Republic Bank (Ghana) PLC

CRS ENTITY SELF CERTIFICATION

Instructions for completion

We are obliged under the Standard for Automatic Exchange of Financial Account Information Act, 2018 (Act 967) and Guidance Notes made pursuant to that Act, and treaties and competent authority agreements entered into by Ghana in relation to the Automatic Exchange Of Information for Tax Matters (collectively "AEOI"), to collect certain information about each account holder's tax status. Please complete the sections below as directed and provide any additional information that is requested. Please note that we may be obliged to share this information with relevant tax authorities. Terms referenced in this form shall have the same meaning as applicable under Act 967, Guidance Notes or international agreements.

If any of the information below regarding your tax residence or AEOI classification changes in the future, please ensure you advise us of these changes promptly. If you have any questions about how to complete this form, please contact your Relationship Manager.

Section 1

Legal Name……..

Country/Jurisdiction of Incorporation……

Registered Office……..

Postal Address ……Postal Code……..

Country……..

Section 2

Please indicate the Entity's place of tax residence (if resident in more than one jurisdiction please detail all jurisdictions and associated tax identification and numbers).

For the purposes of the Common Reporting Standard (CRS), all matters in connection with residence are determined in accordance with the CRS and its Commentaries.

If an entity has no residence for tax purposes please indicate the jurisdiction in which its place of effective management is situated. Please indicate not applicable if jurisdiction does not issue or you are unable to procure a tax identification number or functional equivalent and indicate the reason below.

Entity Type Please provide the Account Holder's Status by ticking one of the following boxes.

	Country/Jurisdiction of tax residence	**TIN**
1.		
2.		
3.		

If applicable, please specify the reason for non-availability of a tax identification number:

……

……

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Section 3: CRS Classification

Provide your CRS classification by checking the corresponding box(es).

3.1 ☐ If the entity **is** a *Financial Institution*[1], please tick this box and specify the type of Financial Institution in (a), (b), or (c) below[2]:

[1] See definition of *Financial Institution* in Exhibit A.

(a) ☐ Reporting Financial Institution under CRS. (Please note this classification only applies to a Financial Institution in a CRS Participating Jurisdiction. If the entity is a Financial Institution in a Non-Participating Jurisdiction[3] under CRS, proceed to 3.1 (c)).

OR

(b) ☐ Non-Reporting Financial Institution under CRS. (Please note this classification only applies to a Financial Institution in a CRS Participating Jurisdiction. If the entity is a Financial Institution in a Non-Participating Jurisdiction under CRS, proceed to 3.1 (c)). Specify the type of Non-Reporting Financial Institution below:

- ☐ Governmental Entity
- ☐ International Organization
- ☐ Central Bank
- ☐ Broad Participation Retirement Fund
- ☐ Narrow Participation Retirement Fund
- ☐ Pension Fund of a Governmental Entity, International Organization, or Central Bank
- ☐ Exempt Collective Investment Vehicle
- ☐ Trust whose trustee reports all required information with respect to all CRS Reportable Accounts
- ☐ Qualified Credit Card Issuer
- ☐ Other Entity defined under the domestic law as low risk of being used to evade tax.

Specify the type provided in the domestic law: _____

OR

(c) ☐ Financial Institution resident in a Non-Participating Jurisdiction under CRS. Specify the type of Financial Institution below:

i. ☐ Investment Entity managed by another Financial Institution[4] where a controlling ownership interest is held (directly or indirectly) by a company listed on a stock exchange and subject to disclosure requirements or is a majority owned subsidiary of such a company.

ii. ☐ Investment Entity managed by another Financial Institution (other than i. above)

Note: If you are either:

(a) ☐ a widely held, regulated Collective Investment Vehicle (CIV) established as a trust; OR

(b) ☐ a pension fund established as a trust,

you may apply the Controlling Persons test of a legal person as per the Controlling Person definition in Exhibit A, and where simplified due diligence procedures are permitted to be applied by the Financial Institution under the applicable AML regime[5] in relation to the Account Holder and its Controlling Persons, no further information is required.

If you have ticked the box for 3.1(c) ii, and neither of the exemptions under (a) and (b) above applies, please indicate the name of the *Controlling Person(s)* in the table below.

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[2] Where the entity is resident in a Participating Jurisdiction, use the terms as defined under the CRS regime in that Jurisdiction. Where the entity is resident in a Non-Participating Jurisdiction, definitions under the Cayman Islands CRS regime must be used.

[3] See definition of *Non-Participating Jurisdiction* in Exhibit A.

[4] The managing Financial Institution must be a Financial Institution other than an Investment Entity type b) defined within the definition of a Financial Institution in Exhibit A.

[5] Please contact the Financial Institution to confirm whether simplified due diligence procedures under the Cayman Islands AML regime may apply to you as an Account Holder (e.g. by being a regulated pension fund in an approved jurisdiction).

Full Name of any Controlling Person(s). *Please see definition in Exhibit A.* *(This table must not be left blank unless exemption (a) or (b) above applies)*

Please also complete Section 4 below providing further details of any ultimate Controlling Person(s) who are natural person(s).

iii. ☐ Other Investment Entity (other than i. or ii. above); OR

iv. ☐ Other Financial Institution, including a Depository Institution, Custodial Institution, or Specified Insurance Company.

3.2 ☐ If the entity is an *Active Non-Financial Entity* ("NFE") please tick this box and specify the type of Active NFE below:

(a) ☐ Corporation that is regularly traded or a related entity of a regularly traded corporation.

Provide the name of the stock exchange where traded: _____

If you are a related entity of a regularly traded corporation, provide the name of the regularly traded corporation:

_____

(b) ☐ Governmental Entity, International Organization, a Central Bank, or an Entity wholly owned by one or more of the foregoing; OR

(c) ☐ Other Active Non-Financial Entity.[6] Indicate qualifying criteria (see Exhibit A):

_____

3.3 ☐ If the entity is a *Passive Non-Financial Entity* please tick this box.[7]

If you have ticked this box please indicate the name of the *Controlling Person(s*). Please refer to the definition of Controlling Person in Exhibit A.

Full Name of any Controlling Person(s)	*(must not be left blank)*

Please complete Sections 4 below providing further details of any ultimate Controlling Person(s) who are natural person(s).

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6 See definition of *Active Non-Financial Entity* in Exhibit A.

7 Please see the definition of *Passive Non-Financial Entity* in Exhibit A.

Entity Declaration and Undertakings

I/We declare (as an authorised signatory of the Entity) that the information provided in this form is, to the best of my/our knowledge and belief, accurate and complete. I/We undertake to advise the recipient promptly and provide an updated Self-Certification form within 30 days where any change in circumstances occurs, which causes any of the information contained in this form to be inaccurate or incomplete. Where legally obliged to do so, I/we hereby consent to the recipient sharing this information with the relevant tax information authorities.

I/we acknowledge that it is an offence to make a self-certification that is false in a material particular.

Authorised Signature: _____ Authorised Signature: _____

Position/Title: _____ Position/Title: _____

Date (dd/mm/yyyy): _____ Date (dd/mm/yyyy): _____

Section 4: Controlling Persons

(Please complete for each Controlling Person who is a natural person)

Identification of a Controlling Person

4.1 Full Name of Controlling Person: _____

4.2 Current Residence Address: _____

_____

4.3 Postal Address: _____

4.4 Date of birth _____

4.5 Town and Country of birth _____

4.6 Please enter the legal name of the relevant entity Account Holder(s) of which you are a Controlling Person

Legal name of **Entity 1** _____

Legal name of **Entity 2** _____

Legal name of **Entity 3** _____

Section 5 - Jurisdiction of Residence for Tax Purposes and related Taxpayer Reference Number or functional equivalent ("TIN")

Please complete the following table indicating:

(i) where the Controlling Person is tax resident;

(ii) the Controlling Person's TIN for each jurisdiction indicated;[8] and,

*(iii) if the Controlling Person is a tax resident in a jurisdiction that is a Reportable Jurisdiction(s) then please also complete **Section 6 "Type of Controlling Person".***

If the Controlling Person is tax resident in more than three jurisdictions please use a separate sheet

	Jurisdiction(s) of tax residency	**Tax Identification Number (e.g. TIN)**
1		
2		
3		

[8] The Controlling Person's TIN is not required to be collected if the Controlling Person is not a Reportable Jurisdiction Person.

If applicable, please specify the reason for non-availability of a tax reference number:

Section 6 – Type of Controlling Person

(Please only complete this section if you are tax resident in one or more Reportable Jurisdictions)

Please provide the Controlling Person's Status by ticking the appropriate box.	**Entity 1**	**Entity 2**	**Entity 3**
a. Controlling Person of a legal person – ***control by ownership***	☐	☐	☐
b. Controlling Person of a legal person – ***control by other means***	☐	☐	☐
c. Controlling Person of a legal person – ***senior managing official***	☐	☐	☐
d. Controlling Person of a trust – ***settlor***	☐	☐	☐
e. Controlling Person of a trust – ***trustee***	☐	☐	☐
f. Controlling Person of a trust – ***protector***	☐	☐	☐
g. Controlling Person of a trust – ***beneficiary***	☐	☐	☐
h. Controlling Person of a trust – ***other***	☐	☐	☐
i. Controlling Person of a legal arrangement (non-trust) – ***settlor-equivalent***	☐	☐	☐
j. Controlling Person of a legal arrangement (non-trust) – ***trustee-equivalent***	☐	☐	☐
k. Controlling Person of a legal arrangement (non-trust) – ***protector-equivalent***	☐	☐	☐
l. Controlling Person of a legal arrangement (non-trust) – ***beneficiary-equivalent***	☐	☐	☐
m. Controlling Person of a legal arrangement (non-trust) – ***other-equivalent***	☐	☐	☐

Controlling Person Declaration and Undertakings

- I acknowledge that the information contained in this form and information regarding the Controlling Person(s) and any Reportable Account(s) may be reported to the tax authorities of the jurisdiction in which this account(s) is/are maintained and exchanged with tax authorities of another jurisdiction(s) in which [I/the Controlling Person] may be tax resident pursuant to international agreements to exchange financial account information.
- I certify that either (a) I am the Controlling Person, or am authorised to sign for the Controlling Person, of all the account(s) held by the entity Account Holder to which this form relates; or (b) I am authorised by the Account Holder to make this declaration.
- **I declare that all statements made in this declaration are, to the best of my knowledge and belief, correct and complete.**
- I acknowledge that it is an offence to make a self-certification that is false in a material particular.
- I undertake to advise the recipient within 30 days of any change in circumstances which affects the tax residency status of the individual identified in Section 4 of this form or causes the information contained herein to become incorrect, and to provide the recipient with a suitably updated self-certification and Declaration within 30 days of such change in circumstances**.**

Signature: _____

Print name: _____

Date (dd/mm/yyyy): _____

Note: If you are not the Controlling Person, and not authorised to sign the Declaration on behalf of the Account Holder, please indicate the capacity in which you are signing the form on behalf of the Controlling Person. If signing under a power of attorney or other equivalent written authorisation, on behalf of the Controlling Person, please also attach a certified copy of the power of attorney or written authorisation.

Capacity: _____

EXHIBIT A - CRS DEFINITIONS

Account Holder means the person listed or identified as the holder of a Financial Account by the Financial Institution that maintains the account. A person, other than a Financial Institution, holding a Financial Account for the benefit or account of another person as agent, custodian, nominee, signatory, investment advisor, or intermediary, is not treated as holding the account for purposes of the Common Reporting Standard, and such other person is treated as holding the account. In the case of a Cash Value Insurance Contract or an Annuity Contract, the Account Holder is any person entitled to access the Cash Value or change the beneficiary of the contract. If no person can access the Cash Value or change the beneficiary, the Account Holder is any person named as the owner in the contract and any person with a vested entitlement to payment under the terms of the contract. Upon the maturity of a Cash Value Insurance Contract or an Annuity Contract, each person entitled to receive a payment under the contract is treated as an Account Holder.

Active Non-Financial Entity means any NFE that meets any of the following criteria:

a) less than 50% of the NFE's gross income for the preceding calendar year or other appropriate reporting period is passive income and less than 50% of the assets held by the NFE during the preceding calendar year or other appropriate reporting period are assets that produce or are held for the production of passive income;

b) the stock of the NFE is regularly traded on an established securities market or the NFE is a Related Entity of an Entity the stock of which is regularly traded on an established securities market;

c) the NFE is a Governmental Entity, an International Organisation, a Central Bank, or an Entity wholly owned by one or more of the foregoing;

d) substantially all of the activities of the NFE consist of holding (in whole or in part) the outstanding stock of, or providing financing and services to, one or more subsidiaries that engage in trades or businesses other than the business of a Financial Institution, except that an Entity does not qualify for this status if the Entity functions (or holds itself out) as an investment fund, such as a private equity fund, venture capital fund, leveraged buyout fund, or any investment vehicle whose purpose is to acquire or fund companies and then hold interests in those companies as capital assets for investment purposes;

e) the NFE is not yet operating a business and has no prior operating history, but is investing capital into assets with the intent to operate a business other than that of a Financial Institution, provided that the NFE does not qualify for this exception after the date that is 24 months after the date of the initial organisation of the NFE;

f) the NFE was not a Financial Institution in the past five years, and is in the process of liquidating its assets or is reorganising with the intent to continue or recommence operations in a business other than that of a Financial Institution;

g) the NFE primarily engages in financing and hedging transactions with, or for, Related Entities that are not Financial Institutions, and does not provide financing or hedging services to any Entity that is not a Related Entity, provided that the group of any such Related Entities is primarily engaged in a business other than that of a Financial Institution; or

h) the NFE meets all of the following requirements:

   i) it is established and operated in its jurisdiction of residence exclusively for religious, charitable, scientific, artistic, cultural, athletic, or educational purposes; or it is established and operated in its jurisdiction of residence and it is a professional organisation, business league, chamber of commerce, labour organisation, agricultural or horticultural organisation, civic league or an organisation operated exclusively for the promotion of social welfare;

   ii) it is exempt from income tax in its jurisdiction of residence;

   iii) it has no shareholders or members who have a proprietary or beneficial interest in its income or assets;

   iv) the applicable laws of the NFE's jurisdiction of residence or the NFE's formation documents do not permit any income or assets of the NFE to be distributed to, or applied for the benefit of, a private person or non- charitable Entity other than pursuant to the conduct of the NFE's charitable activities, or as payment of reasonable compensation for services rendered, or as payment representing the fair market value of property which the NFE has purchased; and

   v) the applicable laws of the NFE's jurisdiction of residence or the NFE's formation documents require that, upon the NFE's liquidation or dissolution, all of its assets be distributed to a Governmental Entity or other non-profit organisation, or escheat to the government of the NFE's jurisdiction of residence or any political subdivision thereof.

Controlling Person means the natural persons who exercise direct or indirect control over an entity.

In the case of a trust, such term means the settlor(s), the trustees(s), the protector(s) (if any), the beneficiary(ies) or class(es) of beneficiaries, and any other natural person(s) exercising ultimate effective control over the trust, and in the case of a legal arrangement other than a trust, such term means persons in equivalent or similar positions. The term 'Controlling Persons' shall be interpreted in a manner consistent with the Financial Action Task Force Recommendations ("FATF").

FATF Recommendations on Controlling Persons:

Identify the beneficial owners of the customer and take reasonable measures to verify the identity of such persons, through the following information. For legal persons[9]:

(a) The identity of the natural persons (if any – as ownership interests can be so diversified that there are no natural persons (whether acting alone or together) exercising control of the legal person or arrangement through ownership) who ultimately have a controlling ownership interest[10] in a legal person; and

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[9] Measures (a) to (b) are not alternative options, but are cascading measures, with each to be used where the previous measure has been applied and has not identified a beneficial owner.

[10] A controlling ownership interest depends on the ownership structure of the company. The threshold in respect of a legal person is direct or indirect ownership or control of 10% or more of the shares or voting rights in the legal person, being the threshold specified by the Anti-Money Laundering Regulations, 2017 which implement the FATF Recommendations in the Cayman Islands.

(b) to the extent that there is doubt under (a) as to whether the person(s) with the controlling ownership interest are the beneficial owner(s) or where no natural person exerts control through ownership interests, the identity of the natural persons (if any) exercising control of the legal person or arrangement through other means.

(c) Where no natural person is identified under (a) or (b) above, financial institutions should identify and take reasonable measures to verify the identity of the relevant natural person who holds the position of senior managing official.

Financial Institution means a Custodial Institution, a Depository Institution, an Investment Entity, or a Specified Insurance Company, where:

(a) ***Custodial Institution*** means any entity that holds, as a substantial portion of its business, financial assets for the account of others. An entity holds financial assets for the account of others as a substantial portion of its business if the entity's gross income attributable to the holding of financial assets and related financial services equals or exceeds 20 percent of the Entity's gross income during the shorter of: (i) the three-year period that ends on 31 December (or the final day of a non-calendar year accounting period) prior to the year in which the determination is being made; or (ii) the period during which the entity has been in existence;

(b) ***Depository Institution*** means any entity that accepts deposits in the ordinary course of a banking or similar business;

(c) ***Investment Entity*** means any entity:

(A) that primarily conducts as a business one or more of the following activities or operations for or on behalf of a customer:

i) trading in money market instruments (cheques, bills, certificates of deposit, derivatives, etc.); foreign exchange; exchange, interest rate and index instruments; transferable securities; or commodity futures trading;

ii) individual and collective portfolio management; or

iii) otherwise investing, administering, or managing Financial Assets or money on behalf of other persons; or

(B) the gross income of which is primarily attributable to investing, reinvesting, or trading in Financial Assets, if the entity is managed by another entity that is a Depository Institution, a Custodial Institution, a Specified Insurance Company, or an Investment Entity described in limb (A) of this definition.

An entity is treated as primarily conducting as a business one or more of the activities described in limb (A), or an entity's gross income is primarily attributable to investing, reinvesting, or trading in Financial Assets for purposes of limb (B) if the entity's gross income attributable to the relevant activities equals or exceeds 50% of the entity's gross income during the shorter of: (i) the three-year period ending on 31 December of the year preceding the year in which the determination is made; or (ii) the period during which the entity has been in existence. The term "Investment Entity" does not include an entity that is an Active Non-Financial Foreign Entity because it meets any of the criteria in subparagraphs d) through (g) of the definition of Active NFE.

The preceding paragraph shall be interpreted in a manner consistent with similar language set forth in the definition of "financial institution" in the Financial Action Task Force Recommendations; and

(d) ***Specified Insurance Company*** means any entity that is an insurance company (or the holding company of an insurance company) that issues, or is obligated to make payments with respect to, a Cash Value Insurance Contract or an Annuity Contract.

Non-Financial Entity or ***NFE*** means any Entity that is not a Financial Institution.

Non-Participating Jurisdiction means a jurisdiction that is not a Participating Jurisdiction.

Non-Reporting Financial Institution means any Financial Institution that is:

(a) a Governmental Entity, International Organisation or Central Bank, other than with respect to a payment that is derived from an obligation held in connection with a commercial financial activity of a type engaged in by a Specified Insurance Company, Custodial Institution, or Depository Institution;

(b) a Broad Participation Retirement Fund; a Narrow Participation Retirement Fund; a Pension Fund of a Governmental Entity, International Organisation or Central Bank; or a Qualified Credit Card Issuer;

(c) any other Entity that presents a low risk of being used to evade tax, has substantially similar characteristics to any of the Entities described in subparagraphs B(1)(a) and (b), and is defined in domestic law as a Non-Reporting Financial Institution, provided that the status of such Entity as a Non-Reporting Financial Institution does not frustrate the purposes of the Common Reporting Standard;

(d) an Exempt Collective Investment Vehicle; or

(e) a trust to the extent that the trustee of the trust is a Reporting Financial Institution and reports all information required to be reported pursuant to Section I with respect to all Reportable Accounts of the trust.

Participating Jurisdiction means a jurisdiction (i) with which an agreement is in place pursuant to which it will provide the information specified in Section I (of the CRS), and (ii) which is identified in a published list.

Participating Jurisdiction Financial Institution means (i) any Financial Institution that is resident in a Participating Jurisdiction but excludes any branch of that Financial Institution that is located outside such Participating Jurisdiction, and (ii) any branch of a Financial Institution that is not resident in a Participating Jurisdiction, if that branch is located in such Participating Jurisdiction.

Passive Non-Financial Entity means any: (i) Non-Financial Entity that is not an Active Non-Financial Entity; or (ii) an Investment Entity described in limb B (or subparagraph A(6)(b) of the Standard) of the definition of Investment Entity that is not a Participating Jurisdiction Financial Institution.

Related Entity means an entity related to another entity because (i) either entity controls the other entity; (ii) the two entities are under common control; or (iii) the two entities are Investment Entities described limb B of the definition of Investment Entity, are under common management, and such management fulfils the due diligence obligations of such Investment Entities. For this purpose control includes direct or indirect ownership of more than 50 % of the vote and value in an Entity.