# STATUTORY AUDITORS' REPORTS

# STATUTORY AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(For the year ended December 31, 2019)

To the Shareholders,

L'ORÉAL

14, rue Royale

75008 Paris

# **Opinion**

In compliance with the engagement entrusted to us by your Annual General Meeting, we have audited the accompanying financial statements of L'Oréal for the year ended December 31, 2019.

In our opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the assets and liabilities and of the financial position of the Company at December 31, 2019 and of the results of its operations for the year then ended in accordance with French accounting principles.

The audit opinion expressed above is consistent with our report to the Audit Committee.

#### **Basis for opinion**

#### Audit framework

We conducted our audit in accordance with professional standards applicable in France. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Our responsibilities under these standards are further described in the "Responsibilities of the Statutory Auditors relating to the audit of the financial statements" section of our report.

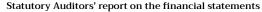
#### Independence

We conducted our audit engagement in compliance with the independence rules applicable to us, for the period from January 1, 2019 to the date of our report, and, in particular, we did not provide any non-audit services prohibited by article 5(1) of Regulation (EU) No 537/2014 or the French Code of Ethics (Code de déontologie) for Statutory Auditors.

### Justification of assessments – Key audit matters

In accordance with the requirements of articles L.823-9 and R.823-7 of the French Commercial Code (Code de commerce) relating to the justification of our assessments, we inform you of the key audit matters relating to the risks of material misstatement that, in our professional judgment, were the most significant in our audit of the financial statements, as well as how we addressed those risks.

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These matters were addressed as part of our audit of the financial statements as a whole, and therefore contributed to the opinion we formed as expressed above. We do not provide a separate opinion on specific items of the financial statements.

#### Description of risk

#### How our audit addressed this risk

#### **Measurement of investments**

See Note 1.7 - Accounting principles - Investments, Note 14 - Financial assets, and Note 30 - Table of subsidiaries and holdings, to the parent company financial statements

At December 31, 2019, the carrying amount of investments recognized in the balance sheet amounted to €10,582 million, representing 59% of total assets. Investments are recognized at purchase cost excluding incidental expenses.

An impairment loss is recognized if the value in use of a given item falls below its carrying amount.

As described in Note 1.7 to the financial statements, the value of these items is assessed annually by reference to their value in use, which is mainly based on the current and forecast profitability of the subsidiary concerned and the share of equity owned.

In order to estimate the value in use of these items, management must use judgment to project future cash flows and determine the main assumptions to be used.

Given the materiality of investments in the balance sheet and the inherent uncertainty of certain components of the calculations, including the forecasts used to calculate value in use, we deemed the measurement of investments to be a key audit matter, carrying a risk of material misstatement.

We examined the methodology employed by management to estimate the value in use of investments.

Our audit work consisted primarily in verifying, on the basis of the information provided to us, that the estimated values determined by management were based on an appropriate measurement method and underlying data and, depending on the investment:

- for valuations based on historical data: comparing the data used in the impairment tests performed on investments with the accounting data drawn from the audited financial statements of the subsidiaries concerned;
- for valuations based on an estimated value in use
  - assessing the consistency of projections of sales and margin rates with past performance and the economic and financial context;
  - corroborating the growth rates used with analyses of the performance of the global cosmetics market, taking into account the specific features of local markets and distribution channels in which the Group operates;
  - assessing the discount rates applied to future cash flows, by comparing their inputs with external references, with the guidance of our valuation experts.

#### Recognition of sales - estimation of items to be deducted from sales

See Note 1.1 - Accounting principles - Sales, and Note 2 - Sales, to the parent company financial statements

Sales incentives, discounts and product returns are deducted from sales of goods.

These various deductions are recorded simultaneously to the recognition of sales, based mainly on statistics compiled from past experience and contractual conditions.

We deemed estimating these amounts at the reporting date to be both difficult (due to the range of contracts and contractual conditions prevalent in the Group's different markets) and sensitive (sales are a key indicator in the assessment of the performance of the Company and its management), and to have a material impact in the financial statements.

Accordingly, these estimates constitute a key audit matter given the risk that sales incentives, discounts and other incentives granted to customers (distributors or consumers) are not fully catalogued and/or properly measured and thus that net sales are not accounted for correctly or in the appropriate reporting period.

We assessed the appropriateness of the accounting policies applied by the Company with respect to the recognition of product returns, sales incentives, discounts and other incentives granted to customers, with respect to French accounting principles.

We familiarized ourselves with the internal control systems implemented within the Company, with a view to measuring and accounting for items deducted from sales, especially at the end of the reporting period, and we tested, on a sample basis, the main controls of those systems.

We also carried out substantive tests on representative samples in order to ascertain whether product returns and incentives granted to customers were being estimated correctly.

Our tests consisted primarily in:

- assessing the appropriateness of valuation methods, in particular through a critical assessment of the assumptions used, verification of the consistency of the methods, and analysis of the unwinding of provisions from the previous year;
- reconciling the statistics compiled from past experience and contractual conditions with the data contained in the IT systems dedicated to the management of commercial conditions;
- verifying the calculation of the corresponding expenses (including the residual commitment at the end of the reporting period) and how they are recorded in the accounting system and presented in the financial statements.



#### Specific verifications

In accordance with professional standards applicable in France, we have also performed the specific verifications required by French legal and regulatory provisions.

# Information given in the management report and in the other documents provided to the shareholders with respect to the Company's financial position and the financial statements

We have no matters to report as to the fair presentation and the consistency with the financial statements of the information given in the Board of Directors' management report and in the other documents provided to the shareholders with respect to the Company's financial position and the financial statements.

We attest to the fair presentation and the consistency with the financial statements of the information given with respect to the payment terms referred to in article D.441-4 of the French Commercial Code.

#### Report on corporate governance

We attest that the corporate governance section of the Board of Directors' management report sets out the information required by articles L.225-37-3 and L.225-37-4 of the French Commercial Code.

Concerning the information given in accordance with the requirements of article L.225-37-3 of the French Commercial Code relating to remuneration and benefits received by or granted to corporate officers and any other commitments made in their favor, we have verified its consistency with the financial statements, or with the underlying information used to prepare these financial statements, and, where applicable, with the information obtained by your Company from companies controlled by it and included in the consolidation scope. Based on this work, we attest to the accuracy and fair presentation of this information.

Concerning the information given in accordance with the requirements of article L.225-37-5 of the French Commercial Code relating to those items your Company has deemed liable to have an impact in the event of a takeover bid or exchange offer, we have verified its consistency with the underlying documents that were disclosed to us. Based on this work, we have no matters to report with regard to this information.

#### Other information

In accordance with French law, we have verified that the required information concerning the acquisition of investments and controlling interests and the identity of the shareholders and holders of the voting rights has been properly disclosed in the management report.

# Report on other legal and regulatory requirements

## **Appointment of the Statutory Auditors**

We were appointed Statutory Auditors of L'Oréal by the Annual General Meeting of April 29, 2004 for both PricewaterhouseCoopers Audit and Deloitte & Associés.

At December 31, 2019, PricewaterhouseCoopers Audit and Deloitte & Associés were in the sixteenth consecutive year of their engagement.

#### Responsibilities of management and those charged with governance for the financial statements

Management is responsible for preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view in accordance with French accounting principles, and for implementing the internal control procedures it deems necessary for the preparation of financial statements that are free of material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern, and using the going concern basis of accounting, unless it expects to liquidate the Company or to cease operations.

The Audit Committee is responsible for monitoring the financial reporting process and the effectiveness of internal control and risk management systems, as well as, where applicable, any internal audit systems, relating to accounting and financial reporting procedures.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors.

# STATUTORY AUDITORS' REPORTS Statutory Auditors' report on the financial statements

#### Responsibilities of the Statutory Auditors relating to the audit of the financial statements

#### Objective and audit approach

Our role is to issue a report on the financial statements. Our objective is to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free of material misstatement. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with professional standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions taken by users on the basis of these financial statements.

As specified in article L.823-10-1 of the French Commercial Code, our audit does not include assurance on the viability or quality of the Company's management.

As part of an audit conducted in accordance with professional standards applicable in France, the Statutory Auditors exercise professional judgment throughout the audit. They also:

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement in the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures in response to those risks, and obtain audit evidence considered to be sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for their opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control:
- obtain an understanding of the internal control procedures relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the internal control;
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management and the related disclosures in the notes to the financial statements;
- assess the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit
  evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on
  the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. This assessment is based on the audit evidence obtained up to the
  date of the audit report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to continue as a going
  concern. If the Statutory Auditors conclude that a material uncertainty exists, they are required to draw attention in the audit
  report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are not provided or are inadequate, to issue
  a qualified opinion or a disclaimer of opinion;
- evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements and assess whether these statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

#### Report to the Audit Committee

We submit a report to the Audit Committee which includes, in particular, a description of the scope of the audit and the audit program implemented, as well as the results of our audit. We also report any significant deficiencies in internal control that we have identified regarding the accounting and financial reporting procedures.

Our report to the Audit Committee includes the risks of material misstatement that, in our professional judgment, were the most significant for the audit of the financial statements and which constitute the key audit matters that we are required to describe in this report.

We also provide the Audit Committee with the declaration provided for in article 6 of Regulation (EU) No 537/2014, confirming our independence within the meaning of the rules applicable in France, as defined in particular in articles L.822-10 to L.822-14 of the French Commercial Code and in the French Code of Ethics for Statutory Auditors. Where appropriate, we discuss any risks to our independence and the related safeguard measures with the Audit Committee.

Neuilly-sur-Seine and Paris-La Défense, February 17, 2020

The Statutory Auditors

PricewaterhouseCoopers Audit

Anne-Claire Ferrié

Deloitte & Associés Frédéric Moulin