

# THE KINGDOM OF MOROCCO

U.S.\$1,000,000,000 4.25% Notes due 2022 Issue price: 99.228%

U.S.\$500,000,000 5.50% Notes due 2042 Issue price: 97.464%

The U.S.\$1,000,000,000 4.25% Notes due 2022 (the "2022 Notes") and the U.S.\$500,000,000 5.50% Notes due 2042 (the "2042 Notes" and, together with the 2022 Notes, the "Notes") to be issued by the Kingdom of Morocco (the "Issuer", the "Kingdom" or "Morocco"), will mature and be redeemed at their principal amount on 11 December 2022, in respect of the 2022 Notes, and 11 December 2042, in respect of the 2042 Notes, unless previously purchased and cancelled. See "Terms and Conditions of the Notes—5. Redemption, Purchase and Cancellation".

The 2022 Notes will bear interest from and including 11 December 2012 (the "Issue Date") at a rate of 4.25% per annum and will be payable semi-annually in arrear on 11 June and 11 December in each year. The first payment of interest in respect of the 2022 Notes will be made on 11 June 2013. The 2042 Notes will bear interest from and including the Issue Date at a rate of 5.50% per annum and will be payable semi-annually in arrear on 11 June and 11 December in each year. The first payment of interest in respect of the 2042 Notes will be made on 11 June 2013. Payments on the Notes will be made in U.S. Dollars without deduction for or on account of any Moroccan withholding taxes unless the withholding is required by law, in which case the Issuer will pay additional amounts in respect of such taxes, subject to certain exceptions as set forth in "Terms and Conditions of the Notes—7. Taxation" and "Taxation".

# AN INVESTMENT IN THE NOTES INVOLVES CERTAIN RISKS PROSPECTIVE INVESTORS SHOULD CONSIDER THE FACTORS DESCRIBED UNDER THE SECTION HEADED "RISK FACTORS" IN THIS PROSPECTUS.

The Notes have not been and will not be registered under the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act") or any U.S. state securities laws and are being offered and sold in the United States only to qualified institutional buyers ("QIBs") (as defined in Rule 144A under the Securities Act pursuant to an exemption from, or in a transaction not subject to, the registration requirements of the Securities Act. Prospective purchasers that are QIBs are hereby notified that the seller of Notes may be relying on the exemption from the provisions of Section 5 of the Securities Act provided by Rule 144A (such Notes so offered and sold, the "Rule 144A Notes"). In addition, Notes are being offered outside the United States in reliance on Regulation S under the Securities Act ("Regulation S", such Notes so offered and sold, the "Regulation S Notes"). Transfers of Notes are subject to the restrictions described under "Transfer Restrictions".

This prospectus (the "Prospectus") constitutes a prospectus for the purposes of Article 5.3 of Directive 2003/71/EC, as amended by Directive 2010/73/EU (the "Prospectus Directive"). Application has been made to the Commission de Surveillance du Secteur Financier (the "CSSF") in its capacity as competent authority, under the Law on Prospectuses for Securities, to approve this document as a prospectus. The CSSF gives no undertaking as to the economic and financial soundness of the transaction or the quality or solvency of the Issuer in accordance with Article 7(7) of the Law on Prospectuses for Securities. Application has also been made to the Luxembourg Stock Exchange for the Notes to be admitted to trading on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange's Regulated Market (the "Market") and to be listed on the Official List of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange (the "Official List"). References in this Prospectus to the Notes being "listed" (and all related references) shall mean that the Notes have been admitted to the Official List and have been admitted to trading on the Market. The Market is a regulated market for the purposes of the Markets in Financial Instruments Directive 2004/39/EC. There is no assurance that a trading market in the Notes will develop or be maintained.

The Notes will be offered and sold in registered form in denominations of U.S.\$200,000 and any amount in excess thereof that is an integral multiple of U.S.\$1,000. The Regulation S Notes will be represented by beneficial interests in unrestricted global note certificates (the "Regulation S Global Notes") in registered form without interest coupons attached, which will be registered in the name of Citivic Nominees Limited, as nominee for, and shall be deposited on or about the Issue Date with, Citibank Europe plc, as common depositary for, and in respect of interests held through, Euroclear Bank SA/NV ("Euroclear") and Clearstream Banking, société anonyme ("Clearstream, Luxembourg"). Beneficial interests in the Regulation S Global Notes will be shown on, and transfers thereof will be effected only through, records maintained by Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg and their participants.

The Rule 144A Notes will initially be represented by restricted global note certificates (the "Rule 144A Global Notes" and, together with the Regulation S Global Notes, the "Global Notes") in registered form, without interest coupons attached, which will be deposited with a custodian (the "Custodian") for, and registered in the name of Cede & Co., as nominee of, The Depository Trust Company ("DTC") on or about the Issue Date. Beneficial interests in the Rule 144A Global Notes will be shown on, and transfers thereof will be effected only through, records maintained by DTC and its participants. See "Clearing and Settlement". Except as described herein, definitive registered certificates evidencing holdings of Notes issued in exchange for beneficial interests in the Global Notes will be available only in certain limited circumstances. See "Provisions Relating to the Notes while in Global Form".

Long-term foreign-currency debt of the Kingdom is currently rated BBB- with a negative outlook by Standard & Poor's Credit Market Services Europe Limited ("\$&P") and BBB- with a stable outlook by Fitch Ratings Limited ("Fitch"). The Notes are expected to be rated BBB- by each of \$&P\$ and Fitch. A rating is not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold securities and may be subject to revision, suspension, reduction or withdrawal at any time by the assigning rating organisation. The credit ratings included or referred to in this Prospectus will be treated for the purposes of Regulation (EC) • 1060/2009 on credit rating agencies (the "CRA Regulation") as having been issued by \$&P\$ and Fitch, respectively. Each of \$&P\$ and Fitch is established in the European Union (the "EU") and is registered under the CRA Regulation. As such, each of \$&P\$ and Fitch is included in the latest update of the list of registered credit rating agencies published by the European Securities and Markets Authority on its website (http://www.esma.europa.eu/page/List-registered-and-certified-CRAs) in accordance with the CRA Regulation as of the date of this Prospectus. Any change in the rating of the Notes could adversely affect the price that a purchaser will be willing to pay for the Notes. See "Risk Factors—Risks Relating to the Kingdom—The Kingdom's Credit Rating".

Joint Lead Managers

Barclays Citi BNP PARIBAS NATIXIS

# RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENT

The Kingdom accepts responsibility for the information contained in this Prospectus. To the best of the knowledge and belief of the Kingdom (having taken all reasonable care to ensure that such is the case), the information contained in this Prospectus is in accordance with the facts and does not omit anything likely to affect the import of such information. The opinions, assumptions, intentions, projections and forecasts expressed in this Prospectus with regard to the Kingdom are honestly held by the Kingdom, have been reached after considering all relevant circumstances and are based on reasonable assumptions.

Information included herein that is identified as being derived from information published by the Kingdom or one of its agencies or instrumentalities is included herein on the authority of such publication as a public official document of the Kingdom. All other information herein with respect to Morocco is included herein as a public official statement made on the authority of the Ministry of Economy and Finance.

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

No person has been authorised to give any information or to make any representation other than as contained in this Prospectus in connection with the offering of the Notes and, if given or made, such information or representation must not be relied upon as having been authorised by the Issuer or the Joint Lead Managers (as defined in "Subscription and Sale"). Neither the delivery of this Prospectus nor any offer or sale of the Notes made hereunder shall, under any circumstances, constitute a representation or create any implication that there has been no change in the affairs of the Issuer since the date hereof. The Joint Lead Managers expressly do not undertake to review the financial condition or affairs of the Issuer during the life of the Notes or to advise any investor in Notes of any information coming to their attention. This Prospectus may only be used for the purpose for which it has been published.

The Joint Lead Managers have not separately verified the information contained in this Prospectus. Accordingly, no representation, warranty or undertaking, express or implied, is made, and no responsibility or liability is accepted, by the Joint Lead Managers as to the accuracy or completeness of the information contained in this Prospectus or any other information provided by the Issuer in connection with the Notes or their distribution.

This Prospectus is not intended to provide the basis of any credit or other evaluation and should not be considered as a recommendation by the Kingdom or the Joint Lead Managers that any recipient of this Prospectus should purchase any of the Notes. Each investor contemplating purchasing Notes should make its own independent investigation of the financial condition and affairs, and its own appraisal of the creditworthiness, of the Kingdom. Neither this Prospectus nor any other information supplied in connection with the Notes constitutes an offer or invitation by or on behalf of the Kingdom or any of the Joint Lead Managers to any person to subscribe for or to purchase any Notes.

Neither the delivery of this Prospectus nor the offering, sale or delivery of any Notes shall in any circumstances imply that the information contained herein concerning the Kingdom is correct at any time subsequent to the date hereof or that any other information supplied in connection with the Notes is correct as of any time subsequent to the date indicated in the document containing the same.

This Prospectus does not constitute an offer to sell or an offer to buy in any jurisdiction to any person to whom it is unlawful to make the offer or solicitation in such jurisdiction, nor does this Prospectus constitute an offer or an invitation to subscribe for or purchase any Notes and it should not be considered as a recommendation by the Issuer or any Joint Lead Manager that any recipient of this Prospectus should subscribe for or purchase any Notes. The distribution of this Prospectus and the offering, sale and delivery of the Notes in certain jurisdictions may be restricted by law. Persons into whose possession this Prospectus comes are required by the Issuer and the Joint Lead Managers to inform themselves about and to observe any such restrictions. None of the Issuer or the Joint Lead Managers makes any representation to any recipient of this Prospectus regarding the legality of an investment in the Notes by such recipient under applicable investment or similar laws. Each investor should consult with its own advisers as to the legal, tax, business, financial and related aspects of its purchase of the Notes. For a description of certain restrictions on offers, sales and deliveries of Notes, see "Subscription and Sale" and "Transfer Restrictions".

The Notes have not been registered with, recommended by or approved or disapproved by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission or any other securities commission or other regulatory authority in the United States, nor have the foregoing authorities passed upon or endorsed the merits of the offering of the Notes or approved this Prospectus or confirmed the accuracy or determined the adequacy of the information contained in this Prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offence in the United States.

i

IN CONNECTION WITH THE ISSUE OF THE NOTES, CITIGROUP GLOBAL MARKETS LIMITED (THE "STABILISING MANAGER") (OR ANY PERSON ACTING FOR THE STABILISING MANAGER) MAY OVER-ALLOT NOTES OR EFFECT TRANSACTIONS WITH A VIEW TO SUPPORTING THE MARKET PRICE OF THE NOTES IN EACH SERIES AT A LEVEL HIGHER THAN THAT WHICH MIGHT OTHERWISE PREVAIL. HOWEVER, THERE IS NO ASSURANCE THAT THE STABILISING MANAGER (OR PERSONS ACTING ON BEHALF OF THE STABILISING MANAGER) WILL UNDERTAKE STABILISATION ACTION. ANY STABILISATION ACTION MAY BEGIN ON OR AFTER THE DATE ON WHICH ADEQUATE PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF THE TERMS OF THE OFFER OF THE NOTES IN EACH SERIES IS MADE AND, IF BEGUN, MAY BE ENDED AT ANY TIME, BUT IT MUST END NO LATER THAN THE EARLIER OF 30 DAYS AFTER THE ISSUE DATE OF THE NOTES IN EACH SERIES AND 60 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF THE INITIAL ALLOTMENT OF THE NOTES IN EACH SERIES. ANY STABILISATION ACTION OR OVER-ALLOTMENT MUST BE CONDUCTED BY THE STABILISING MANAGER (OR PERSONS ACTING ON BEHALF OF THE STABILISING MANAGER) IN ACCORDANCE WITH ALL APPLICABLE LAWS AND RULES.

This Prospectus has been prepared by the Issuer for use in connection with the offer and sale of the Notes outside the United States, the resale of the Notes in the United States in reliance on Rule 144A under the Securities Act and the admission of the Notes to the Official List and to trading on the Market. The Issuer and the Joint Lead Managers reserve the right to reject any offer to purchase Notes, in whole or in part, for any reason. This Prospectus does not constitute an offer to any person in the United States other than any QIB to whom an offer has been made directly by one of the Joint Lead Managers or its U.S. broker-dealer affiliate. Distribution of this Prospectus to any person within the United States, other than any QIB and those persons, if any, retained to advise such QIB with respect thereto, is unauthorised and any disclosure without the prior written consent of the Issuer of any of its contents to any person within the United States, other than any QIB and those persons, if any, retained to advise such QIB, is prohibited.

# NOTICE TO NEW HAMPSHIRE RESIDENTS ONLY

NEITHER THE FACT THAT A REGISTRATION STATEMENT OR AN APPLICATION FOR A LICENCE HAS BEEN FILED UNDER CHAPTER 421-B OF THE NEW HAMPSHIRE REVISED STATUTES ("RSA 421 B") WITH THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE NOR THE FACT THAT A SECURITY IS EFFECTIVELY REGISTERED OR A PERSON IS LICENSED IN THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE CONSTITUTES A FINDING BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE THAT ANY DOCUMENT FILED UNDER RSA 421-B IS TRUE, COMPLETE AND NOT MISLEADING. NEITHER ANY SUCH FACT NOR THE FACT THAT AN EXEMPTION OR EXCEPTION IS AVAILABLE FOR A SECURITY OR A TRANSACTION MEANS THAT THE SECRETARY OF STATE HAS PASSED IN ANY WAY UPON THE MERITS OR QUALIFICATIONS OF, OR RECOMMENDED OR GIVEN APPROVAL TO, ANY PERSON, SECURITY OR TRANSACTION. IT IS UNLAWFUL TO MAKE, OR CAUSE TO BE MADE, TO ANY PROSPECTIVE PURCHASER, CUSTOMER OR CLIENT ANY REPRESENTATION INCONSISTENT WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS PARAGRAPH.

# NOTICE TO KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA RESIDENTS

This Prospectus may not be distributed in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia except to such persons as are permitted under the Offers of Securities Regulations issued by the Capital Market Authority of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (the "Capital Market Authority").

The Capital Market Authority does not make any representations as to the accuracy or completeness of this Prospectus, and expressly disclaims any liability whatsoever for any loss arising from, or incurred in reliance upon, any part of this Prospectus. Prospective purchasers of the securities offered hereby should conduct their own due diligence on the accuracy of the information relating to the securities. If a prospective purchaser does not understand the contents of this Prospectus he or she should consult an authorised financial adviser.

# NOTICE TO BAHRAIN RESIDENTS

In relation to investors in the Kingdom of Bahrain, Notes issued in connection with this Prospectus may only be offered in registered form to existing account holders and accredited investors as defined by the Central Bank of Bahrain

("CBB") in the Kingdom of Bahrain where such investors make a minimum investment of at least U.S.\$100,000 (or equivalent in other currencies).

This Prospectus does not constitute an offer of securities in the Kingdom of Bahrain in terms of Article (81) of the Central Bank and Financial Institutions Law 2006 (Decree Law No. 64 of 2006). The offering documents have not been and will not be registered as a prospectus with the CBB. Accordingly, no securities may be offered, sold or made the subject of an invitation for subscription or purchase nor will this Prospectus or any other related document or material be used in connection with any offer, sale or invitation to subscribe or purchase securities, whether directly or indirectly, to persons in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

The CBB has not reviewed or approved the offering documents and it has not in any way considered the merits of the Notes to be offered for investment, whether in or outside the Kingdom of Bahrain. Therefore, the CBB assumes no responsibility for the accuracy and completeness of the statements and information contained in this document and expressly disclaims any liability whatsoever for any loss howsoever arising from reliance upon the whole or any part of the content of this Prospectus.

# SERVICE OF PROCESS AND ENFORCEMENT OF CIVIL LIABILITIES

The Kingdom is a foreign sovereign state, and a substantial portion of the assets of the Kingdom is located outside the United Kingdom and the United States. As a result, it may not be possible for investors to effect service of process within the United Kingdom or the United States upon the Kingdom or to enforce judgments obtained in courts located in the United Kingdom, the United States or elsewhere against the Kingdom, including, without limitation, judgments predicated upon the civil liability provisions of the securities laws of the United States or any state or territory within the United States. The Kingdom has irrevocably appointed the Ambassador of the Kingdom to the Court of St James's as its authorised agent for the service of process in England and Wales.

The Kingdom has irrevocably submitted to the non-exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of England and Wales for purposes of any suit, action or proceeding arising out of or relating to the Notes (a "**Related Proceeding**"). The Kingdom has also irrevocably agreed that all claims in respect of any Related Proceeding may be heard and determined in such English courts. The Kingdom has irrevocably waived the defence of an inconvenient forum to the maintenance of any Related Proceeding whether on grounds of venue, residence or domicile.

There may be insufficient assets of the Kingdom located outside of Morocco to satisfy in whole or part any judgment obtained from an English court relating to amounts owing under the Notes. If investors were to seek enforcement of an English judgment in Morocco or to bring proceedings in relation to the Notes in Morocco, then certain limitations would apply.

The enforcement of foreign judgments in Morocco is governed by the relevant provisions of the Moroccan Code of Civil Procedure. Under those provisions, a judgment obtained in any English court would be recognised and enforced by the courts in Morocco without reconsideration of its merits provided that the foreign judgment satisfies the following additional conditions:

- (i) the foreign judgment must have been issued by a court competent to do so under the law of the relevant country;
- (ii) the foreign judgment must be final and enforceable in the country in which it was rendered, and the foreign judgment must not be based on documents subsequently deemed or found to be untrue and must not contain contradictory terms;
- (iii) the defendant must have been properly served with legal process with respect to the proceeding in which the foreign judgment was rendered and due process must have been observed in connection with the proceeding, and no party to the litigation must have failed to deliver to the court material documents relating to the dispute and the defence rights of each party have been preserved;
- (iv) the foreign judgment must not be contrary to Moroccan public policy;
- (v) a final judgment in the same case between the same parties must not have been rendered by a Moroccan court;
- (vi) no action commenced prior to the relevant foreign proceeding may be pending with respect to the same subject matter and between the same parties before the Moroccan courts.

Prospective investors in Notes should be aware that, pursuant to Moroccan law, the Kingdom's properties and assets, including, *inter alia*, commercial assets of the Kingdom, located in the Kingdom are immune from execution, attachment or other legal or judicial process, and, in any Related Proceeding brought in Moroccan courts against the Kingdom or brought in those courts to enforce or seek recognition of a judgment obtained outside Morocco, the Kingdom's waiver of immunity referred to above would not be given effect. Investors should therefore be aware that the waiver of immunity is likely to be ineffective in respect of the attachment of assets and properties located in the Kingdom.

See "Risk Factors—Risks Relating to the Kingdom—Jurisdiction and Sovereign Immunity".

# FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This Prospectus includes statements that are, or may be deemed to be, "forward-looking statements". These forward-looking statements can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology, including the terms "believes", "estimates", "anticipates", "projects", "expects", "intends", "may", "will", "seeks" or "should" or, in each case, their negative or other variations or comparable terminology, or in relation to discussions of strategy, plans, objectives, goals, future events or intentions. These forward-looking statements include matters that are not historical facts. They appear in a number of places throughout this Prospectus and include statements regarding the Kingdom's current intentions, plans, estimates, assumptions, programmes, beliefs or expectations.

These statements are not historical facts, but are based on the Kingdom's current plans, estimates, assumptions and projections. Future events may differ materially from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Therefore, prospective investors should not place undue reliance on them. Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date they are made, and the Kingdom undertakes no obligation to update any of them in light of new information or future events. Forward-looking statements involve inherent risks. The Kingdom cautions prospective investors that many factors could affect the future performance of the Moroccan economy.

In addition to the factors described in the Prospectus, including but not limited to, those discussed under "*Risk Factors*", the following factors, among others, could cause future results to differ materially from those expressed in any forward-looking statements made herein, including external factors, such as:

- the global financial crisis;
- the Eurozone crisis:
- economic conditions in Morocco's major export markets and host countries of Moroccans resident abroad (referred to as "MREs");
- interest rates in financial markets outside of Morocco;
- the impact of changes in the credit ratings of Morocco;
- the impact of events in the region, such as the events of the Arab Spring, which led, in Morocco to, among other things, demonstrations and calls for changes;
- the impact of changes in the international prices of commodities, in particular commodities that benefit from subsidies, such as oil products and cereals; and
- the decisions of international financial institutions regarding the terms of their financial assistance to Morocco and the funding of new or existing projects over the life of the Notes,

as well as internal factors, such as:

- general economic and business conditions in Morocco;
- present and future exchange rates of the Dirham;
- foreign currency reserves;
- natural disasters;

- the impact of the climate, in particular rainfall, on agriculture;
- terrorism;
- the level of domestic debt;
- domestic inflation;
- the ability of the Kingdom to implement economic reforms;
- the levels of foreign direct and portfolio investment; and
- the levels of Moroccan domestic interest rates.

# PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL AND OTHER INFORMATION

Unless otherwise stated, all annual information, including budgetary information, is based on calendar years. Certain figures included in this Prospectus have been subject to rounding adjustments; accordingly, figures shown for the same category presented in different tables may vary slightly and figures shown as totals in certain tables may not be an arithmetic aggregation of the figures, which precede them. It should be noted that certain historic data set out herein may be subject to amendment as a result of more accurate and updated information becoming available. Statistical information reported herein has been derived from official publications of, and information supplied by, a number of agencies of the Kingdom, including the *Haut Commissariat au Plan* (the "**HCP**") and the *Ministère de l'Economie et des Finances* (the "**Ministry of Economy and Finance**"), as well as *Bank Al-Maghrib*, Morocco's central bank ("**Bank Al-Maghrib**") and the *Office des Changes*. Some statistical information has also been derived from information publicly made available by the World Bank. Certain historical statistical information contained herein is based on estimates that the Kingdom or its agencies believe to be based on reasonable assumptions.

Statistics are maintained by these sources in Dirhams, U.S. Dollars or Euros, as applicable. Certain statistics recorded in currencies other than Dirhams have been converted into Dirhams at the exchange rates indicated in this Prospectus. Similar statistics may be obtained from other sources, although the underlying assumptions and methodology, and consequently the resulting data, may vary from source to source. Although every effort has been made to include in this Prospectus the most reliable and the most consistently presented data, no assurance can be given that such data were compiled or prepared on a basis consistent with international standards. However, as far as the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco (the "Government") is aware and is able to ascertain from the information published by these entities, the information has been accurately reproduced and no facts have been omitted which would render the reproduced information inaccurate or misleading.

# **Review and Adjustment of Statistics**

The Kingdom's official financial and economic statistics are subject to review as part of a regular confirmation process. Accordingly, financial and economic information may differ from previously published figures and may be subsequently adjusted or revised. Certain of the information and data contained in this Prospectus for all or part of the fiscal year 2011 and interim periods in 2012 are preliminary and subject to further adjustment or revision. While the Government does not expect revisions to be material, no assurance can be given that material changes will not be made.

## **Data Dissemination**

The Kingdom is a subscriber to the International Monetary Fund's ("IMF") Special Data Dissemination Standard (the "SDDS"), which is designed to improve the timeliness and quality of information of subscribing member countries. The SDDS requires subscribing member countries to provide schedules indicating, in advance, the date on which data will be released, the so-called "Advance Release Calendar". For Morocco, precise dates or "no-later-than dates" for the release of data under the SDDS are disseminated no later than three months in advance through the Advance Release Calendar, which is published on the Internet under the IMF's Dissemination Standards Bulletin Board. Summary methodologies of all metadata to enhance transparency of statistical compilation are also provided on the Internet under the IMF's Dissemination Standard Bulletin Board.

The website is http://dsbb.imf.org/Applications/web/sddscountrycategorylist/?strcode=MAR. The website and any information on it are not part of this Prospectus.

## **Definitions**

All references in this Prospectus to the "Government" or to the "Parliament" are to the central government or to the Parliament of the Kingdom, respectively.

References in this Prospectus to "to "Dirhams" and "Dh" refer to the currency of Morocco; references to "U.S. Dollars" and "U.S.\$" are to the currency of the United States; references to "Euros" and "€" are to the single currency introduced at the start of the third stage of European Economic and Monetary Union pursuant to the Treaty establishing the European Community, as amended by the Treaty on European Union.

Gross Domestic Product ("GDP") is a measure of the total value of final products and services produced in a country. "Nominal GDP" measures the total value of final production in current prices. "Real GDP" measures the total value of final production in constant prices, thus allowing historical GDP comparisons that exclude the effect of inflation. For the purposes of this Prospectus, Real GDP figures are calculated by reference to previous year prices. Unless otherwise stated, references in this Prospectus to "GDP" are to Real GDP figures.

# **EXCHANGE RATE HISTORY**

For ease of presentation, certain financial information included herein is presented as translated into U.S. Dollars and Euros. As at 7 December 2012, the closing exchange rates, expressed as an average of the selling and buying rate as quoted by Bank Al-Maghrib were U.S.\$1 = Dh 8.553 and €1 = Dh 11.112.

The following tables set forth the exchange rate history for the periods indicated, expressed in Dirhams per U.S. Dollar and Dirhams per Euro, respectively, and not adjusted for inflation, as published by Bank Al-Maghrib.

Dirham to U.S. Dollar Exchange Rate History

	Low	High	Average	Period End			
_	(Dirhams per U.S.\$1.00)						
2012 (up to and including 31 October 2012)	8.478	8.610	8.558	8.555			
2011	7.626	8.611	8.085	8.577			
2010	7.781	9.163	8.424	8.357			
2009	7.556	8.824	8.089	8.860			
2008	7.202	8.851	7.783	8.098			
2007	7.645	8.602	8.195	7.713			

Source: Bank Al-Maghrib.

**Dirham to Euro Exchange Rate History** 

	Low	High	Average	Period End		
_	(Dirhams per €1.00)					
2012 (up to and including 31 October 2012)	11.096	11.135	11.111	11.113		
2011	11.096	11.384	11.250	11.106		
2010	10.934	11.339	11.151	11.171		
2009	11.033	11.405	11.249	11.316		
2008	11.026	11.509	11.353	11.246		
2007	11.096	11.379	11.218	11.359		

Source: Bank Al-Maghrib.

The rates in the above tables may differ from the actual rates used in the preparation of the information appearing in this Prospectus. The inclusion of these exchange rates is not meant to suggest that any amount of the currencies specified above has been, or could be, converted into the applicable currency at the rates indicated or at any other rate.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
RISK FACTORS	1
OVERVIEW	9
USE OF PROCEEDS	15
DESCRIPTION OF THE KINGDOM OF MOROCCO	16
THE MOROCCAN ECONOMY	26
EXTERNAL SECTOR	44
MONETARY AND FINANCIAL SYSTEM	57
PUBLIC FINANCE	68
PUBLIC DEBT	75
TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE NOTES	85
PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE NOTES WHILE IN GLOBAL FORM	93
CLEARING AND SETTLEMENT	96
TAXATION	100
SUBSCRIPTION AND SALE	103
TRANSFER RESTRICTIONS	107
GENERAL INFORMATION	109

# **RISK FACTORS**

The purchase of Notes involves substantial risks and is suitable only for, and should be made only by, investors that are fully familiar with the Kingdom in general and that have such other knowledge and experience in financial and business matters as may enable them to evaluate the risks and the merits of an investment in the Notes. Prior to making an investment decision, prospective investors should consider carefully, in light of their own financial circumstances and investment objectives, all the information set forth herein and, in particular, the risk factors set forth below.

The Kingdom believes that the risk factors described below represent the principal risks in relation to the Kingdom and the Notes. Prospective investors should, however, note that there may be additional risks and uncertainties that the Kingdom currently considers immaterial or of which the Kingdom is currently unaware, and any of these risks and uncertainties could have similar effects as those set forth below or other adverse effects. Prospective purchasers of Notes should make such inquiries as they think appropriate regarding the Kingdom and the Notes without relying on the Kingdom or the Joint Lead Managers.

# Risks Relating to the Kingdom

## Political Risks

Concurrent with the events around the Arab World known as the "Arab Spring", predominantly peaceful demonstrations occurred in a number of Moroccan cities commencing on 20 February 2011, which led to the development of the 20 February Movement (the "20 February Movement"). In response to the calls for reform of the 20 February Movement, on 9 March 2011, King Mohamed VI announced a plan to reform the constitution and established an advisory committee to propose constitutional reforms. The new Constitution (the "2011 Constitution") was subsequently approved by a vote of the Moroccan people in a referendum on 1 July 2011. Since the approval of the 2011 Constitution, there have been further demonstrations, including in May 2012, calling for the implementation of economic and further constitutional reforms. There can be no assurance that further demonstrations or political protests will not take place. Such events could directly or indirectly affect Morocco and its economy.

Under the 2011 Constitution, the legislative branch consists of a bicameral Parliament, the House of Representatives and the House of Counsellors. Legislative elections, which were brought forward from 2012 following the adoption of the 2011 Constitution, last took place in November 2011. These elections resulted in the *Parti de la Justice et du Développement* (the "**PJD**"), a moderate Islamist party, gaining the largest number of seats in Parliament and replacing *Parti de l'Istiqlal* (the Party of Independence) as the largest parliamentary party. The *Parti de l'Istiqlal* and two other parties joined the PJD as part of a coalition Government, which was formed in early January 2012 following a confidence vote of Parliament in respect of the coalition Government's programme. The PJD had previously spent two decades in opposition. Although other parties in the coalition Government, notably *Parti l'Istiqlal*, have experience in Government and four ministries are headed by non-political figures, this is the PJD's first time in power. There can be no assurance that the Government will continue to, or be able to, implement its programme, including the proposed political, economic and social reforms. Any failure of the Government to implement its programme, in whole or in part, may lead to a deterioration of general economic and political conditions in the Kingdom.

In addition, the 2011 Constitution, requires the passage of 19 organic laws to implement various constitutional reforms. A number of the organic laws will require further implementing regulations and rule making. Thus far, only one organic law has been adopted by Parliament and been signed into law. Although the organic laws in effect prior to the adoption of the 2011 Constitution pertaining to 14 existing public institutions and bodies remain in place until replaced by new organic laws, there remains a degree of legal uncertainty in the Kingdom, and any failure to adopt the remaining organic laws implementing the reforms set out in the 2011 Constitution may lead to a deterioration of political conditions in the Kingdom.

Since 1975, Morocco has been involved in a territorial conflict involving the Western Sahara, a phosphate-rich region in the south. Morocco has long asserted sovereignty over the territory and, ever since Spain's agreement in 1975 to withdraw from the Western Sahara and to cede the territory to Morocco, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Saguia el Hamra and Rio de Oro (the "Polisario Front") has waged a violent campaign of resistance against Morocco with the logistical and diplomatic support of the Algerian government. In 1991, the United Nations arranged a ceasefire between Morocco and the Polisario Front, with the intention of holding a referendum on self-determination under the supervision of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara ("MINURSO"). The referendum has been postponed several times due to disputes over who is qualified to be registered to vote. Although the ceasefire remains in place, any renewal of violence in the region may require a greater military presence, and the costs associated with such a presence have in the past affected and may in the future affect in a materially adverse manner the Government's finances.

#### Economic Risk

Over the last decade, successive governments have embarked upon an adjustment programme designed to remedy past structural imbalances of the country's economic and fiscal situation and have generally adopted tighter fiscal and monetary policies, liberalised foreign trade, deregulated sectors of the economy and privatised various state-owned enterprises. These policies, however, have at times been moderated by (i) a concern over their effect on socially-vulnerable groups, (ii) political developments, particularly strikes in the private and public sector and (iii) the need to respond to the global financial crisis, which commenced in 2007, and the ongoing crisis in the Eurozone. In response, the Government has adopted an economic reform programme, which includes reform of the subsidy system.

Overall, despite the implementation of a wide range of economic reforms to date, Morocco's economic performance has in the past been hampered by its large public sector, vulnerability of agricultural production to drought, reliance on exports of phosphates and phosphate derivatives and moderate rates of unemployment (which was 8.9% in 2011). In recent years, the Moroccan economy has experienced uneven growth, with Real GDP growth of 2.7% in 2007, 5.6% in 2008, 4.8% in 2009, 3.6% in 2010 and 5.0% in 2011. In addition, in 2011, the Government increased its spending on fuel and food subsidies and introduced a public sector wage increase. In the absence of adequate reform, the cost of such expenditures may put pressure on the budget. There can be no assurance that these reforms will be successful or that the Government will not face social resistance to the implementation of these reforms. A failure to introduce or implement these reforms, in full or in part, could have a material adverse impact on the Kingdom, its economy and its budget deficit and, consequently, the public debt.

Morocco's current account deficit was 5.4% of GDP in 2009, before declining to 4.5% of GDP in 2010 and increasing to 8.0% of GDP in 2011. Since 2007, the current account deficit has been financed, at least in part, by increased borrowing. If the current account deficit is not reduced, further levels of borrowing will be needed to finance the deficit, which could negatively affect the Kingdom's economy.

The Moroccan economy remains vulnerable to external shocks, including events part of, or similar to, the Arab Spring, the global financial crisis and the Eurozone crisis, as well as to increased international commodity prices. A continued decline in the economic growth of, or receipt of remittances from, the Kingdom's major trading partners, such as France, Spain or the United States, as a result of such external shocks, could have a material adverse impact on the Kingdom's balance of trade and adversely affect the Kingdom's economic growth.

There can be no assurance that any crises such as those described above or similar events will not negatively affect investor confidence in emerging markets or the economies of the principal countries in the EU or the Middle East and Northern Africa region, including the Kingdom. In addition, there can be no assurance that these events will not adversely affect the Kingdom's economy and its ability to raise capital in the external debt markets in the future.

# Subsidies and Government Budget Deficit

In 2011, the Government spent Dh 48,830 million on subsidies, principally on petrol, diesel and butane, as well as sugar and wheat. This represented an increase of Dh 21,635 million, or 79.6%, as compared to 2010 levels. Although the Government has since implemented certain reforms and is considering further such reforms of the subsidy system, in particular in order to target the most vulnerable segments of society better, subsidies in 2011 represented 6.1% of GDP, as compared to 3.6% in 2010. The cost of subsidies paid by the Government is highly dependent on international commodity prices, particularly crude oil and cereal prices. When crude oil and cereal prices rise, the resulting costs are borne primarily by the Government. If the costs of subsidies continue to rise, or the Government is not successful in further reforming the subsidy system, it could have a material adverse effect on the Kingdom's budget deficit and economy.

Morocco's budget deficit was 2.2% of GDP in 2009, before increasing to 4.7% of GDP in 2010 and 6.9% of GDP in 2011. Key contributors to the budget deficit in 2011 were increased spending on fuel and food subsidies and the introduction of a public sector wage increase. If this trend continues, the increased budget deficit will negatively affect the Kingdom's budgetary performance. Since 2007, the budget deficit has been financed by increased borrowing. If the budget deficit is not reduced, further levels of Government borrowing will be needed to finance the deficit, which could negatively affect the Kingdom's economy.

# Food and Energy Security

Morocco is a net importer of energy and imports more than 95% of its energy requirements, in particular crude oil and oil products. In addition, Morocco does not produce 100% of its domestic consumption of food and, therefore, relies significantly on food imports, in particular cereals. Disruptions of imports or higher international commodity prices would have a material adverse effect on the Kingdom's economy and finances.

#### Eurozone Crisis

The European Union is Morocco's largest trading partner and exports to the European Union accounted for 55.5% of the Kingdom's total exports in 2011. In addition, remittances from the Eurozone account for approximately 80% of the Kingdom's total remittances on an annual basis, and remittances from MREs are dependent on, among other factors, the economic conditions in the relevant host countries. As a result, the Moroccan economy is affected by events in the Eurozone and the wider European Union.

In the second half of 2011, the situation in the international financial markets deteriorated and the credit ratings of several sovereigns within the Eurozone were downgraded. In addition, there has also been recent turmoil in the European banking sector. In general, such instability has caused doubts over the sustainability of the Eurozone. Further sovereign downgrades occurred in January and February 2012, which have resulted in higher rates for sovereign debt and has disrupted national economies within the Eurozone. A further decline in the economic growth in Eurozone countries, any inability of such countries to issue securities in the sovereign debt market or to service existing debt, could reduce demand for Moroccan imports or lead to a reduced level or remittances received from the Eurozone. This could, in turn, have a material adverse impact on the Kingdom's balance of trade and adversely affect the Kingdom's economic growth. Such events could also negatively impact the trading of the Notes.

## **Global Financial Crisis**

The global financial crisis, which commenced in 2007, has affected global markets. Financial markets in the United States, Europe and Asia experienced, and in some cases continue to experience, a period of unprecedented turmoil and upheaval characterized by extreme volatility and declines in security prices, severely diminished liquidity and credit availability, inability to access capital markets, the bankruptcy, failure, collapse or sale of various financial institutions and an unprecedented level of intervention from the United States federal government and other governments. Global unemployment has risen, and business, economic activity and consumer confidence have declined resulting in a severe global recession. In addition to the global financial crisis, the need for many governments to finance large and growing budget deficits and other factors have negatively affected the financial standing and the credit ratings of sovereign and quasi-sovereign issuers, particularly in Europe. The Government cannot predict the continuing impact of the global financial crisis on the Kingdom's economy.

# Regional and International Considerations

The Kingdom is located in a region that has been subject to on-going political and security concerns, especially in recent years. Political instability in the region has increased since the terrorist attacks of 11 September 2001, the U.S. intervention in Iraq, tensions over Iran's reported nuclear programme and the conflict in Syria. Some Middle Eastern and North African countries have experienced in the recent past, or are currently experiencing, political, social, and economic instability, extremism, terrorism, armed conflicts and war, some of which have negatively affected the Kingdom in the past.

Since the "Arab Spring" began, a number of Arab countries have experienced significant political and military upheaval, conflict and revolutions leading to the departure of long-time rulers in Tunisia, Egypt, Yemen and Libya. In addition, Syria has recently been experiencing significant civil unrest and internal conflict. In July 2012, the Government expelled the Syrian ambassador to the Kingdom.

The continuation of such events or the outbreak of new problems in the region could further strain political stability in the region, the general resources of the Government and the Government's finances and negatively affect the Kingdom's economy.

# **Emerging Markets**

Investing in securities involving emerging market risk, such as Moroccan risk, generally involves a higher degree of risk than investments in securities of issuers from more developed countries. These higher risks include, but are not limited to, higher volatility, limited liquidity, a narrow export base, current account deficits and changes in the political, economic, social, legal and regulatory environment. Morocco's budget deficits and other weaknesses characteristic of emerging market economies make it susceptible to future adverse effects similar to those suffered by other emerging market countries. In any event, there can be no assurance that the market for securities bearing Moroccan risk, such as the Notes, will not be affected negatively by events elsewhere, especially in emerging markets.

In addition, international investors' reactions to events occurring in one emerging market country or region sometimes appear to demonstrate a "contagion" effect, in which an entire region or class of investment is disfavoured by such investors. If such a "contagion" effect occurs, Morocco could be adversely affected by negative economic or financial

developments in other emerging market countries. Morocco has been adversely affected by "contagion" effects in the past, including recent volatility in the Middle East and North Africa, as well as the recent global financial crisis. No assurance can be given that it will not be affected by similar effects in the future.

As a consequence, an investment in the Kingdom carries risks that are not typically associated with investing in more mature markets. These risks may be compounded by incomplete, unreliable or unavailable economic and statistical data on the Kingdom, including elements of information provided in this Prospectus. See "—Statistics". Prospective investors should also note that emerging economies, such as the Morocco's, are subject to rapid change and that the information set out in this Prospectus may become outdated relatively quickly. Accordingly, prospective investors should exercise particular care in evaluating the risks involved and must decide for themselves whether, in light of those risks, their investment is appropriate. Generally, investment in emerging markets is suitable only for sophisticated investors who fully appreciate the significance of the risks involved. Prospective investors are urged to consult with their own legal and financial advisers before making an investment decision.

# The Kingdom's Variable Climate

Morocco has a variable climate and water shortage and drought are recurrent problems in many parts of Morocco. Low or unpredictable rainfall impacts on the Kingdom's primary sector activities, most notably in the agricultural sector and such yearly rainfall variations continue to have a major effect on GDP, prices and the balance of trade. Periods of drought have generally corresponded to declines in the rate of growth of GDP and periods of abundant rainfall have generally corresponded to increases in the rate of growth of GDP. Droughts and other adverse climatic events, particularly if sustained over a long period, have affected and may in the future affect in a materially adverse manner the Government's finances and rate of GDP growth.

#### Terrorism Risk

In recent years, Islamic militants have grown in number in a number of Middle East countries. Morocco has to date been less vulnerable to violent expressions of Islamic opposition, in part due to King Mohamed VI's and King Hassan II's (King Mohamed VI's father and predecessor) positions as religious leader and Head of State, as well as the greater tolerance of peaceful expression of opposition in Morocco than in many other Middle Eastern countries, although Morocco has experienced terrorist attacks in recent years. In May 2003, several co-ordinated bombings occurred in Casablanca, and in March and April 2007, suicide bombings occurred in Casablanca outside the U.S. Consulate General and the private American Language Center. In April 2011, a suspected suicide bomber attacked a tourist cafe in Marrakesh killing 17 people and injuring 20 others. The Government has increased security throughout Morocco in an effort to protect the population from terrorism and sabotage. Further incidents of terrorism could hamper several key sectors of the Moroccan economy, most notably tourism.

# The Kingdom's Credit Ratings

Long-term foreign-currency debt of the Kingdom is currently rated BBB- with a negative outlook by S&P and BBB-with a stable outlook by Fitch. The Notes are expected to be rated BBB- by each of S&P and Fitch. On 11 October 2012, S&P affirmed Morocco's BBB- rating but revised its outlook to negative from stable, citing the Kingdom's budget and current account deficits, social pressures and the effect of external economic events on the Kingdom's economic performance. On 7 November 2012, Fitch affirmed Morocco's BBB- rating and stable outlook.

A security rating is not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold securities and may be subject to revision, suspension, reduction or withdrawal at any time by the assigning rating agencies. S&P and Fitch are each established in the EU and is registered under the CRA Regulation. As such, each of S&P and Fitch is included in the list of credit rating agencies published by the European Securities and Markets Authority on its website in accordance with the CRA Regulation as of the date of this Prospectus.

Any adverse change in an applicable credit rating could adversely affect the trading price of the Notes. S&P and Fitch's current ratings are investment grade. Ratings may not reflect the potential impact of all risks related to structure, market and other additional factors discussed above, and other factors that may affect the value of the Notes.

# Jurisdiction and Sovereign Immunity

The Kingdom is a sovereign state. Consequently, it may be difficult for investors to obtain or rely upon judgments against the Kingdom in courts outside Morocco or in a jurisdiction to which the Kingdom has not explicitly submitted. In addition, a substantial portion of the assets of the Kingdom is located outside the United Kingdom and the United States. As a result, it may not be possible for investors to effect service of process within the United Kingdom or the United States upon the Kingdom or to enforce judgments obtained in courts located in the United Kingdom, the United

States or elsewhere against the Kingdom, including, without limitation, judgments predicated upon the civil liability provisions of the securities laws of the United States or any state or territory within the United States. The Kingdom has irrevocably appointed the Ambassador of the Kingdom to the Court of St James's as its authorised agent for the service of process in England and Wales.

The Kingdom has irrevocably submitted to the non-exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of England and Wales for purposes of any suit, action or proceeding arising out of a Related Proceeding. The Kingdom has also irrevocably agreed that all claims in respect of any Related Proceeding may be heard and determined in such English courts. The Kingdom has irrevocably waived the defence of an inconvenient forum to the maintenance of any Related Proceeding whether on grounds of venue, residence or domicile.

There may be insufficient assets of the Kingdom located outside of Morocco to satisfy in whole or part any judgment obtained from an English court relating to amounts owing under the Notes. If investors were to seek enforcement of an English judgment in Morocco or to bring proceedings in relation to the Notes in Morocco, then certain limitations would apply.

The enforcement of foreign judgments in Morocco is governed by the relevant provisions of the Moroccan Code of Civil Procedure. Under those provisions, a judgment obtained in any English court would be recognised and enforced by the courts in Morocco without reconsideration of its merits provided that the foreign judgment satisfies the following additional conditions:

- (i) the foreign judgment must have been issued by a court competent to do so under the law of the relevant country;
- (ii) the foreign judgment must be final and enforceable in the country in which it was rendered, and the foreign judgment must not be based on documents subsequently deemed or found to be untrue and must not contain contradictory terms;
- (iii) the defendant must have been properly served with legal process with respect to the proceeding in which the foreign judgment was rendered and due process must have been observed in connection with the proceeding, and no party to the litigation must have failed to deliver to the court material documents relating to the dispute and the defence rights of each party have been preserved;
- (iv) the foreign judgment must not be contrary to Moroccan public policy;
- (v) a final judgment in the same case between the same parties must not have been rendered by a Moroccan court; and
- (vi) no action commenced prior to the relevant foreign proceeding may be pending with respect to the same subject matter and between the same parties before the Moroccan courts.

Prospective investors in Notes should be aware that, pursuant to Moroccan law, the Kingdom's properties and assets, including, *inter alia*, commercial assets of the Kingdom, located in the Kingdom are immune from execution, attachment or other legal or judicial process, and, in any Related Proceeding brought in Moroccan courts against the Kingdom or brought in those courts to enforce or seek recognition of a judgment obtained outside Morocco, the Kingdom's waiver of immunity referred to above would not be given effect. Investors should therefore be aware that the waiver of immunity is likely to be ineffective in respect of the attachment of assets and properties located in the Kingdom.

# Statistics

A range of ministries, the HCP, Bank Al-Maghrib, the *Office des Changes* and other Government agencies produce statistics of the Kingdom and its economy. The Kingdom subscribes to the IMF's SDDS. Statistical data appearing in this Prospectus has, unless otherwise stated, been obtained from public sources and documents. Similar statistics may be obtainable from other sources, but the underlying assumptions, methodology and, consequently, the resulting data may vary from source to source. In addition, the Kingdom's official financial and economic statistics are subject to review as part of a regular confirmation process. Accordingly, financial and economic information may differ from previously published figures and may be subsequently adjusted or revised. Certain of the information and data contained in this Prospectus for all or part of the fiscal year 2011 and interim periods in 2012 are preliminary and subject to further adjustment or revision.

#### Risks Relating to an Investment in the Notes

## Suitability of the Notes as an Investment

Each potential investor in Notes in each series must determine the suitability of that investment in light of its own circumstances. In particular, each potential investor should:

- have sufficient knowledge and experience to make a meaningful evaluation of the Notes in each series, the
  merits and risks of investing in such Notes and the information contained in this Prospectus or any applicable
  supplement;
- have access to, and knowledge of, appropriate analytical tools to evaluate, in the context of its particular financial situation, an investment in the Notes in each series and the impact that such Notes will have on its overall investment portfolio;
- have sufficient financial resources and liquidity to bear all of the risks of an investment in the Notes, including
  where the currency for principal or interest payments is different from the potential investor's currency;
- understand thoroughly the terms of the Notes in each series and be familiar with the financial markets; and
- be able to evaluate (either alone or with the help of a financial adviser) possible scenarios for economic, interest rate and other factors that may affect its investment and its ability to bear the applicable risks.

# Volatility of the Trading Market

The market for the Notes issued in each series is influenced by economic and market conditions in the Kingdom and, to varying degrees, interest rates, currency exchange rates and inflation rates in other countries, such as the United States, the Member States of the EU and elsewhere. There can be no assurance that events in Morocco, the Middle East or elsewhere will not cause market volatility or that such volatility will not adversely affect the price of the Notes in each series or that economic and market conditions will not have any other adverse effect. The Notes in each series may trade at a discount to their offering price, depending upon prevailing interest rates, the market for similar securities, defaults or the risk of potential defaults (particularly in Europe and the Gulf region), general economic conditions and the financial condition of the Kingdom.

# Activity in the Trading Market

There can be no assurance that an active trading market for the Notes in each series will develop, or, if one does develop, that it will be maintained or that it will be liquid. If an active trading market for the Notes in each series does not develop or is not maintained, the market or trading price and liquidity of the Notes in each series may be adversely affected. If the Notes in each series are traded after their initial issuance, they may trade at a discount to their offering price, depending upon prevailing interest rates, the market for similar securities, general economic conditions and the financial condition of the Kingdom. Although an application has been made to the Luxembourg Stock Exchange for the Notes in each series to be admitted to trading on the Market and to be listed on the Official List, there is no assurance that such application will be accepted or that an active trading market will develop.

## Security of the Notes

The Notes constitute unsecured obligations of the Kingdom.

## Minimum Denomination

The Notes in each series are issued in the denomination of U.S.\$200,000 and integral multiples of U.S.\$1,000 in excess thereof. Accordingly, the Notes may be traded in amounts in excess of U.S.\$200,000 that are not integral multiples of U.S.\$200,000. In such a case a holder who, as a result of trading such amounts, holds a principal amount of less than U.S.\$200,000 in his account with the relevant clearing system at the relevant time may not receive a definitive Note in respect of such holding (should definitive Notes be printed) and would need to purchase a principal amount of Notes such that its holding amounts to at least U.S.\$200,000 in order to receive a definitive Note.

If definitive Notes are issued, Noteholders should be aware that definitive Notes, which have a denomination that is not an integral multiple of U.S.\$200,000, may be illiquid and difficult to trade.

## **Modification and Waivers**

The conditions of the Notes in each series contain provisions for calling meetings of Noteholders to consider matters affecting their interests generally, including material changes to the terms of the Notes in each series and rescission of acceleration. These provisions permit defined majorities voting at a meeting or executing written consents to bind all Noteholders, including Noteholders who did not attend and vote at the relevant meeting and Noteholders who voted in a manner contrary to the majority.

# EU Savings Directive

Under Council Directive 2003/48/EC on the taxation of savings income (the "EU Savings Directive"), Member States are required to provide to the tax authorities of another Member State details of payments of interest (or similar income) paid by a person within its jurisdiction to an individual (or certain other types of person) resident in that other Member State. However, for a transitional period, Luxembourg and Austria will instead be required (unless during that period they elect otherwise) to operate a withholding system in relation to such payments (the ending of such transitional period being dependent upon the conclusion of certain other agreements relating to information exchange with certain other countries). A number of non-EU countries and territories (including Switzerland) have adopted similar measures (a withholding system in the case of Switzerland) with effect from the same date. The European Commission has proposed certain amendments to the EU Savings Directive, which may, if implemented, amend or broaden the scope of the requirements described above.

If a payment is made or collected through a Member State which has opted for a withholding system and an amount of, or in respect of, tax were to be withheld from that payment pursuant to the EU Savings Directive or any law implementing or complying with, or introduced in order to conform to the EU Savings Directive, neither the Kingdom nor any Paying Agent nor any other person is obliged to pay additional amounts with respect to any Note as a result of the imposition of such withholding tax. If a withholding tax is imposed on a payment made by a Paying Agent, the Kingdom will be required to maintain a Paying Agent in a Member State that would not be obliged to withhold or deduct tax pursuant to the EU Savings Directive.

# Change of Law

The conditions of the Notes in each series are based on English law in effect as at the date of this Prospectus. No assurance can be given as to the impact of any possible judicial decision or change to English law or administrative practice after the date of this Prospectus.

# No Limitation on Issuing Pari Passu Securities

Other than set out in the annual budget law, there is no restriction on the amount of securities that the Kingdom may issue and that rank *pari passu* with the Notes in each series. The issue of any such securities may reduce the amount recoverable by Noteholders in a stress scenario, as the incurrence of additional debt could affect the Kingdom's ability to repay principal of, and make payments of interest on, the Notes in each series.

# Exchange Rate Risks and Exchange Controls

The Issuer will pay principal and interest on the Notes in each series in U.S. Dollars. This presents certain risks relating to currency conversions if an investor's financial activities are denominated principally in a currency or currency unit (the "Investor's Currency") other than U.S. Dollars. These include the risk that exchange rates may significantly change (including changes due to devaluation of the U.S. Dollar or revaluation of the Investor's Currency) and the risk that authorities with jurisdiction over the Investor's Currency may impose or modify exchange controls. An appreciation in the value of the Investor's Currency relative to the U.S. Dollar would decrease (i) the Investor's Currency-equivalent yield on the Notes in each series; (ii) the Investor's Currency-equivalent value of the Principal payable on the Notes in each series; and (iii) the Investor's Currency-equivalent market value of the Notes in each series. Governments and monetary authorities may impose (as some have done in the past) exchange controls that could adversely affect an applicable exchange rate. As a result, investors may receive less interest or principal than expected, or no interest or principal at all.

## Interest Rate Risks

Investment in the Notes in each series, as they bear a fixed rate of interest, involves the risk that subsequent changes in market interest rates may adversely affect the value of the Notes in each series.

# Legal Investment Considerations May Restrict Certain Investments

The investment activities of certain investors are subject to legal investment laws and regulations, or review or regulation by certain authorities. Each potential investor should consult its legal advisers to determine whether and to what extent: (i) the Notes in each series are legal investments for it; (ii) the Notes in each series can be used as collateral for various types of borrowing; and (iii) other restrictions apply to its purchase or pledge of any Notes in each series. Financial institutions should consult their legal advisers or the appropriate regulators to determine the appropriate treatment of the Notes in each series under any applicable risk-based capital or similar rules.

# **OVERVIEW**

This section contains an overview of the detailed information included elsewhere in this Prospectus. This overview does not contain all of the information that may be material to prospective investors and, therefore, should be read in conjunction with, and is qualified in its entirety by, the more detailed information appearing elsewhere in this Prospectus, as well as related documents referred to herein. Prospective investors should also carefully consider the information set forth in "Risk Factors" prior to making an investment decision. Any decision to invest in the Notes should be based on the consideration of this Prospectus as a whole by prospective investors.

## Overview of the Kingdom

The Kingdom of Morocco is situated in the north-west corner of the African continent and covers an area of approximately 710,850 square kilometres (274,461 square miles). It has a coastline of approximately 3,500 kilometres (2,174 miles) on the shores of the Atlantic Ocean and, east of the Straits of Gibraltar, on the Mediterranean Sea, facing southern Spain, which is less than 15 kilometres away across the Straits of Gibraltar. Morocco is bordered to the north by the Mediterranean Sea, to the east by Algeria, to the south by Mauritania and to the west by the Atlantic Ocean.

At the end of 2011, the total population of Morocco was estimated by the HCP at 32.2 million. The latest census figures in 2004 and 1994 placed the total population of Morocco at 29.8 million and 26.1 million, respectively. The population has grown at an average rate of 1.3% per year during the period 1994 to 2004. An increasing proportion of the population lives in the cities (the largest of which are Casablanca, Marrakesh, Fez and Rabat, the capital) growing from 55.1% in 2004 to an estimated 58.2% in 2011. An estimated three million MREs live overseas, predominantly in Europe, with the greatest concentration in France, Spain, Belgium, Italy, the Netherlands and Germany. The demographic structure shows a predominantly young population. As at the end of 2011, an estimated 27.1% of the population was under the age of 15.

The state religion of Morocco is Islam. Pursuant to the 2011 Constitution, the freedom of religion is respected. Almost the entire population is Sunni Muslim, and His Majesty King Mohammed VI, as Commander of the Faithful, is the supreme Muslim authority in the country. About 1% of the population consists of Christian and Jewish Moroccans.

Morocco is a constitutional monarchy with a bicameral Parliament. The King is the Head of State and selects the Head of Government from the party with the largest number of seats in Parliament.

The Kingdom's first Constitution was adopted in 1962 and was subsequently amended several times. Following demonstrations in Casablanca, Morocco's largest city, and Rabat, the capital, as well as other major cities in Morocco beginning on 20 February 2011 in the context of the events of the Arab Spring and an address on 9 March 2011 by King Mohammed VI to the nation in response to the calls for reform of the 20 February Movement, a commission was convened to draft a new constitution. The 2011 Constitution was approved by referendum on 1 July 2011.

The principal changes implemented by the 2011 Constitution include: (i) enhancing the separation of powers and strengthening the powers of the Parliament and the Head of Government; (ii) enhancing the rule of law; (iii) defining the constitutional roles of political parties and the Parliamentary opposition, which is granted official recognition; (iv) further regionalisation; and (vi) other measures to promote civil society, such as encouraging good governance and combating corruption. In addition, the 2011 Constitution strengthens civil rights in the Kingdom. It guarantees, *inter alia*: (i) parity (*i.e.*, equal rights for women); (ii) freedom of movement, of opinion, of expression and of worship; (iii) freedom of association and to belong to any union or political group; (iv) the right to strike; (v) the right of free enterprise and to own property; and (vi) rights for freedom of thought, ideas, artistic expression and creation. It prohibits discrimination based on gender, race, belief, culture, social or religious origin, language or disability.

The 2011 Constitution provides that the official language of the Kingdom is Arabic, and, since the implementation of the 2011 Constitution, Amazigh, a Berber language, is also an official language. A number of other Berber dialects, including Tachelhit and Tarifit, are spoken in many rural areas. French, English and Spanish are also spoken, French being widely spoken and the language in which business is often conducted.

The size of the Moroccan economy, measured in terms of GDP, was Dh 802.6 billion in 2011. Morocco's economic growth depends to various degrees on several key sectors. In 2011, trade, transport, communication and other services represented 41.5% of GDP at current prices; energy, mining, manufacturing, construction and public works 30.0%; agriculture, forestry and fishing 14.3%, public administration, education and social policy 8.7% and taxes and subsidies 7.5%. Although the agricultural sector plays an important role in the Moroccan economy and is volatile due to the impact of a variable climate on agricultural output, the secondary and tertiary sectors' share of GDP have been steadily increasing over the last five years, lessening the Moroccan economy's dependence on agriculture.

The following table sets forth the principal economic indicators for Morocco as at the end of or for the periods indicated.

# **Principal Economic Indicators**<sup>(1)</sup>

_	2007	2008	2009	2010	<b>2011</b> <sup>(2)</sup>	Jan - Jun 2012 (2)
GDP at current prices (Dh billions) <sup>(3)</sup>	616.3	688.8	732.5	764.0	802.6	410.4
Real GDP Growth (%) <sup>(4)</sup>	2.7	5.6	4.8	3.6	5.0	2.6
GDP per capita at current prices (Dh)	19,976	22,082	23,221	23,955	24,891	_
Unemployment rate						
Total (%)	9.8	9.6	9.1	9.1	8.9	9.0
Urban (%)	15.4	14.7	13.8	13.7	13.4	13.4
CPI Increase (%) <sup>(5)</sup>	2.5	3.7	1.0	0.9	0.9	1.0
Government budget balance <sup>(6)</sup>						
in Dh billions	1.0	3.1	(15.9)	(35.8)	(55.8)	(21.4)
as % of GDP	0.2	0.4	(2.2)	(4.7)	(6.9)	_
Current Account Balance						
in Dh billions	(0.4)	(36.1)	(39.9)	(34.3)	(64.6)	(47.5)
as % of GDP	(0.1)	(5.2)	(5.4)	(4.5)	(8.0)	_
Net Foreign Assets ( <i>U.S.</i> \$ billions) Foreign Exchange Reserves (months of	24.4	22.4	22.4	22.5	19.4	15.9
imports) <sup>(7)(8)</sup>	8.8	6.6	7.7	6.8	5.1	4.0
Total Public Debt <sup>(9)</sup>						
in Dh billions	297.4	296.0	316.6	354.8	403.5	423.6
as % of GDP	48.3	43.0	43.2	46.4	50.3	_
Total Central Government Debt						
in Dh billions	329.8	325.8	345.2	384.6	430.9	459.3
as % of GDP	53.5	47.3	46.9	50.3	53.7	_
Total External Debt (as % of GDP) <sup>(8)</sup> Debt Service (as % of current account	19.8	19.4	20.8	22.7	23.6	_
revenues)	6.8	5.5	5.1	4.7	4.9	_
Exchange Rate (Dh per U.S.\$) <sup>(8)</sup>	7.713	8.098	8.860	8.357	8.577	8.725
Exchange Rate (Dh per €) <sup>(8)</sup>	11.359	11.246	11.316	11.171	11.106	11.062

# Notes:

- (1) Certain line items and figures differ from previously published data due to on-going revisions.
- (2) Preliminary data.
- (3) At prices current during each respective year.
- (4) Calculated by reference to previous year prices.
- (5) Period average to period average. Index based upon prices of 478 items in 17 urban areas. Inflation, as measured by the CPI, increased by 0.9% as at 31 August 2012, as compared to 31 August 2011.
- (6) Excluding privatisation receipts.
- (7) Imports of goods and non-factor services.
- (8) Calculated at the end of period.
- (9) Public debt is comprised of the Consolidated General Government debt (comprised of the domestic and external debt of the Central Government, debt of certain administrative public establishments and debt of local authorities) and external debt of state-owned enterprises. It excludes Government debt held by social security funds.

Sources: HCP and Ministry of Economy and Finance

# Overview of the Offering

The following is an overview of the terms and conditions of the Notes. It does not purport to be complete and is qualified in its entirety by the more detailed information appearing elsewhere in this Prospectus. Prospective investors should also carefully consider the information set forth in "Risk Factors" prior to making an investment decision. Capitalised terms not otherwise defined in this overview have the same meaning as in the terms and conditions of the Notes (the "Conditions"). See "Terms and Conditions of the Notes" and "Provisions Relating to the Notes while in Global Form" for a more detailed description of the Notes.

## **2022 Notes**

be repaid at their principal amount on 11 December 2022, subject as

provided in Condition 6.

See "Terms and Conditions of the Notes—5. Redemption. Purchase and

Cancellation" and "Terms and Conditions of the Notes—6. Payments".

of 4.25% *per annum*, payable semi-annually in arrear on 11 June and 11 December in each year, subject as provided in Condition 6. The first

Interest Payment Date will be 11 June 2013.

See "Terms and Conditions of the Notes—4. Interest".

*Indication of Yield*...... 4.346% per annum.

This yield is calculated at the Issue Date on the basis of the Issue Price. It

is not an indication of future yield.

Security Codes ...... Regulation S 2022 Notes

Common Code: 085002058 ISIN: XS0850020586

**Rule 144A 2022 Notes** 

Common Code: 085001892 ISIN: US617726AF15 CUSIP: 617726AF1

# **2042 Notes**

be repaid at their principal amount on 11 December 2042, subject as

provided in Condition 6.

See "Terms and Conditions of the Notes—5. Redemption. Purchase and Cancellation" and "Terms and Conditions of the Notes—6. Payments".

Cancellation and Terms and Containous of the Hotes 6.1 afficiation.

The Notes will bear interest from and including the Issue Date at the rate of 5.50% *per annum*, payable semi-annually in arrear on 11 June and 11 December in each year, subject as provided in Condition 6. The first

Interest Payment Date will be 11 June 2013.

See "Terms and Conditions of the Notes—4. Interest".

*Indication of Yield*...... 5.677% per annum.

Interest.....

This yield is calculated at the Issue Date on the basis of the Issue Price. It

is not an indication of future yield.

Common Code: 086425971 ISIN: XS0864259717

**Rule 144A 2042 Notes** 

Common Code: 086426773 ISIN: US617726AG97 CUSIP: 617726 AG9

at all times rank *pari passu* and without any preference among themselves. The full faith and credit of the Kingdom is pledged for the due and punctual payment of the principal of, and interest on, the Notes and the performance of all of the Kingdom's other obligations under the Notes. The Notes will at all times rank at least equally and rateably with all the other present and future unsecured and unsubordinated obligations of the Kingdom, save only for any obligation which may be preferred by provisions of applicable law that are both mandatory and of general

application.

See "Terms and Conditions of the Notes—2. Status".

budget deficit.

See "Use of Proceeds".

See "Terms and Conditions of the Notes—3. Negative Pledge".

Taxation	All payments of principal and interest in respect of the Notes shall be made free and clear of, and without withholding or deduction for, any taxes, duties, assessments or governmental charges of whatsoever nature imposed, levied, collected, withheld or assessed by the Kingdom or any political subdivision or any authority thereof or therein having power to tax (together, "Taxes"), unless such withholding or deduction is required by law. In that event, the Kingdom shall pay such additional amounts as will result in the receipt by the holders of the Notes (the "Noteholders") of such amounts as would have been received by them if no such withholding or deduction had been required, subject to certain exceptions set forth under "Terms and Conditions of the Notes—7. Taxation" and "Taxation".
Events of Default	The Conditions will permit the acceleration of the Notes following the occurrence of certain events of default.
	See "Terms and Conditions of the Notes—8. Events of Default".
Form and Settlement	Notes will initially be issued in the form of Regulation S Global Notes and Rule 144A Global Notes, each in registered form and without interest coupons.
	The Regulation S Global Notes will be registered in the name of Citivic Nominees Limited, as nominee for, and shall be deposited with, Citibank Europe plc, as common depositary for, Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg.
	The Rule 144A Global Notes will be deposited with a custodian for, and registered in the name of Cede & Co., as nominee for, DTC.
	Ownership interests in the Regulation S Global Notes and the Rule 144A Global Notes will be shown on, and transfers thereof will be effected only through, records maintained by DTC, Euroclear, Clearstream, Luxembourg and their respective participants. Notes in definitive form will be issued only in very limited circumstances.
	See "Provisions Relating to the Notes while in Global Form".
Denominations	The Notes will be offered and sold in registered form and in denominations of U.S.\$200,000 and any amount in excess thereof that is an integral multiple of U.S.\$1,000.
	See "Terms and Conditions of the Notes—1. Form, Denomination, Title, Registration and Transfer".
Joint Lead Managers	Barclays Bank plc, BNP PARIBAS, Citigroup Global Markets Limited and Natixis.
Fiscal Agent and Principal Paying and Transfer Agent and Registrar	Citibank N.A. London Branch.
Governing Law	The Notes, including any non-contractual obligations arising out of the Notes, will be governed by, and shall be construed in accordance with, English law.
Risk Factors	There are certain risks relating to the Notes, which investors should ensure they fully understand. These include the fact that the Notes may not be suitable investments for all investors, and risks relating to the Kingdom and to the market.

See "Risk Factors".

Submission to Jurisdiction.

The Kingdom has submitted to the non-exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of England and Wales to settle disputes in connection with the Notes.

Selling Restrictions.

There are restrictions in the United States, the United Kingdom and certain other jurisdictions in connection with the offering and sale of the

Notes.

See "Subscription and Sale".

Listing and Admission to Trading ......... Application has been made to the Luxembourg Stock Exchange for the Notes to be admitted to trading on the Market and to be listed on the Official List.

Official L

Ratings.....

Long-term foreign-currency debt of the Kingdom is currently rated BBBwith a negative outlook by S&P and BBB- with a stable outlook by Fitch. The Notes are expected to be assigned the same ratings.

A rating is not a recommendation to buy, sell or hold securities and may be subject to revision, suspension, reduction or withdrawal at any time by the assigning rating organisation. Each of S&P, and Fitch is established in the EU and is registered under the CRA Regulation. As such, each of S&P and Fitch is included in the list of credit rating agencies published by the European Securities and Markets Authority on its website in accordance with the CRA Regulation as of the date of this Prospectus. Any change in the rating of the Notes could adversely affect the price that a purchaser will be willing to pay for the Notes.

See "Risk Factors—Risks Relating to the Kingdom—The Kingdom's Credit Ratings".

# **USE OF PROCEEDS**

The proceeds of the issue of the Notes are expected to amount to U.S.\$1,479,600,000. The net proceeds that the Kingdom will receive from the offering, after paying the estimated commissions and expenses incurred in connection with the offering and admission listing, will be approximately U.S.\$1,477,850,000.

The net proceeds of the issue of the Notes will be used to finance the budget deficit.

# DESCRIPTION OF THE KINGDOM OF MOROCCO

## Overview of the Kingdom

The Kingdom of Morocco is situated in the north-west corner of the African continent and covers an area of approximately 710,850 square kilometres (274,461 square miles). It has a coastline of approximately 3,500 kilometres (2,120 miles) on the shores of the Atlantic Ocean and, east of the Straits of Gibraltar, on the Mediterranean Sea, facing southern Spain, which is less than 15 kilometres away across the Straits of Gibraltar. Morocco is bordered to the north by the Mediterranean Sea, to the east by Algeria, to the south by Mauritania and to the west by the Atlantic Ocean.

At the end of 2011, the total population of Morocco was estimated by the HCP at 32.2 million. The latest census figures in 2004 and 1994 placed the total population of Morocco at 29.8 million and 26.1 million, respectively. The population has grown at an average rate of 1.3% per year during the period 1994 to 2004. An increasing proportion of the population lives in the cities (the largest of which are Casablanca, Marrakesh, Fez and Rabat, the capital) growing from 55.1% in 2004 to an estimated 58.2% in 2011. An estimated three million MREs live overseas, predominantly in Europe, with the greatest concentration in France, Spain, Belgium, Italy, the Netherlands and Germany. The demographic structure shows a predominantly young population. As at the end of 2011, an estimated 27.1% of the population was under the age of 15.

The state religion of Morocco is Islam. Pursuant to the 2011 Constitution, the freedom of religion is respected. Almost the entire population is Sunni Muslim, and His Majesty King Mohammed VI, as Commander of the Faithful, is the supreme Muslim authority in the country. About 1% of the population consists of Christian and Jewish Moroccans.

Morocco is a constitutional monarchy with a bicameral Parliament. The King is the Head of State and selects the Head of Government from the party with the largest number of seats in Parliament.

The Kingdom's first Constitution was adopted in 1962 and was subsequently amended several times. Following demonstrations in Casablanca, Morocco's largest city, and Rabat, the capital, as well as other major cities in Morocco beginning on 20 February 2011 in the context of the events of the Arab Spring and an address on 9 March 2011 by King Mohammed VI to the nation in response to the calls for reform of the 20 February Movement, a commission was convened to draft a new constitution. The 2011 Constitution was approved by referendum on 1 July 2011.

The principal changes implemented by the 2011 Constitution include: (i) enhancing the separation of powers and strengthening the powers of the Parliament and the Head of Government; (ii) setting out principles of liberty, democracy and civil rights, including with respect to women's rights; (iii) enhancing the rule of law; (iv) defining the constitutional roles of political parties, the Parliamentary opposition and other participants in society; (v) further regionalisation; and (vi) other measures to promote civil society, such as encouraging good governance and combating corruption.

The 2011 Constitution provides that the official language of the Kingdom is Arabic, and, since the implementation of the 2011 Constitution, Amazigh, a Berber language, is also an official language. A number of other Berber dialects, including Tachelhit and Tarifit, are spoken in many rural areas. French, English and Spanish are also spoken, French being widely spoken and the language in which business is often conducted.

The size of the Moroccan economy, measured in terms of GDP, was Dh 802.6 billion in 2011. Morocco's economic growth depends to various degrees on several key sectors. In 2011, trade, transport, communication and other services represented 41.5% of GDP at current prices; energy, mining, manufacturing, construction and public works 30.0%; agriculture, forestry and fishing 14.3%, public administration, education and social policy 8.7% and taxes and subsidies 7.5%. Although the agricultural sector plays an important role in the Moroccan economy and is volatile due to the impact of a variable climate on agricultural output, the secondary and tertiary sectors' share of GDP have been steadily increasing over the last five years, lessening the Moroccan economy's dependence on agriculture.

# Geography

Morocco consists principally of fertile plains bordering the Atlantic Ocean, bordered to the north by the Rif Mountains and to the east and south by a series of other mountain ranges (the Middle Atlas, the High Atlas and the Anti-Atlas) beyond which lies the Sahara Desert. The plains represent some 20% of Morocco's land area but contain approximately 80% of the population and major natural resources, namely agriculture (citrus fruits, cereals, sugar beet and cane and vegetables) and mineral extraction (particularly phosphates).

Morocco has many rivers, which, although relatively unimportant for navigation, are used for irrigation and for generating electric power. The mountainous regions of Morocco have extensive areas of forest including large stands of oak, juniper, pine, fir and evergreen oak.

The climate of Morocco varies from the temperate coastal zones along the Atlantic Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea, with moderate temperatures year round, to excessive heat and cold in the mountains, which range up to 4,165 metres in the High Atlas, stretching from Agadir on the Atlantic Coast to east of Marrakesh, to 3,326 metres in the Middle Atlas and Anti-Atlas located north and south, respectively, of the High Atlas, and to 2,465 metres in the Rif Mountains parallel to the Mediterranean coast.

## History

Morocco's geographic situation has given it a strategic, economic and political importance, which has influenced its long and rich history. As early as the twelfth century B.C., the Phoenicians had established trading centres in the north and along the Atlantic coast. The conquest of Carthage by Rome in the second century B.C. resulted in Roman dominance of the Mediterranean coast of Africa, and the northern part of current-day Morocco was incorporated into the Roman Empire in 42 A.D. as a Roman province. Following the collapse of the Roman Empire in the fifth century, the region was divided into numerous Berber confederations. Beginning in the seventh century and following the Arab conquest, Morocco became Islamised. The Moroccan empire reached its peak under the Almohad King Ya'qoub al-Mansour at the end of the twelfth century and embraced modern-day Algeria, Tunisia, Libya and large parts of the Iberian peninsula. The Reconquista of Spain by Christian forces and the defeat suffered by the Almohads at the hands of the Spanish in 1212 led to a decline in the empire.

Morocco experienced a renaissance under the Saadians, known as the first Sharifian dynasty (1554-1660), and flourished during the reign of Ahmed I al-Mansour (1579-1603), as the country benefited from the influx of nearly one million Moors and Jews who were expelled by the Christians from Spain after 1492.

In the middle of the seventeenth century, members of the current reigning Alaouite family from southern Morocco, who are direct descendants of the Prophet Mohammed, began ruling Morocco.

Subjected to gradual European colonialist pressures in the nineteenth century, Morocco was placed under a protectorate in 1912 under which Spain administered much of the north along the Mediterranean Sea (Rif) and the extreme south (the enclave of Ifni and Rio do Oro) and France administered the rest of the country. However, nationalism remained strong in the country and following World War II, Morocco moved towards a return to full independence. Beginning with the end of the French protectorate on 2 March 1956 Morocco was progressively reconstituted as an independent nation. Spain returned the Rif to Morocco in April 1956, gave up part of its southern Moroccan territories in 1965 and ceded Ifni in 1969. The remainder of southern Morocco, Sakiaa Hamra and Oued Ed-Dahab (also called Saguia el Hamra and Rio de Oro under the Spanish and more commonly known as the Western Sahara) reverted to Morocco in 1975 and 1979.

Before the protectorate imposed in 1912 by foreign powers, the population of the Western Sahara had for centuries, through its local leaders, formally pledged its allegiance to the Sultans of Morocco. Beginning in 1975, when Spain agreed to withdraw from the Western Sahara and to cede its remaining interests in that region to Morocco, a local group known as the Polisario Front contested the reversion of the region into Morocco. Morocco committed itself in 1991 to holding a referendum on self-determination in the Western Sahara under the auspices of the United Nations. The same year, the United Nations established MINURSO. However, operational difficulties were encountered by the United Nations in trying to implement the referendum on self-determination for the region. There have been four Personal Envoys appointed by the Secretary General of the United Nations to address the issue, the latest being Christopher Ross. Since 1991, a cease-fire has been in effect, and no military activity has taken place in the Western Sahara.

In April 2007, following extensive consultations with representatives of the Moroccan population, including that of the Western Sahara and a number of foreign countries, the Kingdom submitted a proposal to the United Nations for negotiating an autonomy status for the region, which calls for an autonomous region to be established in the Sahara with powers over local administration, police, economic development, the region's budgets, and social and cultural affairs, with the Kingdom retaining jurisdiction over the attributes of sovereignty and the constitutional and religious prerogatives of the King, as well as national security, defence and external relations. The Polisario Front advised the United Nations that its goal remains the conduct of a referendum, which would include the option of independence for Western Sahara.

On 20 February 2011 and subsequently, a number of largely peaceful demonstrations occurred in a number of Moroccan cities, including Rabat, Casablanca, Tangier and Marrakesh concurrent with the events that have formed the "Arab Spring". Members of the 20 February Movement called for changes to the Kingdom's constitution and the Government, as well as for an end to corruption.

In response to the 20 February Movement, King Mohamed VI addressed the nation on 9 March 2011 and convened a commission, chaired by Abdellatif Mennouni, a former member of the Constitutional Council, to develop proposals for constitutional reform in co-operation with various stakeholders, including, *inter alia*, political parties, trade unions, associations and youth non-government organisations. The commission published a draft constitution in June 2011.

The 2011 Constitution was subsequently approved by a referendum of the Moroccan people on 1 July 2011. According to Government statistics, 98.5% of voters voted in favour of the 2011 Constitution, and the turnout for the referendum was approximately 73%. King Mohammad VI announced shortly thereafter that he would accept the constitutional shift of powers to the Head of Government and work to establish a constitutional monarchy with an elected parliament. See "—Constitution and Political System".

While the official political parties backed the reforms, certain opposition groups, including some members of the 20 February Movement, rejected the reforms as not being extensive enough politically or socially, and there were further demonstrations, including violent clashes in Casablanca, prior to and following the referendum. In addition, since the approval of the 2011 Constitution, there have been further demonstrations, in particular, in May 2012, calling for the swift implementation of the proposed economic reforms, as well as further reforms.

In response to the draft constitution, the EU Foreign Policy Chief and EU Enlargement Commissioner expressed the readiness of the EU to support Morocco's efforts to implement the 2011 Constitution. The U.S. Secretary of State, Hilary Clinton, also acknowledged the encouraging nature of the 2011 Constitution.

On 24 April 2012, UN Security Council Resolution extended MINURSO's mandate until 30 April 2013 and called upon parties to continue negotiations under the auspices of the Security-General without pre-conditions and in good faith. In the preamble of the aforementioned resolution, the Security Council took note of the Moroccan proposal of 11 April 2007 to the Secretary-General and welcomed the "serious and credible Moroccan efforts to move the process forward towards resolution". The Security Council welcomed "the opening of National Council on Human Rights Commissions operating in Dakhla and Laayoune, and the steps taken by Morocco in order to fulfil its commitment to ensure unqualified and unimpeded access to all Special Procedures of the United Nations Human Rights Council."

# Social and Demographic Development

The following table sets forth selected comparative statistical data for the periods and countries indicated.

Comparative Statistics								
	Morocco	Egypt	India	Indonesia	Philippines	South Africa	Tunisia	United Kingdom
Gross national income (GNI) per capita	2 0 2 0	2.420	4.250	2.700	2010			
( <i>U.S.</i> \$) <sup>(1)</sup> Average annual growth of	2,850	2,420	1,270	2,500	2,060	6,090	4,160	38,200
GDP 2009-2010 (%)	3.7	5.1	8.8	5.0	7.6	2.8	3.7	2.1
Life expectancy: Male and Female ( <i>years</i> ) (2008)	70 (2)	71	64	67	65	51	73	79
Life expectancy: Female (years) (2008)	74 <sup>(3)</sup>	75	67	71	72	53	77	82
- 2010)	56	66	63	92	95	89	78	_
Under 5 mortality ( <i>per</i> 1,000 live births) (2010) National poverty rate	36	22	63	35	29	57	16	6
(%) <sup>(4)(5)</sup>	9.0	22.0	29.8	12.5	26.5	23.0	_	_

# Notes:

- (1) Figures are for the year 2010 and are calculated based on the World Bank atlas method.
- (2) The HCP estimated life expectancy (male) in 2011 at 72 years.
- (3) The HCP estimated life expectancy (female) in 2011 at 74.4 years.
- (4) Figures are for population below national poverty line, extracted from the *World Development Indicators 2012*, but are not all calculated on the same basis, and thus cannot be directly comparable.
- (5) Survey year is 2007 for Morocco, 2008 for Egypt, 2010 for India, 2011 for Indonesia, 2009 for the Philippines and 2006 for South Africa.

Source: The World Bank, World Development Indicators 2012.

## **Constitution and Political System**

On 30 July 1999, King Mohammed VI succeeded his father, King Hassan II, who died on 23 July 1999. King Hassan II had ruled without interruption from 1961 until his death. As commander of the faithful and protector of the rights and liberties of citizens, social groups and organisations, as provided by Articles 41 and 42 of the 2011 Constitution, the King is responsible for ensuring that Islam, the free exercise of religion and the Constitution are respected.

Administration in Morocco is decentralised. The Kingdom has 16 "régions administratives", which are further divided into 71 provinces and prefectures (with, pursuant to the 2011 Constitution, walis of the regions and governors of the provinces appointed by the Cabinet of Ministers, upon a proposal by the Head of Government and the Government Minister concerned and 1,547 local (urban and rural) communities managed by directly-elected counsellors, which provide for an element of decentralisation).

## Constitutional Reform

Morocco is a constitutional monarchy with a bicameral Parliament. The King is the Head of State and selects the Head of Government from the party with the largest number of seats in Parliament. The Kingdom's first Constitution was adopted in 1962 and was subsequently amended several times. Following an address by King Mohammed VI to the nation on 9 March 2011, a commission was convened to draft the 2011 Constitution. The 2011 Constitution was approved by a referendum on 1 July 2011.

The principal changes implemented by the 2011 Constitution include: (i) enhancing the separation of powers and strengthening the powers of the Parliament and the Head of Government; (ii) enhancing the rule of law; (iii) defining the constitutional roles of political parties and the Parliamentary opposition, which is granted official recognition; (iv) further regionalisation; and (vi) other measures to promote civil society, such as encouraging good governance and combating corruption. In addition, the 2011 Constitution strengthens civil rights in the Kingdom. See "—*Reform and Civil Rights*".

The 2011 Constitution requires the promulgation of 19 organic laws by the end of the current Parliament in 2016. Only one has thus far been promulgated in respect of the nomination of senior public officials, and the remainder are being drafted, of which 14 are related to existing public institutions and bodies and four are related to public bodies to be established relating to Moroccan culture and languages, gender parity and anti-discrimination, families and children and young people.

## Role of the King

Under the 2011 Constitution, the King is the Head of State, the Commander of the Faithful and the symbol of the unity of the nation. The King is also the supreme commander of the Royal Armed Forces. The crown and its constitutional rights are hereditary and transmitted to the direct male heirs of King Mohammed VI. Pursuant to Article 47 of the 2011 Constitution, the King names the Head of Government from the political party with the most seats in the House of Representatives. Upon proposition by the Head of Government, the King names the members of the Government.

The King presides over the Council of Ministers, which is composed of the Head of Government and the Ministers. The Council of Ministers is responsible for, *inter alia*, future revisions of the Constitution, preparing organic laws, the general orientation of the annual budget laws, declaring war or a state of emergency, and nominating, upon the proposition of the Head of Government and at the initiative of the relevant Minister, various senior officials, including, *inter alia*, the Governor of Bank Al-Maghrib, ambassadors, *walis* and governors, the head of national security and the heads of various public enterprises.

# Role of Parliament

Pursuant to Article 70 of the 2011 Constitution, Parliament exercises the legislative power in the Kingdom and votes on laws, controls the activities of the Government and evaluates public policy. Parliament and its committees have oversight authority over the Government and each Minister.

Parliament is composed of two chambers, the House of Representatives and the House of Counsellors. Under Article 60 of the 2011 Constitution, the opposition is an essential component of both chambers and is given certain rights, including to direct Parliamentary debate from time-to-time and to chair a legislative commission. Members of the House of Representatives are elected by direct, universal suffrage for a five-year term. Members of the House of Counsellors are elected for a six-year term, with three-fifths of the members being representatives of the regions, in proportion to the population, and elected by regional councils. The remaining members of the House of Counsellors are

elected by electoral colleges composed of elected representatives of professional organisations, employees and other associations.

The House of Representatives is comprised of 395 members and the House of Counsellors may comprise a minimum of 90 members and a maximum of 120 members. The Parliament has the power to pass legislation, which may be initiated by the members of the House of Representatives or the House of Counsellors and the Head of Government.

Article 71 of the 2011 Constitution vests power over 30 specified matters to Parliament, including, *inter alia*: (i) civil liberties; (ii) family and civil law; (iii) nationality; (iv) media and the press; (v) criminal law and prisons; (vi) amnesty; (vii) fiscal, customs, tax and related matters; (viii) environmental matters; (ix) privatisation; and (x) property rights.

## Role of the Government

The Government exercises executive power in the Kingdom. Upon designation by the King, pursuant to Article 88 of the 2011 Constitution, the Head of Government must present the Government's programme with respect to its economic, social, environmental, cultural and international relations policies to Parliament. The Government's programme is subject to debate in both houses of Parliament, which is followed by a vote of the House of Representatives. The Government is vested following a majority vote of confidence of the House of Representatives.

The Head of Government exercises administrative and rule-making authority, appoints the most important civil servants and presides over the Council of Government. The Head of Government may delegate many of his powers to other members of the Government. The Council of Government has responsibility for, *inter alia*: (i) public policy; (ii) sectoral policies; (iii) the texts of treaties and international conventions ahead of their submission to the Council of Ministers; (iv) matters relating to human rights and public order; (v) drafting laws (other than as set forth above) prior to their transmission to Parliament; and (vi) issuing decrees. Following a decision of the Council of Government, the Head of Government informs the King.

# Role of the Judiciary and the Constitutional Court

The judicial power is independent of the executive and legislative powers, and the King guarantees its independence. Article 113 of the 2011 Constitution established a Superior Council of the Judiciary. See "—Legal System"

In 1994, a Constitutional Council was established to ensure that laws conform to the Constitution and to confirm election and referenda results. Pursuant to Title VIII of the 2011 Constitution, the Constitutional Council was replaced by a Constitutional Court, which is composed of 12 members who serve a single, nine-year, non-renewable term. Six members are designated by the King (of which one member is proposed by religious leaders) and three members are elected by each house of Parliament. The President of the Constitutional Court is named by the King from among the 12 members. The Constitutional Court has the power to rule on constitutional matters.

Organic laws must be submitted to the Constitutional Court, which will review the constitutionality of such laws prior to their promulgation. The Constitutional Court will also review the constitutionality of other laws prior to their promulgation if so requested by the King, the Head of Government, the President of either house of Parliament or by a fifth of the members of either house of Parliament. Pursuant to Article 134 of the 2011 Constitution, laws declared unconstitutional may not be promulgated or otherwise put in place. The Constitutional Court also has authority over elections and referenda.

# Reform and Civil Rights

The 2011 Constitution strengthened civil rights in the Kingdom. It guarantees, *inter alia*: (i) parity (*i.e.*, equal rights for women); (ii) freedom of movement, of opinion, of expression and of worship; (iii) freedom of association and to belong to any union or political group; (iv) the right to strike; (v) the right of free enterprise and to own property; and (vi) rights for freedom of thought, ideas, artistic expression and creation. It prohibits discrimination based on gender, race, belief, culture, social or religious origin, language or disability.

The 2011 Constitution also provides for the supremacy of international agreements, which have been ratified by the Kingdom, in the Kingdom's hierarchy of laws. The 2011 Constitution also establishes various independent institutions, such as those established for the protection and promotion of human rights, good governance and anti-corruption, including the independent National Council for Human Rights, the Council for Competition and the National Instance of Probity, Prevention and the Struggle Against Corruption, a number of which are not yet operational.

## **Legal System**

The legal system in Morocco consists of an independent judiciary comprising a secular judicial system based principally upon French legal tradition and legal procedure for commercial, civil and criminal matters and an Islamic judicial system with respect to individual, family and inheritance matters involving Muslims. Article 107 of the 2011 Constitution provides that the King guarantees the independence of the judiciary. The courts of first instance, the courts of appeal and a supreme court (the *Cour de Cassation*), have jurisdiction over all matters, including commercial, civil and criminal matters, other than constitutional matters. See "—*Constitution and Political System*—*Role of the Judiciary and the Constitutional Court*".

Under the 2011 Constitution, judges are appointed by the *Conseil Supérieur du Pouvoir Judiciaire* (Supreme Council of the Judiciary). The Supreme Council of the Judiciary is presided over by the King and includes the first-president of *Cour de Cassation*, the Attorney General of the King to the *Cour de Cassation*, the President of the first chamber of the *Cour de Cassation*, four elected representatives from the judges of the courts of appeal, six elected representatives from the judges of the courts of first instance, a mediator, the President of the National Council of Human Rights and five persons nominated by the King, recognised for their competence, impartiality, integrity, and their contribution to the independence of justice and rule of law, one of which is proposed by the Secretary General of the Superior Council of Oulemas. The representation of female judges is guaranteed amongst the ten elected members from the courts of appeal and courts of first instance according to the proportion of their presence in the judiciary.

A system of administrative tribunals was established in the early 1990s. A system of separate commercial courts having jurisdiction over trade disputes was introduced in January 1997, and eight first instance commercial courts and three commercial appeal courts have been in operation since May 1998.

## **Government and Political Parties**

Following legislative elections in November 1997, the then-opposition parties obtained strong support and secured the largest number of seats. The opposition party USFP emerged as the leading party, gaining close to 14% of the votes. A new Government was then formed, known as *Gouvernement d'Alternance*, a coalition made up of leaders from seven political parties and headed by Mr Abderrahmane Youssouffi, leader of the USFP, as Prime Minister. This was the first time since independence that a leader of the opposition was appointed as Prime Minister.

The September 2002 Parliamentary elections resulted in victory for the then-ruling coalition, with the USFP gaining the largest number of seats, closely followed by the *Parti d'Istiqlal*. The PJD, a moderate Islamist party, achieved significant gains and was the then-principal opposition group in Parliament.

In February 2006, a new law governing political parties was enacted forbidding the establishment of political parties on religious, ethnic, regional or linguistic bases, requiring parties to adopt political programmes and introducing regulations on financing and management of such parties. Prior to the September 2007 elections, the number of constituencies was increased from 91 to 95. The 2007 legislative elections resulted in victory for a coalition led by the *Parti de l'Istiqlal*, which replaced the USFP as the largest parliamentary party.

As a result of the implementation of the 2011 Constitution, parliamentary elections, which were due to take place in September 2012, were brought forward and held in November 2011.

The November 2011 elections resulted in the PJD, a moderate Islamist party, gaining the largest number of seats in Parliament and replacing *Parti de l'Istiqlal* as the largest parliamentary party. The *Parti de l'Istiqlal* joined the PJD and two other parties, the *Mouvement Populaire* and the *Parti de Progrès et du Socialisme*, as part of the coalition Government, which was formed in January 2012.

The following table sets forth the representation of each of the principal political groups in the House of Representatives following the 2011 legislative elections.

Representation of Political Parties in the House of Representatives

Party	Seats
Parti de la Justice et du Développement* Parti de l'Istiqlal* Rassemblement National des Indépendants	107
Parti de l'Istiqlal*	60
Rassemblement National des Indépendants	52
Parti Authenticité et ModernitéParti Authenticité et Modernité	47
Union Socialiste des Forces populaires	39
Mouvement Populaire*	32
Union Constitutionnelle	23
Parti du Progrès et du Socialisme*	18
Parti Travailliste	4
Mouvement démocratique et social	2
Parti du Renouveau et de l'Equité	2
Parti de l'Environnement et du Développement durable	2
Parti Al Ahd Addimocrati	2
Parti de la Gauche verte Marocain	1
Parti de la Liberté et de la Justice sociale	1
Front des Forces démocratiques	1
Parti de l'Action	1
Parti Unité et Démocratie	1

Note:

Following the November 2011 elections, a new Government was formed, headed by Mr Abdelilah Benkirane, the Secretary General of the PJD, replacing Prime Minister Abbas El Fassi who had served as Prime Minister since the September 2007 elections. Mr Abdelilah Benkirane has been elected as a Member of Parliament four times and was elected the Secretary General of the PJD in 2008, succeeding Mr. Saâdeddine El Othmani.

The King nominated Mr Abdelilah Benkirane as Head of Government in accordance with Article 47 of the 2011 Constitution (requiring the King to choose a Head of Government from the party winning the most seats in the elections from the House of Representatives). Twelve Ministers in the coalition Government, including the Head of Government, are drawn from the PJD. *Parti de l'Istiqlal* holds six portfolios, with the other two parties forming part of the coalition Government holding four each. Six portfolios are apolitical. Members of the House of Counsellors are divided into 14 political parties and groupings.

## **Elections**

Elections in the Kingdom are regulated by an electoral law, which was amended following the implementation of the 2011 Constitution to reflect the political and institutional reforms in the new constitution. Monitoring of elections is regulated by Law • 30.11, published in the *Official Bulletin* on 6 October 2011, which sets out conditions for the independent and neutral observation of elections. Under this law, a special accreditation commission was established to receive, examine and approve requests for accreditation of independent observers.

The commission accredited 4,000 observers, representing 16 domestic and international organisations, including a delegation from the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, to monitor the November 2011 parliamentary elections. These observers and the political parties that participated confirmed that there were no significant irregularities with respect to the November 2011 parliamentary elections.

The next parliamentary elections are expected in 2016.

## **Press and Media**

Morocco has a varied press with over 600 publications in Arabic, French, Amazigh, English and Spanish. The main national publications consist of four Arabic-language and two French-language dailies. A number of newspapers are affiliated with political parties.

The Government has begun the process of liberalising the Kingdom's television and radio services, which have previously been controlled by the Government. Following the enactment of the *loi sur la Communication Audiovisuelle* and the setting up of the *Haute Autorité de la Communication Audiovisuelle*, a regulatory authority, established to, among other things, promote and defend freedom of expression and pluralism, the state no longer holds the monopoly

 <sup>\*</sup> Indicates member of the governing coalition.

in this sector. In 2005, the *Société Nationale de Radiodiffusion et de Télévision* (the "SNRT") was established as a joint-stock company whose share capital is owned by the state. SNRT owns five principal radio stations, as well as several regional stations, and eight television channels.

#### **International Relations**

Morocco is a member of most international institutions including the United Nations (and its affiliated organisations), the Arab League, the Organisation of the Islamic Conference, the Community of Sahelo-Saharan States, the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank (and its affiliates, including the International Finance Corporation and the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency), the World Trade Organisation, the African Development Bank, the Islamic Development Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (the "EBRD") and the Arab Monetary Fund. Morocco is currently a member of the U.N. Security Council. Its term expires in 2013.

## European Union

In February 1996, Morocco signed an Association Agreement with the European Union aiming, among other things, to liberalise trade between Morocco and the European Union. This agreement deals with reforms and modernisation of the Moroccan economy and the promotion of private trade and investment, as well as with security, social development, environmental protection and cultural affairs. In particular, it provides for the phasing out over a period of twelve years of all tariff barriers between Morocco and EU member states. The Association Agreement entered into force on 1 March 2000, following ratification by Morocco and all EU Member States.

The Kingdom supports the European Union's Neighbourhood Policy. Since 1 January 2007, the European Neighbourhood has set out the framework for cooperation between Morocco and the European Union and defines the strategic axes of cooperation for the period 2007-2013. These strategic axes include the development of social policies, modernisation of the Moroccan economy, institutional support, good governance and human rights and environment protection. During the period 2007-2013, €1,234 million has been allocated for Morocco by the European Union.

In October 2008, Morocco signed an "Advanced Status" agreement with the European Union, which sets out the framework for a deeper strategic and economic orientation towards the European Union, opens participation to Morocco in several European agencies and reinforces Morocco's position within the European Union's Neighbourhood Policy. From 1 January to 30 September 2012, the European Union and its Member States contributed €21 million to the Kingdom under various programmes (including those described above), €400 million of which came from France.

In parallel with its relations with the European Union, Morocco also maintains strong relations and cooperates in matters political, economic and financial with EU Member States, in particular with the larger Member States that also host a significant number of MREs, such as France, Spain, Germany, Belgium, Portugal and Italy.

Spain controls two enclaves, Sebta and Melilia (also known as Ceuta and Melilla), which are located on the Mediterranean Sea. The Kingdom does not recognise Spain's sovereignty over these enclaves but is committed to a peaceful resolution of this dispute in light of the large and growing economic ties between Spain and the European Union and the Kingdom. Spain is the Kingdom's second largest trading partner after France.

The Kingdom is pursuing a number of initiatives to address the issues of illegal migration from its territory to the European Union, as well as transmigration, which represents the significant majority of illegal immigrants entering the European Union from Morocco.

# United States of America

The Kingdom and the United States have historically enjoyed strong relations, and the United States is the Kingdom's third most important trading partner, after France and Spain. The Kingdom was the first nation to recognise the independence of the United States in 1777, and the United States established its first embassy abroad in Tangiers.

On 1 January 2006, a free trade agreement between Morocco and the United States entered into force, having been signed in 2004. Tariffs on more than 95% of qualifying consumer and industrial goods were immediately eliminated. Tariffs for most remaining qualifying goods will be eliminated over a nine-year period. For a limited number of products, tariffs will be eliminated over a period of up to 15 years. The free trade agreement also offers new access to services, intellectual property protection, open government procurement and protections for labour and environment. The next Joint Committee meeting of the Moroccan and U.S. governments with respect to the free trade agreement will take place in late 2012.

At a meeting in Washington, D.C. in September 2012, the Moroccan and U.S. governments signed a Memorandum of Understanding setting the framework for a strategic dialogue.

## Maghreb Nations

The nations of the Maghreb, Morocco, Algeria, Libya, Tunisia and Mauritania, have attempted to set up an economic union. The *Union du Maghreb Arabe* (the "Arab Maghreb Union" or "AMU") was formally established in 1989 but has not, as yet, produced the full effect anticipated due to a number of issues that have arisen and which have led at times to various differences between member states. Morocco continues to support the AMU as a framework for a future Maghreb Common Market. The AMU treaty also provides for the establishment of a regional development bank aiming to finance project investment and foreign trade.

# **Agadir Declaration**

In May 2001, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt and Jordan meeting in Agadir, Morocco signed a joint declaration known as the "Agadir Declaration" in which they stated their objective of creating a common free trade zone amongst South-Mediterranean countries having entered into association agreements with the European Union. In February 2004, the "Agadir Agreement" established a free trade zone amongst Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt and Jordan. The Agadir Agreement entered into force in July 2006, following ratification by the four countries party to the agreement. Implementation of the Agadir Agreement began in March 2007.

# GCC

In December 2011, certain members of the Gulf Cooperation Council (the "GCC"), which is comprised of Bahrain Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, pledged U.S.\$5 billion to fund economic and social development projects in both Morocco and Jordan in response to the events of the Arab Spring. In May 2012, the CCG increased the pledged amount to U.S.\$5 billion for each of Morocco and Jordan.

#### Free Trade

Morocco is a member of the Greater Arab Free Trade Area ("GAFTA") established on 1 January 1998, which has reached full trade liberalisation of goods though the implementation of full exemptions for customs duties and charges having equivalent effect among signatory countries. The Arab League has launched negotiations on services and investment liberalisation, as well as an initiative to upgrade GAFTA into a Customs Union, by 2015.

The Kingdom entered into a free trade agreement with Turkey on 4 April 2004 and is in negotiations with respect to a free trade agreement with Canada. The Kingdom has conducted three rounds of negotiations with Canada.

Morocco has also entered into bilateral free trade agreements with several Arab countries, including Tunisia, Jordan, Egypt and the Arab United Emirates.

See "External Sector—Trade Policy".

# Others

On 9 March 2009, the Kingdom severed diplomatic ties with Iran, citing remarks that Iran made in respect of the situation in Bahrain at the time.

Israel opened a liaison office in Rabat in 1994 and Morocco was the third Arab country (after Egypt and Jordan) to establish a representative office in Israel. However, as a consequence of the deterioration of the situation in the Middle East since September 2000 and following a resolution by the Arab League, Morocco withdrew its representative in Israel and Israel recalled its representative in Morocco. It is the stated policy of Morocco that Israel has a right to exist alongside a Palestinian state that is politically and economically viable.

## **Internal Security**

On 16 May 2003, terrorist attacks took place in Casablanca, resulting in 43 deaths. The Government reacted firmly to these attacks and was able to arrest a number of presumed perpetrators and their accomplices. Following these attacks, the Government has taken a series of measures to combat terrorism, including the submission to Parliament of a draft law, which was adopted by unanimous vote of the members of both houses, which makes terrorism and the financing of terrorist activities criminal offences and expands the powers of the judicial police to permit it to fight terrorism more effectively. Morocco is committed to opposing terrorist activities, without compromising or reducing its commitment to

democratic processes and the rule of law. There were two suicide bombings on 14 April 2007 in Casablanca outside an American Language Center and the U.S. Consulate General. One passer-by was slightly injured. These followed suicide bombings in Casablanca on 10 April 2007 and 11 March 2007 in which four suicide bombers and one policeman were killed. Security has been increased and a number of arrests have been made.

On 28 April 2011, a suspected suicide bomber attacked a tourist cafe in Marrakesh killing 17 and injuring at least 20 others. In May 2012, Moroccan authorities arrested fifteen individuals, who the authorities charged with a number of terrorist offenses. The arrests were accompanied by the seizure of a number of firearms.

# THE MOROCCAN ECONOMY

# General

The following table sets forth the principal economic indicators for Morocco as at the end of or for the periods indicated.

**Principal Economic Indicators**<sup>(1)</sup>

	ncipai Econ	onne marcato	715			
<u>-</u>	2007	2008	2009	2010	<b>2011</b> <sup>(2)</sup>	Jan - Jun 2012 (2)
GDP at current prices ( <i>Dh billions</i> ) <sup>(3)</sup>	616.3	688.8	732.5	764.0	802.6	410.4
Real GDP Growth (%) <sup>(4)</sup>	2.7	5.6	4.8	3.6	5.0	2.6
GDP per capita at current prices (Dh)	19,976	22,082	23,221	23,955	24,891	_
Unemployment rate						
Total (%)	9.8	9.6	9.1	9.1	8.9	9.0
Urban (%)	15.4	14.7	13.8	13.7	13.4	13.4
CPI Increase (%) <sup>(5)</sup>	2.5	3.7	1.0	0.9	0.9	1.0
Government budget balance <sup>(6)</sup>						
in Dh billions	1.0	3.1	(15.9)	(35.8)	(55.8)	(21.4)
as % of GDP	0.2	0.4	(2.2)	(4.7)	(6.9)	_
Current Account Balance						
in Dh billions	(0.4)	(36.1)	(39.9)	(34.3)	(64.6)	(47.5)
as % of GDP	(0.1)	(5.2)	(5.4)	(4.5)	(8.0)	_
Net Foreign Assets (U.S.\$ billions)	24.4	22.4	22.4	22.5	19.4	15.9
Foreign Exchange Reserves (months of						
imports) <sup>(7)(8)</sup>	8.8	6.6	7.7	6.8	5.1	4.0
Total Public Debt <sup>(9)</sup>						
in Dh billions	297.4	296.0	316.6	354.8	403.5	423.6
as % of GDP	48.3	43.0	43.2	46.4	50.3	_
Total Central Government Debt						
in Dh billions	329.8	325.8	345.2	384.6	430.9	459.3
as % of GDP	53.5	47.3	46.9	50.3	53.7	_
Total External Debt (as % of GDP) <sup>(8)</sup>	19.8	19.4	20.8	22.7	23.6	_
Debt Service (as % of current account						
revenues)	6.8	5.5	5.1	4.7	4.9	_
Exchange Rate (Dh per U.S.\$) <sup>(8)</sup>	7.713	8.098	8.860	8.357	8.577	8.725
Exchange Rate $(Dh \ per \in)^{(8)}$	11.359	11.246	11.316	11.171	11.106	11.062

## Notes:

- (1) Certain line items and figures differ from previously published data due to on-going revisions.
- (2) Preliminary data.
- (3) At prices current during each respective year.
- (4) Calculated by reference to previous year prices.
- (5) Period average to period average. Index based upon prices of 478 items in 17 urban areas. Inflation, as measured by the CPI, increased by 0.9% as at 31 August 2012, as compared to 31 August 2011.
- (6) Excluding privatisation receipts.
- (7) Imports of goods and non-factor services.
- (8) Calculated at the end of period.
- (9) Public debt is comprised of the Consolidated General Government debt (comprised of the domestic and external debt of the Central Government, debt of certain administrative public establishments and debt of local authorities) and external debt of state-owned enterprises. It excludes Government debt held by social security funds.

Sources: HCP and Ministry of Economy and Finance

# The Global Financial Crisis and the Eurozone Crisis

The global financial crisis, which commenced in 2007, affected the Moroccan economy, in particular the non-agricultural sectors, resulting in decreases in the demand for Moroccan exports abroad, remittances from MREs, foreign

direct investment and other capital flows into the Kingdom. The continuing Eurozone crisis has also impacted on the Moroccan economy. Remittances from the Eurozone account for approximately 80% of the total remittances on an annual basis, and remittances from MREs are dependent on, among other factors, the economic condition in the host country. See "External Sector—Remittances". Similarly, exports to the European Union accounted for 55.5% of the Kingdom's total exports in 2011. Exports to the European Union declined in 2008 and 2009, before returning to growth in 2010 and 2011. See "External Sector—Foreign Trade".

In light of the limited exposure of Morocco's financial system to the international markets and the positive impact of the range of macro-economic and structural reforms that were previously introduced, the Kingdom has been well-positioned to absorb and respond to the global financial crisis and the Eurozone crisis. Among other measures, in February 2009, the Government established a public-private steering committee (and several sub-committees) to develop policies to deal with the crisis. Among the principal measures taken by the Government following the recommendation of the committee:

- *Employment:* the Government agreed to cover the social security contributions of certain employers affected by the global financial crisis for a period of six months, renewable, in return for such employers agreeing not to reduce their respective workforces by more than 5%;
- Financial: the Government guaranteed certain loans and declared a moratorium on certain payments owed to the Government;
- Commercial: the Government provided certain export guarantees and established an action plan, Cap 2009, to promote tourism in Marrakesh, Fez, Casablanca and Agadir; and
- *Industrial:* the Government supported Moroccan textile and leather industries in their migration from providers of raw materials to producers of finished products, as well as automobile parts suppliers and certain other manufacturing industries.

In August 2012, the IMF and the Government agreed an SDR 4.117 billion (approximately U.S.\$6.2 billion) Precautionary and Liquidity Line (the "PLL") to be provided by the IMF. The PLL is intended to ensure that the Kingdom has the necessary resources in the event of a further economic shock, including fluctuations in oil prices and the potential impact of the economic downturn in Europe and the Eurozone crisis, as well as to reinforce confidence in the Moroccan economy. The PLL has a duration of 24 months, and it remains unused. See "Public Debt—Public External Debt-- Morocco's Adjustment Strategy, Debt Record and Rescheduling—IMF".

The Government has taken a number of measures to encourage the flow of remittances from MREs into the Kingdom, including reducing certain charges and commissions, following a 5.3% decline in remittances in 2008. In 2011, the remittance flow from MREs was Dh 58.6 billion, an increase of 7.8% over the flow in 2010. In 2010, remittances increased by 8.3% over the 2009 level. Remittances in 2011 represented 7.3% of GDP. The continuing crisis in the Eurozone has resulted in a 3.3% decline in remittances in the nine months ended 30 September 2012, as compared to the corresponding period in 2011. See "External Sector—Remittances".

## The Government Programme

Upon taking office in January 2012, the Government announced its programme for the next five years, which is based on five pillars: (i) strengthening national identity while encouraging diversity within Moroccan society; (ii) improving the rule of law and governance, advancing regionalisation and guaranteeing civil rights; (iii) fostering an environment that supports a strong, competitive economy and job creation; (iv) strengthening national sovereignty; and (v) establishing solidarity between social groups, generations and regions in Morocco and guaranteeing equal access to basic social services.

The Government's programme contains the following economic targets (among others):

- increasing the economic growth rate in the medium term by 1% to reach an average growth rate of 5.5% during the period 2012-2016;
- maintaining inflation at 2%;
- reducing unemployment to a rate of 8% by 2016; and
- reducing the fiscal deficit to 3% of GDP by 2016.

In order to achieve these aims, the Government intends to implement the following reforms: (i) improving the business climate and competitiveness by strengthening governance, the rule of law and the independence of the judiciary; (ii) enhancing transparency and accountability and fighting corruption; (iii) further improving the infrastructure in Morocco, including through public-private partnerships; (iv) improving access to social services, such as education and healthcare; (v) developing active labour market policies; (vi) promoting small- and medium-sized businesses; (vii) encouraging informal economy participants to shift to the formal economy through the implementation of incentives; (vii) using sectoral policies to target high value-added and job-creating sectors, such as the aerospace sector; (viii) reforming tax laws to broaden the tax base of tax and lower tax rates; (ix) introducing subsidy reforms; (x) reviewing the public sector compensation system to link it to productivity and reviewing the state pension system to ensure long-term sustainability and reduced risk to the budget; and (xi) improving governance and monitoring of the performance of public companies.

# Role of the Government in the Economy; Privatisation and Economic Reform

Following a long period during which the Government had played a significant role in the Moroccan economy, since 1993, the Government has been reconsidering and redefining its role and that of the private sector in Morocco. The Government has been actively disengaging from activities of an industrial and commercial nature best suited to the private sector and concentrating its actions on public and social services while continuing to play a role in the overall direction and regulation of other sectors.

To expand the role of the private sector in the economy, the Government has embarked on a multi-year programme to privatise certain Government enterprises. In 1989, legislation was passed providing for the privatisation of 112 companies, including 37 hotels. This legislation was subsequently amended in 1995, 1997 and 2002 to expand the privatisation programme. The privatisation law provided for three privatisation methods, public offers on the Casablanca Stock Exchange (the "CSE"), international or domestic tenders and private placements.

A number of significant enterprises continue to be state-owned and could be privatised, including the Government's stake in Maroc Telecom and others. The Government is also undertaking restructuring programmes with respect to Royal Air Maroc ("RAM"), the national airline, the National Office of Electricity and Potable Water ("ONEE") and the state agricultural development agency, ADA.

The goals of the privatisation programme are to: (i) increase the role of the private sector in the economy; (ii) reduce the budgetary subsidies to the public sector; (iii) encourage increased competition and thereby raise the standards and efficiency of Moroccan industry; (iv) increase tax revenues; and (v) increase levels of funding from the capital markets and promote wider share ownership. In addition, the Government is aiming, through the granting of concessions, to involve the private sector in financing and operating public utilities.

The Government has sold interests in 48 companies and 26 hotel establishments in 108 privatisation transactions since 1993.

The following table sets forth the privatisation receipts for the years indicated.

# Privatisation Receipts(1)(2)

Year	Receipts
	(Dh millions)
1993-1996	9,838
1997	5,923
1998	532
1999	270
2000	19
2001	23,370
2002	78
2003	14,181
2004	8,897
2005	13,798
2006	4,679
2007	6,081
2008	C
2009	0
2010	70
2011	5,974
2012 (to date)	3,292
·	97,564
Total	77,50

#### Notes:

- (1) Certain line items and figures differ from previously published data due to on-going revisions.
- (2) Privatisation receipts received from privatisations made in accordance with Law 39-89, including receipts from the sale of interests in Banque Centrale Populaire.

Source: Ministry of Economy and Finance

In order to ensure an appropriate use for the proceeds of privatisation, in 2000, the Government set up the Hassan II Fund into which up to 50% of privatisation proceeds may be transferred. To date, the Hassan II Fund has received Dh 36.2 billion. The main objective of the Hassan II Fund is to allocate privatisation proceeds to investment activities rather than to the payment of current expenses.

The most significant recent privatisations have been the following:

- BCP (Banque Centrale Populaire). In September 2012, the Government sold 10% of the shares of BCP to Banque Populaires Régionales for Dh 3.3 billion. In May 2011, the Government sold 20% of the capital of BCP for Dh 5.3 billion. As a result, the Kingdom's participation in BCP's share capital has decreased to 6.3%.
- SSM (La Société des Sels de Mohammedia). In July 2011, the Government sold 100% of the shares of SSM to Moroccan holding *company*, Delta Holding, for Dh 655 million.
- COMANAV (Compagnie Marocaine de Navigation). In May 2007, the French group CMA-CGM, the third largest maritime transport group, acquired the COMANAV for Dh 2.25 billion.
- BMCE International. In April 2007, the Government sold its remaining stake in BMCE International to Banque Marocaine du Commerce Extérieur ("BMCE") for Dh 26.7 million.
- SOMATHES (Société Marocaine du Thé et du Sucre). In September 2006, 100% of the shares of SOMATHES were sold for Dh 539 million. SOMATHES is an agro-alimentary company that produces tea and sugar.
- SUTA (Sucreries Raffineries du Tadla), SUCRAFOR (Sucrerie Raffinerie de l'Oriental), SUNABEL (Sucrerie Nationale de Betterave de Machraa Bel Ksiri), SURAC (Sucreries Raffineries de Cannes). In September 2005, 93.9% of the shares of SUTA, 87.4% of the shares of SUCRAFOR, 94.5% of the shares of SUNABEL and 95% of the shares of SURAC were sold to Cosumar, a private Moroccan company. These four companies are sugar refineries.
- Régie des Tabacs S.A. In February 2003, 80% of the shares of Régie des Tabacs S.A. was offered by way
  of a tender process. This process resulted in Altadis S.A. winning the tender for a price of approximately
  Dh 14 billion.

• *Maroc Telecom*. In February 2001, 35% of Maroc Telecom's share capital was sold to the French group Vivendi generating proceeds of approximately Dh 23.3 billion. In December 2004, 14.9% was sold on the CSE and Euronext Paris generating Dh 8.9 billion. In January 2005, 16% was sold to Vivendi generating proceeds of approximately Dh 12.4 billion. The Kingdom's participation in Maroc Telecom's share capital is less than 30%, as a result of a further sale of 4% of Maroc Telecom's share capital in 2007.

Other privatisations in the oil distribution sector such as the sale of *Shell Maroc*, *Total Maroc* and *Mobil Maroc* generated total proceeds of Dh 860 million. In the oil refining industry, the privatisation of SCP generated proceeds of Dh 469.8 million. The privatisation of FERTIMA, a fertiliser producer, generated proceeds of Dh 350.1 million and the privatisation of CNIA, an insurance company, generated proceeds of Dh 310.2 million. Privatisations in the mining sector, terrestrial transport sector, chemical industry, banking and finance sector, textile industry, agriculture sector, hotel and services sector and others, have also taken place.

Although proceeds of the privatisation programme have contributed significantly to the Government's revenues in recent years, the Kingdom is no longer dependent on such revenues to finance the Government's budget deficit. See "Public Finance". The Government did not privatise any state-owned enterprises in 2008 and 2009 due to economic conditions in the context of the global financial crisis, although it continued to prepare state-owned enterprises for eventual privatisation, including by having preliminary accounting and corporate governance work undertaken, so that when economic conditions improved, the Government could continue its privatisation programme.

No privatisation transactions were conducted in 2009 or 2010 and, in May 2011, the first privatisation in three years was completed with the sale of 20% of BCP. In September 2012, a further 10% of BCP was privatised. In July 2011, the sale of SSM was also completed. The Ministry of Economy and Finance has launched a strategic review to develop a new strategy with respect to state-owned enterprises and reform the privatisation law.

### **Private Sector Concessions**

A law was passed in February 2006 to regulate concessions to private sector entities. In addition to what is described below, the Government is studying further opportunities for public-private partnerships. Morocco's policy to promote greater private sector participation in the economy has included the granting of concessions to bring the private sector into the financing and operation of four principal sectors:

### Electricity

In the context of the Government's policy of liberalisation of the electricity sector, the ONEE awarded in 1997 a 30-year concession to a foreign consortium (Swedish-Swiss Asea Brown Boveri and CMS Energy Corp. of the United States) to take over the operation of two existing coal-fired power plants located at Jorf Lasfar, south of Casablanca and to build and operate two additional plants. As at the date hereof, all four power plants were operational. In August 2000, the 50MW Koudia El Beida wind farm project in Tétouan was completed and commissioned. Other concessionary projects such as the Tahadart natural gas combined cycle power plant (which has been operational since March 2005 and has a production capacity of 385 MW) and the Tangier and Tarfaya wind power stations in North and South Morocco respectively are expected to enhance Morocco's electricity production capacity by 720MW. The increase in electricity production combined with increased productivity allowed a reduction in electricity tariffs, which has principally benefited the industrial sector. See "—Principal Sectors of the Economy—Energy".

## **Telecommunications**

In August 1999, a second GSM licence was awarded to Meditelecom, a Moroccan company 30.5% owned by Telefònica, the Spanish telecom operator, 30.5% owned by Portugal Telecom, the Portuguese telephone operator, with the remaining share capital being held by Moroccan institutions including the Finance.com group (20%) and other shareholders. The sale of the licence generated approximately U.S.\$1.08 billion. In September 2009, Telefònica and Portugal Telecom sold their stakes in Meditelecom to Finance.com and *Caisse de Dépôt et de Gestion* ("CDG"). In February 2009, a third GSM license was awarded to Wana Corporate. In July 2012, the Telecommunications Regulatory National Agency announced that it had started preparations to auction at least one 4G licence.

In 2008, the Government introduced its *Plan Maroc Numéric* for the period 2009-2013. The principal aims of *Plan Maroc Numéric* are: (i) the development of information technology companies; (ii) the further development of "egovernment"; (iii) the availability of high speed internet nationwide; and (iv) the encouragement of the computerisation of small- and medium-sized businesses in order to increase their productivity.

#### **Transport**

In February 2009, a consortium including Veolia Transport was selected to operate public bus transport in the Rabat-Salé region for a fifteen-year period. Transdev manages the Rabat-Salé Tramway, which opened in May 2011. See "—Infrastructure—Rail Network".

#### Water Sector and Waste Management

In 1997, the French operator *Suez-Lyonnaise des Eaux*, currently named *Suez*, was awarded a 30-year concession for managing water, electricity and sewerage services in Casablanca pursuant to which it undertook to invest Dh 30 billion over the life of the concession to extend water services to an additional 40,000 households per year. In addition, a 30-year concession was awarded to Spain's Urbaser, a subsidiary of the Dragados Group and Portugal's EDP-Pleiade-Al Borade for the management of water services in Rabat. Concessions have also been awarded to France's Vivendi Universal group for the water, electricity and sewerage services of Tangier and Tétouan. Other concessions for the provision of waste distribution services are in the process of being awarded for other cities including Fez, Meknes and Marrakesh. See "—*Infrastructure*—*Water*".

#### **Gross Domestic Product**

Morocco's GDP has tended to show fluctuating trends, largely due to erratic primary sector activity, most notably in the agricultural sector. Although overall GDP fluctuations have decreased in recent years, as a result, in part, of increased domestic demand and the emergence of new industries, yearly rainfall variations have continued to have a major effect on GDP, prices and the balance of trade.

Morocco's Real GDP grew 5.0% in 2011, as compared to 3.6% in 2010, despite the effects of the international environment on Morocco's economy. This increase was primarily as a result of the recovery of the primary sector, notably the agricultural sector, which grew by 5.1% in 2011 compared to contracting by 2.3% in 2010, due to better climate conditions. Tertiary sector activities also contributed to GDP growth in 2011, growing by 6.0% in 2011, as compared to 3.3% in 2010. The overall non-agricultural sector grew by 4.9% in 2011, as compared to 4.5% in 2010. These increases were partially offset by the lower rate of growth of secondary sector activities, which grew by 4.0% in 2011, as compared to 6.4% in 2010.

The following table sets forth certain information with respect to total and per capita GDP for the periods indicated.

Gross Domestic Product <sup>(1)</sup>							
-	2007	2008	2009	2010	<b>2011</b> <sup>(2)</sup>	Jan-June 2012 <sup>(2)</sup>	
Total GDP							
At current prices (Dh billions)	616.3	688.8	732.4	764.0	802.6	410.4	
Nominal change (%)	6.7	11.8	6.3	4.3	5.0	3.8	
Real change (%)	2.7	5.6	4.8	3.6	5.0	2.6	
Per capita GDP							
At current prices (Dh)	19.976	22.082	23.221	23.955	24.891	26.059	
Nominal change (%)	5.6	10.5	5.2	3.2	3.9	4.7	
Real change (%)	1.6	4.4	3.6	2.5	3.8	_	

# Notes:

(1) Certain line items and figures differ from previously published data due to on-going revisions.

Sources: HCP and Ministry of Economy and Finance

<sup>(2)</sup> Preliminary data

The following table sets forth the details in respect of the goods and services account for the periods indicated.

# Goods and Services $\mathbf{Account}^{(1)}$

	2007	2008	2009 (Dh billi	2010	<b>2011</b> <sup>(2)</sup>	Jan-June 2012 <sup>(2)</sup>
Gross Domestic Product	616.3	688.8	732.5	764.0	802.6	410.4
Resources deficit						
Goods and non-factor services imports	276.5	350.4	290.7	329.1	390.8	209.9
less: Goods and non-factor services export	(220.3)	(258.2)	210.2	253.9	285.5	150.5
Resources deficit	56.2	92.2	80.5	75.1	105.2	59.4
Total available resources	672.4	781.1	812.9	839.1	907.8	469.8
Final National Consumption						
General government	112.2	118.1	133.4	133.9	146.3	76.2
Resident households	360.0	400.4	418.5	437.5	472.9	249.4
Final National Consumption	4=	518.5	551.9	571.5	619.2	325.6
Investment						
Fixed capital formation	192.6	227.5	226.2	234.4	246.4	127.6
Changes in stock	7.6	35.1	34.9	33.3	42.2	16.6
Investment	200.2	262.6	261.1	267.7	288.6	144.2
Total expenditure	672.4	781.1	812.9	839.1	907.8	469.8

Sources: HCP and Ministry of Economy and Finance

Notes:

(1) Certain line items and figures differ from previously published data due to on-going revisions.
(2) Preliminary data.

# **Principal Sectors of the Economy**

The following table sets forth Morocco's gross domestic product by sector (at current prices) for the years indicated.

**Gross Domestic Product by Sector (at current prices)**<sup>(1)</sup>

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011 <sup>(2)</sup>
_					
Primary Sector	74,928	90,690	107,050	105,534	114,866
Agriculture, forests and related services	68,716	82,969	100,757	98,991	106,342
Fisheries	6,212	7,721	6,293	6,543	8,524
Secondary Sector	149,052	187,866	186,742	204,075	224,556
Mining	13,155	45,121	16,925	29,579	41,355
Industry	82,074	86,996	104,004	105,250	114,338
Refining	841	963	1,084	2,799	1,960
Electricity and water	15,749	16,123	18,953	19,362	18,962
Construction and public works	37,233	38,663	45,776	47,085	47,941
Tertiary Sector <sup>(3)</sup>	321,713	341,076	359,365	378,113	402,997
Commerce	65,058	70,597	72,054	72,815	76,977
Hotels and restaurants	16,294	16,278	16,775	19,446	18,852
Transportation	23,264	23,897	25,795	27,480	28,424
Post and telecommunications	19,887	21,365	22,097	23,065	22,473
Other services <sup>(4)</sup>	145,300	154,939	162,769	172,707	186,660
Public administration and social security	51,910	54,000	59,875	62,600	69,611
Taxes	70,561	69,211	79,292	76,309	60,188
Total	616,254	688,843	732,449	764,030	802,607

## Notes:

- (1) Certain line items and figures differ from previously published data due to on-going revisions.
- (2) Preliminary data.
- (3) Including non-market services provided by the general government
- (4) Financial and insurance activities, services to businesses and personal services, education, health and social action, and fictitious branch.

Source: HCP

The following table sets forth the annual change in GDP by sector in real terms for the years indicated.

Annual Growth in Gross Domestic Product by Sector<sup>(1)</sup>

-	2007 2008		2009	2010	2011(2)
Gross Domestic Product (at constant prices)	2.7	5.6	4.8	3.6	5.0
Primary Sector	(20.0)	16.6	28.9	(2.3)	5.1
Secondary Sector	6.6	3.6	(4.7)	6.4	4.0
Tertiary Sector	6.1	4.1	3.6	3.3	6.0
Non-agricultural Sector	6.5	4.2	1.2	4.5	4.9

#### Notes:

(1) Certain line items and figures differ from previously published data due to on-going revisions.

Sources: HCP and Ministry of Economy and Finance

# Agriculture and Forestry

In 2011, agriculture, forestry and related services contributed 13.2% to GDP (Dh 106.3 billion). The Kingdom is a net importer of food, importing Dh 37.8 billion in 2011, as compared to exports of Dh 26.3 billion. In particular, wheat imports amounted to Dh 11.5 billion and maize imports amounted to Dh 4.8 billion in 2011. Accordingly, the Kingdom's economy and the budget are, to a degree, subject to the impact of changes of global food prices. See "External Sector—Foreign Trade" and "Public Finance—Results for 2011—Subsidies". Since independence, successive Governments have implemented programmes to reform the agricultural sector, although the sector remains generally underdeveloped.

<sup>(2)</sup> Preliminary data

The following table sets forth Morocco's annual production of its principal agricultural products and fisheries for the periods indicated.

Annual Production of Principal Agricultural Products and Fisheries (1)(2)

	2006/7	2007/8	2008/9	2009/10	<b>2010/11</b> <sup>(3)</sup>
		(tho	usands of tonr	nes)	
Principal cereals	24,401	52,427	103,619	77,218	85,466
Sugar beet and sugar cane	3,401	3,838	3,489	3,010	3,465
Pulse crops <sup>(4)</sup>	1,400	1,960	2,752	2,764	3,231
Garden crops	6,864	6,913	7,331	7,745	6,734
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Meat supplied for consumption	808	890	917	996	1020
Fisheries products	769	1,055	1,208	1,145	964
coastal	680	943	1,067	1,086	908
deep sea	89	112	141	59	56

#### Notes:

- (1) Certain line items and figures differ from previously published data due to on-going revisions.
- (2) Figures for the growing season June 1-May 31.
- (3) Preliminary data.
- (4) Pulse crops are members of the legume family, seeds or plant parts of which are edible.

Sources: Ministère de l'agriculture et de la pêche maritime et Office national des pêches (Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, National Office of Fisheries)

## Agriculture

The principal crops are cereals (primarily wheat, barley and maize), market gardening, sugar, olives and citrus fruits. Agricultural products represented approximately 14% of Morocco's exports by value in 2011. The principal agricultural exports are fisheries products, vegetables and citrus fruits. In recent years, the agriculture sector has witnessed a steady shift from cereal production for domestic consumption to fruit production for export due to the higher prices farmers can realise and improvements in productivity. The agricultural sector provides approximately 75% of rural jobs.

As a result of favourable rainfalls and general climactic conditions in 2011, Morocco produced 85.5 million tonnes of cereals as compared to 77.2 million tonnes in 2010, an increase of 10.7%. The Ministry of Agriculture estimates that cereal production was approximately 50.7 million tonnes in the growing season from 1 June 2011 to 31 May 2012. Sugar production covers approximately 40-45% of local needs. Citrus fruits, vegetables and tomatoes are also produced, mainly for export to the European Union or for use in the domestic agri-business.

Water shortage and drought are recurrent problems in many parts of Morocco. Morocco has suffered droughts in varying degrees since 1992, including in 2005, 2007 and 2008, and these conditions diminished the availability of water and curtailed the output of hydroelectric energy facilities. Periods of drought have generally corresponded to declines in the rates of growth of GDP and periods of abundant rainfall have generally corresponded to increases in the rates of growth of GDP. See "Risk Factors—Risks Relating to the Kingdom—The Kingdom's variable climate". The Ministry of Agriculture forecasts that the agricultural sector will decline in 2012 due to drought in certain areas in the Kingdom, although final figures have not yet been compiled.

Over the last three decades, the Government has implemented several major irrigation and hydroelectric projects to make better use of Morocco's water potential. The *Offices Régionaux de Mise en Valeur Agricole* is the Government network entrusted with agricultural management. The Government has adopted a number of programmes to improve meteorological monitoring to assist farmers in planning their crops and in the timing of planting and harvesting. In 2011, an amount of Dh 3.5 billion was allocated to potable water supply, and Dh 4.0 billion has been budgeted for 2012. In 2011, 92.0% of the rural population of the Kingdom had access to potable water supply, as compared to 86.0% in 2007. The Government has placed renewed emphasis on irrigation. By the end of 2011, land under irrigation represented approximately 1.4 million hectares. Morocco has a network of over 130 dams in operation, which assists in the allocation of water resources among the various regions.

The Government is encouraging the consolidation of landholdings to promote large-scale modern farms, hence increasing profitability. Approximately 7,607 million hectares were cultivated in the 2010/11 agricultural year, modern large scale farms occupy just under one million hectares, the bulk of the remainder being scattered into small and medium holdings. The Government believes that there are considerable economies of scale to be made by encouraging

a less fragmented system of land holding. Farmers are being offered incentives to buy-up neighbouring parcels and the dismemberment of agricultural landholdings arising on inheritance is being limited. Other measures aiming to encourage productivity in the sector include the granting of subsidies for the acquisition of modern tools and equipment.

Because the agriculture sector plays an important economic and social role in Morocco with 4.0 million rural Moroccans dependent on the sector, the Government established the *Plan Maroc Vert* for the period 2009-2020. The principal aims of the *Plan Maroc Vert* are to: (i) increase the value added to Morocco's crops; (ii) encourage growth and development of the agriculture sector; (iii) increase employment and exports; and (iv) combat rural poverty. Under the *Plan Maroc Vert*, the Government expects to spend Dh 120 billion over the period to encourage higher value crops, improve productivity, increase exports and employment in the sector and reduce rural poverty. Since 2010, when implementation of the *Plan Maroc Vert* began, the Government has allocated Dh 26 billion to 288 projects. Approximately Dh 7 billion has been budgeted for the *Plan Maroc Vert* in 2012.

# Forestry

Morocco possesses extensive forests covering approximately nine million hectares, or 12.7% of the country, of which 5.8 million hectares are managed. Cork and wood-pulp are the most important forest products. Cork is mostly exported and wood-pulp is either exported or used in the domestic paper industry. *Le Fonds National Forestier* (the National Forest Fund, or "FNF") was established in 1964 to promote the Kingdom's development of forestry products, preserve biodiversity and integrate forested areas into the Kingdom's rural development strategy. In 2008, the FNF announced plans to reforest a further 500,000 hectares within ten years.

#### **Fisheries**

In 2011, fisheries contributed 1.1% to GDP (Dh 8.5 billion). Morocco's fisheries production in 2011 decreased, in volume, by approximately 15.8% from the previous year, representing a decrease in both deep-sea and costal fishing. Production by value, however, increased by 18.6% due to rising international fish prices. In the nine months ended 30 September 2012, Morocco's fish production increased by 32.9%, by volume, and by 3.4%, by value, as compared to the corresponding period in 2011. The principal fishing centres in Morocco are Agadir, Safi, Essaouira, Tan Tan and Casablanca. In 2009, the Government announced *Plan Halieutis*, which is intended to modernise the fishing sector and encourage sustainable fisheries policies, support the further development of the maritime fishing industry and increase exports.

# Mining

In 2011, mining activities grew by 39.8% (approximately Dh 11.8 billion), as compared to 2010, and contributed 5.2% to GDP (Dh 41.4 billion). Morocco's proven mineral resources are extensive and mining in general, and phosphates in particular, have long represented a significant source of industrial raw materials and export earnings. Morocco possesses 75% of the world's estimated reserves of phosphates. Other minerals mined in Morocco include coal, copper, manganese ore, zinc, lead and iron ore.

Morocco is the world's third largest producer (after the United States and China) and the largest exporter of phosphate, representing over one-third of world trade. Phosphate mining accounted for 78.6% of the mining sector's output in 2011 and accounted for over 24% of the Kingdom's exports in 2011.

Phosphate output in 2011 was 28 million tonnes, representing a 5.4% increase over 2010 levels (which in turn represented an increase of 45.3% over 2009 levels). Phosphate output in 2011 grew despite a decrease of 7.8% in the volume of crude phosphate exported in 2011. In 2011, crude phosphate exports were valued at a total of Dh 12.6 billion, an increase of 40.4%, as compared to 2010, primarily due rising commodity prices.

Phosphate mining is carried out by the Government monopoly, OCP S.A. ("OCP"). The main production centres are located on the Atlantic coast at Safi, Mohammedia and Jorf Lasfar. In 2011, 74% of production was processed locally into phosphoric acid and fertiliser for export, the remainder was exported as phosphate rock.

As the international leader in the phosphate market, OCP has adopted a counter-cyclical strategy in order to maximise the value of its exports. OCP has an investment programme to double phosphate rock extraction and production to 50 million tonnes *per annum*, increase the proportion of exports of finished and semi-finished products (as opposed to raw phosphate rock) and reduce internal transport costs by building a pipeline. It is also building four washing plants, with an aggregate capacity of 40 million tonnes, and expanding the Jorf Lasfar port.

OCP has entered into, or is in the process of negotiating, a number of joint ventures with international operators.

The following table sets forth the total production, sales and prices of phosphate rock for the years indicated.

Phosphate Rock Production, Sales and Prices<sup>(1)</sup>

-	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Production (tonnes thousands)	27.8	25.8	18.3	26.6	28.0
Volume (tonnes thousands)	14.1	11.8	5.8	10.2	9.4
Value (Dh millions)	6.0	17.7	5.2	9.0	12.6
Average Price (U.S.\$/tonne)	70.9	345.6	121.7	123.0	184.9

Notes:

(1) Certain line items and figures differ from previously published data due to on-going revisions.

(2) Preliminary data

Sources: Ministère de l'Energie, des Mines, de l'eau et de l'Environnement (Ministry of Energy, Mines, Water and the Environment), HCP, OCP

Small gas fields, which provide fuel for nearby commercial users, have also been discovered in certain regions. New exploration agreements have been entered into with petroleum companies with respect to prospective off-shore fields along the Atlantic coast.

### **Industrial Sector**

In 2011, the industrial sector contributed 14.2% to GDP (Dh 85.9 billion). Since independence, the Government has sought to develop the manufacturing sector as a source of economic growth and employment. The import-substitution policies pursued by the Government throughout much of the post-independence period until the mid-1980s fostered the growth of a diversified manufacturing sector, but have insulated, to a large extent, domestic producers from international competition and production has generally been directed at the domestic market. Since the mid-1980s, the Government's market-orientated policies have been aimed at greater deregulation of domestic markets and encouraging competitiveness in, and the restructuring of, the manufacturing sector and a greater participation by the private sector.

In December 2005, the Government adopted *Plan Emergence*, which was extended by *Pacte National pour l'Emergence Industrielle* in 2009 to cover the period 2009-2015 with a budget of Dh 16.5 billion for the renewed period. The principal goals of *Pacte National pour l'Emergence Industrielle* are: (i) the establishment of off-shore service centres, such as francophone call centres; (ii) the creation of industrial zones to serve overseas markets, including in respect of the automotive, aerospace and electronics industries; (iii) the modernisation and improvement of existing infrastructure; (iv) the strengthening of the Moroccan economy's competitiveness on a global scale; and (v) reducing urban unemployment and increasing the industrial sector's contribution to GDP. According to Government statistics, under *Plan Emergence* 14,500 new jobs were created in 2010 in various industries, including 8,300 in the automotive industry. This represents an approximately 15% increase in industrial employment in 2010, as compared to 2009.

In 2010, the Government introduced its *Stratégie Offshoring*, which aims for the Kingdom to become a leading provider of offshore services. The principal aims of *Stratégie Offshoring* are: (i) the provision of an attractive fiscal incentive framework; (ii) the implementation of laws on data protection, which are in line with European regulation; (iii) the extension of the offshoring network; and (iv) the creation of new opportunities in highly-skilled professions (such as in the financial services sector).

In order to close productivity gaps with competitors abroad, the Government has also adopted a research and development strategy, which aims to introduce training programmes and to encourage research and development in a number of areas, particularly with the aim of encouraging excellence in certain industries (such as nanotechnology).

As a result of strategies adopted by the Government, new export industries in the automotive sector and aerospace industries have developed. In 2012, the Renault-Tanger factory in Tangiers opened with an initial capacity to construct 170,000 vehicles per year, which may be expanded to 400,000 vehicles per year by 2016.

International aerospace companies, including EADS, Boeing, Safran and MATIS, have established a presence in the Kingdom. In September 2012, the Canadian aircraft manufacturer, Bombardier, announced that it would be opening a facility in Morocco and its intention to invest U.S.\$200 million in equipment, buildings and start-up costs.

A large number of industrial parks have been developed in Morocco by the private sector, in addition to the free trade zones established by the Government. Industrial exports (semi-finished and finished products) generated approximately Dh 116.9 billion in 2011, which accounted for 67.2% of total exports in 2011.

In 2010, the Government adopted *Stratégie Logistique*, the principal goals of which are: (i) the reduction of the costs of logistics; (ii) the creation of multimodal logistics platforms; (iii) the development of port and road infrastructure; and (iv) the strengthening of competitiveness in the logistics sector.

The following table sets forth changes in percentage terms of the indices of manufacturing production by volume for the years indicated.

Indices	of Manufac	turing Pro	oduction <sup>(1)</sup>
---------	------------	------------	-------------------------

	Weighting <sup>(2)</sup>	2008	2009	2010	2011	
		(% change)				
Food, beverages and tobacco industries	0.230	4.2	2.6	1.6	4.5	
Textiles, clothing and leather industries	0.209	(0.7)	(0.5)	3.6	0.8	
Chemical industries	0.155	3.5	2.5	5.1	1.1	
Metal industries	0.053	(7.1)	3.3	(6.3)	0.1	
Products for motorcar industry		1.8	(0.7)	9.2	3.4	
Machinery and equipment	0.015	11.7	(8.9)	3.4	(3.5)	
Products of metalworking		2.7	4.2	2.5	1.8	
Coke, refining and nuclear industries	0.041	1.3	(19.8)	8.4	8.7	
Total manufacturing	1.000	2.1	0.2	2.0	2.5	

Notes:

Source: HCP

#### Construction and Public Works

In 2011, construction and public works contributed 6.0% to GDP (Dh 47.9 billion). The construction sector has continued to grow, increasing by 4.2% in 2011, as compared to 2010. The Government considers cement sales to be the principal barometer of activity in the sector. Cement sales increased by 10.7% in 2011, as compared to 2010.

This sector has benefited from the large-scale infrastructure projects, as well as the social housing building projects implemented by the Government. The social housing building projects benefit from government-guaranteed mortgages and Government-fixed prices (Dh 250,000). The construction and public works sector employs 1.1 million workers, which represents 10.1% of the active working population aged 15 and older.

# Energy

In 2011, the energy sector contributed 2.4% to GDP (Dh 19.0 billion). Morocco has limited resources or proven reserves of natural gas, crude oil and coal and therefore depends upon imported sources of energy for more than 95% of its energy requirements. No significant deposits of hydrocarbons have been discovered to date, despite exploration drilling offshore and onshore, but small gas fields have been discovered in certain regions to provide fuel for nearby commercial users. More than 90% of Morocco's annual production of electricity is generated by thermal power plants, while the remainder is produced by hydroelectric power facilities and wind farms. The performance of Morocco's energy sector is linked to the performance of the industrial sector and, increasingly, to increased domestic demand. The Government is implementing a sectoral strategy to secure diverse energy sources and to ensure the availability and accessibility of energy at reasonable prices, with a focus on renewable resources.

Morocco is a net importer of energy. See "External Sector—Foreign Trade". Accordingly, the Moroccan economy is subject to shocks from changes in international energy prices, in particular oil prices. See "Risk Factors—Risks Relating to the Kingdom—Food and Energy Insecurity", "Risk Factors—Risks Relating to Morocco—Subsidies" and "Public Finance—Results for 2011—Subsidies". In part to mitigate the potential effects of future fluctuations in oil prices, the Kingdom entered into the PLL with the IMF. See "Public Debt—Public External Debt—Morocco's Adjustment Strategy, Debt Record and Rescheduling—IMF".

<sup>(1)</sup> Certain line items and figures differ from previously published data due to on-going revisions.

<sup>(2)</sup> Base 100 in 1998.

The following table sets forth Morocco's total primary energy consumption and local production for the years indicated.

Primary Energy Consumption and Production<sup>(1)</sup>

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011 <sup>(2)</sup>			
	(In thousands of tonnes oil equivalent)							
Consumption								
Coal	3,837	3,676	3,406	3,491	3,835			
Petroleum products	8,059	8,962	9,096	9,911	10,706			
Natural gas	411	406	445	481	611			
Hydroelectricity and wind power and								
imported electricity	1,327	1539	2,071	2,140	1,934			
Consumption	13,634	14,583	15,019	16,023	17,086			
Local production								
Oil and natural gas  Hydroelectricity and wind power	72	59	51	60	62			
electricity	308	316	770	1,073	701			
Local production	380	375	820	1,133	764			
Deficit	13,255	14,208	14,198	14,890	16,321			
Deficit (as % of consumption)	97.2	97.4	94.5	92.9	95.5			

Notes:

Source: Ministry of Energy and Mining

Energy production in the first six months of 2012 increased by 12.1%, as compared to the corresponding period in 2011.

The Government expects that demand for electricity will continue to rise due to the Government's promotion of further industrialisation and the large rural electrification programme in progress, which aims to provide electricity to 130,000 rural households per year, which will result in additional electricity coverage for 1.9 million rural homes. In 2011, electricity output reached approximately 28,752 GWh, an increase of 8.4% from 2010. Most of Morocco's annual production of electricity is generated by thermal power plants with capacity of 8,853 GWh in 2011. Total hydroelectric generating capacity in 2011 was 2,139 GWh, of which Morocco's largest dam, Al-Wahda, accounted for 400 million KWh (average per year).

In November 2009, the Government launched the *Plan Maroc Solaire*, which is an integrated project to install new solar electricity generation capacity of 2,000 MW in five locations: Ouarzazate, Ain Bni Mathar, Foum Al Oued, Boujdour and Sebkhat Tah. The Government expects the project to be completed by 2020 and to represent 38% of the total installed power generation capacity and 14% of the total anticipated electricity production in 2020. The plant at Ouarzazate is expected to be completed by 2015. The Government is also developing two further hydroelectric projects at the El Menzel-Mdez Complex and the STEP d'Abdelmoumen Complex, together representing a further potential generation capacity of 520 MW.

In June 2010, the Government launched the *Programme Intégré de Production Electrique Eolienne* to encourage the development of wind farms with an electricity generation capacity of 2,000 MW by 2020. Six wind farm sites are in various stages of development.

<sup>(1)</sup> Certain line items and figures differ from previously published data due to on-going revisions.

<sup>(2)</sup> Preliminary data.

The following table sets forth Morocco's total electricity production for the years indicated.

Electricity Production(1)

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011		
_	(million KWh)						
Production of the Office National de l'Electricité,							
of which:	6,087.8	6,688.9	7,531.2	10,315.5	11,346.0		
Hydroelectric	1,318.1	1,359.4	2,952.1	3,630.8	2,138.7		
Thermal	5,201.7	5,758.4	4,850.4	6,409.8	8,852.5		
Imported and other production	3,539.0	4,301.4	4,748.7	4,091.3	4,824.1		
Concessional Production	13,021.6	13,042.9	12,773.1	12,165.7	12,619.9		
Adjustments	(40.4)	(29.7)	(36.8)	(14.9)	(38.0)		
Total	22,608.0	24,003.5	25,016,2	26,530,6	28,752.0		

Note:

Source: Ministry of Energy and Mining

Electricity production for 2011 increased by 10.0%, as compared to 2010, while the volume of electricity imports increased by 16.9%. Electricity consumption increased by 7.2% over the same period.

In November 1996, the 1,430 km Euro-Maghreb natural gas pipeline was completed. This pipeline exports Algerian natural gas to Spain and Portugal. Its carrying capacity is about 12 billion cubic metres per year. In 2011, Morocco earned transit fees of approximately Dh 2.1 billion.

Morocco's energy sector also comprises several oil distribution companies and an oil refinery, *Société Anonyme Marocaine de l'Industrie de Raffinage*. There have been attempts to develop alternative sources of energy in an effort to supplement Morocco's limited natural resources. Alternative sources of energy, such as solar energy, wind-power and co-generation, are increasingly being used.

The Kingdom, with the assistance of the World Bank, is in the process of developing a programme to address its energy generation needs, in light of the increases in energy prices and expanding consumption. The objectives include the liberalisation of the energy market, the development of renewable energy sources (including wind, solar and hydroelectric), the increased use of natural gas (especially for industrial and electricity production uses) and conservation measures (especially in industrial consumption).

# **Tourism**

In 2011, tourism receipts contributed 7.4% to GDP (Dh 59.1 billion). Tourism represents the largest source of foreign currency earnings, contributing 16.4% of total balance of payment current receipts in 2011.

Tourism receipts declined by 4.9% in 2009, as compared to 2008, as a result of the effects of the global financial crisis on the Kingdom. Tourism receipts, however, increased by 6.8% and 4.8% in 2010 and 2011, respectively. The number of tourists visiting Morocco increased by 0.6% in 2011. In 2011, French and Spanish tourists accounted for approximately 57% of the total visitors to the Kingdom, followed by Belgian, German, Dutch and British citizens.

The following table sets forth the key indicators and the number of tourist visits to Morocco for the years indicated.

Annual Visits by Tourists to Morocco<sup>(1)</sup>

Annual Visits by Tourists to Morocco <sup>(1)</sup>							
-	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011		
Tourism receipts (Dh billion)	58.7	55.5	52.8	56.4	59.1		
MREs (visits, millions)	3.4	3.7	4.0	4.4	4.4		
Foreign Tourists (visits, millions)	4.0	4.2	4.3	4.9	4.9		
Total (visits, millions)	7.4	7.9	8.3	9.3	9.3		

Note:

Source: Ministry of Tourism and HCP

<sup>(1)</sup> Certain line items and figures differ from previously published data due to on-going revisions.

<sup>(1)</sup> Certain line items and figures differ from previously published data due to on-going revisions.

In the first nine months of 2012, tourism receipts decreased by 3.6%, as compared to the corresponding period in 2011. For the first six months of 2012, tourism nights decreased by 1.6%, and visits by MREs decreased by 1.8%, as compared to the corresponding period in 2011. These declines are principally due to the continuing effect of the Eurozone crisis, the events of the "Arab Spring" and the general tensions in the region and the aftermath of the events of 28 April 2011 in Marrakesh.

In 2010, the Government adopted *Vision 2020*, a strategy for the tourism sector, which principally aims to double the size of the tourism sector and raise Morocco to a position within the top 20 tourist destinations worldwide by 2020. The Government expects that this will have the effect of creating 470,000 new jobs.

#### Water

The Government's water sector policy is aimed at ensuring the delivery of potable water to the population, further developing irrigation for agricultural use and ensuring adequate supplies for industrial and tourism uses. Three dams creating reservoirs with a capacity of 17.5 billion cubic metres have been completed, and 13 further major dams are under construction.

#### Infrastructure

#### Rail Networks

The national rail network, operated by the *Office National des Chemins de Fer* ("**ONCF**") totals 2,109 km, of which 1,222 km are electrified and 529 km are double tracks. Six of Morocco's main ports (Casablanca, Safi, Tangier, Tanger-Med, Kenitra and Jorf Lasfar) are open to rail traffic, and ONCF is expanding its facilities at Tanger-Med. ONCF operates in three main sectors: passenger transport, freight transport and phosphates transport. In 2011, ONCF transported approximately 34 million passengers and 37 million tonnes of freight and phosphates.

A Programme Agreement was entered into by the Government and ONCF to cover the period 2010-2015, pursuant to which Dh 30 billion is expected to be invested, mainly in building double railway tracks for both passenger and freight transport, including Dh 20 billion to construct a high-speed train between Tangier and Casablanca.

In December 2011, ONCF commenced work on a high-speed network (the "TGV"), which is expected to be completed in 2035. It will comprise two lines – an "Atlantic" line, initially connecting Tangier, Rabat and Casablanca and subsequently being extended to Marrakesh, Essouira and Agadir, and a "Maghrebian" line, initially connecting Casablanca, Meknes and Fes and subsequently being extended to the Algerian border at Ouijda. The TGV will carry both passengers and freight, in particular, manufactured goods to the Tanger-Med port in Tangiers.

### Road Networks

Morocco has an extensive road network. The Government is in the process of expanding the motorway network, in order to link the Kingdom's major cities. Currently, the motorway network runs along the Atlantic coast from El Jadida to Tangier, through Casablanca and Rabat, from Rabat to Ouijda on the Algerian border, through Meknes and Fez, and from Tangier to Tetouan in the Rif mountains. The Government intends to extend the Tangier-El Jadida motorway to extend further south and is building a ring road around Rabat. In 2011, the budget for *Autoroutes du Maroc*, which is responsible for the development of the Moroccan road network, was over Dh 5 billion, of which Dh 1.1 billion was contributed from the Kingdom's Treasury.

#### **Ports**

Morocco has 30 ports (21 on the Atlantic Ocean and nine on the Mediterranean Sea), 13 of which are international: Agadir, Casablanca, Dakhla, Jorf Lasfar, Kénitra, Laayoune, Mohammedia, Nador, Safi, Tan Tan, Tangier and Tanger-Med. Moroccan ports have expanded with the growth in external trade, and port traffic averaged approximately 96 million tonnes annually in 2011. A new deep water port facility, Tanger-Med, opened in July 2007, and a passenger terminal opened in 2010. It is located near Ksar Sghir, approximately 30 km north of Tangier and has amongst its facilities, a two-kilometre offshore dam, three container terminals and passenger and truck facilities. The port is intended to be a hub at the mouth of the Straits of Gibraltar and the Mediterranean Sea, where large container ships can unload and transfer their goods to smaller units, which will then distribute such goods to smaller Mediterranean ports. Tanger-Med is the largest port in the Mediterranean and in Africa, with a capacity of three million Twenty-foot Equivalent Units ("TEU"). Construction on a second port, Tanger-Med II, began in June 2009. When completed, Tanger-Med II is expected to increase capacity to eight million TEU.

#### Air Traffic

The principal Moroccan cities are served by domestic and international airlines. There are 15 international airports in Morocco: Casablanca, Agadir, Marrakesh, Tangier, Rabat, Oujda, Fez, Laayoune, Nador, Al Hoceima, Ouarzazate, Errachidia, Dakhla, Tetouan and Essaouira, in addition to six domestic airports and three secondary domestic airports. In late 2005, an Open Sky agreement was entered into between Morocco and the European Union, which has increased the number of flights and competition, particularly on international routes, in Morocco. In 2011, Moroccan air traffic increased by approximately 2.0%, as compared to an increase of 15.1% in 2010.

Casablanca's Mohammed V airport accounts for 46.5% of passenger traffic and 91.7% of freight traffic. Over 24 airlines operate at the Mohammed V airport, which served an average of 1,127 international flights per week and a total of over 6.5 million passengers in 2011. A new terminal is in operation and the capacity of the airport is over 10 million passengers per year.

RAM, the national airline, operates domestic and international flights and flies to a large number of destinations in Europe, the Middle East, Africa and North America. The Kingdom owns 95.95% of RAM, which in turn owns 99% of Atlas Blue (a low-cost airline intended to compete with European low cost carriers for market share on leisure routes from Western Europe). The Government has indicated that it may partially privatise RAM and is currently restructuring RAM in advance of any privatisation. RAM Express serves the domestic market with low-cost transportation intended to further develop the domestic air travel and tourism market.

A second major airline operator, Regional Airlines ("RAL") started its activities in July 1997. RAL operates mainly domestic routes, it also services southern Spain, the Canary Islands and Portugal. RAL is the first privately-owned airline in Morocco, with its share capital held by Moroccan institutions. Another Moroccan operator, Jet4You had its first commercial flight in February 2006 and is owned by TUI Group, a leading European tour operator, and two institutional investors, Attijariwafa Bank and Société Générale Marocaine de Banques. Jet4you connects several Moroccan, French, Belgian, German and Italian airports. A third private airline, Air Arabia, commenced operations as a regional low cost carrier in Morocco in 2009 and operates hubs at Mohamed V airport, as well as in Alexandria and Sharjah.

# **Informal Economy**

The Kingdom has a significant informal economy in terms of the production of both goods and services and is a significant source of employment. Accordingly, the HCP has conducted two studies of the informal economy in 1999 and 2007. According to the HCP, the informal economy accounted for an estimated 14.3% of GDP in 2007, as compared to 16.3% of GDP in 1999. Approximately 2.2 million people participated in the informal economy in 2007, as compared to 1.9 million in 1999. Of the participants in the informal economy, approximately 37.3% work in agriculture.

The Government is implementing a number of policies to reduce the size of the informal sector and shift informal sector businesses and employees into the formal system. These policies include a 15% reduction of corporate taxes on businesses with a turnover less than Dh 2 million per year and the elimination of certain zoning fees.

# **Employment and Wages**

The Statistical Department of the Moroccan Government customarily reports Moroccan employment statistics in terms of formal and informal employment in urban and, more recently, rural areas. Formal employment comprises employment duly registered with the Ministry of Labour and subject to social security contributions by employers. Informal employment is not registered or subject to employment contributions.

Successive governments have reduced overall unemployment significantly over the past ten years. Overall unemployment was 12.5% in 2001, as compared to 8.9% in 2011. In 2011, the working population (*i.e.*, the labour force aged 15 and over) was 11.5 million, representing an increase of 0.8% from 2010.

The Moroccan economy generated approximately 105,000 jobs (net) in 2011 divided as follows: 114,000 jobs in the services sector (representing an increase of 2.9% from 2010) and 30,000 jobs in the construction and public works sector (representing an increase of 2.9% from 2010), which were offset by a loss of 31,000 jobs in the industrial sector (representing a decrease of 2.5% from 2010). The Moroccan economy generated approximately 56,000 jobs (net) between the third quarter of 2011 and the corresponding period in 2012. See "—Social Policy".

The following table sets forth key employment and unemployment indicators for the years indicated.

**Employment Indicators** 

	EIII	рюушент тий	cators			
		2010			2011	
	Urban	Rural		Urban	Rural	
	Areas	Areas	Total	Areas	Areas	Total
			(thouse	ands)		
Total population	18,446	13,448	31,894	18,802	13,443	32,245
Labour force (aged 15 and over)	5,993	5,449	11,442	6,090	5,448	11,538
			(%	5)		
Activity rate <sup>(1)</sup>	43.6	58.4	49.6	43.3	58.0	49.2
Unemployment rate	13.7	3.9	9.1	13.4	3.9	8.9
By gender						
Men	12.1	4.8	8.9	11.3	4.7	8.4
Women	19.8	2.0	9.6	21.2	2.1	10.2
By age						
15-24 years	31.3	8.4	17.6	32.2	8.7	17.9
25-34 years	19.1	4.4	12.8	19.1	4.4	12.9
35-44 years	7.9	2.0	5.5	7.4	1.8	5.2
45 years and over	3.2	1.0	2.1	2.7	0.8	1.8
By degree						
Without a degree	8.1	2.4	4.5	7.0	2.3	4.0
With degree	18.1	11.4	16.7	18.3	11.2	16.7

Note:

Source: HCP

In addition to the Government policies described above, the Government has established several programmes intended to increase employment and to create and support 220,000 new jobs by the end of 2020. The *Idmaj* programme aims to assist young graduates access employment. From 2007-2011, over 250,000 graduates have benefitted from the *Idmaj* programme, including approximately 60,000 graduates in 2011. The *Taehil* programme offers training programmes for graduates to gain skills in targeted professions. From 2007-2011, over 72,000 graduates participated in the *Taehil* programme, including over 19,000 in 2011. In addition, the *Moukawalati* programme aims to encourage the establishment of small businesses through providing assistance and financial support, which may be guaranteed by the *Caisse Centrale de Garantie*. From 2007-2011, over 4,000 projects have benefitted from the *Moukawalati* programme.

The Government has also introduced a number of measures to introduce flexibility in the employment market through reforming labour laws.

The following table sets forth information on employment in the public sector for the years indicated.

**Employment in the Public Sector** 

_	2009	2010	2011	
Budgeted number of public sector employees	690,687	863,245	872,547	
	75.5	78.8	88.6	

Source: Ministry of Economy and Finance.

Morocco has two indicative minimum wages, an agricultural minimum wage ("SMAG") and a non-agricultural minimum wage ("SMIG"), which are set by the Government. Although subject to periodic review, the statutory minimum is not automatically indexed to inflation. In July 2012, the SMAG was Dh 60.63 per day and the SMIG was Dh 11.70 per hour.

With effect from May 2011, the Government increased all public sector wages by a nominal amount of Dh 600 (approximately U.S.\$75) per month.

There are three major trade unions in Morocco: the Confédération Démocratique du Travail (the "CDT"), the Union Générale des Travailleurs du Maroc and the Union Marocaine du Travail. In April 2003, a fourth union, the Fédération

<sup>(1)</sup> Labour force aged 15 and over as a percentage of the total population aged 15 and over.

*Démocratique du Travail* was established, as a result of a split from the CDT. There are a number of smaller labour unions as well. The right to join a trade union and the right to strike are guaranteed by the 2011 Constitution.

#### Education

Education has long been considered an important factor in Morocco's development and continues to feature significantly in the Government's policies. The Government is committed to reducing illiteracy, which, nationally, is estimated at 30%, although the rates are higher amongst females and rural populations. Illiteracy stood at 30% in 2012, 40.5% in 2007, 48% in 1998 and 87% in 1960. Since 1996, education spending has increased from 41% to 53% of Government expenditures in 2012.

Basic education is compulsory for boys and girls. Pupils who have successfully passed through the first cycle (primary school) can proceed to a second cycle in the basic education system for a further three-year period. Following this, a system of secondary schools exists for boys and girls. In the school year 2010/2011, the enrolment rate was 97.9% for pupils between 6 and 11 years old (as compared to 90.7% in 2006/2007 and 79% in 1999/2000) and 83.7% for pupils between 12 and 14 years old (as compared to 50% in 1999/2000).

In the 2010/11 school year, there were over 100 public universities, over 170 private institutes and over 60 higher educational schools.

In 2009, the Ministry of Education announced the *Programme d'Urgence 2009-2012*, which comprises four national priorities: (i) requiring children to be in school until at least the age of 15; (ii) encouraging innovation and excellence in high schools and universities; (iii) addressing systemic problems; and (iv) providing students with the means to succeed.

#### **Social Policy**

There are several health and social welfare agencies operating contributory schemes, which are compulsory for all employed persons. Workers are entitled to social welfare in the event of illness, occupational accidents and old age. At the end of 2011, Morocco had over 130 public hospitals, over 2,500 public health clinics, of which approximately 675 are in rural areas, and over 1,700 private clinics and 260 private hospitals.

The pension system in Morocco is operated primarily by three public organisations and one private organisation: the *Caisse Marocaine de Retraite*, a mandatory fund into which civil servants are required to pay a set percentage of their net income and the Government is obliged to make a matching contribution; the *Caisse Nationale de Sécurité Sociale* ("CNSS"), a mandatory fund covering private sector employees and providing family allowances, medical disability and death benefits and pensions; the *Caisse Interprofessionnelle Marocaine des Retraites*, a non-profit organisation which private sector employers may join on behalf of their employees to provide a retirement pension in addition to the pension from CNSS; and the *Caisse Nationale de Retraite et d'Assurance*, which provides pensions to contractual workers in Government service and is managed by CDG. Certain state-owned enterprises also operate their own pension systems, and insurance companies run some private pension schemes.

In 2002, a law was enacted to expand access to healthcare. The law has two components. A mandatory health insurance scheme (*l'assurance maladie obligatoire* or "AMO") came into force in August 2005. The AMO covers employed people, pension holders, student, army veterans and others. Participants pay into a common pool, and risk is shared among all of the participants. A programme to provide access to healthcare for the poor (*le régime d'assistance médicale* or "RAMED") was launched in early 2008 and is now being expanded across the country.

In May 2005, the King launched the National Human Development Initiative (the "INDH"). The principal aims of the INDH are to: (i) support income-generating activities, (ii) build economic capacity, (iii) improve access to basic infrastructure and services, and (iv) alleviate extreme vulnerability.

The Government expects to spend Dh 10 billion on the first phase of INDH and its associated initiatives during the period 2007-2012, including Dh 2.6 billion in 2012, and expects to finance such expenditures as follows: 60% through the general budget, 20% through local authorities and the remaining 20% by foreign donations. In addition to the INDH, the Government is active in extending housing and basic social services, especially in rural areas with special electricity, health, water and education programmes.

The Government expects to spend Dh 17 billion on the second phase of INDH, which aims to reduce poverty in the poorest 702 rural communities in Morocco. In June 2012, the World Bank approved a loan package to Morocco, U.S.\$300 million of which will support the second phase of the INDH.

# **EXTERNAL SECTOR**

#### Foreign Trade

Foreign trade is an important factor in the Moroccan economy. Morocco's merchandise trade balance has a structural deficit. During the period 2007-2011, the trade deficit increased by approximately Dh 48 billion, primarily due to higher international energy and commodity prices and an increase in the import of capital goods and semi-finished products, principally due to increased economic activity in Morocco. Morocco's external trade balance in services is generally positive. The trade deficit contributed to a negative current account balance in 2011 representing 8.0% of GDP, as compared to 4.5% in 2010.

Morocco's main merchandise exports are manufactured goods (consisting of finished products and semi-finished products), agricultural products and phosphates. Finished products (comprising capital goods and consumer goods) accounted for 37.7% of total exports during the period 2007-2011 and are mainly comprised of consumer goods (e.g., textiles, ready-to-wear clothing, shoes and other products). Semi-finished products, mainly fertilisers and phosphoric acid, accounted for 29.4% of total exports during the period 2007-2011. During the same period, agricultural and food products, including raw animal and vegetable products, represented 19.9% of total exports. Most export crops are grown on irrigated land and, therefore, are not influenced by drought. Total export earnings from raw mineral products, comprising mainly phosphate rock and other minerals, were approximately Dh 19.8 billion in 2011, of which Dh 13.0 billion was phosphates. During the period 2007-2011, raw mineral products accounted for 10.2% of total exports. Energy and lubricant exports accounted for 2.4% of total exports during the same period.

Semi-finished products (chemical products, iron and steel, plastics and paper and cardboard) accounted for approximately 21.3% of total imports and finished products for approximately 39.8% of total imports during the period 2007-2011. During that period, approximately 45.4% of finished goods were consumer goods and the balance consisted of both agricultural and industrial capital goods. Consumer goods are sensitive to the level of domestic consumption and capital goods are sensitive to the level of domestic investment. In 2011, approximately 25.3% of the country's imports were energy-related.

The European Union (principally, France and Spain) and the United States are Morocco's largest trading partners.

The tables below set out the exports of Morocco by main area of destination for the years indicated.

orts (FOR)(1)(2)

	Exports $(FOB)^{(1)(2)}$								
	2007	2008	2009	2010	<b>2011</b> <sup>(3)</sup>				
_			(Dh millions)						
European Union countries, of									
which	88,565	86,250	74,555	85,325	96,632				
France	35,054	31,384	28,122	33,558	35,743				
Spain	25,559	27,862	23,274	25,297	31,618				
Germany	3,705	4,036	3,827	4,685	4,823				
Italy	6,480	7,261	5,286	6,725	7,249				
Great Britain	6,388	5,350	3,764	4,341	4,413				
Netherlands	2,587	3,659	2,925	4,219	5,001				
Belgium-Luxembourg Economic									
Union	3,032	5,184	2,035	3,990	3,460				
Other European Union countries	5,758	1,516	4,606	2,510	4,325				
Other European countries	4,855	13,891	5,389	11,865	11,920				
Asian countries, of which	11,961	25,393	15,420	24,301	27,977				
Middle East Countries, of which	2,334	3,467	2,090	8,958	8,781				
Saudi Arabia	638	1,347	237	373	320				
Iran	338	726	108	693	5				
United Arab Emirates	253	267	280	1,259	744				
Jordan	286	293	317	395	374				
Other	820	807	1,148	6,237	7,337				
Other Asian countries, of which	9,626	21,926	13,458	15,343	19,196				
India	4,853	10,520	5,852	9,056	11,786				
Other	4,773	11,406	7,606	6,287	7,410				
American countries, of which	9,815	16,391	7,436	14,457	19,495				
United States	2,994	6,085	3,560	5,640	7,558				
Brazil	4,247	7,538	2,339	5,645	9,016				
Other	2,574	2,769	1,751	3,172	2,921				
African countries, of which	6,238	10,120	8,257	10,784	11,425				
Egypt	336	372	855	872	610				
Maghreb-Arab Union countries,									
of which	1,977	2,455	2,510	3,322	3,816				
Algeria	618	874	1.061	1.163	1.821				
Tunisia	660	695	730	1,208	928				
Libya	342	494	348	319	243				
Mauritania	358	393	370	631	824				
Other	3,925	7,291	5,356	6,590	6,999				
Oceania and other countries	4,084	3,694	1,825	2,852	6,527				
Total	125,517	155,740	113,020	149,583	173,977				
	120,017	100,770	113,020	147,503	110,711				

Notes:

(1) On a free-on-board shipment basis.
(2) Certain line items and figures differ from previously published data due to on-going revisions.
(3) Preliminary data.

orts (FOR)(1)(2)

	Expo	orts ( <b>FOB</b> ) <sup>(1)(2)</sup>			
_	2007	2008	2009	2010	<b>2011</b> <sup>(3)</sup>
			(% of total)		
European Union countries, of					
which	70.6	55.4	64.8	57.0	55.5
France	27.9	20.2	24.2	22.4	20.5
Spain	20.4	17.9	20.8	16.9	18.2
Germany	3.0	2.6	3.4	3.1	2.8
Italy	5.2	4.7	4.7	4.5	4.2
Great Britain	5.1	3.4	3.3	2.9	2.5
Netherlands	2.1	2.3	2.6	2.8	2.9
Belgium-Luxembourg Economic					
Union	2.4	3.3	1.8	2.7	2.0
Other European Union countries	4.6	1.0	4.1	1.7	2.5
Other European countries	3.9	8.9	4.8	7.9	6.9
Asian countries, of which	9.5	16.3	13.7	16.2	16.1
Middle East Countries, of which	1.9	2.2	1.8	6.0	5.0
Saudi Arabia	0.5	0.9	0.2	0.2	0.2
Iran	0.3	0.5	0.1	0.5	0.0
United Arab Emirates	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.8	0.4
Jordan	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2
Other	0.7	0.5	1.0	4.2	4.2
Other Asian countries, of which	7.7	14.1	11.9	10.3	11.0
India	3.9	6.8	5.2	6.1	6.8
Other	3.8	7.3	6.7	4.2	4
American countries, of which	7.8	10.5	6.7	9.7	11.2
United States	2.4	3.9	3.1	3.8	4.3
Brazil	3.4	4.8	2.1	3.8	5.2
Other	2.1	1.8	1.5	2.1	1.3
African countries, of which	5.0	6.5	7.7	7.2	6.0
Egypt	0.3	0.2	0.8	0.6	0.4
Maghreb-Arab Union countries, of	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.
which	1.6	1.6	2.2	2.2	2.2
Algeria	0.5	0.6	0.9	0.8	1.0
Tunisia	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.8	0.5
Libya	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.0	0
Mauritania	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.5
Other	3.1	4.7	4.7	4.4	4.0
Oceania and other countries	3.3	2.4	2.3	1.9	3.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Notes:

(1) On a free-on-board shipment basis.

(2) Certain line items and figures differ from previously published data due to on-going revisions.

(3) Preliminary data.

The following table sets forth the composition of Moroccan exports for the years indicated.

Composition of Evports(1)

	Compositi	on of Exports <sup>(1</sup>	)		
_	2007	2008	2009	2010	<b>2011</b> <sup>(2)</sup>
			(Dh millions)		
Foodstuffs, beverages and tobacco, of					
which	24,162	26,198	25,193	26,796	26,335
Citrus fruits	3,020	3,227	2,513	3,212	3,137
Early vegetables	4,536	2,219	4,659	4,809	5,056
Fresh fruits	1,530	1,718	1,572	1,492	2,020
Crustaceans molluscs and shellfish	5,165	5,537	4,439	4,564	5,080
Fresh fish	2,018	2,109	2,030	1,862	1,618
Canned fish	3,899	4,524	4,837	5,154	4,271
Canned fruits and vegetables	1,300	1.661	1.537	1.655	1.598
Fish meal	319	526	734	1,027	594
Other	2,376	4,677	2,871	2,886	5,198
Energy and lubricants	2,803	3,351	2,628	1,589	7,166
Raw animal and vegetable products	2,590	2,384	2,383	3,768	3,298
Raw mineral products, of which	10,240	21,387	7,376	14,322	19,830
Phosphates	6,086	17,684	4,453	8,984	12,950
Other	4,154	3,704	2,923	5,338	6,879
Semi-finished products, (3) of which	35,622	53,319	25,962	44,874	53,239
Natural and chemical fertilisers	7,182	10,946	5,620	13,151	18,743
Phosphoric acid	9,069	22,831	8,051	13,753	16,392
Electronic devices (transistors)	5,613	4,486	3,870	4,885	4,831
Other	13,758	15,056	8,421	13,085	13,273
Capital goods, of which	14,040	15,508	16,326	23,089	26,204
Wires and cables for electricity	8,206	8,886	9,087	13,693	15,547
Industrial vehicles	517	664	964	1,124	1,787
Electronic under-systems	137	161	108	2,309	2,766
Other	5,180	5,797	6,167	5,963	6,104
Consumer goods, of which	36,060	33,593	32,829	35,145	37,905
Clothing	20,474	18,924	17,796	18,041	18,259
Hosiery	7,882	6,659	6,461	6,973	7,727
Shoes	2,103	2,142	2,315	2,385	2,411
Other	5,602	5,868	6,258	7,745	9,508
Total	125,517	155,740	113,020	149,583	173,977

Certain line items and figures differ from previously published data due to on-going revisions.
 Preliminary data.
 Including industrial gold

The tables below set out the imports of Morocco by main area of origin for the years indicated.

	Imp	orts (CIF) <sup>(1)(2)</sup>			
	2007	2008	2009	2010	<b>2011</b> <sup>(3)</sup>
_			(Dh millions)		
E					
European Union countries, of	136,646	159,812	138,208	142,352	163,707
which	,	,	,	,	,
France	41,607	48,950	41,080	46,379	51,097
Spain	29,084	36,447	32,141	31,603	39,174
Germany	12,900	15,201	14,394	13,707	16,008
Italy	16,695	21,742	17,290	17,729	18,614
Great Britain	7,109	9,035	4,800	6,322	7,175
Netherlands	8,252	6,860	6,337	5,195	6,141
Belgium-Luxembourg Economic					
Union	4,683	5,137	4,175	4,385	7,029
Other European Union countries	16,317	16,440	18,314	17,032	18,470
Other European countries, of					
which	24,785	39,906	20,354	27,701	43,672
Russia	12,915	16,302	7,574	11,270	16,591
Turkey	6,927	8,311	5,756	6,425	9,445
Asian countries, of which	53,239	74,274	57,482	73,855	82,479
Middle East Countries, of which	23,603	37,368	19,606	35,804	49,843
Saudi Arabia	14,288	21,820	11.547	17,750	24.524
Iran	6,592	8,050	594	1,344	86
United Arab Emirates	1.292	1.877	1.454	1.644	2.461
Jordan	62	113	123	114	161
Other	1,369	5,508	5,887	14,953	22,610
Other Asian countries, of which	29.636	36,907	37.909	38,050	32.637
Japan	4,281	5,726	4,049	3,766	3,379
India	2,566	2,722	3,198	4,876	4,761
Pakistan	125	135	134	167	288
	15,146	18,538	20,610	24,993	23,331
China	7.518	9.785	,		23,331 879
Other	. ,	. ,	9,918	4,248	
American countries, of which	28,221	33,800	33,355	35,559	48,117
United States	15,442	16,624	18,289	20,981	28,925
Brazil	4,534	5,511	6,046	6,443	8,423
Argentina	3,744	5,924	1,527	2,902	4,471
Other	4,501	5,741	7,997	5,234	6,299
African countries, of which	16,370	17,389	13,716	17,587	19,044
Egypt	2,792	3,150	3,060	3,513	3,971
Maghreb-Arab Union countries,					
of which	9,250	10,169	7,983	9,579	11,086
Algeria	6,793	7,559	5,772	7,055	8,687
Tunisia	1,654	1,876	1,825	2,142	2,282
Libya	793	688	380	372	110
Mauritania	11	47	7	11	8
Other	4,327	4,070	2,481	4,495	3,987
Oceania and other countries	2,027	862	733	910	967
	,				

<sup>(1)</sup> On a cost, insurance, freight basis.
(2) Certain line items and figures differ from previously published data due to on-going revisions.
(3) Preliminary data.

Imports (CIF)(1)(2)

	Imp	orts (CIF) <sup>(1)(2)</sup>			
_	2007	2008	2009	2010	<b>2011</b> <sup>(3)</sup>
			(% of total)		
European Union countries, of					
which	52.3	49.0	52.5	47.8	45.7
France	15.9	15.0	0.0	15.6	14.3
Spain	11.1	11.2	12.1	10.6	10.9
Germany	4.9	4.7	5.4	4.6	4.5
Italy	6.4	6.7	6.5	6.0	5.2
Great Britain	2.7	2.8	1.8	2.1	2.0
Netherlands	3.2	2.1	2.4	1.7	1.7
Belgium-Luxembourg Economic					
Union	1.8	1.6	1.6	1.5	2.0
Other European Union countries	6.2	5.0	6.9	5.7	5.2
Other European countries, of	0.2	2.0	0.7	· · · ·	0.2
which	9.5	12.2	7.7	9.3	12.2
Russia	4.9	5.0	2.9	3.8	4.6
Turkey	2.7	2.5	2.2	2.2	2.6
Asian countries, of which	20.4	22.8	21.7	24.8	23.0
Middle East Countries, of which	9.0	11.5	7.4	12.0	13.9
Saudi Arabia	5.5	6.7	4.4	6.0	6.9
Iran	2.5	2.5	0.2	0.5	0.0
United Arab Emirates	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.7
Jordan	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7
	0.0	0.0 1.7	2.2	5.0	6.3
Other Asian countries of which			14.3		9.1
Other Asian countries, of which	11.3	11.3		12.8	
Japan	1.6	1.8	1.5	1.3	0.9
India	1.0	0.8	1.2	1.6	1.3
Pakistan	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1
China	5.8	5.7	7.8	8.4	6.5
Other	2.9	3.0	3.7	1.4	0.2
American countries, of which	10.8	10.4	12.8	11.9	13.4
United States	5.9	5.1	6.9	7.0	8.1
Brazil	1.7	1.7	2.3	2.2	2.4
Argentina	1.4	1.8	0.6	1.0	1.2
Other	1.7	1.8	3.0	1.8	1.8
African countries, of which	6.3	5.3	5.1	5.9	5.3
Egypt	1.1	1.0	1.2	1.2	1.1
Maghreb-Arab Union countries,					
of which	3.5	3.1	3.0	3.2	3.1
Algeria	2.6	2.3	2.2	2.4	2.4
Tunisia	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.6
Libya	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0
Mauritania	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	1.7	1.2	0.9	1.5	1.1
Oceania and other countries	0.8	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Notes:
(1) On a cost, insurance, freight basis.
(2) Certain line items and figures differ from previously published data due to on-going revisions.
(3) Preliminary data.

The following table sets forth composition of Moroccan imports for the years indicated.

Composition	on of Import	${\bf s}^{(1)}$			
	2007	2008	2009	2010	<b>2011</b> <sup>(2)</sup>
-			$(\overline{Dh \ millions})$		
Foodstuffs, beverages and tobacco, of which	26,726	31,864	24,213	29,100	38,755
Wheat	9,407	12,428	5,483	7,397	11,524
Maize	3,643	4,084	2,874	3,746	4,780
Sugar	1,969	2,226	3,409	3,301	4,820
Dairy Products	1,705	2,196	1,540	2,022	2,283
Other	10,003	10,929	10,908	12,634	15,345
Energy and lubricants, of which	53,988	72,715	54,136	68,479	90,686
Crude oil	26,250	30,683	17,166	25,090	31,423
Refined petroleum products	21,597	31,902	27,940	36,245	49,616
Coal	4,412	6,598	4,762	4,530	5,514
Other	1,729	3,532	4,268	2,614	4,133
Raw products, of which	15,847	26,685	13,776	15,915	22,425
Vegetable oils	2,929	4,483	3,397	3,449	4,845
Timber	3,280	3,384	2,709	3,197	3,430
Sulphur	2,403	11,260	1,388	2,794	6,091
Other	7,234	7,651	6,283	6,474	8,059
Semi-finished products, of which	60,002	69,597	52,761	62,777	76,448
Chemical products	7,243	8,269	6,862	7,049	7,992
Iron and steel	5,979	10,362	5,353	6,001	7,864
Plastic materials	7,625	8,121	7,030	7,755	9,823
Paper and cardboard	3,144	3,446	3,328	3,644	4,369
Other	36,011	39,399	30,188	38,328	46,402
Agricultural capital goods	2,766	3,670	3,225	2,024	1,826
Industrial capital goods, of which	53,053	67,987	62,911	63,915	66,388
Machinery and miscellaneous equipment	9,636	11,087	10,187	10,857	11,606
Electrical switch gear	2,147	2,622	2,103	2,944	3,788
Wires and cables for electricity	3,988	4,087	2,932	3,287	4,858
Industrial vehicles	5,759	7,156	5,708	8,460	5,496
Other	31,523	43,033	41,980	38,366	40,639
Consumer goods, of which	48,906	53,525	52,908	55,753	61,459
Pharmaceutical products	2,936	3,283	4,069	4,553	4,906
Textile fibres and cotton	7,732	7,191	6,501	6,745	7,893
Telecommunications receivers	4,642	4,586	4,634	5,415	4,806
Passenger cars	7,691	9,873	8,314	9,501	9,002
Spare parts	1,481	1,612	1,309	3,422	5,080
Other	24,424	26,559	28,081	26,117	29,772
Total	261,288	326,042	263,982	297,963	357,987

#### Notes:

Source: Foreign Exchange Control Office

Exports increased by Dh 5,555 million, or 6.5 %, to Dh 91,576 million in the first six months of 2012, as compared to Dh 86,021 million in the corresponding period of 2011. This increase was primarily due to increases in energy and lubricant exports from Morocco's main refining plant, exports from the emerging aerospace and automotive sectors and phosphates and phosphate derivatives exports.

Imports increased by Dh 11,048 million, or 6.2%, to Dh 190,407 million in the first six months of 2012, as compared to Dh 179,359 million in the corresponding period of 2011. This increase was primarily due to an increase in refined petroleum products, crude oil and food imports. As a result of the foregoing, the trade deficit increased by Dh 5,493 million, or 5.9% over the period.

<sup>(1)</sup> Certain line items and figures differ from previously published data due to on-going revisions.(2) Preliminary data.

# **Trade Policy**

Import controls have been progressively eased under the programme of economic reform and trade liberalisation. Morocco replaced quota restrictions with tariff barriers to conform to the rules of the World Trade Organisation ("WTO"). Since May 1996, it has been possible to import virtually all products without restriction. In May 1992, Parliament passed a foreign trade law limiting the scope for Government intervention and simplifying customs regulations. Morocco has significantly reduced tariff barriers, from a previous high of a 400% maximum to a current maximum of 25%. The effective rate of customs duty, was estimated at 3.5% in 2011.

The Kingdom has entered into free trade agreements with the United States and Turkey, as well as an association agreement with the European Union and the European Free Trade Association. Further tariff reductions have resulted and will continue to result from the implementation of WTO rules, the EU Association Agreement and the Free Trade Agreements with the United States and Turkey. These tariff reductions fall within Morocco's overall policy of economic liberalisation and closer economic relations with Europe and the United States. In March 2012, the EU-Morocco free trade area for industrial products came into effect, which marked the completion of tariff dismantling for such products.

In December 2011, the European Union adopted negotiating directives in respect of further free trade agreements with Morocco. In February 2012, the European Parliament consented to an agreement with Morocco setting out the general principles for participation in European Union programmes, including in the fields of competitiveness and innovation, freight transport, customs and air traffic control. In February 2012, the Kingdom also entered into a free trade agreement to increase certain quotas for zero or low duty agricultural and fish imports. This free trade agreement entered into effect in October 2012. In August 2002, the Government eliminated the use of reference prices.

The Kingdom is a member of the Great Arab Free Trade Zone and has entered into bilateral free trade agreements with several Arab countries, including Tunisia, Jordan, Egypt and the United Arab Emirates. The Kingdom is currently negotiating a free trade agreement with Canada.

In May 2001, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt and Jordan meeting in Agadir, Morocco signed a joint declaration known as the "Agadir Declaration" in which they stated their objective of creating a common free trade zone amongst South-Mediterranean countries, which have entered into association agreements with the European Union. In February 2004, the "Agadir Agreement" established a free trade zone amongst Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt and Jordan. The "Agadir Agreement" entered into force in July 2006, following ratification by the four countries party to the agreement. Implementation of the "Agadir Agreement" began in March 2007.

See "Description of the Kingdom of Morocco—International Relations".

### **Balance of Payments**

The following table sets forth Morocco's balance of payments for the periods indicated.

Balance of Payments<sup>(1)(2)</sup>

	2007	2008	2009	2010	<b>2011</b> <sup>(3)</sup>	Jan-Jun 2011	Jan-Jun 2012
-	2007	2000		U.S.\$ million		2011	2012
			( )	υ.5.φ πιιιισπ	3)		
Trade balance							
Exports (fob)	15,318	20,095	13,973	17,760	(21,519)	10,731	10,780
Imports (fob)	(29,373)	(39,573)	(30,188)	(32,724)	(40,958)	(20,711)	(20,685)
Trade balance	(14,055)	(19,478)	(16,216)	(14,964)	(19,439)	(9,980)	(9,905)
Services balance	6,734	6,642	5,372	5,086	5,380	2,321	1,885
Incomes balance	(405)	(543)	(1,455)	(1,491)	(2,048)	(954)	(1,049)
Transfers (net)	7,676	8,725	7,370	7,293	8,116	3,719	3,578
Current Account Balance	(51)	(4,655)	(4,930)	(4,075)	(7,991)	(4,894)	(5,491)
Capital Account	(3)	(2)	0	0	0	0	0
Financial Transactions Account							
Direct Investment (net)	2,182	2,002	1,476	984	2,273	1,156	1,242
Portfolio Investment (net)	(81)	(88)	(18)	89	(233)	(65)	(93)
Other Investments (net)	(811)	445	1,441	2,049	1,548	1,769	1,533
Financial Transactions Account	2,128	3,561	5,249	5,621	5,294	1,156	1,242
Net Errors and Omissions	(36)	(327)	(515)	(341)	(251)	(146)	(261)
Change in net international reserves	(2,039)	1,422	196	(1,205)	2,948	2,051	3,264
				(%)			
Trade balance/GDP	(18.7	(21.9)	(17.9)	(16.5)	(19.6)	_	
Current Account/GDP	(0.1)	(5.2)	(5.4)	(4.5)	(8.0)		_

#### Notes

Source: Ministry of Economy and Finance.

# **Current Account**

The trade deficit grew over the period 2007-2011, mainly due to high international energy and commodity prices and increased imports of capital goods and semi-finished goods.

Imports increased by Dh 60.0 billion, or 20.1%, in 2011, as compared to 2010, primarily as a result of an increase in the price of energy and wheat imports, as well as increases in imports of energy and lubricant products, food products, semi-finished products, consumer goods and raw materials.

Energy and lubricant imports increased by Dh 22.2 billion, or 32.4%, in 2011, primarily as a result of an increase in the average price of refined petroleum and crude oil imports by 18.5% and 31.5%, respectively, as well as a 15.5% increase in the quantities of refined petroleum imported into the Kingdom. Food products imports increased by Dh 9.7 billion, or 33.2%, in 2011, primarily as a result of a 27.1% increase in the average price of wheat imports, as well as a 9.4% increase in the quantities of food products imported into the Kingdom.

Imports of semi-finished goods increased by Dh 13.7 billion, or 21.8%, in 2011, primarily as a result of a 26.7% increase in plastics imports, a 13.6% increase in iron and steel imports and a 13.4% increase in chemicals imports. Consumer goods imports also increased by Dh 5.7 billion, or 10.2%, in 2011, primarily as a result of the 7.3% increase in pharmaceutical imports and a 17.0% increase in textile imports, which were partially offset by the 5.3% decrease in passenger car imports. In addition, imports of raw materials increased by Dh 6.5 billion, or 40.9%, in 2011, primarily as

<sup>(1)</sup> Dh/U.S.\$ average exchange rate calculated for each year.

<sup>(2)</sup> Certain line items and figures differ from previously published data due to on-going revisions.

<sup>(3)</sup> Preliminary data.

a result of increases in the average price of crude sulphur from Dh 710.2 per tonne in 2010 to almost Dh 1,500 per tonne in 2011.

Exports increased by Dh 24.4 billion, or 16.3%, in 2011, as compared to 2010, primarily as a result of an increase in phosphates and phosphate derivatives exports. Phosphates exports increased by Dh 4.0 billion, or 44.1%, in 2011, primarily as a result of a 58.0% increase in average price of phosphates exports. The value of phosphates derivatives exports increased by 31% in 2011.

The Kingdom's current account balance has fluctuated during the period 2007-2011. In 2011, the current account deficit was 8.0% of GDP, as compared to a deficit of 4.5% of GDP in 2010, 5.4% of GDP in 2009 and an average surplus of 1.1% of GDP in the years 2001 to 2008. The current account deficit in 2011 was primarily due to an increase in the trade deficit as described above.

For the first six months of 2012, the trade deficit grew by 5.9%, as compared to the corresponding period in 2011, primarily due to an increase in energy costs. Imports increased by 6.2% and exports increased by 6.5% in the first six months of 2012, as compared to the corresponding period of 2010.

# **Capital Account and Financial Transactions Account**

The Kingdom's capital account and financial transactions account increased during the period 2007-2011, mainly due to foreign direct investment inflows, as well as an increase in public sector loans. In the first six months of 2012, the Kingdom's capital account and financial transactions account increased by 21.0%, respectively, as compared to the corresponding period in 2011, primarily due to the 14.7% increase in foreign direct investment and the 43.4% increase in commercial loans.

The Kingdom has taken steps to effect a progressive liberalisation of its capital account, including the implementation of the following measures:

- the removal of any restrictions on the transfer of capital used for investments in Morocco, as well as capital
  and profit repatriation;
- the authorisation for banks to maintain foreign currency deposits overseas and to grant Dirhamdenominated loans to non-residents for purposes of financing real estate investments in the Kingdom;
- the development of options and swap instruments to cover interest rate and exchange risks, as well as for commodities;
- the authorisation for certain foreign entities to access the local capital markets; and
- the authorisation for Moroccan entities to invest abroad.

# **Foreign Direct Investment**

Since 1990, foreign direct investment has been permitted in virtually all sectors of the economy. In 1995, a charter on foreign investment was adopted by Parliament. The charter's principal objective is to promote and encourage investment by, *inter alia*, granting tax exemptions to investors, reducing the corporate tax rate to 35%, developing tax free zones for exports and promoting free competition. The Government considers the promotion of foreign direct investment in Morocco essential to stimulate further economic growth and economic development.

In 2011, foreign direct investment was Dh 25.6 billion (or 3.2% of GDP), as compared to Dh 35.1 billion in 2010, a decrease of Dh 9.5 billion, or 27.1%. This decrease in foreign direct investment was mainly due to reduced investment flows received from France in 2011. Foreign direct investment increased by Dh 1.2 billion, or 6 %, to Dh 20.9 billion in the nine months ended 30 September 2012 from Dh 19.7 billion in the corresponding period of 2011.

The Government has enacted a number of measures to protect foreign investment in Morocco; the Kingdom has entered into 63 agreements for the protection of foreign investment and 53 agreements for the avoidance of double taxation.

The Government is in the process of preparing a new investment charter for Morocco. This charter will be structured around four regimes: (i) common investments; (ii) conventional investments; (iii) specific investments; and (iv) major investment schemes. A draft law has been prepared and submitted to the Head of Government for review.

The following table sets forth the countries of origin of foreign direct investment in Morocco for the years indicated.

Foreign Investment by Country(1)

Foreign Investment by Country (1)									
	2007	2008	2009	2010	<b>2011</b> <sup>(2)</sup>				
_			(Dh millions)						
France	14,274	10,546	12,958	20,492	8,547				
United Arab Emirates	3,810	4,716	1,151	2,612	4,471				
Saudi Arabia	637	511	259	585	1,595				
Spain	6,108	2,616	1,542	1,898	1,546				
Belgium-Luxembourg Economic									
Union <sup>(3)</sup>	1,318	1,038	_	_	_				
Belgium <sup>(3)</sup>	_	_	861	1,047	1,212				
Luxembourg <sup>(3)</sup>	_	_	141	54	127				
Switzerland	1,323	1,661	1,024	1,533	1,197				
Great Britain	2,576	1,214	988	1,024	1,184				
United States	1,544	838	734	634	1,127				
Kuwait	1,575	116	2,819	1,158	837				
Germany	1,647	1,312	711	654	680				
Netherlands	504	188	209	567	573				
Sweden	137	92	135	604	478				
India	137	14	90	_	333				
Italy	864	767	562	264	332				
Lebanon	75	52	67	42	168				
Egypt	66	154	61	291	115				
Turkey	2	2	79	113	102				
Qatar	357	132	98	205	97				
Tunisia	170	68	43	192	84				
Syria	11	0	1	102	65				
Other countries	822	1,797	716	998	759				
Total	37,959	27,963	25,250	35,068	25,628				

# Notes:

Source: Office des Changes

In 2011, the principal sectors that benefited from foreign investment were real estate (32.0%), industry (24.0%) and tourism (10.2%).

<sup>(1)</sup> Certain line items and figures differ from previously published data due to on-going revisions.

 <sup>(2)</sup> Preliminary data.
 (3) Figures presented separately for Belgium and Luxembourg since 2009.

The following table sets forth foreign investment by sector in Morocco for the years indicated.

Foreign Investment by Sector<sup>(1)</sup>

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011 <sup>(2)</sup>					
	(Dh millions)									
Real estate	7,591	9,152	5,555	7,268	8,199					
Industry	3,314	1,784	2,725	4,772	6,160					
Tourism	12,422	5,675	2,873	4,059	2,606					
Energy and mining	2,819	1,568	155	754	1,811					
Commercial trade	344	180	180	1,240	1,759					
Banking	1,824	4,960	6,445	4,563	1,519					
Holding	848	2,209	171	961	1,090					
Public works	532	252	112	424	544					
Transport	2,738	176	379	594	249					
Telecommunications	3,087	230	5,341	8,754	176					
Agriculture	33	27	26	61	82					
Fishing	4	22	1	21	23					
Insurance	21	200	452	207	19					
Education	_	_	11	67	15					
Other services	2,256	1,494	785	1,270	1,210					
Other	128	34	40	1,628	2,042					
Total	37,959	27,963	25,250	35,068	25,628					

#### Notes:

Source: Office des Changes

# **Moroccan Investment Abroad**

Moroccan investment abroad is focused primarily on investments in France, sub-Saharan Africa and, to a lesser extent, elsewhere. In 2011, the largest recipient countries were France (38% of the total), Cameroon (30%), Mauritania (7%) and Mali (4%). In 2011, Moroccans invested Dh 2.1 billion abroad, as compared to Dh 5.0 billion in 2010 and Dh 3.8 billion in 2009.

# Remittances

The principal factors affecting remittances levels are: (i) the economic conditions in the host country; (ii) immigration policies in the host country; (iii) the investment climate in Morocco; and (iv) charges and commissions. The global financial and Eurozone crises have resulted in reduced remittances from MREs. Remittances from the Eurozone account for approximately 80% of the total remittances from MREs on an annual basis.

The Government has taken a number of measures to encourage the flow of remittances from MREs into the Kingdom, including reducing certain charges and commissions, following a 5.3% decline in remittances in 2008. In 2011, the remittance flow from MREs was Dh 58.6 billion, an increase of 7.8%, as compared to 2010. In 2010, remittances increased by 8.3% over the 2009 level. Remittances in 2011 represented 7.3% of GDP. The continuing crisis in the Eurozone resulted in a 3.3% decline in remittances in the nine months ended 30 September 2012, as compared to the corresponding period in 2011.

### Moroccan Investment and Development Agency

The Moroccan Investment and Development Agency ("MIDA") was established in 2009 and is a financially autonomous public institution under the Ministry of Industry, Trade and New Technologies charged with the investment, development and promotion of Morocco. MIDA aims to promote investment and provide guidance to investors through: (i) informing investors of investment opportunities and the regulatory framework for investment in Morocco; (ii) assisting investors pursuing investment; (iii) facilitating contacts between investors and local and administrative partners; and (iv) helping investors benefit from the optimal environment for the development of their business.

# Free Zones

Pursuant to Law • 19-94, which was adopted in 1995, the Kingdom has established a number of export processing zones. These zones are authorised and exempted from customs regulations, foreign trade and exchange control, all

<sup>(1)</sup> Certain line items and figures differ from previously published data due to on-going revisions.

<sup>(2)</sup> Preliminary data.

industrial and commercial export activities as well as linked service activities. Each zone is established by decree, which sets out the nature and range of permitted activities of the companies that may operate in the zone. Morocco has established export processing zones in Tangier and Kenitra and free zones in Tanger-Med, Ksar el Majaz, Mellousa (1 and 2), Dakhla and Laayoune, as well as a free storage zone for hydrocarbons in Kebdana and Nador.

# **Casablanca Finance City**

In 2010, Parliament passed Law • 44-10 to establish the Casablanca Finance City (the "CFC"). The CFC is a project to attract additional foreign investors and establish Casablanca as a regional financial centre and hub for financial institutions, multinational companies and professional services providers. The Moroccan Financial Board, a public-private initiative established in 2010, is responsible for overseeing the development, promotion and management of the CFC.

Companies operating in the CFC, as well as employees working in the CFC, benefit from certain tax incentives. All financial business conducted in the CFC is subject to the regulation of the existing financial authorities in Morocco. The Moroccan Financial Board has entered into a memorandum of understanding with the Singapore Co-operation Enterprise to assist with the strategic development and promotion of the CFC. In May 2012, the Moroccan Financial Board also entered into a co-operation agreement with CityUK in order to develop the securities and derivative markets in the CFC, boost education and training in the financial services sector and build an insurance and reinsurance sector targeting the wider African market.

# MONETARY AND FINANCIAL SYSTEM

#### Overview

Until 2005, banking activities in Morocco were regulated under the former banking law, the *Loi relative à l'exercice de l'activité des établissements de crédit et de leur contrôle* of 6 July 1993, which placed the supervision and control of the Moroccan banking system in the hands of Bank Al-Maghrib and of the Ministry of Economy and Finance, together with a number of consultative bodies. On 14 February 2006, Law • 34-03 (*Loi relative aux établissements de crédit et organismes assimilés*) (the "Banking Law") abrogated the 6 July 1993 law and introduced a number of reforms, including strengthening the supervisory powers of Bank Al-Maghrib, extending the application of the Banking Law to all institutions engaged in banking and financial activities, increasing depositors' and borrowers' protections and redefining the roles of a number of consultative bodies, including the National Monetary and Savings Council. On 2 March 2006, Law • 76-03 was published in the official gazette, promulgating a new charter for Bank Al-Maghrib and granting it a large degree of autonomy.

# Bank Al-Maghrib and the Moroccan Banking System

Bank Al-Maghrib was established in 1959. Its responsibilities and powers include: (i) the exclusive power to issue banknotes in Morocco; (ii) the control and management of the foreign currency reserves of Morocco; (iii) the power to formulate and implement monetary policy; (iv) the authority to supervise the operations and financial condition of Moroccan banks and financing companies, including through the establishment of capital adequacy, credit ratios and liquidity coefficients; and (v) the authority to oversee payment systems in Morocco. The Governor of the Bank Al-Maghrib, who is not appointed for any fixed term, is the head of the Bank Al-Maghrib.

Law • 76-03 introduced the following principal amendments:

- It increased Bank Al-Maghrib's autonomy by, among other measures, making the maintenance of price stability its primary objective and creating an independent board of directors, whose members must include professionals known for their competence in financial or economic matters and who may not be removed prior to the expiration of their respective terms except for cause. The Director of the Treasury is a member of the board of directors but has no vote on monetary policy decisions.
- It restricted the Treasury from borrowing from Bank Al-Maghrib, except in exceptional circumstances and within statutorily-prescribed limits.
- It mandated the withdrawal of Bank Al-Maghrib from the capital and representation on the boards of
  directors of various financial institutions in order to eliminate potential conflicts with Bank Al-Mahgrib's
  supervisory authority over such institutions.

Bank Al-Maghrib has a variety of monetary policy instruments available to it, including the imposition on commercial banks of interest-bearing reserve requirements, auction and repurchase agreements, open market operations and foreign exchange swaps.

The following table sets forth the balance sheet for Bank Al-Maghrib as at the dates indicated.

**Bank Al-Maghrib Balance Sheet** 

	i-Magiirio i	As at 31 December				
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
			(Dh millions			
ASSETS						
Gold	4,570.7	4,962.5	6,152.6	8,353.0	9,571.6	9,885.3
Foreign currency and investments in foreign currencies	184,960.9	178,350.7	172,317.8	181,863.0	161,265.5	136,012.1
Assets with international financial organisations	1,539.4	1,468.0	7,307.7	7,564.2	6,668.1	6123,1
Claims on the Government	_	_	_	_	_	
Claims on Moroccan credit institutions	5,022.0	15,014.8	17,034.1	7,097.3	39,330.0	69,182.5
Treasury bills (open market operations)	5,528.8	3,068.9	_	_	_	_
Other assets	10,052.1	13,148.5	13,222.9	9,081.4	7,058.5	7,471.9
Fixed assets	2,339.4	2,530.7	2,796.0	2,920.5	3,182.9	3,724.0
Total Assets	214,013.2	218,544.1	218,831.2	216,879.5	227,076.6	232,398.8
LIABILITIES						
Banknotes and coins in circulation	125,533.7	134,771.6	143,139.2	152,059.4	166,252.9	166,522.5
Liabilities in gold and foreign currencies	3,383.1	2,432.5	2,895.1	3,099.2	3,451.4	3,765.9
Liabilities in convertible Dirhams	205.6	196.2	210.4	201.9	211.9	230.4
Deposits and liabilities in Dirhams	64,386.0	59,630.0	44,261.3	33,877.1	29,566.0	35,499.6
Other liabilities	13,960.3	14,943.6	15,894.2	14,883.1	14,667.6	13,462.7
SDR allocations	1,043.3	1,068.8	6,918.0	7,225.4	7,392.9	7,433.7
Capital, reserves and other	5,501.3	5,501.3	5,512.9	5,533.3	5,533.8	5,534.0
Total Liabilities	214,013.2	218,544.1	218,831.2	216,879.5	227,076.6	232,398.8

Source: Bank Al-Maghrib.

In addition to Bank Al-Maghrib and the CDG, Morocco's financial system principally comprises 19 commercial banks, six commercial banks in the offshore banking centre of Tangier, 18 insurance companies, 18 consumer credit companies, 294 mutual funds, 36 financing companies, including six leasing companies and 17 brokerage houses authorised to operate on the CSE, 13 microfinance associations and ten cash transfer intermediation companies.

The following table sets forth the aggregate financial position of commercial banks operating in Morocco as at the dates indicated.

Aggregate	Financial	Position of	of C	ommercial	Ranks	in Morocco <sup>(1)</sup>

	As at 31 December					
<del>-</del>	2007	2008	2009	<b>2010</b> <sup>(2)</sup>	<b>2011</b> <sup>(2)</sup>	
_			(Dh millions)			
ASSETS						
Cash values (central bank, public treasury and postal						
checks service)	62,199.6	61,795.9	44,021.60	36,512.8	33,708.3	
Claims on credit institutions	93,766.3	99,515.8	107,203.1	115,857.5	113,760.6	
Loans	359,133.8	446,538.9	499,329.8	552,558.4	613,938.8	
Factoring claims	1,115.6	1,741.7	1,066.0	1,063.4	3,452.3	
Securities	58,986.3	74,610.2	94,213.4	88,779.0	116,733.6	
Other assets	9,552.2	11,952.4	10,840.6	18,973.7	13,846.0	
Investment securities.	45,149.8	35,127.5	28,389.4	25,476.4	25,471.4	
Shareholdings and similar assets	12,167.7	15,389.6	25,553.7	26,606.8	28,893.1	
Subordinated claims	420.1	1,154.1	1,294.6	1,357.0	1,355.6	
Leases and lettings	245.0	333.7	302.3	550.4	695.8	
Intangible assets	2,582.6	2,879.3	3,112.6	3,889.2	4,326.9	
Tangible assets	11,272.6	12,052.5	12,789.9	13,790.9	14,753.0	
Total Assets	656,598.5	763,091.6	828,117.1	885,616.0	970,935.3	
LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL						
Central banks, public treasury and postal checks service	0.8	0.1	_	0.1	1.2	
Obligations to credit institutions and similar	43,361.8	56,915.5	62,742.2	59,226.1	90,150.9	
Customer deposits	516,404.9	572,682.9	601,267.8	647,852.4	677,248.1	
Debt securities.	18,035.2	32,013.8	36,476.5	48,472.0	62,707.7	
Other liabilities	14,617.2	19,866.2	$32,649.0^{(1)}$	23,410.2	26,363.5	
Provisions for losses and expenses	3,056.6	3,041.6	2,895.8	3,129.4	4,357.7	
Legal Provisions	1,320.5	738.4	432.6	_	_	
Subsidies, assigned public funds and special guarantee						
funds	2,133.1	2,293.1	2,925.2	4,174.5	3,050.4	
Subordinated debts	4,841.7	13,194.2	19,353.7	20,073.9	21,610.4	
Revaluation differential	361.8	361.8	361.8	0.4	0.4	
Reserves and share premiums	30,067.7	36,672.9	41,306.5	48,225.2	51,732,3	
Capital	16,120.8	17,076.8	18,140.8	20,073.9	21,531.2	
Non-paid up capital	(350.0)	_	_	(77.0)	(48.0)	
Retained Earnings	(2,362.2)	(373.3)	322.4	1,267.3	2,173.0	
Before allocation of net profit			24.9	(5.3)	(3.6)	
Net profit	8,989.0	8,607.6	9,217.8	9,719.0	10,060.1	
Total Liabilities	656,598.5	763,091.6	828,117.0	885,616.0	970,935.3	

Note:

Source: Bank Al-Maghrib.

# Government Stakes in Banks

The Government controls significant stakes in three banks: (i) it indirectly controls 71.2% of the share capital of *Crédit Immobilier et Hôtelier* ("**CIH**") (which primarily provides credit in the housing sector); (ii) it directly and indirectly controls 85% of the share capital of *Crédit Agricole du Maroc* ("**CAM**") (which primarily provides credit to the agricultural sector); and (iii) it controls directly and indirectly 13.3% of the share capital of BCP (6.3% directly) (which is a full-service bank and focuses on financing of small- and medium-sized businesses and providing banking services to MREs). Two other financial institutions are 100% owned by the Government: CDG (which administers public sector funds) and Al-Barid Bank (the Post Bank) (which is a national savings institution).

In order to increase access to banking services and leverage the Post Office's nationwide network, the Government opened Al-Barid Bank on 8 June 2010, (having been granted a banking license by Bank Al-Maghrib in 2009). Al-Barid Bank aims to facilitate access to banking for all Moroccans, particularly those in lower income categories. To further this aim, Al-Barid Bank's stated objective is to have six million customers (up from approximately four million at the date of this Prospectus) by 2016.

<sup>(1)</sup> Certain line items and figures differ from those previously published as a result of on-going revisions.

<sup>(2)</sup> Figures for 2010 and 2011 include Al-Barid Bank (the Post Bank).

#### **Prudential Requirements**

There has been a continuing reform and modernisation programme of prudential requirements, which has accelerated in recent years in order to meet the capital adequacy ratio requirements set forth in Basel II and Basel III. According to *Bank Al-Maghrib*, Moroccan banks comply with Basel II capital adequacy ratio requirements, which became mandatory since June 2007. The capital adequacy ratio, which was 8% until 2007, was increased to 10% in 2008 and has been increased to 12% in 2012 with effect in June 2013. The most recent increase is intended to help prepare Moroccan banks for Basel III. Banks are also subject to a minimum liquidity requirement to maintain short-term liquid assets to cover in full all of their short-term obligations. In addition, the risk ratio for lending to any one borrower or group of borrowers, which was set at 7% of shareholders equity in 1992, was increased to 10% in 1996 and to 20% in 2000. Banks are also required to ensure that their total risk exposure to any one borrower or group of borrowers does not exceed 20%. Consumer credit companies must also maintain a minimum capitalisation of Dh 50 million (increased from Dh 20 million in 2011).

# **Banking System Deregulation**

Since the 1990s, Bank Al-Maghrib has implemented reforms aimed at improving the effectiveness of the banking sector in promoting savings and allocating financial resources. These reforms include the phasing out of banks' mandatory holdings and the full liberalisation of interest rates, which resulted in increased competition between banks. As a result, lending rates have generally decreased in recent years and were on average 6.65% in December 2011. Financial intermediation has been strengthened as the credit and monetary aggregate (M3) to GDP ratios increased from 81% and 117% in 2009 to 86% and 120% in 2011, respectively. The rate of increase in the money supply increased from 4.8% in 2010 to 6.5% in 2011. See "—*Monetary Policy and Money Supply*". Also, Morocco's commercial banks are subject to increased competition from foreign banks, and customers may access non-bank financial instruments through the CSE and money-market instruments, such as treasury bonds and commercial paper.

## Reserve Requirements

A legal reserve requirement for banks of up to 4% of demand deposits exists (except for deposits in accounts denominated in foreign currencies or in convertible Dirhams). This reserve requirement was set at 10% from 1992 until the end of 2002 when it was increased to 14% and then to 16.5% in September 2003 in order to absorb excess liquidity in the banking system, before being lowered five times, as a result of the global financial crisis, between January 2008 and 1 April 2010, when it was set at 6%. In April 2011, the reserve requirement was abolished for certain savings accounts. In September 2012, the reserve requirement ratio was reduced to 4%. Since February 1996, interest rates on loans have been freely negotiable. Banks are now simply required to publish a prime lending rate. In addition, a foreign exchange market was established in June 1996. Under this regime, banks have been authorised to conduct foreign currency transactions among themselves and with their clients in Dirhams or any other convertible currency.

# Non-performing Loans

Banks are required to classify non-performing loans according to risk criteria in three categories, which were defined in a 1993 Bank Al-Maghrib Circular, as amended in 2002: pre-doubtful claims, doubtful claims and compromised claims, and to cover them by provisions of 20%, 50% and 100%, respectively. As at 31 December 2011, non-performing loans amounted to Dh 32.7 billion, as compared to Dh 29.7 billion as at 31 December 2010, an increase of Dh 3 billion, or 10.1%. Non-performing loans represented 4.8% of total outstanding credit granted by all banks in 2010 and 4.7% in 2011. Excluding provisions, non-performing loans represented 1.5% of total outstanding credit granted by all banks in 2011. Non-performing loans were covered by provisions up to 70% and 69% in 2010 and 2011, respectively.

### Treatment of Financial Institutions in Difficulty

The Banking Law provides a procedure for the treatment of financial institutions in difficulty, which departs from normal procedures of conciliatory settlement and rehabilitation, as provided in the Moroccan Commercial Code. If a financial institution is not in compliance with administrative provisions or the Banking Law, or is otherwise in financial difficulty, the Governor of Bank Al-Maghrib may nominate an interim administrator to prepare a report outlining the nature, origin and seriousness of the institution's difficulties, as well as the measures likely to ensure its rehabilitation, its partial or total disposal, or its liquidation. In the event of a court-ordered winding-up of the financial institution, the Governor of Bank Al-Maghrib will nominate liquidators. During the liquidation period, the institution in question will remain under the control of Bank Al-Maghrib.

The Government does not have a specific policy for intervening in financial institutions in difficulty. Any such intervention would be considered a last resort according to an agreement in respect of the management of financial

crises signed by the Government, Bank Al-Maghrib and the Conseil Déontologique des Valeurs Mobilières ("CDVM") in June 2012.

A working group of representatives from the same parties are also collaborating on a project to reform and clarify the law applicable to the deposit insurance scheme in the Kingdom.

#### **Anti-Money Laundering**

In 2003, Law • 03-03 relating to the fight against terrorism was enacted, which established a framework for the criminalisation of terrorist financing and methods for the seizure of goods used in terrorist activities. This was supplemented by Law • 43-05 relating to anti-money laundering, which criminalised money-laundering activities, established sanctions for such activities and introduced measures for the prevention of anti-money laundering in Morocco. In addition, in 2008, the Financial Intelligence Processing Unit (*l'Unité de Traitement du Renseignement Financier*) (the "UTRF") was established as a monitoring body by Decree • 2-08-572.

The *Groupe d'Action Financière Internationale* ("GAFI") evaluated the Kingdom's anti-money laundering ("AML") legislation in 2007, following which the Government implemented the following measures to address certain concerns raised by the GAFI:

- the adoption of Law 13-10, which modified the penal code and Law 43-05 to combat money laundering and define money laundering activities and terrorist financing activities. The legislation criminalised these activities and put in place a procedure to apply resolutions of the U.N. Security Council in Morocco. As a result, a number of rules and regulations applicable to financial institutions and markets were adopted;
- the introduction of measures by the UTRF to increase its operational efficiency and to share information with other institutions conducting similar investigations; and
- the membership by the UTRF of the Egmont Group of financial intelligence units from July 2011.

In June 2012, GAFI noted the improvement in AML legislation in Morocco. It noted, however, a deficiency in a single area, namely a weakness in the penal code with respect to funding terrorist organisations and persons connected to terrorism. As a result, Moroccan authorities have announced their intention to amend the penal code to address this matter.

# Restructuring of Public Financing Institutions

### Crédit Immobilier et Hôtelier

CIH was created in 1967 as a specialised finance institution for the financing of real estate activities in the tourism sector, before being transformed into a commercial bank in 1986. CIH's financial difficulties following the first Gulf War led to a restructuring plan being put in place by the monetary authorities, CIH and the main shareholders for the period 2000-2006. CIH's financial situation has now stabilised, following the implementation of a number of steps, including a capital increase of Dh 1.85 billion, the provisioning of non-performing loans, the improvement of risk management systems and the introduction of new strategic investors. Until January 2012, Caisse Nationale des Caisses d'Epargne (a French bank) and CDG jointly-controlled CIH through their joint venture company, Massira Capital Management. In January 2012, Caisse Nationale des Caisses d'Epargne sold its 23% equity share in Massira Capital Management to CDG. As at the date of this Prospectus, the Government owns a 71.2% equity share in CIH.

# Banque Nationale pour le Développement Economique (BNDE)

BNDE has played an important role in Morocco's economic development over the past 40 years, but it has experienced financial difficulties in the past. Thus, a restructuring plan was implemented in 2003, partially funded by the Government. This included the sale of its domestic loan portfolio to CDG, the repayment of its external borrowings, the sale of its shareholdings mostly to CDG and the sale of both its local branches and its subsidiary BMAO to *Caisse Nationale de Crédit Agricole*. The Government spent approximately Dh 2 billion over the 2003-2007 period on the restructuring plan of BNDE.

# Crédit Agricole du Maroc

CNCA was created in 1961 as a public entity with the objective of financing the agricultural sector. As a result of variations in climatic conditions, CNCA experienced financial difficulties between 1998 and 2000, which led to a

restructuring plan established by the Government in 2000 pursuant to which CNCA received a Dh 1.2 billion capital injection from the Government and loans of Dh 9 billion owed by customers to CNCA were rescheduled. Following the enactment in 2003 of a law relating to the restructuring of CAM (the new name of the former CNCA), CAM implemented a reform program, including: (i) a restructuring of CAM, including transforming the bank into a *société anonyme* with boards of directors and trustees and restructuring the management of the bank; (ii) the integration of the business of BMAO into CAM; and (iii) the adoption of a contract programme with the Government, "CAP2008", which improved CAM's performance and financial strength. The business of CAM has been refocused on four principal economic sectors, in particular small- and medium-sized agro-businesses and food production. CAM is now in compliance with applicable BAM ratios.

A Dh 1 billion recapitalisation programme for CAM was completed over the 2006-2008 period. In December 2009, CAM stockholders subscribed for Dh 700 million in additional shares of CAM to further improve its financial condition so that it complies with the applicable Cooke ratio. The Government subscribed for Dh 300 million, which resulted in an overall reduction in the percentage shareholding of the Government in CAM.

# **Monetary Policy and Money Supply**

As stated in Law • 76-03, the prime objective of the Kingdom's monetary policy is price stability. Accordingly in 2006, Bank Al-Maghrib established a new strategic and analytical framework, as well as a new forecasting mechanism, to detect inflationary pressures.

During the period 1999-2006, the Kingdom's monetary policy was affected by a surplus of liquidity, however, since 2007, Bank Al-Maghrib has been injecting liquidity into the Moroccan money market, as liquidity in the banking system has declined.

The reserve requirements, which were 16.5% in 2003, has been lowered several times since January 2008 and was reduced to 4% in September 2012. As a result of previous liquidity surpluses and the current monetary policy of Bank Al-Maghrib, combined with general growth in the domestic economy, the money supply has significantly expanded since the beginning of 2007. The money supply during the period 2007-2011 grew by an average annual rate of 8.8% for M1, 8.9% for M2 and 9.8% for M3. In 2011, the money supply grew at 6.8% for M1, 7.2% for M2 and 6.5% for M3.

The following table sets forth information regarding percentage increases in the monetary base and money supply as at 31 December for each year indicated.

Counterparts and Money Supply <sup>(1)</sup>						
•	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	
	(Dh millions)					
Money aggregates						
M1	457,183	488,887	525,390	549,488	586,777	
Currency outside banks	120,045	128,091	136,664	144,660	158,288	
Demand deposit	337,138	360,796	388,726	404,828	428,489	
M1 (% change)	18.7	6.9	7.5	4.6	6.8	
M2	529,604	568,756	612,726	643,513	689,692	
Sight investment	72,421	79,869	87,336	94,026	102,914	
M2 (% change)	17.5	7.4	7.7	5.0	7.2	
M3	705,944	800,381	857,019	898,339	956,662	
Time investment	120,785	147,556	143,226	148,157	147,825	
M3 (% change)	17.5	13.4	7.1	4.8	6.5	
Net foreign assets	208,069	197,099	192,714	192,491	168,433	
Net claims on central government	94,800	92,377	83,759	85,748	106,856	
Claims on other sectors	462,038	581,271	648,383	718,323	792,653	
Counterpart of deposits with the Treasury	29,922	37,378	48,529	49,128	45,109	
Resources of a non-monetary nature	86,208	114,154	124,400	132,504	146,006	
Other items (net)	19,774	13,074	13,215	14,847	10,383	

Note:

Sources: Bank Al-Maghrib and Ministry of Economy and Finance.

<sup>(1)</sup> Certain line items and figures differ from those previously published as a result of the implementation of the IMF 2000 Monetary and Financial Statistics Mannual, as well as ongoing revisions.

The money supply continued to grow in the first six months of 2012, with M1 increasing by 5.2%, as compared to the corresponding period in 2011, to Dh 589.5 billion, M2 by 5.8% to Dh 696.1 billion and M3 by 5.6% to Dh 965.5 billion.

The following table sets forth key money market rates as at 31 December for each year indicated.

Money I	Market	Rates(	1)
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171010	y Market Kat	CS				
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	
_		(% per annum)				
Time accounts and fixed-term bills						
6-month deposits	3.48	3.96	3.32	3.37	3.36	
12-month deposits	3.76	4.34	3.66	3.85	3.89	
Saving book accounts	2.41	3.10	3.11	3.11	2.96	
Saving books (National Savings Fund)	1.20	1.90	1.90	1.80	1.85	
Lending rate <sup>(2)</sup>	6.02	6.19	6.56	6.11	6.65	
Interbank Rate	3.50	3.56	3.35	3.28	3.35	
Bank Al-Maghrib						
7-day advances	3.25	3.50	3.25	3.25	3.25	
24-hour advances	4.25	4.50	4.25	4.25	4.25	
Liquidity withdrawals	2.75	2.75	2.75	2.75	2.75	
24 hour deposit facility	2.25	2.50	2.25	2.25	2.25	

Notes:

Sources: Bank Al-Maghrib.

Bank Al-Maghrib reduced its principal rates by 0.25% in March 2009 in the absence of inflationary pressure to stimulate economic growth in the context of the global financial crisis. In March 2012, the Bank reduced such rates by a further 0.25%, to a headline rate of 3.00%.

# Inflation

Although the Kingdom experienced significant periods of high inflation in the 1970s, prevailing inflation rates have declined throughout the 1980s and 1990s. The Kingdom's monetary policy over recent years, among other factors, has had the effect of limiting inflation to under 2.0%. The annual inflation rate decreased from an average of 3.4% for the period 1993-1999 to an average of 1.8% for the period 2000-2006, and an average of 1.8% for the period 2007-2011.

In 2011, the Consumer Price Index remained unchanged from 2010 at 0.9%. Although the rate remained the same, core inflation was higher in 2011, but was offset by a decrease in foodstuff prices (the first for four years).

The following sets forth trends in prices for the years indicated.

	$\mathbf{Prices}^{(1)}$					
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	
-	(% rate of increase)					
CPI <sup>(2)</sup>	2.5	3.7	1.0	0.9	0.9	
Core inflation	1.9	4.5	0.7	0.4	1.8	
Production Price Index						
Extractive industries	11.0	10.2	14.7	0.9	1.5	
Manufacturing industries	1.8	18.2	(15.2)	6.4	14.8	
Electricity, gas and water	2.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	

Notes:

Source: Bank Al-Maghrib and the Government Statistics Directorate.

<sup>(1)</sup> Excluding treasury bonds issued by auction.

<sup>(2)</sup> Weighted averages of effective lending rates.

<sup>(1)</sup> Certain line items and figures differ from those previously published as a result of on-going revisions

<sup>(2)</sup> Period average to period average. Index based upon prices of 478 items in 17 urban areas.

Inflation, as measured by the CPI, increased by 1.38% in June 2012, as compared to June 2011. Inflation increased by 0.55% during the six months ended 30 June 2012.

#### **Price Controls**

Despite liberalisation in 2001, a number of products remain subject to price controls in the Kingdom. Law • 06-99 created two categories of products subject to price controls: (i) essential items, such as flour, medical products and services, mass transit and certain educational products; and (ii) items produced by monopolies, such as electricity and energy, water, sugar and tobacco. Prices for these items are fixed by the Head of Government. Products subject to price controls also benefit from Government compensation (*i.e.*, subsidies). See "Public Finance".

## **Exchange Rates and Liberalisation of Exchange Regulations**

Until 1973, the Dirham was pegged to the French Franc. In 1973, the exchange rate became based on a basket of foreign currencies of Morocco's principal trading partners. In 1990, the basket was further modified to give greater weight to European currencies, which in 1999 were replaced by the Euro. On 25 April 2001, a decision was adopted by the Government and Bank Al-Maghrib to increase the Euro weighting in the currency basket against which Bank Al-Maghrib sets daily rates for the Dirham, with a view to securing a better correlation between the Dirham and the Euro. This readjustment led to a depreciation of 5% of the Dirham. The adjustment aims at ensuring that the Dirham becomes less sensitive to the fluctuations of the Euro relative to the Dollar. Since 2001, the composition of the basket has been 80% Euros and 20% Dollars.

Prior to 1996, all foreign exchange transactions had to be centralised and settled on a daily basis with Bank Al-Maghrib. In 1996, Bank Al-Maghrib announced a new central rate set daily for the Dirham against the basket of foreign currencies. Banks were allowed to quote buy-and-sell rates for the Moroccan Dirham within the limits of a band of plus or minus 0.3% of the central rate. Moroccan banks were permitted to take forward positions for operations linked to trade finance (up to 90 days) or bona fide external finance (not exceeding one year, extended to five years in 2007). Since March 2002, banks have been authorised to extend the period during which they are authorised to provide foreign exchange cover for their trade customers from three months to one year. Since 1999, banks have been subject to global foreign exchange position limits of 20% of capital for all currency and 10% of capital in any single currency.

Since 1992, Morocco has been liberalising the transfer of capital and the transfer of income from foreign investments (direct investment, portfolios, treasury bonds), which may currently be transferred without restriction, subject to the fulfilment of certain conditions. In June 1993, in order to encourage the private sector to directly access the international money markets to finance commercial and investment transactions, Morocco liberalised foreign borrowings. In November 1993 exporters of goods and services and Moroccan residents abroad were authorised to open foreign currency accounts with Moroccan banks. Since July 1995, export accounts can be credited with up to 20% of repatriated currency. In January 1997 Morocco authorised banks to trade spot transactions with foreign banks. Since May 2002, banks have been authorised to place deposits in foreign currency with correspondent banks outside Morocco and to acquire foreign securities.

In 2007, the Government adopted a series of reforms designed to further liberalise the foreign exchange market. These measures included permitting insurance and reinsurance companies and pension institutions to make investments abroad within limits of 5% of their assets and 5% of their reserves, and mutual funds within a limit of 10% of their portfolios without prior authorisation. Since 2010, Moroccan companies that have been in existence for at least three years are allowed to invest up to Dh 100 million in Africa and up to Dh 50 millions elsewhere without prior authorisation and to enter into a broadened range of hedging instruments and currency swap contracts. In addition, the maximum permitted duration of banks' investments made in foreign currencies with foreign counterparts has been increased from two to five years and, since 2010, export accounts may be credited up to 70% in repatriated currency.

#### **Foreign Assets**

The following table sets forth Bank Al-Maghrib's net foreign assets as at 31 December for each year indicated.

<b>T</b> . T		_				
N	et	Hin	rei	on	Ac	sets

The state of the s	t Ful eigh Assi	cis							
	As at 31 December								
_	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011				
_		(1	U.S.\$ millions)						
Gold	592.6	612.8	782.8	999.5	1,115.9				
Special Drawing Rights	31.9	19.3	763.3	742.6	616.3				
Convertible Currencies	23,979.8	22,023.2	21,922.3	21,762.0	18,801.6				
Other	184.2	179.8	184.3	147.5	147.1				
Gross Foreign Assets	24,788.5	22,835.1	23,652.7	23,651.6	20,681.0				
Liabilities	396.3	396.4	1,210.9	1,194.5	1,241.5				
Net Foreign Assets	24,392.1	22,438.6	22,441.8	22,457.1	19,439.5				

Source: Bank Al-Maghrib.

As at 30 June 2012, net foreign assets were U.S.\$15,882.9 million, representing a decline of 18.3%, as compared to 31 December 2011. As at 31 October 2012, net foreign assets were U.S.\$15,568 million.

Bank Al-Maghrib's foreign reserves are not subject to any security interest or other encumbrances.

#### **Capital Markets**

Although the Casablanca Stock Exchange was legally established in 1967, rapid growth in market capitalisation and trading volumes on the CSE only began in 1993 after the privatisation programme commenced and new laws were passed to restructure the regulatory framework of Morocco's capital markets.

The Stock Exchange Law of 21 September 1993 transformed the CSE from a government-run entity into a private entity, owned by its registered brokerage firms. It requires brokerage firms to be independent. It also requires brokerage firms to be certified by the Ministry of Economy and Finance, after consultation with the CDVM, the regulator, and to maintain minimum capital levels. This law was amended in 1996, 2000, 2004 and 2007, extending the range of financial instruments traded on the CSE to mortgage-backed securities and venture capital securities, and facilitating cross listing of domestic companies. The CDVM was established to regulate the securities market and the disclosure of information by entities listed on the CSE. Three laws enacted in 2004, 2006 and 2007 extended the CDVM's regulatory authority to all market participants, including the CSE and the central depositary (Maroclear) and provided the CDVM with free access to any confidential information to implement its supervisory mission.

Pursuant to the draft Law • 43-12, adopted by the Moroccan government in April 2012, the CDVM will be transformed into the Moroccan Capital Markets Authority (*l'Autorité Marocaine du Marché des Capitaux* or the "AMMC"). Although the primary functions of the CDVM will remain the same, the draft law increases the accountability of the AMMC and expands the role of the institution, which will be responsible for Morocco's capital markets. The AMMC will be monitored by a government auditor and the Ministry of Economy and Finance will approve the AMMC's circulars. The AMMC will also be controlled by the Government Accounting Authority and must provide annual reporting on its activities and the capital markets to the Head of Government. The draft law establishing the AMMC is expected to enter into force in April 2013.

In March 1997, the CSE introduced electronic quotation. Currently, all shares are traded electronically. In 2002, the CSE also introduced a separate listing for small cap companies.

In July 1997, Law • 35-96 (as amended by Law • 43-02 of 21 April 2004) established Maroclear, the Moroccan central depository of securities, which enabled the dematerialisation of securities and introduced a book-entry transfer system.

In order to support the further development of the capital markets in Morocco, the Government is continuing to strengthen the legal framework of the Moroccan capital markets in order to enforce transparency standards and promote further market integration. In this respect, the Government has taken steps to: (i) increase the independence of the

CDVM; (ii) introduce an organised derivatives market; (iii) encourage the development of new financial instruments; (iv) and strengthen the governance of the CSE, including through permitting new shareholders to invest in the capital of the CSE. In addition, a private and public sector partnership strategy to promote the Moroccan capital market is being implemented.

The CSE's market capitalisation as of 31 December 2011 was Dh 516.2 billion, as compared to Dh 579.0 billion as at 31 December 2010. In 2008, the following companies conducted initial public offerings: Alliances, CMT, Delattre Levivier Maroc, Delta Holding and Label Vie. In 2010, the following companies conducted initial public offerings: Ennakl Automobiles, a Tunisian distributor and dealer of cars (Volkswagen, Audi, Seat and Porsche), and CNIA SAADA Assurance, an insurance firm. In 2011, the following companies conducted initial public offerings: STROC Industrie, an industrial maintenance company; Jet Alu Maroc SA, a construction firm; and Société Maghrébine de Monétique (S2M), a company specialising in computer software and services. As of 30 June 2012, one company had completed an IPO in 2012: Afric Industries SA, a construction materials specialist.

The following table sets forth certain stock exchange indicators as at 31 December for each year indicated.

Stock	Exchange	<b>Indicators</b>
DIUCK	Lachange	muicators

Stock	Market	Value of		
	Capitalisation Transactions		Inde	ex
	(Dh bil	llions)	MASI <sup>(1)</sup>	(% change from previous year)
2007	586.3	179.9	12,695.0	34.0
2008	531.8	122.2	10,984.3	(13.5)
2009	508.9	72.5	10,443.8	(4.9)
2010	579.0	119.9	12,665.2	21.3
2011	516.2	103.4	11,027.7	(12.9)

Note:

Source: Casablanca Stock Exchange.

As at 30 June 2012, the level of the MASI index was 10,053.9, a decrease of 8.8% as compared to the level of the MASI index as at 31 December 2011.

In 1994, the preferential fiscal treatment of treasury bonds was eliminated, the maturity structure of treasury bonds simplified and tap issues were introduced to enhance market liquidity. Since 1995, the treasury has also broadened its investor base to include non-residents. The Government also introduced intermediaries (primary dealers) for treasury bond auctions to improve market liquidity.

The Government has also taken measures to broaden the private sector's access to capital in other ways. In 1996, a new law on negotiable debt instruments authorised banks, finance companies, and companies to issue fixed-rate bonds. By the end of 2011, there were approximately Dh 77.6 billion in outstanding principal amount of negotiable debt instruments consisting principally of certificates of deposit and instruments issued by finance companies, as compared to Dh 60.6 billion as at 31 December 2010. The 2011 figure represents 9.7% of GDP, as compared to 7.9% in 2010. The growth of collective investment funds is also playing an important role in mobilising savings.

In addition, in recent years, the Government has undertaken reforms in respect of its capital markets activities, including the following measures: authorising the Treasury to actively manage domestic debt through buybacks and exchanges; conducting Treasury bill auctions electronically; and establishing benchmarks and increase liquidity in the secondary market. A strategy, to be implemented under a public and private sector partnership, has also been established in order to promote the Moroccan capital markets.

# Mutual Funds

In 2011, total mutual funds' net assets were Dh 229.48 billion, an increase of 2.1%, as compared to Dh 224.85 billion in 2010.

The Mutual Funds Law of 21 September 1993, as amended, provides the regulatory framework and prudential rules for mutual funds, or *Organismes de Placement Collectif en Valeurs Mobilières* ("**OPCVM**"). Together, these laws seek to improve the level of transparency in the market place and foster investor confidence.

<sup>(1)</sup> The Moroccan All Shares Index (base 1000: December 2001).

Subsequent reforms have been implemented in the period from 2004 to 2006: a law on public offerings has been enacted establishing a legal framework for takeovers; and a law on repurchase agreements regulating repo operations and a law on venture capital have been enacted.

Moreover, a new law on securitisation was adopted in 2008, extending the scope of securitisation to other assets and submitting the asset backed funds to the control of the CDVM. This was amended in 2010 by Decree • 2-08-530, which provides, *inter alia*, that mutual funds licenses are granted by the Minister of Economy and Finance upon the recommendation of the CDVM.

The following table sets forth the change in net assets of OPCVMs by category as at 31 December for each year indicated.

**Change in Net Assets of OPCVMs by Category** 

		Change	III INCL ASS	sets of Ot	C V IVIS DY	Category				
	200	2007 2008		08	2009		2010		2011	
		Net		Net		Net		Net		Net
	Number	assets	Number	assets	Number	Assets	Number	assets	Number	assets
					(Dh bii	llions)				
Category										
OPCVM (Shares)	60	14.37	66	16.47	76	20.59	76	25.64	79	22.19
OPCVM (Bonds)	138	107.73	150	136.53	166	156.29	184	185.58	193	196.38
OPCVM (Diversified)	40	9.94	42	7.66	49	7.06	55	9.39	56	9.40
OPCVM (Contractual)	_	_	2	0.24	3	0.42	5	2.12	5	1.50
Total	238	132.04	260	160.90	294	184.36	320	222.73	333	229.47

Source: Ministry of Economy and Finance.

Net assets of OPCVMs as at 30 June 2012 were Dh 238.83 billion.

# **PUBLIC FINANCE**

#### General

The budget preparation and adoption processes are governed by relevant provisions of the 2011 Constitution, the *loi organique de finances of 26 November 1998* (the "**Finance Law**"), the annual budget laws and various implementing decrees. The Finance Law, an organic law, is currently being revised in order to bring the law in line with best international practice and the reforms introduced in the 2011 Constitution pursuant to general guidelines set out by the Council of Ministers. The aims of these guidelines are to improve the efficiency and co-operation of public bodies, as well as to improve administrative services provided to citizens by submitting public spending to a results-based test.

The budget consists of the general budget, the Treasury special accounts and autonomous state services (*Services de l'Etat Gérés de Manière Autonome*). The general budget consists of revenues and expenditures of the central Government. The accounts of state-owned entities, although recounted in the budget documentation, are not included in the budget. However, the general budget reflects capital transfers to and distributions received from state-owned institutions. The Hassan II Fund was consolidated with national accounts from the date of its establishment in 1999 until the end of 2001. During this initial period, the fund was in the form of a special account maintained by the Treasury. In 2002, the fund was granted a status equivalent to that of a public enterprise. In anticipation of the change of status, the Treasury transferred Dh 10 billion to the fund's account at Bank Al-Maghrib. This was recorded as capital expenditures in 2001. Privatisation proceeds in respect of all periods include proceeds to be allocated to the fund. Since 2002, privatisation proceeds transferred to the fund are no longer recorded as "capital expenditures". The Hassan II Fund receives 50% of the proceeds from privatisation; the remaining 50%, as of 2011, is allocated the National Investment Support Fund. Both funds act autonomously in policy-making over their capital expenditure.

In 2001, the budget year was changed to a calendar year with a transitional budget for the period from July 2000 to December 2000. Budget preparation takes about eight months. Typically, before 1 May, the Minister of Economy and Finance submits to the Council of Government a report regarding the implementation of the budget for the current year and a summary of the proposed budget for the following fiscal year. Ministers are invited to submit proposals for revenues and expenditures of their ministries for the following fiscal year to the Minister of Economy and Finance, as well as proposals of provisions to be inserted in the draft budget. Following transmission of the proposed budget to the Council of Government, during the month of July, meetings of the Budgetary Commission of Parliament and other commissions involved are scheduled and preliminary discussions of the provisions of the draft budget take place. At least 70 days before the end of the year, the Council of Government submits the draft budget law to Parliament. Parliament may amend the Budget. On or before 31 December, Parliament generally adopts the new budget. In the event that Parliament does not adopt the new budget before 31 December, authorising decrees are issued by the Head of Government to ensure that public services are provided, and Government expenditures and Government receipts are made, in accordance with constitutional provisions. As a result of the adoption of the 2011 Constitution and the elections held in November 2011, the budget for the 2012 fiscal year (the "2012 Budget") was not ratified by Parliament until May 2012. Accordingly, pursuant to Article 75 of the 2011 Constitution, the Head of Government issued decrees permitting Government expenditure and receipts prior to the approval of the 2012 Budget in order to maintain the continuity of public services and the function of the Government.

During the period 1995 to 2006, the fiscal deficit was fully financed domestically, and amortisation payments on the Government's external debt exceeded new borrowings and grants, resulting in a net reduction of external debt. Since 2007, external debt has increased in line with the Government's objective to re-profile its debt portfolio between external and domestic debt. See "Public Debt".

In 2007, the Ministry of Economy and Finance began publishing its website in English, in addition to French and Arabic, in order to allow a broader base of international investors to access data and policy information online.

# **Public Accounts**

The following table sets forth the consolidated revenues and expenditures of the Government for the years indicated and the 2012 Budget.

			Public Ac	counts <sup>(1)</sup>		
<del>-</del>	2007	2008	2009	2010	<b>2011</b> <sup>(2)</sup>	<b>2012</b> <sup>(3)</sup>
_		(Dh	millions, exce	pt as indicate	d)	
I. CURRENT REVENUES	156,788	186,300	172,596	174,145	191,297	193,462
Tax Revenues <sup>(4)</sup>	135,204	167,276	150,853	154,005	162,799	170,701
Direct Taxes	60,308	81,827	71,734	65,004	69,782	73,414
Indirect Taxes	52,151	61,568	58,185	66,767	72,160	75,624
Custom Duties	13,415	13,706	11,830	12,242	10,286	9,913
Registration Fees and Stamp Duties	9,331	10,175	9,104	9,992	10,571	11,750
Non-Tax Revenues	18,400	16,269	18,125	16,250	25,282	19,561
State Monopolies	7,758	7,782	10,588	8,883	10,483	11,380
Miscellaneous	7,589	8,485	7,538	7,332	9,480	4,981
Privatisation Proceeds <sup>(5)</sup>	3,053	2	0	35	5,319	3,200
Receipts from Special Treasury Accounts	3,184	2,755	3,618	3,890	3,216	3,200
II. TOTAL EXPENDITURES	153,864	183,230	188,496	209,909	241,399	237,077
Current Expenditures	134,990	157,036	152,733	162,020	193,529	194,085
Administrative Expenditures	99,379	107,355	122,131	117,251	126,465	141,315
Wages and Salaries	65,665	70,315	75,527	78,768	88,562	93,508
Other Goods and Services <sup>(6)</sup>	33,714	37,040	46,604	38,483	37,903	47,807
Interest on Public Debt	19,261	18,231	17,326	17,574	18,234	20,244
Domestic	16,552	15,389	14,463	15,245	15,198	17,356
External	2,709	2,842	2,863	2,329	3,036	2,888
Subsidies	16,350	31,450	13,276	27,195	48,830	32,525
Transfers to Local Communities	14,919	18,375	16,523	19,558	21,557	22,910
CURRENT ACCOUNT BALANCE	21,798	29,264	19,863	12,125	(2,232)	(623)
Capital Expenditures	28,212	37,740	46,219	47,031	49,918	45,992
Special Treasury Accounts Balance	9,338	11,546	10,456	(858)	2,048	3,000
BUDGET BALANCE	2,924	3,070	(15,900)	(35,764)	(50,102)	(43,615)
III. CHANGE IN ARREARS	2,053	(1,992)	(2,075)	6,886	9,851	(17,000)
FINANCING REQUIREMENT (I, II + III)	4,977	1,078	(17,975)	(28,878)	(40,251)	(60,615)
Domestic Financing	(8,574)	(12,160)	5,153	13,041	33,188	47,267
Foreign Financing	3,597	11,082	12,822	15,837	7,063	13,348
Drawing	14,947	20,551	17,776	21,533	13,738	21,200
Amortisation	(11,350)	(9,469)	(4,954)	(5,696)	(6,675)	(7,852)
GDP <sup>(7)</sup>	616,254	688,843	732,449	764,031	802,607	870,490
Budget Balance as a percentage of GDP (including privatisation proceeds)	(0.5)	0.4	(2.2)	(4.7)	(6.2)	(5.0)
Budget Balance as a percentage of GDP (excluding privatisation proceeds)	0.0	0.4	(2.2)	(4.7)	(6.9)	(5.4)

# Notes:

Source: Ministry of Economy and Finance.

<sup>(1)</sup> Certain line items and figures differ from those previously published as a result of on-going revisions.
(2) Preliminary data.
(3) Budgeted.

<sup>(4)</sup> 

Excluding transfers to local communities.

Not including proceeds allocated to the Hassan II Fund. (5)

<sup>(6)</sup> Including pension contributions.

<sup>(7)</sup> The GDP figure for 2012 is an assumption in the 2012 Budget Law.

#### **Results for 2011**

The budget deficit was approximately Dh 55.8 billion, or 6.9% of GDP in 2011, as compared to a deficit of Dh 35.8 billion, or 4.7% of GDP, in 2010. The deficit in 2011 was primarily due to a 19.4% increase in current expenditures, including a 12.4% increase in wages and salaries, as a result of an increase in public sector salaries and wages in 2011, and a 79.6% increase in subsidy costs.

Total revenues were Dh 191.3 billion in 2011, as compared to Dh 174.4 billion in 2010, an increase of Dh 17.2 billion or 9.8%. This increase was primarily due to an increase of Dh 8.8 billion, or 5.7%, in tax revenues and an increase of Dh 9.0 billion, or 55.6%, in non-tax revenues.

Direct tax revenues were Dh 69.8 billion in 2011, as compared to Dh 65.0 billion in 2010, an increase of Dh 4.8 billion, or 7.4%. The increase in direct tax revenues in 2011 was primarily due to: (i) a Dh 0.6 billion, or 2.2%, increase in income tax receipts, partially as a result of the effects of the lower income tax rates and brackets introduced by the 2009 and 2010 budgets; and (ii) a Dh 5.1 billion, or 14.6%, increase in corporate tax receipts, primarily as a result of non-agricultural sector growth and the corresponding increase in corporate earnings from this sector in 2011.

Indirect tax revenues were Dh 93.7 billion in 2011, as compared to Dh 86.3 billion in 2010, an increase of Dh 7.4 billion, or 8.6%. The increase in indirect tax revenues in 2011 was primarily due to increased imports, which contributed to an overall Dh 4.7 billion, or 10.2%, increase in VAT receipts and a Dh 7 million, or 3.4%, increase in domestic consumer taxes in 2011. This increase was partially offset by a Dh 2.0 billion, or 16.0%, decrease in customs duties in 2011. In addition, registration and stamp fees increased by Dh 0.6 billion, or 7.1%, in 2011.

Non-tax revenues were Dh 25.3 billion in 2011, as compared to Dh 16.3 billion in 2010, an increase of Dh 9.0 billion, or 55.6%. The increase in non-tax revenues in 2011 was primarily due to: (i) an Dh 1.6 billion, or 18.0%, increase in receipts from state-owned companies, including receipts of Dh 3 billion from OCP, Dh 2.6 billion from Maroc Telecom and Dh 1.2 billion from *Bank Al-Maghrib*; and (ii) a Dh 2.1 billion, or 29.3%, increase in other receipts, including proceeds from the privatisation of certain state-owned companies. Privatisation proceeds were Dh 5.3 billion in 2011, as compared to Dh 0.04 billion in 2010, an increase of Dh 5.3 billion. This increase was primarily due to receipts received from the sale of 20% of the share capital of BCP and the privatisation of SSM.

Total expenditures were Dh 241.4 billion in 2011, as compared to Dh 209.9 billion in 2010, an increase of Dh 31.5 billion, or 15.0%. The increase was primarily due to: (i) a Dh 21.6 billion, or 79.6%, increase in subsidy costs as a result of increased global energy and commodity prices; (ii) a Dh 9.8 billion, or 12.4%, increase in wages and salaries as a result of an increase in public sector salaries and wages with effect from May 2011; and (iii) a Dh 2.9 billion, or 6.1%, increase in capital expenditures, which included Dh 2 billion due to the Hassan II Fund in 2011.

#### Subsidies

The Government provides subsidies for certain food and energy products. Over the past several years as energy and commodity prices have been volatile, the Government's expenses with regard to such subsidies have fluctuated.

The following table sets forth information on subsidies for the years indicated.

Subsidies			
	2009	2010	2011
_		(Dh millions)	
Food Subsidies			
Flour	2,250	2,000	3,391
Sugar	2,580	2,635	4,379
Edible oils	32	23	0
Others	60	62	60
Energy Subsidies			
Petrol and gasoil	3,220	14,325	29,400
Butane	5,134	8,150	11,600
Total <sup>(1)</sup>	13,276	27,195	48,830

#### Note:

Source: Ministry of Economy and Finance.

In 2011, despite an increase in international commodity prices, the Government maintained unchanged the prices for certain food products and fuel. As a result of this policy, the Government was required to increase spending on both food and fuel subsidies and total subsidies were Dh 48,830 in 2011, as compared to Dh 27,195 in 2010, representing an increase of Dh 21,635 million, or 79.6%. This increase was primarily due to increased petrol and (gasoil) diesel subsidies. See "Risk Factors—Risks Relating to the Kingdom—Subsidies".

# Subsidy Reform

In order to reduce subsidy costs, on 2 June 2012, at a time when world prices were generally declining, the Government raised the prices of diesel fuel by Dh 1 per litre, gasoline by Dh 2 per litre and industrial fuels by Dh 988 per tonne. Implementation of this measure led to a 21% reduction in the costs of the subsidy per litre for diesel fuel, a 55% reduction per litre of gasoline and a 65% reduction per tonne of industrial fuels. It is also expected to reduce the cost of subsidies by Dh 5.7 billion, or 0.65% of GDP, for the remainder of 2012 (1% on an annualised basis). The Government is considering further measures to reduce subsidy costs, which may be introduced in the future, including the partial indexation of industrial fuel and reductions in subsidies for other large users. In addition, the Government is considering measures to better target subsidies, which disproportionately benefit wealthier portions of society. A Social Cohesion Fund has also been established to raise new taxes to help finance the subsidy reform.

# The 2012 Budget

The 2012 Budget was adopted by Parliament on 16 May 2012 and the main revenue and expenditure items are summarised above. See "—Public Accounts".

The 2012 Budget has been prepared on the basis of estimated results for fiscal year 2011 and the following assumptions: (i) Real GDP growth of 4.2%; (ii) an annual rate of inflation not exceeding 2.5%; and (iii) international oil prices of U.S.\$100 per barrel.

Total current revenues are budgeted at Dh 231.2 billion, an increase of 2.9% from actual revenues in 2011. Privatisation proceeds were budgeted at Dh 3.2 billion, a decrease of 39.8% from the actual proceeds in 2011. Current expenditures were budgeted to increase by 0.9% from 2011 to Dh 217 billion. The overall deficit of the 2012 Budget was estimated at Dh 43.6 billion, or 5.0% of estimated GDP.

The principal aims of the 2012 Budget are: (i) the consolidation of the state institutions and the reinforcement of the principles and mechanisms of good governance; (ii) the consolidation of the basis for strong growth and the reestablishment of balanced macroeconomic factors; and (iii) the guarantee of equal access to services and equipment to

<sup>(1)</sup> Total subsidies differ from the "Subsidies" line item in the Government's results of operations and budget for 2012 as a result of certain subsidy payments made by special funds and are not reflected in the budget.

all citizens respecting the principles of equal opportunities and solidarity. As part of this strategy, the 2012 Budget seeks to create an additional 26,204 public sector jobs.

#### Actual Results for the Nine Months Ended 30 September 2012

	For the nine months end	ed 30 September
	2011	2012
	(Dh million	ns)
I. CURRENT REVENUES	146,439	152,123
Tax Revenues <sup>(1)</sup>	124,751	131,564
Direct Taxes	54,067	59,187
Indirect Taxes	54,747	56,567
Custom Duties	7.677	6,966
Registration Fees and Stamp Duties	8,260	8,844
Non-Tax Revenues	19,736	18,551
State Monopolies	9,089	10,637
Miscellaneous	5,328	4,622
Privatisation Proceeds <sup>(2)</sup>	5,319	3,292
Receipts from Special Treasury Accounts	1,952	2,008
II. TOTAL EXPENDITURES	170,467	185,637
Current Expenditures	140,205	156,113
Administrative Expenditures	89,382	100,611
Wages and Salaries	64,197	72,419
Other Goods and Services <sup>(3)</sup>	25,185	28,192
Interest on Public Debt	13,573	14,502
Domestic	11,431	12,212
External	2,142	2,290
Subsidies	37,250	41,000
CURRENT ACCOUNT BALANCE	6,234	(3,990)
Capital Expenditures	30,262	29,524
Special Treasury Accounts Balance	3,998	4,414
BUDGET BALANCE	(20,030)	(29,100)
III. CHANGE IN ARREARS	4,424	(10,482)
FINANCING REQUIREMENT (I, II + III)	(15,606)	(39,582)
Domestic Financing	11,722	40,004
Foreign Financing	3,884	(423)
Drawing	8,792	5,610
Amortisation	(4,908)	(6,032)
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Notes:

- (1) Excluding transfers to local communities.
- (2) Not including proceeds allocated to the Hassan II Fund.
- (3) Including pension contributions.

Source: Ministry of Economy and Finance.

Total revenues for the nine months ended 30 September 2012 were Dh 152.1 billion, as compared to Dh 146.4 billion for the corresponding period in 2011, an increase of Dh 5.7 billion, or 3.9%. This increase was primarily due to a 5.5% increase in tax revenues, which was partially offset by a 6.0% decrease in non-tax revenues.

Tax revenues for the nine months ended 30 September 2012 were Dh 131.6 billion, as compared to Dh 124.8 billion for the corresponding period in 2011, an increase of Dh 6.8 billion, or 5.5%. Direct tax revenues were Dh 59.2 billion for the nine months ended 30 September 2012, as compared to Dh 54.1 million for the corresponding period in 2011, an increase of Dh 5.1 million, or 5.5%. The increase in direct tax revenues for the nine months ended 30 September 2012 was primarily due to a Dh 3.4 billion, or 17.1%, increase in income tax receipts and a Dh 1.8 billion, or 5.6%, increase

in corporate tax receipts as a result of the improved economic climate in Morocco. Indirect tax revenues for the nine months ended 30 September 2012 were Dh 56.6 billion, as compared to Dh 54.7 billion for the corresponding period in 2011, an increase of Dh 1.8 billion, or 3.3%. The increase in indirect taxes for the nine months ended 30 September 2012 was primarily due to a Dh 1.8 billion, or 3.3%, increase in VAT receipts, principally as a result of increased VAT receipts from imports. These increases were partially offset by a Dh 0.7 billion, or 9.3%, decrease in customs duties for the nine months ended 30 September 2012. In addition, registration and stamp fees increased by Dh 0.6 billion, or 7.1%, for the nine months ended 30 September 2012, as compared to the corresponding period in 2011.

Non-tax revenues for the nine months ended 30 September 2012 were Dh 18.6 billion, as compared to Dh 19.7 billion for the corresponding period in 2011, a decrease of Dh 1.2 billion, or 6.0%. The decrease in non-tax revenues for the nine months ended 30 September 2012 was primarily due to a Dh 2.0 billion, or 38.1%, decrease in privatisation proceeds.

Total expenditures for the nine months ended 30 September 2012 were Dh 185.6 billion, as compared to Dh 170.5 billion for the corresponding period in 2011, an increase of Dh 15.2 billion, or 8.9%. Current expenditures for the nine months ended 30 September 2012 were Dh 156.1 billion, as compared to Dh 140.2 billion for the corresponding period in 2011, an increase of Dh 15.9 billion, or 11.3%. The increase was primarily due to: (i) a Dh 3.8 billion, or 10.1%, increase in subsidy costs as a result of increased global energy and commodity prices; and (ii) a Dh 8.2 billion, or 11.8%, increase in wages and salaries as a result of an increase in public sector salaries and wages with effect from May 2011. This increase was partially offset by a Dh 0.7 billion, or 2.4%, decrease in capital expenditures.

As a result of the foregoing, the budget deficit for the nine months ended 30 September 2012 was approximately Dh 29.1 billion, as compared to a deficit of Dh 20.0 billion in 2011, an increase of Dh 9.1 billion, or 45.5%. For the period, revenues and expenditures were broadly consistent with the 2012 Budget, except for the amount of subsidies provided. See "Risk Factors—Risks relating to the Kingdom—Subsidies and Government Budget Deficit".

#### The 2013 Budget

The draft 2013 budget was submitted by the Council of Government to Parliament on 20 October 2012.

The current draft 2013 budget has been prepared based on the following assumptions: (i) real GDP growth of 4.5%; (ii) inflation will be 2.2% for the year; (iii) further reforms to the subsidies system will be enacted; (iv) commodities, including oil, will remain at elevated prices; and (v) there will be an average harvest.

The principal aims of the 2013 Budget are: (i) the improvement of the competitiveness of the national economy and the support of productive investment, creation of wealth and employment; (ii) the reduction of social disparities through the implementation of continued improvements to the Kingdom's educational system (to ensure equal access to education), the reduction of illiteracy, poverty and insecurity, the facilitation of access to basic health services and housing and the improvement of living conditions, especially in rural and remote areas; and (iii) the implementation of structural reforms and measures to improve governance, while ensuring sustainability of the Kingdom's debt and reducing the deficit to 4.8% of GDP. See "Public Debt".

# **Taxation**

The major sources of revenue are direct and indirect taxes and custom duties. The most significant direct taxes are corporate income tax and income tax. The corporate income tax rate is 30% (reduced from 35% in 2008) on income of companies and public enterprises, other than companies in the financial sector for whom the corporate income tax is 37%. The income tax is payable by individuals on their income and capital gains. The income tax has six brackets with a minimum rate of 0% for Moroccans earning less than Dh 30,000 per year and a maximum rate of 38% (reduced from 42% in 2007 and 40% in 2009) for those earning more than Dh 180,000.

Indirect taxes include VAT and domestic taxes on consumption. VAT is applicable to all industrial, commercial and trade activities, services and imports subject to certain exemption. There are four VAT rates with a standard rate of 20% and reduced rates of 7%, 10% and 14% applicable to certain professional activities, electricity and water consumption, pharmaceutical products, banking and currency transactions, brokerage services and dealings with shares in mutual funds. Consumption taxes are collected on petroleum and tobacco products. Other sources of tax revenues include registration fees, stamp duties and vehicle licence tax. The Government remains committed to reforming VAT rates, including, *inter alia*, reducing the number of VAT rates to one or two.

Custom duties include import duties. The Government has simplified customs procedures in recent years to reduce costs, including the cost of compliance, remove out-dated tariffs, combat false declarations and improve efficiency and

transparency. In addition, the Government is undertaking a reform of its tariff rates by 2012 and, in February 2012, signed a new free trade agreement with the European Union to lower tariffs on agriculture and fish products. The tax burden on imports decreased from 9.4% in 2002 to 2.5% in 2012 as a result of a reduction in custom duties and the entry into of number of free trade agreements with the European Union, the Free Trade European Association, Egypt, Tunisia and other countries. As at the date of this Prospectus, the Kingdom has entered into 53 double taxation agreements.

# **PUBLIC DEBT**

#### General

Public debt in Morocco is comprised of the Consolidated General Government debt and the external debt of stateowned enterprises. Consolidated General Government debt is comprised of the domestic and external debt of the Central Government, debt of certain administrative public establishments and debt of local authorities. Central Government debt held by social security funds is not included. External public debt is comprised of the external debt of the central Government and the external debt of state-owned enterprises.

As at 31 December 2011, Morocco's total public debt was Dh 403.5 billion, representing 50.3% of GDP, and total Central Government Debt was Dh 430.9 billion (consisting of domestic debt amounting to Dh 331.3 billion (or 77% of the total) and external debt amounting to Dh 99.6 billion (or 23% of the total)), representing 53.7% of GDP. The average life of Central Government debt has decreased from six years and seven months in 2007 to five years and six months in 2011. In the first six months of 2012, central Government domestic debt increased by Dh 28.6 billion, primarily to finance the budget deficit, and central Government external debt decreased by Dh 0.3 billion. See "Public Finance—The 2012 Budget—Actual results for the six months ended 30 June 2012".

The following table shows Morocco's public sector debt as at the dates indicated.

Total Public  $\mathbf{Debt}^{(1)}$ 

_		3	1 December					
-	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	30 June 2012 <sup>(3)</sup>		
			(Dh bill	ions)				
Central Government domestic debt	263.8	257.5	266.4	292.3	331.3	360.0		
Central Government external debt	66.0	68.3	78.7	92.4	99.6	99.3		
Central Government debt	329.8	325.8	345.1	384.7	430.9	459.3		
Debt of public establishments <sup>(2)</sup>	5.8	6.7	6.2	8.5	8.8	9.1		
Public debt held by social security funds	(100.6)	(109.2)	(116.6)	(129.2)	(135.5)	147.2		
<b>Total Consolidated Central Government</b>								
debt	235.0	223.3	234.7	264.0	304.2	321.2		
Debt of local authorities	6.4	7.4	8.3	9.4	9.8	10.1		
Total Consolidated General Government Debt	241.4	230.7	243.0	273.4	314.0	331.3		
Central Government external debt	66.0	68.3	78.7	92.4	99.6	99.3		
State owned enterprises external debt	56.1	65.3	73.6	81.4	89.5	92.3		
Public External debt	122.1	133.6	152.3	173.8	189.1	191.6		
Total Public debt	297.4	296.0	316.6	354.8	403.5	423.6		
Central Government Debt/GDP (%)	53.5	47.3	47.1	50.3	53.7	_		
Debt/GDP (%) Consolidated General Government	38.1	32.4	32.1	34.5	37.9	_		
Debt/GDP (%)	39.2	33.5	33.2	35.8	39.1	_		
Total Public Debt/GDP (%)	48.3	43.0	43.2	46.4	50.3	_		
Average Cost	5.0	5.2		5.0	4.0			
Central Government domestic debt (%)	5.8	5.3	5.1	5.2	4.8	_		
Central Government external debt (%)  Central Government debt (%)	4.2 5.5	4.3 5.1	4.2 4.9	3.0 4.7	3.3 4.5	_		
Centi ai Government debt (%)	3.3	5.1	4.9	4./	4.3			

Source: Ministry of Economy and Finance.

Notes:

(1) Certain line items and figures differ from previously published data due to on-going revisions.
(2) Includes certain administrative public establishments, but excludes state-owned enterprises.
(3) Preliminary data.

#### **Domestic Debt**

The principal placement of domestic debt is through the auction market of Government debt instruments which represents the main source of financing for the Government. As at June 30, 2012, treasury bonds issued at auctions accounted for 94.8% of Central Government domestic debt and 74.3% of total Central Government debt.

The following table sets forth the composition of Morocco's domestic public debt as at the dates indicated.

#### **Outstanding Domestic Debt**<sup>(1)</sup>

		30 June							
•	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012			
	(Dh millions)								
Auctioned treasury bonds	259,625	252,677	257,937	277,815	314,211	341,195			
Retail 6-month treasury bonds <sup>(2)</sup>	50	50	50	50	50	50			
Contractual borrowings <sup>(3)</sup>	623	_	_	_	_	_			
Other	3,535	4,821	8,452	14,387	17,081	18,705			
Total	263,833	257,548	266,439	292,252	331,342	359,950			

#### Note:

- (1) Certain line items and figures differ from previously published data due to on-going revisions.
- (2) Phased out in 1998.
- (3) Phased out in 2007.

Source: Ministry of Economy and Finance.

Auctioned treasury bonds are issued in ten different maturities (as set forth in the table below). They are auctioned at weekly auctions for short-term maturities (3, 13, 26 and 52 weeks and two years) and monthly for other maturities except the 15-year bonds, which are auctioned twice a month. Treasury bonds are issued with coupons attached.

The following table summarises the outstanding amount of Moroccan treasury bonds issued as at the dates indicated.

Outstanding Amount of Treasury Bonds by Auction<sup>(1)</sup>

	31 December					
-	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	$2012^{(2)}$
_			(Dh millions)	)		
Maturity						
30 years	2,575	2,575	2,575	2,575	2,575	2,775
20 years	18,791	18,791	18,791	19,361	21,261	21,261
15 years	76,840	76,790	71,608	69,658	73,042	74,982
10 years	73,777	71,391	64,589	70,050	78,610	81,571
5 years	55,799	41,501	29,436	48,286	59,783	70,755
2 years	10,536	6700	11,993	33,673	62,581	74,169
52 weeks	17,128	31,855	54,246	28,962	10,620	7,144
26 weeks	2,000	1,925	3,900	3,300	1,200	1,900
13 weeks	2,180	1,150	800	1,950	4,540	1,560
3 weeks	_	_	_	_	_	5,080
Total	259,625	252,677	257,937	277,815	314,211	341,195

# Note:

- (1) Certain line items and figures differ from previously published data due to on-going revisions.
- Does not include bonds treasury bonds issued for maturities between 7-45 days.

Source: Ministry of Economy and Finance.

In 2009, the Budget Act authorised the Government to issue short-term securities with maturities of between seven and 45 days for the first time with the aim of diversifying the financing instruments available to the Treasury, in particular for cash management purposes. In 2010, the Treasury, in consultation with primary dealers established two benchmark lines for the issuance of five- and ten-year bonds with the aim of enhancing liquidity in the secondary market. The size of each of these two lines has since been increased from Dh 5 billion to Dh 10 billion. In 2012, the Treasury issued 30-year bonds for the first time in four years.

In 2008, the Budget Act authorised the Government to undertake active domestic debt management activities through the repurchase or exchange of government securities. The aim of such activities is to reduce the Government's future

refinancing risk and to enhance liquidity in the secondary market. In 2011, the Government completed two treasury bond exchange transactions, which represented the first domestic debt management operations conducted.

The profile and cost of domestic debt has improved. The average life of domestic debt has decreased from six years, five months in 2007 to four years, eleven months in 2011 and the average cost has declined from 5.8% in 2007 to 4.8% in 2011. Following activities undertaken by the Treasury to diversify the holders of the Kingdom's domestic debt and to increase the portion of the Kingdom's domestic debt that is long-term debt, the portion of the Kingdom's domestic long-term debt increased from 82% in 2007 to 84% in 2011.

The following table shows the monthly weighted average interest rate at issue of Moroccan treasury bonds sold by auction as at the dates indicated.

Weighted Average Rate of Moroccan Treasury Bonds<sup>(1)</sup>

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	June 2012
_			(%)	)		
30 years	3.97	_	_	_	_	5.0
20 years	3.81	_	_	4.45	4.41	_
15 years	3.65	_	_	4.34	4.36	4.50
10 years	3.40	_	_	4.17	4.16	4.3
5 years	3.17	3.92	3.82	3.93	3.88	4.02
2 years	3.27	3.65	3.66	3.67	3.65	3.85
52 weeks	3.30	3.78	3.47	3.56	3.46	3.54
26 weeks	3.48	3.69	3.49	3.44	3.33	3.42
13 weeks	3.58	3.51	3.28	3.36	3.32	3.35

Note:

Source: Bank Al-Maghrib

The investor base for domestic securities is diversified. As at 30 June 2012, pension funds and insurance companies held approximately 29% of domestic Government securities, and banks and mutual funds each held approximately 25%.

<sup>(1)</sup> Certain line items and figures differ from previously published data due to on-going revisions.

#### **Public External Debt**

As at 31 December 2011, Morocco's public external debt was approximately U.S.\$22.0 billion, equivalent to 23.6% of GDP, the average life was 7 years, 6 months and the average cost was 3.3%, as compared to public external debt of approximately U.S.\$15.8 billion as at 31 December 2007, equivalent to 19.8% of GDP, with an average life of 7 years, 3 months and an average cost of 4.2%.

The following table sets forth information relating to Morocco's public external debt as at the dates indicated.

Public External Debt<sup>(1)</sup>

	31 December					30 June
<del>-</del>	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
_						
Public External Debt						
in Dh billions	122.0	133.6	152.3	173.8	189.1	191.6
in U.S.\$ billions	15.8	16.5	19.4	20.8	22.0	22.0
Total Public External Debt						
as a % of GDPas a % of Current Receipts of Balance of	19.8	19.4	20.8	22.7	23.6	_
Payment	41	40	54	53	52	_
as a % of foreign exchange reserves short term principal reimbursements as	65	74	86	93	113	_
a % of Central Bank net foreign asset	7	5	6	6	8	_
Public External Debt Service						
in Dh billions	20.1	18.3	14.2	15.4	17.5	9.4
in U.S.\$ billions	2.4	2.3	1.8	1.8	2.2	1.1
as a % Current Receipts	6.8	5.5	5.1	4.7	4.9	_

Note:

(1) Certain line items and figures differ from previously published data due to on-going revisions.

Source: Ministry of Economy and Finance.

A substantial majority of Morocco's external debt is on concessional terms, of which 50.7% is owed to multilaterals and 39.1% to bilaterals.

The following table sets forth Morocco's total public external debt by type of creditor as at the dates indicated.

Public External Debt by  $\mathbf{Creditors}^{(1)(2)}$ 

	Tubic External Debt by Creditors						
	31 December					30 June	
_	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	
_	$(U.S.\$ millions)^{(3)}$						
Bilateral creditors							
EU countries	3,843	4,384	5,391	5,226	5,390	5,466	
France	2,206	2,127	2,611	2,608	2,940	3,101	
Arab countries	685	773	780	799	852	837	
Other countries	1,227	1,496	1,592	2,218	2,280	2,285	
United States of America	335	303	274	245	214	208	
Total Bilateral creditors	5,755	6,653	7,762	8,243	8,521	8,588	
Multilateral creditors							
World Bank	2,578	2,540	2,543	2,468	2,866	2,752	
Total Multilateral creditors	8,027	8,645	10,149	10,266	11,401	11,126	
Private creditors							
Private commercial banks	2,041	1,194	1,460	2,289	2,125	2,242	
Total	15,823	16,492	19,372	20,798	22,048	21,956	

# Notes:

- Including external debt guaranteed by the Kingdom.
   Certain line items and figures differ from previously published data due to on-going revisions.
- (3) Calculated on the basis of the exchange rate published by the Bank Al-Maghrib at the end of the relevant period.

Source: Ministry of Economy and Finance.

The following table sets forth the currency breakdown of Morocco's external public debt at the dates indicated.

	Externa	Debt by Curi	ency				
	31 December				30 June		
_	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	
<del>-</del>	(% of total)						
U.S. Dollars	9.4	9.6	8.4	8.9	8.3	8.0	
Euros	72.3	70.4	72.7	70.8	71.3	71.6	
Kuwaiti Dinar	9.5	9.7	8.2	8.5	8.8	9.1	
Japanese Yen	5.5	6.9	6.2	7.0	7.0	6.9	
Others	8.3	3.4	4.5	4.8	4.6	4.4	
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	

Note:

Certain line items and figures differ from previously published data due to on-going revisions.

Source: Ministry of Economy and Finance.

The following table sets forth the currency breakdown of Morocco's Central Government external debt at the dates indicated.

**Central Government External Debt by Currency** 

	31 December				30 June			
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012		
_	(% of total)							
U.S. Dollars	11.9	12.0	10.6	11.9	11.1	10.7		
Euros	77.6	75.6	76.8	75.0	75.8	76.1		
Kuwaiti Dinar	6.2	6.2	4.5	3.8	3.6	3.7		
Japanese Yen	2.7	3.9	3.3	3.6	3.7	3.9		
Others	1.6	2.0	4.8	5.7	5.8	5.6		
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0		

The structure of Morocco's Central Government external debt is generally kept in line with the basket of currencies to which the Dirham is pegged in order to reduce exchange rate risk. See "Monetary and Financial System—Exchange Rates and Liberalisation of Exchange Regulations".

The following table sets forth details of Morocco's outstanding international Government Bonds.

**Outstanding Government Bonds** 

Issue Date	Issue Size	Coupon	Maturity
27 June 2007	€500,000,000	5.375%	27 June 2017
5 October 2010	€1,000,000,000	4.50%	5 October 2020

Source: Ministry of Economy and Finance.

The following table provides a breakdown of projected external debt service requirements for the years indicated as at 30 June 2012.

Projected External Debt Service Based on Outstanding Amounts as at 31 December 2011<sup>(1)</sup>

·	Principal Repayments	Interest Payments <sup>(2)</sup>	Total Debt Service
	1 0	(U.S.\$ millions)	
Year			
2012	1,615	743	2,358
2013	1,603	663	2,266
2014	1,614	598	2,212
2015	1,583	546	2,129
2016	1,509	488	1,997
2017	2,135	446	2,581
2018	1,457	370	1,827
2019	1,334	322	1,656
2020	2,497	284	2,781
2021	1,121	189	1,310
2022	1,047	153	1,200
2023	989	125	1,114
2024	882	100	982
2025	643	76	719
2026	515	56	571
2027	440	45	485

#### Notes:

Source: Ministry of Economy and Finance.

# State-owned Enterprises

The Government guarantees certain debts of the Kingdom's state-owned enterprises. The amounts outstanding under guarantee (which are included in the public external debt) have increased from Dh 56.1 billion in 2007 to Dh 89.5 billion in 2011. This increase was due to investment programmes of certain state-owned enterprises, which have been participating in the Government's development initiatives, such as extending rural electric and water supplies and improving the road and rail network. As a result of the increase in these guaranteed debts, the ratio of external indebtedness of state-owned enterprises to GDP increased to 11.2% in 2011.

#### Morocco's Adjustment Strategy, Debt Record and Rescheduling

Economic and financial imbalances in the Moroccan economy at the beginning of the 1980s were the result of an excessive expansion in domestic demand and of an inadequate growth in supply, primarily reflecting price and market distortions and inefficient public sector investment, as well as the effects of global financial crises. Morocco's adjustment strategy adopted at the beginning of the 1980s aimed at achieving a sustainable growth rate and a viable balance of payment position over the medium term, with policy measures envisaged in two broad areas. First, fiscal and monetary policies required to be strengthened to bring the level and growth of demand in line with the level and growth of the productive capacity. Second, distortions in the incentive structure needed to be corrected to improve savings, encourage productive investment, induce shift of resources towards the export sector, and strengthen the productive

<sup>(1)</sup> Total external debt includes direct indebtedness and guaranteed external debt.

<sup>(2)</sup> The exchange and interest rate assumptions used for this projection are as follows: U.S.\$1 = Dh 8.75, €1 = Dh 11.10, 6-month Libor: 0.73%

base of the economy. In the first phase, which lasted through 1985, emphasis was given to fiscal adjustment through large reductions in capital expenditures and wage restraint, supported by tight monetary policy through credit controls. In the second phase, which began in 1986, greater emphasis was given to structural reforms and to strengthening the budgetary position through reforms of the fiscal system, public enterprises, the financial system, investment codes and trade and exchange liberalisation.

Considerable financing from official bilateral and other multilateral sources, as well as debt rescheduling, supported Morocco's adjustment strategy. The principal sources of these types of financing have been:

#### *IMF*

Morocco's adjustment efforts were supported by nine IMF arrangements, with an arrangement in effect at least part of every year during 1980-92. During this period, the IMF committed SDR 3,040 million to Morocco under stand-by and extended arrangements, and Morocco used resources amounting to a cumulative total of SDR 1,733 million by the end of March 1993, when the last stand-by arrangement expired, including SDR 351 million under a compensatory financing facility. In addition to financial support, the IMF also provided extensive technical assistance, notably in the areas of expenditure control and monitoring, tax system reform, and exchange rate policy. Since February 1997, all IMF borrowings have been fully repaid.

In August 2012, the IMF approved an SDR 4.117 billion (approximately U.S.\$6.2 billion) Precautionary and Liquidity Line. The PLL is intended to ensure that the Kingdom has the resources in the event of an economic shock, including fluctuations in oil prices and the potential impact of the economic downturn in Europe and the Eurozone crisis, as well as to reinforce confidence in the Moroccan economy.

In granting the PLL, the IMF recognised the Kingdom's sound economic fundamentals and track record of solid economic policies and noted that Morocco satisfies all five conditions for PLL qualification, performing "strongly" in three of the five conditions (financial sector and supervision, monetary policy, data adequacy) but underperforming moderately in the other two areas (fiscal policy and external position).

The conditionality under the PLL arrangement includes indicative targets that quantify Government objectives regarding the fiscal deficit and net international reserves, and semi-annual reviews. The fiscal target of the first year of the program is set in line with the Government's 2012 and 2013 fiscal objectives and the Government's objective of reducing the budget deficit. The indicative target on net international reserves is consistent with maintaining gross international reserves at a comfortable level. Further indicative targets for the third review will be proposed at the time of the second review. The PLL also includes standard IMF performance criteria on trade and exchange restrictions, bilateral payments arrangements, multiple currency practice, and external arrears.

The PLL has a duration of 24 months, and it remains unused. Accordingly, no amounts under the PLL are outstanding or due to the IMF.

# Paris Club

The cumulative Paris Club debt relief under six reschedulings between 1983 and 1992 totalled U.S.\$6.9 billion. The obligations under the rescheduling agreements have been fully repaid, with the last payment in 2007. Approximately U.S.\$1.38 billion relating to the final two agreements has been converted into investments or prepaid. All other rescheduled payments have been made according to the schedule.

# London Club

Commercial bank creditors agreed to restructure, pursuant to three reschedulings between 1986 and 1992, a total of U.S.\$6.7 billion of medium-term debt. The obligations under the rescheduling agreements have been fully repaid, with the last payment in 2007.

#### The World Bank

Morocco's partnership with the World Bank has focused on solar power, sanitation, roads, social inclusion and employment projects. In January 2010, the Board of Directors of the World Bank adopted a framework for a strategic partnership with Morocco. Under this framework, an average of U.S.\$600 million is earmarked annually to support employment and competitiveness, social services and sustainable development and climate change issues.

In June 2012, the World Bank approved a loan package aimed at improving services and economic opportunities in poor rural and urban Moroccan communities, as well as promoting the development of small businesses. As part of this

package, a U.S.\$300 million loan, underpinned by a programme to build local institutional capacity, will support the second phase of Morocco's INDH, and a U.S.\$50 million loan will facilitate access to finance for micro-, small- and medium-sized businesses.

In 2011, the World Bank disbursed approximately U.S.\$712 million to Morocco, of which U.S.\$634 million was for structural reforms and budgeted projects. As at 30 June 2012, the total amount owed to the World Bank was U.S.\$2,752 million.

#### African Development Bank

Morocco's partnership with the African Development Bank is based on a Strategic Partnership Framework (2012-2016) comprising a good governance pillar and a green infrastructure pillar and is focused on 21 projects. In 2011, the African Development Bank disbursed approximately U.S.\$457 million (Dh 3.7 billion) to Morocco. From 1 January 2012 to 30 September 2012, the African Development Bank disbursed U.S.\$138 million to Morocco. As at 30 June 2012, the total amount owed to the African Development Bank was U.S.\$2,903 million.

#### Arab Monetary Fund

Morocco's partnership with the Arab Monetary Fund has focused on financing structural reforms. In 2011, the Arab Monetary disbursed approximately U.S.\$280 million (Dh 2.3 billion) to Morocco. As at 30 June 2012, the total amount owed to the Arab Monetary Fund was U.S.\$489 million.

#### European Union

The European Union has provided Morocco with financial assistance though a range of programmes, notably the European Neighbourhood Policy, which was launched in 2003. As at 30 June 2012, the total amount granted by the European Union was €1,362 million. See "Description of the Kingdom—International Relations".

In July 2012, the European Commission adopted its Action Programme 2012 for Morocco, which provides for a total budget of €122 million to support projects of the Government in the reform of financial management and public administration and forest management and protection. In addition, the European Commission has allocated Morocco a further €80 million under its SPRING (Support for Partnership, Reform and Inclusive Growth) programme.

#### European Investment Bank

Morocco's partnership with the European Investment Bank is focused on projects in the transportation, industry and services sector. In 2011, the European Investment Bank disbursed approximately U.S.\$208 million to Morocco. As at 30 June 2012, the total amount owed by the public sector to the European Investment Bank was U.S.\$2,286 million.

#### L'Agence Française de Developpement

L'Agence Française de Developpement (the "AFD") has financed over 50 projects in Morocco. In 2011, the AFD group disbursed approximately €202.6 million to Morocco. As at 30 June 2012, the total amount owed to the AFD was U.S.\$1,869 million.

# European Bank for Reconstruction and Development

In September 2012, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development approved investments in Jordan, Tunisia and Morocco for the purposes of trade finance and lending to small- and medium-sized businesses. Under this programme, Maghreb Private Equity Fund III run by Afric Invest-TunInvest, a private equity firm in Morocco and Tunisia, will be given €20 million for lending to small- and medium- sized businesses and Morocco's *Société Générale Marocaine de Banques* will receive a €20 million loan for lending to micro-enterprises and small- and medium-sized businesses, as well as a €5 million trade finance facility.

# GCC

In December 2011, certain members of the GCC pledged U.S.\$5 billion to fund economic and social development projects in Morocco. See "Description of the Kingdom—International Relations—GCC".

#### Objectives of public debt management

The main objectives of public debt management is to ensure that the Government's financing needs and payment obligations are met at the lowest possible cost over the long term consistent with a prudent level of risk, utilising domestic and external financing sources and contributing to the development of the domestic Government securities market.

#### Active Debt Management

Since 1996, the Kingdom has been pursuing an active debt management programme, which has largely contributed to a reduction in the total size of the Kingdom's debt and the cost of such debt.

This active debt management programme included the debt to investments conversions, effected on the basis of agreements with France, Spain, Italy and Kuwait. Since 1996, the active debt management programme has resulted in the settlement of more than U.S.\$6.5 billion of which: (i) the conversion of U.S.\$896 million of debt was into private investments; (ii) the conversion of U.S.\$1.1 billion of debt was made into public investments; and (iii) the refinancing and use of derivative instruments for hedging purposes to reduce the Kingdom's debt portfolio exposure to interest and exchange rate fluctuations of U.S.\$4.6 billion of debt.

In 2011, the Government used a number of debt management techniques in respect of both the Kingdom's domestic and external debt. In respect of the Kingdom's domestic debt, the Government completed two treasury bond exchange transactions, which represented the first domestic debt management operations conducted. In respect of the Kingdom's external public debt, the Kingdom's key management activities in 2011 included: (i) the acceleration of the programme with Spain for the conversion of public debt into investments; (ii) the conclusion of a third part of the agreement for the conversion of public debt into investments with Italy; and (iii) the implementation of four interest rate swaps to manage financial risks linked to the Kingdom's external public debt.

#### Cash management

In 2009, the Budget Act authorized the Government to conduct active cash management through the placement of excess cash over a certain level and overnight borrowing in the money markets for treasury needs. The cash management instruments used by the Treasury are (i) reverse repos collateralised by government securities for up to seven days; (ii) overnight deposits in the interbank market; and (iii) overnight borrowings in the interbank market.

Before the start of cash management operations in February 2010, the Treasury entered into an agreement with Bank Al-Maghrib to enhance coordination and avoid any interference by Treasury operations with the conduct of monetary policy. This agreement also stated, for the first time, the remuneration by Bank Al-Maghrib of the cash deposited with it.

# Coordination with Bank Al-Maghrib

Since Law • 76-03 came into force, the Ministry of Economy and Finance and Bank Al-Maghrib have engaged in a dialogue with respect to the financial sector, as well as on various operational matters, including, *inter alia*, the management of Morocco's public debt, through the exchange of information with respect to cash flow forecasts and debt projections. See "Monetary and Financial System—Bank Al-Maghrib and the Moroccan Banking System". Bank Al-Maghrib also performs various back office functions relating to treasury bill auctions and treasury cash management.

# Debt Record

Other than as described above, Morocco has not, within a period of 20 years prior to the date of this Prospectus, defaulted on the principal or interest of any external security.

# TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE NOTES

The following is the text of the Terms and Conditions of the Notes, which will be endorsed on each note in definitive form:

The U.S.\$1,000,000,000 4.25% Notes due 2022 (the "2022 Notes") and the U.S.\$500,000,000 5.50% Notes due 2042 (the "2042 Notes" and, together with the 2022 Notes, the "Notes", which expression includes any further 2022 Notes issued pursuant to Condition 13 and forming a single series with the 2022 Notes and any further 2042 Notes issued pursuant to Condition 13 and forming a single series with the 2042 Notes) of the Kingdom of Morocco (the "Kingdom") are (a) subject to, and have the benefit of, a deed of covenant dated 11 December 2012 (as amended or supplemented from time to time, the "Deed of Covenant") of the Kingdom and (b) issued pursuant to a Fiscal Agency Agreement dated 11 December 2012 (as amended or supplemented from time to time, the "Fiscal Agency Agreement") between the Kingdom, Citibank N.A., London Branch as fiscal agent (the "Fiscal Agent", which expression includes any successor fiscal agent appointed from time to time in connection with the Notes) and the Registrar and Paying Agents named therein (together with the Fiscal Agent, the "Agents", which expression includes any successor or additional Agents appointed from time-to-time in connection with the Notes).

Certain provisions of these Conditions are summaries of the Fiscal Agency Agreement and subject to its detailed provisions. The holders of the Notes (the "Noteholders") are bound by, and are deemed to have notice of, all the provisions of the Fiscal Agency Agreement applicable to them. Copies of the Fiscal Agency Agreement are available for inspection during normal business hours at the Specified Offices (as defined in the Fiscal Agency Agreement) of each of the Agents, the initial Specified Offices of which are set out below.

# 1. Form, Denomination, Title, Registration and Transfer

- (a) Form and denomination. The Notes are in registered form without coupons in principal amounts of U.S.\$200,000 or any amount in excess thereof which is an integral multiple of U.S.\$1,000 (each, an "authorised denomination"). The Notes will be numbered serially.
- (b) *Title:* Title to the Notes will pass by transfer and registration as described in Condition 1(c). A Noteholder will (except as otherwise required by law or as ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction) be treated as its absolute owner for all purposes (whether or not it is overdue and regardless of any notice of ownership, trust or any interest in it or its theft or loss (or that of the related certificate, as appropriate) or anything written on it or on the certificate in respect of it (other than a duly executed transfer thereof)) and no person will be liable for so treating the holder. For this purpose, "**Noteholder**" shall mean the person in whose name a Note is registered in the Register (as defined in Condition 1(c)).
- (c) Registration: The Kingdom will cause a register (the "**Register**") to be kept at the Specified Office of the Registrar on which will be entered the names and addresses of the Noteholders and the particulars of the Notes held by them and of all transfers and redemptions of Notes.
- (d) Transfer: Notes may, subject to the terms of the Fiscal Agency Agreement and to Conditions 1(e) and 1(f), be transferred in whole or in part in an authorised denomination by lodging the relevant Note (with the form of application for transfer in respect thereof duly executed and duly stamped where applicable) at the Specified Office of the Registrar or any Paying Agent.

No transfer of a Note will be valid unless and until entered on the Register. A Note may be registered only in the name of, and transferred only to, a named person (or persons, not exceeding four in number).

The Registrar will within seven business days (as defined in Condition 6(d)), in the place of the Specified Office of the Registrar, of any duly made application for the transfer of a Note, deliver a new Note to the transferee (and, in the case of a transfer of part only of a Note, deliver a Note for the untransferred balance to the transferor) at the Specified Office of the Registrar or (at the risk and, if mailed at the request of the transferee or, as the case may be, the transferor otherwise than by ordinary mail, at the expense of the transferee or, as the case may be, the transferor) mail the Note by uninsured mail to such address as the transferee or, as the case may be, the transferor may request.

(e) Formalities free of charge: Any such transfer will be effected without charge subject to (i) the person making such application for transfer paying or procuring the payment of any taxes, duties and other governmental charges in connection therewith, (ii) the Registrar being satisfied with the documents of title and/or identity of

the person making the application and (iii) such reasonable regulations as the Kingdom may from time to time agree with the Registrar.

(f) Closed Periods: Neither the Kingdom nor the Registrar will be required to register the transfer of any Note (or part thereof) (i) during the period of 15 calendar days ending on and including the day immediately prior to the Maturity Dates (as defined in Condition 5(a); or (ii) during the period of seven calendar days ending on (and including) any Record Date (as defined in Condition 6(a)) in respect of any payment of interest on the Notes.

# 2. Status

The Notes constitute direct, general, unconditional, unsubordinated and (subject to Condition 3) unsecured obligations of the Kingdom and will at all times rank *pari passu* and without any preference among themselves. The full faith and credit of the Kingdom is pledged for the due and punctual payment of the principal of, and interest on, the Notes and the performance of all of the Kingdom's other obligations under the Notes. The Notes will at all times rank at least equally and rateably with all the other present and future unsecured and unsubordinated obligations of the Kingdom, save only for any obligation which may be preferred by provisions of applicable law that are both mandatory and of general application.

# 3. Negative Pledge

So long as any Note remains outstanding (as defined in the Fiscal Agency Agreement) the Kingdom shall not, and shall not permit (to the extent the Kingdom has the power to refuse such permission) any Agency to, create or permit to arise or subsist any Security Interest (other than a Permitted Security Interest) upon any of the Kingdom's assets or revenues, present or future, to secure any Public External Indebtedness of the Kingdom or of any other Person or any guarantee or indemnity of the Kingdom in respect of Public External Indebtedness of any other Person unless, at the same time or prior thereto, the Kingdom's obligations under the Notes are secured equally and rateably therewith or have the benefit of such other arrangement as may be approved by an Extraordinary Resolution (as defined in the Fiscal Agency Agreement) of Noteholders.

# In these Conditions:

"Agency" means any political sub-division, regional government, ministry, department, authority or statutory corporation of the Kingdom or the government thereof (whether or not such statutory corporation is autonomous) and any corporation or other entity (but not any commercial corporation or other commercial entity) which is directly or indirectly controlled (whether by reason of whole or partial ownership, control over voting or other relevant decision making power to direct management, the composition of management or otherwise) by the Kingdom or the government thereof and/or one or more Agencies.

"Indebtedness" shall be construed so as to include any obligation (whether incurred as principal or as surety) for the payment or repayment of money, whether present or future, actual or contingent.

# "Permitted Security Interest" means:

- (a) any Security Interest upon property to secure Public External Indebtedness incurred for the purpose of financing the acquisition of such property (or property which forms part of a class of assets of a similar nature where the Security Interest is by reference to the constituents of such class from time to time); or
- (b) any Security Interest existing on property at the time of its acquisition; or
- (c) any Security Interest arising by operation of law which has not been foreclosed or otherwise enforced against the assets to which it applies; or
- (d) any Security Interest securing or providing for the payment of Public External Indebtedness incurred in connection with any Project Financing provided that such Security Interest applies to (A) properties which are the subject of such Project Financing or (B) revenues or claims which arise from the operation, failure to meet specifications, exploitation, sale or loss of, or failure to complete, or damage to, such properties; or

(e) the renewal or extension of any Security Interest described in subparagraphs (a) to (d) above, provided that the principal amount of the Public External Indebtedness secured thereby is not increased.

"Person" means any individual, company, corporation, firm, partnership, joint venture, association, unincorporated organisation, trust or any other jurisdiction or entity, including, without limitation, state or agency of a state or other entity, whether or not having separate legal personality.

"**Project Financing**" means any arrangement for the provision of funds which are to be used solely to finance a project for the acquisition, construction, development or exploitation of any property pursuant to which the persons providing such funds agree that the principal source of repayment of such funds will be the project and the revenues (including insurance proceeds) generated by such project.

"Public External Indebtedness" means any Indebtedness which is (A) evidenced by any bond, debenture, note or other instruments which is or is capable of being quoted, listed or ordinarily purchased and sold on any stock exchange, automated trading system or over-the-counter or other securities market and (B) denominated or payable, or at the option of the creditor or holder thereof payable, in a currency other than the lawful currency of the Kingdom.

"Security Interest" means any mortgage, charge, pledge, lien, security interest or other encumbrance securing any obligation of the Kingdom or any other type of preferential arrangement having similar effect over any assets or revenues of the Kingdom.

# 4. Interest

The 2022 Notes bear interest from and including 11 December 2012 (the "Issue Date") at the rate of 4.25% per annum (the "2022 Rate of Interest"), payable semi-annually in arrear on 11 June and 11 December in each year (each, a "2022 Interest Payment Date"), subject as provided in Condition 6. The first 2022 Interest Payment Date will be 11 June 2013.

The 2042 Notes bear interest from and including the Issue Date at the rate of 5.50% *per annum* (the "2042 Rate of Interest" and, together with the 2022 Rate of Interest, the "Rates of Interest"), payable semi-annually in arrear on 11 June and 11 December in each year (each, a "2042 Interest Payment Date" and, together with the 2022 Interest Payment Date, the "Interest Payment Dates"), subject as provided in Condition 6. The first 2042 Interest Payment Date will be 11 June 2013.

Each Note will cease to bear interest from the due date for final redemption unless, upon due presentation, payment of principal is improperly withheld or refused, in which case it will continue to bear interest at the applicable Rate of Interest (as well after as before judgment) up to, but excluding, whichever is the earlier of (i) the day on which all sums due in respect of such Note up to that day are received by or on behalf of the relevant Noteholder and (ii) the day which is seven days after the Fiscal Agent has notified the Noteholders that it has received all sums due in respect of the Notes up to such seventh day (except to the extent that there is any subsequent default in payment).

If interest is required to be paid in respect of a Note on any date other than an Interest Payment Date, it shall be calculated by applying the applicable Rate of Interest to the principal amount of such Note, multiplying the product by the relevant Day Count Fraction and rounding the resulting figure to the nearest cent (half a cent being rounded upwards), where:

"Day Count Fraction" means, in respect of any period, the number of days in the relevant period, from (and including) the first day in such period to (but excluding) the last day in such period, divided by the number of days in the Regular Period in which the relevant period falls; and

"Regular Period" means each period from (and including) the Issue Date or any Interest Payment Date to (but excluding) the next Interest Payment Date.

# 5. Redemption, Purchase and Cancellation

(a) Scheduled redemption: Unless previously redeemed or purchased and cancelled, the 2022 Notes will be redeemed at their principal amount on 11 December 2022 (the "2022 Maturity Date"), subject as provided in Condition 6, and the 2042 Notes will be redeemed at their principal amount on 11 December 2042 (the "2042").

Maturity Date" and, together with the 2022 Maturity Date, the "Maturity Dates"), subject as provided in Condition 6.

- (b) Purchase and Cancellation: The Kingdom and its Agencies may at any time purchase Notes in the open market or otherwise and at any price. Any Notes so purchased may be cancelled or held and resold. Any Notes so purchased, while held by or on behalf of the Kingdom or any Agency, shall not entitle the holder to vote at any meeting of Noteholders and shall not be deemed to be outstanding for the purposes of calculating quorums at meetings of Noteholders. Any Notes so purchased and cancelled will not be reissued.
- (c) Notification: Following any such redemption or cancellation, the Kingdom will promptly notify the Luxembourg Stock Exchange or any other stock exchange where Notes are listed if such exchange so requires of the amount of Notes so redeemed and/or cancelled and of the amount of Notes outstanding following such redemption and/or cancellation.

#### 6. Payments

- (a) Method of payment: Payment of principal in respect of the Notes will be made to the persons shown in the Register at the close of business on the Record Date and subject to the surrender of the Notes at the Specified Office of any Paying Agent outside the United States. Payments of interest will be made to the persons shown in the Register at close of business on the relevant Record Date. For this purpose, "Record Date" means the seventh business day, in the place of the Specified Office of the Registrar, before the due date for the relevant payment. Each such payment will be made by transfer to a U.S. Dollar account maintained by the payee with a bank in New York City.
- (b) Payments subject to fiscal laws: All payments in respect of the Notes are subject in all cases to any applicable fiscal or other laws and regulations in the place of payment, but without prejudice to the provisions of Condition 7.
- (c) Commissions: No commissions or expenses shall be charged to the Noteholders in respect of such payments.
- (d) Payments on Business Days: If the due date for payment of any amount in respect of any Note is not a business day in the place of presentation and in New York City, the holder shall not be entitled to payment of the amount due until the next succeeding business day in such place and shall not be entitled to any further interest or other payment in respect of any such delay. In this paragraph, "business day" means, in respect of any place of presentation, any day on which commercial banks and foreign exchange markets are open in the relevant city, (where such surrender is required by these Conditions) in the place of the Specified Office of the relevant Paying Agent to whom the relevant Note is surrendered.

# 7. Taxation

All payments of principal and interest in respect of the Notes shall be made free and clear of, and without withholding or deduction for, any taxes, duties, assessments or governmental charges of whatsoever nature imposed, levied, collected, withheld or assessed by the Kingdom or any political subdivision or any authority thereof or therein having power to tax (together, "Taxes"), unless such withholding or deduction is required by law. In that event, the Kingdom shall pay such additional amounts as will result in the receipt by the Noteholders of such amounts as would have been received by them if no such withholding or deduction had been required, except that no such additional amounts shall be payable in respect of any Note:

- (a) presented for payment by a holder which is liable to such Taxes in respect of such Note by reason of its having some connection with the Kingdom other than the mere holding of such Note;
- (b) where such withholding or deduction is imposed on a payment to an individual and is required to be made pursuant to European Council Directive 2003/48/EC or any law implementing or complying with, or introduced in order to conform to, such Directive;
- (c) presented for payment by or on behalf of a holder who would be able to avoid such withholding or deduction by presenting the relevant Note to another Paying Agent in a member state of the European Union; or
- (d) presented for payment more than 30 days after the Relevant Date except to the extent that the relevant holder would have been entitled to such additional amounts if it had presented such Note on the last day of such period of 30 days.

In these Conditions, "**Relevant Date**" means whichever is the later of (i) the date on which the payment in question first becomes due and (ii) if the full amount payable has not been received by the Fiscal Agent as provided in the Fiscal Agency Agreement on or prior to such due date, the date on which (the full amount having been so received) notice to that effect has been given to the Noteholders.

Any reference in these Conditions to principal or interest shall be deemed to include any additional amounts in respect of principal or interest (as the case may be) which may be payable under this Condition 7.

# 8. Events of Default

If any of the following events occurs and is continuing with respect to a series of Notes (each, an "Event of Default"):

- (a) *Non-Payment*: any amount of interest in respect of the Notes of such series is not paid within 15 days of the due date for payment thereof;
- (b) Breach of Other Obligations: the Kingdom fails duly to perform or observe any of its other obligations under or in respect of the Notes of such series, which failure continues unremedied for 45 days after written notice thereof has been delivered by any Noteholder of such series of Notes to the Kingdom at the Specified Office of the Fiscal Agent;
- (c) Cross-acceleration: (i) the acceleration of the maturity (other than by optional or mandatory prepayment or redemption) of any Public External Indebtedness of the Kingdom, (ii) the Kingdom defaults in the payment of any principal of or interest on any of its Public External Indebtedness when and as the same shall become due and payable, and such default continues for more than the period of grace, if any, originally applicable thereto or (iii) the Kingdom defaults in the payment when due and called upon (after the expiry of the period of grace, if any, originally applicable thereto) of any guarantee or indemnity of the Kingdom in respect of any Public External Indebtedness of any other Person; provided that the aggregate amount of the relevant Public External Indebtedness in respect of which one or more of the events mentioned in this paragraph (c) have occurred equals or exceeds U.S.\$25,000,000 or its equivalent;
- (d) *Moratorium*: a moratorium on the payment of principal of, or interest on the Public External Indebtedness of the Kingdom is declared by the Kingdom;
- (e) *IMF*: the Kingdom ceases to be a member of the International Monetary Fund ("**IMF**") or to be eligible to use the general resources of the IMF;
- (f) Repudiation: the validity of the Notes of such series is contested by the Kingdom or the Kingdom shall deny any of its obligations under the Notes of such series (whether by a general suspension of payments or a moratorium on the payment of debt or otherwise); or
- (g) Performance prevented: it shall be or become unlawful for the Kingdom to perform or comply with all or any of its obligations set out in the Notes of such series or any such obligations shall be or become unenforceable or invalid, in each case as a result of any law or regulation in the Kingdom or any ruling of any court in the Kingdom whose decision is final and unappealable;

then (i) in the case of an event referred to in (a) or (d) above, any Noteholder of the relevant series of Notes may, by notice in writing to the Kingdom at the Specified Office of the Fiscal Agent, declare the Notes of such series held by it to be immediately due and payable and (ii) in the case of any event referred to in (b), (c), (e), (f) or (g) above, holders of not less than 25% in aggregate outstanding principal amount of the Notes of the relevant series may, by notice in writing to the Kingdom at the Specified Office of the Fiscal Agent, declare all the Notes of such series to be immediately due and payable, whereupon the Notes of such series shall become immediately due and payable at their principal amount together with accrued interest without further action or formality. Notice of any such declaration shall promptly be given to all other Noteholders by the Kingdom.

Except in the case of an event referred to in (a) or (d) above, if the Kingdom receives notice in writing from holders of at least 50% in aggregate outstanding principal amount of the relevant series of Notes to the effect that the Event of Default or Events of Default giving rise to any above-mentioned declaration of acceleration is or are cured following any such declaration and that such Noteholders wish the relevant declaration to be withdrawn, the Kingdom shall give notice thereof to the Noteholders of the relevant series of Notes (with a copy to the Fiscal Agent), whereupon the relevant declaration shall be withdrawn and shall have no further

effect but without prejudice to any rights or obligations which may have arisen before the Kingdom gives such notice (whether pursuant to these Conditions or otherwise). No such withdrawal shall affect any other or any subsequent Event of Default or any right of any Noteholder in relation thereto.

# 9. Prescription

Claims in respect of principal and interest shall be prescribed and will become void unless made within a period of ten years in the case of principal and five years in the case of interest from the appropriate Relevant Date.

# 10. Replacement of Notes

If any Note is lost, stolen, mutilated, defaced or destroyed, it may be replaced at the Specified Office of the Fiscal Agent and the Paying Agent having its Specified Office in Luxembourg, subject to all applicable laws and stock exchange requirements, upon payment by the claimant of the expenses incurred in connection with such replacement and on such terms as to evidence, security, indemnity and otherwise as the Kingdom may reasonably require. Mutilated or defaced Notes must be surrendered before replacements will be issued.

# 11. Agents

In acting under the Fiscal Agency Agreement and in connection with the Notes, the Agents act solely as agents of the Kingdom and do not assume any obligations towards or relationship of agency or trust for or with any of the Noteholders.

The Kingdom reserves the right at any time to vary or terminate the appointment of any Agent and to appoint a successor Agent and additional or successor paying agents; provided, however, that the Kingdom shall at all times maintain a paying agent in Luxembourg (which may be the Fiscal Agent), and a fiscal agent and a paying agent in a Member State of the European Union that will not be obliged to withhold or deduct tax pursuant to EU Directive 2003/48 EC. Notice of any change in any of the Agents or in their Specified Offices shall promptly be given to the Noteholders in accordance with Condition 14 below.

# 12. Meetings of Noteholders; Modification and Waiver

- Meetings of Noteholders: The Fiscal Agency Agreement contains provisions for convening meetings of (a) Noteholders to consider matters relating to the relevant series of Notes, including the modification of any provision of these Conditions. Any such modification in respect of a series of Notes may be made if sanctioned by an Extraordinary Resolution. Such a meeting may be convened by the Kingdom and shall be convened by it upon the request in writing of Noteholders holding not less than one-tenth of the aggregate principal amount of the outstanding Notes in the relevant series. The quorum at any meeting convened to vote on an Extraordinary Resolution will be one or more persons holding or representing more than half of the aggregate principal amount of the outstanding Notes of such series or, at any adjourned meeting, one or more persons being or representing Noteholders whatever the principal amount of the Notes of such series held or represented; provided, however, that certain proposals (including any proposal: (i) to change any date fixed for payment of principal or interest in respect of the Notes of such series; (ii) to reduce the amount of principal or interest payable on any date in respect of the Notes of such series; (iii) to alter the method of calculating the amount of any payment in respect of the Notes of such series or the date for any such payment; (iv) to change the currency of payments under the Notes of such series; (v) to change the quorum requirements relating to meetings or the majority required to pass an Extraordinary Resolution; (vi) to change or waive the provisions of the Notes of such series set out in Condition 2; (vii) to change any provision of the Notes describing the circumstances in which the Notes of such series may be declared due and payable prior to the applicable Maturity Date set out in Condition 8; or (viii) to change the law governing the Notes of such series, the courts to the jurisdiction of which the Kingdom has submitted in the Notes of such series, the Kingdom's obligation to maintain an agent for service of process in England or the Kingdom's waiver of immunity, in respect of actions or proceeding brought by any Noteholder of such series set out in Condition 18 (each, a "Reserved Matter")) may only be sanctioned by an Extraordinary Resolution passed at a meeting of Noteholders of such series at which one or more persons holding or representing not less than three-quarters or, at any adjourned meeting, more than half of the aggregate principal amount of the outstanding Notes of such series form a auorum.
- (b) As used in this Condition 12, "Extraordinary Resolution" means a resolution passed at a meeting of the Noteholders of the relevant series of Notes duly convened and held in accordance with the provisions contained in these Conditions and the Fiscal Agency Agreement by a majority consisting of not less than three-

fourths of the persons voting thereat upon a show of hands or if a poll shall be duly demanded then by a majority consisting of not less than three-fourths of the votes given on the poll. Any Extraordinary Resolution duly passed at any such meeting shall be binding on all the Noteholders of such series, whether present or not.

(c) *Modification*: The Notes of each series and these Conditions (as they apply to such series) may be amended without the consent of the Noteholders of such series to correct a manifest error. In addition, the parties to the Fiscal Agency Agreement may agree to modify any provision thereof, but the Kingdom shall not agree, without the consent of the Noteholders of the relevant series of Notes, to any such modification unless it is of a formal, minor or technical nature, it is made to correct a manifest error or it is, in the opinion of such parties, not materially prejudicial to the interests of the Noteholders of such series.

#### 13. Further Issues

The Kingdom may, from time to time, without the consent of the Noteholders: (i) create and issue further 2022 Notes having the same terms and conditions as the 2022 Notes in all respects (or in all respects except for the first payment of interest) so as to form a single series with the 2022 Notes or (ii) create and issue further 2042 Notes having the same terms and conditions as the 2042 Notes in all respects (or in all respects except for the first payment of interest) so as to form a single series with the 2042 Notes.

#### 14. Notices

All notices to Noteholders shall be mailed to them at their respective addresses appearing in the Register and shall be deemed to have been given on the fourth weekday (excluding Saturday and Sunday) after the date of mailing. Notices to Noteholders may also be made by means of electronic publication on the internet website of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange (www.bourse.lu). Any such notice shall be deemed to have been given on the date of first publication.

# 15. Currency Indemnity

If any sum due from the Kingdom in respect of the Notes or any order or judgment given or made in relation thereto has to be converted from U.S. Dollars into another currency (the "second currency") for the purpose of (i) making or filing a claim or proof against the Kingdom, (ii) obtaining an order or judgment in any court or other tribunal or (iii) enforcing any order or judgment given or made in relation to the Notes, the Kingdom shall indemnify each Noteholder, on the written demand of such Noteholder addressed to the Kingdom and delivered to the Kingdom or to the Specified Office of the Fiscal Agent, against any loss suffered as a result of any discrepancy between (i) the rate of exchange used for such purpose to convert the sum in question from U.S. Dollars into the second currency and (ii) the rate or rates of exchange at which such Noteholder may in the ordinary course of business purchase U.S. Dollars with the second currency upon receipt of a sum paid to it in satisfaction, in whole or in part, of any such order, judgment, claim or proof.

This indemnity constitutes a separate and independent obligation of the Kingdom and shall give rise to a separate and independent cause of action.

# 16. Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999

No person shall have any right to enforce any term or condition of this Note under the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999.

# 17. Governing Law

The Notes, including any non-contractual obligations arising out of the Notes, are governed by, and shall be construed in accordance with, English law.

# 18. Jurisdiction

(a) Jurisdiction: The Kingdom agrees for the benefit of the Noteholders that the courts of England and Wales shall have jurisdiction to hear and determine any suit, action or proceedings which may arise out of or in connection with the Notes ("Proceedings") and to settle any dispute or difference of whatever nature howsoever arising under, out of or in connection with the Notes (including a dispute or difference as to the breach, existence or validity of the Notes) ("Disputes") and, for such purposes, irrevocably submits to the jurisdiction of such courts.

- (b) Appropriate forum: The Kingdom irrevocably waives any objection which it might now or hereafter have to the courts of England and Wales being nominated as the forum to hear and determine any Proceedings and to settle any Disputes, and agrees not to claim that any such court is not a convenient or appropriate forum.
- (c) Service of Process: The Kingdom irrevocably appoints the Ambassador of the Kingdom to the Court of St James's as its authorised agent for the service of process in England and Wales. Nothing in this paragraph shall affect the right of any Noteholder to serve process in any other manner permitted by law.
- (d) Non-exclusivity: The submission to the jurisdiction of the courts of England and Wales shall not (and shall not be construed so as to) limit the right of any Noteholder to take Proceedings in any other court of competent jurisdiction, nor shall the taking of Proceedings in any one or more jurisdictions preclude the taking of Proceedings in any other jurisdiction (whether concurrently or not) if and to the extent permitted by law.
- (e) Consent to enforcement, etc.: For the purposes of the State Immunity Act 1978, the Kingdom consents generally in respect of any Proceedings to the giving of any relief or the issue of any process in connection with such Proceedings including (without limitation) the making, enforcement or execution against any property whatsoever (irrespective of its use or intended use) of any order or judgment which may be made or given in such Proceedings.
- (f) Waiver of immunity: To the extent that the Issuer may in any jurisdiction claim for itself or its properties, assets or revenues immunity (whether sovereign, diplomatic or other) from suit, execution, attachment (whether in aid of execution, before judgment or otherwise) or other legal process and to the extent that such immunity (whether or not claimed) may be attributed in any such jurisdiction to the Issuer or its properties, assets or revenues, the Issuer agrees not to claim and irrevocably waives such immunity to the full extent permitted by the laws of such jurisdiction and the laws of the Kingdom of Morocco, provided however, that immunity is not waived in respect of (i) present or future "premises of the mission" as such term is defined in the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations signed in 1961, or "consular premises" as such term is defined in the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations signed in 1963 or (ii) military property or military assets of the Issuer related thereto or (iii) property located in the Kingdom dedicated to a public or governmental use (as opposed to a commercial use) by the Issuer.

There will appear at the foot of the Conditions endorsed on each Note in definitive form the names and Specified Offices of the Agents as set out at the end of this Prospectus.

# PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE NOTES WHILE IN GLOBAL FORM

#### The Global Notes

The Notes will be evidenced on issue, in the case of the Regulation S Notes, by Regulation S Global Notes (which will be deposited with, and registered in the name of a nominee for, a common depositary for Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg) and, in the case of the Rule 144A Notes, by Rule 144A Global Notes (which will be deposited with a custodian for, and registered in the name of Cede & Co., as nominee of DTC).

Beneficial interests in the Regulation S Global Notes may be held only through Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg at any time. See "Clearing and Settlement—Book-Entry Ownership". By acquisition of a beneficial interest in a Regulation S Global Note, the purchaser thereof will be deemed to represent, among other things, that it is not located in the United States.

Beneficial interests in the Rule 144A Global Notes may only be held through DTC at any time. See "Clearing and Settlement—Book-Entry Ownership". By acquisition of a beneficial interest in a Rule 144A Global Note, the purchaser thereof will be deemed to represent, among other things, that it is a QIB and that, if in the future it decides to transfer such beneficial interest, it will transfer such interest in accordance with the procedures and restrictions contained in the Fiscal Agency Agreement. See "Transfer Restrictions".

Beneficial interests in each Global Note will be subject to certain restrictions on transfer set forth therein and in the Fiscal Agency Agreement, and with respect to Rule 144A Notes, as set forth in Rule 144A, and the Rule 144A Global Notes will bear the legend set forth thereon regarding such restrictions set forth under "*Transfer Restrictions*". A beneficial interest in a Regulation S Global Note may be transferred to a person who takes delivery in the form of an interest in a Rule 144A Global Note in denominations greater than or equal to the minimum denominations applicable to interests in the relevant Rule 144A Global Note and only upon receipt by the Registrar of a written certification (in the form provided in the Fiscal Agency Agreement) to the effect that the transferor reasonably believes that the transferee is a QIB and that such transaction is in accordance with any applicable securities laws of any state of the United States or any other jurisdiction. Beneficial interests in a Rule 144A Global Note may be transferred to a person who takes delivery in the form of an interest in the relevant Regulation S Global Note and in accordance with Regulation S.

A beneficial interest in a Regulation S Global Note that is transferred to a person who takes delivery in the form of an interest in a Rule 144A Global Note will, upon transfer, cease to be an interest in the relevant Regulation S Global Note and become an interest in the relevant Rule 144A Global Note, and, accordingly, will thereafter be subject to all transfer restrictions and other procedures applicable to a beneficial interest in the relevant Rule 144A Global Note for as long as it remains such an interest. A beneficial interest in a Rule 144A Global Note that is transferred to a person who takes delivery in the form of an interest in a Regulation S Global Note will, upon transfer, cease to be an interest in the relevant Rule 144A Global Note and become an interest in the relevant Regulation S Global Note and, accordingly, will thereafter be subject to all transfer restrictions and other procedures applicable to a beneficial interest in the relevant Regulation S Global Note for so long as it remains such an interest. No service charge will be made for any registration of transfer or exchange of Notes, but the Registrar may require payment of a sum sufficient to cover any tax or other governmental charge payable in connection therewith. Except in the limited circumstances described below, owners of beneficial interests in Global Notes will not be entitled to receive physical delivery of the definitive registered notes ("Definitive Notes"). No Notes will be issued in bearer form.

# Legends

The holder of a Definitive Note may transfer the Notes evidenced thereby in whole or in part in the applicable minimum denomination by surrendering it at the specified office of the Registrar or any Paying and Transfer Agent, together with the completed form of transfer thereon. Upon the transfer, exchange or replacement of a Rule 144A Definitive Note bearing the legend referred to under "*Transfer Restrictions*", or upon specific request for removal of the legend on a Rule 144A Definitive Note, the Issuer will deliver only Rule 144A Definitive Notes that bear such legend, or will refuse to remove such legend, as the case may be, unless there is delivered to the Issuer and the Registrar such satisfactory evidence, which may include an opinion of counsel, as may reasonably be required by the Issuer that neither the legend nor the restrictions on transfer set forth therein are required to ensure compliance with the provisions of the Securities Act.

#### Amendments to Terms and Conditions of the Notes

Each Global Note contains provisions that apply to the Notes that it evidences, some of which modify the effect of the Terms and Conditions of the Notes. The following is a summary of those provisions.

#### **Payments**

Payments of principal and interest in respect of Notes evidenced by a Global Note will be made to the person who appears at the relevant time in the Register as holder of the Notes against presentation for endorsement by the Fiscal Agent and, if no further payment falls to be made in respect of the relevant Notes, surrender of such Global Note to or to the order of the Fiscal Agent or such other Paying and Transfer Agent as shall have been notified to the relevant Noteholders for such purpose. A record of each payment so made will be endorsed in the appropriate schedule to the Global Note, which endorsement will be *prima facie* evidence that such payment has been made in respect of the relevant Notes.

#### Notices

Notices to Noteholders may be given by delivery of the notice to the relevant clearing systems for communication by them to entitled account Noteholders.

#### Meetings

The holder of each Global Note will be treated as being two persons for the purposes of any quorum requirements of, or the right to demand a poll at, a meeting of Noteholders and in any such meeting as having one vote in respect of each integral U.S.\$1,000 in principal amount of Notes.

#### Cancellation

Cancellation of any Note required by the Conditions of the Notes to be cancelled will be effected by reduction in the principal amount of the applicable Global Note.

# **Exchange for Definitive Notes**

#### Exchange

The Regulation S Global Notes will be exchangeable, free of charge to the holder, in whole but not in part, for Definitive Notes if: (i) each of Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg is closed for business for a continuous period of 14 days (other than by reason of holidays, statutory or otherwise) or announces an intention permanently to cease business and no alternative clearing system satisfactory to the Fiscal Agent is available; or (ii) if an event of default occurs as set out in Condition 8, by the Issuer giving notice to the Registrar and the Noteholders, in each case of its intention to exchange interests in a Regulation S Global Note for Definitive Notes on or after the Exchange Date (as defined below) specified in the notice.

The Rule 144A Global Notes will be exchangeable, free of charge to the holder, in whole but not in part, for Definitive Notes if (i) DTC or its successor depositary notifies the Issuer that it is no longer willing or able to discharge properly its responsibilities as depositary with respect to the Rule 144A Global Notes or ceases to be a "clearing agency" registered under the U.S. Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), or is at any time unable to act as such, and the Issuer is unable to locate a qualified successor within 90 days of receiving notice of such ineligibility on the part of such depositary or (ii) if an event of default occurs as set out in Condition 8, by the Issuer giving notice to the Registrar and the Noteholders, in each case, of its intention to exchange interests in a Rule 144A Global Note for Definitive Notes on or after the Exchange Date (as defined below) specified in the notice.

"Exchange Date" means a day falling not later than 60 calendar days after that on which the notice requiring exchange is given and on which banks are open for business in the city in which the specified office of the Registrar or the relevant Paying and Transfer Agent is located.

The Registrar will not register the transfer of, or exchange of interests in, a Global Note for Definitive Notes for a period of 15 calendar days ending on the date for any payment of principal or interest in respect of the Notes.

# Delivery

If any of the events described in "—Exchange" above occurs, the relevant Global Note shall be exchangeable in full but not in part for Definitive Notes and the Issuer will, free of charge to the Noteholders (but against such indemnity as the Registrar or any relevant Paying and Transfer Agent may require in respect of any tax or other duty of whatever nature which may be levied or imposed in connection with such exchange), cause sufficient Definitive Notes to be executed and delivered to the Registrar for completion and despatch to the relevant Noteholders. A person having an interest in the relevant Global Note must provide the Registrar with (i) a written order containing instructions and such other information as the Issuer and the Registrar may require to complete, execute and deliver such Definitive Notes and (ii) in the case of the Rule 144A Global Notes only, a fully completed, signed certification substantially to the effect that the exchanging holder is not transferring its interest at the time of such exchange or, in the case of simultaneous sale pursuant to Rule 144A, a certification that the transfer is being made in compliance with the provisions of Rule 144A to a QIB. Except as otherwise permitted, Definitive Notes issued in exchange for an interest in a Rule 144A Global Note shall bear the legend applicable to transfers pursuant to Rule 144A, as set out under "Transfer Restrictions".

# **CLEARING AND SETTLEMENT**

The information set out below is subject to any change in or reinterpretation of the rules, regulations and procedures of DTC, Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg (together, the "Clearing Systems") currently in effect. Investors wishing to use the facilities of any of the Clearing Systems are advised to confirm the continued applicability of the rules, regulations and procedures of the relevant Clearing System. None of the Issuer nor any other party to the Fiscal Agency Agreement will have any responsibility or liability for any aspect of the records relating to, or payments made on account of, beneficial ownership interests in the Notes held through the facilities of any Clearing System or for maintaining, supervising or reviewing any records relating to such beneficial ownership interests. The Kingdom has obtained the information in this section concerning DTC, Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg and their bookentry systems and procedures from sources that the Kingdom believes to be reliable, including from DTC, Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg, and the Kingdom takes responsibility for the accurate reproduction of this information. The Kingdom takes no responsibility, however, for the accuracy of this information. DTC, Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg are under no obligation to perform or continue to perform the procedures described below, and they may modify or discontinue them at anytime.

#### **The Clearing Systems**

Custodial and depositary links are to be established between DTC, Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg to facilitate the initial issue of the Notes and cross-market transfers of the Notes associated with secondary market trading. See "— *Book-Entry Ownership*" and "—*Settlement and Transfer of Notes*" below.

Investors may hold their interests in a Global Note directly through DTC, Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg if they are accountholders ("**Direct Participants**") or indirectly ("**Indirect Participants**" and, together with Direct Participants, "**Participants**") through organisations which are accountholders therein.

# Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg

Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg each hold securities for their customers and facilitate the clearance and settlement of securities transactions through electronic book-entry transfer between their respective accountholders. Indirect access to Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg is available to other institutions which clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with an accountholder of either system. Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg provide various services including safekeeping, administration, clearance and settlement of internationally-traded securities and securities lending and borrowing. Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg also deal with domestic securities markets in several countries through established depository and custodial relationships. Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg have established an electronic bridge between their two systems across which their respective customers may settle trades with each other. Their customers are worldwide financial institutions including underwriters, securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies and clearing corporations.

#### DTC

DTC has advised the Issuer as follows: DTC is a limited purpose trust company organised under the laws of the State of New York, a "banking organization" under the laws of the State of New York, a member of the U.S. Federal Reserve System, a "clearing corporation" within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial code and a "clearing agency" registered pursuant to the provisions of Section 17A of the Exchange Act. DTC was created to hold securities for its Participants and facilitate the clearance and settlement of securities transactions between Participants through electronic computerised book-entry changes in accounts of its Participants, thereby eliminating the need for physical movement of certificates. Participants include securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations and certain other organisations. Indirect access to DTC is available to others, such as banks, securities brokers, dealers and trust companies, that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a DTC Direct Participant, either directly or indirectly.

Investors may hold their interests in a Rule 144A Global Note directly through DTC if they are Direct Participants in the DTC system, or as Indirect Participants through organisations which are Direct Participants in such system.

Under the rules, regulations and procedures creating and affecting DTC and its operations (the "Rules"), DTC makes book-entry transfers of Rule 144A Notes represented by a Rule 144A Global Note among Direct Participants on whose behalf it acts with respect to Rule 144A Notes and receives and transmits distributions of principal and interest on Rule 144A Notes. The Rules are on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Direct Participants and Independent Participants with which beneficial owners of Rule 144A Notes have accounts with respect to the Rule 144A Notes similarly are required to make book-entry transfers and receive and transmit such payments on behalf of their beneficial

owners. Accordingly, although beneficial owners who hold Rule 144A Notes through Direct Participants or Indirect Participants will not possess Rule 144A Notes, the Rules, by virtue of the requirements described above, provide a mechanism by which Participants will receive payments and will be able to transfer their interest in respect of the Rule 144A Notes.

DTC has advised the Issuer that it will take any action permitted to be taken by a holder of Notes only at the direction of one or more Direct Participants and only in respect of such portion of the aggregate principal amount of a Rule 144A Global Note as to which such Participant or Participants has or have given such direction. However, in the circumstances described under "Provisions Relating to the Notes while in Global Form—Exchange for Definitive Notes", DTC will cause its custodian to surrender the relevant Rule 144A Global Note for exchange for Definitive Notes (which will bear the legend applicable to transfers pursuant to Rule 144A).

#### Payments through DTC

Payments of principal and interest in respect of a Global Note registered in the name of, or in the name of a nominee for, DTC will be made to the order of such nominee as the registered holder of such Note.

#### **Book-Entry Ownership**

#### Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg

The Regulation S Global Notes evidencing Regulation S Notes will each have an ISIN and a Common Code and will be registered in the name of a nominee for, and deposited with a common depositary on behalf of, Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg.

#### DTC

The Rule 144A Global Notes evidencing the Rule 144A Notes will each have an ISIN, Common Code and a CUSIP number and will be deposited with the Custodian and registered in the name of Cede & Co. as nominee of DTC. The Custodian and DTC will electronically record the principal amount of the Notes held within the DTC System.

# Relationship of Participants with Clearing Systems

Each of the persons shown in the records of DTC, Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg as the holder of a Note evidenced by a Global Note must look solely to DTC, Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg (as the case may be) for its share of each payment made by the Issuer to the holder of such Global Note and in relation to all other rights arising under such Global Note, subject to and in accordance with the respective rules and procedures of DTC, Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg (as the case may be). The Issuer expects that, upon receipt of any payment in respect of Notes evidenced by a Global Note, the common depositary by whom such Note is held, or nominee in whose name it is registered, will immediately credit the relevant Participants' or accountholders' accounts in the relevant Clearing System with payments in amounts proportionate to their respective beneficial interests in the principal amount of the relevant Global Note as shown on the records of the relevant Clearing System or its nominee. The Issuer also expects that payments by Direct Participants in any Clearing System to owners of beneficial interests in any Global Note held through such Direct Participants in any Clearing System will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices. Save as aforesaid, such persons shall have no claim directly against the Issuer in respect of payments due on the Notes for so long as the Notes are evidenced by such Global Note and the obligations of the Issuer will be discharged by payment to the registered holder of such Global Note in respect of each amount so paid. None of the Issuer, the Fiscal Agent or any other Paying and Transfer Agent will have any responsibility or liability for any aspect of the records relating to or payments made on account of ownership interests in any Global Note or for maintaining, supervising or reviewing any records relating to such ownership interests.

# **Settlement and Transfer of Notes**

Subject to the rules and procedures of each applicable Clearing System, purchases of Notes held within a Clearing System must be made by or through Direct Participants, which will receive a credit for such Notes on the Clearing System's records. The ownership interest of each actual purchaser of each such Note (the "Beneficial Owner") will in turn be recorded on the Direct and Indirect Participants' records.

Beneficial Owners will not receive written confirmation from any Clearing System of their purchase, but Beneficial Owners are expected to receive written confirmations providing details of the transaction, as well as periodic statements of their holdings, from the Direct or Indirect Participant through which such Beneficial Owner entered into the transaction.

Transfers of ownership interests in Notes held within the Clearing System will be effected by entries made on the books of Participants acting on behalf of Beneficial Owners. Beneficial Owners will not receive certificates evidencing their ownership interests in such Notes, unless and until interests in any Global Note held within a Clearing System are exchanged for Definitive Notes.

No Clearing System has knowledge of the actual Beneficial Owners of the Notes held within such Clearing System and their records will reflect only the identity of the Direct Participants to whose accounts such Notes are credited, which may or may not be the Beneficial Owners. The Participants will remain responsible for keeping account of their holdings on behalf of their customers. Conveyance of notices and other communications by the Clearing Systems to Direct Participants, by Direct Participants to Indirect Participants, and by Direct Participants and Indirect Participants to Beneficial Owners will be governed by arrangements among them, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time.

The laws of some jurisdictions may require that certain persons take physical delivery in definitive form of securities. Consequently, the ability to transfer interests in a Global Note to such persons may be limited. As DTC can only act on behalf of Direct Participants, who in turn act on behalf of Indirect Participants, the ability of a person having an interest in a Rule 144A Global Note to pledge such interest to persons or entities that do not participate in DTC, or otherwise take actions in respect of such interest, may be affected by a lack of a physical certificate in respect of such interest.

#### Trading between Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg Participants

Secondary market sales of book-entry interests in the Notes held through Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg to purchasers of book-entry interests in the Notes held through Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg will be conducted in accordance with the normal rules and operating procedures of Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg and will be settled using the procedures applicable to conventional Eurobonds.

# Trading between DTC Participants

Secondary market sales of book-entry interests in the Notes between DTC Participants will occur in the ordinary way in accordance with DTC rules and will be settled using the procedures applicable to United States corporate debt obligations in DTC's Same-Day Funds Settlement system in same-day funds, if payment is effected in U.S. Dollars, or free of payment, if payment is not effected in U.S. Dollars. Where payment is not effected in U.S. Dollars, separate payment arrangements outside DTC are required to be made between the DTC participants.

# Trading between DTC Seller and Euroclear/Clearstream, Luxembourg Purchaser

When book-entry interests in Notes are to be transferred from the account of a DTC Participant holding a beneficial interest in a Rule 144A Global Note to the account of a Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg accountholder wishing to purchase a beneficial interest in the relevant Regulation S Global Note (subject to the certification procedures provided in the Fiscal Agency Agreement), the DTC participant will deliver instructions for delivery to the relevant Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg accountholder to DTC by 12 noon, New York time, on the settlement date. Separate payment arrangements are required to be made between the DTC Participant and the relevant Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg Participant. On the settlement date, the custodian of the relevant Rule 144A Global Note will instruct the Registrar to (i) decrease the amount of Notes registered in the name of Cede & Co. and evidenced by such Rule 144A Global Note and (ii) increase the amount of Notes registered in the name of the nominee of the common depositary for Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg and evidenced by the relevant Regulation S Global Note. Bookentry interests will be delivered free of payment to Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg, as the case may be, for credit to the relevant accountholder on the first business day following the settlement date.

# Trading between Euroclear/Clearstream, Luxembourg Seller and DTC Purchaser

When book-entry interests in the Notes are to be transferred from the account of a Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg accountholder to the account of a DTC Participant wishing to purchase a beneficial interest in a Rule 144A Global Note (subject to the certification procedures provided in the Fiscal Agency Agreement), the Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg Participant must send to Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg delivery free of payment instructions by 7:45 p.m., Brussels or Luxembourg time, one business day prior to the settlement date. Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg, as the case may be, will in turn transmit appropriate instructions to the common depositary for Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg and the Registrar to arrange delivery to the DTC Participant on the settlement date. Separate payment arrangements are required to be made between the DTC Participant and the relevant Euroclear or Clearstream, Luxembourg accountholder, as the case may be. On the settlement date, the common depositary for Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg will (a) transmit appropriate instructions to the custodian of the relevant Rule 144A Global Note who will in turn deliver such book-entry interests in the Notes free of payment to the

relevant account of the DTC Participant and (b) instruct the Registrar to (i) decrease the amount of Notes registered in the name of the nominee of the common depositary for Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg and evidenced by the relevant Regulation S Global Note; and (ii) increase the amount of Notes registered in the name of Cede & Co. and evidenced by the relevant Rule 144A Global Note.

Although DTC, Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg have agreed to the foregoing procedures in order to facilitate transfers of beneficial interests in Global Notes among Participants and accountholders of DTC, Euroclear and Clearstream, Luxembourg, they are under no obligation to perform or continue to perform such procedures, and such procedures may be discontinued at any time. None of the Issuer, the Fiscal Agent or any other Paying and Transfer Agent will have any responsibility for the performance by DTC, Euroclear, Clearstream, Luxembourg or their respective Direct or Indirect Participants of their respective obligations under the rules and procedures governing their operations.

# **Settlement of Pre-issue Trades**

It is expected that delivery of Notes will be made against payment therefor on the Issue Date, which could be more than three business days following the date of pricing. Under Rule 15c6-1 under the Exchange Act, trades in the United States secondary market generally are required to settle within three business days (T+3), unless the parties to any such trade expressly agree otherwise.

Accordingly, purchasers who wish to trade Notes in the United States on the date of pricing or the next succeeding business days until three days prior to the Issue Date will be required, by virtue of the fact the Notes initially will settle beyond T+3, to specify an alternate settlement cycle at the time of any such trade to prevent a failed settlement. Settlement procedures in other countries will vary.

Purchasers of Notes may be affected by such local settlement practices and purchasers of Notes between the relevant date of pricing and the Issue Date should consult their own advisers.

# **TAXATION**

The following discussion summarises certain Moroccan tax considerations that may be relevant to Noteholders. It also includes a limited discussion of certain European Union considerations and certain U.S. federal income tax consequences. This summary is based on laws, regulations, rulings and decisions now in effect and is subject to changes in tax law, including changes that could have a retroactive effect.

This summary does not describe all of the tax considerations that may be relevant to Noteholders, particularly Noteholders subject to special tax rules. Noteholders are advised to consult their own professional advisers as to the consequences of purchasing Notes under the tax laws of the country of which they are resident for tax purposes and the tax laws of the Kingdom of acquiring, holding and disposing of Notes and receiving payments of interest, principal or other amounts under the Notes.

#### Moroccan Tax

This section summarises certain Moroccan tax consequences of issue and redemption of the Notes for non-residents of Morocco pursuant to applicable Moroccan legislation and is included for general information only. Prospective investors should consult their own tax adviser as to the tax consequences under the laws of Morocco of the acquisition, ownership and disposition of the Notes. Such laws and regulations are subject to change or varying interpretations.

#### **Principal and Interest**

Principal and interest paid under the Notes to non-resident individuals and non-resident entities is currently not subject to Moroccan withholding tax.

# Capital gains tax

No Moroccan tax will be payable in respect of any gain made by a non-resident entity from the disposal of the Notes. No capital gains tax arises in Morocco from the disposal of Notes by a non-resident individual, provided disposals are not effected on a regular basis.

#### Inheritance Taxes

No Moroccan inheritance or similar tax will be payable by a Noteholder who is a non-resident of the Kingdom of Morocco.

# Stamp Duties

No stamp, registration or similar duties or taxes will be payable in the Kingdom of Morocco by Noteholders on the creation, offering, issue and delivery of the Notes.

As used above a "non-resident individual" is a person who does not have his permanent home (or domicile) in Morocco, who does not have a place of economic interest in Morocco and who is present in Morocco for less than 183 days in any period of 365 days and a "non-resident entity" is a legal entity which has neither its principal administrative office nor a permanent establishment in Morocco. A Noteholder will not become resident in Morocco for Moroccan income tax purposes merely by acquiring Notes.

# **Certain U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences**

Notice pursuant to IRS Circular 230. The discussion of U.S. tax matters set forth herein is written in connection with the promotion or marketing of this offering and is not intended or written to be used, and cannot be used, by any taxpayer for the purpose of avoiding tax-related penalties under U.S. federal, state or local tax law. Each taxpayer should seek advice based upon its particular circumstances from an independent tax adviser concerning the potential tax consequences, including the state, local and non-U.S. tax consequences, of an investment in the Notes.

The following summary describes certain U.S. federal income tax consequences of the acquisition, ownership and disposition of the Notes by a U.S. Holder (as defined below) that acquires the Note in this Offering from the Initial Purchasers at a price equal to the issue price of the Notes (the first price at which a substantial amount of the Notes is sold for money to investors, excluding sales to bond houses, brokers or similar persons or organizations acting in the

capacity of initial purchasers, placement agents or wholesalers) and holds it as a capital asset. The following summary is based upon the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), U.S. Treasury regulations thereunder, and judicial and administrative interpretations thereof, all as in effect as of the date of this Offering Circular and any of which may at any time be repealed, revoked or modified or subject to differing interpretations, potentially retroactively, so as to result in U.S. federal income tax consequences different from those discussed below. There can be no assurances that the Internal Revenue Service (the "IRS") will not challenge one or more of the tax consequences described herein, and we have not obtained, nor do we intend to obtain, a ruling from the IRS with respect to the U.S. tax consequences of purchasing, owning or disposing of the Notes.

This summary does not address all aspects of U.S. federal income taxation that may be applicable to particular U.S. Holders subject to special U.S. federal income tax rules, including, but not limited to, tax-exempt organizations, financial institutions, dealers and traders in securities or currencies, traders in securities that elect to use a mark-to-market method of accounting, thrifts, regulated investment companies, real estate investment trusts, insurance companies, tax-deferred or other retirement accounts, U.S. Holders that will hold the Notes as part of a "straddle," hedging transaction, "conversion transaction" or other integrated transaction for U.S. federal income tax purposes, U.S. Holders that enter into "constructive sale" transactions with respect to the Notes, U.S. Holders liable for alternative minimum tax, U.S. Holders whose functional currency is the U.S. dollar and certain U.S. expatriates. In addition this summary does not address consequences to U.S. Holders of the acquisition, ownership and disposition of the Notes under any other U.S. federal tax laws (including, but not limited to, estate or gift tax laws) or under the tax laws of any state, locality or other political subdivision of the United States or other countries or jurisdictions.

The summary of the U.S. federal income tax consequences set out below is for general information only and is not tax advice with respect to any specific investor. Prospective investors should consult their own tax advisers as to the particular tax consequences to them of the acquisition, ownership and disposition of the Notes, including the applicability and effect of state, local, non-U.S. and other tax laws and possible changes in tax law.

As used herein, the term "U.S. Holder" means a beneficial owner of the Notes that is for U.S. federal income tax purposes: (a) an individual who is a citizen or resident of the U.S., (b) a corporation created or organized in or under the laws of the U.S., any state thereof or the District of Columbia, (c) an estate, the income of which is subject to U.S. federal income taxation regardless of its source or (d) a trust f it (x) is subject to the primary supervision of a U.S. court and the control of one or more U.S. persons or (y) has a valid election in effect under applicable U.S. Treasury regulations to be treated as a U.S. person.

If a partnership (or any entity or arrangement treated as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes) holds the Notes, the U.S. federal income tax treatment of a partner in the partnership will generally depend upon the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. Therefore, a beneficial owner of a Note that is a partnership, and partners in such partnership, should consult their own tax advisers regarding the U.S. federal income tax consequences of the acquisition, ownership and disposition of the Notes.

#### Payments of interest

Payments of interest on the Notes, including additional amounts, if any, generally will be taxable to a U.S. Holder as ordinary income at the time that such payments are received or accrued, in accordance with such U.S. Holder's usual method of accounting for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Interest income on the Notes generally will constitute income from sources outside the United States for U.S. federal income tax purposes and generally will be classified as "passive category income" or "general category income", for purposes of computing the foreign tax credit that may be allowable to U.S. Holders under U.S. federal income tax laws.

#### Sale, exchange, redemption or other disposition of Notes

Upon the sale, exchange, redemption, retirement at maturity or other taxable disposition of the Notes, a U.S. Holder generally will recognize taxable gain or loss equal to the difference between the amount realized (i.e., the amount of cash and the fair market value of any property received on the disposition (except to the extent the cash or property received is attributable to accrued and unpaid interest not previously included in income, which will be taxable as ordinary income to the extent not previously included in income)) and the U.S. Holder's tax basis in the Note. A U.S. Holder's tax basis in the Notes generally will equal the amount paid for the Note. Gain or loss recognized by a U.S. Holder on the sale, exchange or other disposition of the Notes will be capital gain or loss and will be long-term capital gain or loss if the Note was held by the U.S. Holder for more than one year. Gain or loss realized by a U.S. Holder on the sale or retirement of the Notes generally will be U.S. source. The deductibility of capital losses is subject to limitations. U.S. Holders should consult their own advisers about the availability of U.S. foreign tax credits or deductions with respect to Moroccan taxes imposed upon a disposition of the Notes, if any.

#### Information reporting and backup withholding

In general, payments of principal, interest on, and the proceeds of the sale, exchange or other taxable disposition of, the Notes, payable to a U.S. Holder by a U.S. paying agent or other U.S. related intermediary will be reported to the IRS and to the U.S. Holder as may be required under applicable regulations. Backup withholding will apply to these payments if the U.S. Holder fails to provide an accurate taxpayer identification number or certification of exempt status, or otherwise fails to comply with the applicable backup withholding requirements. Certain U.S. Holders (including corporations) are not subject to information reporting and backup withholding. Backup withholding is not an additional tax. The amount of any backup withholding imposed on a payment will be allowed as a credit against any U.S. federal income tax liability of a U.S. Holder and may entitle the U.S. Holder to a refund, provided the required information is timely furnished to the IRS. U.S. Holders should consult their own tax advisers regarding any filing and reporting obligations they may have as a result of their acquisition, ownership or disposition of the Notes.

# Recently enacted legislation

Recently enacted legislation imposes new tax reporting obligations on certain United States persons that own "specified foreign financial assets," including securities issued by any foreign person, either directly or indirectly or through certain foreign financial institutions, if the aggregate value of all of those assets exceeds U.S. \$50,000 on the last day of the taxable year or U.S.\$75,000 at any time during the taxable year. The new reporting requirement applies to individuals and, if specified by the IRS, domestic entities formed or availed of for the purpose of holding, directly or indirectly, specified foreign financial assets. The Notes may be treated as specified foreign financial assets, and investors may be subject to this information reporting regime. Significant penalties and an extended statute of limitations may apply to an investor subject to the new reporting requirement that fails to file information reports. Each prospective investor that is a United States person should consult its own tax advisor regarding the new information reporting obligation.

For taxable years beginning after December 31, 2012, certain U.S. Holders that are individuals, estates or trusts and whose income exceeds certain thresholds will be subject to an additional 3.8% Medicare tax on some or all of such U.S. Holder's "net investment income." Net investment income generally includes interest on, and gain from the disposition of, the Notes unless such interest income or gain is derived in the ordinary course of the conduct of a trade or business (other than a trade or business that consists of certain passive or trading activities). U.S. Holders should consult their tax advisors regarding the effect this new legislation may have, if any, on their acquisition, ownership or disposition of Notes.

# **EU Savings Directive**

Under the EU Savings Directive (Council Directive 2003/48/EC on the taxation of savings income), Member States are required to provide to the tax authorities of another Member State details of payments of interest (or similar income) paid by a person within its jurisdiction to an individual (or certain other types of person) resident in that other Member State. However, for a transitional period, Luxembourg and Austria will instead be required (unless during that period they elect otherwise) to operate a withholding system in relation to such payments (the ending of such transitional period being dependent upon the conclusion of certain other agreements relating to information exchange with certain other countries). A number of non-EU countries and territories (including Switzerland) have adopted similar measures (a withholding system in the case of Switzerland) with effect from the same date. The European Commission has proposed certain amendments to the EU Savings Directive, which may, if implemented, amend or broaden the scope of the requirements described above.

If a payment is made or collected through a Member State, which has opted for a withholding system and an amount of, or in respect of, tax were to be withheld from that payment pursuant to the EU Savings Directive or any law implementing or complying with, or introduced in order to conform to, the EU Savings Directive, neither the Kingdom nor any Paying Agent nor any other person is obliged to pay additional amounts with respect to any Note as a result of the imposition of such withholding tax. If a withholding tax is imposed on a payment made by a Paying Agent, the Kingdom will be required to maintain a Paying Agent in a Member State that would not be obliged to withhold or deduct tax pursuant to the EU Savings Directive.

# SUBSCRIPTION AND SALE

Each of Barclays Bank plc, BNP Paribas, Citigroup Global Markets Limited and Natixis (each, a "Joint Lead Manager" and, together, the "Joint Lead Managers") has, in a subscription agreement dated 10 December 2012 (the "Subscription Agreement") and upon the terms and subject to the conditions contained therein, agreed to subscribe and pay for the 2022 Notes at their issue price of 99.228% of their principal amount and the 2042 Notes at their issue price of 97.464% of their principal amount less a combined management and underwriting commission and a selling concession. The Joint Lead Managers are entitled in certain circumstances to be released and discharged from their obligations under the Subscription Agreement prior to the closing of the issue of the Notes.

#### **United States**

The Notes have not been and will not be registered under the Securities Act and may not be offered or sold within the United States except pursuant to an exemption from, or in a transaction not subject to, the registration requirements of the Securities Act. Accordingly, the Joint Lead Managers have agreed to offer the Notes for resale in the United States initially only to persons who they reasonably believe to be QIBs in reliance on Rule 144A and outside the United States in offshore transactions in reliance on Regulation S. Terms used in this paragraph have the respective meanings given to them by Regulation S.

The Notes are being offered and sold by the Joint Lead Managers outside the United States in accordance with Regulation S. The Subscription Agreement provides that the Joint Lead Managers may through their respective U.S. affiliates resell a portion of the Notes within the United States only to QIBs in reliance on Rule 144A.

# **United Kingdom**

Each Joint Lead Manager has represented and agreed that it has complied and will comply with all applicable provisions of the FSMA with respect to anything done by it in relation to the Notes in, from or otherwise involving the United Kingdom.

#### Morocco

Each Joint Lead Manager has represented and agreed that it has not offered or sold, and will not offer or sell, directly or indirectly, any Notes to the public in the Kingdom, and that it will not distribute this Prospectus or any other offering material relating to the Notes to the public in the Kingdom.

The Kingdom has represented and agreed that it has not offered and will not offer, directly or indirectly, any Notes to the public in the Kingdom.

#### Bahrain

Each Joint Lead Manager has represented and agreed that it will not offer the Notes to the Public (as defined in Articles 142-146 of the Commercial Companies Law (Decree Law • (21) of 2001) of Bahrain) in Bahrain.

#### Italy

The offering of the Notes has not been registered pursuant to the Italian securities legislation and, accordingly, each of the Joint Lead Managers has represented and agreed that it has not offered or sold, and will not offer or sell, any Notes in the Republic of Italy in a solicitation to the public, and that sales of the Notes in the Republic of Italy shall be effected in accordance with all Italian securities, tax, exchange control and other applicable laws and regulations. In any case, the Notes will not be sold, either in the primary or in the secondary market, to individuals residing in the Republic of Italy.

Each of the Joint Lead Managers has represented that it will not offer, sell or deliver any Notes or distribute copies of this Prospectus or any other document relating to the Notes in the Republic of Italy except to "**Professional Investors**", as defined in Article 31.2 of CONSOB Regulation • 11522 of July 1, 1998 ("**Regulation • 11522**"), as amended, pursuant to Articles 30.2 and 100 of Legislative Decree • 58 of February 24, 1998 ("**Decree • 58**"), or in any other circumstances where an express exemption from compliance with the solicitation restrictions provided by Decree • 58 or CONSOB Regulation • 11971 of May 14, 1999 applies, provided however, that any such offer, sale or delivery of Notes or distribution of copies of this Prospectus or any other document relating to the Notes in the Republic of Italy must be:

- (a) made by investment firms, banks or financial intermediaries permitted to conduct such activities in the Republic of Italy in accordance with Legislative Decree 385 of September 1, 1993 ("Decree 385"), Decree 58, Regulation 11522 and any other applicable laws and regulations; and
- (b) in compliance with any other applicable notification requirement or limitation which may be imposed by CONSOB or the Bank of Italy.

#### France

Notes may only be issued, offered or sold, directly or indirectly, in the Republic of France in accordance with Articles L.411-1 and L.411-2 of the *Code monétaire et financier*. Where an issue, offer or sale of the Notes is effected as an exception to the public offer rules (*offre publique*) in the Republic of France by way of an offer or sale to (i) qualified investors (*investisseurs qualifiés*) and/or (ii) a restricted circle of investors (*cercle restreint d'investisseurs*) all as defined in, and in accordance with Articles L.411-1 and L.411-2 of the *Code monétaire et financier* and Articles D.411-1 to D.411-4, D.734-1, D.744-1, D.754-1 and D.764-1 of the *Code monétaire et financier*, such qualified investors or investors of a restricted circle must be informed that:

- (a) the issue, offer or sale of the Notes does not require an information document to be submitted to the visa of the *Autorité des Marchés Financiers*;
- (b) they can only invest in the Notes for their own account; and
- (c) the direct or indirect offer or sale, to the public in the Republic of France, of the Notes so purchased can only be made in accordance with the *Code monétaire et financier*.

Each Joint Lead Manager has represented and agreed that it has not offered or sold and will not offer or sell, directly or indirectly, Notes to the public in the Republic of France (offre publique), and has not distributed or caused to be distributed and will not distribute or cause to be distributed to the public in the Republic of France, the Prospectus or any other offering material relating to the Notes, and that such offers, sales and distributions have been and shall only be made in the Republic of France to (i) qualified investors (investisseurs qualifiés) and/or (ii) a restricted circle of investors (cercle restreint d'investisseurs) acting for their own account, all as defined in, and in accordance with Articles L.411-1 and L.411-2 of the Code monétaire et financier and Articles D.411-1 to D.411-4, D.734-1, D.744-1, D.754-1 and D.764-1 of the Code monétaire et financier.

# Hong Kong

Each Joint Lead Manager has represented and agreed that it has not issued or had in its possession for the purposes of issue, and will not issue or have in its possession for the purposes of issue, whether in Hong Kong or elsewhere, any advertisement, invitation or document relating to the Notes, which is directed at, or the contents of which are likely to be accessed or read by, the public of Hong Kong (except if permitted to do so under the securities laws of Hong Kong) other than with respect to Notes which are or are intended to be disposed of only to persons outside Hong Kong or only to "professional investors" as defined in the Securities and Futures Ordinance and any rules made under that Ordinance.

# Japan

The Notes have not been and will not be registered under the Financial Instruments and Exchange Law of Japan (the "Financial Instruments and Exchange Law"). Each Joint Lead Manager has represented and agreed that it has not, directly or indirectly, offered or sold and will not, directly or indirectly, offer or sell any Notes in Japan or to, or for the benefit of, any resident of Japan (which term as used herein means any person resident in Japan, including any corporation or other entity organized under the laws of Japan) or to others for re-offering or re-sale, directly or indirectly, in Japan or to, or for the benefit of, any resident of Japan except pursuant to an exemption from the registration requirements of, or otherwise in compliance with, the Financial Instruments and Exchange Law and other relevant laws and regulations of Japan.

# Saudi Arabia

No action has been or will be taken in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia that would permit a public offering of the Notes. Any investor in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia or who is a Saudi person (a "Saudi Investor") who acquires any Notes pursuant to an offering should note that the offer of the Notes is a private placement under Article 10 or Article 11 of the "Offer of Securities Regulations" as issued by the Board of the Capital Market Authority resolution number 2-11-2004 dated 4 October 2004 and amended by the Board of the Capital Market Authority resolution number 1-28-2008 dated 18 August 2008 (the "CMA Regulations") through a person authorised by the Capital Market Authority (the

"CMA") to carry on the securities activity of arranging and following a notification to the CMA under the CMA Regulations.

The Notes may thus not be advertised, offered or sold to any person in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia other than to "sophisticated investors" under Article 10 of the CMA Regulations or by way of a limited offer under Article 11 of the CMA Regulations.

Each Joint Lead Manager has represented and agreed that any offer of Notes to a Saudi Investor will comply with the CMA Regulations.

Investors are informed that Article 17 of the CMA Regulations place restrictions on secondary market activity with respect to the Notes, which are summarised as follows:

- (a) any transfer must be made through an entity licensed by the CMA;
- (b) a person (the "transferor") who has acquired Notes may not offer or sell such Notes or part thereof to any person (referred to as a "transferee") unless (i) the price to be paid by the transferee for such Notes equals or exceeds Saudi Riyals 1,000,000; or (ii) the transferee is a sophisticated investor (as defined under the CMA Regulations);
- (c) if the provisions of paragraph (b) cannot be fulfilled because the price of the Notes being offered or sold to the transferee has declined since the date of the original private placement, the transferor may offer or sell the Notes to the transferee if their purchase price during the period of the original private placement was equal to or exceeded Saudi Riyals 1,000,000 or an equivalent amount;
- (d) if the provisions of (b) and (c) cannot be fulfilled, the transferor may offer or sell the Notes if he/she sells his entire holding of the Notes to one transferee; and
- (e) the provisions of paragraphs (b), (c) and (d) shall apply to all subsequent transferees of the Notes.

#### **Singapore**

This Prospectus has not and will not be registered as a prospectus with the Monetary Authority of Singapore under the Securities and Futures Act, Chapter 289 of Singapore (the "Securities and Futures Act"). Each Joint Lead Manager has represented and agreed that it will not circulate or distribute the Prospectus and any other document or material in connection with the offer or sale or invitation for subscription or purchase of the Notes. The Notes may not be offered or sold or made the subject of an invitation for subscription or purchase, whether directly or indirectly, to persons in Singapore other than (a) to an institutional investor pursuant to Section 274 of the Securities and Futures Act, (b) to a relevant person under Section 275(1) of the Securities and Futures Act or any person under Section 275(1A) of the Securities and Futures Act, and in accordance with the conditions specified in Section 275 of the Securities and Futures Act or (c) otherwise pursuant to, and in accordance with the conditions of, any other applicable provision of the Securities and Futures Act.

Each Joint Lead Manager has represented and agreed that that where the Notes are subscribed or purchased under Section 275 of the Securities and Futures Act by a relevant person which is:

- (a) a corporation (which is not an accredited investor as defined in Section 4A of the Securities and Futures Act) the sole business of which is to hold investments and the entire share capital of which is owned by one or more individuals, each of whom is an accredited investor under the Securities and Futures Act; or
- (b) a trust (where the trustee is not an accredited investor under the Securities and Futures Act) whose sole purpose is to hold investments and each beneficiary of the trust is an accredited investor,

shares, debentures or units of shares or debentures of that corporation or the beneficiaries' rights and interest in that trust shall not be transferable for six months after that corporation or that trust has so acquired the Notes unless:

- (i) the transfer is to an institutional investor under Section 274 of the Securities and Futures Act or to a relevant person or any person under Section 275(1) and Section 275(1A) of the Securities and Futures Act respectively, and in accordance with the conditions specified in Section 275 of the Securities and Futures Act;
- (ii) where no consideration is given for the transfer; or (iii) by operation of law.

#### **Oatar**

All applications for an investment in the Notes will be received, and any allotments made, from outside Qatar. The Notes have not been and will not be registered in Qatar and have not been offered, sold or delivered, and will not be offered, sold or delivered at any time, directly or indirectly, in Qatar in a manner that would constitute a public offering. The Prospectus is strictly private and confidential and may be issued only to a limited number of sophisticated investors in Qatar and may not be reproduced or used for any other purpose nor provided to any other person.

#### **UAE**

This Prospectus may be issued to a limited number of selected institutional/sophisticated investors: (a) upon their request and confirmation that they understand that the Notes have not been approved or licensed by or registered with the United Arab Emirates Central Bank or any other relevant licensing authorities or governmental agencies in the United Arab Emirates; (b) on the condition that this Prospectus will not be provided to any person other than the original recipient, is not for general circulation in the United Arab Emirates and may not be reproduced or used for any other purpose; and (c) on the condition that no sale of securities or other investment products is intended to be consummated within the United Arab Emirates. Each Joint Lead Manager has represented and agreed that it will not offer or sell any Notes directly or indirectly to the public in the United Arab Emirates and will not consummate any agreement relating to the sale of the Notes in the United Arab Emirates. This Prospectus has not been and will not be approved by or filed with the Dubai Financial Services Authority.]

#### General

No action has been taken by the Kingdom or any of the Joint Lead Managers that is intended to permit a public offer of the Notes in any country or jurisdiction where any such action for that purpose is required. Accordingly, each Joint Lead Manager has undertaken that it will not, directly or indirectly, offer or sell any Notes or distribute or publish any Prospectus, form of application, advertisement or other document or information in any country or jurisdiction except under circumstances that will, to the best of its knowledge and belief, result in compliance with any applicable laws and regulations and all offers and sales of Notes by it will be made on the same terms.

# TRANSFER RESTRICTIONS

Each purchaser of Rule 144A Notes, by accepting delivery of this Prospectus and the Notes, will be deemed to have represented, agreed and acknowledged that:

- 1. It is (a) a QIB, (b) acting for its own account, or for the account of a QIB, (c) not formed for the purpose of investing in the Issuer, and (d) aware, and each beneficial owner of such Notes has been advised, that the sale of such Notes to it is being made in reliance on Rule 144A. If it is acquiring any Notes for the account of one or more QIBs, it represents that it has sole investment discretion with respect to each such account and that it has the full power to make the foregoing representations, agreements and acknowledgements on behalf of each such account.
- 2. It understands that the Rule 144A Notes are being offered only in a transaction not involving any public offering in the United States within the meaning of the Securities Act, and that the Rule 144A Notes have not been and will not be registered under the Securities Act and may not be offered, sold, pledged or otherwise transferred except (a) in accordance with Rule 144A to a person that it and any person acting on its behalf reasonably believe is a QIB purchasing for its own account or for the account of a QIB or (b) in an offshore transaction in accordance with Rule 903 or Rule 904 of Regulation S under the Securities Act, in each case in accordance with any applicable securities laws of any State or another jurisdiction of the United States.
- 3. The Issuer has the right to refuse to honour the transfer of an interest in the Rule 144A Notes to a U.S. person who is not a QIB.
- 4. It understands that the Rule 144A Notes, unless otherwise agreed between the Issuer and the Fiscal Agent in accordance with applicable law, will bear a legend to substantially the following effect:
  - THIS NOTE HAS NOT BEEN AND WILL NOT BE REGISTERED UNDER THE U.S. SECURITIES ACT OF 1933, AS AMENDED (THE "SECURITIES ACT"), OR WITH ANY SECURITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF ANY STATE OR OTHER JURISDICTION OF THE UNITED STATES AND MAY NOT BE OFFERED, SOLD, PLEDGED OR OTHERWISE TRANSFERRED EXCEPT (1) IN ACCORDANCE WITH RULE 144A UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT ("RULE 144A") TO A PERSON THAT THE HOLDER AND ANY PERSON ACTING ON ITS BEHALF REASONABLY BELIEVE IS A QUALIFIED INSTITUTIONAL BUYER WITHIN THE MEANING OF RULE 144A (A "OIB"), THAT IS ACQUIRING THIS NOTE FOR ITS OWN ACCOUNT OR FOR THE ACCOUNT OF ONE OR MORE QIBS, (2) IN AN OFFSHORE TRANSACTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH RULE 903 OR RULE 904 OF REGULATION S UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OR (3) PURSUANT TO AN EXEMPTION FROM REGISTRATION UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT PROVIDED BY RULE 144 THEREUNDER, IF AVAILABLE, IN EACH CASE IN ACCORDANCE WITH ANY APPLICABLE SECURITIES LAWS OF ANY STATE OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE HOLDER WILL, AND EACH SUBSEQUENT HOLDER IS REQUIRED TO, NOTIFY ANY PURCHASER OF THE RESALE RESTRICTIONS REFERRED TO ABOVE. NO REPRESENTATION CAN BE MADE AS TO THE AVAILABILITY OF ANY EXEMPTION UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT FOR RESALES OF THE NOTES.
- 5. It acknowledges that the Issuer, the Registrar, the Joint Lead Managers and their affiliates, and others will rely upon the truth and accuracy of the foregoing acknowledgements, representations and agreements and agrees that, if any of the acknowledgements, representations or agreements deemed to have been made by it by its purchase of Rule 144A Notes is no longer accurate, it shall promptly notify the Issuer and the Joint Lead Managers. If it is acquiring any Notes as a fiduciary or agent for one or more investor accounts, it represents that it has sole investment discretion with respect to each of those accounts and that it has full power to make the foregoing acknowledgements, representations and agreements on behalf of each account.
- 6. It understands that the Rule 144A Notes will be evidenced by a Rule 144A Global Note. Before any interest in a Rule 144A Global Note may be offered, sold, pledged or otherwise transferred to a person who takes delivery in the form of an interest in a Regulation S Global Note, it will be required to provide a Paying and Transfer Agent with a written certification (in the form provided in the Fiscal Agency Agreement) as to compliance with applicable securities laws.
- 7. Prospective purchasers are hereby notified that sellers of the Notes may be relying on the exemption from the provisions of Section 5 of the Securities Act provided by Rule 144A.

Each purchaser of the Regulation S Notes, by accepting delivery of this Prospectus and the Notes, will have been deemed to have represented, agreed and acknowledged that:

- 1. It is, or at the time the Regulation S Notes are purchased will be, the beneficial owner of such Regulation S Notes and (a) that it is located outside the United States (within the meaning of Regulation S) and (b) it is not an affiliate of the Issuer or a person acting on behalf of such an affiliate.
- 2. It understands that the Regulation S Notes have not been and will not be registered under the Securities Act and may not be offered, sold, pledged or otherwise transferred except (a) in accordance with Rule 144A to a person that it and any person acting on its behalf reasonably believe is a QIB purchasing for its own account or for the account of one or more QIBs or (b) to a non U.S. person in an offshore transaction in accordance with Rule 903 or Rule 904 of Regulation S, in each case in accordance with any applicable securities laws of any State of the United States.
- 3. It understands that Regulation S Notes will be evidenced by a Regulation S Global Note. Before any interest in a Regulation S Global Note may be offered, sold, pledged or otherwise transferred to a person who takes delivery in the form of an interest in the corresponding Rule 144A Global Note, it will be required to provide a Paying and Transfer Agent with a written certification (in the form provided in the Fiscal Agency Agreement) as to compliance with applicable securities laws.
- 4. It acknowledges that the Issuer, the Registrar, the Joint Lead Managers and their affiliates, and others will rely upon the truth and accuracy of the foregoing acknowledgements, representations and agreements and agrees that, if any of the acknowledgements, representations or agreements deemed to have been made by it by its purchase of the Regulation S Notes is no longer accurate, it shall promptly notify the Issuer and the Joint Lead Managers. If it is acquiring any Notes as a fiduciary or agent for one or more investor accounts, it represents that it has sole investment discretion with respect to each of those accounts and that it has full power to make the foregoing acknowledgements, representations and agreements on behalf of each account.

# **GENERAL INFORMATION**

#### Authorisation

The Kingdom has obtained all necessary consents, approvals and authorisations in the Kingdom in connection with the issue and performance of its obligations under the Notes. The issue of the Notes was authorised pursuant to Article 47 of the Budget Law for 2012 (Law • 22-12), Decree • 2-12-81, dated 16 May 2012, authorising borrowings during the 2012 fiscal year and Decree • 2-12-732, to be dated 11 December 2012, approving the principal terms of the issue.

#### Documents available for inspection

Application has been made to the Luxembourg Stock Exchange for the Notes to be admitted to trading on the Luxembourg Stock Exchange's regulated market and to be listed on the official list of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange. For so long as any of the Notes are so listed and the rules of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange shall so require, the Kingdom will maintain a Paying Agent in Luxembourg. Copies (and certified English translations where the documents in question are not in English) of the following documents may be inspected during normal business hours at the offices of the Paying Agent in Luxembourg:

- the Kingdom's 2010, 2011 and 2012 budgets;
- the Fiscal Agency Agreement;
- the Deed of Covenant; and
- Decrees 2-12-81 and 2-12-732 referred to above.

This Prospectus is published on the website of the Luxembourg Stock Exchange, being www.bourse.lu.

# **Estimated Expenses**

Estimated total expenses related to the admission to trading are approximately €4,600.

# **Trading Information**

The Notes have been accepted for clearance through Euroclear, Clearstream, Luxembourg and DTC. The Common Code and ISIN for the Regulation S Notes and the Common Code, ISIN and CUSIP number for the Rule 144A Notes are as follows:

# **2022 Notes**

Regulation S Notes

Common Code: 085002058 ISIN: XS0850020586

Rule 144A Notes

Common Code: 085001892 ISIN: US617726AF15 CUSIP: 617726 AF1

# **2042 Notes**

Regulation S Notes

Common Code: 086425971 ISIN: XS0864259717

Rule 144A Notes

Common Code: 086426773 ISIN: US617726AG97 CUSIP: 617726 AG9 The address of Euroclear is 1 Boulevard du Roi Albert II, B-1210 Brussels, Belgium. The address of Clearstream, Luxembourg is 42 Avenue JF Kennedy, L-1855 Luxembourg. The address of DTC is 55 Water Street, New York, NY 10041, United States of America.

# Litigation

The Kingdom is not nor has it been involved in any governmental, legal or arbitration proceedings (including any proceedings which are pending or threatened of which the Kingdom is aware) which may have, or have had in the 12 months preceding the date of this Prospectus, significant effects on the Kingdom's financial position or economy.

#### **Significant Change**

There has been no significant change in the information set out in this Prospectus under "The Moroccan Economy", "External Sector", "Monetary and Financial System", "Public Finance" and "Public Debt" since 31 December 2011. There have been no recent events relevant to the evaluation of the Kingdom's solvency.

#### **Indication of Yield**

The indication of yield in relation to the 2022 Notes is 4.346% *per annum*. The indication of yield in relation to the 2042 Notes is 5.677% *per annum*. This yield is calculated at the Issue Date on the basis of the Issue Price. It is not an indication of future yield.

#### Address

The address of the Issuer is: Kingdom of Morocco, Ministry of Economy and Finance, Direction du Trésor et des Finances Extérieures, Avenue Mohammed V, Quartier administratif, 10000 Rabat, Morocco.

The telephone number of the Issuer is +212 5 37 67 73 54 or +212 5 37 67 73 55.

# THE KINGDOM

# Kingdom of Morocco

Ministry of Economy and Finance
Direction du Trésor et des Finances Extérieures
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# JOINT LEAD MANAGERS

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United Kingdom

Natixis 30 avenue Pierre Mendès-France 75013 Paris France

# FISCAL AGENT, PRINCIPAL PAYING AND TRANSFER AGENT AND REGISTRAR

# Citibank N.A., London Branch

21<sup>st</sup> floor, Citigroup Centre Canada Square Canary Wharf London E14 5LB United Kingdom

# LEGAL ADVISERS

To the Kingdom as to English and U.S. law:

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To the Managers as to English and U.S. law:

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