

STAR MEDIA GROUP BERHAD

Company No. 197101000523 (10894-D) (Incorporated in Malaysia)

INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Statement of Profit or Loss

	Note	3 month 31.12.2023 RM'000	ns ended 30.12.2022 (restated) RM'000	Financial pe 31.12.2023 RM'000	riod ended 31.12.2022 (restated) RM'000
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Revenue		55,073	58,966	220,008	219,938
Operating expenses	A8	(60,965)	(61,384)	(235,496)	(223,088)
Other operating income	A9	11,603	4,321	24,586	12,801
Profit from operations	-	5,711	1,903	9,098	9,651
Finance cost		(240)	(210)	(837)	(901)
Profit before tax	-	5,471	1,693	8,261	8,750
Taxation	B5	34	(1,305)	(771)	(1,866)
Profit for the financial period	d	5,505	388	7,490	6,884
Attributable to:	•				
Owners of the parent Non-controlling interests		5,505	388	7,490	6,921 (37)
	=	5,505	388	7,490	6,884
Basic/Diluted earnings per ordinary share (sen):		0.76	0.05	1.03	0.95

(The unaudited Condensed Consolidated Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2022)

Included in the Operating
Expenses are depreciation and amortisation expenses: (4,067) (3,908) (15,805) (15,753)

Unaudited Condensed Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income For the period ended 31 December 2023

	3 months ended 31.12.2023 31.12.2022		Financial pe 31.12.2023	riod ended 31.12.2022
	RM'000	31.12.2022 RM'000	RM'000	RM'000
Profit for the financial period	5,505	388	7,490	6,884
Other comprehensive income				
Items that may be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss				
 exchange differences on translating foreign operations 	(18)	(4)	7	42
Total comprehensive income for the financial period	5,487	384	7,497	6,926
Attributable to:				
Owners of the parent Non-controlling interests	5,487 -	384	7,497 -	6,963 (37)
<u> </u>	5,487	384	7,497	6,926

(The unaudited Condensed Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2022)

Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Statement of Financial Position As at 31 December 2023

	31 December 2023 RM'000	31 December 2022 RM'000
Non-current assets		
Property, plant and equipment	108,625	155,372
Investment properties	179,736	143,056
Intangible assets	22,655	23,503
Right-of-use assets	11,033	12,728
Other investments -Financial assets at fair value through		
profit or loss	224	109
Deferred tax assets	581	1,221
	322,854	335,989
Current assets		
Inventories	8,496	8,943
Property development costs	27,472	9,656
Trade and other receivables	45,126	46,574
Contract assets	3,352	-
Current tax assets	2,443	9,351
Cash and bank balances	364,152	364,825
	451,041	439,349
TOTAL ASSETS	773,895	775,338

Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Statement of Financial Position As at 31 December 2023 (cont'd)

	31 December 2023 RM'000	31 December 2022 RM'000
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		
Share capital	738,564	738,564
Treasury shares	(6,124)	(6,124)
Reserves	(80,040)	(80,289)
Total equity	652,400	652,151
Non-current liabilities		
Lease liabilities	9,883	11,534
Deferred tax liabilities	203	53
	10,086	11,587
Current liabilities		
Trade and other payables	108,582	108,891
Lease liabilities	2,793	2,699
Taxation	34	10
	111,409	111,600
Total Liabilities	121,495	123,187
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES	773,895	775,338
Net assets per share attributable to owners of the parent (RM)	0.90	0.90

(The unaudited Condensed Consolidated Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2022)

Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Statements of Changes in Equity For the period ended 31 December 2023

[------ Attributable to equity holders of the Company ------]

	Share capital RM'000	Foreign exchange translation reserves RM'000	Treasury shares RM'000	Retained earnings/ (Accumulated losses) RM'000	Total Equity RM'000
Balance as at 1 January 2023	738,564	2,651	(6,124)	(82,940)	652,151
Total comprehensive income for the period	-	7	-	7,490	7,497
Dividend paid	-	-	-	(7,248)	(7,248)
Balance as at 31 December 2023	738,564	2,658	(6,124)	(82,698)	652,400

Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Statements of Changes in Equity For the period ended 31 December 2023 (cont'd)

[------ Attributable to equity holders of the Company ------]

	Share capital RM'000	Foreign exchange translation reserves RM'000	Treasury shares RM'000	Retained earnings/ (Accumulated losses) RM'000	Total RM'000	Non- controlling interest RM'000	Total Equity
Balance as at 1 January 2022	738,564	2,610	(6,124)	(87,877)	647,173	(1,947)	645,226
Total comprehensive income for the period	-	41	-	6,921	6,962	(37)	6,925
Acquisition of non-controlling interest	-	-	-	(1,984)	(1,984)	1,984	-
Balance as at 31 December 2022	738,564	2,651	(6,124)	(82,940)	652,151	-	652,151

(The unaudited Condensed Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2022)

Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows For the period ended 31 December 2023

	31 December 2023 RM'000	31 December 2022 RM'000
Profit before tax	8,261	8,750
Adjustments for non-cash flow items:-		
Non-cash items	8,515	14,967
Non-operating items	(12,417)	(6,979)
Operating profit before working capital changes Changes in working capital	4,359	16,738
Net change in current assets	(14,950)	(3,486)
Net change in current liabilities	2,545	8,201
Cash (used in)/generated from operations	(8,046)	21,453
Net tax refund/(paid)	8,348	(542)
Net cash generated from operating activities	302	20,911
Investing Activities		
Proceeds from disposal of property, plant and equipment	57	1,355
Purchases of property, plant and equipment	(3,923)	(4,231)
Purchases of intangible assets	(62)	(645)
Interest and investment income received	13,253	7,880
Net cash generated from investing activities	9,325	4,359
Financing Activities		
Interest paid	(837)	(901)
Repayment of lease liabilities	(2,273)	(2,381)
Dividend paid	(7,248)	-
Net cash used in financing activities	(10,358)	(3,282)
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents	(731)	21,988
Effect of exchange rates fluctuations on cash held	` 58	(248)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the period	364,825	343,085
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the period	364,152	364,825

For the purpose of the statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents comprise the following as at the end of the financial period:

	31 December 2023 RM'000	31 December 2022 RM'000
Deposits placed with licensed banks Cash and bank balances	345,620 18,532	351,730 13,095
	364,152	364,825

(The unaudited Condensed Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows should be read in conjunction with the Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2022).

A1. Basis of Preparation

The interim financial statements are unaudited and have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of Malaysian Financial Reporting Standard ("MFRS") 134, Interim Financial Reporting issued by the Malaysian Accounting Standards Board ("MASB") and paragraph 9.22 of the Main Market Listing Requirements of Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad.

The interim financial statements should be read in conjunction with the audited financial statements of the Group for the year ended 31 December 2022.

The accounting policies and methods of computation adopted by the Group in these quarterly financial statements are consistent with those adopted in the most recent audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022 except for the adoption of the following MFRSs, IC Interpretation and Amendments to MFRSs during the current financial year:

MFRS 17

Amendments to MFRS 17

Amendments to MFRS 17

Amendments to MFRS 108

Amendments to MFRS 112

Insurance Contracts

Initial Application of MFRS 17 and MFRS 9 —

Comparative Information

Definition of Accounting Estimates

Deferred tax related to Assets and Liabilities arising from a Single Transaction

International Tax Reform — Pillar Two Model Rules

The adoption of the above did not have any significant effects on the interim financial

report upon their initial application.

The following MFRSs and Amendments to MFRSs have been issued by MASB but are not yet effective to the Group:

Effective for annual periods on or after 1 January 2024

Amendments to MFRS 16 Lease Liability in a Sale and Leaseback Amendments to MFRS 107 and MFRS 7 Supplier Finance Arrangements Amendments to MFRS 121 Lack of Exchangeability Amendments to MFRS 10 Sale or Contribution of Assets between an Investor and MFRS 128 and its Associate or Joint Venture Amendments to MFRS 101 Non-Current Liabilities with Covenants Amendments to MFRS 101 Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-current and Disclosure of Accounting Policies

The Group is in the process of assessing the impact of implementing these Standards and Amendments, since the effects would only be observable for future financial years.

A2. Seasonal or cyclical factors

The operations of our major business segment are generally affected by the major festive seasons.

A3. Unusual items

There were no unusual items affecting assets, liabilities, equity, net income, or cash flows during the financial period ended 31 December 2023.

A4. Changes in estimates

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

A5. Debt and equity securities

There were no issuances and repayment of debts and equity securities, share cancellations and resale of treasury shares during the financial period ended 31 December 2023

A6. <u>Dividend paid</u>

The Company paid a first and final single tier dividend of 1.0 sen per ordinary share in respect of the financial year ended 31 December 2022 amounting to RM7.2 million on 6 June 2023.

A7. Segment Reporting

Financial period ended	Print, digital and events RM'000	Radio Broadcasting RM'000	Property Development & Investment RM'000	Others RM'000	Elimination RM'000	Consolidated RM'000
31 December 2023						
Sales to external customers	180,616	27,078	12,314	-	-	220,008
Inter-segment sales	3,527	78	-	27,654	(31,259)	-
Total revenue	184,143	27,156	12,314	27,654	(31,259)	220,008
(Loss)/Profit before tax	(1,253)	52	8,075	1,387	-	8,261
Assets	497,016	58,208	215,017	3,654	-	773,895
Financial period ended 31 December 2022 (restated)						
Sales to external customers	183,286	33,429	3,223	-	-	219,938
Inter-segment sales	1,453	166	-	27,903	(29,522)	-
Total revenue	184,739	33,595	3,223	27,903	(29,522)	219,938
Profit/(Loss) before tax	4,474	7,203	(4,240)	1,349	(36)	8,750
Assets	497,477	77,566	195,670	4,625	-	775,338

A8. Operating expenses

	3 months ended		Financial pe	eriod ended
	31.12.2023 RM'000	31.12.2022 RM'000	31.12.2023 RM'000	31.12.2022 RM'000
Allowance of credit losses	(636)	-	-	-
Foreign exchange loss	1	(73)	4	299

A9. Other operating income

	3 months ended 31.12.2023 31.12.2022 (restated)		31.12.2023	eriod ended 31.12.2022 (restated)
	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000
Interest income	135	94	491	303
Investment income	3,207	2,526	12,763	7,577
Reversal of allowance of credit losses	465	7	627	7
Foreign exchange gain	(18)	1	11	10
Gain on disposal of property, plant				
and equipment	6,482	674	6,545	716
Other income	1,332	1,019	4,149	4,188
-				
Total	11,603	4,321	24,586	12,801

A10. Events subsequent to the end of the reporting period

There are no material events subsequent to the end of the reporting period under review that have not been reflected in the quarterly financial statements.

A11. Changes in composition of the Group

There are no changes in the composition of the Group during the quarter under review.

A12. Capital commitments

Authorised capital expenditure not provided for in the financial statements	RM'000
- contracted - not contracted	177 7,509
	7,686

B1. Review of performance

		Preceding Year
	Current Year	Corresponding
	Quarter	Quarter
	31.12.2023	31.12.2022
	(4Q 2023)	(4Q 2022)
	RM'000	RM'000
		(restated)
Revenue	55,073	58,966
Consolidated Profit before tax	5,471	1,693
Consolidated Profit after tax	5,505	388

The Group's total revenue in 4Q 2023 is RM55.1 million, a decrease of 7% as compared to 4Q 2022. The Group registered a higher profit before tax of RM5.5 million in 4Q 2023 as compared to RM1.7 million in 4Q 2022 which was attributable to the gain on disposal of investment property of RM6.5 million recognized in the current quarter.

Performance of the respective business segments for 4Q 2023 compared to the corresponding quarter of 2022 are as follows:-

Print, Digital and Events – This segment recorded a decline of 9% in revenue in 4Q 2023 of RM45.6 million compared to RM49.9 million in 4Q 2022 due to weaker market sentiment. The segment recorded a loss before tax of RM2.5 million in 4Q 2023 as compared to a profit before tax of RM1.2 million in 4Q 2022 due to the lower revenue achieved.

Radio Broadcasting – Radio generated a lower revenue by 25% amounting to RM6.5 million in 4Q 2023 as compared to RM8.7 million in 4Q 2022, attributed to lower revenue contribution from commercial airtime. This segment recorded a loss before tax of RM0.1 million as compared to 4Q 2022 profit before tax of RM1.1 million due to higher operating costs incurred.

Property Development & Investment – This segment generated revenue of RM4.7 million in 4Q 2023 compared to RM1.1 million in 4Q 2022. This is mainly attributed to the recognition of revenue from the sale of the Star Business Hub project and higher occupancy rates of investment properties. Property development & investment segment recorded a profit before tax of RM7.7 million in 4Q 2023 compared to a loss before tax of RM0.9 million in 4Q 2022, mainly due to the gain on disposal of investment property of RM6.5mil recognized in 4Q 2023.

	Financial year	Financial year
	31.12.2023	31.12.2022
	(FY2023)	(FY2022)
	RM'000	RM'000
		(restated)
Revenue	220,008	219,938
Consolidated Profit before tax	8,261	8,750
Consolidated Profit after tax	7,490	6,884

Performance for the Group for 12 months ended 31 December 2023 compared to 30 December 2022 are as follows:-

The Group recorded revenue of RM220.0 million in FY2023, which was in line with revenue achieved in FY2022. The Group recorded profit before tax of RM8.3 million in FY2023 as compared to profit before tax of RM8.8 million in FY2022.

B1. Review of performance (cont'd)

Performance of the respective business segments are as follows:-

Print, Digital and Events – Revenue in FY2023 stood at RM184.1 million which is consistent with the RM184.7 million achieved in FY2022, despite challenging market conditions. This segment recorded a loss before tax of RM1.3 million in FY2023 as compared to a profit before tax of RM4.5 million in FY2022, due to higher operating costs incurred.

Radio Broadcasting – Radio recorded revenue of RM27.2 million in FY2023, a 19% decrease as compared to RM33.6 million in FY2022 mainly due to lower market spend for radio industry. This segment recorded a profit before tax of RM0.1 million in FY2023 as compared to a profit before tax of RM7.2 million in FY2022.

Property Development & Investment — Revenue in FY2023 was RM12.3 million as compared to RM3.2 million in FY2022 mainly due to the recognition of revenue from the sale of Star Business Hub units and an increase in occupancy rates of the Group's properties. This segment recorded a profit before tax of RM8.1 million in FY2023 compared to a loss before tax of RM4.2 million in FY2022.

B2. Variation of results against preceding quarter

	Current	Preceding
	Quarter	Quarter
	31.12.2023	30.09.2023
	(4Q 2023)	(3Q 2023)
	RM'000	RM'000
Revenue	55,073	54,925
Consolidated Profit before tax	5,471	416
Consolidated Profit after tax	5,505	56

4Q 2023 recorded a revenue of RM55.1 million as compared to RM54.9 million in 3Q 2023. The Group recorded a profit before tax of RM5.5 million, an increase compared to RM0.4 million in the preceding quarter. This was mainly due to the gain on disposal of investment property mentioned above.

B3. Prospects

Looking towards 2024, the Group expects industry outlook in relation to advertising expenditure to be fairly cautious. The Group continues to explore new revenue avenues while maintaining operational and cost efficiencies.

The Group is cautiously optimistic that the property development & investment segment will continue to contribute positively to the Group's revenue and profitability.

In addition, the Group will continue to explore potential merger and acquisition opportunities, with the aim to enhance the existing businesses of the Group.

B4. Profit forecast

The Group has not provided any profit forecast in a public document.

B5. Taxation

Taxation comprises the following: -

	3 months ended		Financial period ended	
	31.12.2023	31.12.2022	31.12.2023	31.12.2022
	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000
Current period tax expense based on profit for the financial period				
Malaysian taxation	(824)	149	(19)	710
2. Foreign taxation			-	-
Deferred taxation	790	1,156	790	1,156
	(34)	1,305	771	1,866

The Group's tax expense for the financial period is mainly due to income tax expense incurred by profitable subsidiaries within the Group.

B6. Status of corporate proposal announced

a) On 12 May 2017, the Company announced that Laviani Pte Ltd, a wholly-owned subsidiary company, entered into a conditional share purchase agreement with Lucrum 1 Investment for the proposed disposal of its entire equity interest in Cityneon Holdings Limited for a disposal consideration of SGD115,612,731 (equivalent to RM360,179,902) to be satisfied entirely via cash.

Subsequently, the Company obtained approval from its shareholders at the Extraordinary General Meeting held on 7 July 2017 for the abovementioned disposal.

On 12 July 2017, the Company announced the completion on the disposal of Cityneon Holdings Limited by Laviani Pte Ltd. Accordingly, Cityneon Holdings Limited and its subsidiaries ceased to be the indirect subsidiary companies of the Company.

On 1 August 2019, the Company announced that it has only utilised RM207.68 million out of the Disposal Proceeds and proposed variation to the utilisation of proceeds. Revised amount on the utilisation of proceeds are tabulated below.

As at 31 December 2023, the details of utilisation of proceeds are as follows:-

Purposes	Revised Amount (as at 30 June 2019)	Actual utilisation	Remaining Balance	Revised Expected Timeframe for Utilisation
	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	
				By 31 December
Future investments	66,500	-	66,500	2024
General working				
capital	86,000	(86,000)	-	Fully utilised
Total	152,500	(86,000)	66,500	•

B6. Status of corporate proposal announced (cont'd)

The proposed revised timeframe for future investment purpose which was due in July 2023 was extended to 31 December 2024 as the Group continues to identify and evaluate growth opportunities through potential Mergers and Acquisitions.

B7. Lease liabilities

The Group's lease liabilities as at the end of the financial period are as follows:

	As at 31.12.2023 RM'000	As at 31.12.2022 RM'000	
Short Term Lease Liabilities Unsecured - Lease liabilities	2,793	2,699	
Long Term Lease Liabilities Unsecured - Lease liabilities	9,883	11,534	

All lease liabilities in 2023 and 2022 are denominated in Ringgit Malaysia.

B8. Changes in material litigation

The Company had on 19 August 2011 entered into a Sale and Purchase Agreement with JAKS Island Circle Sdn Bhd ("JIC") for the proposed disposal of the Company's land held under H.S. (D) 259880, No. Lot PT 16, Seksyen 13, Bandar Petaling Jaya, Daerah Petaling, Negeri Selangor together with the buildings erected thereon to JIC for a consideration of RM135,000,000 only ("JAKS SPA").

Under the JAKS SPA, JIC shall pay the purchase consideration partly through the completion, delivery and transfer of the legal title with vacant possession and certificate of completion and compliance, free from all encumbrances whatsoever of a fifteen (15) storey office block to be constructed on PT 16 ("Tower A") to the Company as the Company's entitlement.

Pursuant to the JAKS SPA, JIC shall also provide a bank guarantee for the sum of RM50,000,000 only in favour of the Company to guarantee, among others, the completion and delivery of the vacant possession of the Tower A in accordance with the terms of the JAKS SPA. In addition, JIC's holding company, JAKS Resources Berhad ("JRB") shall also provide a corporate guarantee in favour of the Company to guarantee the performance of the obligations of JIC under the JAKS SPA ("JRB Corporate Guarantee").

B8. Changes in material litigation (cont'd)

As JIC had failed to deliver the vacant possession of Tower A by the stipulated timeline, the Company had, on 15 February 2018, made a demand on the bank guarantees amounting to RM50,000,000 ("JIC Bank Guarantees") in accordance with the terms of the JAKS SPA. In an attempt to injunct or prevent the Company from calling on the JIC Bank Guarantees, JIC had, on 23 February 2018, initiated suits WA-24C(ARB)-11-02/2018 and WA-24C(ARB)-12-02/2018 (collectively, "OS 11 & 12") in the High Court.

The High Court in OS 11 & 12 had ruled in favour of the Company for the release of the JIC Bank Guarantees by the financial institutions in the sum of RM50,000,000 to the Company and ultimately rejected JIC's contention that the Company's calls on the JIC Bank Guarantees were unconscionable and premature. This decision was further upheld by the Court of Appeal, and JIC's motions for leave to appeal to the Federal Court against the decision of the Court of Appeal were dismissed on 7 January 2019.

Subsequently, the Company had on 19 April 2019 filed a Writ of Summons and a Statement of Claim against JRB vide the Civil Suit No. WA-22NCvC-258-04/2019 ("Suit 258") for JRB's alleged breach and failure to perform its obligations under the JRB Corporate Guarantee. The Company has claimed for, among others, specific performance to order JRB to complete or cause to be completed JIC's obligations under the JAKS SPA by 31 October 2019 in full and proper compliance with the terms of the JAKS SPA and damages being the late payment interest calculated at eight (8%) per annum on the balance purchase price under the JAKS SPA of RM134,500,000 from 25 October 2015 until the date of full payment of the RM134,500,000.

Thereafter, JRB and JIC (collectively, "JAKS") had filed a counterclaim and served a Writ of Summons and a Statement of Claim both dated 30 May 2019 against the Company for an alleged premature call on the JIC Bank Guarantees. JAKS in this Suit No. WA-22NCvC-374-05/2019 ("Suit 374") has claimed for among others, the sum of RM50,000,000 pursuant to the JIC Bank Guarantees to be refunded or returned and the sum of RM248,242,988 as liquidated and ascertained damages and RM297,035,481 for loss of proceeds from JRB's corporate fundraising exercises.

The Company had on 1 August 2019 filed an application for a preliminary determination under Order 14A of the Rules of Court and to strike out JAKS' counter claim in Suit 258 and Suit 374 respectively on the grounds of res judicata and multiplicity of proceedings. The Company contended that JAKS' position in both Suit 258 and Suit 374 on the alleged variations of the building plans which required the resubmission of the plans for the approval of Majlis Bandaraya Petaling Jaya and the alleged new completion date under the JAKS SPA being 20 June 2020 were exactly the same arguments raised by JIC ("Alleged Variations and Alleged New Completion Date") in the previous suits OS 11 & 12, which had been fully litigated in the High Court.

In respect of Suit 258, the High Court had on 7 August 2020 allowed the Company's application for preliminary determination under Order 14A partially and, among others, ordered JRB to compensate the Company at the rate of eight (8%) per annum on the balance purchase price of RM134,500,000 from 25 October 2015 to 6 July 2020 which will continue to run from 6 July 2020 to the date JRB completes or cause to be completed JIC's obligations under the JAKS SPA. However, the High Court dismissed the Company's question in the same application to compel JRB to provide full set of the construction drawings, details and specifications requested by the Company in order to carry out a proper and meaningful joint inspection ("the Dismissal"). Therefore, JRB had on 21 August 2020 appealed against the decision delivered in favour of the Company and the Company had on 1 September 2020 also appealed against the Dismissal.

B8. Changes in material litigation (cont'd)

In respect of Suit 374, the High Court had on 28 September 2020 dismissed the Company's application for preliminary determination. Subsequently, the Company had on 2 October 2020 filed an appeal against the decision of the High Court in respect of Suit 374.

Hence, there were three (3) appeals in total filed in the Court of Appeal as follows:

- a) Appeal No. W-02(IM)(NCVC)-1122-08/2020 filed by JRB against the orders in favour of the Company's preliminary determination in Suit 258;
- Appeal No. W-02(IM)(NCVC)-1188-09/2020 filed by the Company against the Dismissal in Suit 258; and
- c) Appeal No. W-02(IM)(NCVC)-1435-09/2020 filed by the Company against the dismissal of the Company's application for preliminary determination in Suit 374.

On appeal, the Court of Appeal heard the three (3) appeals together and decided against the Company on 27 July 2021. As a result, the Company had on 25 August 2021 filed three (3) motions for leave to appeal to the Federal Court against the decision of the Court of Appeal. As JIC has been put into creditors' voluntary winding-up, any legal proceedings against a company in liquidation shall be subject to leave from the High Court being obtained. The Company filed an Originating Summon for leave which was granted by the High Court on 6 October 2022 to continue the appeal proceedings against JIC. The leave application to the Federal Court in respect of the three (3) motions was heard on 23 February 2023 whereupon the Federal Court has unanimously granted the Company the leave to appeal against the Court of Appeal's decision, to the Federal Court.

Accordingly, the Company had on 6 March 2023 filed and served the notices of appeal to the Federal Court and JAKS ("Federal Court Appeals"). The Federal Court had sealed and registered the notices of the Federal Court Appeals and fixed 8 May 2023 for case management. During the case management on 8 May 2023, the Federal Court set the next case management on 3 July 2023 for the Company to update on the status of the filing of the grounds of judgement from the Court of Appeal as a Supplementary Records of Appeal. On 15 August 2023, the Federal Court had directed the filing of a supplemental record of appeal to include the Court of Appeal's grounds of the three (3) appeals by 29 August 2023. The hearing of the Federal Court Appeals which was initially fixed on 6 December 2023 was subsequently adjourned to 7 March 2024.

Pending the outcome of the Federal Court Appeals as stated above, the High Court had fixed five (5) days trial from 4 March 2024 to 8 March 2024 for both Suit 258 and Suit 374, which will be heard together. During the case management on 15 March 2023, the High Court had instructed the Company to formally file a notice of application supported by affidavit for the stay application made by the Company, which was fixed for hearing on 22 May 2023. On 22 May 2023, the High Court allowed the Company's stay application and the initial five (5) trial dates in March 2024 have been vacated pending the outcome of the Federal Court Appeals. The trial at the High Court is tentatively fixed for 25 August 2025 to 28 August 2025, and the next case management is fixed on 8 March 2024 for the parties to update the outcome of the Federal Court Appeals.

B9. Dividend

No interim dividend has been recommended for the current quarter under review.

B10. Basic earnings per share

The basic earnings per share has been calculated based on the Group's profit after tax attributable to owners of the parent divided by the weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding during the financial period.

	3 months ended		Financial period ended	
	31.12.2023	31.12.2022	31.12.2023	31.12.2022
Group's profit after tax attributable to owners of the parent (RM'000)	5,505	388	7,490	6,921
Weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding ('000)	724,765	724,765	724,765	724,765
Basic earnings per share (sen)	0.76	0.05	1.03	0.95

Diluted earnings per share

The Group does not have in issue any financial instrument or other contract that may entitle its holder to ordinary shares and therefore, dilutive to its basic earnings per share.

By Order of the Board

Hoh Yik Siew Group Company Secretary 20 February 2024 Petaling Jaya, Selangor Darul Ehsan