ADVANCE SYNERGY BERHAD (Company No: 192001000024 (1225-D))

COMPANY ANNOUNCEMENT UNAUDITED INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE QUARTER AND PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

The Board of Directors of Advance Synergy Berhad wishes to announce the unaudited financial results of the Group for the quarter and period ended 31 March 2021.

This interim report is prepared in accordance with Malaysian Financial Reporting Standard ("MFRS") 134 "Interim Financial Reporting" and paragraph 9.22 of the Main Market Listing Requirements of Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad, and should be read in conjunction with the Group's audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020.

UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT

			<u>Year-te</u>			
	3 month	s ended	3 months ended			
	31.03.2021 RM'000	31.03.2020 RM'000	31.03.2021 RM'000	31.03.2020 RM'000		
Revenue	23,714	42,804	23,714	42,804		
Cost of sales	(13,946)	(26,969)	(13,946)	(26,969)		
Gross profit	9,768	15,835	9,768	15,835		
Other operating income	2,657	4,720	2,657	4,720		
Operating expenses	(18,889)	(22,002)	(18,889)	(22,002)		
Profit/(Loss) from operations	(6,464)	(1,447)	(6,464)	(1,447)		
Finance costs	(1,548)	(1,209)	(1,548)	(1,209)		
Share of results of associates and joint venture	20	45	20	45		
Profit/(Loss) before tax	(7,992)	(2,611)	(7,992)	(2,611)		
Income tax expense	(562)	(1,020)	(562)	(1,020)		
Net profit/(loss) for the financial period	(8,554)	(3,631)	(8,554)	(3,631)		
Attributable to:						
Owners of the parent	(8,596)	(4,098)	(8,596)	(4,098)		
Non-controlling interests	42	467	42	467		
	(8,554)	(3,631)	(8,554)	(3,631)		
Loss per share attributable to owners of						
the parent: Basis (sen)	(0.93)	(0.44)	(0.93)	(0.44)		
Diluted (sen)	(0.93)	(0.44)	(0.93)	(0.44)		

UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

			Year-te	<u>-date</u>		
	3 months	s ended	3 months ended			
	31.03.2021 RM'000	31.03.2020 RM'000	31.03.2021 RM'000	31.03.2020 RM'000		
Net profit/(loss) for the financial period	(8,554)	(3,631)	(8,554)	(3,631)		
Other comprehensive income/(expenses): Items that may be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss: Foreign currency translation differences for foreign operations	(3,418)	(1,116)	(3,418)	(1,116)		
Total items that may be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss	(3,418)	(1,116)	(3,418)	(1,116)		
Items that will not be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss: Fair value through other comprehensive income financial assets	522	(2,572)	522	(2,572)		
Total items that will not be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss	522	(2,572)	522	(2,572)		
Other comprehensive income/(loss) for the financial period	(2,896)	(3,688)	(2,896)	(3,688)		
Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the financial period	(11,450)	(7,319)	(11,450)	(7,319)		
Attributable to: Owners of the parent	(11,888)	(7,683)	(11,888)	(7,683)		
Non-controlling interests	438	364	438	364		
Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the financial period	(11,450)	(7,319)	(11,450)	(7,319)		

UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

ACCOMPC	Unaudited as at 31.03.2021 RM'000	Audited as at 31.12.2020 RM'000
ASSETS Non-assessment assets		
Non-current assets	202,183	199,018
Property, plant and equipment Right-of-use assets	46,339	47,153
Investment properties	46,300	44,935
Investment in associates and joint venture	12,778	12,757
Investment securities	53,262	51,546
Goodwill	89,967	89,967
Intangible assets	2,606	2,717
Deferred tax assets	4,857	4,841
	458,292	452,934
Current assets	150,252	132,551
Inventories	44,910	45,225
Receivables, prepayments and contract assets	76,647	77,451
Tax recoverable	3,554	2,401
Investment securities	5,861	5,162
Financial assets held for trading	6	8
Short term deposits	79,791	63,157
Cash and bank balances	66,588	57,860
	277,357	251,264
TOTAL ASSETS	735,649	704,198
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		
Equity attributable to owners of the Company		
Share capital	381,377	381,377
Reserves	55,809	67,697
	437,186	449,074
Non-controlling interests	67,607	67,659
Total equity	504,793	516,733
Non-current liabilities		
Borrowings	65,528	38,347
Lease liabilities	50,099	50,506
Payables	9,805	9,294
Deferred tax liabilities	4,066	4,017
Provision for retirement benefit obligations	1,442	1,386
Current liabilities	130,940	103,550
Current liabilities Days less and contract liabilities	61.516	52 452
Payables and contract liabilities Borrowings	61,516 27,189	53,452 19,111
Lease liabilities	6,125	6,339
Taxpayable	5,086	5,013
ιαχραγασιο	99,916	83,915
Total Liabilities	230,856	187,465
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES	735,649	704,198

UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Share Capital RM'000	Revaluation Reserve RM'000	Foreign Currency Translation Reserve RM'000	Fair Value Reserve RM'000	Retained Profits RM'000	Total RM'000	Non- Controlling Interests RM'000	Total Equity RM'000
Balance as at 1 January 2021	381,377	15,614	12,793	(3,537)	42,827	449,074	67,659	516,733
Net profit/(loss) for the financial period	-	-	-	-	(8,596)	(8,596)	42	(8,554)
Fair value of financial assets through other comprehensive income	-	-	_	522	-	522	-	522
Foreign currency translation differences for foreign operations	-	-	(3,814)	-	-	(3,814)	396	(3,418)
Total comprehensive income/(loss) the financial period	-	-	(3,814)	522	(8,596)	(11,888)	438	(11,450)
Transactions with owners								
Dividend paid to non-controlling interests of a subsidiary	_	_	-		_		(490)	(490)
		_					(490)	(490)
Balance as at 31 March 2021	381,377	15,614	8,979	(3,015)	34,231	437,186	67,607	504,793

UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021 (Continued)

			Foreign Currency				Non-	
	Share Capital RM'000	Revaluation Reserve RM'000	Translation Reserve RM'000	Fair Value Reserve RM'000	Retained Profits RM'000	Total RM'000	Controlling Interests RM'000	Total Equity RM'000
Balance as at 1 January 2020	381,377	14,547	6,728	(1,334)	80,378	481,696	69,072	550,768
Net profit/(loss) for the financial period	-	-	-	-	(4,098)	(4,098)	467	(3,631)
Fair value of financial assets through other comprehensive income Foreign currency translation differences for	-	-	-	(2,572)	-	(2,572)	-	(2,572)
foreign operations	-	-	(1,013)	-	_	(1,013)	(103)	(1,116)
Total comprehensive income/(loss) the financial period	-	-	(1,013)	(2,572)	(4,098)	(7,683)	364	(7,319)
Balance as at 31 March 2020	381,377	14,547	5,715	(3,906)	76,280	474,013	69,436	543,449

UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	3 months ended 31.03.2021 RM'000	3 months ended 31.03.2020 RM'000
Cash flows from operating activities	14.7 000	10.1000
Loss before tax	(7,992)	(2,611)
Adjustments for:-		
Non-cash items	4,098	5,246
Other investing and financing items	1,195	643
Operating (loss)/profit before working capital changes	(2,699)	3,278
Changes in working capital		
Inventories	315	49
Receivables	(1,064)	10,683
Financial assets held for trading	2	94
Payables	2,990	4,569
Net cash generated from operations	(456)	18,673
Net tax paid	(1,642)	(965)
Net cash (used in)/generated from operating activities	(2,098)	17,708
Cash flows from investing activities		
Acquisition of held for trading investments	(1,325)	-
Acquisition of unquoted investment securities	(618)	(108)
Addition of intangible assets	(217)	(278)
Addition of investment properties	(1,398)	(4,575)
Interest received	344	566
Dividend received	9	-
Proceeds from disposal of held for trading investments	60	-
Proceeds from disposal of unquoted investment securities	1,287	-
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(1,244)	(1,176)
Withdrawal of pledged deposits	40	256
Net cash used in investing activities	(3,062)	(5,315)

UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021 (Continued)

	3 months ended 31.03.2021 RM'000	3 months ended 31.03.2020 RM'000
Cash flows from financing activities		
Dividend paid to non-controlling interests of a subsidiary	(490)	-
Drawdown of borrowings	36,908	-
Interest paid	(1,548)	(1,209)
Repayment of borrowings	(1,367)	(1,190)
Repayment of lease liabilities	(953)	(2,263)
Net generated from/(used in) cash used in financing activities	32,550	(4,662)
Effect of exchange rate changes	(2,227)	(3,185)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	25,163	4,546
Cash and cash equivalents as at beginning of the financial period		
As previously reported	86,959	90,619
Effect of exchange rate changes	377	631
As restated	87,336	91,250
Cash and cash equivalents as at end of the financial period#	112,499	95,796
# Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial period comprising the following:		
Short term deposits	79,791	77,971
Cash and bank balances	66,588	54,958
Bank overdrafts	(216)	(3,003)
	146,163	129,926
Less: Deposits placed with lease payables as security deposit		
for lease payments	(13,488)	(13,054)
Cash held under Housing Development Accounts	(665)	(648)
Deposits pledged to licensed banks	(19,511)	(20,428)
	(33,664)	(34,130)
	112,499	95,796

NOTES TO THE INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT

1. Basis of preparation

The unaudited interim financial report has been prepared in compliance with MFRS 134 – "Interim Financial Reporting" and paragraph 9.22 of the Main Market Listing Requirements of Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad ("Bursa Securities"). The unaudited interim financial report should be read in conjunction with the audited financial statements of the Group for the financial year ended 31 December 2020.

2. Significant accounting policies

The accounting policies and methods of computation adopted by the Group in this interim financial report are consistent with those adopted in the audited financial statements for the financial year ended 31 December 2020, except for the adoption of the following Amendments/Improvements to Malaysian Financial Reporting Standard ("MFRS"):

Amendments/ Improvements to MFRSs

MFRS 4	Insurance Contracts
MFRS 7	Financial Instruments: Disclosures
MFRS 9	Financial Instruments
MFRS 16	Leases
MFRS 139	Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement

The adoption of the above Amendments/Improvements to MFRSs will have no significant impact on the financial statements of the Group upon their initial application.

New MFRS and Amendments/Improvements to MFRSs issued but not yet effective

The following new MFRS and Amendments/Improvements to MFRSs that are issued but are not yet effective, have yet to be adopted by the Group:

Effective for financial

		periods beginning on or after
New MFRS		
MFRS 17	Insurance Contracts	1 January 2023
Amendments/I	mprovements to MFRSs	
MFRS 1	First-time Adoption of Malaysian Financial Reporting Standards	1 January 2022^/
		1 January 2023#
MFRS 3	Business Combinations	1 January 2022/
		1 January 2023#
MFRS 4	Insurance Contracts	1 January 2023
MFRS 5	Non-current Assets Held for Sale and Discontinued Operations	1 January 2023#
MFRS 7	Financial Instruments: Disclosures	1 January 2023#
MFRS 9	Financial Instruments	1 January 2022^/
		1 January 2023#
MFRS 10	Consolidated Financial Statements	Deferred
MFRS 15	Revenue from Contracts with Customers	1 January 2023#
MFRS 16	Leases	1 January 2022^
MFRS 17	Insurance Contracts	1 January 2023
MFRS 101	Presentation of Financial Statements	1 January 2023 [/]
		1 January 2023#

2. Significant accounting policies (Continued)

New MFRS and and Amendments/Improvements to MFRSs issued but not yet effective (Continued)

Effective for financial periods beginning on

or after

Amendments/Improvements to MFRSs	(Continued)
Amendments/inibiovements to wir its	(Commucu)

MFRS 107	Statement of Cash Flows	1 January 2023#
MFRS 108	Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors	1 January 2023
MFRS 116	Property, Plant and Equipment	1 January 2022/
		1 January 2023#
MFRS 119	Employee Benefits	1 January 2023#
MFRS 128	Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures	Deferred/
		1 January 2023#
MFRS 132	Financial Instruments: Presentation	1 January 2023#
MFRS 136	Impairment of Assets	1 January 2023#
MFRS 137	Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets	1 January 2022/
		1 January 2023#
MFRS 138	Intangible Assets	1 January 2023#
MFRS 140	Investment Property	1 January 2023#
MFRS 141	Agriculture	1 January 2022^

[^] The Annual Improvements to MFRS Standards 2018-2020

3. Audit Report

The auditors' report on the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020 was not subject to any qualification.

4. Seasonal or cyclical factors

The operations of the Group for the quarter ended 31 March 2021 were not materially affected by any seasonal or cyclical factors.

5. Unusual items

There were no unusual significant items during the quarter under review.

6. Changes in estimates

There were no changes in estimates of amounts reported in prior financial years that have a material effect in the quarter under review.

7. Debt and equity securities

There were no issuances, cancellations, repurchases, resale and/or repayments of debt and equity securities during the financial period ended 31 March 2021.

8. Dividends paid

There was no dividend paid during the financial period ended 31 March 2021.

[#] Amendments as to the consequence of effective of MFRS 17 Insurance Contracts

9. Segmental Information

For the financial period ended 31 March 2021

	Investment Holding	Hospitality	Information & Communications Technology	Property Development & Investment	Travel & Tours	Financial Services	Others	Eliminations	Total
	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000
Revenue									
External	66	2,652	16,410	1,689	2,332	519	46	-	23,714
Inter-segment	60	-	-	424	-	-	-	(484)	-
Total revenue	126	2,652	16,410	2,113	2,332	519	46	(484)	23,714
Results Segment results	(2,053)	(5,080)	2,891	(556)	(391)	(1,107)	(1,716)	-	(8,012)
Share of results of associates and joint venture	24	(4)		-	-	-	-	-	20
Profit/(Loss) before tax	(2,029)	(5,084)	2,891	(556)	(391)	(1,107)	(1,716)	-	(7,992)
Income tax expense									(562)
Net profit/(loss) for the financial period									(8,554)
Non-controlling interests									(42)
Net profit/(loss) for the financial period attributable to owners of the parent									(8,596)

9. Segmental Information (Continued)

For the financial period ended 31 March 2021 (Continued)

			Information &	Property					
	Investment	TT'4 -1'4	Communications	Development	Travel &	Financial	0.1	T	T
	Holding	Hospitality		& Investment		Services	Others	Eliminations DM 1000	Total RM'000
	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RIVITUUU
Other information									
Segment assets	59,316	289,394	180,049	124,447	17,631	24,036	19,587	-	714,460
Investment in associates and joint venture	12,664	114	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,778
Unallocated corporate assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,411
Total assets									735,649
Segment liabilities	1,587	137,336	16,924	39,653	5,312	10,520	10,372	-	221,704
Unallocated corporate liabilities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,152
Total liabilities									230,856
Capital expenditure: - Property, plant & equipment - Software development expenditure	- -	238	101 214	420 -	-	401 -	84		1,244 217

9. Segmental Information (Continued)

For the financial period ended 31 March 2020

	Investment Holding	Hospitality	Information & Communications Technology	Property Development & Investment	Travel & Tours	Financial Services	Others	Eliminations	Total
	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000
	IXIVI OUU	INVI 000	KW 000	ICIVI 000	ICM 000	IXIVI OUU	ICIVI OUU	KW 000	ICM 000
Revenue									
External	284	11,229	14,107	-	15,581	1,573	30	-	42,804
Inter-segment	302	-	-	-	50	-	-	(352)	-
Total revenue	586	11,229	14,107	-	15,631	1,573	30	(352)	42,804
Results Segment results	(1,179)	(1,171)	2,273	(183)	26	(1,160)	(1,262)	-	(2,656)
Share of results of associates and joint venture	44	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	45
Profit/(Loss) before tax	(1,135)	(1,170)	2,273	(183)	26	(1,160)	(1,262)	-	(2,611)
Income tax expense									(1,020)
Net profit/(loss) for the financial year									(3,631)
Non-controlling interests									(467)
Net profit/(loss) for the financial period attributable to owners of the parent									(4,098)

9. Segmental Information (Continued)

For the financial period ended 31 March 2020 (Continued)

	Investment		Information & Communications	Property	Travel &	Financial			
	Holding	Hospitality		Development & Investment		Services	Others	Eliminations	Total
	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000
Other information									
Segment assets	53,791	288,605	214,054	101,106	26,777	22,871	19,352	-	726,556
Investment in associates and joint venture	13,747	117	-	-	(848)	-	-	-	13,016
Unallocated corporate assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,027
Total assets									748,599
Segment liabilities	12,388	94,358	24,765	37,108	12,486	8,503	5,351	-	194,959
Unallocated corporate liabilities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,191
Total liabilities									205,150
Capital expenditure: - Property, plant & equipment - Software development expenditure	7 -	303	801 278		-	65 -	-		1,176 278

10. Property, plant and equipment

The valuation of land and buildings had been brought forward without amendment from the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020.

11. Significant events after the reporting period

There are no significant events after the reporting period.

12. Changes in the composition of the Group

There were no changes in the composition of the Group during the financial period ended 31 March 2021.

13. Changes in contingent liabilities

There are no changes in contingent liabilities since the last annual statements of financial position as at 31 December 2020.

14. Review of performance

	Year-to-date					
	3 months ended					
	31.03.2021	Variance				
	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	%		
Revenue	23,714	42,804	(19,090)	-44.6%		
Profit/(Loss) from operations	(6,464)	(1,447)	(5,017)	346.7%		
Profit/(Loss) before tax	(7,992)	(2,611)	(5,381)	206.1%		
Net profit/(loss) for the financial period Net profit/(loss) for the financial period	(8,554)	(3,631)	(4,923)	135.6%		
attributable to the Owners of the Parent	(8,596)	(4,098)	(4,498)	109.8%		

Overall performance

For the current quarter ended 31 March 2021 ("Q1 2021"), the impact of the global coronavirus ("Covid-19") outbreak and movement control order ("MCO") resulted in the Group recording a lower revenue of RM23.7 million compared to RM42.8 million in the corresponding period last year ended 31 March 2020 ("Q1 2020"), a significant decrease in revenue of RM19.1 million or approximately 44.6%. In 2020, MCO was imposed in the country with effect from 18 March 2020. All divisions reported lower revenue in Q1 2021 compared to Q1 2020 except for the Information & Communications Technology, Property Development & Investment and Others divisions.

The significant decrease in revenue for the Group resulted in lower gross profit of RM9.8 million in Q1 2021 compared to RM15.8 million in Q1 2020.

Other operating income of the Group reduced from RM4.7 million in Q1 2020 to RM2.7 million in Q1 2021. In Q1 2020, the other operating income included settlement of the court case of RM1.7 million in favour to one of the subsidiaries.

Operating expenses reduced by approximately RM3.1 million from RM22.0 million in Q1 2020 to RM18.9 million in Q1 2021 mainly due to lower staff cost, distribution cost and other expenses. The closure of Holiday Villa London, United Kingdom in the third quarter of 2020 also contributed to the lower operating expenses in Q1 2021.

14. Review of performance (Continued)

Overall performance (Continued)

The flow-down effect of lower revenue in Q1 2021 resulted in the Group recording a higher loss before tax of RM8.0 million compared to loss before tax of RM2.6 million in Q1 2020.

Investment Holding

In Q1 2021, the division recorded lower revenue of RM0.1 million compared to the revenue of RM0.6 million in Q1 2020. The lower revenue was mainly attributable to lower interest income and absence of intercompany rental income which had no impact to the Group's revenue. The flowdown effect of lower revenue for Q1 2021 coupled with higher operating expenses resulted in the division reporting a loss before tax of RM2.0 million in Q1 2021 compared to a loss of RM1.1 million in Q1 2020. In Q1 2021, the higher operating expenses of the division was mainly due to right-of-use asset depreciation for an office leased from a subsidiary which has no impact to ASB Group level results and higher finance cost partly offset by a fair value gain on investment securities.

Hospitality

The Hospitality division recorded significantly lower revenue of RM2.7 million in Q1 2021 compared to RM11.2 million in Q1 2020, a decline of approximately RM8.5 million or 75.9%. The outbreak of Covid-19 adversely affected the overall performance of the hotels operated and managed by the division. Besides that, closure of Holiday Villa London, United Kingdom in the third quarter of 2020 contributed to the overall lower revenue in Q1 2021.

With the substantial drop in revenue coupled with lower other operating income for Q1 2021, the division reported a loss before tax of RM5.1 million in Q1 2021 compared to a loss before tax of RM1.2 million in Q1 2020. Other operating income for Q1 2020 included settlement of the court case of RM1.7 million in favour to one of the subsidiaries.

Information & Communications Technology

The division recorded higher revenue of RM16.4 million in Q1 2021 compared to RM14.1 million in Q1 2020, an increase in revenue of RM2.3 million or approximately 16.3%. This was mainly due to higher revenue from Unifiedcomms business unit ("BU"), mainly from managed service contracts, which reported an increase in revenue of 26.1% in the current quarter under review compared to Q1 2020.

With the increase in revenue of 16.3% in Q1 2021 compared to corresponding period last year coupled with fair value gain assessed on the venture investment portfolio of RM0.3 million in the current quarter under review, partly offset by higher operating expenses in Q1 2021, the ICT division recorded a slightly higher profit before tax of RM2.9 million in Q1 2021 compared to RM2.3 million in Q1 2020. The higher operating expenses in the current quarter under review were mainly attributable to higher technical support expenses recorded in Q1 2021.

14. Review of performance (Continued)

Property Development & Investment

The division recorded revenue at RM2.1 million in Q1 2021 whilst no revenue was recorded in Q1 2020. Despite the higher revenue recorded, the division's loss before tax increased by RM0.4 million from RM0.2 million in Q1 2020 to RM0.6 million in Q1 2021. The increased loss mainly resulted from the operating expenditure incurred under the property investment unit.

Travel & Tours

The Covid-19 pandemic which resulted in the imposition of MCO in Malaysia and international travel restrictions had adverse impact on the performance of the travel & tours division. The first time MCO and travel restrictions were imposed in the country was on 18 March 2020 and since then, there were various forms of travel restrictions in the country and globally which continued to have adverse impact on the division up to the reporting period Q1 2021. The division reported substantially lower revenue in Q1 2021 of RM2.3 million compared to RM15.6 million in Q1 2020, a drop in revenue of RM13.3 million or approximately 85.3%. Despite the lower operating expenses due to lower payroll cost and the receipt of government subsidy allowances during the current quarter under review, the flow down effect of a substantially lower revenue resulted in the division recording a loss before tax of RM0.4 million in Q1 2021 compared to a profit before tax of RM26,000 in Q1 2020.

Financial Services

The Covid-19 pandemic has severely impacted economic activity globally, including Malaysia. Due to the adverse trading conditions brought by the pandemic, the division recorded lower revenue of RM0.5 million in Q1 2021 compared to RM1.6 million in Q1 2020. Both card & payment services unit and money services unit reported lower revenue during the quarter under review. The flow-down effect of lower revenue was mitigated by concerted effort to reduce operating cost. As a result, the division recorded a slightly lower loss before tax of RM1.1 million in Q1 2021 compared to a loss before tax of RM1.2 million in Q1 2020.

Others

The Others division registered minimal revenue of RM46,000 in Q1 2021 compared to the revenue of RM30,000 for Q1 2020. Both the bus-body fabrication and education units continued to show loss before tax totalling RM1.7 million in Q1 2021 compared to a loss of RM1.3 million in Q1 2020.

15. Comparison of results with immediate preceding quarter

	Quar	<u>ter</u>			
	3 months ended				
	<u>31.03.2021</u> <u>31.12.2020</u>		Variance		
	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	%	
Revenue	23,714	30,824	(7,110)	-23.1%	
Profit/(Loss) from operations	(6,464)	4,867	(11,331)	-232.8%	
Profit/(Loss) before tax	(7,992)	2,696	(10,688)	-396.4%	
Net profit/(loss) for the financial period Net profit/(loss) for the financial period	(8,554)	98	(8,652)	-8828.6%	
attributable to the Owners of the Parent	(8,596)	(1,786)	(6,810)	381.3%	

15. Comparison of results with immediate preceding quarter (Continued)

Overall performance

The Group recorded lower revenue of RM23.7 million for Q1 2021 compared to the revenue of RM30.8 million in the immediate preceding quarter ended 31 December 2020 ("Q4 2020"), a drop of RM7.1 million or approximately 23.1%. With the lower revenue and other operating income, the Group recorded loss before tax of RM8.0 million in Q1 2021 compared to profit before tax of RM2.7 million in Q4 2020. The lower other operating income in Q1 2021 was mainly attributable to the lower fair value gain assessed on the venture investment portfolio of RM1.3 million in Q1 2021 compared to RM7.1 million in Q4 2020 coupled with gain before tax on disposal of a land in Arosa, Switzerland, of RM6.6 million recognised in Q4 2020.

Investment Holding

The division reported loss before tax of RM2.0 million in Q1 2021 compared to a profit of RM8.9 million in Q4 2020. This was mainly attributable to the higher revenue of RM11.2 million in Q4 2020 compared to RM0.1 million in Q1 2021 as there was dividend from a subsidiary in Q4 2020 of RM10.5 million which had no impact to the Group. However in Q4 2020, there were impairment losses on receivables and goodwill compared to none in Q1 2021.

Hospitality

The lower revenue of RM2.7 million recorded by the division in Q1 2021 compared to revenue of RM3.7 million in Q4 2020 was mainly attributable to lower revenue from our hotels in Langkawi and Cherating.

The division recorded a higher loss before tax of RM5.1 million in Q1 2021 compared to a profit of RM4.8 million in Q4 2020. The Q4 2020 result included gain before tax on disposal of a land in Arosa, Switzerland of RM6.6 million.

Information & Communications Technology

The division registered slightly lower revenue of RM16.4 million in Q1 2021 compared to RM17.1 million in Q4 2020 mainly due to lower maintenance contract revenue recorded by GlobeOSS and Unifiedcomms BUs. With the lower revenue in the current quarter under review coupled with lower other operating income, the division reported lower profit before tax of RM2.9 million in Q1 2021 compared to the profit before tax of RM7.6 million in Q4 2020. The lower other operating income in Q1 2021 was mainly attributable to lower fair value gain assessed on the division's venture investment portfolio in the current quarter under review of RM0.3 million compared to RM6.1 million in the preceding quarter.

Property Development & Investment

Revenue of RM2.1 million was recorded in Q1 2021 compared to revenue of RM6.2 million recorded in Q4 2020. Despite lower revenue, the division recorded lower loss before tax of RM0.6 million in Q1 2021 compared to loss of RM0.9 million in the preceding quarter as the lower revenue was mitigated by the lower operating expenses in the current quarter under review.

15. Comparison of results with immediate preceding quarter (Continued)

Travel & Tours

The division recorded revenue of RM2.3 million in Q1 2021 compared to the revenue of RM2.9 million in Q4 2020 as a result of lower revenue from corporate ticketing during the quarter under review. Despite the lower revenue recorded in the current quarter under review, the division recorded a lower loss before tax of RM0.4 million in Q1 2021 compared to a loss before tax of RM0.5 million in the immediate preceding quarter mainly due to the provision of impairment on investment in associates of RM0.4 million in Q4 2020.

Financial Services

The Financial Services division comprising the card and payment services unit and money services unit recorded lower revenue of RM0.5 million in Q1 2021 compared to RM0.7 million in Q4 2020. The lower revenue was mainly due to lower revenue from card and payment services unit as a result of lower merchant transactions. Despite the lower revenue, the division reported lower loss before tax of RM1.1 million compared to a loss of RM1.7 million in Q4 2020 mainly due to lower operating expenses in Q1 2021 compared to Q4 2020 coupled with foreign exchange gain recognised in Q1 2021 as opposed to foreign exchange loss recognised in Q4 2020.

Others

The Others division recorded a lower revenue of RM46,000 in Q1 2021 compared to RM212,000 in Q4 2020. The division reported a lower loss before tax of RM1.7 million in Q1 compared to a loss of RM1.9 million in Q4 2020.

The lower loss before tax was mainly attributable to lower operating expenses for both bus-body fabrication and education units in Q1 2021 compared to Q4 2020.

16. Prospects

As we enter fiscal 2021, the Covid-19 pandemic continues to dominate the global landscape. However, the recovery forecasts by international bodies for Malaysia were encouraging and the Group had hoped to hasten the implementation of our business development plans, to in turn, deliver better Group financial performance. With the recent increase in Covid-19 infections and the continuing restrictions imposed, the earlier growth projections for Malaysia may be dampened. With uncertainty of economic recovery, the Group will continue to actively pursue measures to manage our operating costs and re-work on the future business plans to minimise any potential negative impact arising from the Covid-19 pandemic.

Hospitality

The outbreak of Covid-19 has adversely impacted the financial result of the hospitality division for fiscal 2020 and this will spill over into fiscal 2021 as economic recovery, the relaxation of travel restrictions and opening of borders are far from certain.

The recovery of bookings for the local meetings, incentives, conferences and exhibitions market segment remains highly uncertain as the Covid-19 pandemic may be prolonged coupled with the uncertainty of economic recovery. The division will place greater emphasis and be more aggressive and creative in marketing its packages to the respective local market of each country as it expects domestic demand to recover faster than international demand.

16. Prospects (Continued)

Hospitality (Continued)

The upgrading of our hotel in Cherating and the renovation of our aparthotel in Earls Court, London are underway and will continue during this expected slow period in 2021 in order to capitalise on the hotel/aparthotel once the industry recovers. There are also upgrading plans for Holiday Villa Beach Resort & Spa Langkawi which include among others, extension of existing ballroom and refurbishment of guest rooms.

As set out in Note 20 of this announcement, the expected completion of the Proposed Disposal by end of fiscal 2021 will provide the division with an opportunity to rationalise the operations to focus on assets investment and to have the flexibility to work with various hospitality providers to suit the needs and requirements of the target market for these assets.

Information & Communications Technology

The Covid-19 pandemic continued affecting many countries in the division's regions of focus reinstating movement and travel restrictions. Such restrictions have adversely affected many businesses. The uncertainty of economic recovery from the shock caused by Covid-19 and the prospect of a protracted economic slowdown or a slow recovery, especially in the division's regions of focus, have weighed on the division when considering the outlook for the remainder of the financial year.

Similar to fiscal 2020, the impact of Covid-19 on Unifiedcomms and GlobeOSS operations fortunately remained minimal. This is because these businesses operate primarily in the field of telecommunications, an essential service in any economy today. In addition, Unifiedcomms and GlobeOSS businesses have been made capable of fully-functioning under a work-from-home mode of operation, well ahead of movement control restrictions or lockdown orders being enforced. The division's primary customers in the Unifiedcomms and GlobeOSS businesses are telecommunications network operators and service providers that have continued to operate normally throughout Covid-19 restrictions, albeit remotely and through digital engagement, rather than face-to-face interaction. Contracts in-hand continue to be progressed and the division are hopeful that new projects and initiatives requiring our products and services, will continue to be pursued by customers in the year ahead. The possibility remains however, that larger system sale contracts that have yet to be committed in the current year, may be further deferred, or even abandoned entirely if macroeconomic and industry conditions do not improve significantly. Some managed service contracts of the division which are impacted by government restrictions or directives arising from COVID-19 policy measures, may meanwhile continue to show weaker performance.

At Captii Ventures, the division's venture investment business, the climate for either business development or funding continues to be challenging. Investment management activities to assist investees and protect our investments will continue to be the priority at Captii Ventures in the year ahead.

16. Prospects (Continued)

Information & Communications Technology (Continued)

Against this potentially negative macroeconomic backdrop for the future, the division remains optimistic and will continue to work closely with customers and investees, to minimise the negative impact of Covid-19-related developments on division's financial performance. The division continues to take an active and measured approach to managing risks to protect the division's people and assets, and will sustain these efforts until the pandemic resolves.

The division will further the work it has been doing to strengthen the division's managed service contract portfolio and will invest even more selectively in the venture investment business. Demand for internet-driven application services for enterprises, in the broad domain of fintech, as well as in internet and handset-app delivered digital media, have been heightened in the current environment. These areas will continue to be the focus for the division's venture investment activities, and is expected to complement the organic growth strategies of the Unifiedcomms and GlobeOSS businesses.

Property Development & Investment

The property development and investment division has obtained development approvals for Phase 2 of the Federal Park project and the Sejijak project. Phase 2 of the Federal Park project comprising 116 residential houses is expected to be launched in mid-2021. This will be followed by the launching of the Sejijak project comprising 208 units of residential houses in the following financial year.

The financial performance of the division in the year 2021 will also be complemented by sale of the remaining units of single- storey detached houses in Taman Sri Matang, Kuching and the shophouses under Phase 1 of the Federal Park Project although demand for shophouses is expected to be weak.

Once development works for both Jalan Sejijak and Federal Park projects commence, the division expects to be back on track on its earnings.

As a reputable niche player, the division will remain focused on its target market segment of medium to medium-low properties. Although the division expects the property market in Kuching to remain soft coupled with stringent financing requirements, with the right pricing and affordability for its development properties, the division is confident of the marketability of its properties to provide a steady income stream.

In year 2020, it commenced renovation of the two investment properties, Synergy 9 in Temasya Glenmarie, Selangor and Yap Ah Shak House in Kuala Lumpur, in which it has a 70% equity interest. Synergy 9 has been occupied by the Group to house the Company's corporate office and the operational headquarters of some Group subsidiaries. This investment property will generate recurring income for the division from fiscal 2021 onwards.

Yap Ah Shak House in Kuala Lumpur meanwhile, has been renovated and refurbished in 2021 to a high-quality mixed-use property comprising serviced- offices, meeting facilities, an event-space as well as two floors of food and beverage operation. This property is expected to be operational in the second quarter of 2021 and is expected to undergo a more protracted ramp-up period post-opening while the economic impact of and uncertainty brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic continues to linger.

16. Prospects (Continued)

Travel & Tours

Our Travel and Tours division has been most affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. With grounding of airplanes, closing of hotels and travel restrictions in many countries, the division saw a major dive in its business in fiscal 2020 and the division's performance in fiscal 2021 depends very much on the easing of travel restrictions and pattern of travel due to Covid-19 pandemic. However, its business plan to focus on building its corporate client base and the wholesale market segment of the ticketing business and in developing and adapting its products to sustain growth in the leisure and corporate group markets for both inbound and outbound travel and tours remains.

Financial Services

The emergence of Covid-19 outbreak in fiscal 2020 brought significant economic uncertainty in Malaysia and the markets in which Paydee Sdn Bhd, our card and payment services business, and Qurex Sdn Bhd ("Qurex"), a money services business, operate.

This division has been working closely with various new strategic partners to launch new payment services including e-commerce and new payment terminal solutions of its own to better address market needs and opportunities. The division is cautiously optimistic that the new product roadmap and business strategies will deliver positive results for the division in the coming years.

The outlook for Qurex in fiscal 2021 remains negative, with international business travel expected to remain constrained and significantly depressed. This division will continue to practise cost discipline while exploring opportunities to generate new sources of sustainable business.

Others

Our bus-body fabrication unit, Aviva Master Coach Technology Sdn. Bhd. ("Aviva") (formerly known as Quality Bus & Coach (M) Sdn Bhd), remains focused to ensure its production to be cost efficient and for timely delivery of buses.

Aviva buses are designed and fabricated in compliance with the internationally recognised safety standards. The unit has approval from Kementerian Perdagangan Dalam Negeri, Koperasi Dan Kepenggunaan to affix the "Barangan Buatan Malaysia" ("Product Made In Malaysia") logo on our locally designed bus models Autobus LF 12250, Autobus LF 10200 and Autobus SD 12300. Autobus is designed and built to internationally recognised safety standards.

Once the testing and certification for Aviva bus body are completed in Australia, the unit expects sale of buses to Australia to improve as its Australian customer is cautiously optimistic on the sale of buses in the year ahead. Although the Covid-19 pandemic has affected the business operations during the MCO, this has not derailed its business plan for the Australian market.

With the various measures put in place, our bus-body fabrication unit is cautiously optimistic that it is in a good position to manage the challenges in fiscal 2021.

Operations at our education unit continue to be adversely impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic and consequential MCO. The unit remains cautiously optimistic that the start of vaccination programmes locally and internationally will improve enrolment later in the year although any sustained recovery is not to be expected before 2022.

17. Board of Directors' opinion on revenue or profit estimate, forecast, projection or internal targets

The Group did not previously announce or disclose any revenue or profit estimate, forecast, projection or internal targets in a public document.

18. Profit variance and shortfall in profit guarantee

Not applicable.

19. Income tax expense

	3 months	Year-to-date
	ended	ended
	<u>31.03.2021</u>	<u>31.03.2021</u>
	RM'000	RM'000
On current quarter results		
- Corporate income tax	(562)	(562)

The effective income tax rate of the Group for the current quarter and year-to-date ended 31 March 2021 are higher than the statutory tax rate mainly due to certain expenses which are not deductible for taxation purpose and the non-availability of group relief for losses incurred by certain subsidiaries in the Group.

20. Status of corporate proposals

The status of corporate proposals announced but not completed as at the latest practicable date which must not be earlier than 7 days from the date of issue of the quarterly report are summarised below:

- (a) The Company announced on 8 August 2019 that Cherating Holiday Villa Berhad ("CHV"), an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, had on 8 August 2019 entered into a Sale and Purchase Agreement with Amanah Raya Berhad for CHV to buy back a resort hotel consisting of an administration building, hotel / apartment blocks, standard and individually designed chalets and villas and other ancillary buildings and structures known as Holiday Villa Cherating, measuring in aggregate area of approximately 42,634.7875 square metres for a buy back price of RM22,965,600.00 only free from all encumbrances and on an "as is where is" basis ("Proposed CHV Buyback"). Barring any unforeseen circumstances, the Proposed CHV Buyback is expected to be completed in the second half of year 2029.
- (b) The Company announced on 6 November 2020 that Mayor Hotels Sdn Bhd ("MHSB"), an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, had on 6 November 2020 entered into a sale and purchase agreement ("SPA") for M1 Plaza Sdn Bhd to purchase from MHSB the hotel property known as City Villa Kuala Lumpur located at No.69, Jalan Haji Hussein, Off Jalan Tuanku Abdul Rahman, 50300 Kuala Lumpur on "as is where is" basis for a total cash consideration of RM24,000,000 subject to the terms and conditions as stipulated in the SPA ("Proposed City Villa Disposal"). Barring any unforeseen circumstances, the Proposed City Villa Disposal is expected to be completed in the fourth quarter of 2024.

20. Status of corporate proposals (Continued)

- (c) The Company announced on 7 May 2021 that the below-mentioned direct or indirect subsidiaries of Alangka-Suka Hotels & Resorts Sdn Bhd ("ASHR"), a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, had on 7 May 2021 entered into the following agreements with Holiday Villa Hotels and Resorts Sdn Bhd ("HVHR") and/or Holiday Villas Hotels and Resorts Limited ("HVHRL") for disposal of management services agreements, licensing agreements and trademarks of ASHR Group ("Proposed Disposal") on "willing-buyer willing-seller" basis:-
 - Antara Holiday Villas Sdn Bhd, Holiday Villas International Limited and Holiday Villa Middle East Limited each entered into an agreement relating to the transfer of their respective contracts and/or trademarks and CHV entered into an agreement relating to the transfer of its trademarks, with HVHR or HVHRL (collectively referred to as "Agreements") for total cash consideration of RM7.0 million only, subject to the terms and conditions as stipulated in the Agreements. Barring any unforeseen circumstances, the Proposed Disposal is expected to be completed before the end of 2021 as announced by the Company on 10 May 2021.

21. Utilisation of proceeds from disposal of Helenium

The status of utilisation of proceeds raised from the disposal of the entire investment of 40% equity interest in Helenium Holdings Limited ("Helenium") by Synergy Realty Incorporated, an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, as at 31 March 2021 is as follows:

	Proposed Utilisation GBP'000	Utilisation to-date GBP'000	Balance unutilised GBP'000	Intended timeframe for Utilisation from 18.07.2019	Extended timeframe for Utilisation
Refurbishement of hotels and working capital	3,000	303	2,697	Within 12 months	Additional 24 months
Operating expenses of the Group	1,600	1,600	-	Within 12 months	-
Expenses for the disposal	150	145	5	Within 12 months	-
	4,750	2,048	2,702		

22. Utilisation of proceeds from disposal of Wisma Synergy

The status of utilisation of proceeds raised from the disposal of a property, Wisma Synergy, by AESBI Power Systems Sdn Bhd, an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, as at 31 March 2021 is as follows:

	Proposed Utilisation RM'000	Utilis ation to-date RM'000	Balance unutilised RM'000	Intended timeframe for Utilisation from 08.11.2019	Extended timeframe for Utilisation
Repayment of borrowings	61,340	61,336	4	Within 3 months	- Additional 24
Working capital of the Group	51,900	30,120	21,780	Within 12 months	months
Expenses for the disposal	10,760	10,760		Within 3 months	-
	124,000	102,216	21,784		

23. Utilisation of proceeds from disposal of Arosa Land

The status of utilisation of proceeds raised from the disposal of a land in Arosa, by Posthotel Arosa AG, an indirect 65%-owned subsidiary of the Company, as at 31 March 2021 is as follows:

UTILISATION OF PROCEEDS FROM DISPOSAL OF AROSA LAND

	Proposed Utilisation CHF'000	Utilis ation to-date CHF 000	Balance unutilised CHF'000	Intended timeframe for Utilisation from 04.12.2020
Working capital of the Group	5,300	103	5,197	Within 24 months
Expenses for the disposal	650	650	-	Within 12 months
	5,950	753	5,197	

24. Group borrowings

Details of the borrowings by the Group are as follows:

	As at 31.03.2021 RM'000	As at <u>31.12.2020</u> RM'000
Short term - secured		
- Term loans	4,973	5,757
- Bank overdraft	216	354
- Revolving credit	22,000	13,000
	27,189	19,111
Long term - secured		_
- Term loans	65,528	38,347
	65,528	38,347
Total borrowings	92,717	57,458

25. Financial Instruments

(a) Derivatives

The Group does not have any outstanding derivatives as at the date of this report.

(b) Gain/Loss arising from fair value changes of financial liabilities

There was no gain/loss arising from the fair value changes in financial liabilities for the current financial period.

26. Material litigation

There was no material litigation as at the latest practicable date which is a date not earlier than 7 days from the date of issue of the quarterly report.

27. Notes To The Statement of Comprehensive Income

Included in the profit/(loss) before tax are:

	3 months ended 31.03.2021 RM'000	3 months ended 31.03.2020 RM'000
Amortisation of intangible assets	(276)	(319)
Depreciation	(3,570)	(3,684)
Dividend received	9	-
Fair value change in fair value through profit or loss		
investment securities	1,318	(5)
Fair value change in held for trading investments	(1,027)	(60)
Fair value change in financial assets held for trading	-	8
Interest expenses	(1,548)	(1,209)
Interest income	344	566
Net (loss)/gain on disposal of:		
- fair value through profit or loss investment securities	(430)	-
- held for trading investments	527	-
Net unrealised loss on foreign exchange	(593)	(1,152)
Property, plant and equipment written off	(11)	-
Provision for retirement benefits plan	(56)	(79)

28. Dividend

The Board has on 28 April 2021 announced that the Company has proposed a single-tier dividend of 0.15 sen per ordinary share for the financial year ended 31 December 2020 subject to shareholders' approval at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting to be held on 30 June 2021.

29. Loss per share

Basic loss per share

The basic loss per share for the current quarter and current year-to-date are computed based on the Group's net loss attributable to equity holders of the Company of RM8,596,000 divided by the weighted average number of ordinary shares of 929,194,943 for the current quarter and current year-to-date respectively as follows:

	3 months ended 31.03.2021 31.03.2020		Year-to-da 31.03.2021	31.03.2020	
	No. of s	hares	No. of s	hares	
Issued / weighted average number of					
ordinary shares	929,194,943	929,194,943	929,194,943	929,194,943	
	3 months	s ended	Year-to-date ended		
	31.03.2021	31.03.2020	31.03.2021	31.03.2020	
Basic loss per share (sen)	(0.93)	(0.44)	(0.93)	(0.44)	
			_		
Diluted loss per share					
	3 months	s ended	Year-to-da	ate ended	
	31.03.2021	<u>31.03.2020</u>	31.03.2021	31.03.2020	
Diluted loss per share (sen)	(0.93)	(0.44)	(0.93)	(0.44)	

The basic and diluted loss per share are reported to be the same for the current quarter, current year-to-date, corresponding quarter last year and corresponding year-to-date last year as the Company has no dilutive potential shares.

30. Status of E-commerce activities

Not applicable.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
ADVANCE SYNERGY BERHAD

HO TSAE FENG Company Secretary 28 May 2021