Finance**

ASB provides importers and exporters with a range of specialist trade finance services.

#### Service Excellence

Service excellence remains central to ASB's success. In 2004, the International Banker magazine rated ASB as New Zealand's "Bank of the Year" for the third consecutive year. Award criteria included growth, service leadership and providing value to customers.

### **Audit Committee**

ASB has an Audit Committee comprising the following 5 members; J Syme (Chair), R Boven, JP Hartley, G L Mackrell and MP Quin.

The Audit Committee assists the Board in fulfilling its statutory and fiduciary responsibilities relating to the external reporting of financial information, the internal control and the independence and effectiveness of audit.

# The Audit Committee:

- independently reviews the financial information prepared by management;
- reviews accounting policies to ensure compliance with current laws, relevant regulations and accounting standards;
- considers with management and the external auditor, significant financial reporting issues and judgments made in connection with the preparation of the financial systems;
- reviews assurances on the effectiveness of the internal control systems; and
- oversees the nomination and removal of the external auditor oversee and appraises the independence effectiveness and scope of work of the internal and external auditors.

# **Summary of Accounts**

The following table sets out certain consolidated summary financial data relating to ASB Group. This data has been extracted from the published consolidated financial statements of ASB.

(Unless otherwise specified, amounts are in NZ\$)

|   | As at/year ended 30 June |        |         |         |         |  |
|---|--------------------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|--|
|   | 2006                     | 2005   | 2004    | 2003    | 2002    |  |
|   | (NZ\$ millions)          |        |         |         |         |  |
| Statement of financial position           |                          |        |         |         |         |  |
| Total assets                              | 44,568                   | 38,796 | 33,048  | 27,538  | 24,250  |  |
| Advances (1)                              | 39,034                   | 34,978 | 28,789  | 22,297  | 19,032  |  |
| Deposits (2)                              | 41,066                   | 36,050 | 30,832  | 25,621  | 22,680  |  |
| Shareholders' funds                       |                          |        |         |         |         |  |
| Shareholders' Equity at end of year       | 2,689                    | 2,269  | 1,595.5 | 1,309.9 | 1,032.8 |  |
| Statement of financial performance        |                          |        |         |         |         |  |
| Net interest income                       | 804                      | 776    | 687.6   | 616.9   | 508.4   |  |
| Other operating income                    | 344                      | 268    | 249.2   | 233.9   | 215.3   |  |
| Other expenses and charge for             |                          |        |         |         |         |  |
| bad and doubtful debts                    | 514                      | 486    | 467.2   | 432.0   | 389.0   |  |
| Net profit before taxation                | 634                      | 558    | 469.6   | 418.8   | 334.7   |  |
| Taxation                                  | 194                      | 179    | 152.8   | 140.8   | 110.0   |  |
| Net profit after taxation attributable to |                          |        |         |         |         |  |
| members of the ASB Group                  | 440                      | 379    | 316.8   | 278.0   | 224.7   |  |

### Notes:

<sup>(1)</sup> Includes loans, advances and other receivables (after deducting specific provision for bad and doubtful debts).

<sup>(2)</sup> Includes due to other banks, certificates of deposit, retail term deposits and other deposits bearing interest and deposits not bearing interest.

# **Contingent Liabilities**

ASB and its controlled entities are involved in a range of transactions that give rise to contingent and/or future liabilities. These transactions meet the financing requirements of clients and include endorsed bills of exchange, letters of credit, guarantees and commitments to provide credit.

These transactions combine varying levels of credit, interest rate, foreign exchange and liquidity risk. In accordance with ASB's policy, exposure to any of these transactions is not carried at a level which would have a material effect on the financial condition of ASB and its controlled entities.

Information on credit risk related contingent liabilities, excluding derivatives, set out below, has been extracted from the financial statements.

As at 30 June 2006 (NZ\$ millions)

|                              |            | Credit     |  |
|------------------------------|------------|------------|--|
|                              | Face Value | Equivalent |  |
| Guarantees                   | 35         | 33         |  |
| Standby Letters of Credit    | 85         | 85         |  |
| Other Credit Facilities      | 51         | 20         |  |
| Other Contingent Liabilities | 176        | 140        |  |

## **Directors of ASB Bank Limited**

The Board of ASB Bank consists of eight directors – the Chairman, the Deputy Chairman, one executive director and five other members. The members of the Board are:

## G.J. (Gary) Judd Q.C., LL.B. (Hons), F. Inst.D. Chairman

A practising barrister, Mr Judd has been associated with ASB Bank as a trustee and director since 1985. He became Chairman in 1988 when the Bank was owned by the ASB Bank Community Trust, and was reconfirmed in this position when the Commonwealth Bank Group obtained a controlling interest.

## G.H. (Hugh) Burrett Managing Director

Appointed as Managing Director in October 2001, Mr Burrett has more than 30 years' banking experience and has held a variety of executive roles within ASB Bank. He has overseen the expansion of ASB Bank's branch network nationally, the extension of its services into business and rural banking, and has focused on achieving an award winning level of customer service.

## J.M.R. (Jim) Syme B.Com, F.A.C.A., C.M.A. Deputy Chairman

A leading figure in the New Zealand financial industry, Mr Syme has over 30 years' experience in retail, commercial and merchant banking. He is a director of Metro Water Limited and Kiwi Income Properties Limited and the chairman of Software of Excellence International Limited, Waste Management NZ Limited and Abano Healthcare Group Limited.

## R. (Rick) Boven B.A. (Hons), M.A., M.B.A.

Dr Boven is a strategist, working mainly in the fields of business and environment management. He was previously a partner of The Boston Consulting Group and has been a member of the ASB Bank Board since 1994.

## L.G. (Les) Cupper B.Econ. (Hons), M.Econ., Dip.Ed.

Mr Cupper, who has over 30 years' experience in education, mining, manufacturing and banking, was appointed a director of ASB Bank in February 1998. Currently he is Group Executive, Group Human Resources at the Commonwealth Bank and an Executive Committee member of Commonwealth Bank.

## G.L. (Garry) Mackrell B.Sc., B.Econ. (Hons), M.Com.

Mr Mackrell was appointed to the ASB Bank board in December 2001. He has held several executive positions at Commonwealth Bank and is currently the Group Executive of International Financial Services (IFS) and an Executive Committee member. The ASB group of companies is part of IFS.

## S.I. (Stuart) Grimshaw B.C.A., M.B.A.

Mr Grimshaw was appointed to the ASB Bank board in April 2003. He has over 20 years' experience in the banking and finance industry and is currently Group Executive, Investment & Insurance Services at the Commonwealth Bank.

## J.P. (Jon) Hartley BA (Hons), FCA, ACA, FAICD

Mr Hartley joined the Board in June 2004. He is a qualified accountant with extensive business experience across a wide range of industries in several countries. Mr Hartley has been the Chief Executive Officer or Chief Financial Officer of a number of companies including senior roles with Brierley Investments Limited in New Zealand and the Lend Lease Group in Australia. He is currently a Director of VisionFund Cambodia Limited and a Director of Bluestone Group Pty Limited and an advisory board member for several organisations.

## D.M. (Don) Elder BE (Hons), D Phil

Dr Elder joined the Board in September 2005. He is currently Chief Executive of Solid Energy NZ Ltd and previously spent 20 years working in the United Kingdom, United States, Canada and New Zealand. Dr Elder has been a director of numerous companies and organisations and has served on Ministerial advisory committees in Canada and New Zealand. He is currently a director of Orion New Zealand Ltd.

## M.P.L. (Mary) Quin B.Sc. (Hons), M.B.A., Ph.D

Dr Quin runs a consulting firm in Anchorage, Alaska, specialising in the provision of management and governance services to business, government and non-profit organisations. She has over 25 years experience in strategy and general management with Fortune 500 and start-up companies in the United States, with a strong background in compliance and governance. Dr Quin was born in Palmerston North and has dual New Zealand and United States citizenship. She has served on the board and audit committee of a NYSE-listed company and as Chair of the board of international aid organisation CEPDA.

The business address of the Directors of ASB Bank is Level 9, ASB Bank Centre, 135 Albert Street, Auckland, New Zealand.

Although certain Directors of ASB are also executives of CBA, ASB's constitution requires all Directors to act in the best interests of ASB, accordingly, no Director has any actual or potential conflict of interest between his or her duties to ASB and his or her private interests or other duties.

## **Subscription and Sale**

The Dealers have in an Amended and Restated Programme Agreement dated 13 October 2006, (the "Programme Agreement") agreed with the Issuers a basis upon which they or any of them may from time to time agree to purchase Notes. Any such agreement for any particular purchase will extend to those matters stated under "Form of the Notes" and "Conditions of the Notes" above. In the Programme Agreement the Issuers have agreed to reimburse the Dealers for certain of their expenses. The Dealers are entitled to be released and discharged from their obligations in relation to any agreement to issue and purchase Notes under the Programme Agreement in certain circumstances prior to payment to the relevant Issuer.

The selling restrictions agreed between the Issuers and the Dealers are set out in a Schedule of Selling Restrictions dated 13 October 2006 and are summarised below. The restrictions may be amended from time to time by agreement between the Issuers and the Dealers. In addition, the applicable Final Terms may specify further selling restrictions agreed between the relevant Issuer and the relevant Dealer in relation to any Tranche of Notes. The selling restrictions are as follows:

## **United States of America**

The Notes have not been and will not be registered under the U.S. Securities Act of 1933 (the "Securities Act") and may not be offered or sold within the United States or to, or for the account or benefit of, U.S. persons except in certain transactions exempt from the registration requirements of the Securities Act. Terms used in this paragraph have the meanings given to them by Regulation S under the Securities Act.

The Bearer Notes are subject to U.S. tax law requirements and may not be offered, sold or delivered within the United States or its possessions or to a United States person, except in certain transactions permitted by U.S. tax regulations. Terms used in this paragraph have the meanings given to them by the U.S. Internal Revenue Code and regulations thereunder.

Each Dealer has represented and agreed, and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to represent and agree, that it will not offer, sell or deliver Notes (i) as part of their distribution at any time or (ii) otherwise until 40 days after the completion of the distribution, as determined and certified by the relevant Dealer or, in the case of an issue of Notes on a syndicated basis, the relevant lead manager, of all Notes of the Tranche of which such Notes are a part, within the United States or to, or for the account or benefit of, U.S. persons. Each Dealer has further agreed, and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to agree, that it will send to each dealer to which it sells any Notes during the distribution compliance period a confirmation or other notice setting forth the restrictions on offers and sales of the Notes within the United States or to, or for the account or benefit of, U.S. persons. Terms used in this paragraph have the meanings given to them by Regulation S under the Securities Act.

In addition, until 40 days after the commencement of the offering, an offer or sale of Notes within the United States by a dealer (whether or not participating in the offering) may violate the registration requirements of the Securities Act.

Each issuance of Index Linked Notes or Dual Currency Notes will be subject to such additional U.S. selling restrictions as the relevant Issuer and the relevant Dealers may agree, as indicated in the applicable Final Terms. Each Dealer has agreed that it will offer, sell and deliver such Notes only in compliance with such additional U.S. selling restrictions.

#### European Economic Area

In relation to each Member State of the European Economic Area which has implemented the Prospectus Directive (each, a "Relevant Member State"), each Dealer has represented and agreed that with effect from and including the date on which the Prospectus Directive is implemented in that Relevant Member State (the "Relevant Implementation Date") is has not made and will not make an offer of Notes to the public in that Relevant Member State, except that it may, with effect from and including the Relevant Implementation Date, made an offer of Notes to the public in that Relevant Member State:

(A) in (or in Germany, where the offer starts within) the period beginning on the date of publication of a prospectus in relation to those Notes which has been approved by the competent authority

in that Relevant Member State or, where appropriate, approved in another Relevant Member State and notified to the competent authority in that Relevant Member State, all in accordance with the Prospectus Directive and ending on the date which is 12 months after the date of such publication;

- (B) at any time to legal entities which are authorised or regulated to operate in the financial markets or, if not so authorised or regulated, whose corporate purpose is solely to invest in securities:
- (C) at any time to any legal entity which has two or more of (1) an average of at least 250 employees during the last financial year; (2) a total balance sheet of more than €43,000,000 and (3) an annual net turnover of more than €50,000,000, as shown in its last annual or consolidated accounts; or
- (D) at any time in any other circumstances which do not require the publication by the relevant Issuer of a prospectus pursuant to Article 3 of the Prospectus Directive.

For the purposes of this provision, the expression an "offer of Notes to the public" in relation to any Notes in any Relevant Member State means the communication in any form and by any means of sufficient information on the terms of the offer and the Notes to be offered so as to enable an investor to decide to purchase or subscribe the Notes, as the same may be varied in that Member State and the expression "Prospectus Directive" means Directive 2003/71/EC and includes any relevant implementing measure in each Relevant Member State.

## United Kingdom

Each Dealer has represented and agreed that:

- (i) in relation to any Notes issued by ASB Finance having a maturity of less than one year, (a) it is a person whose ordinary activities involve it in acquiring, holding, managing or disposing of investments (as principal or agent) for the purposes of its business and (b) it has not offered or sold and will not offer or sell any Notes other than to persons whose ordinary activities involve them in acquiring, holding, managing or disposing of investments (as principal or as agent) for the purposes of their businesses or who it is reasonable to expect will acquire, hold, manage or dispose of investments (as principal or agent) for the purposes of their businesses, where the issue of the Notes would otherwise constitute a contravention of section 19 of the FSMA by ASB Finance;
- (ii) it has only communicated or caused to be communicated and will only communicate or cause to be communicated any invitation or inducement to engage in investment activity (within the meaning of section 21 of the FSMA) received by it in connection with the issue or sale of any Notes in circumstances in which section 21(1) of the FSMA does not, or in the case of CBA, would not, if it was not an authorised person, apply to the relevant Issuer; and
- (iii) it has complied and will comply with all applicable provisions of the FSMA with respect to anything done by it in relation to the Notes in, from or otherwise involving the United Kingdom.

## Japan

The Notes have not been and will not be registered under the Securities and Exchange Law of Japan (the "Securities and Exchange Law") and each Dealer has agreed and each further Dealer appointed under the Programme will be required to agree that it will not offer or sell any Notes, directly or indirectly, in Japan or to, or for the benefit of, any resident of Japan (which term as used herein means any person resident in Japan, including any corporation or other entity organised under the laws of Japan), or to others for re-offering or resale, directly or indirectly, in Japan or to a resident of Japan except pursuant to an exemption from the registration requirements of, and otherwise in compliance with, the Securities and Exchange Law and any other applicable laws, regulations and ministerial guidelines of Japan.

#### Australia

Each Dealer has represented and agreed that in connection with the distribution of each Tranche of Notes it:

- (i) has not offered and will not offer for issue or sale and has not invited and will not invite applications for issue or offers to purchase Notes in Australia, including an offer or invitation received in Australia; and
- (ii) has not distributed or published and will not distribute or publish any offering memorandum, advertisement or other offering material relating to the Notes in Australia or received in Australia

in each case unless:

- (a) the amount payable by each offeree or invitee for the Notes is a minimum amount (or the equivalent in another currency) of A\$500,000 disregarding amounts, if any, lent by the offeror or inviter or its associates (within the meaning of those expressions in Part 6D.2 of the Corporations 2001 Act of Australia (the "Corporations Act")), or the offer or invitation is otherwise an offer or invitation for which by virtue of section 708 of the Corporations Act no disclosure is required to be made under Part 6D.2 of the Corporations Act; and
- (b) the offer, invitation or distribution complies with all applicable laws, regulations and directives and does not require any document to be lodged with ASIC.

Each Dealer has agreed to offer the Notes for sale in a manner which will allow payments of interest or amounts in the nature of interest on the Notes to be exempt from Australian withholding tax under section 128F of the Australian Tax Act, as amended. In particular, each Dealer has agreed that it will not sell Notes to any person if, at the time of sale the Dealer knew or had reasonable grounds to suspect that as a result of such sale, any Notes or an interest in any Notes was being, or would later be, acquired (directly or indirectly) by an Offshore Associate of the relevant Issuer (other than one acting in the capacity of a dealer, manager or underwriter in relation to the placement of the Notes or in the capacity of a clearing house, custodian, funds manager or responsible entity of a registered scheme within the meaning of the Corporations Act).

An "Offshore Associate" of the Issuer means an associate (as defined in section 128F of the Australian Tax Act) of the Issuer that is either a non-resident of the Commonwealth of Australia which does not acquire the Notes in carrying on a business at or through a permanent establishment in Australia or, alternatively, a resident of Australia that acquires the Notes in carrying on business at or through a permanent establishment outside of Australia.

## New Zealand

Each Dealer has represented and agreed that:

- (a) it has not offered, sold or delivered and will not directly or indirectly offer, sell or deliver any Note; and
- (b) it will not distribute any offering memorandum or advertisement in relation to any offer of Notes,

in New Zealand other than:

- (i) to persons whose principal business is the investment of money or who, in the course of and for the purposes of their business, habitually invest money, or who in the circumstances can properly be regarded as having been selected other than as members of the public; or
- (ii) to persons who are each required to pay a minimum subscription price of at least NZ\$500,000 for the Notes (disregarding any amount lent by the offeror, the relevant Issuer, or any associated person of the offeror or relevant Issuer) before the allotment of those Notes and who have a minimum holding of at least NZ\$500,000; or
- (iii) in other circumstances where there is no contravention of the Securities Act 1978 of New Zealand.

Each Dealer has represented and agreed that it has not offered or sold, and will not offer or sell, any Notes to persons whom it believes to be persons who are resident in New Zealand for New Zealand income tax purposes or who carry on business in New Zealand through a fixed establishment (as defined for New Zealand income tax purposes) in New Zealand, unless such persons certify that they hold a valid certificate of exemption for New Zealand resident withholding tax purposes and provide a New Zealand tax file number to such Dealer (in which event the Dealer shall provide details thereof to the relevant Issuer or to a Paying Agent or to the Trustee).

## General

No action (other than the approval of the Programme Circular as an approved prospectus for the purposes of Section 85 of the FSMA by the UK Listing Authority) has been taken by the Issuers or any of the Dealers that would, or is intended to, permit an offer of any Notes in any country or jurisdiction where any such action for that purpose is required.

Accordingly, each Dealer has undertaken that it will not, directly or indirectly, offer or sell any Notes or distribute or publish any offering circular, prospectus, form of application, advertisement or other document or information in any country or jurisdiction except under circumstances that will result in compliance with any applicable laws and regulations and all offers and sales of Notes by it will be made on the same terms.

Without prejudice to the generality of the preceding paragraph each Dealer has agreed that, except as provided in the Programme Agreement, it will obtain any consent, approval or permission which is required for the offer, purchase or sale by it of Notes under the laws and regulations in force in any jurisdiction to which it is subject or in which it makes such offers, purchases or sales and it will comply with all such laws and regulations.

## **General Information**

## 1 Admission of the Notes to the Official List

The admission of Notes to the Official List will be expressed as a percentage of their nominal amount (excluding accrued interest). It is expected that each Tranche of Notes which is to be admitted to the Official List and to trading by the London Stock Exchange will be admitted separately as and when issued, subject only to the issue of a global Note or Notes representing the Notes of such Tranche. Application has been made to the UK Listing Authority for Notes issued under the Programme to be admitted to the Official List and to the London Stock Exchange for such Notes to be admitted to trading on the London Stock Exchange's Gilt Edged and Fixed Interest Market. The listing of the Programme in respect of such Notes is expected to be granted on or around 17 October 2006.

## 2 Authorisation

The establishment of the Programme, and the subsequent increases in the amount of the Programme, were authorised by the Managing Director of CBA, Mr D. V. Murray. ASB Finance's accession to the Programme was authorised by its Board of Directors.

ASB's guarantee of ASB Finance's payment obligations under Notes issued by ASB Finance was authorised by the Board of Directors.

## 3 Consents

No authorisations, consents or approvals are required by the Issuers from government agencies or other official bodies in Australia or New Zealand in connection with the creation of the Programme, the issue of any Notes thereunder or the execution and delivery (where applicable) of the Programme Agreement, the Agency Agreement and the Trust Deed or the performance by the Issuers of their obligations thereunder save for the obtaining by CBA, where necessary, of approval from the Reserve Bank of Australia or other regulatory body in respect of payments on any of the Notes if such payments are made outside the Commonwealth of Australia.

## 4 Litigation

None of CBA nor any of its subsidiaries (including ASB and ASB Finance) are or have been involved in any governmental, legal or arbitration proceedings in the twelve months immediately preceding the date hereof which may have or have in such period had a significant effect on the financial position or profitability of CBA and its subsidiaries (or has the case may be, ASB and its subsidiaries or ASB Finance and its subsidiaries), taken as a whole, and, so far as each of CBA, ASB and ASB Finance is aware, there are no such governmental, legal or arbitration proceedings pending or threatened involving it or any of its subsidiaries.

## 5 Significant or Material Change

There has been no significant change in the financial position of CBA and its subsidiaries, taken as a whole, since the date of its audited financial statements prepared to 30 June 2006 and there has been no material adverse change in the financial position of CBA and its subsidiaries, taken as a whole, since the date of its audited financial statements prepared to 30 June 2006.

There has been no significant change in the financial position of ASB Finance Limited and its subsidiaries, taken as a whole, since the date of its audited financial statements prepared to 30 June 2006 and there has been no material adverse change in the financial position of ASB Finance Limited and its subsidiaries, taken as a whole, since the date of its audited financial statements prepared to 30 June 2006.

There has been no significant change in the financial position of ASB and its subsidiaries, taken as a whole, since the date of its audited financial statements prepared to 30 June 2006 and there has been no material adverse change in the financial position of ASB and its subsidiaries, taken as a whole, since the date of its audited financial statements prepared to 30 June 2006.

## 6 Legal Opinions

Legal opinions relating to the Programme have been delivered to the Dealers and the Trustee by Allen & Overy LLP, in their capacity as English legal advisers to the Issuers, by Allens Arthur Robinson, in their capacity as Australian legal advisers to the Dealers and the Trustee, and by Chapman Tripp, in their capacity as New Zealand legal advisers to ASB Finance and ASB.

The Trust Deed provides that the Trustee will be entitled, prior to the first issue of Notes after each anniversary of the date of the Trust Deed, to call for a legal opinion from Australian, New Zealand and English lawyers. The Trustee is not entitled to require legal opinions at any other time except in certain limited circumstances set out in the Trust Deed.

## 7 Audited Financial Statements

CBA's consolidated financial statements for the years ended 30 June 2005 and 30 June 2006 were audited, without qualification, by Ernst & Young, Chartered Accountants, of 321 Kent Street, NSW 2000, Australia. The auditors of CBA have no material interest in either of the Issuers or the Guarantor.

ASB Finance Limited's consolidated financial statements for the years ended 30 June 2005 and 30 June 2006 were audited, without qualification, by Ernst & Young, Chartered Accounts of 41 Shortland Street, Auckland, New Zealand. The auditors of ASB Finance Limited have no material interest in either of the Issuers or the Guarantor.

ASB's consolidated financial statements for the years ended 30 June 2005 and 30 June 2006 were audited, without qualification, by Ernst & Young, Chartered Accounts of 41 Shortland Street, Auckland, New Zealand. The auditors of ASB have no material interest in either of the Issuers or the Guarantor.

## 8 Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg

The Notes have been accepted for clearance through Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg. The appropriate Common Code and ISIN for each Tranche of Notes allocated by Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg will be contained in the applicable Pricing Supplement.

The address of Euroclear is Euroclear Bank SA/NV, 1 Boulevard du Roi Albert II, B-1210 Brussels and the address of Clearstream, Luxembourg, is Clearstream Banking, 42 Avenue JF Kennedy, L-1855 Luxembourg.

## 9 Documents Available for Inspection

Copies of the following documents may be inspected during usual business hours on any business day at the offices of Commonwealth Bank of Australia and the branch office of ASB Finance Limited (currently Senator House, 85 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4V 4HA) and at the offices of any Paying Agent in the United Kingdom for so long as the Programme remains in existence:

- (i) the Constitutions of each of the Issuers and of the Guarantor;
- the Commonwealth Banks Act 1959, as amended, the Commonwealth Banks Amendment Act 1984, the Commonwealth Banks Amendment Act 1985, the Commonwealth Banks Amendment Act 1987, the Commonwealth Banks Restructuring Act 1990, the State Bank (Succession of Commonwealth Bank) Act 1990, the Commonwealth Banks Amendment Act 1993, the Commonwealth Bank Sale Act 1995, the Constitution of each Issuer and of the Guarantor and copies of the Annual Reports (which include the audited consolidated and non-consolidated accounts) of each Issuer and of the Guarantor for the years ended 30 June 2005 and 30 June 2006;
- (iii) the Programme Agreement, the Trust Deed, the Agency Agreement and the forms of the Notes, Coupons, Receipts and Talons; and
- (iv) this Programme Circular, any supplementary listing particulars published and each Pricing Supplement relating to Notes admitted to the Official List.

#### 10 Australian Taxation

The following is a summary of the Australian taxation treatment, at the date of this Programme Circular, of payments of interest on Notes and certain other matters (where the Issuer is CBA). It is not exhaustive, and in particular does not deal with the position of certain classes of holders of a Note (such as dealers in securities). Prospective holders of Notes should be aware that the particular terms of issue of any series of Notes may affect the tax treatment of that and other series of Notes. The following is a general guide and should be treated with appropriate caution. Holders of Notes who are in any doubt as to their tax position should consult their professional advisers.

References to 'interest' may include amounts in the nature of or in substitution for interest.

The requirements for obtaining an exemption from Australian interest withholding tax set out in section 128F of the Australian Tax Act include:

- (i) the issuer must be a resident of Australia when it issues the Notes and when interest is paid;
- (ii) the issue of the Notes must satisfy a public offer test containing five basic alternatives designed to ensure that lenders in overseas capital markets are aware that the issuer is offering Notes for issue.

Where practicable, CBA intends to issue Notes in a manner which will satisfy these requirements.

The public offer test

In summary, the alternatives to satisfy the public offer test are:

- offers to 10 or more professional market financiers, investors or dealers who are not associates of each other;
- (ii) offers to 100 or more potential investors;
- (iii) offers of listed Notes;
- (iv) offers as a result of negotiations being initiated via electronic or other market sources; or
- (v) offers to dealers, managers or underwriters who by agreement with the issuer offer the Notes for sale within 30 days by one of the preceding methods.

The issue of a global note by one of these methods will satisfy the public offer test.

## Associates of issuer

The public offer test will not be satisfied if, at the time of issue, the issuer knew or had reasonable grounds to suspect that the Notes, or an interest in the Notes, was being, or would later be, acquired either directly or indirectly by an Offshore Associate of the issuer (other than one acting in the capacity of a dealer, manager or underwriter in relation to the placement of the Notes or in the capacity of a clearing house, custodian, funds manager or responsible entity of a registered scheme (within the meaning of the Corporations Act)).

Moreover, the section 128F exemption will not be available if, at the time of payment, the issuer knows or has reasonable grounds to suspect that interest in respect of a Note was to be paid to an Offshore Associate of the issuer other than one receiving the payment in the capacity of a clearing house, paying agent, custodian, funds manager or responsible entity of a registered scheme. The Conditions of the Notes provide that in these circumstances CBA will not be required to gross up interest payments.

# ACCORDINGLY, NOTES MUST NOT BE PURCHASED BY OFFSHORE ASSOCIATES OF CBA OTHER THAN THOSE ACTING IN THE PERMITTED CAPACITIES DESCRIBED ABOVE

As a result of the issue of global Notes, rights conferred by Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg in relation to the Notes will be created in favour of the Noteholders. Interest includes an amount in the nature of, or in substitution for, interest.

Section 126 of the Australian Tax Act imposes a type of withholding tax at the rate of 45 per cent. on the payment of interest on bearer notes (other than certain zero coupon promissory

notes) if the issuer fails to disclose the names and addresses of the holders to the Australian Taxation Office. Section 126 does not apply to the payment of interest on notes held by non-residents who do not carry on business at or through a permanent establishment in Australia where the issue of those notes satisfied the requirements of section 128F of the Australian Tax Act or interest withholding tax is payable. However, the operation of section 126 in relation to notes held in some circumstances is unclear.

Section 126 will not apply in any circumstances if the name and address of the holder of the relevant notes is disclosed to the Australian Taxation Office.

The Commissioner of Taxation of the Commonwealth of Australia may give a direction under section 255 of the Australian Tax Act or section 260-5 of the Taxation Administration Act 1953 or any similar provision requiring the issuer to deduct from any payment to any other party (including any holder of Notes) any amount in respect of tax payable by that other party.

## 11 New Zealand Taxation

The following is a general description of certain New Zealand tax considerations as at the date hereof relating to the Notes. It does not purport to be a complete analysis of all tax considerations relating to the Notes, whether in that country or elsewhere. Prospective purchasers of Notes should consult their own tax advisers as to which countries' tax laws could be relevant to acquiring, holding and disposing of the Notes and receiving payments of interest, principal and/or other amounts under the Notes, and the consequences of such actions under the tax laws of those countries.

New Zealand Resident Withholding Tax

To the extent New Zealand law requires, a deduction on account of New Zealand resident withholding tax will be made from the payment of interest (as defined for New Zealand income tax purposes) made by ASB Finance under the Notes (and, in the case of ASB, under the guarantee of Notes issued by ASB Finance) where:

- (a) the recipient is a resident of New Zealand for income tax purposes or such recipient carries on business in New Zealand through a fixed establishment (as defined for New Zealand income tax purposes) in New Zealand (a "New Zealand Holder"); and
- (b) at the time of such payment the New Zealand Holder does not hold a valid certificate of exemption for New Zealand resident withholding tax purposes.

Prior to any interest payment date or the maturity date of any of the Notes, any New Zealand Holder:

- (i) must notify ASB Finance or the Paying Agent (i) that the New Zealand Holder is the holder of a Note and (ii) whether it derives beneficially interest under a Note jointly with any other person; and
- (ii) must notify ASB Finance or the Paying Agent of any circumstances, and provide ASB Finance or the Paying Agent with its New Zealand tax file number and any information (including a copy of a valid certificate of exemption), that may enable ASB Finance to make the payment of interest to the New Zealand Holder without deduction on account of New Zealand resident withholding tax.

The New Zealand Holder must notify ASB Finance, prior to any interest payment date or the maturity date of Notes of any change in the New Zealand Holder's circumstances from those previously notified that could affect ASB Finance's payment obligations in respect of such Note.

New Zealand Non-Resident Withholding Tax

To the extent that New Zealand law requires ASB Finance under the Notes or ASB under the guarantee of Notes issued by ASB Finance to deduct New Zealand non-resident withholding tax from the payment of interest in respect of a Note, ASB Finance and ASB may, and intend (for so long as the relevant party does not incur any increased cost or detriment from doing so) to reduce the applicable rate of non-resident withholding tax to zero per cent. by registering the Notes with the New Zealand Inland Revenue Department, and paying, on the relevant party's own account, an approved issuer levy (which is currently equal to two per cent. of the relevant

interest payment). The approved issuer levy regime will not apply to payments to an "associate" (as defined under the Income Tax Act of New Zealand).

Where interest is paid in respect of a Note and the recipient:

- (a) is not a New Zealand Holder; and
- (b) derives such interest jointly with one or more persons, and one or more of those persons is a New Zealand resident for New Zealand tax purposes,

the approved issuer levy regime will not apply to the non-New Zealand Holder and (subject to any applicable double tax treaty) the New Zealand non-resident withholding tax imposed will equate to the applicable rate of New Zealand resident withholding tax.

If any withholding from a payment of interest is required on account of non-resident withholding tax and the approved issuer levy regime is not available in respect of such payment, ASB Finance or, as the case may be, ASB will gross up the relevant payment to the Note holder.

Indemnity and Other Taxation Matters

By accepting payment of the full face amount of any Note on its maturity:

- (a) a New Zealand Holder agrees to indemnify ASB Finance and ASB for all purposes in respect of any liability that ASB Finance or, as the case may be, ASB may incur for not deducting any amount from such payment on account of New Zealand resident withholding tax; and
- (b) in the case of a Note under which a person, who is not a New Zealand Holder, derives a beneficial interest jointly with one or more persons, and one or more of those persons is resident in New Zealand, such non-New Zealand Holder agrees to indemnify ASB Finance and ASB for all purposes in respect of any liability that ASB Finance or, as the case may be, ASB may incur for not deducting any amount from such payment on account of New Zealand non-resident withholding tax applicable to such non-New Zealand Holder.

A Note holder will not become resident, or deemed to be resident, or domiciled, in New Zealand for New Zealand tax purposes by reason only of the holding of a Note or the execution, performance, delivery and/or enforcement of the Notes.

New Zealand has no wealth, estate or inheritance taxes. New Zealand does, however, have gift duty. Any transfer of the Notes which constitutes a dutiable gift for the purposes of the Estate and Gift Duties Act 1968 (New Zealand) will be subject to gift duty. There is no New Zealand goods and services tax (which is a type of value added tax) payable in respect of payments in consideration for the issue of Notes or the transfer of a Note.

No stamp, registration, documentary or other similar tax is payable in New Zealand in respect of the issue of Notes or in relation to any enforcement proceedings in respect of the Notes brought in the Courts of New Zealand, other than the nominal cheque duty that may be required to be paid on any Note were such Note to be enforced in the courts of New Zealand.

Neither ASB Finance nor ASB makes any statement about the treatment for taxation purposes of payments or receipts in respect of Notes. Persons contemplating acquiring Notes should consult their tax advisers as to the consequences (including the withholding tax consequences) relating to the acquisition, retention and disposition of Notes.

## 12 United Kingdom Taxation

The following applies only to persons who are the beneficial owners of Notes issued by ASB Finance and is a summary of the Issuer's understanding of current law and practice in the United Kingdom relating only to United Kingdom withholding tax treatment of payments of principal and interest in respect of Notes issued by ASB Finance. It does not deal with any other United Kingdom taxation implications of acquiring, holding or disposing of Notes issued by ASB Finance. Prospective Noteholders who may be subject to tax in a jurisdiction other than the United Kingdom or who may be unsure as to their tax position should seek their own professional advice.

## Interest on the Notes issued by ASB Finance

Payments of interest on the Notes issued by ASB Finance Limited, London Branch ("ASB Finance") may be made without deduction of or withholding on account of United Kingdom income tax provided that the Notes issued by ASB Finance continue to be listed on a

"recognised stock exchange" within the meaning of section 841 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 (the "Act"). The London Stock Exchange is a recognised stock exchange. Under HM Revenue and Customs ("HMRC") published practice, securities will be treated as listed on the London Stock Exchange if they are admitted to the Official List by the United Kingdom Listing Authority and admitted to trading by the London Stock Exchange. Provided, therefore, that the Notes issued by ASB Finance remain so listed, interest on the Notes issued by ASB Finance will be payable without withholding or deduction on account of United Kingdom tax.

Interest on the Notes issued by ASB Finance may also be paid without withholding or deduction on account of United Kingdom tax where interest on the Notes issued by ASB Finance is paid to a person who belongs in the United Kingdom for United Kingdom tax purposes and, at the time the payment is made, the Issuer reasonably believes (and any person by or through whom interest on the Notes issued by ASB Finance is paid reasonably believes) that the beneficial owner is within the charge to United Kingdom corporation tax as regards the payment of interest; provided that HMRC has not given a direction (in circumstances where it has reasonable grounds to believe that the above exemption is not available in respect of such payment of interest at the time the payment is made) that the interest should be paid under deduction of tax.

Interest on the Notes issued by ASB Finance may also be paid without withholding or deduction on account of United Kingdom tax where the maturity of the Notes issued by ASB Finance is less than 365 days.

In other cases, an amount must generally be withheld from payments of interest on the Notes issued by ASB Finance on account of United Kingdom income tax at the lower rate (currently 20%). However, where an applicable double tax treaty provides for a lower rate of withholding tax (or for no tax to be withheld) in relation to a Noteholder, HMRC can issue a notice to the Issuer to pay interest to the Noteholder without deduction of tax (or for interest to be paid with tax deducted at the rate provided for in the relevant double tax treaty).

Noteholders may wish to note that, in certain circumstances, HMRC has power to obtain information (including the name and address of the beneficial owner of the interest) from any person in the United Kingdom who either pays or credits interest to or receives interest for the benefit of a Noteholder. HMRC also has power, in certain circumstances, to obtain information from any person in the United Kingdom who pays amounts payable on the redemption of Notes issued by ASB Finance which are deeply discounted securities for the purposes of the Income Tax (Trading and Other Income) Act 2005 to or receives such amounts for the benefit of another person, although HMRC published practice indicates that HMRC will not exercise the power referred to above to require this information in respect of amounts payable on the redemption of deeply discounted securities where such amounts are paid on or before 5 April 2007. Such information may include the name and address of the beneficial owner of the amount payable on redemption. Any information obtained may, in certain circumstances, be exchanged by HMRC with the tax authorities of the jurisdiction in which the Noteholder is resident for tax purposes.

## 13 EU savings directive

Under EC Council Directive 2003/48/EC on the taxation of savings income, Member States are required to provide to the tax authorities of another Member State details of payments of interest (or similar income) paid by a person within its jurisdiction to an individual resident in that other Member State. However, for a transitional period, Belgium, Luxembourg and Austria are instead required (unless during that period they elect otherwise) to operate a withholding system in relation to such payments (the ending of such transitional period being dependent upon the conclusion of certain other agreements relating to information exchange with certain other countries). A number of non-EU countries and territories including Switzerland have adopted similar measures (a withholding system in the case of Switzerland).

## 14 Post-issuance information

The Issuers do not intend to provide any post-issuance information in relation to any issues of Notes.

## 15 Dealers transacting with the Issuers

Certain of the Dealers and their affiliates have engaged, and may in the future engage, in investment banking and/or commercial banking transactions with, and may perform services to the Issuers and of the Guarantor and their respective affiliates in the ordinary course of business.

## **Financial Information**

| ASB Finance Limited, Financial Statements<br>for the year ended 30 June 2005 | F-2 |
|--|-----|
| ASB Finance Limited, Financial Statements<br>for the year ended 30 June 2006 | F-9 |



# ASB FINANCE LIMITED

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## For the year ended 30 June 2005

## Directors' Responsibility Statement

The Directors are required by the Financial Reporting Act 1993 to prepare financial statements for the accounting period which comply with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (GAAP) and provide such additional information as required to present a true and fair view of the financial affairs of the Company.

The Directors are required by the Companies Act 1993 to ensure that proper accounting records have been kept, which enable with reasonable accuracy, the determination of the financial position of the Company.

The Directors have a general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the Company and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

With the unanimous agreement of all shareholders, the Company has taken advantage of the reporting concessions available to it under Section 211(3) of the Companies Act 1993.

The Directors have pleasure in presenting the financial statements and general disclosures of ASB Finance Limited for the year ended 30 June 2005.

I.W. Duncan

Director

P.S. Hall Director

Date 2 November 2005

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

## ASB FINANCE LIMITED

| For the year ended 30 June<br>S thousands | Note       | 2005  | 2004   |  |
|---|------------|-------|--------|--|
| Interest Income                           | 3          | •     | 0.8    |  |
| Interest Expense                          | <b>4</b> * | 6.9   | 1.3    |  |
| Net Interest Earnings                     |            | (6.9) | (0.5)  |  |
| Other Income/(Loss)                       | .6         |       | (8.4)  |  |
| Total Operating Income                    |            | (6.9) | (8.9)  |  |
| Total Operating Expenses                  |            | -     | 22.3   |  |
| Operating Deficit before Taxation         |            | (6.9) | (31.2) |  |
| Taxation (Credit)                         |            | (2.3) | (6.2)  |  |
| Net Deficit after Taxation                |            | (4.6) | (25.0) |  |

## STATEMENT OF MOVEMENTS IN EQUITY

## ASB FINANCE LIMITED

| For the year ended 30 June                      |      | 2005    | 2004    |
|---|------|---------|---------|
| \$ thousands                                    | Note |         |         |
| Total Shareholder's Equity at Beginning of Year |      | (113.3) | (88.3)  |
| Issue of Ordinary Shares                        |      | 140.0   | -       |
| Net Deficit after Taxation                      |      | (4.6)   | (25.0)  |
| ,<br>%  |      |         |         |
| Total Shareholders' Equity at End of Year       |      | 22.1    | (113.3) |

These statements are to be read in conjunction with the Notes on pages 3 and 4 and the Auditor's Report on pages 5 and 6.

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

## ASB-FINANCE LIMITED

| As at 30 June<br>5 thousands                                       | Note   | 2005                                   | 2004           |
|--|--------|--|----------------|
| Assets   |        |  |                |
| Deferred Taxation Benefit  |        | 2.3                                    | 10.3           |
| The from Related Parties   | 7      | 19.8                                   | 1.0            |
| Fotal Assets.  |        | 22.1                                   | 11.3           |
| Financed by:   |        |  | ,              |
| Liabilities  Due to Related Parties  Other Liabilities             | 7      | 1                                      | 120.0<br>4,6   |
| Total Liabilities  |        | ************************************** | 124.6          |
| Sharéholder's Equity   |        |  |                |
| Contributed Capital - Ordinary Shareholders<br>Accumulated Deficit | 8<br>9 | 141.0<br>(118.9)                       | 1.0<br>(114.3) |
| Total Shareholder's Equity   |        | 22.1                                   | (113.3)        |
| Total Liabilities and Shareholder's Equity                         |        | 22.1                                   | 11.3           |

These statements are to be read in conjunction with the Notes on pages 3 and 4 and the Auditor's Report on pages 5 and 6.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## ASB FINANCE LIMITED

For the year ended 30 June 2005

## 1. NATURE OF BUSINESS

ASB Finance Limited ("the Company") is a wholly owned subsidiary of ASB Bank Limited operating in the finance sector. The company previously operated an Australian Branch in Sydney. The branch ceased operations during the year ended 30 June 2004 and its net liabilities were repaid by its parent.

## 2. GENERAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Financial Statements have been drawn up in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 1993 and the Financial Reporting Act 1993.

The measurement base adopted is that of historical cost, modified by the revaluation of financial instruments as identified below.

#### PARTICULAR ACCOUNTING POLICIES

## a) INCOME-RECOGNITION

- Interest income and expense is recognised on an accrual basis.
- Market value adjustments are recorded as Other Income.

## b) <u>ADVANCES</u>

Advances have been recorded at fair value less accrued interest which is reported within Other Assets.

## c) DEPOSITS

Deposits have been recorded at fair value less accrued interest which is reported within Other Liabilities.

## d) TAXATION

Provision is made for taxation after taking advantage of all allowable deductions under current taxation legislation. The liability method of accounting for the taxation effect of timing differences between the accounting treatment and taxation treatment has been adopted on a comprehensive basis.

Deferred Future Taxation Benefits are only recognised where there is virtual certainty that the benefit will be utilised.

#### e) DIFFERENTIAL REPORTING

Since the closure of its Australian branch, the Company no longer has any accountability. On this basis and because its owners and governing body are not separated, the company has taken advantage of all differential reporting exemptions allowed under the Framework for Differential Reporting.

This is the first year where differential reporting exemptions have been applied.

## f) CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING POLICIES

There have been no changes in accounting policies. All policies have been applied on a basis consistent with that used in the prior year.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## ASB FINANCE LIMITED

|           | he year ended 30 June<br>usands  | teritory manipulation and constraint are all to the constraint and the | 2005                          | 2004             |
|-----------|--|--|-------------------------------|------------------|
| 3.        | INTEREST INCOME  |  |                               |                  |
|           | Advances   |  |                               | 0.8              |
| 4.        | INTEREST EXPENSE   |  |                               |                  |
|           | Call Deposit due to ASB Bank Limite  | d  | 6.9                           | 1.3              |
| <b>5.</b> | AUDITOR'S REMUNERATION   |  |                               |                  |
|           | Ernst & Young is the appointed audit<br>Limited. No fees for other services w                                      |  |                               | ASB Bank         |
| 6.        | OTHER INCOME   |  |                               |                  |
|           | Net Foreign Exchange Gains/(losses)  |  |                               | (8.4)            |
|           | Total Other Income/(Loss)  |  | <del>-</del>                  | (8.4)            |
| 7.        | RELATED PARTIES TRANSAC  | <u>TIONS</u>   |                               |                  |
|           | The Company is 100% owned by AS During the year, the Company has er Limited. In all cases these arrangem policies. | ntered into, or had in place various fi                                | nancial transactions with ASB | Bank             |
| 8.        | CONTRIBUTED CAPITAL  |  |                               |                  |
|           | Ordinary Shares  | No. of Shares<br>Value \$  | 141,000<br>1.0                | 1,000<br>1.0     |
|           | During the year the Company issue<br>All shares carry equal voting rights  |  |                               |                  |
| 9,        | ACCUMULATED DEFICIT  |  |                               |                  |
|           | Balance at Beginning of Year<br>Net Deficit after Taxation   | · ·  | (114.3)                       | (89.3)<br>(25.0) |
|           |  |  |                               |                  |

10. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS and CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

## Auditor's Report

To the Shareholders of ASB Finance Limited.

We have audited the financial statements on pages 1 to 4. The financial statements provide information about the past financial performance of the company and group and their financial position as at 30 June 2005. This information is stated in accordance with the accounting policies set out on page 3.

## Directors' Responsibilities

The directors are responsible for the preparation of financial statements which comply with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand and give a true and fair view of the financial position of the company and group as at 30 June 2005 and of their financial performance for the year ended on that date.

## Auditor's Responsibilities

It is our responsibility to express an independent opinion on the financial statements presented by the directors and report our opinion to you.

## Basis of Opinion

An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes assessing:

- the significant estimates and judgements made by the directors in the preparation of the financial statements; and
- whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the circumstances of the company and group, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards in New Zealand. We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatements, whether caused by fraud or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

Other than in our capacity as auditor we have no relationship with, or interest in, the company or any of its subsidiaries.



## Unqualified Opinion

We have obtained all the information and explanations we have required.

## In our opinion:

- proper accounting records have been kept by the company as far as appears from our examination of those records; and
- the financial statements on pages 1 to 4:
  - comply with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand; and
  - give a true and fair view of the financial position of the company and group as at 30 June 2005 and their financial performance for the year ended on that date.

Our audit was completed on 12 September 2005 and our unqualified opinion is expressed as at that date.

Auckland

Einsta Young



## ASB FINANCE LIMITED

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 30 June 2006

## Directors' Responsibility Statement

The Directors are required by the Financial Reporting Act 1993 to prepare financial statements for the accounting period which comply with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (GAAP) and provide such additional information as required to present a true and fair view of the financial affairs of the Company.

The Directors are required by the Companies Act 1993 to ensure that proper accounting records have been kept, which enable with reasonable accuracy, the determination of the financial position of the Company.

The Directors have a general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the Company and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

With the unanimous agreement of all shareholders, the Company has taken advantage of the reporting concessions available to it under Section 211(3) of the Companies Act 1993.

The Directors have pleasure in presenting the financial statements of ASB Finance Limited for the year ended 30 June 2006.

Stewart McRobic

Director

Linley Wood as alternate for Kerry Francis

Director

Date

15 September 2006

## INCOME STATEMENT

## ASB FINANCE LIMITED

| For the year ended 30 June |   |       |     | 7 | ř.                   |    |           | ٠.          |           |                                       | * :    | ., |     | 2006 | -s<br>,            | 2, . | 2     | 005      |               |
|----------------------------|---|-------|-----|---|----------------------|----|-----------|-------------|-----------|---------------------------------------|--------|----|-----|------|--------------------|------|-------|----------|---------------|
| \$ thousands               |   | _***. |     |   | د<br>د د اد اد او او |    |           |             | • • • • • |                                       | Not    | e. |     |      |                    |      | ***** |          |               |
| Interest Income            |   | ٠٠,   | ٠.  |   |                      |    | ₹1.1<br>( |             |           |                                       |        |    |     | 31.5 | *                  |      | . Ş.: |          |               |
| Interest Expense           |   |       | , • |   |                      | ,. | , *       |             |           |                                       | 4.     | ٠  |     | 100  | ′,; ; <del>•</del> |      | , ,   | · :: .(  | 6.9)          |
| Net Interest Income        |   |       |     |   |                      |    |           | ;.          |           |                                       | . •    | ٠  | ·.  |      |                    |      |       | , (.     | 6.9)          |
| Other Income               |   |       |     | j | ,                    | ,  |           |             |           |                                       |        |    |     | ,    | ***                |      |       |          | *             |
| Net Loss before Taxation   | ٠ | ٠     | ,   |   |                      |    | : .       | ***<br>**** | . *       | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | d<br>h |    |     |      | ٠,<br>اسا          |      |       | (        | 6.9)          |
| Taxation                   |   |       |     | , |                      |    | :         |             |           |                                       | 3      |    | ·   |      |                    | · ·  |       | <u> </u> | <u>2.3)</u> . |
| Net Loss after Taxation    |   |       |     |   | ,                    | •  |           |             |           |                                       |        | ,  |     |      |                    |      | . :   | (,       | 4.6)          |
|                            |   |       |     |   | F .                  |    | •         | •           |           |                                       |        |    | . : | *    |                    | ,    |       |          | ;             |

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

## ASB FINANCE LIMITED

| For the year ended 30 June<br>\$ thousands   |     |   | ************************************** | Note | 2006  | 2005    |
|--|-----|---|--|------|-------|---------|
| Total Shareholder's Equity at Beginning of Y | ear |   | ş · *                                  | ·    | 22.1  | (113.3) |
| Net Loss after Taxation                      |     | , |  |      |       | (.4:6)  |
| Total Recognised Income and Expense          |     |   |  |      |       | (4.6)   |
| Capital Contributed: Ordinary Share Capital  | ,   |   | • ,                                    |      | 179.0 | 140.0   |
| Total Shareholder's Equity at End of Yea     | r   |   |  | , ,  | 201.1 | 22.1    |

These statements are to be read in conjunction with the Notes on pages 3 to 4 and the Auditor's Report on pages 5 to 6.

## **BALANCE SHEET**

## ASB FINANCE LIMITED

|   |             |    | ,   |      | *·                                    | •                |
|---|-------------|----|-----|------|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| As at 30 June<br>\$ thousands                           |             |    |     | Note | 2006                                  | 2005             |
|   |             |    |     |      |                                       | •                |
| ASSETS  |             |    |     |      |                                       |                  |
| Due from Related Parties                                |             |    |     | 4    | 201.1                                 | 19.8             |
| Deferred Taxation Benefit                               |             | 1+ | •   | 3    | •                                     | 2:3              |
|   |             |    |     |      | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · |                  |
|   |             |    |     |      | 18 mars                               |                  |
| Total Assets  | *           |    |     |      | 201.1                                 | 22.1             |
| •   | •           | 1  | •   |      |                                       |                  |
| •   | •           |    | -:  |      |                                       | •                |
| SHAREHOLDER'S EQUITY                                    |             |    | • ; | *    | ,                                     | .*               |
| Contributed Capital - Ordinary SI<br>Accumulated Losses | hareholder  |    |     | 5    | 320.0<br>(118.9)                      | 141:0<br>(118:9) |
| Total Shareholder's Equity                              |             |    |     | *    | 201.1                                 | . 22.1           |
| Total Liabilities and Sharehold                         | er!s Equity |    |     |      | 201.1                                 | 22.1             |
| •   | *           | ** |     |      |                                       |                  |

These statements are to be read in conjunction with the Notes on pages 3 to 4 and the Auditor's Report on pages 5 to 6.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### ASB FINANCE LIMITED

For the year ended 30 June 2006

#### 1. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The reporting entity, ASB Finance Limited ("the Company"), was incorporated in New Zealand on 18 October 1994 and is registered under the Companies Act 1993. Its registered office is Level 28, ASB BANK Centre, 135 Albert Street, Auckland. The Company is a wholly owned subsidiary of ASB Bank Limited, the ultimate parent of which is the Commonwealth Bank of Australia. It operates in the finance sector.

The financial statements of the Company are for the year ended 30 June 2006 and are presented in thousands of New Zealand dollars (NZD), unless otherwise stated. They were authorised for issue by the Directors on 15 September 2006.

#### Statement of Compliance and Basis of Preparation

These financial statements have been drawn up in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 1993 and the Financial Reporting Act 1993. They have been prepared in accordance with New Zealand Generally Accepted Accounting Practice ("NZ GAAP"), applying the Framework for Differential Reporting for entities adopting the New Zealand equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards ("NZ IFRS") and its interpretations, as appropriate for profit-oriented entities that qualify for and apply differential reporting concessions. These are the Company's first NZ IFRS-compliant financial statements and NZ IFRS 1 First-time adoption of New Zealand equivalents to IFRS has been applied.

The Company qualifies for Differential Reporting because it has no public accountability and there is no separation between its owners and governing body. All available reporting exemptions allowed under the Framework for Differential Reporting bave been applied.

The measurement base adopted is that of historical cost.

## Changes in Accounting Policies

There are no material differences between the financial statements presented under NZ IFRS and the financial statements presented under previous NZ GAAP for the year ended 30 June 2005. On this basis no reconciliation of transition adjustments is required.

#### PARTICULAR ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### (a) Revenue Recognition

Interest Income is recognised using the effective interest rate method. Other revenue is recognised on an accruals basis, except for foreign exchange gains or losses, which are recognised in the Income Statement when they arise.

#### (b) Expense Recognition

Interest Expense is recognised using the effective interest rate method. Other expenses are recognised on an accruals basis.

## (c) Taxation

Current tax is the expected tax payable on the taxable income for the year, using tax rates enacted or substantially enacted at balance date after taking advantage of all allowable deductions under current taxation legislation and any adjustment to tax payable in respect of previous years.

Deferred tax is provided using the balance sheet liability method, providing for temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the amounts used for taxation purposes. The amount of deferred tax provided is based on the expected manner of realisation or settlement of the carrying amount of assets and liabilities, using tax rates enacted or substantially enacted at balance date.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## ASB FINANCE LIMITED

|                                 | • |              |      |
|---------------------------------|---|--------------|------|
| For the year ended 30 June 2006 | • | <br>2006     | 2005 |
| \$ thousands                    |   | <br><u> </u> |      |

## 2. AUDITOR'S REMUNERATION

Ernst & Young is the appointed auditor of the Banking Group. The Banking Group audit fee is paid by ASB Bank Limited. No fees for other services were paid to the auditor during the year (30 June 2005 Nil).

#### 3. TAXATION

| Current Taxation                              |   |             | <b>-</b>                                | ·     |
|---|---|-------------|---|-------|
| Deferred Taxation                             |   | ,           |   | (2.3) |
| Taxation Expense                              |   |             | -                                       | (2.3) |
| •   | • | ,           |   |       |
| Reconciliation of Effective Tax Rate          | • | .: * .      |   | *     |
| Nei Loss before Taxation                      |   |             | <b></b>                                 | (6.9) |
| Taxation at the Domestic Rate of 33%          |   |             | *                                       | (2.3) |
| Income not subject to Taxation                |   | 4           | -                                       | -     |
| Expenses not deductible for Taxation Purposes |   |             | • | ·     |
| Taxation Expense                              |   | · · · · · · |   | (2.3) |

#### 4. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

During the year the Company has entered into transactions with ASB Bank Limited. These transactions were conducted on an arm's length basis and on normal commercial terms.

## Related Party Balances

Sundry Receivable Balances

201.1 19.8

During the year ended 30 June 2006, the Company issued \$179,000 of capital to ASB Bank Limited. ASB Bank Limited also purchased tax losses of \$2,300 from the Company.

## 5. CONTRIBUTED CAPITAL

| Ordinary Paid Up Capital | Number of Shares        | 320,000 | 141,000 |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|---------|---------|
|                          | Total Value S thousands | 320.0   | 141.0   |

## **Ordinary Shares**

During the year the Company issued an additional 179,000 fully paid up shares to ASB Bank Limited. All Ordinary Shares have equal voting rights and share equally in dividends and profit on winding up. Dividends are declared subject, in all cases, to the applicable Directors' resolutions being passed.

#### 6. ACCUMULATED LOSSES

| Balance at Beginning of Year     | (.118.9)                              | (114.3) |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------|
| Net Profit/(Loss) after Taxation | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | (4:6)   |
| Balance at End of Year           | (118.9)                               | (118:9) |

#### 7. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

The Company had no capital commitments as at 30 June 2006 (30 June 2005 Nil).

## 8. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

The Company had no contingent liabilities as at 30 June 2006 (30 June 2005 Nil).

## 9. EVENTS AFTER THE BALANCE SHEET DATE

The Company plans to operate a branch in London from premises subleased from Commonwealth Bank of Australia, London branch from 17 July 2006. The purpose of the branch is to raise funding under approved debt issuance programmes. ASB Bank Limited injected additional capital during the year of \$179,000 to cover the costs of establishing the London branch.



## Auditor's Report

To the Shareholders of ASB Finance Limited.

We have audited the financial statements on pages 1 to 4. The financial statements provide information about the past financial performance of the company and group and their financial position as at 30 June 2006. This information is stated in accordance with the accounting policies set out on page 3.

## Directors' Responsibilities

The directors are responsible for the preparation of financial statements which comply with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand and give a true and fair view of the financial position of the company and group as at 30 June 2006 and of their financial performance for the year ended on that date.

## Auditor's Responsibilities

It is our responsibility to express an independent opinion on the financial statements presented by the directors and report our opinion to you.

## **Basis of Opinion**

An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes assessing:

- the significant estimates and judgements made by the directors in the preparation of the financial statements; and
- whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the circumstances of the company and group, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards in New Zealand. We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatements, whether caused by fraud or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

Other than in our capacity as auditor we have no relationship with, or interest in; the company or any of its subsidiaries.



## **Unqualified Opinion**

We have obtained all the information and explanations we have required.

In our opinion:

- proper accounting records have been kept by the company as far as appears from our examination of those records; and
- the financial statements on pages 1 to 4:
  - comply with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand; and
  - give a true and fair view of the financial position of the company and group as at 30 June 2006 and their financial performance for the year ended on that date.

Our audit was completed on 15 September 2006 and our unqualified opinion is expressed as at that date.

Auckland

# Registered and Head Offices of the Issuers

## Commonwealth Bank of Australia

Level 7 48 Martin Place Sydney NSW 2000 Australia

# ASB Finance Limited, London Branch

Senator House 85 Queen Victoria Street London EC4V 4HA

## **ASB Finance Limited**

Level 28
ASB Bank Centre
135 Albert Street
Auckland
New Zealand

## Registered and Head Office of the Guarantor

ASB Bank Limited Level 28 ASB Bank Centre 135 Albert Street Auckland

## **Dealers**

## Citigroup Global Markets Limited

Citigroup Centre Canada Square Canary Wharf London E14 5LB England

New Zealand

## Credit Suisse First Boston (Europe) Limited

One Cabot Square London E14 4QJ England

## Dresdner Bank AG London Branch

30 Gresham Street, London EC2P 2XY England

## J.P. Morgan Securities Ltd.

125 London Wall London EC2Y 5AJ England

## Merrill Lynch International

Merrill Lynch Financial Centre 2 King Edward Street London EC1A 1HQ England

## Nomura International plc

Nomura House
1 St Martin's-le-Grand
London EC1A 4NP
England

## Commonwealth Bank of Australia

acting through its branches outside Australia

## Deutsche Bank AG, London Branch

Winchester House 1 Great Winchester Street London EC2N 2DB England

## **HSBC** Bank plc

8 Canada Square London E14 5HQ England

## Lehman Brothers International (Europe)

25 Bank Street London E14 5LE England

# Morgan Stanley & Co. International Limited

25 Cabot Square Canary Wharf London E14 4QA England

## **UBS** Limited

1 Finsbury Avenue London EC2M 2PP England **Trustee** 

The Law Debenture Trust Corporation p.l.c.

Fifth Floor 100 Wood Street London EC2V 7EX

England

Agent

Deutsche Bank AG, London Branch

Winchester House

1 Great Winchester Street

London EC2N 2DB

England

Registrar

Deutsche Bank Luxembourg S.A.

2 Boulevard Konrad Adenauer

L-1115 Luxembourg

Luxembourg

Paying and Transfer Agents Deutsche Bank AG, London

**Branch** 

Winchester House

1 Great Winchester Street

London EC2N 2DB

England

Credit Suisse

Paradeplatz 8 8001 Zurich Switzerland

**Deutsche Bank Luxembourg** 

S.A.

2 Boulevard Konrad Adenauer

L-1115 Luxembourg

Luxembourg

Auditors to the Issuers and the Guarantor Commonwealth Bank of

Australia Ernst & Young 321 Kent Street

Sydney NSW 2000

Australia

ASB Finance Limited and

ASB Bank Limited Ernst & Young 41 Shortland Street

Auckland New Zealand