

BANK OF BOTSWANA

Press Release

LICENSING OF A NEW BANK

It is hereby notified for the general information of the public that, in accordance with Section 3(1) of the Banking Act (CAP. 46:04), Capital Bank Limited has been granted a licence with effect from December 27, 2007 to transact commercial banking business in Botswana.

Capital Bank Limited is a majority owned subsidiary of First Merchant Bank Limited, a registered commercial bank in Malawi. Capital Bank Limited will be situated at Plot 17954, Old Lobatse Road, Gaborone.

In accordance with the Banking Act, Capital Bank Limited is expected to commence operations within 12 months from the date of issuance of the Banking Licence.

January 15, 2008

For further information, please contact:

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