

audit committee report

MEMBERSHIP

The present members of the Audit Committee ("Committee") comprise:

Dato' Siew Nim Chee	Chairman/Independent Non-Executive Director
Lt. Gen. (B) Dato' Haji Abdul Jamil bin Haji Ahmad	Member/Independent Non-Executive Director
Encik Mohd Din Jusoh	Member/Independent Non-Executive Director
Dato' Baharuddin bin Musa	Member/Non-Independent Executive Director
Mr Quah Chek Tin	Member/Non-Independent Non-Executive Director

The Committee was established on 26 July 1994 to serve as a Committee of the Board. The Terms of Reference of the Committee are set out below.

ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS DURING THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2003

During the year the Committee held a total of five (5) meetings. Details of attendance of the Committee members are as follows:

Name of Member	Number of Meetings Attended
Dato' Siew Nim Chee	5
Lt. Gen. (B) Dato' Haji Abdul Jamil bin Haji Ahmad	4
Encik Mohd Din Jusoh	5
Dato' Baharuddin bin Musa	4
Mr Quah Chek Tin	3

The total number of meetings is inclusive of the special meeting held between members of the Committee who are independent non-executive Directors of the Company and representatives of the external auditors, PricewaterhouseCoopers without the presence of any Executive Director.

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES DURING THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2003

The Committee carried out its duties in accordance with its Terms of Reference.

The main activities carried out by the Committee were as follows:

- considered and approved the internal audit plan for the Company and the Group and authorised resources to address risk areas that have been identified;
- reviewed the internal audit reports for the Company and the Group;
- reviewed the external audit plan for the Company and the Group with the external auditors;
- reviewed the external audit reports for the Company and the Group with the external auditors;

- reviewed the quarterly and annual reports of the Company and the Group, focusing particularly on:
 - changes in or implementation of major accounting policy changes;
 - significant and unusual events; and
 - compliance with accounting standards and other legal requirements;
- reviewed related party transactions of the Company and the Group;
- reviewed the proposed audit fees for the external auditors in respect of their audit of the Group and of the Company for the financial year ended 31 December 2003;
- considered the reappointment of the external auditors for recommendation to the shareholders for their approval;
- reviewed the Financial Statements of the Group and of the Company for the financial year ended 31 December 2002; and
- reviewed the reports submitted by the Risk Assessment Committee.

INTERNAL AUDIT FUNCTION AND RISK MANAGEMENT PROCESS

The Group has an adequately resourced internal audit department to assist the Board in maintaining a sound system of internal control. The internal audit department reports to the Committee and is independent of the activities they audit. The primary role of the department is to undertake regular and systematic review of the systems of internal control so as to provide sufficient assurance that the Group has sound systems of internal control and that established policies and procedures are adhered to and continue to be effective and satisfactory.

As proper risk management is a significant component of a sound system of internal control, the Group has also put in place a risk management process to help the Board in identifying, evaluating and managing risks.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Committee is governed by the following terms of reference:

1. Composition

- The Committee shall be appointed by the Board from amongst the Directors excluding Alternate Directors; shall consist of not less than three members, a majority of whom are independent non-executive Directors; and at least one member of the audit committee:
 - must be a member of the Malaysian Institute of Accountants; or
 - if he is not a member of the Malaysian Institute of Accountants, he must have at least 3 years' working experience and:
 - he must have passed the examinations specified in Part I of the 1st Schedule of the Accountants Act 1967; or

- (bb) he must be a member of one of the associations of accountants specified in Part II of the 1st Schedule of the Accountants Act 1967.

The Chairman shall be an independent non-executive Director elected by the members of the Committee.

- (ii) In the event of any vacancy in the Committee resulting in the non-compliance of paragraph (i) above, the Board must fill the vacancy within 3 months.
- (iii) The term of office and performance of the Committee and each of its members shall be reviewed by the Board at least once every 3 years to determine whether the Committee and its members have carried out their duties in accordance with their terms of reference.

2. Authority

The Committee is granted the authority to investigate any activity of the Company and its subsidiaries within its terms of reference, and all employees are directed to co-operate as requested by members of the Committee. The Committee is empowered to obtain independent professional or other advice and retain persons having special competence as necessary to assist the Committee in fulfilling its responsibility.

3. Responsibility

The Committee is to serve as a focal point for communication between non-Committee Directors, the external auditors, internal auditors and the Management on matters in connection with financial accounting, reporting and controls. The Committee is to assist the Board in fulfilling its fiduciary responsibilities as to accounting policies and reporting practices of the Company and all subsidiaries and the sufficiency of auditing relative thereto. It is to be the Board's principal agent in assuring the independence of the Company's external auditors, the integrity of the management and the adequacy of disclosures to shareholders.

If the Committee is of the view that a matter reported to the Board has not been satisfactorily resolved resulting in a breach of the Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad (formerly known as Malaysia Securities Exchange Berhad) ["Bursa Malaysia"]'s Listing Requirements, the Committee shall promptly report such matter to Bursa Malaysia.

4. Functions

The functions of the Committee are as follows:

- i) review with the external auditors, their audit plan;
- ii) review with the external auditors, their evaluation of the system of internal accounting controls;
- iii) review with the external auditors, their audit report;
- iv) review the assistance given by the Company's officers to the external auditors;

- v) review the adequacy of the scope, functions and resources of the internal audit functions and that it has the necessary authority to carry out its work;
- vi) review the internal audit programme, processes, the results of the internal audit programme, processes or investigation undertaken and whether or not appropriate action is taken on the recommendations of the internal audit function;
- vii) review the quarterly results and year end financial statements, prior to the approval by the Board, focusing particularly on:
 - (a) changes in or implementation of major accounting policy changes;
 - (b) significant and unusual events; and
 - (c) compliance with accounting standards and other legal requirements;
- viii) review any related party transaction and conflict of interest situation that may arise within the Company or Group including any transaction, procedure or course of conduct that raises questions of management integrity; and
- ix) consider the nomination, appointment and re-appointment of external auditors; their audit fees; and any questions on resignation and dismissal.

5. Meetings

- i) The Committee is to meet at least four times a year and as many times as the Committee deems necessary.
- ii) In order to form a quorum for any meeting of the Committee, the majority of members present must be independent.
- iii) The meetings and proceedings of the Committee are governed by the provisions of the Articles of Association of the Company regulating the meetings and proceedings of the Board so far as the same are applicable.
- iv) The Chief Financial Officer and the head of internal audit shall normally attend meetings of the Committee. The presence of a representative of the external auditors will be requested, if required.
- v) Upon request by the external auditors, the Chairman of the Committee shall convene a meeting of the Committee to consider any matters the external auditors believe should be brought to the attention of the Directors or Shareholders of the Company.
- vi) At least once a year, the Committee shall meet with the external auditors without the presence of any executive Director.

6. Secretary and Minutes

The Secretary of the Committee shall be the Company Secretary. Minutes of each meeting are to be prepared and sent to the Committee members, and the Company's Directors who are not members of the Committee.