

COTE D'IVOIRE, AUTONOMOUS PORT OF ABIDJAN (PAA)
Credit rating note
September (2013)

Category of values	Rating scale	Currency	Current rating	Previous rating	Outlook
Long-term	Regional	CFA	BBB+	BBB-	Positive
Short-term	Regional	CFA	A3	B	Positive

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Basic financial information

(In million FCFA)	31.12.11	31.12.12
Fixed assets	67 447	64 590
Cash and cash equivalents	47 392	35 182
Financial debts*	60 528	43 481
Own funds	41 057	61 467
Net cash	42 746	35 126
Turnover	51 242	63 298
Gross operating surplus	18 925	22 463
Operating result	8 285	2 893
Net profit after tax	1 396	20 690

*not including financial provisions for risks and charges

Introduction

The Autonomous Port of Abidjan (PAA) is the Authority in charge of managing the Port of Abidjan. Officially established by decree no.62-86/TP of 10 November 1950, it was inaugurated on 5 February 1951. The law no.60-85 of February 1960 defined the company as an Industrial and Commercial Public Establishment.

Its sixteen billion CFA capital is fully held by the State of Côte d'Ivoire.

Justification of the rating and outlooks

Long-term: Protection factors are appropriate and are regarded as sufficient to ensure prudent investments. However, there is considerable variability of risks during economic cycles.

Short-term: Liquidity is satisfactory and other protection factors mitigate any possible issues regarding the investment index. However, risk factors are higher and are the subject of increased variations.

The rating is based on the following positive factors:

- Improving economic environment and anticipated revival of economic growth;
- Proven support of the State, considering the sub-regional dimension of the port and the strategic socio-economic role it plays in Côte d'Ivoire.
- Reaffirmation of a clear strategic vision that rests on the positioning of PAA as a geostatic hub and a driver of regional integration;
- The interest and attention of financial partners.
- Development projects in line with the socio-economic development outlooks envisaged by the State of Côte d'Ivoire
- Leading position in West Africa
- The net result achieved in 2012 and the exceptionally recovered creditworthiness

Below are the major rating factors regarded as negative:

- Relatively stable socio-political environment and still fragile security conditions;
- State support, even though it is proven, remains dependent on the State's ability to mobilize local and external financial resources on a timely and adequate manner;
- The industry trend remains strongly linked to the economic conditions;
- Cash flow quality has improved but suffers the impact of the debt service;
- The effectiveness of investments is yet to be proven due to the recurrent decline in operating results;
- Fragile creditworthiness with regard to the financing constraints of the development programme
- Lack of a convention between the State and PAA