



KPMG Taseer Hadi & Co.
Chartered Accountants
351 Shadman-1, Jail Road,
Lahore 54000 Pakistan
+92 (42) 111-KPMGTH (576484), Fax +92 (42) 3742 9907

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the members of First Women Bank Limited

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

We have audited the annexed financial statements of **First Women Bank Limited** ("the Bank"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2021 and the statement of profit or loss, the statement of comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, along with unaudited certified returns received from the branches except for 18 branches which have been audited by us and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information and we state that we have obtained all the information and explanations which, to the best of our knowledge and belief, were necessary for the purposes of the audit.

In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, the statement of financial position, statement of profit or loss, statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows together with the notes forming part thereof conform with the accounting and reporting standards as applicable in Pakistan, and, give the information required by the Banking Companies Ordinance, 1962 and the Companies Act, 2017 (XIX of 2017), in the manner so required and respectively give a true and fair view of the state of the Bank's affairs as at 31 December 2021 and of the loss, other comprehensive income, the changes in equity and its cash flows for the year then ended.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) as applicable in Pakistan. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Bank in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* as adopted by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Pakistan (the Code) and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Material Uncertainty relating to Going Concern

We draw attention to Notes 1.2 and 1.3 of the financial statements which indicate that the Company incurred a net loss of Rs. 1.42 billion during the year ended 31 December 2021 and, as of that date, the Bank's paid-up capital (net of losses) stood below the Minimum Capital Requirement of Rs. 3 billion prescribed by the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) by Rs. 1.16 billion. Further, as per management accounts, as of 31 December 2022 and 30 June 2023 Minimum Capital Requirement of the Bank is also not met. As stated in note 1.3, these events or conditions, along with other matters as set forth in Note 1.2, indicate that a material uncertainty exists relating to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Bank's ability to continue as a going concern. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.



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Information Other than the Financial Statements and Auditor's Report Thereon

Management is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the director's report but does not include the financial statements and our auditors' report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of Management and the Board of Directors for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting and reporting standards as applicable in Pakistan, the requirements of Banking Companies Ordinance, 1962 and the Companies Act, 2017 (XIX of 2017) and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Bank's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Bank or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so. The Board of directors is responsible for overseeing the Bank's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs as applicable in Pakistan will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs as applicable in Pakistan, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Bank's internal control.

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- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Bank's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Bank to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Board of Directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

Based on our audit, we further report that in our opinion:

- a) proper books of account have been kept by the Bank as required by the Companies Act, 2017 (XIX of 2017) and the returns referred above from the branches have been found adequate for the purpose of our audit;
- b) the statement of financial position, the statement of profit or loss, the statement of comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows together with the notes thereon have been drawn up in conformity with the Banking Companies Ordinance, 1962 and the Companies Act, 2017(XIX of 2017) and are in agreement with the books of account and returns;
- c) investments made, expenditure incurred and guarantees extended during the year were in accordance with the objects and powers of the Bank and the transactions of the Bank which have come to our notice have been within the powers of the Bank; and
- d) zakat deductible at source under the Zakat and Ushr Ordinance, 1980 (XVIII of 1980), was deducted by the Bank and deposited in the Central Zakat Fund established under section 7 of that Ordinance.

We confirm that for the purpose of our audit we have covered more than sixty per cent of the total loans and advances of the Bank.

The engagement partner on the audit resulting in this independent auditor's report is Rehan Chughtai.

KPMG Taseer Hadi & Co.
Chartered Accountants

Lahore

Date: 19 January 2024

UDIN: AR202110183az7OLh6Z0