



# **Annual Report 2020**

## **Adecco International Financial Services B.V.**

## **The Adecco Group**

Hogeweg 123, 5301 LL Zaltbommel P.O. Box 5, 5300 AA Zaltbommel The Netherlands Phone: +31 (0) 418 - 784 000 E-mail: info@adecco.nl Internet: http://www.adecco.nl

Chamber of Commerce number: 30212925 Registered seat in Utrecht, the Netherlands The Annual Report 2020 has been approved and adopted in the General Meeting of Shareholders on April 1, 2021

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## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS' REPORT 2020**

## **General information**

Adecco International Financial Services B.V. (the 'Company') was incorporated on March 1, 2006 as a private limited liability company, with its registered seat in Utrecht, the Netherlands, having its head office at Hogeweg 123, 5301 LL Zaltbommel, the Netherlands. Registered with the Chamber of Commerce with number: 30212925. The Company is governed by the Netherlands law.

The Company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Adecco Group AG, Zurich, Switzerland. Adecco Group AG is registered in Switzerland and listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange.

The principal activity of the Company is to act as finance company of the Group.

The Company has performed an impact study in association with its external legal partner on the reporting obligations in relation to the Brexit and has concluded that the Company is not being impacted by the Brexit. No direct business is done with the UK, except for the listing of the Company's bonds on the London Stock Exchange (LSE) for which reporting obligations have been reviewed in relation to the Brexit.

## **Financial statements**

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis in conformity with Part 9 of book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code.

The financial statements of the Company will be filed at the Trade Register of the Chamber of Commerce in Utrecht, the Netherlands, after adoption by the General Meeting of Shareholders.

## **Company operations**

The Company is engaged in financing and investment activities for the Adecco Group and obtains funds through loans via external banking and capital markets.

## Bonds

Under the Group's Euro Medium Term Notes (EMTN) program the Company has issued the following bonds:

Amount of Bond	Year issuance	Year maturing	Interest rate	Effective interest rate	Issuance price
EUR 500,000,000	2015	2022	1.500%	1.509%	99.939%
EUR 500,000,000	2016	2024	1.000%	1.110%	99.162%
USD 300,000,000 *	2017	2021	2.625%	2.803%	99.334%
EUR 300,000,000	2019	2029	1.250%	1.307%	99.446%
NOK 500,000,000 **	2020	2030	2.650%	2.700%	100%

\* USD 300,000,000 (equivalent to EUR 254,569,500 as per December 31, 2020 revalued balance, 267,558,600 as per December 31, 2019 revalued balance).

\*\* NOK 500,000,000 (equivalent to EUR 47,706,000 as per December 31, 2020 revalued balance).

The proceeds of the bond issuances have been used for general financing purposes of the Adecco Group or for refinancing purposes of the Adecco Group.

As presented in the table above the Company issued on May 29, 2020 senior unsecured fixed rate bond denominated in NOK in a private placement for NOK 500,000,000. The bond is guaranteed by Adecco Group AG, the parent company and will mature on August 29, 2030.

The interest is paid on the fixed rate bond annually on August 29 in arrears at a fixed annual rate of 2.650% (starting from 2021 with a coupon of NOK 16,562,500 in 2021 and NOK 13,250,000 thereafter). The net proceeds from the issue of the fixed rate bond were used for general financing purposes of the Adecco Group. All bonds are listed at the London Stock Exchange, United Kingdom.

## Loans and commercial paper

Interest income from Adecco Group companies and other financing income amount to EUR 34.3 million in 2020 (2019: EUR 40.1 million), and interest expenses on the issued securities and other financial expenses amount to EUR 33.2 million in 2020 (2019: EUR 39.5 million). The net profit amounts to EUR 1.1 million in 2020 (2019: profit of EUR 0.2 million).

In April 2020, the Company issued EUR 25 million commercial paper as part of the French, so called 'NEU CP' Commercial Paper Program. Under this program the Company may issue short-term commercial paper up to a maximum of EUR 500 million, with maturity of individual papers of 365 days or less. In order to test the financial market in the uncertain times of COVID-19 at that time the Company issued commercial paper on April 1, 2020 with a maturing date on May 4, 2020.

## Guarantee

As described above, the Company is a subsidiary of Adecco Group AG and serves as a funding entity for the benefit of the Adecco Group. Accordingly, the objectives of the Company are very much depending on the need of funding within the Adecco Group.

Adecco Group AG is guarantor for liabilities arising from the bonds and / or other instruments issued by the Company. Accordingly, the financial position and credit worthiness of the Company and the Adecco Group must be considered as a whole. The notes issued by the Company are fully guaranteed by Adecco Group AG and a comfort letter is issued by Adecco Group AG committed to fund the Company if needed.

## Personnel

AIFS B.V. had no personnel in 2020 (2019: nil).

## **Prospective information**

The annual interest expenses will slightly decrease due to the maturity of the 2016-2021 bond in November 2021 which has a nominal value of USD 300,000,000 with an interest rate of 2.625%. The operating expense are budgeted slightly higher resulting in the result after taxation to be in line with 2020.

The Company is as part of the Adecco Group always looking for new financing opportunities if there is a (future) cash need within the group. This can result in issuance of bonds (long-term finance need) or commercial paper program loans (short-term finance need).

The on-going coronavirus / COVID-19 outbreak across the globe prompted government authorities to adopt containment measures that have disrupted the local economies. In the context of COVID-19, the management has reviewed its management forecast and, more importantly for the near term, its liquidity forecast both during 2020 as well as for 2021 and onwards. The Board of Directors expects the direct impact on the operation of the Company to be limited. Among the outstanding bonds of the Company, the earliest maturity date is on November 21, 2021.

Although there is no immediate direct impact on the operations of the Company, the parent Company is willing and has cash balance (due to the closure of the Soliant divestiture end of December 2019) and an revolving credit facility that can, when necessary, support the borrowers to cope with adverse effects of this pandemic and to meet their financial obligation to the Company.

The management will carefully monitor the situation and will take appropriate actions, when necessary.

## **Risk management**

The purpose of the Company is to provide flexible financing to companies within the Adecco Group. The risks for the Company are mainly financing risks. The Company issues bonds and commercial paper program loans, and the proceeds are lent to other Adecco Group companies as long- and short-term loans.

The risk profile has not changed significantly in the last years. The Company has classified its risk into two categories:

- Financial risks and;
- Reporting and Compliance risks

The company continuously monitors the risks within both categories. The Company's risks and uncertainties (the risk appetite) is limited for each risk category. The level of the Company's risk appetite gives guidance as to whether the Company would take measures to control such uncertainties.

The risk appetite is further clarified in the section below.

## **Financial risks**

## Market Risk / Price Risk

The Company is exposed to market/price risk, especially the interest rate risk on loans to Adecco Group companies. The intercompany loan extensions will be renegotiated considering current market interest rates which may be different compared to the rate upon issuance of the bond.

The possibility exists that intercompany loans will bear a lower interest rate than the initial intercompany loan entered into upon issuance of the bond which will have an impact on the profitability of the Company. If the situation requires, the parent company is willing and has the ability to recapitalize the Company or can implement other measures to support the Company to continue as a going concern.

The interest rate risk for the Company is limited as all lending activities are subject to fixed rates and the loans and debts have the same maturity date.

## Credit Risk

Credit risk arises mainly from the lending activities of the Company where there is a possibility of incurring losses as a result of a default of a borrower. Since the lending activity is constrained within the Adecco Group, the implicit risk of the Company is the risk for the parent company, Adecco Group AG.

As of December 31, 2020, the credit rating of Adecco Group AG is 'BBB+' (2019: 'BBB+'), by Standard and Poor's and 'Baa1' (2019: 'Baa1') by Moody's, which is considered to be 'strong investment grade' by the market. Therefore, the risk of a credit loss on the group lending is limited.

Furthermore, Adecco Group AG, as a beneficial owner of the Company, ensures that Adecco Group companies can meet their contractual and other obligations to third parties under the guarantee structure.

## Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk refers to the possibility of not being able to meet own payment obligations in full or when due. The Board of Directors believes that the ability to generate cash from operations combined with additional capital resources available is sufficient to support the existing business activities and to meet short and medium-term financial commitments.

## Foreign exchange risk

Foreign exchange risk is the risk that the future cash flows of financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in foreign exchange rates. It arises on financial instruments that are denominated in a foreign currency other than the functional currency which they are measured. The Company has foreign exchange risk arising from the USD bond issued in 2017 (maturing in 2021) and the NOK bond issued in 2020 (maturing in 2030). This risk is mitigated by lending on the proceeds to other Adecco Group companies in the same currency.

## Reporting and Compliance risks

The complexity of the laws regulating public interest entities have increased in the last years, which means that the Company is subject to increased exposure to non-compliance, which could result in fines or reputational damage.

## Internal Control Systems

The Company's internal control system is designed to provide reasonable assurance to Adecco Group management and the Board of Directors regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation and fair presentation of its financial statements. All internal control systems, no matter how well designed, have limitations.

Furthermore, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

## Putting controls into practice

There is a monthly result reporting and forecasting to Adecco Group AG. The Company submits a management representations letter quarterly that certifies that the corporate policies have been complied with and explains any exceptions or deviations that have occurred. In addition, the Company also submits a legal report that certifies that all applicable laws and regulations have been complied with.

There is a quarterly business review meeting with the Board of Directors, where all aspects of the business are scrutinized and discussed with corporate departments, such as Group Treasury, Group Tax, Group Legal and Accounting Netherlands.

## **Corporate Social Responsibility**

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) is embedded within the Adecco Group's policy and is based on the CSR Performance ladder level 3. The key principle is the basic right of all individuals to decent and safe work. This principle enables the Company to nurture the right conditions for maximum diversity in the workplace for training and education.

The Company removes obstacles for those for whom access to employment is not (yet) an inevitable given. The Company establish partnerships with civil society organizations who hold the same work-related objectives as ourselves. We take our responsibility for our environment very seriously. Where possible concrete measures to reduce waste, energy consumption and pollution are taken.

Key priorities are:

- Excellence Contributing to the positive effects for the stakeholders and society.
- Development of talent (Skills) Enhancing prospects for self-development, for everyone.
- Integration
   Equal opportunities in the labor market, for everyone.
- Prevention (Safety) Effective health and safety, proper conditions of work for everyone.

The Adecco Group is constantly striving to match quality and capacity at work so that individuals can get the best out of themselves. The firm belief is that this will benefit the quality of life for the people who work via the Adecco Group. At the same time this has a positive effect on employers and society in general. In achieving this goal, less capacity will be lost as a result of the under or over-utilization of human capital. This vision ties in with a sustainable employment market.

## Management and Supervision Act (Wet Bestuur en Toezicht)

As of January 1, 2013, the law 'Wet Bestuur en Toezicht', a new Management and Supervision Act came into effect. The new Act requires large-sized legal entities to have a balanced composition of their Board of Directors in terms of gender, with at least 30% of the seats occupied by women and at least 30% by men.

The current composition of the Board of Directors deviates from the above mentioned percentages. With regard to future nominations and appointments, the Board of Directors will take the gender diversity objectives into account as much as possible.

The members of the Board of Directors did not receive remuneration in 2020 (2019: nil) in their capacity as Board of Directors of the Company.

The Board of Directors of the Company is composed as follows:

- Adriaan Belonje, director as of January 1, 2021
- Coram Williams, director as of June 1, 2020
- Robert Wolff, director as of May 1, 2019

## **Responsibility statement of the Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors confirms that internal controls over financial reporting provide a reasonable level of assurance that the financial reporting does not contain any material inaccuracies, and confirms that these controls functioned properly in the year under review and that there are no indications that they will not continue to do so. The financial statements fairly represent the Company's financial condition and the results of the Company's operations and provide the required disclosures.

It should be noted that the above does not imply that these systems and procedures provide absolute assurance as to the realization of operational and strategic business objectives, or that they can prevent all misstatements, inaccuracies, errors, fraud and non-compliances with legislation rules and regulations.

In accordance with Article 5.25c of the Financial Markets Supervisory Act, and in view of all of the above the Board of Directors confirms, that to its knowledge, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit or loss of the Company and the financial statements include a fair review of the position at the balance sheet date and the development and performance of the business during the financial year together with a description of the principal risks and uncertainties that the Company faces.

March 19, 2021 The Board of Directors

Adriaan Belonje

Coram Williams

Robert Wolff

## **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2020**

## **Balance sheet**

(after proposed appropriation of result)

		Balance she December	-	Balance sheet as per December 31, 2019		
	Note	EUR	EUR	EUR	EUR	
Non-current assets						
Long-term loans to Group companies	4	1,335,185,881	4 225 425 224	1,552,225,077	4	
Total non-current assets			1,335,185,881		1,552,225,077	
Current assets						
Receivables from Group companies	5	248,912,105		20,952,586		
Current account with Group company	6	13,525,637		-		
Other receivables		6,472		-		
Corporate income tax receivable	17	-		241,222		
Total current assets			262,444,214		21,193,808	
Cash						
Cash	7	87,854		366,310		
Total cash			87,854		366,310	
Total assets			1,597,717,949		1,573,785,195	
Sharesholder's equity	2			2 5 2 2 2 2 2		
Share capital	8	2,500,000		2,500,000		
Share premium	8 8	30,223,245		30,223,245		
Additional paid in capital Accumulated losses	8	23,786,217		23,786,217		
Total sharesholder's equity	×	(48,668,548)	7,840,914	(49,728,647)	6,780,815	
			- ,,		-,,	
Non-current liabilities						
Long-term liabilities, less current maturities	9	1,341,093,899		1,558,312,276		
Total non-current liabilities			1,341,093,899		1,558,312,276	
Current liabilities						
Long-term liabilities - current portion	10	245,004,194		-		
Payables to Group companies	11	684,706		6,044,720		
Interest payables to third parties	12	3,090,862		2,406,064		
Other payables	13	-		241,320		
Corporate income tax payable	17	3,374				
Total current liabilities			248,783,136		8,692,104	
Total shareholder's equity and liabilities			1,597,717,949		1,573,785,195	

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

## **Income statement**

	Income statement over the year 2020		Income statement over the year 2019
	Note	EUR EUR	EUR EUR
Financial income	14	34,453,489	40,065,023
Financial expenses	15	(33,155,180)	(39,515,835)
Financial result		1,298,309	549,188
General and administrative expenses	16	(122,952)	(185,991)
Result before taxation		1,175,357	363,197
Income taxes	17	(115,258)	(196,508)
Result after taxation		1,060,099	166,689

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

## **Cash flow statement**

	Cash flow statement		Cash flow statement		
	over the ye	ar 2020	over the ye	ear 2019	
	EUR	EUR	EUR	EUR	
Operating activities	(100, 170)		(156.000)		
Operating expenses	(138,478)		(156,283)		
Interest received Interest paid	33,348,103 (23,027,528)		26,590,249 (29,833,270)		
Financing and guarantee fees paid	(23,027,528) (7,093,858)		(29,833,270) (6,978,313)		
Taxes paid (VAT)	(246,565)		(64,857)		
Taxes paid (current income tax)	(168,631)		(215,341)		
Taxes refund (current income tax)	297,969		(213,341)		
	207,000				
Cash flow used in operating activities		2,971,012		(10,657,815)	
Investing activities					
Issuance of loans to Group companies	(44,427,317)		(311,413,000)		
Collection of loans to Group companies	15,600,000		420,927,021		
Cash flow from investing activities		(28,827,317)		109,514,021	
Financing activities					
Proceeds from the issuance of long-term liabilities	44,471,878		297,438,000		
Received loans from Group companies	-		5,350,000		
Repayment of long-term liabilities - current portion	-		(400,000,000)		
Repayment of loans from Group companies	(5,350,000)		(1,700,000)		
Issuance of commercial paper Repayment of commercial paper	25,000,000 (25,000,000)		-		
Cash flow used in financing activities		39,121,878		(98,912,000)	
Net cash flow	_	13,265,573	-	(55,794)	
Exchange rate differences on cash		(18,392)		(843)	
Change in cash items		13,247,181		(56,637)	
Cash at beginning of year		366,310		422,947	
Cash at end of year		87,854		366,310	
Current account with Group company at beginning of year		-		-	
Current account with Group company at end of year		13,525,637		-	
Change in cash items		13,247,181		(56,637)	
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The cash flow statement has been prepared in accordance with the direct method. The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

## Notes to the financial statements

## 1. General

Adecco International Financial Services B.V. (the 'Company') was incorporated on March 1, 2006 as a private limited liability company, with its registered seat in Utrecht, the Netherlands, having its head office at Hogeweg 123, 5301 LL Zaltbommel, the Netherlands. Registered with the Chamber of Commerce with number: 30212925. The Company is governed by the Netherlands law.

The Company is a wholly owned subsidiary of Adecco Group AG, Zurich, Switzerland. Adecco Group AG is registered in Switzerland and listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange

The principal activity of the Company is to act as finance company of the Group.

## Going concern and impact of COVID-19 pandemic

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis in conformity with Part 9 of book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code.

The financial statements of the Company will be filed at the Trade Register of the Chamber of Commerce in Utrecht, the Netherlands, after adoption by the General Meeting of Shareholders.

The financial statements of the Company are included in the consolidated financial statements of Adecco Group AG. Copies of the consolidated financial statements are available at the head office of the parent company.

The Company has performed an impact study in association with its external legal partner on the reporting obligations in relation to the Brexit and has concluded that the Company is not being impacted by the Brexit. No direct business is done with the UK, except for the listing of the Company's bonds on the London Stock Exchange (LSE) for which reporting obligations have been reviewed in relation to the Brexit.

The on-going coronavirus / COVID-19 outbreak across the globe prompted government authorities to adopt containment measures that have disrupted the local economies. In the context of COVID-19, the management has reviewed its management forecast and, more importantly for the near term, its liquidity forecast both during 2020 as well as for 2021 and onwards. The Board of Directors expects the direct impact on the operation of the Company to be limited. Among the outstanding bonds of the Company, the earliest maturity date is on November 21, 2021.

Although there is no immediate direct impact on the operations of the Company, the parent Company is willing and has cash balance (due to the closure of the Soliant divestiture end of December 2019) and an revolving credit facility that can, when necessary, support the borrowers to cope with adverse effects of this pandemic and to meet their financial obligation to the Company.

The management will carefully monitor the situation and will take appropriate actions, when necessary.

## 2. Summary of significant accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted in preparing the financial statements of the Company are as follows:

#### a) Basis of presentation

The financial statements are drawn up in accordance with the provisions of Title 9, Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code and the firm pronouncements in the Dutch Accounting Standards, as published by the Dutch Accounting Standards Board ('Raad voor de Jaarverslaggeving').

The accounting principles applied to the valuation of assets and liabilities and the determination of results in these financial statements are based on the assumption of continuity of the Company.

Assets and liabilities are generally measured at historical cost or at fair value at the time of acquisition. The balance sheet and profit and loss account contain references. These refer to the disclosures in the financial statements.

#### b) Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Dutch GAAP requires management to make judgements, assumptions, and estimates that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. On an on-going basis, management evaluates its estimates which is related to the allowance for doubtful accounts.

The Company bases its estimates on historical experience and on various other market-specific assumptions that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The results of these estimates form the basis for making judgements about the carrying value of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results differ from those estimates.

#### c) Reporting currency

Items included in the financial statements of Company are measured using the currency of the primary economic environment in which the Company operates (the functional currency) and reflects the significance of the Company's Euro-dominated operations. The financial statements are presented in euros (EUR), which is the functional and presentation currency of the Company.

Transactions in foreign currencies are stated in the financial statements at the exchange rate of the functional currency on the transaction date. Monetary assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are converted to the closing rate of the functional currency on the balance sheet date. The translation differences resulting from settlement and conversion are credited or charged to the income statement.

## d) Related parties

All legal entities, natural persons and other related companies which can control the Company are considered to be a related party. In addition, statutory directors, other key management of the Company or the parent company and close relatives are regarded as related parties.

Transactions with related parties are disclosed in the notes insofar as they are not transacted under normal market conditions. The nature, extent and other information is disclosed if this is necessary in order to provide the true and fair view.

#### e) Long-term assets

Long-terms assets are recognised initially at fair value, net of transaction cost and subsequently measured at amortised cost.

The Company assesses at each balance sheet date whether there is objective evidence that the loans to Group companies is impaired. If any such evidence exists, the impairment loss is determined and recognised in the income statement.

The amount of an impairment loss incurred on loans to Group companies stated at amortised cost is measured as the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows, discounted at the financial asset's original effective interest rate (i.e. the effective interest rate computed at initial recognition).

If, in a subsequent period, the amount of the impairment loss decreases and the decrease can be related objectively to an event occurring after the impairment was recognised, the previously recognised impairment loss shall be reversed.

The reversal shall not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the amortised cost would have been had the impairment not been recognised at the date the impairment is reversed. The amount of the reversal shall be recognised through income statement.

The balances of loans to Group companies that are expected to be recovered or collected more than twelve months after the reporting date are presented as non-current assets.

## f) Current assets

Short terms loans to Group companies are recognised initially at fair value, net of transaction cost and subsequently measured at amortised cost. Corporate income tax receivable and other (group) receivables are stated at nominal value. The interest receivables from Group companies are stated at amortised cost (which generally equals nominal value).

A cash pool account with Adecco Liquidity Services has been in place since 2020 and is reported as current account with Group company at nominal value.

## g) Cash

Cash is stated at nominal value. The cash balance at the year-end represents cash held at banks at the free disposal of the Company.

## h) Shareholder's equity

Share capital, comprising of common shares, is classified as equity and is stated as nominal value. Share premium includes consideration received in excess of the par value on the issuance of share capital. Additional paid-in capital pertains to the amounts received from the parent Company after the issuance of share to ensure to strengthen the equity position of the Company.

## i) Long-term liabilities

Long-term liabilities are recognised initially at fair value, net of transaction cost and subsequently measured at amortised cost.

The difference between stated book value and the mature redemption value is accounted for as interest cost in the income statement on the basis of the effective interest rate during the estimated term of the long-term debts.

The amounts to be paid more than twelve months after the reporting date are presented as non-current liabilities.

## j) Current liabilities

Short terms loans from Group companies are recognised initially at fair value, net of transaction cost and subsequently measured at amortised cost. The interest payables, other (group) payables, accrued and other liabilities are recognised at amortised cost (which generally equals nominal value).

## k) Determination of the result

Interest income and expenses are recognised on a pro rata basis, taking account of the effective interest rate of the assets and liabilities to which they relate. In accounting for interest expenses, the recognised transaction expenses for loans received are taken into consideration.

General and administrative expenses are determined on a historical basis and are attributed to the reporting year to which they relate. Expenses incurred in the direction and general administration of day-to-day operations of the Company and are generally recognised when the service is used or the expense arises.

## I) Income taxes

Taxes are based on tax rulings concluded with the Dutch Tax Authorities and the (fiscal) operating expenses as disclosed in the income statement and are stated at nominal value. The effective tax rate applied will differ from the nominal tax rate of 25.0% (2019: 25.0%).

## m) Cash flow statement

The cash flow statement has been prepared in accordance with the direct method.

Consolidated cash flows for the entire group are included in the Adecco Group AG consolidated financial statements. A separate cash flow statement for the Company is not required by Dutch law. To be in line with the practice in the capital market, the Company prepares a cash flow statement, using the direct method.

The cash items included in the cash flow statement consists of current accounts maintained with local banks and the cash pool account which is presented in the financial statement as current account with Group company.

Cash flows denominated in foreign currencies have been translated at average exchange rates and exchange differences affecting the cash balance is included in the respective amounts.

Cash from loans granted to group companies are included in investing activities. Cash from borrowings including additional paid-in capital are included in the financing activities. Interest received and paid and all other movements in the cash balance are included in operating activities.

## 3. Risk disclosure

This risk paragraph is a copy of the risk management paragraph as reported in the Board of Directors' Report.

The purpose of the Company is to provide flexible financing to companies within the Adecco Group. The risks for the Company are mainly financing risks. The Company issues bonds and commercial paper program loans, and the proceeds are lent to other Adecco Group companies as long- and short-term loans.

The risk profile has not changed significantly in the last years. The Company has classified its risk into two categories:

- Financial risks and;
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The company continuously monitors the risks within both categories. The Company's risks and uncertainties (the risk appetite) is limited for each risk category. The level of the Company's risk appetite gives guidance as to whether the Company would take measures to control such uncertainties.

The risk appetite is further clarified in the section below.

## **Financial risks**

#### Market Risk / Price Risk

The Company is exposed to market/price risk, especially the interest rate risk on loans to Adecco Group companies. The intercompany loan extensions will be renegotiated considering current market interest rates which may be different compared to the rate upon issuance of the bond.

The possibility exists that intercompany loans will bear a lower interest rate than the initial intercompany loan entered into upon issuance of the bond which will have an impact on the profitability of the Company. If the situation requires, the parent company is willing and has the ability to recapitalize the Company or can implement other measures to support the Company to continue as a going concern.

The interest rate risk for the Company is limited as all lending activities are subject to fixed rates and the loans and debts have the same maturity date.

## Credit Risk

Credit risk arises mainly from the lending activities of the Company where there is a possibility of incurring losses as a result of a default of a borrower. Since the lending activity is constrained within the Adecco Group, the implicit risk of the Company is the risk for the parent company, Adecco Group AG.

As of December 31, 2020, the credit rating of Adecco Group AG is 'BBB+' (2019: 'BBB+'), by Standard and Poor's and 'Baa1' (2019: 'Baa1') by Moody's, which is considered to be 'strong investment grade' by the market. Therefore, the risk of a credit loss on the group lending is limited.

Furthermore, Adecco Group AG, as a beneficial owner of the Company, ensures that Adecco Group companies can meet their contractual and other obligations to third parties under the guarantee structure.

## Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk refers to the possibility of not being able to meet own payment obligations in full or when due. The Board of Directors believes that the ability to generate cash from operations combined with additional capital resources available is sufficient to support the existing business activities and to meet short and medium-term financial commitments.

## Foreign exchange risk

Foreign exchange risk is the risk that the future cash flows of financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in foreign exchange rates. It arises on financial instruments that are denominated in a foreign currency other than the functional currency which they are measured. The Company has foreign exchange risk arising from the USD bond issued in 2017 (maturing in 2021) and the NOK bond issued in 2020 (maturing in 2030). This risk is mitigated by lending on the proceeds to other Adecco Group companies in the same currency.

#### **Reporting and Compliance risks**

The complexity of the laws regulating public interest entities have increased in the last years, which means that the Company is subject to increased exposure to non-compliance, which could result in fines or reputational damage.

#### Internal Control Systems

The Company's internal control system is designed to provide reasonable assurance to Adecco Group management and the Board of Directors regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation and fair presentation of its financial statements. All internal control systems, no matter how well designed, have limitations.

Furthermore, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

#### Putting controls into practice

There is a monthly result reporting and forecasting to Adecco Group AG. The Company submits a management representations letter quarterly that certifies that the corporate policies have been complied with and explains any exceptions or deviations that have occurred. In addition, the Company also submits a legal report that certifies that all applicable laws and regulations have been complied with.

There is a quarterly business review meeting with the Board of Directors, where all aspects of the business are scrutinized and discussed with corporate departments, such as Group Treasury, Group Tax, Group Legal and Accounting Netherlands.

## 4. Long-term loans to Group companies

The long-term loans to Group companies can be detailed as follows:

Group Company	Interest rate	Maturity	01-01-2020 Opening balance	Additions	Redemption / Transfers *	FX revaluations	<b>31-12-2020</b> Closing balance
			EUR	EUR	EUR	EUR	EUR
Adecco Refinancing B.V., The Netherlands	1.597%	2024	167,154,000	-	-	-	167,154,000
Adecco Refinancing B.V., The Netherlands	1.431%	2024	199,867,000	-	-	-	199,867,000
Adecco Refinancing B.V., The Netherlands	1.676%	2024	127,539,000	-	-	-	127,539,000
Adecco Group AG, Switzerland	1.897%	2020	83,751,069	-	-	-	83,751,069
Adecco Group AG, Switzerland **	3.525%	2021	264,602,077	-	(242,855,958)	(21,746,119)	-
Adecco Group AG, Switzerland ***	2.800%	2030	-	47,562,881	-	-	47,562,881
Adecco Invest SA, Switzerland	2.400%	2022	497,250,000	-	-	-	497,250,000
Adecco Refinancing B.V., The Netherlands	1.486%	2029	212,061,931	-	-	-	212,061,931

 Long-term loans to Group companies
 1,552,225,077
 47,562,881
 (242,855,958)
 (21,746,119)
 1,335,185,881

Transfers of loans relate to loans maturing within twelve months after balance sheet date.
 These loans have been reclassed from long-term loans to short-term loans as per the balance sheet date.

\*\* The long-term loan to Adecco Group AG, Switzerland is stated in USD and is impacted by the foreign exchange rate.

\*\*\* The long-term loan to Adecco Group AG, Switzerland is stated in NOK and is impacted by the foreign exchange rate.

Group Company	Interest rate	Maturity	01-01-2019 Opening balance	Additions	Redemption / Transfers *	FX revaluations	<b>31-12-2019</b> Closing balance
			EUR	EUR	EUR	EUR	EUR
Adecco Secad Ltd, Bermuda	2.400%	2019	497,250,000	-	(497,250,000)	-	-
Adecco Refinancing B.V., The Netherlands	1.600%	2024	167,154,000	-	-	-	167,154,000
Adecco Refinancing B.V., The Netherlands	1.431%	2024	199,867,000	-	-	-	199,867,000
Adecco Refinancing B.V., The Netherlands	1.680%	2024	127,539,000	-	-	-	127,539,000
Adecco Secad Ltd, Bermuda **	3.525%	2021	258,729,495	-	(258,729,495)	-	-
Adecco Group AG, Switzerland	1.897%	2020	-	83,751,069	-	-	83,751,069
Adecco Group AG, Switzerland **	3.525%	2021	-	-	258,729,495	5,872,582	264,602,077
Adecco Invest SA, Switzerland	2.400%	2022	-	-	497,250,000	-	497,250,000
Adecco Refinancing B.V., The Netherlands	1.486%	2029	-	212,061,931	-	-	212,061,931
Long-term loans to Group companies			1,250,539,495	295,813,000	-	5,872,582	1,552,225,077

\* Transfers of loans relate to loans maturing within twelve months after balance sheet date.

These loans have been reclassed from long-term loans to short-term loans as per the balance sheet date.

\*\* The long-term loan to Adecco Secad Ltd, Bermuda / Adecco Group AG, Switzerland is stated in USD and is impacted by the foreign exchange rate. The FX revaluation is shown at Adecco Group AG, Switzerland who took over the loan from Adecco Secad Ltd, Bermuda.

## 5. Receivables from Group companies

The receivables from Group companies can be detailed as follows:

	31-12-2020 EUR	31-12-2019 EUR
Short-term loans to Group companies *	242,855,958	15,600,000
Interest receivables from Group companies	6,056,147	5,352,586
Receivables from Group companies	248,912,105	20,952,586

\* The USD loan with Adecco Group AG has become a short-term loan as it will mature in 2021. This loan is impacted by the foreign exchange rate.

The short-term loans to Group companies for 2020 relates to a loan with Adecco Group AG which has an interest rate of 3.525%. The short-term loans to Group companies for 2019 relates to a loan with Adecco Invest S.A. at an interest rate of 0.067% which has been repaid in 2020.

## 6. Current account with Group company

The current account with Group company of EUR 13,525,637 (2019: nil) relates to the cash pool agreement with Adecco Liquidity Services. This cash pool agreement also provides a maximum credit facility of EUR 7,500,000.

## 7. Cash

Cash is stated at nominal value. The cash balance at the year-end represents cash held at banks and is readily available.

## 8. Shareholder's equity

The authorized share capital amounts to EUR 12,500,000 divided into 12,500 shares, each with a nominal value of EUR 1,000. As of December 31, 2020, there were 2,500 shares registered and fully paid in.

Shareholder's equity 2020	Share capital	Share premium	Additional paid in capital	Accumulated losses	Total
	EUR	EUR	EUR	EUR	EUR
Shareholder's equity January 1, 2020	2,500,000	30,223,245	23,786,217	(49,728,647)	6,780,815
Result after taxation	-	-	-	1,060,099	1,060,099
Shareholder's equity December 31, 2020	2,500,000	30,223,245	23,786,217	(48,668,548)	7,840,914
Shareholder's equity 2019	Share capital	Share premium	Additional paid	Accumulated losses	Total
	EUR	EUR	in capital EUR	EUR	EUR
Shareholder's equity January 1, 2019	2,500,000	30,223,245	23,786,217	(49,895,336)	6,614,126
Result after taxation	-	-	-	166,689	166,689
Shareholder's equity December 31, 2019	2,500,000	30,223,245	23,786,217	(49,728,647)	6,780,815

These financial statements have been prepared on the basis that the result for the year will be added to accumulated losses account. A proposal will be made at the General Meeting of Shareholders.

## 9. Long-term liabilities

The long-term liabilities can be detailed as follows:

	Interest Maturity rate		01-01-2020 turity Opening balance	lssuance (+) Transfer to	Amorization	FX revaluations	<b>31-12-2020</b> Closing balance
			EUR	current (-) EUR	EUR	EUR	EUR
Nominal value bond issued 2015 500M EUR	1.500%	2022	500,000,000	-	-	-	500,000,000
Issuance discount and costs			(998,415)	-	379,113	-	(619,302)
Nominal value bond issued 2017 300M USD *	2.625%	2021	267,558,600	(267,558,600)	-	-	-
Issuance discount and costs *			(1,355,061)	1,355,061	-	-	-
Nominal value bond issued 2016 500M EUR	1.000%	2024	500,000,000	-	-	-	500,000,000
Issuance discount and costs			(3,816,544)	-	776,256	-	(3,040,288)
Nominal value bond issued 2019 300M EUR	1.250%	2029	300,000,000	-	-	-	300,000,000
Issuance discount and costs			(3,076,304)	-	311,136	-	(2,765,168)
Nominal value bond issued 2020 500M NOK **	2.650%	2030	-	44,561,000	-	3,145,000	47,706,000
Issuance costs **			-	(198,763)	11,420	-	(187,343)
Long-term liabilities, less current maturi	ties		1,558,312,276	(221,841,302)	1,477,925	3,145,000	1,341,093,899

\* 2017 Bond is stated in USD and is impacted by the foreign exchange rate. This revaluation is included in the data as per year-end 2020 and 2019.

\*\* 2020 Bond is stated in NOK and is impacted by the foreign exchange rate. This revaluation is included in the data as per year-end 2020.

The issuance costs are stated and charged in EUR so not impacted by the foreign exchange rate. There is no discount.

	Interest rate	Maturity	01-01-2019 Opening balance	lssuance (+) Transfer to current (-)	Amorization	FX revaluations	<b>31-12-2019</b> Closing balance
			EUR	EUR	EUR	EUR	EUR
Nominal value bond issued 2015 500M EUR	1.500%	2022	500,000,000	-	-	-	500,000,000
Issuance discount and costs			(1,361,378)	-	362,963	-	(998,415)
Nominal value bond issued 2017 300M USD *	2.625%	2021	261,620,400	-	-	5,938,200	267,558,600
Issuance discount and costs *			(2,047,719)	-	739,127	(46,469)	(1,355,061)
Nominal value bond issued 2016 500M EUR	1.000%	2024	500,000,000	-	-	-	500,000,000
Issuance discount and costs			(4,592,800)	-	776,256	-	(3,816,544)
Nominal value bond issued 2019 300M EUR	1.250%	2029	-	300,000,000	-	-	300,000,000
Issuance discount and costs			-	(3,267,000)	190,696	-	(3,076,304)
Long-term liabilities, less current matur	rities		1,253,618,503	296,733,000	2,069,042	5,891,731	1,558,312,276

\* 2017 Bond is stated in USD and is impacted by the foreign exchange rate. This revaluation is included in the data as per year-end 2019.

All bonds are listed at the London Stock Exchange, United Kingdom.

On May 20, 2019, the Company issued a loan to Adecco Refinancing B.V. The proceeds were used by Adecco Refinancing B.V. to initiate the bond buyback program which was launched by the Adecco Group.

As a result of this buyback, Adecco Refinancing B.V. is holding EUR 199,995,000 of the 2015-2022 bond.

Nominal amounts held by participants after buyback programm	<b>31-12-2020</b> EUR	<b>31-12-2019</b> EUR
Third parties Group companies	1,393,280,500 199,995,000	1,367,563,600 199,995,000
Nominal amounts held by participants after buyback programm	1,593,275,500	1,567,558,600

#### Bond 2015-2022

On May 18, 2015, the Company issued EUR 500,000,000 fixed rate bond guaranteed by the parent company, due November 22, 2022 (7-year 184 days bond).

The interest is paid on the fixed rate bond annually in arrears at a fixed annual rate of 1.500%, the effective interest rate is 1.509%.

#### Bond 2016-2024

On December 2, 2016, the Company issued EUR 500,000,000 fixed rate bond guaranteed by the parent company, due December 2, 2024 (8-year bond).

The interest is paid on the fixed rate bond annually in arrears at a fixed annual rate of 1.000%, the effective interest rate is 1.110%. The issuance fee related to the bond is EUR 471,810. The net proceeds, EUR 494,560,000, were partially used for the bond buyback program of the Adecco Group.

## Bond 2017-2021

On November 21, 2017, the Company issued USD 300,000,000 (equivalent to EUR 245,569,500 as per December 31, 2020 revalued balance; equivalent to EUR 267,558,600 as per December 31, 2019 revalued balance) fixed rate bond guaranteed by the parent company, due November 21, 2021 (4-year bond). The Company as the issuer has an option to redeem the bond at any point within the term of the instrument.

The interest is paid on the fixed rate bond annually in arrears at a fixed annual rate of 2.625%, the effective interest rate is 2,803%. The issuance fee related to the bond is EUR 260,162. The net proceeds were used for general financing purposes of the Adecco Group.

#### Bond 2019-2029

On May 20, 2019, the Company issued EUR 300,000,000 fixed rate bond guaranteed by the parent company, due November 20, 2029 (10.5-year bond). The Company as the issuer has an option to redeem the bond during period commencing three months prior to the maturity date.

The interest is paid on the fixed rate bond annually in arrears at a fixed annual rate of 1.250%, the effective interest rate is 1.307%. The issuance fee related to the bond is EUR 1,605,000. The net proceeds, EUR 297,438,000, were partially used for the bond buyback program of the Adecco Group and for general financing purposes.

#### Bond 2020-2030

On May 29, 2020, the Company issued a senior unsecured fixed rate bond denominated in NOK in a private placement for NOK 500,000,000 (equivalent to EUR 47,706,000 as per December 31, 2020 revalued balance). The bond is guaranteed by Adecco Group AG, the parent company and will mature on August 29, 2030.

The interest is paid on the fixed rate bond annually on August 29 in arrears at a fixed annual rate of 2.650% (starting from 2021 with a coupon of NOK 16,562,500 in 2021 and NOK 13,250,000 thereafter), the effective interest rate is 2.700%. The issuance fee related to the bond is NOK 1,500,000. The net proceeds, NOK 498,500,000 (equivalent to EUR 47,562,881 as per December 31, 2020 revalued balance), were used for general financing purposes of the Adecco Group.

## 10. Long-term liabilities – current portion

The current portion of long-term liabilities can be detailed as follows:

	Interest Maturity rate	31-12-2020 EUR	31-12-2019 EUR
Nominal value bond issued 2017 300M USD $^{st}$	2.625% 2021	245,569,500	-
Issuance discount and costs *		(565,306)	-
Current portion of long-term debt		245,004,194	-

\* 2017 Bond is stated in USD and is impacted by the foreign exchange rate. This revaluation is included in the data as per year-end 2020. As this bond will mature in 2021 it has been reclassed in the financial statements 2020 to Long-term liabilities – current portion.

## **11.** Payables to Group companies

The payables to Group companies can be detailed as follows:

	31-12-2020	31-12-2019
	EUR	EUR
Short-term loans from Group companies	-	5,350,000
Interest payables to Group companies	1,170	291
Other payables to Group companies	683,536	694,429
Payables to Group companies	684,706	6,044,720

The interest payables to Group companies as per December 31, 2020 relate to the interest that needs to be paid on the current account (cash pool) with Adecco Liquidity Services AG. Currently there is an interest payable (debit interest rate) on the cash pool although the Company has a cash surplus. No cash pool was in place in 2019. The presented balance of 2019 relates to a loan of EUR 5,350,000 with Adecco Refinancing which had an interest rate of 0.065% and matured in December 2020.

## **12.** Interest payables to third parties

The interest payables to third parties of EUR 3,090,862 (2019: EUR 2,406,064) relates to the interest accrued and not yet paid interest (coupon) on the fixed rate bonds. The amount of interest payables to third parties increased compared to 2019 due to the new issued bond which has a first long coupon period which is due in August 2021. The coupon on the bonds is each year paid in August, November and December.

## **13. Other payables**

The amount of 2019 relates to accrued expenses of EUR 13,442 and EUR 227,878 Value Added Tax (VAT) to pay.

## 14. Financial income

The financial income can be detailed as follows:

Financial income	34,453,489	40,065,023
Foreign exchange gain	124,599	-
Interest income from Group companies	34,328,890	40,065,023
	2020 EUR	2019 EUR

## **15. Financial expenses**

The financial expenses can be detailed as follows:

	2020	2019
	EUR	EUR
Amortization discount and fees	(2,206,375)	(2,345,056)
Other financing fees *	(142,287)	(296,900)
Interest and similar expenses	(30,798,547)	(36,859,154)
Interest expense from Group companies	(7,971)	(1,673)
Foreign exchange loss	-	(13,052)
Financial expenses	(33,155,180)	(39,515,835)

\* The other financing fees relates to VAT expenses and other bond issuance expenses.

## 16. General and administrative expenses

The general and administrative expenses decreased compared to 2019 mainly as the year 2019 contained Value Added Tax (VAT) expenses and related penalties and interest related to VAT 2014-2019.

## 17. Taxes

## Income taxes

The total current income tax payable as of December 31, 2020 is EUR 3,374 (2019: nil) and the total expense in the income statement is EUR 115,258 (2019: EUR 196,508) of which EUR 56,747 tax income relates to 2019.

As the preliminary tax assessment for 2020 was lower than the year end calculation the Company has an income tax payable of EUR 3,374 at December 31, 2020 (2019: EUR 241,221 tax receivable linked to a higher preliminary tax assessment versus actual year end calculation).

The effective tax rate is 9.81% (2019: 54.11%) leading to a difference with the domestic income tax rate of 25%. This is caused by the Advanced Price Agreements (APA) which are in place, resulting in a difference between the commercial and fiscal result.

Next to that the tax expenses in the income statement of EUR 115,258 include a tax income of EUR 56,747 related to a prior year adjustment as a result from the final tax declaration 2019 as more costs were deductable within the Advanced Price Agreements. If we adjust the effective tax rate for this the rate is 14.63% (solo 2020).

See below overview from commercial result to taxable result resulting in the income taxes as presented in the income statement and the calculation of the effective tax rate for 2020 and 2019.

Commercial result to taxable result - Income taxes			2020 EUR	2019 EUR
Result before taxation			1,175,357	363,197
Permanent difference linked to adjustment for Advanced Pricin	ıg Agreement (APA)		(419,337)	470,837
Taxable result			756,020	834,034
	Tax rate 2020	Tax rate 2019		
Tax on EUR 0 - EUR 200,000	16.5%	19.0%	(33,000)	(38,000)
Tax on amount above EUR 200,000	25.0%	25.0%	(139,005)	(158,508)
Income taxes current year			(172,005)	(196,508)
Income taxes prior year			56,747	-
Income taxes			(115,258)	(196,508)
Effective Tax Rate (ETR)			2020 EUR	2019 EUR
			(172,005)	(196,508)
Income taxes current year				
Income taxes current year Income taxes prior year			56,747	-
			(115,258)	(196,508)
Income taxes prior year			,	
Income taxes prior year Income taxes current year			(115,258)	(196,508)

## 18. Employees

During 2020, the Company had no employees (2019: no employees).

## **19. Related party transactions**

In the normal course of business, the Company has transactions with related parties as follows:

- a) Loans granted to Group companies are EUR 1,578,041,839 (2019: 1,567,825,077). The related accrued interest receivables are EUR 6,056,147 (2019: 5,352,586) and are disclosed in notes 4 and 5. In note 6 the current account with Group company (cash pool) is disclosed for an amount of EUR 13,525,637 (2019: nil). In 2020, the management has assessed that no impairment loss needs to be recognised during the year (2019: nil).
- b) As of December 31, 2020, the balance of loans obtained from Group companies is nil (2019: EUR 5,350,000). There is only a balance related to interest payable which is the interest on the current account for EUR 1,170 (2019: nil) and for loans (2020: nil; 2019: EUR 291). This is disclosed in note 11. Currently there is an interest payable (debit interest rate) on the cash pool although the Company has a cash surplus.
- c) As of December 31, 2020, the balance of other payables to Group companies is EUR 683,536 (2019: EUR 694,429) and is disclosed in note 11. The amount relates to the guarantee fees to be paid to Adecco Group AG (to be paid in Q4 2021).
- d) Interest income from Group companies (financial income) is EUR 34,328,890 (2019: EUR 40,065,023) and is disclosed in note 14.
- e) In 2020, a guarantee fee (financial expenses) of EUR 6,888,538 (2019: EUR 8,054,798) is charged by Adecco Group AG for the underwriting of the bonds (and commercial paper in 2020). This is disclosed in note 15 in the interest and similar expenses.
- f) Interest expense from Group companies (financial expenses) is EUR 7,971 (2019: EUR 1,673) and is disclosed in note 15.

g) Recharged staff expenses from Group companies is EUR 24,000 (2019: EUR 22,800) and is -reported in note 16.

## **20.** Fair value non-derivative financial instruments

The following table shows the carrying value and the fair value of non-derivative financial instruments as of December 31, 2020 and 2019.

Fair value non-derivative financial instruments	31-12-2020 EUR	<b>31-12-2020</b> EUR	31-12-2019 EUR	<b>31-12-2019</b> EUR
	Carrying value	Fair value	Carrying value	Fair value
Non-current assets				
Long-term loans to Group companies	1,335,185,881	1,441,556,680	1,552,225,077	1,656,961,266
Current assets				
Short-term loans to Group companies	242,855,958	252,344,737	15,600,000	15,641,422
Interest receivables from Group companies	6,056,147	6,056,147	5,352,586	5,352,586
Current account with Group company	13,525,637	13,525,637	-	-
Cash	87,854	87,854	366,310	366,310
Non-current liabilities				
Long-term debt, less current maturities	1,341,093,899	1,412,698,080	1,558,312,276	1,629,153,115
Current liabilities				
Long-term liabilities - current portion	245,004,194	248,813,474	-	-
Short-term loans from Group companies	-	-	5,350,000	5,365,169
Interest payables to Group companies	1,170	1,170	291	291
Interest payables to third parties	3,090,862	3,090,862	2,406,064	2,406,064
Other payables to Group companies	683,536	683,536	694,429	694,429
Other payables	-	-	241,320	241,320

The fair value is presented at LAST / MID prices. The fair value is the amount for which an asset could be exchanged, or a liability settled, between knowledgeable, willing parties in an arm's length transaction. If no fair value can be readily and reliably established, fair value is approximated by deriving it from the fair value of components or of a comparable financial instrument, or by approximating fair value using valuation models and valuation techniques.

Valuation techniques include using recent arm's length market transactions between knowledgeable, willing parties, if available, reference to the current fair value of another instrument that is substantially the same, discounted cash flow analysis and/or option pricing models, making allowance for entity-specific inputs.

The Company uses the following methods to estimate the fair value of each class of non-derivative financial instruments:

## • Long and short term loans to – from Group companies

To calculate the fair market value of loans to Group companies, the discounted cash flow method was applied. Starting from the scheduled interest and principal payments set forth in the loan contracts each individual loan is valued by discounting the remaining interest and principal payments with the relevant interest rate as of valuation date.

## • Long-term liabilities including the current portion

The fair value of the Company's publicly traded long-term liabilities, including accrued interest, is estimated using quoted market prices on last trade during the year.

## • Other financial instruments

The carrying amounts approximate fair value primarily due to the relatively short-term maturities of these financial instruments.

## 21. Audit fees

The total audit fees for 2020 are EUR 44,000 excluding VAT (2019: EUR 44,000 excluding VAT). Fees are related to the assurance assignments of the Company, no other services are rendered.

## 22. Remuneration of the Board of Directors

The members of the Board of Directors did not receive remuneration in 2020 (2019: nil) in their capacity as Directors of the Company.

## **23.** Cross border listings

The Company has issued bonds that are listed on the London Stock Exchange.

## 24. Subsequent events

No significant events between the balance sheet date and the date of approval of the financial statements 2020 occurred that would require adjustments in the reported figures nor additional disclosure in the financial statements.

March 19, 2021 The Board of Directors

Adriaan Belonje

Coram Williams

Robert Wolff

## **OTHER INFORMATION**

## **Appropriation of result**

The articles of association of the Company (article 13) provide that the appropriation of the net result for the year is decided upon at the General Meeting of Shareholders.

The Company may make distributions of profit only to the extent that its shareholders' equity exceeds the sum of the amount of the paid up and called up part of the capital and the reserves which must be maintained by law; any distribution of profits shall be made after the adoption of the Annual Accounts from which it shall appear that the same is permitted.

## **Auditor's report**

See next page.

## Independent auditor's report

To: the shareholder of Adecco International Financial Services B.V.

## A. Report on the audit of the financial statements included in the annual report 2020

#### Our opinion

We have audited the financial statements 2020 of Adecco International Financial Services B.V. ("the Company") based in Utrecht.

WE HAVE AUDITED	OUR OPINION
The financial statements comprise:	In our opinion, the accompanying financial
<ol> <li>the balance sheet as at 31 December</li> </ol>	statements give a true and fair view of the
2020;	financial position of Adecco International
2. the profit and loss account for 2020; and	Financial Services B.V. as at 31 December
3. the notes comprising of a summary of the	2020 and of its result for 2020 in
accounting policies and other explanatory	accordance with Part 9 of Book 2 of the
information.	Dutch Civil Code.

#### Basis for our opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Dutch law, including the Dutch Standards on Auditing. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the 'Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements' section of our report.

We are independent of Adecco International Financial Services B.V. in accordance with the EU Regulation on specific requirements regarding statutory audit of public-interest entities, the "Wet toezicht accountantsorganisaties" (Wta, Audit firms supervision act), the "Verordening inzake de onafhankelijkheid van accountants bij assurance-opdrachten" (ViO, Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants, a regulation with respect to independence) and other relevant independence regulations in the Netherlands. Furthermore, we have complied with the "Verordening gedrags- en beroepsregels accountants" (VGBA, Dutch Code of Ethics).

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

#### Emphasis of matter in relation to the impact of COVID-19

We draw attention to the text in the explanatory notes to the financial statements on page 12, which describe the uncertainties about the (possible) consequences that the corona virus has for Adecco International Financial Services B.V. We have not modified our audit opinion as a result of this matter.

#### Materiality

Based on our professional judgement we determined the materiality for the financial statements as a whole at € 15.9 million. The materiality has been calculated as 1% of the total assets, which is the primary consideration of the users of the financial statements of the Company. We have also taken into account misstatements and/or possible misstatements that in our opinion are material for the users of the financial statements for qualitative reasons.

We agreed with the Board of Directors that misstatements in excess of  $\notin$  795,000, which are identified during the audit, would be reported to them, as well as smaller misstatements that in our view must be reported on qualitative grounds.

#### Our key audit matters

Key audit matters are those matters that, in our professional judgement, were of most significance in our audit of the financial statements. We have communicated the key audit matters to the Board of Directors. The key audit matter is not a comprehensive reflection of all matters discussed.

This matter was 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 this matter.

VALUATION OF LOANS	OUR AUDIT APPROACH
The Company is exposed to credit risk on loans	Our audit procedures in relation to the valuation
to group companies. The corresponding financial	of the loans included:
liabilities related to the loans to Group	<ul> <li>an examination of the impairment analysis</li> </ul>
companies are being guaranteed by Adecco	methodology applied by the Board of Directors
Group AG. We considered the valuation of these	and a validation of the mathematical accuracy
loans as a key audit matter due to the size of the	and consistency of the methodology applied
portfolio and due to the fact that non-	per group company;
performance on the loans may lead to	<ul> <li>a discussion with the Board of Directors</li> </ul>
impairment losses that have a negative impact	regarding their impairment analysis and
on the income statement. Judgement arises in	assumptions and comparing these against
the assessment whether there is objective	external observable data (e.g., data from
evidence that a loan is impaired and in the	credit rating agencies and financial data of
determination of the impairment loss.	Adecco Group AG as guarantor for the loans);
Based on the imperiment approximate a formed	<ul> <li>an analysis of the completeness of the identified immediate trianent by shallonging</li> </ul>
Based on the impairment assessment performed by the Board of Directors, the Board of Directors	identified impairment triggers by challenging the fair values determined by Board of
concluded that no objective evidence exists that	Directors.
a loan is impaired and as a result no impairment	Directors.
loss was recognized.	Further, we have reviewed the latest financial
toss was recognized.	information of Adecco Group AG and discussed
	these with its external auditor to assess its ability
	to cover the repayment of financial securities
	issued by the Company in case of default.
	We also assumed the adequacy of the disclosures
	in the financial statements relating to the loans to
	Group companies.

#### B. Report on other information included in the annual report

In addition to the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon, the annual report contains other information that consists of:

- Board of Directors' Report;
- Other information as required by Part 9 of Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code.

Based on the following procedures performed, we conclude that the other information:

- is consistent with the financial statements and does not contain material misstatements;
- contains the information as required by Part 9 of Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code.

We have read the other information. Based on our knowledge and understanding obtained through our audit of the financial statements or otherwise, we have considered whether the other information contains material misstatements.

By performing these procedures, we comply with the requirements of Part 9 of Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code and the Dutch Standard 720. The scope of the procedures performed is substantially less than the scope of those performed in our audit of the financial statements.

The Board of Directors is responsible for the preparation of the other information, including the Board of Directors' Report in accordance with Part 9 of Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code and other information as required by Part 9 of Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code.

#### C. Report on other legal and regulatory requirements

#### Engagement

We were engaged by the shareholder as auditor of Adecco International Financial Services B.V. on 21 April 2017, as of the audit for financial year 2017 and have operated as statutory auditor ever since that financial year.

#### No prohibited non-audit services

We have not provided prohibited non-audit services as referred to in Article 5(1) of the EU Regulation on specific requirements regarding statutory audit of public-interest entities.

#### D. Description of responsibilities regarding the financial statements

#### Responsibilities of the Board of Directors for the financial statements

The Board of Directors is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Part 9 of Book 2 of the Dutch Civil Code. Furthermore, the Board of Directors is responsible for such internal control as the Board of Directors determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. As part of the preparation of the financial statements, the Board of Directors is responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern. Based on the financial reporting framework mentioned, 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 operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Board of Directors should disclose events and circumstances that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern in the financial statements.

The Board of Directors is responsible for overseeing the company's financial reporting process.

#### Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objective is to plan and perform the audit engagement in a manner that allows us to obtain sufficient and appropriate audit evidence for our opinion.

Our audit has been performed with a high, but not absolute, level of assurance, which means we may not detect all material errors and fraud during our audit.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are 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 financial statements. The materiality affects the nature, timing and extent of our audit procedures and the evaluation of the effect of identified misstatements on our opinion.

We have exercised professional judgement and have maintained professional skepticism throughout the audit, in accordance with Dutch Standards on Auditing, ethical requirements and independence requirements. Our audit included among others:

- identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, designing and performing audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtaining 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;
- obtaining 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 entity's internal control;
- evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Board of Directors;
- concluding on the appropriateness of the Board of Directors' 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 entity'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 a company to cease to continue as a going concern;
- evaluating the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures; and
- evaluating whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Board of Directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant findings in internal control that we identify during our audit. In this respect we also submit an additional report to the Board of Directors in accordance with Article 11 of the EU Regulation on specific requirements regarding statutory audit of public-interest entities. The information included in this additional report is consistent with our audit opinion in this auditor's report.

We provide 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 Board of Directors, we determine the key audit matters: those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the financial statements. 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, not communicating the matter is in the public interest.

Amstelveen, 19 March 2021

For and on behalf of BDO Audit & Assurance B.V.,

sgd. drs. M.F. Meijer RA

AA21-0377