

31. Contingencies and commitments

(all amounts in Euro thousands)

	Group		Company	
	2016	2015	2016	2015
Guarantees to third parties on behalf of subsidiaries	-	-	874,835	728,819
Bank guarantee letters	24,740	45,077	4,499	4,429
Other	7,580	5,831	-	-
	32,320	50,908	879,334	733,248

Litigation matters in Egypt

A. Privatization cases

1. In 2011, two former employees of Beni Suef, filed an action before the Administrative Court of Cairo, seeking the nullification of the privatisation of Beni Suef which took place in 1999 through the sale of Beni Suef's shares to Financiere Lafarge after a public auction. Titan Group acquired in 1999 50 per cent and in 2008 the balance of Lafarge's interest in Beni Suef. Approximately 99,98 per cent in the share capital of Beni Suef is held today by Alexandria Portland. The Administrative Court of Cairo issued on 15 February 2014 a first instance judgment which entirely dismissed the request for cancellation of the privatisation of Beni Suef. The Court further judged the re-employment of ex-employees who had left the company in the framework of voluntary redundancy schemes. Beni Suef and the plaintiffs have already appealed against the judgment of the first instance court. On 19 January 2015, the Supreme Administrative Court issued a judgment suspending the case until the issuance of a ruling by the Supreme Constitutional Court on a lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of Law no. 32/2014 ('Appeal Procedures on State Contracts Law'). The case is still suspended and no further action has been taken until now. The view of Beni Suef's lawyers is that the plaintiffs' action is devoid of any legal or factual ground.

2. In June 2013, Beni Suef was notified of another action filed before the Administrative Court of Cairo seeking as in the above case to cancel the sale of the shares of Beni Suef to Financiere Lafarge. The Administrative Court of Cairo issued on 25 June 2015 a first instance judgment referring the case to the Investment Circuit no. 7. The latter has recently referred the case to the commissioners' panel and no hearing date has been scheduled until now. The view of Beni Suef's lawyers is that the action is devoid of any legal or factual ground.

3. In 2012, an ex-employee of Alexandria Portland brought an action before the Administrative Court of Alexandria against the President of the Republic of Egypt, the Prime Minister, the Minister of Investments, the Minister of Industry, the Governor of Alexandria, the Manager of the Mines and Salinas Project in Alexandria and the Manager of the Mines and Quarries Department in Alexandria seeking the annulment of the sale of the shares of Alexandria Portland to Blue Circle Cement Group in 1999. Alexandria Portland was not named defendant in the action. Following a capital market transaction concluded in 2001, Blue Circle Cement Group was acquired by Lafarge Group, which subsequently sold its interest in Alexandria Portland through two private transactions to Titan Group in 2002 and 2008. The Administrative Court of Alexandria issued on 31 January 2015 a first instance judgment which suspended the case initially until 28 May 2016 and subsequently until 15 October 2016, provided that by such date the Supreme Constitutional Court had ruled on the lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of Law no. 32/2014 ('Appeal Procedures on State Contracts Law'). The case has been referred to the Administrative Court of Cairo, Investment Circuit no.1 but no hearing has been scheduled until now. The view of Alexandria Portland's lawyers is that the action is devoid of any legal and factual ground.

4. In May 2013, a new action was filed by three ex-employees of Alexandria Portland seeking as in the above case the annulment of the sale of the shares of Alexandria Portland to Blue Circle Cement Group. The action has been raised against the Prime Minister, the Minister of Investment, and the Chairman of the holding company for chemical industries, the President of the Central Auditing Organization, the legal representative of Alexandria Portland and the legal representative of Blue Circle industries. The case has been repeatedly adjourned and no judgment will be handed down from the administrative Court until the issuance of a ruling by the Supreme Constitutional Court on the lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of Law no. 32/ 2014. The view of Alexandria Portland's lawyers is that the action is devoid of any legal and factual ground.