





## NOTES TO ABRIDGED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONT'D)

for the year ended 31 December 2019

### 13. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

The Corona virus pandemic, which began in China late in 2019 continued to evolve beyond the reporting date 31 December 2019. On 30 January 2020, the World Health Organisation (WHO) declared the outbreak a "Public Health Emergency of International Concern". Since then, there has been a worldwide spread with new infections occurring at an unprecedented rate. Various measures continue to be taken and imposed by most countries to try and curb the spreading of the virus. A number of countries have imposed a total lock down and stringent border controls.

At national level, the Government of Zimbabwe declared COVID-19 a national disaster. On the 27th of March 2020, the Government ordered a 21-day national lockdown from the 30th of March 2020 through Statutory Instrument 83 of 2020 Public Health (COVID 19) Prevention, Containment and Treatment (National Lockdown), which would result in the total shut down of most businesses save for essential services. The lockdown was extended by a further 14 days. The Group's mining operations were exempted from shutting down and continue to operate normally. The Group took various measures that were necessary to protect its employees and the communities surrounding its operations which included awareness and prevention campaigns as well as intensive hygiene and social distancing protocols.

The COVID 19 pandemic has had a huge negative impact globally, at country level and for individual businesses. This may also have a negative impact on the Company going into the future as supply chain of raw materials might be disrupted, commodity markets may suffer and critical service providers may suffer viability challenges.

As at the date of approval of the financial statements, there has been no significant impact on the Company's operations as a result of the pandemic, and therefore, it was impractical to determine and quantify the potential impact on the Company's future operations and cash flows due to insufficient information as the future remains unforeseeable. Therefore, no adjustment has been made to the amounts of income, expenses, assets and liabilities presented in the financial statements. The Company will continue to actively monitor the situation in this uncertain time so that it can react swiftly to any possible outcome.

### 14. GOING CONCERN

The power supply situation to the Group's mines deteriorated in the second half of the year, which resulted in a fall in production volumes by 28% from the first half production where power supply was stable. Cam and Motor Mine, the Group's flagship operation ran out of oxide ores at its pits, leaving the Mine with predominantly refractory sulphides resources, which require the BIOX plant for processing. As a result, the Group opened its nearby One Step Mine as a bridging gap, hauling ore to the Cam and Motor plant for processing albeit at lower grades and higher cost of production.

As at the reporting date, the Group required circa USD12 million in foreign currency to complete its BIOX plant which was at 30% complete. The Group continued to receive 55% of its gold proceeds in USD during the year, however this fell short of the Group's foreign currency requirements considering the Group's operational expenditure is circa 60% in USD after fuel and power were mandatorily denominated and payable in USD for miners, whilst BIOX project funding requirements are 80% in USD.

The power supply deficits and the foreign currency shortages have a huge impact on the Group's production and sustenance and therefore, these factors ordinarily could indicate the existence of a material uncertainty on the Group's ability to continue as a going concern and that it may be unable to realise its assets and discharge its liabilities in the normal course of business.

The following matters, which support the appropriateness of the going concern assumption in the preparation of the financial statements of the Group, have been considered by the Directors:

- Post year end the Group commissioned backup generators at Dalny Mine whilst deposits for generators for Renco were made. The back-up generators are expected to complement the erratic power supplies from the Power Utility thereby guaranteeing sufficient production to ensure financial viability and liquidity in the short to medium term. Production losses due to power supply will therefore be reduced which will boost the Group's profits and cash flows. In the medium to long term the Group's solar projects are progressing well which once fully installed will result in the Group being independent of the Power Utility.
- The Group managed to generate net earnings, as represented by EBITDA of ZWL\$84.1million (2018: ZWL\$2.4million) being generated in 2019. It is expected that, despite uncertainties regarding availability of ore and the timelines for completion of BIOX, the Company will continue to reach at least break even positions in the next few years.
- The Group is in discussions with different financial institutions which have expressed interest in providing funding for the BIOX project and negotiations are at varying stages. The expectation of reaching financial closure within the time frame required to complete BIOX on time is low but Management is putting in place different contingency plans for ensuring BIOX implementation.
- Management also expects that the earnings will further improve at the back of the following initiatives:
  - Further exploration at One Step aimed at delineating more mineable resources thereby extending the life of mine at One Step and allowing more time for the completion of the BIOX plant.
  - Opening of more open pit resources at Dalny mine which will increase production and improve cash flows.
  - Cost cutting and rationalisation initiatives across the Group
  - ENR to continue with projects that will generate sufficient cash flows to meet its care and maintenance costs.
- The Group will also continue engaging the Monetary authorities for a higher percentage of its foreign currency that it generates from selling of its gold with specific focus on additional foreign currency earmarked for capital expenditure and projects funding. Negotiations with the monetary authorities are in progress.

The Directors therefore believe that the preparation of the financial statements on a going concern basis is still appropriate. This basis assumes that the realisation of assets and settlement of liabilities will occur in the ordinary course of business.

### AUDITOR'S STATEMENT

These financial results should be read in conjunction with the full set of financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2019, which have been audited by Ernst & Young Chartered Accountants (Zimbabwe).

An adverse audit opinion has been issued thereon in respect of non-compliance with the requirements of International Financial Reporting Standards IAS 21: "The Effects of Foreign Exchange Rates" in the current and prior year as well as non-compliance with IAS 8: "Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates & Errors" in the current year.

The auditor's report on these financial statements is available for inspection at the Company's registered office. The engagement partner on the audit resulting in the independent auditor's report is Walter Mupanguri (PAAB Practising Certificate Number 367).



## ABRIDGED AUDITED GROUP FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2019





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## **Independent Auditor's Report**

*To the Shareholders of RioZim Limited*

### **Report on the Audit of the Consolidated and Separate Financial Statements**

#### **Adverse Opinion**

We have audited the consolidated and separate financial statements of RioZim Limited and its subsidiaries (the group) and company, as set out on pages 13 to 92, which comprise the consolidated and separate statement of financial position as at 31 December 2019, and the consolidated and separate statement of comprehensive income, consolidated and separate statement of changes in equity and consolidated and separate statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the consolidated and separate financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes.

In our opinion, because of the significance of the matters discussed in the Basis for Adverse Opinion section of our report, the accompanying consolidated and separate financial statements do not present fairly the financial position of the group and company as at 31 December 2019, and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs).

#### **Basis for Adverse Opinion**

#### **Non-compliance with International Financial Reporting Standards IAS 21- The Effects of Changes in Foreign Exchange Rates in Prior Period and Inappropriate Application of IAS 8**

As explained in note 4.12 to the consolidated and separate financial statements, the group and company's functional currency is the United States Dollar (US\$) and presentation currency is the Zimbabwean Dollar (ZWL). The latter was changed during the reporting period and the prior year financial statements reflected a USD presentation currency.

Zimbabwe witnessed significant monetary and exchange control policy changes in 2016 and increasingly through to 2019. The Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe (RBZ) together with the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development promulgated a series of exchange control operational guidelines and compliance frameworks during this period. Specifically, there was a requirement for banks to separate out FCA RTGS Accounts from the FCA Nostro US\$ Accounts during October 2018. Although the rate was legally pegged at 1:1, multiple pricing practices and other transactions observed and reported publicly indicated exchange rates other than 1:1 between RTGS and the US\$ amounts. In February 2019 there was a Monetary Policy statement which introduced the RTGS Dollar (RTGS\$) and the interbank foreign exchange market. Furthermore, Statutory Instrument 142 of 2019 specified that for all domestic transactions, the Zimbabwe Dollar (which comprises RTGS\$, Bond notes and Bond Coins) was the sole legal tender effective 24 June 2019.

We believe that events in the market and subsequent promulgation of the ZWL as a formal currency evidenced that transactions in the market indicated a different rate between the two currencies despite the legal 1:1 ZWL: US\$ exchange rate and this occurred effective 1 October 2018.

The consolidated and separate financial statements of the group and company included balances and transactions denominated in ZWL/ RTGS that were not converted to US\$ at a ZWL/RTGS: US\$ exchange rate that reflects the economic substance of its value as required by IFRS as the entity continued to use the 1:1 rate after 1 October to convert ZWL/ RTGS transactions which were included in all expense items in the consolidated and separate Statement of Comprehensive Income and all Current Assets, Current Liabilities and Non-Current Liabilities stated on the consolidated and separate Statement of Financial Position along with the consequential impacts to Accumulated Profits and Non-Controlling Interest.

In respect of the above matter we issued an adverse opinion in the prior year as the effects of the departure from IFRS were pervasive to the consolidated and separate financial statements but could not be quantified owing to the nature of the matter.

Management did not make retrospective adjustments to the consolidated or separate financial statements (prior period errors) in terms of *International Financial Reporting Standards – IAS 8 – Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors*.

Therefore, management has not restated the opening balances to resolve the matters which resulted in the adverse audit report in the prior period and therefore the matter is continuing.

As a result of these matters:

- Corresponding numbers relating to Current Assets, Current Liabilities, Non-Current Liabilities, Accumulated Profit and Non-Controlling Interest remain misstated on the Statements of Financial Position; all expenses line items on Statements of Comprehensive Income and amounts shown for Cash Flows Profit and Changes in Equity. Our opinion on the current period's consolidated and separate financial statements is therefore also modified because of the possible effects of the above matter on the comparability of the current period's figures and the corresponding figures.
- As opening balances enter into the determination of cash flows and performance our current year opinion is modified in respect of the impact of these matters on the Statements of Cash Flows, Expenses on the Statements of Profit or Loss and Statements of Changes in Equity.

#### **Exchange rates used in current year (Non-compliance with IAS 21)**

During the year management translated ZWL denominated transactions into the functional currency using the interbank rate. As in the prior year this impacted the closing amounts for Current Assets, Current Liabilities and Non-Current Liabilities on the consolidated and separate Statements of Financial Position at year end and all expense amounts on the consolidated and separate Statements of Comprehensive Income. In addition, at year end 31 December 2019 group management translated the consolidated and separate financial statements from the functional (USD) to presentation (ZWL) currency using these rates. This final matter would impact all amounts on the consolidated and separate financial statements.

The exchange rates used for the translations do not meet the definition of a spot exchange rate as per IAS.

The IFRS interpretations Committee concluded in their September 2018 paper that the closing rate is the rate to which an entity would have access at the end of the reporting period through a legal exchange mechanism.

We therefore believe that the exchange rates for transactions and balances between the US\$ and the RTGS\$/ZWL used by the group and company did not meet the criteria for appropriate exchange rates in terms of IFRS as defined above. Had the correct rate been used all balances and amounts would have been materially different owing to the combination of both matters impacting all balances, amounts and disclosed items. The quantum of this cannot be determined owing to the lack of information as to the rates being available.

The effects of the above departures from IFRS are therefore material and pervasive to the consolidated and separate financial statements.

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 Consolidated and Separate Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the group and company 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 Zimbabwe, and we have fulfilled our ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and IESBA Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our adverse opinion.

### **Key Audit Matters**

Except for the matters described in the Basis for Adverse Opinion section, we have determined that there are no other key audit matters to communicate in our report.

### **Other information**

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the Chairman's Statement, The Chief Executive Officer's Business Report, the Directors' Report and the Statement of Corporate Governance and Responsibility, but does not include the consolidated and separate financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the consolidated and separate financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express an audit opinion or any form of assurance conclusion thereon. The Chairman's Statement, The Chief Executive Officer's Business Report, the Directors' Report and the Statement of Corporate Governance and Responsibility is expected to be made available to us after the date of this auditor's report.

In connection with our audit of the consolidated and separate financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the consolidated and separate financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. As described in the Basis for Adverse Opinion section above, the group and company did not comply with the requirements of IAS 21 – Effects of Changes in Foreign Exchange Rates. We have concluded that the other information is materially misstated for the same reason with respect to the amounts or other items in the Directors' Report affected by the failure to comply with the referred standard.

### ***Responsibilities of the Directors for the Consolidated and Separate Financial Statements***

The directors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the consolidated and separate financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards and the requirements of the Companies Act (Chapter 24:03), and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of consolidated and separate financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the consolidated and separate financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the group and company'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 the directors either intend to liquidate the group and company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

### ***Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements***

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated and separate financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's 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 the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these consolidated and separate 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 and separate 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 group and company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' 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 group and company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the consolidated and separate 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 auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the group and/or company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the consolidated and separate financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the consolidated and separate 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 and separate 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 the directors 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.

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

From the matters communicated with the directors, we determine those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the consolidated and separate financial statements of the current period and are therefore the key audit matters. We describe these matters in our auditor's report unless law or regulation precludes public disclosure about the matter or when, in extremely rare circumstances, we determine that a matter should not be communicated in our report because the adverse consequences of doing so would reasonably be expected to outweigh the public interest benefits of such communication.

**Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements**

In our opinion, because of the significance of the matter discussed in the Basis for Adverse Opinion section of our report, the accompanying consolidated and separate financial statements have not in all material respects, been properly prepared in compliance with the disclosure requirements of and in the manner required by the Companies Act (Chapter 24:03).

The engagement partner on the audit resulting in this independent auditor's report is Walter Mupanguri (PAAB Practicing Certificate Number 367).



Ernst & Young  
Chartered Accountants (Zimbabwe)  
Registered Public Auditors

Harare

Date: 29 April 2020