

Kuwait, 1<sup>st</sup> December 2025

**Boursa Kuwait**  
**State of Kuwait**

Dear Sirs,

This is in accordance with Module Ten, Chapter Four of the Resolution No. 72/2015 concerning the amended Executive Bylaw to Law No. 7/2010 on the “Establishment of Capital Markets Authority and the regulation of Securities Activity”, pertaining to the “Disclosure of Material Information and the Mechanism of Notification”.

Please find attached the duly filled Credit Rating Disclosure Form containing Fitch Ratings’ affirmation of Gulf Bank’s long-term Issuer Default Rating (IDR) at ‘A’ with a “Stable” outlook.

Best regards



**Mohammad Jasem AlBeloushi**  
**Deputy General Manager - Corporate Affairs**  
**Head of Compliance & Disclosure Unit**



[GBK Classification: PUBLIC]

**Credit Rating Disclosure Form**

Date	1 <sup>st</sup> December 2025
Bank's Name	GULF BANK K.S.C.P
Rating Agency	Fitch Ratings
Rating Category	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Long-Term IDR affirmed at 'A'</li> <li>- Short-Term IDR affirmed at 'F1'</li> <li>- Viability Rating affirmed at 'bbb-'</li> <li>- Government Support Rating assigned at 'a'</li> </ul>
Rating Implications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Stable Operating Environment</li> <li>- Good Domestic Franchise</li> <li>- Low Stage 3 Loans Ratio</li> <li>- Good Capitalization</li> <li>- Stable Funding and Adequate Liquidity</li> </ul>
Impact of Rating on the Bank	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Affirmed the rating of Gulf Bank's Long-Term Issuer Default Rating (IDR) at 'A'.</li> <li>- Affirmed the rating of Gulf Bank's Viability Rating (VR) 'bbb-'.</li> <li>- Affirmed Outlook at "Stable"</li> <li>- No financial impact on the Bank.</li> </ul>
Outlook	Affirmed Outlook at "Stable"
Press Release / Executive Summary	<p>Fitch Ratings has affirmed Gulf Bank K.S.C.P.'s (GB) Long-Term Issuer Default Rating (IDR) at 'A' with a Stable Outlook. Fitch has also affirmed the bank's Viability Rating (VR) at 'bbb-'.</p> <p><b>Key Rating Drivers</b></p> <p>Gulf Bank's IDRs reflect potential support from the Kuwaiti authorities, as reflected in its Government Support Rating (GSR) of 'a'. The Stable Outlook on Gulf Bank's Long-Term IDR reflects that on the Kuwaiti sovereign rating.</p> <p>Gulf Bank's Viability Rating (VR) reflects the bank's good domestic franchise, cautious risk approach, sound loan quality and capitalization, and stable funding. The VR also factors in pressure on profitability, as well as high loan and deposit concentrations similar to those of domestic peers.</p> <p><b>Government Support Rating of 'a':</b> The Kuwaiti authorities have strong ability and willingness to provide support to domestic banks, irrespective of their size, franchise, funding and level of government ownership. This view considers Kuwait's record of supporting domestic banks and its willingness to</p>





maintain market confidence and stability, due to high contagion risk among domestic banks.

**Stable Operating Environment:** The Kuwaiti operating environment will remain stable in 2026, supported by higher forecast real GDP growth of 2.7% in 2026 (2025F: 1.7%) and real non-oil GDP growth of 2.2% (2%). The ratified public debt law and extremely strong external assets will continue to support government spending despite volatile oil prices, creating appropriate operating conditions for banks. Fitch expects bank credit growth to remain reasonable at 7%-8% in 2026 (9M25: 8.7%) but to be much higher if large government projects are promptly tendered and the residential mortgage law is approved, supported by expected lower interest rates.

**Good Domestic Franchise:** Gulf Bank had a good market share of 6.1% of consolidated bank assets at end-3Q25, supported by a good brand. Fitch expects moderate organic loan growth of 7%-8% in 2026, supported by reasonable internal capital generation and stable funding and capital.

**Low Stage 3 Loans Ratio:** Gulf Bank's Stage 2 (end-3Q25: 3%) and 3 (1.4%) loans ratios, including loans to banks, are below those of peers, supported by write-offs. Loan quality is stable with lower Stage 3 loans generation ratio (9M25: 0.6% non-annualized; 2024: 1.6%, capturing loan book clean up). Total loans loss allowances (LLAs) coverage of Stage 3 loans was high at 287% end-3Q25, although down from 433% at end-2023, due to loan book clean-up. Fitch expects stable loan quality, with a Stage 3 loans ratio of 1.4% at end-2026, due to lower interest rates, reasonable underwriting and a stable operating environment.

**Good Capitalization:** Gulf Bank's common equity Tier 1 (CET1) capital (end-3Q25: 14.3%) and tangible leverage (11%) ratios compare well with those of peers. These were supported by a KWD60 million rights issue completed in November 2023. Fitch expects stable capitalization with a CET1 capital ratio at 14.5% at end-2026, supported by reasonable loan growth, lower RWA density, high LLAs coverage and reasonable internal capital generation.

**Stable Funding; Adequate Liquidity:** Gulf Bank is mostly funded by customer deposits (end-3Q25: 85% of non-equity funding). Customer accounts are concentrated but have been stable through the cycle, mitigating liquidity risks. Its gross loans/deposits ratio (106%) is high and above that of peers but is closely managed. Its liquidity coverage ratio (254%) and net stable funding ratio (108%) are consistently above their regulatory minimum requirements of 100%.

