The Standard, Tuesday, April 30, 2024



AUDITED GROUP RESULTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

The Directors of BOC Kenya Plc are pleased to announce the audited Group results for the year ended 31 December 2023

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Summarised consolidated income statement For the year ended 31 December 2023			
	2023	2022	
	KShs '000	KShs '000	
Revenue	1,539,342	1,287,250	
Earnings before investment income and taxes	269,715	176,508	
Other income	39,366	36,918	
Profit before tax	309,081	213,426	
Income tax expense	(111,023)	(65,434)	
Profit for the year	198,058	147,992	
Basic earnings per share	Kshs. 10.14	Kshs. 7.58	

Dividend for the year:		
Interim declared	-	Kshs. 1.60
Final proposed	Kshs. 6.05	Kshs. 4.45
Total for the year	Kshs. 6.05	Kshs. 6.05

dited Group results for the year ended 31 December 2023.			
Summarised consolidated statement of financial position As at 31 December 2023			
	KShs '000	KShs '000	
ASSETS			
Non-current assets	766,474	805,398	
Current assets	1,391,341	1,145,483	
Total assets	2,157,815	1,950,881	
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES			
Share capital	97,627	97,627	
Share premium and other reserves	138,057	103,359	
Retained earnings	1,571,812	1,460,642	
Total equity	1,807,496	1,661,628	
Non-current liabilities	7,624	7,678	
Current liabilities	342,695	281,575	
Total liabilities	350,319	289,253	
Total equity and liabilities	2,157,815	1,950,881	

Summarised consolidated statement of cash flows For the year ended 31 December 2023			
	2023 Kshs'000	2022 Kshs'000	
Cash generated from operations	474,212	(99,736)	
Tax paid	(50,547)	(66,104)	
Net cash from operating activities	423,665	(165,840)	
Cash received/(used) in investing activities	20,606	(50,591)	
Net cash used in financing activities	(87,940)	(88,917)	
Increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	356,331	(305,348)	
At beginning of the period	277,118	585,794	
Net increase/(decrease)	356,331	(305,348)	
Effect of exchange rates	_	(3,328)	
At the end of the period	633,449	277,118	

Summarised consolidated statement of changes in equity For the year ended 31 December 2023			
	2023 Kshs'000	2022 Kshs'000	
At 1 January	1,661,628	1,588,812	
Net profit for the year	198,058	147,992	
Change in available for sale financial assets	44,550	14,850	
Currency translation	(9,852)	(2,161)	
Dividends	(86,888)	(87,865)	
At 31 December	1,807,496	1,661,628	

Overview:

During the year revenue increased 19.6% from prior year due to the implementation of various medical gases infrastructure tenders as well as growth in sales of medical oxygen to healthcare facilities. The infrastructure projects comprised installation of medical oxygen tanks and medical gas pipelines in various hospitals. Revenue from industrial gases decreased marginally due to depressed demand in a high-cost environment.

Operating Profit increased by 53% in tandem with the sales growth. Price increases were also implemented in the year to recover significant costs increases especially on electricity and distribution costs. The base electricity tariff increased by 60% in April 2023, pushing up production costs.

Outlook:

Continued improvements in oxygen infrastructure in the healthcare sector have led to increased demand for medical oxygen across the Country. During the last three years the Company has had opportunity to install a large portion of this infrastructure, primarily comprising of bulk oxygen storage tanks and the related gas pipelines. It is expected that this growth will continue in the coming years albeit at a slower rate.

The industrial gases sector, of which small and medium size businesses (SME's) are a big proportion, continues to be challenging because of price sensitivity with the risen cost of electricity, depreciation of the local currency as well as general inflation. The Company will continue to mitigate this with a focus on productivity while maintaining its competitive edge through high product and safety standards.

Dividend

The Board of Directors is pleased to recommend approval at the next Annual General Meeting of the Company a final dividend of KShs 6.05 per share, payable net of Withholding Tax, on or about the 21 July 2024 to Shareholders on the Register at the close of business on 31 May 2024 (2022: 6.05 per share).

Annual General Meeting:

The Board of Directors also announces that the Annual General Meeting of the Company will be held virtually on Friday 21 June 2024 at 11.00 A.M.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

RUTH NGOBI COMPANY SECRETARY BOC KENYA PLC

29 April 2024

The results are an extract from the consolidated financial statements of BOC Kenya PLC for the year-ended 31 December 2023, as audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP (Kenya), Certified Public Accountants, and on which an unqualified opinion has been issued.

