

1. General information

1.7 Deferred stripping costs

Stripping costs comprise the removal of overburden and other waste products. Stripping costs incurred in the development of a quarry before production commences are capitalised as follows:

Where such costs are incurred on quarry land that is owned by the Group, these are included within the carrying amount of the related quarry, under PPE and subsequently depreciated over the life of the quarry on a units-of-production basis. Where such costs are incurred on quarries held under an operating lease, these are included under 'Development expenditure' under Intangible assets and amortised over the shorter of the lease term and the useful life of the quarry.

1.8 Impairment of non-financial assets other than Goodwill

Assets that have an indefinite useful life (land not related to quarries) are not subject to amortisation and are tested annually for impairment. Assets that are subject to amortisation are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised, as an expense immediately, for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount. For the purposes of assessing impairment, assets are grouped at the lowest levels for which there are separately identifiable cash flows (cash-generating units). Non-financial assets other than goodwill that suffered impairment are reviewed for possible reversal of the impairment at each reporting date. An asset's recoverable amount is the higher of an asset or cash generating units (CGU) fair value less costs of sell and its value-in-use.

1.9 Leases

Where a Group entity is the lessee

Leases where substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership are retained by the lessor are classified as operating leases. Payments made under operating leases (net of any incentives received from the lessor) are charged to the income statement on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

Leases of PPE where the Group has substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership are classified as finance leases. Finance leases are capitalised at the commencement of the lease at the lower of the fair value of the leased property or the present value of the minimum lease payments, each determined at the inception of the lease. Each lease payment is allocated between the liability and finance charges. The corresponding rental obligations, net of finance charges, are included in liabilities. The interest element of the finance cost is charged to the income statement over the lease period so as to produce a constant periodic rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability for each period. PPE acquired under finance leases are depreciated over the shorter of the useful life of the asset and the lease term.

Leases are classified as finance leases or operating leases at the inception of the lease.

Where a Group entity is the lessor

Leases in which the Group entity does not transfer substantially all the risks and benefits of ownership of an asset are classified as operating leases. Operating leases of PPE are recognized according to their nature in the statement of financial position.

Payments made under operating leases are charged to profit or loss on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

Initial direct costs incurred in negotiating an operating lease are added to the carrying amount of the leased asset and recognised over the lease term on the same basis as rental income.

Contingent rents are recognised as revenue in the period in which they are earned.

1.10 Inventories

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost is determined using the weighted average cost method. The cost of finished goods and work in progress comprises raw materials, direct labour, other direct costs and related production overheads (based on normal operating capacity) but excludes borrowing costs. Net realisable value is the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business, less the estimated costs of completion and selling expenses.

Appropriate allowance is made for damaged, obsolete and slow moving items. Write-downs to net realisable value and inventory losses are expensed in cost of sales in the period in which the write-downs or losses occur.

1.11 Trade receivables

Trade receivables are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business. If collection is expected in one year or less (or in the normal operating cycle of the business if longer), they are classified as current assets. If not, they are presented as non-current assets.

Trade receivables are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment.

1.12 Cash and cash equivalents

In the statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments, and bank overdrafts, if they exist. Bank overdrafts are included within borrowings in current liabilities in the balance sheet. The components of cash and cash equivalents have a negligible risk of change in value.

1.13 Share capital

Ordinary shares and non-redeemable non-voting preferred shares with minimum statutory non-discretionary dividend features are classified as equity. Share capital represents the value of company's shares in issue. Any excess of the fair value of the consideration received over the par value of the shares issued is recognized as "share premium" in shareholders' equity.

Incremental external costs directly attributable to the issue of new shares or share options are shown in equity as a deduction, net of tax, from the proceeds.

Where the Company or its subsidiaries purchases the Company's own equity share capital (treasury shares), the consideration paid including any attributable incremental external costs net of income taxes is deducted from total shareholders' equity until they are cancelled or sold. Where such shares are subsequently sold or reissued, any consideration received, net of any directly attributed incremental transaction costs and the related income tax effect, is included in shareholders' equity.

1.14 Borrowings

Borrowings are recognised initially at fair value, net of transaction costs incurred. In subsequent periods, borrowings are carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Any difference between proceeds (net of transaction costs) and the redemption value is recognised in the income statement over the period of the borrowings using the effective interest method.

Fees paid on the establishment of loan facilities are recognized as transactions costs of the loan to the extent that it is probable that some or all of the facility will be drawn down. In this case, the fee is deferred until the draw down occurs. To the extent there is no evidence that it is probable that some or all of the facility will be drawn down, the fee is capitalised as a prepayment for liquidity services and amortised over the period of the facility to which it relates.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the Group entity has an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least 12 months after the balance sheet date.

1.15 Current and deferred income taxes

The tax expense for the period comprises current and deferred tax. Tax is recognised in the income statement, except to the extent that it relates to items recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity. In this case, the tax is also recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity, respectively.

Current income tax is calculated on the basis of the tax laws enacted or substantively enacted at the reporting date in the countries where the Company and its subsidiaries operate and generate taxable income. Management periodically evaluates positions taken in tax returns with respect to situations in which applicable tax regulation is subject to interpretation. It establishes provisions where appropriate on the basis of amounts expected to be paid to the tax authorities.

Deferred income tax is recognised using the liability method, on temporary differences arising between the tax bases of assets and liabilities and their carrying amounts in the financial statements. However, if the deferred income tax arises from initial recognition of an asset or liability in a transaction other than a business combination that at the time of the transaction affects neither accounting nor taxable profit and loss, it is not accounted for.

Deferred tax assets are recognised for all deductible temporary differences, the carry forward of unused tax credits and any unused tax losses. Deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is probable that taxable profit will be available against which the deductible temporary differences, and the carry forward of unused tax credits and unused tax losses can be utilized.

Deferred tax liabilities are recognised for taxable temporary differences arising on investments in subsidiaries, joint arrangements and associates, except where the Group is able to control the reversal of the temporary difference and it is probable that the temporary difference will not reverse in the foreseeable future. Deferred income tax is determined using tax rates (and laws) that have been enacted or substantively enacted at the reporting date and are expected to apply when the related deferred income tax asset is realised or the related deferred income tax liability is settled.

Deferred income tax assets and liabilities are offset when there is a legally enforceable right to offset current tax assets against current tax liabilities and when the deferred income taxes assets and liabilities relate to income taxes levied by the same taxation authority on

either the same taxable entity or different taxable entities where there is an intention to settle the balances on a net basis.

1.16 Employee benefits

Pension and other retirement obligations

The Group operates various pension and other retirement schemes, including both defined benefit and defined contribution pension plans in accordance with the local conditions and practices in the countries in which it operates. A defined contribution plan is a pension plan under which the Group pays fixed contributions into a separate entity. The Group has no legal or constructive obligations to pay further contributions if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay all employees the benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods. A defined benefit plan is a pension plan that is not a defined contribution plan.

Typically defined benefit plans define an amount of pension benefit that an employee will receive on retirement, usually dependent on one or more factors such as age, years of service and compensation.

The liability recognized in the statement of financial position in respect of defined benefit pension or retirement plans is the present value of the defined benefit obligation at the reporting date less the fair value of plan assets.

The defined benefit obligation is calculated annually by independent actuaries using the projected unit credit method. The present value of the defined benefit obligation is determined by discounting the estimated future cash outflows using interest rates of high quality corporate bonds or government bonds which have terms to maturity approximating to the terms of the related pension obligation.

Past service costs are recognized in profit or loss on the earlier of:

- The date of the plan amendment or curtailment, and
- The date that the Group recognizes restructuring-related costs

Net interest is calculated by applying the discount rate to the net defined benefit liability or asset. The Group recognizes the following changes in the net defined benefit obligation:

Service costs comprising current service costs, past-service costs, gains and losses on curtailments and non-routine settlements under other operating expenses/income

Net interest expense or income under finance expenses

Re-measurements, comprising of the actuarial gains and losses, the effect of the asset ceiling, excluding net interest (not applicable to the Group) and the return on plan assets (excluding net interest), are recognized immediately in the statement of financial position with a corresponding debit or credit to retained earnings through other comprehensive income (OCI) in the period in which they occur. Re-measurements are not reclassified to profit or loss in subsequent periods.

For defined contribution plans, the Group pays contributions to publicly or privately administered pension insurance plans on a mandatory, contractual or voluntary basis. Once the contributions have been paid, the Group has no further payment obligations. The regular contributions constitute net periodic costs for the year in which they are due and as such are included in staff costs.

Termination benefits

Termination benefits are payable whenever an employee's employment is terminated by the Group, before the normal retirement date or whenever an employee accepts voluntary redundancy in exchange for these benefits.

The Group recognises termination benefits when it is demonstrably committed to a termination when the entity has a detailed formal plan to terminate the employment of current employees without possibility of withdrawal. The obligating event is the termination and not the service. In the case of an offer made to encourage voluntary redundancy, the termination benefits are measured based on the number of employees expected to accept the offer. Benefits falling due more than 12 months after the end of the reporting period are discounted to their present value.

Profit sharing and bonus plans

A liability for employee benefits in the form of profit sharing and bonus plans is recognised in other provisions when the following conditions are met:

- there is a formal plan and the amounts to be paid are determined before the time of issuing the financial statements; or
- past practice has created a valid expectation by employees that they will receive a bonus/ profit sharing and the amount can be determined before the time of issuing the financial statements.

Share-based payments

Share options are granted to certain members of senior management at a discount to the market price of the shares at par value on the respective dates of the grants and are exercisable at those prices. The options must be exercised within twelve months of their respective vesting period. The scheme has a contractual option term of three years.

The fair value of the employee services received in exchange for the grant of the options is recognised as an expense during the vesting period, which is the period over which all of the specific vesting conditions are to be satisfied. The total amount to be expensed over the vesting period is determined by reference to the fair value of the options granted, specified by the date of grant:

- Including any market performance conditions (for example, an entity's share price);

- Excluding the impact if any service and non-market performance vesting conditions (for example profitability, sales growth targets and remaining an employee of the entity over a specified time period); and
- Including the impact of any non-vesting conditions (for example, the requirement for employees to save)

At the end of each reporting date, the Group revises its estimates of the number of options that are expected to vest and recognises the impact of the revision of original estimates, if any, in administrative expenses and cost of goods sold in the income statement, with a corresponding adjustment to equity. When the options are exercised, the Company issues new shares. The proceeds received net of any directly attributable transaction costs are credited to share capital (nominal value) and share premium reserve.

1.17 Government grants

Government grants are recognised at their fair value where there is a reasonable assurance that the grant will be received and the Group will comply with all attached conditions.

Government grants are recognized in profit or loss on a systematic basis over the periods in which the Group recognizes as expenses the related costs for which the grants are intended to compensate. Specifically, government grants whose primary condition is that the Group should purchase, construct or otherwise acquire non-current assets are recognized as deferred revenue in the statement of financial position and transferred to profit or loss on a systematic and rational basis over the useful lives of the related assets.

1.18 CO2 Emission rights

Emission rights are accounted for under the net liability method, based on which the Group recognizes a liability for emissions when the emissions are made and are in excess of the allowances allocated. The Group has chosen to measure the net liability on the basis of the period for which the irrevocable right to the cumulative emissions rights have been received. Emission rights purchases in excess of those required to cover its shortages are recognized as intangible asset. Proceeds from the sale of granted emission rights are recorded as a reduction to cost of sales.