

## **Independent auditor's report to the general meeting of Nextensa nv/sa for the year ended 31 December 2023**

In the context of the statutory audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements) of Nextensa nv/sa (the "Company") and its subsidiaries (together the "Group"), we report to you as statutory auditor. This report includes our opinion on the consolidated balance sheet as at 31 December 2023, the consolidated statement of comprehensive income, the other elements of comprehensive income, the consolidated statement of changes in equity, and the consolidated cash flow statement for the year ended 31 December 2023 and the disclosures including material accounting policy information (all elements together the "Consolidated Financial Statements") as well as our report on other legal and regulatory requirements. These two reports are considered one report and are inseparable.

We have been appointed as statutory auditor by the shareholders' meeting of 17 May 2021, in accordance with the proposition by the Board of Directors following recommendation of the Audit Committee. Our mandate expires at the shareholders' meeting that will deliberate on the Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ending 31 December 2023. We performed the audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements of the Group during 24 consecutive years.

### **Report on the audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements**

#### **Unqualified opinion**

We have audited the Consolidated Financial Statements of Nextensa nv/sa, that comprise of the consolidated balance sheet as at 31 December 2023, consolidated statement of comprehensive income, the other elements of comprehensive income, the consolidated statement of changes in equity, and the consolidated cash flow statement of the year and the disclosures, including material accounting policy information, which show a consolidated balance sheet total of € 1.781.289 thousand and of which the consolidated income statement shows a net result (part of the group) of € 24.492 thousand.

In our opinion, the Consolidated Financial Statements give a true and fair view of the consolidated net equity and financial position as at 31 December 2023, and of its consolidated results for the year then ended, prepared in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the European Union ("IFRS") and with applicable legal and regulatory requirements in Belgium.

#### **Basis for the unqualified opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing ("ISA's") applicable in Belgium. In addition, we have applied the ISA's approved by the International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board ("IAASB") that apply at the current year-end date and have not yet been approved at national level. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the "Our responsibilities for the audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements" section of our report.

We have complied with all ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements in Belgium, including those with respect to independence.

We have obtained from the Board of Directors and the officials of the Company the explanations and information necessary for the performance of our audit and 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 Consolidated Financial Statements of the current reporting period.

These matters were addressed in the context of our audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements as a whole and in forming our opinion thereon, and consequently we do not provide a separate opinion on these matters.

### Valuation of the investment properties

#### ▸ Description of the matter and audit risk

Investment property represents 72% of the assets of the Group. As at 31 December 2023, the investment properties on the assets of the balance sheet amount to € 1.288.844 thousand.

In accordance with the accounting policies and IAS 40 standard "Investment property", investment property is measured at fair value, and the changes in the fair value of investment property are recognized in the income statement.

The fair value of investment properties belongs to the level 3 in the fair value hierarchy as defined within the IFRS 13 standard "Fair Value Measurement". Some assumptions used for valuation purposes are based on data that can be observed only to a limited extent (discount rate, future occupancy rate, ...) and therefore require judgement of the management.

The audit risk appears in the valuation of these investment properties and is therefore a key audit matter.

#### ▸ Summary of audit procedures performed

The Group uses external experts to make an estimate of the fair value of its buildings. We have assessed the valuation reports of the external experts (with the support of our internal valuation experts). More precisely, we have:

- assessed the objectivity, the independence and the competence of the external experts;

- tested the integrity of the most important source data (contractual rentals, maturities of the rental contracts, ...) used in their calculations and reconciled with underlying contracts for a sample;
- and assessed the models and assumptions used in their reports (discount rates, future occupancy rates, ...) for a sample.

Finally, we have assessed the appropriateness of the information on the fair value of the investment properties disclosed in note 15 of the Consolidated Financial Statements.

### Valuation of financial instruments

#### ▸ Description of the matter and audit risk

The Group uses interest rate swaps (IRS) to hedge the interest rate risk on the variable rate debts. The measurement of the derivatives at fair value is an important source of volatility of the result and/or the shareholders' equity.

In accordance with IFRS 9 "Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement", these derivatives are valued at fair value (considered to belong to the level 2 in the fair value hierarchy defined by IFRS 13 "Fair Value Measurement"). The changes in fair value are recognized in the income statements except for some IRS for which the Group applies hedge accounting ("cash-flow hedging"), which allows to classify most of the changes in fair value in the caption of the shareholders' equity ("Hedge reserves").

The audit risk appears on the one hand in the complexities involved in determining the fair value of these derivatives and on the other hand in the correct application of hedge accounting for the IRS contracts that were classified by the Group as cash flow hedges and are therefore a key audit matter.

#### ▸ Summary of audit procedures performed

- We have compared the fair values of the derivatives with the values communicated by the counterparties and the credit risk adjustments. We have assessed the most important assumptions and the calculations performed in this respect.

- Regarding the correct application of hedge accounting, we have evaluated the effectiveness tests performed by the external specialist involved by the Group and we have compared the volume of derivatives subject to hedge accounting with the volume of the variable rate debts projected on the future accounting years in order to identify any potential overhedging which could potentially jeopardize the application of hedge accounting.

Finally, we have assessed the appropriateness of the information on the financial instruments disclosed in note 29.4 of the Consolidated Financial Statements.

#### **Revenue recognition and accounting treatment of development projects**

- ▶ Description of the matter and audit risk

The Group has recognized for accounting year 2023 € 51.024 thousand on turnover development projects and € 46.650 thousand on costs development projects. Moreover, the Group capitalizes the costs on development projects as “work in progress” over the lifetime of the projects. This “work in progress” amounts to € 75.118 thousand as of 31 December 2023.

The valuation of the land positions and the incurred construction costs for development projects are based on the historical cost or lower net realizable value. The assessment of the net realizable values involves assumptions relating to future market developments, decisions of governmental bodies, discount rates and future changes in costs and selling prices. These estimates involve various elements and are sensitive to scenarios and assumptions used and involve as such significant management judgement. Risk exists that potential impairments of “work in progress” are not appropriately accounted for in the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Revenues and results are recognized to the extent that components (real estate units) have been

sold and based on the percentage of completion of the development. The recognition of revenue and profit therefore relies on estimates in relation to the forecasted total costs on each development project.

This often involves a high degree of judgement due to the complexity of development projects and uncertainty about costs to complete. Therefore, there is a high degree of risk associated with estimating the amount of revenue and associated margin to be recognized by the Group up to the balance sheet date. Changes to these estimates could give rise to material variances and this is the reason why the audit of development projects is a key audit matter.

- ▶ Summary of audit procedures performed
  - ▶ We have tested a sample of development projects by verifying the costs incurred to date relating to land and work in progress with the underlying documentation.
  - ▶ We have agreed the sales values to contracts for a sample of development projects.
  - ▶ Based on the sales and the percentage of completion at the balance sheet date, we have recalculated the revenue recognition and the margin.
  - ▶ We have assessed the calculations of net realizable values and the reasonableness and consistency of the assumptions used by management
  - ▶ We have assessed the financial performance of specific development projects against budget and historical trends, specifically in view of assessing the reasonableness of the costs to complete.

Finally, we have assessed the appropriateness of the information on the development projects disclosed in notes 8 and 24 of the Consolidated Financial Statements.

## **Responsibilities of the Board of Directors for the preparation of the Consolidated Financial Statements**

The Board of Directors is responsible for the preparation of the Consolidated Financial Statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with IFRS and with applicable legal and regulatory requirements in Belgium and for such internal controls relevant to the preparation of the Consolidated Financial Statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

As part of the preparation of Consolidated Financial Statements, the Board of Directors is responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, and provide, if applicable, information on matters impacting going concern. The Board of Directors should prepare the financial statements using the going concern basis of accounting, unless the Board of Directors either intends to liquidate the Company or to cease business operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

## **Our responsibilities for the audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance whether the Consolidated Financial Statements are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to express an opinion on these Consolidated Financial Statements based on our audit. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the ISA's will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these Consolidated Financial Statements.

In performing our audit, we comply with the legal, regulatory and normative framework that applies to the audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements in Belgium. However, a statutory audit does not provide assurance about the future viability of the Company and the Group, nor about the efficiency or effectiveness with which the board of directors has taken or will undertake the Company's and the Group's business operations. Our responsibilities with regards to the going concern assumption used by the board of directors are described below.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISA's, we exercise professional judgment and we maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also perform the following tasks:

- ▶ identification and assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the Consolidated Financial Statements, whether due to fraud or error, the planning and execution of audit procedures to respond to these risks and obtain audit evidence which is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting material misstatements resulting from fraud is higher than when such misstatements result from errors, since fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control;
- ▶ obtaining insight in the system of internal controls that are relevant for the audit and with the objective to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control;
- ▶ evaluating the selected and applied accounting policies, and evaluating the reasonability of the accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Board of Directors as well as the underlying information given by the Board of Directors;

- ▶ conclude on the appropriateness of the Board of Directors' use of the going-concern basis of accounting, and based on the audit evidence obtained, whether or not a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's or 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 Consolidated Financial Statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on audit evidence obtained up to the date of the auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to continue as a going-concern;
- ▶ evaluating the overall presentation, structure and content of the Consolidated Financial Statements, and evaluating whether the Consolidated Financial Statements reflect a true and fair view of the underlying transactions and events.

We communicate with the Audit Committee within the Board of Directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the

audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Because we are ultimately responsible for the opinion, we are also responsible for directing, supervising and performing the audits of the subsidiaries. In this respect we have determined the nature and extent of the audit procedures to be carried out for group entities.

We provide the Audit Committee within the Board of Directors with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

From the matters communicated with the Audit Committee within the Board of Directors, we determine those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements of the current period and are therefore the key audit matters. We describe these matters in our report, unless the law or regulations prohibit this.

## **Report on other legal and regulatory requirements**

### **Responsibilities of the Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors is responsible for the preparation and the content of the Board of Directors' report on the Consolidated Financial Statements, and other information included in the annual report.

### **Responsibilities of the auditor**

In the context of our mandate and in accordance with the additional standard to the ISA's applicable in Belgium, it is our responsibility to verify, in all material respects, the Board of Directors' report on the Consolidated Financial Statements, and other information included in the annual report, as well as to report on these matters.

### **Aspects relating to Board of Directors' report and other information included in the annual report**

In our opinion, after carrying out specific procedures on the Board of Directors' report, the Board of Directors' report is consistent with the Consolidated Financial Statements and has been prepared in accordance with article 3:32 of the Code of companies and associations.

In the context of our audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements, we are also responsible to consider whether, based on the information that we became aware of during the performance of our audit, the Board of Directors' report and other information included in the annual report, being:

**Audit report dated 28 March 2024 on the Consolidated Financial Statements of Nextensa nv/sa as of and for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)**

- ▶ Key figures
- ▶ Alternative performance measures

contain any material inconsistencies or contains information that is inaccurate or otherwise misleading. In light of the work performed, there are no material inconsistencies to be reported.

### **Independence matters**

Our audit firm and our network have not performed any services that are not compatible with the audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements and have remained independent of the Company during the course of our mandate.

The fees related to additional services which are compatible with the audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements as referred to in article 3:65 of the Code of companies and associations were duly itemized and valued in the notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

### **European single electronic format ("ESEF")**

In accordance with the standard on the audit of the conformity of the financial statements with the European single electronic format (hereinafter "ESEF"), we have carried out the audit of the compliance of the ESEF format with the regulatory technical standards set by the European Delegated Regulation No 2019/815 of 17 December 2018 (hereinafter: "Delegated Regulation").

The board of directors is responsible for the preparation, in accordance with the ESEF requirements, of the consolidated financial statements in the form of an electronic file in ESEF format in the official Dutch language (hereinafter 'the digital consolidated financial statements') included in the annual financial report available on the portal of the FSMA (<https://www.fsma.be/en/stori>) in the official Dutch language.

It is our responsibility to obtain sufficient and appropriate supporting evidence to conclude that the format and markup language of the digital consolidated financial statements comply in all material respects with the ESEF requirements under the Delegated Regulation.

Based on the work performed by us, we conclude that the format and tagging of information in the digital consolidated financial statements of Nextensa nv/sa per 31 December 2023 included in the annual financial report available on the portal of the FSMA (<https://www.fsma.be/en/stori>) in the official Dutch language are, in all material respects, in accordance with the ESEF requirements under the Delegated Regulation.

### **Other communications.**

- ▶ This report is consistent with our supplementary declaration to the Audit Committee as specified in article 11 of the regulation (EU) nr. 537/2014.

Brussels, 28 March 2024

EY Bedrijfsrevisoren bv/srl  
Statutory auditor  
Represented by



Christophe Boschmans\*  
Partner  
\*Acting on behalf of a bv/srl

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