



Access Bank Plc Shareholders Approve Merger with Diamond Bank Plc

Valued Investor,

Access Bank Plc ("the Bank") announced the approval of its proposed merger with Diamond Bank Plc by shareholders of the Bank.

At the Court-Ordered Meeting held on Tuesday, March 05, 2019, the Bank's shareholders overwhelmingly approved the proposed Scheme of Merger by 97.89% of votes cast in favour. The endorsement has further paved the way for completion of the merger which is expected to deliver significant benefits to the Bank's shareholders.

The Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) and the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) have granted their approvals in principle for the Scheme of Merger. Subject to final regulatory approvals and judicial sanction of the Scheme, the combined business is expected to start operating on April 01, 2019.

Commenting on the votes by shareholders, Herbert Wigwe, Group Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer of Access Bank, Said:

"I'm delighted that the shareholders of both companies share our vision and have supported this merger. The merger is about bringing together our complementary retail and corporate banking capabilities to create one of Nigeria's leading Tier banks. This accelerates our strategy of becoming a leading bank in Nigeria and Africa's gateway to the World. This combination will create the largest retail bank in Africa by customer base and a very significant player in the Nigerian market – thereby creating more opportunities for our customers, colleagues and shareholders."