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# **AUDITOR'S REPORT (Translation of the Finnish original)**

To the Annual General Meeting of Citycon Oyj

## **Report on the Audit of Financial Statements**

## **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Citycon Oyj (business identity code 0699505-3) for the year ended 31 December, 2019. The financial statements comprise the consolidated balance sheet, income statement, statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity, statement of cash flows and notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies, as well as the parent company's balance sheet, income statement, statement of cash flows and notes.

## In our opinion

- the consolidated financial statements give a true and fair view of the group's financial position as well as its financial performance and its cash flows in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) as adopted by the EU.
- the financial statements give a true and fair view of the parent company's financial performance and financial position in accordance with the laws and regulations governing the preparation of financial statements in Finland and comply with statutory requirements.

Our opinion is consistent with the additional report submitted to the Audit and Governance Committee.

#### **Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with good auditing practice in Finland. Our responsibilities under good auditing practice are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Financial Statements* section of our report.

We are independent of the parent company and of the group companies in accordance with the ethical requirements that are applicable in Finland and are relevant to our audit, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

In our best knowledge and understanding, the non-audit services that we have provided to the parent company and group companies are in compliance with laws and regulations applicable in Finland regarding these services, and we have not provided any prohibited non-audit services referred to in EU Regulation No 537/2014, point (c) of Article 10(2). The non-audit services that we have provided have been disclosed in note 1.5 to the consolidated financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### **Key Audit Matters**

Key audit matters are those matters that, in our professional judgment, were of most significance in our audit of the financial statements of the current period. These matters were addressed in the context of our audit of the financial statements as a whole, and in forming our opinion thereon, and we do not provide a separate opinion on these matters.

We have fulfilled the responsibilities described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements* section of our report, including in relation to these matters. Accordingly, our audit included the performance of procedures designed to respond to our assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements. The results of our audit procedures, including the procedures performed to address the matters below, provide the basis for our audit opinion on the accompanying financial statements.



We have also addressed the risk of management override of internal controls. This includes consideration of whether there was evidence of management bias that represented a risk of material misstatement due to fraud.

# Key Audit Matter How our audit addressed the Key Audit Matter

# **Valuation of Investment Properties**

We refer to the note 2.1

At the balance sheet date, the fair value of investment properties amounted to 4160.2 M€ representing 90.8 % of the total assets and 178.9 % of the total equity (2018 4131.3M€, 89.4% of the total assets and 197.8% of the total equity). Fair value measurement of the investment properties is a key audit matter, because the fair value measurement involves judgment and assumptions. Market rents, yield requirement, vacancy rate and operating expenses form the key variables used in investment property's fair-value measurement. The evaluation of these variables involves judgment and assumptions of Citycon management.

This matter is a significant risk of material misstatement referred to in EU Regulation No 537/241, point (c) of Article 10(2).

Our audit procedures to address the risk of material misstatement in respect of valuation of Investment Properties included among others:

- Our valuation specialists assist us in evaluating the assumptions and methodologies used.
- We focused on the market rents, yield requirement, vacancy rate and operating expenses.
- We assessed the competence and objectivity of the external appraiser and historical accuracy of management's judgment and assumptions.

The methodologies and key inputs used in the valuation and sensitivity analysis are presented in note 2.1. We assessed the adequacy of these disclosures.

## Valuation of Goodwill

We refer to the note 5.1

At the balance sheet date, the carrying amount of goodwill amounted to 146.5M€ representing 3.2% of the total assets and 6.3 % of the total equity (2018: 145.7M€, 3.2% of the total assets and 7.9% of the total equity). Valuation of goodwill was a key audit matter because the assessment process is complex and is based on numerous judgmental estimates and because the amount of goodwill is significant to the financial statements. Citycon's management uses assumptions in respect of discount rate, net rental income projections and other operating income and expenses.

This matter is a significant risk of material misstatement referred to in EU Regulation No 537/241, point (c) of Article 10(2).

Our audit procedures to address the risk of material misstatement in respect of valuation of Investment Properties included among others:

- Our valuation specialists assisted us in evaluating the methodologies and assumptions used, in particular those relating to net rental income and the weighted average cost of capital.
- We assessed the competence and objectivity of the external appraiser and historical accuracy of management's judgment and assumptions.
- We focused on, how much the recoverable amount exceeds the carrying amount of goodwill, and whether any reasonably possible change in assumptions could cause the carrying amount to exceed its recoverable amount.

The key assumptions used in the impairment test of goodwill are presented in note 5.1. We assessed the adequacy of these disclosures.



## Responsibilities of the Board of Directors and the Managing Director for the Financial Statements

The Board of Directors and the Managing Director are responsible for the preparation of consolidated financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) as adopted by the EU, and of financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with the laws and regulations governing the preparation of financial statements in Finland and comply with statutory requirements. The Board of Directors and the Managing Director are also responsible for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Board of Directors and the Managing Director are responsible for assessing the parent company's and the group's ability to continue as going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared using the going concern basis of accounting unless there is an intention to liquidate the parent company or the group or cease operations, or there is no realistic alternative but to do so.

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

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance on whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with good auditing practice will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with good auditing practice, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to
  fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit
  evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not
  detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as
  fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of
  internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures
  that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the
  effectiveness of the parent company's or the group's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Board of Directors' and the Managing Director's use of the going concern basis of accounting and based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the parent company's or the group's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the parent company or the group to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events so that the financial statements give a true and fair view.
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the group to express an opinion on the consolidated financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the group audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.



We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

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

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

# **Other Reporting Requirements**

## Information on our audit engagement

We were first appointed as auditors by the Annual General Meeting on 5 April 2005, and our appointment represents a total period of uninterrupted engagement of 15 years.

#### Other information

The Board of Directors and the Managing Director are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the report of the Board of Directors and the information included in the Annual Report, but does not include the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. We have obtained the report of the Board of Directors prior to the date of this auditor's report, and the Annual Report is expected to be made available to us after that date.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information identified above and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. With respect to report of the Board of Directors, our responsibility also includes considering whether the report of the Board of Directors has been prepared in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations.

In our opinion, the information in the report of the Board of Directors is consistent with the information in the financial statements and the report of the Board of Directors has been prepared in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations.

If, based on the work we have performed on the other information that we obtained prior to the date of this auditor's report, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Helsinki 5.2.2020

Ernst & Young Oy Authorized Public Accountant Firm

Mikko Rytilahti Authorized Public Accountant