BATU KAWAN BERHAD

196501000504 (6292-U) (Incorporated in Malaysia)

Interim Financial Report for the First Quarter ended 31 December 2023

(Incorporated in Malaysia)

Directors are pleased to announce the unaudited financial results of the Group for the first quarter ended 31 December 2023.

Condensed Consolidated Statement of Profit or Loss For the First Quarter ended 31 December 2023

(The figures have not been audited.)

	Individual	Quarter		Cumulative	Quarter	
	3 months	ended	_	3 months		
	31 Dece	mber		31 Decer	mber	
	2023	2022	+/(-)	2023	2022	+/(-)
	RM'000	RM'000	%	RM'000	RM'000	%
Revenue	5,832,503	6,988,313	(16.5)	5,832,503	6,988,313	(16.5)
Operating expenses	(5,472,547)	(6,550,910)	(16.5)	(5,472,547)	(6,550,910)	(16.5)
Other operating income	149,091	294,983	(49.5)	149,091	294,983	(49.5)
Finance costs	(115,464)	(110,368)	4.6	(115,464)	(110,368)	4.6
Net impairment losses on						
financial assets	(7,530)	(534)	*	(7,530)	(534)	*
Share of results of associates	5,152	2,395	*	5,152	2,395	*
Share of results of joint ventures	(1,376)	9,142	N/M	(1,376)	9,142	N/M
Profit before taxation	389,829	633,021	(38.4)	389,829	633,021	(38.4)
Taxation	(120,493)	(125,624)	(4.1)	(120,493)	(125,624)	(4.1)
NET PROFIT FOR THE PERIOD	269,336	507,397	(46.9)	269,336	507,397	(46.9)
Profit attributable to:						
Equity holders of the Company	111,736	235,304	(52.5)	111,736	235,304	(52.5)
Non-controlling interests	157,600	272,093	(42.1)	157,600	272,093	(42.1)
	269,336	507,397	(46.9)	269,336	507,397	(46.9)
Earnings per share for profit attributable to equity holders of the Company (sen)						
Basic	28.4	59.8	_	28.4	59.8	
Diluted	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	

^{*} More than 100%

N/M - Not meaningful

N/A - Not applicable

Condensed Consolidated Statement of Other Comprehensive Income For the First Quarter ended 31 December 2023

	Individual	Quarter	Cumulative Quarter			
	3 months 31 Dece		3 months 31 Dece			
	2023 RM'000	2022 RM'000	2023 RM'000	2022 RM'000		
Net profit for the period	269,336	507,397	269,336	507,397		
Other comprehensive income/(loss)						
that will be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss						
Currency translation differences	39,410	(287,479)	39,410	(287,479)		
Other comprehensive income/(loss) that will not be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss						
Net change in fair value of equity instrument	909	(9,046)	909	(9,046)		
Remeasurement of defined benefit plans	(34)	-	(34)	-		
	875	(9,046)	875	(9,046)		
Total other comprehensive income/(loss)						
for the period	40,285	(296,525)	40,285	(296,525)		
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME						
FOR THE PERIOD	309,621	210,872	309,621	210,872		
Total comprehensive income attributable to:						
Equity holders of the Company	134,998	109,218	134,998	109,218		
Non-controlling interests	174,623	101,654	174,623	101,654		
	309,621	210,872	309,621	210,872		

Condensed Consolidated Statement of Financial Position As at 31 December 2023

	At	At
	31	30
	December	September
	2023	2023
	RM'000	RM'000
ASSETS		
Non-current assets		
Property, plant & equipment	13,560,082	13,434,647
Right-of-use assets	1,385,586	1,386,506
Investment properties	32,042	30,372
Inventories	2,012,619	2,012,424
Goodwill on consolidation	472,619	461,665
Intangible assets	104,356	110,144
Investments in associates	2,785,586	2,317,427
Investments in joint ventures	275,778	242,282
Other investments	831,222	922,278
Other receivables	399,986	401,069
Deferred tax assets	516,671	492,716
Derivative financial assets	1,130	1,249
	22,377,677	21,812,779
Current assets		
Inventories	3,136,533	3,038,795
Biological assets	155,709	222,324
Trade and other receivables	3,653,360	3,638,516
Contract assets	69,608	74,489
Tax recoverable	251,257	236,006
Derivative financial assets	69,468	48,152
Short term funds	162,084	119,415
Cash and cash equivalents	2,851,908	2,717,057
	10,349,927	10,094,754
TOTAL ASSETS	32,727,604	31,907,533

Condensed Consolidated Statement of Financial Position As at 31 December 2023

	At	At
	31	30
	December	September
	2023	2023
	RM'000	RM'000
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities		
Trade and other payables	2,186,770	2,088,432
Contract liabilities	139,399	135,224
Deferred income	8,578	8,656
Lease liabilities	27,346	28,306
Borrowings	2,957,067	2,894,693
Tax payable	60,572	42,022
Derivative financial liabilities	55,798	62,165
Dividend payable	382,880	=
	5,818,410	5,259,498
Net current assets	4,531,517	4,835,256
Non-current liabilities		
Deferred tax liabilities	1,154,091	1,146,043
Lease liabilities	151,137	155,219
Deferred income	·	•
	79,581	81,633
Provision for retirement benefits	560,857	552,739
Derivative financial liabilities	248	21
Borrowings	7,829,132	7,514,568
-	9,775,046	9,450,223
Total liabilities	15,593,456	14,709,721
Net assets	17,134,148	17,197,812
Equity attributable to owners of the Company		
Share capital	507,587	507,587
Reserves	7,437,160	7,459,437
	7,944,747	7,967,024
Less: Cost of treasury shares	(113,109)	(113,109)
Total equity attributable to equity holders of the Company	7,831,638	7,853,915
Non-controlling interests	9,302,510	9,343,897
Total equity	17,134,148	17,197,812
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES	32,727,604	31,907,533
Net assets per share attributable to		
equity holders of the Company (RM)	19.91	19.97

(Incorporated in Malaysia)

Condensed Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity For the First Quarter ended 31 December 2023

	◆ Attributable to equity holders of the Company								
	Share capital	Treasury shares	Capital reserve	Exchange fluctuation reserve	Fair value reserve	Retained earnings	Total	Non- controlling interests	Total equity
	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000
At 1 October 2023	507,587	(113,109)	940,754	352,940	553,048	5,612,695	7,853,915	9,343,897	17,197,812
Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the period	-	-	55	22,886	(1,160)	113,217	134,998	174,623	309,621
Transactions with owners:	_								
Redemption of redeemable preference shares	-	-	525	-	-	(525)	-	-	-
Effect of changes in shareholdings in subsidiaries	-	-	-	-	-	77	77	21,858	21,935
Dividend Payable - FY2023 final	-	-	-	-	-	(157,352)	(157,352)	-	(157,352)
Dividends paid to non-controlling interests	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(12,340)	(12,340)
Dividends payable to non-controlling interests	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(225,528)	(225,528)
	-	-	525	-	-	(157,800)	(157,275)	(216,010)	(373,285)
At 31 December 2023	507,587	(113,109)	941,334	375,826	551,888	5,568,112	7,831,638	9,302,510	17,134,148

(Incorporated in Malaysia)

Condensed Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity For the First Quarter ended 31 December 2023

	Attributable to equity holders of the Company				, ——					
	Share capital	Treasury shares	Capital reserve	Exchange fluctuation reserve	Fair value reserve	Other reserve	Retained earnings	Total	Non- controlling interests	Total equity
	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000
At 1 October 2022	507,587	(109,400)	934,853	181,402	579,179	-	5,573,565	7,667,186	9,264,281	16,931,467
Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the period	-	-	2,558	(119,153)	(4,555)	-	230,368	109,218	101,654	210,872
Transactions with owners:										
Issuance of shares to non-controlling interests	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(51)	(51)
Shares buy back	-	(3,709)	-	-	-	-	-	(3,709)	-	(3,709)
Dividend payable - FY2022 final	-	-	-	-	-	-	(354,043)	(354,043)	-	(354,043)
Dividends paid to non-controlling interests	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(3,521)	(3,521)
Dividends payable to non-controlling interests	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(450,832)	(450,832)
	-	(3,709)	-	-	-	-	(354,043)	(357,752)	(454,404)	(812,156)
At 31 December 2022	507,587	(113,109)	937,411	62,249	574,624	-	5,449,890	7,418,652	8,911,531	16,330,183

Condensed Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows As at 31 December 2023

(• 3	3 months ended 31 December		
	2023	2022	
	RM'000	RM'000	
Cash flows from operating activities			
Profit before taxation	389,829	633,021	
Adjustments for:			
Non-cash items	298,932	212,061	
Non-operating items	77,958	75,524	
Operating cash flows before changes in working capital	766,719	920,606	
Changes in working capital			
Net change in current assets	(45,242)	(20,881)	
Net change in current liabilities	23,588	(228,217)	
Cash flows generated from operations	745,065	671,508	
Interest received	2,006	2,508	
Interest paid	(66,588)	(53,565)	
Tax paid	(137,126)	(171,508)	
Retirement benefits paid	(10,806)	(11,102)	
Net cash flows generated from operating activities	532,551	437,841	
Coch flows from investing activities			
Cash flows from investing activities	(409 504)	(220 201)	
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(408,504)	(338,381)	
Purchase of right-of-use assets	(15,752)	(2,929)	
Property development expenditure Purchase of shares in associates	(195)	(862)	
	(434,592)	(16,050)	
Purchase of shares in joint ventures	(11,396)	(2,179)	
Purchase of shares from non-controlling interests Development of Investment property	(1 602)	(51)	
Development of Investment property Purchase of other investments	(1,682)	(00.100)	
	(110)	(99,190)	
Purchase of intangible assets	(118)	(176)	
Proceeds from disposal of property, plant and equipment	12,677	1,463	
Compensation from government on land acquired	12,777	42,036	
Proceeds from disposal of subsidiaries	21,934	-	
Proceeds from disposal of other investments	107,406	-	
Proceeds from capital reduction from an associate	2,498	47.040	
Repayment from joint ventures	(45.004)	47,012	
Advances to investee companies	(15,081)	(756)	
Net withdrawal of short term funds	(41,958)	(29,166)	
Increase in other receivables	(956)	(3,938)	
Dividends received	14,216	11,037	
Interest received	26,189	14,675	
Net cash flows used in investing activities	(732,537)	(377,455)	

Condensed Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows As at 31 December 2023

(The ligates have not been addition)	3 months ended 31 December		
	2023	2022	
	RM'000	RM'000	
Cash flows from financing activities			
Drawdown of term loans	517,553	115,086	
Repayment of Islamic Medium Term Notes	-	(139,767)	
Repayment of term loans	(221,213)	-	
Lease payments	(6,143)	(4,976)	
Net drawdown of short term borrowings	153,612	318,304	
Dividends paid to non-controlling interests	(12,340)	(3,521)	
Shares buy back	=	(3,709)	
Net cash flows from financing activities	431,469	281,417	
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	231,483	341,803	
Effects of exchange rate changes	(12,503)	(60,315)	
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	2,632,928	3,031,289	
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	2,851,908	3,312,777	
Cook and each aguit cleate at 21 December is represented by			
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December is represented by:	052.440	094 460	
Deposits with licensed banks	853,448	981,469	
Money market funds Cash and bank balances	900,979	1,353,541	
Bank overdrafts	1,097,481	1,172,651	
שמוג טיפוטומונס	2,851,908	(194,884) 3,312,777	
	2,031,900	3,312,171	

Notes to Interim Financial Report

A. Explanatory Notes as required by Malaysian Financial Reporting Standard ("MFRS") 134

A1. Statement of compliance

The interim financial report is unaudited and has been prepared in compliance with Malaysian Financial Reporting Standard ("MFRS") 134 *Interim Financial Reporting*, issued by the Malaysian Accounting Standards Board and paragraph 9.22 of the Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad's ("Bursa Securities") Main Market Listing Requirements.

A2. Accounting policies

The Interim Financial Report should be read in conjunction with the audited financial statements of the Group for the financial year ended 30 September 2023. 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 year ended 30 September 2023 except for the adoption of the following standards, interpretation and amendments to MFRSs:

New MFRS and Amendments to MFRSs effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2023

- MFRS 17 Insurance Contracts
- Amendments to MFRS 17 Insurance Contracts
- Initial Application of MFRS 17 and MFRS 9 Comparative Information (Amendments to MFRS 17 Insurance Contracts)
- Disclosure of Accounting Policies (Amendments to MFRS 101 Presentation of Financial Statements)
- Definition of Accounting Estimates (Amendments to MFRS 108 Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors)
- Deferred Tax related to Assets and Liabilities arising from a Single Transaction (Amendments to MFRS 112 Income Taxes)

The application of these amendments to MFRSs has no significant effect to the financial statements of the Group.

A3. Seasonal and cyclical operations

The Group's plantation operations are affected by seasonal crop production, weather conditions and fluctuations in commodity prices.

A4. Unusual items

There were no items affecting the assets, liabilities, equity, net income, or cash flows that are unusual because of their nature, size, or incidence.

A5. Material changes in estimates

There were no significant changes in the amounts of estimates reported in prior interim periods or prior financial years that have a material effect in the current interim period.

A6. Issuance and repayment of debt and equity securities

There were no issuances and repayments of debt securities, share buybacks, share cancellations or resale of treasury shares during the quarter ended 31 December 2023.

A7. Dividends paid

No dividend had been paid during the current guarter ended 31 December 2023 (31 December 2022: Nil).

A8. Segment information

Segment information is presented in respect of the Group's reportable segments which are based on the Group's management and internal reporting structure.

a) Segment revenue and results

	Plantation	Manufacturing	Property Development	Holding/ Others	Elimination	Consolidated
2	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000
3 months ended 31 December 2023						
Revenue						
External revenue	967,617	4,652,769	70,325	141,792	_	5,832,503
Inter-segment revenue	439,969	8,111	-	22,749	(470,829)	5,052,505
Total revenue	1,407,586	4,660,880	70,325	164,541	(470,829)	5,832,503
Results						
Operating results	378,936	74,856	13,066	46,792	(12,133)	501,517
Finance costs	(4,336)	(36,859)	(978)	(85,424)	12,133	(115,464)
Share of results of						
associates	1,332	3,729	(1)	92	-	5,152
Share of results of						
joint ventures		(1,435)	-	59	-	(1,376)
Segment results	375,932	40,291	12,087	(38,481)	-	389,829
Profit before taxation						389,829
3 months ended						
31 December 2022						
Revenue						
External revenue	997,577	5,766,299	30,955	193,482	-	6,988,313
Inter-segment revenue	390,048	8,816	-	75,158	(474,022)	-
Total revenue	1,387,625	5,775,115	30,955	268,640	(474,022)	6,988,313
Results						
Operating results	342,881	322,781	9,646	70,783	(14,239)	731,852
Finance costs	(5,068)	,	(481)	(84,051)	14,239	(110,368)
Share of results of	(0,000)	(00,007)	(.0.)	(0.,00.)	,200	(1.10,000)
associates	536	1,874	(51)	36	_	2,395
Share of results of	330	1,374	(31)	30		2,333
joint ventures	_	4,707		4,435	_	9,142
Segment results	338,349	294,355	9,114	(8,797)		633,021
Cog.non. roomo	330,349	204,000	5,114	(0,191)		050,021
Profit before taxation						633,021
						,

b) Segment assets

			Property	Investment Holding/	
	Plantation	Manufacturing	Development	Others	Consolidated
	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000
At 31 December 2023					
Operating assets	11,798,241	11,644,977	2,773,230	2,681,864	28,898,312
Associates	30,385	104,009	5,306	2,645,886	2,785,586
Joint ventures		63,997	-	211,781	275,778
Segment assets	11,828,626	11,812,983	2,778,536	5,539,531	31,959,676
Tax assets					767,928
Total assets					32,727,604
At 30 September 2023					
Operating assets	11,685,333	11,470,924	2,716,803	2,746,042	28,619,102
Associates	29,052	99,630	7,805	2,180,940	2,317,427
Joint ventures		66,063	-	176,219	242,282
Segment assets	11,714,385	11,636,617	2,724,608	5,103,201	31,178,811
Tax assets					728,722
Total assets					31,907,533

c) Segment liabilities

			Property	Investment Holding/	
	Plantation	Manufacturing	Development	Others	Consolidated
	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000
At 31 December 2023					
Segment liabilities	1,197,958	4,235,435	304,407	8,258,113	13,995,913
Tax liabilities					1,214,663
Dividend payable					382,880
Total liabilities					15,593,456
At 30 September 2023					
Segment liabilities	1,305,344	4,298,902	279,233	7,638,177	13,521,656
Tax liabilities					1,188,065
Total liabilities					14,709,721

A9. Material Event Subsequent to Reporting Date

On 5 February 2024, the Company's subsidiary, Kuala Lumpur Kepong Berhad ("KLK"), served a notice of unconditional voluntary take-over offer on the Board of Directors of KLK Sawit Nusantara Berhad ("KSN") informing KLK's intention to acquire all the remaining 40,238,161 ordinary shares in KSN, representing approximately 4.57% of the total issued shares of KSN, not already held by KLK for a cash offer price of RM3.42 per share.

The acquisition will not have any material effect on the Company's share capital, the shareholdings of the Company's substantial shareholders, the net assets and the gearing of the Group nor the earnings of the Group for the financial year ending 30 September 2024.

A10. Changes in composition of the Group

There were no other changes in the composition of the Group arising from business combinations, acquisition or disposal of subsidiaries and long term investments, restructurings and discontinued operations during the current quarter under review except for the following:

- (a) On 12 September 2023, the Company's subsidiary, Kuala Lumpur Kepong Berhad ("KLK"), entered into a share sale agreement with Alami Commodities Sdn Bhd to dispose 35% of equity share in a wholly-owned subsidiary, KLK Golden Oils Sdn Bhd ("KLKGO"), for a cash consideration of RM21.9 million. After completion of disposal of shares on 6 December 20223, KLK's shareholdings in KLKGO decreased to 65%.
- (b) On 19 December 2023, the Company's wholly-owned subsidiary, Whitmore Holdings Sdn Bhd ("WHSB") had disposed the following companies to a group subsidiary, KLK Plantations and Trading Pte Ltd ("KLKPT"):
 - (i) 92% equity interest in PT Satu Sembilan Delapan ("SSD") for cash consideration of RM262.7 million; and
 - (ii) 90% equity interest in PT Tekukur Indah ("TKI") for cash consideration of RM12.4 million.

SSD is a limited liability company duly established and existing under the laws of the Republic of Indonesia. The principal activities of SSD are the operation of oil palm plantations and a palm oil mill in Berau region, Indonesia.

TKI is a limited liability company duly established and existing under the laws of the Republic of Indonesia. The principal activity of TKI is the operation of oil palm plantations in Berau region, Indonesia.

The restructuring will streamline and consolidate the plantation estates of the Group. The strategic proximity of SSD and TKI with KLK Group's existing estates will provide synergies and boost operational efficiencies of KLK Group's operations in East Kalimantan. Furthermore, SSD and TKI will be the source of feedstock for KLK Group's upcoming refinery and oleo complex in East Kalimantan due to its proximity.

These changes in composition of the Group will not have any material effect on the Company's share capital, the shareholding of the Company's substantial shareholders, the net assets and the gearing of the Group nor the earnings of the Group for the financial year ending 30 September 2024.

A11. Changes in contingent liabilities and contingent assets

There were no material changes in the contingent liabilities or contingent assets since the last annual financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2023.

A12. Capital commitments

At the end of the reporting period, the Group's capital commitments were as follows:

	At	At
	31	30
	December 2023	September 2023
	RM'000	RM'000
Capital expenditure		
Approved and contracted	1,133,577	1,018,306
Approved but not contracted	1,197,615	1,579,127
	2,331,192	2,597,433
Joint venture		_
Share of capital commitment of a joint venture	39,810	31,194

A13. Significant Related Party Transactions

The significant related party transactions set out below were carried out in the normal course of business and on terms and conditions not more materially different from those obtainable in transactions with unrelated parties.

		3 months 31 Dece	
		2023 RM'000	2022 RM'000
a)	Transactions with associates and joint ventures:		
	Sales of goods	77,214	230,496
	Purchase of goods	377,005	496,618
	Service charges paid	418	354
	Research and development services paid	2,370	2,130
b)	Transactions with companies in which certain Directors are common directors and/or have direct or deemed interest: Sales of goods		
	Chlor-Al Chemical Pte Ltd	7,242	5,120
	Taiko Acid Works Sdn Bhd	2,386	3,007
	Taiko Marketing (S) Pte Ltd	9,924	463
	Taiko Marketing Sdn Bhd	42,635	64,945
	Storage tanks rental received	•	•
	Taiko Marketing Sdn Bhd	1,226	1,123
	Purchases of goods	•	
	Borneo Taiko Clay Sdn Bhd	1,801	1,733
	Bukit Katho Estate Sdn Bhd	2,355	2,289
	Chlor-Al Chemical Pte Ltd	32,854	-
	Kampar Rubber & Tin Co Sdn Bhd	3,012	3,063
	Ladang Tai Tak (Kota Tinggi) Sdn Bhd	12,419	3,113
	Malay Rubber Plantations (M) Sdn Bhd	3,866	3,724
	PT Agro Makmur Abadi	25,771	21,768
	PT Java Taiko Mineralindo	800	123
	PT Safari Riau	12,275	12,918
	Taiko Clay Marketing Sdn Bhd	1,516	1,893
	Taiko Drum Industries Sdn Bhd	569	513
	Taiko Marketing (S) Pte Ltd	-	11,425
	Taiko Marketing Sdn Bhd	13,612	16,847
	Management fees paid		
	Farming Management Services Pty Ltd	804	712

	3 months ended 31 December		
	2023 RM'000	2022 RM'000	
 Transactions between subsidiaries and their non-controlling interests: Sales of goods 			
Mitsui & Co Ltd	112,839	131,531	
Mitsui & Co (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd	3,327	-	
Mitsui & Co (USA) Sdn Bhd	1,764	-	
Purchases of goods			
PT Tanjung Bina Lestari	-	3,426	
PT Kimia Tirta Utama	-	22,430	
PT Sawit Asahan Indah	-	2,553	
PT Tanjung Sarana Lestari	340,125	352,520	
Rental of land	•	,	
PT Perkebunan Nusantara II	5,417	6,675	

B1. Detailed analysis of performance

1st Quarter FY2024 vs 1st Quarter FY2023

	Quarter Ended 31 December		
	2023		Changes
	RM'000	RM'000	%
Revenue	5,832,503	6,988,313	(16.5)
Segment results:			
Plantation	375,932	338,349	11.1
Manufacturing	40,291	294,355	(86.3)
Property development	12,087	9,114	32.6
Investment holding/Others	(38,481)	(8,797)	N/M
Profit before taxation	389,829	633,021	(38.4)

N/M - not meaningful

The Group's pre-tax profit for the current quarter was 38.4% lower at RM389.83 million (1Q2023: RM633.02 million) on a 16.5% lower revenue at RM5.83 billion (1Q2023: RM6.99 billion). Comments on the respective business segments are as follows:

Plantation's profit was 11.1% higher at RM375.93 million (1Q2023: RM338.35 million) mainly due to higher CPO and PK sales volume and lower CPO production cost, coupled with net gain of RM1.01 million (1Q2023: RM69.47 million net loss) from fair value changes on outstanding derivatives contracts. However, the increase in profit was partially offset by lower CPO and PK selling prices and fair value loss of RM9.50 million (1Q2023: RM6.61 million gain) on unharvested fresh fruit bunches valuation.

Manufacturing's profit dipped 86.3% to RM40.29 million (1Q2023: RM294.36 million profit) on the back of 19.3% lower revenue at RM4.65 billion (1Q2023: RM5.77 billion) mainly due to loss incurred in the Oleochemical division from eroded profit margin and lower profit contributions from refineries and kernel crushing operations. Industrial Chemical division's profit was 59.3% lower at RM16.90 million (1Q2023: RM41.50 million) from lower selling prices and sales volume coupled with higher production costs.

Property Development's profit was 32.6% at RM12.09 million (1Q2023: RM9.11 million) supported by higher revenue at RM70.33 million (1Q2023: RM30.96 million).

Included in **Investment Holdings/Others** were unrealised foreign currency exchange translation gain of RM4.70 million (1Q2023: RM60.01 million loss) on inter-company loans and bank deposits denominated in foreign currencies and a surplus on sale of land and government acquisition amounted to RM17.67 million (1Q2023: RM42.69 million surplus). Farming sector recorded lower profit of RM7.65 million (1Q2023: RM62.74 million profit) on lower sales volume from lower crop production which was affected by adverse weather condition.

B2. Comparison of current quarter's results to the preceding quarter 1st Quarter FY2024 vs 4th Quarter FY2023

	Quarter	Quarter Ended	
	31	30	
	December	September	
	2023	2023	Changes
	RM'000	RM'000	%
Revenue	5,832,503	6,003,527	(2.8)
Segment results:			
Plantation	375,932	426,042	(11.8)
Manufacturing	40,291	(84,119)	*
Property development	12,087	14,784	(18.2)
Investment holding/Others	(38,481)	(170,976)	N/M
Profit before taxation	389,829	185,731	*

^{*} More than 100% N/M - not meaningful

For the current quarter, the Group's pre-tax profit jumped more than two-fold to RM389.83 million as compared to RM185.73 million reported in the preceding quarter, despite slightly lower revenue at RM5.83 billion (4Q2023: RM6.00 billion). Comments on the respective business segments are as follows:

Notwithstanding the flat CPO selling price, **Plantation's** profit was 11.8% lower at RM375.93 million (4Q2023: RM426.04 million) mainly from higher CPO production cost and a fair value loss of RM9.50 million (4Q2023: RM34.77 fair value gain) on unharvested fresh fruit bunches valuation. However, the decrease in profit was mitigated by higher CPO and PK sales volumes coupled with higher PK selling price.

Despite 6.2% lower revenue at RM4.65 billion (4Q2023: RM4.96 billion), **Manufacturing** segment returned to a profit before tax of RM40.29 million (4Q2023: RM84.12 million loss) mainly due to higher profit reported by refineries and kernel crushing operations and lesser loss from the Oleochemical division. Industrial Chemical division's profit was 13.8% lower at RM16.90 million (4Q2023: RM19.60 million) from lower sales volume and higher production costs.

Property Development's profit decreased 18.2% to RM12.09 million (4Q2023: RM14.78 million) mainly due to recognition of profit from phases with lower gross margin, despite 3.4% higher revenue of RM70.33 million (4Q2023: RM68.01 million).

Included in **Investment Holdings/Others** were unrealised foreign currency exchange translation gain of RM5.24 million (4Q2023: RM52.25 million loss) on inter-company loans denominated in foreign currencies, surplus of RM17.67 million (4Q2023: RM3.82 million surplus) from sale of land and government acquisitions; and Farming sector reported a profit of RM7.65 million (4Q2023: RM12.01 million loss) on harvest and sales of crop. Previous quarter also recorded a share of equity loss of RM24.61 million from an overseas associate, Synthomer plc.

B3. Prospects

Crude palm oil ("CPO") prices may likely trend above RM3,800/mt next quarter underpinned by anticipated effect of El-Nino reducing production and expected tightening stocks during Ramadhan season. The Group's Plantation segment remains focused on improving productivity and yields through various site-specific strategies.

The Group's Manufacturing segment, especially Oleochemical division which reported weak results, continues to face soft consumer demand, high interest rates and competitive pressures apart from on-going geopolitical uncertainties impacting global trade. Nevertheless, the Oleochemical division expects stronger consumer demand in Europe and South-East Asia the next quarter, and the division continues to focus on both plant utilisation and costs to enhance profitability. Product prices for the Group's Industrial Chemical division have fallen due to weaker regional demand but higher plant operating rates are anticipated with resumption of demand from a major customer. While raw material prices have moderated, energy costs are likely to remain elevated.

Overall, the Group is cautiously optimistic about its financial performance for the financial year 2024, with the anticipated recovery of the Manufacturing segment.

B4. Variance of actual profit from forecast profit

The Group did not issue any forecast profit or profit guarantee during the current financial year to-date.

B5. Taxation

	Individual	Individual Quarter		Cumulative Quarter		
	3 months	3 months ended		ended		
	31 Dec	ember	31 December			
	2023	2022	2023	2022		
	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000		
Current tax expenses						
Malaysian taxation	49,403	52,240	49,403	52,240		
Overseas taxation	77,322	54,462	77,322	54,462		
	126,725	106,702	126,725	106,702		
(Over)/Under provision of taxation in respect of previous years						
Malaysian taxation	(6)	(1,402)	(6)	(1,402)		
Overseas taxation	13,004	15,529	13,004	15,529		
	12,998	14,127	12,998	14,127		
Deferred tax Origination and reversal of						
temporary differences Under/(Over) provision in	(19,740)	16,289	(19,740)	16,289		
respect of previous years	510	(11,494)	510	(11,494)		
•	(19,230)	4,795	(19,230)	4,795		
	120,493	125,624	120,493	125,624		

Reconciliation of effective taxation

	Individual Quarter		Cumulative Quarter		
•	3 months	ended	3 months	ended	
	31 Dece	ember	31 December		
	2023 2022		2023	2022	
	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	
5 60 6		000 004	000 000	000 004	
Profit before taxation	389,829	633,021	389,829	633,021	
Taxation at Malaysia income tax rate of					
24% (FY2022: 24%)	93,559	151,925	93,559	151,925	
Effect of different tax rates in foreign					
jurisdiction	(7,112)	(11,648)	(7,112)	(11,648)	
Withholding tax on foreign dividend and					
interest income	11,292	4,423	11,292	4,423	
Expenses not deductible for tax purposes	25,656	31,858	25,656	31,858	
Tax exempt and non-taxable income	(28,658)	(29,949)	(28,658)	(29,949)	
Tax incentives	(1,309)	(2,424)	(1,309)	(2,424)	
Deferred tax assets not					
recognised during the period	2,431	656	2,431	656	
Utilisation of previously unrecognised					
tax losses and unabsorbed capital allowances	(1,467)	(20,716)	(1,467)	(20,716)	
Tax effect on associates' and					
joint ventures' results	(906)	(2,769)	(906)	(2,769)	
Under provision of tax expense in respect					
of previous years	12,998	14,127	12,998	14,127	
Under/(Over) provision of deferred tax in respect					
of previous years	510	(11,494)	510	(11,494)	
Others	13,499	1,635	13,499	1,635	
Tax expense	120,493	125,624	120,493	125,624	

B6. Status of corporate proposals

There were no corporate proposals announced.

B7. Group borrowings

As at the end of the reporting period, the Group's borrowings were as follows:

		At 31 December 2023								
		Long Te	erm		Short Ter	rm		Total Borro	otal Borrowings	
	Fo	Foreign RM			Foreign	RM	Foreign		RM	
	Deno	mination	Denomination	Dei	nomination	Denomination	Denomination		Denomination	
		'000	RM'000		'000	RM'000		'000	RM'000	
Secured										
Term Loans	Euro	1,023	5,189	Euro	1,496	7,586	Euro	2,519	12,775	
Unsecured										
Revolving credit		-	-	Euro	80,000	405,720	Euro	80,000	405,720	
		-	-	AUD	17,000	53,205	AUD	17,000	53,205	
		-	-	GBP	68,500	400,718	GBP	68,500	400,718	
	USD	13,545	62,402	USD	14,290	65,736	USD	27,835	128,138	
		-	-		-	95,000		-	95,000	
Trade financing		-	-	USD	28,389	130,446	USD	28,389	130,446	
		-	-	Euro	28,315	143,599	Euro	28,315	143,599	
		-	-		-	1,212,229		-	1,212,229	
Term loans		-	-	USD	30,000	137,850	USD	30,000	137,850	
	Euro	32,935	167,028	Euro	1,479	7,500	Euro	34,414	174,528	
		-	-	AUD	1,326	4,149	AUD	1,326	4,149	
		-	-	RMB	70,000	45,304	RMB	70,000	45,304	
		-	1,494,513		-	123,301		-	1,617,814	
Banker's acceptance		-	-		-	124,724		-	124,724	
Islamic medium										
term notes		-	6,100,000		-	-		-	6,100,000	
Total		-	7,829,132		-	2,957,067		-	10,786,199	

		At 31 December 2022							
	Long Term				Short Te	rm	Total Borrowings		
	Foreign RM		RM	F	oreign	RM		Foreign	RM
	Deno	mination	Denomination	Den	omination	Denomination	De	nomination	Denomination
		'000	RM'000		'000	RM'000		'000	RM'000
<u>Secured</u>									
Term Loans	Euro	1,869	8,812	Euro	1,269	5,985	Euro	3,138	14,797
<u>Unsecured</u>									
Bank overdraft		-	-	Euro	41,332	194,884	Euro	41,332	194,884
Revolving credit		-	-	Euro	45,000	212,180	Euro	45,000	212,180
		-	-	AUD	23,000	69,037	AUD	23,000	69,037
		-	-	GBP	27,000	143,899	GBP	27,000	143,899
		-	-		-	69,800		-	69,800
Trade financing		-	-	USD	72,009	317,200	USD	72,009	317,200
		-	-		-	533,692		-	533,692
Term loans	USD	42,650	187,969	USD	46,550	205,403	USD	89,200	393,372
	Euro	30,000	141,453	Euro	29,000	136,855	Euro	59,000	278,308
		-	-	RMB	103,000	65,776	RMB	103,000	65,776
		-	1,214,690		-	3,492		-	1,218,182
Banker's acceptance		-	-	USD	1,582	6,956	USD	1,582	6,956
		-	-		-	595,178		-	595,178
Islamic medium									
term notes		-	6,100,000		-	500,000		-	6,600,000
Total		-	7,652,924		-	3,060,337		-	10,713,261

	At 31 December			
Exchange Rates Applied	2023	2022		
USD / RM	4.5950	4.4050		
Euro / RM	5.0715	4.7151		
RMB / RM	0.6472	0.6386		
GBP / RM	5.8499	5.3296		
AUD / RM	3.1297	3.0016		

B8. Derivative financial instruments

The Group has entered into forward foreign exchange contracts as hedges for committed sales and purchases denominated in foreign currencies. The hedging of the foreign currencies is to minimise the exposure of the Group to fluctuations in foreign exchange on receipts and payments.

The commodity future contracts are entered into with the objective of managing and hedging the Group's exposure to the adverse price movements in the vegetable oil commodities.

The interest rate swap contracts are entered into to convert floating rate liabilities to fixed rate liabilities to reduce the Group's exposure from adverse fluctuations in interest rates on underlying debt instruments.

The commodity swap contracts are entered into with the objective of managing and hedging the Group's exposure to the adverse price movement in the methane gas futures.

As at 31 December 2023, the values and maturity analysis of the outstanding derivatives of the Group are as follows:

Contract / Notional value Net long/(short)	Fair value Net gains/(losses)
RM'000	RM'000
(1,644,636)	21,207
99,155	(4,983)
7,328	272
8,639	507
6,714	623
(8,900) (1,071)	(2,826) (248)
	Notional value Net long/(short) RM'000 (1,644,636) 99,155 7,328 8,639 6,714 (8,900)

Derivative financial instruments are recognised at fair value on contract dates and are subsequently remeasured at fair value through profit or loss. The resulting gain or loss from the re-measurement is recognised in profit or loss.

For the period ended 31 December 2023, there have been no significant changes to the Group's exposure to credit risk, market risk and liquidity risk from the previous financial year. Since the previous financial year, there have been no changes to the Group's risk management objectives, policies and processes.

B9. Fair value changes of financial liabilities

The Group does not have any financial liabilities which are measured at fair value through profit or loss except for derivative financial instruments.

B10. Material Litigation

There was no pending material litigation as at the date of this report.

B11. Dividend

- a) The Directors do not recommend the payment of dividend for the first quarter ended 31 December 2023 (31 December 2022: Nil).
- b) Total dividend for the current financial year to-date is Nil (31 December 2022: Nil).

B12. Earnings Per Share

Basic earnings per share

The earnings per share is calculated by dividing the net profit for the period attributable to equity holders of the Company by the weighted average number of shares of the Company in issue during the period.

	Individual 3 months 31 Dec	ended	3 months ended 31 December		
	2023	2022	2023	2022	
Net profit for the period attributable to equity holders of the Company (RM'000)	111,736	235,304	111,736	235,304	
Weighted average number of shares ('000)	393,381	393,506	393,381	393,506	
Earnings per share (sen)	28.4	59.8	28.4	59.8	

B13. Audit report of preceding annual financial statements

The auditors' report on the financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2023 was not subject to any qualifications.

B14. Condensed Consolidated Statement of Profit or Loss

Profit before taxation for the period is arrived at after charging/(crediting) the following items:

	Individual Quarter		Cumulative Quarter		
	3 months	s ended	3 months ended 31 December		
	31 Dec	ember			
	2023	2022	2023	2022	
	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	
Interest income	(22,975)	(23,295)	(22,975)	(23,295)	
Dividend income	(14,169)	(11,549)	(14,169)	(11,549)	
Other income	(35,492)	(31,466)	(35,492)	(31,466)	
Interest expense	115,464	110,368	115,464	110,368	
Depreciation and amortisation	274,124	259,453	274,124	259,453	
(Write-back) and provision for/write-off of receivables	(494)	1,712	(494)	1,712	
Provision for/(Reversal of provision for) inventories	5,817	(9,233)	5,817	(9,233)	
Surplus on disposal of land	(5,900)	(807)	(5,900)	(807)	
Surplus arising from government					
acquisition of land	(11,767)	(41,882)	(11,767)	(41,882)	
Foreign exchange loss	51,264	149,222	51,264	149,222	
Gain on derivatives	(61,755)	(10,639)	(61,755)	(10,639)	
Exceptional items			-	-	

By Order of the Board GOH SWEE ENG YAP MIOW KIEN CHIEW CINDY Company Secretaries

20 February 2024