



## **Africa Specialty Risks**

### **Protecting Africa**

#### **Africa Specialty Risks Group bolsters vision with appointment of new Business Development Executive**

**London, 05 March 2021** – Africa Specialty Risks Group (“ASR”), the Pan-African focused reinsurance group, is today pleased to announce the appointment of Constança Sampaio Soares, who joins as one of the company’s new Business Development Executives.

Constança will be responsible for growing relationships with private equity funds, development finance institutions, and banks, as well as corporates and other potential partners. Her role encompasses marketing and PR alongside strategic projects, enabling ASR to deliver an enhanced service offering via engagement with stakeholders.

Furthermore, Constança brings an extensive African network to the Group, having held managerial roles over the past eight years supporting companies such as Moody’s Investors Service, Invest Africa and Mitrelli Group, grow their market coverage across Africa.

**Mikir Shah, CEO of ASR, commented:** *“It’s a pleasure to welcome Constança to ASR. Her experience in the African finance markets will provide additional breadth to our team’s expertise and extend our reach to more businesses across the continent. This will enable us to support even more clients to grow and facilitate further investment into Africa.”*

**Constança Sampaio Soares commented:** *“Now more than ever, managing and understanding risk is of great importance to encourage investors to maintain and drive capital into the African continent. ASR is unique in its ability to provide bespoke and innovative solutions to its clients and will contribute towards unlocking the African insurance industry. It’s an honour to be a part of this highly experienced team.”*

ASR was launched last year by Helios Investment Partners, LLP (“Helios”) in partnership with Mikir Shah, former CEO of AXA Africa Specialty Risks and Bryan Howett, former CEO of Old Mutual’s pan-African reinsurance operations. Its Mauritius outfit supports business operations in Africa and the Group accesses its binders out of its underwriting centre in London. ASR’s team of underwriters will work alongside local stakeholders in key African territories, aiming to deliver expertise, work proactively with regulators, and develop skills at a local level.

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## Media Enquiries

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## About ASR

Africa Specialty Risks (ASR) provides comprehensive, risk transfer solutions through high quality underwriting to local and global customers across the African continent; giving them the confidence to grow their businesses sustainably.

ASR works proactively with local regulators to develop skills and provide training to local underwriters. Environmental, social and governance considerations are central to ASR's values, particularly in relation to local capacity building.

ASR is backed by Helios Investment Partners' fund IV and benefits from their extensive reach across Africa, as well as their knowledge and experience in our key markets.

Africa Specialty Risks Ltd. is an Appointed Representative of Crispin Speers & Partners Ltd. We operate as a Managing General Agent sourcing world leading capacity for African insurance and reinsurance risk. We are a proud member of the MGA Association.