

**Rating Rationale**  
**Commercial Investment Property Fund Limited (“CIPF”)**

**Ratings**

<b>Instrument</b>	<b>Amount (MUR Million)</b>	<b>Rating</b>	<b>Rating Action</b>
Bond (Senior Tranche) *	400	<b>CARE MAU A- (SO); Stable [Single A Minus (Structured Obligation); Outlook: Stable] *</b>	<b>Reaffirmed</b>

*\*Bond Issue (Senior Tranche) is backed by the first charge on the leased properties of CIPF. Interest payment on the Senior Tranche of Bonds has first priority on lease rentals received by CIPF in an escrow account as per waterfall mechanism. Further, a funded Debt Service Reserve Account (DSRA) equivalent to one semi-annual interest payment to Senior Tranche bondholders has been created and will be maintained during the tenure of the Bond.*

**Rating Rationale**

The rating is supported by the integrity of the legal structure and the structured payment mechanism designed to ensure timely payment of the interest on the rated senior tranche Bonds, as per the terms of the transaction and this is not a standalone rating of Commercial Investment Property Fund Limited (“CIPF”).

The structure involves pooling of the various properties previously under ENL Commercial Limited (“ENLC”) and its subsidiaries into an SPV - Commercial Investment Property Fund Ltd. (CIPF; a wholly owned subsidiary of ENLC) which has in turn issued 10-year bond of MUR 560 mn (MUR 400 million of senior tranche and MUR 160 million of junior tranche) the proceeds of which were utilized for buying the properties from ENLC and its subsidiaries which in turn used the sale proceeds to repay their existing debt (i.e. debt in ENLC and its subsidiaries). CIPF has entered into lease agreement with the subsidiaries/associate concerns of ENLC and lease rentals are utilized towards maintenance of properties and debt servicing of the bond issue. Further, ENLC has provided shortfall undertaking to CIPF for replenishment of DSRA within a month’s time of its utilization in case of shortfall of lease rental for interest payments on the bond issue.

The rating factors the strong parentage of the ENL group, more than 70% of the lease rentals being received from profitable subsidiaries (Axess, Plastinax and Grewals) of ENLC, interest income on loan extended to ENLC, long lease tenure compared to bond tenure with low exit risk, moderate financial risk profile of the lessee’s belonging to diverse industries, financial support from ENLC in the form of funded DSRA for one semi-annual interest payment & shortfall undertaking to maintain the same over the tenure of the bond.

The rating is, however, constrained by the subdued financial performance of some of the tenants in FY19, interest rate risk and high refinancing risk at the time of bond redemption.

Improvement in the performance of the loss-making subsidiaries during the tenure of the instrument, timely receipt of lease rentals, continued maintenance of funded DSRA equivalent to one semi-annual interest payment by ENLC and mode of arrangement of funds for redemption of bonds within stipulated time are the key rating sensitivities.

**CARE Ratings (Africa) Private Limited**

Registered Office: 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, MTML Square, 63, Cyber City, Ebene, Mauritius

BRN: C127054

Telephone: +230 59553060/58626551

FSC License No.: CR14000001

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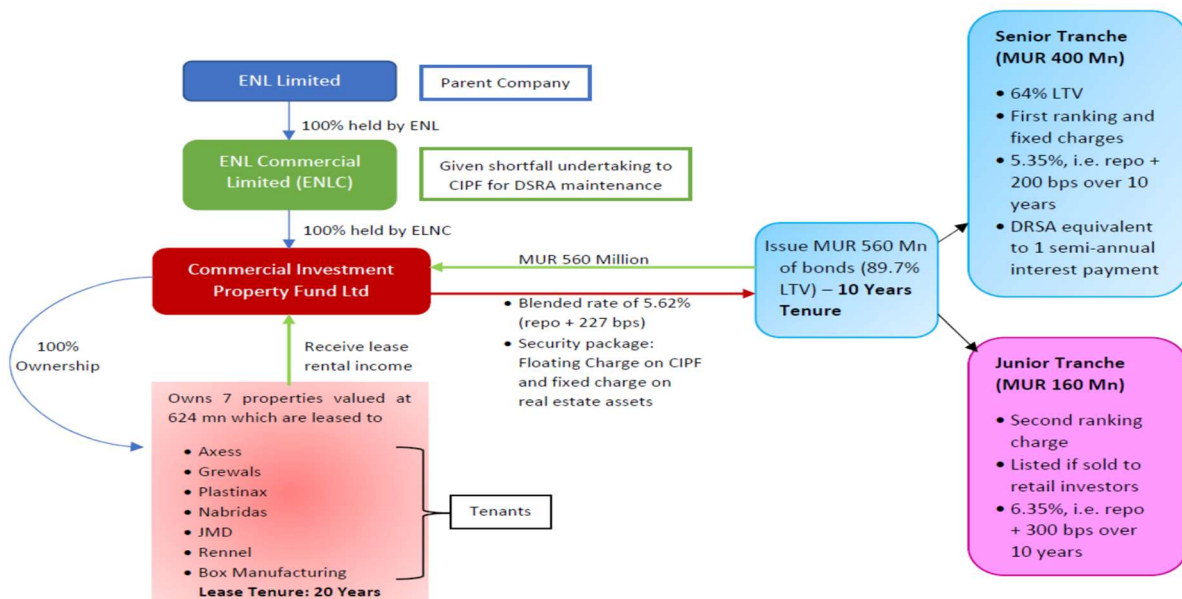
## BACKGROUND

Incorporated in 2016, CIPF is a property fund. It is a wholly owned subsidiary of new ENLC and owns seven offices/industrial assets located predominantly in the Moka/St. Pierre region in Mauritius. These properties are occupied and currently used by the subsidiaries and associates of ENLC. As per arrangement, the properties have been transferred to CIPF and users have entered into 20 years lease agreement with CIPF.

CIPF has issued bond of MUR 400 mn [Senior Tranche rated **CARE MAU A- (SO); Stable**] and MUR 160 million (Junior Tranche: **unrated**) backed by the lease rentals to be received from its let-out properties which are being utilized for interest payment and bond repayments.

On January 1, 2019, ENL Commercial Limited, ENL Limited, ENL Land Limited and ENL Finance Limited were merged into La Sablonniere Limited, and subsequently on January 3, 2019 the merged entity was renamed ENL Limited. On January 24, 2019, another entity called ENL Commercial Limited (“ENLC”) was established as a wholly owned subsidiary of ENL Limited (rated CARE MAU A; Stable). All assets held by erstwhile ENLC (pre-merger) were transferred to the new ENLC. As on December 2019, CIPF is a wholly owned subsidiary of the new ENLC, which is in turn a 100% subsidiary of ENL Limited.

## Transaction Structure



The interest payment to Senior Tranche bondholders would get priority over interest payment to Junior Tranche bondholders from lease rentals.

**Strong parentage of ENL Group**

CIPF is a 100% subsidiary of ENLC, which is a wholly-owned subsidiary of ENL Limited (rated **CARE MAU A; Stable**). ENL is one of the large conglomerates in Mauritius having diverse business interest from agriculture, property, hospitality, logistics, Fintech to IT & ITeS domain. Agriculture and property are two major business segments of ENL. The group is currently led by the fifth generation of Noëls.

**Financials of ENL Limited (Consolidated)**

(MUR Million)

For the Year ended / As at June 30,	2018	2019
	12m, A	12m, A
Sales	12,829	14,175
Other Op. income	1,105	1,218
Total Op. Income (TOI)	13,935	15,393
EBITDA	2,130	2,377
Interest	1,116	1,166
Reported PAT	1,145	1,361
Adjusted PAT (APAT)*	56	353
Equity Share capital	8	3,608
Tangible Net Worth (TNW)**	31,112	25,210
Total Debt	21,198	24,059
<b>Key Ratios</b>		
EBITDA / TOI	15.28	15.44
APAT / TOI	0.40	2.29
Overall Gearing (x)	0.68	0.95
EBITDA / Interest (x)	1.91	2.04
Total Debt / EBITDA	9.95	10.12

\*APAT=Reported PAT - Fair Value gain on revaluation of investment properties (Mur 1,089 million in FY18 and Mur 1,009 million in FY19)

\*\*TNW= Total Equity-Revaluation Reserves-Intangible assets

Debt in ENL Limited was availed for increasing its stake in Rogers and Company Ltd. (during participation with CIM group), equity infusion for Bagatelle Mall in FY12, and increasing its stake in New Mauritius Hotel (NMH) in FY16-17. Majority are 10-15 years long term debt availed from MCB. The total value of its stake in Rogers and NMH (listed in Stock Exchange of Mauritius) is around Mur 10,000 million, of which only 15% shares are pledged. These are quoted investment. If required, the company can sell of its stake in the market to repay the bonds.

ENL group owns around 22,639 arpents (acres) of land in Moka (Centre of the island and most populated & one of the posh areas of Mauritius), Savannah (South) and in Bel Ombre/Case Noyale (South-West). The group has earmarked about 5% of this area (around 1,000 acres near Moka) for real estate development over next 10 years. ENL sells agricultural land in Moka at Mur 5 million per arpent, converted land at Mur 10 million per arpent and land with proper infrastructure (roads, power, water, boundaries, land scaping & beautification,) at Mur 20-25 million per arpent.

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### Long tenure of lease agreement vis-a-vis bond tenure with low exit risk

The residual tenure of the following properties leased out by CIPF is 18 years while the residual tenure of the outstanding bonds is 8 years providing visibility of cash flows in the form of lease rentals. The lease rentals are triple-net (lessee would bear real estate taxes, building insurance and maintenance) and are inflation indexed. The basic monthly net rental has been increased by 10% since July 2019. Annual escalation thereafter will be in line with the percentage increase in CPI subject to minimum of 5% p.a. and a maximum of 10% p.a.

(MUR Million)

No.		Property Type	Annual rental (FY19)	Annual rental (FY20)	Property Valuation
1	Axess Limited (Axess)	Showroom	16.2	17.8	237
2	Grewals (Mauritius) Ltd (Grewals)	Industrial	6.9	7.6	167
3	Plastinax Austral Ltd (Plastinax)	Industrial	4.8	5.3	94
4	Nabridas Limited (Nabridas)	Industrial / Warehouse	3.5	5.0	60
5	Box Manufacturing	Industrial	1.6	1.8	24
6	Rennel Ltd	Industrial	2.7	3.0	43
7	JMD	Industrial	1.8	2.0	N/A
8	Interest from ENLC for next 2 years*		5.6	5.6	
	<b>Total</b>		<b>43.1</b>	<b>48.0</b>	<b>624</b>

\*Interest may vary based on the amounts extended to ENLC/other group companies, which in turn depends on availability of cash surplus in CIPF.

**Note: Overall valuation of property to bond issue is 1.11 times**

### Key features of the Lease Agreement

Feature	Details																								
Tenure of the lease	For a period of 20 years from commencement date																								
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Tenant</th> <th>Lease Start Date</th> <th>Duration</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Axess</td> <td>January 2017</td> <td>20 years</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grewals</td> <td>January 2017</td> <td>20 years</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Plastinax</td> <td>January 2017</td> <td>20 years</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nabridas</td> <td>January 2017</td> <td>20 years</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Box Manufacturing</td> <td>January 2017</td> <td>20 years</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rennel</td> <td>April 2019</td> <td>20 years</td> </tr> <tr> <td>JMD</td> <td>April 2019</td> <td>20 years</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Tenant	Lease Start Date	Duration	Axess	January 2017	20 years	Grewals	January 2017	20 years	Plastinax	January 2017	20 years	Nabridas	January 2017	20 years	Box Manufacturing	January 2017	20 years	Rennel	April 2019	20 years	JMD	April 2019	20 years
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	Box Manufacturing	January 2017	20 years																						
Rennel	April 2019	20 years																							
JMD	April 2019	20 years																							
Lease rental Escalation Clause	The basic monthly net rental was increased by 10% effective 1 <sup>st</sup> July 2019. From 1 <sup>st</sup> July 2020 and each year thereafter, the basic monthly rental shall be escalated in line with the percentage increase in CPI subject to a minimum of 5% and a maximum of 10%.																								
Lease Rentals	The Basic Monthly Net Rental payable excludes 1. Value added tax and the Lessee shall be liable to pay value added tax at the current rate of 15% or such other rate as may be applicable from time to time. 2. Charges payable for services rendered in respect of the Leased Property 3. Payments of insurance, electricity, water, sanitation fees and other utilities However, Lessee will deduct TDS payable by lessor (currently 5%).																								
Rental payment terms	Lessee shall pay the Basic Monthly Net Rental in advance on or before the fifth day of each month upon receipt of a monthly invoice to be issued by the Lessor. All payments made by the Lessee to the Lessor in terms of this Agreement shall be effected by cheque or by electronic payment directly into the Lessor's nominated bank account or by such other means as the Lessor may from time to time by notice in writing direct.																								

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Feature	Details
Delay in Rent payment	Where a Lessee fails to honour its payment obligations hereunder in a timely manner, it shall be liable to pay interest (without the necessity for the Lessor to serve any notice (mise-en-demeure) on the Lessee) at the prevailing legal rate accruing monthly one week after the date due for payment.
Maintenance and other charges	Lessee would be required to pay the cost of all electricity, water, gas and other amenities consumed by the Lessee in or on, or attributable to, the Leased Property directly to lessor or the utility provider. Also, all refuse removal charges, sewerage, sanitary fees and domestic and industrial effluent fees levied from time to time in respect of the Leased Property are to be paid by lessee. Throughout the duration of this Lease, the Lessee shall maintain and repair the interior and exterior of the Premises and all parts thereof, together with all fixtures, fittings and the Appurtenances, in good order and condition and for such purpose shall attend to such repairs and provide such replacements as may be required.
Risk of Early Termination by the lessee	The risk of early termination of the lease agreement is low given that the lessee's are the subsidiaries/associates of the ENLC and in case of early termination of lessee for reasons other than damage of property or breach of agreed terms by lessor, lessee shall pay to the Lessor the rental up to the date of termination, the full value of all arrear amounts owing in terms of this Lease together with the Rental for the remaining Lease Period and all damages suffered by the Lessor as a result thereof.

### **Moderate financial risk profile of Lessee's belonging to diverse industries**

All the tenants of CIPF are the part of ENL group and are direct subsidiaries of ENLC and step down subsidiaries of ENL Limited. All the tenants have established track record of operations of over 15 years having business interest in diverse industries viz. Automobile dealership, Fashionable Eyewears, Construction, Textile, Plastic products and carton packaging products. This reduces the industry specific risk to overall cash flow in form of lease rentals owing to the inter group financial support as all tenants being part of ENL Group and there has been past instances of financial support from ENLC to its subsidiaries.

Total rental from Axess, Grewals, Plastinax and Nabridas is Mur 31.4 million in FY19 (more than 80% of the total rentals). This coupled with interest payment of Mur 5.6 million from Axess, Grewals and ENLC comfortably covers interest payment of Senior Tranche (Mur 21.4 million).

### **Financial support from ENLC in the form of funded DSRA for 1 semi-annual payment**

ENLC had created funded DSRA equivalent to 1 semi-annual interest payment of senior tranche i.e. 12 million. Further, it had provided shortfall undertaking to CIPF for replenishment of DSRA within a month's time of its utilization in case of shortfall of lease rental for interest payments. This provides support to cash flows.

ENLC is a holding company for commerce and manufacturing business vertical of ENL group. All tenants are the subsidiaries of ENLC. On consolidated basis, it had reported TOI of Mur 2,133 million and PAT of Mur 31 million for the period January- June 2019.

### **Interest rate risk**

Bonds are issued wherein rate of interest is Repo rate + 200 bps for senior tranche and Repo Rate + 300 bps for junior tranche thereby directly linked to repo rate which is fixed by Bank of Mauritius and reset on a quarterly basis. Accordingly, interest servicing obligation of CIPF shall be floating with the revision in rate of interest on the back of its fixed cash accruals in initial 3 years which would grow at minimum 5% going forward which mitigates the risk to an extent. Further, it has adequate coverage for interest servicing 2.24 times-3.0 times for senior tranche and 1.52 times – 2.0 times for overall interest payments to absorb any adverse movements. In August 2019, Repo rate was revised by BOM from 3.50% to 3.35%. Accordingly, the interest payable per annum on the Senior Tranche has reduced from Mur 22 million (considered during last Annual Surveillance) to Mur 21.4 million. Interest payable per annum on Junior Tranche has reduced from Mur 10.4 million to Mur 10.2 million. CIPF will be benefiting by Mur 0.8 million reduction in total annual interest payments as a result of the 15bps cut in Repo rate.

### **High refinancing risk**

In terms of cumulative cash balance in CIPF, the same is envisaged to be around MUR 170 million at the end of bond tenure, thereby requiring minimum refinancing of MUR 390 million i.e. 70% of the total bond issue. Thereby, refinancing risk would be high which could increase in case of downturn in real estate pricing wherein the security coverage would decline. However, same is partly mitigated considering the company being part of ENL group and the redemption mode would be decided in one and half years before the bond maturity date providing buffer time for arranging finance. The non-exhaustive list includes (a) a term loan –the amount outstanding of MUR 560 million could be financed by term loan; (ii) A new bond issuance; (iii) An equity solution through an IPO, trade sale or raising private capital in CIPF. The company's 20 years lease agreement vis-a-vis repayment period of 10 years will also provide support to the company during refinancing of term loan. Finally, the sale of real estate is the last resort. The ability of ENL group to raise funds through any of the sources mentioned in a timely manner would be a key rating sensitivity.

This apart Property value provided for the Senior Tranche of the Bond = Mur 624 million and in case if property value falls below 1.10 times, the Issuer shall, within 30 days, take all necessary steps to restore the property value to more than 1.10 times. This also provides cushion to the company.



## Financials ENLC Limited

The financial performance of ENLC (January- June 2019) is as under:

For the Year ended / As at June 30,	2019 (6M) Audited
	Mur Million
Total Op. Income (TOI)	2133
EBIDTA	150
Interest	30
PAT	31
Equity Share capital	1281
T. Net Worth (TNW)	772
Total Debt	913
<b>Key Ratios (%)</b>	
EBIDTA margin	7.03
PAT margin	1.44
Gearing (x)	1.18
EBIDTA / Interest (x)	5.01
Total Debt / EBIDTA	6.08

## Financials of Commercial Investment Property Fund Limited

(MUR Mn)

CIPF	FY18	FY19	Q1FY19	Q1FY20
	12 M (A)	12 M (A)	3M	3M
Turnover	64.6	66.6	16.3	17.1
EBITDA	60.6	62.7	14.6	16.3
Depreciation	11.6	10.8		
Interest	32.9	32.4	8.2	8.1
Non- operating Income (Gain on disposal of property)	14.2			
PBT	30.4	19.5	3.5	5.5
PAT	26.2	15.8	3.8	4.8
GCA	37.6	26.9		
Share Capital	112.3	112.3		
Tangible Networkth	110.9	127.0		
Total Debt:	560.0	560.0	560	560
EBITDA Margin	71.8%	94.2%	89.1%	95.4%
PAT Margin	25.6%	25.7%	26.0%	29.7%
Cash & cash equivalents	13.6	11.0	31.0	0.2
Gearing	5.1	4.4		
Interest Coverage (EBITDA/Interest expense)	1.4	1.9	1.8	2.0

A: Audited

Performance of CIPF has improved in FY19 over FY18. As per Rental Agreement, rental for all tenants has been increased by 10% since July 2019. Annual escalation thereafter will be in line with the percentage increase in CPI subject to minimum of 5% p.a. and a maximum of 10% p.a.

EBIDTA & PAT of Axess, Plastinax and Grewals (Rentals from these 3 companies are Mur 27.9 million - 74% of total rentals) have improved in FY19 over FY18. Rentals from these 3 companies and interest from ENLC (Mur 5.6 million) adequately covers the interest payment both senior tranche and junior tranche bond issued by CIPF (i.e. Mur 31.6 million p.a.). However, performance of Rennel and Nabridas have deteriorated in FY19 over FY18. In FY19 also Box Manufacturing and JMD has posted negative EBITDA.

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**Note:** Ms. Aruna Radhakeesoon, employed as Attorney-at-Law/Executive Director/Chief Legal Executive by Rogers and Co. Ltd (an ENL Group company), is one of CRAF's Rating Committee Members. To comply with the regulations, the member has not participated in the rating process and in the Rating Committee Meeting.

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## Annexure I

### *Long /Medium-term Instruments*

<i>Symbols</i>	<i>Rating Definition</i>
<b>CARE MAU AAA</b>	Instruments with this rating are considered to have the highest degree of safety regarding timely servicing of financial obligations, in Mauritius. Such instruments carry lowest credit risk.
<b>CARE MAU AA</b>	Instruments with this rating are considered to have high degree of safety regarding timely servicing of financial obligations, in Mauritius. Such instruments carry very low credit risk.
<b>CARE MAU A</b>	Instruments with this rating are considered to have adequate degree of safety regarding timely servicing of financial obligations, in Mauritius. Such instruments carry low credit risk.
<b>CARE MAU BBB</b>	Instruments with this rating are considered to have moderate degree of safety regarding timely servicing of financial obligations, in Mauritius. Such instruments carry moderate credit risk.
<b>CARE MAU BB</b>	Instruments with this rating are considered to have moderate risk of default regarding timely servicing of financial obligations, in Mauritius.
<b>CARE MAU B</b>	Instruments with this rating are considered to have high risk of default regarding timely servicing of financial obligations, in Mauritius.
<b>CARE MAU C</b>	Instruments with this rating are considered to have very high risk of default regarding timely servicing of financial obligations, in Mauritius.
<b>CARE MAU D</b>	Instruments with this rating are in default or are expected to be in default soon.

*Modifiers {"+" (plus) / "-"(minus)} can be used with the rating symbols for the categories CARE MAU AA to CARE MAU C. The modifiers reflect the comparative standing within the category. A suffix of '(SO)' may be added to the rating indicating that the instrument / facility is a "Structured Obligation". A prefix of 'Provisional' may be added to a 'SO' rating indicating that the rating is subject to completion of certain conditions.*

#### **Rating Outlook**

The rating outlook can be 'Positive', 'Stable' or 'Negative'.

A 'Positive' outlook indicates an expected upgrade in the credit ratings in the medium term on account of expected positive impact on the credit risk profile of the entity in the medium term.

A 'Negative' outlook would indicate an expected downgrade in the credit ratings in the medium term on account of expected negative impact on the credit risk profile of the entity in the medium term.

A 'Stable' outlook would indicate expected stability (or retention) of the credit ratings in the medium term on account of stable credit risk profile of the entity in the medium term.