



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN



Dr John C. Grech, FIMBank Group Chairman

Dear Shareholder,

In my address at our last AGM, I had highlighted the quality and resilience of FIMBank's dynamic business model. The foundations for this success, designed and implemented by our executive management team, have not only proved pivotal, but have laid the foundations for a stronger FIMBank Group, and long-term business sustainability.

In this context, it is with a great sense of satisfaction that half-way through the current financial year, we are in a position to confirm that the Group has now entered its fourth year of profitability. As a matter of fact, the Group's Consolidated Financial Statements show that for the first six months of 2019, the FIMBank Group registered a pre-tax profit of USD9.6 million, a substantial increase of 38 per cent on the USD7.0 million reported during the same period in 2018.

This year we are also celebrating a significant milestone, FIMBank's 25th anniversary. This landmark in FIMBank's history has been an opportunity for my Board and Management to review the Bank's objectives, and determine where we are heading, keeping in focus our mission.

The fundamentals which have determined the success of the FIMBank Group during its history are here to stay. Over the years, FIMBank has established itself as a leading provider of trade finance, factoring and forfaiting solutions, developing a customer-driven ethos focused on optimising clients' business performance and growth. The Bank has for years been at the forefront in introducing and developing innovative receivable finance techniques in emerging markets. FIMBank also takes a keen interest in the development of the local market. In this respect, I am pleased to report that our local real estate finance proposition, targeting established developers, continues to bear fruit.

Much of the Bank's reputation today is due to its innate desire and ability to treat local and international clients as partners in growth. Moreover, FIMBank also prides itself on its longstanding correspondent banking relationships with prime international institutions.

All this would not be possible without the sheer vitality and dynamism of our people. There is no doubt that our employees and members of management at head office and across the globe, deserve our congratulations for the succession of positive results which have been registered over the past four years. Their dedication and expertise, not to mention their sense of loyalty and perseverance, remain our most formidable assets, and major determinants of success, as they continue to face the challenges of operating in a very specialised and complex business environment. This underlines the importance of investing in retaining and recruiting the right talent, which is the pillar of any formidable organisation. This is all the more true in the Maltese market, where the competition for the best talent is exceptionally high.

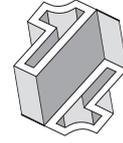
Relationships are also fundamental when it comes to our investors. Over the years, FIMBank has placed strong emphasis on proactive engagement with all its shareholders. Our shareholder engagement approach remains top priority, which is why we continue to enhance upon our existing framework to keep all shareholders informed and ensure that communication with the Bank can take place in a seamless fashion. This ensures that all our stakeholders continue to have the information they need to build trust and credibility. As always, I would be reflecting the wishes of my Board when I extend our sincere gratitude for the demonstration of trust and loyalty forthcoming from all our shareholders. Your support remains an important source of encouragement.

The backing which we continue to receive from our majority shareholders, primarily United Gulf Holding of the KIPCO Group, remains an important pillar for our growth trajectory. Most recently, the Rights Issue underwritten last year by United Gulf Holding, enabled the Bank to expand its capital base and undertake more business.

Finally, on behalf of the Board of Directors and the entire management team, we would like to wish you a pleasant summer.

"This year we are also celebrating a significant milestone, FIMBank's 25th anniversary. This landmark in FIMBank's history has been an opportunity for my Board and Management to review the Bank's objectives, and determine where we are heading, keeping in focus our mission."

Dr John C. Grech
Chairman



MESSAĠĠ MINGHAND IĊ-CHAIRMAN

Issue 10 - September 2019



Dr John C. Grech, Iċ-Chairman ta' FIMBank Group

Għażiż Azzjonist,

Fid-diskors li għamilt fl-aħħar Laqgħa Ġenerali Annwali tagħna, kont enfasizzajt il-kwalità u r-reżiljenza tal-*business model* dinamiku ta' FIMBank. Il-pedamenti għal dan is-suċċess, li ġew imfassla u implimentati mit-tim eżekuttiv tal-*Management* kienu kruċjali u hejjew is-sisien għal Grupp aktar b'saħħtu, kif ukoll sostenibbiltà kummerċjali fit-tul.

F'dan il-kuntest, huwa b'sodisfazzjon kbir li, f'nofs is-sena finanzjarja kurrenti, ninsabu f'pożizzjoni li nikkonfermaw li l-Grupp issa daħal fir-raba' sena ta' profittabbiltà. Fil-fatt, ir-Rapporti Finanzjarji Konsolidati tal-Grupp juru li fl-ewwel sitt xhur tal-2019, il-Grupp FIMBank irregistra profitt qabel it-taxxa ta' USD9.6 miljun, zieda sostanzjali ta' 38 fil-mija fuq is-USD7.0 miljun irrappurtat fl-istess perjodu fl-2018.

Din is-sena qed niċcelebraw ukoll okkażjoni sinifikanti: il-25 anniversarju ta' FIMBank. Dan l-avveniment fl-istorja ta' FIMBank kien ta' opportunità għall-Bord tiegħi u għall-*Management* biex nirvedu l-oġettivi tal-Bank.

Il-prinċipji li ddeterminaw is-suċċess tal-Grupp FIMBank matul l-istorja tiegħu se jibqgħu fis-seħħ. Matul is-snin, FIMBank stabbilixxa lilu nnifsu bħala speċjalist tat-*trade finance*, tal-*factoring* u ta' soluzzjonijiet ta' *forfeiting*, fejn żviluppa kultura ddedikata lejn il-klijenti u li tiffoka fuq l-aħjar titjib possibbli tal-prestazzjoni u t-tkabbir tan-negozju tagħhom. Għal snin twal il-Bank kien minn ta' quddiem fl-introduzzjoni u l-iżvilupp fil-finanzjament innovattiv ta' *receivable finance* fi swieq emergenti. FIMBank jiehwa interess kbir ukoll fl-iżvilupp tas-suq lokali. Bi pjaċir nirrapporta li l-prodott tagħna fejn jidhru l-iffinanzjar għall-iżvilupp ta' proprjetà, mfassla u mmirata għall-iżviluppaturi stabbiliti lokali, qed tkompli tagħti l-frott.

Ir-reputazzjoni tal-Bank hija frott l-hila tagħna li nitrattaw lill-klijenti lokali u internazzjonali bħala shab fit-tkabbir. Barra minn hekk, FIMBank iħossu kburi wkoll bir-relazzjonijiet bankarji korrispondenti tiegħu ma' istituzzjonijiet internazzjonali kbar.

Dan kollu ma kienx ikun possibbli mingħajr d-dinamizmu tal-impjegati tagħna. M'hemm l-ebda dubju li l-impjegati u l-membri tagħna tal-*Management* kemm fil-*Head Office* tagħna f'Malta kif ukoll fl-uffiċċji madwar id-dinja jisthoqqilhom l-awgurju tagħna għar-riżultati pożittivi suċċessivi li ġew irregistrati tul dawn l-aħħar erba' snin. Id-dedikazzjoni u l-hila tagħhom, kif ukoll is-sens ta' lealtà u perseveranza jibqgħu fost l-aktar assi formidabbli tagħna u fatturi kbar għas-suċċess tal-Grupp hekk kif ikompli jiffaċċjaw l-isfidi li joperaw f'ambjent kummerċjali tassew speċjalizzat u kumpless. Dan jenfasizza l-importanza li ninvestu sabiex nattraw u nżommu l-aħjar talent li huwa l-pilastru ta' kwalunkwe organizzazzjoni b'saħħitha. Dan huwa aktar u aktar minnu fir-rigward tas-suq Malti fejn il-kompetizzjoni għall-aħjar talent hija kbira.

Ir-relazzjonijiet fejn jidhru l-investituri tagħna huma fundamentali wkoll. Matul is-snin, FIMBank ta importanza kbira lejn involviment proattiv mal-azzjonisti kollha tiegħu. L-azzjonisti jibqgħu l-ewwel prijorità tagħna u għalhekk qed nibqgħu nsaħħu l-qafas eżistenti tagħna biex inżommu l-azzjonisti tagħna infurmati, u niżguraw li jistgħu jikkomunikaw mal-Bank mingħajr ebda xkiel. Dan jaċċerta li l-partijiet interessati kollha tagħna dejjem ikollhom l-informazzjoni li jeħtieġu biex jibnu l-fiducia u kredibbiltà. Bħal dejjem, inkun qed nirrifletti x-xewqat tal-Bord tiegħi hekk kif nestendi l-gratitudni sinciera tagħna għat-turija ta' fiducia u lealtà mingħand l-azzjonisti kollha tagħna. L-appoġġ tagħkom jibqa' sors importanti ta' inkoraġġiment għalina.

L-appoġġ li nibqgħu nirċievu mill-azzjonisti tagħna, primarjament mingħand United Gulf Holding tal-Grupp KIPCO, jibqa' essenzjali. Reċentament, il-*Hruġ* ta' Ishma bi Dritt, sottokritt is-sena l-oħra minn United Gulf Holding, ippermetta lill-Bank biex jespandi l-bażi kapitali tiegħu u biex iwettaq aktar kummerċ.

F'isem il-Bord tad-Diretturi u t-tim kollu tal-*management*, nixtiqulkom sajj hieni.

"Din is-sena qed niċcelebraw ukoll okkażjoni sinifikanti: il-25 anniversarju ta' FIMBank. Dan l-avveniment fl-istorja ta' FIMBank kien ta' opportunità għall-Bord tiegħi u għall-Management biex nirvedu l-oġettivi tal-Bank."

Dr John C. Grech
Iċ-Chairman



MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Issue 10 - September 2019



Murali Subramanian, FIMBank Group CEO

The strong performance registered by the Group during the first half of 2019 was a further reflection of FIMBank's risk-balanced business model transformation. I am pleased to report that the Group has successfully completed a de-risking exercise of its main portfolios, aimed at strengthening its varied exposures across the different products and geographical presences, thereby reducing concentrations, and ensuring sustained growth in the years to come.

One side-effect of these measures has been the short-term reduction in the size of the balance sheet, as key portfolios have readjusted their client and market profile, refining structuring and increasing risk mitigation. All this was offset by a highly effective execution of the asset-liability management process, preserving revenues through the proactive structuring of the Group's funding sources, and the use of various available liquidity tools. In the meantime, ongoing strategic and operational deep-dives for all Group franchises have maintained coherence across the varied businesses and their operating environments.

For the first six months of 2019, the FIMBank Group reported a pre-tax profit of USD9.6 million, an increase of 38 per cent on the USD7.0 million registered during the same period in 2018. These results mean that the Group has extended its profitability into its fourth successive year. At 30th June 2019, Total Consolidated Assets stood at USD1.77 billion, down by 5 per cent when compared to the USD1.87 billion reported at end-2018, while Total Consolidated Liabilities stood at USD1.48 billion, or 7 per cent less than the USD1.59 billion reported at end 2018. This drop is mainly attributable to a decrease in wholesale funding of USD147 million. On the other hand, deposits from corporate and retail clients increased by USD65 million.

During the period under review, the Group's net operating income saw a marginal decrease of 2 per cent, from USD28.3 million to USD27.8 million. Net interest income increased by 19 per cent to USD16.0 million, as improvements in the liability structure of the Group offset the reduction in interest income resulting from lower asset levels.

The Group maintained adequate coverage on non-performing exposures identified in 2018. Net impairment charges for the first six months of 2019 amounted to USD0.6 million, compared to the USD2.1 million charged in 2018. In the current year, net impairments are inclusive of the successful recovery of a fully provided exposure, amounting to USD3.0 million.

FIMBank's positive performance comes in the context of a critically important transformation of the underlying portfolios of the Group during this period, the result of which places FIMBank in a position of strength, as it makes its business model fundamentals even more attractive.

Going forward, we will continue to exploit our expertise and geographical presence to pursue our offer of a bespoke service centred on structuring transactions across the trade-related product

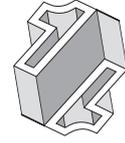
portfolio, and across the different stages of the supply chain. Pursuing the return to asset growth will be a priority. We will also continue to be vigilant on risk, controls and governance, in order to ensure that the expansion of the business is executed in a sustainable way.

In my brief address at our recent 25th anniversary event, I made reference to a Maltese proverb "Iż-żmien hu l-akbar għalliem", emphasising on the fact that time is indeed the greatest teacher. In this regard, FIMBank's 25th anniversary is a strong message in itself. The Bank has developed a reputation for trustworthiness and reliability, as we continue building strong banking relationships with our clients in over fifty countries. It is a significant milestone for FIMBank, a clear indication of the Group's ability to adapt to changing circumstances.

As our journey continues, we look towards the evolution into the next phase of FIMBank's strategic development. This will be based on measures aimed at maximising scale, product capability enhancement, solid funding engines, and a strong risk framework. We have sufficient business pipeline, funding, and resource structures in place to support this path. Moreover, we are confident of FIMBank's ability to generate higher value and returns for the benefit of all stakeholders.

"FIMBank's positive performance comes in the context of a critically important transformation of the underlying portfolios of the Group during this period, the result of which places FIMBank in a position of strength, as it makes its business model fundamentals even more attractive."

Murali Subramanian
Chief Executive Officer



MESSAĠĠ TAS-CEO

Issue 10 - September 2019



Murali Subramanian, il-Kap Eżekuttiv ta' FIMBank Group

Il-prestazzjoni b'saħħitha rreġistrata mill-Grupp tul l-ewwel sitt xhur tal-2019 tikkonferma t-trasformazzjoni tal-mudell kummerċjali tagħna fejn qegħdin inpoġġu fuq quddiem bħala priorità l-immaniġġjar tar-riskju. Għandi l-pjaċir nirrapporta li l-Grupp lesta eżerċizzju tat-tnaqqis tar-riskji tal-portafolli ewlenin tiegħu. Dan l-eżerċizzju kellu l-mira li jsaħħaħ l-*exposures* varjati tiegħu fuq il-prodotti u l-preżenzi ġeografici tal-Grupp, inaqqs konċentrazzjonijiet u jiżgura t-tkabbir sostnut fis-sin li ġejjin.

Effett sekondarju ta' dawn il-miżuri kien it-tnaqqis fid-daqs tal-*balance sheet* minħabba l-aġġustament mill-ġdid fil-profil tal-klijenti u tas-swieq li noperaw fihom. Strutturajna u zidna l-mitigazzjoni tar-riskji u dan kollu ġie kkompensat minn eżekuzzjoni effettiva tal-proċess tal-ġestjoni tal-assi, il-preservazzjoni tad-dhul u l-użu tal-mezzi varji ta' likwidità disponibbli. Sadattant, analiżi strategika u operattiva għall-*franchises* kollha tal-Grupp żammew koerenza tul l-iżviluppi varjati fl-ambjenti li noperaw fihom.

Fl-ewwel sitt xhur tal-2019, il-Grupp FIMBank irrapporta profitt ta' qabel it-taxxa ta' USD9.6 miljun, zieda ta' 38 fil-mija fuq is-USD7.0 miljun irreġistrat fl-istess perjodu fl-2018. Dawn ir-riżultati jfissru li l-Grupp estenda l-profittabbiltà tiegħu għar-raba' sena konsekuttiva. Fit-30 ta' Gunju 2019, l-Assi Konsolidati Totali kienu ta' USD1.77 biljun, tnaqqis ta' 5 fil-mija meta mqabbel mal-USD1.87 biljun li ġie rrapportat fl-aħħar tal-2018, filwaqt li l-Obbligazzjonijiet Konsolidati Totali kienu ta' USD1.48 biljun, jew 7 fil-mija nqas mill-USD1.59 biljun irrappurtat fl-aħħar tal-2018.

Tul dan il-perjodu, id-dhul operattiv nett tal-Grupp naqas marginalment bi 2 fil-mija, minn USD28.3 miljun għal USD27.8 miljun. Id-dhul nett mill-imghax żdied b'19 fil-mija għal USD16.0 miljun minħabba li titjib fl-istruttura tal-obbligazzjonijiet tal-Grupp ibbilanċja t-tnaqqis fid-dhul mill-imghax.

Il-Grupp żamm kopertura adegwata fuq *non-performing exposures* identifikati fl-2018. *Net impairment charges* fl-ewwel sitt xhur tal-2019 ammontaw għal USD0.6 miljun meta mqabbel mal-USD2.1 miljun fl-2018.

Il-prestazzjoni pożittiva ta' FIMBank tiġi fil-kuntest ta' trasformazzjoni importanti ħafna fil-portafolli tal-Grupp li tpoġġi lill-Bank f'pożizzjoni b'saħħitha.

B'ħarsitna l-quddiem, se nkomplu nutilizzaw il-hila u l-preżenża ġeografika tagħna biex noffru servizz speċjalizzat ibbażat fuq l-istrutturar ta' tranzazzjonijiet relatati mal-kummerċ. Ir-ritorn lejn it-tkabbir tal-assi se tkun prijorità. Se nkomplu wkoll inkunu viġilanti fuq ir-riskju, il-kontrolli u l-governanza sabiex niżguraw li l-espansjoni tal-kummerċ tiġi eżegwita b'mod sostenibbli.

Fid-diskors qasir li għamilt waqt iċ-ċelebrazzjoni tal-25 anniversarju tagħna, għamilt referenza għall-qawl Malti, "l-żmien hu l-akbar għalliem". Il-25 anniversarju ta' FIMBank iservi ta' messaġġ b'saħħtu. Il-Bank żviluppa reputazzjoni għall-affidabbiltà hekk kif inkomplu nibnu relazzjonijiet kummerċjali sodi mal-klijenti tagħna. Dan huwa pass sinifikanti għal FIMBank u indikazzjoni cara tal-hila tal-Grupp biex jadatta għal ċirkostanzi li jinbidlu.

Hekk kif ikompli l-vjaġġ tagħna, inħarsu 'l quddiem lejn l-evoluzzjoni fil-fażi li jmiss fl-iżvilupp strategiku ta' FIMBank. Dan se jkun ibbażat fuq miżuri mmirati lejn it-tkabbir, it-titjib tal-prodotti, mekkanizmi ta' finanzjament sodi, u qafas ta' riskju sod. Għandna biżżejjed sorsi kummerċjali, finanzjament u strutturi ta' riżorsi fis-seħħ biex inwettqu dan il-pjan. Barra minn hekk, aħna kunfidenti li FIMBank għandu l-abbiltà li jiġġenera valur u dhul oġġha għall-benefiċċju tal-partijiet interessati kollha.

"Il-prestazzjoni pożittiva ta' FIMBank tiġi fil-kuntest ta' trasformazzjoni importanti ħafna fil-portafolli tal-Grupp li tpoġġi lil FIMBank f'pożizzjoni b'saħħitha."

CFO REVIEW



Ronald Mizzi, Group Chief Financial Officer

During the period under review, profit before tax increased by 38% from USD7.0 million to USD9.6 million - as lower impairment charges and fair value adjustments offset a reduction in the Group's net operating results.

The Group's net operating income (net revenues) marginally decreased by 2% from USD28.3 million to USD27.8 million. Net interest income increased by 19% to USD16.0 million, as improvements in the liability structure of the Group offset the reduction in interest income resulting from lower asset levels. Net fees and commission dropped drastically by USD3.1 million to USD6.4 million on the back of lower gross fee income due to a reduction in new transactions generated during the period and higher fees payable on credit mitigation and related costs. Net results from foreign currency operations increased by 19% to USD1.2 million as the client-driven FX business has improved compared to the same period in 2018. Overall, both net interest margins and net revenue margins have improved when compared to last year notwithstanding the lower average asset levels carried during the first six months of the year.

Operating expenses for the six months under review stood at USD18.7 million - largely flat compared to the USD18.5 million in 2018. This was consistent across main cost lines - staff, other administrative and depreciation - with all cost budgets remaining under continuous oversight to ensure the right balance between revenue developments and costs. In the beginning of the current financial year, the Group implemented IFRS16, Leases, which has resulted in the on-balance sheet recognition of Right of Use Assets and Lease Liabilities for all arrangements where the Group is a lessee. In the income statement the recognition of expenditure has shifted out of Administrative Expenses (for lease payments) to a combination of Interest Expense and Depreciation.

As reported in the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2018 the Group had, last year, identified a number of non-performing exposures on which impairment charges were recorded in the second half of 2018. For the current six months, the Group has maintained adequate coverage on these non-performing exposures, extended to all assets subject to IFRS9. As a result of this, net impairment charges for the six months of 2019 (IFRS9 Stages 1, 2 and 3) amounted to USD0.6 million, compared to the USD2.1 million charge in 2018. In the current year, net impairments are inclusive of a successful recovery of a fully provided exposure amounting to USD3.0 million.

Results from trading assets and other financial instruments remained consistent with 2018 at USD1.1 million - following an improvement in trading gains and overall market values of a number of trading assets held in the forfeiting portfolio. In 2018, the Group's investment in Latam Factors had contributed to a net share of profit (equity method) of USD0.2 million and a fair value loss of USD2.1 million. Latam Factors was disposed in the second half of 2018.

At 30 June 2019, total Consolidated Assets stood at USD1.77 billion, a decrease of 5% over the USD1.87 billion reported at end-2018. The Group's Loans and Advances to Customers increased by USD19 million offset by wholesale lending (within Loans and Advances to Banks) which dropped by USD52 million. Trading assets, made up entirely of the forfeiting portfolio, decreased by USD51 million. Treasury assets, consisting of investment securities, bank deposits and other liquidity instruments reduced by USD18 million.

Total Consolidated Liabilities as at 30 June 2019 stood at USD1.48 billion, a decrease of 7% over the USD1.59 billion reported at end 2018. Group Equity as at Financial Reporting date stood at USD286 million (31 December 2018: USD279 million), with CET1 and CAR ratio standing at 18.2% (31 December 2018: CET1 of 17.6% and CAR of 18.0%). The changes in equity reflect the profit for the first six months of the year and other changes to reserves.

Having the necessary expertise to structure transactions across the trade-related product portfolio, FIMBank aims to keep building business partnerships with its varied client base. For the forthcoming six months, the Group aims to return to asset growth reversing the negative trend witnessed earlier in the year whilst remaining vigilant on risk, controls and governance as areas ensuring the expansion of the business are executed in a sustainable way.

	2019 USD	Group 2018 USD	Movement USD
Net interest income	16,002,172	13,442,515	2,559,657
Net fee and commission income	6,353,441	9,408,279	(3,054,838)
Dividend income	3,858,668	4,035,661	(176,993)
Net results from foreign currency operations	1,161,762	977,211	184,551
Other operating income	434,295	445,401	(11,106)
Net operating income	27,810,338	28,309,067	(498,729)
Operating expenses	(18,691,904)	(18,516,181)	(175,723)
Net operating results	9,118,434	9,792,886	(674,452)
Net impairment (losses)/gains	(579,256)	(2,091,439)	1,512,183
Net results from trading assets and other financial instruments	1,109,134	1,138,786	(29,652)
Share of results of equity-accounted investees	-	238,634	(238,634)
Fair value loss on re-measurement of non-current asset held for sale	-	(2,078,082)	2,078,082
Profit before tax	9,648,312	7,000,785	2,647,527
Taxation	(2,161,533)	(947,712)	(1,213,821)
Profit for the period	7,486,779	6,053,073	1,433,706

FIMBANK CELEBRATES 25TH ANNIVERSARY

FIMBank has recently hosted its 25 year anniversary event at the Upper Barrakka Saluting Battery in Valletta, overlooking the majestic grand harbour, to commemorate this significant milestone. The Prime Minister, Dr Joseph Muscat, together with other prominent figures in the financial services industry, were also invited to this landmark event.

Over the course of these 25 years, FIMBank has established itself as a leading provider of trade finance, factoring and forfaiting solutions, developing a customer-driven ethos focused on optimising business performance and growth. FIMBank is an award winning organisation that has won a variety of awards and accolades in various categories over the years.

The FIMBank Group owes its inception to the establishment of First International Merchant Bank Ltd, which commenced its operations in 1994. In 2001, the shares of the Bank were listed on the Malta Stock Exchange and four years later, the First International Merchant Bank changed its name to FIMBank p.l.c.

In 2003, FIMBank kick-started the expansion of its international network, with the acquisition of London Forfaiting Company Limited, a market leader in forfaiting. The Bank's global footprint was further enhanced by the establishment of the FIMBank DIFC branch in Dubai, and of Egypt Factors in Cairo in 2006. This was followed by the acquisition of India Factoring in 2007. In 2011, the Group achieved new heights, with its balance sheet reaching the USD1 billion mark.

In 2015, the Group was bolstered by key appointments in its executive management. It was during this time period that the Bank adopted a new direction with an enhanced strategy, with a significant focus on risk management, mitigation and control. The Group went on to deliver successful results, registering profits of USD5.3 million in 2016, USD7.7 million in 2017 and USD10.2 million in 2018.

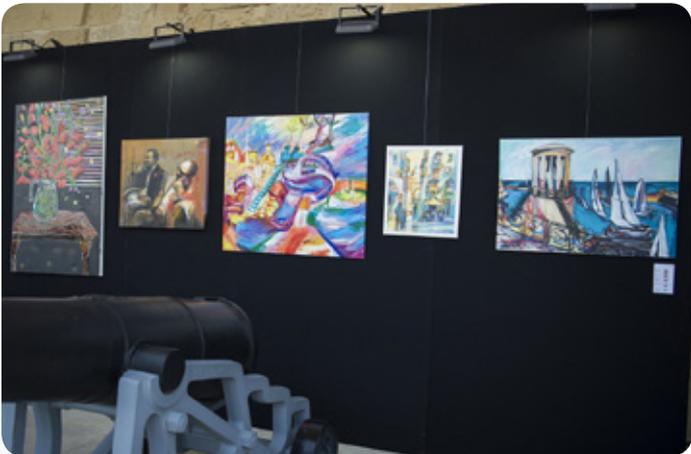




During this period, the Group achieved significant milestones, particularly with the development of its real estate finance proposition, targeting established developers in Malta, and the launch of its fully-fledged digital banking platform, catering for the needs of corporate customers.

The year 2018 was heavily characterised by the Bank's Rights Issue, which specifically brought to the fore the underwritten agreement by the Bank majority shareholder United Gulf Holding, a member of the KIPCO Group. The cash injection of USD105 million allowed the Bank to strengthen its capital base and undertake more business.

"FIMBank's 25th anniversary is a strong message in itself. The Bank has developed a reputation for trustworthiness and reliability, as we continue building strong banking relationships with our clients in over 50 countries. It is a significant milestone for FIMBank, a clear indication of the Group's ability to adapt to changing circumstances. We are pleased to be in a position where we can celebrate our long-term successes, whilst looking forward to the future with optimism, as we continue to build on our solid foundations" stated Murali Subramanian, CEO of the FIMBank Group.



FIMBANK HOLDS ITS 2019 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

FIMBank plc held its Annual General Meeting at the Hilton. An overview of the key elements which led to the Group's results for 2018 was given to all shareholders present.

During his presentation to the shareholders, FIMBank Group CEO Murali Subramanian explained that the performance across the Group in 2018 was characterised by growth in the forfaiting, factoring, local real estate financing, and shipping businesses. He highlighted the fact that London Forfaiting Company Ltd (LFC) reported its highest profit ever since being acquired by FIMBank in 2003. Moreover, at the end of 2018, Egypt Factors had returned to its first full year of profit since the acquisition of the company by the Group in 2016. He added that in 2018, his team "vigorously pursued the further upgrading of FIMBank's asset origination and product differentiation efforts. Further improvements in operational efficiencies also allowed it to continue making inroads into greater revenue generation, while optimising on its capital and funding resources."

Mr Subramanian also pointed out that the past years "have been marked by rapid changes in the nature of our business and the technology which supports it. During 2018, we were successful in keeping up with these developments, primarily by attracting and retaining the best talent, and by maintaining a leading edge in our Information Technology capabilities. Amongst others, in the year under review we embarked on the upgrading of the Bank's core system." The FIMBank CEO concluded that going forward "the Group is expected to continue evolving within rigorous parameters and frameworks, aimed to solidify its origination and risk processes, achieving growth at a sustainable pace."

"The Bank's performance, despite the myriad of challenges faced throughout the year, reflects the resilience of our dynamic business model. It bolsters our commitment and resolve to respond to future challenges, ensuring sustainability for the years to come."

The Group Chief Financial Officer Ronald Mizzi went on to explain that FIMBank's Consolidated Audited Financial Statements show that for the year ended 31 December 2018, the Group registered an after-tax profit of USD10.2 million, compared to an after-tax profit of USD7.7 million in 2017.

Mr Mizzi referred to the 2018 USD105 million Rights Issue as a key milestone in the Bank's progression which enabled it to strengthen its capital base. He explained that during 2018, revenues from core operating assets have strengthened and with continued investment in the Group's resources, FIMBank can continue building on solid foundations, scale the operations and keep transforming the business for better and higher returns.

In his concluding remarks to the AGM, Dr Grech highlighted that FIMBank is celebrating its 25 year anniversary. He said that the Bank "has developed a reputation for trustworthiness and reliability, as we continue building strong banking relationships with our varied clientele. When looking back at our achievements, we must highlight the importance and consistent support of all our stakeholders, without whom we would not have achieved such significant results across the years."

Shareholders approved resolutions to declare a 1:30 bonus share issue by capitalisation of the share premium account.



FIMBANK MEETS STOCKBROKERS, FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES AND MALTA ASSOCIATION OF SMALL SHAREHOLDERS



FIMBank recently hosted meetings with licensed stockbrokers and financial intermediaries, as well as with the Malta Association of Small Shareholders, to discuss the Group's 2018 financial results and developments which marked its performance.

In 2018, the Bank vigorously pursued the further upgrading of its asset origination and product differentiation efforts. Further improvements in operational efficiencies also allowed it to continue making inroads into greater revenue generation, while optimising its capital and funding resources. The Group is expected to continue evolving within rigorous parameters and frameworks, aimed at solidifying its origination and risk processes, while achieving growth at a sustainable pace.

During these meetings, it was explained that for the year ended 31 December 2018, the Group registered a profit of USD10.2 million compared to a profit of USD7.7 million in 2017. For the year under review, net operating results, that is operating income less operating costs, more than tripled from USD6.5 million to USD21.1 million – as the Group improved its revenues by USD9.9 million and reduced its costs by USD4.7 million.

The Bank's performance, despite the myriad of challenges faced throughout the year, reflects the resilience of FIMBank's dynamic business model. It bolsters the Group's commitment and resolve to respond to future challenges, ensuring sustainability for the years to come.

FIMBANK LAUDED FOR STP EXCELLENCE BY COMMERZBANK

FIMBank has been lauded with an award by Commerzbank, the STP Award 2018 for excellent quality in the delivery of payments. Such an award reflects the hard work and dedication of FIMBank's Payments Team.

STP is considered the most important indicator for quality in the field of payment transactions. The team strives to increase payments' efficiency by ensuring that all are processed and settled cost effectively, within the shortest timeframe possible.

This is achieved through reviews of payment processes and monitoring of STP rates. Being lauded with such awards is a clear indication of how positively the Bank is perceived in terms of operational performance. This is the first time that this award has been received from Commerzbank.



FIMBANK EXTENDS ITS INTERNATIONAL AND LOCAL PAYMENT CUT-OFF TIME TO 16:00 CET

FIMBank is pleased to announce an extension to its payment cut-off time. Payments executed up until 16:00 CET via the Bank's digital banking platform, FIMBank Direct, can now be processed on the day, subject to all criteria being met where applicable.

"The recent extension of the payment cut-off time underlines the Bank's commitment to provide a quality service to its esteemed clientele. We are constantly enhancing operational efficiencies so as to deliver a higher value service to our customers. This added convenience and flexibility is a key step forward in maintaining FIMBank's competitive edge as a bespoke provider of local and international corporate banking products" said Lorraine Pace, Head of Banking Operations and Project Management at FIMBank.

Over the years, the Bank has engaged a team of international corporate bankers with experience in identifying customer needs and matching these with system solutions, complemented by dedicated support.

The Bank has also invested significantly in its offering for efficient international settlements in major currencies such as USD, which is enabled through its global correspondent banking network. These settlement options are offered for same day and next day, for both normal and high value transactions.

"The Bank is strongly geared to offer a wide range of corporate products. Our strategy hinges on the commitment to provide added value to our local and international clients by focusing on specialised customer service and sophisticated systems. FIMBank offers corporate relationship support for all business needs, competitive USD and other currency deposit rates for the short and medium term, together with a strong international settlement reach" said Chris Trapani, Head of Cash Management and Central Customer Services at FIMBank.

The Bank also provides treasury services supporting international commercial requirements with efficient foreign exchange services, facilitating the management of exchange rate volatility and cash flow. This includes competitive foreign exchange pricing with a large list of tradable currencies.

The service experience is enhanced by the Bank's digital banking platform, FIMBank Direct. This platform is specifically designed to address the needs of corporate customers, providing a framework where accounts can be managed efficiently and securely. Such account holders may execute single and multi-currency funds transfers, as well as competitive Forex transactions, and benefit from other general banking products.

For further information about FIMBank please visit www.fimbank.com or contact our business development team on cm.businessdev@fimbank.com



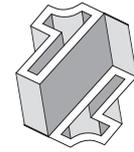
FIMBank Supports Beating Hearts

FIMBank has recently supported Beating Hearts by purchasing corporate gifts and sponsoring the printing of the Tale of Two Cities exhibition artwork. Beating Hearts Malta (BHM) is an independent non-profit foundation established primarily to support the needs of parents having children born with a Congenital Heart Defect (CHD) enabling them to share their experiences and to offer good practical advice.

Beating Hearts Malta (BHM) was founded in December 2011 with its main objective being to provide support and encouragement for all adults and children with CHD, their partners and families in Malta through sharing personal experience and knowledge as well as, to promote awareness and educate social care professionals, employers, insurers and the general public about the existence and the needs of people with CHD.



FIMBank sponsored a Tale of Two Cities produced by Professor Victor Grech, founder of Beating Hearts. A Tale of Two Cities is a set of exhibitions by Professor Victor Grech (Consultant Paediatric in Cardiology at Mater Dei Hospital) for Beating Hearts Malta (BHM). These exhibitions comprise sets of 50 photographs, 25 photographs of a location outside of Malta, paired with a location in Malta. Each image pair serves to highlight similarities and differences between two geographical localities, with all photographs shot and edited by Prof. Grech on a Samsung S9 using the inbuilt photo editor. These photographs are UV printed on DIBOND® (70x45cm) and are in limited editions of 50 or 100, individually signed and numbered by the photographer.



FIMBANK

Corporate International Banking



International Settlements

Ability to settle in major currencies such as USD is enabled through our excellent correspondent banking relationships.



Cash & Credit Management

FIMBank is strongly positioned to deliver an enhanced banking service to corporate customers. We offer both cash and credit management products to satisfy the needs of our clients.



Foreign Currencies

As a trade finance specialist, FIMBank has invested significantly in its offering for international settlements in various currencies including USD.



Digital Banking

The services provided by FIMBank are facilitated by its secure digital banking platform FIMBank Direct, a system designed for the cash management needs of corporate customers.

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FIMBank p.l.c. is a licensed credit institution regulated by the Malta Financial Services Authority and is listed on the Malta Stock Exchange.

25 YEARS OF FIMBANK

Published by First Magazine

As FIMBank enters its 25th year of business, Jason Zammit, Senior Vice President and Head of Marketing looks back at the Bank's corporate social responsibility initiatives which have ranged from the philanthropic, to the environmental, as well as those focusing on Malta's culture and heritage.



FIMBank CEO Murali Subramanian during one of the numerous philanthropic events and initiatives supported by the Bank and its employees.



Senior Vice President Jason Zammit during a ceramist's exhibition launch at St James Cavalier.



A display of theatrical and period costumes during Malta Fashion Week. An event supported by FIMBank.

FIMBank is an international trade finance Bank headquartered in Malta. Set up in 1994, the Bank has established itself as a leading provider of trade finance, factoring and forfaiting solutions, by developing a customer-driven ethos focused on optimising clients' business performance and growth. Today, the Bank boasts a global presence in various important financial and trading centres and employs around four hundred people, two hundred of which are based at the Malta head office. This year, the Bank is celebrating its 25th anniversary since its foundation.

Over the past 25 years, the Bank has supported many local causes. Throughout the years, its CSR projects have ranged from the philanthropic, to the environmental, as well as those focusing on Malta's culture and heritage.

In this respect, FIMBank has undertaken extensive CSR projects, promoting the use of the Maltese language across various media, sponsoring local artists and also restoring monuments of national importance in Malta. Forward-thinking companies embed corporate social responsibility at the core of their operations to create shared value for business and society and FIMBank remains committed to support on various fronts.

Among the best-remembered CSR projects remain the 'Batterina' awareness campaign in schools encouraging the organised collection of used batteries, the conservation projects relating to the Great Siege Monument in Valletta and the Maglio Gardens in Floriana, and more recently, the TV and social media campaigns aimed at raising awareness about Malta's rich heritage and the uniqueness of the Maltese language.



FIMBank sponsored the conservation work on all nine monuments located at Maglio Gardens in Floriana, a project coordinated by Din I-Art Helwa.



FIMBank teamed up with Public Broadcasting Services Ltd and artist Kelsey May Connor to produce 100 educational videos focused on Malta's linguistic heritage in a series titled Kelma Kuljum.



One of the many sponsored art exhibitions, which was hosted at Palazzo Parisio in Naxxar. Exhibition artists included the established C.S. Lawrence, Paulene Attard, John Grima and John Martin Borg.

Over the years, the Bank has also supported the work of various local artists and art galleries, the Teatru Manoel through the donation of a new harpsichord, as well as events such as the Malta Arts Festival.

FIMBank has been heavily involved in the promotion of the Maltese language. A major CSR initiative saw the Bank team up with Public Broadcasting Services Ltd (PBS) in the development and broadcasting of a series of 30-second video-spots, focusing on Malta's linguistic heritage. The series of 100 educational videos, the production of which was also sponsored by the Bank, traces the meaning and origin of specific words in the Maltese language. The words selected for the series, which was entitled 'Kelma Kuljum' (or 'A Word Everyday'), included both those used in everyday discourse, as well as others which have become less frequent.

FIMBank launched an initiative designed to help raise awareness about the island's rich cultural heritage. The Maltese language is recognised as being an essential part of the Maltese DNA. Its uniqueness, derived from its eclectic mix of Semitic and Romance influences, is appreciated by linguists worldwide.

It is also a reflection of Malta's long and chequered history and the island's strategic location at the centre of the Mediterranean. We were proud, thanks to this project, to be in a position to highlight the beauty of the Maltese language.

Following the success of this campaign, the organisation extended this project by launching the 'X'jghid il-Malti?' campaign, with a series of fun video clips where viewers had a few seconds to figure out the meaning of a particular Maltese proverb. The visuals accompanying the voice-over in the clips included handmade crafts consistent with the selected proverb's theme. The innovative, creative and engaging concept adopted by FIMBank for 'X'jghid il-Malti?', managed to communicate the meaning of such proverbs effectively, arousing the interest of both young and adult audiences.

Both these campaigns were very popular with Maltese TV viewers, and there was also significant feedback received after the spots were posted on Facebook and YouTube, where they were shared extensively by users. The clips produced, which remain available for viewing on YouTube, were also distributed in CD format to all primary and secondary students attending state schools in Malta.

Throughout the years, FIMBank has indeed been very active in supporting and promoting the work of local artists. As a Malta-based Bank, we are highly appreciative of the contribution of both Maltese artists, as well as the local art galleries which host their works. Our support of cultural initiatives is driven by our desire to promote artistic creativity in the local community.



Speranza, the prototype of a humanitarian shelter designed and developed by a group of University of Malta third-year students. Millions of people are affected by natural or man-made disasters every year which has led to an unprecedented need for temporary accommodation. This is without doubt a great challenge, which is why the Bank decided to support this initiative and provide the financial support to build *Speranza*. This was unveiled during Malta Design Week.

FIMBANK SUPPORTS FCIREVERSE

FIMBank is pleased to support FCIRreverse, an automated platform which facilitates cross border Supply Chain Finance. This recently launched FCI platform, allows members to on-board buyers and suppliers in a transparent and seamless manner, anywhere in the world. FIMBank's twenty-five years of extensive experience in trade finance and factoring puts it in a strong position to contribute to the development of this platform.

FIMBank is indeed highly active in major export markets such as India, the Middle East and Egypt, where it can partner with FCI members through the 3+ and 4 "corner model".

The Bank's global presence and specialised teams allow it to effectively implement FCIRreverse type facilities. FIMBank's presence in import markets will be a key business driver for other participants in the program, under revenue sharing agreements.

For further information about FCIRreverse, please visit: <https://www.demica.com/fci-reverse>



FIMBANK ATTENDS 12TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF FINANCE MALTA

Member delegates and exhibitors from FIMBank attended the 12th annual conference of Finance Malta. It consisted of an informative two-day event, providing delegates with networking opportunities, insights into the market and updates on the developments within the financial services sector, both on a local and also international level.

Senior Vice President and Head of Cash Management at FIMBank, Chris Trapani said that "The annual conference was well attended and provided a fruitful opportunity for networking. Panel discussions were led by both local and international specialists. Amongst the themes of discussion were international banking, correspondent services and due diligence."



KIPCO ANNOUNCES A 13% INCREASE IN NET PROFIT FOR FIRST HALF OF 2019

Kuwait City, 29 July, 2019: KIPCO – the Kuwait Projects Company (Holding) – has announced a net profit of KD 13.58 million (US\$ 45 million) for the first six months of 2019, an increase of 13 per cent over the KD 12.06 million (US\$ 40 million) reported for the same period last year.

Earnings per share was up 19 per cent from the 5.9 fils (US\$ 1.95 cents) reported in the first half of 2018, to 7 fils (US\$ 2.31 cents) in the first six months of 2019.

In the second quarter (the three months ended June 30, 2019), KIPCO reported a 10 per cent rise in net profit to KD 7.1 million (US\$ 23.4 million), compared to KD 6.42 million (US\$ 21.2 million) reported in the same period of 2018. Earning per share for the quarter was up 11 per cent from 4.40 fils (US\$ 1.45 cents) to 4.88 fils (US\$ 1.61 cents).

The company's consolidated assets came to KD 10 billion (US\$ 33 billion), compared to KD 10.4 billion (US\$ 34 billion) reported at year-end 2018.

Mr Faisal Al Ayyar, KIPCO's Vice Chairman (Executive), said:

"The results we achieved in the first quarter of the year indicated that our performance will be positive and that our companies will continue to grow, which has been proven true in the second quarter. While we stay cautious, we expect to stay on track for the remainder of the year, supported by the strong performance of our core companies despite the challenging environment in which they operate."

Source: Kuwait Times





Announcements...

FIMBank announces half-yearly pre-tax profit of USD9.6 million

The FIMBank Group has announced a pre-tax profit of USD9.6 million for the first six months of 2019, an increase of 38 per cent on the USD7.0 million registered during the same period in 2018. These figures emerge from the publication of the Group's Interim Financial Statements for 2019, which were approved at a meeting of its Board of Directors, on the 8th August 2019.

At 30th June 2019, Total Consolidated Assets stood at USD1.77 billion, down by 5 per cent when compared to the USD1.87 billion reported at end-2018. Total Consolidated Liabilities stood at USD1.48 billion, or 7 per cent less than the USD1.59 billion reported at end 2018. On the other hand, deposits from corporate and retail clients increased by USD65 million.

During the period under review, the Group's net operating income saw a marginal decrease of 2 per cent, from USD28.3 million to USD27.8 million. Net interest income increased by 19 per cent to USD16.0 million, as improvements in the liability structure of the Group offset the reduction in interest income resulting from lower asset levels.

Due to the Group maintaining adequate coverage on non-performing exposures identified in 2018, net impairment charges for the first six months of 2019 amounted to USD0.6 million, compared to the USD2.1 million charged in 2018. In the current year, net impairments are inclusive of the successful recovery of a fully provided exposure, amounting to USD3.0 million.

Commenting on the financial results, FIMBank Group CEO Murali Subramanian stated that the strong performance registered during the first half of 2019 was a further reflection of FIMBank's risk-balanced business model transformation. He explained that the Group has "successfully completed a de-risking exercise of its main portfolios, aimed at strengthening its varied exposures across the different products and geographical presences, thereby reducing concentrations, and ensuring sustained growth in the years to come. This has led to a short-term reduction in the size of the balance sheet, as key portfolios have readjusted their client and market profile, refining structuring and increasing risk mitigation."

FIMBank Group Chairman Dr John C. Grech expressed the satisfaction of the Board with the results of the first half of 2019. He stated that FIMBank's positive performance, which has now extended into its fourth year, comes in the context of a "critically important transformation of the underlying portfolios of the Group during this period, the result of which places FIMBank in a position of strength, as it makes its business model fundamentals even more attractive." Dr Grech commented that FIMBank's expertise in structuring transactions across the trade-related product portfolio, together with the ability of its people to pursue and maintain the building of business partnerships with the Bank's diverse client base, remained key to FIMBank's reputation.

The FIMBank Chairman stated that while the return to asset growth would be a priority going forward, "we will remain vigilant on risk, controls and governance in order to ensure that the expansion of the business is executed in a sustainable way." He explained that FIMBank "has sufficient business pipeline, funding, and resource structures in place to support this path. Under the leadership of CEO Murali Subramanian and his management team, with the right mix of talent and focus on client delivery, and operating within a risk-balanced approach, we are confident of FIMBank's ability to generate higher value and returns for the benefit of all stakeholders."

Meanwhile, FIMBank's Board of Directors will not be recommending an interim dividend for the period under review.



ISIN	FIM
Company	FIMBank p.l.c.
Total Shares issued (As at 21 June 2019)	522,443,763
Currency	US Dollar
Share Price (as at 26 th August, 2019)	USD 0.680

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COMPANY ANNOUNCEMENT FIM281



The following is a Company Announcement issued by FIMBank p.l.c. ("FIMBank" or the "Bank") pursuant to the Malta Financial Services Authority Listing Rules.

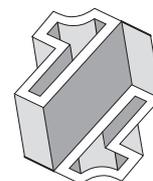
Quote

The Board of Directors of FIMBank met in London on 8 August 2019, to approve the Consolidated and the Bank's Interim Financial Statements for the six months ended 30 June 2019.

The Half-Yearly Report, drawn up in terms of the Listing Rules, is attached to this Company Announcement. The Interim Financial Statements are unaudited but independently reviewed by KPMG, the Registered Auditors.

In accordance with the requirements of the Listing Rules the Half-Yearly Report is being made publicly available for viewing on the Bank's website at www.fimbank.com.

Unquote



FIMBANK Years at the Forefront of Global Trade