

PRESS RELEASE

Ecobank launches Ecobank Regional Card in South Africa

Lome, Togo, 27th May 2010 Holders of the Ecobank Regional Card will be able to withdraw cash within South Africa from any Nedbank ATM from the 27th of May 2010.

The inclusion of South Africa in the usage of the Ecobank Regional Card was announced today by Ecobank group CEO Arnold Ekpe in Togo. He said the move was part of the Ecobank Nedbank Alliance Initiative which has brought the two banks into a co-operative partnership.

“I am pleased to announce that the Ecobank regional Card will as of today enable holders to withdraw their money in South African Rands, from any of the 1,860 Nedbank ATMs throughout the country,” Mr. Ekpe said.

Until this month, Ecobank’s Regional cards could only be used in 29 sub-Saharan countries in which Ecobank has a network of ATMs and POSs.

With the addition of South Africa, the number of ATM’s from which cash can be accessed through the Ecobank Regional Card within Africa has shot up to over 2,460. The Regional Card comes in three different types – the Azur, Gold and Platinum. The difference between these cards is related to the amount that the holder can access daily. The cards are available to anyone with an Ecobank account.

The upcoming world cup games will offer considerable advantage to any holder of the Ecobank Regional Card travelling from within the continent to watch the games. They will not need to carry any travellers’ cheques or any cash at all as they will be able to access South African Rands from any Nedbank ATM.

“Enabling Ecobank regional Card holders to access their money in South Africa is part of a long term strategy to grow our presence and influence on the continent,” Mr. Ekpe said. “The growing number of African businessmen and tourists visiting South Africa and other countries within the continent will find it very convenient to access their money through the card.”

Although the timing of the launch of the Regional Card’s usage in South Africa suggests that the Ecobank Nedbank Alliance wants to maximize the uptake of the service, Ecobank insists that the long term benefits of holding the card are the main reason behind its introduction.

About Ecobank (www.ecobank.com)

Incorporated in Lome, Togo, Ecobank Transnational Incorporated (ETI) is the parent company of the leading independent regional banking group in Africa. It currently has a presence in 30 African countries, namely: Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo (Brazzaville), Congo (Democratic Republic), Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia. The group is also represented in France through its affiliate EBI S.A. in Paris. ETI also has a presence in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, where it holds a license for a representative office but is not yet operational.

ETI is listed the stock exchanges in Lagos, Accra and the West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA) – the BRVM. The Group is owned by more than 180,000 local and international institutional and individual shareholders. It has over 11,000 employees from 29 different countries in over 700 branches. Ecobank is a full-service bank providing wholesale, retail, investment and transaction banking services and products to governments, financial institutions, multinationals, international organizations, medium, small and micro businesses and individuals.

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