#### **Preliminary Statement of Annual Results**

For the Year Ended 31 December 2007



#### General

The Preliminary Statement of Annual Results is published in terms of Malta Financial Services Authority Listing Rule 9.39. Figures have been extracted from FIMBank p.l.c.'s Audited Financial Statements for the financial year ended 31 December 2007, as approved by the Board of Directors on 2 March 2008 and audited by KPMG. The Financial Statements refer to the consolidated accounts of the FIMBank Group (or the "Group"), comprising FIMBank p.l.c. (or the "Bank"), London Forfaiting Company Limited ("LFC"), together with its subsidiary companies, FIMFactors B.V., FIM Business Solutions Limited, and the associated undertakings Global Trade Finance Limited, The Egyptian Company for Factoring SAE ("Egypt Factors") and Menafactors Limited.

#### **Review of Performance**

The FIMBank Group posted an after-tax profit of US\$10.5 million in 2007 (2006: US\$ 7.6 million). As explained in the following additional information extracted from a review of the full Audited Financial Statements of the Group, the results for 2007 reflect the Group's continuous efforts to develop further the strategic mix of trade-finance related products and services through geographic and product diversification.

The Bank increased its net interest income by 19%, from US\$5.1 million to US\$6.0 million. Both interest income and expense increased in absolute terms, in line with the increase in Bank's activity through availability of more bank lines, customer and bank deposits and longer term funding sources. During the year, the Bank registered a further growth of 23% in net fee and commission income, from US\$ 9.3 million in 2006 to US\$ 11.5 million. The turbulence in financial markets corrected the Bank's bond portfolio during the second half of the financial year, however the realized/unrealized losses incurred on financial assets designated at fair value through profit or loss have been more than offset by realized and unrealized profits resulting from foreign exchange activities. FIMBank also recorded dividends of US\$ 0.6 million, mainly from one of its associated undertakings. Impairment losses decreased from US\$ 0.9 million to US\$ 0.7 million, mainly due to a decrease in specific impairment losses, compensated by an increase in collective impairment charges. Net operating income for the Bank grew by 16% from US\$16.0 million to US\$ 18.5 million. Operating expenses, largely made up of staff and administrative overheads, also grew by 23%, which compares favourably with the growth of 46% in cost base experienced in 2006. Pre-tax profit for the Bank decreased by 8% from US\$ 3.8 million in 2006 to US\$ 3.5 million.

At the Group level, Net interest income increased by 14% from US\$9.2 million to US\$10.5 million while Net fee income increased by 31%. This was largely the result of improved performance at both Bank level (as above) and LFC, so much that fee income booked by LFC in 2007 doubled over 2006 to US\$ 3.5 million. On the other hand, net trading income decreased by 37%. Apart from the adverse impact of the financial markets correction on the Bank's holding of the bond portfolio, realized/unrealized gains on forfaiting assets decreased from US\$ 1.8 million to US\$ 0.8 million. Group impairment losses decreased by 58% to US\$ 0.8 million, mirroring the trend in specific and collective impairment charges at the Bank. Group net operating income grew by 18% to US\$ 25.9 million. Group Operating Expenses before the adjustment to goodwill increased by 22%.

During the year under review LFC recognised a further deferred tax asset of US\$1.4 million. Of this amount, US\$ 1.1 million adjusted the carrying amount of goodwill thus eliminating completely this Intangible Asset from the Group's Consolidated Balance Sheet. During 2007, the Group accounted for US\$ 4.6 million in Share of Profits from associated companies and jointly-controlled entities, an increase of 82% over the same period last year. Pre-tax profit increased to US\$9.7 million, with post-tax profit for the year increasing by 38% from US\$ 7.6 million to US\$10.5 million.

Total equity increased to US\$ 86.1 million (Bank) and US\$ 97.9 million (Group), reflecting the US\$ 25 million proceeds from the Rights Offer made in December 2007 as well as improved profitability and dividend retention in the form of scrip issue. Total Bank assets increased by 25%, from US\$ 438 million to US\$ 550 million while total assets for the Group increased from US\$ 463 million to US\$ 571 million, a growth of 23%. Commitments outstanding for the Group at Balance Sheet date, mainly under documentary credits, commitments to purchase assets and confirmed letters of credit, were of US\$ 308 million (2006: US\$ 245 million), a growth of 26%. All the Group's main earnings ratios, such as Return on Average Equity (ROAE), Return on Average Assets (ROAA) and Earnings per Share show strong improvement on 2006. Group Solvency Ratio "Basle I" (calculated in accordance with the requirements of the Banking Act) at year-end stood at 34.23% for Tier 1, and 36.93 % for Tier 2.

The Directors will be recommending to the Annual General Meeting of shareholders the payment of a scrip dividend amounting to US\$ 4,184,820 (2006: US\$ 3,036,929), representing a net dividend per ordinary share of US cents 3.80232493 (2006: US cents 3.5244). Moreover, the Directors will be also recommending a 1 for 5 Bonus Issue of Ordinary Shares by way of capitalisation of the Share Premium account. All shareholders on the register as at close of trading on 13 March 2008 shall be entitled to receive the dividend and bonus shares.

### **Income Statements**

For the Year Ended 31 December 2007



	Group		Bank		
	<b>2007</b> US\$	<b>2006</b> US\$	<b>2007</b> US\$	<b>2006</b> US\$	
Interest income Interest expense	28,418,274 (17,936,912)	22,339,437 (13,156,003)	22,870,430 (16,858,192)	17,800,866 (12,728,467)	
Net interest income	10,481,362	9,183,434	6,012,238	5,072,399	
Fee and commission income Fee and commission expense	16,156,674 (1,945,941)	12,055,540 (1,202,509)	12,420,609 (946,703)	10,326,421 (1,011,842)	
Net fee and commission income	14,210,733	10,853,031	11,473,906	9,314,579	
Net trading income Net (loss) / income from other financial instruments carried at	1,972,316	3,107,887	1,158,310	1,383,919	
fair value Dividend income Other operating income	(68,468) 371 165,738	48,685 581,956 103,431	(14,926) 600,123 51,537	(46,996) 1,167,161 22,122	
Operating income before net impairment losses Net impairment losses	26,762,052 (820,782)	23,878,424 (1,939,894)	19,281,188 (732,089)	16,913,184 (884,565)	
Operating income	25,941,270	21,938,530	18,549,099	16,028,619	
Administrative expenses Depreciation and amortisation Impairment loss on property, plant	(18,980,268) (807,318)	(15,611,680) (636,113)	(14,528,885) (517,125)	(11,826,533) (388,855)	
and equipment Adjustment to goodwill	(1,129,726)	(142,000) (3,423,789)	-	- -	
Total operating expenses	(20,917,312)	(19,813,582)	(15,046,010)	(12,215,388)	
Operating profit	5,023,958	2,124,948	3,503,089	3,813,231	
Share of profit of equity accounted investees (net of tax)	4,632,878	2,550,770	-	-	
Profit before income tax	9,656,836	4,675,718	3,503,089	3,813,231	
Taxation	805,214	2,916,623	(394,689)	(335,671)	
Profit for the year	10,462,050	7,592,341	3,108,400	3,477,560	
Basic earnings per share	11.82c	8.83c	3.51c	4.04c	
Diluted earnings per share	11.49c	8.60c	3.75c	4.19c	

### **Balance Sheets**

As at 31 December 2007



	(	Group	Bank		
	2007	2006	2007	2006	
ASSETS	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$	
Balances with the Central Bank of					
Malta and cash	15,149,627	112,626	15,137,885	93,322	
Trading assets	157,181,282	125,256,467	-	-	
Derivative assets held for risk	1 057 020	140.006	1 057 020	050.740	
management Financial assets designated at fair	1,057,929	142,926	1,057,929	353,749	
value through profit or loss	36,278,285	20,385,362	36,278,285	20,385,362	
Loans and advances to banks	242,680,313	211,660,418	234,875,967	200,848,606	
Loans and advances to customers	83,689,609	81,708,042	205,566,411	166,021,629	
Investments available-for-sale Investments in equity accounted	149,029	149,029	149,029	149,029	
investnents in equity accounted	21,646,962	11,115,152	13,567,359	8,553,934	
Investments in subsidiaries		-	37,392,666	37,392,666	
Property and equipment	1,743,871	2,483,517	1,441,827	1,261,650	
Intangible assets	1,041,451	2,212,879	463,678	397,782	
Current tax recoverable Deferred tax asset	- 7,812,096	159,324 5,890,139	- 1,206,759	159,324 734,945	
Other assets	1,466,659	1,020,420	1,134,150	806,120	
Prepayments and accrued income	1,424,467	1,200,308	1,503,348	1,203,991	
Total assets	571,321,580	463,496,609	549,775,293	438,362,109	
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY					
Liabilities					
Derivative liabilities held for risk					
management	45,834	-	255,540	263,248	
Amounts owed to banks Amounts owed to customers	270,259,724 176,468,204	243,124,011 122,683,664	272,381,082 180,034,363	246,296,826 121,995,315	
Debt securities in issue	11,554,888	19,514,000	1,000,000	121,995,515	
Subordinated convertible loan	6,000,000	6,000,000	6,000,000	6,000,000	
Provisions	1,155,072	809,371	-	-	
Current tax payable	637,144	-	637,144	-	
Other liabilities Accruals and deferred income	1,768 7,263,839	44,727 8,669,275	1,769 3,359,395	44,727 4,072,521	
Accidats and deterred income	7,200,009	0,009,273	3,339,333	4,072,321	
Total liabilities	473,386,473	400,845,048	463,669,293	378,672,637	
Equity					
Called up share capital	54,946,953	43,084,340	54,946,953	43,084,340	
Share premium	18,136,923	3,654,479	18,136,923	3,654,479	
Currency translation reserve	1,501,139	(12,229)	-	-	
Other reserve Retained earnings	8,988,067 14,362,025	2,681,041 13,243,930	2,681,041 10,341,083	2,681,041	
netained earnings		13,243,930		10,269,612	
Total equity	97,935,107	62,651,561	86,106,000	59,689,472	
Total liabilities and equity	571,321,580	463,496,609	549,775,293	438,362,109	
MEMORANDUM ITEMS					
Contingent liabilities	8,804,574	6,825,473	19,804,574	26,339,473	
Commitments	308,451,886	244,471,666	239,187,505	214,271,759	

**Bank** 

At 31 December 2007

# Statements of Changes in Equity For the Year Ended 31 December 2007



Group						
	Called up issued share capital US\$	Share premium US\$	Currency translation reserve US\$	Other reserve US\$	Retained earnings	<b>Total</b> US\$
At 1 January 2006	35,586,870	10,231,432	(176,774)	2,681,041	6,463,467	54,786,036
Exercised share options Bonus issue Currency translation	134,804 7,136,298	106,826 (7,136,298)	-	-	-	241,630
difference Profit for the year Dividend paid	-	-	164,545 - -	-	- 7,592,341 (811,878)	164,545 7,592,341 (811,878)
Scrip issue of ordinary shares	226,368	452,519	-	-	-	678,887
At 31 December 2006	43,084,340	3,654,479	(12,229)	2,681,041	13,243,930	62,651,561
At 1 January 2007	43,084,340	3,654,479	(12,229)	2,681,041	13,243,930	62,651,561
Issue of share capital	11,447,350	13,756,486	-	-	-	25,203,836
Share issue costs	-	(86,096)	-	-	-	(86,096)
Currency translation reserve Transfer to other reserves	-	-	1,513,368	- 6 207 026	- (6 207 026)	1,513,368
Exercised share options	47,658	40,355	_	6,307,026	(6,307,026)	88,013
Profit for the year	47,030	40,555	_	_	10,462,050	10,462,050
Dividend paid	-	_	-	-	(3,036,929)	(3,036,929)
Scrip issue of ordinary shares	367,605	771,699	-	-	-	1,139,304
As at 31 December 2007	54,946,953	18,136,923	1,501,139	8,988,067	14,362,025	97,935,107

Junik	Called up issued share capital	Share premium	Other reserve	Retained earnings	Total
	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$	US\$
At 1 January 2006	35,586,870	10,231,432	2,681,041	7,603,930	56,103,273
Exercised share options Bonus issue Profit for the year Dividends paid Scrip issue of ordinary shares	134,804 7,136,298 - - 226,368	106,826 (7,136,298) - - 452,519	- - - -	3,477,560 (811,878)	241,630 - 3,477,560 (811,878) 678,887
At 31 December 2006	43,084,340	3,654,479	2,681,041	10,269,612	59,689,472
At 1 January 2007	43,084,340	3,654,479	2,681,041	10,269,612	59,689,472
Issue of share capital Share issue costs Exercised share options Profit for the year Dividends paid	11,447,350 - 47,658 - -	13,756,486 (86,096) 40,355 -	- - - -	3,108,400 (3,036,929)	25,203,836 (86,096) 88,013 3,108,400 (3,036,929)
Scrip issue of ordinary shares	367,605	771,699	-	-	1,139,304

18,136,923 2,681,041

10,341,083

86,106,000

54,946,953

### **Cash Flow Statements**

For the Year Ended 31 December 2007



	Group			Bank
	<b>2007</b> US\$	<b>2006</b> US\$	<b>2007</b> US\$	<b>2006</b> US\$
Cash flows from operating activities Interest and commission receipts Exchange received Interest and commission payments Payments to employees and suppliers	43,174,272 1,293,800 (19,428,567) (19,226,020)	36,959,175 1,224,518 (13,292,877) (14,127,489)	34,857,650 813,113 (17,270,325) (14,899,108)	27,949,402 1,125,511 (12,963,649) (11,683,045)
Operating profit before changes in operating assets / liabilities Decrease / (increase) in operating assets:	5,813,485	10,763,327	3,501,330	4,428,219
<ul> <li>Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss</li> <li>Loans and advances to customers and banks</li> </ul>		(25,824,478) (63,904,516)	(16,611,897) (559,353)	(10,255,362) (63,466,471)
- Other assets	(446,243)	136,138	(328,020)	441,657
(Decrease) / increase in operating liabilities: - Amounts owed to customers and banks - Other liabilities	4,898,814 (42,956)	63,460,289 36,991	5,628,236 (42,956)	84,465,775 42,276
Net cash (outflows)/inflows from operating activities before income tax Income tax paid	(38,500,245) (70,525)	(15,332,249) (243,463)	(8,412,660) (70,035)	15,656,094 (243,466)
Net cash (outflows)/inflows from operating activities	(38,570,770)	(15,575,712)	(8,482,695)	15,412,628
Cash flows from investing activities - Payments to acquire property and equipment - Payments to acquire intangible assets - Proceeds on disposal of property and equipment - Net advance to subsidiary companies - Purchase of shares in equity accounted investees - Purchase of other investment - Receipt of dividend	(626,931) (166,076) 828,644 - (5,013,425) - 600,123	(696,768) (565,862) 31,208 - (2,257,303) (15,429) 1,036,375	(597,122) (166,076) 5,940 (34,743,686) (5,013,425) - 600,123	(253,983) (442,674) - (23,173,879) (2,294,746) (15,429) 1,167,161
Net cash flows used in investing activities	(4,377,665)	(2,467,779)	(39,914,246)	(25,013,550)
Cash flows from financing activities - Proceeds from issue of share capital - Share issue costs - Debt securities in issue - Dividends paid	25,291,849 (86,096) (7,959,112) (1,897,625)	241,630 - 18,569,898 (132,991)	25,291,849 (86,096) 1,000,000 (1,897,625)	241,630 - (944,102) (132,991)
Net cash flows from/(used in) financing activities	15,349,016	18,678,537	24,308,128	(835,463)
Increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(27,599,419)	635,046	(24,088,813)	(10,436,385)
<ul><li>Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents</li><li>Net decrease in cash and cash</li></ul>	385,217	1,407,472	217,847	1,292,419
equivalents (Decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents	(27,984,636)	(772,426)		(11,728,804)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	38,444,546	37,809,500	24,996,494	35,432,879
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	10,845,127	38,444,546	907,681	24,996,494