



For Immediate Release

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### **PetroSA and Cairn India sign agreement for Block 1 in South Africa**

CAPE TOWN – PetroSA and Cairn India Group (“Cairn India”) today signed a farm-in agreement for exploring for crude oil and natural gas in the offshore Block 1 in the Orange Basin on the west coast of South Africa. The closure of the transaction is subject to South African regulatory approvals.

Block 1 covers a large area of 19,922km<sup>2</sup> and is currently in the initial stages of exploration. It has an existing gas discovery and identified oil and gas leads and prospects. Located in the geologically proven Orange Basin along the northwestern maritime border of South Africa with Namibia, the block is on trend with the discovered Kudu and Ibhuesi gas fields. Cairn India will, through a wholly owned South African subsidiary, hold a 60% interest in the block and will be the Operator, with PetroSA holding the remaining interest.

PetroSA is well poised to grow into a leading integrated African energy company. The company seeks to nurture strategic alliances with experienced international companies across the oil and gas value chain. The partnership with Cairn India starts an exciting new chapter and represents another positive development in that direction.

This is a step forward in achieving Cairn India’s strategic goal of growing its resource base by acquiring exploration and appraisal assets outside the Indian sub-continent. The Orange Basin is an emerging hydrocarbon province with potential for material oil and gas discoveries. Block 1 will be an anchor exploration asset in South Africa and will augment Cairn India’s existing portfolio.

#### **Mr. Everton September, Vice President – New Ventures at PetroSA said:**

“We are delighted to join hands with one of Asia’s most successful exploration companies. Cairn India brings with it extensive geo-technical and operating capabilities that will combine very well with our experience and understanding of the region. We have a shared mindset, and together are extremely well placed to realise the full potential of Block 1.”

#### **Mr. P. Elango, Director – Strategy at Cairn India said:**

“Cairn India is extremely pleased to partner with PetroSA, one of the largest oil and gas companies in South Africa. This is an important first step for the company’s growth beyond the Indian sub-continent. We see an attractive opportunity to leverage our capabilities in a rapidly emerging area and aspire to build a wider business in the region.”



**PetroSA**



**Contact Details**

**PetroSA - Media**

Thabo Mabaso , Group Communications Manager  
[thabo.mabaso@petrosa.co.za](mailto:thabo.mabaso@petrosa.co.za)

+27-83-414-8144  
+27-21-929-3365

**Caim India - Media**

Dr Sunil Bharati, Head, Corporate Affairs & Communications  
[cilmediainfo@cairindia.com](mailto:cilmediainfo@cairindia.com)

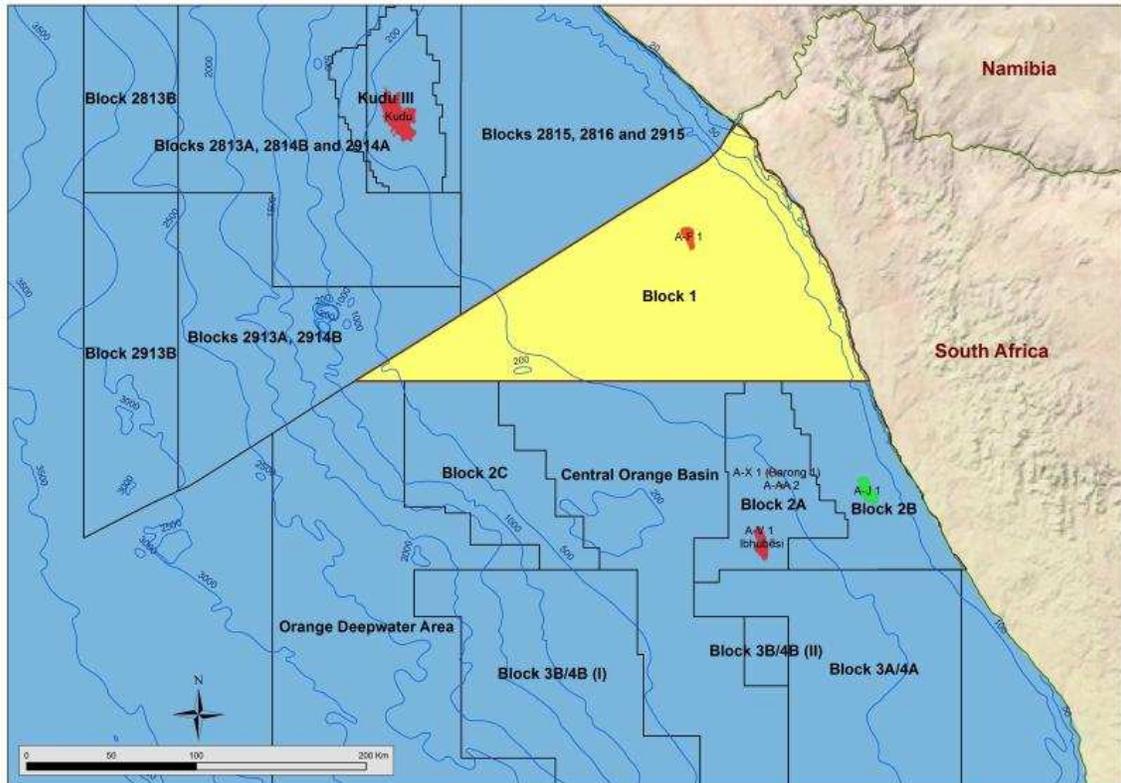
+919910486055

**Cairn India - Analysts / Investors**

Anurag Pattnaik, DGM - Geology & Investor Relations  
[cilir@cairindia.com](mailto:cilir@cairindia.com)

+919910487716

**About Block 1:**



Block 1 is a large block of 19,922 sq.km, with water depths ranging from <100 m to >900 m, and is located in the Orange Basin on the north western border between South Africa and Namibia. The Orange Basin is a large Cretaceous Deltaic Basin with multiple proven source rocks and is lightly explored. PetroSA acquired a 1500 sq. km. 3D seismic survey in 2009.



#### About PetroSA:

The Petroleum Oil and Gas Corporation of South Africa Ltd. (PetroSA) is a subsidiary of the Central Energy Fund, which is wholly owned by the state and reports to the Department of Energy. Core business activities of PetroSA include the exploration and production of oil and natural gas; participation in and acquisition of local and international upstream petroleum ventures; production of synthetic fuels from offshore gas; the development of domestic refining and liquid fuels logistical infrastructure; and the marketing and trading of oil and petrochemicals. For more information please visit [www.petrosa.co.za](http://www.petrosa.co.za).

#### About Cairn India Group:

On 9 January, 2007, Cairn India Limited was listed on the Bombay Stock Exchange and the National Stock Exchange of India. Cairn India is now part of the Vedanta Group, a globally diversified natural resources group with wide ranging interests in aluminium, copper, zinc, lead, silver, iron ore, etc.

Cairn India is headquartered in Gurgaon in the National Capital Region, with operational offices in Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan and Sri Lanka.

Cairn India is primarily engaged in the business of oil and gas exploration, production and transportation. Average daily gross operated production was 206,963 boe in Q1 FY2012-13, contributing more than one-fifth of India's domestic production. The Company sells its oil to major refineries in India and its gas to both PSU and private buyers.

The Company has a world-class resource base, with interest in eight blocks in India and one in Sri Lanka.

For further information on Cairn India Limited & Cairn Lanka (Pvt.) Limited please visit [www.cairnindia.com](http://www.cairnindia.com) & [www.cairnlanka.com](http://www.cairnlanka.com).

#### **Disclaimer**

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