

5.7 REPORT OF THE *RÉVISEUR D'ENTREPRISES AGRÉÉ* (STATUTORY AUDITOR) ON THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Opinion

We have audited the consolidated financial statements of **Sword Group S.E.** (the “Company”) and its subsidiaries (the “Group”), which comprise the consolidated statement of financial position as at 31 December 2020, and the consolidated statement of comprehensive income, consolidated statement of changes in equity and consolidated statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the consolidated financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of the Group as at 31 December 2020, and its consolidated financial performance and its consolidated cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) as adopted by the European Union.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with the EU Regulation N° 537/2014, the Law of 23 July 2016 on the audit profession (“Law of 23 July 2016”) and with International Standards on Auditing (“ISAs”) as adopted for Luxembourg by the “*Commission de Surveillance du Secteur Financier*” (“CSSF”). Our responsibilities under the EU regulation N° 537/2014, the Law of 23 July 2016 and ISAs as adopted for Luxembourg by the CSSF are further described in the « Responsibilities of “*réviseur d’entreprises agréé*” for the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements » section of our report. We are also independent of the Company Group in accordance with the International Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants, including International Independence Standards, issued by the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants (IESBA Code) as adopted for Luxembourg by the CSSF together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the consolidated financial statements, and have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities under those ethical requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Key Audit Matters

Key audit matters are those matters that, in our professional judgment, were of most significance in our audit of the consolidated financial statements of the current period. These matters were addressed in the context of the audit of the consolidated financial statements as a whole, and in forming our opinion thereon, and we do not provide a separate opinion on these matters.

Reasons for which a key audit matter has been raised	Response to the identified key audit matter
Goodwill impairment	
As at 31 December 2020, goodwill stands at a net value of KEUR 52,053. Under the IFRS standards as adopted by the EU, the Company must perform a goodwill impairment test at least once a year. Impairment tests are significant for our audit in light of the complexity of the valuation process and the judgement and the assumptions adopted which are subject to economic developments and future business conditions.	<p>We checked the cash-flow forecasts included in the annual goodwill impairment tests by considering the exact nature of previous forecasts.</p> <p>For our audit, we also critically examined and tested the key assumptions, methodologies, weighted average cost of capital and other data used and issued by management, for example comparing them with external and historical data, such as external market growth forecasts. We performed a sensitivity analysis within the framework of the valuation model used by the Group.</p> <p>Our department specialised in assessing valuations was integrated into the audit team to assist us with these activities.</p>

We focused on the sensitivity of the available margin in cash-generating units, evaluating whether any reasonable change in the assumptions could cause the net carrying amount to exceed the estimated value. We assessed the accuracy of previous estimates made by the Board of Directors.

We also verified the appropriacy of the information in Note 13.3 to the consolidated financial statements.

Key observations communicated to those charged with governance	We have no comment based on the audit procedures carried out on this key audit matter.
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Reasons for which a key audit matter has been raised	Response to the identified key audit matter
Revenue recognition	
<p>As detailed in Note 7 to the financial statements, the Group sells its services to various customers and operates in a range of geographical and business sectors. International Standards on Auditing require auditors to assume a fraud risk in revenue recognition when initially assessing the risk of material misstatements.</p> <p>Some of the Group's revenue is generated by large-scale, complex contracts. As a result, it is necessary to assess the conditions under which risks and benefits are transferred to the buyer, in order to evaluate whether the income and expenses should be recognised in the current period.</p>	<p>Our activities include assessing the revenue recognition method for complex contracts.</p> <p>Drawing on the work already carried out by the subsidiaries' auditors, we tested the design and effectiveness of the controls implemented by management relating to analysing revenue recognition and identifying unusual contractual clauses</p> <p>Our activities included random testing of documentation indicating the delivery of licences or services, including contracts and correspondence with third parties, with a view to ensuring the accuracy and completeness of revenue recognition.</p> <p>We assessed the appropriacy of previous estimates made by management regarding the work in progress.</p>

Key observations communicated to those charged with governance	We have no comment based on the audit procedures carried out on this key audit matter.
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Reasons for which a key audit matter has been raised	Response to the identified key audit matter
Commitments to repurchase securities held by Co-investors	
<p>As detailed in note 25 of the appendices to the consolidated financial statements, the commitments to repurchase securities held by co-investors amounted to a net value of KEUR 48,044 as at 31 December 2020, detailed in note 25 to the consolidated financial statements.</p> <p>We considered that the valuation of the financial liability is significant for our audit, given the very significant impact of this financial liability on the group's total liabilities and on the degree of judgment involved in the valuation of this base, including the estimates on the basis of the achievement of future objectives</p>	<p>Our procedures include, among others, the valuation of the method of the various commitments in place to repurchase securities held by co-investors.</p> <p>We have carried out procedures including the reconciliation of historical data, the evolution of data in the medium term, the reasonableness of the assumptions made by the Board of Directors. We have carried out procedures relating to the existence of liabilities via direct confirmation with certain participations or reconciliation to contracts with certain participants.</p> <p>We have assessed the appropriateness of the estimates made by management</p>

Key observations communicated to those charged with governance	We have no comment based on the audit procedures carried out on this key audit matter.
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Other information

The Board of Directors is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information stated in the consolidated management report and the Corporate Governance Statement but does not include the consolidated financial statements and our report of the “*réviseur d’entreprises agréé*” thereon.

Our opinion on the consolidated financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the consolidated financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the consolidated financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report this fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the Board of Directors and Those Charged with Governance for the Consolidated Financial Statements

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

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

Responsibilities of the “*réviseur d’entreprises agréé*” for the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements

The objectives of our audit are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue a report of the “*réviseur d’entreprises agréé*” that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the EU Regulation N° 537/2014, the Law of 23 July 2016 and with ISAs as adopted for Luxembourg by the CSSF 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 consolidated financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with the EU Regulation N° 537/2014, the Law of 23 July 2016 and with ISAs as adopted for Luxembourg by the CSSF, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated 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 Group’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 Directors’ 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 Group’s ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our report of the “*réviseur d’entreprises agréé*” to the related disclosures in the consolidated 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 report of the “*réviseur d’entreprises agréé*”. However, future events or conditions may cause the Group to cease to continue as a going concern.

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the consolidated financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the consolidated financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities and business activities within the Group to express an opinion on the consolidated financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the Group audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

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.

We also provide those charged with governance with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and communicate to them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, actions taken to eliminate threats or safeguards applied.

From the matters communicated with those charged with governance, we determine those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the consolidated financial statements of the current period and are therefore the key audit matters. We describe these matters in our report unless law or regulation precludes public disclosure about the matter.

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

We have been appointed as “*réviseur d’entreprises agréé*” by the General Meeting of the Shareholders on April 28, 2020 and the duration of our uninterrupted engagement, including previous renewals and reappointments, is 9 years.

The consolidated management report is consistent with the consolidated financial statements and has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

The Corporate Governance Statement, as published on the Company’s website <http://www.sword-group.com>, is the responsibility of the Board of Directors. The information required by Article 68ter paragraph (1) letters c) and d) of the law of 19 December 2002 on the commercial and companies register and on the accounting records and annual accounts of undertakings, as amended, is consistent, at the date of this report, with the consolidated financial statements and has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

We confirm that the audit opinion is consistent with the additional report to the Audit Committee or equivalent.

We confirm that the prohibited non-audit services referred to in the EU Regulation No 537/2014 were not provided and that we remained independent of the Group in conducting the audit.

Luxembourg, 25 March 2021

For MAZARS LUXEMBOURG, Cabinet de révision agréé
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