



## **Cenpower announces financial close of USD900m project financing for construction of largest independent power plant in Ghana**

*Cape Town, 13 January 2015:* Following the fulfilment of the conditions precedent to its debt financing agreements, Cenpower Generation Company Limited (Cenpower) announced the financial close of the circa USD900 million project financing required for the construction and development of the Kpone Independent Power Project (KIPP) on 23 December 2014. KIPP is a 350MW combined cycle multi-fuel power station to be located near Tema, Ghana. Once construction is complete, it is expected to be the largest IPP in the country which will account for approximately 10% of Ghana's installed capacity.

African Infrastructure Investment Fund 2 (AIIF2), which is advised by African Infrastructure Investment Managers (AIIM), a joint venture between Macquarie Africa and the Old Mutual Investment Group, together with its co-investors, owns a direct interest of 15% in Cenpower, through an interposed investment vehicle, Mercury Power. Mercury Power has also subsequently increased its economic exposure to the project to around 30%, through its investment in another of Cenpower's shareholders, Cenpower Holdings Limited. Cenpower Holdings Limited is the investment vehicle through which the founding local shareholders of Cenpower will hold their investment in KIPP.

Other shareholders in Cenpower include Africa Finance Corporation, Sumitomo Corporation and FMO, the Dutch Development Bank.

AIIF2 and AIIM are also involved in Nigeria's Azura-Edo IPP, a 450MW gas-fired IPP, which will be located in Edo State, Nigeria. The financing documents for the Azura-Edo IPP were signed in December 2014, and financial close was reached in early 2015.

AIIM CEO, Jurie Swart says:

"Cenpower represents AIIF2 and AIIM's first investment in Ghana, which is a jurisdiction we have been keen to invest in for some time. We are very proud to be associated with the ground-breaking Kpone IPP, which will be a key part of plans to alleviate the power supply shortfalls currently being experienced in Ghana. We expect that it will be the first of many IPPs, where the private sector and international investors can play a meaningful role in strengthening Ghana's power sector.

"Investors around the globe have embraced infrastructure as an asset class as it provides stable and growing earnings and cashflow. Infrastructure is a lower risk access platform to Africa's growth story. Currently we believe there is a large infrastructure gap in Africa but demand for it is strong and growing," says Swart.

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### **CONTACT**

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## **ABOUT AIIM**

African Infrastructure Investment Managers (AIIM) was established in 2000 under the joint ownership of the Macquarie Group and Old Mutual Investment Group (Pty) Ltd. AIIM has positioned itself as a leading infrastructure equity investment manager in the African landscape providing compelling investment opportunities that seek to deliver superior returns for its investors, adding value through effective environmental, social and governance management, while making a tangible contribution to local economies and communities.

AIIM has funds under management of over USD1.2 billion across five funds. The funds managed and advised by AIIM are designed to invest long-term institutional unlisted equity in African infrastructure projects such as toll roads, power generation, renewable energy, airports, ports, pipelines and communication infrastructure assets.

## **ABOUT AFRICA FINANCE CORPORATION**

AFC's mission is to help address Africa's infrastructure development needs while seeking a competitive return on capital for its shareholders. Since it began operations in 2007, AFC has created the building blocks with which to achieve this objective. It has raised USD1.26 billion in fully paid-in equity capital. AFC is driven by a diverse team of experienced professionals from investment banking, engineering and other backgrounds. The corporation has a robust and growing pipeline of projects and transactions. AFC had registered USD1 billion in approved transactions across all sectors and asset classes. The corporation enjoys established relationships with leading global and Africa-focused investors.

## **ABOUT SUMITOMO CORPORATION**

Sumitomo Corporation possesses a strong business foundation, which is comprised of integrity, global network, global relations, and intellectual capital. Sumitomo has diverse, high-level functions made up of business development, market intelligence, information gathering and analysis, logistics solutions, ICT solutions, financial services and risk management. Sumitomo's mission is to contribute to society through infrastructure enhancement by integrating their strength in a wide variety of infrastructure businesses. These include power generation, water, plant machinery/facilities, next-generation batteries, logistics, and insurance.

## **ABOUT FMO – THE DUTCH DEVELOPMENT BANK**

FMO is a private-sector development bank based in the Netherlands offering capital and knowledge to companies, projects and financial institutions in developing countries. FMO enable business growth and sustainable development in these regions with the belief that a thriving, sustainable private sector fuels economic and social progress. Investments are focused in the sectors where the contribution can have the largest long-term impact e.g. financial institutions, energy and agribusinesses.