







## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

### **TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF SIMBISA BRANDS LIMITED**

*Report on the Audit of the Annual Financial Statements*

#### **Adverse Opinion**

We have audited the inflation adjusted consolidated financial statements of Simbisa Brands Limited and its subsidiaries (the Group) as set out on pages 10 to 76, which comprise the Inflation Adjusted Consolidated Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2020, the Inflation Adjusted Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income, Inflation Adjusted Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity and Inflation Adjusted Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows for the year then ended, and notes to the inflation adjusted consolidated 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 inflation adjusted consolidated annual financial statements do not present fairly the financial position of the Group as at 30 June 2020, 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**

*Impact of prior period year not being retrospectively corrected in terms of IAS 8 - Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors. (Zimbabwean operations)*

As explained in note 3 to the inflation adjusted consolidated financial information, the Group applied the Zimbabwean Dollar (ZWL) as its functional currency for the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020. The inflation adjusted consolidated financial statements are presented in ZWL.

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 local Foreign Currency Accounts (FCAs) (RTGS\$) from the FCA Nostro US\$ Accounts effective 1 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 US\$. In February 2019 there was a Monetary Policy statement which introduced RTGS\$ and the interbank foreign exchange market. Furthermore, Statutory Instrument 142 of 2019 specified that for all domestic transactions, ZWL (which comprises RTGS\$, Bond Notes and Bond Coins) was the sole legal tender effective 24 June 2019.

These events triggered the need for the Group to assess whether there was a change in functional currency (from US\$ to ZWL) and whether the 1:1 ZWL: US\$ exchange rate was appropriate. We believed that events in the market and subsequent promulgation of the ZWL as a formal currency

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)**

### **TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF SIMBISA BRANDS LIMITED**

supported a change in functional currency from US\$ to ZWL prior to 22 February 2019 and 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.

In addition, for the period after the date of change in functional currency of 22 February 2019 the Directors used the official interbank rate to translate foreign denominated transactions and balances. The rates used did not meet IAS21 requirements. In addition, the translation of financial statement elements at different exchange rates and resultant exchange difference was not in accordance with IFRS.

Accordingly, the 30 June 2019 consolidated financial statements of the Group included balances and transactions denominated in US\$ that were not converted to ZWL at a ZWL: US\$ exchange rate that reflects the economic substance of its value as required by IFRS for the portions of the balances representing the Zimbabwean operations (company and subsidiaries).

The above matters which gave rise to the adverse opinion in the prior year have not been corrected or resolved as required by IAS 8- *Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors*.

Consequently:

- All corresponding numbers remain misstated on the: inflation adjusted Statement of Financial Position, inflation adjusted Statement of Cash Flows, inflation adjusted Statement of Profit or Loss and inflation adjusted Statement of Changes in Equity, this also impacts comparability of the current year's figures
- As opening balances enter into the determination of cash flows and performance, our audit opinion is modified in respect of the impact of this matter on the inflation adjusted Statement of Cash Flows, inflation adjusted Statement of Profit or Loss and inflation adjusted Statement of Changes in Equity.

In addition to the impact on the corresponding numbers, current year performance, balances and cash flows, the matter continues to impact the balances on the consolidated inflation adjusted Statement of Financial Position as some of these still comprise of amounts from opening balances. Whilst this matter might not affect all accounts in the consolidated inflation adjusted Statement of Financial Position, the specific accounts and the portions affected by this matter have not been identified/quantified. This is due to further matters requiring modification (which have been discussed below) and which result in most accounts being misstated.

#### *Exchange rates used in current year (Zimbabwean operations)*

The Group used the interbank exchange rate in current year (from 1 July 2019 to 22 June 2020) and an auction rate from 23 June 2020 to 30 June 2020 to translate foreign currency transactions and a transactions-based closing exchange rate to translate foreign balances on 30 June 2020. The exchange rates used for the translation do not meet the definition of a spot exchange rate as per IAS 21. In view of the continued distortions in the foreign exchange market during the year, the Group indicated that it could not establish observable market-wide exchange rates that meet the requirements of IAS21, this is the same issue that contributed to the adverse opinion in prior year on this matter.

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)**

### **TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF SIMBISA BRANDS LIMITED**

As a result, all amounts in the inflation adjusted Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income are impacted except for net interest costs, other income, operating expenses and impairments.

In addition, the following accounts on the inflation adjusted Statement of Financial Position that include balances comprising of foreign currency components are misstated due to the application of a rate not in compliance with IAS 21 .:

- ZWL665 503 594 included in Cash and Bank balances of ZWL814 467 350
- ZWL119 443 812 included in Trade and other payables of ZWL1 353 925 486
- ZWL167 169 278 included in Inventories of ZWL330 831 685

Consequently, income tax payable, distributable reserves and non-controlling interests are impacted by the misstatement to profit or loss as noted above.

However, owing to the lack of market-wide information on observable spot exchange rates available to the Group and the other matters discussed above it is not possible to quantify the impact of this on the Group's inflation adjusted financial statements for the year under consideration.

#### *Reporting in Hyper-Inflationary Economies–IAS29 (Zimbabwe Operations)*

Furthermore, notwithstanding that the accounting policies also include the requirements from IAS 29 - *Financial Reporting in Hyperinflationary Economies* which has been applied from 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020, it is noted that its application was based on prior and current periods' financial information for which we are modifying in respect of the non-correction of the prior period errors and other current year matters as described above. Had the correct base numbers and start date been used, virtually all the elements of the inflation adjusted annual financial statements would have been materially different and the impact cannot be quantified as discussed above.

#### *Consolidation of Foreign Subsidiaries using foreign exchange rates that are not in compliance with IAS 21(Foreign Operations)*

Further to the issue noted above in respect of inappropriate spot rates, management used transaction based exchange rates to translate the foreign subsidiaries to group reporting currency, ZWL, on consolidation. This impacted the manner in which the results of the foreign operations were translated into the group amounts on consolidation. It is not possible to quantify the misstatements as an appropriate exchange rate cannot be determined for the reasons stated above. In addition the portions of the amounts impacted by the translation of foreign operations has also not been presented as it results in a misstatement of all amounts on the inflation adjusted financial statements except for Share Capital, Share Premium, Financial Assets, Shareholders for Dividends , Bank overdraft and Borrowings on the inflation adjusted Statement of Financial Position and is a major or material component of line items impacted.

This matter arose in the prior year and contributed to our adverse opinion in the prior period. Our opinion on the current period's financial statements is therefore also modified because of the possible effect of this matter on the comparability of the current period's figures and the corresponding figures.

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)**

### **TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF SIMBISA BRANDS LIMITED**

#### *Overall*

The effects of the above departures from IFRS are material and pervasive to the inflation adjusted consolidated financial statement as when combined virtually all amounts are misstated.

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 Inflation adjusted annual financial statements* section of our report of the Group. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the International Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including International Independence Standards) (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 matter 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 and Press Release, the Directors' Approval and Responsibility Statement, the Report of the Directors and the Historical Cost Financial Information, which we obtained prior to the date of this report. The other information does not include the consolidated inflation adjusted financial statements and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the inflation adjusted financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the inflation adjusted financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the inflation adjusted 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* and IAS 8-*Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Error* and other matters

We have concluded that the other information is materially misstated for the same reason with respect to the amounts or other items included therein and affected by the failure to comply with the referred standard.

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)**

### **TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF SIMBISA BRANDS LIMITED**

#### **Responsibilities of the Directors for the consolidated Inflation adjusted annual financial statements**

The directors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the inflation adjusted consolidated financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards and the requirements of the Companies and Other Business Entities Act (Chapter 24:31), and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of inflation adjusted consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

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

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the inflation adjusted consolidated 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 inflation adjusted consolidated 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 inflation adjusted 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 Group'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'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 inflation adjusted 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 auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the group to cease to continue as a going concern.



## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)**

### **TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF SIMBISA BRANDS LIMITED**

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the inflation adjusted consolidated financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the inflation adjusted 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 inflation adjusted 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 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, actions taken to eliminate threats or safeguards applied.

From the matters communicated with the directors, we determine those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the inflation adjusted consolidated 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 inflation adjusted 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 and Other Business Entities Act (Chapter 24:31).

The engagement partner on the audit resulting in this independent auditor's report is Mr Fungai Kuipa (PAAB Practicing Certificate Number 335).



Ernst & Young  
Chartered Accountants (Zimbabwe)  
Registered Public Auditors

Harare

15 October 2020