

Launch of The Capital Raising Platform, AFEXtree from AFRINEX and Bell Ringing Ceremony to mark listing of bonds worth USD 2 Billion

21st August 2023, Intercontinental Resort, Mauritius

Hon'ble Prime Minister of the Republic of Mauritius, Mr. Pravind Kumar Jugnauth today launched AFEXtree, a platform from AFRINEX Stock Exchange that connects capital seekers with capital providers from across the globe. This will facilitate multi-currency fund raising through private placement of securities in an efficient and transparent manner thereby enabling greater access to capital at competitive cost. The event was graced by Her Excellency High Commissioner of India to Mauritius, Mrs. K. Nandini Singla, Hon'ble Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade, Minister of Land Transport and Light Rail, Mr. Alan Ganoo, Hon'ble Minister of Financial Services and Good Governance, Mr. Mahen Kumar Seeruttun. Today's event also witnessed bell ringing ceremony to mark the listing of USD 500 Million 2034 Sustainable bond of UK based companies Earthnest Ltd. on AFEXGreen & AFRINEX Securities List and USD 1.5 Billion 2034 Bond of Xpertnest Ltd. on AFRINEX Securities List. The event witnessed delegates participation from Europe, Asia, America and Africa.

The state-of-the-art electronic platform, AFEXtree, will facilitate companies and investors to meet their financial needs by bridging the financing gap.

Participants on AFEXtree could be banks, financial institutions, body corporates, investment dealers/ stockbrokers, merchant bankers, investment banks, collective investment schemes, alternative investment funds, asset managers etc. A Mauritius based collective investment scheme did the maiden transaction on the platform securing investment for its feeder fund.

Launched on October, 2021, AFRINEX has been the fastest growing stock exchange from Mauritius with listings of more than **USD 13.3 plus Billion** till date of which **USD 1.5 Billion** are sustainable bonds listed on dedicated sustainable securities listing platform **AFEXGreen**.

AFRINEX Clearing House, which is the wholly owned subsidiary of AFRINEX offers a wide range of depository services including issuance of International Securities Identification Number (ISIN) holding of securities in dematerialized form, facilitating corporate actions etc. which has been a key point of attraction for global investors and issuers.

Speaking on the occasion, The Prime Minister of the Republic of Mauritius, Hon'ble Pravind Kumar Jugnauth, said "The new capital platform of AFRINEX and its latest listings are timely for the country and stakeholders. The initiative will further succeed in leveraging Mauritius as an attractive jurisdiction for issuers seeking to raise capital and for companies seeking a listing in Mauritius. Hon'ble Prime Minister expressed his pride that AFRINEX chose Mauritius as its base location, thus bearing testimony of the trust that investors have in the jurisdiction.

Since, its launch in October 2021, AFRINEX has evoked significant interest in both Mauritius and on the international market because of its unique value propositions of offering robust listing routes, extending trading hours, expanding multiple time zones and its state-of-the art technology platform.

The Prime Minister also averred that AFRINEX has met its primary objective of positioning itself in the region and has further consolidated the image of Mauritius International Financial Centre as one of substance”.

Her Excellency High Commissioner of India to Mauritius, Mrs. K. Nandini Singla said “AFRINEX has emerged as the largest stock exchange in Mauritius in terms of market capitalization of listed securities, barely within 18 months of its existence. I hope that today’s launch of AFEXtree - an innovative capital raising platform brings in a new era of collaboration between companies, arrangers, and investors. AFEXtree is also opportune in a post-COVID world where like music, news or films, increasingly, an International Financial Centre of tomorrow will no longer be about physical infrastructure, but more about offering transactions platforms that seamlessly capture global financial transactions in investment and trade.”

Hon’ble Minister of Financial Services and Good Governance, Mr. Mahen Seeruttun said “AFRINEX is successfully fostering the development & growth of Mauritian capital markets through its innovative offerings thereby attracting global players to Mauritius IFC. This will also strengthen the ecosystem of primary market funding in Mauritius and Africa.”

Speaking on the occasion, AFRINEX MD & CEO Ms. Krishna Gangopadhyay said “It is a proud moment for us today as we celebrate the launch of AFEXtree – The capital raising platform which is poised to transform the capital raising process by connecting capital seekers & capital providers. Today’s listing of bonds worth USD 2 billion of Earthnest & Xpertnest on AFRINEX Securities List is testimony of AFRINEX’s successful strides in the primary market which has enhanced confidence of international issuers to participate in the capital markets and consider AFRINEX as a preferred listing jurisdiction. AFRINEX will continue its sincere efforts to contribute in strengthening the capital market ecosystem in and through Mauritius.

Mr. Biswanath Patnaik, Chairman, Xpertnest and Earthnest said "This unique collaboration between financial experts and technocrats serves as a remarkable example of how pressing global issues can be effectively addressed. The decision to list their businesses in Mauritius holds strategic significance, as it not only connects them with Africa but also establishes a strong presence in India due to the synergy between BSE technologies and Afrinex. Their shared mission to combat plastic bag pollution showcases their commitment to leaving a healthier world for future generations."

Mr. Arun Kar, Founder, Xpertnest and Earthnest said "Xpertnest and Earthnest have successfully listed their bonds, valued at \$1.5 billion and \$500 million respectively, on the Afrinex Stock Exchange located in Mauritius. These companies were founded by Arun Kar and Chintan Panara, with guidance from Biswanath Patnaik. Their visionary leadership has led to the creation of advanced and innovative applications that address critical challenges in various sectors, such as crime prevention in collaboration with law enforcement agencies, pioneering 5G technology, and



the development of Smart Cities. By integrating Data Science, Artificial Intelligence, and Machine Learning, they've harnessed the potential of cutting-edge technologies."

The Exchange has been set up with the vision of Hon'ble Prime Minister of Mauritius, Mr. Pravind Jugnauth in its endeavour to strengthen Mauritius as an International Financial Centre and has been supported by Government of India with technology and skill support from BSE Technologies.

About AFRINEX Ltd.

AFRINEX, launched in October 2021, is first international stock exchange based out of Mauritius. AFRINEX offers state-of-the-art electronic platforms for listing & trading of a wide spectrum of securities across the asset classes i.e., equities, debt, funds as well as derivatives of commodities and currencies. Market Capitalization of Securities Listed on AFRINEX stands at USD 13.3+ Billion as of August 2023.

AFRINEX and AFRINEX Clearing House are Licensed by Financial Services Commission, Mauritius.