

# LIBERTY HOLDINGS

# interim 2000

# results

Liberty Holdings Limited  
(Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)  
(Registration no 1968/002095/06)

Interim results for the six months  
ended 30 June 2000

## Accounting policies and presentation

The financial statements for the six months ended 30 June 2000 incorporate both the continuing operations of Liberty Group Limited (Liberty) as well as the unbundled operations to the respective dates of the unbundlings. Shareholders are referred to the announcement published by Liberty simultaneously with this announcement for details regarding the basis of preparation and disclosure relating to the life insurance operations of Liberty. The total profits presented reflect both continuing and unbundled operations and the 2000 half year profits are therefore not comparable with those of 1999.

## Interest in Liberty Group Limited

Liberty Holdings' sole investment at 30 June 2000 consisted of its 54,99% (31 December 1999: 55,41%) interest in Liberty. Liberty Holdings disposed of 800 000 Liberty shares during the period under review in order to eliminate borrowings and to meet its operational cash flow requirements.

## Review of operations

Liberty Holdings earned dividend income amounting to R197 million from its investment in Liberty in respect of the six months ended 30 June 2000 (R181 million on underlying continuing operations for the six months ended 30 June 1999) and incurred expenditure of R8 million (30 June 1999: R7 million) during the same period. Substantially all of the earnings for the six months to 30 June 2000 have been declared as an interim dividend to shareholders. Details of the activities of Liberty are contained in the announcement referred to above. In order to reflect the performance of the underlying continuing operations of Liberty, headline profit per ordinary share based on the underlying continuing operations of Liberty for the six months ended 30 June 2000 has been calculated. On this basis headline profit of 784,6 cents per share reflects a 9% increase on the comparable 717,8 cents for 1999.

## Prospects

Liberty Holdings' sole investment consists of its interest in Liberty. Shareholders are therefore referred to the comments on future prospects as detailed in Liberty's announcement.

## Dividend declaration

The Board has declared a cash interim dividend of 385,0 cents per share payable to shareholders registered in the books of the company at the close of business on Friday, 1 September 2000. This represents a 24% increase on the interim dividend on underlying continuing operations declared in respect of the six months to 30 June 1999 of 310,8 cents per share. The rate of increase is higher than Liberty's due to the low base set in 1999 as a result of the company having retained some cash in order to eliminate a portion of the company's borrowings.

Dividend cheques payable in South African currency will be posted on or about 15 September 2000.

Derek Cooper

Chairman

15 August 2000

Roy Andersen

Group Chief Executive

## SUMMARISED GROUP INCOME STATEMENT

	(unaudited) Six months ended 30 June		% Change
	2000 Rm	1999 Rm	
Total consolidated profit after taxation	711	859	(17)
Minority interests	(324)	(386)	16
Dividend on preference shares	(1)	(1)	–
Total headline profit attributable to ordinary shareholders	386	472	(18)
Investment (deficits)/surpluses attributable to ordinary shareholders	(274)	220	
Total profit including investment (deficits)/surpluses attributable to ordinary shareholders	112	692	(84)
Headline profit per ordinary share (cents)	784,6	959,5	(18)
<b>Headline profit per ordinary share based on underlying continuing operations (cents)</b>	<b>784,6</b>	<b>717,8</b>	<b>9</b>
Total profit per share (cents)	227,5	1 405,5	(84)
Dividend per share (cents)	385,0	375,0	3
Dividend per share based on underlying continuing operations (cents)	385,0	310,8	24
Number of ordinary shares in issue (000's)	49 242	49 237	–
Weighted average number of ordinary shares in issue (000's)	49 241	49 237	–

## SUMMARISED GROUP BALANCE SHEET

	(unaudited) 30 June 2000 Rm	(audited) 31 December 1999 Rm
Capital, reserves and liabilities		
Shareholders' funds	4 940	4 983
Minority interests	4 043	4 056
Life funds	56 428	56 183
Convertible bonds	1 730	1 566
Retirement benefit obligations	104	98
Deferred taxation	58	193
Current liabilities	2 028	2 135
	69 331	69 214
Assets		
Investments	61 746	64 991
Office furniture, computer equipment and other tangible assets	321	316
Intangible assets	22	–
Goodwill	10	–
Current assets	7 232	3 907
Total assets	69 331	69 214

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS

	(unaudited) 30 June 2000 Rm	(audited) 31 December 1999 Rm
Shareholders' funds at beginning of period	4 983	10 134
Dividends in specie – unbundlings of: Liberty International PLC		(4 173)
Standard Bank Investment Corporation Limited		(3 287)
Total consolidated profit including investment (deficits)/surpluses	113	1 412
Investment surpluses on shareholders' investments reflected directly in reserves	35	3
Preference dividends	(1)	(2)
Ordinary dividends	(190)	(386)
Transfer from contingency and other reserves		1 282
Shareholders' funds at end of period	4 940	4 983

## SUMMARISED GROUP CASH FLOW STATEMENT

	(unaudited) Six months ended 30 June	
	2000 Rm	1999 Rm
Cash flow from operating activities	1 361	3 628
Net purchase of investments	(1 394)	(4 773)
Cash flow from financing activities	26	(228)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(7)	(1 373)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	734	5 254
Cash balances eliminated on unbundling of subsidiaries	–	(3 525)
Foreign exchange movements on cash balances	95	(94)
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period <sup>(1)</sup>	822	262

<sup>(1)</sup> Excludes term deposits and money market securities



LIBERTY

*“You're at liberty to write your own life story”*