

**BYBLOS BANK SAL**

**CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**31 DECEMBER 2015**

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF BYBLOS BANK SAL**

We have audited the accompanying consolidated financial statements of Byblos Bank SAL (the "Bank") and its subsidiaries (collectively the "Group"), which comprise the consolidated statement of financial position as at 31 December 2015 and the consolidated income statement, consolidated statement of comprehensive income, consolidated statement of changes in equity and consolidated statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

### **Management's responsibility for the consolidated financial statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these consolidated financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### **Auditors' responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditors' judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditors consider internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the consolidated financial statements 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. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements.

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

### **Opinion**

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Group as at 31 December 2015, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards.

Ernst & Young

BDO, Semaan, Gholam & Co.

24 March 2016  
Beirut, Lebanon

# Byblos Bank SAL

## CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT

For the year ended 31 December 2015

	<i>Notes</i>	<i>2015</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>2014</i> <i>LL million</i>
Interest and similar income	8	<b>1,489,087</b>	1,413,234
Interest and similar expense	9	<b>(1,102,771)</b>	(1,049,537)
<b>NET INTEREST INCOME</b>		<b>386,316</b>	363,697
Fee and commission income	10	<b>134,515</b>	149,631
Fee and commission expense	10	<b>(12,564)</b>	(13,767)
<b>NET FEE AND COMMISSION INCOME</b>		<b>121,951</b>	135,864
Net gain from financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss	11	<b>67,443</b>	66,942
Net gain from sale of financial assets at amortized cost	12	<b>86,939</b>	104,818
Revenue from financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income	27	<b>4,383</b>	2,736
Other operating income	13	<b>20,935</b>	21,859
<b>TOTAL OPERATING INCOME</b>		<b>687,967</b>	695,916
Net credit losses	14	<b>(47,908)</b>	(39,428)
<b>NET OPERATING INCOME</b>		<b>640,059</b>	656,488
Personnel expenses	15	<b>(180,792)</b>	(188,500)
Other operating expenses	16	<b>(139,187)</b>	(111,158)
Depreciation of property and equipment	28	<b>(23,466)</b>	(24,882)
Amortisation of intangibles assets	29	<b>(159)</b>	(159)
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>		<b>(343,604)</b>	(324,699)
<b>OPERATING PROFIT</b>		<b>296,455</b>	331,789
Net gain on disposal of property and equipment		<b>65</b>	20
<b>PROFIT BEFORE TAX</b>		<b>296,520</b>	331,809
Income tax expense	17	<b>(53,083)</b>	(67,277)
<b>PROFIT FOR THE YEAR</b>		<b>243,437</b>	264,532
Attributable to:			
Equity holders of the parent		<b>228,185</b>	252,792
Non-controlling interests		<b>15,252</b>	11,740
		<b>243,437</b>	264,532
<b>Earnings per share</b>		<b>LL</b>	<b>LL</b>
Equity shareholders of the parent:			
Basic earnings per share	18	<b>319.18</b>	363.21
Diluted earnings per share	18	<b>303.21</b>	339.79

The attached notes 1 to 54 form part of these consolidated financial statements.

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

For the year ended 31 December 2015

	<i>Notes</i>	<b>2015</b> <i>LL million</i>	<b>2014</b> <i>LL million</i>
<b>PROFIT FOR THE YEAR</b>		<b>243,437</b>	264,532
<b>OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)</b>			
<i>Items to be reclassified to the income statement in subsequent periods:</i>			
Exchange difference on translation of foreign operations		<b>(41,114)</b>	(47,460)
<b>Net other comprehensive loss to be reclassified to the income statement in subsequent periods</b>		<b>(41,114)</b>	(47,460)
<i>Items not to be reclassified to the income statement in subsequent periods:</i>			
Net unrealized (loss) gain from financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income		<b>(503)</b>	10,657
Income tax effect		<b>75</b>	(1,546)
Re-measurement gains on defined benefit plans	37 (a)	<b>(428)</b> <b>474</b>	9,111 977
<b>Net other comprehensive income not to be reclassified to the income statement in subsequent periods</b>		<b>46</b>	10,088
<b>OTHER COMPREHENSIVE LOSS FOR THE YEAR, NET OF TAX</b>		<b>(41,068)</b>	(37,372)
<b>TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR, NET OF TAX</b>		<b>202,369</b>	227,160
Attributable to:			
Equity holders of the parent		<b>198,746</b>	227,342
Non-controlling interests		<b>3,623</b>	(182)
		<b>202,369</b>	227,160

The attached notes 1 to 54 form part of these consolidated financial statements.

# Byblos Bank SAL

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

At 31 December 2015

	<i>Notes</i>	<i>2015</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>2014</i> <i>LL million</i>
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Cash and balances with central banks	19	7,236,237	7,048,785
Due from banks and financial institutions	20	2,518,365	2,913,279
Loans to banks and financial institutions and reverse repurchase agreements	21	1,197,047	393,712
Financial assets given as collateral	22	1,405	7,005
Derivative financial instruments	23	1,844	6,715
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	24	295,845	155,582
Net loans and advances to customers at amortized cost	25	7,399,641	7,099,163
Net loans and advances to related parties at amortized cost	47	35,275	28,033
Debtors by acceptances		244,705	302,939
Financial assets at amortized cost	26	10,516,514	10,260,119
Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income	27	101,907	98,718
Property and equipment	28	255,125	236,379
Intangible assets	29	493	652
Assets obtained in settlement of debt	30	42,006	36,677
Other assets	31	108,001	106,780
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>29,954,410</b>	<b>28,694,538</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>			
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Due to central banks	32	117,412	71,146
Due to banks and financial institutions	33	744,554	911,173
Derivative financial instruments	23	2,445	5,427
Customers' deposits at amortized cost	34	24,658,431	23,377,789
Deposits from related parties at amortized cost	47	421,716	312,813
Debt issued and other borrowed funds	35	445,199	445,387
Engagements by acceptances		244,705	302,939
Other liabilities	36	147,567	163,903
Provisions for risks and charges	37	171,538	145,429
Subordinated debt	38	417,400	414,580
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>27,370,967</b>	<b>26,150,586</b>
<b>EQUITY ATTRIBUTABLE TO EQUITY HOLDERS OF THE PARENT</b>			
Share capital – common shares	39	684,273	684,273
Share capital – preferred shares	39	4,840	4,840
Share premium – common shares	39	229,014	229,014
Share premium – preferred shares	39	591,083	591,083
Non distributable reserves	40	815,884	748,879
Distributable reserves	41	99,211	95,943
Treasury shares	42	(6,807)	(6,425)
Retained earnings		61,832	39,899
Revaluation reserve of real estate	43	5,689	5,689
Change in fair value of financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income	44	(7,961)	(7,533)
Net results of the financial period – profit		228,185	252,792
Foreign currency translation reserve		(193,842)	(164,357)
<b>NON-CONTROLLING INTERESTS</b>		<b>2,511,401</b>	<b>2,474,097</b>
		<b>72,042</b>	<b>69,855</b>
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<b>2,583,443</b>	<b>2,543,952</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>		<b>29,954,410</b>	<b>28,694,538</b>

The consolidated financial statements were authorized for issue in accordance with the resolution of the Board of Directors on 23 March 2016 by:

Mr Semaan Bassil  
Chairman / General Manager

Mr Ziad El-Zoghbi  
Financial and Administrative Manager

The attached notes 1 to 54 form part of these consolidated financial statements.

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## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

For the year ended 31 December 2015

	Attributable to equity holders of the parent											Non-controlling interests		Total	
	Common shares LL million	Preferred shares LL million	Share premium - common shares LL million	Share premium - preferred shares LL million	Non-distributable reserves LL million	Distributable reserves LL million	Treasury shares LL million	Retained earnings LL million	Revaluation reserve of real estate LL million	Change in fair value of financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income LL million	Net results of the financial period - profit LL million	Foreign currency translation reserve LL million	Total		
													LL million		LL million
Balance at 1 January 2015	684,273	4,840	229,014	591,083	748,879	95,943	(6,425)	39,899	5,689	(7,533)	252,792	(164,357)	2,474,097	69,855	2,543,952
Profit for the year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	228,185	-	228,185	15,252	243,437
Other comprehensive income (loss)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	474	-	(428)	-	(29,485)	(29,439)	(11,629)	(41,068)
Total comprehensive income (loss)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	474	-	(428)	228,185	(29,485)	198,746	3,623	202,369
Transfer to retained earnings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	252,792	-	-	(252,792)	-	-	-	-
Transfer to reserves and premiums	-	-	-	-	67,037	3,178	-	(70,215)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dividends paid – subsidiaries	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(5,508)	(5,508)
Equity dividends paid (note 53)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(161,103)	-	-	-	-	(161,103)	-	(161,103)
Translation difference	-	-	-	-	(20)	-	-	(15)	-	-	-	-	(35)	-	(35)
Treasury shares (note 42)	-	-	-	-	(12)	-	(382)	-	-	-	-	-	(394)	-	(394)
Put options on non-controlling interests (note 6)	-	-	-	-	-	90	-	-	-	-	-	-	90	4,072	4,162
<b>Balance at 31 December 2015</b>	<b>684,273</b>	<b>4,840</b>	<b>229,014</b>	<b>591,083</b>	<b>815,884</b>	<b>99,211</b>	<b>(6,807)</b>	<b>61,832</b>	<b>5,689</b>	<b>(7,961)</b>	<b>228,185</b>	<b>(193,842)</b>	<b>2,511,401</b>	<b>72,042</b>	<b>2,583,443</b>

	Attributable to equity holders of the parent											Non-controlling interests		Total	
	Common shares LL million	Preferred shares LL million	Share premium - common shares LL million	Share premium - preferred shares LL million	Non-distributable reserves LL million	Distributable reserves LL million	Treasury shares LL million	Retained earnings LL million	Revaluation reserve of real estate LL million	Change in fair value of financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income LL million	Net results of the financial period - profit LL million	Foreign currency translation reserve LL million	Total		
													LL million		LL million
Balance at 1 January 2014	684,273	4,840	229,014	588,671	672,318	97,253	(10,054)	52,118	5,689	(16,644)	224,683	(123,650)	2,408,511	77,075	2,485,586
Profit for the year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	252,792	-	252,792	11,740	264,532
Other comprehensive income (loss)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	977	-	9,111	-	(35,538)	(25,450)	(11,922)	(37,372)
Total comprehensive income (loss)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	977	-	9,111	252,792	(35,538)	227,342	(182)	227,160
Transfer to retained earnings	-	-	-	-	-	(7,000)	-	231,683	-	-	(224,683)	-	-	-	-
Transfer to reserves and premiums	-	-	-	2,412	76,764	4,691	-	(83,867)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dividends paid – subsidiaries	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(4,225)	(4,225)
Equity dividends paid (note 53)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(161,012)	-	-	-	-	(161,012)	-	(161,012)
Treasury shares (note 42)	-	-	-	-	(203)	-	3,629	-	-	-	-	-	3,426	-	3,426
Put options on non-controlling interests (note 6)	-	-	-	-	-	999	-	-	-	-	-	-	999	2,571	3,570
Acquisition of additional non-controlling interests (note 5)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(5,169)	(5,169)	(5,384)	(10,553)
<b>Balance at 31 December 2014</b>	<b>684,273</b>	<b>4,840</b>	<b>229,014</b>	<b>591,083</b>	<b>748,879</b>	<b>95,943</b>	<b>(6,425)</b>	<b>39,899</b>	<b>5,689</b>	<b>(7,533)</b>	<b>252,792</b>	<b>(164,357)</b>	<b>2,474,097</b>	<b>69,855</b>	<b>2,543,952</b>

The attached notes 1 to 54 form part of these consolidated financial statements.

# Byblos Bank SAL

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the year ended 31 December 2015

	<i>Notes</i>	<i>2015</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>2014</i> <i>LL million</i>
<b>OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Profit before tax		<b>296,520</b>	331,809
Adjustments to reconcile profit before tax to net cash flows:			
Depreciation and amortisation	28 & 29	<b>23,625</b>	25,041
Provision for loans and advances and direct write offs, net	14	<b>15,266</b>	43,361
Provision for balances with central banks, net	14	<b>35,620</b>	-
Write-back of provision for other doubtful bank accounts, net	14	-	(446)
Write-back of provision for financial assets at amortized cost, net	14	<b>(1,571)</b>	(3,487)
Gain on disposal of property and equipment		<b>(65)</b>	(20)
Gain on disposal of assets obtained in settlement of debt	13	<b>(856)</b>	(2,190)
Provisions for risks and charges, net		<b>29,066</b>	10,957
Unrealized fair value losses (gains) on financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss		<b>5,200</b>	(4,574)
Realized gains from financial assets		<b>(86,688)</b>	(108,936)
Derivative financial instruments		<b>1,889</b>	(527)
<b>Operating profit before working capital changes</b>		<b>318,006</b>	290,888
<b>Changes in operating assets and liabilities</b>			
Due from central banks		<b>(508,137)</b>	(969,530)
Due to central banks		<b>42,483</b>	17,911
Due from banks and financial institutions		<b>6,866</b>	(37,020)
Financial assets given as collateral		<b>5,600</b>	-
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss		<b>(145,714)</b>	10,557
Due to banks and financial institutions		<b>(37,252)</b>	(76,022)
Net loans and advances to customers and related parties		<b>(322,986)</b>	(369,975)
Assets obtained in settlement of debt	30	<b>(5,784)</b>	(2,563)
Proceeds from sale of assets obtained in settlement of debt		<b>1,311</b>	4,455
Other assets		<b>(4,898)</b>	(6,648)
Customers' and related parties' deposits		<b>1,389,545</b>	1,455,940
Other liabilities		<b>417</b>	(36,796)
Cash from operations		<b>739,457</b>	281,297
Provision for risks and charges paid	37	<b>(3,325)</b>	(1,816)
Taxation paid		<b>(65,042)</b>	(56,494)
<b>Net cash from operating activities</b>		<b>671,090</b>	222,987
<b>INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Financial assets at amortized cost		<b>(167,885)</b>	46,379
Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income		<b>(3,715)</b>	(1,431)
Loans to banks and financial institutions and reserve purchase agreements		<b>(386,418)</b>	466,723
Purchase of property and equipment and intangible assets		<b>(45,972)</b>	(23,834)
Proceeds from sale of property and equipment		<b>233</b>	182
<b>Net cash (used in) from investing activities</b>		<b>(603,757)</b>	488,019
<b>FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Debts issued and other borrowed funds		<b>(188)</b>	(61,102)
Subordinated debt		<b>2,820</b>	2,212
Treasury shares		<b>(394)</b>	3,426
Dividends paid to equity holders of the parent		<b>(161,103)</b>	(161,012)
Dividends paid to non-controlling interests		<b>(5,508)</b>	(4,225)
Acquisition of additional non-controlling interests		-	(10,553)
<b>Net cash used in financing activities</b>		<b>(164,373)</b>	(231,254)
<b>Net effect of foreign exchange</b>		<b>(33,572)</b>	(38,725)
<b>(DECREASE) INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS</b>		<b>(130,612)</b>	441,027
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January		<b>4,896,812</b>	4,455,785
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT 31 DECEMBER</b>	45	<b>4,766,200</b>	4,896,812
<b>Operational cash flows from interest and dividends</b>			
Interest paid		<b>(1,102,999)</b>	(1,043,104)
Interest received		<b>1,474,227</b>	1,415,702
Dividend received		<b>4,956</b>	3,293

The attached notes 1 to 54 form part of these consolidated financial statements.

## 1 CORPORATE INFORMATION

Byblos Bank SAL (the “Bank”), a Lebanese joint stock company, was incorporated in 1961 and registered under No 14150 at the commercial registry of Beirut and under No 39 on the banks’ list published by the Central Bank of Lebanon. The Bank’s head office is located in Ashrafieh, Elias Sarkis Street, Beirut, Lebanon. The Bank’s shares are listed on the Beirut Stock Exchange and London SEAQ.

The Bank, together with its affiliated banks and subsidiaries (collectively the “Group”), provides a wide range of banking and insurance services, through its headquarters and branches in Lebanon and 9 locations abroad (Cyprus, Belgium, United Kingdom, France, Syria, Sudan, Iraq, Democratic Republic of Congo and Armenia). Further information on the Group’s structure is provided in note 4.

## 2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

### 2.1 Basis of preparation

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared on a historical cost basis except for: a) the restatement of certain tangible real estate properties in Lebanon according to the provisions of law No 282 dated 30 December 1993, and b) the measurement at fair value of derivative financial instruments, financial assets at fair value through profit or loss and financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income.

The carrying values of recognised assets and liabilities that are hedged items in fair value hedges, and otherwise carried at amortised cost, are adjusted to record changes in fair value attributable to the risks that are being hedged.

The consolidated financial statements are presented in Lebanese Lira (LL) and all values are rounded to the nearest LL million except when otherwise indicated.

### Statement of compliance

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB), and the regulations of the Central Bank of Lebanon and the Banking Control Commission (“BCC”).

### Presentation of financial statements

The Group presents its statement of financial position broadly in order of liquidity. An analysis regarding recovery or settlement within one year after the statement of financial position date (current) and more than one year after the statement of financial position date (non-current) is presented in the notes.

Financial assets and financial liabilities are offset and the net amount is reported in the consolidated statement of financial position only when there is a legally enforceable right to offset the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis, or to realise the assets and settle the liability simultaneously. Only gross settlement mechanisms with features that eliminate or result in insignificant credit and liquidity risk and that process receivables and payables in a single settlement process or cycle would be, in effect, equivalent to net settlement. This is not generally the case with master netting agreements, therefore the related assets and liabilities are presented gross in the consolidated statement of financial position. Income and expense will not be offset in the consolidated income statement unless required or permitted by any accounting standard or interpretation, as specifically disclosed in the accounting policies of the Group.

### 2.2 Basis of consolidation

The consolidated financial statements comprise the financial statements of the Group and its subsidiaries as at 31 December 2015. Control is achieved when the Group is exposed, or has rights, to variable returns from its involvement with the investee and has the ability to affect those returns through its power over the investee. Specifically, the Group controls an investee if and only if the Group has:

- Power over the investee (i.e. existing rights that give it the current ability to direct the relevant activities of the investee)



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- Exposure, or rights, to variable returns from its involvement with the investee, and
- The ability to use its power over the investee to affect its returns

**2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

**2.2 Basis of consolidation (continued)**

When the Group has less than a majority of the voting or similar rights of an investee, the Group considers all relevant facts and circumstances in assessing whether it has power over an investee, including:

- The contractual arrangement with the other vote holders of the investee
- Rights arising from other contractual arrangements
- The Group's voting rights and potential voting rights

The Group re-assesses whether or not it controls an investee if facts and circumstances indicate that there are changes to one or more of the three elements of control. Consolidation of a subsidiary begins when the Group obtains control over the subsidiary and ceases when the Group loses control of the subsidiary. Assets, liabilities, income and expenses of a subsidiary acquired or disposed of during the year are included in the statement of comprehensive income from the date the Group gains control until the date the Group ceases to control the subsidiary.

When necessary, adjustments are made to the financial statements of subsidiaries to bring their accounting policies into line with the Group's accounting policies. All intra-group assets and liabilities, equity, income, expenses and cash flows relating to transactions between members of the Group are eliminated in full on consolidation.

**Non-controlling interests**

Non-controlling interest represent the portion of profit or loss and net assets of subsidiaries not owned by the Group. The Group has elected to measure the non-controlling interests in acquirees at the proportionate share of each acquiree's identifiable net assets. Interests in the equity of subsidiaries not attributable to the Group are reported in consolidated equity as non-controlling interests. Profits or losses attributable to non-controlling interests are reported in the consolidated income statement as profit or loss attributable to non-controlling interests. Losses applicable to the non-controlling interest in a subsidiary are allocated to the non-controlling interest even if doing so causes the non-controlling interest to have a deficit balance

The Group treats transactions with non-controlling interests as transactions with equity holders of the Group. For purchases from non-controlling interests, the difference between any consideration paid and the relevant share acquired of the carrying value of net assets of the subsidiary is recorded in equity. Gains or losses on disposals to non-controlling interests are also recorded in equity.

Put options granted to non-controlling interests give rise to a financial liability for the present value of the redemption amount. Non-controlling interest continues to be recognised within equity, with changes in the carrying amount arising from: a) an allocation of the profit or loss for the year; b) a share of changes in appropriate reserves; and c) dividends declared before the end of the reporting period. At the end of each reporting period, the non-controlling interest is then derecognised as if it was acquired at that date. The liability is recognised at the end of the reporting period at its fair value, and any difference between the amount of non-controlling interest derecognised and this liability is accounted for within equity.

A change in the ownership interest of a subsidiary, without a loss of control, is accounted for as an equity transaction. If the Group loses control over a subsidiary, it:

- Derecognises the assets (including goodwill) and liabilities of the subsidiary
- Derecognises the carrying amount of any non-controlling interests
- Derecognises the cumulative translation differences recorded in equity
- Recognises the fair value of the consideration received
- Recognises the fair value of any investment retained
- Recognises any surplus or deficit in profit or loss
- Reclassifies the parent's share of components previously recognised in OCI to profit or loss or retained earnings, as appropriate, as would be required if the Group had directly disposed of the related assets or liabilities

**2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

**2.3 Changes in accounting policies and disclosures**

**New and amended standards and interpretations**

The Group applied for the first time certain standards and amendments, which are effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

**Amendments to IAS 19 *Defined Benefit Plans: Employee Contributions***

IAS 19 requires an entity to consider contributions from employees or third parties when accounting for defined benefit plans. Where the contributions are linked to service, they should be attributed to periods of service as a negative benefit. These amendments clarify that, if the amount of the contributions is independent of the number of years of service, an entity is permitted to recognize such contributions as a reduction in the service cost in the period in which the service is rendered, instead of allocating the contributions to the periods of service. This amendment is effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 July 2014. This amendment is not relevant to the Group, since none of the Group entities has defined benefit plans with contributions from employees or third parties.

**Annual Improvements 2010-2012 Cycle**

These improvements are effective from 1 July 2014 and the Group has applied these amendments for the first time in these consolidated financial statements. They include:

**IFRS 2 *Share-based Payment***

This improvement is applied prospectively and clarifies various issues relating to the definitions of performance and service conditions which are vesting conditions, including:

- A performance condition must contain a service condition
- A performance target must be met while the counterparty is rendering service
- A performance target may relate to the operations or activities of an entity, or to those of another entity in the same group
- A performance condition may be a market or non-market condition
- If the counterparty, regardless of the reason, ceases to provide service during the vesting period, the service condition is not satisfied.

As the Group does not have share-based payments, this amendment is not expected to have an impact on the Group's financial position, performance or disclosures.

**IFRS 3 *Business Combinations***

The amendment is applied prospectively and clarifies that all contingent consideration arrangements classified as liabilities (or assets) arising from a business combination should be subsequently measured at fair value through profit or loss whether or not they fall within the scope of IFRS 9 (or IAS 39, as applicable). This amendment is not expected to have an impact on the Group's financial position, performance or disclosures.

**IFRS 8 *Operating Segments***

The amendments are applied retrospectively and clarify that:

- An entity must disclose the judgments made by management in applying the aggregation criteria in paragraph 12 of IFRS 8, including a brief description of operating segments that have been aggregated and the economic characteristics (e.g., sales and gross margins) used to assess whether the segments are 'similar'
- The reconciliation of segment assets to total assets is only required to be disclosed if the reconciliation is reported to the chief operating decision maker, similar to the required disclosure for segment liabilities.

This amendment is not expected to have an impact on the Group's financial position, performance or disclosures.

**IAS 16 *Property, Plant and Equipment* and IAS 38 *Intangible Assets***

The amendment is applied retrospectively and clarifies in IAS 16 and IAS 38 that the asset may be revalued by reference to observable data by either adjusting the gross carrying amount of the asset to market value or by determining the market value of the carrying value and adjusting the gross carrying amount proportionately so that the resulting carrying amount equals the market value. In addition, the accumulated depreciation or

amortization is the difference between the gross and carrying amounts of the asset. The Group did not record any revaluation adjustment during the current year.

### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 December 2015

## 2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

### 2.3 Changes in accounting policies and disclosures (continued)

#### **IAS 24 Related Party Disclosures**

The amendment is applied retrospectively and clarifies that a management entity (an entity that provides key management personnel services) is a related party subject to the related party disclosures. In addition, an entity that uses a management entity is required to disclose the expenses incurred for management services. This amendment is not relevant to the Group as it does not receive any management services from other entities.

#### **Annual Improvements 2011-2013 Cycle**

These improvements are effective from 1 July 2014 and the Group has applied these amendments for the first time in these consolidated financial statements. They include:

#### **IFRS 3 Business Combinations**

The amendment is applied prospectively and clarifies for the scope exceptions within IFRS 3 that joint arrangements, not just joint ventures, are outside the scope of IFRS 3. This scope exception applies only to the accounting in the financial statements of the joint arrangement itself. The Group is not a joint arrangement and thus this amendment is not relevant for the Group and its subsidiaries.

#### **IFRS 13 Fair Value Measurement**

The amendment is applied prospectively and clarifies that the portfolio exception in IFRS 13 can be applied not only to financial assets and financial liabilities, but also to other contracts within the scope of IFRS 9 (or IAS 39, as applicable). The Group does not apply the portfolio exception in IFRS 13.

#### **IAS 40 Investment Property**

The description of ancillary services in IAS 40 differentiates between investment property and owner-occupied property (i.e., property, plant and equipment). The amendment is applied prospectively and clarifies that IFRS 3, and not the description of ancillary services in IAS 40, is used to determine if the transaction is the purchase of an asset or a business combination. This amendment is not expected to have a significant impact on the Group's financial position, performance or disclosures.

## 2.4 Standards issued but not yet effective

The standards and interpretations that are issued, but not yet effective, up to the date of issuance of the Group's financial statements are disclosed below. The Group intends to adopt these standards, if applicable, when they become effective.

#### **IFRS 9 Financial Instruments**

In July 2014, the IASB issued the final version of IFRS 9 Financial Instruments which reflects all phases of the financial instruments project and replaces IAS 39 Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement and all previous versions of IFRS 9. The standard introduces new requirements for classification and measurement, impairment, and hedge accounting. In prior years the Group has early adopted IFRS 9 (2011) which includes the requirements for the classification and measurement. IFRS 9 is effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2018, with early application permitted. Retrospective application is required, but comparative information is not compulsory. The adoption of IFRS 9 will have an effect on measuring impairment allowances and on the classification and measurement of the Group's financial assets, but no impact on the classification and measurement of the Group's financial liabilities. The Group is currently assessing the impact of IFRS 9 and plans to adopt the new standard on the required effective date.

#### **IFRS 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers**

IFRS 15 was issued in May 2014 and establishes a new five-step model that will apply to revenue arising from contracts with customers. Under IFRS 15 revenue is recognised at an amount that reflects the consideration to which an entity expects to be entitled in exchange for transferring goods or services to a customer. The principles in IFRS 15 provide a more structured approach to measuring and recognising revenue. The new revenue standard is applicable to all entities and will supersede all current revenue recognition requirements

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under IFRS. Either a full or modified retrospective application is required for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2017 with early adoption permitted. The Group is currently assessing the impact of IFRS 15 and plans to adopt the new standard on the required effective date.

### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 December 2015

## 2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

### 2.4 Standards issued but not yet effective (continued)

#### *Amendments to IFRS 11 Joint Arrangements: Accounting for Acquisitions of Interests*

The amendments to IFRS 11 require that a joint operator accounting for the acquisition of an interest in a joint operation, in which the activity of the joint operation constitutes a business must apply the relevant IFRS 3 principles for business combinations accounting. The amendments also clarify that a previously held interest in a joint operation is not remeasured on the acquisition of an additional interest in the same joint operation while joint control is retained. In addition, a scope exclusion has been added to IFRS 11 to specify that the amendments do not apply when the parties sharing joint control, including the reporting entity, are under common control of the same ultimate controlling party. The amendments apply to both the acquisition of the initial interest in a joint operation and the acquisition of any additional interests in the same joint operation and are prospectively effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2016, with early adoption permitted. These amendments are not expected to have any impact on the Group.

#### *Amendments to IAS 16 and IAS 38: Clarification of Acceptable Methods of Depreciation and Amortisation*

The amendments clarify the principle in IAS 16 and IAS 38 that revenue reflects a pattern of economic benefits that are generated from operating a business (of which the asset is part) rather than the economic benefits that are consumed through use of the asset. As a result, a revenue-based method cannot be used to depreciate property, plant and equipment and may only be used in very limited circumstances to amortise intangible assets. The amendments are effective prospectively for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2016, with early adoption permitted. These amendments are not expected to have any impact on the Group given that the Group has not used a revenue-based method to depreciate its non-current assets.

#### *Amendments to IAS 27: Equity Method in Separate Financial Statements*

The amendments will allow entities to use the equity method to account for investments in subsidiaries, joint ventures and associates in their separate financial statements. Entities already applying IFRS and electing to change to the equity method in its separate financial statements will have to apply that change retrospectively. For first-time adopters of IFRS electing to use the equity method in its separate financial statements, they will be required to apply this method from the date of transition to IFRS. The amendments are effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2016, with early adoption permitted. These amendments will not have any impact on the Group's consolidated financial statements.

#### *Amendments to IFRS 10 and IAS 28: Sale or Contribution of Assets between an Investor and its Associate or Joint Venture*

The amendments address the conflict between IFRS 10 and IAS 28 in dealing with the loss of control of a subsidiary that is sold or contributed to an associate or joint venture. The amendments clarify that the gain or loss resulting from the sale or contribution of assets that constitute a business, as defined in IFRS 3, between an investor and its associate or joint venture, is recognised in full. Any gain or loss resulting from the sale or contribution of assets that do not constitute a business, however, is recognised only to the extent of unrelated investors' interests in the associate or joint venture. These amendments must be applied prospectively and are effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2016, with early adoption permitted. These amendments are not expected to have any impact on the Group.

#### *Annual Improvements 2012-2014 Cycle*

These improvements are effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2016. They include:

#### *IFRS 5 Non-current Assets Held for Sale and Discontinued Operations*

Assets (or disposal groups) are generally disposed of either through sale or distribution to owners. The amendment clarifies that changing from one of these disposal methods to the other would not be considered a new plan of disposal, rather it is a continuation of the original plan. There is, therefore, no interruption of the

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application of the requirements in IFRS 5. This amendment must be applied prospectively and is not expected to have a material impact on the Group.

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**2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

**2.4 Standards issued but not yet effective (continued)**

***IFRS 7 Financial Instruments: Disclosures***

*(i) Servicing contracts*

The amendment clarifies that a servicing contract that includes a fee can constitute continuing involvement in a financial asset. An entity must assess the nature of the fee and the arrangement against the guidance for continuing involvement in IFRS 7 in order to assess whether the disclosures are required. The assessment of which servicing contracts constitute continuing involvement must be done retrospectively. However, the required disclosures would not need to be provided for any period beginning before the annual period in which the entity first applies the amendments. This amendment is not expected to have a material impact on the Group.

*(ii) Applicability of the amendments to IFRS 7 to condensed interim financial statements*

The amendment clarifies that the offsetting disclosure requirements do not apply to condensed interim financial statements, unless such disclosures provide a significant update to the information reported in the most recent annual report. This amendment must be applied retrospectively and is not expected to have a material impact on the Group.

***IAS 19 Employee Benefits***

The amendment clarifies that market depth of high quality corporate bonds is assessed based on the currency in which the obligation is denominated, rather than the country where the obligation is located. When there is no deep market for high quality corporate bonds in that currency, government bond rates must be used. This amendment must be applied prospectively and is not expected to have a material impact on the Group.

***Amendments to IAS 1 Disclosure Initiative***

The amendments to IAS 1 Presentation of Financial Statements clarify, rather than significantly change, existing IAS 1 requirements. The amendments clarify:

- The materiality requirements in IAS 1
- That specific line items in the statement(s) of profit or loss and OCI and the statement of financial position may be disaggregated
- That entities have flexibility as to the order in which they present the notes to financial statements
- That the share of OCI of associates and joint ventures accounted for using the equity method must be presented in aggregate as a single line item, and classified between those items that will or will not be subsequently reclassified to profit or loss.

Furthermore, the amendments clarify the requirements that apply when additional subtotals are presented in the statement of financial position and the statement(s) of profit or loss and OCI. These amendments are effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2016, with early adoption permitted. These amendments are not expected to have any impact on the Group.

***Amendments to IFRS 10, IFRS 12 and IAS 28 Investment Entities: Applying the Consolidation Exception***

The amendments address issues that have arisen in applying the investment entities exception under IFRS 10. The amendments to IFRS 10 clarify that the exemption from presenting consolidated financial statements applies to a parent entity that is a subsidiary of an investment entity, when the investment entity measures all of its subsidiaries at fair value. Furthermore, the amendments to IFRS 10 clarify that only a subsidiary of an investment entity that is not an investment entity itself and that provides support services to the investment entity is consolidated. All other subsidiaries of an investment entity are measured at fair value. The amendments to IAS 28 allow the investor, when applying the equity method, to retain the fair value measurement applied by the investment entity associate or joint venture to its interests in subsidiaries. These amendments must be applied retrospectively and are effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2016, with early adoption permitted. These amendments are not expected to have any impact on the Group.

**2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

**2.5 Summary of significant accounting policies**

**Foreign currency translation**

The consolidated financial statements are presented in Lebanese Lira which is the Bank's presentation currency. Each entity in the Group determines its own functional currency and items included in the financial statements of each entity are measured using that functional currency.

**(i) Transactions and balances**

Transactions in foreign currencies are initially recorded by the Group's entities at the functional currency spot rate of exchange ruling at the date the transaction first qualifies for recognition.

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are retranslated at the functional currency rate of exchange at the date of the statement of financial position. All differences are taken to "Net gain (loss) from financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss" in the consolidated income statement.

Non-monetary items that are measured in terms of historical cost in a foreign currency are translated using the exchange rates as at the dates of the initial transactions. Non-monetary items measured at fair value in a foreign currency are translated using the exchange rates at the date when the fair value was determined. The gain or loss arising on retranslation of non-monetary items is treated in line with the recognition of gain or loss on change in fair value of the item (i.e., translation differences on items whose fair value gain or loss is recognized in other comprehensive income or profit or loss is also recognized in other comprehensive income or profit or loss respectively).

**(ii) Group companies**

On consolidation, the assets and liabilities of subsidiaries and overseas branches are translated into the Bank's presentation currency at the rate of exchange as at the reporting date, and their income statements are translated at the weighted average exchange rates for the year. Exchange differences arising on translation are taken directly to a separate component of equity. On disposal of a foreign entity, the deferred cumulative amount recognised in equity relating to that particular foreign operation is reclassified to the consolidated income statement.

Any goodwill arising on the acquisition of a foreign operation and any fair value adjustments to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities arising on the acquisition are treated as assets and liabilities of the foreign operations and translated at closing rate.

**Financial instruments –classification and measurement**

**(i) Date of recognition**

All financial assets and liabilities are initially recognized on the trade date, i.e. the date that the Group becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. This includes "regular way trades": purchases or sales of financial assets that require delivery of assets within the time frame generally established by regulation or convention in the market place.



**2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

**2.5 Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)**

**Financial instruments –classification and measurement (continued)**

*(ii) Classification and measurement of financial instruments*

*a. Financial assets*

The classification of financial assets depends on the basis of the entity's business model for managing the financial assets and the contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial asset. Assets are initially measured at fair value plus, in the case of a financial asset not at fair value through profit or loss, particular transaction costs. Assets are subsequently measured at amortised cost or fair value.

An entity may, at initial recognition, irrevocably designate a financial asset as measured at fair value through profit or loss if doing so eliminates or significantly reduces a measurement or recognition inconsistency (sometimes referred to as an 'accounting mismatch') that would otherwise arise from measuring assets or liabilities or recognising the gains and losses on them on different bases. An entity is required to disclose such financial assets separately from those mandatorily measured at fair value.

*Financial assets at amortized cost*

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortized cost less any impairment loss (except for debt instruments that are designated at fair value through profit or loss upon initial recognition) if they meet the following two conditions:

- The asset is held within a business model whose objective is to hold assets in order to collect contractual cash flows; and
- The contractual terms of the instrument give rise on specified dates to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding.

These financial assets are initially recognized at cost, being the fair value of the consideration paid for the acquisition of the investment. All transaction costs directly attributed to the acquisition are also included in the cost of investment. After initial measurement, these financial assets are measured at amortized cost using the effective interest rate method (EIR), less allowance for impairment. Amortized cost is calculated by taking into account any discount or premium on acquisition and fees and costs that are an integral part of the effective interest rate. The amortization is included in "Interest and similar income" in the consolidated income statement. The losses arising from impairment are recognised in the consolidated income statement in "Net credit losses".

Although the objective of an entity's business model may be to hold financial assets in order to collect contractual cash flows, the entity need not hold all of those instruments until maturity. Thus an entity's business model can be to hold financial assets to collect contractual cash flows even when sales of financial assets occur. However, if more than an infrequent number of sales are made out of a portfolio, the entity needs to assess whether and how such sales are consistent with an objective of collecting contractual cash flows. If the objective of the entity's business model for managing those financial assets changes, the entity is required to reclassify financial assets.

Gains and losses arising from the derecognition of financial assets measured at amortised cost are reflected under "Net gain (loss) from sale of financial assets at amortized cost" in the consolidated income statement.

*Balances with central banks, due from banks and financial institutions, loans to banks and financial institutions and loans and advances to customers and related parties – at amortized cost*

After initial measurement, "Balances with central banks", "Due from banks and financial institutions", "Loans to banks and financial institutions" and "Loans and advances to customers and related parties" are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the EIR, less allowance for impairment. Amortised cost is calculated by taking into account any discount or premium on acquisition and fees and costs that are an

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integral part of the EIR. The amortisation is included in 'Interest and similar income' in the consolidated income statement. The losses arising from impairment are recognised in the consolidated income statement in "Net credit losses".

**2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

**2.5 Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)**

**Financial instruments –classification and measurement (continued)**

**(ii) Classification and measurement of financial instruments (continued)**

**a. Financial assets (continued)**

***Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss***

Included in this category are those debt instruments that do not meet the conditions in “*at amortized cost*” above, debt instruments designated at fair value through profit or loss upon initial recognition and equity instruments at fair value through profit or loss.

***i. Debt instruments at fair value through profit or loss***

These financial assets are recorded in the consolidated statement of financial position at fair value. Changes in fair value and interest income are recorded under “Net gain (loss) from financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss” in the consolidated income statement showing separately, those related to financial assets designated at fair value upon initial recognition from those mandatorily measured at fair value.

Gains and losses arising from the derecognition of debt instruments at fair value through profit or loss are also reflected under “Net gain (loss) from financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss” in the consolidated income statement showing separately, those related to financial assets designated at fair value upon initial recognition from those mandatorily measured at fair value.

***ii. Equity instruments at fair value through profit or loss***

Investments in equity instruments are classified at fair value through profit or loss, unless the Group designates at initial recognition an investment that is not held for trading as at fair value through other comprehensive income.

These financial assets are recorded in the consolidated statement of financial position at fair value. Changes in fair value and dividend income are recorded under “Net gain (loss) from financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss” in the consolidated income statement.

Gains and losses arising from the derecognition of equity instruments at fair value through profit or loss are also reflected under “Net gain (loss) from financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss” in the consolidated income statement.

***Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income***

Investments in equity instruments designated at initial recognition as not held for trading are classified at fair value through other comprehensive income.

These financial assets are initially measured at fair value plus transaction costs. Subsequently, they are measured at fair value, with gains and losses arising from changes in fair value recognized in other comprehensive income and accumulated under equity. The cumulative gain or loss will not be reclassified to the consolidated income statement on disposal of the investments.

Dividends on these investments are recognized under “Revenues from financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income” in the consolidated income statement when the entity’s right to receive payment of dividend is established in accordance with IAS 18: “Revenue”, unless the dividends clearly represent a recovery of part of the cost of the investment.

**2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

**2.5 Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)**

**Financial instruments –classification and measurement (continued)**

*(ii) Classification and measurement of financial instruments (continued)*

**b. Financial liabilities**

Liabilities are initially measured at fair value plus, in the case of a financial liability not at fair value through profit or loss, particular transaction costs. Liabilities are subsequently measured at amortised cost or fair value.

The Group classifies all financial liabilities as subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, except for:

- financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss (including derivatives);
- financial liabilities that arise when a transfer of a financial asset does not qualify for derecognition or when the continuing involvement approach applies.
- financial guarantee contracts and commitments to provide a loan at a below-market interest rate which after initial recognition are subsequently measured at the higher of the amount determined in accordance with IAS 37 Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets and the amount initially recognised less, when appropriate, cumulative amortisation recognised in accordance with IAS 18 Revenue.

*Fair value option*

An entity may, at initial recognition, irrevocably designate a financial liability as measured at fair value through profit or loss when:

- doing so results in more relevant information, because it either eliminates or significantly reduces a measurement or recognition inconsistency (sometimes referred to as 'an accounting mismatch') that would otherwise arise from measuring assets or liabilities or recognising the gains and losses on them on different bases; or
- a group of financial liabilities or financial assets and financial liabilities is managed and its performance is evaluated on a fair value basis, in accordance with a documented risk management or investment strategy, and information about the group is provided internally on that basis to the entity's key management personnel.

The amount of changes in fair value of a financial liability designated at fair value through profit or loss at initial recognition that is attributable to changes in credit risk of that liability is recognized in other comprehensive income, unless such recognition would create an accounting mismatch in the consolidated income statement. Changes in fair value attributable to changes in credit risk are not reclassified to consolidated income statement.

*Debt issued and other borrowed funds and subordinated debt*

Financial instruments issued by the Group, which are not designated at fair value through profit or loss, are classified as liabilities under "Debt issued and other borrowed funds", where the substance of the contractual arrangement results in the Group having an obligation either to deliver cash or another financial asset to the holder, or to satisfy the obligation other than by the exchange of a fixed amount of cash or another financial asset for a fixed number of own equity shares.

After initial measurement, debt issued and other borrowings are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method. Amortised cost is calculated by taking into account any discount or premium on the issue and costs that are an integral part of the effective interest rate method.

**2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

**2.5 Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)**

**Financial instruments –classification and measurement (continued)**

**(ii) Classification and measurement of financial instruments (continued)**

**b. Financial liabilities (continued)**

*Debt issued and other borrowed funds and subordinated debt (continued)*

A compound financial instrument which contains both a liability and an equity component is separated at the issue date. A portion of the net proceeds of the instrument is allocated to the debt component on the date of issue based on its fair value (which is generally determined based on the quoted market prices for similar debt instruments). The equity component is assigned the residual amount after deducting from the fair value of the instrument as a whole the amount separately determined for the debt component. The value of any derivative features (such as a call option) embedded in the compound financial instrument other than the equity component is included in the debt component.

*Due to central banks, due to banks and financial institutions, customers' deposits and related parties deposits*

After initial measurement, due to central banks, due to banks and financial institutions, customers' and related parties' deposits are measured at amortised cost less amounts repaid using the effective interest rate method. Amortised cost is calculated by taking into account any discount or premium on the issue and costs that are an integral part of the effective interest rate method.

**c. Derivatives recorded at fair value through profit or loss**

The Group uses derivatives such as interest rate swaps and futures, credit default swaps, cross currency swaps, forward foreign exchange contracts and options on interest rates, foreign currencies and equities.

Derivatives are recorded at fair value and carried as assets when their fair value is positive and as liabilities when their fair value is negative. Changes in the fair value of derivatives are recognised in "Net gain (loss) from financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss" in the consolidated income statement.

An embedded derivative is separated from the host and accounted for as a derivative if, and only if:

- (a) the hybrid contract contains a host that is not an asset within the scope of IFRS 9
- (b) the economic characteristics and risks of the embedded derivative are not closely related to the economic characteristics and risks of the host
- (c) a separate instrument with the same terms as the embedded derivative would meet the definition of a derivative; and
- (d) the hybrid contract is not measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in profit or loss

**(iii) Day 1 profit or loss**

When the transaction price differs from the fair value of other observable current market transactions in the same instrument or based on a valuation technique whose variables include only data from observable markets, the Group immediately recognizes the difference between the transaction price and fair value (a "Day 1" profit or loss) in the consolidated income statement. In cases where fair value is determined using data which is not observable, the difference between the transaction price and model value is only recognized in the consolidated income statement when the inputs become observable, or when the instrument is derecognized.

**(iv) Reclassification of financial assets**

The Group reclassifies financial assets if the objective of the business model for managing those financial assets changes. Such changes are expected to be very infrequent. Such changes are determined by the Group's senior management as a result of external or internal changes when significant to the Group's operations and demonstrable to external parties.

**2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

**2.5 Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)**

**Financial instruments –classification and measurement (continued)**

*(iv) Reclassification of financial assets (continued)*

If financial assets are reclassified, the reclassification is applied prospectively from the reclassification date, which is the first day of the first reporting period following the change in business model that results in the reclassification of financial assets. Any previously recognised gains, losses or interest are not restated.

If a financial asset is reclassified so that it is measured at fair value, its fair value is determined at the reclassification date. Any gain or loss arising from a difference between the previous carrying amount and fair value is recognised in profit or loss. If a financial asset is reclassified so that it is measured at amortised cost, its fair value at the reclassification date becomes its new carrying amount.

**Derecognition of financial assets and financial liabilities**

*(i) Financial assets*

A financial asset (or, where applicable a part of a financial asset or part of a group of similar financial assets) is derecognized when:

- The rights to receive cash flows from the asset have expired.
- The Group has transferred its rights to receive cash flows from the asset or has assumed an obligation to pay the received cash flows in full without material delay to a third party under a “pass-through” arrangement; and either:
  - ▶ The Group has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of the asset, or
  - ▶ The Group has neither transferred nor retained substantially all the risks and rewards of the asset, but has transferred control of the asset.

When the Group has transferred its rights to receive cash flows from an asset or has entered into a pass-through arrangement, and has neither transferred nor retained substantially all the risks and rewards of the asset nor transferred control of the asset, the asset is recognized to the extent of the Group’s continuing involvement in the asset. In that case, the Group also recognizes an associated liability. The transferred asset and the associated liability are measured on a basis that reflects the rights and obligations that the Group has retained.

Continuing involvement that takes the form of a guarantee over the transferred asset is measured at the lower of the original carrying amount of the asset and the maximum amount of consideration that the Group could be required to repay.

*(ii) Financial liabilities*

A financial liability is derecognized when the obligation under the liability is discharged or cancelled or expires. Where an existing financial liability is replaced by another from the same lender on substantially different terms, or the terms of an existing liability are substantially modified, such an exchange or modification is treated as a derecognition of the original liability and the recognition of a new liability. The difference between the carrying value of the original financial liability and the consideration paid is recognized in the consolidated income statement.

**Repurchase and reverse repurchase agreements**

Securities sold under agreements to repurchase at a specified future date are not derecognised from the consolidated statement of financial position as the Group retains substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership. The corresponding cash received is recognised in the consolidated statement of financial position as an asset with a corresponding obligation to return it, including accrued interest as a liability within “Due to banks and financial institutions”, reflecting the transaction’s economic substances as a loan to the Group. The difference between the sale and repurchase prices is treated as interest expense and is accrued over the life of the agreement using the EIR. When the counterparty has the right to sell or repledge the securities, the Group reclassifies those securities in its statement of financial position to “Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss pledged as collateral” as appropriate.

**2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

**2.5 Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)**

**Repurchase and reverse repurchase agreements (continued)**

Conversely, securities purchased under agreements to resell at a specified future date are not recognised in the consolidated statement of financial position. The consideration paid, including accrued interest is recorded in the consolidated statement of financial position within “Due from banks and financial institutions and reverse repurchase agreements”, reflecting the transaction’s economic substance as a loan by the Group. The difference between the purchase and resale prices is recorded in “Net interest income” and is accrued over the life of the agreement using the EIR.

If securities purchased under agreement to resell are subsequently sold to third parties, the obligation to return the securities is recorded as a short sale within “Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss” and measured at fair value with any gains or losses included in “Net gain (loss) from financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss” in the consolidated income statement.

**Fair value measurement**

The Group measures financial instruments, such as, derivatives, and financial assets at fair value through profit or loss and financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income, at fair value at each balance sheet date. Also, fair values of financial instruments measured at amortised cost are disclosed in the notes.

Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The fair value measurement is based on the presumption that the transaction to sell the asset or transfer the liability takes place either:

- In the principal market for the asset or liability, or
- In the absence of a principal market, in the most advantageous market for the asset or liability

The principal or the most advantageous market must be accessible by the Group. The fair value of an asset or a liability is measured using the assumptions that market participants would use when pricing the asset or liability, assuming that market participants act in their economic best interest.

A fair value measurement of a non-financial asset takes into account a market participant's ability to generate economic benefits by using the asset in its highest and best use or by selling it to another market participant that would use the asset in its highest and best use.

The Group uses valuation techniques that are appropriate in the circumstances and for which sufficient data are

available to measure fair value, maximising the use of relevant observable inputs and minimising the use of unobservable inputs.

All assets and liabilities for which fair value is measured or disclosed in the financial statements are categorized within the fair value hierarchy, described as follows, based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement as a whole:

- Level 1 — Quoted (unadjusted) market prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities
- Level 2 — Valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement is directly or indirectly observable
- Level 3 — Valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement is unobservable

For assets and liabilities that are recognised in the financial statements on a recurring basis, the Group determines whether transfers have occurred between levels in the hierarchy by re-assessing categorization (based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement as a whole) at the end of each reporting period.

The Group’s management determines the policies and procedures for both recurring fair value measurement, such as unquoted financial assets, and for non-recurring measurement, such as assets held for distribution in discontinued operation.

**2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

**2.5 Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)**

**Fair value measurement (continued)**

At each reporting date, the management analyses the movements in the values of assets and liabilities which are required to be re-measured or re-assessed as per the Group's accounting policies. For this analysis, the management verifies the major inputs applied in the latest valuation by agreeing the information in the valuation computation to contracts and other relevant documents.

For the purpose of fair value disclosures, the Group has determined classes of assets and liabilities on the basis of the nature, characteristics and risks of the asset or liability and the level of the fair value hierarchy as explained above.

**Impairment of financial assets**

The Group assesses at each reporting date whether there is any objective evidence that a financial asset or a group of financial assets is impaired. A financial asset or a group of financial assets is deemed to be impaired if, and only if, there is objective evidence of impairment as a result of one or more events that has occurred after the initial recognition of the asset (an incurred "loss event") and that loss event (or events) has an impact on the estimated future cash flows of the financial asset or the group of financial assets that can be reliably estimated.

Evidence of impairment may include indications that the borrower or a group of borrowers is experiencing significant financial difficulty, the probability that they will enter bankruptcy or other financial reorganization default or delinquency in interest or principal payments, and where observable data indicates that there is a measurable decrease in the estimated future cash flows, such as changes in arrears or economic conditions that correlate with defaults.

*(i) Financial assets carried at amortised cost*

For financial assets carried at amortised cost, the Group first assesses individually whether objective evidence of impairment exists for financial assets that are individually significant, or collectively for financial assets that are not individually significant. If the Group determines that no objective evidence of impairment exists for an individually assessed financial asset, it includes the asset in a group of financial assets with similar credit risk characteristics and collectively assesses them for impairment. Assets that are individually assessed for impairment and for which an impairment loss is, or continues to be, recognised are not included in a collective assessment of impairment.

If there is objective evidence that an impairment loss has been incurred, the amount of the loss is measured as the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows (excluding future expected credit losses that have not yet been incurred). The carrying amount of the asset is reduced through the use of an allowance account and the amount of the loss is recognized in the consolidated income statement.

Loans together with the associated allowance are written off when there is no realistic prospect of future recovery and all collateral has been realised or has been transferred to the Group. If, in a subsequent year, the amount of the estimated impairment loss increases or decreases because of an event occurring after the impairment was recognised; the previously recognized impairment loss is increased or reduced by adjusting the allowance account. If a future write-off is later recovered, the recovery is credited to the "Net credit losses" in the consolidated income statement.

The present value of the estimated future cash flows is discounted at the financial asset's original effective interest rate. If a loan has a variable interest rate, the discount rate for measuring any impairment loss is the current effective interest rate. The calculation of the present value of the estimated future cash flows of a collateralized financial asset reflects the cash flows that may result from foreclosure less costs of obtaining and selling the collateral, whether or not the foreclosure is probable.



**2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

**2.5 Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)**

**Impairment of financial assets (continued)**

*(i) Financial assets carried at amortised cost (continued)*

For the purpose of a collective evaluation of impairment, financial assets are grouped on the basis of the Group's internal credit grading system, that considers credit risk characteristics such as asset type, industry, geographical location, collateral type, past-due status and other relevant factors.

Future cash flows on a group of financial assets that are collectively evaluated for impairment are estimated on the basis of historical loss experience for assets with credit risk characteristics similar to those in the group. Historical loss experience is adjusted on the basis of current observable data to reflect the effects of current conditions on which the historical loss experience is based and to remove the effects of conditions in the historical period that do not exist currently.

Estimates of changes in future cash flows reflect, and are directionally consistent with, changes in related observable data from year to year (such as changes in unemployment rates, property prices, commodity prices, payment status, or other factors that are indicative of incurred losses in the group and their magnitude). The methodology and assumptions used for estimating future cash flows are reviewed regularly to reduce any differences between loss estimates and actual loss experience.

*(ii) Renegotiated loans*

Where possible, the Group seeks to restructure loans rather than to take possession of collateral. This may involve extending the payment arrangements and the agreement of new loan conditions. Once the terms have been renegotiated any impairment is measured using the original effective interest rate as calculated before the modification of terms and the loan is no longer considered past due. The loans continue to be subject to an individual or collective impairment assessment, calculated using the loan's original effective interest rate.

*(iii) Collateral repossessed*

The Group occasionally acquires properties in settlement of loans and advances. Upon initial recognition, those assets are measured at fair value as approved by the regulatory authorities. Subsequently these properties are measured at the lower of carrying value or net realisable value.

Upon sale of repossessed assets, any gain or loss realized is recognized in the consolidated income statement under "Other operating income" or "Other operating expenses". Gains resulting from the sale of repossessed assets are transferred to "Reserves for capital increase" in the following financial year.

**Hedge accounting**

The Group makes use of derivative instruments to manage exposures to interest rate, foreign currency and credit risks, including exposures arising from forecast transactions and firm commitments. In order to manage particular risks, the Group applies hedge accounting for transactions which meet the specified criteria.

At inception of the hedge relationship, the Group formally documents the relationship between the hedged item and the hedging instrument, including the nature of the risk, the objective and strategy for undertaking the hedge and the method that will be used to assess the effectiveness of the hedging relationship.

At each hedge effectiveness assessment date, a hedge relationship must be expected to be highly effective on a prospective basis and demonstrate that it was effective (retrospective effectiveness) for the designated period in order to qualify for hedge accounting. A formal assessment is undertaken to ensure the hedging instrument is expected to be highly effective in offsetting the designated risk in the hedged item, both at inception and at each quarter end on an ongoing basis. A hedge is expected to be highly effective if the changes in fair value or cash flows attributable to the hedged risk during the period for which the hedge is designated are expected to offset in a range of 80% to 125% and are expected to achieve such offset in future periods. Hedge ineffectiveness is recognized in the consolidated income statement in "Net gain (loss) from financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss". For situations where that hedged item is a forecast transaction, the Group also assesses whether the transaction is highly probable and presents an exposure to variations in cash flows that could ultimately affect the consolidated income statement.

**2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

**2.5 Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)**

**Hedge accounting (continued)**

*(i) Fair value hedges*

For designated and qualifying fair value hedges, the cumulative change in the fair value of a hedging derivative is recognised in the consolidated income statement in “Net gain (loss) from financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss”. Meanwhile, the cumulative change in the fair value of the hedged item attributable to the risk hedged is recorded as part of the carrying value of the hedged item in the consolidated statement of financial position and is also recognised in “Net gain (loss) from financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss” in the consolidated income statement.

If the hedging instrument expires or is sold, terminated or exercised, or where the hedge no longer meets the criteria for hedge accounting, the hedge relationship is discontinued prospectively. For hedged items recorded at amortised cost, the difference between the carrying value of the hedged item on termination and the face value is amortised over the remaining term of the original hedge using the recalculated effective interest rate (EIR) method. If the hedged item is derecognised, the unamortised fair value adjustment is recognised immediately in the consolidated income statement.

*(ii) Cash flow hedges*

For designated and qualifying cash flow hedges, the effective portion of the gain or loss on the hedging instrument is initially recognised directly in equity in the “Cash flow hedge” reserve. The ineffective portion of the gain or loss on the hedging instrument is recognised immediately in the consolidated income statement.

When the hedged cash flow affects the consolidated income statement, the gain or loss on the hedging instrument is recorded in the corresponding income or expense line of the consolidated income statement. When the forecast transaction subsequently results in the recognition of a non-financial asset or a non-financial liability, the gains and losses previously recognized in other comprehensive income are removed from the reserve and included in the initial cost of the asset or liability.

When a hedging instrument expires, or is sold, terminated, exercised, or when a hedge no longer meets the criteria for hedge accounting, any cumulative gain or loss existing in other comprehensive income at that time remains in other comprehensive income and is recognised when the hedged forecast transaction is ultimately recognised in the consolidated income statement. When a forecast transaction is no longer expected to occur, the cumulative gain or loss that was reported in other comprehensive income is immediately transferred to the consolidated income statement.

*(iii) Hedge of a net investment*

Hedges of net investments in a foreign operation, including a hedge of a monetary item that is accounted for as part of the net investment, are accounted for in a way similar to cash flow hedges. Gains or losses on the hedging instrument relating to the effective portion of the hedge are recognised directly in other comprehensive income while any gains or losses relating to the ineffective portion are recognised in the consolidated income statement. On disposal of the foreign operation, the cumulative value of any such gains or losses recognised directly in other comprehensive statement is transferred to the consolidated income statement.

**Leasing**

The determination of whether an arrangement is a lease or it contains a lease, is based on the substance of the arrangement and requires an assessment of whether the fulfillment of the arrangement is dependent on the use of a specific asset or assets and the arrangement conveys a right to use the asset.

*Group as a lessee*

Leases which do not transfer to the Group substantially all the risks and benefits incidental to ownership of the leased items are operating leases. Operating lease payments are recognised as an expense in the consolidated income statement on a straight line basis over the lease term. Contingent rental payable are recognised as an expense in the period in which they are incurred.

**2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

**2.5 Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)**

**Leasing (continued)**

*Group as a lessor*

Leases where the Group does not transfer substantially all the risks and benefits of ownership of the asset are classified as operating leases. Initial direct costs incurred in negotiating operating leases are added to the carrying amount of the leased asset and recognized over the lease term on the same basis as rental income. Contingent rents are recognized as revenue in the period in which they are earned.

**Recognition of income and expenses**

Revenue is recognised to the extent that it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the Group and the revenue can be reliably measured. The following specific recognition criteria must also be met before revenue is recognised.

**(i) Interest and similar income and expense**

For all financial instruments measured at amortized cost, interest income or expense is recorded using the EIR, which is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments or receipts through the expected life of the financial instrument or a shorter period, where appropriate, to the net carrying amount of the financial asset or financial liability. The calculation takes into account all contractual terms of the financial instrument and includes any fees or incremental costs that are directly attributable to the instrument and are an integral part of the effective interest rate, but not future credit losses.

The carrying amount of the financial asset or financial liability is adjusted if the Group revises its estimates of payments or receipts. The adjusted carrying amount is calculated based on the original effective interest rate and the change in the carrying amount is recorded as "Interest and similar income" for financial assets and "Interest and similar expense" for financial liabilities.

Once the recorded value of a financial asset on a group of similar financial assets has been reduced due to an impairment loss, interest income continue to be recognized using the rate of interest used to discount the future cash flows for the purpose of measuring the impairment loss.

**(ii) Fee and commission income**

The Group earns fee and commission income from a diverse range of services it provides to its customers. Fee income can be divided into the following two categories:

*Fee income earned from services that are provided over a certain period of time*

Fees earned for the provision of services over a period of time are accrued over that period. These fees include commission income and asset management, custody and other management and advisory fees.

Loan commitment fees for loans that are likely to be drawn down and other credit related fees are deferred (together with any incremental costs) and recognized as an adjustment to the EIR on the loan. When it is unlikely that a loan be drawn down, the loan commitment fees are recognized over the commitment period on a straight line basis.

*Fee income from providing transaction services*

Fee arising from negotiating or participating in the negotiation of a transaction for a third party, such as the arrangement of the acquisition of shares or other securities or the purchase or sale of businesses, are recognized on completion of the underlying transaction. Fee or components of fee that are linked to a certain performance are recognized after fulfilling the corresponding criteria.

*Fee and commission income from providing insurance services*

Insurance and investment contract policyholders are charged for policy administration services, investment management services, surrenders and other contract fees. These fees are recognized as revenue over the period in which the related services are performed. If the fees are for services provided in future periods, then they are deferred and recognized over those future periods.

**2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)****2.5 Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)****Recognition of income and expenses (continued)****(iii) Dividend income**

Dividend income is recognised when the right to receive the payment is established.

**(iv) Net gain (loss) from financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss**

Results arising from financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss, include all gains and losses from changes in fair value and related income or expense and dividends for financial assets at fair value through profit or loss. This includes any ineffectiveness recorded in hedging transactions.

**(vi) Insurance revenue**

For the insurance subsidiaries, net premiums and accessories (gross premiums) are taken to income over the terms of the policies to which they relate using the prorata temporise method for non-marine business and 25% of gross premiums for marine business. Unearned premiums reserve represents the portion of the gross premiums written relating to the unexpired period of coverage.

If the unearned premiums reserve is not considered adequate to cover future claims arising on these premiums a premium deficiency reserve is created.

**Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents as referred to in the cash flow statement comprise balances with original maturities of a period of three months or less including: cash and balances with the central banks, deposits with banks and financial institutions, and deposits due to banks and financial institutions.

**Property and equipment**

Property and equipment is stated at cost excluding the costs of day-to-day servicing, less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment in value. Such cost includes the cost of replacing part of the property and equipment if the recognition criteria are met. When significant parts of property and equipment are required to be replaced at intervals, the Group recognises such parts as individual assets with specific useful lives and depreciates them accordingly. Likewise, when a major inspection is performed, its cost is recognised in the carrying amount of the equipment as a replacement if the recognition criteria are satisfied. All other repair and maintenance costs are recognised in the consolidated income statement as incurred. The present value of the expected cost for the decommissioning of an asset after its use is included in the cost of the respective asset if the recognition criteria for a provision are met.

Changes in the expected useful life are accounted for by changing the depreciation period or method, as appropriate and treated as changes in accounting estimates.

Depreciation is calculated using the straight line method to write down the cost of property and equipment to their residual values over their estimated useful lives. Land is not depreciated. The estimated useful lives are as follows:

Buildings	50 years
Office equipment and furniture	6.66 – 12.5 years
Computer equipment and software	3.33 – 5 years
General installations	5 years
Vehicles	4 years

Property and equipment is derecognised on disposal or when no future economic benefits are expected from its use. Any gain or loss arising on derecognition of the asset (calculated as the difference between the net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset) is recognized in “Net gain (loss) on disposal of fixed assets” in the year the asset is derecognized.

The asset’s residual lives and methods of depreciation are reviewed at each financial year end and adjusted prospectively if applicable.

## 2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

### 2.5 Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

#### **Business combinations and goodwill**

Business combinations are accounted for using the acquisition method. The cost of an acquisition is measured as the aggregate of the consideration transferred, measured at acquisition date fair value and the amount of any non-controlling interests in the acquiree. For each business combination, the Group elects whether to measure the non-controlling interests in the acquiree at fair value or at the proportionate share of the acquiree's identifiable net assets. Acquisition costs incurred are expensed and included in administrative expenses.

When the Group makes an acquisition meeting the definition of a business under IFRS 3, it assesses the financial assets and liabilities assumed for appropriate classification and designation in accordance with the contractual terms, economic circumstances and pertinent conditions as at the acquisition date. This includes the separation of embedded derivatives in host contracts by the acquiree.

If the business combination is achieved in stages, the previously held equity interest in the acquiree is remeasured at fair value at the acquisition date through the consolidated income statement. It is then considered in the determination of goodwill.

Any contingent consideration to be transferred by the acquirer will be recognised at fair value at the acquisition date. Subsequent changes to the fair value of the contingent consideration which is deemed to be an asset or liability will be recognised either in profit or loss or as a change to other comprehensive income. If the contingent consideration is classified as equity, it should not be remeasured until it is finally settled within equity.

Goodwill is initially measured at cost, being the excess of the aggregate of the consideration transferred and the amount recognised for non-controlling interests, and any previous interest held, over the net identifiable assets acquired and liabilities assumed. If the fair value of the net assets acquired is in excess of the aggregate consideration transferred, the Group re-assesses whether it has correctly identified all of the assets acquired and all of the liabilities assumed and reviews the procedures used to measure the amounts to be recognised at the acquisition date. If the re-assessment still results in an excess of the fair value of net assets acquired over the aggregate consideration transferred, then the gain is recognised in profit or loss.

After initial recognition, goodwill is measured at cost less any accumulated impairment losses. For the purpose of impairment testing, goodwill acquired in a business combination is, from the acquisition date, allocated to each of the Group's cash-generating units that are expected to benefit from the combination, irrespective of whether other assets or liabilities of the acquiree are assigned to those units.

Where goodwill forms part of a cash-generating unit and part of the operation within that unit is disposed of, the goodwill associated with the operation disposed of is included in the carrying amount of the operation when determining the gain or loss on disposal of the operation. Goodwill disposed of in this circumstance is measured based on the relative values of the operation disposed of and the portion of the cash-generating unit retained.

#### **Intangible assets**

An intangible asset is recognized only when its cost can be measured reliably and it is probable that the expected future economic benefits that are attributable to it will flow to the Group.

Intangible assets acquired separately are measured on initial recognition at cost. The cost of intangible assets acquired in a business combination is their fair value as at the date of acquisition. Following initial recognition, intangible assets are carried at cost less any accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses.

**2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

**2.5 Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)**

**Intangible assets (continued)**

The useful lives of intangible assets are assessed to be either finite or indefinite. Intangible assets with finite lives are amortised over the useful economic life. The amortisation period and the amortisation method for an intangible asset with a finite useful life are reviewed at least at each financial year-end. Changes in the expected useful life or the expected pattern of consumption of future economic benefits embodied in the asset are accounted for by changing the amortisation period or method, as appropriate, and treated as changes in accounting estimates. The amortisation expense on intangible assets with finite lives is recognised in the consolidated income statement.

Amortisation is calculated using the straight-line method to write down the cost of intangible assets to their residual values over their estimated useful lives as follows:

- Key money 10-15 years

Intangible assets with indefinite useful lives are not amortised, but are tested for impairment annually, either individually or at the cash-generating unit level. The assessment of indefinite life is reviewed annually to determine whether the indefinite life continues to be supportable. If not, the change in useful life from indefinite to finite is made on a prospective basis.

Gains or losses arising from de-recognition of an intangible asset are measured as the difference between the net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset and are recognised in the statement of profit or loss when the asset is derecognised.

The Group does not have intangible assets with indefinite economic life.

**Impairment of non-financial assets**

The Bank assesses at each reporting date whether there is an indication that an asset may be impaired. If any indication exists, or when annual impairment testing for an asset is required, the Group estimates the asset's recoverable amount. An asset's recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's or cash-generating unit's fair value less costs to sell and its value in use. Where the carrying amount of an asset or cash-generating unit exceeds its recoverable amount, the asset is considered impaired and is written down to its recoverable amount. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset. In determining fair value less costs to sell, an appropriate valuation model is used. These calculations are corroborated by valuation multiples, quoted share prices for publicly traded subsidiaries or other available fair value indicators.

For assets excluding goodwill, an assessment is made at each reporting date as to whether there is any indication that previously recognised impairment losses may no longer exist or may have decreased. If such indication exists, the recoverable amount is estimated. A previously recognised impairment loss is reversed only if there has been a change in the estimates used to determine the asset's recoverable amount since the last impairment loss was recognised. The reversal is limited so that the carrying amount of the asset does not exceed its recoverable amount, nor exceeds the carrying amount that would have been determined, net of depreciation, had no impairment loss been recognised for the asset in prior years. Such reversal is recognized in the consolidated income statement.

Impairment losses relating to goodwill cannot be reversed in future periods.

**2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

**2.5 Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)**

**Financial guarantees**

In the ordinary course of business, the Group gives financial guarantees, consisting of letters of credit, guarantees and acceptances. Financial guarantees are initially recognised in the financial statements (within “Other liabilities”) at fair value, being the premium received. Subsequent to initial recognition, the Group’s liability under each guarantee is measured at the higher of the amount initially recognized less, when appropriate, cumulative amortization recognized in the consolidated income statement, and the best estimate of expenditure required to settle any financial obligation arising as a result of the guarantee.

Any increase in the liability relating to financial guarantees is recorded in the consolidated income statement in “Net credit losses”. The premium received is recognised in the consolidated income statement on a straight line basis over the life of the guarantee in “Net fee and commission income”.

**Pensions and other post-employment benefits**

The Group operates defined benefit pension plans, which requires contributions to be made to separately administered funds. The cost of providing benefits under the defined benefit plans is determined using the projected unit credit method which involves making actuarial assumptions about discount rates, expected rates of return on assets, future salary increases, mortality rates and future pension increases. Those assumptions are unbiased and mutually compatible.

Re-measurements, comprising of actuarial gains and losses, the effect of the asset ceiling, excluding net interest 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 OCI in the period in which they occur. Re-measurements are not reclassified to profit or loss in subsequent periods.

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

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

Net interest is calculated by applying the discount rate to the net defined benefit liability or asset. The Group recognises the following changes in the net defined benefit obligation under “Personnel expenses” in consolidated statement of income:

- Service costs comprising current service costs, past-service costs, gains and losses on curtailments and non-routine settlements
- Net interest expense or income

**Provisions for risks and charges**

Provisions are recognised when the Group has a present obligation (legal or constructive) as a result of a past event, and it is probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. The expense relating to any provision is presented in the consolidated income statement net of any reimbursement.

**Taxes**

Taxes are provided for in accordance with regulations and laws that are effective in the countries where the Group operates.

*(i) Current tax*

Current tax assets and liabilities for the current and prior years are measured at the amount expected to be recovered from or paid to the taxation authorities. The tax rates and tax laws used to compute the amount are those that are enacted or substantively enacted by the reporting date.

**2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

**2.5 Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)**

**Taxes (continued)**

*(ii) Deferred tax*

Deferred tax is provided on temporary differences at the reporting date between the tax bases of assets and liabilities and their carrying amounts for financial reporting purposes. Deferred tax liabilities are recognised for all taxable temporary differences, except:

- Where the deferred tax liability arises from the initial recognition of goodwill or of an asset or liability in a transaction that is not a business combination and, at the time of the transaction, affects neither the accounting profit nor taxable profit or loss.
- In respect of taxable temporary differences associated with investments in subsidiaries and associates, where the timing of the reversal of the temporary differences can be controlled and it is probable that the temporary differences will not reverse in the foreseeable future.

Deferred tax assets are recognised for all deductible temporary differences, carry forward of unused tax credits and unused tax losses, 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 utilised except:

- Where the deferred tax asset relating to the deductible temporary difference arises from the initial recognition of an asset or liability in a transaction that is not a business combination and, at the time of the transaction, affects neither the accounting profit nor taxable profit or loss.
- In respect of deductible temporary differences associated with investments in subsidiaries and associates, deferred tax assets are recognised only to the extent that it is probable that the temporary differences will reverse in the foreseeable future and taxable profit will be available against which the temporary differences can be utilised.

The carrying amount of deferred tax assets is reviewed at each statement of financial position date and reduced to the extent that it is no longer probable that sufficient taxable profit will be available to allow all or part of the deferred tax asset to be utilised. Unrecognized deferred tax assets are reassessed at each statement of financial position date and are recognised to the extent that it has become probable that future taxable profit will allow the deferred tax asset to be recovered.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured at the tax rates that are expected to apply in the year when the asset is realised or the liability is settled, based on tax rates (and tax laws) that have been enacted or substantively enacted at the statement of financial position date.

Current tax and deferred tax relating to items recognized directly in equity are also recognised in equity and not in the consolidated income statement.

Deferred tax assets and deferred tax liabilities are offset if a legally enforceable right exists to set off current tax assets against current tax liabilities and the deferred taxes relate to the same taxable entity and the same taxation authority.

**Treasury shares**

Own equity instruments of the Group which are acquired by it or by any of its subsidiaries (treasury shares) are deducted from equity and accounted for at weighted average cost. Consideration paid or received on the purchase sale, issue or cancellation of the Group's own equity instruments is recognized directly in equity. No gain or loss is recognized in the consolidated income statement on the purchase, sale, issue or cancellation of the Group's own equity instruments.

When the Group holds own equity instruments on behalf of its clients, those holdings are not included in the Group's consolidated statement of financial position.



## 2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

### 2.5 Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

#### **Treasury shares (continued)**

Contracts on own shares that require physical settlement of a fixed number of own shares for a fixed consideration are classified as equity and added to or deducted from equity. Contracts on own shares that require net cash settlement or provide a choice of settlement are classified as trading instruments and changes in the fair value are reported in the consolidated income statement.

#### **Assets held in custody and under administration**

The Group provides custody and administration services that result in the holding or investing of assets on behalf of its clients. Assets held in custody or under administration, are not treated as assets of the Group and accordingly are recorded as off financial position items.

#### **Dividends on ordinary shares**

Dividends on ordinary shares are recognized as a liability and deducted from equity when they are approved by the Bank's shareholders. Interim dividends are deducted from equity when they are declared and no longer at the discretion of the Bank.

Dividends for the year that are approved after the reporting date are disclosed as an event after the reporting date.

#### **Customers' acceptances**

Customers' acceptances represent term documentary credits which the Group has committed to settle on behalf of its clients against commitments by those clients (acceptances). The commitments resulting from these acceptances are stated as a liability in the statement of financial position for the same amount.

#### **Segment reporting**

The Group's segmental reporting is based on the following operating segments: consumer banking, corporate banking, and treasury and capital markets.

## 3 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGEMENTS

The preparation of the Group's consolidated financial statements requires management to make judgments, estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of revenues, expenses, assets and liabilities, and the accompanying disclosures, and the disclosure of contingent liabilities. Uncertainty about these assumptions and estimates could result in outcomes that require a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets or liabilities affected in future periods.

#### **Judgments**

In the process of applying the Group's accounting policies, management has made the following judgments, apart from those involving estimations, which have the most significant effect in the amounts recognised in the financial statements:

##### *Going concern*

The Group's management has made an assessment of the Group's ability to continue as a going concern and is satisfied that the Group has the resources to continue in business for the foreseeable future. Furthermore, management is not aware of any material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt upon the Group's ability to continue as a going concern. Therefore, the consolidated financial statements continue to be prepared on the going concern basis.

##### *Business model*

In making an assessment whether a business model's objective is to hold assets in order to collect contractual cash flows, the Group considers at which level of its business activities such assessment should be made. Generally, a business model is a matter of fact which can be evidenced by the way business is managed and the information provided to management. However, in some circumstances it may not be clear whether a

## Byblos Bank SAL

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particular activity involves one business model with some infrequent asset sales or whether the anticipated sales indicate that there are two different business models.

### 3 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGEMENTS (continued)

#### Judgments (continued)

##### *Business model (continued)*

In determining whether its business model for managing financial assets is to hold assets in order to collect contractual cash flows the Group considers:

- management's stated policies and objectives for the portfolio and the operation of those policies in practice;
- how management evaluates the performance of the portfolio;
- whether management's strategy focuses on earning contractual interest revenues;
- the degree of frequency of any expected asset sales;
- the reason for any asset sales; and
- whether sold assets are held for an extended period of time relative to their contractual maturity.

##### *Contractual cash flows of financial assets*

The Group exercises judgment in determining whether the contractual terms of financial assets it originates or acquires give rise on specific dates to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal outstanding and so may qualify for amortised cost measurement. In making the assessment the Group considers all contractual terms, including any prepayment terms or provisions to extend the maturity of the assets, terms that change the amount and timing of cash flows and whether the contractual terms contain leverage.

#### Estimates and assumptions

The key assumptions concerning the future and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date, that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year, are described below. The Group based its assumptions and estimates on parameters available when the consolidated financial statements were prepared. Existing circumstances and assumptions about future developments, however, may change due to market changes or circumstances arising beyond the control of the Group. Such changes are reflected in the assumptions when they occur.

##### *Fair value of financial instruments*

Where the fair values of financial assets and financial liabilities recorded on the statement of financial position cannot be derived from active markets, they are determined using a variety of valuation techniques that include the use of mathematical models. The inputs to these models are derived from observable market data where possible, but where observable market data are not available, judgment is required to establish fair values. The judgments include considerations of liquidity and model inputs such as volatility for longer dated derivatives and discount rates, prepayment rates and default rate assumptions for asset backed securities. Changes in assumptions about these factors could affect the reported fair value of financial instruments.

##### *Impairment losses on loans and advances*

The Group reviews its individually significant loans and advances at each statement of financial position date to assess whether an impairment loss should be recorded in the consolidated income statement. In particular, judgment by management is required in the estimation of the amount and timing of future cash flows when determining the impairment loss. In estimating these cash flows, the Group makes judgments about the borrower's financial situation and the net realizable value of collateral. These estimates are based on assumptions about a number of factors and actual results may differ, resulting in future changes to the allowance.

Loans and advances that have been assessed individually and found not to be impaired and all individually insignificant loans and advances are then assessed collectively, in groups of assets with similar risk characteristics, to determine whether provision should be made due to incurred loss events for which there is objective evidence but whose effects are not yet evident. The collective assessment takes account of data from the loan portfolio (such as credit quality, levels of arrears, credit utilization, loan to collateral ratios etc.), concentrations of risks and economic date (including levels of unemployment, real estate prices indices, country risk and the performance of different individual groups).

**3 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGEMENTS (continued)****Estimates and assumptions (continued)***Deferred tax assets*

Deferred tax assets are recognized in respect to tax losses to the extent that it is probable that taxable profit will be available against which the losses can be utilized. Judgment is required to determine the amount of deferred tax assets that can be recognized, based upon the likely timing and level of future taxable profits, together with future tax planning strategies.

*Pensions obligation*

The cost of the defined benefit pension plan is determined using an actuarial valuation. The actuarial valuation involves making assumptions about discount rates, expected rates of return on assets, future salary increases, mortality rates and future pension increases. Due to the long-term nature of these plans, such estimates are subject to significant uncertainty.

**4 GROUP INFORMATION**

The consolidated financial statements of the Group comprise the financial statements of Byblos Bank SAL and the following subsidiaries:

<i>Subsidiary</i>	<i>Percentage of ownership</i>		<i>Principal activity</i>	<i>Country of incorporation</i>
	<i>2015</i>	<i>2014</i>		
	%	%		
Byblos Bank Europe SA	<b>99.95</b>	99.95	Banking activities through its head office in Brussels (Belgium) and two branches in London and Paris	Belgium
Adonis Insurance and Reinsurance Co. (ADIR) SAL	<b>64.00</b>	64.00	Insurance	Lebanon
Adonis Brokerage House SAL	<b>100.00</b>	100.00	Insurance brokerage	Lebanon
Byblos Invest Bank SAL	<b>99.99</b>	99.99	Investment banking	Lebanon
Byblos Bank Africa	<b>56.86</b>	56.86	Commercial Banking	Sudan
Byblos Bank Syria S.A.	<b>59.87</b>	59.87	Commercial Banking	Syria
Byblos Bank Armenia CJSC	<b>65.00</b>	65.00	Commercial Banking	Armenia
Adonis Insurance and Reinsurance (ADIR) Syria	<b>76.00</b>	76.00	Insurance	Syria
Byblos Bank RDC SARL	<b>66.67</b>	66.67	Banking activities	Democratic Republic of Congo

**5 BUSINESS COMBINATIONS*****Acquisition of additional interest in Byblos Bank Syria S.A.***

Effective 1 January 2014, the Group acquired an additional 7.5% interest in the voting shares of Byblos Bank Syria S.A, increasing its ownership interest to 59.87%. A cash consideration of LL 10,553 million was paid to the non-controlling interest shareholders. The carrying value of the additional interest acquired was LL 5,384 million. Following is a schedule of additional interest acquired in Byblos Bank Syria S.A:

	<b><i>LL million</i></b>
Cash consideration paid to non-controlling shareholders	<b>10,553</b>
Carrying value of additional interest in Byblos Bank Syria S.A	<b>(5,384)</b>
Difference recognized within equity	<b>5,169</b>

# Byblos Bank SAL

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 December 2015

### 6 MATERIAL PARTLY-OWNED SUBSIDIARIES

Financial information of subsidiaries that have material non-controlling interests are provided below:

#### Proportion of equity interests held by non-controlling interests:

	2015	2014
	%	%
<b>Name</b>		
Byblos Bank Africa	<b>43.14</b>	43.14
Adonis Insurance and Reinsurance Co. (ADIR) SAL	<b>36.00</b>	36.00
Byblos Bank Armenia CJSC	<b>35.00</b>	35.00
Byblos Bank Syria S.A.	<b>40.13</b>	40.13

The summarized financial information of these subsidiaries are provided below. This information is based on amounts before inter-company eliminations:

#### Summarized income statement for 2015:

	<i>Byblos Bank Africa LL million</i>	<i>Adonis Insurance and Reinsurance Co. (ADIR) SAL LL million</i>	<i>Byblos Bank Armenia CJSC LL million</i>	<i>Byblos Bank Syria S.A. LL million</i>
Net interest income	9,824	9,749	1,637	3,626
Net fee and commission income	1,220	2,997	155	2,165
Net gain from financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss	509	-	215	36,783
Other operating income	339	17,999	42	109
Net credit (losses) income	(5,351)	-	(4,220)	6,116
Total operating expenses	(7,279)	(12,253)	(4,545)	(18,821)
Income tax expense	(1,111)	(967)	(81)	(824)
Profit (loss) for the year	<u>(1,849)</u>	<u>17,525</u>	<u>(6,797)</u>	<u>29,154</u>
Attributable to non-controlling interests	<u>(797)</u>	<u>6,309</u>	<u>(2,379)</u>	<u>11,700</u>
Dividends paid to non-controlling interests	<u>2,710</u>	<u>2,704</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

#### Summarized income statement for 2014:

	<i>Byblos Bank Africa LL million</i>	<i>Adonis Insurance and Reinsurance Co. (ADIR) SAL LL million</i>	<i>Byblos Bank Armenia CJSC LL million</i>	<i>Byblos Bank Syria S.A. LL million</i>
Net interest income (expense)	16,325	5,528	3,419	(709)
Net fee and commission income	5,074	2,383	156	2,493
Net gain from financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss	1,996	2,722	1,751	24,287
Other operating income	605	15,711	220	367
Net credit losses	(2,705)	(160)	(4,714)	(8,160)
Total operating expenses	(8,870)	(9,920)	(4,771)	(6,504)
Income tax expense	(3,775)	(873)	(55)	(3,389)
Profit (loss) for the year	<u>8,650</u>	<u>15,391</u>	<u>(3,994)</u>	<u>8,385</u>
Attributable to non-controlling interests	<u>3,732</u>	<u>5,541</u>	<u>(1,398)</u>	<u>3,365</u>
Dividends paid to non-controlling interests	<u>1,710</u>	<u>2,379</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

31 December 2015

**6 MATERIAL PARTLY-OWNED SUBSIDIARIES (continued)****Summarized statement of financial position as at 31 December 2015:**

	<i>Byblos Bank Africa LL million</i>	<i>Adonis Insurance and Reinsurance Co. (ADIR) SAL LL million</i>	<i>Byblos Bank Armenia CJSC LL million</i>	<i>Byblos Bank Syria S.A. LL million</i>
Cash and balances with central banks	74,367	9	29,801	54,791
Due from banks and financial institutions	4,963	31,485	16,493	87,712
Balances with Parent and Group entities	44,690	130,399	834	80,058
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	-	25,537	-	-
Net loans and advances at amortized cost	82,049	4,583	56,019	74,582
Financial assets at amortized cost	18,469	140,732	13,034	7,704
Property and equipment	15,127	2,985	3,165	4,858
Other assets	1,882	51,879	4,862	19,810
Due to banks	(34,991)	-	(9,559)	(40,047)
Due to Parent and Group entities	(41,021)	-	-	(60,618)
Deposits at amortized cost	(106,718)	(203,354)	(89,145)	(148,611)
Other liabilities	(12,544)	(113,543)	(8,405)	(15,529)
<b>Total equity</b>	<b>46,273</b>	<b>70,712</b>	<b>17,099</b>	<b>64,710</b>
Attributable to non-controlling interests	11,864	25,492	-	25,968

**Summarized statement of financial position as at 31 December 2014:**

	<i>Byblos Bank Africa LL million</i>	<i>Adonis Insurance and Reinsurance Co. (ADIR) SAL LL million</i>	<i>Byblos Bank Armenia CJSC LL million</i>	<i>Byblos Bank Syria S.A. LL million</i>
Cash and balances with central banks	90,118	21	32,997	155,748
Due from banks and financial institutions	2,226	19,273	30,429	76,787
Balances with Parent and Group entities	49,651	140,584	539	36,108
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	-	25,429	-	-
Net loans and advances at amortized cost	107,396	1,816	90,138	95,143
Financial assets at amortized cost	35,442	103,988	9,677	15,376
Property and equipment	16,850	2,028	3,271	7,498
Other assets	17,314	48,373	1,502	27,263
Due to banks	(29,704)	-	(24,194)	(20,120)
Due to Parent and Group entities	(77,673)	-	(12,403)	-
Deposits at amortized cost	(132,614)	(176,685)	(107,265)	(331,836)
Other liabilities	(23,588)	(104,134)	(499)	(1,489)
<b>Total equity</b>	<b>55,418</b>	<b>60,693</b>	<b>24,192</b>	<b>60,478</b>
Attributable to non-controlling interests	14,209	21,850	-	24,270

Put options granted to the holders of non-controlling interests of the subsidiaries Byblos Bank Africa and Byblos Bank Armenia CJSC were estimated at a fair value of LL 11,543 million and LL 6,720 million respectively as at 31 December 2015 (2014: LL 13,213 million and LL 9,212 million respectively) (note 36). These were recorded through partial recognition of non-controlling interests.

**6 MATERIAL PARTLY-OWNED SUBSIDIARIES (continued)****Summarized cash flow information for the year ended 31 December 2015:**

	<i>Byblos Bank Africa</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>Adonis Insurance and Reinsurance Co. (ADIR) SAL</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>Byblos Bank Armenia CJSC</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>Byblos Bank Syria S.A.</i> <i>LL million</i>
Operating	(4,977)	27,526	12,863	(47,718)
Investing	16,415	(34,676)	(76)	6,910
Financing	(23,672)	(3,450)	7,432	-
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalent	<u>(12,234)</u>	<u>(10,600)</u>	<u>20,219</u>	<u>(40,808)</u>

**Summarized cash flow information for the year ended 31 December 2014:**

	<i>Byblos Bank Africa</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>Adonis Insurance and Reinsurance Co. (ADIR) SAL</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>Byblos Bank Armenia CJSC</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>Byblos Bank Syria S.A.</i> <i>LL million</i>
Operating	36,907	16,909	(18,368)	51,892
Investing	4,767	(13,017)	(365)	6,606
Financing	(37,323)	(2,852)	-	-
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalent	<u>4,351</u>	<u>1,040</u>	<u>(18,733)</u>	<u>58,498</u>

**7 SEGMENT INFORMATION**

For management purposes, the Group is organized into three operating segments based on products and services as follows:

**Retail banking** provides a diversified range of products and services to meet the personal banking and consumer finance needs of individuals. The range includes deposits, housing loans, consumer loans, credit cards, funds transfers, foreign exchange and other branch related services.

**Corporate banking** provides a comprehensive product and service offering to corporate and institutional customers, including loans and other credit facilities, deposits and current accounts, trade finance and foreign exchange operations.

**Treasury and capital markets** is mostly responsible for the liquidity management and market risk of the Group as well as managing the Group's own portfolio of stocks, bonds and other financial instruments. In addition, this segment provides treasury and investment products and services to investors and other institutional customers.

Management monitors the operating results of its business units separately for the purpose of making decisions about resource allocation and performance assessment. Segment performance is evaluated based on operating profit or loss which in certain respects is measured differently from operating profit or loss in the financial statements. Income taxes are managed on a group basis and are not allocated to operating segments.

Interest income is reported net as management primarily relies on net interest revenue as performance measure, not the gross income and expense amounts.

Transfer prices between operating segments are on an arms' length basis in a manner similar to transactions with third parties.

31 December 2015

**7 SEGMENT INFORMATION (continued)**

The following table presents net operating income, profit and total assets and liabilities information in respect of the Group's operating segments:

*Profit for the year information*

	2015				
	<i>Retail banking LL million</i>	<i>Corporate banking LL million</i>	<i>Treasury and capital markets LL million</i>	<i>Other<sup>1</sup> LL million</i>	<i>Total LL million</i>
Net interest income	173,501	115,851	94,241	2,723	386,316
Net fee and commission income	57,376	59,139	497	4,939	121,951
Net gain from financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss	-	-	67,443	-	67,443
Net gain from sale of financial assets at amortized cost	-	-	86,939	-	86,939
Revenue from financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income	-	-	4,383	-	4,383
Other operating income	-	-	-	20,935	20,935
Net credit (losses) gains	(14,061)	202	(34,049)	-	(47,908)
<b>Net operating income</b>	<b>216,816</b>	<b>175,192</b>	<b>219,454</b>	<b>28,597</b>	<b>640,059</b>

	2014				
	<i>Retail banking LL million</i>	<i>Corporate banking LL million</i>	<i>Treasury and capital markets LL million</i>	<i>Other<sup>1</sup> LL million</i>	<i>Total LL million</i>
Net interest income	186,799	114,430	58,476	3,992	363,697
Net fee and commission income	66,626	62,594	376	6,268	135,864
Net gain from financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss	-	-	66,942	-	66,942
Net gain from sale of financial assets at amortized cost	-	-	104,818	-	104,818
Revenue from financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income	-	-	2,736	-	2,736
Other operating income	-	-	-	21,859	21,859
Net credit losses	(8,004)	(35,197)	3,773	-	(39,428)
Net operating income	245,421	141,827	237,121	32,119	656,488

*Financial position information*

	2015				
	<i>Retail banking LL million</i>	<i>Corporate banking LL million</i>	<i>Treasury and capital markets LL million</i>	<i>Other<sup>1</sup> LL million</i>	<i>Total LL million</i>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>2,497,287</b>	<b>5,182,334</b>	<b>21,869,165</b>	<b>405,624</b>	<b>29,954,410</b>
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>23,711,127</b>	<b>1,369,021</b>	<b>1,727,010</b>	<b>563,809</b>	<b>27,370,967</b>

	2014				
	<i>Retail banking LL million</i>	<i>Corporate banking LL million</i>	<i>Treasury and capital markets LL million</i>	<i>Other<sup>1</sup> LL million</i>	<i>Total LL million</i>
Total assets	2,418,690	5,011,446	20,883,916	380,486	28,694,538
Total liabilities	22,165,961	1,524,642	1,847,712	612,271	26,150,586

<sup>1</sup> Other includes all non-banking activities.



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**7 SEGMENT INFORMATION (continued)****Geographic information**

The Group operates in three geographical segments, Lebanon, Europe and other countries. The following table shows the distribution of the Group's net operating income and non-current assets.

	<i>2015</i>			
	<i>Lebanon LL million</i>	<i>Europe LL million</i>	<i>Other LL million</i>	<i>Total LL million</i>
Total operating income	565,601	34,327	88,039	687,967
Net credit losses	(37,849)	(5,630)	(4,429)	(47,908)
<b>Net operating income<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>527,752</b>	<b>28,697</b>	<b>83,610</b>	<b>640,059</b>
<b>Non-current assets<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>245,234</b>	<b>10,342</b>	<b>42,048</b>	<b>297,624</b>
	<i>2014</i>			
	<i>Lebanon LL million</i>	<i>Europe LL million</i>	<i>Other LL million</i>	<i>Total LL million</i>
Total operating income	563,786	50,145	81,985	695,916
Net credit losses	(20,054)	(6,886)	(12,488)	(39,428)
<b>Net operating income<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>543,732</b>	<b>43,259</b>	<b>69,497</b>	<b>656,488</b>
<b>Non-current assets<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>222,089</b>	<b>7,400</b>	<b>44,219</b>	<b>273,708</b>

<sup>2</sup> Net operating income is attributed to the geographical segment on the basis of the location of the branch / subsidiary responsible for reporting the results or advancing the funds.

<sup>3</sup> Non-current assets consist of property and equipment, intangible assets, and certain other assets (other than financial instruments and deferred taxes) expected to be recovered in more than twelve months after the reporting date.

**8 INTEREST AND SIMILAR INCOME**

	<i>2015 LL million</i>	<i>2014 LL million</i>
Balances with central banks	263,832	199,375
Due from banks and financial institutions	9,053	9,942
Loans to banks and financial institutions and reverse repurchase agreements	36,220	21,323
Financial assets given as collateral	191	477
Loans and advances to customers at amortized cost	493,597	488,449
Loans and advances to related parties at amortized cost	1,869	1,319
Financial assets at amortized cost	684,325	692,349
	<b>1,489,087</b>	<b>1,413,234</b>

**9 INTEREST AND SIMILAR EXPENSE**

	<i>2015 LL million</i>	<i>2014 LL million</i>
Due to central banks	2,152	986
Due to banks and financial institutions	21,902	22,481
Customers' deposits at amortized cost	1,000,647	949,321
Deposits from related parties at amortized cost	15,715	13,175
Debt issued and other borrowed funds	31,124	32,227
Subordinated debt	31,231	31,347

**1,102,771**

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1,049,537

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31 December 2015

**10 NET FEE AND COMMISSION INCOME**

	<i>2015</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>2014</i> <i>LL million</i>
<b>Fee and commission income</b>		
Loans and advances	<b>23,513</b>	23,618
Letters of guarantee	<b>15,857</b>	15,861
Acceptances	<b>5,996</b>	9,258
Letters of credit	<b>16,517</b>	27,867
Credit cards	<b>15,571</b>	14,207
Domiciled bills	<b>2,503</b>	2,554
Checks for collection	<b>2,904</b>	3,038
Maintenance of accounts	<b>13,048</b>	13,305
Transfers	<b>8,973</b>	9,797
Safe rental	<b>1,168</b>	1,116
Portfolio commission	<b>2,934</b>	3,808
Commission on insurance related activities	<b>9,124</b>	8,210
Refund of banking services	<b>12,206</b>	12,316
Other commissions	<b>4,201</b>	4,676
	<b>134,515</b>	149,631
<b>Fee and commission expense</b>	<b>(12,564)</b>	(13,767)
<b>Net fee and commission income</b>	<b>121,951</b>	135,864

**11 NET GAIN FROM FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS**

	<i>2015</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>2014</i> <i>LL million</i>
<i>Interest and similar income from debt instruments</i>		
- Lebanese treasury bills	<b>11,350</b>	6,802
- Certificates of deposit issued by the Central Bank of Lebanon	<b>1,479</b>	10
- Foreign governmental debt securities	<b>4</b>	231
- Other debt securities	<b>79</b>	596
	<b>12,912</b>	7,639
<i>Gain (loss) from sale of debt instruments</i>		
- Lebanese treasury bills	<b>1,821</b>	3,439
- Certificates of deposit issued by the Central Bank of Lebanon	<b>274</b>	2
- Foreign governmental debt securities	<b>(35)</b>	388
- Other debt securities	<b>160</b>	76
	<b>2,220</b>	3,905

31 December 2015

**11 NET GAIN FROM FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS (continued)**

	<i>2015</i>	<i>2014</i>
	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>
<i>Unrealized (loss) gain from revaluation of debt instruments</i>		
- Lebanese treasury bills	<b>(6,145)</b>	1,490
- Certificates of deposit issued by the Central Bank of Lebanon	<b>(175)</b>	16
- Foreign governmental debt securities	<b>38</b>	(38)
- Other debt securities	<b>127</b>	322
	<b>(6,155)</b>	1,790
<b>Net gain from debt instruments</b>	<b>8,977</b>	13,334
<i>Equity instruments</i>		
- (Loss) gain from sale	<b>(2,471)</b>	213
- Unrealized gain from revaluation	<b>955</b>	2,784
- Dividend income	<b>573</b>	557
<b>Net (loss) gain from equity instruments</b>	<b>(943)</b>	3,554
Unrealized gain from revaluation of structural position of a subsidiary	<b>35,547</b>	23,758
Foreign exchange	<b>23,862</b>	26,296
	<b>67,443</b>	66,942

Foreign exchange income includes gains and losses from spot and forward contracts, other currency derivatives and the revaluation of the daily open trading position.

**12 NET GAIN FROM SALE OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AT AMORTIZED COST**

The Group derecognises some debt instruments classified at amortised cost due to the following reasons:

- Deterioration of the credit rating below the ceiling allowed in the Group's investment policy;
- Liquidity gap and yield management;
- Exchange of certificates of deposit by the Lebanese Central Bank;
- Currency risk management as a result of change in the currency base of deposits; or
- Liquidity for capital expenditures.

The schedule below details the gains and losses arising from the derecognition of these financial assets:

	<i>2015</i>		
	<i>Gains</i>	<i>Losses</i>	<i>Net</i>
	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>
Lebanese treasury bills	<b>22,311</b>	<b>(1)</b>	<b>22,310</b>
Certificates of deposit issued by the Central Bank of Lebanon	<b>58,551</b>	-	<b>58,551</b>
Foreign governmental debt securities	<b>19</b>	-	<b>19</b>
Other debt securities	<b>6,059</b>	-	<b>6,059</b>
	<b>86,940</b>	<b>(1)</b>	<b>86,939</b>



**12 NET GAIN FROM SALE OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AT AMORTIZED COST (continued)**

	<i>2014</i>		
	<i>Gains</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>Losses</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>Net</i> <i>LL million</i>
Lebanese treasury bills	61,457	-	61,457
Certificates of deposit issued by the Central Bank of Lebanon	42,072	(632)	41,440
Foreign governmental debt securities	185	-	185
Other debt securities	1,736	-	1,736
	<u>105,450</u>	<u>(632)</u>	<u>104,818</u>

**13 OTHER OPERATING INCOME**

	<i>2015</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>2014</i> <i>LL million</i>
Net gain from sale of assets obtained in settlement of debt	<b>856</b>	2,190
Rental income from assets obtained in settlement of debt	<b>1,118</b>	1,424
Write back of provisions for risks and charges (note 37 (b))	-	751
Other operating income from insurance related activities	<b>15,141</b>	12,891
Others	<b>3,820</b>	4,603
	<u><b>20,935</b></u>	<u>21,859</u>

**14 NET CREDIT LOSSES**

	<i>2015</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>2014</i> <i>LL million</i>
<i>Charge for the year:</i>		
Loans and advances to customers at amortized cost (note 25)	<b>36,363</b>	74,568
Balances with central banks (note 19)	<b>35,620</b>	-
Financial assets at amortized cost (note 26)	-	513
Bad debts written off	<b>137</b>	178
	<u><b>72,120</b></u>	<u>75,259</u>
<i>Recoveries during the year:</i>		
Loans and advances to customers (note 25)	<b>(17,730)</b>	(25,128)
Unrealized interest on loans and advances to customers (note 25)	<b>(4,911)</b>	(6,257)
Financial assets at amortized cost (note 26)	<b>(1,571)</b>	(4,000)
Doubtful banks (note 20)	-	(446)
	<u><b>(24,212)</b></u>	<u>(35,831)</u>
	<u><b>47,908</b></u>	<u>39,428</u>

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 December 2015

**15 PERSONNEL EXPENSES**

	<i>2015</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>2014</i> <i>LL million</i>
Salaries and related charges	<b>144,703</b>	139,670
Social security contributions	<b>17,853</b>	19,401
Bonuses	<b>14,831</b>	20,883
Provision for end of service benefits (note 37 (a))	<b>3,405</b>	8,546
	<b>180,792</b>	188,500

**16 OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES**

	<i>2015</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>2014</i> <i>LL million</i>
Taxes on interest	<b>3,384</b>	3,508
Taxes and duties	<b>8,568</b>	6,546
Contribution to deposits guarantee fund	<b>11,913</b>	11,185
Rent and related charges	<b>6,433</b>	7,297
Professional fees	<b>11,237</b>	8,397
Telecommunications and postage expenses	<b>7,639</b>	8,339
Board of Directors' attendance fees	<b>1,020</b>	998
Maintenance and repairs	<b>15,532</b>	15,358
Electricity and fuel	<b>5,878</b>	6,165
Travel and entertainment	<b>3,750</b>	3,601
Publicity and advertising	<b>12,828</b>	11,839
Subscriptions	<b>3,837</b>	4,876
Legal expenses	<b>3,997</b>	3,566
Insurance	<b>1,699</b>	1,869
Guarding fees	<b>2,175</b>	1,996
Printings and stationery	<b>3,111</b>	3,207
Provisions for risks and charges (note 37 (b))	<b>21,394</b>	645
Donations	<b>3,370</b>	3,228
Others	<b>11,422</b>	8,538
	<b>139,187</b>	111,158

**17 INCOME TAX EXPENSE**

The components of income tax expense for the years ended 31 December 2015 and 2014 are as follows:

	<i>2015</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>2014</i> <i>LL million</i>
Current income tax expense	<b>48,041</b>	55,475
Deferred tax related to origination and reversal of temporary differences	<b>536</b>	2,839
Other taxes	<b>4,506</b>	8,963
	<b>53,083</b>	67,277

**17 INCOME TAX EXPENSE (continued)**

The tax rates applicable to the parent and subsidiaries vary from 0% to 40% in accordance with the income tax laws of the countries where the Group operates. For the purpose of determining the taxable results of the subsidiaries for the year, the accounting results have been adjusted for tax purposes. Such adjustments include items relating to both income and expense and are based on the current understanding of the existing tax laws and regulations and tax practices.

The components of operating profit before tax, and the differences between income tax expense reflected in the financial statements and the amounts calculated at the Lebanese tax rate, are shown in the table below:

	<i>2015</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>2014</i> <i>LL million</i>
Profit before tax	<b>296,520</b>	331,809
<i>Of which Lebanese banks</i>	<b>241,615</b>	266,563
<i>Of which insurance companies</i>	<b>19,950</b>	22,524
<i>Of which foreign banks</i>	<b>34,955</b>	42,722
Income tax at Lebanese tax rate 15%	<b>44,478</b>	49,771
<b><i>Impact of increase resulting from:</i></b>		
Different tax rates	<b>3,915</b>	5,149
Non-deductible expenses	<b>6,820</b>	4,119
	<b>10,735</b>	9,268
<b><i>Impact of decrease resulting from:</i></b>		
Revenues previously subject to tax	<b>(1,838)</b>	-
Unrealized gain from revaluation of structural position of a subsidiary	<b>(5,334)</b>	(3,564)
	<b>(7,172)</b>	(3,564)
<b>Income tax</b>	<b>48,041</b>	55,475
<b>Effective income tax rate</b>	<b>16.20%</b>	16.72%

The movement of current tax liabilities during the year is as follows:

	<i>2015</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>2014</i> <i>LL million</i>
Balance at 1 January	<b>50,219</b>	42,275
Charge for the year	<b>52,547</b>	64,438
	<b>102,766</b>	106,713
<b><i>Less taxes paid:</i></b>		
Current year tax liability *	<b>(26,384)</b>	(27,380)
Prior years tax liabilities	<b>(38,658)</b>	(29,114)
	<b>(65,042)</b>	(56,494)
Balance at 31 December (note 36 (a))	<b>37,724</b>	50,219

(\*) Represents taxes paid on interest received from treasury bills and central banks' certificates of deposits.



**17 INCOME TAX EXPENSE (continued)**

Deferred taxes recorded in the consolidated statement of financial position result from the following items:

	<i>2015</i>	
	<i>Deferred tax assets LL million</i>	<i>Deferred tax liabilities LL million</i>
Fair value of financial instruments	-	3,273
Carried forward taxable losses of a subsidiary	3,906	-
	<u>3,906</u>	<u>3,273</u>
	<hr/>	
	<i>2014</i>	
	<i>Deferred tax assets LL million</i>	<i>Deferred tax liabilities LL million</i>
Fair value of financial instruments	-	3,369
Carried forward taxable losses of a subsidiary	7,583	-
	<u>7,583</u>	<u>3,369</u>
	<hr/>	

**18 EARNINGS PER SHARE**

Basic earnings per share is calculated by dividing the net profit for the year attributable to ordinary equity holders of the Group by the weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding during the year.

Diluted earnings per share is calculated by dividing the net profit attributable to ordinary equity holders of the Group (after adjusting for interest on the convertible instruments net of tax) by the weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding during the year plus the weighted average number of ordinary shares that would have been issued on the conversion of all the dilutive potential shares into ordinary shares.

The following table shows the income and share data used in the basic earnings per share calculation:

	<i>2015</i>	<i>2014</i>
Weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the year (*)	<b>563,022,405</b>	562,510,901
	<i>2015 LL million</i>	<i>2014 LL million</i>
Net profit attributable to equity holders of the parent	<b>228,185</b>	252,792
(Less): proposed dividends to preferred shares	<b>(48,480)</b>	(48,480)
Net profit attributable to equity holders of the parent	<u><b>179,705</b></u>	<u>204,312</u>
Basic earnings per share in LL	<u><b>319.18</b></u>	<u>363.21</u>

(\*) The weighted average number of ordinary shares adopted for the computation of basic earnings per share takes into account the weighted average number of treasury shares.

**18 EARNINGS PER SHARE (continued)****Diluted earnings per share**

The following table shows the income and share data used in the diluted earnings per share calculation:

	<i>2015</i>	<i>2014</i>
Weighted average number of ordinary shares for basic earnings per share	<b>563,022,405</b>	562,510,901
Effect of dilution:		
Convertible subordinated debt	<b>117,200,000</b>	117,200,000
Weighted average number of ordinary shares adjusted for the effect of dilution	<b>680,222,405</b>	679,710,901
	<i>2015</i>	<i>2014</i>
	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>
Net profit attributable to equity holders of the parent	<b>179,705</b>	204,312
Interest on convertible debt	<b>31,231</b>	31,347
Less: income tax	<b>(4,685)</b>	(4,702)
Net profit attributable to equity holders of the parent adjusted for the effect of convertible debt	<b>206,251</b>	230,957
Diluted earnings per share in LL	<b>303.21</b>	339.79

There were no transactions involving ordinary shares or potential ordinary shares between the reporting date and the date of the completion of these consolidated financial statements which would require the restatement of earnings per share.

**19 CASH AND BALANCES WITH CENTRAL BANKS**

	<i>2015</i>	<i>2014</i>
	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>
Cash on hand	<b>260,252</b>	228,866
Balances with the Central Bank of Lebanon:		
- Current accounts	<b>706,950</b>	637,817
- Time deposits	<b>5,965,933</b>	5,710,490
	<b>6,672,883</b>	6,348,307
Balances with Central Banks in other countries:		
- Current accounts	<b>273,834</b>	406,648
- Time deposits	<b>15,482</b>	15,490
- Provision for balances with Central Banks in other countries (a)	<b>(35,445)</b>	-
	<b>253,871</b>	422,138
Accrued interest receivable	<b>49,231</b>	49,474

**7,236,237**

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7,048,785

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**19 CASH AND BALANCES WITH CENTRAL BANKS (continued)***(a) Provision for balances with Central Banks in other countries*

Movement in the provision for balances with Central Banks in other countries during the year was as follows:

	<i>2015</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>2014</i> <i>LL million</i>
At 1 January	-	-
Charge for the year (note 14)	<b>35,620</b>	-
Foreign exchange	<b>(175)</b>	-
At 31 December	<b>35,445</b>	-

Included under “Provision for balances with Central Banks in other countries” is a provision amounting to LL 31,686 million booked by the Group during the year ended 31 December 2015 against balances held with the Central Bank of Iraq – Kurdistan.

*(b) Obligatory reserves:*

- In accordance with the Central Bank of Lebanon’s rules and regulations, banks operating in Lebanon are required to deposit with the Central Bank of Lebanon an obligatory reserve calculated on the basis of 25% of sight commitments and 15% of term commitments denominated in Lebanese Lira. This is not applicable for investment banks which are exempt from obligatory reserve requirements on commitments denominated in Lebanese Lira. Additionally, all banks operating in Lebanon are required to deposit with the Central Bank of Lebanon interest-bearing placements representing 15% of total deposits in foreign currencies regardless of nature. Obligatory reserve requirements for banks operating in Lebanon and the related covering time deposits and current accounts amounted to LL 2,610,080 million and LL 2,823,076 million respectively as at 31 December 2015 (2014: LL 2,476,029 million and LL 2,557,673 million respectively).
- Subsidiary banks and branches operating in foreign countries are also subject to obligatory reserve requirements determined based on the banking rules and regulations of the countries in which they operate. As of 31 December 2015, obligatory reserve requirements for banks operating in foreign countries and the related covering time deposits, current accounts and cash on hand amounted to LL 106,711 million (2014: LL 102,090 million).

**20 DUE FROM BANKS AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS**

	<i>2015</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>2014</i> <i>LL million</i>
Banks:		
- Current accounts	<b>767,301</b>	1,506,564
- Time deposits	<b>1,739,756</b>	1,385,453
- Accrued interest receivable	<b>1,013</b>	834
- Doubtful bank accounts	<b>1,766</b>	2,038
- Provision for doubtful bank accounts	<b>(1,766)</b>	(2,038)
	<b>2,508,070</b>	2,892,851
Financial institutions:		
- Current accounts	<b>2,305</b>	9,982

31 December 2015

**20 DUE FROM BANKS AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS (continued)**

	<i>2015</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>2014</i> <i>LL million</i>
Registered exchange companies:		
- Current accounts	<b>6,740</b>	8,027
- Doubtful exchange companies accounts	<b>1,922</b>	1,922
- Provision for doubtful exchange companies accounts	<b>(1,922)</b>	(1,922)
	<b>6,740</b>	8,027
Brokerage companies:		
- Current accounts	<b>1,250</b>	2,419
	<b>2,518,365</b>	2,913,279

*Doubtful banks and registered exchange companies*

Following is the movement in the provisions for doubtful banks and registered exchange companies during the year:

	<i>2015</i>			<i>2014</i>		
	<i>Banks</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>Registered</i> <i>exchange</i> <i>companies</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>Total</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>Banks</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>Registered</i> <i>exchange</i> <i>companies</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>Total</i> <i>LL million</i>
Balance at 1 January	<b>2,038</b>	<b>1,922</b>	<b>3,960</b>	2,377	2,259	4,636
Write-back (note 14)	-	-	-	(109)	(337)	(446)
Exchange difference	<b>(272)</b>	-	<b>(272)</b>	(230)	-	(230)
Balance at 31 December	<b>1,766</b>	<b>1,922</b>	<b>3,688</b>	2,038	1,922	3,960

**21 LOANS TO BANKS AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND REVERSE REPURCHASE AGREEMENTS**

	<i>2015</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>2014</i> <i>LL million</i>
Loans to banks and financial institutions	<b>167,932</b>	184,692
Accrued interest receivable	<b>805</b>	993
	<b>168,737</b>	185,685
Discounted acceptances	<b>91,738</b>	209,198
Interest received in advance	<b>(304)</b>	(1,171)
	<b>91,434</b>	208,027
Reverse repurchase agreements	<b>932,500</b>	-
Accrued interest receivable	<b>4,376</b>	-
	<b>936,876</b>	-
	<b>1,197,047</b>	393,712



**21 LOANS TO BANKS AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND REVERSE REPURCHASE AGREEMENTS (continued)**

Reverse repurchase agreements held by the Group as at 31 December 2015 comprise of the following:

	<i>Balance (000)</i>	<i>Balance LL million</i>	<i>Average interest rate %</i>	<i>Collateral type</i>	<i>Collateral value LL million</i>
US\$	<b>618,574</b>	<b>932,500</b>	<b>2.61</b>	<b>BDL CDs</b>	<b>934,650</b>

The Group has a programme to purchase securities under agreements to resell (reverse repos). The Group has an obligation to return the securities and the counterparty retains substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership. Consequently, the securities are not recognized by the Group, which instead record a separate asset under reverse repurchase agreement reflecting the transaction's economic substance as a loan by the Group.

As of 31 December 2015, the Group had Certificates of Deposit issued by the Central Bank of Lebanon with a total nominal amount of US\$ 620 million bought from a financial institution under the agreement to resell them during the first half of 2016 (31 December 2014: nil).

Net interest income on the reverse repurchase agreements amounted to LL 22,573 million for the year ended 31 December 2015 (31 December 2014: LL 8,093 million).

**22 FINANCIAL ASSETS GIVEN AS COLLATERAL**

	<i>2015 LL million</i>	<i>2014 LL million</i>
Treasury bills mortgaged in favour of the Central Bank of Lebanon, at amortized cost	<b>1,387</b>	6,915
Accrued interest receivable	<b>18</b>	90
	<b>1,405</b>	7,005

The balance represents treasury bills pledged as collateral for loans obtained from the Central Bank of Lebanon during 2010 (note 32).

**23 DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**

The table below shows the fair values of derivative financial instruments, recorded as assets or liabilities, together with their notional amounts. The notional amount, recorded gross, is the amount of a derivative's underlying asset, reference rate or index and is the basis upon which changes in the value of derivatives are measured. The notional amounts indicate the volume of transactions outstanding at the year end and are neither indicative of the market risk nor the credit risk.

Credit risk in respect of derivative financial instruments arises from the potential for a counterparty to default on its contractual obligations and is limited to the positive market value of instruments that are favorable to the Group.

	<i>2015</i>			<i>2014</i>		
	<i>Assets LL million</i>	<i>Liabilities LL million</i>	<i>Notional amount LL million</i>	<i>Assets LL million</i>	<i>Liabilities LL million</i>	<i>Notional amount LL million</i>
<i>Held for trading</i>						
Currency swaps	<b>314</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>170,982</b>	167	155	315,869
Forward foreign exchange contracts	<b>1,530</b>	<b>2,053</b>	<b>236,326</b>	6,548	5,272	304,771
	<b>1,844</b>	<b>2,445</b>	<b>407,308</b>	6,715	5,427	620,640

**Forwards**

## Byblos Bank SAL

Forwards are contractual agreements to buy or sell a specified financial instrument at a specific price and date in the future. Forwards are customized contracts transacted in the over-the-counter market.

### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 December 2015

#### 23 DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (continued)

##### Swaps

Swaps are contractual agreements between two parties to exchange streams of payments over time based on specified notional amounts, in relation to movements in a specified underlying index such as an interest rate, foreign currency rate or equity index.

In a currency swap, the Group pays a specified amount in one currency and receives a specified amount in another currency. Currency swaps are mostly gross-settled.

##### Derivative financial instruments held or issued for trading purposes

Most of the Group's derivative trading activities relate to deals with customers that are normally offset by transactions with other counterparties. Also included under this classification are any derivatives entered into for risk management purposes that do not meet the hedge accounting criteria.

#### 24 FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS

	<i>2015</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>2014</i> <i>LL million</i>
<i>Quoted</i>		
Lebanese treasury bills – Eurobonds	216,656	85,811
Foreign governmental debt securities	-	710
Debt securities issued by banks and financial institutions	2,440	2,068
Equity securities	35,669	35,942
	<hr/> 254,765	<hr/> 124,531
<i>Unquoted</i>		
Lebanese treasury bills – denominated in LL	10,348	27,861
Certificates of deposit issued by the Central Bank of Lebanon – denominated in LL	27,714	3,190
Corporate bonds	3,018	-
	<hr/> 41,080	<hr/> 31,051
	<hr/> 295,845	<hr/> 155,582

#### 25 NET LOANS AND ADVANCES TO CUSTOMERS AT AMORTIZED COST

	<i>2015</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>2014</i> <i>LL million</i>
Commercial loans	5,197,877	5,173,799
Consumer loans	2,597,621	2,393,641
	<hr/> 7,795,498	<hr/> 7,567,440
Less:		
- Individual impairment allowances	(183,738)	(222,680)
- Collective impairment allowances	(131,448)	(148,135)
- Unrealized interest	(80,671)	(97,462)
	<hr/>	<hr/>



## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 December 2015

**25 NET LOANS AND ADVANCES TO CUSTOMERS AT AMORTIZED COST (continued)**

Bad loans and related provisions and unrealized interest which fulfill certain requirements have been transferred to off financial position accounts. The gross balance of these loans amounted to LL 118,539 million as of 31 December 2015 (2014: LL 57,528 million).

Movement of unrealized interest on substandard, doubtful, and bad loans during the year was as follows:

	<i>2015</i>		
	<i>Commercial loans LL million</i>	<i>Consumer loans LL million</i>	<i>Total LL million</i>
Balance at 1 January	97,217	245	97,462
Add (less):			
- Unrealized interest for the year	23,207	1,623	24,830
- Transfer from off financial position	661	-	661
- Transfer to off financial position	(23,165)	-	(23,165)
- Recoveries (note 14)	(4,751)	(160)	(4,911)
- Amounts written off	(4,003)	(35)	(4,038)
- Difference of exchange	(9,994)	(174)	(10,168)
Balance at 31 December	<u>79,172</u>	<u>1,499</u>	<u>80,671</u>
	<i>2014</i>		
	<i>Commercial loans LL million</i>	<i>Consumer loans LL million</i>	<i>Total LL million</i>
Balance at 1 January	81,565	289	81,854
Add (less):			
- Unrealized interest for the year	30,850	35	30,885
- Transfer from off financial position	114	-	114
- Recoveries (note 14)	(6,257)	-	(6,257)
- Amounts written off	(3,714)	-	(3,714)
- Difference of exchange	(5,341)	(79)	(5,420)
Balance at 31 December	<u>97,217</u>	<u>245</u>	<u>97,462</u>

Movement of the individual impairment allowances during the year was as follows:

	<i>2015</i>		
	<i>Commercial loans LL million</i>	<i>Consumer loans LL million</i>	<i>Total LL million</i>
Balance at 1 January	149,293	73,387	222,680
Add (less):			
- Charge for the year (note 14)	11,450	21,463	32,913
- Transfer from commercial to consumer	(64)	64	-
- Amounts written off	(4,378)	(443)	(4,821)
- Recoveries (note 14)	(10,639)	(7,091)	(17,730)
- Transfer to off financial position	(40,978)	-	(40,978)
- Transfer from collective impairment allowances	6,704	493	7,197
- Difference of exchange	(13,953)	(1,570)	(15,523)

## Byblos Bank SAL

Balance at 31 December	<b>97,435</b>	<b>86,303</b>	<b>183,738</b>
Gross amount of loans individually determined to be impaired	<b>233,616</b>	<b>132,748</b>	<b>366,364</b>

### NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 December 2015

#### 25 NET LOANS AND ADVANCES TO CUSTOMERS AT AMORTIZED COST (continued)

	<i>2014</i>		
	<i>Commercial loans LL million</i>	<i>Consumer loans LL million</i>	<i>Total LL million</i>
Balance at 1 January	168,202	45,401	213,603
Add (less):			
- Charge for the year (note 14)	16,428	8,316	24,744
- Amounts written off	(1,685)	(42)	(1,727)
- Recoveries (note 14)	(18,951)	(4,427)	(23,378)
- Transfer from off financial position	592	-	592
- Transfer from collective impairment allowances	(108)	25,377	25,269
- Difference of exchange	(15,185)	(1,238)	(16,423)
Balance at 31 December	<b>149,293</b>	<b>73,387</b>	<b>222,680</b>
Gross amount of loans individually determined to be impaired	<b>312,251</b>	<b>105,382</b>	<b>417,633</b>

Movement of the collective impairment allowances during the year was as follows:

	<i>2015</i>		
	<i>Commercial loans LL million</i>	<i>Consumer loans LL million</i>	<i>Total LL million</i>
Balance at 1 January	<b>137,278</b>	<b>10,857</b>	<b>148,135</b>
Add (less):			
- Charge for the year (note 14)	<b>3,450</b>	-	<b>3,450</b>
- Transfer from commercial to consumer	<b>(588)</b>	<b>588</b>	-
- Transfer to individual impairment allowances	<b>(6,704)</b>	<b>(493)</b>	<b>(7,197)</b>
- Difference of exchange	<b>(12,885)</b>	<b>(55)</b>	<b>(12,940)</b>
Balance at 31 December	<b>120,551</b>	<b>10,897</b>	<b>131,448</b>

	<i>2014</i>		
	<i>Commercial loans LL million</i>	<i>Consumer loans LL million</i>	<i>Total LL million</i>
Balance at 1 January	98,413	32,256	130,669
Add (less):			
- Charge for the year (note 14)	45,726	4,098	49,824
- Amounts written off	(447)	-	(447)
- Recoveries (note 14)	(1,750)	-	(1,750)
- Transfer to individual impairment allowances	108	(25,377)	(25,269)
- Difference of exchange	(4,772)	(120)	(4,892)
Balance at 31 December	<b>137,278</b>	<b>10,857</b>	<b>148,135</b>



31 December 2015

**26 FINANCIAL ASSETS AT AMORTIZED COST**

	<i>2015</i>	<i>2014</i>
	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>
<i>Quoted</i>		
Lebanese treasury bills – Eurobonds	<b>2,038,651</b>	2,471,098
Foreign governmental debt securities	<b>125,272</b>	134,509
Debt securities issued by banks and financial institutions	<b>225,215</b>	500,975
Corporate bonds	<b>5,788</b>	5,792
<b>Gross quoted financial assets at amortized cost</b>	<b>2,394,926</b>	3,112,374
Provision for impairment	-	(1,574)
	<b>2,394,926</b>	3,110,800
<i>Unquoted</i>		
Lebanese treasury bills – denominated in LL	<b>3,813,756</b>	3,202,602
Certificates of deposit issued by the Central Bank of Lebanon – denominated in LL	<b>3,503,859</b>	3,900,838
Certificates of deposit issued by the Central Bank of Lebanon – EuroCDs	<b>770,570</b>	12,522
Corporate bonds	<b>216</b>	210
Certificates of deposit issued by banks and financial institutions	<b>33,187</b>	33,147
	<b>8,121,588</b>	7,149,319
	<b>10,516,514</b>	10,260,119

The movement in the collective impairment allowances during the year was as follows:

	<i>2015</i>	
	<i>Other debt securities</i>	<i>Total</i>
	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>
Balance at 1 January	<b>1,574</b>	<b>1,574</b>
Write-back during the year (note 14)	<b>(1,571)</b>	<b>(1,571)</b>
Exchange difference	<b>(3)</b>	<b>(3)</b>
Balance at 31 December	-	-
	<b>1,574</b>	<b>1,574</b>
	<b>1,574</b>	<b>1,574</b>
	<i>2014</i>	
	<i>Other debt securities</i>	<i>Total</i>
	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>
Balance at 1 January	5,062	5,062
Write-back during the year (note 14)	(4,000)	(4,000)
Charge for the year (note 14)	513	513
Exchange difference	(1)	(1)
Balance at 31 December	1,574	1,574



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**27 FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**

	<i>2015</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>2014</i> <i>LL million</i>
Quoted shares	<b>48,241</b>	50,986
Unquoted shares	<b>53,666</b>	47,732
	<b>101,907</b>	98,718

The table below details the financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income as at 31 December:

	<i>2015</i>			<i>2014</i>		
	<i>Carrying amount</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>Cumulative fair value changes</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>Dividend income</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>Carrying amount</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>Cumulative fair value changes</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>Dividend income</i> <i>LL million</i>
<u>Unquoted shares:</u>						
Banque de l'Habitat SAL	26,647	21,459	462	24,430	19,242	458
Intra Investment Company SAL	17,591	4,567	-	17,591	4,567	-
Interbank Payment Network (IPN) SAL	1,360	357	51	1,345	342	85
Arab Trade Financing Program	2,118	626	-	2,118	626	-
Liquidity Management Fund Bank	1,403	(28)	-	1,431	-	-
Impact Fund	1,569	-	-	-	-	-
Others	2,978	383	-	817	368	-
<u>Quoted shares:</u>						
Jordan Ahli Bank	48,241	(32,173)	3,870	50,986	(29,428)	2,193
	<b>101,907</b>	<b>(4,809)</b>	<b>4,383</b>	98,718	(4,283)	2,736

Dividend income amounted to LL 4,383 million for the year ended 31 December 2015 (2014: LL 2,736 million) and resulted from equity instruments held at year end (2014: the same).

**28 PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT**

	<i>Buildings</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>Motor vehicles</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>Furniture and equipment</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>Deposits</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>Advance payments</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>Total</i> <i>LL million</i>
Cost:						
At 1 January 2015	243,194	2,689	223,789	703	1,546	471,921
Additions	25,661	636	16,770	-	2,905	45,972
Transfers	-	-	313	-	(313)	-
Disposals	-	(165)	(969)	-	-	(1,134)
Foreign exchange difference	(3,716)	(25)	(3,742)	(16)	(7)	(7,506)
At 31 December 2015	<b>265,139</b>	<b>3,135</b>	<b>236,161</b>	<b>687</b>	<b>4,131</b>	<b>509,253</b>
Depreciation:						
At 1 January 2015	54,569	2,390	178,583	-	-	235,542
Depreciation during the year	5,872	178	17,416	-	-	23,466
Related to disposals	-	(165)	(801)	-	-	(966)
Foreign exchange difference	(547)	(133)	(3,234)	-	-	(3,914)
At 31 December 2015	<b>59,894</b>	<b>2,270</b>	<b>191,964</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>254,128</b>

## Byblos Bank SAL

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Net carrying value:

At 31 December 2015

<b>205,245</b>	<b>865</b>	<b>44,197</b>	<b>687</b>	<b>4,131</b>	<b>255,125</b>
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**28 PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT (continued)**

	<i>Buildings</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>Motor vehicles</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>Furniture and equipment</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>Deposits</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>Advance payments</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>Total</i> <i>LL million</i>
Cost:						
At 1 January 2014	238,467	2,824	219,077	719	579	461,666
Additions	10,015	145	12,633	1	1,040	23,834
Transfers	-	-	70	3	(73)	-
Disposals	-	(157)	(3,897)	-	-	(4,054)
Foreign exchange difference	(5,288)	(123)	(4,094)	(20)	-	(9,525)
At 31 December 2014	243,194	2,689	223,789	703	1,546	471,921
Depreciation:						
At 1 January 2014	50,126	2,401	165,909	-	-	218,436
Depreciation during the year	5,036	185	19,661	-	-	24,882
Related to disposals	-	(83)	(3,809)	-	-	(3,892)
Foreign exchange difference	(593)	(113)	(3,178)	-	-	(3,884)
At 31 December 2014	54,569	2,390	178,583	-	-	235,542
Net carrying value:						
At 31 December 2014	188,625	299	45,206	703	1,546	236,379

The cost of buildings at 31 December 2015 and 2014 include the revaluation differences of properties valued during prior years in accordance with law 282 dated 30 December 1993, and approved by the Central Committee of the Bank of Lebanon.

Revaluation differences on property and equipment reflected as revaluation reserve of real estate in equity amounted to LL 5,689 million as at 31 December 2015 (2014: the same) (note 43).

**29 INTANGIBLE ASSETS**

	<i>2015</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>2014</i> <i>LL million</i>
Cost:		
At 1 January and 31 December	<b>2,303</b>	2,303
Accumulated amortization:		
At 1 January	<b>1,651</b>	1,492
Amortization expense for the year	<b>159</b>	159
At 31 December	<b>1,810</b>	1,651
Net carrying value:		
At 31 December	<b>493</b>	652



31 December 2015

**30 ASSETS OBTAINED IN SETTLEMENT OF DEBT**

	<i>2015</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>2014</i> <i>LL million</i>
Cost:		
At 1 January	<b>41,836</b>	41,538
Additions	<b>5,784</b>	2,563
Disposals	<b>(455)</b>	(2,265)
At 31 December	<b>47,165</b>	41,836
Impairment:		
At 1 January and 31 December	<b>(5,159)</b>	(5,159)
Net carrying value:		
At 31 December	<b>42,006</b>	36,677

Advance payments received in connection with future sale transactions for the above assets amounted to LL 3,442 million as of 31 December 2015 (2014: LL 2,220 million) (note 36).

**31 OTHER ASSETS**

		<i>2015</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>2014</i> <i>LL million</i>
Obligatory deposits	a	<b>15,365</b>	16,047
Other assets	b	<b>88,730</b>	83,150
Deferred tax assets (note 17)		<b>3,906</b>	7,583
		<b>108,001</b>	106,780

a) Obligatory deposits consist of deposits at a percentage of the share capital of subsidiary banks that were blocked at incorporation as a guarantee with the authorities. These deposits shall be returned to the subsidiary banks without any interest upon liquidation of their activities.

b) Other assets comprise of the following:

	<i>2015</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>2014</i> <i>LL million</i>
Prepaid rent	<b>3,270</b>	2,585
Printings and stationery	<b>3,279</b>	2,746
Credit card balances due from customers	<b>17,611</b>	17,558
Insurance premiums receivable	<b>3,301</b>	3,687
Reinsurers' share of technical reserves of subsidiary insurance companies	<b>37,025</b>	32,918
Receivables from the National Social Security Fund	<b>11,487</b>	8,672
Other debit balances	<b>12,757</b>	14,984
	<b>88,730</b>	83,150

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**32 DUE TO CENTRAL BANKS**

	<i>2015</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>2014</i> <i>LL million</i>
Current accounts	<b>5,297</b>	2,905
Time deposits	<b>6,245</b>	6,370
Loans due to the Central Bank of Lebanon	<b>103,515</b>	60,640
Loan due to the Central Bank of Armenia	<b>1,997</b>	1,160
Accrued interest payable	<b>358</b>	71
	<b>117,412</b>	71,146

*Loans due to the Central Bank of Lebanon:*

- The Bank signed a credit agreement with the Central Bank of Lebanon based on the provisions of Decision no. 6116 dated 7 March 1996 relating to the facilities which can be granted by the Central Bank of Lebanon to banks. The balance amounted to LL 102,128 million as of 31 December 2015 (2014: LL 53,725 million). The Bank pledged as collateral against this balance certificates of representation signed by the Bank's customers.
- During 2010, the Bank obtained 3 loans from the Central Bank of Lebanon to finance customers affected by July 2006 war. These loans were originally granted in the amount of LL 8,810 million, out of which LL 1,895 million matured during 2013 and LL 5,528 million matured during 2015. These loans are secured by the pledge of Lebanese treasury bills amounting to LL 1,387 million included under financial assets given as collateral as of 31 December 2015 (2014: LL 6,915 million) (note 22).

**33 DUE TO BANKS AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS**

	<i>2015</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>2014</i> <i>LL million</i>
<i>Banks:</i>		
- Current accounts	<b>81,537</b>	140,805
- Term loans	<b>165,484</b>	164,164
- Time deposits	<b>223,777</b>	247,892
- Cash margins	<b>82,810</b>	141,994
- Accrued interest payable	<b>3,131</b>	4,170
	<b>556,739</b>	699,025
<i>Financial institutions:</i>		
- Current accounts	<b>3,644</b>	5,597
- Term loans	<b>149,286</b>	167,107
- Time deposits	<b>21,750</b>	29,871
- Accrued interest payable	<b>1,518</b>	1,323
	<b>176,198</b>	203,898
<i>Registered exchange companies:</i>		
- Current accounts	<b>2,975</b>	1,272
- Time deposits	<b>7,024</b>	6,747
- Accrued interest payable	<b>19</b>	7
	<b>10,018</b>	8,026

**33 DUE TO BANKS AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS (continued)**

	<i>2015</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>2014</i> <i>LL million</i>
<i>Brokerage institutions:</i>		
- Current accounts	<b>102</b>	224
- Time deposits	<b>1,488</b>	-
- Accrued interest payable	<b>9</b>	-
	<hr/> <b>1,599</b>	<hr/> 224
	<hr/> <b>744,554</b> <hr/>	<hr/> 911,173 <hr/>

**34 CUSTOMERS' DEPOSITS AT AMORTIZED COST**

	<i>2015</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>2014</i> <i>LL million</i>
Current accounts	<b>3,245,552</b>	3,264,135
Term deposits	<b>20,176,288</b>	18,986,964
Cash margins	<b>1,114,643</b>	1,004,709
Accrued interest payable	<b>121,948</b>	121,981
	<hr/> <b>24,658,431</b> <hr/>	<hr/> 23,377,789 <hr/>

**35 DEBT ISSUED AND OTHER BORROWED FUNDS**

	<i>Maturity</i>	<i>Interest rate %</i>	<i>2015</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>2014</i> <i>LL million</i>
<b>Bonds</b>				
Issue 2011	<b>24/06/2021</b>	<b>7.00</b>	<b>444,583</b>	444,771
Accrued interest payable			<b>616</b>	616
			<hr/> <b>445,199</b> <hr/>	<hr/> 445,387 <hr/>

The Bank has undertaken not to use any of the proceeds of the issue in Sudan, Syria or Democratic Republic of Congo. The Bank shall pay interest on the bonds without deduction or withholding for taxes. The bonds are redeemable, in whole or in part, at the option of the Bank at any time after the first anniversary of the issue date, in the event of changes in the Lebanese tax law that will result in taxes on interest on the bonds in excess of the current applicable tax rate.

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**36 OTHER LIABILITIES**

	<i>2015</i>	<i>2014</i>
	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>
Accrued expenses	<b>29,015</b>	36,854
Fixed assets suppliers	<b>607</b>	674
Unearned commission and interest	<b>5,274</b>	5,531
Cash margins related to companies under establishment	<b>2,220</b>	1,653
Insurance premiums received in advance	<b>3,222</b>	2,735
Payables to the National Social Security Fund	<b>1,851</b>	1,989
Advance payments linked to assets obtained in settlement of debt (note 30)	<b>3,442</b>	2,220
Current tax liability (a)	<b>50,771</b>	63,996
Deferred tax liability (note 17)	<b>3,273</b>	3,369
Put options on non-controlling interests (note 6)	<b>18,263</b>	22,425
Other creditors	<b>29,629</b>	22,457
	<b>147,567</b>	163,903

*(a) Current tax liability*

	<i>2015</i>	<i>2014</i>
	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>
Income tax due (note 17)	<b>37,724</b>	50,219
Withholding tax on salaries	<b>3,095</b>	2,026
Withholding tax on interest earned by customers	<b>6,717</b>	8,224
Value added tax	<b>396</b>	170
Other taxes	<b>2,839</b>	3,357
	<b>50,771</b>	63,996

**37 PROVISIONS FOR RISKS AND CHARGES**

	<i>2015</i>	<i>2014</i>
	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>
Technical reserves of insurance subsidiaries	<b>94,341</b>	90,074
Employees' end of service benefits (a)	<b>45,754</b>	46,320
Other provisions (b)	<b>31,443</b>	9,035
	<b>171,538</b>	145,429

*(a) Employees' end of service benefits*

The Bank has two defined benefit plans covering substantially all of its employees. The first requires contributions to be made to the National Social Security Fund. The entitlement to and level of these end of service benefits provided depends on the employees' length of service, the employees' salaries, contributions paid to the National Social Security Fund and other requirements outlined in the Lebanese Labor Law. Under the second plan, no contributions are required to be made, however a fixed end of service lump sum amount should be paid for long service employees. The entitlement to and level of these end of service benefits provided depends on the employees' length of service, the employees' salaries and other requirements outlined in the Workers' Collective Agreement. End-of-service benefits for employees at foreign branches and subsidiaries are accrued for in accordance with the laws and regulations of the respective countries in which the branches and subsidiaries are located.

**37 PROVISIONS FOR RISKS AND CHARGES (continued)***(a) Provision for employees' end of service benefits (continued)*

Movement in the provision for employees' end of service benefits during the year was as follows:

	<i>2015</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>2014</i> <i>LL million</i>
Balance at 1 January	<b>46,320</b>	40,606
<i>Costs charged to the income statement (note 15):</i>		
Service costs	<b>4,442</b>	5,324
Past service costs	<b>(4,522)</b>	-
Net interest	<b>3,485</b>	3,222
	<b>3,405</b>	8,546
<i>Re-measurement (gains) losses in other comprehensive income:</i>		
Experience adjustments	<b>(474)</b>	(977)
	<b>(474)</b>	(977)
End of service benefits paid during the year	<b>(3,325)</b>	(1,816)
Foreign exchange	<b>(172)</b>	(39)
Balance at 31 December	<b>45,754</b>	46,320

Defined benefit plans in Lebanon constitute more than 85% of the Group's retirement obligation. The principal assumptions used in determining the end of service benefit obligations of these plans are shown below:

	<i>2015</i>	<i>2014</i>
<b>Economic assumptions</b>		
Discount rate	<b>8.5%</b>	8.5%
Future salary increase	<b>5.5%</b>	5.5%
Future expected return on contributions	<b>5.0%</b>	5.0%
Bonus	<b>Last 2-years average as a % of basic</b>	Last 2-years average as a % of basic
<b>Demographic assumptions</b>		
Retirement age	<b>Earliest of 64 or completion of 20 contribution years</b>	Earliest of 64 or completion of 20 contribution years
Mortality rate	<b>None</b>	None
Turnover rate	<b>2.0%</b>	2.0%

31 December 2015

**37 PROVISIONS FOR RISKS AND CHARGES (continued)**

A quantitative sensitivity analysis as a result of an increase/decrease of 50 basis points in the significant assumptions as at 31 December 2015 is shown as below:

	<i>Discount rate</i>		<i>Future salary increase</i>		<i>Future expected return on contributions</i>	
	<i>increase</i>	<i>decrease</i>	<i>increase</i>	<i>decrease</i>	<i>increase</i>	<i>decrease</i>
	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>
<b>Impact on net defined benefit obligations</b>						
2015	(1,246)	1,338	2,647	(2,509)	(1,276)	1,236
2014	(1,421)	1,531	2,763	(2,611)	(1,195)	1,154

The sensitivity analyses above have been determined based on a method that extrapolates the impact on net defined benefit obligation as a result of reasonable changes in key assumptions occurring at the end of the reporting period.

*(b) Other provisions*

	<i>2015</i>	<i>2014</i>
	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>
Provision for contingencies	15,720	-
Provision for legal claims	10,254	4,523
Other	5,469	4,512
	<b>31,443</b>	<b>9,035</b>

Movement in other provisions during the year was as follows:

	<i>2015</i>	<i>2014</i>
	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>
At 1 January	9,035	12,853
Charge for the year (note 16)	21,394	645
Write back during the year (note 13)	-	(751)
Write off during the year	-	(2,641)
Foreign exchange	1,014	(1,071)
At 31 December	<b>31,443</b>	<b>9,035</b>

**38 SUBORDINATED DEBT**

	<i>2015</i>	<i>2014</i>
	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>
Nominal value	441,692	441,520
Unamortized discount	(24,455)	(27,022)
Accrued interest payable	163	82
	<b>417,400</b>	<b>414,580</b>

On 21 December 2012, the Bank signed a US\$ 300 million subordinated loan agreement with an international financial institution, whereby the latter acted as an issuer of US\$ 300 million subordinated notes convertible into Byblos Bank SAL shares or GDR's according to the following terms:

Number of notes:	30,000
Note's issue price:	US\$ 10,000
Note's nominal value:	US\$ 10,000



# Byblos Bank SAL

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 December 2015

### 38 SUBORDINATED DEBT (continued)

Maturity:	21 December 2022, subject to the earlier conversion of these notes, in whole or in part, into Byblos Bank SAL shares or GDR's at a price of US\$ 2.5 per share or US\$ 125 per GDR
Interest rate:	Contractual interest rate of 6.5% payable semi-annually.
Rights of holders:	The noteholder has the right to convert all or portion of the subordinated notes into Byblos Bank SAL shares or GDR's at a conversion price of US\$ 2.5 per share or US\$ 125 per GDR.

The convertible subordinated loan (net of subordinated notes held by a consolidated subsidiary) were recorded at issuance as follows:

	<i>LL million</i>
Nominal value of convertible bonds	<b>441,692</b>
Equity component	<b>(31,618)</b>
Liability component	<b>410,074</b>

The equity component of the convertible subordinated loan is recorded in equity under "non-distributable reserves" (note 40).

### 39 SHARE CAPITAL

	2015			2014		
	<i>No of shares</i>	<i>Share capital LL million</i>	<i>Share premium LL million</i>	<i>No of shares</i>	<i>Share capital LL million</i>	<i>Share premium LL million</i>
Common shares	<b>565,515,040</b>	<b>684,273</b>	<b>229,014</b>	565,515,040	684,273	229,014
	<b>565,515,040</b>	<b>684,273</b>	<b>229,014</b>	565,515,040	684,273	229,014
<i>Preferred shares</i>						
- Series 2008	<b>2,000,000</b>	<b>2,420</b>	<b>295,154</b>	2,000,000	2,420	295,154
- Series 2009	<b>2,000,000</b>	<b>2,420</b>	<b>295,929</b>	2,000,000	2,420	295,929
	<b>4,000,000</b>	<b>4,840</b>	<b>591,083</b>	4,000,000	4,840	591,083

The capital of the Bank is divided into 569,515,040 shares of LL 1,210 each fully paid (2014: the same).

#### *Preferred shares*

##### *i) Series 2008 Preferred Shares*

On 15 August 2008, and based on the decision of the extraordinary general assembly held on 18 July 2008, the Bank issued Series 2008 preferred shares, according to the following terms:

Number of shares:	2,000,000
Share's issue price:	US\$ 100
Share's nominal value:	LL 1,200
Issue premium :	US\$ (000) 195,790 (equivalent to LL 295,154 million) calculated in US\$ as the difference between the total issue of US\$ (000) 200,000 and the total par



## Byblos Bank SAL

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value of the issue amounting to LL 2,400 million and after deducting issuance commission for the issue amounting to US\$ (000) 2,618.

**39 SHARE CAPITAL (continued)***Preferred shares (continued)**i) Series 2008 Preferred Shares (continued)*

Benefits:	Non-cumulative annual dividends of US\$ 8.00 per share, subject to the availability of non-consolidated distributable net profits.
Repurchase right:	Redeemable (at a date subsequent to the approval of 2013 accounts by the general assembly) at the Bank's option at the issue price plus any declared but unpaid distributions for all the years preceding the year of the call, with the condition that at least 25% of the original number of the preferred shares are called each time.

In 2009, the par value of series 2008 preferred shares was increased from LL 1,200 to LL 1,210.

*ii) Series 2009 Preferred Shares*

On 4 September 2009, and based on the decision of the extraordinary general assembly held on 1 August 2009, the Bank issued Series 2009 preferred shares according to the following terms:

Number of shares:	2,000,000
Share's issue price:	US\$ 96
Share's nominal value:	LL 1,210
Issue premium :	US\$ (000) 188,313 (equivalent to LL 283,881 million) calculated in US\$ as the difference between the total issue of US\$ (000) 192,000 and the total par value of the issue amounting to LL 2,420 million and after deducting issuance commissions of US\$ (000) 2,082.
Benefits:	Non-cumulative annual dividends of US\$ 8.00 per share, subject to the availability of non-consolidated distributable net profits.
Repurchase right:	Redeemable (at a date subsequent to the approval of 2014 accounts by the general assembly) at the Bank's option at US\$ 100 plus any declared but unpaid distributions for all the years preceding the year of the call, with the condition that at least 25% of the original number of the preferred shares are called each time.

During 2014, the Bank transferred LL 2,412 million from retained earnings to the share premium on Series-2009 preferred shares for the difference between the redemption price and the issue price.

*Listing of shares*

As of 31 December the Bank's shares were listed as follows:

	<i>Stock exchange</i>	<i>2015 No of shares</i>	<i>2014 No of shares</i>
Ordinary shares	Beirut	<b>502,605,340</b>	502,644,190
Global depository receipts (*)	London SEAQ and Beirut	<b>1,258,194</b>	1,257,417
Preferred shares	Beirut	<b>4,000,000</b>	4,000,000

(\*) Global Depository Receipts (GDR's) can be issued at a ratio of 50 Common Shares per one GDR.

31 December 2015

**40 NON DISTRIBUTABLE RESERVES**

	<i>Legal reserve</i>	<i>Reserves for capital increase</i>	<i>Equity component of convertible subordinated debt</i>	<i>Reserve for general banking risks</i>	<i>Other reserves</i>	<i>Total</i>
	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>
Balance at 1 January 2015	<b>247,366</b>	<b>61,790</b>	<b>31,618</b>	<b>244,125</b>	<b>163,980</b>	<b>748,879</b>
Appropriation from retained earnings	<b>24,511</b>	<b>3,327</b>	-	<b>28,596</b>	<b>11,734</b>	<b>68,168</b>
Reclassification to distributable reserve	-	-	-	<b>(1,131)</b>	-	<b>(1,131)</b>
Net loss on sale of treasury shares	-	<b>(12)</b>	-	-	-	<b>(12)</b>
Translation difference	-	-	-	<b>(20)</b>	-	<b>(20)</b>
Balance at 31 December 2015	<b>271,877</b>	<b>65,105</b>	<b>31,618</b>	<b>271,570</b>	<b>175,714</b>	<b>815,884</b>
Balance at 1 January 2014	225,923	54,659	31,618	209,994	150,124	672,318
Appropriation from retained earnings	21,443	7,334	-	34,131	13,856	76,764
Net loss on sale of treasury shares	-	(203)	-	-	-	(203)
Balance at 31 December 2014	247,366	61,790	31,618	244,125	163,980	748,879

*Legal reserve*

According to the Lebanese Code of Commerce and to the Code of Money and Credit, the Bank is required to transfer 10% of their annual net profit to a legal reserve. In addition, subsidiaries and branches are also subject to legal reserve requirements based on the rules and regulations of the countries in which they operate. This reserve cannot be distributed as dividends.

During 2015, the Group appropriated LL 24,511 million from 2014 profits to the legal reserve (2014: LL 21,443 million).

*Reserves for capital increase*

This represents regulatory reserves constituted in accordance with circulars issued by the Central Bank of Lebanon and the Banking Control Commission. These reserves cannot be distributed as dividends and comprise the following:

	<i>2015</i>	<i>2014</i>
	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>
Reserve equivalent to gain on sale of assets acquired in settlement of debt	<b>30,676</b>	29,595
Reserve equivalent to provisions recovered	<b>9,737</b>	9,737
Reserve against assets obtained in settlement of debt	<b>15,079</b>	12,833
Reserve against realized gain from liquidation of fixed position	<b>8,870</b>	8,870
Others	<b>743</b>	755
	<b>65,105</b>	61,790

*Reserve for general banking risks*

According to the Central Bank of Lebanon regulations, banks are required to appropriate from their annual net profit a minimum of 0.2% and a maximum of 0.3% of total risk weighted assets and off statement of financial position items based on rates specified by the Central Bank of Lebanon to cover general banking risks. The consolidated ratio should not be less than 1.25% of these risks at the end of year ten (2017) and 2% at the end of year twenty (2027). This reserve cannot be distributed as dividends.

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The appropriation in 2015 from the profits of the year 2014 amounted to LL 28,596 million (2014: LL 34,131 million).

**40 NON DISTRIBUTABLE RESERVES (continued)***Other reserves*

Other reserves consist of the following:

- During 2013, the Group transferred an amount of LL 31,077 million from retained earnings to other reserves related to the subordinate debt.
- Non-distributable reserves of subsidiaries appropriated from retained earnings as required by the laws applicable in the countries in which they operate. During 2015, the Group transferred an amount of LL 9,039 million from retained earnings to other reserves in this respect (2014: LL 13,856 million).
- According to BCC Circular no 280 dated 2 January 2015, banks are required to appropriate from their annual profit 0.5% of performing retail loans up to 30 days past due (with certain exemptions) as at 31 December 2014 with effect the year 2015. Additionally, the Bank will appropriate an additional 0.5% every year until 2020. On 15 May 2015, the General Assembly Meeting of the Bank allocated an amount of LL 2,695 million as a reserve for retail loans (2014: nil).

As of 31 December 2015, "Other reserves" include reserves of LL 87,451 million maintained by the subsidiary Byblos Bank Europe to meet several legal limits and requirements (2014: LL 87,932 million).

**41 DISTRIBUTABLE RESERVES**

	<i>2015</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>2014</i> <i>LL million</i>
General reserves	<b>93,789</b>	90,521
Other capital reserves	<b>5,422</b>	5,422
	<b>99,211</b>	95,943

*General reserves*

The Group appropriates general reserves from its retained earnings to strengthen its equity. The movement in general reserves during the year was as follows:

	<i>2015</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>2014</i> <i>LL million</i>
At 1 January	<b>90,521</b>	91,831
Appropriation to / from retained earnings	<b>2,047</b>	(2,309)
Impact from derecognition of non-controlling interests	<b>90</b>	999
Reclassification from non-distributable reserves	<b>1,131</b>	-
At 31 December	<b>93,789</b>	90,521

*Other capital reserves*

	<i>2015</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>2014</i> <i>LL million</i>
Premium on capital increase of Byblos Bank Armenia CJSC	<b>1,026</b>	1,026
Premium on capital increase of Byblos Bank Africa	<b>4,396</b>	4,396
	<b>5,422</b>	5,422



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**42 TREASURY SHARES**

Movement of treasury shares recognized in the statement of financial position for the years 2015 and 2014 was as follows:

**Year ended 31 December 2015**

	<i>Common shares</i>		<i>Global Depository Receipts</i>	
	<i>No. of shares</i>	<i>Amount US\$(000)</i>	<i>No. of shares</i>	<i>Amount US\$(000)</i>
At 1 January 2015	<b>2,047,426</b>	<b>3,652</b>	<b>7,273</b>	<b>610</b>
Acquisitions of treasury shares	<b>205,495</b>	<b>329</b>	<b>1,417</b>	<b>108</b>
Sales of treasury shares	<b>(101,684)</b>	<b>(184)</b>	-	-
At 31 December 2015	<b>2,151,237</b>	<b>3,797</b>	<b>8,690</b>	<b>718</b>
Total treasury shares in LL million				<b>6,807</b>

**Year ended 31 December 2014**

	<i>Common shares</i>		<i>Global Depository Receipts</i>	
	<i>No. of shares</i>	<i>Amount US\$(000)</i>	<i>No. of shares</i>	<i>Amount US\$(000)</i>
At 1 January 2014	3,022,602	5,418	14,812	1,252
Acquisitions of treasury shares	88,940	143	2,061	155
Sales of treasury shares	(1,064,116)	(1,909)	(9,600)	(797)
At 31 December 2014	2,047,426	3,652	7,273	610
Total treasury shares in LL million				6,425

**43 REVALUATION RESERVE OF REAL ESTATE**

	<i>2015 LL million</i>	<i>2014 LL million</i>
Revaluation reserve accepted in Tier II capital	<b>1,978</b>	1,978
Revaluation reserve not accepted in Tier II capital	<b>3,711</b>	3,711
	<b>5,689</b>	5,689

**44 CHANGE IN FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**

Movement of the change in fair value of financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income during the year was as follows:

	<i>2015 LL million</i>	<i>2014 LL million</i>
At 1 January	<b>(7,533)</b>	(16,644)
Net changes in fair values during the year	<b>(526)</b>	10,392
Net changes in deferred taxes	<b>75</b>	(1,546)
Difference on exchange	<b>23</b>	265

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Balance at 31 December

(7,961)

(7,533)



## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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**45 CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS**

	<i>2015</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>2014</i> <i>LL million</i>
Cash and balances with central banks	<b>2,129,121</b>	2,414,186
Due from banks and financial institutions	<b>2,410,574</b>	2,798,622
Loans to banks and financial institutions and reverse repurchase agreements	<b>662,486</b>	245,569
	<b>5,202,181</b>	5,458,377
Less: Due to banks and financial institutions	<b>(422,258)</b>	(551,625)
Less: Due to central banks	<b>(13,723)</b>	(9,940)
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December	<b>4,766,200</b>	4,896,812

**46 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

Parties are considered to be related if one party has the ability to control the other party or exercise significant influence over the other party in making financial or operation decisions, or one other party controls both. The definition includes subsidiaries, key management personnel and their close family members, as well as entities controlled or jointly controlled by them.

A list of the Group's principal subsidiaries is shown in note 4. Transactions between the Bank and its subsidiaries meet the definition of related party transactions. However, where these are eliminated on consolidation, they are not disclosed in the Group's financial statements.

Key management personnel are defined as those persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the Group, directly or indirectly, including the Directors and the Officers of the Group.

Loans to related parties, (a) were made in the ordinary course of business, (b) were made on substantially the same terms, including interest rates and collateral, as those prevailing at the same time for comparable transactions with others and (c) did not involve more than a normal risk of collectability or present other unfavorable features.

Related party balances included in the Group's statement of financial position are as follows as of 31 December:

	<i>2015</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>2014</i> <i>LL million</i>
Due from banks and financial institutions	<b>1,803</b>	10,889
Loans to banks and financial institutions and reverse repurchase agreements	-	9,986
Loans and advances	<b>35,275</b>	28,033
Due to banks and financial institutions	<b>44,489</b>	62,001
Deposits	<b>421,716</b>	312,813
Debt issued and other borrowed funds	<b>1,970</b>	2,025
Subordinated debt	<b>18,542</b>	19,672
Guarantees received	<b>18,972</b>	15,627
Guarantees given	<b>108</b>	97
Commitments (including acceptances)	<b>7,854</b>	6,756

**46 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS (continued)**

Related party transactions included in the Group's income statement are as follows for the year ended 31 December:

	<i>2015</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>2014</i> <i>LL million</i>
Interest income on loans to banks and financial institutions and reverse repurchase agreements	-	145
Interest income on loans	<b>1,869</b>	1,319
Interest expense on deposits	<b>15,715</b>	13,175
Interest expense on due to banks and financial institutions	<b>1,580</b>	2,139
Interest expense on debt issued and other borrowed funds	<b>138</b>	142
Interest expense on subordinated debt	<b>1,192</b>	1,265
Rent expense	<b>544</b>	544

In addition to the above, the Group entered into an agreement with the International Finance Corporation (IFC) whereby the latter makes available a non-committed trade finance guarantee facility to the Group up to US\$ 50 million. As at 31 December 2015, guarantees issued by IFC amounted to LL 1,639 million (2014: LL 66,953 million).

**Compensation of the Key Management Personnel of the Group**

	<i>2015</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>2014</i> <i>LL million</i>
Short-term benefits <sup>1</sup>	<b>11,984</b>	17,407

<sup>1</sup> Short-term benefits comprise of salaries, bonuses, profit-sharing, attendance fees and other short-term benefits to key management personnel.

**47 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES, COMMITMENTS AND LEASING ARRANGEMENTS****Credit-related commitments and contingent liabilities**

To meet the financial needs of customers, the Group enters into various commitments, guarantees and other contingent liabilities, which are mainly credit-related instruments including financial and other guarantees and commitments to extend credit. Even though these obligations may not be recognised on the statement of financial position, they do contain credit risk and are therefore part of the overall risk of the Group. The table below discloses the nominal principal amounts of credit-related commitments and contingent liabilities. Nominal principal amounts represent the amount at risk should the contracts be fully drawn upon and clients default. As a significant portion of guarantees and commitments is expected to expire without being withdrawn, the total of the nominal principal amount is not indicative of future liquidity requirements.

	<i>2015</i>		
	<i>Banks</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>Customers</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>Total</i> <i>LL million</i>
<b>Guarantees and contingent liabilities</b>			
Financial guarantees	-	<b>205,966</b>	<b>205,966</b>
Other guarantees	<b>276,315</b>	<b>885,162</b>	<b>1,161,477</b>
	<b>276,315</b>	<b>1,091,128</b>	<b>1,367,443</b>
<b>Commitments</b>			
Documentary credits	<b>238,008</b>	<b>150,647</b>	<b>388,655</b>
Loan commitments	-	<b>2,355,807</b>	<b>2,355,807</b>
	<b>238,008</b>	<b>2,506,454</b>	<b>2,744,462</b>

#### 47 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES, COMMITMENTS AND LEASING ARRANGEMENTS (continued)

##### Credit-related commitments and contingent liabilities (continued)

	2014		
	<i>Banks</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>Customers</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>Total</i> <i>LL million</i>
Guarantees and contingent liabilities			
Financial guarantees	-	185,758	185,758
Other guarantees	356,209	993,718	1,349,927
	356,209	1,179,476	1,535,685
Commitments			
Documentary credits	328,749	236,000	564,749
Loan commitments	-	2,354,802	2,354,802
	328,749	2,590,802	2,919,551

##### *Guarantees*

Guarantees are given as security to support the performance of a customer to third parties. The main types of guarantees provided are:

- Financial guarantees given to banks and financial institutions on behalf of customers to secure loans, overdrafts, and other banking facilities; and
- Other guarantees provided include mainly performance guarantees, advance payment guarantees and tender guarantees.

##### *Documentary credits*

Documentary credits commit the Group to make payments to third parties, on production of documents, which are usually reimbursed immediately by customers.

##### *Loan commitments*

Loan commitments are defined amounts (unutilized credit lines or undrawn portions of credit lines) against which clients can borrow money under defined terms and conditions.

##### **Investment commitments**

During 2015, the Group invested in funds pursuant to the provisions of Decision no. 6116 dated 7 March 1996. In accordance with this resolution, the Group can benefit from facilities granted by the Central Bank of Lebanon to be invested in startup companies, incubators and accelerators whose objects are restricted to supporting the development, success and growth of startup companies in Lebanon or companies whose objects are restricted to investing venture capital in startup companies in Lebanon. These investments have resulted in future commitments on the Group of LL 6,057 million as of 31 December 2015 (2014: none).

##### **Legal claims**

Litigation is a common occurrence in the banking industry due to the nature of the business undertaken. The Group has formal controls and policies for managing legal claims. Once professional advice has been obtained and the amount of loss reasonably estimated, the Group makes adjustments to account for any adverse effects which the claims may have on its financial standing. At year end, the Group had several unresolved legal claims. Based on advice from legal counsel, management believes that legal claims will not result in any financial loss to the Group.

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#### 47 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES, COMMITMENTS AND LEASING ARRANGEMENTS (continued)

##### Lease arrangements

##### *Operating leases – Group as lessee*

The Group has entered into commercial leases on premises. These leases have an average life of between five and ten years. There are no restrictions placed upon the lessee by entering into these leases.

Future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as at 31 December are as follows:

	<i>2015</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>2014</i> <i>LL million</i>
Within one year	<b>3,217</b>	3,084
After one year but not more than five years	<b>10,581</b>	9,212
More than five years	<b>11,491</b>	11,257
	<b>25,289</b>	23,553

##### Other contingencies

Certain areas of the Lebanese tax legislation are subject to different interpretations in respect of the taxability of certain types of financial transactions and activities. Fiscal years from 2012 to 2015 remain open to review by the authorities. Management believes that the effect of any such review will not have a material effect on the consolidated financial statements.

#### 48 ASSETS HELD IN CUSTODY AND UNDER ADMINISTRATION

	<i>2015</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>2014</i> <i>LL million</i>
Assets held in custody and under administration	<b>3,120,838</b>	3,073,672

##### Assets held in custody and under administration

Custody is the safekeeping and servicing of securities and other financial assets on behalf of clients. Administration includes the provision of various support functions activities including the valuation of portfolios of securities and other financial assets on behalf of clients, which complements the custody business.

#### 49 FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The fair values in this note are stated at a specific date and may be different from the amounts which will actually be paid on the maturity or settlement dates of the instrument. In many cases, it would not be possible to realize immediately the estimated fair values given the size of the portfolios measured. Accordingly, these fair values do not represent the value of these instruments to the Group as a going concern.

Financial assets and liabilities are classified according to a hierarchy that reflects the significance of observable market inputs. The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are defined below.

##### Quoted market prices – Level 1

Financial instruments are classified as Level 1 if their value is observable in an active market. Such instruments are valued by reference to unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets where the quoted price is readily available, and the price represents actual and regularly occurring market transactions on an arm's length basis. An active market is one in which transactions occur with sufficient volume and frequency to provide pricing information on an ongoing basis.

**49 FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (continued)****Valuation technique using observable inputs – Level 2**

Financial instruments classified as Level 2 have been valued using models whose most significant inputs are observable in an active market. Such valuation techniques and models incorporate assumptions about factors observable in an active market, that other market participants would use in their valuations, including interest rate yield curve, exchange rates, volatilities, and prepayment and defaults rates.

**Valuation technique using significant unobservable inputs – Level 3**

Financial instruments are classified as Level 3 if their valuation incorporates significant inputs that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs). A valuation input is considered observable if it can be directly observed from transactions in an active market, or if there is compelling external evidence demonstrating an executable exit price. Unobservable input levels are generally determined based on observable inputs of a similar nature, historical observations or other analytical techniques.

**Fair value measurement hierarchy of the Group's financial assets and liabilities carried at fair value:**

	<i>2015</i>			<i>Total LL million</i>
	<i>Quoted market price Level 1 LL million</i>	<i>Valuation techniques</i>		
	<i>Observable inputs Level 2 LL million</i>	<i>Unobservable inputs Level 3 LL million</i>		
<b>Assets:</b>				
Derivative financial instruments:				
Currency swaps	-	314	-	314
Forward foreign exchange contracts	-	1,530	-	1,530
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss:				
Lebanese treasury bills	216,656	10,348	-	227,004
Certificates of deposit issued by the Central Bank of Lebanon	-	27,714	-	27,714
Debt securities issued by banks and financial institutions	2,440	-	-	2,440
Corporate bonds	-	3,018	-	3,018
Equity securities	35,669	-	-	35,669
Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income	48,241	-	53,666	101,907
<b>Liabilities:</b>				
Derivative financial instruments:				
Currency swaps	-	392	-	392
Forward foreign exchange contracts	-	2,053	-	2,053

**49 FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (continued)**

**Fair value measurement hierarchy of the Group's financial assets and liabilities carried at fair value (continued):**

	2014			Total LL million
	<i>Valuation techniques</i>			
	<i>Quoted market price Level 1 LL million</i>	<i>Observable inputs Level 2 LL million</i>	<i>Unobservable inputs Level 3 LL million</i>	
Assets:				
Derivative financial instruments:				
Currency swaps	-	167	-	167
Forward foreign exchange contracts	-	6,548	-	6,548
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss:				
Lebanese treasury bills	85,811	27,861	-	113,672
Certificates of deposit issued by the Central Bank of Lebanon	-	3,190	-	3,190
Debt securities issued by banks and financial institutions	2,068	-	-	2,068
Foreign governmental debt securities	710	-	-	710
Equity securities	35,942	-	-	35,942
Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income	50,986	-	47,732	98,718
Liabilities:				
Derivative financial instruments:				
Currency swaps	-	155	-	155
Forward foreign exchange contracts	-	5,272	-	5,272

There were no transfers between levels during 2015 (2014: the same).

**Assets and liabilities carried at fair value using a valuation technique with significant observable inputs (Level 2)**

***Derivatives***

Derivative products are valued using a valuation technique with market observable inputs. The most frequently applied valuation techniques include forward pricing and swap models, using present value calculations. The models incorporate various inputs including the credit quality of counterparties, foreign exchange spot and forward rates and interest rate curves.

***Government bonds, certificates of deposits and other debt securities***

The Group values these unquoted debt securities using discounted cash flow valuation models where the lowest level input that is significant to the entire measurement is observable in an active market. These inputs include assumptions regarding current rates of interest, implied volatilities, credit spreads and broker statements.

**Assets and liabilities carried at fair value using a valuation technique with significant unobservable inputs (Level 3)**

***Equity shares of non-listed entities***

The Group's strategic investments are generally classified at fair value through other comprehensive income and are not traded in active markets. These are investments in private companies, for which there is no or only limited sufficient recent information to determine fair value. The Group determined that cost adjusted to reflect the investee's financial position and results since initial recognition represents the best estimate of fair value.

**49 FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (continued)****Reconciliation of fair value measurement of financial assets in unquoted equity shares:**

	<i>2015</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>2014</i> <i>LL million</i>
Balance at 1 January	<b>47,732</b>	43,490
Acquisitions	<b>3,715</b>	-
Re-measurement recognized in other comprehensive income	<b>2,219</b>	4,242
	<b>53,666</b>	47,732

**Comparison of carrying and fair values for financial assets and liabilities not held at fair value:**

The fair values included in the table below were calculated for disclosure purposes only. The fair valuation techniques and assumptions described below relate only to the fair value of the Group's financial instruments not measured at fair value. Other institutions may use different methods and assumptions for their fair value estimations, and therefore such fair value disclosures cannot necessarily be compared from one institution to another.

	<i>2015</i>		<i>2014</i>	
	<i>Fair value</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>Carrying value</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>Fair value</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>Carrying value</i> <i>LL million</i>
<b>FINANCIAL ASSETS</b>				
Cash and balances with central banks	<b>7,236,237</b>	<b>7,236,237</b>	7,048,785	7,048,785
Due from banks and financial institutions	<b>2,518,365</b>	<b>2,518,365</b>	2,913,279	2,913,279
Loans to banks and financial institutions and reverse repurchase agreement	<b>1,197,149</b>	<b>1,197,047</b>	394,072	393,712
Financial assets given as collateral	<b>1,399</b>	<b>1,405</b>	7,048	7,005
Net loans and advances to customers at amortized cost	<b>7,397,801</b>	<b>7,399,641</b>	7,096,291	7,099,163
Net loans and advances to related parties at amortized cost	<b>35,275</b>	<b>35,275</b>	28,033	28,033
<i>Financial assets at amortized cost</i>				
Lebanese treasury bills	<b>5,861,920</b>	<b>5,852,407</b>	5,714,885	5,673,700
Certificates of deposit issued by the Central Bank of Lebanon	<b>4,350,572</b>	<b>4,274,429</b>	3,952,369	3,913,360
Foreign governmental debt securities	<b>130,537</b>	<b>125,272</b>	140,834	134,509
Debt securities issued by banks and financial institutions	<b>225,708</b>	<b>225,215</b>	513,946	499,401
Corporate bonds	<b>6,065</b>	<b>6,004</b>	6,199	6,002
Certificates of deposit issued by banks and financial institutions	<b>33,096</b>	<b>33,187</b>	33,085	33,147
<b>FINANCIAL LIABILITIES</b>				
Due to central banks	<b>117,412</b>	<b>117,412</b>	71,146	71,146
Due to banks and financial institutions	<b>744,554</b>	<b>744,554</b>	911,175	911,173
Customers' deposits at amortized cost	<b>24,722,196</b>	<b>24,658,431</b>	23,445,040	23,377,789
Deposits from related parties at amortized cost	<b>426,460</b>	<b>421,716</b>	318,235	312,813
Debt issued and other borrowed funds	<b>447,460</b>	<b>445,199</b>	449,909	445,387
Subordinated debt	<b>417,400</b>	<b>417,400</b>	414,580	414,580

**Assets and liabilities for which fair value is disclosed using a valuation technique with significant observable inputs (Level 2) and / or significant unobservable inputs (Level 3)*****Deposits with banks and loans and advances to banks***

For the purpose of this disclosure there is minimal difference between fair value and carrying amount of these financial assets as they are short-term in nature or have interest rates that re-price frequently. The fair value of

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deposits with longer maturities are estimated using discounted cash flows applying market rates for counterparties with similar credit quality.



**49 FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (continued)*****Government bonds, certificates of deposits and other debt securities***

The Group values these unquoted debt securities using discounted cash flow valuation models where the lowest level input that is significant to the entire measurement is observable in an active market. These inputs include assumptions regarding current rates of interest, implied volatilities, credit spreads and broker statements.

***Loans and advances to customers***

For the purpose of this disclosure, in many cases, the fair value disclosed approximates carrying value because these advances are short-term in nature or have interest rates that re-price frequently. The fair value of loans and advances to customers with long-term maturities is estimated using discounted cash flows by applying current rates for new loans granted during 2015 with similar characteristics.

***Deposits from banks and customers***

In many cases, the fair value disclosed approximates carrying value because these financial liabilities are short-term in nature or have interest rates that re-price frequently. The fair value for deposits with long-term maturities, such as time deposits, are estimated using discounted cash flows, applying either market rates or current rates for deposits of similar characteristics.

***Debt issued and other borrowed funds and subordinated debt***

Fair values are determined using discounted cash flows valuation models where the inputs used are estimated by comparison with quoted prices in an active market for similar instruments.

	<b>2015</b>				
	<i>Quoted market price Level 1 LL million</i>	<i>Valuation techniques</i>			<i>Total LL million</i>
		<i>Observable inputs Level 2 LL million</i>	<i>Unobservabl e inputs Level 3 LL million</i>		
<b>Assets for which fair values are disclosed:</b>					
Cash and balances with central banks	260,252	6,975,985	-	7,236,237	
Due from banks and financial institutions	-	2,518,365	-	2,518,365	
Loans to banks and financial institutions and reverse repurchase agreement	-	1,197,149	-	1,197,149	
Financial assets given as collateral	-	1,399	-	1,399	
Net loans and advances to customers at amortized cost	-	-	7,397,801	7,397,801	
Net loans and advances to related parties at amortized cost	-	-	35,275	35,275	
Financial assets at amortized cost:					
Lebanese treasury bills	2,010,050	3,851,870	-	5,861,920	
Certificates of deposit issued by the Central Bank of Lebanon	-	4,350,572	-	4,350,572	
Foreign governmental debt securities	130,537	-	-	130,537	
Debt securities issued by banks and financial institutions	225,708	-	-	225,708	
Corporate bonds	5,849	216	-	6,065	
Certificates of deposit issued by banks and financial institutions	-	33,096	-	33,096	
<b>Liabilities for which fair values are disclosed:</b>					
Due to central banks	-	117,412	-	117,412	
Due to banks and financial institutions	-	744,554	-	744,554	
Customers' deposits at amortized cost	-	24,722,196	-	24,722,196	
Deposits from related parties at amortized cost	-	426,460	-	426,460	
Debt issued and other borrowed funds	-	447,460	-	447,460	
Subordinated debt	-	417,400	-	417,400	

**49 FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (continued)**

	2014			Total LL million
	<i>Valuation techniques</i>			
	<i>Quoted market price Level 1 LL million</i>	<i>Observable inputs Level 2 LL million</i>	<i>Unobservable inputs Level 3 LL million</i>	
Assets for which fair values are disclosed:				
Cash and balances with central banks	228,866	6,819,919	-	7,048,785
Due from banks and financial institutions	-	2,913,279	-	2,913,279
Loans to banks and financial institutions and reverse repurchase agreement	-	394,072	-	394,072
Financial assets given as collateral	-	7,048	-	7,048
Net loans and advances to customers at amortized cost	-	-	7,096,291	7,096,291
Net loans and advances to related parties at amortized cost	-	-	28,033	28,033
Financial assets at amortized cost:				
Lebanese treasury bills	2,489,495	3,225,390	-	5,714,885
Certificates of deposit issued by the Central Bank of Lebanon	-	3,952,369	-	3,952,369
Foreign governmental debt securities	140,834	-	-	140,834
Debt securities issued by banks and financial institutions	513,946	-	-	513,946
Corporate bonds	5,989	210	-	6,199
Certificates of deposit issued by banks and financial institutions	-	33,085	-	33,085
Liabilities for which fair values are disclosed:				
Due to central banks	-	71,146	-	71,146
Due to banks and financial institutions	-	911,175	-	911,175
Customers' deposits at amortized cost	-	23,445,040	-	23,445,040
Deposits from related parties at amortized cost	-	318,235	-	318,235
Debt issued and other borrowed funds	-	449,909	-	449,909
Subordinated debt	-	414,580	-	414,580

**50 RISK MANAGEMENT****50.1 INTRODUCTION**

Risk is inherent in the Group's activities, yet it is managed through a process of on-going identification, measurement and monitoring, subject to risk limits and other controls. This process of risk management is critical to the Group's continuing profitability and each individual within the Group is accountable for the risk exposures relating to his or her responsibilities. The Group is exposed to credit risk, liquidity risk and market risk. It is also subject to various operational risks.

The Group's risk management process involves identification, measurement, monitoring and controlling risks to ensure that:

- Individuals who take or manage risks clearly understand it;
- The organization's risk exposure is within the limits established by the Board of Directors (Board);
- Risk taking decisions are in line with the business strategy and objectives set by the Board of Directors;
- The expected payoffs compensate for the risks taken;
- Risk taking decisions are explicit and clear; and
- Sufficient capital is available to act as a buffer for risks taken.

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The independent risk control process does not include business risks such as changes in the environment, technology and industry. The Group's policy is to monitor those business risks through the bank's strategic planning process.

**50 RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)**

**50.1 INTRODUCTION (continued)**

**Group risk management structure**

The Board of Directors is primarily responsible for establishing / approving the Group's strategic direction and approving the nature and levels of risk the Group is willing to take. The Board has established two committees to assist in carrying out its responsibilities:

*Risk, Anti-Money Laundering and Compliance Committee (BRC):* It is primarily responsible to formulate the risk appetite statement for the Bank through establishing a comprehensive set of internal risk limits and other qualitative risk statements that clearly defines the amount of risks the Board is willing to take and those risks the Board wishes to avoid, and monitors compliance to the risk appetite statement. BRC provides oversight of Senior Management's activities in managing capital adequacy, credit, market, liquidity, operational, Anti-Money Laundering, compliance, reputational and other risks of the Group. The BRC also oversees ICAAP and approves risk policies.

*Audit Committee:* monitors the Group's accounting practices and external reporting, and reviews the audit reports covering the Group's operations and takes appropriate actions / decisions.

The above Board Committees are composed of mostly independent / non-executive members satisfying the applicable best practice requirements. In addition, the Board delegates its day-to-day risk management activities to the Senior Management, through the following diverse committees that have been established:

*Executive Committee:* acts under the supervision of the Chairman to ensure execution of all strategic directives stipulated by the Board and to propose new strategic projects and plans to the Board. Membership is assigned to the Chairman, the Head of the Group Consumer Banking Division, the Head of Group Financial Markets and Financial Institutions Division, the Head of Group Commercial Banking Division, and the Head of Group Risk Management Division.

*Central Credit Committee (CCC):* is the highest credit authority in the Group after the Board. Its mission is to review and approve high-value amount credit proposals. The internal lending limit is set at 10% of capital, which requires the joint approval of the Chairman and the CCC. Credit proposals exceeding the internal lending limit are referred to the Board (or any delegated committee) for approval. The CCC delegates approval authority for lower amount credit proposals to various sub-committees.

*Assets and Liabilities Committee (ALCO):* which mission is to manage the statement of financial position in compliance with the main objectives of the Group, in terms of growth, liquidity and interest income. Its role encompasses the review, approval and implementation of the Group's strategies regarding liquidity and interest rate, FX and trading activities through decisions on size and duration of mismatched positions and on pricing.

*Risk Committee:* whose task is to formulate and enforce guidelines and standards with regard to capital adequacy and risk measurement and management. It also reviews reports and findings identified by the Group Risk Management and issues related to the implementation of Basel II/ Basel III projects. The Committee discusses and approves the risk policies, the risk measurement tools such as rating and scoring, and risk-based processes including stress testing, economic capital, and risk-based profitability. It oversees the risk reports prepared and ICAAP framework before submission to the Board.

The Group also established two other committees concerned with the risk management and compliance, being: *The Operational Risk Management Committee* and the *Compliance and Anti-Money Laundering Committee*. The Operational Risk Committee's mission is to provide oversight for the Group's operational risk function, the processes and the systems developed to assess, monitor and mitigate operational risks. The mission of the Compliance and Anti-Money Laundering Committee is to ensure that the Group is in compliance with anti-money laundering laws and internationally administered sanction laws; and to oversee implementation of the Group's KYC and sanction policies.

**50 RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)**

**50.1 INTRODUCTION (continued)**

**Group risk management structure (continued)**

*Group Internal Audit Division*

The Group Internal Audit Division (GIA) is responsible for providing an independent, objective assurance and consulting activity designed to add value and improve the Group's operations. It helps the Group accomplish its objectives by bringing a systematic disciplined and risk based approach to evaluate and improve the effectiveness of risk management, control, and governance processes. Its role within the Group is to ensure that adequate internal controls are maintained and where weaknesses are identified, they are reported to Senior Management and the Audit Committee along with recommendations for improvement. The GIA assesses all new products and procedures and changes in systems and reports its recommendations accordingly

The GIA also ensures that the Group is in compliance with the rules and regulations in different jurisdictions where the Group is operating, the Central Banks and Banking Control Commission requirements, Board of Directors and management directives and implemented policies and procedures.

**Risk Management- Basel Perspective**

The Group's risk management function follows the prudential rules and regulations set forth by the Basel Committee in the Core Principles for Effective Banking Supervision document (September 2012) and Basel Capital Accord texts (Basel II/ III) to measure and assess the risks identified under the pillars I and II, i.e., the credit, operational, and market risks, as well as, the interest rate risk in the banking book, the liquidity risk, and credit concentration.

With regard to Basel recommendations relating to best practices in risk management and its objective of capital measurement and capital adequacy, the Group adopts a phased approach to take more sophisticated steps towards credit risk and make use of internal ratings based methodology - or 'IRB Approach'- to calculate expected credit loss and ultimately capital requirements for credit risk. In addition to the market risk capital charge, an explicit capital charge for operational risk is being accounted for.

As for addressing the capital management issue in the context of Basel II, the Group develops annually a comprehensive Internal Capital Adequacy Assessment Process (ICAAP) document, disclosing the risk appetite statement and covering all risks to which the Group is or may be exposed, as well as risk factors emanating from the environment in which it operates.

The overall responsibility for the monitoring and the analytical management of the risk is effectively assigned to the Group Risk Management division (GRM). The GRM reports to the Chairman and General Manager through the head of the GRM division. Risk issues and reports are submitted to the Board regularly through the Board Risk, Anti-Money Laundering & Compliance Committee.

The GRM has a dedicated team, *Financial and Operational Risk Management department*, that fulfils the analytical part of risk management and is thereby in direct charge of identifying, measuring, monitoring and controlling Pillar 1 and 2 risks faced by the Group. The department is split into three main functions:

*Risk Policies and Analytics* that is responsible for the preparation and reporting of Basel II regulatory CAR report, the development of stress testing scenarios, the write-up of risk reports and ICAAP documents. It handles as well the measurement of PD (probability of default), LGD (loss given default), EL (expected credit loss) and UL (unexpected loss). The units develop and support risk-based profitability measurements, risk measurement tools (retail scoring and commercial rating), and risk related policies.

*Market and Asset-Liability Management Risk* sets the firm-wide framework necessary for identification, measurement and management of market risk across the Group, including developing policies, procedures, and risk measurement methodologies. Market Risk is also in charge of monitoring the Group's limits regarding

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liquidity, interest rate risk and securities investment positions, stress test and report on breaches to Senior Management.

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**50 RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)**

**50.1 INTRODUCTION (continued)**

**Risk Management- Basel Perspective (continued)**

*Operational Risk Management* is responsible for establishing the necessary framework for identifying, measuring and managing operational risk across the Group, including clear definition of risks, developing ORM policies, and enhancing ORM programs and tools.

**Risk Management Framework**

The Risk Management Framework is based on a set of principles adopted by the Board through the Risk Charter. These principles are being reviewed annually or upon need in order to be aligned with the changes related to the internal and external environment of the Group. The set of basic principles that governs the risk management framework of the Group are developed based on the following:

*Business Line Accountability:* Business lines are accountable for managing the risks associated with their activities and establish tolerances for risk taking. The accountability exists notwithstanding the presence of any support functions dedicated to risk management activities.

*Strategic Level Risk Management,* encompasses the risk management functions performed by Senior Management and the Board. It includes defining the Group's risk appetite, formulating strategy and policies for managing risks and establishing adequate systems and controls to ensure that the Group's aggregate risk profile is within acceptable tolerance levels.

*Analytical Level Risk Management,* encompasses the risk management, within the authority delegated by the Strategic Level to identify, measure, monitor and report the risks taken by the Group in a consistent manner across all business lines and operational units.

*Tactical Level Risk Management,* encompasses risk management activities performed by individuals who take risk on the Group's behalf such as the front office and loan origination functions.

The Risk Charter is complemented by risk specific policies and procedures enabling the unification of the risk culture and practice. Risk management is applied through the implementation of these risk policies / limits approved by the Board and that are put in place by the risk management function in cooperation with the business lines. Monitoring of individual risks is handled upon the initiation and renewal of the risk through a clear decision making process documented in a written procedure.

**50.2 CREDIT RISK**

Credit risk is the risk that the Group will incur a loss because its customers or counterparties fail to discharge their contractual obligations. The Group manages and controls credit risk by setting limits on the amount of risk it is willing to accept for individual borrowers and for geographical and industry concentrations, and by monitoring exposures in relation to such limits.

**Credit initiation**

Target markets and customers and products' strategy are identified in the yearly business plan deriving from the medium term plan. They are submitted to and discussed with management and the Board by different business lines. The process of initiating and approving credit proposals is governed by the Group's Credit Policies and Procedures Manual (CPPM). CPPM consolidates the principles for the credit origination and follow-up process based on early warning signals, and includes the credit committee approval authorities, the roles and responsibilities of credit personnel, the credit administration function, and the structuring of credit packages.

*Commercial lending* is handled by the Commercial Division which oversees the business origination related to corporate customers, middle market and international lending. The assessment of a credit request requires an evaluation of the borrower's creditworthiness through an in-depth analysis of series of financial, management,

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business and market criteria translated into an overall credit risk rating. This assessment process is applicable to both new and existing client.

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**50 RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)**

**50.2 CREDIT RISK (continued)**

**Credit initiation (continued)**

The *Financial Institution* department (FI) is a separate business line that sets the strategy for banks limits and manages the relationship with banks. The function is determined by liquidity targets and by profit generation through a dynamic yet diversified trade finance business.

The *Consumer Banking* division is responsible to design and implement the strategy and document the program for consumer loans, housing loans, revolving credit cards, small business loans and Kafalat-guaranteed loans.

**Credit approval**

The review of credit proposals is assigned to the credit risk analysis team within the GRM division, acting independently from the origination units. Every non-retail lending transaction is subject to a thorough risk assessment by the credit risk analysis team prior to being submitted to the appropriate approving authority.

The credit risk analysis team is organized into five departments, servicing each a different business segment (corporate, international, middle market, financial institutions and retail). In the case of retail lending, risk assessment occurs first at the level of the product design and is followed-on with a post-approval review on a sampling basis. The primary function of the risk analysis team is to ensure that the extension of credit is consistent with the Group's risk acceptance criteria and CPPM.

**Loan follow up and monitoring**

Each business line manager who originated the loan remains vested with the responsibility of monitoring the exposure and reviewing the file on an annual basis or more frequently if needed. Annual reviews consist of a full update of the credit package and follow the same process as the initiation of the loan.

Outstanding loans are subject as well to a constant monitoring by the GRM division based on a series of reports. The aim of such monitoring is to ensure problem recognition, and to follow-up on the prompt and remedial management of spotted deteriorations in borrowers' financial positions, value of collateral and related sector / industry. Early warning signals are derived from a set of system generated reports.

**Impairment assessment**

For accounting purposes, the Group uses an incurred loss model for the recognition of losses on impaired financial assets. This means that losses can only be recognised when objective evidence of a specific loss event has been observed. Triggering events include the following:

- Significant financial difficulty of the customer.
- A breach of contract such as a default of payment.
- Where the Group grants the customer a concession due to the customer experiencing financial difficulty.
- It becomes probable that the customer will enter bankruptcy or other financial reorganisation.
- Observable data that suggests that there is a decrease in the estimated future cash flows related to the loans.

In measuring credit risk at a counterparty level, the Group reflects three components – the “probability of default” (PD) by the client or counterparty on its contractual obligations; the Group's current exposure to the counterparty and its likely future development, from which the Group derives the “exposure at default” (EAD); and the likely recovery ratio on the defaulted obligations to give the “loss given default” (LGD).

**Individually assessed allowances**

The Group determines the allowances appropriate for each individually significant loan or advance on an individual basis, include any overdue payments of interests, credit rating downgrades, or infringement of the original terms of the contract. Items considered when determining allowance amounts include the sustainability of the counterparty's business plan, its ability to improve performance once a financial difficulty has arisen, projected receipts and the expected payout should bankruptcy ensue, the availability of other financial support, the realisable value of collateral and the timing of the expected cash flows. Impairment

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allowances are evaluated at each reporting date, unless unforeseen circumstances require more careful attention.

**50 RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)**

**50.2 CREDIT RISK (continued)**

**Collectively assessed allowances**

Allowances are assessed collectively for losses on loans and advances and for debt instruments at amortized cost that are not individually significant (including credit cards, residential mortgages and unsecured consumer lending) and for individually significant loans and advances and debt instruments at amortized cost that have been assessed individually and found not to be impaired.

The Group generally bases its analysis on historical experience. However, when there are significant market developments, regional and/or global, the Group would include macroeconomic factors within its assessments. These factors include, depending on the characteristics of the individual or collective assessment: unemployment rates, current levels of bad debts, changes in laws, changes in regulations, bankruptcy trends, and other consumer data. The Group may use the aforementioned factors as appropriate to adjust the impairment allowances.

Allowances are evaluated separately at each reporting date for each portfolio. The collective assessment is made for groups of assets with similar risk characteristics, in order to determine whether provision should be made due to incurred loss events for which there is objective evidence, but the effects of which are not yet evident in the individual loans assessments. The collective assessment takes account of data from the loan portfolio (such as historical losses on the portfolio, levels of arrears, credit utilisation, loan to collateral ratios and expected receipts and recoveries once impaired). The approximate delay between the time a loss is likely to have been incurred and the time it will be identified as requiring an individually assessed impairment allowance is also taken into consideration. Local management is responsible for deciding the length of this period which can extend for as long as one year. The impairment allowance is then reviewed by credit management to ensure alignment with the Group overall policy.

Credit related commitments and financial guarantees are assessed and provisions are made in a similar manner as for loans.

*Derivative financial instruments*

Credit risk arising from derivative financial instruments is, at any time, limited to those with positive fair values, as recorded on the statement of financial position.

With gross-settled derivatives, the Group is also exposed to a settlement risk, being the risk that the Group honors its obligation but the counterparty fails to deliver the counter-value.

*Credit-related commitments and financial guarantee risks*

The Group makes available to its customers guarantees which may require that the Group makes payments on their behalf and enters into commitments to extend credit lines to secure their liquidity needs. Such commitments expose the Group to similar risks to loans and are mitigated by the same control processes and policies.

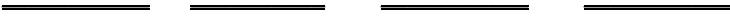
## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 December 2015

**50 RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)****50.2 CREDIT RISK (continued)****Analysis of maximum exposure to credit risk and collateral and other credit enhancements**

The following table shows the maximum exposure to credit risk by class of financial asset. It further shows the total fair value of collateral, capped to the maximum exposure to which it relates and the net exposure to credit risk.

	<i>2015</i>					
	<i>Maximum exposure</i>	<i>Cash</i>	<i>Securities</i>	<i>Letters of credit / guarantees</i>	<i>Real estate</i>	<i>Net credit exposure</i>
	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>
Balances with central banks	6,975,985	-	-	-	-	6,975,985
Due from banks and financial institutions	2,518,365	(562)	-	-	-	2,517,803
Loans to banks and financial institutions and reverse repurchase agreements	1,197,047	(23,669)	-	-	-	1,173,378
Financial assets given as collateral	1,405	-	-	-	-	1,405
Derivative financial instruments	1,844	-	-	-	-	1,844
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	260,176	-	-	-	-	260,176
Net loans and advances to customers at amortized cost:						
Commercial loans	4,900,719	(505,415)	(211,463)	(33,927)	(775,425)	3,374,489
Consumer loans	2,498,922	(276,694)	-	-	(1,115,883)	1,106,345
Net loans and advances to related parties at amortized cost	35,275	(12,574)	-	(796)	(2,774)	19,131
Financial assets at amortized cost	10,516,514	-	-	-	-	10,516,514
	<u>28,906,252</u>	<u>(818,914)</u>	<u>(211,463)</u>	<u>(34,723)</u>	<u>(1,894,082)</u>	<u>25,947,070</u>
Financial guarantees	205,966	(26,968)	-	-	-	178,998
Documentary credits (including acceptances)	633,360	(44,485)	-	-	(1,517)	587,358
	<u>29,745,578</u>	<u>(890,367)</u>	<u>(211,463)</u>	<u>(34,723)</u>	<u>(1,895,599)</u>	<u>26,713,426</u>
Utilized collateral		(890,367)	(211,463)	(34,723)	(1,895,599)	
Surplus of collateral before undrawn credit lines		(316,126)	(398,624)	(70,137)	(2,150,194)	
<b>Guarantees received from banks, financial institutions and customers</b>		<u>(1,206,493)</u>	<u>(610,087)</u>	<u>(104,860)</u>	<u>(4,045,793)</u>	



The surplus of collateral mentioned above is presented before offsetting additional credit commitments given to customers amounting to LL 2,355,807 million as at 31 December 2015.

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 December 2015

**50 RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)****50.2 CREDIT RISK (continued)****Analysis of maximum exposure to credit risk and collateral and other credit enhancements (continued)**

	2014					
	<i>Maximum exposure LL million</i>	<i>Cash LL million</i>	<i>Securities LL million</i>	<i>Letters of credit / guarantees LL million</i>	<i>Real estate LL million</i>	<i>Net credit exposure LL million</i>
Balances with central banks	6,819,919	-	-	-	-	6,819,919
Due from banks and financial institutions	2,913,279	(663)	-	-	-	2,912,616
Loans to banks and financial institutions and reverse repurchase agreements	393,712	(11,567)	-	-	-	382,145
Financial assets given as collateral	7,005	-	-	-	-	7,005
Derivative financial instruments	6,715	-	-	-	-	6,715
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	119,640	-	-	-	-	119,640
Net loans and advances to customers at amortized cost:						
Commercial loans	4,790,011	(401,070)	(117,793)	(87,106)	(935,135)	3,248,907
Consumer loans	2,309,152	(141,943)	-	-	(1,034,924)	1,132,285
Net loans and advances to related parties at amortized cost	28,033	(10,353)	-	-	(3,082)	14,598
Financial assets at amortized cost	10,260,119	-	-	-	-	10,260,119
	<u>27,647,585</u>	<u>(565,596)</u>	<u>(117,793)</u>	<u>(87,106)</u>	<u>(1,973,141)</u>	<u>24,903,949</u>
Financial guarantees	185,758	(17,539)	-	-	-	168,219
Documentary credits (including acceptances)	867,688	(62,973)	-	-	-	804,715
	<u>28,701,031</u>	<u>(646,108)</u>	<u>(117,793)</u>	<u>(87,106)</u>	<u>(1,973,141)</u>	<u>25,876,883</u>
Utilized collateral		(646,108)	(117,793)	(87,106)	(1,973,141)	
Surplus of collateral before undrawn credit lines		(506,549)	(327,231)	(37,048)	(1,825,198)	
Guarantees received from banks, financial institutions and customers		<u>(1,152,657)</u>	<u>(445,024)</u>	<u>(124,154)</u>	<u>(3,798,339)</u>	

The surplus of collateral mentioned above is presented before offsetting additional credit commitments given to customers amounting to LL 2,354,802 million as at 31 December 2014.

**50 RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)****50.2 CREDIT RISK (continued)****Collateral and other credit enhancements**

The amount and type of collateral required depends on an assessment of the credit risk of the borrower. Guidelines are implemented regarding the acceptability of types of collateral and valuation parameters. Management requests additional collateral in accordance with the underlying agreement, and monitors the market value of collateral obtained during its review of the adequacy of the allowance for impairment losses. The main types of collateral obtained are as follows:

*Securities:*

The balances shown above represent the fair value of the securities.

*Letters of credit / guarantees:*

The Group holds in some cases guarantees, letters of credit and similar instruments from banks and financial institutions which enable it to claim settlement in the event of default on the part of the counterparty. The balances shown represent the notional amount of these types of guarantees held by the Group.

*Real estate (commercial and residential):*

The Group holds in some cases a first degree mortgage over residential property (for housing loans) and commercial property (for commercial loans). The value shown above reflects the fair value of the property limited to the related mortgaged amount.

*Other:*

In addition to the above, the Group also obtains from its clients proxy to mortgage a residential or commercial property, guarantees from parent companies for loans to their subsidiaries, personal guarantees for loans to companies owned by individuals and assignments of proceeds and revenues, which are not reflected in the above table.

**Credit quality per class of financial assets**

The table below shows the credit quality by class of asset for all financial assets exposed to credit risk, based on the Group's internal credit rating system. The amounts presented are gross of impairment allowances.

	2015				
	<i>Neither past due nor impaired</i>		<i>Past due but not impaired</i>	<i>Individually impaired</i>	<i>Total</i>
	<i>High grade</i>	<i>Standard grade</i>			
	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>
Balances with central banks	6,769,921	209,928	-	31,581	7,011,430
Due from banks and financial institutions	1,751,637	766,728	-	3,688	2,522,053
Loans to banks and financial institutions and reverse repurchase agreements	992,966	204,081	-	-	1,197,047
Financial assets given as collateral	1,405	-	-	-	1,405
Derivative financial instruments	1,844	-	-	-	1,844
<i>Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss:</i>					
Lebanese treasury bills	227,004	-	-	-	227,004
Certificates of deposit issued by the Central Bank of Lebanon	27,714	-	-	-	27,714
Debt securities issued by banks and financial institutions	2,440	-	-	-	2,440
Corporate bonds	-	3,018	-	-	3,018
<i>Net loans and advances to customers at amortized cost:</i>					
Commercial loans	4,671,211	208,095	84,955	233,616	5,197,877
Consumer loans	2,265,098	23,647	176,128	132,748	2,597,621
Net loans and advances to related parties at amortized cost	35,275	-	-	-	35,275
Debtors by acceptances	234,953	9,752	-	-	244,705
<i>Financial assets at amortized cost:</i>					
Lebanese treasury bills	5,852,407	-	-	-	5,852,407
Certificates of deposit issued by the Central Bank of Lebanon	4,274,429	-	-	-	4,274,429
Foreign governmental debt securities	31,712	93,560	-	-	125,272
Debt securities issued by banks and financial institutions	174,448	50,767	-	-	225,215
Corporate bonds	5,033	971	-	-	6,004
Certificates of deposit issued by banks and financial institutions	-	33,187	-	-	33,187
	<u>27,319,497</u>	<u>1,603,734</u>	<u>261,083</u>	<u>401,633</u>	<u>29,585,947</u>





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**50 RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)****50.2 CREDIT RISK (continued)****Credit quality per class of financial assets (continued)**

	2014				
	<i>Neither past due nor impaired</i>		<i>Past due but not impaired</i>	<i>Individually impaired</i>	<i>Total</i>
	<i>High grade</i>	<i>Standard grade</i>			
	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>
Balances with central banks	6,436,888	383,031	-	-	6,819,919
Due from banks and financial institutions	2,623,543	289,736	-	3,960	2,917,239
Loans to banks and financial institutions and reverse repurchase agreements	86,022	307,690	-	-	393,712
Financial assets given as collateral	7,005	-	-	-	7,005
Derivative financial instruments	6,715	-	-	-	6,715
<i>Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss:</i>					
Lebanese treasury bills	113,672	-	-	-	113,672
Certificates of deposit issued by the Central Bank of Lebanon	3,190	-	-	-	3,190
Debt securities issued by banks and financial institutions	2,068	-	-	-	2,068
Foreign governmental debt securities	710	-	-	-	710
<i>Net loans and advances to customers at amortized cost:</i>					
Commercial loans	4,465,167	264,382	131,999	312,251	5,173,799
Consumer loans	2,093,810	22,310	172,139	105,382	2,393,641
Net loans and advances to related parties at amortized cost	28,033	-	-	-	28,033
Debtors by acceptances	292,101	10,838	-	-	302,939
<i>Financial assets at amortized cost:</i>					
Lebanese government bonds	5,673,700	-	-	-	5,673,700
Certificates of deposit issued by the Central Bank of Lebanon	3,913,360	-	-	-	3,913,360
Foreign governmental debt securities	39,850	94,659	-	-	134,509
Debt securities issued by banks and financial institutions	415,444	85,531	-	-	500,975
Corporate bonds	5,247	755	-	-	6,002
Certificates of deposit issued by banks and financial institutions	-	33,147	-	-	33,147
	<u>26,206,525</u>	<u>1,492,079</u>	<u>304,138</u>	<u>421,593</u>	<u>28,424,335</u>

Aging analysis of past due but not impaired loans per class of financial assets:

	2015			
	<i>Less than 90 days</i>	<i>91 to 180 days</i>	<i>More than 181 days</i>	<i>Total</i>
	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>
Loans and advances to customers at amortized cost:				
- Commercial loans	<b>28,143</b>	<b>36,229</b>	<b>20,583</b>	<b>84,955</b>
- Consumer loans	<b>150,836</b>	<b>16,904</b>	<b>8,388</b>	<b>176,128</b>
	<u><b>178,979</b></u>	<u><b>53,133</b></u>	<u><b>28,971</b></u>	<u><b>261,083</b></u>
	2014			
	<i>Less than 90 days</i>	<i>91 to 180 days</i>	<i>More than 181 days</i>	<i>Total</i>
	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>
Loans and advances to customers at amortized cost:				
- Commercial loans	59,243	42,885	29,871	131,999
- Consumer loans	141,627	20,143	10,369	172,139
	<u>200,870</u>	<u>63,028</u>	<u>40,240</u>	<u>304,138</u>

**50 RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)****50.2 CREDIT RISK (continued)****Mapping to external credit rating**

	<i>Financial assets</i>	<i>Loans and advances to customers</i>	
	<i>External credit rating</i>	<i>Supervisory rating</i>	<i>Characteristics</i>
<i>High grade</i>	Lebanese Sovereign AAA to A-	Regular	Regular and timely payment of dues. Adequacy of cash flows. Timely financial statements. Sufficient collateral / guarantee (if required).
		Follow up	Lack of documentation related to borrower's activity.
<i>Standard grade</i>	BBB+ and below unrated	Follow up and regularization	Credit worthy borrower showing weaknesses; insufficient / inadequate cash flows; highly leveraged; deterioration in economic sector or country where the facility is used; conflict between partners or other lawsuits; loan rescheduling since initiation; excess utilization above limit .
<i>Individually impaired</i>	Impaired	Substandard	Signals of incapacity to repay from identified cash flows; full repayments supposes the liquidation of assets / collateral; recurrent late payments; late interests; losses incurred for over 3 years.
		Doubtful	Full repayment is questioned even after asset liquidation; account stagnation and inability to repay restructured loans.
		Bad	No or little expected inflows from business or assets; borrower is unreachable; insolvency status.

The classification of loans and advances to customers and related parties at amortised cost in accordance with the ratings of Central Bank of Lebanon Circular 58 are as follows:

	<i>2015</i>			
	<i>Gross balance</i>	<i>Unrealised interest</i>	<i>Impairment allowances</i>	<i>Net balance</i>
	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>
Regular	6,589,000	-	-	6,589,000
Follow up	534,207	-	-	534,207
Follow up and regularization	305,928	-	-	305,928
Substandard	6,380	(840)	-	5,540
Doubtful	181,388	(13,226)	(71,748)	96,414
Bad	178,595	(66,605)	(111,990)	-
	<u>7,795,498</u>	<u>(80,671)</u>	<u>(183,738)</u>	<u>7,531,089</u>
Collective impairment	(131,448)	-	-	(131,448)
	<u><u>7,664,050</u></u>	<u><u>(80,671)</u></u>	<u><u>(183,738)</u></u>	<u><u>7,399,641</u></u>
	<i>2014</i>			
	<i>Gross balance</i>	<i>Unrealised interest</i>	<i>Impairment allowances</i>	<i>Net balance</i>
	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>
Regular	6,251,227	-	-	6,251,227
Follow up	532,598	-	-	532,598
Follow up and regularization	365,982	-	-	365,982
Substandard	30,618	(1,260)	-	29,358
Doubtful	138,017	(13,661)	(56,223)	68,133
Bad	248,998	(82,541)	(166,457)	-
	<u>7,567,440</u>	<u>(97,462)</u>	<u>(222,680)</u>	<u>7,247,298</u>
Collective impairment	(148,135)	-	-	(148,135)
	<u><u>7,419,305</u></u>	<u><u>(97,462)</u></u>	<u><u>(222,680)</u></u>	<u><u>7,099,163</u></u>

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**50 RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)****50.2 CREDIT RISK (continued)****Renegotiated loans**

Restructuring activity aims to manage customer relationships, maximize collection opportunities and, if possible, avoid foreclosure or repossession. Such activities include extended payment arrangements, deferring foreclosure, modification, loan rewrites and/or deferral of payments pending a change in circumstances.

Restructuring policies and practices are based on indicators or criteria which, in the judgment of local management, indicate that repayment will probably continue. The application of these policies varies according to the nature of the market and the type of the facility.

	<i>2015</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>2014</i> <i>LL million</i>
Commercial loans	<b>84,692</b>	94,362

**Analysis of risk concentration**

The Group's concentrations of risk are managed by client/counterparty, by geographical region and by industry sector. The maximum credit exposure to any client or counterparty as of 31 December 2015 was LL 128,850 million (2014: LL 98,570 million) before taking account of collateral or other credit enhancements and nil (2014: LL 98,570 million) net of such protection.

The following tables show the maximum exposure to credit risk for the components of the statement of financial position, including derivatives, by geography of counterparty before the effect of mitigation through the use of netting and collateral agreements.

*Geographic analysis*

	<i>2015</i>			
	<i>Lebanon</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>Europe</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>Others</i> <i>LL million</i>	<i>Total</i> <i>LL million</i>
Balances with central banks	6,722,113	50,150	203,722	6,975,985
Due from banks and financial institutions	112,437	1,083,743	1,322,185	2,518,365
Loans to banks and financial institutions and reverse repurchase agreements	942,430	35,001	219,616	1,197,047
Financial assets given as collateral	1,405	-	-	1,405
Derivative financial instruments	1,140	342	362	1,844
<i>Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss:</i>				
Lebanese treasury bills	227,004	-	-	227,004
Certificates of deposit issued by the Central Bank of Lebanon	27,714	-	-	27,714
Debt securities issued by banks and financial institutions	-	757	1,683	2,440
Corporate bonds	-	-	3,018	3,018
<i>Net loans and advances to customers at amortized cost</i>				
Commercial loans	4,020,708	134,142	745,869	4,900,719
Consumer loans	2,361,369	42,842	94,711	2,498,922
Net loans and advances to related parties at amortized cost	33,981	291	1,003	35,275
Debtors by acceptances	203,734	9,944	31,027	244,705
<i>Financial assets at amortized cost:</i>				
Lebanese treasury bills	5,852,407	-	-	5,852,407
Certificates of deposit issued by the Central Bank of Lebanon	4,274,429	-	-	4,274,429
Foreign governmental debt securities	-	92,581	32,691	125,272
Debt securities issued by banks and financial institutions	-	73,096	152,119	225,215
Corporate bonds	-	907	5,097	6,004
Certificates of deposit issued by banks and financial institutions	33,187	-	-	33,187
	<b>24,814,058</b>	<b>1,523,796</b>	<b>2,813,103</b>	<b>29,150,957</b>



**50 RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)****50.2 CREDIT RISK (continued)****Analysis of risk concentration (continued)***Geographic analysis (continued)*

	2014			
	<i>Lebanon</i> LL million	<i>Europe</i> LL million	<i>Others</i> LL million	<i>Total</i> LL million
Balances with central banks	6,397,781	41,073	381,065	6,819,919
Due from banks and financial institutions	126,607	880,144	1,906,528	2,913,279
Loans to banks and financial institutions and reverse repurchase agreements	14,694	97,344	281,674	393,712
Financial assets given as collateral	7,005	-	-	7,005
Derivative financial instruments	4,401	2,252	62	6,715
<i>Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss:</i>				
Lebanese treasury bills	113,672	-	-	113,672
Certificates of deposit issued by the Central Bank of Lebanon	3,190	-	-	3,190
Debt securities issued by banks and financial institutions	-	385	1,683	2,068
Foreign governmental debt securities	-	-	710	710
<i>Net loans and advances to customers at amortized cost</i>				
Commercial loans	3,891,820	185,725	712,466	4,790,011
Consumer loans	2,168,812	48,025	92,315	2,309,152
Net loans and advances to related parties at amortized cost	24,175	568	3,290	28,033
Debtors by acceptances	215,144	1,827	85,968	302,939
<i>Financial assets at amortized cost:</i>				
Lebanese treasury bills	5,673,700	-	-	5,673,700
Certificates of deposit issued by the Central Bank of Lebanon	3,913,360	-	-	3,913,360
Foreign governmental debt securities	-	72,817	61,692	134,509
Debt securities issued by banks and financial institutions	-	190,004	309,397	499,401
Corporate bonds	-	914	5,088	6,002
Certificates of deposit issued by banks and financial institutions	33,147	-	-	33,147
	<u>22,587,508</u>	<u>1,521,078</u>	<u>3,841,938</u>	<u>27,950,524</u>

**50.3 LIQUIDITY RISK AND FUNDING MANAGEMENT**

Liquidity risk is defined as the risk that the Group will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities that are settled by delivering cash or another financial asset. Liquidity risk arises because of the possibility that the Group might be unable to meet its payment obligations when they fall due under both normal and stress circumstances. To limit this risk, management has arranged diversified funding sources in addition to its core deposit base, and adopted a policy of managing assets with liquidity in mind and of monitoring future cash flows and liquidity on a daily basis. The Group has developed internal control processes and contingency plans for managing liquidity risk. This incorporates an assessment of expected cash flows and the availability of high grade collateral which could be used to secure additional funding if required.

The Group maintains a portfolio of highly marketable and diverse assets that can be liquidated in the event of an unforeseen interruption of cash flow. As per applicable regulations, the Group must retain obligatory reserves with the central banks where the Group entities operate.

The liquidity position is assessed and managed under a variety of scenarios, giving due consideration to stress factors relating to both the market in general and specifically to the Group. The Group maintains a solid ratio of highly liquid net assets in foreign currencies to deposits and commitments in foreign currencies taking market conditions into consideration.

**50 RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)****50.3 LIQUIDITY RISK AND FUNDING MANAGEMENT (continued)**

The Group stresses the importance of customer deposits as source of funds to finance its lending activities. This is monitored by using the loans to deposits ratio, which compare loans and advances to customers as a percentage of deposits from customers.

Loans to deposits	2015	2014
Year-end	<b>29.64%</b>	30.08%
Maximum	<b>29.92%</b>	30.68%
Minimum	<b>29.26%</b>	30.08%
Average	<b>29.52%</b>	30.34%

*Analysis of financial assets and liabilities by remaining contractual maturities*

The table below summarizes the maturity profile of the Group's financial assets and liabilities at 31 December 2015 and 2014 based on contractual undiscounted repayment obligations. Repayments which are subject to notice are treated as if notice were to be given immediately. However, the Group expects that many customers will not request repayment on the earliest date the Group could be required to pay. The table does not reflect the expected cash flows that are in line with the Group's deposit retention history.

	2015					Total LL million
	Up to 1 month LL million	1 to 3 months LL million	3 months to 1 year LL million	1 to 5 years LL million	Over 5 years LL million	
<b>Financial assets</b>						
Cash and balances with central banks	1,817,126	305,626	1,018,598	2,638,117	3,364,411	9,143,878
Due from banks and financial institutions	2,212,285	198,783	99,400	8,247	203	2,518,918
Loans to banks and financial institutions and reverse repurchase agreements	569,080	94,147	531,673	11,240	-	1,206,140
Financial assets given as collateral	-	-	18	1,387	-	1,405
Derivative financial instruments	771	937	136	-	-	1,844
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	1,021	3,054	13,125	126,457	302,812	446,469
Net loans and advances to customers at amortized cost	3,195,437	496,741	1,225,752	1,871,122	1,369,959	8,159,011
Net loans and advances to related parties at amortized cost	19,682	1,403	6,370	1,678	7,418	36,551
Debtors by acceptances	94,542	74,217	75,946	-	-	244,705
Financial assets at amortized cost	178,996	217,533	1,443,336	6,561,231	5,267,321	13,668,417
Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income	-	-	-	-	101,907	101,907
<b>Total undiscounted financial assets</b>	<b>8,088,940</b>	<b>1,392,441</b>	<b>4,414,354</b>	<b>11,219,479</b>	<b>10,414,031</b>	<b>35,529,245</b>
<b>Financial liabilities</b>						
Due to central banks	12,301	1,422	10,212	59,798	38,307	122,040
Due to banks and financial institutions	357,936	67,758	103,357	162,494	96,352	787,897
Derivative financial instruments	1,220	1,143	82	-	-	2,445
Customers' deposits at amortized cost	14,043,037	3,076,352	4,831,504	3,023,720	292,080	25,266,693
Deposits from related parties at amortized cost	285,437	17,948	100,932	42,224	5,152	451,693
Debt issued and other borrowed funds	-	-	31,658	126,630	460,412	618,700
Engagements by acceptances	94,542	74,217	75,946	-	-	244,705
Subordinated debt	-	7,421	21,453	114,921	498,395	642,190
<b>Total undiscounted financial liabilities</b>	<b>14,794,473</b>	<b>3,246,261</b>	<b>5,175,144</b>	<b>3,529,787</b>	<b>1,390,698</b>	<b>28,136,363</b>
<b>Net undiscounted financial assets / (liabilities)</b>	<b>(6,705,533)</b>	<b>(1,853,820)</b>	<b>(760,790)</b>	<b>7,689,692</b>	<b>9,023,333</b>	<b>7,392,882</b>

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**50 RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)****50.3 LIQUIDITY RISK AND FUNDING MANAGEMENT (continued)***Analysis of financial assets and liabilities by remaining contractual maturities (continued)*

	2014					Total LL million
	Up to 1 month LL million	1 to 3 months LL million	3 months to 1 year LL million	1 to 5 years LL million	Over 5 years LL million	
Financial assets						
Cash and balances with central banks	2,412,387	26,749	631,903	2,523,953	3,593,026	9,188,018
Due from banks and financial institutions	2,573,021	225,691	114,868	-	-	2,913,580
Loans to banks and financial institutions and reverse repurchase agreements	114,348	131,768	116,499	35,830	-	398,445
Financial assets given as collateral	-	-	7,005	-	-	7,005
Derivative financial instruments	3,914	768	2,033	-	-	6,715
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	219	1,277	6,502	50,771	143,903	202,672
Net loans and advances to customers at amortized cost	3,044,456	588,427	1,193,239	1,842,754	1,063,796	7,732,672
Net loans and advances to related parties at amortized cost	18,142	1,071	913	4,688	4,532	29,346
Debtors by acceptances	105,505	116,814	80,620	-	-	302,939
Financial assets at amortized cost	152,330	368,138	1,227,931	6,293,896	5,280,320	13,322,615
Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income	-	-	-	-	98,718	98,718
<b>Total undiscounted financial assets</b>	<b>8,424,322</b>	<b>1,460,703</b>	<b>3,381,513</b>	<b>10,751,892</b>	<b>10,184,295</b>	<b>34,202,725</b>
Financial liabilities						
Due to central banks	9,394	547	10,739	34,554	18,247	73,481
Due to banks and financial institutions	374,240	182,403	128,338	188,316	77,872	951,169
Derivative financial instruments	4,150	327	950	-	-	5,427
Customers' deposits at amortized cost	13,724,877	2,823,203	5,084,265	2,182,138	74,048	23,888,531
Deposits from related parties at amortized cost	292,080	3,985	6,297	29,855	-	332,217
Debt issued and other borrowed funds	-	-	31,658	126,630	492,257	650,545
Engagements by acceptances	105,505	116,814	80,620	-	-	302,939
Subordinated debt	-	7,178	21,533	114,841	526,934	670,486
<b>Total undiscounted financial liabilities</b>	<b>14,510,246</b>	<b>3,134,457</b>	<b>5,364,400</b>	<b>2,676,334</b>	<b>1,189,358</b>	<b>26,874,795</b>
<b>Net undiscounted financial assets / (liabilities)</b>	<b>(6,085,924)</b>	<b>(1,673,754)</b>	<b>(1,982,887)</b>	<b>8,075,558</b>	<b>8,994,937</b>	<b>7,327,930</b>

The table below shows the contractual expiry by maturity of the Group's contingent liabilities and commitments. Each undrawn loan commitment is included in the time band containing the earliest date it can be drawn down.

	2015					Total LL million
	Less than 1 month LL million	1 to 3 months LL million	3 to 12 months LL million	1 to 5 years LL million	More than 5 years LL million	
Financial guarantees	824	-	109,205	95,874	63	205,966
Documentary credits	11,827	190,458	163,336	23,034	-	388,655
Commitments to lend	2,355,807	-	-	-	-	2,355,807
	<b>2,368,458</b>	<b>190,458</b>	<b>272,541</b>	<b>118,908</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>2,950,428</b>
	2014					Total LL million
	Less than 1 month LL million	1 to 3 months LL million	3 to 12 months LL million	1 to 5 years LL million	More than 5 years LL million	
Financial guarantees	302	755	112,135	72,566	-	185,758
Documentary credits	36,488	249,786	262,180	16,295	-	564,749
Commitments to lend	2,354,802	-	-	-	-	2,354,802
	<b>2,391,592</b>	<b>250,541</b>	<b>374,315</b>	<b>88,861</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,105,309</b>

The Group expects that not all of the contingent liabilities or commitments will be demanded before maturity.



**50 RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)****50.4 MARKET RISK**

Market risk is defined as the potential loss in both on balance sheet and off-balance sheet positions resulting from movements in market variables such as interest rates, foreign exchange rates and equity prices.

The market risk governance has been defined in the Security Investment Policy, which defines the roles and responsibilities of the key stakeholders of market risk management, including the Board, the ALCO committee, the business lines and risk functions.

It is the responsibility of the ALCO to manage the Group's investment portfolio under the terms of the Security Investment Policy. While striving to maximize portfolio performance, the ALCO shall keep the management of the portfolio within the bounds of good banking practices, satisfy the Group's liquidity needs, and ensure compliance with both regulatory and internally set limits and requirements.

The Group Risk Management division sets the framework necessary for identification, measurement and management of market risk.

**Interest rate risk**

Interest rate risk arises from the possibility that changes in interest rates will affect the fair values of the financial instruments. The Group is exposed to interest rate risk as a result of mismatches of interest rate re-pricing of assets and liabilities. The Group manages the risk by matching the re-pricing of assets and liabilities through risk management strategies. Positions are monitored on a daily basis by management and, whenever possible, hedging strategies are used to ensure positions are maintained within established limits. The Group measures interest rate risk through applying varying scenarios of increase and decrease of market interest rates and assessing their impact on net interest income (Earnings' perspective) and capital (Economic Value perspective). In 2015, the Bank has revised the interest rate risk policy to set new internal gap limits for local currency and foreign currencies. The Group has prudentially set an internal Pillar 2 capital charge against interest rate risk.

*Interest rate sensitivity*

The following table shows the sensitivity to a reasonably possible change in interest rates, with all other variables held constant, of the Group's income statement.

The sensitivity of the income statement is the effect of the assumed changes in interest rates on the profit or loss for a year, based on the floating rate financial assets and financial liabilities and to the reinvestment or refunding of fixed rate financial assets and liabilities at the assumed rates. The change in interest income is calculated over a 1-year period. The impact also incorporates the fact that some monetary items do not immediately respond to changes in interest rates and are not passed through in full, reflecting sticky interest rate behaviour. The pass-through rate and lag in response time are estimated based on historical statistical analysis and are reflected in the outcome.

<i>Currency</i>	<i>Increase in basis points</i>	<i>2015</i>	<i>2014</i>
		<i>Effect on net interest income LL million</i>	<i>Effect on net interest income LL million</i>
LBP	50 basis point	<b>(22,793)</b>	(20,492)
US Dollar	50 basis point	<b>1,326</b>	159
Euro	50 basis point	<b>(516)</b>	(1,078)

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**50 RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)****50.4 MARKET RISK (continued)****Interest rate risk (continued)***Interest rate sensitivity (continued)*

The Group's interest sensitivity position based on the contractual re-pricing date at 31 December was as follows:

	<i>2015</i>						
	<i>Up to 1 month</i>	<i>1 to 3 months</i>	<i>3 months to 1 year</i>	<i>1 to 5 years</i>	<i>Over 5 years</i>	<i>Non interest bearing items</i>	<i>Total</i>
	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>
<b>ASSETS</b>							
Cash and balances with central banks	593,939	278,888	759,431	1,732,125	2,607,941	1,263,913	7,236,237
Due from banks and financial institutions	1,426,515	198,624	98,799	8,247	203	785,977	2,518,365
Loans to banks and financial institutions and reverse repurchase agreements	564,883	93,613	523,453	10,221	-	4,877	1,197,047
Financial assets given as collateral	-	-	1,387	-	-	18	1,405
Derivative financial instruments	-	-	-	-	-	1,844	1,844
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	-	-	-	-	-	295,845	295,845
Net loans and advances to customers at amortized cost	3,209,766	714,202	2,230,013	1,001,021	193,876	50,763	7,399,641
Net loans and advances to related parties at amortized cost	19,660	1,346	6,088	1,272	6,801	108	35,275
Debtors by acceptances	-	-	-	-	-	244,705	244,705
Financial assets at amortized cost	134,494	134,765	996,733	4,740,067	4,352,685	157,770	10,516,514
Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income	-	-	-	-	-	101,907	101,907
Total	<u>5,949,257</u>	<u>1,421,438</u>	<u>4,615,904</u>	<u>7,492,953</u>	<u>7,161,506</u>	<u>2,907,727</u>	<u>29,548,785</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>							
Due to central banks	481	1,422	9,115	57,048	37,446	11,900	117,412
Due to banks and financial institutions	221,929	66,264	111,731	138,667	88,243	117,720	744,554
Derivative financial instruments	-	-	-	-	-	2,445	2,445
Customers' deposits at amortized cost	11,167,233	2,998,608	4,651,259	2,696,558	248,893	2,895,880	24,658,431
Deposits from related parties at amortized cost	282,421	16,363	93,725	25,548	890	2,769	421,716
Debt issued and other borrowed funds	-	-	-	-	444,583	616	445,199
Engagements by acceptances	-	-	-	-	-	244,705	244,705
Subordinated debt	-	-	-	-	417,237	163	417,400
Total	<u>11,672,064</u>	<u>3,082,657</u>	<u>4,865,830</u>	<u>2,917,821</u>	<u>1,237,292</u>	<u>3,276,198</u>	<u>27,051,862</u>
Total interest sensitivity gap	<u>(5,722,807)</u>	<u>(1,661,219)</u>	<u>(249,926)</u>	<u>4,575,132</u>	<u>5,924,214</u>	<u>(368,471)</u>	<u>2,496,923</u>

**50 RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)****50.4 MARKET RISK (continued)****Interest rate risk (continued)***Interest rate sensitivity (continued)*

	2014						
	<i>Up to 1 month LL million</i>	<i>1 to 3 months LL million</i>	<i>3 months to 1 year LL million</i>	<i>1 to 5 years LL million</i>	<i>Over 5 years LL million</i>	<i>Non interest bearing items LL million</i>	<i>Total LL million</i>
<b>ASSETS</b>							
Cash and balances with central banks	1,269,880	-	376,875	1,581,375	2,635,580	1,185,075	7,048,785
Due from banks and financial institutions	1,046,034	225,532	114,528	-	-	1,527,185	2,913,279
Loans to banks and financial institutions and reverse repurchase agreements	165,960	87,997	107,305	32,450	-	-	393,712
Financial assets given as collateral	-	-	6,915	-	-	90	7,005
Derivative financial instruments	-	-	-	-	-	6,715	6,715
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	-	-	-	-	-	155,582	155,582
Net loans and advances to customers at amortized cost	3,235,005	743,263	2,072,263	962,736	134,388	(48,492)	7,099,163
Net loans and advances to related parties at amortized cost	26,217	-	-	-	1,816	-	28,033
Debtors by acceptances	-	-	-	-	-	302,939	302,939
Financial assets at amortized cost	147,952	351,006	798,345	4,556,327	4,267,055	139,434	10,260,119
Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income	-	-	-	-	-	98,718	98,718
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,891,048</b>	<b>1,407,798</b>	<b>3,476,231</b>	<b>7,132,888</b>	<b>7,038,839</b>	<b>3,367,246</b>	<b>28,314,050</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>							
Due to central banks	32	1	5,697	8,712	47,357	9,347	71,146
Due to banks and financial institutions	186,596	176,569	99,805	134,151	160,657	153,395	911,173
Derivative financial instruments	-	-	-	-	-	5,427	5,427
Customers' deposits at amortized cost	10,975,572	2,737,367	4,874,817	1,944,739	68,655	2,776,639	23,377,789
Deposits from related parties at amortized cost	253,422	1,431	6,984	12,461	-	38,515	312,813
Debt issued and other borrowed funds	-	-	-	-	444,771	616	445,387
Engagements by acceptances	-	-	-	-	-	302,939	302,939
Subordinated debt	-	-	-	-	414,498	82	414,580
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,415,622</b>	<b>2,915,368</b>	<b>4,987,303</b>	<b>2,100,063</b>	<b>1,135,938</b>	<b>3,286,960</b>	<b>25,841,254</b>
<b>Total interest sensitivity gap</b>	<b>(5,524,574)</b>	<b>(1,507,570)</b>	<b>(1,511,072)</b>	<b>5,032,825</b>	<b>5,902,901</b>	<b>80,286</b>	<b>2,472,796</b>

**Currency risk**

Foreign exchange (or currency) risk is the risk that the value of a portfolio will fall as a result of changes in foreign exchange rates. The major sources of this type of market risk are imperfect correlations in the movements of currency prices and fluctuations in interest rates. Therefore, exchange rates and relevant interest rates are acknowledged as distinct risk factors.

In addition to regulatory limits, the Board has set limits on positions by currency. These positions are monitored constantly to ensure they are maintained within established limits.

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**50 RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)****50.4 MARKET RISK (continued)****Currency risk (continued)**

Following is the consolidated statement of financial position as of 31 December 2015 detailed in Lebanese Lira (LL) and foreign currencies, translated into LL.

	<b>2015</b>		
	<i>LL million</i>	<i>Foreign currencies in LL million</i>	<i>Total LL million</i>
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Cash and balances with central banks	1,606,601	5,629,636	7,236,237
Due from banks and financial institutions	39,443	2,478,922	2,518,365
Loans to banks and financial institutions and reverse repurchase agreements	2,333	1,194,714	1,197,047
Financial assets given as collateral	1,405	-	1,405
Derivative financial instruments	1,520	324	1,844
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	38,062	257,783	295,845
Net loans and advances to customers at amortized cost	1,815,180	5,584,461	7,399,641
Net loans and advances to related parties at amortized cost	2,220	33,055	35,275
Debtors by acceptances	100	244,605	244,705
Financial assets at amortized cost	7,317,616	3,198,898	10,516,514
Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income	28,891	73,016	101,907
Property and equipment	207,071	48,054	255,125
Intangible assets	493	-	493
Assets obtained in settlement of debt	(9,248)	51,254	42,006
Other assets	69,713	38,288	108,001
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>11,121,400</b>	<b>18,833,010</b>	<b>29,954,410</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>			
Due to central banks	106,130	11,282	117,412
Due to banks and financial institutions	18,460	726,094	744,554
Derivative financial instruments	1,897	548	2,445
Customers' deposits at amortized cost	9,620,285	15,038,146	24,658,431
Deposits from related parties at amortized cost	97,896	323,820	421,716
Debt issued and other borrowed funds	-	445,199	445,199
Engagement by acceptances	100	244,605	244,705
Other liabilities	87,711	59,856	147,567
Provisions for risks and charges	144,945	26,593	171,538
Subordinated debt	-	417,400	417,400
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>10,077,424</b>	<b>17,293,543</b>	<b>27,370,967</b>
<b>EQUITY ATTRIBUTABLE TO EQUITY HOLDERS OF THE PARENT</b>			
Share capital – common shares	684,273	-	684,273
Share capital – preferred shares	4,840	-	4,840
Share premium – common shares	-	229,014	229,014
Share premium – preferred shares	-	591,083	591,083
Non distributable reserves	606,908	208,976	815,884
Distributable reserves	78,547	20,664	99,211
Treasury shares	-	(6,807)	(6,807)
Retained earnings	48,590	13,242	61,832
Revaluation reserve of real estate	5,689	-	5,689
Change in fair value of financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income	18,863	(26,824)	(7,961)
Net results of the financial period - profit	210,125	18,060	228,185
Foreign currency translation reserves	(193,842)	-	(193,842)
<b>NON-CONTROLLING INTERESTS</b>	<b>25,497</b>	<b>46,545</b>	<b>72,042</b>
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<b>1,489,490</b>	<b>1,093,953</b>	<b>2,583,443</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	<b>11,566,914</b>	<b>18,387,496</b>	<b>29,954,410</b>

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**50 RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)****50.4 MARKET RISK (continued)****Currency risk (continued)**

Following is the consolidated statement of financial position as of 31 December 2014 detailed in Lebanese Lira (LL) and foreign currencies, translated into LL.

	<i>2014</i>		
	<i>LL million</i>	<i>Foreign currencies in LL million</i>	<i>Total LL million</i>
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Cash and balances with central banks	1,558,455	5,490,330	7,048,785
Due from banks and financial institutions	41,233	2,872,046	2,913,279
Loans to banks and financial institutions and reverse repurchase agreements	3,852	389,860	393,712
Financial assets given as collateral	7,005	-	7,005
Derivative financial instruments	4,656	2,059	6,715
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	31,051	124,531	155,582
Net loans and advances to customers at amortized cost	1,643,551	5,455,612	7,099,163
Net loans and advances to related parties at amortized cost	2,335	25,698	28,033
Debtors by acceptances	-	302,939	302,939
Financial assets at amortized cost	7,103,440	3,156,679	10,260,119
Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income	26,309	72,409	98,718
Property and equipment	185,643	50,736	236,379
Intangible assets	652	-	652
Assets obtained in settlement of debt	(9,346)	46,023	36,677
Other assets	58,859	47,921	106,780
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>10,657,695</b>	<b>18,036,843</b>	<b>28,694,538</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>			
Due to central banks	61,724	9,422	71,146
Due to banks and financial institutions	22,996	888,177	911,173
Derivative financial instruments	5,010	417	5,427
Customers' deposits at amortized cost	9,238,897	14,138,892	23,377,789
Deposits from related parties at amortized cost	85,003	227,810	312,813
Debt issued and other borrowed funds	-	445,387	445,387
Engagement by acceptances	-	302,939	302,939
Other liabilities	103,553	60,350	163,903
Provisions for risks and charges	133,146	12,283	145,429
Subordinated debt	-	414,580	414,580
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>9,650,329</b>	<b>16,500,257</b>	<b>26,150,586</b>
<b>EQUITY ATTRIBUTABLE TO EQUITY HOLDERS OF THE PARENT</b>			
Share capital – common shares	684,273	-	684,273
Share capital – preferred shares	4,840	-	4,840
Share premium – common shares	-	229,014	229,014
Share premium – preferred shares	-	591,083	591,083
Non distributable reserves	563,839	185,040	748,879
Distributable reserves	76,482	19,461	95,943
Treasury shares	-	(6,425)	(6,425)
Retained earnings	38,137	1,762	39,899
Revaluation reserve of real estate	5,689	-	5,689
Change in fair value of financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income	16,986	(24,519)	(7,533)
Net results of the financial period - profit	226,100	26,692	252,792
Foreign currency translation reserves	(164,357)	-	(164,357)
<b>NON-CONTROLLING INTERESTS</b>	<b>21,886</b>	<b>47,969</b>	<b>69,855</b>
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<b>1,473,875</b>	<b>1,070,077</b>	<b>2,543,952</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	<b>11,124,204</b>	<b>17,570,334</b>	<b>28,694,538</b>

**50 RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)****50.4 MARKET RISK (continued)****Currency risk (continued)***Group's sensitivity to currency exchange rates*

The table below shows the currencies to which the Group had significant exposure at 31 December on its monetary assets and liabilities and its forecasted cash flows. The analysis calculates the effect of a reasonably possible movement of the currency rate against the Lebanese Lira, with all other variables held constant, on the income statement (due to the potential change in fair value of currency sensitive monetary assets and liabilities) and equity (due to the impact of currency translation gains/losses of consolidated subsidiaries). A negative amount reflects a potential net reduction in income while a positive amount reflects a net potential increase.

Currency	Change in currency rate %	2015		2014	
		Effect on profit before tax LL million	Effect on equity LL million	Effect on profit before tax LL million	Effect on equity LL million
US Dollar	+1	671	-	826	-
Euro	+1	37	1,285	27	1,341
SYP	+1	-	714	-	718

**Equity price risk**

Equity price risk is the risk that the fair value of equities decreases as a result of changes in the level of equity indices and individual stocks. Equity price risk exposure arises from equity securities classified at fair value through profit or loss and at fair value through other comprehensive income. A 5 per cent increase in the value of the Group's equities at 31 December 2015 would have increased other comprehensive income by LL 2,412 million and net income by LL 1,783 million (2014: LL 2,549 million and LL 1,797 million respectively). An equivalent decrease would have resulted in an equivalent but opposite impact.

**Prepayment risk**

Prepayment risk is the risk that the Group will incur a financial loss because its customers and counterparties repay or request repayment earlier or later than expected, such as fixed rate mortgages when interest rates fall.

Market risks that lead to prepayments are not material with respect to the markets where the Group operates. Accordingly, the Group considers prepayment risk on net profits as not material after considering any penalties arising from prepayments.

**50.5 OPERATIONAL RISK**

Operational risk is the risk of loss arising from inadequate or failed internal processes, people, systems, or from external events (including legal risks). When controls fail to perform, operational risks can cause damage to reputation, have legal or regulatory implications, or lead to financial losses.

To reduce operational risk, the Group has developed an Operational Risk Management framework with the objective of ensuring that operational risks within the component of the framework is a set of core operational risk policies designed to ensure that operational risk has proper governance, and that it is maintained at an acceptable level with a controlled and sound operating environment. The operational risk publications and guidelines were placed on the Bank's intranet site for quick access and referrals. The critical operational risk issues were handled by a separate Operational Risk Committee which meetings are attended by business lines Senior Managers including the Chief Risk Officer and the General Manager.

**50 RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)****50.5 OPERATIONAL RISK (continued)**

The framework for managing and controlling operational risks encompass various tools including Risk and Control Assessment (RCA), operational risk event and key risk indicators (KRIs). The RCA is used by each business and support unit to identify key operational risks and assess the degree of effectiveness of internal controls. Inadequate controls are subject to action plans that will help track and timely resolve deficiencies. This tool is subject to a proactive approach to minimize operational risk loss. This is reflected in the operational risk assessment of new products/activities/systems, protective information security and Business Continuity Planning, granular risk analysis for its operating/existing activities, and continuous awareness sessions.

Operational risk events are classified in accordance with Basel standards and include significant incidents that may impact the Group's profits and reputations for further mitigation and avoidance. As to key risk indicators, they are employed to facilitate the operational risk monitoring in a forward looking manner with pre-defined escalation triggers. The Group gives particular attention to prevention measures when it comes to operational risk management and has established continuing training and awareness programs to fulfill them.

The Group's operational risk mitigation program involves both business continuity management and insurance management program, whereby the former is set to oversee the business continuity of essential business service during unforeseen events mainly business disruption and system failures events - with enterprise wide impact – along with natural disasters and terrorism/ vandalism events. As to the latter the Group purchases group wide insurance policies to mitigate significant losses. These policies cover fraud, property damage and general liability, and Director's and officers' liability.

**51 MATURITY ANALYSIS OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**

The table below shows an analysis of assets and liabilities analysed according to when they are expected to be recovered or settled.

(Amounts in LL million)	2015							
	Less than 12 months				Over 12 months			
	Up to 1 month	1 to 3 months	3 months to 1 year	Total	1 to 5 years	Over 5 years	Total	Total
<b>ASSETS</b>								
Cash and balances with central banks	1,807,726	289,849	789,491	2,887,066	1,733,644	2,615,527	4,349,171	7,236,237
Due from banks and financial institutions	2,211,881	198,693	99,341	2,509,915	8,247	203	8,450	2,518,365
Loans to banks and financial institutions and reverse repurchase agreements	568,681	93,805	524,340	1,186,826	10,221	-	10,221	1,197,047
Financial assets given as collateral	-	-	18	18	1,387	-	1,387	1,405
Derivative financial instruments	771	937	136	1,844	-	-	-	1,844
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	903	2,092	1,519	4,514	63,174	228,157	291,331	295,845
Net loans and advances to customers at amortized cost	3,180,288	458,245	1,095,302	4,733,835	1,519,227	1,146,579	2,665,806	7,399,641
Net loans and advances to related parties at amortized cost	19,662	1,365	6,174	27,201	1,273	6,801	8,074	35,275
Debtors by acceptances	94,542	74,217	75,946	244,705	-	-	-	244,705
Financial assets at amortized cost	175,409	186,507	978,340	1,340,256	4,805,040	4,371,218	9,176,258	10,516,51
Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income	-	-	-	-	-	101,907	101,907	101,907
Property and equipment	-	-	-	-	-	255,125	255,125	255,125
Intangible assets	-	-	-	-	-	493	493	493
Assets obtained in settlement of debt	-	-	-	-	-	42,006	42,006	42,006
Other assets	23,164	176	65,663	89,003	11	18,987	18,998	108,001
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>8,083,027</b>	<b>1,305,886</b>	<b>3,636,270</b>	<b>13,025,183</b>	<b>8,142,224</b>	<b>8,787,003</b>	<b>16,929,22</b>	<b>29,954,41</b>
							<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>								
Due to central banks	12,300	1,422	9,195	22,917	57,048	37,447	94,495	117,412
Due to banks and financial institutions	337,011	67,118	113,515	517,644	138,667	88,243	226,910	744,554
Derivative financial instruments	1,220	1,143	82	2,445	-	-	-	2,445
Customers' deposits at amortized cost	14,014,718	3,023,536	4,655,746	21,694,000	2,714,026	250,405	2,964,431	24,658,43
Deposits from related parties at amortized cost	284,817	16,447	93,939	395,203	25,613	900	26,513	421,716
Debt issued and other borrowed funds	-	-	615	615	-	444,584	444,584	445,199
Engagements by acceptances	94,542	74,217	75,946	244,705	-	-	-	244,705
Other liabilities	57,155	1,479	66,136	124,770	18,263	4,534	22,797	147,567

## Byblos Bank SAL

Provisions for risks and charges	-	-	-	-	-	171,538	171,538	171,538
Subordinated debt	-	163	-	163	-	417,237	417,237	417,400
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>14,801,763</b>	<b>3,185,525</b>	<b>5,015,174</b>	<b>23,002,462</b>	<b>2,953,617</b>	<b>1,414,888</b>	<b>4,368,505</b>	<b>27,370,967</b>
Net	(6,718,736)	(1,879,639)	(1,378,904)	(9,977,279)	5,188,607	7,372,115	12,560,722	2,583,443

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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### 51 MATURITY ANALYSIS OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES (continued)

(Amounts in LL million)	2014							
	Less than 12 months				Over 12 months			
	Up to 1 month	1 to 3 months	3 months to 1 year	Total	1 to 5 years	Over 5 years	Total	Total
<b>ASSETS</b>								
Cash and balances with central banks	2,403,232	10,953	407,122	2,821,307	1,583,336	2,644,142	4,227,478	7,048,785
Due from banks and financial institutions	2,572,980	225,641	114,658	2,913,279	-	-	-	2,913,279
Loans to banks and financial institutions and reverse repurchase agreements	114,299	131,270	115,693	361,262	32,450	-	32,450	393,712
Financial assets given as collateral	-	-	7,005	7,005	-	-	-	7,005
Derivative financial instruments	3,914	768	2,033	6,715	-	-	-	6,715
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	190	756	746	1,692	24,062	129,828	153,890	155,582
Net loans and advances to customers at amortized cost	3,031,407	552,847	1,084,448	4,668,702	1,562,682	867,779	2,430,461	7,099,163
Net loans and advances to related parties at amortized cost	18,127	1,020	813	19,960	4,244	3,829	8,073	28,033
Debtors by acceptances	105,505	116,814	80,620	302,939	-	-	-	302,939
Financial assets at amortized cost	173,758	389,994	811,538	1,375,290	4,578,409	4,306,420	8,884,829	10,260,119
Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income	-	-	-	-	-	98,718	98,718	98,718
Property and equipment	-	-	-	-	-	236,379	236,379	236,379
Intangible assets	-	-	-	-	-	652	652	652
Assets obtained in settlement of debt	-	-	-	-	-	36,677	36,677	36,677
Other assets	4,780	26	61,827	66,633	-	40,147	40,147	106,780
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>8,428,192</b>	<b>1,430,089</b>	<b>2,686,503</b>	<b>12,544,784</b>	<b>7,785,183</b>	<b>8,364,571</b>	<b>16,149,754</b>	<b>28,694,538</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>								
Due to central banks	9,394	546	10,226	20,166	33,358	17,622	50,980	71,146
Due to banks and financial institutions	370,047	181,578	120,623	672,248	166,351	72,574	238,925	911,173
Derivative financial instruments	4,150	327	950	5,427	-	-	-	5,427
Customers' deposits at amortized cost	13,667,419	2,766,219	4,918,081	21,351,719	1,956,827	69,243	2,026,070	23,377,789
Deposits from related parties at amortized cost	291,393	1,852	7,068	300,313	12,500	-	12,500	312,813
Debt issued and other borrowed funds	-	-	616	616	-	444,771	444,771	445,387
Engagements by acceptances	105,505	116,814	80,620	302,939	-	-	-	302,939
Other liabilities	50,898	1,652	85,078	137,628	22,439	3,836	26,275	163,903
Provisions for risks and charges	-	-	-	-	-	145,429	145,429	145,429
Subordinated debt	-	82	-	82	-	414,498	414,498	414,580
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>14,498,806</b>	<b>3,069,070</b>	<b>5,223,262</b>	<b>22,791,138</b>	<b>2,191,475</b>	<b>1,167,973</b>	<b>3,359,448</b>	<b>26,150,586</b>
Net	(6,070,614)	(1,638,981)	(2,536,759)	(10,246,354)	5,593,708	7,196,598	12,790,306	2,543,952

### 52 CAPITAL

By maintaining an actively managed capital base, the Group's objectives are to cover risks inherent in the business, to retain sufficient financial strength and flexibility to support new business growth, and to meet national and international regulatory capital requirements at all times. The adequacy of the Group's capital is monitored using, among other measures, the rules and ratios established by the Central Bank of Lebanon according to the provisions of Basic Circular No 44. These ratios measure capital adequacy by comparing the Group's eligible capital with its statement of financial position assets and off-balance sheet commitments at a weighted amount to reflect their relative risk.



## Byblos Bank SAL

To satisfy Basel III capital requirements, the Central Bank of Lebanon requires maintaining the following ratios of total regulatory capital to risk-weighted assets to be achieved gradually by year-end 2015 as follows:

	<b>Common Tier 1 capital ratio</b>	<b>Tier 1 capital ratio</b>	<b>Total capital ratio</b>
Year ended 31 December 2013	6.0 %	8.5 %	10.5 %
Year ended 31 December 2014	7.0 %	9.5 %	11.5 %
Year ended 31 December 2015	8.0 %	10.0 %	12.0 %

31 December 2015

**52 CAPITAL (continued)****Risk weighted assets**

As of 31 December 2015 and 2014, risk weighted assets are as follows:

	<i>2015</i>	<i>2014</i>
	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>
<b>Risk weighted assets</b>	<b>15,522,429</b>	15,810,239

**Regulatory capital**

At 31 December 2015 and 2014, regulatory capital consists of the following:

	<i>Excluding profit for the year</i>		<i>Including profit for the year less proposed dividends</i>	
	<i>2015</i>	<i>2014</i>	<i>2015</i>	<i>2014</i>
	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>
Common Tier 1 capital	<b>1,627,304</b>	1,568,174	<b>1,693,938</b>	1,659,415
Additional Tier 1 capital	<b>599,978</b>	601,580	<b>599,978</b>	601,580
Tier 2 capital	<b>465,603</b>	463,616	<b>465,603</b>	463,616
<b>Total capital</b>	<b>2,692,885</b>	2,633,370	<b>2,759,519</b>	2,724,611

**Capital adequacy ratio**

As of 31 December 2015 and 2014, capital adequacy ratio is as follows:

	<i>Excluding profit for the year</i>		<i>Including profit for the year less proposed dividends</i>	
	<i>2015</i>	<i>2014</i>	<i>2015</i>	<i>2014</i>
Common Tier 1 capital	<b>10.48%</b>	9.92%	<b>10.91%</b>	10.50%
Total Tier 1 capital ratio	<b>14.35%</b>	13.72%	<b>14.78%</b>	14.30%
Total capital ratio	<b>17.35%</b>	16.66%	<b>17.78%</b>	17.23%

The Group manages its capital structure and makes adjustments to it in the light of changes in economic conditions and the risk characteristics of its activities. In order to maintain or adjust the capital structure, the Group may adjust the amount of dividend payment to shareholders, return capital to shareholders or issue capital securities. No changes were made in the objectives, policies and processes from the previous years, however, they are under constant scrutiny of the Board.

**53 DIVIDENDS PAID AND PROPOSED**

	<i>2015</i>	<i>2014</i>
	<i>LL million</i>	<i>LL million</i>
<i>Dividends paid during the year</i>		
Equity dividends on ordinary shares LL 200 per share	<b>113,103</b>	113,103
Distributions to preferred shares – 2008 series US\$ 8.00 per share	<b>24,224</b>	24,224
Distributions to preferred shares – 2009 series: US\$ 8.00 per share	<b>24,224</b>	24,224
	<hr/> <b>161,551</b>	<hr/> 161,551
Less: dividends on treasury shares	<b>(448)</b>	(539)
	<hr/> <b>161,103</b>	<hr/> 161,012
<i>Proposed for approval at Annual General Assembly</i>		
<i>(not recognized as a liability as at 31 December)</i>		
Equity dividends on ordinary shares LL 200 per share	<b>113,103</b>	113,103
Distributions to preferred shares – 2008 series US\$ 8.00 per share	<b>24,224</b>	24,224
Distributions to preferred shares – 2009 series: US\$ 8.00 per share	<b>24,224</b>	24,224
	<hr/> <b>161,551</b>	<hr/> 161,551

**54 EVENTS AFTER THE REPORTING PERIOD**

During 2016, the Bank signed sale and purchase agreements to acquire no less than 75% of the voting shares of Banque Pharaon et Chiha SAL, an unlisted bank based in Lebanon, for a total consideration of US\$ 91 million. On the other hand, the Bank provided certain shareholders of Banque Pharaon et Chiha SAL an option to subscribe in the capital increase that will be performed by the Bank for this purpose, in the amount equivalent to the overall consideration of US\$ 91 million, exercisable within six months from the date of the final registration of the transferred shares in the name of Byblos Bank SAL in the records of Midclear SAL. The Bank has requested and is awaiting the approval of the Central Bank of Lebanon to be able to proceed with the completion of this transaction.