

Annual Report 2020

BRITISH HELLENIC
Chamber of
COMMERCE



75
years



75 years
working together
SINCE 1945

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Presidents' Report

Dear Members of the Chamber,

As joint Presidents of the British Hellenic Chamber of Commerce (BHCC), it is our pleasure to welcome you to our 2020 Annual General Meeting.

First and foremost, we hope you and your families are healthy and coping under these extraordinary circumstances.

2019 was an important year for both Greece and the UK as both countries navigated through general elections. In addition, the UK had to agree upon as well as secure Europe's approval for their proposed BREXIT plan. In July 2019, the Greek Government formed, presented and began implementing an extrovert and business friendly programme, that has already led to increased interest by international investors. The UK elections on December 2019 elected Boris Johnson as Prime Minister to lead the UK exit from the EU.

Unfortunately, the positive momentum of Greece was cut abruptly due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and resulting lockdown which all but halted most businesses. This pandemic is a very serious threat for global health but also poses a number of challenges to our businesses in the short to medium term future.

We are very proud that Greece has been internationally recognized for the successful handling of the coronavirus outbreak and we welcome the Greek Government's measures for our country's re-opening as well as its plan to address the resulting recession of the pandemic.

In these unprecedented circumstances, the Chamber is committed to contributing to our country's recovery, closely cooperating with the Greek Government and the British Embassy in Athens to determine a strategy and an action plan relating to future bilateral business relations between UK and Greece. Furthermore, as the Chamber is a strategic member of the British Chambers of Commerce, we have the opportunity to exchange views with all UK related chambers and address our issues directly even to the UK policymakers.

2020 is an important year, as our Chamber celebrates its 75th year of operation and even though we face restrictions now and probably in the near future, we are committed to providing new value-added initiatives to our members by using various digital tools at our disposal.

Regardless of the Pandemic, the Chamber is in a strong financial position as a result of the support of its Members as well as the prudent financial management over the last few years. The Chamber remained operational during the lockdown, evaluated cost savings options, while its very strong cash flow will cover operating expenses throughout the year with ease.

Brexit

Since the end of January 2020, the UK has ceased to be a member of the EU. There is now a transition period until the end of 2020, while the UK and EU negotiate on the future relationship and cooperation. The current rules on trade, travel, and business for the UK and EU will continue to apply during the transition period.

We hope that a deal between EU and the UK will be mutually agreed and approved and that uncertainty will be soon minimized, for the benefit of the business community, as well as for the EU and UK citizens and students.

During 2019, BHCC continued to be actively involved in a series of discussions and initiatives related to Brexit – in cooperation with the British Embassy as well as the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs - to ensure that concerns, challenges and suggestions of Greek companies in various sectors engaged with Britain were conveyed, as well as to encourage Greek companies to be prepared for any Brexit scenario, including a No-Deal Brexit.

We will continue to stay engaged in similar activities in order to address the concerns of the Greek businesses, give timely updates on developments, while also gathering specific suggestions on the future trade relationship between EU and the UK.

Bilateral Trade – British Chambers of Commerce

We believe that there are significant growth opportunities between the UK and Greece.

In 2019, the Chamber actively supported two major UK Trade Fairs in order to promote and strengthen the brand name "Greece", while at the same time enhancing the presence of the Greek exporters in the UK market:

- "NATURAL & ORGANIC PRODUCTS EUROPE", 7 - 8 April 2019, ExCel, London - UK
- "LONDON WINE FAIR", 20 – 22 May 2019, Olympia London – UK

All trade exhibitions in the UK have been postponed in 2020. We hope that trade fairs will resume in 2021 offering the Chamber the opportunity to provide its support.

In 2019, BHCC joined the British Chambers of Commerce (BCC), aiming to strengthen its cooperation with Regional UK Chambers and create connections between businesses in both countries. Our Chamber is represented on the BCC's newly formed Committee for the increase of international bilateral trade of businesses with the UK.

Events - Initiatives

As mentioned, BHCC celebrates its 75th year of operation in 2020.

Unfortunately, the restrictions and the resulting implications caused by the coronavirus epidemic, do not currently allow the Chamber to implement an ambitious series of events as initially planned. The overall conditions are continuously evaluated and if feasible, the Chamber will organize the standard annual Back-to-Business high profile event during the Autumn period celebrating its 75-year anniversary.

One of BHCC's new initiatives is its **Newsletter**. Our objective is to regularly update our Members on Chamber activities, provide them with news / announcements from the UK and Greek Governments, as well as the British Chambers of Commerce (BCC), sharing information on bilateral relations between UK and Greece. Another aspect of the Newsletter is to give you the opportunity to communicate with other members by sharing your news and views. We strongly encourage you to take part in this effort.

The standard "New Year's Reception" events were organized both in Athens and Thessaloniki in February 2019.

In May 2019, the Chamber successfully organized the high-profile event on "Effective Corporate Governance and Corporate Management". The scope of this event was to approach the topic from a holistic manner and present best practices from the UK, having as a guest speaker Mr Michael Izza, CEO of the ICAEW (Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales).

In early October 2019, the extremely successful "Back-to-Business" dinner held in the gardens of the British Ambassador's Residence in Athens, hosted the newly elected Mayor of Athens, Mr Kostas Bakoyannis as a Guest of Honour.

In February 2020 we were very pleased to have Mr Ian Livingstone, as our Guest Speaker in our New Year's Reception. Mr Livingstone is the Executive Chairman of one of the largest UK real estate investors, London & Regional.

Northern Greece

Christos J. Accas, Northern Greece Committee, actively promotes and represents the Chamber in Northern Greece. The Board of Directors remains grateful to Christos Accas and his staff for their continuing strong support.

The Chamber co-organised with other bilateral chambers a Tourism event in Thessaloniki, while it successfully organised a "pitta cutting" event in cooperation with the British Embassy in Athens.

Acknowledgements

The organisation of the British Hellenic Chamber's initiatives and events would not be possible without the valuable contribution of our excellent team on the ground – Mrs Lina Dede, our General Manager, Mrs Louiza Stefa and Mrs Marina Sourbeou - who ensure that uninterrupted communication to our Members is achieved and every event is impeccably organised.

We would also like to thank our valuable partners who have supported the Chamber's operations: PwC for auditing our accounts for the fourth consecutive year; AS Network (Accounting Solutions S.A.) our accountants; KLC Law Firm, the Chamber's lawyers.

Finally, our events would not have taken place without the continuous support of our Sponsors.

Concluding Remarks

These are challenging times and in order to overcome them we must remain strong and cooperate. In all likelihood business norms as we knew them will change and perhaps we should also reshape our business environment with responsibility to our country, our businesses, our employees.

Contributing to Greece's recovery and growth is the responsibility of us all, and the British Hellenic Chamber of Commerce has every intention to be part of Greece's success as well as strengthening business relations between UK and Greece.

2020 is an election year for the Chamber and despite the difficulties of organizing the elections we encourage the active participation of all our Members if circumstances permit.

In closing, our best wishes go to you, and your beloved ones to remain strong, healthy, and positive to endure these challenging times.



Anna Kalliani
Greek President



Alexander Turner
British President



Chamber Events 2019

◆ **14 February**

New Year's Reception
British Ambassador's Residence
ATHENS

◆ **18 February**

New Year's Reception
Electra Palace
THESSALONIKI

◆ **22 February**

BHCC Support to the 10th Annual
Capital Link Greek Shipping Forum |
CAPITAL LINK
Hilton Hotel
ATHENS

◆ **7 March**

BHCC Support to "Sustainable
accounting: What's the future of
sustainable business for accountants
and auditors". Panel Event for
Technology and the World of Work |
ICAEW
Divani Caravel
ATHENS

◆ **13 March**

BHCC Support to the British Council's
Study UK Alumni Awards 2019
British Ambassador's Residence
ATHENS

◆ **14 March**

4th Tourism Conference titled:
"Northern Greece: Welcoming Future
Trends" | BILATERAL CHAMBERS OF
COMMERCE
Conference Center "I. Vellidis"
THESSALONIKI

◆ **7-8 April**

BHCC Support to the Natural &
Organic Products Europe 2019
Exhibition, Diversified Communications
UK | RECO EXPORTS
UK ExCel

◆ **10 April**

BHCC Honour Support to "The Future of
Retail: A Leaders' Executive Dinner"
with Lord Stuart Rose, Chairman of
OCADO | SELPE & BOUSSIAS
COMMUNICATIONS
Sofitel
ATHENS

◆ **22 April**

74th Annual General Meeting
British Hellenic Chamber of Commerce
BHCC Offices
ATHENS

◆ **8 May**

Corporate Governance & Effective
Management Practices as a Value
Driver for Greek Companies
British Ambassador's Residence
ATHENS

◆ **9 May**

BHCC Support to the 7th Greek Exports
Summit | ETHOS MEDIA
Athenaeum InterContinental
ATHENS

◆ **20-21 May**

BHCC Support to "City Week 2019" |
CITY & FINANCIAL GLOBAL
Guildhall
LONDON



Chamber Events 2019

◆ **20-22 May**

BHCC Support to “London Wine Fair”
| BRINTEX

Olympia
LONDON

◆ **13 June**

BHCC Support to “Stay Tuned! Export Summit VII – Fostering Maritime” | SEVE

Porto Palace
THESSALONIKI

◆ **20 June**

BHCC Auspices to the Business Gala Repositioning Greece – Part 6: Innovation | ECALI CLUB & NATIONAL BANK OF GREECE

Ecali Club
ATHENS

◆ **20 June – 21 June**

BHCC Auspices to the 7th Global Symposium of Maritime Executives PIREAS 2019 | HELLENIC SHIPBROKERS ASSOCIATION

Yacht Club (Forum)
PIRAEUS

Metropolitan Expo (Dinner)
ATHENS

◆ **26 June**

BHCC Support to the 5th Greek-British Shipping Forum | BRITISH EMBASSY

British Ambassador’s Residence
ATHENS

◆ **27 June**

BHCC Support to “UK Marine Technology Showcase” | BRITISH EMBASSY

British Ambassador’s Residence
ATHENS

◆ **2 October**

Back-to-Business Dinner with Kostas Bakoyannis, Mayor of Athens as Guest Speaker

British Ambassador’s Residence
ATHENS

◆ **8 October**

BHCC Cooperation with the MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS on the “No Deal Brexit” Event

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
ATHENS

◆ **22 November**

BHCC Support to “Greek Exports Awards” | ETHOS MEDIA

Divani Apollon Palace & Thalasso
ATHENS

◆ **12 December**

Christmas & UK Elections party

Sorriso
ATHENS



Board of Directors

PRESIDENTS

Anna Kalliani | Owner, Anirva International Strategic Advisors
Alexander Turner | Managing Director, Carpenter Turner

VICE PRESIDENTS

Vangelis Apostolakis | Deputy Senior Partner, KPMG Advisors S.A.
Virginia Murray | Attorney at Law-Partner, Watson Farley & Williams
Elizabeth Filippouli | Founder & CEO, Global Thinkers Forum

HONORARY PRESIDENT & SECRETARY GENERAL

Irene M. Watson | President, ibs – International Business Services Ltd.

TREASURER

Spiros Doucas | Management & Finance Consultant, ex Financial Director
Unilever Greece

MEMBERS

Aelita Arampova | Partner & CEO, Anca Capital Ltd
Alexander Athanassoulas | President & CEO, Stirixis S.A.
Sotiris Christoyannis | President and CEO, Papapostolou S.A.
Paul Elliott | CEO, One3Six S.A.
John Georgakakis | Managing Director, Ecali Club
Harris Ikonomopoulos | Lawyer, Managing Partner, Ikonomopoulos & Partners LLP
Penny Marinou | General Manager, Litterae
Symeon Tsomokos | Managing Director, Symeon G. Tsomokos S.A.

HON. VICE PRESIDENT NORTHERN GREECE

Christos Accas, OBE | President BoD, Hellenic Fabrics S.A.



Treasurer's Report

I have pleasure in presenting my report on the financial statements of the Chamber for the year ended 31 December 2019.

ANNUAL INCOME & EXPENDITURE

Total year 2019 income amounted to 150.1 K (higher by 0.3% versus 2018 or by €0.4 K).

Of this:

- €86.7 K (58% of total income) was from subscriptions which were the same as 2018.
- €63.4 K (42% of total income) was from events, sponsorships and donations, which increased by 8% in 2019 or by €4.7 K.
- €0.0 K (0% of total income) was from services and other income which decreased by €4.3 K in 2019.

Total year 2019 operational expenditure amounted to €144.5 K which versus 2018 increased by 22% or by €26.2 K). The increase of operational expenditure was due to:

- The increase in Salaries and benefits by €14.0 K mainly due to the return from maternity leave of a chamber's staff.
- The increase of Events expenses by €0.8 K
- The increase of General expenses by €13.0 K mainly due to: 1) the increase in general expenses by € 10.3 K due to Lawyers' fees by €6.5 K, kitchen renovation expenses by €2.8 K and website maintenance fees by €1.0 K. 2) increase in Travel Expenses by €2.0 K and 3) increase of other expenses by €0.7 K.
- The decrease in Depreciation by €2.1 K
- The increase of Provision for post-employment benefits by €3.2 K
- The decrease of Provision for Bad Debts by €3.0 K
- The increase of Other expenses by €0.3 K

In summary, the results from operating activities excluding and including events are as follows:

	2019	2018
Income	86.7 K	91.0 K
Expenses	118.3 K	92.9 K
Results excluding events	(31.6) K	(1.9) K
Events, sponsorships & donations (net)	37.2 K	33.4 K
Results from operating activities	5.6 K	31.5 K

The total income and expenditure account after financial cost for year 2019 showed a surplus of €0.7 K versus a surplus of €26.2 K in 2018.

Total cash and banks in 2019 amounted to €57.4 K versus €50.0 K in 2018 which increased by 15% or by €7.4 K despite the partial repayment (22/7/2019) of the chamber's loan by €10.0 K.

Spiros Doucas
Treasurer
Athens, 13 May 2020

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Statement of Financial Position

For the year ended 31 December 2019

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(All amounts are expressed in Euros)

	Notes	Year ended 31 December	
Assets		2019	2018
Property, plant and equipment	3(c)(i), 5	619.552,34	454.400,96
Non-current assets		619.552,34	454.400,96
Cash and cash equivalents	6	57.391,79	49.947,87
Trade and other receivables	7	4.839,45	5.419,95
Current assets		62.231,24	55.367,82
Total assets		681.783,58	509.768,78
Fund and Liabilities			
Revaluation surplus	3(c)(i)	808.096,79	627.136,79
Accumulated deficit		(195.298,62)	(196.033,36)
Total Fund		612.798,17	431.103,43
Liabilities			
Long-term debt	8	41.772,18	55.018,87
Provision for post-employment benefits	11	3.878,00	1.866,67
Non-current liabilities		45.650,18	56.885,54
Current portion of Long-term debt	8	3.459,97	3.630,45
Trade and other payables	9	9.640,87	9.275,48
Deferred income		1.490,00	786,22
Tax and Social Security Liabilities	10	8.744,39	8.087,66
Current liabilities		23.335,23	21.779,81
Total Liabilities		68.985,41	78.665,35
Total Fund and Liabilities		681.783,58	509.768,78

Approved on behalf of the Board on 13 May 2020 by:


 Anna Kalliani
 Greek President


 Alexander Turner
 British President

The accompanying notes on pages 5 to 21 are an integral part of the financial statements.

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Statement of Comprehensive Income

For the year ended 31 December 2019

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(All amounts are expressed in Euros)

		For the year ended 31 December	
	Notes	2019	2018
Revenue			
Subscriptions	12	86.740,27	86.719,77
Events, Sponsorships and Donations	13	63.371,87	58.724,81
Total revenue		150.112,14	145.444,58
Services and Other income	14	0,00	4.277,22
Expenses			
Salaries and benefits	15	(65.855,21)	(51.879,78)
Events	16	(26.131,85)	(25.344,80)
General and other expenses	17	(34.331,18)	(21.270,80)
Depreciation	5	(17.491,10)	(19.582,89)
Provision for post-employment benefits	11	(2.011,33)	1.213,34
Provision for bad debts	7	2.348,82	(676,25)
Other expenses	18	(1.019,47)	(710,57)
Total expenses		(144.491,32)	(118.251,75)
Profit/(Loss) from operating activities		5.620,82	31.470,05
Finance income	19	34,02	12,19
Finance costs	19	(4.920,10)	(5.270,67)
Net finance costs		(4.886,08)	(5.258,48)
Profit/(Loss) for the year		734,74	26.211,57
Other Comprehensive Income			
Items that will not be reclassified to Profit or Loss			
Gain on revaluation of land and building	5	180.960,00	0,00
Total Other Comprehensive Income for the year		180.960,00	0,00
Total Comprehensive Income for the year		181.694,74	26.211,57

The accompanying notes on pages 5 to 21 are an integral part of the financial statements

Statement of Changes in Funds

For the year ended 31 December 2019

(All amounts are expressed in Euros)

	Revaluation Surplus	Accumulated Deficit	Total
Balance at 31.12.2017	627.136,79	(222.244,93)	404.891,86
Profit/(Loss) for the year		26.211,57	26.211,57
Balance at 31.12.2018	627.136,79	(196.033,36)	431.103,43
Other comprehensive income	180.960,00		180.960,00
Profit/(Loss) for the year		734,74	734,74
Balance at 31.12.2019	808.096,79	(195.298,62)	612.798,17

The accompanying notes on pages 5 to 21 are an integral part of the financial statements.

Statement of Cash Flow

For the year ended 31 December 2019

(All amounts are expressed in Euros)

	2019	2018
Cash Flows from operating activities		
Profit for the year	734,74	26.211,57
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation	17.491,10	19.582,89
Asset destruction	1,15	0,23
Provision for bad debts	(2.348,82)	676,25
Provision for employee benefits	2.011,33	(1.213,34)
Foreign exchange differences	3,32	50,55
Finance Income	(34,02)	(12,19)
Other finance costs	4.916,78	5.220,12
	22.775,58	50.516,08
Changes in:		
Trade and other receivables	2.929,30	7.087,92
Trade and other payables	365,39	(12.204,12)
Deferred income	703,78	(6.774,12)
Tax and Social Security liabilities	656,73	(477,76)
	27.430,78	38.148,00
Cash generated from/(used in) operating activities	27.430,78	38.148,00
Interest paid	(4.141,73)	(4.838,97)
	23.289,05	33.309,03
Net cash from operating activities		
Cash flows from investing activities		
Asset acquisition	(1.683,64)	(182,09)
Interest received	34,02	12,19
	(1.649,62)	(169,90)
Net cash from investing activities		
Cash Flows from financing activities		
Bank charges	(778,37)	(431,70)
Repayment of loans	(13.417,14)	(3.352,23)
	(14.195,51)	(3.783,93)
Net cash (used in) financing activities		
Net Cash In/(Out)-Flow	7.443,92	29.355,20
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January	49.947,87	20.592,67
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December	57.391,79	49.947,87
	7.443,92	29.355,20
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		

The accompanying notes on pages 5 to 21 are an integral part of the financial statements.

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2019

(All amounts are expressed in Euros)

1. Reporting entity

The British Hellenic Chamber of Commerce is a non-profit organization, established by Royal Decree in 1945 with the objective to facilitate British-Greek economic relations and provide a forum for Britons and Greeks to develop business relations and engage in partnerships.

The Chamber's operations are carried out from its own registered office, located at 25 Vasilissis Sophias Avenue, Athens, which also services its members in Northern Greece.

2. Basis of accounting

(a) Statement of compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) as adopted in the European Union. The adopted accounting policies are consistent with the accounting policies of prior year, with exception of the adoption of new and modified standards as it is described below.

(b) Basis of measurement

The financial statements have been prepared based on the going concern principle, applying the historical cost basis, except for the Land and Buildings which are measured at fair value. Refer also to note 3(c)(i). Since March 2020 businesses around the world have to cope with unprecedented conditions due to the sudden outbreak of COVID-19. This unexpected health crisis found the Chamber in good financial position implying no risk as a going concern. Please also see Note 23 "Subsequent Events".

(c) Functional and presentation currency

These financial statements are presented in Euro, which is the Chamber's functional currency.

(d) Use of estimates and judgments

The preparation of the financial statements in conformity with IFRS, as adopted in the European Union, requires management to make judgments, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of accounting policies and the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. Actual results may be different from these estimates.

Estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognized in the period in which the estimates are revised and in any future periods affected.

Information about assumptions and uncertainties that could have the most significant effect on the financial statements of the Chamber are the impairment of accounts receivable which are derived from estimates of incurred losses for trade receivables (Note 7), fair value of property (Note 5), and the commitments and contingencies (Note 20).

3. Significant accounting policies

The accounting policies set out below have been applied consistently to all periods presented in these financial statements.

(a) Foreign currency

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into Euro at the foreign exchange rate ruling at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the balance sheet date are translated into Euro at the foreign exchange rate ruling at that date. Foreign exchange differences arising on translation are recognized in the statement of comprehensive income.

(b) Financial instruments

(i) Non-derivative financial assets

The Chamber has the following non-derivative financial assets:

Accounts and other receivables: Are recognized initially at fair value plus any directly attributable transaction costs. Subsequent to initial recognition they are measured at amortized cost using the effective interest rate method, less any impairment losses.

Cash and cash equivalents: Comprise cash in hand and deposits held with banks. The Chamber considers time deposits and certificates of deposits with original maturity of three months or less from the acquisition date that are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in their fair value to be cash equivalents.

The Chamber initially recognizes accounts and other receivables on the date that they are originated. All other financial assets are recognized initially on the trade date at which the Chamber becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

The Chamber derecognizes a financial asset when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the asset expire, or it transfers the rights to receive the contractual cash flows on the financial asset in a transaction in which substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset are transferred. Any interest in transferred financial assets that is created or retained by the Chamber is recognized as a separate asset or liability.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset and the net amount presented in the statement of financial position when, and only when, the Chamber has a legal right to offset the amounts and intends either to settle on a net basis or to realize the assets and settle the liability simultaneously.

(ii) Non-derivative financial liabilities

The Chamber's non-derivative financial liabilities is the Long-term debt.

The financial liabilities including those liabilities designated at fair value through the profit and loss are recognized initially on the trade date at which the Chamber becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

The Chamber recognizes these non-derivative financial liabilities initially at fair value less any directly attributable transaction costs subsequent to initial recognition, these financial liabilities are measured at amortized cost using the effective interest method.

The Chamber derecognizes a financial liability when its contractual obligations are discharged, cancelled or expire.

Where an existing financial liability is replaced by another from the same lender on substantially different terms, or the terms of an existing liability are substantially modified, such an exchange or modification is treated as a de-recognition of the original liability and the recognition of a new liability, and the difference in the respective amounts is recognized in the statement of comprehensive income.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset and the net amount presented in the statement of financial position when, and only when, the Chamber has a legal right to offset the amounts and intends either to settle on a net basis or to realize the assets and settle the liability simultaneously.

Other financial liabilities compose trade and other payables and current tax liabilities.

(c) Property, plant and equipment

(i) Recognition and measurement

1. Land and buildings

In prior years, the Chamber changed its accounting policy from the cost to the revaluation model of accounting for land and buildings. Therefore, the carrying amount of land and buildings has been determined by reference to their fair value. Fair value has been determined from market-based evidence through an appraisal undertaken by an independent evaluator. Valuations are performed with sufficient regularity to ensure that the fair value of a revalued asset does not differ materially from its carrying amount. The depreciation charge on revalued assets is recognized as an expense in the income statement.

In 2019, the Chamber engaged AXIES S.A, an accredited independent evaluator, to determine the fair value of its building. The valuation was drafted on 31 December 2019, the fair value was based on recent transactions for similar assets within the same area and amounted to €618.000.

2. Furniture, equipment and fittings

The items of equipment are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and less any impairment.

(ii) Subsequent expenditure

Subsequent expenditure is capitalized only when it is probable that the future economic benefits associated with the expenditure will flow to the Chamber. Ongoing repairs and maintenance are expensed as incurred.

(iii) Depreciation

Depreciation is charged to the statement of comprehensive income on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of property, plant and equipment. Land is not depreciated. The estimated useful lives are:

Buildings and building improvements	50 years
Furniture, equipment and fittings	6 years

Depreciation methods, useful lives and residual values are reviewed at each reporting date and adjusted if appropriate.

(d) Impairment

(i) Non-derivative financial assets (including receivables)

A financial asset is assessed at each reporting date to determine whether there is any objective evidence that it is impaired. A financial asset is impaired if objective evidence indicates that a loss event has occurred after the initial recognition of the asset and that loss event had a negative effect on the estimated future cash flows of that asset that can be estimated reliably. Objective evidence that financial assets are impaired can include default or delinquency by a debtor, restructuring of an amount due to the Chamber on terms that the Chamber would not consider otherwise, indications that a debtor will enter bankruptcy.

An impairment loss in respect of a financial asset measured at amortized cost is calculated as the difference between its carrying amount, and the present value of the estimated future cash flows discounted at the original effective interest rate. Losses are recognized as an expense in the profit or loss and reflected in an impairment allowance account against receivables. An impairment loss is reversed if the reversal can be related objectively to an event occurring after the impairment loss was recognized. Specifically relating to accounts and other receivables, the allowance for impairment is stated at the amount considered necessary to cover potential risks when there is objective evidence (such as significant financial difficulties of the debtor) that the Chamber will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original payment terms of receivables. The Chamber establishes an allowance for impairment that represents its estimate of incurred losses in respect of trade receivables. The component of this allowance relates to individually significant exposures. An allowance account is used to record impairment losses unless the Chamber is satisfied that no recovery of the amount owing is possible; at that point the amounts are considered irrecoverable and they are written off to the statement of comprehensive income. The impairment loss and provisions relating to trade receivables is recognized under "Provision for Bad Debts".

(ii) Non-financial assets (Property, plant and equipment)

The carrying amounts of the Chamber's non-financial assets are reviewed at each reporting date to determine whether there is any indication of fair value loss. If any such indication exists, then the asset's recoverable amount is estimated. The recoverable amount of an asset is the greater of its value in use and its fair value less costs to sell. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset. A fair value loss is recognized if the carrying amount of an asset exceeds its estimated recoverable amount. Fair value losses are recognized in the statement of comprehensive income.

A fair value loss is reversed only to the extent that the asset's carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined, net of depreciation or amortization, if no fair value loss had been recognized.

The carrying amounts of the Chamber's assets are reviewed at each balance sheet date to determine whether there is any indication of fair value loss. There was a fair value loss in 2017 of the Chamber's property (Note 5).

(e) Employee benefits

(i) Short-term employee benefits

Short-term employee benefits obligations are measured on an undiscounted basis and are expensed in the statement of comprehensive income as the related service is provided. A liability is recognized for the amount expected to be paid under short-term bonus plans if the Chamber has a present legal or constructive obligation to pay this amount as a result of past service provided by the employee and the obligation can be estimated reliably.

(ii) Post-employment benefits

Post-employment benefits include two categories: (1) defined contribution plans and (2) defined benefit plans.

A defined contribution plan is a post-employment benefit plan under which an entity pays fixed contributions into a separate entity and will have no legal or constructive obligation to pay further amounts. Obligations for contributions to defined contribution pension plans are recognized as an employee benefit expense, under salaries, wages and benefits in the periods during which services are rendered by employees.

A defined benefit plan is a post-employment benefit plan other than a defined contribution plan. The Chamber's obligation in respect of defined benefit pension plans is calculated by estimating the amount of future benefit that employees have earned in return for their service in the current and prior periods; that benefit is discounted to determine its present value. Specifically, the Chamber is required by Greek labor law to provide post-retirement benefits to its employees. See Note 11 for further details. These benefits are not discounted to their present value, nor are the calculation performed by a qualified actuary as required by IAS 19 (Revised).

(iii) Severance benefits

Severance benefits are recognized as an expense when the Chamber is demonstrably committed, without realistic possibility of withdrawal, to a formal detailed plan to either terminate employment before the normal retirement date, or to provide termination benefits as a result of an offer made to encourage voluntary redundancy. Severance benefits for voluntary redundancies are recognized as an expense if the Chamber has made an offer encouraging voluntary redundancy, it is probable that the offer will be accepted, and the number of acceptances can be estimated reliably. If benefits are payable more than twelve (12) months after the reporting date, they are discounted to their present value.

(f) Deferred Income

Income invoiced in current year based on signed agreements and relating to subsequent fiscal years is reported as deferred income.

(g) Revenue

The Chamber derives its income from subscriptions made by its sustaining and ordinary members and from donations and promotional events, which it organizes. Subscriptions and sponsorship fees are recognized as revenue when they are earned and their collection is considered as certain. Related expenses and income are not netted against each other.

(h) Finance Income and Costs

Finance income comprises interest income on funds invested. Interest income is recognized as it accrues in the statement of comprehensive income using the effective interest method.

Finance costs comprise mainly of bank charges and loan interests. Foreign currency gains and losses are reported on a net basis.

(i) Tax

The Chamber is not liable to income tax for its activities in accordance with Greek tax legislation with respect to non-profit organizations. The Chamber is liable to VAT on non-subscription income. According to Greek tax legislation, VAT on expenses related to non-VAT activities is non-deductible.

(j) Standards and Interpretations effective for the current financial year

IFRS 16: Leases

IFRS 16 sets out the principles for the recognition, measurement, presentation and disclosure of leases for both parties to a contract, i.e. the customer ('lessee') and the supplier ('lessor'). The new standard requires lessees to recognize most leases on their financial statements. Lessees have a single accounting model for all leases, with certain exemptions. Lessor accounting is substantially unchanged. The Chamber has completed its assessment and there is no impact on the financial statements arising from this amendment due to the nature of the Chamber's operations.

IFRS 9: Prepayment features with negative compensation (Amendment)

The Amendment allows financial assets with prepayment features that permit or require a party to a contract either to pay or receive reasonable compensation for the early termination of the contract (so that, from the perspective of the holder of the asset there may be 'negative compensation'), to be measured at amortized cost or at fair value through other comprehensive income. The Chamber has completed its assessment and there is no impact on the financial statements arising from this amendment due to the nature of the Chamber's operations.

IAS 28: Long-term Interests in Associates and Joint Ventures (Amendments)

The Amendments relate to whether the measurement, in particular impairment requirements, of long-term interests in associates and joint ventures that, in substance, form part of the 'net investment' in the associate or joint venture should be governed by IFRS 9, IAS 28 or a combination of both. The Amendments clarify that an entity applies IFRS 9 Financial Instruments, before it applies IAS 28, to such long-term interests for which the equity method is not applied. In applying IFRS 9, the entity does not take account of any adjustments to the carrying amount of long-term interests that arise from applying IAS 28. The Chamber has completed its assessment and there is no impact on the financial statements arising from this amendment due to the nature of the Chamber's operations.

IFRIC INTERPETATION 23: Uncertainty over Income Tax Treatment

The Interpretation addresses the accounting for income taxes when tax treatments involve uncertainty that affects the application of IAS 12. The Interpretation provides guidance on considering uncertain tax treatments separately or together, examination by tax authorities, the appropriate method to reflect uncertainty and accounting for changes in facts and circumstances. The Chamber has completed its assessment and there is no impact on the financial statements arising from this amendment due to the nature of the Chamber's operations.

IAS 19: Plan Amendment, Curtailment or Settlement (Amendments)

The Amendments require entities to use updated actuarial assumptions to determine current service cost and net interest for the remainder of the annual reporting period after a plan amendment, curtailment or settlement has occurred. The Amendments also clarify how the accounting for a plan amendment, curtailment or settlement affects applying the asset ceiling requirements. The Chamber has completed its assessment and there is no impact on the financial statements arising from this amendment due to the nature of the Chamber's operations.

4. Measurement of fair value

The fair value of financial assets and liabilities which include cash and cash equivalents, trade and other receivables, prepayments, trade and other payables and deferred income are the same as its carrying value due to its short term nature. The fair value of long-term debt approximates its carrying value as interest is at a variable rate.

Fair value hierarchy

The Chamber uses the fair value hierarchy for financial instruments carried at fair value.

The different levels have been defined as follows:

Level 1: Quoted process in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.

Level 2: Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.

Level 3: Inputs for an asset or liability that is not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs).

If the inputs used to measure the fair value of an asset or a liability fall into different levels of the fair value hierarchy, then the fair value measurement is categorized in its entirety in the same level of the fair value hierarchy as the lowest level input that is significant to the entire measurement.

The Chamber recognizes transfers between levels of the fair value hierarchy at the end of the reporting period during which the change has occurred. Further information about the assumptions made in measuring fair values is included in the note 3(c) Land and buildings which are categorized in Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy.

5. Property, plant and equipment

	Land	Buildings and building improvements	Furniture, equipment and fittings	Total
Year Ended 31 December 2018				
Opening net book amount	290.000,00	183.800,01	1,99	473.802,00
Asset acquisition	0,00	0,00	181,86	181,86
Depreciation charge	0,00	(19.400,83)	(182,06)	(19.582,89)
Closing net book amount	290.000,00	164.399,18	1,79	454.400,97
At 31 December 2018				
Cost or Fair value	290.000,00	183.800,01	76.222,94	550.022,95
Accumulated depreciation	0,00	(19.400,83)	(76.221,15)	(95.621,98)
	290.000,00	164.399,18	1,79	454.400,97
Year Ended 31 December 2019				
Opening net book amount	290.000,00	164.399,18	1,79	454.400,97
Asset acquisition	0,00	0,00	1.682,49	1.682,49
Depreciation charge	0,00	(17.359,18)	(131,94)	(17.491,12)
Revaluation surplus	33.851,00	149.109,00	0,00	180.960,00
Net book amount	323.851,00	294.149,00	1.552,34	619.552,34
At 31 December 2019				
Cost or Fair value	323.851,00	294.149,00	6.992,09	624.992,09
Accumulated depreciation	0,00	0,00	(5.439,75)	(5.439,75)
Net Book amount	323.851,00	294.149,00	1.552,34	619.552,34

In 2014, the Chamber has provided a pre-notation of Euro 91.000,00 on the Kolonaki's office premises (Note 8), in order to secure its long-term debt.

In 2017 and 2019, the Chamber engaged AXIES S.A, an accredited independent evaluator, to determine the fair value of its building. The fair value was based on recent transactions for similar assets within the same area and amounted to €473.800 and €618.000 respectively.

6. Cash and cash equivalents

	2019	2018
Cash in hand	327,59	241,11
Cash at banks	57.064,20	49.706,76
	<u>57.391,79</u>	<u>49.947,87</u>

7. Debtors and prepayments

	2019	2018
Receivables from subscriptions and events	84.350,17	85.519,71
Other receivables	3.879,46	8.862,32
Due from related parties (Note 22)	3.292,72	3.292,72
Impairment provision	(86.682,90)	(92.254,80)
	<u>4.839,45</u>	<u>5.419,95</u>

The movement of impairment provision during the year was as follows:

	2019	2018
Balance at 1 January	92.254,80	91.578,55
Write off	(3.223,08)	0,00
Reversal for the year	(2.348,82)	676,25
Balance 31 December	<u>86.682,90</u>	<u>92.254,80</u>

8. Long Term Debt

	2019	2018
Long-term debt	45.232,15	58.649,32
Less: Current portion	3.459,97	3.630,45
Long-term portion	<u>41.772,18</u>	<u>55.018,87</u>

On 24 July 2014, the Chamber obtained a long-term loan facility amounting to Euro 70.000,00 from Eurobank Ergasias S.A., for working capital purposes. The amount was fully drawn down by 29 July 2014. The loan is repayable in 180 monthly interest-bearing installments commencing on August 1st 2014 and matures in August 2029.

On 22 July 2019 the Chamber repaid part (Euro 10.000,00) of the loan. The loan interest rate reduced in October 2017 to approximately 8% and in September 2019 further to 6.6%. Interest is paid on monthly installments. Interest expense for the year ended 31 December 2019 amounted to Euro 4.141,76 and is included under Note 19, "Finance costs".

The principal repayments of the long-term debt are estimated as follows:

Fiscal year	
2020	3.459,97
2021	3.695,38
2022	3.946,78
2023	4.215,29
2024	4.502,07
2025-2029	25.412,66
	<u>45.232,15</u>

In 2014, the Chamber has provided a pre-notation of Euro 91.000,00 on the Kolonaki's office premises (Note 5), in order to secure its long-term debt.

9. Trade and other payables

	2019	2018
Suppliers and other creditors	8.729,80	7.710,53
Bank Balances Due	911,07	1.564,95
	<u>9.640,87</u>	<u>9.275,48</u>

10. Tax and Social Security liabilities

	2019	2018
VAT payable	4.811,57	4.732,89
Withholding taxes payable	860,84	642,31
Social security payable	3.071,98	2.712,46
	<u>8.744,39</u>	<u>8.087,66</u>

11. Post-employment benefits

In accordance with Greek labor law, employees are entitled to a cash payment in the event of dismissal or retirement, the amount of payment varying in relation to their current compensation, length of service and manner of termination.

As of December 31st 2019, the Chamber had three employees (2018: three employees).

	Year ended 31 December	
	2019	2018
Balance at the beginning of year	1.866,67	3.080,01
Provision for the year	2.011,33	0,00
Reversal of provision	0,00	(1.213,34)
Balance at the end of the year	<u>3.878,00</u>	<u>1.866,67</u>

12. Subscriptions

	2019	2018
Sustaining Members	37.185,40	34.024,67
Ordinary Members	49.554,87	52.695,10
	<u>86.740,27</u>	<u>86.719,77</u>

13. Events, Sponsorships and Donations

	2019	2018
Promotional events	16.211,22	20.914,49
Sponsorships	47.160,65	37.810,32
	63.371,87	58.724,81

14. Services and Other income

	2019	2018
Other Income	0,00	4.277,22
	0,00	4.277,22

15. Salaries and benefits

	2019	2018
Staff salaries	(52.722,90)	(41.626,98)
Social security (I.K.A.)	(13.132,31)	(10.252,80)
	(65.855,21)	(51.879,78)

16. Events (expenditure)

	2019	2018
Promotion events	(26.131,85)	(25.344,80)

17. General and other expenses

	2019	2018
General expenses (including third parties remuneration and common utilities)	(16.771,49)	(6.450,17)
Taxes non deductible	(95,23)	(463,16)
Stationary	(688,97)	(1.263,37)
Postage	(358,86)	(106,38)
Travel expenses	(7.266,17)	(5.322,32)
Computer support	(415,97)	(115,29)
Insurance	(1.270,64)	(791,19)
Maintenance expenses	(3.795,32)	(3.632,96)
Telephone, fax, electricity, water	(3.668,53)	(3.125,96)
	(34.331,18)	(21.270,80)

General expenses increased in 2019 compared to 2018 due to increased Lawyers' fees by 6.5k Euro, kitchen renovation expenses 2.8k Euro and website maintenance fees 1k Euro.

18. Other expenses

	2019	2018
Other expenses	(1.019,47)	(710,57)
	(1.019,47)	(710,57)

19. Net finance costs

	2019	2018
Finance Income	34,02	12,19
	34,02	12,19
Foreign exchange differences	(3,32)	(50,55)
Interest expense (Note 8)	(4.141,73)	(4.838,97)
Other bank charges	(775,05)	(381,15)
	(4.920,10)	(5.270,67)
	(4.886,08)	(5.258,48)

20. Commitments and contingencies

(a) Commitments

As at 31 December 2019, the Chamber had the following commitment:

- Upon the dissolution of the British Hellenic Chamber of Commerce, 62,5% of the net proceeds of the sale of the apartment, used as registered office premises, will become payable to the companies which contributed to the financing of the apartment based on signed letters of commitment.

The specific "commitment" has not been agreed in a legally binding manner and implementation thereof. If and when applicable remains at the discretion of Chamber's members and surviving donors.

(b) Contingencies

As at 31 December 2019, the Chamber has the following contingencies:

- (i) The tax authorities have never examined the tax returns and records of the Chamber and the Chamber's liability for fines, penalties, taxes, duties and any other dues or action that may be levied or taken against it by the Greek authorities, if any is uncertain. However, any taxes assessed are not expected to have significant impact on the Chamber's financial position. No provision has been raised as at 31 December 2019.
- (ii) On the 15 September 2018, a lawsuit was filed against the Chamber relating to an old case of financial year 2014. The lawsuit amount was €85.800,93 and is expected to be increased with potential interest due. On the 04 January 2019 Chamber filled its proposals along with all the supporting documentation in the secretary of the court of first instance. The hearing was scheduled for the 09 January 2020 and was discussed. The lawyer considers that there is a possibility of an unfavorable outcome for the Chamber. considers that there is a possibility of an unfavorable outcome for the Chamber.

21. Financial risk management

The Chamber has exposure to the following risks:

- credit risk
- liquidity risk
- market risk

Risk management framework

The Chamber's Board has the overall responsibility for the establishment and oversight of the Chamber's risk management framework.

Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk of financial loss to the Chamber if a debtor fails to meet its obligations. The carrying amount of the financial assets, which are cash and cash equivalents and accounts and other receivables, represent the maximum exposure to credit risk at the balance sheet date. The Chamber's exposure to credit risk is influenced mainly by the individual characteristics of each debtor. The Chamber establishes an allowance for impairment losses that represents its estimate of incurred losses in respect of accounts and other receivables. The main components are specific debtors. Cash is placed with local banks.

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Chamber will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. The Chamber's approach to managing liquidity is to ensure, as far as possible, that it will always have sufficient liquidity to meet its liabilities when due, under both normal and stressed conditions, without incurring unacceptable losses or risking damage to the Chamber's reputation. The Chamber monitors its risk of a shortage of funds using liquidity planning practices. These practices consider the maturity of both financial assets (e.g. accounts receivables, other financial assets) and financial liabilities and projected cash flows from operations.

The following are the contractual maturities of financial liabilities, including estimated interest payments and excluding the impact of netting arrangements:

	Note	Carrying amount	Contractual cash flows	Less than one year	1-3 years	3-5 years	More than 5 years
2019							
Long-term debt	8	45.232,15	(45.232,15)	(3.459,97)	(7.642,16)	(8.717,36)	(25.412,66)
Estimated interest		0,00	(16.072,69)	(2.881,91)	(5.041,60)	(3.966,40)	(4.182,78)
Trade and other payables	9	9.640,87	(9.640,87)	(9.640,87)	0,00	0,00	0,00
TOTAL		54.873,02	(70.945,71)	(15.982,75)	(12.683,76)	(12.683,76)	(29.595,44)
2018							
Long-term debt	8	58.649,32	(58.649,32)	(3.630,45)	(8.189,87)	(9.605,81)	(37.223,19)
Estimated interest		0,00	(28.723,48)	(4.560,75)	(8.192,53)	(6.776,59)	(9.193,61)
Trade and other payables	9	9.275,48	(9.275,48)	(9.275,48)	0,00	0,00	0,00
TOTAL		67.924,80	(96.648,28)	(17.466,68)	(16.382,40)	(16.382,40)	(46.416,80)

Market risk

Market risk is the risk that changes in market prices such as foreign exchange rates and interest rates will affect the Chamber's income.

(i) Currency risk

The Chamber's transactions are mainly denominated in Euro.

(ii) Interest rate risk

At balance sheet date the interest rate profile for the Chamber is:

	2019	2018
Variable rate financial liabilities (Note 8)	45.232,15	58.649,32

The exposure to changes in interest rates is not covered by any other measures.

A change of 100 basis points in interest rates at the balance sheet date would have increased (decreased) equity and profit or loss for the year by the amounts shown below.

	2019		2018	
	100 bp increase	100 bp decrease	100 bp increase	100 bp decrease
Variable rate instruments	(586,49)	586,49	(587,52)	587,52
Cash flow sensitivity	<u>(586,49)</u>	<u>586,49</u>	<u>(587,52)</u>	<u>587,52</u>

22. Related parties

Chamber's transactions and account balances with related parties are as follows:

Related Party	Relationship with the Chamber	Amounts receivable/(payable) to related parties		Description of Amounts receivable/(payable)
		2019	2018	
Mr. Harris Ikonomopoulos	BoD President until May 5, 2017, Chamber's BoD Member from 6 May 2017 onwards	2.092,72	2.092,72	Current account balance
Ikonomopoulos and Partners LLP	Mr. Harris Ikonomopoulos- Managing Partner, BoD President until May 5, 2017, Chamber's BoD Member from 6 May 2017 onwards	(120,00)	0,00	Advance payment
Ikonomopoulos and Partners LLP	Mr. Harris Ikonomopoulos- Managing Partner, BoD President until May 5, 2017, Chamber's BoD Member from 6 May 2017 onwards	1.200,00	1.200,00	Current account balance
	Amounts Receivable	3.292,72	3.292,72	
	Amounts Payable	120.00	0.00	

Current Account balances represent related party transactions concerning expenses incurred.

23. Subsequent events

Impact of COVID-19

Since March 2020 businesses around the world have to cope with unprecedented conditions due to the sudden outbreak of COVID-19. This unexpected health crisis found the Chamber in good financial position implying no risk as a going concern.

Although BHCC's activities have been seriously influenced by the coronavirus outbreak, and has been included in the entrepreneurial activity codes (KAAΔ) most affected, 2019 end-of-year financials, 1st quarter 2020 financials as well as budgeted expenses for 2020, showcase that BHCC already has sufficient liquidity to cover with certainty 2020 operating expenses.

Despite, significant negative impact on revenues from organization of various events - which is the main category of services provided to BHCC Members- is expected, a large percentage of membership fees, another equally significant source of income, has already been collected.

In a conservative approach, no revenues and profit are expected from organization of events within 2020. Of course, the Chamber continuously explores measures to cut its operational expenses and in addition will explore any potential liquidity measure offered by the government.

The Board is committed to finding ways to keep our Chamber relevant within a mostly virtual world in these very difficult circumstances.



Independent auditor's report

To the members of the British Hellenic Chamber of Commerce

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Our qualified opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the British Hellenic Chamber of Commerce (the "Chamber") which comprise statement of financial position as of 31 December 2019, the statements of comprehensive income, changes in funds and cash flow for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, except for the possible effects of the matters described in the Basis for qualified opinion section of our report, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects the financial position of the Chamber as at 31.12.2019, its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards, as adopted by the European Union.

Basis for qualified opinion

The following matters were noted as a result of our audit:

1. As indicated in the Note 20 (b) (i), the tax position of the Chamber has not been examined by the tax authorities from its inception and the Chamber remains contingently liable for additional fines, penalties, taxes and duties which may be assessed upon a tax examination. The Chamber has not estimated the additional taxes and penalties which may result upon such examination and accordingly has not recorded a provision in this respect. We have not been provided with sufficient information with respect to this matter and therefore we are unable to determine if any adjustments to the financial statements are necessary.
2. As indicated in the Note 20 (b) (ii), there is a pending lawsuit for an amount of approximately €86k. The Chamber has not recognized any provision for this amount and as consequence the equity is reported increased by an amount of approximately €97k, after taking into consideration potential interest due.

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs), as they have been transposed into Greek Law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified opinion.

Independence

During our audit we remained independent of the Chamber in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (IESBA Code) that has been transposed into Greek Law, and the ethical requirements of Law 4449/2017, that are relevant to the audit of the financial statements in Greece. We have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with Law 4449/2017, and the requirements of the IESBA Code.

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Responsibilities of Board of Directors and those charged with governance for the financial statements

The Board of Directors is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the European Union, and for such internal control as the Board of Directors determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Board of Directors is responsible for assessing the Chamber'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 Board of Directors either intends to liquidate the Chamber or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Management is responsible for overseeing the Chamber's financial reporting process.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs 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 of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our 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 internal control 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 Chamber's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Board of Directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of Board of Director'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 Chamber's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Chamber to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Other matter

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover other information that is included in the Annual Report i.e. the Presidents' Report and the Treasurer's Report and we do not express an audit opinion or other form of assurance thereon.



PricewaterhouseCoopers S.A.
Certified Auditors
268 Kifissias Avenue
152 32 Chalandri
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Athens, 31 July 2020

The Certified Auditor

Fotis Smirnis

SOEL Reg No 52861

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