



**Access Bank Plc
Unaudited results for the quarter ended 30 June 2008**

ACCESS BANK PLC REPORTS 98% INCREASE IN NET PROFIT FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 30 JUNE 2008 TO N6.1 BILLION

LAGOS, NIGERIA – 22 July 2008 – Access Bank Plc, (Bloomberg: ACCESS NL) (“Access Bank” or the “Bank”), a full service commercial bank with headquarters in Nigeria and with new operations across 6 African nations, announces unaudited results in the quarter ended 30 June 2008.

Commenting on the results Aigboje Aig-Imoukhuede, CEO of Access Bank, said:

“Following the recent news of our fifth consecutive year of triple digit growth we are delighted to announce a strong start to the current financial year. We have doubled profitability compared with the same period last year as we continue to generate robust revenue growth across all of our operating divisions while achieving further success in our drive to control costs. Assuming current market conditions are maintained, we expect to improve upon the strong first quarter result over the remainder of the financial year.”

Financial Highlights

- Gross Earnings of N20.6 billion, an increase of 85%, compared with the prior year period (N11.1 billion June 2007)
- Profit before tax of N8.0 billion, an increase of 98% (N4.1 billion June 2007)
- Profit after tax of N6.1 billion, an increase of 98% (N3.1 billion June 2007)
- Profit before tax to Gross Earnings ratio of 39% (36% in June 2007)

Significant growth across all 3 main divisions

- Institutional Banking profit before tax up over 116% to N4.9 billion (N2.27 billion in June 2007) continuing on last financial year’s triple digit growth
- Commercial Banking profit before tax up over 92% to N.2.1 billion (N1.1 billion in June 2007)
- Investment Banking profit before tax up over 44% to N947 million (N655 million in June 2007)

- ENDS -

Conference Call for Results

Access Bank Plc (Bloomberg: Access NL) will be hosting a teleconference call for analysts and investors on Tuesday 22nd July at 11am BST (7am New York/ 11am London/ Lagos) with its senior management to discuss Access Bank Plc's full year results for the twelve month period ended 31 March 2008 as well as today's quarterly result. There will also be an opportunity at the end of the call for management to take questions from investors and analysts.

The teleconference call facility can be accessed by dialing:

+44 (0)20 7138 0816 in the UK

+1 718 354 1171 in the US

And then entering the following access code:

9575422

Participants should register for the call at least five minutes before the start of the presentation.

For those who are unable to listen to the live call, a replay facility will be available until **5th August 2008** by dialing +44 (0)20 7806 1970 and entering access code 9575422#

The presentation will be posted to Access Bank's website on the morning of the 22nd July at www.accessbankplc.com.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact Africa Practice or Financial Dynamics on the contact numbers listed below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

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Notes to editors:

About Access Bank plc

Access Bank plc is a full service commercial bank operating through a network of over 110 branches and service outlets located in all major commercial centres and cities across Nigeria.

Access Bank Plc was incorporated in 1989 as a private limited liability company with ownership residing with Nigerians and Nigerian institutional investors. The Bank was subsequently listed on the Nigerian Stock Exchange in 1998. In January 2002, it was successfully recapitalized and consequently came under its current leadership.

Access Bank Plc was one of the first to successfully comply with the Central Bank of Nigeria's banking consolidation policy through the acquisition of two quality Nigerian banks: Capital Bank International Plc (Formerly Commercial Bank Credit Lyonnaise Ltd) and Marina International Bank Ltd. The three banks were fully integrated operationally - people, process and technology - in a record time of 60 days. The Bank was appointed a Settlement Bank by the Central Bank of Nigeria and acknowledged as Nigeria's "Most Improved Bank".

The merger has propelled Access Bank Plc to rank amongst the top 8 Banks in Nigeria with assets in excess of ₦1 trillion.

More information can be found at www.accessbankplc.com