

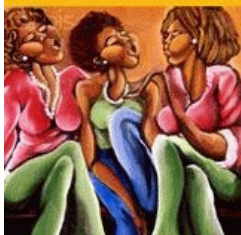
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# Renaissance eyes Zim expansion

Friday, 15 April 2011 12:52



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**Dumisani Ndelela, Deputy Editor-in-Chief**

Global emerging markets investment company, Renaissance Group, has appointed a country head to spearhead its expansion in Zimbabwe and Zambia. In an announcement, the group, which in the past few years swooped on major stakes on the domestic bourse, including a parcel of shares relinquished by South Africa's ABSA on its exit from banking group CBZ Holdings Limited, said it had appointed Rob Reid to a new role as country head for Zimbabwe and Zambia.

In his new role, Reid, to be based in Harare, would oversee the expansion of the group in Zimbabwe and Zambia.

The announcement noted that Reid would still continue with his responsibilities for the Renaissance Partners African portfolio, which includes a number of high opportunity land and natural resources investments on the continent. Reid joined Renaissance Partners in January 2006 and was part of the executive management team that initiated Renaissance's African investment strategy. He has over 12 years corporate mergers and acquisitions and private equity experience, starting his career in London with Freshfields Bruckhaus Derringer and then working at SkaddenArps, in London and Moscow. Reid holds a number of non-executive positions including that of director of the Buby River Conservancy.

Renaissance Partners is a partner in the Buby River Conservancy, Africa's largest privately held wildlife conservancy, encompassing 324 000 hectares (800 600 acres) in southeast Zimbabwe. It is located in Zimbabwe's lowveld, 60 km from the South African border, straddling the Buby River.

Renaissance is eyeing significant growth opportunities in the Zambian and Zimbabwean markets.

"Rob's appointment comes at a time when we see significant growth opportunities in the Zimbabwe and Zambian markets, as evidenced by Renaissance's advisory role on the recently closed sale of Zisco to Essar and the Group's land investments in Zambia and Zimbabwe," said Chris Baxter, chief executive officer of Renaissance Partners.

Renaissance Group is an independent group of unified finance, investment and management companies specialising in creating value in high-opportunity emerging markets. The group consists of investment banking, asset management, merchant banking and consumer credit. Renaissance Group operates in Russia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Hong Kong, Africa, the United Kingdom, the United States and Cyprus.

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- ▶ Turnall on course for US\$300m turnover
- ▶ Masimba to seal US\$15m contract
- ▶ Stop bringing in employees through the 'back door'

### Top Companies and Markets

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- ▶ New ZSE website sets stage for adoption of electronic communications
- ▶ Masimba to seal US\$15m contract

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