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Long-term strategy delivers continuing customer satisfaction and profit growth

Highlights of 2015 Result

- Statutory net profit after tax (NPAT) of \$9,063 million – up 5 per cent on prior year^{(1) (2)};
- Cash NPAT up 5 per cent to \$9,137 million;
- Return on equity (cash basis) of 18.2 per cent;
- Earnings per share (cash basis) up 5 per cent to 560.8 cents;
- Fully franked final dividend of \$2.22 per share, taking total for the year to \$4.20, up 5 per cent on prior year;
- Improvement in Group cost to income ratio of 10 bpts to 42.8 per cent, underpinned by continued focus on productivity;
- Capital position remained strong, with a Basel III Common Equity Tier 1 (CET1) ratio of 12.7 per cent on an internationally comparable basis⁽³⁾, and 9.1 per cent on an APRA basis as at 30 June 2015;
- Capital raising through approximately \$5 billion pro rata renounceable entitlement offer which further strengthens the Group's internationally comparable capital ratios and places the Group in the top quartile of international peers as recommended by the Financial System Inquiry;
- 7 per cent increase in average interest earning assets to \$755 billion;
- Liquidity of \$132 billion – representing a Liquidity Coverage Ratio of 120 per cent, \$22 billion above regulatory requirements;
- Customer deposits up \$39 billion to \$478 billion – representing 63 per cent of the Group's total funding; and
- Continued investment in the future (\$1.2 billion in the 2015 financial year) with particular focus on technology and productivity.

(1) Except where otherwise stated, all figures relate to the full year ended 30 June 2015. The term "prior year" refers to the full year ended 30 June 2014, while the term "prior half" refers to the half year ended 31 December 2014. Unless otherwise indicated, all comparisons are to "prior full year".

(2) For an explanation of, and reconciliation between, Statutory and Cash NPAT refer to pages 2, 3 and 15 of the Group's Profit Announcement for the full year ended 30 June 2015, which is available at www.commbank.com.au/shareholders.

(3) Analysis aligns with the 13 July 2015 APRA study titled "International capital comparison study".

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Wednesday, 12 August 2015: The Commonwealth Bank of Australia (“the Group”) today announced its results for the financial year ended 30 June 2015. The Group’s statutory NPAT was \$9,063 million, which represents a 5 per cent increase on the prior year. Cash NPAT was \$9,137 million, also up 5 per cent. The Group also announced the launch of a \$5 billion pro rata renounceable entitlement offer for all shareholders.

The Board declared a final dividend of \$2.22 per share – an increase of 2 per cent on the 2014 final dividend. Total dividend for the year was \$4.20 – an increase of 5 per cent. The cash dividend payout ratio for full year was 75.1 per cent of cash NPAT, which was in line with the prior year and within the Board’s target range of 70 to 80 per cent. The final dividend will be fully franked and will be paid on 1 October 2015. The ex-dividend date is 18 August 2015.

The Group maintained a strong balance sheet throughout the year, including high levels of capital with all ratios well in excess of regulatory minimum capital adequacy requirements. The Group is raising capital to meet future requirements including the change to average mortgage risk weights for Australian residential mortgages announced by APRA in July 2015. This further strengthens the Group’s internationally comparable capital ratios and places the Group in the top quartile of its international peers in relation to its capital levels.

Commenting on the result, Group Chief Executive Officer, Ian Narev said: “Over many years now we have pursued a simple, consistent strategy. This result shows that execution of that strategy continues to deliver well for our customers and our shareholders. This financial year saw all-time highs in retail customer satisfaction, with the Group returning to the number one position at year-end, and ongoing high levels of customer satisfaction in our other businesses. As a result, our balance sheet continued to grow, and combined with ongoing margin discipline, this resulted in good levels of revenue growth given market conditions. We also maintained our focus on productivity, which is particularly important given increasing levels of regulatory and compliance costs.

Technology again featured strongly in the high levels of investment that we maintained throughout this financial year. Our focus remains on the use of technology to improve all our channels, and to underpin continuous process improvement, to simplify our customers’ experience with us. The impact of our technology focus is particularly clear in transaction banking and deposits in this result.

Maintaining a flexible and strong balance sheet, including a strong capital position, continues to be a strategic focus for the Group. We now have greater certainty regarding the key requirements of global relativity and mortgage risk weights. Our announcement today strengthens our position in response to those requirements. This will provide us with on-going flexibility so we can continue to support our customers.

These results can only be achieved by the hard work and dedication of our people. Their commitment to enhancing the financial wellbeing of people, businesses and communities benefits

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a wide range of stakeholders. These include more than 15 million customers, and nearly 800,000 Australian households who directly own our shares and the millions more who own their shares through their superannuation funds. This year we paid over \$6.8 billion in dividends to our shareholders and they saw the value of their investment grow by \$9 billion⁽¹⁾. Beyond our customers and shareholders, our performance has benefited a broader group of stakeholders including our 52,000 people, more than 6,000 small businesses which supply goods and services to us, and the broader communities in which we operate, particularly the education sector in which we have recently announced significant new initiatives.”

Key components of the result include:

- Aligned with the Group’s strategic focus on the customer, the Group regained the number one position in customer satisfaction among the major Australian banks in its Australian retail banking business⁽²⁾, while maintaining equal first position in business customer satisfaction;
- Group net interest income increased by 5 per cent, with average interest earning assets up \$50 billion to \$755 billion and retail and business average interest bearing deposits⁽³⁾ – up \$32 billion to \$445 billion;
- Net interest margin (NIM) decreased by 5 basis points to 2.09 per cent year on year driven by the negative impacts of the falling cash rate environment and an increase in liquid assets. Excluding treasury and markets, Group NIM was down 1 basis point over the year, with continued sound management of the volume/margin trade-off during the period in a highly competitive, low-rate environment;
- Other banking income increased 12 per cent due to increased commissions, higher trading income, which was driven by strong Markets sales and trading performance and a favourable counterparty valuation adjustment. This was partly offset by the implementation of a new derivative valuation methodology, Funding Valuation Adjustment (FVA), which resulted in an initial cost of \$81 million;
- Funds management income was flat on a “headline” basis at \$1,938 million. Excluding the impact of Property transactions and businesses from the comparative results, income increased 8 per cent, driven by a 14 per cent increase in average Funds Under Administration;
- Insurance income decreased 3 per cent due to an unusually large number of weather event claims during the year in New South Wales and Queensland;
- Expense growth was higher, increasing 5 per cent on the prior year, due to staff expenses and the impact of the lower Australian dollar. The major driver of expense growth was growing regulatory, compliance and remediation costs, including those associated with a number of legislative reforms (FATCA, FoFA, Stronger Super), provisioning for the costs of the Advice Review program and ongoing regulatory engagement;
- The Group improved its cost-to-income ratio by 10 basis points to 42.8 per cent, assisted by the continued focus on productivity initiatives which delivered savings of \$260 million over the past 12 months. Our focus on productivity continues to deliver both revenue and cost benefits;
- In a relatively stable credit environment, the ratio of cash loan impairment expense (LIE) to gross loans and acceptances remained unchanged at 16 basis points;

(1) Increase in the Group’s market capitalisation.

(2) Results for the Roy Morgan retail MFI Satisfaction survey. Based on six month rolling average up to and including June 2015.

(3) Includes transactions, savings and investment average interest bearing deposits.

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- Conservative provisioning was maintained, with total loan impairment provisions of \$3.6 billion, and the ratio of provisions to credit risk weighted assets at 1.14 per cent. Collective provisions included a management overlay of \$755 million including an increased economic overlay;
- The Group continued to satisfy a significant portion of lending growth from customer deposits, now accounting for 63 per cent of total funding. During the year, the Group issued \$31 billion of long-term wholesale debt in multiple currencies;
- The Group continued to invest in the long-term growth of the business, with \$1.2 billion invested on initiatives including risk and compliance projects, technology and productivity;
- Ongoing organic capital generation delivered a Basel III CET1 ratio of 12.7 per cent on an internationally comparable basis⁽¹⁾ and 9.1 per cent on an APRA basis; and
- The Group remained one of only a limited number of global banks in the 'AA-' ratings category.

Capital raising through \$5 billion pro rata renounceable entitlement offer

The Group will offer entitlements to CBA ordinary shares pro rata to all eligible shareholders, which can be exercised to buy 1 new share for every 23 shares held on the record date for the offer at an offer price of \$71.50 per new share ("Entitlements"). This represents a 10.5 per cent discount to the dividend adjusted closing price on the ASX on 11 August 2015. Eligible Retail Shareholders who do not exercise, sell or transfer their Entitlements will have their Entitlements sold on their behalf through a bookbuild process and any sale proceeds will be paid to them.

The offer will be fully underwritten to raise approximately \$5 billion. Approximately 71 million new fully paid CBA ordinary shares will be issued (approximately 4.3 per cent of shares on issue).

Following the capital raising, the Group's pro forma CET1 ratio will be 14.3 per cent on an internationally comparable basis (which assumes full implementation of the Basel III reforms), and 10.4 per cent on an APRA basis. You should refer to the results presentation for the full year ended 30 June 2015 for further information on the offer and its financial impact on the Group.

New shares acquired through the offer will not receive the dividend payable for the full year ended 30 June 2015. New shares will rank equally with existing shares in all other respects.

On the outlook for the next 12 months, Ian Narev said: "The Australian economy has some good foundations. The RBA's monetary policy settings have stimulated residential construction activity, which has aided the economy's transition from its dependence on mining investment. The Federal Budget's small business measures have had a discernible impact. Business credit quality is generally very good, while in the household sector savings rates are solid. Household credit quality remains high, though the banking sector and our regulators are conscious of the potential impacts of a sustained period of low interest rates, and are therefore taking measured action.

Risks remain in the near-term resulting from some ongoing volatility in parts of the global economy. One important factor to watch over the next year will be whether the lower dollar stimulates investment by export-sensitive industries, to create jobs and stimulate consumer demand.

(1) Analysis aligns with the 13 July 2015 APRA study titled "International capital comparison study".

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In the longer term, we have a positive view of the Australian economy. In growing markets in our region, there is a high demand from people who want to buy Australian goods and services, invest in Australia, educate their children in Australia, visit Australia and in some cases move to Australia. Australia's exceptional natural and human resources position us well. But we must ensure that our policy environment positions our economy to benefit from its strengths. Businesses and all sides of politics must work together towards a goal of a more diverse and productive economy. We need particular focus on a more efficient and fair tax system, building of high-quality and well-prioritised infrastructure, and trade and foreign investment settings.

At CBA we will continue our significant investment in our long-term strategic priorities. Our ongoing goal is to have highly motivated people putting the customer at the centre of everything we do, and focusing on deploying leading technology to simplify our customers' dealings with us, and to continuously make the organisation more productive.”

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APPENDIX: SUMMARY TABLE OF KEY FINANCIAL INFORMATION

	Full Year Ended			Half Year Ended		
	30 Jun 15 \$M	30 Jun 14 \$M	Jun 15 vs Jun 14 %	30 Jun 15 \$M	31 Dec 14 \$M	Jun 15 vs Dec 14 %
Represented by:						
Retail Banking Services	3,867	3,678	5	1,875	1,992	(6)
Business and Private Banking	1,459	1,321	10	716	743	(4)
Institutional Banking and Markets	1,268	1,252	1	615	653	(6)
Wealth Management	650	789	(18)	303	347	(13)
New Zealand	865	742	17	430	435	(1)
Bankwest	752	675	11	374	378	(1)
IFS and Other	276	223	24	201	75	large
Net profit after tax ("cash basis")⁽¹⁾	9,137	8,680	5	4,514	4,623	(2)
Net profit after tax ("statutory basis")⁽²⁾	9,063	8,631	5	4,528	4,535	-

	Full Year Ended			Half Year Ended		
	30 Jun 15 \$M	30 Jun 14 \$M	Jun 15 vs Jun 14 %	30 Jun 15 \$M	31 Dec 14 \$M	Jun 15 vs Dec 14 %
Key Shareholder Ratios						
Earnings per share ("cash basis") - basic (cents)	560.8	535.9	5	276.7	284.1	(3)
Return on equity ("cash basis") (%)	18.2	18.7	(50)bpts	17.8	18.6	(80)bpts
Return on assets ("cash basis") (%)	1.1	1.1	-	1.1	1.1	-
Dividend per share - fully franked (cents)	420.0	401	5	222	198	12
Dividend payout ratio ("cash basis") (%)	75.1	75.1	-	80.5	69.8	large
Other Performance Indicators						
Total average interest earning assets (\$M)	754,872	705,371	7	771,364	738,648	4
Funds Under Administration - average (\$M)	287,136	263,860	9	298,882	274,923	9
Net interest margin (%)	2.09	2.14	(5)bpts	2.07	2.12	(5)bpts
Operating expenses to total operating income (%)	42.8	42.9	(10)bpts	43.3	42.2	110bpts

(1) Net Profit after income tax ("cash basis") – represents net profit after tax and non-controlling interests before Bankwest non-cash items, the gain on sale of management rights, treasury shares valuation adjustment, Bell Group litigation and unrealised gains and losses related to hedging and IFRS volatility. This is Management's preferred measure of the Group's financial performance.

(2) Net Profit after income tax ("statutory basis") – represents net profit after tax and non-controlling interests, Bankwest non-cash items, the gain on sale of management rights, treasury shares valuation adjustment, Bell Group litigation expense and unrealised gains and losses related to hedging and IFRS volatility. This is equivalent to the statutory item "Net profit attributable to Equity holders of the Bank".

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Important Information

The pro forma historical financial information included in this announcement does not purport to be in compliance with Article 11 of Regulation S-X of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

This announcement does not constitute an offer to sell, or the solicitation of an offer to buy, any securities in the United States or to persons acting for the account or benefit of persons in the United States. Neither the entitlements nor the new shares have been, or will be, registered under the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), or the securities laws of any state or other jurisdiction of the United States. Accordingly, the entitlements and the new shares may not be offered or sold to persons in the United States or to persons who are acting for the account or benefit of persons in the United States, unless they have been registered under the Securities Act, or are offered and sold in a transaction exempt from, or not subject to, the registration requirements of the Securities Act and applicable U.S. state securities laws.

Neither this announcement nor any other documents relating to the offer of entitlements or new shares may be sent or distributed to persons in the United States.

This announcement contains forward-looking statements, which can usually be identified by the use of words such as such as "may", "will", "expect", "intend", "plan", "estimate", "anticipate", "believe", "continue", "objectives", "outlook", "guidance" or words of similar effect. These forward-looking statements are not guarantees or predictions of future performance, and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors, many of which are beyond the control of CBA, and which may cause actual outcomes to differ materially from those expressed in the statements contained in this announcement. Undue reliance should not be placed on these forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are based on information available to CBA as of the date of this announcement. Except as required by law or regulation (including ASX Listing Rules) CBA undertakes no obligation to update these forward-looking statements.