



Independent Assurance Report on the Report of the Board of Directors of Qalaa for Financial Investments SAE on Compliance with Corporate Governance Rules Contained in the Egyptian Corporate Governance Guide Issued by Resolution No. 84 dated 26 July 2016 of the Board of Directors of the Financial Regulatory Authority

To: The Board of Directors of Qalaa for Financial Investments SAE

Introduction

We have carried out a limited assurance engagement on the attached report on compliance with the corporate governance rules prepared by the Board of Directors of Qalaa for Financial Investments SAE ("Qalaa") for the fiscal year ending on 31 December 2023 in accordance with the corporate governance rules contained in the Egyptian Corporate Governance Guide issued by Resolution No. 84 dated 26 July 2016 of the Board of Directors of the Financial Regulatory Authority (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Corporate Governance Rules").

This report, including the conclusion, has been prepared solely to enable Qalaa to comply with the requirements of Resolution No. 84 dated 26 July 2016 of the Board of Directors of the Financial Regulatory Authority, and not for any other purpose.

Responsibilities of the Board of Directors and Those Charged with Governance

Qalaa's Board of Directors is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the report on compliance with the governance rules in accordance with the Corporate Governance Rules. It is also responsible for ensuring that the Corporate Governance Rules are complied with, as well as identifying the cases of non-compliance and their justifications and how to address the same.

These responsibilities include the design, implementation and maintenance of an internal control system that, if operated effectively, would ensure the sound and efficient conduct of business, including the compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

Responsibilities of the Auditor

Our responsibilities are limited to expressing a limited assurance conclusion on whether anything has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the attached Board of Directors' report on compliance with the governance rules has not been prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the Corporate Governance Rules, based on the limited assurance procedures performed by us.


We conducted our limited assurance engagement in accordance with the Egyptian Standard on Assurance Engagements No. 3000 "Assurance Engagements other than the Review or Inspection of Historical Financial Information". This standard requires

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLC/EzzEldeen, Diab & Co.
Plot 211, Second Sector, City Center, New Cairo 11835, Egypt, P.O. Box 170 New Cairo
Tel: +20 2 2759 7700, Fax: +20 2 2759 7711, www.pwc.com

I, Hala Elewa, the undersigned, a certified translator of IAPTI, member number 2362, declare that this document of four (4) pages in English is an accurate translation of the Arabic version whose content is under the responsibility of its bearer.

Egypt, 15 May 2024

Signature:


Date: 15/05/2024



compliance with the requirements of professional conduct, including the requirements of independence, and the planning and execution of our procedures to obtain a limited assurance as to whether anything has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the Board of Directors' report on compliance with the governance rules has not been prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the Corporate Governance Rules.

The procedures performed in a limited assurance engagement vary in nature and timing, and are less in extent than, those performed to obtain a reasonable assurance. Consequently, the level of assurance obtained in a limited assurance engagement is lower than the assurance obtained in a reasonable assurance engagement. Moreover, we did not perform additional procedures that should have been performed if this were to be a reasonable assurance engagement. Hence, we do not express a reasonable assurance conclusion about whether the Directors' report on compliance with the Corporate Governance Rules, taken as a whole, has been prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the Corporate Governance Rules.

The procedures performed by us were based on our professional judgment and involved inquiries, consideration of some processes performed and inspection of some supporting documents, when needed, and matching them with Qalaa's records.

Given the nature of our engagement, in performing the above-mentioned procedures, we:

- Made inquiries to the management to form an understanding of the method followed by them to identify the requirements of the Corporate Governance Rules, as well as the procedures carried out by the management to comply with such requirements and the approach adopted by the management to assess compliance with the mentioned preparation guidelines.
- Matched the contents of the Board of Directors' report on compliance with the Corporate Governance Rules with the requirements of the Corporate Governance Rules.
- Matched the contents of the Board of Directors' report on compliance with the Corporate Governance Rules with the records and documents kept by Qalaa.
- Performed limited substantive testing on a selective basis, when necessary, to check the evidence gathered by the management to prepare the Board of Directors' report on compliance with the Corporate Governance Rules.

In accordance with the requirements of paragraph 49/d of the Egyptian Standard on Assurance Engagements No. 3000, our procedures were limited to matters that can be accurately measured and did not include non-quantitative aspects, their effectiveness, validity or completeness, including the procedures carried out by the management to comply with the Corporate Governance Rules, as well as the assessment of the performance of the Board of Directors and its committees, the executive management, the violations and judgments. Moreover, for the purpose of this report, our procedures did not cover the assessment of the effectiveness of the internal control system and the governance system. This report has been prepared in fulfillment of the requirements of

I, Hala Elewa, the undersigned, a certified translator of IAPTI, member number 2362, declare that this document of four (4) pages in English is an accurate translation of the Arabic version whose content is under the responsibility of its bearer.

Egypt, 15 May 2024

Signature: 

Date: 15/05/2024





Resolution No. 84 dated 26 July 2016 of the Board of Directors of the Financial Regulatory Authority, and not for any other purpose. Therefore, it can be used only for its intended purpose.

We believe that the evidence that we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our conclusion.

Inherent Limitations

Most of the procedures carried out by entities to fulfill the governance and legal requirements depend on the personnel carrying out these procedures, their interpretation of the objectives of these procedures, and their assessment of whether the procedures were implemented effectively. Moreover, in some cases, there is no audit evidence that can be obtained. It is also noticeable that the design of compliance procedures follows the best practices that vary from one entity to another and, therefore, they do not constitute a specific standard that be used in comparisons.

Moreover, the non-financial information is subject to more inherent limitations than the financial information, given the characteristics of the Board of Director's report on compliance with the governance rules and the method used for determining such information.

Given the inherent limitations of internal processes of control over compliance with the laws and regulations, including the collusion or improper override by the management of such control, material misstatements due to error or fraud may occur and not be detected.

Conclusion

Based on our limited assurance procedures determined in this report and the evidence obtained, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the attached report of the Board of Directors of Qalaa for Financial Investments SAE on compliance with the Corporate Governance Rules in respect of the fiscal year ending on 31 December 2023 is not prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the Corporate Governance Rules.

Other Important Matters

We also draw your attention to the fact that this report relates to Qalaa for Financial Investments SAE on a stand-alone basis and does not cover the group of companies of Qalaa for Financial Investments as a whole. Our conclusion is unqualified in this respect.



I, Hala Elewa, the undersigned, a certified translator of IAPTI, member number 2362, declare that this document of four (4) pages in English is an accurate translation of the Arabic version whose content is under the responsibility of its bearer.

Egypt, 15 May 2024

Signature:

[Handwritten Signature]
Date: 15/05/2024



Use of the Report

This report, including the above conclusion, has been prepared solely for the purpose of compliance of Qalaa for Financial Investments SAE with the requirements of Resolution No. 84 dated 26 July 2016 of the Board of Directors of the Financial Regulatory Authority, and not for any other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Board of Directors of Qalaa for Financial Investments SAE for our work, this report or the above conclusion.

Wael Sakr

Member of the Egyptian Society of Accountants & Auditors

Register of Accountants & Auditors: 26144

Register of the Financial Regulatory Authority: 381

//Signed and sealed by PricewaterhouseCoopers//

Cairo, 13 May 2024

End of Translation



I, Hala Elewa, the undersigned, a certified translator of IAPTI, member number 2362, declare that this document of four (4) pages in English is an accurate translation of the Arabic version whose content is under the responsibility of its bearer.

Egypt, 15 May 2024

Signature:

[Signature]
Date: 15/5/2024

Qalaa Holdings For Financial Investments S.A.E

Governance report

For the fiscal year ended December 31st, 2023

Company name	Qalaa Holdings For Financial Investments S.A.E		
Purpose of the company	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing consultancy in financial and funding fields for companies and projects of various types. • Preparation and submission of economic, engineering, technological, marketing, administrative and financial feasibility studies, borrowing arrangements and financing studies in general. • Prepare and submit studies and consultations on the promotion of projects and provide the necessary technical support in this regard, except for legal advice. • Agency for companies and projects in the negotiation and contracting of various types and phases, in particular negotiations management contracts and participation and technical assistance. • Management, implementation, rehabilitation and structuring of projects. • Owning shares in subsidiaries. 		
The duration of the company	25 years	Date of listing on the Stock Exchange	02/12/2009
The company is subject to the law	No. 159 for 1981	Nominal value of the share	5 Egyptian pounds per share
Last authorized capital	10.000.000.000 EGP	Last issued capital	9.100.000.000 EGP
Last paid capital	9.100.000.000 EGP	Number and date of registration in the Commercial Register	11121 on 13/04/2004
Contact name	Mr. Amr Mohamed Al Qadi		
Head office address	1089 Cornish El Nil – Garden City		
Phone number	0227914440	Fax number	0227914448
Web Site	www.qalaaholdings.com		
Email	info@qalaaholdings.com		

Ownership Structure

Holders of 5% of the company's shares and more	The final beneficiary	Number of shares at the dated balance sheet	Percentage %
Citadel Capital Partners Ltd.	Citadel Capital Partners Ltd.	427,455,671	23.49%
Olayan Saudi Investment Company (OSICO)	Olayan Saudi Investment Company (OSICO)	165,964,000	9.12%
Emirates International Investment Company LLC	Emirates International Investment Company LLC	100,900,000	5.54%
Total		679,172,542	38.15%

Meetings of the Board of Directors and its Committees

Formation of the Board of Directors

Serial	Member's Name	Member's capacity (Executive / Non-executive / Independent)	Number of shares owned	Date of enrollment	Representation
1	Dr. Ahmed Mohamed Hassanein Heikal	Chairman	-----	2004	Representing Citadel Capital Partners LTD
2	Mr. Hisham Hussein El-Khazindar	Managing Director-Executive	-----	2004	Representing Citadel Capital Partners LTD
3	Mr. Karim Hassan Sadek	Managing Director for Transport and Logistics sector - Executive	-----	2005	Representing Citadel Capital Partners LTD
4	Mr. Tarek Mahmoud Abdel Zaher El Gammal	Managing Director for the Financial sector – Executive	-----	2023	Representing Citadel Capital Partners LTD
5	Mr. Mousheer Mohamed Abdelfattah Gharib Hadhoud	Managing Director for Banking and Financing– Executive	-----	2023	Representing Citadel Capital Partners LTD

6	Mr. Mansour Ahmed Mohamed Heikal	Board Member - Non-executive	-----	2023	Representing Citadel Capital Partners LTD
7	Mr. Taymour Ahmed Mohamed Heikal	Board Member - Non-executive	-----	2023	Representing Citadel Capital Partners LTD
8	Mrs. Mona Makram Ebeid	Board Member - Non-executive	-----	2017	Representing Citadel Capital Partners LTD
9	Mr. Magdy Kamal Ibrahim El Desouki	Board Member - Non-executive	-----	2010	Himself
10	Mr. Philip Blair Dundas	Board Member - Non-executive - Independent	-----	2014	Himself
11	Mrs. Dina Heather Hamdy Hassan Sherif	Board Member - Non-executive - Independent	-----	2017	Herself

Attendance of the Board of Directors Meetings

During the year 2023, 6 meetings of the Board of Directors of the company were held: the first was on 20 March 2023, the second on 13 May 2023, the third was on 30 May 2023, the fourth was on 15 July 2023, the fifth was on 16 September 2023, and the last was on 21 December 2023.

Current Members of the Board of Directors:

Serial	Member's Name	Attendance (Number of Times)
1	Dr. Ahmed Mohamed Hassanein Heikal	6
2	Mr. Hisham Hussein El-Khazindar	6
3	Mr. Karim Hassan Sadek	6
4	Mr. Tarek Mahmoud Abdel Zaher El Gammal	3
5	Mr. Mousheer Mohamed Abdelfattah Gharib Hadhoud	3
6	Mr. Mansour Ahmed Mohamed Heikal	2
7	Mr. Taymour Ahmed Mohamed Heikal	3
8	Mrs. Mona Makram Ebeid	5
9	Mr. Magdy Kamal Ibrahim El Desouki	3

10	Mr. Philip Blair Dundas	6
11	Mrs. Dina Heather Hamdy Hassan Sherif	5

Members of the Board of Directors until 6 July 2023:

Serial	Member's Name	Attendance (Number of Times)
1	Mr. Moataz Farouk Ayad	2

Attendance of the General Assembly Meetings:

During the year 2023, 3 General Assembly meetings of the company were held: the first, an Extraordinary General Assembly on 18th of January 2023, the second, an Ordinary General Assembly on 6th of July 2023, and the third, an Extraordinary General Assembly on the 3rd of August 2023.

Current Members of the Board of Directors:

Serial	Member's Name	Attendance (Number of Times)
1	Dr. Ahmed Mohamed Hassanein Heikal	1
2	Mr. Hisham Hussein El-Khazindar	2
3	Mr. Karim Hassan Sadek	2
4	Mr. Tarek Mahmoud Abdel Zaher El Gammal	1
5	Mr. Mousheer Mohamed Abdelfattah Gharib Hadhoud	1
6	Mr. Mansour Ahmed Mohamed Heikal	1
7	Mr. Taymour Ahmed Mohamed Heikal	1
8	Mrs. Mona Makram Ebeid	0
9	Mr. Magdy Kamal Ibrahim El Desouki	0
10	Mr. Philip Blair Dundas	0
11	Mrs. Dina Heather Hamdy Hassan Sherif	0

Members of the Board of Directors until 6 July 2023:

Serial	Member's Name	Attendance (Number of Times)
1	Mr. Moataz Farouk Ayad	1

Responsibility of the Chairman

- Inviting the Board of Directors to convene, setting its agenda and managing its meetings.
- Invite the Ordinary and Extraordinary General Assembly to convene.
- Ensure timely accurate, adequate and timely information is available to Board members and shareholders.
- Ensuring that decisions are taken properly and with a thorough knowledge of the topics, with the need to ensure that there is an appropriate mechanism to ensure the effective implementation of those decisions in a timely manner.
- Ensuring that all members of the Board conduct self-assessment that shows the extent to which the member complies with his duties.
- Ensure that the Board is fully committed to completing its tasks towards achieving the best interest of the company with the need to avoid conflicts of interest.
- Ensuring the effectiveness of the company's governance system as well as the effectiveness of the Board's committees' performance.
- All other responsibilities entrusted to the Chairman of the Board of Directors in accordance with Law 159 of 1981 and its Executive Regulations and amendments.

Responsibility of the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer

- The presidency of the executive work of the company and oversee the functioning in all departments and sections of the company and follow-up performance of all activities as well as work to increase customer satisfaction for the company.
- The implementation of the strategy and annual business plan.
- The implementation of all internal policies, regulations and bylaws of the company approved by the Board of Directors.
- Proposing the topics to be presented at the regular meetings of the Board of Directors.
- Supervising the preparation of periodic financial and non-financial reports about the results of the company's business and evaluating its performance, as well as the corporate governance report, and reviewing all responses to the auditors inquiries before preparing these reports.

- Participate actively in establishing and developing a culture of ethical values within the company and proposing reward systems, incentives and mechanisms of succession planning adopted by the Board to ensure the loyalty of employees and maximize the value of the company.
- Determining the terms of reference and responsibilities of all the company's employees in accordance with the applicable labor regulations and the decisions of the Board of Directors.

Secretary of the Board of Directors

The Legal Counsel of the company Mr. Tarek Hassan is the Board Secretary and performs the following tasks:

- Preparing and managing the logistics of the Board and committee's meetings, assisting the Chairman in preparing the agenda of the meetings, and preparing the information, data and details on these topics and sending them to the members well in advance of the meeting.
- Assisting the Chairman in preparing the meetings of the General Assembly of shareholders and managing its logistics.
- Following up on the issuance and implementation of the board's decisions and informing the concerned departments as well as preparing follow-up reports on what has been done.
- Maintaining and documenting all matters related to the Board's decisions and the topics presented before it, while ensuring that the Board receives important information in a timely manner.
- Coordinating with all the Board's committees to ensure effective communication between these committees and the Board of Directors.
- Ensuring that Board members are aware of the most important supervisory or legal responsibilities that may arise as a result of developments in the company's activities or in the legal framework the company is subject to, within the limits of his responsibilities and without conflict with the role of the departments concerned with these subjects.
- Provide the necessary information about the company to new members and presenting them to the rest of the members.

Committees of the Board of Directors

First: Audit and Governance Committee

Name	Position in the Committee	Joining Date	Attendance (Number of Times)
Mr. Philip Blair Dundas	Committee president	2022	6
Mr. Magdy Kamal Ibrahim El Desouki	Committee member	2022	3

Mrs. Dina Heather Hamdy Hassan Sherif	Committee member	2022	6
---------------------------------------	------------------	------	---

The Audit Committee was formed in accordance with Article (37) of the Rules of Listing and De-listing of Securities on the Egyptian Stock Exchange. The Committee consists of (3) members of the Board of Directors of the company who are not executives who are recognized for their competence and experience in the field of the company's work. The Committee includes more than one independent member. The Audit Committee shall undertake the following tasks:

- Control of accounts, auditing, financial reports, and matters relating to the internal financial control of the company.
- Study the financial statements before submit them to the Board of Directors and giving their opinion and recommendations regarding it.
- Supervising the integrity of the company's senior management, its policies, legal compliance, reporting practices and internal control systems in relation to finance and accounts.
- Review and study the effectiveness of internal audit, internal control, internal control systems and risk management of the company and prepare a written report on its opinion and recommendations thereon.
- Recommend the appointment of external auditors and determine their remuneration and retention.
- Supervision of the independence, qualifications, and performance of the company's external and internal auditors.
- Establish and maintain fraud treatment and reporting procedures (whistleblowing).
- Review any issues related to conflict of interest, ethical conduct, or compliance with the law.
- Provide a unified channel for communication between external auditors, internal auditors, senior management, and the Board with respect to accounts, audit, financial reporting and supervision.
- Carry out any appropriate duties or responsibilities that may be assigned to it by the Board of Directors.
- Perform any other tasks specified in Rules of Listing and De-listing of Securities on the Egyptian Stock Exchange.

Second: Nominations, Renumeration and Benefits and Committee

Name	Position in the Committee	Joining Date	Attendance (Number of Times)
Mr. Philip Blair Dundas	Committee president	2022	2
Mr. Magdy Kamal Ibrahim El Desouki	Committee member	2022	2

Mrs. Dina Heather Hamdy Hassan Sherif	Committee member	2022	2
---------------------------------------	------------------	------	---

The company has a Nomination, Remuneration and benefits Committee headed by Mr. Philip Blair Dundas and two independent members.

The company has a Nomination and Remuneration Committee headed by Philip Blair Dundas. The committee is concerned with the following:

- Identify the responsibilities of Board members from executive, non-executive and independent, and develop job descriptions for the senior executive leadership of the company.
- Verification on an ongoing basis the independency of the independent board members and to ensure that there is no conflict of interest if the member is a board member of another company.
- To propose clear policies for the remuneration and benefits of Directors, members of committees and senior executives of the company, and to use performance-related criteria in determining these benefits, and to review such policies annually.
- Develop and follow up the policy of refunding remuneration and entitlements of board members, members of committees and senior executives of the company in the event of any violations or misappropriations of the company's capabilities.

Third: Risk and Investment Committee

Name	Position in the Committee	Joining Date
Dr. Ahmed Mohamed Hassanein Heikal	Committee president	2022
Mr. Hisham Hussein Al Khazendar	Committee member	2022
Mr. Karim Hassan Sadek	Committee member	2022
Mr. Tarek Mahmoud Abdel Zaher El Gammal	Committee member	2022
Mr. Mousheer Mohamed Abdelfattah Gharib Hadhoud	Committee member	2022
Mr. Mohamed Abdellah	Committee member	2022
Mr. Tarek Salah	Committee member	2022
Mr. Amir Naguib	Committee member	2022
Mrs. Dina Heather Hamdy Hassan Sherif	Committee member	2022
Mr. Moataz Farouk Ayad	Committee member	2022

The company has a Risk and Investment committee consisting of the top executive leaders. The committee has not met during this year and the regular meetings of the committee will commence

during 2024. The committee is responsible for studying and taking important investment decisions to enhance the company's revenues and shareholders' ownership.

Fourth: Sustainability Committee

Name	Position in the Committee	Joining Date
Mrs. Dina Heather Hamdy Hassan Sherif	Committee president	2022
Mr. Hisham Hussein El-Khazindar	Committee member	2022
Mrs. Ghada Ahmed Hassan Hamouda	Committee member	2022

The Sustainability committee was established to include amongst its members the Managing Director, Co-founder and Chief Sustainability Officer. The committee assists the company in drafting short and long-term policies, and provides guidance on strategies and goals that promote responsible and sustainable practices across the company and its subsidiaries and related parties to reduce risks and create shared value. The committee has not met during this year and the regular meetings of the committee will commence during 2024.

The Regulatory Environment

Internal Control System

The company has an internal control system which is based on a set of policies, procedures, manuals, and regulations prepared by the concerned departments of the company and approved by the Board of Directors to achieve the following objectives:

- Fully separate the responsibilities and authorities of all employees of the company.
- Ensure the accuracy and quality of the information, so as to provide either the company or other correct and accurate information about the company.
- Protect the material assets of the company from the risks it may be exposed to, and document and record those assets in the company records.
- Increasing the productivity of the company and achieving its objectives with the lowest costs and the same quality.
- Ensure the accuracy of the instructions, in order to ensure that all instructions have been implemented as appropriate.
- Ensuring the application of corporate governance rules through strict implementation of the various rules and regulations of governance.

Internal Audit Department

The internal audit department is headed by a full-time officer, who is technically following the audit committee, and administratively following the Chief Executive Officer of the company. The company gives the director of the internal audit department all the powers necessary to perform his duties perfectly. The Audit Committee sets out the objectives, functions and authorities of the Internal Audit Department and submits it to the Board of Directors for approval. The Director of the Internal Audit Department also submits a quarterly report to the Audit Committee clarifying the results of his work.

The role of the Audit Department	Scope of the Internal Audit Department	Is it a permanent department in the company or a private external audit company?	Name of Internal Audit Manager	Periodic reports
The Internal Audit Department aims to add value and improve the performance of the company's operations to help it achieve its objectives by adopting a systematic and organized approach aimed at evaluating the internal controls and procedures and risk management procedures of the company, and to ensure the proper application of its governance rules in all executive departments, financial and legal activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate the efficiency of the company's internal control system and report to the Audit Committee on the observations reached. Evaluate the commitment of all the company's departments to carry out their work in accordance with the working procedures and policies established without conflict with the competencies of the other concerned departments. Evaluate the efficiency of the procedures and policies developed and their suitability with the developments of work and market. Follow-up correction of the observations contained in the internal and external audit reports and others received from the regulatory authorities. 	A permanent department in the company undertakes internal audit functions	Mr. Emad Abd El Rahman Taryal	Quarterly audit reports are prepared for submission to the internal audit committee

Risk Management

The Board of Directors is generally responsible for the risk management of the company in a manner consistent with the nature of the activity of the holding company, its subsidiaries and the markets with which it deals. The company has a Risk Officer who sets a strategy to identify the risks that the company may face and how to deal with them in cooperation with the Board and the investment function.

The following are the responsibilities of risk management during the year:

- Analyze the risks that the company may be exposed to and conduct this analysis accurately, in a timely and early manner.
- Determine the level of risk that the company can accept from the various risks that the company may face depending on its impact and the extent to which it can be realized.
- Develop a risk policy and specific indicators to measure, follow-up and monitor the risk surrounding the company.
- Measure the extent to which policies continue to be appropriate and effective in measuring, follow-up and monitoring of risks and making any required adjustments in accordance to the market developments and the environment surrounding the company internally and externally.
- Ensure that appropriate and effective information and communication systems are in place and related to the risk follow-up and monitoring process so as to allow senior management and risk committee to receive periodic reports from risk management that reflect the extent to which the company is committed to the set risk limits, and to clarify violations of these limits and their causes and the proposed plan to address them.
- Provide accurate and expressive reports to enable concerned stakeholders to make appropriate decisions.

Compliance Department

Currently there is no compliance department in the company, but the Audit Committee takes the place of that department and is responsible for ensuring that the tasks of that department are implemented when necessary. The company is in the process of establishing an independent compliance department during the year 2024.

Compliance department identifies, evaluates, advises, monitors and reports on the risks of non-compliance with the laws, regulations and regulatory instructions issued by various entities, avoiding harming the company's reputation or offering penalties resulting from non-compliance.

Responsibilities of the Compliance Management during the year are as follows:

- Continuous follow-up and ensuring that all employees comply with binding laws, controls and regulatory instructions issued by the various entities, including governance systems and policies.

- Ensuring and following up the extent to which all employees comply with internal regulations, policies, and charters, including the Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct.
- Ensure that there are no illegal or unethical practices in the company and investigate them objectively and confidentially and present them to the Audit Committee and follow up on what has been done with them, while ensuring the protection of whistleblowers.

Governance Department

The company has governance principals aimed to consolidate and establish the principles of governance as follows:

- Monitor the availability of principles and key elements that help to develop and improve the performance of the company, which contributes to the achievement of the strategic objectives set by the Board of Directors.
- Monitor the application of the principle of disclosure and transparency and the culture of governance in all business and activities of the company.
- Improve and develop the general framework and principles of the company's work through the company's code of professional conduct and define its social responsibility towards employees and society as a whole.
- Monitor the implementation of the policy of avoiding conflicts of interest to all employees of the company.
- Working on applying the concept of transparency, clarity and fairness in dealing with all shareholders.
- Working on the clarity of relations between the Board of Directors and stakeholders.
- Develop internal governance guides and formulate various internal policies that govern the relationship between all employees, as well as contribute to the preparation of the report on the company's compliance to corporate governance.

The Auditor

The auditor of the company who meets the conditions stipulated in the law of practicing the profession of accounting and auditing, including competence, reputation and experience, shall be appointed and his/her experience, competence and abilities shall be commensurate with the size and nature of the company's activity and those dealing with them.

The General Assembly, upon nomination by the Board of Directors and after the recommendation of the Audit Committee, appoints an auditor for the company, the decision of his/her appointment and the assessment of his fees shall be the responsibility of the Ordinary General Assembly of the company. The auditor must be independent of the company and its Board of Directors, not to be a shareholder or a member of its Board of Directors, or has relatives with any of the Board's member or senior management to the second degree, or to perform any technical, administrative or advisory work on a

permanent basis, in addition, the auditor is impartial in his/her opinion, and his scope of work is immune to the intervention of the Board of Directors.

The company is committed that the auditor provides a copy of his report on the report prepared by the company on the extent of its commitment to the rules of governance to the administrative according to the rules of governance and disclosure in force, and also submits this report to the General Assembly of shareholders.

Disclosure and transparency

Material information and financial and non-financial disclosure

The company discloses its financial information of the company through its periodic and annual financial statements and the Board of Directors report. It also discloses the company's non-financial information, all material events and emergency events that are of interest of its current and prospective shareholders and investors. This is in accordance with the procedures of the Capital Market Law No. 95 of 1992 and its Executive Bylaws and its amendments, and the Rules of Listing and De-listing of Securities on the Egyptian Stock Exchange, as follows:

- Internal information that includes the objectives of the company, its vision, the nature of its activity, the company's plans and its future strategy, the composition of the Board of Directors, its committees and senior executives.
- Systems of raising competencies, training, rewarding and care of the company's employees.
- Ownership structures of the company's affiliates and subsidiaries.
- Related parties transactions and contracts.
- The most important risks that the company may face and ways to address them, and changes in the investment policy.
- Disclosure of treasury shares to its shareholders and to the regulatory authorities. In the case that a subsidiary has purchased the shares of a holding company that owns it, all treasury shares rules are applied to purchased shares and those shares shall not be counted in the quorum of shareholders and do not participate in voting on General Assembly resolutions.
- Submit to the Stock Exchange the resolutions of the Ordinary and Extraordinary General Assembly following the end of the meeting and no later than before the start of the next trading session. The company shall also be obliged to submit to Stock Exchange within a week at most from the date of convening the General Assembly with its minutes, provided that the minutes are approved by the Chairman of the Board of Directors. The company shall submit to the Stock Exchange the General Assembly's minutes of the meetings approved by the competent administrative authority within a period not exceeding three working days from the date of receipt.
- Submit to the Stock Exchange a summary of the resolutions containing material events issued by its Board of Directors following the end of their meeting and no later than before the start of the next trading session. The company shall also be obliged to submit to the Financial Regulatory Authority and the Stock Exchange a statement approved by the company's Board detailing the

most important results compared to the corresponding period in accordance with the form prepared for that by the Stock Exchange immediately after the Board of Directors approves the annual or quarterly (periodic) financial statements in preparation for referring them to the auditor for the purpose of the issuance of his report. Provided that such disclosure shall be made after the end of the meeting and no later than before the start of the next trading session.

- Any new proposed new issuance of bonds and any collateral or mortgages related thereto.
- Any decision resulting in the recall or cancellation of registered securities previously issued.
- Any proposed change in the financing structure or capital structure exceeding 5% of the shareholders' equity evidenced in the latest periodic financial statements or the financial position of the company as well as any restrictions imposed on the amount of borrowing available to the company.
- Any contracts with a value exceeding 5% of the revenues of the last fiscal year.
- Any proposed agreement that results in the entry of strategic investors to purchase shares of the company.
- The filing of lawsuits or arbitration against the company related to its activity or one of its investments or other assets owned by it exceeding 2% of the shareholders' equity evidenced in the latest approved financial statements.
- The issuance of any decisions by the administrative authorities in the country affecting the activities of the company and any amendment, withdrawal or cancellation of these decisions.
- Any commercial transactions with related parties.
- The filing of legal proceedings against a Board member of the company or one of its principal managers that is in connection with the company and that is related to the violations attributed to any of them.

Violations and verdicts issued against the company during the year and explained through the following table:

Serial	Verdicts, violations and penalties imposed on the company during the year	Notes
	None	None

Investor Relations

The company has investor relations department, as investor relations is one of the main and most prominent activities to implement corporate governance principles, as it is an independent strategic function aimed to activate and strengthen the relationship with current and prospective investors, opening channels of communication with stakeholders in the financial and investment market, and providing necessary disclosure and transparency, which has a positive impact on:

- Investors' vision about the company's current performance and expectations for future performance.
- Achieve the appropriate liquidity for trading the company's shares on the Stock Exchange.
- Reduce long-term financing cost.
- Increase the confidence customers dealing with the company and its stakeholders, as well as promote increase in groups supporting the company.

The Investor Relations Officer participates in the development of the company's communication strategy in the investment market, opening channels of communication with investors, conveying market views and investors' concerns to the Board of Directors on an ongoing basis. Investor relations is one of the means by which the Board of Directors can understand the reasons for the performance of the company's shares, and the reflection of that performance on its fair value according to the information provided by the company about its performance, its capabilities and its future, and the extent of the company's compliance with the rules of disclosure and communication with investors and the clarity of their vision and evaluation of the investment market.

The Investor Relations Department reports to the Chairman and Managing Director of the company and submits its periodic reports to them. the Investor Relations Officer attends the meetings of the General Assembly of the company and the meeting of the Board of Directors of the holding company and its subsidiaries, in order to identify and understand the internal affairs of the company and its strategic directions.

The following are the responsibilities of Investor Relations department during the year:

- Develop a strategy for the investor relations program through an understanding of the market and the requirements of the company, so that the Investor Relations Officer prioritizes the required activities and develops the strategy required to implement those activities in cooperation with the Board of Directors.
- Participate in the development of the company's disclosure policy and its approval by the Board of Directors.
- Maintaining existing investors and attracting new investors by educating the market about the company's business and future growth opportunities and identifying the factors that affect its profitability.
- Communicate with analysts and investors and provide information to reduce rumors and surprises that lead to fluctuations in prices and trading volumes.
- Organize the information issued by the company in accordance with the applicable disclosure rules.
- Establish and maintain the investor database both in terms of investor type and geographical location.
- Introduce the market to new members of the Board of Directors or senior management.
- Organize promotional campaigns and events about the company according to the plan prepared in advance and facilitate investors' visits to the company's various sites.

- Communicate with investors through various communication tools such as the company's website and participate in the preparation of the annual report that interests current and prospective investors.
- Prepare the disclosure report required from the company and prepare investor relations pages on the company's website and update them continuously

Disclosure tools

Annual report

The company shall issue an annual report in Arabic and English containing a summary of the Board of Directors' Report and Financial Statements, as well as all other information which concerns the shareholders, current and prospective investors and other stakeholders. The annual report is a report from the management of the company to all those interested in the events that took place during the past year and what the company aims to achieve during the coming year. The annual report contains the following:

- Notes of the Chairman and / or Managing Director.
- Vision and purpose.
- Company strategy.
- History of the company and the most important stations it went through.
- Ownership Structure.
- Senior management and the composition of the Board of Directors.
- Analysis of the market in which the company operates.
- The company's current and future projects.
- Analysis of the company's financial position.
- Report on governance
- Report on social and environmental responsibility of the company.
- Report on the discussion of the executive management of the financial performance of the company.
- The auditor's report and the comparative financial statements in the same previous periods.

Board of Directors Report

The company issues an annual report in accordance with the Companies Law No. 159 of 1981 and its Executive Bylaws, and Article 40 of the Rules of Listing De-Listing of Securities on the Egyptian Stock Exchange, to be submitted to the General Assembly of shareholders and the regulatory authorities, the report includes:

- Discuss financial results and material topics.
- Main achievements of the company during the year.
- Analysis of the business environment and the company's main markets.
- The company's strategy.
- Major changes in the management structure of the company.
- The composition of the Board of Directors and the number of times it is held.

- The composition of the Board committees of and the number of times they are held.
- The average number of employees during the year and the average income of the employee during the same period.
- Rewarding and motivating policies for employees, such as ESPO and others.
- What was done in connection with the related party contracts concluded in the previous year, as well as the related party contracts contract presented for the following year.
- Actions and procedures have been taken against the company, its Board of Directors or its managers by regulatory or judicial Authorities.
- Report on the company's commitment to corporate governance and social and environmental responsibility.

Disclosure Report

The company issue a quarterly disclosure report prepared by the Investor Relations Department with the assistance of the company's management, that includes the following:

- company Contact details.
- Investor Relations Officer and his/her contact details.
- The structure of shareholders who own 5% or more of the company's shares.
- Total shareholders structure detailing the free-float shares.
- Details of the company's treasury shares.
- Changes to the Board of Directors and the latest formation of the Board.
- Forming committees emanating from the Board.

Sustainability Report

The company publishes every time period (variable), a balanced report on sustainability, which includes the company's achievements in the economic, environmental and social fields. It explains the values and principles of the company and explains the relationship between its strategy and its commitments to the society in which it operates. Sustainability disclosure bring a range of benefits such as supporting the company's reputation, continuously improving performance, adhering to environmental and social legislation and regulations, as well as how to manage the company's risks, as well as motivate employees and attracting capital.

The Website

The company has a website in Arabic and English where financial and non-financial information is disclosed in a user-friendly manner and is updated with published information on an on-going basis.

www.qalaaholdings.com

Charters and Policies

Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct

The company has an internal charter on ethics and professional conduct, which includes a set of values that regulate the rules of professional conduct and ethics within the company. It contains the standards of conduct that all the employees of the company have to follow and observe in all transactions and in every location where they perform their work, which positively affects the reputation and credibility of the company and the integrity of its employees, guaranteeing the rights of its shareholders and all its stakeholders.

Succession Planning

The company has a succession planning policy, which aims to create procedures and evaluate the selection, recruitment and promotion processes within the framework of securing the best qualified elements of the company in the appropriate positions, meanwhile promoting professional development and promotion of existing staff, and to develop a plan of succession of authority at the level of executive management in emergency situations or in the short and long term with focus on succession planning of the main elements through the human resources procedures manual and prepare a list of candidates to fill the main functions periodically and effectively to achieve added value to the company and ensure its sustainability.

Whistleblowing Policy

The company has a whistleblowing policy, which aims to encourage the employees or dealers of the company to report any practices that violate ethical codes or any illegal acts, and the implementation of effective procedures in terms of accountability and then enhance the standards of honesty and integrity in all activities of the company. The policy also provides for the protection of the reporting person to ensure that employees and others are encouraged to initiate and report irregularities while ensuring that the person is fully confidential considering that the reporting process is based on objective documents or information.

The policy of dealing with internal, related parties and associated parties

The company has a policy and procedures governing the transactions of insiders and related parties and associated parties, which aims to control the trading of the company's shares by insiders, regulate the relations with related parties and conclude related party contracts in accordance with the rules of the regulatory authorities, and show the extent of the commitment of the insiders, the founders and the main shareholders groups associated with them not to be a party to any related party contract except after the approval of the General Assembly, provided that this act is presented to the Assembly in all details and data, including the price and quantity in advance of conduct of such act. The party involved in the related party contract shall not be entitled to vote in the General Assembly. It ensures understanding by all concerned parties of the definition of insider trading and its regulation rules. This policy ensures the following:

- Not to allow any insider to deal in any securities issued by the company within five business days prior to and one business day after the publication of any material information in accordance with the definition contained in item (B) of Article 309 of the Executive Bylaws of the Capital Market Law.
- Not to deal with any of the main shareholders and their associated groups in periods other than those set forth in the preceding paragraph except after notifying the Stock Exchange at least one working day in accordance with the form prepared for that purpose by the Stock Exchange.

Qalaa Holdings Sustainability Framework

Qalaa Holdings is dedicated to building businesses that add value to the economies and societies in which it operates, sustainably and responsibly, prioritizing the well-being of our employees and the communities we serve. Our sustainability strategy underscores our belief that sustainability is a business imperative and opportunity, a risk mitigant, and an essential aspect of our core values of being a responsible investor. Additionally, we are dedicated to integrating economic, environmental, social, and governance (EESG) considerations into every facet of our policies, operations, and investment decisions.

Furthermore, our strategy aligns closely with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the UN Global Compact's Ten Principles, reflecting our commitment to advancing global sustainability objectives and promoting ethical business practices on a global scale.

Integral to our approach are eight areas of focus:

1. **Responsible Investment:** Qalaa Holdings is committed to making responsible investment decisions that create long-term value for its stakeholders. We prioritize investments that promote sustainable economic growth, environmental stewardship, and social development.
 - **Firmwide Sustainability Works:** We integrate ESG considerations across our business practices, operations, and culture. This includes driving our firmwide climate strategy, managing our ESG disclosure, engaging with stakeholders, and reducing the environmental impact of our operations.
 - **Sustainable Energy Products and Solutions:** Provide innovative environmental, social, and governance (ESG) that seeks to achieve economic and societal well-being and sustainability.
2. **Environmental Stewardship:** We recognize the importance of preserving the environment for current and future generations. Qalaa Holdings strives to minimize its environmental footprint by promoting energy efficiency, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, conserving natural resources, and supporting initiatives that mitigate climate change.
3. **Social Responsibility:** Qalaa Holdings is dedicated to being a positive force in the communities and society where we operate. We prioritize the well-being of our employees, promote diversity and inclusion, and support initiatives that enhance education, healthcare, and social welfare.
4. **Qalaa Holdings Scholarship Foundation and Other Human Capital Initiatives and Programs:** QHSF was established in 2007, exemplifying our commitment to fostering human capital development through sustainable governance and finance. To date, QHSF has awarded

over 207 scholarships, adhering to the highest standards of accountability and financial sustainability.

5. **Governance Excellence and Stakeholder Engagement:** Qalaa Holdings upholds the highest standards of corporate governance and ethical conduct, emphasizing transparency, accountability, and integrity in all business dealings.
 - We prioritize **stakeholder engagement mapping**, continuously developing it to ensure transparency and accountability.
 - **Sustainability Governance:** Qalaa is considered the first industrial company in Egypt to appoint a Chief Sustainability Officer and create a **sustainability office** for the management and coordination of sustainability matters across its company functions, and the first to establish a **Sustainability Committee** at the corporate Board level for sustainability governance that assists Qalaa Holdings' management in drafting short and long-term policies, and guidance on strategies and goals that promote responsible and sustainable practices across the company and its subsidiaries as well as to relevant stakeholders to mediate risks and create shared value.
6. **Continuous Improvement:** Qalaa Holdings is committed to continuously improving its sustainability performance. We regularly build carefully, set goals, and monitor our progress and assess our ESG practices, set targets for improvement, and engage with stakeholders to address their concerns and feedback.
7. **Accountability Reporting and Self-Regulation to Measure Our Impact:** Qalaa Holdings implements robust accountability reporting mechanisms and practices self-regulation to build trust and ensure transparency, integrity, and compliance with regulatory requirements. By adhering and communicating with our internal & external stakeholders to rigorous reporting standards and actively regulating our operations, we uphold our commitment to responsible corporate citizenship and foster trust among stakeholders.
8. **Advocacy and Partnerships:** Partnering with like-minded local and international organizations like UNDP and FEI who are working towards common goals will enable us to further our reach and add more value to our communities. Qalaa has clearly demonstrated how partnerships in the public and private sectors can promote sustainable development.

We prioritize the following sustainability and ESG goals:

- **Developing policies, standards, and KPIs** to achieve HSEQ best practices across our subsidiaries and supply chains.
- **Transitioning to low-carbon and reducing emissions across operations to transition to a net-zero future by 2050.** (Qalaa has signed a pledge to set science-based emission reduction targets aligned with a net-zero future, responding to what the latest climate science indicates is needed to limit the worst impacts of climate change)
- **Risk Assessment, Reporting, and measuring progress:** We have made and continue to make significant progress throughout our subsidiaries in terms of production, consumption, and waste management with the aim of achieving climate neutrality. We are constantly improving our reporting mechanisms and following the international reporting standards and framework to help us track sustainability performance, including SBTi, GRI, GIIN, and TCFD.
- **Establishing Win-Win partnerships:** Qalaa has been one of the early companies to join climate pledges, joining forces with other companies to advocate for change. For example, it

has participated in initiatives such as Race to Zero and Business Ambition for 1.5°C, as well as forming cross-border innovative partnerships for climate action. An instance of this collaboration includes signing a memorandum of understanding between ECARU, Qalaa Holdings, and Axens to conduct technical and economic studies for the second-generation biofuel project (advanced bioethanol) and SAF (sustainable aviation fuel production).

Qalaa Holdings has identified 11 SDG goals which it managed to focus on achieving which included goals: 4,5,7,8,9,10,11,12,13, 16,17. On top of them are the following nine goals during 2023:

People – Inclusive Growth & Human Capital Development



SDG Goal 4: Improving The Quality of Education

Qalaa and its subsidiaries have succeeded in directly benefiting about 46.9 thousand direct beneficiaries (about 800,000 direct and indirect beneficiaries) through the various educational initiatives it launched, including Qalaa Financial Services Center, the “Mostakbaly” program for students and teachers, ASEC Academy, and Qalaa Holdings Scholarship Foundation. These initiatives provide a variety of scholarships and vocational training courses at a group of the most prominent universities and leading institutes in the national and international arenas, in addition to focusing on improving the infrastructure of the educational system and developing the capabilities and competencies of teachers.

SDG Goal 5: Gender equality

Qalaa Holdings and its subsidiaries implement workplace policies aimed at fostering a supportive environment for women. These policies include flexible working hours for female employees during and after maternity leave, facilitating a smooth return to work, and opportunities for skill development. Qalaa's strategy revolves around supporting and empowering women in the workplace, guided by the principle of "Leading by Example." This approach is built on four key pillars.

- **Implementing the principle of equal opportunities, gender equality and equity,** and creating a supportive environment for women to achieve their aspirations during the full life cycle of working women, starting with ensuring the diversity of applicants for different job opportunities and appointing qualified Egyptian women in various field. It's worth noting that the percentage of women in Qalaa Holdings is 25% on the Board of Directors, 39.1% in various senior leadership positions, 13.04% in middle management, where there is 100% representation of women in the International Legal Affairs team within the company representing 46% of the

total beneficiaries across 15 Egyptian governorates. Additionally, the company succeeded in benefiting over 8,975 women in the Mostorod region through the economic "Tamkeen" programs it initiated.

- **Launching various social development programs and initiatives to train, prepare, and empower women.** It is worth noting Qalaa Holdings Scholarship Foundation focuses on achieving gender equality, with women.
- **Awarding and honoring female talents in the public sphere,** highlighting their vital role across various sectors, and contributing to changing stereotypical beliefs about the role of Egyptian women in both the local and international business communities. Qalaa has honored six women among the 50 most influential women in the Egyptian economy and three female leaders within the company listed in Forbes for their impactful roles in the Middle East
- **Actively participating in national and international initiatives and supporting governmental and UN efforts** to enhance the status of women, achieve equality, and provide equal opportunities between genders. As part of its ongoing efforts to promote gender equality in the workplace and achieve women's economic empowerment, Qalaa joined the United Nations Women Empowerment Principles (WEPs) and developed an action plan encompassing various key performance indicators (KPIs) that are currently being implemented and monitored for performance. Joining the WEPs initiative and implementing its seven principles reflects Qalaa's commitment to "Lead by Example" in promoting women's roles and unleashing their potential as key partners in the workforce, societal advancement, and driving Egypt's economy forward. Additionally, Qalaa's participation as a partner in the "Gender Gap Bridging Catalyst" initiative, aimed at supporting women's empowerment and bridging the gender economic gap, was launched by the Ministry of International Cooperation and the National Council for Women, in partnership with the World Economic Forum.

SDG Goal 10: Reduced Inequality

The primary objective of all company initiatives is to mitigate economic and social inequalities by fostering capacity building through providing educational opportunities and human development. For example, the company's community development projects, including "Tamkeen", "Reyada", "Mashrouy", and "Takaful", contribute to empowering women, youth, and individuals with disabilities. The number of direct and indirect beneficiaries from these programs has reached 8,975, 16,850, and 14,340 respectively.

Planet



SDG Goal 7: Affordable Clean Energy

Through its investments in the energy sector, which include the Egyptian Refining Company, TAQA Arabia, and TAWAZON, Qalaa Holdings aims to lead in providing affordable clean energy solutions and local alternatives to imports. The company continues its commitment to expanding alternative energy and renewable projects, such as wind energy and environmentally friendly natural gas, which are readily available domestically. For instance, TAQA Arabia offers innovative solutions to support the state's plan to convert cars to run on natural gas by updating and developing technologies for assisting vehicles. Additionally, TAQA Arabia launched a solar power plant with a capacity of 65 megawatts in the Benban Solar Energy complex in Aswan, the largest complex for generating solar energy in Egypt, serving over 1.34 million customers across 42 cities. The company is also working on delivering natural gas to El Wadi El Gedid Governorate. Over the years, the company inaugurated several solar power stations, including a 6-megawatt solar power plant at Dina farms, funded by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, largest solar PV plant in Sharm El Sheikh that feeds power to over 6,000 hotel rooms in Sharm El Sheikh, and a 7-megawatt solar power plant in Ascom.

It's worth noting that as part of our strategy to provide practical solutions for clean energy, ECARU, Qalaa, and Axens signed a memorandum of understanding to conduct technical and economic studies for the second-generation biofuel project (advanced bioethanol) and sustainable aviation fuel production. The project will be implemented in two phases, with the first focusing on advanced bioethanol production and the second on sustainable aviation fuel. The project studies are expected to take about seven months, with the company aiming to export its second-generation biofuel production, aligning with Egypt's strategy to maximize the use of various waste types, contribute to sustainability, promote waste recycling, and thereby enhance economic growth.

SDG Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

Qalaa Holdings is committed to playing an active role in fostering and nurturing sustainable cities and communities in the areas where the Group operates. Qalaa's subsidiaries support a number of aspects related sustainable transportation, such as reducing emissions through TAQA Arabia's Dual Fuel technology, which enables fuel vehicles to run on a Dual Fuel technology, which uses both diesel and natural gas simultaneously during the engine's compression process, thus delivering greater power and efficiency while also reducing diesel consumption by 30%.

We are also committed to making sure that solid waste is adequately recycled by promoting the utilization of waste management to preserve and add value to natural resources. Through subsidiaries such as Tawazon, Qalaa plays an active role in these efforts. Tawazon recycles waste into environmentally friendly alternatives to coal and natural gas, such as biomass-derived fuel (BDF), solid

recovery fuel (SRF) and refuse-derived fuel (RDF), and delivers them to heavy consumers as a source of thermal energy.

At Dina Farms, Tawazon/ECARU creates 100% organic compost from feedstocks manure (average 100k tons annually) which serves as good input in organic farming, decreases reliance on chemical fertilizers, and reduces the water consumption rate by three times when compared to other fertilizers.

SDG Goal 12: Responsible Consumption & Production

Qalaa Holdings' subsidiaries are committed to implementing strict waste management policies, with some relying on waste in the production of various materials such as energy alternatives (Tawazon Company) and duplex panels (Al Shorouk, a subsidiary of the National Printing Company). Additionally, thermal insulation solutions (Glass Rock Insulation Company) contribute to reducing the installation costs of cooling and heating systems by 30-40%, accompanied by a reduction in operating costs by 25-30%. In terms of sustainability, Qalaa and its subsidiaries adhere to a circular economy model, emphasizing resource optimization rather than waste, and manufacturing environmentally friendly products. For instance, ICDP has transitioned to natural gas, saving approximately between 1.5 to 2 million pounds annually, aiming to reduce consumption and the company's carbon footprint. Similarly, the Egyptian Refining Company utilizes closed water circuits to minimize water consumption and avoids dumping hazardous waste into the environment, prioritizing environmental and occupational safety according to the highest standards.

SDG Goal 13: Climate Action

Qalaa Holdings integrates environmental sustainability standards and practices into all its core operations by adopting a strategy that focuses on enhancing profitability while contributing to environmental preservation and uplifting surrounding communities. This encompasses companies operating in energy, infrastructure, logistics, and electricity sectors, including the Egyptian Refining Company, Nile Logistics, and TAQA Arabia. Qalaa makes significant efforts to reduce its carbon footprint by investing in renewable energy solutions and integrating them into its business model through clean energy and green projects, transitioning towards a green economy. In December 2019, the company announced becoming one of the signatories in the Business Ambition 1.5°C, aiming to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions at the pace and scale necessary to limit global warming. For example, the Egyptian Refining Company prepared a greenhouse gas emissions inventory report and developed a plan to manage and reduce greenhouse gas emissions starting from 2020 and periodically thereafter, aligning with Sustainable Development Goal 13 on climate change.

Prosperity



SDG Goal 7: Affordable Clean Energy

Qalaa Holdings remains dedicated to investing in renewable energy ventures, reducing its carbon footprint and lowering harmful emissions, as evidenced by the inauguration of ERC and TAQA Arabia's Benban solar power plant. TAQA is also driving Qalaa Holdings' green economy efforts through its use of more environmentally friendly options such as CNG and dual fuel.

Goal 8: Decent Work & Economic Growth

Currently, Qalaa and its subsidiaries employ over 17,500 employees, providing them with comprehensive benefits such as health insurance, allowances, and perks to ensure a good standard of living. The company is actively seeking various new investment opportunities to create new job openings and contribute to achieving the desired economic development.

SDG Goal 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure

Qalaa aims to develop energy and infrastructure solutions that contribute to environmental preservation by investing in innovative projects distinguished by the utilization of advanced construction technologies and extensive expertise in infrastructure, along with the latest manufacturing technology advancements.

SDG Goal 17: Partnerships For the Goals

Strategic partnerships represent a key pillar of Qalaa's plan aimed at maximizing positive impact on economies and surrounding communities and benefiting the greatest number of individuals from these communities. Qalaa and its subsidiaries engage in fruitful partnerships with business sector institutions, export credit agencies, international development finance institutions, educational institutions, and governmental bodies such as ministries of education, higher education, social solidarity, planning and administrative reform, youth and sports, and international cooperation. Additionally, they collaborate with international sustainability organizations and rating agencies such as UN Women, UN Global Compact, Global Impact Investing Network (GIIN), Global Reporting Initiative (GRI), and a wide range of civil society organizations to identify goals, necessary mechanisms for their achievement, and evaluate them optimally to maximize their positive economic, environmental, and societal impact on

the Egyptian economy. Moreover, Qalaa also forms innovative climate solution partnerships, such as signing a memorandum of understanding between the Egyptian Waste Recycling Company (ECARU), Qalaa Holdings, and the French company, Axens, to conduct the necessary technical and financial studies for the second-generation sustainable biofuel production project (bioethanol) and sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) production.

Sustainable Governance



SDG Goal 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions.

As part of its commitment to promoting good governance in line with international best practices, Qalaa Holdings has created a solid governance structure that is centered around accountability, transparency, and ethical business practices to ensure sound governance across its portfolio.

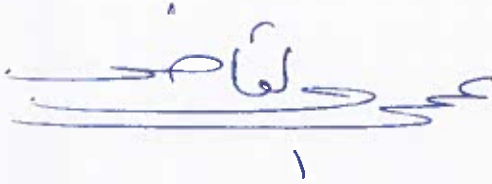
In line with its commitment to institutionalizing the corporate governance processes across all its companies, Qalaa Holdings is working diligently to instill diversity, trust, fairness, openness, and transparency as fundamental pillars of its corporate culture. Qalaa Holdings is currently a part of the Egyptian Junior Business Association's Integrity Network Initiative (INI), which connects Egypt's leading companies with its most promising SMEs in a collective effort to fight corruption and create a culture of accountability and transparency.

SDG Goal 17: Partnerships For the Goals.

Strategic partnerships represent a key pillar of Qalaa's plan aimed at maximizing positive impact on economies and surrounding communities and benefiting the greatest number of individuals from these communities. Qalaa and its subsidiaries engage in fruitful partnerships with business sector institutions, export credit agencies, international development finance institutions, educational institutions, and governmental bodies such as ministries of education, higher education, social solidarity, planning and administrative reform, youth and sports, and international cooperation. Additionally, they collaborate with international sustainability organizations and rating agencies such as UN Women, UN Global Compact, Global Impact Investing Network (GIIN), Global Reporting Initiative (GRI), and a wide range of civil society organizations to identify goals, necessary mechanisms for their achievement, and evaluate them optimally to maximize their positive economic, environmental, and societal impact on the Egyptian economy. Moreover, Qalaa holdings also forms

innovative climate solution partnerships, such as signing a memorandum of understanding between the Egyptian Waste Recycling Company (ECARU), Qalaa Holdings, and the French company, Axens, to conduct the necessary technical and financial studies for the second-generation sustainable biofuel production project (bioethanol) and sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) production.

By adhering to our responsible sustainability framework, Qalaa Holdings is creating value for its stakeholders and contributing to the sustainable development of the economies and societies in which it operates.



Amr El Kadi

Head of Investor Relations and Risk Management

May 6th, 2024