

MERCURY TOWERS BY ZAHA HADID ARCHITECTS

# **MERCURY PROJECTS FINANCE p.l.c.**

1400, Block 14, Portomaso, St. Julians, Malta Co. Reg. No. C89117

# COMPANY ANNOUNCEMENT

# Audited Consolidated Financial Statements for 2023

The Board of Directors of Mercury Towers Ltd. (the "Guarantor") approved the Audited Financial Statements for the financial year ended 31st December 2023.

Copies of the above-mentioned Audited Financial Statements for the financial year ended 31st December 2023, as approved, are attached to this Company Announcement and are also available for viewing at the registered office of the Issuer, Mercury Projects Finance p.l.c. (the "Company") and on the Company's website: <a href="https://www.mercuryfinance.com.mt">www.mercuryfinance.com.mt</a>

# Explanation of variance in terms of Capital Markets Rule 5.16.24

For the purposes of the Capital Market Rule 5.16.24, it is hereby announced that the audited consolidated results of the Group showed a profit before tax of  $\leq 11.7$ m when compared to the Group's financial forecast for 2023 as disclosed in the financial analysis summary dated 27 June 2023 (the "FAS"), which showed a profit before tax of  $\leq 4.7$ m. This is due mainly to the following reasons:

1. A gain on revaluation on Investment Property of 13.1m

2. Some units (22 in number) located in the Peripheral Block are still held in Inventory as at the year end. 19 of these units are on Promise of Sale.

3. The car park, commercial mall, the entertainment arena and some food and beverage outlets started operations during the last quarter of 2023. This resulted in a loss on operations since a full year of costs were incurred.

By order of the Board

r Brile

Joseph Saliba Company Secretary

30<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Mario Vella

# ANNUAL REPORT AND CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# **31 DECEMBER 2023**

Company Reg. No: C77402

# GENERAL INFORMATION 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Page
Annual Report:	
General Information	1
Director's Report	2
Financial Statements:	
Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income	7
Consolidated Statements of Financial Position	8
Consolidated Statements of Changes in Equity	10
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows	12
Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements	13
Independent Auditors' Report	45

# GENERAL INFORMATION 31 DECEMBER 2023

#### **Director:**

Mr. Joseph Portelli

#### **Company Secretary:**

Dr. Ian Stafrace

# **Registered Office:**

J. Portelli Projects 1400, Block 14 Portomaso St. Julians STJ4014 Malta

#### **Bankers:**

Bank of Valletta plc 102, Republic Street Victoria VCT1017 Gozo

Lombard Bank plc 67, Merchants Street Valletta Malta

#### Legal Advisor:

Saliba Stafrace Legal 9/4, Britannia House Old Bakery Street Valletta VLT1450 Malta

#### Auditors:

Baker Tilly Malta Level 5 Rosa Marina Building 216, Marina Seafront Pieta' PTA9041 Malta

# DIRECTOR'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

#### Director

#### Mr. Joseph Portelli

The sole director presents herewith his annual report together with the financial statements of Mercury Towers Ltd. (the "Company" and the "Group", separate and consolidated respectively) for the year ended 31 December 2023. The director has prepared the report in accordance with Article 177 of the Malta Companies Act (Cap 386, Laws of Malta) (the "Act") including the further provisions as set out in the Sixth Schedule to the Act.

#### The Group

The Group comprises Mercury Towers Ltd. (the "Company") and its wholly owned subsidiaries, namely Mercury Projects Finance p.l.c. ("MPFP"), Mercury Hotel Ltd. ("MHL"), Mercury Commercial Mall Ltd. ("MCML") and Mercury Car Park II Ltd. ("MCPIIL").

MPFP was set up on 16 January 2019, with its principal activities being those of acting as a finance and investment vehicle for the Group. MHL was set up on 7 December 2021 with the scope of owning and operating the hotel within the Mercury Tower Project while MCML and MCPIIL were incorporated on 15 December 2021, with MCMLs main purpose being that of owning and operating the commercial mall and that of MCPIIL being that of owning and operating the car park.

#### **Principal Activities**

The current principal activity of Mercury Towers Ltd. is the development and sale of property within the Mercury Tower Project in St. Julians, Malta. The Company owns the land and Mercury House, a 19th Century Grade 2 villa. In August 2021, Mercury Towers Ltd. acquired the adjacent site from SGE Properties Ltd., thereby consolidating the ownership of the entire site on which the Mercury Tower Project was developed.

During the previous year, Mercury Towers Ltd. transferred the airspace of the hotel to Mercury Hotel Ltd. for the price of  $\notin$  14,600,000 thus realizing the revaluation reserve previously accounted for. In the current year, the Company transferred components of the property consisting of Level 0 and Level 1 of the Podium to Mercury Hotel Ltd. The commercial mall and the entertainment arena spanning from Basement Level 3 and Level 1 were transferred to Mercury Commercial Mall Ltd. The car park underlying the Mercury Towers Project was transferred to Mercury Car Park II Ltd. Such transfers were affected at cost. The Company retained certain areas of the property for eventual operation or management by the Company.

The Company is the Guarantor to the bonds issued by Mercury Projects Finance Plc. whilst Mercury Hotel Ltd. is acting as surety to the last bond issued in 2022.

#### **Review of Business**

#### The Company

During the current year, finishing works on the development progressed steadily and the Company continued to conclude deeds of sale on the last available units situated in the main tower whilst continuing to sign new preliminary agreements on units built and being finished in the peripheral block.

#### Turnover and cost of sales

During the year under review, revenue for the Company amounted to  $\notin 24,465,099$  (2022:  $\notin 37,804,449$ ). The decrease in revenue mainly resulted from the execution of a lower number of deeds of sale on units. Revenue is recognized once the deed of sale is signed.

Cost of sales for the year likewise decreased in line with revenue and amounted to € 17,289,368 (2022: € 29,040,642).

#### Equity

The Company's equity at the end of the year under review amounted to  $\notin$  54,438,582 (2022:  $\notin$  43,007,313). The increase in equity primarily emanates from an increase in the share capital of the Company and the revaluation of property.

# DIRECTOR'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

#### Review of Business (Contd.)

#### The Group

During the current year, finishing works on the development progressed steadily, and with elements of the Project totally completed. The commercial mall, which rentable space was fully taken up, and the car park commenced operations late during the year, whilst the Company continued to conclude deeds of sale on units available for sale. Construction works on the hotel were completed and finishing works were in progress, whilst staff were being hired to undergo training. Mercury Projects Finance Plc. continued being the part-financing arm for the Mercury Project.

#### *Turnover and cost of sales*

During the year under review, revenue for the Group amounted to  $\notin$  24,806,652 (2022:  $\notin$  37,804,449) with the decrease in revenue mainly resulting from the execution of a lower number of deeds of sale on units.

Cost of sales for the year likewise decreased, and this in line with the decrease in revenue and amounted to  $\notin$  18,695,578 (2022:  $\notin$  29,040,642).

#### Rental income and related services

As mentioned above, the commercial mall opened its doors to the public in November 2023. Rental income and related services for the period amounted to  $\notin$  297,779.

#### Car parking services

The car park also commenced operations in November 2023 and the revenue generated for the period amounted to  $\notin$  43,774.

#### Equity

The Group's equity at the end of the year under review amounted to  $\notin$  78,771,930 (2022:  $\notin$  37,196,700) with the increase in equity primarily emanating from an increase in the share capital of the Company and the revaluation of property.

#### Bond Issue

Pursuant to the prospectus published on the 4 March 2019, Mercury Projects Finance p.lc. (the "Issuer" or "MPFP"), the finance and investment vehicle of Mercury Towers Ltd. (the "Guarantor"), issued  $\in$  11,500,000 3.75% secured bonds maturing in 2027 (Series I Bonds) and  $\in$  11,000,000 secured bonds maturing in 2031 (Series II Bonds). Both series were issued at a nominal value of  $\in$  100 per bond. These bonds were admitted to the official list of the Malta Stock Exchange with effect from 29 March 2019 and trading in the bonds commenced on 5 April 2019.

In accordance with the provisions of the Prospectus dated 4 March 2019, the proceeds from the bond issue have been advanced by way of a loan facility to the Company, for the purpose of re-financing existing bank loans and for the construction and finishing of certain specific project elements at the Mercury site in St. Julians, Malta, which project is owned by the Company and the Group.

On the 22 March 2023, the Malta Financial Services Authority approved the issuance of  $\in$  50,000,000 4.3% secured bonds to mature in 2032. This bond was issued at a nominal value of  $\in$  100 per bond and was admitted to the official list of the Malta Stock Exchange with effect from the 26 April 2023 and trading on the bonds commenced on 27 April 2022. In accordance with the provisions of the Prospectus dated 22 March 2022, the proceeds from this second bond issue were advanced by way of another loan facility to the Company, which is also the Guarantor, for the purpose of construction and finishing of the hotel at the Mercury Tower project and for general corporate funding.

#### **Project Update**

The Mercury House site consists of a plot of land originally measuring approximately 7,701sqm. During 2021, the Company acquired adjacent land measuring approximately 1,946sqm, on which the second phase of the project was being constructed. The site is located at one of the main gateways into Paceville, Malta. Paceville is Malta's main entertainment area, known for its diverse nightlife, restaurants, casinos and luxurious 5-star tourist accommodation and residential complexes.

This property includes two Grade 2 buildings, namely Mercury House, a 19th Century villa constructed on two floors and a basement, and the underground cold war vaults. Both structures were restored and rehabilitated and form an integral part of the development of the site.

# DIRECTOR'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

#### Project Update (Contd.)

The vision for the project is to create a high-quality landmark development through a combination of residential, retail, parking, hotel and substantial public open space that will upgrade the amenities and contribute to the public realm of Paceville.

World renowned architect Dame Zaha Hadid sketched this project herself and was her last design before her untimely demise. Zaha Hadid Architects were thereafter entrusted with the design of the project. The approach provided by Zaha Hadid Architects is that of the provision of an iconic building to create a clear visual identity and sense of place for the site, thus bringing positive changes to the site and its surroundings.

Works on the development continue progressing steadily. The Company continued to sign new preliminary agreements, and construction of the peripheral block was completed. As at the date of issue of these financial statements, all the units in the tower have been sold and only 22 units remain in stock (19 of which are under Promise of Sale Agreement). Handover of the units in the tower is almost complete, whereas finishing of the hotel and peripheral block is in its advanced stages.

By the time of issue of these financial statements, all construction works were completed. Works on the finishing of the development continue progressing steadily. Some areas of the Project were finished and launched for operations. The Mercury Shopping District opened its doors to the public in November 2023 whilst the entertainment arena, now known as Planet Play, started operations in February 2024. Other elements of the commercial offering are expected to start operations during the second half of 2024 while the hotel is expected to start operations in summer.

To date, the funding of this project is partly emanating from proceeds of sold units which stand at 100% of total units for sale for the tower and 99% of total units for sale for the peripheral block. Property to be retained by the Group is funded from the bonds issued by the subsidiary company. Furthermore, the Company enjoys a number of banking relationships which provide bridge financing from time to time which supplement the funding from the bonds as and when required.

On 28 March 2023, 68% of the area of the car park underlying the first phase of the development was repurchased from Bersella Holdings Ltd. This strategic re-acquisition was concluded for a total price of  $\notin$  9 million thereby increasing the ownership of the first phase car park area to 93%. The car park underlying both phases of the project was subsequently transferred onto the subsidiary company, namely Mercury Car Park II Ltd. at cost of  $\notin$  14,622,639.

On 18 December 2023, the commercial mall and entertainment arena were transferred from the Company to Mercury Commercial Mall Ltd. and Level 0 and Level 1 of the Podium was transferred to Mercury Hotel Ltd. These transfers were executed at cost.

### Key Risks

The key risks associated with the Company and the Group are those associated with the exposure to the real estate development market as well as to an array of competitive pressures in the operation and management of the hospitality, accommodation and commercial rental markets in Malta. The full list of all the key risks listed in the Prospectus are still applicable to the Group.

The Company acts as the guarantor in relation to the bonds issued by the subsidiary, namely Mercury Projects Finance p.l.c., whilst Mercury Hotel Ltd. is acting as surety to the bonds issued during 2022.

Although the finishing works of the Mercury Towers Project is progressing steadily, the Company is still subject to elements of financial risk factors, including the market, economic, counter-party, credit and liquidity risks amongst others that may affect project completion. Where possible, the director provides principles for the overall risk management as well as policies to mitigate these risks in the most prudent way.

# DIRECTOR'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

#### **Regional Conflicts**

Conflicts between countries will always have a negative effect on the rest of the world. The increased challenges brought about by various conflicts Ukraine and the Middle East cannot be ignored. However, following a thorough assessment of the Company's operations and, more significantly, that of the Group, it has been noted that there is no reliance on these regions for goods or services. The director continues to actively monitor all developments taking place internationally in order to take any action that might be necessary in the eventuality that developments in these conflicts start to impact the Company's and the Group's performance and operations.

#### **Results, Dividends and Reserves**

The results for the year and the movement in reserves and cash are as set out on pages 7 to 12 of the financial statements. A net interim dividend of  $\notin$  4.5 million was recommended and paid during the year, which funds were capitalized as an increase in the share capital of the Company. No final dividends are being recommended.

#### Director

The director listed on page 2 served in office throughout the year. In accordance with the Company's Articles of Association, the director at date of this report is to remain in office.

#### **Company Secretary**

The company secretary is Dr. Ian J. Stafrace.

#### Auditors

Baker Tilly Malta have intimated their willingness to continue in office. A proposal to reappoint Baker Tilly Malta as auditors of the Company will be put to the General Meeting.

Approved by the sole director on 30 April 2024:

Mr. Joseph Portelli Director

# DIRECTOR'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

#### Statement of director's responsibilities for the financial statements

The Companies Act, 1995 (Chapter 386, Laws of Malta) (the "Act") requires the director to prepare financial statements for each financial period which give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Company and the Group for that period in accordance with the requirements of International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the EU.

In preparing these financial statements, the director is required to:

- adopt the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Company and the Group will continue in business;
- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- account for income and charges relating to the accounting period on the accruals basis;
- value separately the components of asset and liability items; and
- report comparative figures corresponding to those of the preceding accounting period.

The director is responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company and the Group and to enable him to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act (Cap. 386) enacted in Malta. This responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining such internal control as the director determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. The director is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Company and the Group and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the sole director on 30 April 2024.

Mr. Joseph Portelli Director

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 2023

		Group		Company	
		<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	Note	Euro	Euro	Euro	Euro
Revenue	4	24,806,652	37,804,449	24,465,099	37,804,449
Cost of sales		(18,695,578)	(29,040,642)	(17,289,368)	(29,040,642)
Gross Profit		6,111,074	8,763,807	7,175,731	8,763,807
Administrative overheads		(2,419,042)	(1,014,067)	(1,775,901)	(595,119)
Selling expenses		(1,197,969)	(1,502,127)	(1,197,969)	(1,502,127)
Provision for expected credit losses		152	-	2,299	(2,147)
Other operating income/(expenditure)	5	(478,014)	27,001	207	
Operating Profit	6	2,016,201	6,274,614		6,691,415
Gain on transfer of asset under construction	9	-	6,656,765	-	6,656,765
Movement in revaluation of investment property	10	13,139,730	-	13,139,730	-
		13,139,730	6,656,765	13,139,730	6,656,765
Finance costs	7	(3,462,191)	(2,385,691)		(8,448)
Profit before Taxation		11,693,740	10,545,688	17,344,097	13,339,732
Tax expense	8	(5,956,639)	(1,871,432)	(5,912,828)	(1,750,966)
Profit for the Year		5,737,101	8,674,256	11,431,269	11,588,766
Other Comprehensive Income/(Expense) Items that will not be reclassified to profit/loss Revaluation of property, plant and equipment Related deferred tax effect Other Comprehensive Income/(Expense) for Year	8	43,305,942 (7,467,813)  35,838,129	(6,656,765) 532,541 (6,124,224)	- 	(6,656,765) 532,541 (6,124,224)
Total Comprehensive Income for the Year		41,575,230	2,550,032	11,431,269	5,464,542

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

		Group		Company	
		<u>2023</u>	2022	<u>2023</u>	2022
	Note	Euro	Euro	Euro	Euro
Assets					
Property, plant and equipment	9	143,186,813	27,567,146	197,826	-
Intangible assets	10	270,000	-	-	-
Investment property	11	80,595,065	68,066,208	84,962,862	72,253,273
Investment in subsidiaries	12	-	-	253,600	253,600
Investment in associate	13	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
Non-interest bearing receivables	14	251,850	-	93,309,102	16,457,159
Restricted cash	17	20,295	20,295	20,295	20,295
Non-Current Assets		224,325,523	95,655,149	178,745,185	88,985,827
Inventories	15	2,080,991	15,156,799	2,080,991	15,156,799
Trade and other receivables	16	39,413,247	47,623,997	, ,	47,934,266
Taxation recoverable	10	30,562	450	-	450
Cash and cash equivalents	17	3,701,749	21,001,436	3,379,520	
Current Assets		45,226,549	83,782,682	52,608,710	83,727,152
Total Assets		269,552,072	179,437,831	231,353,895	172,712,979

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Grou		roup	oup Comp	
		<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	Note	Euro	Euro	Euro	Euro
<b>Equity</b> Share capital	18	15,000,000	10,500,000	15,000,000	10,500,000
Revaluation reserve Investment property reserve Retained earnings	18 18		- 16,985,137 9,711,563	- 26,106,159 13,332,423	- 16,985,137 15,522,176
Total Equity		78,771,930	37,196,700	54,438,582	43,007,313
Liabilities Interest bearing borrowings Bank borrowings	19 21	73,449,735	38,888,500	72,444,358 73,449,735	72,444,358 38,888,500
Bonds payable Deferred tax liability	20 8	14,119,600	72,500,000 2,638,359	- 6,651,787	2,637,608
Non-Current Liabilities		160,069,335	114,026,859	152,545,880	113,970,466
Bank borrowings Trade and other payables Taxation payable	21 22	17,488,084	4,394,280 23,774,531 45,461	13,222,723 11,146,710 -	4,394,280 11,340,920 -
Current Liabilities		30,710,807	28,214,272	24,369,433	15,735,200
Total Liabilities		190,780,142	142,241,131	176,915,313	129,705,666
Total Equity and Liabilities		269,552,072	179,437,831	231,353,895	172,712,979

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

The financial statements set out on page 7 to 44 were approved and authorized for issue by the director on 30 April 2024.

Mr. Joseph Portelli Director

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

# Group

	Total <u>equity</u>	Share <u>capital</u>	Investment property <u>reserve</u>	Reval. <u>reserve</u>	Retained earnings/ <u>(losses)</u>
	Euro	Euro	Euro	Euro	Euro
Balance as at 1 January 2023	37,196,700	10,500,000	16,985,137	-	9,711,563
<b>Contributions by Owners of Company</b> Issue of Ordinary Shares	4,500,000	4,500,000	-	-	-
<b>Comprehensive Income for the Year</b> Profit for the year Other comprehensive income	5,737,101 35,838,129	-	-	35,838,129	5,737,101
<b>Movement on Reserves</b> Revaluation of investment property Transfer of deferred tax on revaluation	-	-	13,139,730 (4,018,708)	-	(13,139,730) 4,018,708
<b>Distributions to Owners of the Company</b> Dividends Paid	(4,500,000)	-	-	-	(4,500,000)
Balance at 31 December 2023	78,771,930			35,838,129	1,827,642
		10,500,000	10 100 001	( 12 / 22 /	(150.025)
Balance as at 1 January 2022	34,646,668	10,500,000	18,182,381	6,124,224	(159,937)
<b>Comprehensive Income for the Year</b> Profit for the year Other comprehensive income	8,674,256 (6,124,224)	-	-	(6,124,224)	8,674,256
<b>Movement on Reserves</b> Transfer of deferred tax on revaluation	-	-	(1,197,244)	-	1,197,244
Balance at 31 December 2022	37,196,700	10,500,000	16,985,137		9,711,563

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

## Company

	Total equity	Share	Investment property	Reval.	Retained
		<u>capital</u>	reserve	<u>reserve</u>	<u>earnings</u>
	Euro	Euro	Euro	Euro	Euro
Balance as at 1 January 2023	43,007,313	10,500,000	16,985,137	-	15,522,176
<b>Contributions by Owners of Company</b> Issue of Ordinary Shares	4,500,000	4,500,000	-	-	-
<b>Comprehensive Income for the Year</b> Profit for the year	11,431,269	-	-	-	11,431,269
<b>Movement on Reserves</b> Revaluation of investment property Transfer of deferred tax on revaluation	-	-	13,139,730 (4,018,708)	-	(13,139,730) 4,018,708
<b>Distributions to Owners of the Company</b> Dividends Paid	(4,500,000)	-	-	-	(4,500,000)
Balance at 31 December 2023	54,438,582		26,106,159	-	13,332,423
Balance as at 1 January 2022	37,542,771	10,500,000	18,182,381	6,124,224	2,736,166
<b>Comprehensive Income for the Year</b> Profit for the year Other comprehensive income	11,588,766 (6,124,224)	-	-	(6,124,224)	11,588,766
<b>Movement on Reserves</b> Transfer of deferred tax on revaluation	-	-	(1,197,244)	-	1,197,244
Balance at 31 December 2022	43,007,313		16,985,137		15,522,176

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Group		roup	Company	
		<u>2023</u>	2022	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	Note	Euro	Euro	Euro	Euro
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b> Profit for the year		5,737,101	8,674,256	11,431,269	11,588,766
<i>Adjustments for:</i> Depreciation of property, plant and equipment Amortisation of intangible assets		1,207,854 30,000	10,003	45,014	-
Gain on transfer of asset under construction Revaluation of investment property		- 13,139,730	(6,656,765)	- 13,139,730	(6,656,765) - 2,147
Provision for expected credit losses Net finance costs Tax expense		(152) 3,462,191 5,956,639	- 2,385,691 1,871,432	(2,299) - 5,912,828	8,448
		3,253,903	6,284,617	4,247,082	6,693,562
<i>Changes in:</i> Inventories Trade and other receivables Trade and other payables Contract liability		1,076,620	932,950	13,075,808 788,214 (1,270,830) 1,076,620	8,817,752 (31,784,295) (3,627,093) 932,950
<b>Cash from/(used in) operations</b> Taxes paid		(2,019,234)		(1,898,649)	(18,967,124) (2,386,357)
Net cash from/(used in) operating activities		16,234,780	(8,644,005)	16,018,245	(21,353,481)
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b> Acquisition of property, plant and equipment Acquisition of intangible assets		(46,989,836) 300,000	(23,568,760)	(242,840)	-
Acquisition of investment property Transfer of property under construction Transfer of investment property		(25,920,870) - -		(26,101,602) - 26,531,743	(11,712,440) 14,600,000 -
Net cash from/(used in) investing activities		(73,210,706)	(23,568,760)	187,301	
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b> Issue of share capital Proceeds from bond issue Loan advanced by subsidiary		4,500,000	50,000,000	4,500,000	- - 50,000,000
Net proceeds from borrowings Repayment of bank borrowings Movement in advances to related parties		39,081,089 (251,850)	9,980,424 (5,194,666)	39,081,089 (251,850)	9,980,424 (5,194,666)
Movement in advances to subsidiaries Dividends Paid Interest paid on bonds		(4,500,000) (3,048,750) (412,441)	(2,377,243)	(76,600,093) (4,500,000) -	(16,457,159)
Bank interest paid Net cash from/(used in) financing activities		(413,441)  35,367,048	(8,448)  52,400,067	- (37,770,854)	(8,448)  38,320,151
Net movement in cash and cash equivalents		(21,606,878)	20,187,302	(21,565,308)	19,854,230
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January		21,001,436	814,134	20,635,637	781,407
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December	17	(607,442)	21,001,436	(929,671)	20,635,637

# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

#### 1. **Reporting entity**

Mercury Towers Ltd. (the "Company") is a limited liability company domiciled and incorporated in Malta. The Company's registered office is at J. Portelli Projects, 1400, Block 14, Portomaso, St. Julians STJ 4014, Malta.

The consolidated financial statements comprise the results and financial position of the Company, namely Mercury Towers Ltd., and its four subsidiaries, namely Mercury Projects Finance P.I.c., Mercury Hotel Ltd., Mercury Commercial Mall Ltd. and Mercury Car Park II Ltd., hereinafter referred to as the "Subsidiaries" and collectively referred to as the "Group", details of which are included under Note 12. All subsidiaries have a reporting date of 31 December.

#### 2. Basis of preparation

#### 2.1 Statement of compliance

These consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the EU. All references in these financial statements to IAS, IFRS or SIC/ IFRIC interpretations refer to those adopted by the EU. They have also been drawn up in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act, 1995 (Chapter 386, Laws of Malta).

The Company prepares consolidated financial statements in accordance with IFRS 10 Consolidated Financial Statements.

#### 2.2 Going concern basis

By the time of issue of these financial statements, the project was fully built in shell form. During the year under review, finishing of the tower was at an advanced stage while finishing of the remaining areas was progressing at a steady pace.

During 2022, the Malta Financial Services Authority approved the issuance of  $\in$  50,000,000 4.3% secured bonds maturing in 2032. The bond was fully subscribed and the proceeds from this bond issue were advanced to the Company by way of another loan facility by the subsidiary, Mercury Projects Finance P.l.c.

Whilst the funding of this project is partly emanating from proceeds of units sold and the bonds in issue, the director enjoys a number of banking relationships that supplement the funding from such bonds. Accordingly, the director concludes that the going concern basis applied for the preparation of these financial statements is appropriate.

#### 2.3 Basis of measurement

The financial statements of the Company and the Group have been prepared on the historical cost basis with the exception of investment property and immovable property within property, plant and equipment, which are stated at fair value.

### 2.4 Functional and presentation currency

The financial statements are presented in Euro ( $\in$ ), which is the Company's and the Group's functional currency.

# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

#### 2. Basis for preparation (Contd.)

#### 2.5 Use of estimates and judgements

The preparation of the consolidated financial statements in conformity with IFRS requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of accounting policies and the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. Actual results may differ from these estimates. Estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognized in the period in which the estimates are revised and in any future periods affected. Information about critical judgements in applying accounting policies that have the most significant effect on the amounts recognized in the financial statements is included in the note on ECL allowance for trade receivables under Note 23.3.

#### 2.6 Measurement of fair values

A number of the Company's and the Group's accounting policies and disclosures require the measurement of fair values, for both financial and non-financial assets and liabilities.

When measuring the fair value of an asset or a liability, the Company and the Group uses observable market data as far as possible. Fair values are categorized into different levels in a fair value hierarchy based on the inputs used in the valuation techniques as follows:

- Level 1: quoted (unadjusted) prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.
- Level 2: inputs other than quoted prices included in level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.
- Level 3: inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data.

If the inputs used to measure the fair value of an asset or liability fall into different levels of the fair value hierarchy, then the fair value measurement is categorized in its entirety in the same level of the fair value hierarchy as the lowest level input that is significant to the entire measurement.

The Company and the Group measure investment property and immovable property within property, plant and equipment at fair value.

#### 2.7 New standards and interpretations

A number of amended standards became applicable for the current period and have been applied as necessary. The impact of the adoption of these revisions on the Company's and the Group's accounting policies and on the financial results are insignificant.

Certain new standards, amendments and interpretations to existing standards have been published by the date of the authorization for issue of these audited financial statements but are not mandatory for the the Company's and the Group's accounting period starting 1 January 2023. The Company and the Group may early adopt these revisions to the requirements of IFRSs as adopted by the EU. The Company's director is of the opinion that there are no requirements that will have a significant impact on the financial statements in the period of initial application.

# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

#### 3. Significant accounting policies

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these consolidated financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

#### 3.1 Basis of consolidation

The Company and the Group consolidates its financial statements based on the following:

#### 3.1.1 Subsidiaries and associates

A subsidiary is an entity which is controlled by the Company. Control is the power to govern the financial and operating policies of an entity so as to obtain benefits from its activities. Control is presumed to exist when the parent has, directly or indirectly through subsidiaries, a majority of the shareholder's voting rights of an entity unless, in exceptional circumstances, it can be clearly demonstrated that such ownership does not constitute control. The existence and effect of potential voting rights that are currently exercisable or convertible, including potential voting rights held by another entity, are considered when assessing whether an entity has the power to govern the financial and operating policies of another entity.

An investment in a subsidiary is initially measured at cost. After initial recognition, an investment in subsidiaries may be carried either under the cost method, that is at cost less any impairment losses or under the equity method. The Company carries investments in subsidiaries at cost less any accumulated impairment losses.

Associates are those entities in which the Company has significant influence, but not control, over the financial and operating policies. Significant influence is presumed to exist when the Company holds between 20% and 50% of the voting power of another entity.

In the Company's and the Group's financial statements, investments in associates are accounted for on the basis of the direct equity interest and are stated at cost less any accumulated impairment losses.

An investment in a subsidiary or associate is derecognised upon disposal or dissolution. Gains or losses from derecognition represents the difference between the net proceeds (if any) and the carrying amount and are included in profit or loss in the period of derecognition.

#### 3.1.2 Transactions eliminated on consolidation

Intra-group balances and transactions and any unrealized income and expense arising from intra-group transactions are eliminated. Unrealized gains arising from transactions with equity-accounted investees are eliminated against the investment to the extent of the Company's and the Group's interest in the investee. Unrealized losses are eliminated in the same way as unrealized gains, but only to the extent that there is no evidence of impairment.

#### **3.2** Foreign currency transactions

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into the respective functional currency of the Company and the Group at exchange rates at the dates of the transactions. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into the functional currency at the exchange rate at the reporting date.

Non-monetary assets and liabilities that are measured at fair value in a foreign currency are translated into the functional currency at the exchange rate when the fair value is determined. Non-monetary items that are measured based on historical cost in a foreign currency are translated at the exchange rate at the date of the transaction. Foreign currency differences are generally recognized in profit or loss.

# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

#### 3. Significant accounting policies (Contd.)

#### 3.3 Financial instruments

#### 3.3.1 Recognition and initial measurement

Trade and other receivables are initially recognized when they originated. All other financial assets and financial liabilities are initially recognized when the Company and the Group become a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

A financial asset (unless it is a receivable without a significant financing component) or financial liability is initially measured at fair value plus, for an item not at Fair Value Through Profit or Loss (FVTPL), transaction costs that are directly attributable to its acquisition or issue. A receivable without a significant financing component is initially measured at the transaction price.

#### 3.3.2 Classification and subsequent measurement

#### 3.3.2.1 Financial assets

On initial recognition, a financial asset is classified as measured at: amortized cost; Fair Value Through Other Comprehensive Income (FVOCI) – debt investment; FVOCI – equity investment; or FVTPL.

Financial assets are not reclassified subsequent to their initial recognition unless the Company and the Group changes its business model for managing financial assets, in which case all affected financial assets are reclassified on the first day of the first reporting period following the change in the business model.

A financial asset is measured at amortized cost if it meets both of the following conditions and is not designated as at FVTPL:

- it is held within a business model whose objective is to hold assets to collect contractual cash flows; and
- its contractual terms give rise on specified dates to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding.

A debt investment is measured at FVOCI if it meets both of the following conditions and is not designated as at FVTPL:

- It is held within a business model whose objective is achieved by both collecting contractual cash flows and selling financial assets; and
- Its contractual terms give rise on specified dates to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding.

All financial assets not classified as measured at amortized cost or FVOCI as described above are measured at FVTPL. On initial recognition, the Company and the Group may irrevocably designate a financial asset that otherwise meets the requirements to be measured at amortized cost or at FVOCI as at FVTPL if doing so eliminates or significantly reduces an accounting mismatch that would otherwise arise.

# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

#### 3. Significant accounting policies (Contd.)

#### 3.3 Financial instruments (Contd.)

#### 3.3.2.2 Financial assets – Business model assessment

The Company and the Group make an assessment of the objective of the business model in which a financial asset is held at a portfolio level because this best reflects the way the business is managed and information is provided to management. The information considered includes:

- The stated policies and objectives for the portfolio and the operation of those policies in practice. These include whether management's strategy focuses on earning contractual interest income, maintaining a particular interest rate profile, matching the duration of the financial assets to the duration of any related liabilities or expected cash outflows or realizing cash flows through the sale of the assets;
- how the performance of the portfolio is evaluated and reported to the Company's and the Group's management;
- the risks that affect the performance of the business model (and the financial assets held within that business model) and how those risks are managed; and
- The frequency, volume and timing of sales of financial assets in prior periods, the reasons for such sales and expectations about future sales activity.

#### 3.3.2.3 Financial assets – Assessment whether contractual cash flows are solely payments of principal and interest For the purposes of this assessment, 'principal' is defined as the fair value of the financial asset on initial recognition. 'Interest' is defined as consideration for the time value of money and for the credit risk associated with the principal amount outstanding during a particular period of time and for other basic lending risks and costs (e.g., liquidity risk and administrative costs), as well as a profit margin.

In assessing whether the contractual cash flows are solely payments of principal and interest, the Company and the Group consider the contractual terms of the instrument. This includes assessing whether the financial asset contains a contractual term that could change the timing or amount of contractual cash flows such that it would not meet this condition.

In making this assessment, the Company and the Group consider:

- contingent events that would change the amount or timing of cash flows;
- terms that may adjust the contractual coupon rate, including variable-rate features;
- prepayment and extension features; and
- terms that limit the Company's and the Group's claim to cash flows from specified assets (e.g., non-recourse features).

A prepayment feature is consistent with the sole payments of principal and interest criterion if the prepayment amount substantially represents unpaid amounts of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding, which may include reasonable additional compensation for early termination of the contract. Additionally, for a financial asset acquired at a discount or premium to its contractual par amount, a feature that permits or requires prepayment at an amount that substantially represents the contractual par amount plus accrued (but unpaid) contractual interest (which may also include reasonable additional compensation for early termination) is treated as consistent with this criterion if the fair value of the prepayment feature is insignificant at initial recognition.

#### 3.3.2.4 Financial assets – Subsequent measurement and gains and losses

For financial assets at amortized cost, these assets are subsequently measured at amortized cost using the effective interest method. The amortized cost is reduced by impairment losses. Interest income, foreign exchange gains and losses and impairment are recognized in profit or loss. Any gain or loss on derecognition is also recognized in profit or loss.

The Company's and the Group's financial assets comprise trade and other receivables and cash and cash equivalents.

# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

#### 3. Significant accounting policies (Contd.)

#### 3.3 Financial instruments (Contd.)

#### 3.3.2.5 Financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are classified as measured at amortized cost or FVTPL. A financial liability is classified as at FVTPL if it is classified as held-for-trading, it is a derivative or it is designated as such on initial recognition. Financial liabilities at FVTPL are measured at fair value and net gains and losses, including any interest expense, are recognized in profit or loss. Other financial liabilities are subsequently measured at amortized cost using the effective interest method.

Interest expense and foreign exchange gains and losses are recognized in profit or loss. Any gain or loss on derecognition is also recognized in profit or loss.

The Company's and the Group's financial liabilities comprise trade and other payables, borrowings and loans payable.

#### 3.3.3 Derecognition

#### Financial assets

The Company and the Group derecognize a financial asset when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire, or it transfers the rights to receive the contractual cash flows in a transaction in which substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset are transferred or in which the Company and the Group neither transfer nor retain substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership and it does not retain control of the financial asset.

#### Financial liabilities

The Company and the Group derecognize a financial liability when its contractual obligations are discharged or cancelled or expire. The Company and the Group also derecognize a financial liability when its terms are modified and the cash flows of the modified liability are substantially different, in which case a new financial liability based on the modified terms is recognized at fair value.

On derecognition of a financial liability, the difference between the carrying amount extinguished and the consideration paid (including any non-cash assets transferred or liabilities assumed) is recognized in profit or loss.

### 3.3.4 Offsetting

Financial assets and financial liabilities are offset and the net amount presented in the statement of financial position when, and only when, the Company and the Group currently have a legally enforceable right to set off the amounts and it intends either to settle them on a net basis or to realize the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

#### 3.4 Share capital

Ordinary shares are classified as equity. Incremental costs directly attributable to the issue of ordinary shares are recognized as a deduction from equity, net of tax.

# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

#### 3. Significant accounting policies (Contd.)

#### 3.5 Property

Items of property, including property under construction are measured at cost or valuation, which includes capitalized borrowing costs, less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Subsequent expenditure is capitalized only if it is probable that the future economic benefits associated with the expenditure will flow to the Company and the Group.

Depreciation is calculated to write-off the cost of items of property less their estimated residual values using the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives of 50 years and is generally recognized in profit or loss. Land is not depreciated. Depreciation methods, useful lives and residual values are reviewed at each reporting date and adjusted if appropriate.

No depreciation is taken on property under construction and depreciation commences only when the asset is ready and available for use.

#### **3.6 Investment property**

Investment properties are properties held to earn rentals and/or for capital appreciation, including property under construction for such purposes. Investment properties are measured initially at cost, including transaction costs. Subsequent to initial recognition, investment properties are measured at open market value. Gains or losses arising from changes in the fair value of the investment properties are included in the comprehensive income in the period they arise.

Depreciation is calculated to write down the carrying amount of investment property using the straight-line method over its expected life of 50 years and is charged to profit or loss. Land is not depreciated. Depreciation on investment property under construction commences when the asset is ready and available for use.

An investment property is derecognized upon disposal or when the investment property is permanently withdrawn from use and no future economic benefits are expected from the disposal. Any gain or loss arising on derecognition of the property (calculated as the difference between the net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset) is included in profit and loss in the period in which the property is derecognized.

#### 3.7 Intangible assets

#### 3.7.1 Externally acquired intangible assets

Externally acquired intangible rights, such as licences are recognized in the statement of financial position. Amortisations of intangible rights are disclosed under selling and marketing expenses and recording of an amortisation expense will commence when marketing of the product commences.

The license agreements are measured at their historical cost less accumulated amortisation and impairment. Intangible assets are amortised on a straight-line basis over the expected economic lives of the licenses. The license agreements are being amortised over 10 years.

#### 3.8 Loans receivable

Debt instruments representing financial assets where the contractual cash flows are solely principal and interest and the objective of the Company's and the Group's business model is achieved both by collecting contractual cash flows and where these give rise to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amounts outstanding are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any impairment losses.

On derecognition, impairment or disposal of debt instruments, any gains or losses are recognised within the profit or loss.

# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

#### 3. Significant accounting policies (Contd.)

#### 3.9 Inventories

#### **Property held for resale**

Inventories comprising property held for resale, are stated at the lower of cost and net realizable value. Cost comprises all cost of purchase, cost of conversion and other costs incurred to bringing the inventories to their present location and condition. Net realizable value represents the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business less the estimated costs of completion and the costs to be incurred in marketing, selling and distribution.

#### 3.10 Impairment

#### 3.10.1 Financial assets

The Company and the Group recognizes loss allowances for Expected Credit Losses (ECLs) on financial assets at amortized cost, namely trade and other receivables and cash and cash equivalents.

The Company and the Group measure loss allowances at an amount equal to lifetime ECLs, except for the following, which are measured at 12-month ECLs:

- debt securities that are determined to have low credit risk at the reporting date; and
- other debt securities and bank balances for which credit risk (i.e., the risk of default occurring over the expected life of the financial instrument) has not increased significantly since initial recognition.

When determining whether the credit risk of a financial asset has increased significantly since initial recognition and when estimating ECLs, the Company and the Group consider reasonable and supportable information that is relevant and available without undue cost or effort. This includes both quantitative and qualitative information and analysis, based on the Company's and the Group's historical experience and informed credit assessment and including forward-looking information.

The Company and the Group assume that the credit risk on a financial asset has increased significantly if it is more than 30 days past due.

The Company and the Group consider a financial asset to be in default when:

- the borrower is unlikely to pay its credit obligations to the Company and the Group in full, without recourse by the Company and the Group to actions such as realizing security (if any is held); or
- the financial asset is more than 90 days past due.

The Company and the Group consider a debt security to have low credit risk when its credit risk rating is equivalent to the globally understood definition of 'investment grade'. The Company and the Group consider this to be BBB equivalent or higher rating as per the rating description of reputable credit rating agencies.

Lifetime ECLs are the ECLs that result from all possible default events over the expected life of a financial instrument.

12-month ECLs are the portion of ECLs that result from default events that are possible within the 12 months after the reporting date (or a shorter period if the expected life of the instrument is less than 12 months).

The maximum period considered when estimating ECLs is the maximum contractual period over which the Company and the Group are exposed to credit risk.

# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

#### 3. Significant accounting policies (Contd.)

#### 3.10 Impairment (Contd.)

#### 3.10.1 Financial assets (Contd.)

#### Measurement of ECLs

ECLs are a probability-weighted estimate of credit losses. Credit losses are measured as the present value of all cash shortfalls (i.e., the difference between the cash flows due to the entity in accordance with the contract and the cash flows that the Company and the Group expect to receive).

ECLs are discounted at the effective interest rate of the financial asset. In the case of interest- free short-term financial assets, such as trade receivables, ECLs are not discounted.

#### Credit-impaired financial assets

At each reporting date, the Company and the Group assess whether financial assets carried at amortized cost are credit-impaired. A financial asset is 'credit-impaired' when one or more events that have a detrimental impact on the estimated future cash flows of the financial asset have occurred.

Evidence that a financial asset is credit-impaired includes the following observable data:

- significant financial difficulty of the borrower or issuer;
- a breach of contract such as a default or being more than 90 days past due;
- the restructuring of a loan or advance by the Company and the Group on terms that the Company and the Group would not consider otherwise;
- it is probable that the borrower will enter bankruptcy or other financial reorganization; or
- the disappearance of an active market for security because of financial difficulties.

#### Presentation of allowance for ECL in the statement of financial position

Loss allowances for financial assets measured at amortized cost are deducted from the gross carrying amount of the assets. Impairment losses related to trade and other receivables and cash and cash equivalents are presented separately in the statement of profit or loss.

#### Write-off

The gross carrying amount of a financial asset is written off when the Company and the Group has no reasonable expectations of recovering a financial asset in its entirety or a portion thereof. The Company and the Group individually make an assessment with respect to the timing and amount of write-off on its financial assets based on whether there is a reasonable expectation of recovery and with reference to its historical experience of recoveries. The Company and the Group expect no significant recovery from the amount written off. However, financial assets that are written off could still be subject to enforcement activities in order to comply with the Company's and the Group's procedures for recovery of amounts due.

The carrying amounts of the Company's and the Group's non-financial assets, other than investment property, inventories and deferred tax assets, are reviewed at each reporting date to determine whether there is any indication of impairment. If any such indication exists, then the asset's recoverable amount is estimated.

The recoverable amount of an asset is the greater of its value in use and its fair value less costs to sell. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset. An impairment loss is recognized if the carrying amount of an asset exceeds its estimated recoverable amount. Impairment losses are recognized in profit or loss.

Impairment losses recognized in prior periods are assessed at each reporting date for any indications that the loss has decreased or no longer exists. An impairment loss is reversed if there has been a change in the estimates used to determine the recoverable amount. An impairment loss is reversed only to the extent that the asset's carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined, net of depreciation or amortization, if no impairment loss had been recognized.

# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

#### 3. Significant accounting policies (Contd.)

#### 3.11 Employee benefits

#### **Defined** contribution plans

The Company and the Group contribute towards the state's defined contribution plan in accordance with local legislation. Such contributions are immediately recognized in profit or loss.

#### 3.12 Revenue from contracts with customers

Revenue is measured based on the consideration specified in a contract with a customer and excludes amounts collected on behalf of third parties. The Company and the Group recognize revenue when it transfers control over a product or service to a customer. The Company's and the Group's revenue is primarily derived from the sale of apartments in airspace or shell form in Mercury Towers in St. Julians, Malta.

#### Performance obligations and revenue recognition policies

The following provides information about the nature and timing of the satisfaction of performance obligations in contracts with customers, including the related revenue recognition policies.

#### Revenue from the sale of airspace and shell apartments

The Company and the Group enter into contracts with customers to sell property that are either airspace, shell or apartments in finished form.

#### Satisfaction of performance obligation

The sale of apartments in airspace or shell form constitutes a single performance obligation and the Company and the Group have determined that this is satisfied at the point in time when control transfers. For contracts for sale of airspace and shell, this generally occurs when registration of the definitive deed takes place and the legal title is transferred to the customer. An apartment is completed in shell form when it is roofed, and it is deemed roofed when the architect issues an instalment certificate. If apartments are sold in a finished state, this would comprise a separate performance obligation.

Payments are received in instalments as per the terms and conditions of the promise of sale agreement. Any payments received are recognized as deposits and are classified within trade and other payables. Upon the satisfaction of the performance obligation as per contract, revenue is realized and recognized in the income statement.

#### Other consideration related to the sale of property

In determining the transaction price, the Company and the Group consider the effects of variable consideration, the existence of significant financing components, non-cash consideration, and consideration payable to the customer (if any).

For some contracts involving the sale of property, the Company and the Group are entitled to receive an initial deposit. This is not considered a significant financing component because it is for reasons other than the provision of financing to the Company and the Group. The initial deposits are used to protect the Company and the Group from the other party failing to adequately complete some or all of its obligations under the contract where customers do not have an established credit history or have a history of late payments.

In addition, there is no non-cash consideration or consideration payable to customers.

#### 3.13 Operating profit/(loss)

Operating profit/(loss) is the result generated from the continuing principal revenue producing activities of the Group as well as other income and expenses related to operating activities.

Operating profit/(loss) excludes net finance costs and income taxes.

# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

#### 3. Significant accounting policies (Contd.)

#### 3.14 Finance income and finance costs

Finance income comprises interest income. Interest income is recognized as it accrues, using the effective interest method.

Finance costs comprise interest expense on bonds issued, borrowings and other payables, as set out in the notes to these financial statements. Finance costs are recognized as an expense in profit and loss in the period in which they are incurred.

#### 3.15 Bond issue costs

Bond issue costs, representing fees incurred in connection with the issuance of the bonds by the Subsidiary Company, were recharged to the Parent Company, as the beneficiary of the funding. Accordingly, the intragroup recharge costs are eliminated in accordance with the basis of consolidation per Note 3.1.

Bond issue costs at Company and the Group level are deferred over the term of the bond and annually amortized using the effective interest method.

#### 3.16 Income taxes

Tax expense comprises current and deferred tax. Current tax and deferred tax are recognized in profit or loss except to the extent that they relate to items recognized directly in equity or in other comprehensive income.

#### 3.16.1 Current tax

Current tax is the expected tax payable or receivable on the taxable income or loss for the year and any adjustments to the tax payable or receivable in respect of previous years. The amount of current tax payable or receivable is the best estimate of the tax amount expected to be paid or received that reflects uncertainty related to income taxes, if any. It is measured using tax rates enacted or substantively enacted at the reporting date. Current tax payable also includes any tax liability arising from the declaration of dividends.

Current tax assets and liabilities are offset only if certain criteria are met.

#### 3.16.2 Deferred tax

Deferred tax is recognized in respect of temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the amounts used for taxation purposes. Deferred tax is measured at the tax rates that are expected to be applied to temporary differences when they reverse, using tax rates enacted or substantively enacted at the reporting date, and reflects uncertainty related to income taxes, if any.

Deferred tax assets are recognized for unused tax losses, unused tax credits and deductible temporary differences to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profits will be available against which they can be used. Future taxable profits are determined based on the reversal of relevant taxable temporary differences.

If the amount of taxable temporary differences is insufficient to recognize a deferred tax asset in full, then future taxable profits, adjusted for reversals of existing temporary differences are considered, based on the business plans of the Company and the Group. Deferred tax assets are reviewed at each reporting date and are reduced to the extent that it is no longer probable that the related tax benefit will be realized; such reductions are reversed when the probability of future taxable profits improves.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are offset if there is a legally enforceable right to offset current tax liabilities and assets, and they relate to taxes levied by the same tax authority on the same taxable entity, or on different tax entities, but they intend to settle current tax liabilities and assets on a net basis or their tax assets and liabilities will be realized simultaneously.

# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

#### 4. Revenue

#### 4.1 Revenue streams

	G	roup	Company		
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	
	Euro	Euro	Euro	Euro	
Sale of airspace property	-	7,857,660	-	7,857,660	
Sale of shell apartments	12,173,712	22,000,239	12,173,712	22,000,239	
Sale of finished apartments net of contract liabilities	12,274,673	7,946,550	12,274,673	7,946,550	
Operations of commercial areas	16,714	-	16,714	-	
Rental of commercial outlets	297,779	-	-	-	
Operations of car park	43,774	-	-	-	
	24,806,652	37,804,449	24,465,099	37,804,449	

The revenue generated during 2023 was recognized at the point in time when control was transferred to the customer or when services were rendered.

#### 4.2 Contract balances

A contract asset is the right to consideration in exchange for goods or services transferred to the customer when that right is conditioned on something other than the passage of time, for example, billings require certification by the customer. Upon receipt of such certification from a customer, the amount recognized as contract assets is reclassified to trade receivables. Contract assets are subject to impairment assessment. During the year, the Company and Group contract assets amounted to € nil.

A contract liability is the obligation to transfer goods or services to a customer for which the Company and the Group have received consideration (or an amount of consideration is due) from the customer. Contract liabilities are recognized as revenue when the Company and the Group satisfy the performance obligation per contract (i.e., transfers control of the related goods or services to the customer).

As at the reporting date, the Company and the Group held contract liabilities amounting to  $\notin$  2,246,450 (2022:  $\notin$  1,169,830) recognized within trade and other payables (see Note 22). Contract liabilities relate to the advance consideration received from customers for the finishing of apartments, for which revenue will be recognized at a point in time when the apartments will be finished, which is expected to occur over the next year.

#### 5. Other operating income/(expenditure)

Other operating income/(expenditure) arises from certain pre-operating expenditure and reimbursements of costs as agreed with customers. Since this is not considered to be part of the main revenue generating activities, the Company and the Group present this income and expenditure separately from revenue.

	Group		Company	
	<u>2023</u>	2022	<u>2023</u>	2022
	Euro	Euro	Euro	Euro
Other income Pre-operating expenditure	207 (517,958)	-	207	-
Recharge of expenses	39,737	-	-	-
Reimbursements	-	27,001	-	27,001

# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

### 6. **Operating profit**

6.1 The results from operating activities of the Company and the Group are stated after charging the following:

	Group		Company	
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	Euro	Euro	Euro	Euro
Amortisation	30,000	-	-	-
Auditors' remuneration	44,940	40,440	27,500	24,000
Auditors' remuneration - Non-audit services	2,400	2,400	1,200	1,200
Depreciation	1,207,854	10,003	45,014	-
Directors' fees	108,000	87,000	-	-

## 6.2 Personnel information

Personnel expenses incurred by the Company and the Group during the year are analyzed as follows:

	G	Froup	Company	
	<b>2023</b> 2022		<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	Euro	Euro	Euro	Euro
Salaries	1,639,717	337,597	1,074,347	117,809
Social costs	65,912	7,297	44,668	5,353
Total	1,705,629	344,894	1,119,015	123,162

**6.3** The weekly average number of persons employed by the Company and the Group during the year was as follows:

	Group		Co	Company	
	<u>2023</u>	2022	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	
Administration	34	3	24	2	

### 7. Finance costs

	G	Group		npany
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	Euro	Euro	Euro	Euro
Bank interest Interest on bonds	413,441 3,048,750	8,448 2,377,243	-	8,448
	3,462,191	2,385,691		8,448

# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

### 8. Tax expense

## 8.1 Tax recognized in profit or loss

	Group		Company		
	<u>2023</u> <u>2022</u>		<u>2023</u>	2022	
	Euro	Euro	Euro	Euro	
<b>Current tax</b> Final withholding tax at 5% or 8% on property sales Current tax at 35%	1,898,649 44,562	2,387,176 119,715	1,898,649 -	2,387,176	
	1,943,211	2,506,891	1,898,649	2,387,176	
<b>Deferred tax</b> Originating from temporary differences Originating from reval. of investment property	(5,280) 4,018,708	(1,168,000)	(4,529) 4,018,708	(751) (1,168,000)	
	4,013,428	(1,168,000)	4,014,179	(1,168,751)	
Tax expense	5,956,639	1,338,891	5,912,828	1,218,425	

### 8.2 Reconciliation of effective tax rate

Group		Company		
<u>2023</u> <u>2022</u>		<u>2023</u>	2022	
Euro	Euro	Euro	Euro	
11,693,740 ======	10,545,688	17 <b>,</b> 344,097 	13,339,732	
4,092,809	3,690,990	6,070,434	4,668,906	
(4,696,600)	(2,339,318)	(4,682,691)	(2,339,318)	
8,051,150	11,250,163	7,442,589	11,107,188	
(6,929,907)	(11,049,600)	(6,929,907)	(11,049,600)	
1,180,060	954,655	-	-	
245,699	-	(1,776)	-	
1,943,211	2,506,891	1,898,649	2,387,176	
	2023 Euro 11,693,740 4,092,809 (4,696,600) 8,051,150 (6,929,907) 1,180,060 245,699	2023         2022           Euro         Euro           11,693,740         10,545,688            10,545,688               4,092,809         3,690,990           (4,696,600)         (2,339,318)           8,051,150         11,250,163           (6,929,907)         (11,049,600)           1,180,060         954,655           245,699         -	2023         2022         2023           Euro         Euro         Euro         Euro           11,693,740         10,545,688         17,344,097           4,092,809         3,690,990         6,070,434           (4,696,600)         (2,339,318)         (4,682,691)           8,051,150         11,250,163         7,442,589           (6,929,907)         (11,049,600)         (6,929,907)           1,180,060         954,655         -           245,699         -         (1,776)	

#### 8.3 Recognized deferred tax assets/(liabilities)

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are attributable to the following for the Company and the Group:

	Group		Company	
	<u>2023</u> <u>2022</u>		<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	Euro	Euro	Euro	Euro
Other temporary and deducible differences Revaluation of investment property Revaluation of property, plant and equipment	145,242 (6,797,029) (7,467,813)	139,961 (2,778,320) -	145,242 (6,797,029) -	140,712 (2,778,320)
Deferred tax asset/(liability)	(14,119,600) 	(2,638,359)	(6,651,787)	(2,637,608)

# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

## 9. Property, plant and equipment

- 9.1 The Group's property was as follows:
  - Group

- · · · I				
	At 01.01.23	Additions	Revaluation	At <u>31.12.23</u>
	Euro	Euro	Euro	Euro
Cost/Valuation:				
Assets under construction	12,927,435	19,464,080	-	32,391,515
Land	14,600,000	9,912,324	7,054,912	31,567,236
Buildings	-	36,659,867	36,251,030	72,910,897
Mechanical and engineering equipment	-	6,853,648	-	6,853,648
Furniture and fixtures	-	219,225	-	219,225
Other equipment	-	47,719	-	47,719
Computer equipment	1,214	364,716	-	365,930
Motor vehicles	48,500	-	-	48,500
	27,577,149	73,521,579	43,305,942	144,404,670
	At 01.01.23	Charge For Year	Revaluation	At 31.12.23
	Euro	Euro	Euro	Euro
Depreciation:				
Buildings	-	688,422	-	688,422
Mechanical and engineering equipment	-	456,910	-	456,910
Furniture and fixtures	-	37,558	-	37,558
Other equipment	-	4,669	-	4,669
Computer equipment	303	10,595	-	10,898
Motor vehicles	9,700	9,700	-	19,400
	10,003	1,207,854		1,217,857

# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

#### 9. Property, plant and equipment (Contd.)

- 9.2 The Company's property was as follows:
  - Company

	At 01.01.23	Additions	At <u>31.12.23</u>
	Euro	Euro	Euro
<b>Cost/Valuation:</b> Furniture and fixtures Other equipment Computer equipment	-	187,789 46,691 8,360	187,789 46,691 8,360
		242,840	242,840
	At <u>01.01.23</u> Euro	Charge <u>For Year</u> Euro	At <u>31.12.23</u> Euro
<b>Depreciation:</b> Furniture and fixtures Other equipment Computer equipment	- - -	37,558 4,669 2,787	37,558 4,669 2,787
		45,014	45,014
Net book amount	-		197,826

**9.3** During 2021, the Group embarked on a reorganization exercise, following which, the airspace for the hotel was valued at  $\in$  14,600,000 by an external independent qualified valuer on 15 February 2022. The airspace duly covered by building permits for construction and development, was transferred to the wholly owned subsidiary, namely Mercury Hotel Ltd. at the revalued amount of  $\in$  14,600,000 on 12 March 2022. The cost of the airspace transferred was  $\in$  7,943,235. The construction and development of the planned project are being undertaken by Mercury Hotel Ltd. The hotel property is still being finished, and hence not yet available for use. As a result, the hotel property is not being depreciated. In April 2024, the hotel property was valued by independent architects at  $\in$  62,130,000 however, such revaluation is not being recognised in these financial statements, since this property is still not complete.

During 2023, the Company transferred components of investment property consisting of the hotel podium, the commercial mall and car park to three wholly owned subsidiaries, namely Mercury Hotel Ltd., Mercury Commercial Mall Ltd. and Mercury Car Park II Ltd. respectively. These properties were transferred in a semi-finished state at a total cost of  $\notin$  26,531,743.

- **9.4** Included within cost of Group property additions for the year, are capitalized bank borrowing costs relating to the acquisition of the land and the assets in the course of construction for  $\in 1,506,029$  (2022:  $\in 248,255$ ), and which costs are calculated using a capitalization rate of 6% and  $\in 2,250,000$  (2022:  $\in 1,608,904$ ), calculated using capitalized rates emanating from the Company's loan with its subsidiary. As a result, Group accumulated capitalized borrowing costs amounting to  $\in 4,799,000$  (2022:  $\in 2,549,000$ ) are eliminated from the property value upon consolidation in accordance with Note 3.1. As a result, the property balance at Group level amounted to  $\in 136,869,648$  (2022:  $\in 27,527,435$ ) as at year-end.
- **9.5** Property owned by the Group is subject to special hypothecs in favour of creditors for funds borrowed (see Notes 19 and 20).

# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

#### 10. Intangible Assets

- **10.1** The Group's intangible assets were as follows:
  - Group

	At 01.01.23	Additions	<u>Disposals</u>	At <u>31.12.23</u>
	Euro	Euro	Euro	Euro
Cost: Licenses		300,000		300,000
	At <u>01.01.23</u> Euro	Charge <u>For Year</u> Euro	<u>Disposals</u> Euro	At <u>31.12.23</u> Euro
Amortisation: Licenses		30,000		30,000
Net book amount	-			270,000

**10.2** The Company did not have any intangible assets.

#### 11. Investment property

**11.1** The Company's and the Group's investment property were as follows:

	Group		Company	
	<u>2023</u> <u>2022</u>		<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	Euro	Euro	Euro	Euro
Balance at 1 January	68,066,208	58,414,693	72,253,273	60,540,833
Additions	25,920,870	9,651,515	26,101,602	11,712,440
Transfer of property to subsidiaries	(26,531,743)	-	(26, 531, 743)	-
Revaluation	13,139,730	-	13,139,730	-
Balance at 31 December	80,595,065	68,066,208	84,962,862	72,253,273

- 11.2 Included within the Company's investment property are capitalized borrowing costs related to the acquisition of the land and the assets in the course of construction of € 419,978 (2022: € 1,358,632), calculated using a capitalization rate of 4.75% and € 1,120,829 (2022: € 1,120,829), calculated using capitalized rates emanating from the Company's loan with its subsidiary. As a result, the Company's accumulated capitalized borrowing costs amounting to € 4,367,798 (2022: € 4,187,065) that relate directly to investment property are eliminated from the property value upon consolidation in accordance with Note 3.1. As a result, the investment property balance at Group level amounted to € 80,595,065 (2022: € 68,066,208) as at year-end.
- 11.3 During 2021, the Group embarked on a reorganization exercise, following which, during 2023 the Company transferred components of investment property consisting of the hotel podium, the commercial mall and car park to three wholly owned subsidiaries, namely Mercury Hotel Ltd., Mercury Commercial Mall Ltd. and Mercury Car Park II Ltd. respectively. These properties were transferred in a semi-finished state at a total cost of € 26,531,743.

# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

#### 11. Investment property (Contd.)

**11.4** The Company's and the Group's investment property comprised property retained for the purpose of operation. Since the investment property is not yet available for use, it is not being depreciated.

Land and buildings classified as investment property as on 31 December 2023 were revalued by external independent qualified valuers, namely EM Architects in April 2024. The external independent valuers have a recognised and relevant professional qualification and have experience in the location and category of the property being valued.

The valuation of the investment property is based upon its market value under the highest and best use premise, taking into consideration its location, use, size and accessibility together with existing planning constraints. Fair values are categorized into different levels in a fair value hierarchy based on the inputs used in the valuation techniques as follows:

- Level 1: quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets and liabilities.
- Level 2: inputs other than quoted prices included in Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly (i.e., as prices) or indirectly (i.e., derived from prices).
- Level 3: inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs).

The significant unobservable input impacting this valuation relates to the market value per square meter. The estimated fair value would increase/(decrease) depending on the market prices of similar property and the general economic trend of the country.

**11.5** Investment property owned by the Company and the Group is subject to special hypothecs in favour of creditors for funds borrowed (see Notes 19 and 20).

#### 12. Investment in subsidiaries

	Group		Company	
	<u>2023</u> <u>2022</u>		<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	Euro	Euro	Euro	Euro
Equity investments:				
Investment in subsidiary companies at cost	-	-	253,600	253,600
Total investment in subsidiaries	-	-	253,600	253,600

**12.2** The following information relates to the Company's subsidiaries:

Details of subsidiary	Incorp. in	<u>% Holding</u>	<u>% Holding</u>	Nature of business
		2023	2022	
Mercury Projects Finance P.l.c.	Malta	100%	100%	Financing vehicle
Mercury Hotel Ltd.	Malta	100%	100%	Development and management of hotel
Mercury Commercial Mall Ltd.	Malta	100%	100%	Operation of commercial areas
Mercury Car Park II Ltd.	Malta	100%	100%	Operation of car park

# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

#### 13. Investment in associate

	Group		Company		
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2023</u> <u>2022</u>		2022	
	Euro	Euro	Euro	Euro	
Equity investments:					
Investment in associated company at cost	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	
Total investment in associate	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	

**13.1** The following information relates to the Company's investment in the associate:

Details of associate	Incorp. in	<u>% Holding</u>	% Holding	<b>Nature of business</b>
		2023	2022	
Mercury Car Park Ltd.	Malta	25% ======	25%	Non-trading

- 13.2 As part of the consolidated financial statements preparation, the above-mentioned associate has been subject to an equity-accounting exercise in accordance with accounting policy disclosed in Note 3.1. Mercury Car Park Ltd. (the "Associate") has not been in operation as at year-end, and the value of the investment in the associate based on the equity-accounting method amounted to € 18,616 (2022: € 20,766).
- 13.3 On 28 March 2023, the Company acquired 68% of the property owned by Mercury Car Park Ltd. from Bersella Holdings Ltd. for a total price of € 9 million, thereby increasing the ownership of the car park underlying the first phase of the development to 93%. During the year. the car park was transferred to the wholly owned subsidiary, namely Mercury Car Park II Ltd. at cost.

#### 14. Non-interest bearing receivables

	Group		Company	
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	2022
	Euro	Euro	Euro	Euro
<b>Non-current:</b> Amounts due from related parties Amounts due from subsidiary companies	251,850	-	251,850 93,057,252	- 16,457,159
Total non-interest bearing receivables	251,850		93,309,102	16,457,159

**14.1** These amounts due from the related parties and subsidiary companies are unsecured, interest free and have no fixed date for repayment.

# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

#### 15. Inventories

**15.1** The Company's and the Group's inventory were as follows:

	Group		Company	
	<u>2023</u>	2022	<u>2023</u>	2022
	Euro	Euro	Euro	Euro
Phase 1 - Cost of land and direct expenses	-	760,027	-	760,027
Phase 1 - Cost of construction and development	-	9,228,560	-	9,228,560
Phase 2 - Cost of land and direct expenses	1,673,000	475,779	1,673,000	475,779
Phase 2 - Cost of construction and development	407,991	4,692,433	407,991	4,692,433
	2,080,991	15,156,799	2,080,991	15,156,799

**<sup>15.2</sup>** Included within inventories are capitalized borrowing costs relating to the acquisition of the land for € 489,004 (2022: € 566,612), calculated using a capitalization rate of 6% and 4.75% respectively.

**15.3** Inventories owned by the Company and the Group are subject to special hypothecs in favour of creditors for funds borrowed (see Notes 19 and 20).

#### 16. Trade and other receivables

	Group		Company	
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	2022
	Euro	Euro	Euro	Euro
Trade receivables	4,302,076	2,624,319	3,748,447	2,620,719
Amounts receivable from related parties	120,710	700,000	129,460	700,000
Amounts receivable from associate	2,855,471	905,264	2,855,471	905,264
Amounts receivable from subsidiaries	-	-	8,431,663	328,699
Advances and other repayments to related contractor	29,317,295	41,787,481	29,317,295	41,787,481
Deposits to suppliers	790,808	-	715,808	-
Deposit held as guarantee	-	233.235	-	233,235
Deferred bond related costs	1,074,308	1,216,368	1,074,308	1,216,368
Deferred costs	865,938	-	865,938	-
Other receivables	86,641	157,330	9,809	142,500
	39,413,247	47,623,997	47,148,199	47,934,266

**16.1** The Company's and the Group's exposure to credit risk related to trade and other receivables is disclosed in Note 23.3. The Company applies the IFRS 9 simplified approach to measuring expected credit losses which uses a lifetime expected loss allowance for trade receivables. To measure the expected credit losses, trade receivables have been grouped based on shared credit risk characteristics and the days past due.

The expected loss rates are based on the historical payment profiles and the corresponding historical credit losses experienced within this period. History shows that the Company and the Group rarely suffered credit losses. The Company and the Group uses judgement in making these assumptions and selecting the inputs to the impairment calculation based on the Company's and the Group's history, existing market conditions, as well as forward looking estimates at the end of each reporting period.

**16.2** No provision for expected credit losses on the Company's trade receivables was considered necessary during the year, as trade receivables represent balances due by customers on the sale of property which shall fall due on completion.

# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

#### 16. Trade and other receivables (Contd.)

- 16.3 The Group measures the ECL of receivables from related entities based on an internally generated Altman Zscore rating, which includes but is not limited to reviews of country rating and other public and non-public available information. Based on this information, the rating can be subjected to post-model adjustment by a maximum of two notches. These internally generated rates are multiplied by scalar factors to reflect differences between economic conditions during the period over which the historical data has been collected, current conditions and the Group's view of economic conditions over the expected lives of the trade and other receivables.
- 16.4 Amounts receivable for the Company and the Group from related parties, subsidiaries and deposits held as guarantee are stated net of provisions for expected credit losses amounting to € 399,736 (2022: € 402,035). Movements in the provision for expected credit losses for the Company and the Group during the year amounted to € 2,299 which amount was credited to profit and loss account. This amount was eliminated on consolidation.
- 16.5 Amounts due from related parties and subsidiary companies are interest free, unsecured and repayable on demand.
- **16.6** As at 31 December 2023, advances and other prepayments include advance payments made by the Company and the Group to a related company, namely Mercury Contracting Projects Ltd. (hereinafter "MCPL"), for contracting works which MCPL will be delivering to the Company and the Group in the foreseeable future.

#### 17. Cash and cash equivalents

	Group		Company	
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	Euro	Euro	Euro	Euro
Bank balances	361,386	1,259,863	39,157	894,064
Funds held at third parties Restricted cash	3,340,363 20,295	19,741,573 20,295	3,340,363 20,295	19,741,573 20,295
Bank overdraft	3,722,044 (4,309,191)	21,021,731	3,399,815 (4,309,191)	20,655,932
Net cash and cash equivalents in the statement of financial position Restricted cash	(587,147) (20,295)	21,021,731 (20,295)	(909,376) (20,295)	20,655,932 (20,295)
Cash and cash equivalents in the statement of cash flows	(607,442)	21,001,436	(929,671)	20,635,637

- 17.1 Funds held at third parties represent proceeds from the bonds issued by a subsidiary company during the year and held by the security trustee. Such funds were retained by the security trustee and are to be released upon presentation of invoices from a related party contractor for development works on the construction of the Mercury Hotel for a subsidiary company, in line with the provisions of the prospectus dated 22 March 2022.
- 17.2 The funds held by the security trustee form part of the € 50 million loan advanced by a subsidiary to the Company, and which funds are deemed to have been constituted as part of the loan advanced from inception of the agreement dated 14 April 2022.
- **17.3** The Company's and the Group's exposure to credit risk related to cash and cash equivalents is disclosed in Note 23.3. The director does not consider having any credit risk exposure with respect to such balances, as these are all held with highly-rated institution.

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

### 18. Capital and reserves

#### **18.1** Share capital

	Group		Company	
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	Euro	Euro	Euro	Euro
Authorized 20,500,000 Ordinary Shares of € 1 each	20,500,000	20,500,000	20,500,000	20,500,000
<b>Issued and Fully Paid Up</b> 10,500,000 Ordinary Shares of € 1 each	15,000,000 ======	10,500,000	15,000,000 	10,500,000

The holders of ordinary shares are entitled to receive dividends as declared from time to time and are entitled to one vote per share at meetings of the Company.

#### 18.2 Reserves

### 18.2.1 Revaluation Reserve

This reserve represents the movement between the cost of property classified under property, plant and equipment and their fair values as revalued by independent architects, net of deferred taxation. Movements on revaluation are recognised directly under other comprehensive income.

### 18.2.2 Investment Property Reserve

This reserve represents transfers out of retained earnings equivalent to the movement between the cost of investment properties and their fair values as revalued by independent architects, net of deferred taxation.

## 19. Interest bearing borrowings

	Group		Company	
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	Euro	Euro	Euro	Euro
Non-current:				
Loan I advanced by subsidiary company	-	-	11,500,000	11,500,000
Loan II advanced by subsidiary company	-	-	10,944,358	10,944,358
Loan III advanced by subsidiary company	-	-	50,000,000	50,000,000
Total interest bearing borrowings	-	-	72,444,358	72,444,358

- 19.1 Loan I payable to the subsidiary, Mercury Projects Finance Plc. of € 11,500,000 is subject to an annual interest rate of 4.75% and is repayable by 2027, whilst loan II of € 10,944,358 is subject to interest at the annual rate of 5.25% and is repayable by 2031. Both loans are secured by immovable property of the Company. The interest-bearing loan balances include costs amounting to € 394,358 (2022: € 394,358) incurred by the subsidiary in connection with the bond issues and recharged to the Company, in view that the said costs being exclusively incurred to finance the operations of the Company and the Group.
- **19.2** Loan III, also payable to the subsidiary, Mercury Projects Finance P.l.c. amounting to € 50,000,000 is subject to an annual interest rate of 4.50% and is repayable by 15 April 2032. This loan is guaranteed by immovable property of the Company and that of a subsidiary, namely Mercury Hotel Ltd.

Upon consolidation, these intra-group balances are eliminated in accordance with accounting policy per Note 3.1.

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

## 20. Bonds payable

	Group		Company	
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	Euro	Euro	Euro	Euro
Non-current:				
3.75% Series I Bonds 2027	11,500,000	11,500,000	-	-
4.25% Series II Bonds 2031	11,000,000	11,000,000	-	-
4.30% Bonds 2032	50,000,000	50,000,000	-	-
	72,500,000	72,500,000	-	-

- 20.1 Mercury Projects Finance p.l.c., the subsidiary, has issued a two-series bond during 2019. The bonds comprise Series I, which amounts to € 11,500,000 repayable at a coupon rate of 3.75% p.a. and matures in 2027; and Series II, which amounts to € 11,000,000 repayable at a coupon rate of 4.25% p.a. and matures in 2031. The Company acts as a guarantor for both bond series.
- 20.2 The above bonds are secured by a first general hypothec for an amount of € 25,874,845 on a number of specific areas within the Mercury Tower Project managed by the Company.
- 20.3 On 22 March 2022, Mercury Projects Finance P.I.c., the subsidiary, issued a further € 50,000,000 4.30% Secured Bonds of € 100 each, maturing in 2032. On 14 April 2022, the bond was fully subscribed and the proceeds from this bond issue were advanced by way of another loan facility to the Company for the purpose of construction and finishing of the hotel at the Mercury Towers project and for general corporate funding. This bond is guaranteed by the Company and secured by a first ranking special hypothec on the immoveable property of a subsidiary, namely Mercury Hotel Ltd., valued at € 62,130,000.

## 21. Bank Borrowings

	Group		Company	
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	Euro	Euro	Euro	Euro
Non-current:				
Bank loan I	16,700,000	16,700,000	16,700,000	16,700,000
Bank loan II	13,300,000	13,300,000	13,300,000	13,300,000
Bank loan III	-	5,000,000	-	5,000,000
Bank Loan V	8,550,000	-	8,550,000	-
Bank loan VI	6,819,688	3,888,500	6,819,688	3,888,500
Bank loan VII	14,000,000	-	14,000,000	-
Bank loan VIII	8,100,000	-	8,100,000	-
Bank loan IX	5,980,047	-	5,980,047	-
	73,449,735	38,888,500	73,449,735	38,888,500
Current:				
Bank loan III	5,000,000	-	5,000,000	-
Bank loan IV	3,913,532	4,394,280	3,913,532	4,394,280
Bank Overdraft	4,309,191	-	4,309,191	-
	13,222,723	4,394,280	13,222,723	4,394,280
Total bank borrowings	86,672,458 	43,282,780	86,672,458 ======	43,282,780

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

### 21. Bank Borrowings (Contd.)

**21.1** As per sanction letter dated 30 November 2023, during the year the Company and the Group obtained new bank loans to further finance the development of various components of the Mercury Towers project and for general working capital requirements. The bank loans are secured by a special hypothec and a special privilege on the Company's and the Group's immovable property, a general hypothec on the Company's and the Group's assets, and general hypothecary guarantees over assets of the shareholder and a number of his entities, other guarantees given to the bank and other contractual undertakings.

The bank loans are subject to interest rates of 5.4% per annum and repayable:

- (i) Loan I amounting to € 16,700,000 (2022: € 16,700,000) is repayable by December 2036 by monthly installments of € 159,000 commencing on 31 January 2024 after a moratorium period of 2 years.
- Loan II amounting to € 13,300,000 (2022: € 13,300,000) is repayable by December 2036 by monthly installments of € 127,000 commencing on 31 January 2024 after a moratorium period of 2 years.
- (iii) Loan III amounting to € 5,000,000 (2022: € 5,000,000) is repayable by 31 December 2024.
- (iv) Loan IV amounting to € 3,913,532 (2022: € 4,394,280) was to be fully repaid by 31 December 2023 from deposits against waivers of apartments sold forming part of the Peripheral Block at Mercury Towers. On this basis, this loan is being classified under current bank borrowings. This loan was fully extinguished in January 2024.
- (v) Loan V amounting to € 8,550,000 (2022: € Nil) is repayable over a period of 14 years by monthly installments of € 82,000 commencing on 30 April 2025 including a moratorium period of 2 years.
- (vi) Loan VI amounting to € 6,819,688 (2022: € 3,888,500) is repayable over a period of 8 years by monthly installments of € 120,000 commencing on 31 January 2024 including a moratorium period of 1 year.
- (vii) Loan VII amounting to € 14,000,000 (2022: € Nil) is repayable by monthly installments of € 120,000 commencing on 30 September 2024 after a moratorium period of 1 year.
- (viii) Loan VIII amounting to  $\in 8,100,000$  (2022:  $\in$  Nil) is repayable by 31 December 2025.
- (ix) Loan IX amounting to  $\notin$  5,980,047 (2022:  $\notin$  Nil) is repayable over a period of 12 years by monthly installments of  $\notin$  90,418 after a moratorium period of 1 year.

### 22. Trade and other payables

	Group		Company	
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	Euro	Euro	Euro	Euro
Trade payables	942,415	514,889	772,025	505,208
Amounts due to related contractor	5,920,863	12,660,018	-	-
Amounts due to subsidiary company	-	-	43,182	-
Deposits received on promise of sale	3,339,112	5,128,459	3,339,112	5,128,459
Deposits received in advance	239,166	-	-	-
Deferred income	235,318	-	-	-
Contract liability	2,246,450	1,169,830	2,246,450	1,169,830
Accrued expenses	4,400,931	2,571,147	4,660,258	2,811,933
Other payables	163,829	1,730,188	85,683	1,725,490
	17,488,084	23,774,531	11,146,710	11,340,920

- 22.1 Amounts due to the subsidiary and related companies are interest free, unsecured and repayable on demand.
- **22.2** The contract liability comprises an advanced consideration received from customers for the finishing of apartments, for which revenue will be recognized at the point in time when the apartments are finished (see Note 4.2).

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

## 23. Financial risk management

### 23.1 Introduction and overview

The Company and the Group have exposure to the following risks from financial instruments:

- credit risk
- liquidity risk
- market risk

This note presents information about the Company's and the Group's exposure to each of the above risks, the Group's objectives, policies and processes for measuring and managing risk, and the Company's and the Group's management of capital.

### 23.2 Risk management framework

The director has the overall responsibility for the establishment and oversight of the Company's and the Group's risk management framework. The Company's and the Group's risk management policies are established to identify and analyze the risks faced by the Company and the Group, to set appropriate risk limits and controls, and to monitor risks and adherence to limits. Risk management policies and systems are reviewed regularly to reflect changes in market conditions and the Company's and the Group's activities.

## 23.3 Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk of financial loss to the Company and the Group if a customer or counterparty to a financial instrument fails to meet its contractual obligations and arises principally from the Company's and the Group's trade and other receivables and cash and cash equivalents.

The carrying amounts of financial assets represent the maximum credit exposure. The Company's and the Group's exposure to credit risk are analyzed as follows:

	Group		Company	
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	Euro	Euro	Euro	Euro
Trade and other receivables Cash and cash equivalents	37,473,001 3,701,749	46,407,629 21,001,436	45,207,953 3,379,520	46,717,898 20,635,637
	41,174,750	67,409,065	48,587,473	67,353,535

Expected credit losses on financial assets recognized in profit or loss were as follows:

	Group		Company	
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	Euro	Euro	Euro	Euro
Expected credit losses on trade and other receivables	(152)	-	(2,299)	2,147

The Company's and the Group's credit risk on trade and other receivables arises from amounts receivable from related parties and a bank guarantee pledged in favour of third parties.

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

## 23. Financial risk management (Contd.)

#### 23.3 Credit risk (Contd.)

*Expected credit loss assessment for amounts receivable from related parties and subsidiaries* As at 31 December 2023, the gross carrying amount on the amounts receivable from related parties and subsidiaries for the Company amounts to  $\in$  11,816,330 (2022:  $\in$  2,335,846) and for the Group amounts to  $\in$  3,375,917 (2022:  $\in$  2,005,000). The Group measures the ECL of receivables from related entities based on an internally generated Altman Z-score rating, which includes but is not limited to reviews of country rating and other public and non-public available information. Based on this information, the rating can be subjected to post-model adjustment by a maximum of two notches. These internally generated rates are multiplied by scalar factors to reflect differences between economic conditions during the period over which the historical data has been collected, current conditions and the Company's and the Group's view of economic conditions over the expected lives of the trade and other receivables.

The following table provides information about the Group's exposure to credit risk and loss allowance for amounts receivable from related parties as at 31 December 2023.

	Equivalent to External Credit <u>Rating</u>	Gross Carrying <u>Amount</u>	Loss <u>Allowance</u>	Gross Carrying <u>Amount</u>	Loss <u>Allowance</u>
		<u>2023</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2022</u>
		Euro	Euro	Euro	Euro
Mercury Car Park Ltd.	CCC/C	3,255,207	(399,736)	1,305,000	(399,736)

The following table provides information about the Company's exposure to credit risk and loss allowance for amounts receivable from related parties as at 31 December 2023.

	Equivalent to External <u>Credit Rating</u>	Gross Carrying <u>Amount</u>	Loss <u>Allowance</u>	Gross Carrying <u>Amount</u>	Loss <u>Allowance</u>
		<u>2023</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2022</u>
		Euro	Euro	Euro	Euro
Mercury Projects Finance Plc. Mercury Car Park Ltd.	B CCC/C	3,255,207	(399,736)	97,647 1,305,000	(2,147) (399,736)
		3,255,207	(399,736)	1,402,647	(401,883)

*Expected credit loss assessment for bank guarantee pledged in favour of third parties* 

In the comparative period, the Company's and the Group's bank guarantees pledged in favour of third parties represented a bank guarantee pledged in favour of the relevant authority in connection with the construction project being undertaken by the Company and the Group. The guarantee was released to the Company and the Group after completion of the development and upon confirmation that the conditions imposed by the relevant authority have been duly observed by the Company and the Group.

The Company and the Group consider that the deposit pledged as a bank guarantee in the comparative year had a low credit risk base on the external credit ratings of the counterparty, a credit institution which is rated BBB-based on Standard and Poor's ratings.

The following table provides information about the Company's and the Group's exposure to credit risk and loss allowance for the bank guarantee as at 31 December 2023.

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

## 23. Financial risk management (Contd.)

#### 23.3 Credit risk (Contd.)

	Group		Company	
	<u>2023</u>	2022	<u>2023</u>	2022
	Euro	Euro	Euro	Euro
External credit rating				
BBB – Gross carrying amount	-	233,387	-	233,387
Loss allowance	-	(152)	-	(152)
Carrying amount		233,235		233,235

### 23.3.1 Cash and cash equivalents

The Company and the Group held cash and cash equivalents of  $\notin$  3,399,815 and  $\notin$  3,722,044 respectively as at 31 December 2023. Cash and cash equivalents amounting to  $\notin$  39,157 and  $\notin$  361,386 respectively are held with credit institutions, which are rated BBB- based on Standard and Poor's ratings.

The first  $\notin$  100,000 out of the year-end balance held by the Company and the Group in the credit institution is not exposed to credit risk as it is protected under the depositor compensation scheme, based on the EU Directive 2014/49/EU on deposits guarantee schemes. An impairment assessment on the remaining balances held by the Company and the Group amounting to  $\notin$  3,360,658 have been measured on a 12-month expected loss basis, reflecting the short maturity of the exposure. The Company and the Group consider that this remaining balance of cash and cash equivalents has low credit risk based on the external credit ratings of the counterparties.

Based on the above, the amount of impairment allowance on cash and cash equivalents at 31 December 2023 is  $\in$  nil (2022:  $\in$  nil).

## 23.4 Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Company and the Group will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations in respect of its financial liabilities that are settled by delivering cash or another financial asset.

### 23.4.1 Management of liquidity risk

The Company's and the Group's approach to managing liquidity is to ensure, as far as possible, that it will always have sufficient liquidity to meet its liabilities when due, under both normal and stressed conditions, without incurring unacceptable losses or risking damage to the Company's and the Group's reputation.

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

## 23. Financial risk management (Contd.)

### 23.4 Liquidity risk (Contd.)

#### 23.4.2 Exposure to liquidity risk

The key measure used by the Company and the Group for managing liquidity risk is the availability of liquid funds to meet repayment obligations when these falls due.

From a Group perspective, the following are the contractual maturities of the financial liabilities:

Group	Carrying <u>Amount</u>	<u>Total</u>	Within <u>12 Months</u>	Between <u>1-5 Years</u>	Over <u>5 Years</u>
	Euro	Euro	Euro	Euro	Euro
<b>31 December 2023</b> Bonds payable Trade and other payables Bank borrowings	72,500,000 15,241,634 86,672,458	97,315,000 15,241,634 114,741,485	3,048,750 15,241,634 13,704,054	23,695,000 - 33,278,064	70,571,250 - 67,759,367
	174,414,092	227,298,119	31,994,438	56,973,064 	138,330,617 
31 December 2022	72 500 000	100 2/2 750	2 040 750	22 (05 000	72 (20.000
Bonds payable	72,500,000	100,363,750	3,048,750	23,695,000	73,620,000
Trade and other payables Bank borrowings	22,604,701 43,282,780	22,604,701 57,923,669	22,604,701 1,869,100	20.908.706	35,145,863
Current taxation	45,282,780	45,461	45,461	- 20,908,700	
	138,432,942	180,937,581	27,568,012	44,603,706	108,765,863

From a Company stand-alone perspective, the following are the contractual maturities of the Company's financial liabilities:

Company	Carrying <u>Amount</u> Euro	<u>Total</u> Euro	Within <u>12 Months</u> Euro	Between <u>1-5 Years</u> Euro	Over <u>5 Years</u> Euro
<b>31 December 2023</b> Trade and other payables Loans from subsidiary Bank borrowings	8,900,260 72,444,358 86,672,458	8,900,260 98,573,183 114,741,485	8,900,260 3,370,828 13,704,054	23,997,072 33,278,064	71,205,283 67,759,367
	168,017,076 	 222,214,928 	25,975,142	57,275,136	 138,964,650 
<b>31 December 2022</b> Trade and other payables Loans from subsidiary Bank borrowings	10,171,090 72,444,358 43,282,780  125,898,228	10,171,090 101,944,011 57,923,669  170,038,770	10,171,090 3,370,828 1,869,100 	24,543,322 20,908,706 45,452,028	74,029,861 35,145,863 109,175,724

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

### 23. Financial risk management (Contd.)

#### 23.4 Liquidity risk (Contd.)

Trade and other payables include deposits on promise of sale agreements entered into with customers which will materialize into revenue upon signature of deed of sales.

Interest on loans to the subsidiary amounting to  $\notin$  1.12 million was paid by 29 March 2023 as per the prospectus dated 4 March 2019 and  $\notin$  2.25 million was paid by 15 April 2023 as per the prospectus dated 22 March 2022.

### 23.5 Market risk

Market risk is the risk that changes in market prices, such as interest rates, equity prices, foreign exchange rates and credit spreads will affect the Company's and the Group's income or the value of its holdings of financial instruments. The objective of market risk management is to manage and control market risk exposures within acceptable parameters, while optimizing the return on risk.

### 23.5.1 Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. Interest rate risk arises on interest-bearing financial instruments recognized in the statement of financial position.

The Company's and the Group's interest-bearing financial assets comprise cash at bank and the Company's and the Group's interest-bearing financial liabilities comprises borrowings, loan payable to a subsidiary and other payable. The Company's and the Group's interest-bearing financial liabilities are entered into at a fixed-rate. Thus, a 100 basis points increase or decrease in interest rates as at reporting date would not have a significant impact on the Company's and the Group's profit or loss and equity as only the cash at bank is subject to a variable interest rate.

At the reporting date the interest rate profile of the Company's and the Group's fixed and variable interest-bearing financial instruments were as follows:

	Group		Company	
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	Euro	Euro	Euro	Euro
Fixed-rate instruments				
Bonds payable	72,500,000	72,500,000	-	-
Bank borrowings	82,363,267	43,282,780	82,363,267	43,282,780
Loans payable to subsidiary	-	-	72,444,358	72,444,358
Variable-rate instruments				
Bank balances	4,309,191	-	4,309,191	-

#### *Cash flow sensitivity analysis for variable rate instruments*

A change of 100 basis points in interest rates at the reporting date would have increased the Company's and the Group's equity and profit or loss by  $\notin$  42,497 (2022:  $\notin$  9,145) and  $\notin$  39,275 (2022:  $\notin$  12,801) respectively. A decrease of 100 basis points in interest rates would have had the equal but opposite effect on equity and profit or loss. This analysis assumes that all other variables remain constant.

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

### 23. Financial risk management (Contd.)

### 23.5 Market risk (Contd.)

### 23.5.2 Fair values versus carrying amounts

The carrying amount of financial assets and liabilities that are measured at amortized cost approximates the fair value at the reporting date. The director believes that the Company's and the Group's own credit risk and that of the borrowers has not changed in a way that would impact significantly the fair value of these financial assets and liabilities. All financial assets and liabilities are short term in nature.

### 23.5.3 Currency risk

Currency risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in foreign exchange rates.

At reporting date, the Group was not exposed to any significant currency risk.

### 23.6 Capital management

The director's policy is to maintain a strong capital base so as to maintain investor, creditor and market confidence and to sustain future development of the business. The director's objectives are to safeguard the ability for the Company and the Group to continue as a going concern, so that they can continue to provide returns for shareholders and benefits other stakeholders and to maintain an optimal capital structure to reduce the cost of capital. In order to maintain or adjust the capital structure, the Company and the Group may adjust the amount of dividends paid to shareholder, return capital to the shareholder, issue new shares or sell assets to reduce debt. The director monitors the return on capital as well as the level of dividends to ordinary shareholders.

The Company and the Group are not subject to externally imposed capital requirements.

### 24. Related parties

### 24.1 Ultimate controlling party

The Company and the Group is fully owned by Mr. Joseph Portelli, who is the ultimate controlling party.

## 24.2 Identity of related parties

The Group has a related party relationship with its subsidiaries and entities controlled by the same director of the Group ("other related parties").

### 24.3 Related party balances

Information on amounts due to/by related parties is set out in Notes 14, 16, 19 and 22 to these financial statements.

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

## 24. Related parties (Contd.)

### 24.4 Related party transactions carried out by the Group during the year

	Group		Company	
	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
	Euro	Euro	Euro	Euro
Related Companies				
Cost of construction - property	(61,864,658)	(21,781,256)	(17,510,795)	(9,102,076)
Cost of construction - inventories	(2,005,179)	(15,440,347)	(2,005,179)	(15,440,347)
Net funds advanced by/(to) related contractor	6,549,323	(14,947,552)	12,470,186	(27,607,570)
Funds advanced by/(to) other related parties	327,440	(550,000)	489,756	(550,000)
Subsidiaries and Associated Companies				
Acquisition of property from	(5,600,000)	-	(5,600,000)	-
Transfer of property to	-	-	19,481,743	14,600,000
Interest paid to	(3,370,829)	(1,120,829)	(3,370,829)	(1, 120, 829)
Reallocation of interest	-	-	4,961,360	1,857,159
Reallocation of operating costs	-	-	595,299	-,
Expenses paid on behalf of	-	(300)	-	(300)
Loan advanced by	-	-	-	50,000,000
Funds advanced by/(to)	-	-	(84,659,875)	(16,479,514)
			======	
Shareholder				
Dividends Paid	(4,500,000)	-	(4,500,000)	-
	=======			

Amounts due to and from related parties are disclosed in Notes 14, 16, 19 and 22 to these financial statements. The net movements on related companies' balances are shown in the cash flow statement.

The key management of the Company and the Group are considered to be the directors. The directors' remuneration for the Company and the Group have been disclosed in Note 6 to these financial statements.

### 25. Capital commitments

As at 31 December 2023, the Company and the Group accounted for costs amounting to  $\notin$  143,084,563 (2022:  $\notin$  52,489,815) on investment property and property, plant and equipment, some of which is currently still being finished, and  $\notin$  2,080,991 (2022:  $\notin$  15,156,799) on inventory (net of inventory sold as at year-end) which is also being finished. Both are part of the landmark project being built by the Company and the Group. As at the date of these financial statements, the Company and the Group currently expects to incur further costs on contracting works amounting to  $\notin$  32.1 million (2022:  $\notin$  75.3 million) in relation to investment property and a further  $\notin$  2.9 million (2022:  $\notin$  14.1 million) in relation to inventory being finished. These committed capital costs are based on budgets as at the reporting date and will fluctuate depending on actual costs incurred.

### 26. Contingent liabilities

At year end, the Company and the Group had the following contingent liabilities:

- The Company acts as the Guarantor in favour of the bond holders for the bonds issued by a subsidiary company amounting to € 72.5 million, through a first general hypothec on a number of specific areas within the Mercury Tower Project;
- (ii) A Group company is acting as surety to the bond holders in connection with a bond issue for € 50 million through a first ranking special hypothec on the immoveable property of a subsidiary;
- (iii) The Company has issued guarantees amounting to 570,733 in favour of third parties.

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

## 27. IFRS as adopted by the EU

The Company and the Group accounting policies set out in Note 3 have been applied in preparing the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023.

## 28. Regional Conflicts

Conflicts between countries will always have a negative effect on the rest of the world. The increased challenges brought about by various conflicts Ukraine and the Middle East cannot be ignored. However, following a thorough assessment of the Company's operations and, more significantly, that of the Group, it has been noted that there is no reliance on these regions for goods or services. The director continues to actively monitor all developments taking place internationally in order to take any action that might be necessary in the eventuality that developments in these conflicts start to impact the Company's and the Group's performance and operations.

### 29. Subsequent events

### 29.1 Project update and handover of properties

By the time of publication of these financial statements, all major construction and finishing works were concluded, bringing the project close to its completion. The remaining finishing works on the hotel tower and serviced apartments in the peripheral block are underway and are expected to be completed by the second half of the year. All commercial elements of the Project are expected to be open and operational by the end of 2024. Handover of units in the tower has almost been completed whilst the handover of units in the peripheral block is expected to commence shortly.

## 29.1 Other

The director has evaluated other subsequent events since 31 December 2023 up to the date of approval of these financial statements and concluded that there were no subsequent events which require disclosure in the financial statements.



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## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF MERCURY TOWERS LTD.

# **REPORT ON THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

#### Opinion

We have audited the individual financial statements of Mercury Towers Ltd. (the "Company") and the consolidated financial statements of the Company and its subsidiaries (together, the "Group") set out on pages 7 to 44, which comprise the statement of financial position of the Company and the Group as at 31 December 2023, and the statements of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, changes in equity and cash flows of the Company and the Group for the period then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In our opinion, the accompanying consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company and the Group as at 31 December 2023, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) as adopted by the EU and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act, 1995 (Chapter 386, Laws of Malta).

#### Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Independence

We are independent of the Company and the Group in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (IESBA Code)* together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in accordance with the *Accountancy Profession (Code of Ethics for Warrant Holders) Directive issued in terms of the Accountancy Profession Act (Cap. 281) in Malta,* and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the IESBA Code.

To the best of our knowledge and belief, we declare that non-audit services that we have provided to the Company and the Group are in accordance with the applicable law and regulations in Malta and that we have not provided non-audit services that are prohibited under Article 18A of the Accountancy Profession Act (Cap 281).

The non-audit services that we have provided to the Company and the Group in the period from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023, are disclosed in Note 6 to the financial statements.

Baker Tilly Malta trading as Baker Tilly is a member of the global network of Baker Tilly International Ltd., the members of which are separate and independent legal entities.



## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF MERCURY TOWERS LTD.

# **REPORT ON THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

#### Our Audit Approach

As part of designing our audit, we determined materiality and assessed the risk of material misstatements in the financial statements. In particular, we considered where the director made subjective judgements, such as in respect of significant estimates that involved making assumptions and considering future events that are inherently uncertain. As in all audits, we also addressed the risk of management override of internal controls, including among other matters, consideration of whether there was evidence of bias that represented a risk of material misstatement due to fraud.

We tailored the scope of our audit in order to perform sufficient work to enable us to provide an opinion on the financial statements as a whole, taking into consideration the structure of the Company and the Group, the accounting processes and controls, and the industry in which the Company and the Group operate.

#### Key Audit Matters

Key audit matters are those matters that, in our professional judgement, were of most significance in our audit of the financial statements of the current period. These matters were addressed in the context of our audit of the financial statements as a whole, and in forming our opinion thereon, and we do not provide a separate opinion on these matters.

The Group's investment properties and other immovable properties, including mechanical and engineering equipment therein being disclosed within property, plant and equipment, are stated at fair values of  $\in$  80,595,065 and  $\in$  111,331,781 respectively as revalued by EM Architects, who are external independent qualified valuers.

We identified the valuation of such investment properties and other immovable properties as a significant risk, requiring special audit consideration. Our audit procedures included a review of the valuation workings issued by the external independent qualified valuers. Based on the evidence and explanations obtained relating to the valuation of the properties, we did not identify any material concerns on the reasonableness of the methodology applied by the architects in determining the valuation of the properties.

#### Other Information

The director is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the director's report.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

With respect to the directors' report, we also considered whether the director's report includes the disclosures required by Article 177 of the Companies Act (Cap. 386).

Based on the work performed, in our opinion:

- the information given in the director's report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the director's report has been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act (Cap. 386).

In addition, in light of the knowledge and understanding of the Company and the Group and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we are required to report if we have identified material misstatements in the director's report and other information. We have nothing to report in this regard.



## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF MERCURY TOWERS LTD.

# **REPORT ON THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

## Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Company's Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements of the Company and the Group in accordance with IFRS as adopted by the EU, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Company's and the Group's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Company and the Group or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so. Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Company's and the Group's financial reporting.

### Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements of the Company and the Group as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. 'Reasonable assurance' is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's and the Group's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's and Group's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, then we are required to draw attention in our auditors' report to the related disclosures in the consolidated financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditors' report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company and the Group to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the consolidated financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the consolidated financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the Group to express an opinion on the consolidated financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the Group audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.
- We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.



## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF MERCURY TOWERS LTD.

# **REPORT ON THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

### Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements (Contd.)

• We also provide those charged with governance with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence and communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence and where applicable, related safeguards.

#### Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

We also have responsibilities under the Companies Act, 1995 (Chapter 386, Laws of Malta), to report to you if, in our opinion:

- Adequate accounting records have not been kept;
- The financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records;
- We have not received all the information and explanations we required for our audit;

We have nothing to report to you in respect of these responsibilities.

#### Other Matter - Use of this Report

Our report, including our opinions, have been prepared for and only for the Company's shareholder in accordance with Article 179 of the Malta Companies Act (Cap.386) and for no other purposes. We do not, in giving our opinion, accept or assume responsibility for any other purpose or to any other person to whom this report is shown or into whose hands it may come, save where expressly agreed to by our prior written consent.

This copy of the audit report has been signed by Donald Sant for and on behalf of **Baker Tilly Malta** Registered Auditors

Level 5 Rosa Marina Building 216, Marina Seafront Pieta' PTA 9041 Malta

30 April 2024