## **MINORITY SHAREHOLDERS WATCH GROUP**

BADAN PENGAWAS PEMEGANG SAHAM MINORITI BERHAD (Incorporated in Malaysia – Registration No.: 200001022382 (524989-M)

New Straits Times, Business Times – 11 December 2023 - Part 1

### **MSWG AGM/EGM WEEKLY WATCH**

11 - 15 DECEMBER 2023

MSWG had issued AGM/EGM letter to the following PLCs for their shareholders meeting held from 11 -15 December 2023.

The extraction of the question raised in the letter is highlighted here. For the details of other questions, please login to MSWG website at **www.mswg.org.my**.

#### One of the points of interest to be raised:

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Company  Berjaya Land  Berhad (AGM)	In the reply to MSWG dated 13 December 2022, it was mentioned that Berjaya Hotels and Resorts Division ["BHR"] expected to be profitable at an overall occupancy rate of 55%. However, based on the Annual Report 2023 ["AR2023"], the overall room occupancy was 59.1% and BHR reported a total loss before tax of RM87.7 million on the back of higher operating expenditure, finance cost and unrealised foreign exchange loss.  Based on the current operating conditions, what is the overall occupancy rate required for BHR to turn profitable for the financial year ending ["FYE"] 30 June 2024?  What is the inflation rate assumed to arrive at the estimated overall occupancy rate in (a) above?  What is the overall occupancy rate as at 30 November 2023?  Is BHR on track to turn profitable for FYE 30 June 2024?	
Ahmad Zaki Resources Berhad (AGM)	<ul> <li>Impairment loss on trade receivables and inventories written down.</li> <li>There is an impairment loss on trade receivables of RM8,912,000 recorded in FYE2023 (FYE2022: Nil) (Page 168 of AR2023).</li> <li>Which trade receivables are involved in the impairment loss exercise?</li> <li>What are the measures taken to recover the amount?</li> <li>How much of the amount has been recovered, to-date? What is the expected amount to be recovered in FYE2024?</li> <li>In FYE2023, the Group had written down its inventories amounting to RM5,246,000 (FYE2022: Nil) (Page 168 of AR2023).</li> <li>What has caused the Group to record a write-down of inventories in FYE2023?</li> <li>What is the prospect of reversing the amount in FYE2024?</li> </ul>	
PLS Plantation Berhad (AGM)	The Group's revenue declined 36% to RM118.3 million in FY2023. However, trade receivables increased 68% to RM50.8 million. [page 96-97 of AR 2023] Impairment losses on trade receivables increased to RM3.9 million in FY2023 from RM3.0 million in FY2022. [page 101 of AR 2023]  • What were the reasons for the significant increase in trade receivables despite a big drop in revenue?  • What measures is the Group taking to address the recurring impairment loss on trade receivables?  • How much of the impaired losses have been recovered to-date?  • Does the Group expect further impairment losses in FY2024?	
Tomypak Holdings Berhad (AGM)	Trade receivables with more than 90 days past due increased substantially to RM2.76 million in FY2023 from RM337,000 in the previous year [page 132 of AR2023].  What led to the sharp surge in long overdue receivables? How likely is provision required for these receivables? What is the collection status of these receivables to-date?	
Scientex Packaging (Ayer Keroh) Berhad (AGM)	<ul> <li>SPAK made an impairment of goodwill amounting to RM22.7 million in relation to its investment in Myanmar. In a reply to MSWG dated 6 December 2022, the Board held a positive and longer-term view concerning Myanmar, which offers tremendous growth potential.</li> <li>What has changed in Myanmar's political and business conditions over the past 12 months, resulting in SPAK impairing its investment in Daibochi Myanmar, in FY2023?</li> <li>Has Myanmar shown any sign of turnaround? What is the current utilisation of the capacity?</li> <li>Would SPAK consider exiting the country should Myanmar's political and economic conditions deteriorate?</li> </ul>	
Seremban Engineering Berhad (AGM)	The Group recorded higher fuel consumption at 17,340Gj in FYE2023 vs 4,695Gj in prior year. The increase in energy consumption is due to an increase in business activity at one of the project sites, leading to higher usage of fuel for their tools and machinery.  • Which of the project sites experienced the increase in business activity, and what were the contributing factors?  • Considering the likely continuation of an upward trajectory in energy costs, has the Group conducted a feasibility study on installing solar panels on the roofs of the project sites? If yes, what is the anticipated reduction in energy consumption, and how will it impact the financial performance of the Group?  • What is the expected timeline for installing these solar panels, and at which project sites will they be installed first?	
Berjaya Corporation Berhad (AGM)	Cosway's revenue increased by 3.7% in the current financial year, with revenue from Malaysia and Singapore showing the greatest gain among all markets. This was due to, amongst others, its ongoing effort to improve the product lifecycle management, despite rising costs, volatile inflation rates and currency volatility (Page 15 of the Annual Report 2023 ("AR2023")). How does Cosway manage and enhance the product lifecycle of its products, especially in the face of rising costs and market dynamics?	

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Jaycorp Berhad (AGM)	In 2016, the Group upped its stake in its associate Jaycorp Engineering & Construction Sdn Bhd (JECSB) to 60% in a bid to diversify its business into engineering, construction and property development. The construction segment contributed revenue of RM24.2 million (or 12% of the total revenue) in FY2023. However, there is no operational information on the Construction Segment on the Group's website and only limited information was presented in the Annual Report 2023.  • Please provide insight into the Construction Segment. (i.e., scope provided, customers profile, completed projects since 2016, competitive advantages, future direction/ development, etc)  • What is the current outstanding orderbook and how long is the outstanding orderbook expected to last?  • What is the order book replenishment target for FY2024?  • Are there any liquidated and ascertained damages imposed on the Group in FY2023?
Scientex Berhad (AGM)	Throughout the FY2023, the Group initiated 235 R&D projects and commercialised a total of 35 innovations. On average, what is the percentage of revenue/profit that Scientex invests in R&D? How long is the time-to-market period for each innovation that is developed, manufactured and introduced to the market? Of the 35 innovations, what is the breakdown of the successfully commercialised innovations by product segment, i.e., industrial and consumer?
Hiap Teck Venture Berhad (AGM)	Manufacturing segment For the financial year under review, the segment reported a loss of RM27.69 million (FY2022: Segment profit of RM89.85 million). The sluggish performance was principally due to the high cost of inventories brought forward coupled with lower steel prices despite higher sales volumes and stringent costs control (Page 15 of the Annual Report 2023/AR2023).  • What current measures are being taken to manage the segment's inventory issue, which is the leading cause for the segment's loss in FY2024?  • What is the segment's financial performance outlook in FY2024? Does HTVB expect the segment's bottom-line result to turn around in FY2024?
Ekovest Berhad (AGM)	In FYE2023, the Group's other expenses increased to RM36,296,000 from RM16,477,000 in FYE2022. This represents an increase of RM19,819,00 or 120.28% [Page 73 of AR2023].  What are the reasons for the significant increase in other expenses? Is this category of expenses going to increase further in FYE2024? If so, what is the expected percentage year-on-year increase?
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