

27 FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT

27.1 Risk management framework

The Director / Chief Executive has overall responsibility for the establishment and oversight of the Company's risk management framework. He is also responsible for developing and monitoring the Company's risk management policies, which are monitored and assessed for effectiveness throughout the year. The Company's risk management policies are established to identify and analyze the risks faced by the Company, to set appropriate risk limits and to establish internal control over risk. Through its training and management standards and procedures, the Company aims to develop a disciplined and constructive control environment in which all employees understand their roles and obligations.

The Company's activities are exposed to a variety of financial risks: market risk, credit risk and liquidity risk. The Company has established adequate procedures to manage each of these risks as explained below.

27.2 Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the value of financial instruments may fluctuate as a result of changes in market interest rates, changes in the credit rating of the issuer of the instruments, change in market sentiments, speculative activities, supply and demand of securities and/or changes in liquidity in the market.

Market risk comprises of three types of risk: currency risk, interest rate risk and other price risk.

27.2.1 Currency risk

Currency risk mainly arises where receivables and payables exist due to transactions with foreign undertakings. The Company is not exposed to major foreign exchange risk in this respect.

27.2.2 Interest rate risk

Yield risk is the risk of decline in earnings due to adverse movements of the yield curve. Interest rate risk is the risk that the value of the financial instruments will fluctuate due to changes in market interest rates. Sensitivity to interest / mark-up rate risk arises from mismatches or gaps in the amounts of interest / mark-up based assets and liabilities that mature or reprice in a given period. The Company manages this risk by matching the maturity / repricing of financial assets and liabilities through appropriate policies.

27.2.3 Price risk

Price risk is the risk that the fair value of financial instruments will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices, whether such changes are due to factors specific to individual financial instruments (including factors specific to issuers of such instruments) or due to macroeconomic or other factor affecting similar financial instruments being traded in the market.

The Company is exposed to price risk in respect of investments carried at fair value (whether as available-for-sale investments or as instruments at fair value through profit or loss). Such price risk comprises both the risk that price of individual equity investments will fluctuate and the risk that there will be an index-wide movement in prices. Measures taken by the Company to monitor, manage and mitigate price risk include daily monitoring of movements in stock indexes (such as the KSE 100 index) as well as of the correlation between the Company's investment portfolio with stock indexes.

27.3 Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will fail to discharge an obligation and cause the other party to incur a financial loss. Concentration of credit risk arises when a number of counterparties are engaged in similar business activities or have similar economic features that would cause their ability to meet contractual obligations to be similarly affected by changes in economic, political, or other conditions. Concentrations of credit risk indicate the relative sensitivity of the Company's performance to developments affecting a particular industry.

Credit risk of the Company arises from deposits with banks and financial institutions, trade debts, loans and advances, investments and other receivables. The carrying amount of financial assets represents the maximum credit exposure, although this maximum is a theoretical formulation as the Company frequently holds collateral against potential credit losses.

