consistently executing our strategies and focusing on delivering sustainable value to all stakeholders.

Profit for the period increased by 20.5% to N$597.4 million (2014: N$495.6 million). Earnings per share increased by 21% to 226.5 cents (2014: 187.2 cents).

Key ratios tracked the results. Return on average equity improved to 35.4% (2014: 35.0%), return on average assets increased to 3.9% (2014: 3.7%). Cost to income ratio was a very efficient 42.4%.

Statement of comprehensive income

Interest

Net interest income increased by 15.6% to N$815.5 million (2014: N$705.5 million). Although in an increasing interest rate cycle, the group is benefiting from the positive endowment effect. Due to an increase in the average cost of deposits, banks have been experiencing a margin squeeze. Interest expense increased by 22% compared to interest income growth of 18%.

Impairment losses

For the first six months of the financial year, the total impairment charge was N$31.7 million (2014: N$30.1 million), amounting to a 0.27% (2014: 0.20%) charge of average advances. The portfolio provision charge of N$3.3 million (2014: N$18.9 million) is in line with the group's strategy of maintaining an appropriate level of provisioning on the performing book.

Non-interest income

Non-interest income increased by 15.6% to N$744.2 million (2014: N$643.9 million). Net fee and commission income increased by 11.9%. Consumers benefited from a waiver of cash deposit fees on individual and sme transactions which came into effect in April 2015.

We remain focussed on increasing our client base. Year on year our customer numbers increased by 15% to 661 000. Electronic transactions have increased at 18%, while traditional branch volumes decreased by 2% in line with our strategy to migrate clients to electronic channels. Although this erodes revenue to an extent, we are pleased to pass on the benefits of our strategy to encourage use of innovative electronic banking.

Fair value income contributed N$108.3 million (2014: N$80.5 million) or 14.6% to non-interest income, buoyed by the increased Kwanza trade in the first part of the period.

Net insurance premium income and net claims and benefits paid

OUTsurance's net premium income for the six months increased by 24.3%. The high growth in new business has increased claims and benefits by more than premium income. Increased new business also lead to higher initial expenses which reduced profit after tax by 23% against the corresponding period in 2014. The profitability is expected to return to normal as new business matures.

Operating expenses

Total operating expenses increased by 12.5% to N$677.5 million (2014: N$602.4 million). Staff related costs, amounted to more than 50% of operating expenses, and are up 11.0%. Staff numbers grew by 7.4%, largely due to the strengthening of our risk and compliance team. A minimum annual salary increase of 7.75% was agreed with the union, which resulted in an average salary increase of 8.6%.

IT costs increased by 10.4% to N$96.8 million reflecting our ongoing investment in systems and delivery channels to ensure our banking platforms continue to differentiate us from the market.

The group continues to incur investment costs in increasing our footprint. An additional outlet was opened in Rundu in December 2015 to alleviate congestion in the main branch. Thirty-one new ATMs/mini ATMs were installed with associated data line and rental costs.

Statement of financial position

The group's total assets grew by 15.6% to N$32.5 billion. Advances, making up 76.7% of the balance sheet, reflected a year on year increase of 15.1% to N$24.9 billion. Growth was ahead of private credit extension, which grew annually by 13.6% in December 2015.

Term loans increased by 26.0% to N$6.3 billion, reflecting good progress in facilitating business transactions. Overdrafts are up by 21.8% to N$2.7 billion reflecting increased exposures across the market. FNB's home loan book has surpassed the N$11 billion mark, representing 45.9% (2014: 47.1%) of FNB's advances book. This is not considered a concentration risk due to a stable and active Namibian property market. On average the loan to value ratio is close

The ratio of non-performing loans to gross advances increased to 0.92% (2014: 0.75%). Non-performing loans increased to N$231.9 million (2014: N$163 million), inflated mainly by one large commercial property transaction which is likely to be recovered. Impairments held have increased by a lesser degree from N$168.9 million to N$184.2 million indicating that the non-performing book is well secured.

Investment in our new head office building is reflected in the growth of the property and equipment line. Over the past 12 months an increase of 22% to N$906 million was recorded.

Deposits increased by 11.7% to N$25.7 billion, trailing the growth in advances. The slower growth in general customer deposits, particularly influenced by large corporate clients, was supported by the issuance of additional NCD's in the professional market.

Diversification of both source and term funding remain focus areas to reduce liquidity and concentration risk.

Capital management

FNB remains well capitalised with a total capital adequacy of 15.8% – the same level as December 2014. This is well above the regulatory requirement of 10% and internal board approved target of 14.2%. Economic risk is still backed by a strong Tier 1 capital level of 13.1% (2014: 12.4%).

The group seeks to hold limited excess capital, unless required to support business growth and future regulatory changes.

OUTsurance's solvency margin, a measure of an insurance company's ability to pay claims, was 32.4% (2014: 33.8%) against a statutory minimum requirement of 15%.

All subsidiaries remain well capitalised.

Dividend strategy

After a review of the annual Internal Capital Adequacy Assessment Process (ICAAP), the dividend cover was revised by the board to align it more closely to the ultimate shareholder dividend cover range towards the close of the 2015 financial year. The new dividend cover range for FNB Namibia is 1.8x to 3.0x. Cover for 2015 was reduced to 2.0x (2014: 2.4x). The board considered this to be both appropriate and prudent as all the group's buffers will remain intact.

The level of payout is re-evaluated annually, taking into account actual performance, demand for capital, macroeconomic conditions and regulatory changes.

The interim dividend growth is higher as a result of the change in dividend cover adopted during the year ended June 2015. The group expects growth in dividend for the full year to track normalised earnings more closely.

Events subsequent to the reporting date

The directors are not aware of any material events, as defined in IAS 10, occurring between 31 December 2015 and the date of authorisation of the results announcement.

Board changes

Mr Claus Hinrichsen retired as Director and Chairman of the FNB Namibia Holdings Board effective 31 December 2015. Ms Jennifer Comalie, an independent non-executive director, resigned from the board on 29 October 2015.

Group prospects

The group forecasts economic growth to slow in 2016. Falling commodity prices and looming water shortages pose downside risks. Water intensive sectors such as construction, agriculture, manufacturing, and hydro power generation will be negatively affected.

Rising inflation, slower employment growth and higher interest rates will weigh on real disposable income growth and constrain credit growth. The economy is unlikely to see a meaningful increase in household consumption growth in the face of higher food prices. In the light of muted export growth, rising imports and rising inflation, it is likely the weak local currency will accelerate inflation.

We expect operating conditions to become more challenging – on both the economic and regulatory fronts. However, we believe our strong balance sheet, diversified earnings base and innovative initiatives at providing cost-effective and efficient banking for all will ensure a sustainable performance.

For and on behalf of the board

S H Moir, Acting Chairman
SJ van Zyl, Chief executive

Windhoek, 29 January 2016

Condensed consolidated statement of comprehensive income

N$'000	Notes	Unaudited Six months ended 31 December 2015	2014	Audited Year ended 30 June 2015
Interest and similar income	2	1 377 743	1 166 653	2 413 043
Interest expense and similar charges	2	(562 275)	(461 154)	(960 176)
Net interest income before impairment of advances		815 468	705 499	1 452 867
Impairment of advances		(31 739)	(30 062)	(49 882)
Net interest income after impairment of advances		783 729	675 437	1 402 985
Non-interest revenue	3	744 167	643 885	1 260 061
Net insurance premium income		91 709	73 785	153 944
Net claims and benefits paid		(51 821)	(35 888)	(82 310)
Income from operations		1 567 784	1 357 219	2 734 680
Operating expenses	4	(677 595)	(602 441)	(1 221 986)
Net income from operations		890 189	754 778	1 512 694
Share of profit from associate after tax		524	409	558
Income before tax		890 713	755 187	1 513 252
Indirect tax		(15 948)	(12 472)	(26 611)
Profit before tax		874 765	742 715	1 486 641
Direct tax		(277 403)	(247 076)	(487 979)
Profit for the period		597 362	495 639	998 662
Other comprehensive income for the period				
Items that will not be reclassified to profit and loss				(1 924)
Remeasurements on net defined benefit liability/asset				(2 871)
Income tax relating to items that will not be reclassified				947
Items that may be reclassified subsequently to profit and loss		(31 873)	1 351	(13 382)
Available-for-sale financial assets adjustments		(55 150)	2 016	(20 075)
Income tax relating to items that will be reclassified		23 277	(665)	6 693
Total comprehensive income for the period		565 489	496 990	983 356
Profit for the period attributable to:				
Equity holders of the parent		590 143	486 483	981 905
Non-controlling interests		7 219	9 156	16 757
Profit for the period		597 362	495 639	998 662
Total comprehensive income for the period attributable to:				
Equity holders of the parent		558 270	487 834	966 599
Non-controlling interests		7 219	9 156	16 757
Total comprehensive income for the period		565 489	496 990	983 356
Earnings per share (cents)				
Basic and diluted earnings per share (cents)		226.5	187.2	377.5
		226.5	187.2	377.5

Condensed consolidated statement of financial position

N$'000	Notes	Unaudited as at 31 December 2015	2014	Audited as at 30 June 2015
Assets				
Cash and cash equivalents		1 081 503	1 058 699	795 225
Due from banks and other financial institutions		1 964 969	1 168 016	1 585 029
Derivative financial instruments		322 047	152 231	158 644
Advances	6	24 912 020	21 634 217	22 833 693
Investment securities		3 003 391	3 172 569	3 365 927
Accounts receivable		278 817	158 777	185 614
Investments in associate		4 250	3 577	3 726
Property and equipment		906 295	741 966	849 171
Intangible assets		451	4 617	2 534
Deferred income tax asset		4 277	3 371	3 897
Reinsurance assets		1 066	930	191
Tax asset		664	2 846	664
Total assets		32 479 750	28 101 816	29 784 315
Equity and liabilities				
Liabilities				
Deposits	7.1	25 664 392	22 970 271	23 951 813
Due to banks and other financial institutions	7.2	1 748 608	894 264	1 020 016
Derivative financial instruments		308 682	173 187	172 188
Short trading positions		32 386		26 693
Creditors and accruals		295 714	218 557	431 781
Tax liability		105 975	99 342	49 774
Employee liabilities		136 769	129 139	167 830
Deferred income tax liability		85 901	72 986	110 904
Policyholders liabilities under insurance contracts		67 214	57 402	69 770
Finance lease obligation			4 070	2 060
Tier two liabilities		392 706	392 695	392 635
Total liabilities		28 838 347	25 011 913	26 395 464
Capital and reserves attributable to ordinary equity holders of parent		3 602 826	3 057 326	3 348 673
Non-controlling interests		38 577	32 577	40 178
Total equity		3 641 403	3 089 903	3 388 851
Total equity and liabilities		32 479 750	28 101 816	29 784 315

Condensed consolidated statement of changes in equity

N$'000	Attributable to equity holders of the parent[1] Unaudited Six months ended 31 December 2015	2014	Audited Year ended 30 June 2015	Non-controlling interests Unaudited Six months ended 31 December 2015	2014	Audited Year ended 30 June 2015
Balance at beginning of the period	3 348 673	2 745 911	2 745 911	40 178	31 261	31 261
Total comprehensive income for the period	558 270	487 834	966 599	7 219	9 156	16 757
Share option costs	4 278	3 444	8 246			
Transfer between reserves			337			
Dividends paid	(291 769)	(174 237)	(358 942)	(8 820)	(7 840)	(7 840)
Consolidation of share trusts	(16 626)	(5 626)	(13 478)			
Balance at end of the period	3 602 826	3 057 326	3 348 673	38 577	32 577	40 178

[1] includes general risk reserve

Condensed consolidated statement of cash flow

N$'000	Unaudited Six months ended 31 December 2015	2014	Audited Year ended 30 June 2015
Net cash generated from operations	925 120	786 172	1 134 851
Tax paid	(237 814)	(220 546)	(472 593)
Net cash flow from operating activities	687 306	565 626	662 258
Net cash flow from investing activities	(86 031)	(188 287)	(350 154)
Net cash flow from financing activities	(314 997)	(186 219)	(384 458)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	286 278	191 120	(72 354)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the period[1]	795 225	867 579	867 579
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period	1 081 503	1 058 699	795 225

[1] includes mandatory reserve deposits with central bank

Condensed notes to the consolidated financial results
for the reporting period ended 31 December 2015

1. Basis of preparation

The group prepares its condensed consolidated interim financial results in accordance with the:

- recognition and measurement requirements of International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS)
- presentation and disclosure requirements of IAS 34 Interim Financial Reporting; and
- Namibian Companies Act.

The accounting policies applied in the preparation of the condensed interim consolidated financial statements are in terms of IFRS and are consistent with those accounting policies applied in the preparation of the previous consolidated annual financial statements. There were no new standards and interpretations which became effective for the first time in the current financial period.

The estimates and judgements made in applying the accounting policies are consistent with those applied and disclosed in the annual financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2015.

The condensed consolidated interim results for the six months ended 31 December 2015 have not been audited or independently reviewed by the group's external auditors.

2. Analysis of interest income and interest expense

N$'000	Six month ended December 2015	Six month ended December 2014	Year ended June 2015
Interest and similar income			
- Advances	1 213 364	989 581	2 071 584
- Cash and cash equivalents	37 688	64 658	103 234
- Investment securities	103 272	96 953	199 501
- Unwinding of discounted present value on non performing loans	13 637	4 618	13 314
- Unwinding of discounted present value on off-market advances	920	2 713	5 978
- On impaired advances	(4 944)	(2 747)	(3 699)
- Net release of deferred fee and expenses	12 421	9 866	21 279
- Other	1 385	1 011	1 852
	1 377 743	1 166 653	2 413 043
Interest expense and similar charges			
- Deposits from banks and financial institutions	(21 473)	(17 495)	(34 664)
- Current accounts	(52 494)	(59 002)	(112 562)
- Savings deposits	(5 869)	(4 897)	(10 205)
- Call deposits	(108 648)	(118 662)	(237 827)
- Term deposits	(122 740)	(89 583)	(194 231)
- Negotiable certificates of deposit	(234 430)	(155 243)	(338 142)
- Tier two liabilities	(16 009)	(15 657)	(31 325)
- Other	(612)	(615)	(1 220)
	(562 275)	(461 154)	(960 176)

3. Non-interest revenue

N$'000	Six month ended December 2015	Six month ended December 2014	Year ended June 2015
Fee and commission income:			
- Card commissions	65 399	56 436	105 327
- Cash deposit fees	59 808	87 159	153 439
- Commissions: bills, drafts and cheques	15 028	17 972	36 868
- Service fees	301 066	229 183	469 754
- Fiduciary service fees	3 472	4 280	9 340
- Other commissions	190 992	169 984	326 152
- Banking fee and commission income	635 765	565 014	1 100 878
- Brokerage income	23 994	27 028	52 379
- Unit trust and related fees	6 196	8 528	17 327
- Reinsurance commission received by insurance companies	2 281	2 612	5 056
- Non banking fee and commission income	32 471	38 168	74 762
Fee and commission income	668 236	603 182	1 175 640
Fee and commission expenses:			
- Transaction processing fees	(32 222)	(33 619)	(68 155)
- Cash sorting handling and transportation charges	(10 191)	(8 613)	(18 750)
- Card and cheque book related	(1 064)	(2 656)	(4 809)
- Insurance operations	(2 669)	(2 823)	(5 616)
- ATM commissions paid	(2 426)	(1 277)	(2 650)
- Other	(1 392)	(1 775)	(2 875)
Fee and commission expenses	(49 964)	(50 763)	(102 955)
Net fee and commission income	618 272	552 419	1 072 685

Non banking fee and commission income earned relates to fees and commissions earned for rendering services to clients other than those related to the banking operations. This includes commission earned on the sale of insurance products.

N$'000	Six month ended December 2015	Six month ended December 2014	Year ended June 2015
Fair value gains or losses:			
- Foreign exchange trading	71 044	48 528	91 173
- Treasury trading operations	28 394	(4 511)	4 873
- Designated at fair value through profit or loss	8 859	36 524	59 709
Fair value gains or losses	108 297	80 541	155 755
Gains less losses from investing activities			
- Gains on investment securities designated at fair value through profit or loss	4 024	3 147	6 696
- Gains on realisation of available-for-sale financial assets			(198)
- Dividends received (unlisted investments)	10 214	5 404	14 596
- Share of profit from associate after tax	524	409	558
Gross gains less losses from investing activities	14 762	8 960	21 652
Less: Share of profit from associate after tax (disclosed separately on face of the statement of comprehensive income)	(524)	(409)	(558)
Gains less losses from investing activities	14 238	8 551	21 094
Other non-interest income			
- Gains and losses on sale of property and equipment	(154)	24	(62)
- Rental income	867	695	1 414
- Other income	2 647	1 655	9 175
Other non-interest income	3 360	2 374	10 527
Total non-interest income	744 167	643 885	1 260 061

4. Operating expenses

N$'000	Six month ended December 2015	Six month ended December 2014	Year ended June 2015
Auditors' remuneration			
- Audit fees	3 373	2 855	5 961
- Fees for other services			598
Auditors' remuneration	3 373	2 855	6 559
Operating lease charges			
- Property	14 027	13 427	28 569
- Equipment	6 615	4 835	10 391
Operating lease charges	20 642	18 262	38 960
Staff costs			
- Salaries, wages and allowances	284 717	251 795	501 763
- Off-market staff loans amortisation	920	2 713	5 978
- Contributions to employee benefit funds	60 924	52 663	108 647
- Defined contribution schemes: pension	27 588	24 193	48 083
- Defined contribution schemes: medical	33 336	28 470	60 564
- Post retirement medical expense	2 355	2 138	2 713
- Severance pay: death in service	354	311	758
- Social security levies	967	887	1 797
- Training levies	3 575	3 087	6 221
- Share-based payments	4 278	9 112	16 550
Total staff costs	358 090	322 706	644 427
Other operating costs			
- Amortisation of intangible assets	2 083	2 083	4 167
- Depreciation	28 907	22 470	46 415
- Insurance	3 720	3 804	8 233
- Advertising and marketing	28 319	27 371	57 960
- Property and maintenance related expenses	35 708	29 197	60 379
- Legal and other related expenses	4 145	3 516	8 102
- Postage	2 144	2 173	4 648
- Stationery and printing	6 792	7 270	15 354
- Telecommunications	11 210	9 333	19 213
- Travel and accommodation	7 114	6 740	13 407
- Computer and processing related costs	96 841	87 682	168 576