

## 4.8 STATUTORY AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This is a translation into English of the statutory auditors' report on the financial statements of the Company issued in French and it is provided solely for the convenience of English speaking users. This statutory auditors' report includes information required by European regulation and French law, such as information about the appointment of the statutory auditors or verification of the management report and other documents provided to shareholders. This report should be read in conjunction with, and construed in accordance with, French law and professional auditing standards applicable in France.

### For the year ended December 31, 2020

To the Annual General Shareholders' Meeting of COFACE SA.

### Opinion

In compliance with the engagement entrusted to us by your annual general meeting, we have audited the accompanying financial statements of COFACE SA for the year ended December 31, 2020.

In our opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the assets and liabilities and of the financial position of the COFACE SA as at December 31, 2020 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 and accounts 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 those standards are further described in the "Statutory Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements" section of our report.

#### Independence

We conducted our audit engagement in compliance with independence requirements of the French Commercial Code (Code de Commerce) and the French Code of Ethics (Code de

Déontologie) for statutory auditors, for the period from January 1, 2020 to the date of our report and specifically we did not provide any prohibited non-audit services referred to in Article 5(1) of Regulation (EU) No 537/2014 or in the French Code of ethics (code de déontologie) for statutory auditors.

### Justification of Assessments - Key Audit Matters

Due to the global crisis related to the Covid-19 pandemic, the financial statements of this period have been prepared and audited under specific conditions. Indeed, this crisis and the exceptional measures taken in the context of the state of sanitary emergency have had numerous consequences for companies, particularly on their operations and their financing, and have led to greater uncertainties on their future prospects. Those measures, such as travel restrictions and remote working, have also had an impact on the companies' internal organization and the performance of the audits.

It is in this complex and evolving context that, in accordance with the requirements of Articles L. 823-9 and R. 823-7 of the French Commercial Code relating to the justification of our assessments, we inform you of the key audit matters relating to risks of material misstatement that, in our professional judgment, were of most significance in our audit of the financial statements of the current period, as well as how we addressed those risks.

These matters were addressed in the context of our audit of the financial statements as a whole, approved in the conditions mentioned above, and in forming our opinion thereon, and we do not provide a separate opinion on specific items of the financial statements.

## Valuation of equity securities

### IDENTIFIED RISK

The amount of participations in affiliated companies with a participating interest amounted to € 1,502.7 million euros. As mentioned in note 2.1 – Accounting principles standards, the equity securities appearing in the balance sheet are recognized at their acquisition date and subsequently depreciated based on their value in use. The latter is estimated by management on the basis of estimates based on forecasts.

The estimate of the value in use of these securities requires the judgment of the management in its choice of items to consider, including the profitability prospects of the entities whose securities are held by COFACE S.A.

We considered that the depreciation of equity securities constitutes a key audit matter due to the part of management judgment involved in the evaluation of the value in use, which uses assumptions of future results taking into account the maturity of the entity, the history of the activity and the market prospects and the country in which the entity is established. The potential impact on the financial statements concerns the existence of a provision for depreciation of equity securities not recognized at the closing.

### OUR RESPONSE

**To assess the reasonableness of the valuation of impairment provisions on equity securities, our work has focused on verifying that the value in use estimates determined by the management was based on an appropriate rationale for the valuation method and the quantified elements used. In order to do this:**

- | We obtained and analysed business plans and discussed with the management on its forecasts;
- | We analysed the consistency of the main assumptions used with the economic environment;
- | We compared the consistency of the forecasts used in the prior periods with the actual outcomes;
- | We assessed the need to recognize an impairment and, if applicable, we verified its calculation.

## Specific Verifications

We have also performed, in accordance with professional standards applicable in France, the specific verifications required by laws and regulations.

### Information given in the management report and in the other documents with respect to the financial position and the financial statements provided to Shareholders

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

We attest the fair presentation and the consistency with the financial statements of the information relating to payment deadlines mentioned in Article D.441-6 of the French Commercial Code (code de commerce).

### Report on corporate governance

We attest that the Board of Directors' report on corporate governance sets out the information required by Article L. 225-37-4 and L.22-10-10 and L22-10-9 of the French Commercial Code.

Concerning the information given in accordance with the requirements of Article L. 22-10-9 of the French Commercial Code (code de commerce) relating to remunerations and benefits received by or awarded to the directors and any other commitments made in their favour, 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 controlled enterprises included in the scope of consolidation. Based on these procedures, we attest the accuracy and fair presentation of this information.

With respect to the information relating to items that your company considered likely to have an impact in the event of a takeover bid or exchange offer, provided pursuant to Article L. 22-10-11 of the French Commercial Code (code de commerce), we have agreed this information to the source

documents communicated to us. Based on these procedures, we have no observations to make on this information.

### Other Information

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

### Other Legal and Regulatory Verifications or Information

#### Format of presentation of the financial statements intended to be included in the annual financial report

We have also verified, in accordance with the professional standard applicable in France relating to the procedures performed by the statutory auditor relating to the annual and consolidated financial statements presented in the European single electronic format, that the presentation of the financial statements intended to be included in the annual financial report mentioned in Article L. 451-1-2, 1 of the French Monetary and Financial Code (code monétaire et financier), prepared under the responsibility of the Chief Executive Officer, complies with the single electronic format defined in the European Delegated Regulation No 2019/815 of 17 December 2018.

Based on the work we have performed, we conclude that the presentation of the financial statements intended to be included in the annual financial report complies, in all material respects, with the European single electronic format.

We have no responsibility to verify that the financial statements that will ultimately be included by your company in the annual financial report filed with the AMF are in agreement with those on which we have performed our work.

### Appointment of the Statutory Auditors

We were appointed as statutory auditors of COFACE SA by the Annual General Meeting, on May 14, 2020 for Mazars and on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2007 for Deloitte & Associés. The previous auditors were Deloitte & Associés or another entity of the Deloitte network, whose original appointment details could not be determined.

As at December 31, 2020, Mazars was in the first year of total uninterrupted engagement and Deloitte & Associés was in the 14<sup>th</sup> year and 7<sup>th</sup> year since securities of the Company were admitted to trading on a regulated market.

## Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with French accounting principles, and for such internal control as management 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, 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 is expected to liquidate the Company or to cease operations.

The Audit and accounts Committee is responsible for monitoring the financial reporting process and the effectiveness of internal control and risks management systems and where applicable, its internal audit, regarding the accounting and financial reporting procedures.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors.

## Statutory Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

### *Objectives 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 from 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 of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As specified in Article L. 823-10-1 of the French Commercial Code (code de commerce), our statutory audit does not include assurance on the viability of the Company or the quality of management of the affairs of the Company.

As part of an audit conducted in accordance with professional standards applicable in France, the statutory auditor exercises professional judgment throughout the audit and furthermore:

- I Identifies and assesses the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, designs and performs audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtains audit evidence considered to be sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for his 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.
- I Obtains 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 internal control.
- I Evaluates the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management in the financial statements.
- I Assesses 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 his audit report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to continue as a going concern. If the statutory auditor concludes that a material uncertainty exists, there is a requirement to draw attention in the audit report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are not provided or inadequate, to modify the opinion expressed therein.
- I Evaluates the overall presentation of the financial statements and assesses whether these statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

### **Report to the Audit and accounts committee**

We submit a report to the Audit and accounts 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, if any, significant deficiencies in internal control regarding the accounting and financial reporting procedures that we have identified.

Our report to the Audit and accounts committee includes the risks of material misstatement that, in our professional judgment, were of most significance in the audit of the financial statements of the current period and which are therefore the key audit matters that we are required to describe in this report.

We also provide the Audit and accounts committee with the declaration provided for in Article 6 of Regulation (EU) N° 537/2014, confirming our independence within the meaning of the rules applicable in France such as they are set in particular by Articles L. 822-10 to L. 822-14 of the French Commercial Code (code de commerce) and in the French Code of Ethics (code de déontologie) for statutory auditors. Where appropriate, we discuss with the Audit and Accounts Committee the risks that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and the related safeguards.

The Statutory Auditors

Paris La Défense, on March 30, 2021

#### ***French original signed by***

Deloitte & Associés

Jérôme LEMIERRE

Partner

Mazars

Jean-Claude PAULY

Partner