



LIQUID TELECOMMUNICATIONS HOLDINGS LIMITED
("the Group", "Liquid" or "Liquid Intelligent Technologies")

FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR SECOND QUARTER AND FIRST HALF ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Good momentum; continued strong growth excluding the impact of FX movements

19 October 2023

Leading pan-African technology solutions group, Liquid Intelligent Technologies, a business of Cassava Technologies, announces financial results for the second quarter and first half ended 31 August 2023

Strategic highlights:

- Liquid Network launched the Gaborone metro ring, enabling better connectivity for enterprise customers in Botswana
- Liquid C2 is accelerating the deployment of the Microsoft Azure Stack infrastructure across Africa and was named Microsoft partner of the year in Côte d'Ivoire
- Liquid Dataport committed to new fibre routes connecting Angola and Zambia and a subsea cable enhancing connectivity between Mauritius and South Africa

Financial highlights:

- Reported revenue grew 13.7% year-on-year in the first half and 5.5% year-on-year in the second quarter driven by strong performances across the Group, notably in the C2 and Network segments
 - In South Africa, excluding the impact of FX, total revenue grew 17.1% in the first half and 20.5% in the second quarter, reflecting improved momentum
- Adjusted EBITDA increased 25.9% year-on-year in the first half to USD 121.7 million driven by broad based growth across the Group
- Cash generated from operations decreased 21.6% year-on-year in the first half to USD 86.2 million due to increased prepayments to mitigate FX and higher IRU receivables in the first quarter
- Net debt² amounted to USD 882.5 million, leading to a net debt to adjusted EBITDA^{1,2,3} of 3.36x, broadly in line with the prior year

Group Financials	For the six-month period ended:			For the three-month period ended:		
	H1 2023-24	H1 2022-23	YoY	Q2 2023-24	Q2 2022-23	YoY
	(USDm)	(USDm)	(%)	(USDm)	(USDm)	(%)
Revenue	327.0	287.5	13.7	152.4	144.5	5.5
Adjusted EBITDA	121.7	96.7	25.9	50.7	50.5	0.4
Cash generated from operations	86.2	110.0	(21.6)	45.4	70.9	(36.0)
Net debt	882.5	813.0	8.5	882.5	813.0	8.5
Net debt / Adjusted EBITDA (x)	3.36	3.31	n/a	3.36	3.31	n/a

¹ Adjusted EBITDA is defined as earnings before interest, taxation, depreciation, impairment and amortisation, and is also presented before recognising the following items: gain on bargain purchase, gain on disposal of investments at Fair Value Through Other Comprehensive Income acquisition and other investment costs, fair value gain on derivative assets, net foreign exchange (loss)/gain, hyperinflation monetary gain and share of profit from associate.

² Net debt is defined as gross debt less unrestricted cash and cash equivalents.

³ Adjusted EBITDA for the last twelve months.

Chief Executive Officer, Hardy Pemhiwa, commented:

“I am pleased that against the backdrop of a challenging operating environment, we delivered another good revenue performance in the second quarter with continued strong underlying growth. As I detailed during our full year 2022/23 results presentation, we continue to benefit from our refreshed go-to-market strategy in South Africa. It was particularly satisfying that we not only delivered another quarter of strong local currency growth, but that it accelerated, up from 13.7% in the first quarter to 20.5% in the second.

In terms of strategic execution, it was also another quarter of continued progress with notable achievements including Liquid Network’s launch of the Gaborone metro ring, a world-class, high-capacity, high-speed, and secure network that will empower local businesses, providing a significant boost to Botswana’s digital transformation.

Our Cloud and Cyber security business, Liquid C2, is accelerating the deployment of the Microsoft Azure Stack infrastructure across Africa. These services provide businesses with turnkey solutions to deploy hybrid cloud infrastructure, enabling businesses to access cloud solutions that meet local data regulatory requirements and more efficiently run latency-sensitive applications.

In addition, Liquid C2, through our Cloudmania channel, was named Microsoft’s partner of the year in Côte d'Ivoire, in only our second year of operations in that market.”

Group Chairman, Strive Masiyiwa, added:

“This has been a strong first half for Liquid as the business continued to leverage on its high quality and unparalleled fibre broadband network to drive the penetration of value-added digital services to businesses and consumers across Africa.

This pan-African delivery of digital services was evident in the second quarter with initiatives such as Liquid C2’s omni-channel cloud contact centre solution now available to clients in Zimbabwe, Zambia, Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda, and South Africa. Furthermore, Liquid Dataport continued to lead in driving cross-border affordable internet services, positively impacting the lives of millions of people with the expansion of our fibre backbone to directly connect Luanda, Angola and Lusaka, Zambia.

Finally, and although I have previously highlighted our intention to publish our first, external, sustainability report, I am pleased that we delivered on our promise to publish this report in July. Feedback has been very positive. Given the importance of operating our business in a manner that benefits the communities in which we operate whilst protecting the environment, we will continue to build out our sustainability strategy in support of the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals.”

There will be an investor call at 14:00 BST today, further details can be found on our website.

For further information please contact:

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About Liquid Intelligent Technologies

Liquid Intelligent Technologies is a business of Cassava Technologies, a pan-African technology group with operations in over 25 countries in Africa. Liquid has firmly established itself as the leading provider of pan-African digital infrastructure with a 100,000+ km-long fibre broadband network and satellite connectivity that provides high-speed access to the Internet anywhere in Africa. Liquid is also leveraging its digital network to provide Cloud and Cyber Security solutions through strategic partnerships with leading global players. Liquid is a comprehensive technology solutions group that provides customised digital solutions to public and private sector enterprises and SMEs across the continent. <https://www.liquid.tech/>

OPERATIONAL AND FINANCIAL REVIEW

Liquid Intelligent Technologies is a technology, broadband data connectivity and digital solutions provider to enterprise and retail customers across more than 25 countries primarily in Central, Eastern and Southern Africa.

Key performance indicators (KPIs)

The following table sets out the Group's key performance indicators:

Key performance indicators	FY 2022-23					FY 2023-24	
	Q1 2022-23	Q2 2022-23	Q3 2022-23	Q4 2022-23	FY 2022-23	Q1 2023-24	Q2 2023-24
Total fibre network (Kms) ¹	102,559	102,722	103,794	104,353	104,353	106,037	107,597
Average churn rate (%) ²	0.66%	0.87%	0.83%	0.77%	0.78%	0.53%	0.45%
Monthly recurring revenue (%) ³	89.6%	90.6%	92.7%	77.3%	87.1%	88.0%	88.8%
Cloud seats YoY growth (%) ⁴	53.6%	62.3%	59.0%	73.0%	73.0%	66.6%	50.2%
Total capacity on subsea assets (Gbps) ⁵	821	834	1,034	1,034	1,034	3,104	3,125

¹ Total fibre network in kilometres (incl. backbone, metro and FTTH) through which fibre is installed. Multiple kilometres of fibre cables or ducts within the same trench/overhead line are counted individually. Includes both owned and leased capacity through partnerships.

² Average churn rate represents the monthly recurring revenue that was lost during the period following a price reduction or termination of service due to disconnections, downgrades, price reduction and non-renewals, divided by the total revenue for the period.

³ Monthly recurring revenue is the total of all recurring revenue usage in the period normalised into a monthly amount and expressed as a percentage of total revenue in the same period.

⁴ Year-on-year growth for the equivalent period in the number of paid for Cloud license seats.

⁵ Capacity, in gigabits per second, purchased by, activated by, or reserved for, Liquid Intelligent Technologies on subsea cables (incl. IRUs).

The increase in the fibre network in the second quarter of 1,560 kilometres resulted from the expansion in South Africa related to the Eastern and Western Cape Government contracts and smaller increases in a number of our territories.

Delivering on our customer satisfaction promise remains integral to our long-term success. We remain relentlessly committed to providing value to our customers via competitive and comprehensive high-quality solutions. As a result, our market leading churn remained below 1%, improving slightly to 0.45% in the second quarter versus 0.53% in Q1 FY 2023-24, a significant improvement on the same period in the prior year.

We maintained a high level of monthly recurring revenue (MRR) during the second quarter at 88.8%, broadly flat on the equivalent period last year (Q2 FY 2022-23: 90.6%). We remain focused on driving MRR growth to deliver more consistent and predictable revenue streams.

Our year-on-year growth in Cloud seats was 50.2% in the second quarter, driven by the strong performance of Cloudmania in Rest of World as well as underlying market growth. This is a key part of our strategy of delivering digital solutions to existing and new customers over our digital infrastructure.

Subsea capacity increased marginally to 3,125 Gbps in the second quarter.

Segments

Network - These revenue streams are at the core of the company and this segment includes revenue from all our owned and leased fibre infrastructure, including the long-haul Cape to Cairo, East to West and South Africa NLD (National Long Distance) routes as well as Metro and FTTH networks.

C2 - This encompasses our cloud and cyber security offerings including managed services, as this segment grows it will include other complementary digital products.

Dataport - This segment includes revenue from agreements with subsea cable providers, satellite services, hosting of landing stations and providing the gateway to large, global network provision agreements.

Voice - This segment is primarily revenue from international voice interconnects between mobile network operators and international telecom carriers into and out of Africa.

Revenue

 Revenue by Segment	For the six-month period ended:			For the three-month period ended:		
	H1 2023-24	H1 2022-23	YoY	Q2 2023-24	Q2 2022-23	YoY
	(USDm)	(USDm)	(%)	(USDm)	(USDm)	(%)
Network	229.9	200.2	14.8	103.8	100.6	3.2
C2	46.0	33.9	35.7	25.7	17.7	45.2
Dataport	21.1	19.0	11.1	8.2	10.0	(18.0)
Voice	30.0	34.4	(12.8)	14.7	16.2	(9.3)
Total Revenue	327.0	287.5	13.7	152.4	144.5	5.5

Total revenue in the second quarter was USD 152.4 million (Q2 FY 2022-23: USD 144.5 million), an increase of 5.5% year-on-year, which was driven by the strong performances in C2 and Network offset by the ongoing volume decline in Voice. On a geographic basis, South Africa, Zimbabwe and the DRC were the main contributors to the growth. This was partly offset by adverse exchange rate impacts, in particular in South Africa, excluding this headwind (USD 7.5 million) total revenue would have increased by 10.8% in the quarter (Q2 FY 2023-24 average rate of 18.55 compared to Q2 FY 2022-23 average rate of 16.42). Furthermore, excluding the adverse FX movements in the Zambian Kwacha and Kenya Shilling, growth would have been 13.2%.

If we exclude the Zimbabwean operations, the FX impact in South Africa as well as the Voice segment, total revenue increased by 13.0% in the quarter. In addition to the local currency Network growth in South Africa, the C2 segment continued to grow strongly in all our geographic segments, most notably in South Africa and Rest of World, with the latter offset by the ongoing decline in Voice.

On a year-to-date basis, total revenue was USD 327.0 million, 13.7% higher year-on-year (Q2 YTD 2022-23: USD 287.5 million) driven by strong performances in Network, C2 and Dataport offset by the ongoing decline in voice. In South Africa, the impact of the adverse exchange rate movement in the first half amounted to a headwind of USD 18.3 million year-on-year, with the strong underlying growth, 20.1% for the Group and 17.1% for South Africa, driven by particularly strong performances in the Network and C2 segments.

In the first half, the Zimbabwean business was successful in partly mitigating the FX risk by obtaining and implementing two price increases granted by the country's telecommunications regulator. Together with other local industry players, we continue to lobby the regulator to implement USD linked pricing. We remain confident that we will achieve this in due course. Excluding the Zimbabwean operations, the Voice segment and the adverse exchange rate movement in South Africa, total revenue growth would have increased by 16.8% in the first half.

Network

Network revenue in the second quarter, which includes all intra- and inter-country fibre activity, increased by 3.2% year-on-year to USD 103.8 million, (Q2 FY 2022-23: USD 100.6 million), however, excluding Zimbabwe and the exchange rate impact in South Africa, it increased by 10.6%. South African Network revenue was flat on a reported basis but grew strongly on a local currency basis driven by further increased sites and capacity upgrades on the Eastern and Western Cape Government contracts and continued sales of IRUs on the NLD routes to MNOs. In Rest of Africa, Network revenue continued to grow year-on-year, up 3.1%, driven by dark fibre and IRU deals in the DRC and Kenya.

On a year-to-date basis, Network revenue was USD 229.9 million compared to USD 200.2 million in the same period last year, an increase of 14.8%. This strong growth benefited from the two price increases granted by the Zimbabwean country's telecommunications regulator in the first quarter, further demand for dark fibre and IRU deals from MNOs in the DRC and Kenya and strong local currency growth in South Africa offset by the adverse exchange rate movement. We continue to lobby the Zimbabwean telecommunications regulator and Government for USD linked pricing post the recent elections in the country.

C2

Revenue for C2, which largely comprises our cloud and cyber security offerings as well as other digital services, continued to grow strongly, up 45.2% year-on-year in the second quarter to USD 25.7 million (Q2 FY 2022-23: USD 17.7 million). Growth was driven by the 50.2% year-on-year increase in Cloud seats with particularly strong growth in Rest of World via indirect channels for our application and Azure platforms. In addition we also experienced good underlying market growth and the benefit from the pass through of USD linked rates increases. There continues to be a strong appetite for our cloud offerings as more businesses continue to move towards integrated cloud solutions across all applications and platforms.

On a year-to-date basis, C2 revenue was USD 46.0 million compared to USD 33.9 million in the same period last year, an 35.7% increase year-on-year.

Dataport

Dataport revenue, covering all our sea-to-land connections, subsea capacity and satellite services, decreased 18.0% year-on-year in the second quarter to USD 8.2 million (Q2 FY 2022-23: USD 10.0 million). The year-on-year decline was largely driven by a strong prior year comparator due to a re-allocation of revenue into Dataport from Network.

On a year-to-date basis, Dataport revenue was USD 21.1 million compared to USD 19.0 million in the same period last year, an 11.1% increase year-on-year. This was driven by a deal with a US Technology company in the DRC.

Voice

Voice revenue continued to be impacted by global traffic trends away from traditional voice activity, resulting in revenue in the second quarter declining 9.3% year-on-year to USD 14.7 million (Q2 FY

2022-23: USD 16.2 million). Though there was a decline in overall revenue and traditional minutes, we continue to focus on higher margin destinations to mitigate the impact on gross profit.

On a year-to-date basis, Voice revenue was USD 30.0 million compared to USD 34.4 million for the same period last year.

Gross Profit

Gross Profit	For the six-month period ended:			For the three-month period ended:		
	H1 2023-24	H1 2022-23	YoY	Q2 2023-24	Q2 2022-23	YoY
	(USDm)	(USDm)	(%)	(USDm)	(USDm)	(%)
Revenue	327.0	287.5	13.7	152.4	144.5	5.5
Costs per quarterly financial statements	(89.1)	(80.7)	(10.4)	(42.4)	(39.0)	(8.7)
Gross Profit	237.9	206.8	15.0	110.0	105.5	4.3
Gross Profit Margin (%)	72.8%	71.9%	0.9pp	72.2%	73.0%	-0.8pp

Absolute gross profit in the second quarter was USD 110.0 million (Q2 FY 2022-23: USD 105.5 million) and gross profit margin was 72.2% compared to 73.0% in the prior year. The broadly flat gross profit margin was due to the increased contribution from the higher margin Zimbabwean business offset by the lower margins from the growing C2 segment.

On a year-to-date basis, gross profit was USD 237.9 million (Q2 YTD FY 2022-23: USD 206.8 million) and the gross profit margin was slightly higher year-on-year at 72.8% (Q2 YTD FY 2022-23: 71.9%) as a result of the particularly high contribution from Zimbabwe in the first quarter of the current year.

Total Overheads and Other Income

Total Overheads and Other Income	For the six-month period ended:			For the three-month period ended:		
	H1 2023-24	H1 2022-23	YoY	Q2 2023-24	Q2 2022-23	YoY
	(USDm)	(USDm)	(%)	(USDm)	(USDm)	(%)
Net other income	2.4	1.4	71.4	1.5	0.8	87.5
Selling, distribution and marketing costs	(4.9)	(4.3)	(14.0)	(2.7)	(2.4)	(12.5)
Expected credit loss provision	(2.7)	(4.3)	37.2	(1.2)	(3.4)	64.7
Administrative costs	(44.9)	(43.9)	(2.3)	(22.7)	(20.6)	(10.2)
Staff costs	(66.1)	(59.0)	(12.0)	(34.2)	(29.5)	(15.9)
Total Overheads and Other income	(116.2)	(110.1)	(5.4)	(59.3)	(55.1)	(7.6)
% to Total Revenue	35.5%	38.3%	2.8pp	38.9%	38.1%	-0.8pp

Total Overheads and Other Income in the second quarter were USD 59.3 million (Q2 FY 2022-23: USD 55.1 million), largely driven by the inflationary pressures on staff costs, particularly in Zimbabwe, which more than offset the exchange rate benefit in South Africa. The expected credit loss provision in the second quarter decreased 64.7% year-on-year as a result of the increased focus on customer collections, in particular aged debtors in South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

On a year-to-date basis, Total Overheads and Other Income amounted to USD 116.2 million compared to USD 110.1 million for the same period last year. We continue to be laser focused on cost control and have had some benefit from exchange rate movements, but this has been more than offset by the inflationary impact on staff costs, however, overheads as a percentage of revenue declined 2.8ppts to 35.5% compared to 38.3% in the same period of the prior year.

Adjusted EBITDA and Profit

Adjusted EBITDA	For the six-month period ended:			For the three-month period ended:		
	H1 2023-24	H1 2022-23	YoY	Q2 2023-24	Q2 2022-23	YoY
	(USDm)	(USDm)	(%)	(USDm)	(USDm)	(%)
Adjusted EBITDA	121.7	96.7	25.9	50.7	50.5	0.4
Depreciation, impairment and amortisation	(61.0)	(57.1)	(6.8)	(30.6)	(28.1)	(8.9)
Dividend received	-	-	n/a	-	-	n/a
Operating Profit	60.7	39.6	53.3	20.1	22.4	(10.3)
Dividend received	-	-	n/a	-	-	n/a
Fair value gain on derivatives assets	-	0.2	n/a	-	0.2	n/a
Gain on disposal of investments at Fair Value Through Other Comprehensive Income	0.7	-	n/a	0.7	-	n/a
Gain on bargain purchase	0.3	-	n/a	-	-	n/a
Interest income	10.7	8.8	21.6	5.5	4.2	31.0
Finance costs	(36.6)	(36.5)	(0.3)	(17.9)	(18.5)	3.2
Foreign exchange loss	(226.5)	(218.3)	(3.8)	(70.9)	(107.2)	33.9
Monetary adjustment - IAS 29	241.7	163.3	48.0	168.1	120.0	40.1
Share of profit of associate	-	-	n/a	-	-	n/a
Profit / (loss) before tax	51.0	(42.9)	218.9	105.6	21.1	400.5
Tax expense	(26.6)	(12.3)	(116.3)	(4.6)	(28.0)	83.6
Profit / (loss) for the period	24.4	(55.2)	(144.3)	101.0	(6.9)	1,563.8

Adjusted EBITDA in the second quarter was USD 50.7 million, which was flat compared to the prior year (Q2 FY 2022-23: USD 50.5 million) resulting from the higher revenue driven gross profit offset by increased overheads, as detailed above.

On a year-to-date basis, adjusted EBITDA was USD 121.7 million compared to USD 96.7 million for the same period last year, an increase of 25.9% and largely reflecting the strong contribution from Zimbabwe in the first quarter.

Depreciation, impairment and amortisation costs in the second quarter were slightly higher year-on-year at USD 30.6 million (Q2 FY 2022-23: USD 28.1 million) as a result of a higher asset base from the build out of the network, partly offset by weaker exchange rates.

Finance costs of USD 17.9 million in the second quarter were broadly in line with the prior periods and reflected the interest on the Bond and RCF, the amortising ZAR term loan, local debt in Zambia and leases.

The foreign exchange loss in the second quarter of USD 70.9 million (Q2 FY 2022-23: USD 107.2 million) was mainly driven by the South African and Zimbabwe exchange rate movements. As with the prior year, the Zimbabwean currency had a decline in its exchange rate in the second quarter, although it was more pronounced in the prior year. The ZWL\$:USD closing exchange rate was 4,608.1:1 (Q2 FY 2022-23: ZWL\$:USD 546.8:1). CPI in Zimbabwe for the period was 79,444.02 (Q2 FY 2022-23: 12,286.26) which resulted in a monetary adjustment of USD 168.1 million (Q2 FY 2022-23: USD 120.0 million) for the second quarter and resulted in a net profit after tax for the second quarter of USD 101.0 million (Q2 FY 2022-23: net loss after tax USD 6.9 million).

Cash generated from operations

Cash Flows	For the six-month period ended:			For the three-month period ended:		
	H1 2023-24	H1 2022-23	YoY	Q2 2023-24	Q2 2022-23	YoY
	(USDm)	(USDm)	(%)	(USDm)	(USDm)	(%)
Cash generated from operations	86.2	110.0	(21.6)	45.4	70.9	(36.0)
Tax paid	(15.8)	(12.9)	(22.5)	(5.7)	(8.8)	35.2
Net cash generated from operating activities	70.4	97.1	(27.5)	39.7	62.1	(36.1)
Net cash used in investing activities	(36.1)	(46.9)	23.0	(18.2)	(22.3)	18.4
Net cash (used in) / generated from financing activities	(38.4)	(60.0)	36.0	1.2	(26.7)	104.5
Net (decrease) / increase in cash and cash equivalents	(4.1)	(9.8)	58.2	22.7	13.1	73.3

Cash generated from operations in the second quarter declined year-on-year to USD 45.4 million (Q2 FY 2022-23: USD 70.9 million) largely due to a small working capital outflow in the second quarter of USD 2.9 million compared to the prior year working capital inflow of USD 14.1 million. The current year outflow resulted from increased prepayments, largely in Zimbabwe to mitigate currency devaluation, this was partly offset by improved collections.

The decrease in tax paid in the second quarter was driven by the lower contribution from Zimbabwe as described above.

Net cash used in investing activities reduced by 18.4% year-on-year in the second quarter to USD 18.2 million (Q2 FY 2022-23: USD 22.3 million). The cash spent on investing activities in the year was largely on network infrastructure, maintenance and customer connections in the DRC, Kenya and South Africa.

Cash generated from financing activities for the second quarter was USD 1.2 million, compared to cash used of USD 26.7 million in the prior year, with the year-on-year movement largely driven by the USD 30.0 million drawdown of the Revolving Credit Facility ("RCF"), which, for the most part, was offset by the Bond, ZAR Term loan interest and capital repayments and leases.

On a year-to-date basis, cash generated from operations was USD 70.4 million (Q2 YTD FY 2022-23: USD 97.1 million), a decline of 27.5%, largely due to the change in working capital as described above.

Net cash used in investing activities was 23.0% lower than the prior year due to reduced spend on our network build in the DRC as this activity winds down and we focus on monetising the route. The prior year also included the one-off payment for spectrum in South Africa of approximately USD 7 million.

Interest, lease and debt payments in the first six months totalled USD 38.4 million (Q2 YTD FY 2022-23: USD 60.0 million), lower due to the RCF drawdown of USD 30.0 million, excluding this, net cash used in financing activities was slightly higher than the prior year by USD 8.4 million as a result of increased leases in South Africa as we move to a partnership model rather than own build model.

Capital investment and network developments

Capital expenditure in the second quarter of FY 2023-24 decreased 14.3% year-on-year to USD 22.1 million (Q2 FY 2022-23: USD 25.8 million). A far greater share of the investment compared to the prior year was focused on customer connections including in the DRC, Kenya and investment in NLD in South Africa, including on the Eastern and Western Capes.

Gross and Net Debt

 Gross and Net Debt	As at
	H1 2023-24
	(USDm)
Gross Debt	942.6
Long term borrowings (incl interest accrued)	760.5
Short term portion of long-term borrowings (incl interest accrued)	56.9
Unamortised arrangement fees	10.5
Leases - LT	87.9
Leases - ST	26.8
Less: Unrestricted cash	(60.1)
Net Debt	882.5
Last twelve months Adjusted EBITDA	262.9
Last twelve months interest	75.4
Covenants:	
Gross Debt / LTM EBITDA (x)	3.59
Net Debt / LTM EBITDA (x)	3.36
Interest / LTM EBITDA (x)	3.49
Debt Service Cover Ratio (DSCR)	2.49

Unrestricted cash at the end of the second quarter was USD 60.1 million (FY 2022-23: USD 88.4 million), of this, USD 7.6 million (FY 2022-23: USD 28.3 million) was held in Zimbabwe. We continue to ensure that we have sufficient liquidity with a strong focus on working capital management. The reduction in cash held in Zimbabwe was primarily due to the adverse exchange rate movement.

Gross debt was USD 942.6 million at the end of the second quarter, broadly flat compared to FY 2022-23 year end (USD 943.5 million) as a result of the drawdown of the RCF of USD 30.0 million and our principal borrowings and leases in South Africa. Considering the above cash position, net debt at the end of the second quarter was USD 882.5 million, giving a net debt to adjusted EBITDA ratio of 3.36x, compared to the 4.00x covenant threshold and 3.59x at the end of FY 2022-23.

Strive Masiyiwa
Group Chairman

Hardy Pemhiwa
Group Chief Executive Officer

Eric Thompson
Group Chief Finance Officer

LIQUID TELECOMMUNICATIONS HOLDINGS LIMITED

(trading as)



CONSOLIDATED INTERIM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE 6 MONTHS AND 3 MONTHS ENDED

31 AUGUST 2023

LIQUID TELECOMMUNICATIONS HOLDINGS LIMITED
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
For the 6 months and 3 months ended 31 August 2023



	Notes	6 months ended		3 months ended	
		31/08/2023	31/08/2022	31/08/2023	31/08/2022
		USD'000	USD'000	USD'000	USD'000
		(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
Revenue	3	326,989	287,464	152,449	144,453
Interconnect related costs		(22,107)	(22,475)	(10,898)	(10,171)
Data and network related costs		(84,132)	(75,099)	(39,352)	(35,824)
Net other income	4	2,288	1,449	1,351	800
Selling, distribution and marketing costs		(4,911)	(4,417)	(2,710)	(2,430)
Expected credit loss provision		(2,691)	(4,236)	(1,154)	(3,352)
Administrative expenses		(27,690)	(27,051)	(14,880)	(13,606)
Staff costs		(66,103)	(58,978)	(34,184)	(29,501)
Depreciation, impairment and amortisation		(60,972)	(57,138)	(30,605)	(28,074)
Operating profit		60,671	39,519	20,017	22,295
Dividend received		44	-	44	-
Acquisition and other investment costs		(46)	-	(46)	-
Fair value gain on derivatives assets		-	163	-	163
Gain on disposal of investments at Fair Value Through Other Comprehensive Income	22	650	-	650	-
Gain on bargain purchase	27	272	-	-	-
Interest income	5	10,654	8,759	5,453	4,244
Finance costs	6	(36,554)	(36,497)	(17,883)	(18,528)
Foreign exchange loss	2.2	(226,530)	(218,281)	(70,896)	(107,204)
Hyperinflation monetary gain	2.2	241,720	163,250	168,113	120,015
Share of profits of associate		8	8	4	3
Profit / (loss) before taxation		50,889	(43,079)	105,456	20,988
Tax expense	7	(26,643)	(12,254)	(4,563)	(27,989)
Profit / (loss) for the period		24,246	(55,333)	100,893	(7,001)
Other comprehensive income / (loss)					
<i>Items that may be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss:</i>					
Translation (loss) / gain on accounting for foreign entities		(4,778)	(193,001)	12,666	(70,380)
Impact of foreign exchange on opening balance adjustment under hyperinflation accounting	2.2.2	(44,972)	27,213	(111,970)	16,386
<i>Items that will not be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss:</i>					
Fair value gain / (loss) on investments in equity instruments designated as FVTOCI	22	1,826	-	(2,734)	-
Total comprehensive loss		(47,924)	(165,788)	(102,038)	(53,994)
Loss and other comprehensive loss for the period		(23,678)	(221,121)	(1,145)	(60,995)
Profit / (loss) attributable to:					
Owners of the company		24,583	(55,392)	101,002	(6,984)
Non-controlling interest		(337)	59	(109)	(17)
		24,246	(55,333)	100,893	(7,001)
Loss and other comprehensive loss attributable to:					
Owners of the company		(23,232)	(221,116)	(980)	(60,922)
Non-controlling interest		(446)	(5)	(165)	(73)
		(23,678)	(221,121)	(1,145)	(60,995)
Earnings / (loss) per share					
Basic (Cents per share)	24	19.69	(44.36)	80.89	(5.59)

	Notes	31/08/2023 USD'000 (Unaudited)	28/02/2023 USD'000 (Audited)
Non-current assets			
Goodwill	8	75,309	76,576
Intangible assets	9	61,593	64,214
Property, plant and equipment	10	518,631	526,043
Right-of-Use assets	11	226,004	221,319
Investment in associate		539	543
Investments at Fair Value Through Other Comprehensive Income (FVTOCI)	22	23,649	15,314
Deferred tax assets		43,783	48,388
Investments at amortised cost		43	45
Long-term receivables from related parties	18	136,306	133,236
Pre-commencement lease payments		9,297	8,464
Total non-current assets		1,095,154	1,094,142
Current assets			
Inventories		22,391	27,341
Trade and other receivables	13	266,375	246,927
Taxation		3,119	3,098
Cash and cash equivalents	12	60,078	88,393
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	12	441	425
Total current assets		352,404	366,184
Total assets		1,447,558	1,460,326
Equity and liabilities			
Capital and reserves			
Share capital		3,716	3,716
Share premium		276,714	276,714
Convertible preference shares		180,000	180,000
Investment revaluation reserve		1,826	-
Accumulated losses		(39,515)	(64,098)
Foreign currency translation reserve		(267,206)	(217,565)
Total equity attributable to owners of the parent		155,535	178,767
Non-controlling interests		340	1,146
Total equity		155,875	179,913
Non-current liabilities			
Long-term borrowings	14	762,425	763,373
Long-term lease liabilities	15	87,917	103,661
Long-term provisions		6,825	7,194
Deferred revenue	17	61,032	65,553
Deferred tax liabilities		15,571	15,986
Total non-current liabilities		933,770	955,767
Current liabilities			
Short-term portion of long-term borrowing	14	56,913	34,687
Short-term portion of long-term lease liabilities	15	26,779	31,342
Trade and other payables	16	194,132	190,304
Short-term provisions		27,581	23,679
Deferred revenue	17	42,730	33,806
Taxation		9,778	10,828
Total current liabilities		357,913	324,646
Total equity and liabilities		1,447,558	1,460,326

Approved by the Board of Directors and authorised for issue on 18 October 2023

Eric Venpin
Director

Mike Modriën
Director

Notes	Share capital	Share premium	Convertible preference shares	Investment revaluation reserve	Foreign currency translation reserve	Retained earnings / (Accumulated losses)	Non-controlling interest	Total equity
	USD'000	USD'000	USD'000	USD'000	USD'000	USD'000	USD'000	USD'000
At 1 March 2022 (Audited)	3,716	276,714	180,000	-	(12,912)	23,151	2,522	473,191
Loss and total comprehensive loss for the year	-	-	-	-	(165,724)	(55,392)	(5)	(221,121)
(Loss) / profit for the period	-	-	-	-	-	(55,392)	59	(55,333)
Impact of foreign exchange on opening balance adjustment under hyperinflation accounting	-	-	-	-	27,213	-	-	27,213
Translation loss on accounting for foreign entities	-	-	-	-	(192,937)	-	(64)	(193,001)
At 31 August 2022 (Unaudited)	3,716	276,714	180,000	-	(178,636)	(32,241)	2,517	252,070
At 01 March 2023 (Audited)	3,716	276,714	180,000	-	(217,565)	(64,098)	1,146	179,913
Dividend	-	-	-	-	-	-	(360)	(360)
Profit / (loss) and total comprehensive income / (loss) for the year	-	-	-	1,826	(49,641)	24,583	(446)	(23,678)
Profit / (loss) for the period	-	-	-	-	-	24,583	(337)	24,246
Fair value gain on investments in equity instruments designated as FVTOCI	-	-	-	1,826	-	-	-	1,826
Impact of foreign exchange on opening balance adjustment under hyperinflation accounting	-	-	-	-	(44,972)	-	-	(44,972)
Translation loss on accounting for foreign entities	-	-	-	-	(4,669)	-	(109)	(4,778)
At 31 August 2023 (Unaudited)	3,716	276,714	180,000	1,826	(267,206)	(39,515)	340	155,875

Notes	6 months ended		3 months ended	
	31/08/2023 USD'000 (Unaudited)	31/08/2022 USD'000 (Unaudited)	31/08/2023 USD'000 (Unaudited)	31/08/2022 USD'000 (Unaudited)
Cash flows from operating activities:				
Profit/ (loss) before tax	50,889	(43,079)	105,456	20,988
Adjustments for:				
Depreciation, impairment and amortisation	60,972	57,138	30,605	28,074
Dividend received	(44)	-	(44)	-
Expected credit loss provision / (reversal)	728	4,134	(347)	8,232
Fair value gain on derivatives assets	-	(163)	-	(163)
Gain on disposal of investments at FVTOCI	22 (i)	(650)	(650)	-
Increase / (decrease) in provisions	4,636	846	(743)	(3,568)
Foreign exchange loss	225,400	218,644	69,776	109,051
Hyperinflation monetary gain	(241,720)	(163,250)	(168,113)	(120,015)
(Profit) / loss on property, plant and equipment	(9)	565	(13)	(40)
Interest income	5	(10,654)	(5,453)	(4,244)
Finance costs	6	36,554	17,883	18,528
Gain on bargain purchase	27	(272)	-	-
Share of profit from associate		(8)	(4)	(3)
	<u>125,822</u>	<u>102,565</u>	<u>48,353</u>	<u>56,840</u>
Working capital changes:				
Decrease / (increase) in inventories	265	(2,953)	(1,813)	(3,452)
Increase in trade and other receivables	(63,716)	(40,621)	(7,485)	(27,237)
Increase / (decrease) in trade and other payables	14,271	49,638	(1,437)	44,223
Increase in deferred revenue	9,543	1,321	7,808	478
Cash generated from operations	<u>86,185</u>	<u>109,950</u>	<u>45,426</u>	<u>70,852</u>
Income tax paid	(15,783)	(12,883)	(5,694)	(8,767)
<i>Net cash generated from operating activities</i>	<u>70,402</u>	<u>97,067</u>	<u>39,732</u>	<u>62,085</u>
Cash flows from investing activities:				
Interest income	1,043	8,759	666	4,244
Dividend received	44	-	44	-
Net cash inflow on acquisition of subsidiary	27	148	-	-
Purchase of investment at FVTOCI	22 (i)	(2,448)	-	929
Disposal of investment at FVTOCI	22 (i)	2,365	-	2,365
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(33,833)	(38,808)	(19,330)	(22,575)
Proceeds on disposal of property, plant and equipment	861	2,833	(49)	2,765
Purchase of intangible assets	9	(3,259)	(2,105)	(2,327)
(Increase) / decrease in other long-term receivables	(164)	-	(164)	4,194
Pre-commencement lease payments	(833)	(850)	(632)	(400)
(Increase) / decrease in long-term receivables from related parties	-	(8,157)	57	(8,157)
<i>Net cash used in investing activities</i>	<u>(36,076)</u>	<u>(46,920)</u>	<u>(18,219)</u>	<u>(22,256)</u>
Cash flows from financing activities:				
Dividend paid	(360)	-	-	-
Finance costs paid	(28,340)	(29,915)	(5,916)	(6,048)
Decrease in lease liabilities	(32,101)	(22,052)	(16,186)	(13,473)
Increase / (decrease) in borrowings	22,403	(8,032)	23,307	(7,152)
<i>Net cash (used in) / generated from financing activities</i>	<u>(38,398)</u>	<u>(59,999)</u>	<u>1,205</u>	<u>(26,673)</u>
Net (decrease) / increase in cash and cash equivalents	(4,072)	(9,852)	22,718	13,156
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the period	88,818	163,643	42,389	91,377
Translation of cash with respect to foreign subsidiaries	(24,227)	(67,562)	(4,588)	(18,304)
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the period	12 <u>60,519</u>	<u>86,229</u>	<u>60,519</u>	<u>86,229</u>
Represented by:				
Cash and cash equivalents	12	60,078	84,662	60,078
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	12	441	1,567	441
		<u>60,519</u>	<u>86,229</u>	<u>60,519</u>
		<u>86,229</u>	<u>86,229</u>	<u>86,229</u>

1. General information

Liquid Telecommunications Holdings Limited (trading as Liquid Intelligent Technologies), is a private company incorporated in Mauritius on the 26 January 2007 and is the holder of a Category 2 – Global Business Licence Company as from 29 January 2007, which was converted to a Global Business Company licence on 30 June 2021. Its registered office is situated at 10th floor, Standard Chartered Tower, 19-21 Bank Street, Cybercity, Ebene, Mauritius. The company's main activity is to carry on the business of a holding company in respect of subsidiary companies across Africa and certain other countries across the rest of the world, whilst the group's business is to develop a global telecommunications and technology business with a focus on Africa. This has remained unchanged since the prior year.

These consolidated interim financial statements are presented in United States Dollars (USD) as this is the currency in which the majority of the group's transactions are denominated. The functional currencies of the subsidiaries are: United States Dollars, Mauritian Rupee, South African Rand, Pound Sterling, Zambian Kwacha, Kenyan Shilling, Ugandan Shilling, Rwandan Franc, Botswana Pula, Nigerian Naira, Tanzanian Shilling, United Arab Emirates Dirham, Egyptian Pound and Zimbabwean dollar (ZWL\$, equivalent to the Real Time Gross Settlement - "RTGS").

Impact of global events

On 24 February 2022, Russia invaded Ukraine in an internationally condemned act of aggression. This conflict is ongoing with a devastating impact on human life in the region. Globally, along with the widening sanctions against Russia, the conflict has had a direct impact on the energy sector, with increasing fuel prices and a general instability in the financial markets. This has led to higher costs for energy suppliers, product manufacturers and transportation services. The group has also been monitoring the impact of global inflationary pressures, interest rate increases, load shedding and other power challenges and has incorporated these effects into its forward looking plans, where possible.

2. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The condensed consolidated interim financial statements for the 6 months ended 31 August 2023 have been prepared in accordance with IAS 34 *Interim Financial Reporting*.

The preparation of condensed consolidated interim financial statements in conformity with IFRS requires the use of estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Although these estimates are based on management's best knowledge of the amount, event or actions, actual results ultimately may differ from those estimates.

2.1 Going concern

The directors have reviewed the consolidated cash flow projections of the group and company for the twelve months from the date of signing of the consolidated interim financial statements. Taking into account the available cash position as of 31 August 2023, including the impact of the currency changes in Zimbabwe and South Africa, the cash flow projections for the period (which include discretionary capital expenditure), the repayment of existing obligations and undrawn committed loan funding, and the provision of financial support to subsidiaries where necessary, the directors are satisfied that the group has access to adequate cash resources to settle obligations as they fall due. They also consider that the operations provide sufficient financial sustainability to enable the business to continue in existence for the foreseeable future.

In making their assessment, the directors have considered the potential impact of the instability of financial markets, volatility of currency markets particularly the South African Rand, the economic situation in Zimbabwe, inability of customers to pay and supply chain shortages on the operations, business plan and cashflow for the twelve months from the date of signing of the consolidated interim financial statements.

The going concern assumption is supported by the following key considerations:

Funding facilities

The group is currently funded by a combination of equity, USD 620 million Senior Secured Notes (maturity September 2026), a USD 60 million Revolving Credit Facility ("RCF") (maturity March 2026), of which USD 30.0 million is undrawn at 31 August 2023, a USD 220 million equivalent South African Rand term loan (maturity March 2026), of which USD 154.7 million is outstanding at 31 August 2023 and USD 23.3 million of locally provided term loans (maturity in the financial year 2025) in Zambia, of which USD 3.4 million is outstanding at 31 August 2023. Taking this into account, alongside the other reviews conducted as set out in this section and the remaining USD 30.0 million undrawn RCF, the directors consider the group has sufficient liquidity to meet its obligations as and when they fall due and forecast this position to continue. Refer to note 14 - *Short term portion of long term borrowings and long term borrowings* for more details.

Cash position

As at 31 August 2023, the group has an unrestricted cash position of USD 60.1 million (28 February 2023: USD 88.4 million). Of this amount, USD 7.6 million (28 February 2023: USD 28.3 million) is held in Zimbabwe. Following the continuing devaluation of the currency in Zimbabwe, the group has translated the ZWL\$ denominated cash in Zimbabwe at the statement of financial position date at a ZWL\$:USD exchange rate of 4,608.1:1 (28 February 2023: ZWL\$:USD of 892.6:1). Cash held in Zimbabwe is used to locally fund operational expenses and capital expenditure.

Operational performance

For the period ended 31 August 2023, the group reported an operating profit of USD 60.7 million (31 August 2022: 39.5 million) and a net cash inflow from operating activities of USD 70.4 million (31 August 2022: USD 97.1 million). This demonstrates the group's ability to generate sufficient cash flow to enable it to support its underlying business operations and invest in new projects, even after taking into account the impact of the currency devaluation in Zimbabwe.

Based on the assessment made and for the reasons set out above, the directors are of the opinion that the adoption of the going concern assumption in the preparation of the condensed interim financial statements for the period ended 31 August 2023 is appropriate.

2.2 Zimbabwean currency and hyperinflation accounting

Following changes to the currency in Zimbabwe in February 2019, the economic conditions are now those of a hyperinflationary environment. As a result, local accounting bodies have determined that the principles of IAS 29 - *Financial Reporting in Hyperinflationary Economies* should be applied. The group has continued the application of hyperinflation accounting during the period ended 31 August 2023, with effect from 1 October 2018 for its Zimbabwean subsidiaries.

More details on the currency changes and the adoption of hyperinflation accounting are set out in notes 2.2.1 and 2.2.2 below.

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.2 Zimbabwean currency and hyperinflation accounting (continued)

2.2.1 Zimbabwean currency

On 1 October 2018, the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe (RBZ) directed all banks to ring-fence nostro foreign currency accounts (FCAs) by separating them into two categories; namely Nostro FCAs and RTGS FCAs. Authorities maintained that the US dollar represented in the RTGS system was at a 1:1 exchange ratio. On 20 February 2019, the RBZ announced that with effect from 22 February 2019, the RTGS would be recognised as an official currency and that an interbank foreign exchange market would be established to formalise trading in RTGS balances with other currencies. The official rate of RTGS:USD on launch was 2.5. The Zimbabwean currency is now denominated as the Zimbabwean Dollar (ZWL\$).

During the period ended 31 August 2023, there has been further movement in the ZWL\$:USD rate and the group has used a rate of ZWL\$:USD 4,608.1:1 (28 February 2023: ZWL\$:USD 892.6:1) to translate both the statement of profit or loss and the statement of financial position at 31 August 2023. Of the USD 226.5 million (31 August 2022: USD 218.3 million) of net foreign exchange loss in the consolidated statement of profit and loss, Zimbabwe contributed USD 211.2 million (31 August 2022: USD 220.1 million). The net foreign exchange loss arises mainly on the retranslation of USD denominated intra-group debt at the statement of financial position date.

2.2.2 Hyperinflation accounting

Local economic conditions in Zimbabwe have continued to react to the deterioration in the ZWL\$:USD exchange rate. Over the course of the financial year ended 29 February 2020, the group observed that the conditions in Zimbabwe were indicative of a hyperinflationary economy. This was confirmed in a statement released on 11 October 2019 by the Public Accountants and Auditors Board ("PAAB"), which is mandated to regulate Auditing and Accounting standards in Zimbabwe. The PAAB advised that following broad market consensus within the Accounting and Auditing professions, the factors and characteristics to apply the financial reporting in IAS 29 - *Financial Reporting in Hyperinflationary Economies* in Zimbabwe had been met. Furthermore, the International Practices Task Force ("IPTF") of the Centre of Audit Quality ("CAQ") monitors inflation in certain countries and reported Zimbabwe's three-year cumulative inflation rate as exceeding 100% in its previous reports and the latest report being 9 November 2022.

Based on these reports, the group has concluded that hyperinflation accounting is applicable to accounting periods ended on or after 1 July 2019. The group has applied hyperinflation accounting to all periods presented in these financial statements, effective from 1 October 2018. The adjustment for the impact of foreign exchange on opening balance under hyperinflation accounting of the Zimbabwe entities at 1 March 2023 resulted in a foreign exchange loss of USD 45.0 million (1 March 2022: gain of USD 27.2 million) has been recognised directly in other comprehensive income, in accordance to IAS 21 - *The Effects of Changes in Foreign Exchange Rates*.

The application of hyperinflationary accounting results in certain assets, liabilities, revenues and costs being reported in inflation adjusted terms as at 31 August 2023.

The restatement of balances in accordance with IAS 29 requires the use of a general price index ("GPI") that reflects changes in general purchasing power. Following the introduction of new regulations by the Zimbabwean government in March 2023, the official published Zimbabwe Consumer Price Index ("CPI") as the GPI was discontinued with the last publication in January 2023.

IAS 29 allows for an entity to estimate a general price index for use in its financial statements in the absence of an official GPI and suggests the use of the movements in the exchange rates between the local functional currency (ZWL\$) and a more stable currency (USD). In calculating the GPI, the group has used the movement in the ZWL\$:USD exchange rate between July 2023 and August 2023. The ZWL\$:USD exchange rate moved by 2.02% between July 2023 and August 2023 to close at 4,608.1. Accordingly, the group applied a 2.02% growth on the July 2023 CPI of 77,869.94 to determine the August 2023 closing CPI. Therefore, the closing CPI for August 2023 is 79,444.02 (31 August 2022: CPI of 12,286.26).

The gains on the net monetary position of USD 241.7 million (31 August 2022: USD 163.3 million) have been recognised in the consolidated statement of profit or loss through 'Hyperinflation monetary gain' based on the abovementioned CPI for August 2023 (31 August 2022: 12,286.26).

In addition, IAS 29 requires the translation of the results at closing rate rather than average rate. The closing rate of ZWL\$:USD 4,608.1:1 (28 February 2023: ZWL\$:USD 892.6:1) has been used.

The directors continue to monitor the economic conditions in Zimbabwe.

2.3 Accounting policies

The accounting policies applied by the group in the preparation of the condensed interim consolidated financial statements presented are in accordance with IFRS and are consistent with those applied by the group in the preparation of the consolidated financial statements for the year ended 28 February 2023.

2.4 Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The significant accounting judgements and critical estimates applied by the group in the preparation of these condensed consolidated interim financial statements presented are in accordance with IFRS and are consistent with those applied by the group in the preparation of the consolidated financial statements for the year ended 28 February 2023. In addition, the following significant accounting judgements and critical estimates have also been made:

Key judgements

Revenue Recognition

Management enters into contracts with customers from time to time that include unique contractual terms and other elements that fall outside of the group's general contract terms and conditions. A key judgement is whether these bespoke contracts have an embedded lease, and should be accounted for under IFRS 16 - *Leases* rather than IFRS 15 - *Revenue from Contracts with Customers*, given that some of these contracts provide for the right of use over specifically identified fibre line channels, rather than capacity. The directors considered the detailed criteria for the recognition of revenue, and are satisfied that the accounting treatment is appropriate in the current year.

Contingent liabilities

Management applies its judgement to the fact patterns and advice it receives from its attorneys, advocates and other advisors in assessing if an obligation is probable, more likely than not, or remote. This judgement application is used to determine if the obligation is recognised as a liability or provision or disclosed as a contingent liability. Refer to note 25 for *Contingent liabilities* disclosure.

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.4 Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty (continued)

Key estimates

Impairment of goodwill

Determining whether goodwill is impaired requires an estimation of the value in use of the cash-generating units to which the goodwill has been allocated. The value in use calculation requires the directors to estimate the future cash flows expected to arise from the cash-generating unit and a suitable discount rate in order to calculate the present value of the recoverable amount.

Hyperinflation accounting

The restatement of balances in accordance with IAS 29 - *Financial Reporting in Hyperinflationary Economies* requires the use of a general price index ("GPI") that reflects changes in general purchasing power. Following the introduction of new regulations by the Zimbabwean government in March 2023, the official published Zimbabwe Consumer Price Index ("CPI") as the GPI was discontinued with the last publication in January 2023.

IAS 29 allows for an entity to estimate a general price index for use in its financial statements in the absence of an official GPI and suggests the use of the movements in the exchange rates between the local functional currency (ZWL\$) and a more stable currency (USD). In calculating the GPI, the group has used the movement in the ZWL\$:USD exchange rate between July 2023 and August 2023. The ZWL\$:USD exchange rate moved by 2.02% between July 2023 and August 2023 to close at 4,608.1. Accordingly, the group applied a 2.02 % growth on the July 2023 CPI of 77,869.94 to determine the August 2023 closing CPI. Therefore, the closing CPI for August 2023 is 79,444.02 (31 August 2022: CPI of 12,286.26).

For more information on the Zimbabwean currency and hyperinflation accounting, see note 2.2.

3. Segment information

The group's operating and reportable segments are based on geographical areas. The group's core business is situated within Africa and management has aggregated African countries where the individual country revenue, profit/loss before tax and assets fall below 10% of group total (Rest of Africa). The group also has other operations based outside of Africa which have been aggregated into a separate segment (Rest of the World).

The group categorises its revenue streams as shown below:

- Network - primarily revenue from long haul, metro networks and roaming services;
- C2 - primarily revenue from cloud services, managed services and cybersecurity services;
- Dataport - primarily revenue from undersea assets, international wholesale, international enterprise and VSAT; and
- Voice traffic - primarily revenue from international voice interconnects between mobile network operators and international telecom carriers.

The measure of reporting profit for each operating segment, which also represents the basis on which the Chief Operating Decision Maker reviews segment results, is Adjusted EBITDA.

Adjusted EBITDA is defined as earnings before interest, taxation, depreciation, amortisation, and impairment, and is also presented before recognising the following items:

- Gain on bargain purchase
- Acquisition and other investment costs
- Fair value gain on derivatives assets
- Gain on disposal of investments at Fair Value Through Other Comprehensive Income
- Net foreign exchange loss
- Hyperinflation monetary gain (see note 2.2.2)
- Share of profits of associate

A reconciliation of Operating profit, as shown in the consolidated statement of profit or loss, to Adjusted EBITDA (see above) is shown in note 26.1 - *Reconciliation*.

3. Segment information (continued)

The following is an analysis of the group's revenue and results by reportable segment for the 6 months ended 31 August 2023 (Unaudited).

	South Africa USD'000	Zimbabwe USD'000	Rest of Africa USD'000	Rest of the World USD'000	Central Administration Costs* USD'000	Eliminations USD'000	Total USD'000
Network	75,492	76,763	66,189	40,576	-	(29,091)	229,929
C2	24,414	7,421	8,209	15,211	-	(9,256)	45,999
Dataport	4,079	1,589	8,173	12,732	-	(5,462)	21,111
Voice traffic	3,640	42	12	27,057	-	(801)	29,950
Inter-segmental revenue	(4,137)	(503)	(2,841)	(37,129)	-	44,610	-
Group External Revenue	103,488	85,312	79,742	58,447	-	-	326,989
Adjusted EBITDA	35,871	43,333	21,653	34,951	(10,345)	(3,776)	121,687
Depreciation, impairment and amortisation							(60,972)
Acquisition and other investment costs							(46)
Gain on disposal of investments at Fair Value Through Other Comprehensive Income							650
Gain on bargain purchase							272
Interest income							10,654
Finance costs							(36,554)
Foreign exchange loss							(226,530)
Hyperinflation monetary gain							241,720
Share of profits of associate							8
Profit before taxation							50,889
Tax expense							(26,643)
Profit for the period							24,246

The following is an analysis of the group's revenue and results by reportable segment for the 6 months ended 31 August 2022 (Unaudited).

	South Africa USD'000	Zimbabwe USD'000	Rest of Africa USD'000	Rest of the World USD'000	Central Administration Costs* USD'000	Eliminations USD'000	Total USD'000
Network	80,380	49,167	60,693	39,531	-	(29,585)	200,186
C2	20,314	5,782	5,107	8,924	-	(6,264)	33,863
Dataport	3,356	1,378	6,669	14,276	-	(6,703)	18,976
Voice traffic	3,894	40	52	31,255	-	(802)	34,439
Inter-segmental revenue	(3,858)	(352)	(4,011)	(35,133)	-	43,354	-
Group External Revenue	104,086	56,015	68,510	58,853	-	-	287,464
Adjusted EBITDA	34,077	23,857	15,888	36,480	(9,622)	(4,023)	96,657
Depreciation, impairment and amortisation							(57,138)
Fair value gain on derivatives assets							163
Interest income							8,759
Finance costs							(36,497)
Foreign exchange loss							(218,281)
Hyperinflation monetary gain							163,250
Share of profits of associate							8
Loss before taxation							(43,079)
Tax expense							(12,254)
Loss for the period							(55,333)

*Central administration costs include certain staff and other stewardship costs not allocated to other business lines.

3. Segment information (continued)

The following is an analysis of the group's revenue and results by reportable segment for the 3 months ended 31 August 2023 (Unaudited).

	South Africa USD'000	Zimbabwe USD'000	Rest of Africa USD'000	Rest of the World USD'000	Central Administration Costs* USD'000	Eliminations USD'000	Total USD'000
Network	38,699	26,905	32,229	19,533	-	(13,552)	103,814
C2	13,318	4,486	4,167	8,486	-	(4,670)	25,787
Dataport	2,415	757	2,004	5,768	-	(2,747)	8,197
Voice traffic	1,890	16	3	13,257	-	(515)	14,651
Inter-segmental revenue	(2,103)	(272)	(1,290)	(17,819)	-	21,484	-
Group External Revenue	54,219	31,892	37,113	29,225	-	-	152,449
Adjusted EBITDA	18,215	11,053	9,516	18,881	(5,121)	(1,878)	50,666
Depreciation, impairment and amortisation							(30,605)
Acquisition and other investment costs							(46)
Gain on disposal of investments at Fair Value Through Other Comprehensive Income							650
Interest income							5,453
Finance costs							(17,883)
Foreign exchange loss							(70,896)
Hyperinflation monetary gain							168,113
Share of profits of associate							4
Profit before taxation							105,456
Tax expense							(4,563)
Profit for the period							100,893

The following is an analysis of the group's revenue and results by reportable segment for the 3 months ended 31 August 2022 (Unaudited).

	South Africa USD'000	Zimbabwe USD'000	Rest of Africa USD'000	Rest of the World USD'000	Central Administration Costs* USD'000	Eliminations USD'000	Total USD'000
Network	38,750	24,171	31,245	20,478	-	(14,133)	100,511
C2	10,635	3,128	2,663	3,836	-	(2,520)	17,742
Dataport	1,767	780	3,528	7,486	-	(3,523)	10,038
Voice traffic	1,960	17	8	14,579	-	(402)	16,162
Inter-segmental revenue	(1,861)	(208)	(2,070)	(16,439)	-	20,578	-
Group External Revenue	51,251	27,888	35,374	29,940	-	-	144,453
Adjusted EBITDA	17,909	8,898	8,162	20,583	(4,982)	(201)	50,369
Depreciation, impairment and amortisation							(28,074)
Fair value loss on derivatives assets							163
Interest income							4,244
Finance costs							(18,528)
Foreign exchange loss							(107,204)
Hyperinflation monetary gain							120,015
Share of profits of associate							3
Profit before taxation							20,988
Tax expense							(27,989)
Loss for the period							(7,001)

*Central administration costs include certain staff and other stewardship costs not allocated to other business lines.

4. Net other income

	6 months ended		3 months ended	
	31/08/2023	31/08/2022	31/08/2023	31/08/2022
	USD'000	USD'000	USD'000	USD'000
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
Management fees income (note 18)	1,930	1,228	1,142	593
Sundry income (non-operating income that does not meet the recognition criteria of revenue under IFRS 15)	349	786	196	167
Profit / (loss) on disposal of property, plant and equipment	9	(565)	13	40
	2,288	1,449	1,351	800

5. Interest income

	6 months ended		3 months ended	
	31/08/2023	31/08/2022	31/08/2023	31/08/2022
	USD'000	USD'000	USD'000	USD'000
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
Interest received - bank / external	1,043	649	666	302
Interest received - inter-group (note 18)	9,611	8,110	4,787	3,942
	10,654	8,759	5,453	4,244

6. Finance costs

	6 months ended		3 months ended	
	31/08/2023	31/08/2022	31/08/2023	31/08/2022
	USD'000	USD'000	USD'000	USD'000
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
Interest on bank overdraft and loans	11,583	13,558	5,756	6,410
Finance cost on Senior Secured Notes	17,050	17,050	8,525	8,525
Finance arrangement fees amortised	1,810	1,843	905	928
Interest on lease liabilities	5,948	3,963	2,613	2,616
Interest paid - inter-group (note 18)	163	83	84	49
	36,554	36,497	17,883	18,528

7. Taxation

	6 months ended		3 months ended	
	31/08/2023	31/08/2022	31/08/2023	31/08/2022
	USD'000	USD'000	USD'000	USD'000
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
Current taxation	13,521	20,378	3,782	15,831
Deferred taxation charge / (credit)	8,086	(12,526)	(1,422)	9,836
Withholding taxation	5,036	4,402	2,203	2,322
	26,643	12,254	4,563	27,989

	6 months ended		3 months ended	
	31/08/2023	31/08/2022	31/08/2023	31/08/2022
	USD'000	USD'000	USD'000	USD'000
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
Profit / (loss) before taxation	50,889	(43,079)	105,456	20,988
Taxation at domestic rate for foreign subsidiaries in tax paying jurisdictions	(74)	(11,909)	14,700	3,806
Tax effect of non-deductible expenses	67,643	52,012	16,649	47,639
Tax effect of non-taxable income	-	(2,883)	-	(2,860)
Tax effect of foreign tax credit	(2,016)	(244)	(2,009)	17
Effect of tax losses not recognised as deferred tax assets	6,099	2,429	(239)	2,352
Tax effect of utilised unrecognised tax losses	(1,065)	(2,711)	(590)	(1,943)
Tax effect on IAS 29 adjustments	(48,980)	(28,842)	(26,235)	(23,344)
Withholding taxation	5,036	4,402	2,287	2,322
	26,643	12,254	4,563	27,989

Taxation is calculated at the rates prevailing in the respective jurisdictions:

Mauritius (tax credit of 80%, depending on type of income)	15%	15%
South Africa	27%	28%
Kenya	30%	30%
United Kingdom	25%	19%
Tanzania	30%	30%
Zambia	35%	35%
Zimbabwe	25.75%	25.75%

8. Goodwill

	<u>31/08/2023</u>	<u>28/02/2023</u>
	USD'000	USD'000
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
Cost		
Opening balance	76,576	129,182
Impairment (see below)	-	(36,081)
Foreign exchange loss	(1,267)	(16,525)
Closing balance	<u>75,309</u>	<u>76,576</u>

Goodwill acquired in a business combination is allocated at acquisition to the Cash Generating Units (CGU's) that are expected to benefit from that business combination.

	<u>31/08/2023</u>	<u>28/02/2023</u>
	USD'000	USD'000
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
Liquid Telecommunications Limited	2,850	2,850
Data Control and Systems (1996) (Private) Limited t/a Liquid Telecom Zimbabwe (see below)	5,581	5,581
Liquid Telecommunications Holdings South Africa (Pty) Limited	59,093	60,360
Liquid Telecommunications Zambia Limited	2,201	2,201
Raha Tanzania Holdings Limited	5,584	5,584
	<u>75,309</u>	<u>76,576</u>

Goodwill is tested at least annually for impairment as required by IAS 36 - *Impairment of assets*. The recoverable amounts of the cash generating units (CGU) were determined based on the value in use calculations. The calculations mainly used cash flow projections based on financial budgets covering a three to five-year period. Each CGU is considered to be the operating company, as this is the lowest level of identifiable assets that generate cash inflows, independent from other assets or groups of assets.

For the year ended 28 February 2023:

The following approach and key assumptions were used for the value in use calculations:

- The cash flows used are based on Board approved budgets and only take into account cash flows arising from the current asset base and not from any future developments in technology, acquisitions or change in business model and this includes certain cash flows which are anticipated but not yet fully contracted.
- Assessments are performed on a value in use basis, using a 5-year discounted cash flow method.
- Growth rates: the group used steady growth rates to extrapolate revenues beyond the budget period cash flows. The average growth rates used ranged from 0.5% to 4.2%.
- Discount rates: The country specific Weighted Average Cost of Capital ("WACC") is used as the discount rate which ranges from 10.3% to 21.5% (post-tax). The discount rates used reflect both time value of money and other specific risks relating to the relevant CGU and operating country.

- Data Control and Systems (1996) (Private) Limited t/a Liquid Telecom Zimbabwe ("LTZ")

During the year ended 28 February 2023, Zimbabwe Online (Private) Limited ("ZOL"), a 100% subsidiary of Data Control and Systems (1996)(Private) Limited t/a Liquid Telecom Zimbabwe ("LTZ") was merged into its parent on 1 March 2022. ZOL's retail business together with the Wholesale and Enterprise business of LTZ are now regarded as a single CGU as they both form part of the LTZ legal entity. This change has resulted in a reallocation of the goodwill from LTZ to Liquid Telecommunications Holdings Limited (LTH).

- Liquid Telecommunications Holdings South Africa (Pty) Limited ("LTHSA")

In carrying out the annual impairment testing as required by IAS 36 - *Impairment of assets*, a pre-tax impairment of USD 36.1 million was recorded against the goodwill that arose on the acquisition of Liquid Telecommunications South Africa (Pty) Limited by LTHSA. The impairment has resulted primarily from global inflationary pressures, leading to higher interest rates and WACC for LTHSA, which, together with other operational cost pressures have eroded the prior year headroom.

Specifically in relation to LTHSA, the following assumptions were applied:

- A terminal growth rate of 4.2% was applied in line with inflation forecasts for South Africa over a comparable period
- LTHSA's WACC of 15.5% was used as the discount rate. On a pre-tax basis, this rate is 19.8%

Sensitivity analysis

The group also performed a sensitivity analysis on three key inputs to the impairment assessment for LTHSA's goodwill and the results are shown below:

- An increase of 10% in the above terminal growth rate would result in no impairment and a decrease of 10% would result in a further impairment of USD 9.6 million.
- An increase of 10% in the above WACC would result in an additional impairment of USD 44.4 million and a decrease of 10% would result in no impairment, with headroom.
- An increase of 10% in the EBITDA forecasts in each period would result in no impairment, with significant headroom. A reduction of 10% in the EBITDA forecasts in each period would result in full impairment of the carrying value for the goodwill.

Other CGUs

- Sensitivity analysis

The group has conducted an analysis of the sensitivity of the impairment test to changes in the country specific Weighted Average Cost of Capital ("WACC") used to determine the recoverable amount for each CGU to which goodwill is allocated. Except for Liquid Telecommunications Holdings South Africa (Pty) Limited (as described above), an increase of 5% in the WACC would result in no impairment, with headroom. A decrease of 5% would still result in no impairment, with significant headroom.

9. Intangible assets

	Operating Licence	Computer Software	Fibre Optical - IRU	Customer Relationships	Work in Progress	Other Intangible Assets*	Total
	USD'000	USD'000	USD'000	USD'000	USD'000	USD'000	USD'000
Cost:							
At 01 March 2022 (Audited)	33,130	42,761	-	34,302	8,758	52,009	170,960
Purchases during the year	7,747	5,285	-	-	1,102	-	14,134
Disposals during the year	(887)	(4,931)	-	-	(25)	-	(5,843)
Transfers	-	831	-	-	(831)	-	-
Write off	-	(142)	-	-	-	-	(142)
Foreign exchange differences	(10,217)	(8,374)	-	(7,952)	-	(4,887)	(31,430)
Adjustments - IAS 29	2,621	922	-	-	-	-	3,543
Transfer to Pre-commencement lease payments	-	-	-	-	(5,900)	-	(5,900)
At 28 February 2023 (Audited)	<u>32,394</u>	<u>36,352</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>26,350</u>	<u>3,104</u>	<u>47,122</u>	<u>145,322</u>
Acquisition of subsidiary	-	-	-	82	-	-	82
Purchases during the period	653	1,549	-	-	1,057	-	3,259
Foreign exchange differences	(3,563)	(1,851)	-	(856)	4	(1,365)	(7,631)
Adjustments - IAS 29	2,982	1,056	-	-	-	-	4,038
At 31 August 2023 (Unaudited)	<u>32,466</u>	<u>37,108</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>25,576</u>	<u>4,165</u>	<u>45,757</u>	<u>145,072</u>
Accumulated amortisation:							
At 01 March 2022 (Audited)	13,898	34,718	(13)	18,298	-	26,454	93,355
Amortisation	2,259	4,194	-	3,053	-	531	10,037
Disposals during the year	(442)	(4,844)	-	-	-	-	(5,286)
Write offs	-	(142)	-	-	-	-	(142)
Foreign exchange differences	(4,781)	(6,390)	13	(2,678)	-	(4,805)	(18,641)
Adjustments - IAS 29	1,190	595	-	-	-	-	1,785
At 28 February 2023 (Audited)	<u>12,124</u>	<u>28,131</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,673</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>22,180</u>	<u>81,108</u>
Amortisation	1,008	2,122	-	1,405	-	239	4,774
Foreign exchange differences	(1,886)	(1,448)	-	(379)	-	(1,062)	(4,775)
Adjustments - IAS 29	1,597	775	-	-	-	-	2,372
At 31 August 2023 (Unaudited)	<u>12,843</u>	<u>29,580</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>19,699</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>21,357</u>	<u>83,479</u>
Carrying amount:							
At 28 February 2023 (Audited)	<u>20,270</u>	<u>8,221</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,677</u>	<u>3,104</u>	<u>24,942</u>	<u>64,214</u>
At 31 August 2023 (Unaudited)	<u>19,623</u>	<u>7,528</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,877</u>	<u>4,165</u>	<u>24,400</u>	<u>61,593</u>

* This mainly comprises the brand and spectrum assets arising on the acquisition of Liquid Telecommunications South Africa (Pty) Limited.

10. Property, plant and equipment

	Land and buildings USD'000	Furniture and fittings USD'000	Computer equipment USD'000	Network equipment USD'000	Motor vehicles USD'000	Work in progress USD'000	Fibre infrastructure USD'000	Total USD'000
Cost:								
At 1 March 2022 (Audited)	21,764	12,084	33,077	108,802	13,151	45,602	1,179,054	1,413,534
Additions during the year	428	487	1,431	3,911	677	38,905	47,472	93,311
Disposals during the year	(944)	(275)	(2,703)	(1,265)	(29)	(2,722)	(29,952)	(37,890)
Impairment	-	-	-	-	-	(165)	(2,200)	(2,365)
Write offs	-	(74)	(117)	(1,132)	-	(11)	(209)	(1,543)
Transfers	-	142	235	2,464	182	(30,959)	27,936	-
Transfer to inventory	-	-	-	-	-	(7)	(15)	(22)
Foreign exchange differences	(6,663)	(3,801)	(4,222)	(19,692)	(6,816)	(14,136)	(462,654)	(517,984)
Adjustments - IAS 29	1,442	964	536	571	2,623	3,876	139,507	149,519
At 28 February 2023 (Audited)	16,027	9,527	28,237	93,659	9,788	40,383	898,939	1,096,560
Acquisition of subsidiary	-	4	97	-	-	-	-	101
Additions during the period	230	201	932	1,242	182	13,400	19,883	36,070
Disposals during the period	-	(2)	(159)	(21)	(132)	(750)	(1,336)	(2,400)
Transfers	-	68	47	25,129	-	(8,702)	(16,542)	-
Foreign exchange differences	(1,937)	(1,549)	(1,356)	(10,063)	(3,535)	(6,419)	(183,362)	(208,221)
Adjustments - IAS 29	1,640	1,287	646	1,347	3,363	5,150	162,275	175,708
At 31 August 2023 (Unaudited)	15,960	9,536	28,444	111,293	9,666	43,062	879,857	1,097,818
Accumulated depreciation								
At 1 March 2022 (Audited)	7,671	10,061	30,258	96,242	9,890	(2,257)	555,432	707,297
Depreciation	298	622	1,409	9,277	622	-	49,140	61,368
Disposals during the year	(944)	(278)	(2,689)	(1,141)	(24)	-	(29,361)	(34,437)
Write offs	-	(63)	(117)	(1,053)	-	-	(55)	(1,288)
Foreign exchange differences	(1,296)	(3,082)	(3,646)	(15,118)	(5,109)	-	(186,891)	(215,142)
Adjustments - IAS 29	-	508	263	78	1,318	-	50,552	52,719
At 28 February 2023 (Audited)	5,729	7,768	25,478	88,285	6,697	(2,257)	438,817	570,517
Acquisition of subsidiaries	54	3	-	-	-	-	-	57
Depreciation	143	271	618	4,037	308	-	24,120	29,497
Disposals during the period	-	(2)	(152)	(3)	(105)	-	(1,286)	(1,548)
Foreign exchange differences	(122)	(1,064)	(961)	(7,653)	(1,974)	-	(77,750)	(89,524)
Adjustments - IAS 29	-	792	281	1,095	1,869	-	66,151	70,188
At 31 August 2023 (Unaudited)	5,804	7,768	25,264	88,326	6,795	(2,257)	447,487	579,187
Carrying amount:								
At 28 February 2023 (Audited)	10,298	1,759	2,759	5,374	3,091	42,640	460,122	526,043
At 31 August 2023 (Unaudited)	10,156	1,768	3,180	22,967	2,871	45,319	432,370	518,631

11. Right-of-Use assets

	Land and buildings	Furniture and fittings	Network equipment	Motor vehicles	Fibre infrastructure	Fibre Optical - IRU	Total
	USD'000	USD'000	USD'000	USD'000	USD'000	USD'000	USD'000
Cost:							
At 1 March 2022 (Audited)	117,935	16	43,352	2,343	34,959	114,780	313,385
Additions during the year	24,935	-	10,254	240	62,905	3,998	102,332
Disposals during the year*	(2,504)	(16)	(51)	(149)	(3,958)	(466)	(7,144)
Transfer from pre-commencement lease payments**	-	-	-	-	-	33,541	33,541
Write offs	(2,581)	-	-	-	-	-	(2,581)
Foreign exchange differences	(57,240)	-	(1,231)	(353)	(6,659)	(3,568)	(69,051)
Adjustments - IAS 29	20,624	-	-	-	-	-	20,624
At 28 February 2023 (Audited)	101,169	-	52,324	2,081	87,247	148,285	391,106
Additions during the period	9,110	-	13,346	-	4,540	3,558	30,554
Disposals during the period	(23)	-	-	-	(998)	-	(1,021)
Write offs	(1,041)	-	-	-	-	-	(1,041)
Foreign exchange differences	(36,908)	-	(204)	(54)	(1,083)	(881)	(39,130)
Adjustments - IAS 29	56,129	-	-	-	-	-	56,129
At 31 August 2023 (Unaudited)	128,436	-	65,466	2,027	89,706	150,962	436,597
Accumulated depreciation:							
At 1 March 2022 (Audited)	38,407	-	18,232	1,584	21,383	65,092	144,698
Depreciation	15,434	-	14,191	512	18,032	5,822	53,991
Disposals during the year*	(1,795)	-	(50)	(149)	(3,448)	(349)	(5,791)
Write offs	(2,581)	-	-	-	-	-	(2,581)
Foreign exchange differences	(12,896)	-	(374)	(272)	(4,392)	(3,100)	(21,034)
Adjustments - IAS 29	504	-	-	-	-	-	504
At 28 February 2023 (Audited)	37,073	-	31,999	1,675	31,575	67,465	169,787
Depreciation	7,406	-	6,384	119	8,752	4,031	26,692
Disposals during the period	(23)	-	-	-	(998)	-	(1,021)
Write offs	(1,041)	-	-	-	-	-	(1,041)
Foreign exchange differences	(6,152)	-	(183)	(50)	(717)	(753)	(7,855)
Adjustments - IAS 29	24,031	-	-	-	-	-	24,031
At 31 August 2023 (Unaudited)	61,294	-	38,200	1,744	38,612	70,743	210,593
At 28 February 2023 (Audited)	64,096	-	20,325	406	55,672	80,820	221,319
At 31 August 2023 (Unaudited)	67,142	-	27,266	283	51,094	80,219	226,004

No impairment was required following the review of the carrying value of Right-of-Use assets by the directors for the period ended 31 August 2023 (28 February 2023: Nil).

* relate to lease modifications or cancellations.

** During the year ended 28 February 2023, USD 33.5m was transferred from pre-commencement lease payments to Right-of-Use assets as the assets were brought into use.

12. Cash and cash equivalents, and restricted cash and cash equivalents

	31/08/2023	28/02/2023
	USD'000	USD'000
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
Cash and bank balances	54,843	88,393
Money market deposits	5,235	-
Cash and cash equivalents	<u>60,078</u>	<u>88,393</u>
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	<u>441</u>	<u>425</u>
Total cash and cash equivalents	<u>60,519</u>	<u>88,818</u>

The cash and cash equivalents are mainly denominated in USD, GBP, KES, ZAR and ZWL\$ and are located in Mauritius, United Kingdom, Kenya, South Africa and Zimbabwe.

Cash and cash equivalents include USD 7.6 million (28 February 2023: USD 28.3 million) in Zimbabwe held in cash, short term deposits and similar instruments. These amounts have been translated at the rate of ZWL\$:USD of 4,608.1:1 (28 February 2023: ZWL\$:USD of 892.6:1). See note 2.2 - *Zimbabwean currency* for more detailed disclosure on ZWL\$.

The group has restricted cash for the following purposes:

	31/08/2023	28/02/2023
	USD'000	USD'000
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
Guarantees	1	1
Customer deposits held	440	424
	<u>441</u>	<u>425</u>

13. Trade and other receivables

	31/08/2023	28/02/2023
	USD'000	USD'000
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
Trade receivables from external parties	132,899	128,959
Trade receivables from related parties (note 18)	38,316	35,436
Expected credit loss provision	(39,414)	(42,372)
Total trade and related parties receivables, net of expected credit loss provision	131,801	122,023
Short-term inter-company receivables (note 18)	31,486	21,813
Sundry debtors	54,513	61,735
Deposits paid	4,930	5,051
Prepayments	43,645	36,305
	<u>266,375</u>	<u>246,927</u>

Sundry debtors mainly include accrued income, VAT receivable and non-operating receivables.

The average credit period for the group is 30 days. In determining the recoverability of a trade receivable, the group makes use of forward-looking information based on the assumptions about risk and probability of default and expected loss rates. The group assesses the recoverability on both a collective and individual basis.

Before accepting any new customer, the group ascertains the creditworthiness and identity of the customer by means of an external credit scoring system and customer acceptance forms which are required to be filled in by any new customer. The creditworthiness of customers is reviewed throughout the period.

The receivable balances from affiliated entities and other related parties are unsecured, interest free and are payable in accordance with the terms of the relevant agreements, under which payment terms range from 30 days to 6 months.

The following table details the risk profile of trade receivables and related parties receivables. Lifetime ECL on receivables are assessed individually.

	Current USD'000	Past due				Total USD'000
		31 - 60 days USD'000	61 - 90 days USD'000	91 - 120 days USD'000	> 120 days USD'000	
As at 31 August 2023						
Trade and related parties receivables - Gross	48,407	29,365	15,841	9,968	67,634	171,215
Lifetime ECL	(735)	(644)	(350)	(179)	(37,506)	(39,414)
Trade and related parties receivables - Net	47,672	28,721	15,491	9,789	30,128	131,801
Default rate	1.5%	2.2%	2.2%	1.8%	55.5%	
As at 28 February 2023						
Trade and related parties receivables - Gross	51,277	28,936	14,994	12,588	56,600	164,395
Lifetime ECL	(3,868)	(2,259)	(1,088)	(750)	(34,407)	(42,372)
Trade and related parties receivables - Net	47,409	26,677	13,906	11,838	22,193	122,023
Default rate	7.5%	7.8%	7.3%	6.0%	60.8%	

The trade receivables and related parties balances disclosed above include amounts that are past due at the end of the reporting period, but for which the group has not recognised an expected credit loss provision, because there has been no significant change in the assumptions about risk and probability of default and the amounts are still considered recoverable.

14. Long-term borrowings and short term portion of long-term borrowings

	31/08/2023	28/02/2023
	USD'000	USD'000
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
Long-term borrowings:		
USD 620 million 5.5% Senior Secured Notes (i)	611,288	609,840
Net settled: Embedded derivatives (note 22)	1,878	1,878
USD 220 million equivalent South African Rand term loan (ii)	147,606	150,406
Stanbic Bank of Zambia Limited (iii)	1,233	1,249
Other long-term borrowings	420	-
	762,425	763,373
Short-term portion of long term borrowings (including interest accrued):		
USD 620 million 5.5% Senior Secured Notes (i)	17,050	17,050
USD 220 million equivalent South African Rand term loan (ii)	7,044	13,800
Stanbic Bank of Zambia Limited (iii)	2,187	3,636
USD 60 million revolving credit facility (iv)	30,400	201
Other Short-term portion of long term borrowings	232	-
	56,913	34,687

(i) The USD 620 million 5.5% Senior Secured Notes bear interest, payable half yearly, at the rate of 5.5% and are payable at maturity in September 2026. The Notes were issued by Liquid Telecommunications Financing Plc on 24 February 2021 and are guaranteed on a Senior Secured basis by: Liquid Telecommunications Holdings Limited, Liquid Telecommunications Operations Limited, Liquid Telecommunications Limited, Liquid Telecommunications Kenya Limited, Liquid Telecommunications Holdings South Africa (Pty) Limited, Liquid Telecommunications South Africa (Pty) Limited, Liquid Telecom DRC S.A. and Liquid Telecommunications Zambia Limited with various types of collateral. Such collateral includes (among other things): (i) share pledges and charges over assets, including bank accounts, (ii) assignment over present and future intercompany loans receivables and agreements (iii) assignment over receivables including trade debtors, intellectual property rights and insurances, and (iv) deed of hypothecation over trademarks.

(ii) On 25 February 2021, Liquid Telecommunications South Africa (Pty) Limited entered into a 5 year ZAR 3.3 billion term loan with the Standard Bank of South Africa Limited (acting through its corporate and investment banking division) and Standard Chartered Bank – Johannesburg branch. The term loan was initially split equally between an amortising tranche and a bullet repayment tranche, for which the interest rates are JIBAR plus 4.5% and 5.0% respectively. The syndicators of this loan are: Standard Bank of South Africa Limited, Sanlam Investment Management Pty Ltd, Sanlam Life Insurance Ltd, State Bank of India (SBI), Stanlib Asset Management and Liberty Group. In June 2021, Liquid Telecommunications South Africa (Pty) Limited refinanced a portion of the term loan, amounting to ZAR 1.0 billion, with the International Finance Corporation with interest payable quarterly at JIBAR plus 5%. Following the refinancing, the term loan is now split between an amortising tranche and two separate bullet repayment tranches, representing one third and two thirds respectively of the term loan.

The covenants relevant to this loan are Net debt to EBITDA, Interest cover and Debt Service Cover Ratio.

On 26 April 2023, our lending partners (in relation to the USD 220 million equivalent South African Rand term loan) approved our pre-emptive request for a deferral of the net debt to adjusted EBITDA ratio due to the prospect of further exchange rate volatility in certain markets. As a result, the step down from 4.0x to 3.5x that was due to take place at the end of May 2023 will now occur in February 2024 and a second step down from 3.5x to 3.0x that was due to take place in May 2024 will now occur in August 2024. All other terms remain unchanged.

(iii) Liquid Telecommunications Zambia Limited has USD 23.3 million (maturity in the financial year 2025) of term loans denominated in local currency (Zambian Kwacha). As at 31 August 2023, the outstanding balance on all term loans is USD 3.4 million. Liquid Telecommunications Holdings Limited guaranteed up to USD 13.0 million in aggregate of these facilities. The facility agreement also included a first ranking charge over certain assets including bank accounts and receivables of Liquid Telecommunications Zambia Limited. The facility bears interest at the rate of 23.5%. Capital and interest are repaid on a quarterly basis. The financial covenants for this facility are Total debt to EBITDA and Debt Service Ratio.

(iv) In addition to the USD 620 million 5.5% Senior Secured Notes and the USD 220 million equivalent South African Rand term loan, the group has a USD 60 million Revolving Credit Facility agreement between the company, JP Morgan Chase Bank N.A., London branch, Standard Finance (Isle of Man), Standard Chartered Bank (Mauritius) Limited and the Mauritius Commercial Bank Limited. The Revolving Credit Facility is secured and is guaranteed on a senior secured basis by, Liquid Telecommunications Operations Limited, Liquid Telecommunications Limited, Liquid Telecommunications Financing Plc, Liquid Telecommunications Kenya Limited, Liquid Telecommunications Holdings South Africa (Pty) Limited, Liquid Telecommunications South Africa (Pty) Limited, Liquid Telecom DRC S.A. and Liquid Telecommunications Zambia Limited. The obligations under the Revolving Credit Facility are secured equally and ratably with the Senior Secured Notes by first priority liens over the security. The Revolving Credit Facility facility is denominated in USD, bears interest at the rate of LIBOR plus 4.25%, subject to certain adjustments for the net leverage ratio and is to be utilised for general corporate purposes. The facility holds the same covenant obligations as the South African term loan referenced above.

15. Lease liabilities

	31/08/2023	28/02/2023
	USD'000	USD'000
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
Long-term portion of lease liabilities	87,917	103,661
Short-term portion of lease liabilities	26,779	31,342
	114,696	135,003

16. Trade and other payables

	<u>31/08/2023</u>	<u>28/02/2023</u>
	USD'000	USD'000
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
Trade accounts payable to external parties	111,029	103,202
Trade payable balance to related parties (note 18)	14,797	15,779
Accruals	41,379	45,920
Staff payables	5,596	4,745
Transaction taxes due in various jurisdictions	10,829	4,456
Other short-term payables	10,502	16,202
	<u>194,132</u>	<u>190,304</u>

The average credit period on purchases of goods and services is 30 to 60 days. No interest is charged on the trade payables for the first 60 days from the date of invoice. Thereafter, interest is generally charged at 2% per annum on the outstanding balance. The group has financial risk management policies in place to ensure that all payables are paid within the pre-agreed terms.

The directors consider the carrying amount of trade and other payables to approximate their fair value.

Amounts payable to related parties and related company are unsecured, interest free and with no fixed date of repayment.

Accruals mainly relate to wholesale voice carrier amounts accrued for in the ordinary course of business and major capital expenditure for on-going fibre related projects.

17. Deferred revenue

	<u>31/08/2023</u>	<u>28/02/2023</u>
	USD'000	USD'000
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
Long-term portion of deferred revenue	61,032	65,553
Short-term portion of deferred revenue	42,730	33,806
	<u>103,762</u>	<u>99,359</u>

Deferred revenue mainly relates to revenue billed in advance which includes deferred revenue on any Indefeasible-Rights-of-Use (IRU) that will be amortised over a period of 10 to 15 years, roaming services and other advance billings that will be amortised over a period of 1 to 3 years.

18. Related party transactions and balances

In addition to the subsidiary companies the following are related parties to the Liquid Telecommunications Holdings Limited group:

- Econet Wireless Private Limited (Zimbabwe), Econet Telecom Lesotho (Pty) Limited (Lesotho), Transaction Payment Solutions (Private) Limited (Zimbabwe), Econet South Africa (Pty) Limited, Steward Bank Limited, Econet Wireless Zimbabwe Limited, Cassava FinTech (Pty) Ltd, Distributed Power Africa Proprietary Limited, VAYA Africa Mauritius Ltd, Distributed Power Africa (Private) Limited, Cassava Technologies Limited and Distributed Power Africa Limited and are referred to as "Econet Global related group companies";
- Africa Data Centres Holdings Limited (UK), African Data Centres (Pty) Limited (South Africa), Africa Data Centres SA Development (Pty) Limited (South Africa), ADC (Jersey) Limited, Africa Data Centres Lagos FZE (Nigeria) and East Africa Data Centre Limited (Kenya) and are referred to as "Africa Data Centres related group companies";
- Telrad Networks Limited (Israel), Marmanet Organization and Projects Management Limited (Israel) and Magalcom Limited (Israel) and are referred to as "Telrad related group companies";
- Liquid Technologies Infrastructure Finance SARL;
- Liquid Intelligent Technologies Limited;
- Liquid Delta (Jersey) Limited;
- Telrad Networks Ltd; and
- Liquid Telecommunications (Jersey) Ltd.

The above companies have been disclosed as related parties due to their common control.

Transactions between the group and its subsidiaries, which are related parties of the group, have been eliminated on consolidation and are not disclosed in the group note. The transactions between related parties are entered into at arm's length in accordance with the group's transfer pricing policies. During the year, the group and company entered into the following trading transactions with related parties:

	6 months ended		3 months ended	
	<u>31/08/2023</u>	<u>31/08/2022</u>	<u>31/08/2023</u>	<u>31/08/2022</u>
	USD'000	USD'000	USD'000	USD'000
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
Sales of goods and services				
Econet Global related group companies	<u>46,492</u>	<u>36,315</u>	<u>20,340</u>	<u>19,654</u>
Purchase of goods and services				
Econet Global related group companies	<u>13,095</u>	<u>10,910</u>	<u>6,823</u>	<u>5,273</u>
Management fees expense				
Africa Data Centres related group companies	-	-	-	146
Econet Global related group companies	210	120	150	60
	<u>210</u>	<u>120</u>	<u>150</u>	<u>206</u>

18. Related party transactions and balances (continued)

	6 months ended		3 months ended	
	31/08/2023	31/08/2022	31/08/2023	31/08/2022
	USD'000	USD'000	USD'000	USD'000
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
Management fees income				
Africa Data Centres related group companies	367	397	367	-
Econet Global related group companies	68	82	27	20
Liquid Intelligent Technologies Limited	-	61	-	30
Liquid Telecommunications (Jersey) Ltd	1,495	688	748	543
	1,930	1,228	1,142	593
Dividend paid				
Other shareholders (net of taxes)	360	-	84	-
Interest income				
Econet Global related group companies	304	165	156	93
Liquid Intelligent Technologies Limited	124	62	64	36
Africa Data Centres related group companies	9,183	7,883	4,567	3,813
	9,611	8,110	4,787	3,942
Finance costs				
Liquid Technologies Infrastructure Finance SARL	163	83	84	49
Administration fees paid				
DTOS Limited	225	143	150	74

The group has the following balances at the period end:

	31/08/2023	28/02/2023
	USD'000	USD'000
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
Short-term receivables from related parties		
Africa Data Centres related group companies	15,686	17,119
Liquid Technologies Infrastructure Finance SARL	4,491	3,348
Liquid Telecommunications (Jersey) Ltd	9,084	-
Liquid Intelligent Technologies Limited	7	7
Econet Global related group companies	2,218	1,339
	31,486	21,813
Receivables balances from related parties		
Econet Global Limited (Mauritius)	4,999	4,999
Econet Global Related Group Companies	20,918	27,422
Liquid Delta (Jersey) Limited	28	28
Telrad related group companies	6,067	2,697
Liquid Intelligent Technologies Limited	457	290
Liquid Telecommunications (Jersey) Ltd	2,819	-
Africa Data Centres related group companies	3,028	-
	38,316	35,436
Payable balance to related parties		
Econet Global related group companies	1,044	1,045
Africa Data Centres related group companies	9,650	10,313
Liquid Technologies Infrastructure Finance SARL	4,103	4,421
	14,797	15,779
Long-term receivables from related parties		
Africa Data Centres related group companies	132,533	129,771
Liquid Intelligent Technologies Limited	3,102	2,794
Econet Global related group companies	671	671
	136,306	133,236

19. Capital commitments

	31/08/2023	28/02/2023
	USD'000	USD'000
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
At 31 August 2023, the group was committed to making the following capital commitments:		
Authorised and contracted	33,523	33,001

The capital expenditure is to be financed from internal cash generation and existing funding facilities.

20. Events after reporting date

There have been no material events after reporting date which would have a material impact on the group.

21. Dividend

Period ended 31 August 2023:

Liquid Telecommunications Rwanda Limited, a subsidiary of the group, declared and paid a dividend of USD 1.2 million. USD 360,000 is attributable to the non-controlling interests of the subsidiary.

Period ended 31 August 2022:

No dividend has been declared or paid in the 3 and 6 months period ended 31 August 2022.

22. Fair value measurements recognised in the consolidated statement of financial position

The following table provides an analysis of financial instruments that are measured subsequent to initial recognition at fair value, grouped into Levels 1 to 3 based on the degree to which the fair value is observable.

- Level 1 fair value measurements are those derived from quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.
- Level 2 fair value measurements are those derived from inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly (i.e. as prices) or indirectly (i.e. derived from prices).
- Level 3 fair value measurements are those derived from valuation techniques that include inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs).

	Level 1 USD'000	Level 2 USD'000	Level 3 USD'000	Total USD'000
31 August 2023				
Investments at FVTOCI (i)	8,335	-	15,314	23,649
Total (Unaudited)	8,335	-	15,314	23,649
	Level 1 USD'000	Level 2 USD'000	Level 3 USD'000	Total USD'000
28 February 2023				
Investments at FVTOCI (i)	-	-	15,314	15,314
Total (Audited)	-	-	15,314	15,314

(i) Investments at Fair Value Through Other Comprehensive Income (FVTOCI)

	31/08/2023 USD'000 (Unaudited)	28/02/2023 USD'000 (Audited)
Opening balance	15,314	15,314
Additions	2,447	-
Disposals	(1,715)	-
Fair value gain	1,826	-
Adjustments - IAS 29	5,127	-
Gain on disposal of investments at Fair Value Through Other Comprehensive Income (FVTOCI)	650	-
Closing balance	23,649	15,314

(ii) Net settled: Embedded derivatives

The following table details the group's liquidity analysis for its derivative financial instruments based on contractual maturities. The table has been drawn up based on the undiscounted net cash inflows and outflows on derivative instruments that settle on a net basis, and the undiscounted gross inflows and outflows on those derivatives that require gross settlement. When the amount payable or receivable is not fixed, the amount disclosed has been determined by reference to the projected interest rates as illustrated by the yield curves existing at the reporting date.

The derivatives represent the fair value of the call options embedded within the terms of the Notes. The call options give the group the right to redeem the Notes at a date prior to the maturity date (4 September 2026), at a premium over the initial notional amount.

The options are fair valued using an option pricing model that is commonly used by market participants to value such options and makes the maximum use of market inputs, relying as little as possible on the group's specific inputs and making reference to the fair value of similar instruments in the market. Thus, it is considered a level 2 financial instrument in the fair value hierarchy of IFRS 13 - Fair value measurement.

The key assumptions used to estimate the fair value are:

1. the initial fair value of the Notes (being the issue price of 100% on the issue date);
2. the credit spread (implied from the issue price of the bond); and
3. the discount curve (Secured Overnight Financing Rate Data).

22. Fair value measurements recognised in the consolidated statement of financial position (continued)

	Within 1 year USD'000	1 to 2 years USD'000	2 to 5 years USD'000	More than 5 years USD'000	Total USD'000
Group - 31 August 2023					
Net settled: Embedded derivatives	-	-	(1,878)	-	(1,878)
Group - 28 February 2023					
Net settled: Embedded derivatives	-	-	(1,878)	-	(1,878)

	31/08/2023 USD'000 (Audited)	28/02/2023 USD'000 (Audited)
Opening balance	(1,878)	2,119
Fair value loss recognised in statement of profit or loss	-	(3,997)
Closing balance	(1,878)	(1,878)

23. Non-cash transactions

In the current financial period, the non-cash portion of finance costs consists of USD 1.8 million (31 August 2022: USD 1.8 million) of amortised arrangement fees relating to the USD 620 million 5.5% Senior Secured Notes and USD 220 million equivalent South African Rand term loan. Accrued interest of USD 17.5 million (31 August 2022: USD 17.5 million) has been excluded from financing activities as at 31 August 2023.

24. Earnings / (loss) per share

	6 months ended		3 months ended	
	31/08/2023 USD'000 (Unaudited)	31/08/2022 USD'000 (Unaudited)	31/08/2023 USD'000 (Unaudited)	31/08/2022 USD'000 (Unaudited)
Basic earnings / (loss) per share (Cents per share)	19.69	(44.36)	80.89	(5.59)

The earnings and weighted average number of ordinary shares used in the calculation of basic earnings / (loss) per share are as follows:

	24,583	(55,392)	101,002	(6,984)
Earnings / (loss) attributable to owners of the company				

	6 months ended	
	31/08/2023 USD'000 (Unaudited)	31/08/2022 USD'000 (Unaudited)
Weighted average number of ordinary shares for the	124,857,914	124,857,914

At 31 August 2023, the share capital of USD 3.7 million represents 124,857,914 ordinary shares (31 August 2022: 124,857,914 ordinary shares).

25. Contingent liabilities

Uncertain Tax Positions

The group has a number of tax audits underway across the various jurisdictions in which it operates. These audits are routine and often involve discussion and negotiation with the relevant authorities. When assessing the potential outcome of these audits, the group uses judgement based on past experience, industry practice and advice from local tax advisers. Where the assessment finds that a tax liability is probable, a tax provision is made through current tax. Where the group considers it has a robust position, no tax provision is made, however, these positions are kept under review as the audit process progresses and in some or all cases, the outcome of the audit and discussions with the tax authorities may be different to that anticipated by the group. Although the group currently has potential Uncertain Tax Provisions across a number of jurisdictions (principally the DRC, Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe), it does not believe that these Uncertain Tax Provisions will materialise in full. The group has a history of negotiating final settlements at an amount which is significantly lower than that initially indicated by the Tax Authority. In recent periods, this settlement rate has been in the region of 18% - 20%.

26. Reconciliation

26.1 Reconciliation of Operating profit to Adjusted EBITDA

Below is a reconciliation of Operating profit, as shown in the consolidated statement of profit or loss, to Adjusted EBITDA reported in note 3 - Segment information .

	6 months ended		3 months ended	
	31/08/2023 USD'000 (Unaudited)	31/08/2022 USD'000 (Unaudited)	31/08/2023 USD'000 (Unaudited)	31/08/2022 USD'000 (Unaudited)
Operating profit	60,671	39,519	20,017	22,295
Add back:				
Depreciation, impairment and amortisation	60,972	57,138	30,605	28,074
Dividend received	44	-	44	-
Adjusted EBITDA (note 3)	121,687	96,657	50,666	50,369

26.2 Reconciliation (continued)

Reconciliation of consolidated statement of profit or loss to management profit or loss

The group has standardised its consolidated statement of profit or loss to comply with IAS 1 nature of expense method of presentation. The change resulted in reclassification from Data and network related costs to Administrative expenses.

A reconciliation of the consolidated statement of profit or loss and management profit or loss is included below:

	Consolidated statement of profit or loss USD'000 (Unaudited)	Reclassification of network costs USD'000 (Unaudited)	Revised statement of profit or loss USD'000 (Unaudited)
6 months ended 31 August 2023:			
Revenue	326,989	-	326,989
Interconnect related costs	(22,107)	-	(22,107)
Data and network related costs	(84,132)	17,187	(66,945)
Gross Profit	220,750	17,187	237,937
Other income	2,288	-	2,288
Dividend received	44	-	44
Selling, distribution and marketing costs	(4,911)	-	(4,911)
Expected credit loss provision	(2,691)	-	(2,691)
Administrative expenses	(27,690)	(17,187)	(44,877)
Staff costs	(66,103)	-	(66,103)
Adjusted EBITDA	121,687	-	121,687
6 months ended 31 August 2022:			
Revenue	287,464	-	287,464
Interconnect related costs	(22,475)	-	(22,475)
Data and network related costs	(75,099)	16,827	(58,272)
Gross Profit	189,890	16,827	206,717
Other income	1,449	-	1,449
Selling, distribution and marketing costs	(4,417)	-	(4,417)
Expected credit loss provision	(4,236)	-	(4,236)
Administrative expenses	(27,051)	(16,827)	(43,878)
Staff costs	(58,978)	-	(58,978)
Adjusted EBITDA	96,657	-	96,657
3 months ended 31 August 2023:			
Revenue	152,449	-	152,449
Interconnect related costs	(10,898)	-	(10,898)
Data and network related costs	(39,352)	7,812	(31,540)
Gross Profit	102,199	7,812	110,011
Other income	1,351	-	1,351
Dividend received	44	-	44
Selling, distribution and marketing costs	(2,710)	-	(2,710)
Expected credit loss provision	(1,154)	-	(1,154)
Administrative expenses	(14,880)	(7,812)	(22,692)
Staff costs	(34,184)	-	(34,184)
Adjusted EBITDA	50,666	-	50,666
3 months ended 31 August 2022:			
Revenue	144,453	-	144,453
Interconnect related costs	(10,171)	-	(10,171)
Data and network related costs	(35,824)	6,949	(28,875)
Gross Profit	98,458	6,949	105,407
Other income	800	-	800
Selling, distribution and marketing costs	(2,430)	-	(2,430)
Expected credit loss provision	(3,352)	-	(3,352)
Administrative expenses	(13,606)	(6,949)	(20,555)
Staff costs	(29,501)	-	(29,501)
Adjusted EBITDA	50,369	-	50,369

27 Acquisition of subsidiary

In March 2023, the group announced that it has satisfied all agreed conditions for the acquisition of Cysiv MEA, a technology company that was formerly SecureMisr, headquartered in Cairo, for a consideration of USD 43. The business specialises in providing enterprise cloud and cyber security services to some of Egypt’s leading companies, particularly in the financial services sector. The acquisition allows the group to bring some of the best global cloud and cyber security products to the Egyptian market. The organisation will rebrand Cysiv MEA to ‘Liquid C2’ to align it with its global cloud and cybersecurity identity. The group plans to significantly grow the Egyptian business by tapping into the wealth of local tech talent, making Egypt a key hub for the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region.

The acquisition resulted in a gain on bargain purchase of USD 0.3 million. As the initial accounting of this acquisition was still incomplete by 31 August 2023, the group has reported provisional amounts, in accordance with IFRS 3 - *Business combination*, based on management best estimates.

	<u>31/08/2023</u>
	<u>USD'000</u>
	<u>(Unaudited)</u>
Consideration transferred (USD 43)	-
Fair value of identifiable net assets acquired	<u>272</u>
Gain on bargain purchase	<u>272</u>
Net cash inflow on acquisition of subsidiary	
Consideration transferred (USD 43)	-
Cash and cash equivalents of subsidiary on acquisition	<u>148</u>
Net cash inflow arising on acquisition	<u>148</u>

28 Immediate, intermediate and ultimate holding companies

The directors regard Liquid Telecommunications (Jersey) Limited, incorporated in Jersey, as the immediate holding company, Econet New Arx Limited as the intermediate holding company and Econet Global Limited as the ultimate holding company, both incorporated in Mauritius.