

CREDIT RATING ANNOUNCEMENT

GCR suspends ratings on Access Bank (South Africa) Limited

Rating action

Johannesburg, 16 February 2024 – GCR Ratings (GCR) has suspended the ratings on Access Bank (South Africa) Limited without review.

GCR has not yet received adequate information on Access Bank (South Africa) Limited, and therefore a review of the ratings cannot be finalised as a result of GCR's information sufficiency standard requirement. GCR will only reinstate the ratings and analytical coverage for Access Bank (South Africa) Limited should the required information be received and will otherwise withdraw the ratings in the next three months. The ratings were last reviewed in July 2022:

<https://gcratings.com/announcements/gcr-upgrades-access-bank-south-africa-limiteds-national-scale-long-term-issuer-credit-rating-on-improved-ongoing-competitive-turnaround-capital-injection-and-liquidity-to-bbza-outlook-p/>

A credit rating suspension does not imply that the entity is not servicing its debt obligations or that its financial position has deteriorated, but rather that it has failed to provide important information pertaining to its credit profile. To view the GCR withdrawal and suspension policy please visit:

https://gcratings.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/CRS04_PUB_POL_Withdrawal-and-suspension.pdf

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Related criteria and research

Criteria for the GCR Ratings Framework, January 2022
GCR Rating Scales, Symbols & Definitions, May 2023
Criteria for Rating Financial Institutions, May 2019

Ratings history

Access Bank (South Africa) Limited					
Rating class	Review	Rating scale	Rating	Outlook	Date
Long Term issuer	Initial	National	BBB _(ZA)	Negative	November 2019
	Last	National	BB _(ZA)	Positive	July 2022
Short Term issuer	Initial	National	A3 _(ZA)	n/a	November 2019
	Last	National	B _(ZA)	n/a	July 2022

Glossary

Capital	The sum of money that is invested to generate proceeds.
Coverage	The scope of the protection provided under a contract of insurance.
Debt	An obligation to repay a sum of money. More specifically, it is funds passed from a creditor to a debtor in exchange for interest and a commitment to repay the principal in full on a specified date or over a specified period.
Financial Institution	An entity that focuses on dealing with financial transactions, such as investments, loans and deposits.
Issuer	The party indebted or the person making repayments for its borrowings.
Liquidity	The speed at which assets can be converted to cash. It can also refer to the ability of a company to service its debt obligations due to the presence of liquid assets such as cash and its equivalents. Market liquidity refers to the ease with which a security can be bought or sold quickly and in large volumes without substantially affecting the market price.
Obligation	The title given to the legal relationship that exists between parties to an agreement when they acquire personal rights against each other for entitlement to perform.
Policy	The legal document issued by the company to the policyholder, which outlines the conditions and terms of the insurance.
Senior	A security that has a higher repayment priority than junior securities.
Servicing	The calculation of interest and repayments, collection of repayments, advancing of loans, foreclose procedures, maintaining records and seeing that the proceeds of each loan are passed on to the respective party.
Short Term	Current; ordinarily less than one year.
Upgrade	The rating has been raised on its specific scale.

Salient points of accorded rating

GCR affirms that a.) no part of the rating process was influenced by any other business activities of the credit rating agency; b.) the ratings process was based solely on the merits of the rated entity, security or financial instrument being rated; and c.) the ratings process was an independent evaluation of the risks and merits of the rated entity, security or financial instrument.

The credit ratings have been disclosed to the rated entity.

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