

**An opportunity to invest in
Lesotho
Government Securities**

PROSPECTUS

**FOR
LESOTHO GOVERNMENT TREASURY
BONDS**

Tenor: 5 Years

Coupon Interest Rate: 8.0%

Issue No: LS000A3KMC05

Value: 1.5 Billion Maloti

Redeemable on: 18 March 2026

AGENT: Central Bank of Lesotho

DATE: 2021 January 29

PROSPECTUS

LESOTHO GOVERNMENT TREASURY BOND

5 Years, **8.0%** Coupon Rate

The Central Bank of Lesotho (CBL), as a fiscal agent for the Government of Lesotho issues Treasury bonds with the following terms and conditions:

A. SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE

1. Date of Auction: 2021 March 24th
2. Amount of Auction Offering: Subject to Government needs
3. Date of Redemption: 2026 March 24th
4. Tenor: 5 Years
5. Coupon Interest Rate: 8.0%
6. Interest payment: Interest will be paid semi-annually
7. Listing: Listed
8. Issuer: Government of Lesotho
9. Issuing and Settlement: Central Bank of Lesotho
10. Mode of Issuing: Auction
11. Purpose: Fiscal purposes
12. Price per LSL 100: Quoted on yield at premium, par or discount to 4 decimal places.
13. Transfer Secretary: Central Bank of Lesotho
14. Tax: Discount and interest will be subject to the prevailing withholding tax rates.
15. Rediscounting: The Central Bank will rediscount the bond as a last resort if an investor has held the security for 75% of its term and at least 5 business days Prior to maturity date of the securities
16. Eligibility: Resident and non-resident investors who have opened up CSD accounts at the Central Bank of Lesotho and have an account with a local commercial bank.

17. Defaulters: May be suspended from subsequent auctions
18. Right to Accept Applications: Central Bank of Lesotho reserves the right to allot the application in part or reject in total at its discretion.
19. Nature of Treasury bonds: Marketable Government securities that constitute liquid assets.

B: DEFINITIONS

“Central Bank of Lesotho”	Means the Central Bank of Lesotho established under the CBL Act.
“CBL Act”	Means the Central Bank of Lesotho Act of 2000.
“Bondholder”	Refers to the person whose name is entered as a holder of bonds in the bond register.
“Bonds”	Refers to Government of Lesotho 5 year Treasury bond bearing 8.0% coupon rate and maturing on March 24, 2026.
“Books Closed Period”	Refers to 7 days prior to the coupon payment date or such shorter period as determined by issuer. This enables determination of the bondholders entitled to receive interest.
“Banking or Business Day”	Refers to any day other than Saturday, Sunday or official public holiday in the Kingdom of Lesotho.
“Conditions”	Means these terms and conditions set out herein.
“Coupon Rate”	Means the amount of interest rate paid per year as a percentage of the face value or principal. This is stated on a prospectus when a bond is issued.

“Initial Issue”	Means the initial issue of bonds by the Government of Lesotho
“Interest Payment Dates”	2021 September 22, 2022 March 23, 2022 September 21, 2023 March 22, 2023 September 20, 2024 March 20, 2024 September 18, 2025 March 19, 2025 September 17, 2026 March 18.
“Interest Period”	Means the period from the previous coupon date up to the last day before the next coupon payment date per the coupon payment dates.
“Interest Rate”	Means 8.0 %
“Issue Date”	Means the 24 th March 2021
“Issuer”	Means the Government of Lesotho
“Issue”	Means this bond which is subject to the Local Loans Act of 2001, the Ministry of Finance may decide to increase the amount of the loan at any time prior to the redemption date by creating or issuing additional bonds.
“Last Day to Register”	Means 15:00hrs on the last day prior to an auction date.
“Redemption Date”	Refers to the maturity date on which a bond’s face value is paid together with outstanding coupon. This will be the date of 18 th March 2026.
“Principal Amount”	Means the amount owing by the issuer of this bond.
“Central Securities Depository” (CSD)	Means an electronic system used for safekeeping of securities.
“Registers”	Means the official list of bondholders and details pertaining to their holdings

“Registered”

kept by transfer secretary either in electronic format or otherwise.

Means to have been entered in the Register.

“Settlement Agent”

Any institutions eligible to perform electronic settlement of both funds and securities on behalf of market participants.

“Settlement Date”

T+0 following an auction, successful participants are required to settle immediately for the bonds that they have been allotted.

“Transfer Secretary”

Means the CBL.

“Local Loans Act”

Means the Local Loans Act of 2001.

C: TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE ISSUE

Issue

Government of Lesotho 8.0%, 5-year Treasury bond 24th March 2021 bearing **ISIN: LS000A3KMC05** with maturity on the 18th March 2026.

Authorisation

The issue was authorised by the Minister of Finance and the repayment of the capital amount and interest will be charged against the Government of Lesotho.

Purpose of the Issue

The funds will be used to fund Fiscal needs of the Government of Lesotho.

Interest

A coupon of 8.0% per annum will be paid semi-annually until the 18th March 2026. Coupon payment dates will be as described above under interest payment dates under the definitions section. However, the Government of Lesotho reserves the right to adjust the dates to accommodate unforeseen occurrences at the time of issuance.

The registers will be closed fifteen days before the coupon payment dates in order to determine the bondholders that are eligible to receive interest. Interest will cease to accrue on the bond from redemption date and such interest will be paid as per the definition of banking or business day above.

Interest will be paid in the currency of the Kingdom of Lesotho (LSL) on the coupon payment date to the rightful bondholder by electronic transfer into the accounts of the bondholders as kept in the Central Securities Depository system. Interest paid will be subject to a withholding tax at the rate of 10% and 15% for residents and non-residents respectively.

Redemption of Capital

The Principal amount of the loan will be redeemed on the 18th March 2026. At the end of redemption period, re-registration of the bondholders will be done to reflect changes in the holding details for respective bondholders.

No redemption will be made prior to the redemption date as stated herein. The principal will be paid on a business day as defined above. Payment will be made electronically into the accounts of the bondholders.

Register of Bondholders

CBL will act as an agent and the transfer secretary of this issue and will keep a register which will;

- Be kept by CBL at CBL's known location
- Contain names, addresses, bank account numbers of the bondholders
- Show the principal amount of the bonds it held by the bondholders
- Show registration dates for the bondholders
- Be managed according to its rules and procedures as the case may be.

The transfer secretary shall upon a written instruction by a bondholder, amend details contained in the register. The issuer will only recognize a bondholder as the rightful owner of bonds as per the register.

Trading and Transfers

This bond is tradable and transferable. Bonds are transferred by way of written instruction, and this written instruction has to be signed by both parties engaged in the sale while their secondary trading will follow rules and procedures in terms of Capital Markets Regulations of 2014. No transfers will be in effect during the books closed period and the transfer secretary will retain the written instrument following a registered transfer. The CSD will also be used to register such transfers between bondholders who are listed as participants in it.

Stamp Duty

Lesotho Treasury bonds are transferrable free of stamp duty.

Title to Bonds

The issuer shall deem for all purposes that the person reflected in the Register as the holder of bonds to be the true owner of those bonds.

Repurchase of Bonds

The issuer shall have the right to purchase the bond at any time on willing buyer willing seller basis.

Method of Issue

The bond is issued through a Dutch auction and a uniform pricing system is used.

Settlements

Settlement will take place electronically on a T+0 basis through the settlement agents.

Governing Law

Unless stated otherwise, the bonds shall be subject to and governed by the Laws of the Kingdom of Lesotho.

Signed at Maseru on the 4th day of March 2021



Thabo Sofonea (MP)
Minister of Finance

20. Advantages of Lesotho Treasury Bonds

- They are transferable and negotiable
- They can be pledged as collateral
- The rate of return is competitive

21. Auction Process

- A press release will be issued not less than 10 days before each auction, announcing the auction date, size of issue, coupon rate and other terms and conditions
- Bids can be placed at the CBL (for non-participants in the CSD) or online for participants in the CSD both for their own account and for their clients. Bids worth M100, 000.00 and above are classified as competitive while those between M5, 000.00 and M100, 000.00 are non-competitive bids. For non-participants in the CSD, all bids **must** be filled on tender form CBL/TBR/1 available at the Central Bank of Lesotho, Maseru.
- The overall results of the auction will be published in the press, displayed at CBL website: www.centralbank.org.ls.
- It is the responsibility of the investors to obtain their results from the CBL and/or own commercial bank.

22. Payment and Settlement Procedures

- Central Bank of Lesotho will debit commercial banks on the auction date for their own successful bids and on behalf of their clients.
- If settlement or coupon payment or redemption date falls on a public holiday or non-business day, value date shall be the next business day.

23. The Central Bank of Lesotho reserves the right to reject, in part or in whole the auction without giving any explanation
24. Day Count for coupon payment will be **Actual/Actual**
25. The loan or parts thereof will be issued as and when required by the Government of Lesotho at appropriate yields to maturity. The Minister may decide to increase the principal amount of the issue through re-opening at any time prior to the redemption date subject to the Local Loans Act of 2001.

26. Additional copies of these prospectus are available from:

The Central Bank of Lesotho

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Cnr Aiport and Moshoeshoe Roads
Maseru Central
Lesotho

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P.O. Box 1184
Maseru 100
Lesotho

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www.centralbank.org.ls

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