# NATIONAL COMMERCIAL BANK JAMAICA LIMITED "the Bank" AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES "the Group"

The Board of Directors has released the following un-audited results for the Group for the six months ended 31 March 2005.

	QUARTER	SIX MONTHS	QUARTER	SIX MONTHS
	ENDED	ENDED	ENDED	ENDED
	31 03 2005	31 03 2005	31 03 2004	31 03 2004
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
REVENUE	6,477,832	13,111,842	6,595,144	12,944,551
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EXPENSE	5,619,514	10,904,246	5,362,071	10,741,354
Operating Profit	858,318	2,207,596	1,233,073	2,203,197
Share of profit of associates	56,741	104,477	-	-
Profit before Taxation	915,059	2,312,073	1,233,073	2,203,197
Taxation	(267,701)	(593,784)	(83,736)	(307,652)
Net Profit	647,358	1,718,289	1,149,337	1,895,545
Earnings per Stock Unit		\$0.70		\$0.77

Net profit for the Group for the six months ended 31 March 2005 was \$1.7 billion compared to \$1.9 billion for the corresponding period of the previous year, a decrease of \$177.3 million, or 9%. Operating income (less interest expense) for the six months was \$7.9 billion, an increase of \$1.3 billion or 19% when compared to the same period of the previous year. Net trading income increased by \$955.1 million or 143% compared to March 2004 due mainly to sale of debt and equity securities and fair value gains.

The Group made a full provision during the second quarter for the impairment of the investment in Dyoll Group Limited of \$536 million. Excluding the provision, the operating expenses for the second quarter decreased by \$125 million or 5% compared to the first quarter.

### PERFORMANCE AT A GLANCE

### **Comparison of Key Ratios**

	Mar	Mar
	2005	2004
Return on Average Equity	19.9%	27.2%
Return on Average Total Assets	1.9%	2.5%
Growth in Revenue	1.3%	55.6%
Cost/Income Ratio	64.1%	63.1%
Net Asset Value per Share	\$7.42	\$6.08

#### REVENUES

Total revenues for the Group increased by \$167.3 million or 1.3% compared to the corresponding six months of the previous year. Interest income from securities declined by \$1.7 billion or 19% due to the reduction in interest rates, but this decrease was offset by continued growth in loan income and non-interest income as follows:

- Income from loans increased by \$608.7 million or 26%.
- Non-interest income increased by \$1.26 billion or 79%.

### LOAN PORTFOLIO

Loans and advances totaled \$38.9 billion as at March 2005, an increase of \$4.9 billion or 14.3% over the six month period. As at the end of the quarter the growth in loans and advances represented a \$5.6 billion or 17% increase over March 2004.

The aggregate amount of non-performing loans amounted to \$1.6 billion compared to \$1.47 billion as at 30 September 2004. Provision for credit losses for the six months to date is \$80.6 million compared to \$229.5 million for the corresponding period of the prior year, a decrease of 65%. During the second quarter, recoveries of \$139.9M resulted in the net reduction of provision by \$84.4 million. The results for the first quarter included a net charge to profit of \$165 million.

As at 31 March 2005 the accumulated provision for credit losses of \$2.24 billion was 140% of nonperforming loans. Provisions for credit losses that exceed the amounts required by International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) are credited to a non-distributable Loan Loss Reserve. As at 31 March 2005 the balance in the Loan Loss Reserve was \$125.8 million. The Bank's provisioning policy is in compliance with the Bank of Jamaica regulations.

### **BALANCE SHEET**

The Group's total assets as at 31 March 2005 was \$188.5 billion, a growth of \$12.6 billion or 7% compared to 30 September 2004. The increase in the asset base is mainly attributable to the growth in the loans and advances and reverse repurchase agreements of 14% and 17% respectively.

The growth in the asset base over the six month period was mainly funded as follows:

	INCREASE		
	\$B	%	
Customer Deposits	2.7	3.4	
Repurchase Agreements	3.3	8.8	
Securitisation Arrangements	2.2	23.0	
Policyholders Funds	1.2	17.0	

### CAPITAL

As at 31 March 2005 the Group's total stockholders equity was \$18.3 billion, an increase of \$2.01 billion or 12.4% when compared to September 2004. National Commercial Bank is one of the best capitalised banks in Jamaica as evidenced by the international benchmark of capital adequacy. As at 31 March 2005 the Risk-based Capital Ratio was 19.82% compared to 21.55% as at 30 September 2004 which is in compliance with the minimum requirement of 10% by the Bank of Jamaica.

### PROVISION FOR IMPAIRMENT OF INVESTMENTS IN ASSOCIATE

As at reporting date, the results for Dyoll Group Limited for year ended 31 December 2004 were not released. Trading in Dyoll shares was suspended on 15 February 2005 because of its failure to provide material information to the Jamaica Stock Exchange in keeping with the Exchange's Policy Statement on Timely Disclosure.

As a result of the claims arising from the devastating impact of Hurricane Ivan on the Cayman Islands, the company has suffered material losses. The Financial Services Commission appointed a temporary manager for Dyoll Insurance Company Limited on 7 March 2005. Based on the temporary manager's first interim report to the Financial Services Commission, the Dyoll Insurance Company's deficit is approximately \$1.146 billion and liquidation of the company was proposed. Therefore, a full impairment provision has been made for this investment.

### **BASIS OF PREPARATION**

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), and have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the revaluation of available-for-sale investment securities, trading securities, derivative contracts, investment property and certain property, plant and equipment

As at 1 October 2004, the bank has adopted IFRS 3 (Business Combinations). This has resulted in the transfer of the negative goodwill arising on acquisition of associates to retained earnings. Positive goodwill is assessed annually for impairment and is no longer amortised.

One of the bank's subsidiaries, NCB Insurance Company Limited, has not opted for the early adoption of IFRS 4 (Insurance Contracts).

All amounts are stated in Jamaican dollars unless otherwise indicated

### **COMMUNITY RELATIONS**

As NCB continues to live up to its promise to build a better Jamaica, the Bank concentrated its activities in supporting events which promoted economic development in the first quarter of 2005. NCB supported the Hague Agricultural Show in Trelawny, the China Caribbean Trade Forum, the inaugural Annatto Festival held in St. Mary and the National Spelling Bee competition among others.

NCB Chairman, Michael Lee-Chin pledged, on behalf of the Bank, \$2M to the Rotary Club's efforts to develop the area beside the Dunrobin Primary School into a Park. Crime Stop also received a donation of \$100,000 in support of their efforts to fight crime.

As a part of its continuing efforts to support education, the NCB Jamaican Education Initiative (JEI) hosted a workshop in February to help teachers to prepare students for success in the CXC Examinations.

In addition to these events, our branches have been working within their communities to promote nation building.

Consolidated Profit & Loss Account

Six Months Ended 31 March 2005

	Quarter Ended	Year to Date	Quarter Ended	Year to Date
	31 Mar 2005	31 Mar 2005	31 Mar 2004	31 Mar 2004
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Operating Revenue				
Interest income from loans	1,451,385	2,964,573	1,222,748	2,355,914
Interest income from securities	3,579,253	7,290,308	4,376,891	8,932,900
Total interest income	5,030,638	10,254,881	5,629,199	11,351,046
Interest expense	(2,587,289)	(5,250,512)	(3,180,900)	(6,348,317)
Net interest income	2,443,349	5,004,369	2,448,299	5,002,729
Net fee and commission income	597,811	1,153,385	555,941	954,777
Net trading income	810,209	1,622,411	446,079	667,810
Other operating income	39,174	81,165	(6,515)	33,150
	3,890,543	7,861,330	3,414,244	6,596,234
Operating Expenses				
Staff costs	1,447,193	2,776,454	1,076,340	2,263,827
Provision for credit losses	(84,413)	80,594	194,737	229,514
Provision for impairment of investment in Dyoll	535,761	535,761	-	-
Depreciation	255,261	506,824	164,412	309,038
Other operating expenses	878,423	1,754,101	745,682	1,590,658
	3,032,225	5,653,734	2,181,171	4,393,037
Operating profit	858,318	2,207,596	1,233,073	2,203,197
Share of profits of associates	56,741	104,477		
Profit before taxation	915,059	2,312,073	1,233,073	2,203,197
Taxation	(267,701)	(593,784)	(83,736)	(307,652)
Net Profit	647,358	1,718,289	1,149,337	1,895,545
EARNINGS PER STOCK UNIT		\$ 0.70		\$ 0.77

Consolidated Balance Sheet

31 March 2005

	March 2005	September 2004
ASSETS	\$'000	\$'000
Cash and balances at Bank of Jamaica	14,406,360	13,986,481
Due from other banks	11,856,638	13,659,635
Trading securities	1,457,609	293,885
Reverse repurchase agreements	25,028,187	21,372,536
Loans and advances, net of provision for credit losses	38,889,908	34,024,628
Investment securities	78,660,783	77,494,225
Investment in associates, net of provision for impairment	1,448,229	1,163,192
Investment properties	9,800	21,300
Property, plant and equipment	4,335,300	4,432,289
Retirement benefit asset	7,602	7,602
Income tax recoverable	334,606	244,001
Other assets	8,714,135	6,081,825
Customers' liability on acceptances, guarantees,		
indemnities and letters of credits	3,325,758	3,090,418
Total Assets	188,474,915	175,872,017

Consolidated Balance Sheet **31 March 2005** 

	March	September
	2005	2004
LIABILITIES	\$'000	\$'000
Due to other banks	5,613,252	6,794,790
Customer deposits	82,594,740	79,862,280
Derivative financial instruments	10,317	44,983
Promissory notes and certificates of participation	9,205,684	9,768,128
Repurchase agreements Obligations under credit card and cash advance	40,807,793	37,496,253
securitisation arrangements	11,596,007	9,427,736
Other borrowed funds	1,181,502	1,069,318
Income tax payable	853,651	405,854
Deferred tax liabilities	729,976	852,926
Policyholders' liabilities	8,085,163	6,912,610
Provisions	146,873	117,000
Retirement benefit obligations	222,057	209,879
Other liabilities	5,794,845	3,525,837
Liability on acceptances, guarantees,		
indemnities and letters of credits	3,325,758	3,090,418
Total Liabilities	170,167,618	159,578,012
STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Share capital	2,466,763	2,466,763
Share premium	4,453,752	4,453,752
Fair value and other reserves	1,717,045	1,266,714
Loan loss reserve	125,832	111,650
Banking reserve fund	1,327,000	1,327,000
Retained earnings reserve	3,119,761	3,119,761
Retained earnings	5,097,144	3,548,365
Total Stockholders' Equity	18,307,297	16,294,005
Total Equity and Liabilities		

Approved for issue by the Board of Directors on 28 April 2005 and signed on its behalf by:

Director

Director

Secretary

Consolidated Statement of Changes in Stockholders' Equity

#### Six Months Ended 31 March 2005

	Share	Share	Fair Value and Other	Loan Loss Reserve	Banking Reserve Fund	Retained Earnings	Retained	Total
	Capital \$'000	Premium \$'000	Reserves \$'000	\$'000	\$'000	Reserve \$'000	Earnings \$'000	\$'000
Balance as at 1 October 2003	2,466,763	4,453,752	(270,773)	72,891	1,078,000	1,218,761	3,852,438	12,871,832
Currency translation differences	-	-	6,597	-		-	-	6,597
Unrealised gains on available-for-sale investments, net of taxes		-	1,062,950	-	-	-	-	1,062,950
Net gains not recognised in consolidated profit & loss account	-	-	1,069,547	-	-	-	-	1,069,547
Net Profit	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,895,545	1,895,545
Dividends paid	-	-	-	-	-	-	(888,035)	(888,035)
Transfer to Loan Loss Reserve		-	-	92,492	-	-	(92,492)	-
Balance as at 31 March 2004	2,466,763	4,453,752	798,774	165,383	1,078,000	1,218,761	4,767,456	14,948,889
Balance as at 1 October 2004	2,466,763	4,453,752	1,266,714	111,650	1,327,000	3,119,761	3,548,365	16,294,005
Currency translation differences	-	-	(7,561)	-	-	-	-	(7,561)
Unrealised gains on available-for-sale investments, net of taxes	-	-	1,359,087	-	-	-	-	1,359,087
Realised fair value gain transferred to consolidated profit & loss account	<u> </u>	-	(904,821)	-	-	-	-	(904,821)
Net gains not recognised in Consolidated profit & loss account	-	-	446,705	-	-	-	-	446,705
Net profit	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,718,289	1,718,289
Dividends paid		-	-	-	-	-	(888,035)	(888,035)
Negative goodwill transferred to retained earnings								
on adoption of IFRS 3	-	-	-	-	-	-	752,207	752,207
Transfer from Loan Loss Reserve	-	-	-	14,182	-	-	(14,182)	-
Other			3,626				(19,500)	(15,874)
Balance as at 31 March 2005	2,466,763	4,453,752	1,717,045	125,832	1,327,000	3,119,761	5,097,144	18,307,297

Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows

Six months ended 31 March 2005

	March	March
	2005	2004
	\$'000	\$'000
Cash Flows from Operating Activities		
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	1,313,020	(2,917,793)
Cash Flows from Investing Activities		
Acquisition of property, plant and equipment, net	(396,960)	(494,421)
Investment Securities, net	(2,339,959)	10,066,624
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities	(2,736,919)	9,572,203
Cash Flows from Financing Activities		
Drawdowns under credit card and cash advance		
securitisation arrangements	2,778,317	-
Repayments under credit card and cash advance		
securitisation arrangements	(576,290)	(730,571)
Other borrowed funds	112,184	127,750
Dividends paid	(888,035)	(888,035)
Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities	1,426,176	(1,490,856)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	2,277	5,163,554
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	14,892,665	6,078,693
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	14,894,942	11,242,247

#### Comprising:

	14,894,942	11,242,247
Due to other banks	(5,613,252)	(6,043,011)
Investment securities	3,395,190	3,723,519
Due from other banks	11,856,638	10,563,281
Cash and balances at Bank of Jamaica	5,256,366	2,998,458

Segment Report	Banking	Wealth Management	Insurance	Others	Eliminations	Consolidated
Six months ended 31 March 2005	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
External operating revenue	8,375,427	4,055,944	669,085	11,386		13,111,842
Operating revenues from other						
segments	442,446	115,290	83,529	19,290	(660,555)	-
Operating revenue	8,817,873	4,171,234	752,614	30,676	(660,555)	13,111,842
Segment result	1,253,470	1,149,474	215,509	2,066	(412,923)	2,207,596
Share of profit of associates					_	104,477
Profit before tax						2,312,073
Taxation expense						(593,784)
Net Profit					=	1,718,289
Segment assets	124,733,038	54,938,719	8,833,745	279,797	(2,093,219)	186,692,080
Associates						1,448,229
Unallocated assets					_	334,606
Total Assets					=	188,474,915
Segment liabilities	112,548,158	49,691,830	8,178,511	295,908	(2,130,416)	168,583,991
Unallocated liabilities					_	1,583,627
Total liabilities					=	170,167,618
Depreciation	487,292	13,671	4,901	960		506,824

#### Segment Reporting (Continued)

Six months ended 31 March 2004	Banking \$'000	Wealth Management \$'000	Insurance \$'000	Other \$'000	Eliminations \$'000	Consolidated \$'000
External operating revenue	9,371,912	3,115,924	443,026	13,689	-	12,944,551
Operating revenues from other						
segments	14,671	1,047,485	205,948	17,879	(1,285,983)	
Operating revenue	9,386,583	4,163,409	648,974	31,568	(1,285,983)	12,944,551
Segment result	1,179,708	850,028	174,084	(623)		2,203,197
Share of profits in associates					-	
Profit before tax						2,203,197
Taxation expense					-	(307,652)
Net Profit					=	1,895,545
Segment assets	120,432,901	46,239,817	6,389,361	206,975	(13,323,492)	159,945,562
Associates						1,149,386
Unallocated assets					-	175,027
Total Assets					=	161,269,975
Segment liabilities	109,420,707	43,567,778	5,660,504	213,169	(13,323,492)	145,538,666
Unallocated liabilities					_	740,432
Total liabilities					=	146,279,098
Depreciation	294,084	10,698	3,732	524	-	309,038