

RATING RELEASE

June 28, 2017

CariCRIS reaffirms “good creditworthiness” ratings for Bourse Securities Limited

ttA- (Trinidad and Tobago National Scale)
CariA- (Caribbean Regional Scale)

Caribbean Information & Credit Rating Services Limited (CariCRIS) has reaffirmed the Issuer/Corporate Credit Ratings of *CariA-* (Foreign and Local Currency Ratings) on the regional rating scale, and *ttA-* on the Trinidad and Tobago (T&T) national scale of Bourse Securities Limited (BSL), with a **stable** outlook. These ratings indicate that the level of creditworthiness of this obligor, adjudged in relation to other obligors within T&T and the Caribbean is **good**.

The stable outlook is premised on CariCRIS’ expectation of continued profitability and the maintenance of a healthy net interest spread, notwithstanding the economic slowdown. Further, the Group is expected to maintain its overall stable credit profile, underpinned by a conservative leverage ratio as well as strong capital buffers, liquid portfolios and high-quality, collateral-backed repo funding over the next 12-15 months.

The ratings of BSL reflect the Company’s continued favourable financial performance as reflected in its good diversity of income streams and increased profitability. The ratings continue to be supported by good asset quality, underpinned by a diverse investment portfolio, as well as the positive impact of some measures taken by the Company’s management to enhance its Enterprise Risk Management Framework. Also adding to the overall good credit ratings is the Company’s sound asset liability management practices, which contribute to an overall strong liquidity profile. Given the prevailing challenging environment, these supporting factors, however, are tempered by the fact that BSL’s funding base remains highly concentrated towards a small number of large institutional investors, subjecting the Company to a high degree of liquidity risk should these investors require repayment of the associated liabilities at short notice.



**Caribbean Information &
Credit Rating Services Limited**

About the company:

Bourse Securities Limited (BSL) is a registered broker, dealer, underwriter and investment advisor with the Trinidad and Tobago Securities and Exchange Commission (TTSEC). The company is privately owned and was founded in 1996. Its product/service range includes securities brokerage, mutual fund management, investment advisory, securities underwriting, and wealth management services. BSL also has a suite of 6 mutual funds, 4 of which are US \$ denominated funds, and 2 retirement funds. Its flagship fund, the Savinvest India Asia Fund (SIAF), was the first fund to be listed on the Trinidad and Tobago Stock Exchange (TTSE), and was reconfigured as an open-ended, unlisted mutual fund in 2012. In 2013, BSL also launched its Brazil Latin US\$ Exchange Traded Fund, the first mutual fund to be listed on the US\$ trading platform of the TTSE.

BSL has 3 wholly-owned subsidiaries, namely: Bourse Brokers Limited, a member of the TTSE and the stockbroking arm of the business; Bourse International Asset Management, an international brokerage company domiciled in St. Lucia primarily focused on the management of the group's investment portfolio, and Vanalta, a real estate holding company. BSL is domiciled in T&T and has 3 branches located in Port of Spain, Chaguanas and San Fernando.

For more information on BSL's ratings, please visit www.caricris.com or contact:

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