



# FINANCIAL INFORMATION

## INDIVIDUAL ANNUAL ACCOUNTS



- 7.1 Auditors' Report
- 7.2 Individual Annual Accounts
- 7.3 Directors' Report

Translation of a report originally issued in Spanish. In the event of discrepancy, the Spanish-language version prevails

## INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

To the Shareholders of Ebro Foods, S.A.:

### **Report on the financial statements**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Ebro Foods, S.A., which comprise the balance sheet at December 31, 2014, the income statement, the statement of changes in equity, the cash flow statement, and the notes thereto for the year then ended.

#### *Directors' responsibility for the financial statements*

The directors are responsible for the preparation of the accompanying financial statements so that they give a true and fair view of the equity and financial position and the results of Ebro Foods, S.A., in accordance with the regulatory framework for financial information applicable to the Entity in Spain, identified in Note 2 to the accompanying financial statements, and for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### *Auditor's responsibility*

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the accompanying financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with prevailing audit regulations in Spain. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation of financial statements 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 entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

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

### *Opinion*

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements give a true and fair view, in all material respects, of the equity and financial position of Ebro Foods, S.A. at December 31, 2014, and its results and cash flow for the year then ended, in accordance with the applicable regulatory framework for financial information in Spain, and specifically the accounting principles and criteria contained therein.

### *Other matter*

On April 1, 2014 other auditors issued their audit report on the 2013 financial statements in which they expressed an unqualified opinion.

### **Report on other legal and regulatory requirements**

The accompanying 2014 management report contains such explanations as the directors consider appropriate concerning the situation of the Company, the evolution of its business and other matters; however, it is not an integral part of the financial statements. We have checked that the accounting information included in the aforementioned management report agrees with the 2014 financial statements. Our work as auditors is limited to verifying the management report in accordance with the scope mentioned in this paragraph, and does not include the review of information other than that obtained from the Company's accounting records.

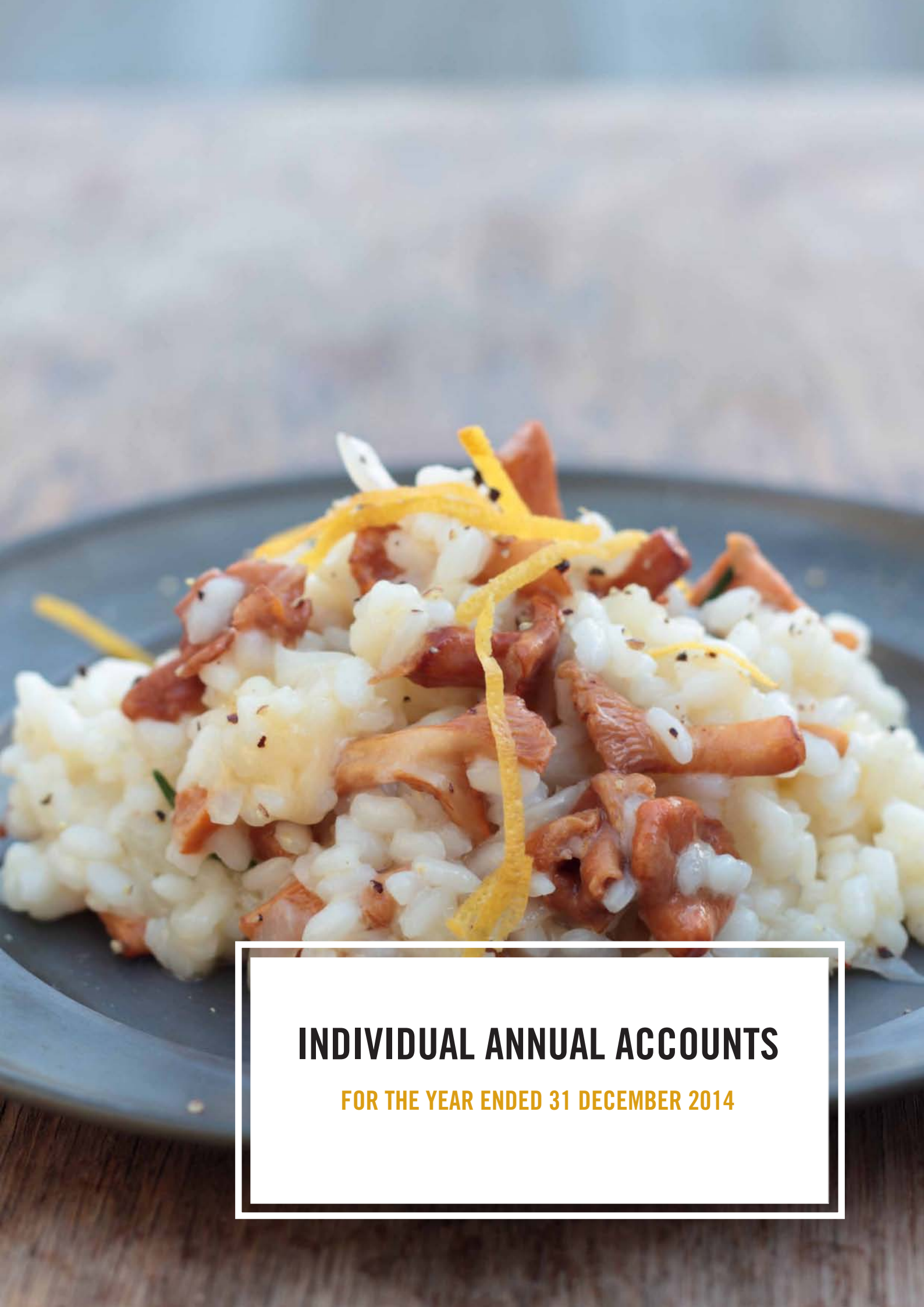
ERNST & YOUNG, S.L.

(Signed in the original in Spanish)

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David Ruiz-Roso Moyano

April 1, 2015



# **INDIVIDUAL ANNUAL ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014**

# EBRO FOODS, S.A.

## BALANCE SHEET

AT DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013

| ASSETS  | NOTES  | 12-31-14         | 12-31-13         |
|---|--------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>A) NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>                                  |        | <b>1,562,737</b> | <b>1,521,482</b> |
| I. INTANGIBLE ASSETS  | 5      | 8,226            | 8,333            |
| 3. Patents, licenses and trademarks                           |        | 7,866            | 7,866            |
| 5. Computer software  |        | 360              | 467              |
| II. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT                             | 6      | 1,251            | 1,630            |
| 1. Land and buildings   |        | 503              | 514              |
| 2. Plant and other items                                      |        | 748              | 1,116            |
| III. INVESTMENT PROPERTIES                                    | 7      | 12,020           | 12,081           |
| 1. Land   |        | 7,276            | 7,276            |
| 2. Buildings  |        | 4,744            | 4,805            |
| IV. NON-CURRENT INVESTMENTS IN GROUP COMPANIES AND ASSOCIATES | 8      | 1,506,049        | 1,404,934        |
| 1. Equity instruments   |        | 1,505,850        | 1,404,737        |
| 2. Loans to companies   | 8 & 17 | 199              | 197              |
| V. NON-CURRENT FINANCIAL ASSETS                               | 9      | 26,253           | 71,412           |
| 1. Equity instruments   |        | 693              | 46,132           |
| 2. Loans to third parties                                     |        | 25,413           | 25,133           |
| 5. Other financial assets                                     |        | 147              | 147              |
| VI. DEFERRED TAX ASSETS                                       | 15     | 8,938            | 23,092           |
| <b>B) CURRENT ASSETS</b>                                      |        | <b>19,575</b>    | <b>17,152</b>    |
| III. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES                              | 9 & 10 | 14,583           | 13,526           |
| 1. Trade receivables  |        | 696              | 841              |
| 2. Trade receivables from group companies and associates      | 17     | 8,872            | 4,311            |
| 3. Other receivables  |        | 8                | 8                |
| 4. Receivable from employees                                  |        | 97               | 52               |
| 5. Current tax assets   | 15     | 4,343            | 7,179            |
| 6. Other amounts receivable from public authorities           | 15     | 567              | 1,135            |
| V. CURRENT FINANCIAL ASSETS                                   | 9      | 905              | 1,770            |
| 2. Loans to third parties                                     |        | 905              | 1,770            |
| VI. PREPAYMENTS FOR CURRENT ASSETS                            |        | 0                | 21               |
| VII. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS                                | 11     | 4,087            | 1,835            |
| 1. Cash   |        | 4,087            | 1,835            |
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>   |        | <b>1,582,312</b> | <b>1,538,634</b> |

Thousands of euros

The accompanying notes 1 to 20 are an integral part of the balance sheet at December 31, 2014.

# EBRO FOODS, S.A.

## BALANCE SHEET

AT DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013

| EQUITY AND LIABILITIES                                    | NOTES     | 12-31-14         | 12-31-13         |
|---|-----------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>A) EQUITY</b>  |           | <b>908,397</b>   | <b>955,919</b>   |
| <b>A.1 CAPITAL AND RESERVES</b>                           | <b>12</b> | <b>908,252</b>   | <b>942,352</b>   |
| I. CAPITAL  |           | 92,319           | 92,319           |
| 1. Issued capital   |           | 92,319           | 92,319           |
| II. SHARE PREMIUM   |           | 5                | 5                |
| III. RESERVES   |           | 773,474          | 841,686          |
| 1. Legal and statutory reserves                           |           | 18,464           | 18,464           |
| 2. Other reserves   |           | 755,010          | 823,222          |
| IV. OWN SHARES AND OWN EQUITY HOLDINGS                    |           | (277)            | 0                |
| VII. PROFIT FOR THE YEAR                                  |           | 42,731           | 8,342            |
| VIII. INTERIM DIVIDEND                                    |           | 0                | 0                |
| <b>A.2 VALUATION ADJUSTMENTS</b>                          |           | <b>145</b>       | <b>13,567</b>    |
| <b>B) NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>                         |           | <b>464,945</b>   | <b>513,539</b>   |
| I. NON-CURRENT PROVISIONS                                 | 14        | 10,681           | 2,372            |
| 1. Non-current employee benefit obligations               |           | 1,661            | 2,372            |
| 4. Other provisions                                       |           | 9,020            | 0                |
| II. NON-CURRENT BORROWINGS                                | 9         | 132,873          | 210,081          |
| 2. Bank borrowings  | 13        | 128,061          | 210,069          |
| 4. Derivatives  | 9         | 4,800            | 0                |
| 5. Other financial liabilities                            |           | 12               | 12               |
| III. NON-CURRENT PAYABLES, GROUP COMPANIES AND ASSOCIATES | 17        | 290,818          | 252,783          |
| IV. DEFERRED TAX LIABILITIES                              | 15        | 30,573           | 48,303           |
| <b>C) CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>                             |           | <b>208,970</b>   | <b>69,176</b>    |
| III. CURRENT BORROWINGS:                                  | 9         | 196,382          | 36,372           |
| 2. Bank borrowings  | 13        | 191,124          | 36,314           |
| 5. Other financial liabilities                            |           | 5,258            | 58               |
| IV. CURRENT PAYABLES, GROUP COMPANIES AND ASSOCIATES      | 17        | 3,884            | 23,211           |
| V. TRADE AND OTHER ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:                      | 9         | 8,704            | 9,593            |
| 1. Trade payables   |           | 3,035            | 2,830            |
| 2. Trade payables, group companies and associates         |           | 80               | 165              |
| 4. Employee benefits payable                              |           | 3,104            | 3,002            |
| 5. Other payables to public authorities                   | 15        | 2,185            | 3,596            |
| 6. Advances from customers                                |           | 300              | 0                |
| <b>TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES</b>                       |           | <b>1,582,312</b> | <b>1,538,634</b> |

Thousands of euros

The accompanying notes 1 to 20 are an integral part of the balance sheet at December 31, 2014.

# EBRO FOODS, S.A.

## INCOME STATEMENT

FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013

|  | NOTES               | 2014            | 2013           |
|--|---------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| <b>CONTINUING OPERATIONS</b>   |                     |                 |                |
| <b>REVENUE</b>   |                     | <b>61,484</b>   | <b>18,314</b>  |
| Services rendered  |                     | 5,285           | 5,106          |
| Dividends from group companies and associates                              | 8 & 17              | 56,197          | 13,205         |
| Finance income from group companies  | 17                  | 2               | 3              |
| <b>OTHER OPERATING INCOME</b>  |                     | <b>4,639</b>    | <b>2,965</b>   |
| Non-trading and other operating income                                     |                     | 4,639           | 2,965          |
| <b>EMPLOYEE BENEFITS EXPENSE</b>   |                     | <b>(10,346)</b> | <b>(9,958)</b> |
| Wages and salaries   |                     | (8,337)         | (8,112)        |
| Employee benefits  |                     | (1,092)         | (1,136)        |
| Termination benefits   |                     | (157)           | (22)           |
| Provisions   |                     | (760)           | (688)          |
| <b>OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES</b>  |                     | <b>(16,328)</b> | <b>(7,179)</b> |
| External services  |                     | (7,141)         | (6,793)        |
| Levies   |                     | (378)           | (382)          |
| Losses on, impairment of and changes in trade provisions                   |                     | 0               | (1)            |
| Other operating expenses   | 14                  | (8,809)         | (3)            |
| <b>DEPRECIATION AND AMORTIZATION</b>                                       | <b>5, 6 &amp; 7</b> | <b>(897)</b>    | <b>(1,169)</b> |
| <b>SURPLUS PROVISIONS</b>  | <b>14</b>           | <b>0</b>        | <b>3,403</b>   |
| <b>IMPAIRMENT OF AND GAINS/(LOSSES) ON DISPOSAL OF FIXED ASSETS</b>        |                     | <b>6</b>        | <b>1</b>       |
| Impairment and losses  | 5                   | 0               | 0              |
| Gains/(losses) on disposals  | 5 & 7               | 6               | 1              |
| <b>OPERATING PROFIT</b>  |                     | <b>38,558</b>   | <b>6,377</b>   |
| <b>FINANCE INCOME</b>  |                     | <b>919</b>      | <b>1,296</b>   |
| From marketable securities and other financial instruments:                |                     |                 |                |
| From third parties   |                     | 919             | 1,296          |
| <b>FINANCE COSTS</b>   |                     | <b>(6,299)</b>  | <b>(5,786)</b> |
| Borrowings from group companies and associates                             | 17                  | (3,188)         | (3,169)        |
| Third-party borrowings   |                     | (3,111)         | (2,617)        |
| <b>CHANGE IN FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS</b>                       |                     | <b>(4,800)</b>  | <b>0</b>       |
| Held-for-trading portfolio and other securities                            | 9                   | (4,800)         | 0              |
| <b>EXCHANGE DIFFERENCES</b>  | <b>9</b>            | <b>(1,905)</b>  | <b>524</b>     |
| <b>IMPAIRMENT OF AND GAINS/(LOSSES) ON DISPOSAL OF FINANCIAL ASSETS</b>    |                     | <b>12,707</b>   | <b>523</b>     |
| Impairment and losses  | 8                   | (1,296)         | (1,512)        |
| Gains/(losses) on disposals  | 9                   | 14,003          | 2,035          |
| <b>NET FINANCE INCOME/(COST)</b>   |                     | <b>622</b>      | <b>(3,443)</b> |
| <b>PROFIT BEFORE TAX</b>   |                     | <b>39,180</b>   | <b>2,934</b>   |
| Income tax   | 15                  | 3,551           | 5,408          |
| <b>PROFIT FOR THE YEAR FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS</b>                      |                     | <b>42,731</b>   | <b>8,342</b>   |
| <b>DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS</b>   |                     |                 |                |
| Profit/(loss) for the year from discontinued operations, net of income tax |                     | 0               | 0              |
| <b>PROFIT FOR THE YEAR</b>   |                     | <b>42,731</b>   | <b>8,342</b>   |

Thousands of euros

The accompanying notes 1 to 20 are an integral part of the income statement for the year ended December 31, 2014.



# EBRO FOODS, S.A.

## STATEMENT OF RECOGNIZED INCOME AND EXPENSE

FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013

|  | NOTES | 2014           | 2013           |
|--|-------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>A) PROFIT AS PER INCOME STATEMENT</b>                         |       | <b>42,731</b>  | <b>8,342</b>   |
| <b>INCOME AND EXPENSE RECOGNIZED DIRECTLY IN EQUITY</b>          |       |                |                |
| I. MEASUREMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS                          |       |                |                |
| 1. Available-for-sale financial assets                           | 9     | (5,171)        | 20,398         |
| 2. Other income/expense,   |       |                |                |
| II. CASH FLOW HEDGES   |       |                |                |
| III. GRANTS, DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS RECEIVED                     |       |                |                |
| IV. ACTUARIAL GAINS AND LOSSES AND OTHER ADJUSTMENTS             |       |                |                |
| V. TAX EFFECT  |       | 1,551          | (6,119)        |
| <b>B) TOTAL INCOME AND EXPENSE RECOGNIZED DIRECTLY IN EQUITY</b> |       | <b>(3,620)</b> | <b>14,279</b>  |
| <b>AMOUNTS RECLASSIFIED TO PROFIT OR LOSS</b>                    |       |                |                |
| VI. MEASUREMENT OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS                         |       |                |                |
| 1. Available-for-sale financial assets                           | 9     | (14,003)       | (2,035)        |
| 2. Other income/expense  |       |                |                |
| VII. CASH FLOW HEDGES  |       |                |                |
| VIII. GRANTS, DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS RECEIVED                    |       |                |                |
| IX. TAX EFFECT   |       | 4,201          | 611            |
| <b>C) TOTAL AMOUNTS RECLASSIFIED TO PROFIT OR LOSS</b>           |       | <b>(9,802)</b> | <b>(1,424)</b> |
| <b>TOTAL RECOGNIZED INCOME AND EXPENSE (A + B + C)</b>           |       | <b>29,309</b>  | <b>21,197</b>  |

*Thousands of euros*

The accompanying notes 1 to 20 are an integral part of the statement of recognized income and expense for the year ended December 31, 2014.

# EBRO FOODS, S.A.

## STATEMENT OF TOTAL CHANGES IN EQUITY

FOR DE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013

|  | CAPITAL       | SHARE PREMIUM | RESERVES       | OWN SHARES   | RETAINED EARNINGS | PROFIT FOR THE YEAR | INTERIM DIVIDEND | OTHER EQUITY INSTRUMENTS | VALUATION ADJUSTMENTS | GRANTS, DONATIONS AND BEQUESTS RECEIVED | TOTAL            |
|--|---------------|---------------|----------------|--------------|-------------------|---------------------|------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|---|------------------|
| <b>BALANCE AT 12-31-12</b>                         | <b>92,319</b> | <b>5</b>      | <b>930,472</b> | <b>0</b>     | <b>0</b>          | <b>3,533</b>        | <b>0</b>         | <b>0</b>                 | <b>713</b>            | <b>0</b>                                | <b>1,027,042</b> |
| I. RESTATEMENTS FOR CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING CRITERIA |               |               |                |              |                   |                     |                  |                          |                       |   | 0                |
| II. RESTATEMENTS FOR PRIOR-YEAR ERRORS             |               |               |                |              |                   |                     |                  |                          |                       |   | 0                |
| <b>RESTATED BALANCE AT 1/1/2013</b>                | <b>92,319</b> | <b>5</b>      | <b>930,472</b> | <b>0</b>     | <b>0</b>          | <b>3,533</b>        | <b>0</b>         | <b>0</b>                 | <b>713</b>            | <b>0</b>                                | <b>1,027,042</b> |
| I. TOTAL RECOGNIZED INCOME AND EXPENSE             |               |               |                |              |                   | 8,342               |                  |                          | 12,855                |   | 21,197           |
| II. TRANSACTIONS WITH SHAREHOLDERS AND OWNERS:     | 0             | 0             | (88,786)       | 0            | 0                 | (3,533)             | 0                | 0                        | (1)                   | 0                                       | (92,320)         |
| Dividend distribution                              |               |               | (92,319)       |              |                   |                     |                  |                          |                       |   | (92,319)         |
| Transactions with own shares (net)                 |               |               |                |              |                   |                     |                  |                          |                       |   | 0                |
| Other transactions with shareholders               |               |               | 3,533          |              |                   | (3,533)             |                  |                          | (1)                   |   | (1)              |
| III. OTHER CHANGES IN EQUITY                       |               |               |                |              |                   |                     |                  |                          |                       |   | 0                |
| <b>CLOSING BALANCE AT 12-31-2013</b>               | <b>92,319</b> | <b>5</b>      | <b>841,686</b> | <b>0</b>     | <b>0</b>          | <b>8,342</b>        | <b>0</b>         | <b>0</b>                 | <b>13,567</b>         | <b>0</b>                                | <b>955,919</b>   |
| I. RESTATEMENTS FOR CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING CRITERIA |               |               |                |              |                   |                     |                  |                          |                       |   | 0                |
| II. RESTATEMENTS FOR PRIOR-YEAR ERRORS             |               |               |                |              |                   |                     |                  |                          |                       |   | 0                |
| <b>RESTATED BALANCE AT 1/1/2014</b>                | <b>92,319</b> | <b>5</b>      | <b>841,686</b> | <b>0</b>     | <b>0</b>          | <b>8,342</b>        | <b>0</b>         | <b>0</b>                 | <b>13,567</b>         | <b>0</b>                                | <b>955,919</b>   |
| I. TOTAL RECOGNIZED INCOME AND EXPENSE             |               |               |                |              |                   | 42,731              |                  |                          | (13,422)              |   | 29,309           |
| II. TRANSACTIONS WITH SHAREHOLDERS AND OWNERS:     | 0             | 0             | (68,212)       | (277)        | 0                 | (8,342)             | 0                | 0                        | 0                     | 0                                       | (76,831)         |
| Dividend distribution                              |               |               | (76,932)       |              |                   |                     |                  |                          |                       |   | (76,932)         |
| Transactions with own shares (net)                 |               |               | 378            | (277)        |                   |                     |                  |                          |                       |   | 101              |
| Other transactions with shareholders               |               |               | 8,342          |              |                   | (8,342)             |                  |                          |                       |   | 0                |
| III. OTHER CHANGES IN EQUITY                       |               |               |                |              |                   |                     |                  |                          |                       |   | 0                |
| <b>CLOSING BALANCE AT 12-31-2014</b>               | <b>92,319</b> | <b>5</b>      | <b>773,474</b> | <b>(277)</b> | <b>0</b>          | <b>42,731</b>       | <b>0</b>         | <b>0</b>                 | <b>145</b>            | <b>0</b>                                | <b>908,397</b>   |

Thousands of euros

The accompanying notes 1 to 20 are an integral part of the statement of total changes in equity for the year ended December 31, 2014.

# EBRO FOODS, S.A.

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013

|  | NOTES    | 2014             | 2013             |
|--|----------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>CASH FLOWS FROM/(USED IN) OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>                          |          |                  |                  |
| <b>1. Profit for the year before tax</b>                                       |          | <b>34,571</b>    | <b>(2,802)</b>   |
| <b>2. Adjustments for:</b>   |          | <b>(46,430)</b>  | <b>(11,312)</b>  |
| a) Depreciation and amortization (+)   | 5, 6 & 7 | 897              | 1,169            |
| b) Impairment charges (+/-)  | 8        | 1,296            | 1,512            |
| c) Changes in provisions (+/-)(+)  | 14       | 9,500            | 688              |
| e) Gains (losses) on derecognition and disposal of fixed assets (+/-)          | 7        | (6)              | (1)              |
| f) Gains (losses) on derecognition and disposal of financial instruments (+/-) | 8        | (14,003)         | (2,035)          |
| g) Finance income s (-)  |          | (921)            | (1,299)          |
| h) Finance costs (+)   |          | 11,099           | 5,786            |
| i) Exchange differences (+/-)  | 9, 1     | 1,905            | (524)            |
| k) Other income and expenses (-/+)   |          | (56,197)         | (16,608)         |
| <b>3. Change in working capital</b>  |          | <b>(10,867)</b>  | <b>(9,135)</b>   |
| b) Trade and other accounts receivable (+/-)                                   |          | (6,874)          | (1,502)          |
| c) Other current assets (+/-)  |          | 886              | 0                |
| d) Trade and other payables (+/-)  |          | (4,879)          | (2,338)          |
| f) Other non-current assets and liabilities (+/-)                              |          | 0                | (5,295)          |
| <b>4. Other cash flows from operating activities</b>                           |          | <b>52,688</b>    | <b>14,711</b>    |
| a) Interest paid (-)   |          | (4,179)          | (4,224)          |
| b) Dividends received (+)  |          | 56,197           | 13,205           |
| c) Interest received (+)   |          | 2                | 0                |
| d) Income tax receipts (payments) (+/-)  |          | 3,508            | 5,730            |
| e) Other payments/receipts (-/+)   |          | (2,840)          | 0                |
| <b>CASH FLOWS USED IN INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>                                 |          |                  |                  |
| <b>6. Payments for investments (-)</b>   |          | <b>(58,628)</b>  | <b>(20,098)</b>  |
| a) Group companies and associates  |          | (58,255)         | (19,979)         |
| b) Intangible assets   |          | (189)            | (53)             |
| c) Property, plant and equipment   | 6        | (184)            | (66)             |
| <b>7. Proceeds from disposals (+)</b>  |          | <b>41,784</b>    | <b>9,444</b>     |
| b) Intangible assets   |          | 1,479            | 2,875            |
| c) Property, plant and equipment   |          | 37               | 2,400            |
| e) Other financial assets  |          | 40,268           | 4,169            |
| <b>CASH FLOWS (USED IN)/FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>                          |          |                  |                  |
| <b>9. Proceeds from and payments for equity instruments</b>                    |          | <b>99</b>        | <b>0</b>         |
| c) Acquisition of own equity instruments (-)                                   |          | (11,804)         | 0                |
| d) Disposal of own equity instruments (+)                                      |          | 11,903           | 0                |
| <b>10. Proceeds from and repayment of financial liabilities</b>                |          | <b>61,358</b>    | <b>106,304</b>   |
| <b>a) Issuance of:</b>   |          | <b>262,385</b>   | <b>317,609</b>   |
| 2. Bank borrowings (+)   |          | 80,000           | 79,190           |
| 3. Borrowings from group companies and associates (+)                          |          | 182,385          | 238,419          |
| <b>b) Repayment and amortization of:</b>                                       |          | <b>(201,027)</b> | <b>(211,305)</b> |
| 2. Bank borrowings (-)   |          | (37,925)         | (55,496)         |
| 3. Borrowings from group companies and associates (-)                          |          | (163,102)        | (155,809)        |
| <b>11. Dividends and payments on other equity instruments</b>                  |          | <b>(76,932)</b>  | <b>(92,319)</b>  |
| a) Dividends (-)   |          | (76,932)         | (92,319)         |
| <b>EFFECT OF CHANGES IN EXCHANGE RATES ON CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS</b>        |          |                  |                  |
|  |          | <b>0</b>         | <b>0</b>         |
| <b>NET INCREASE / (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVATENTS</b>                  |          |                  |                  |
|  |          | <b>2,252</b>     | <b>529</b>       |
| Cash and cash equivalents, opening balance                                     |          | 1,835            | 1,306            |
| <b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, CLOSING BALANCE</b>                              |          | <b>4,087</b>     | <b>1,835</b>     |

Thousands of euros

The accompanying notes 1 to 20 are an integral part of the statement of cash flows for the year ended December 31, 2014.

# **EBRO FOODS, S.A.**

## **NOTES FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

FOR THE YEARS ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013 (EXPRESSED IN THOUSANDS OF EUROS)

### **1. CORPORATE INFORMATION**

Ebro Foods, S.A., a Spanish public limited company (sociedad anónima), hereinafter, the Company, was created by the merger by absorption of Puleva S.A. into Azucarera Ebro Agrícolas S.A. on January 1, 2001. On the occasion of that transaction, Azucarera Ebro Agrícolas, S.A.'s name was changed to Ebro Puleva, S.A. Later, at the Annual General Meeting of June 1, 2010, its registered name was changed again to its current name: Ebro Foods, S.A.

The Company's current registered office is in Madrid (28046), at Paseo de la Castellana, 20. The Company's corporate object is to perform the following business activities in Spanish and foreign markets:

- a) The production, preparation, sale, research, export and import of all manner of food and dietary products for both human and animal consumption, in addition to energy food products, including their by-products and waste, and, in particular, rice, pasta, sauces and all manner of nutritional products.
- b) The production, exploitation and sale of all manner of food, soft and alcoholic beverages.
- c) The use of by-products and the provision of services or products of all types relating to the aforementioned activities, including refrigeration cabinets, ice, industrial gas, steam, cold and energy.
- d) The acquisition, lease, creation, installation, development and management of industrial, farming and livestock facilities in the food, nutrition and beverage (including alcohol) industries.
- e) The performance of projects and installation work and the provision of all manner of technical assistance to other companies in the aforementioned industries; the creation, development, protection and use of patents, trademarks and other assets susceptible to intellectual property protection.
- f) Staff training, computer programming or management, investment and monetization of resources, advertising and image, transport, distribution and sale and marketing activities that are ancillary or complementary to the aforementioned activities.

The activities comprising the corporate object may be carried on through the subscription or acquisition of shares or other equity interests in companies with an identical or similar corporate purpose.

Ebro Foods, S.A. is the parent of a consolidated group comprising it and its subsidiaries and associates with which it has separately presented consolidated financial statements for 2014, which were authorized for issue by the Board of Directors of Ebro Foods, S.A. on March 24, 2015. The 2013 consolidated financial statements were approved at the Annual General Meeting held by Ebro Foods, S.A. on June 4, 2014 and duly filed with Madrid's Companies Register.

This fact should be taken into consideration in assessing the working capital position typical of year-end in the separate annual financial statements of Ebro Foods, S.A., which, as the group's parent company, has the option of financing itself via dividends, among other alternatives.

The key figures contained in the 2014 and 2013 consolidated financial statements, which were drawn up in accordance with Final Provision Eleven of Spanish Law 62/2003, of December 30, 2003, under the International Financial Reporting Standards approved by the European Commission, are replicated below:

|  | AT 12-31-2014 |                  | AT 12-31-2013 |                  |
|--|---------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>                          |               | <b>3,162,068</b> |               | <b>2,772,680</b> |
| <b>Equity:</b>                               |               | <b>1,873,805</b> |               | <b>1,728,263</b> |
| Attributable to equity holders of the parent | 1,849,485     |                  | 1,705,757     |                  |
| Attributable to non-controlling interests    | 24,320        |                  | 22,506        |                  |
| <b>Revenue</b>                               |               | <b>2,120,722</b> |               | <b>1,956,647</b> |
| <b>Profit for the year:</b>                  |               | <b>149,119</b>   |               | <b>133,982</b>   |
| Attributable to equity holders of the parent | 146,013       |                  | 132,759       |                  |
| Attributable to non-controlling interests    | 3,106         |                  | 1,223         |                  |

*Thousands of euros*

## 2. BASIS OF PRESENTATION OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The figures provided in these financial statements are presented in thousands of euros, unless otherwise indicated.

### FINANCIAL REPORTING FRAMEWORK APPLICABLE TO THE COMPANY

The accompanying financial statements were authorized for issue by the directors in keeping with the financial reporting regulatory framework applicable to Company, namely:

- a) Spain's Code of Commerce and other company law
- b) The Spanish General Accounting Plan enacted by Royal Decree 1514/2007 and its sector-specific adaptations
- c) The binding rules issued by the ICAC (acronym in Spanish for the Audit and Accounting Institute) enacting the General Accounting Plan and its complementary rules and regulations
- d) Other applicable Spanish accounting regulations

## **FAIR PRESENTATION**

The accompanying financial statements were prepared from the Company's accounting records in keeping with the prevailing applicable financial reporting framework and, specifically, the accounting principles and criteria contained therein, to present fairly the Company's equity and financial position at year-end and financial performance and cash flows during the year.

These financial statements have been authorized for issue by the Company's directors and will be submitted for shareholder approval at the Annual General Meeting at which they are expected to be ratified without modification. The 2013 financial statements were approved at the Annual General Meeting held on June 4, 2014.

## **COMPARATIVE INFORMATION**

The information provided in these financial statements in respect of 2013 is presented to enable a reader comparison with the equivalent 2014 figures.

## **CRITICAL ISSUES REGARDING THE MEASUREMENT AND ESTIMATION OF UNCERTAINTY**

The directors have prepared the Company's financial statements using estimates based on historical experience and other factors considered reasonable under the circumstances. The carrying amounts of assets and liabilities which are not readily apparent from other sources were established on the basis of these estimates. The Company reviews these estimates continually. However, given the uncertainty inherent in these estimates, there is a considerable risk that the carrying amounts of affected assets and liabilities may have to be significantly adjusted in the future should material changes occur in the assumptions, events or circumstances on which they were based.

In addition to other relevant information regarding the estimation of uncertainty at the reporting date, the key assumptions regarding the future that imply a considerable risk that the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities may require material adjustment in the next financial year, are as follows:

### **❖ Taxation**

In accordance with prevailing tax legislation, tax returns cannot be considered final until they have been inspected by the tax authorities or until the four-year inspection period from the date of presentation of the respective returns has elapsed. The directors believe that no significant additional tax liabilities would arise for the Company in the event of a tax inspection (note 15).

### **❖ Impairment of non-financial assets**

The Company tests its non-financial assets for indications of impairment annually. Intangible assets that have an indefinite useful life are tested for impairment at least annually. All other non-financial assets are tested for impairment whenever there are indications that their carrying amount may not be recoverable (notes 5, 6 and 7) and are depreciated over their remaining estimated useful lives.

### **❖ Deferred tax assets**

Deferred tax assets are recognized on the basis of estimates regarding the probability of occurrence and level of future taxable profits (note 15).

#### ❖ Provisions

The Company recognizes provisions for liabilities in keeping with the accounting policy outlined in note 4.n below. The Company has made judgments and estimates as to the likelihood that the provisioned liabilities will materialize, as well as the corresponding amounts, and has recognized provisions when the liability is deemed probable, estimating the cost that would be generated by the obligating event (note 14).

Although these estimates were made on the basis of the best information available at year-end, events that take place in the future might make it necessary to change these estimates (upwards or downwards) in coming years. Changes in accounting estimates would be applied prospectively.

#### TRANSACTIONS CONCLUDED IN 2014 THAT AFFECT THE BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The Company did not undertake any transactions in 2014 that affect the presentation or comparability of these financial statements. The transactions undertaken in prior years requiring specific disclosures in subsequent reporting periods are outlined below:

- a) **Merger by absorption of Productos La Fallera, S.A.:**  
See 2003 financial statements
- b) **Dissolution of Azucarera Ebro Agrícolas Gestión de Patrimonio, S.L. (GDP) transferring all of its assets and liabilities to Ebro Foods, S.A.:**  
See 2003 financial statements
- c) **Non-monetary contribution to Ebro Financial Corporate Services S.L.:**  
See 2012 financial statements

### 3. DISTRIBUTION OF PROFIT

|   | AMOUNT         |
|---|----------------|
| <b>Basis of distribution</b>                  |                |
| Unrestricted reserves                         | 751,463        |
| Profit for the year (as per income statement) | 42,731         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                  | <b>794,194</b> |

*Thousands of euros*

The distribution of profit proposed by the directors of Ebro Foods, S.A. at a meeting of the Board of Directors held on March 24, 2015 for submission for ratification at the upcoming Annual General Meeting is as follows:

The profit generated by the Ebro Foods Group in 2014 makes it possible, as in prior years, to propose the payment of a cash dividend, with a charge against unrestricted reserves, of 0.66 euros per share (an ordinary dividend of 0.51 euros per share and a special dividend of 0.15 euros per share), payable in the course of 2015.

The ordinary dividend will be paid out in three instalments of 0.17 euros per share on April 1, June 29 and October 2, 2015. The special dividend will be paid out in a single instalment of 0.15 euros per share on December 22, 2015.

#### **LIMITATIONS ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF DIVIDENDS**

The Company is obliged to transfer 10% of profit for the year to a legal reserve until this reserve reaches an amount equal to at least 20% of share capital. Until this reserve surpasses 20% of capital, it cannot be distributed to shareholders (note 12.c).

Once the legal and bylaw-stipulated requirements have been met, dividends may be distributed against profit for the year or freely distributable reserves so long as the value of equity is not lower than or would not fall below share capital as a result of the distribution. For these purposes, any profit recognized directly in equity may not be distributed either directly or indirectly. If prior-year losses were to reduce the Company's equity to below the amount of share capital, profit would have to be allocated to offset these losses.

## **4. RECOGNITION AND MEASUREMENT POLICIES**

### **A) INTANGIBLE ASSETS**

Intangible assets are initially measured at either acquisition or production cost. The cost of intangible assets acquired in a business combination is their fair value as of the date of acquisition.

Following initial measurement, they are stated at cost less accumulated amortization and any impairment losses.

The Company assesses each intangible asset's useful life to determine whether it is finite or indefinite.

Intangible assets having finite useful lives are amortized on a straight-line basis over their remaining estimated useful lives, taking into account their residual value. Amortization methods and periods are reviewed at year-end and adjusted prospectively where applicable. Intangible assets are tested for impairment at least at year-end and are written down where applicable. Patents, licences and trademarks are amortized on a straight-line basis over their useful lives, generally four years, as is computer software.

Intangible assets with indefinite useful lives are not amortized but are tested for impairment at least annually (note 4.e). The assessment of these assets' indefinite useful life is also reviewed annually.

### **B) PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT**

Items of property, plant and equipment are initially recognized at either acquisition or production cost. The cost of property, plant and equipment acquired in a business combination is the fair value of the assets at the acquisition date. Following initial recognition, they are carried at cost less accumulated depreciation and any impairment loss.

The cost of assets acquired or produced since January 1, 2010 that require more than one year to ready for use (qualifying assets) includes borrowing costs accrued prior to putting the assets to use whenever these expenses meet capitalization requirements.

Property, plant, and equipment likewise includes the initial estimate of the present value of asset dismantling or retirement obligations and other associated costs, such as the cost of restoring assets, when these obligations trigger the recognition of provisions.



Expenses for repairs which do not prolong the useful life of the assets, as well as maintenance expenses, are taken to the income statement in the year incurred. Expenses incurred for expansion or improvements which increase the productivity or prolong the useful life of these assets are capitalized as an increase in the carrying amount of the item.

Depreciation charges are recognized in the income statement. Assets are depreciated from when they are ready for their intended use. Items of property, plant and equipment are depreciated on a straight-line basis over their respective estimated useful lives, taking into consideration actual depreciation sustained through operation, usage and wear and tear, as follows:

#### **DEPRECIATION RATES**

|                              |              |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| Buildings                    | 2.0 a 3.0%   |
| Machinery, plant and tools   | 2.0 a 8.0%   |
| Furniture and other fixtures | 10.0 a 25.0% |
| Vehicles                     | 5.5 a 16.0%  |

The Company reviews its material assets' residual values, useful lives and depreciation methods at each year-end and adjusts them prospectively where applicable.

#### **C) INVESTMENT PROPERTIES**

Investment properties comprise land and buildings that are leased to third parties or not being used for operating purposes. Buildings so classified are depreciated on a straight-line basis over an estimated useful life of 50 years.

The measurement criteria applicable to property, plant and equipment apply in full to investment properties. Transfers are made to (or from) investment property only when there is a change in use.

#### **D) EXCHANGES OF ASSETS**

Assets acquired in exchange for other assets are analyzed individually to determine whether the related transaction has commercial substance.

When the transaction has commercial substance, the asset received is measured at the fair value of the asset given up, plus any monetary compensation where applicable, except for transactions for which the evidence supporting the fair value of the asset received is better, in which case this measurement is taken. Any valuation differences arising upon derecognition of the asset given up are recognized in the income statement.

When the exchange does not have commercial substance or when the fair value of the assets exchanged cannot be reliably measured, the asset received is measured at the carrying amount of the asset given up, plus monetary consideration given, if any.

#### **E) IMPAIRMENT OF NON-CURRENT AND NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS**

The Company assesses whether there is any indication that a non-current, financial asset or cash-generating unit may be impaired at least at each reporting date. If any indication of impairment exists, and regardless of any such indications in the case of goodwill and intangible assets with indefinite useful lives, the directors estimate the assets' recoverable amounts.

The recoverable amount of its investment properties is the higher of fair value less costs to sell and value in use. When the carrying amount exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is considered impaired.

Value in use is the present value of expected future cash flows, discounted using risk-free market rates, adjusted for the risks specific to the asset. For those assets that do not generate cash flows that are largely independent of those of other assets or groups of assets, the recoverable amount is determined for the cash-generating units to which the assets belong.

Impairment losses and any subsequent reversals are recognized in the income statement. Impairment losses are reversed only if the circumstances giving rise to them have ceased to exist. Goodwill impairment losses are not reversed. The reversal is limited to the carrying amount that would have been determined had no impairment loss been recognized for the asset.

## **F) LEASES**

Leases are classified as finance leases when, based on the economic terms of the arrangement, substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of the leased item are transferred to the lessee. All other lease arrangements are classified as operating leases.

### **Company as lessee**

Assets acquired under finance leases are classified as appropriate within property, plant and equipment and are measured at the lower of the fair value of the leased property and the present value of the minimum lease payments; the corresponding financial liability is recognized in the same amount. Lease payments are apportioned between finance charges and reduction of the lease liability. Leased assets are depreciated, impaired, and derecognized using the same criteria as apply to owned assets of a similar nature.

Operating lease payments are expensed in the income statement as they accrue.

### **Company as lessor**

Rental income from operating leases is recognized in the income statement as accrued. Direct costs incurred in negotiating operating leases are added to the carrying amount of the leased asset and are expensed over the term of the lease using the same criteria as are used to recognize lease income.

## **G) FINANCIAL ASSETS**

### **1. Classification and measurement**

#### **1.1 *Loans and receivables***

The Company recognizes trade and non-trade receivables in this category, which includes financial assets with fixed or determinable payments not quoted on active markets which it expects to recover in full, except, where applicable, in cases of credit impairment.

Upon initial recognition in the balance sheet, these investments are recognized at fair value, which, unless there is evidence to the contrary, is the transaction price, deemed equivalent to the fair value of the consideration paid plus directly attributable transaction costs. Subsequent to initial recognition, these financial assets are measured at amortized cost.

Nevertheless, trade receivables that mature within less than one year from the reporting date with no contractual interest rate, as well as advances, loans to employees, deposits, dividends receivable and called-up payments on equity instruments, the amount of which is expected to be realized in the short term, are carried at nominal value both upon initial and subsequent measurement when the effect of not discounting the cash flows is not material.

### **1.2 Held-to-maturity investments**

Held-to-maturity investments include debt instruments with fixed maturities and fixed or determinable payments traded on active markets which the Company has the positive intention and the ability to hold to maturity.

Upon initial recognition in the balance sheet, these investments are recognized at fair value, which, unless there is evidence to the contrary, is the transaction price, deemed equivalent to the fair value of the consideration paid plus directly attributable transaction costs.

Subsequent to initial recognition, these financial assets are measured at amortized cost.

### **1.3 Equity investments in group companies, jointly-controlled entities and associates**

This category includes investments in companies over which the Company exercises control, joint control under bylaw stipulations or by contractual arrangement, or has significant influence. These investments are initially measured on the balance sheet at fair value, which is equivalent, absent indications to the contrary, to the transaction price, which is the fair value of the consideration given plus directly attributable costs, except in relation to non-monetary contributions to a group company in exchange for a business, in which instance the investment is measured at the carrying amount of the assets and liabilities comprising the business. The initially-recognized amount of an equity investment includes preferential subscription and similar rights acquired.

Subsequent to initial recognition, these financial assets are measured at cost, less any accumulated impairment losses.

When an investment is newly classified as an investment in a group company, jointly controlled entity or associate, cost is deemed to be the investment's recognized carrying amount, and previously recognized unrealized value adjustments are left in equity until the investment is either sold or impaired.

Where preferential subscription or similar rights are sold or separated for the purpose of exercising them, the cost of these rights decreases the carrying amount of the respective assets.

In the case of equity investments in group companies that give control over the subsidiary, the fees paid to legal advisors and other professionals in connection with the acquisition have been recognized directly in the income statement since January 1, 2010.

### **1.4 Financial assets held for trading**

This category includes financial assets created or acquired for the purpose of obtaining a profit in the short term. It also includes derivatives not designated as hedging instruments for accounting purposes.

They are initially recognized at fair value which is equivalent to their transaction price, barring evidence to the contrary. Transaction costs that are directly attributable to their issuance are recognized in profit or loss.

The initially-recognized amount of an equity investment includes preferential subscription and similar rights acquired.

Subsequent to initial recognition, financial assets held for trading are carried at fair value without any deduction for transaction costs the Company may incur on sale or other disposal. Changes in fair value are recognized in profit or loss.

### **1.5 Available-for-sale financial assets**

This category includes debt securities and equity instruments that have not been classified in any of the preceding categories.

Upon initial recognition in the balance sheet, these investments are recognized at fair value, which, unless there is evidence to the contrary, is the transaction price, deemed equivalent to the fair value of the consideration paid plus directly attributable transaction costs. The initially-recognized amount of an equity investment includes preferential subscription and similar rights acquired.

After initial recognition, these assets are stated at fair value including any transaction costs relating to their sale. Changes in fair value are recognized directly in equity until the investment is derecognized or determined to be impaired, at which time the cumulative gain or loss previously deferred in equity is taken to the income statement. However, foreign exchange gains and losses on monetary assets denominated in foreign currency are recognized in the income statement.

Equity instruments whose fair value cannot be reliably determined are measured at cost, less any cumulative impairment.

Where preferential subscription or similar rights are sold or separated for the purpose of exercising them, the cost of these rights decreases the carrying amount of the respective assets.

### **1.6 Hedging derivatives**

These are derivatives that qualify for hedge accounting.

Financial instruments that have been designated as hedging instruments or hedged items are measured as described in note 4.j.

## **2. Derecognition**

Financial assets are derecognized when the contractual rights to the related cash flows have expired or when the assets have been transferred, provided that the risks and rewards incidental to ownership have been substantially transferred.

If the Company has neither substantially transferred nor retained the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of the financial asset, it is derecognized when control over the asset is relinquished. If control over the asset is retained, the Company continues to recognize it to the extent to which it is exposed to changes in the value of the transferred asset, i.e. to the extent of its continuing involvement, recognizing the associated liability as well.

The difference between the consideration received, net of attributable transaction costs, including any new financial asset obtained less any liability assumed, and the carrying amount of the asset transferred, plus any cumulative gain or loss recognized directly in equity, determines the gain or loss generated upon derecognition, and is included in the income statement for the year to which it relates.

The Company does not derecognize financial assets in respect of the sale of financial assets in which it has retained substantially the risks and rewards incidental to ownership, such as discounted bills, recourse factoring, disposals of financial assets under repurchase agreements at fixed prices or at the sale price plus interest, and securitizations of financial assets in which it retains subordinate financing or other types of guarantees which substantially absorb estimated losses. In these instances, it recognizes a financial liability at an amount equal to the consideration received.

### **3. Interest and dividend income generated by financial assets**

Interest and dividends accrued on financial assets subsequent to their acquisition are recognized as income; specifically, dividends and finance income received from group companies are classified as revenue in the income statement. Interest is recognized using the effective interest rate method; dividends are recognized when the right to receive them is established.

To this end, financial assets are recognized separately upon initial measurement based on maturity, accrued explicit interest receivable at that date, and the dividends approved by the competent governing body up to the date the assets are acquired. Explicit interest refers to the contractual interest rate applied to the financial instrument.

In addition, when distributed dividends are derived unmistakably from profit generated prior to the date of acquisition, based on the conclusion that the amounts distributed exceed the profit generated by the investee since acquisition, the dividends are not recognized as revenue but rather as a decrease in the carrying amount of the investment.

#### **H) IMPAIRMENT OF FINANCIAL ASSETS**

The carrying amount of financial assets is adjusted against the income statement when there is objective evidence of an impairment loss.

To determine whether its financial assets may be impaired, the Company tests individual assets and portfolios of assets with similar risk traits for impairment.

#### **Debt instruments**

There is objective evidence that debt instruments (trade receivables, loans and debt securities) are impaired when an event has occurred after the initial recognition of the instrument that has an adverse impact on the related estimated future cash flows.

The Company designates debt instruments as impaired assets (doubtful exposures) when there is objective evidence of impairment, which refers basically to the existence of unpaid balances, contractual breaches, refinancing activity and/or other information evidencing the possibility that the total agreed-upon cash flows will not be collected on time, or at all.

For financial assets measured at amortized cost, impairment loss is measured as the difference between the carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows, discounted at the market rate prevailing upon initial recognition. For financial assets with floating interest rates, the effective interest rate at the reporting date is used.

For trade and other receivables, the Company considers balances past due by more than six months for which collection is uncertain, as well as balances owed by counterparties that have filed for creditor protection, to be doubtful assets.

Market value is used instead of the present value of estimated future cash flows in the case of quoted instruments, provided that this is considered a sufficiently reliable proxy for fair value.

The reversal of an impairment loss is recognized in the income statement. Such reversal is limited to the carrying amount of the financial asset that would have been recognized on the reversal date had no impairment loss been recognized.

## Equity instruments

There is objective evidence that equity instruments are impaired when one or more events have occurred after initial recognition that indicate that the cost of the investment in equity instruments may not be recovered due to a prolonged or significant decline in fair value. Specifically, the Company considers that its equity instruments are impaired when their quoted value has decreased by 40% or for 18 months without having recovered their initial value.

In the case of equity instruments measured at fair value and included in the available-for-sale financial asset portfolio, impairment losses are measured as the difference between acquisition cost and fair value, less any previously recognized impairment losses. Unrealized capital losses deferred in equity are recognized immediately in profit or loss whenever it is deemed that such losses reflect a decline in fair value resulting from impairment. In the case of available-for-sale equity instruments, impairment losses give rise to a new cost basis for the impaired asset that provide the benchmark going forward for determining whether the investment has sustained additional permanent impairment and recognizing the related impairment losses. If, in a subsequent period, impairment losses are partially or totally reversed, a valuation adjustment is recognized for the related amount in equity.

In the case of equity instruments measured at cost and included in 'Available-for-sale financial assets' and 'Investments in group companies and associates', impairment loss is measured as the difference between the carrying amount of the financial asset and the recoverable amount, which is the greater of the asset's fair value, less costs to sell, and the present value of future cash flows derived from the investment. Unless better evidence is available, impairment of this type of asset is estimated based on the investee's equity adjusted for any unrealized capital gains existing on the measurement date. Impairment losses are recognized in the income statement and offset directly against the equity instrument.

For investments in group companies and associates, the reversal of an impairment loss is recognized in the income statement and is limited to the carrying amount of the investment that would have been recognized on the reversal date had the original impairment not occurred, whereas an impairment loss recognized in previous years on available-for-sale financial assets measured at cost cannot be reversed.

## D FINANCIAL LIABILITIES

### 1. Classification and measurement

#### 1.1 *Debts and payables*

These instruments include financial liabilities generated by the purchase of goods and services in the ordinary course of the Company's business and non-trade payables that are not derivative instruments.

Upon initial recognition in the balance sheet, they are recognized at fair value, which, barring evidence to the contrary, is the transaction price, deemed equivalent to the fair value of the consideration received, adjusted by directly attributable transaction costs.

Subsequent to initial recognition, these financial liabilities are measured at amortized cost. Accrued interest is recognized in the income statement using the effective interest rate method.

Nevertheless, trade payables that mature within less than one year with no contractual interest rate, as well as called-up payments on shares, payment of which is scheduled in the short term, are carried at their nominal value when the effect of not discounting the cash flows is not significant.

### **1.2 Financial liabilities held for trading:**

This category includes financial liabilities issued with the intention of buying them back in the near term and derivative instruments that have not been designated as hedging instruments. These financial assets are recognized and measured using the same criteria as apply to financial assets held for trading.

### **1.3 Hedging derivatives**

These are derivatives that qualify for hedge accounting. Financial instruments that have been designated as hedging instruments or hedged items are measured as described in note 4.j below.

## **2. Derecognition**

The Company derecognizes a financial liability when the obligation under the liability is extinguished.

When debt instruments are exchanged, insofar as their contractual terms are substantially different, the original financial liability is derecognized and the new financial liability is recognized. Financial liabilities whose contractual terms are substantially modified are treated in the same manner.

The difference between the carrying amount of the derecognized financial asset (or part of it) and the consideration paid, including any attributable transaction costs, which extends to any asset transferred other than cash and/or any liability assumed, is recognized in the income statement in the year to which it relates.

When debt instruments are exchanged for other instruments whose contractual terms are not substantially different, the original financial liability is not derecognized and the commissions paid are recognized as a correction to the carrying amount. The new amortized cost of the financial liability is determined by applying the effective interest rate, namely that which equates the carrying amount of the financial liability on the modification date to the cash flows to be paid as per the new terms.

## **J) HEDGE ACCOUNTING**

The Company typically arranges fair value hedges in respect of its foreign currency-denominated accounts receivable and cash flow hedges on loans arranged at floating rates and also hedges its net investments in its US subsidiaries.

Transactions are only designated as hedges when they effectively eliminate any risk inherent to the hedged item or position throughout the duration of the hedge, which implies that, at the inception of the contract, the hedging item is highly effective (prospective effectiveness) and that there is sufficient evidence that the hedge will be effective throughout the life of the hedge (retrospective effectiveness).

The Company adequately documents its hedges, including how they are intended to achieve and measure effectiveness under current risk management policies.

To test its hedges for effectiveness, the Company verifies the actual results of the hedge, i.e., that the changes in the cash flows of the hedged item are offset by changes in the cash flows of its hedging instrument within a range of 80% and 125% throughout the life of the hedge, effectively delivering the forecasts established at inception.

If this correlation ceases to hold at any time, hedge accounting is discontinued and the hedges are reclassified as trading derivatives.

For measurement purposes, the Company classifies its hedges into three categories:

- ❖ **Fair value hedges:** These arrangements hedge the risk of variations in the fair value of accounts receivable as a result of changes in exchange rates. The changes generated by exchange differences in respect of both the hedging instrument and the hedged item are recognized in profit or loss.
- ❖ **Cash flow hedges:** These instruments hedge the risk of variations in cash flows attributable to changes in the interest rates borne on loans taken on. The Company uses interest rate swaps to exchange floating for fixed rates. The portion of the gain or loss on the hedging instrument that is determined to be an effective hedge is recognized temporarily in equity; the cumulative gain or loss is reclassified to profit or loss in the year or years in which the hedged transaction affects profit or loss.
- ❖ **Hedges of net investments in foreign operations:** These instruments hedge the foreign currency risk associated with the Company's net investments in its US subsidiaries. These hedges take the form of the dollar-denominated loans used to finance the acquisition of these businesses. The exchange gains and losses arising on both the hedging instrument and the US investments are recognized in profit or loss.

#### **K) OWN SHARES**

Own shares are recognized at the amount of consideration delivered; they are recognized in equity (as a deduction) when they are acquired and when they are sold or cancelled no gain or loss is recognized in the income statement. The costs incurred to trade in own shares are recognized directly in equity as a deduction from reserves.

#### **L) CASH AND CASHEQUIVALENTS**

This heading includes cash, current accounts, short-term deposits and purchases of assets under resale agreements that meet the following criteria:

- ❖ They are readily convertible to cash
- ❖ They mature within less than three months from the acquisition date
- ❖ The risk of change in value is insignificant
- ❖ They are part of the Company's standard cash management strategy

For cash flow statement purposes, occasional bank overdrafts used as part of the Company's cash management strategy are recognized as a decrease in cash and cash equivalents.

#### **M) GRANTS**

Grants are classified as non-repayable once the terms attaching to their award have been met. They are recognized directly in equity, net of the corresponding tax effect.

Repayable grants are recognized as liabilities by the Company until deemed non-repayable; no income is recorded until that point.

Grants received to finance specific expenses are recognized as income over the periods necessary to match them with the related costs which they are intended to compensate. Grants received to acquire property, plant and equipment are released to income in proportion to the related depreciation charges.

#### **N) PROVISIONS AND CONTINGENCIES**

Provisions are recognized in the balance sheet when the Company has a present obligation (legal or constructive, explicit or implicit), arising from past events, settlement of which is expected to result in an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits that can be measured reliably.



Provisions are measured at the present value of the best possible estimate of the amount needed to cancel the obligation or transfer it to a third party, recognizing the increase in the carrying amount of the provision due to the passage of time as borrowing cost. Provisions due to be settled within twelve months are not discounted if the impact of not doing so is not material. Provisions are reviewed at each reporting date and adjusted to reflect the best estimate of the liability at each review date.

**O) NON-CURRENT EMPLOYEE BENEFIT LIABILITIES**

Under the prevailing collective bargaining agreement and other non-binding agreements, the Company is obliged to make annual supplementary payments of various kinds and other bonuses for long service and retirement, where applicable, to its permanent employees upon retirement at the legally stipulated age or early retirement. At present, the Company only has these commitments with some of its current employees.

The provision recognized for long-service bonuses represents the present value, calculated using actuarial studies performed by independent experts, of the potential future payments to these employees.

The post-employment and similar obligations have been externalized as stipulated under prevailing legislation. Since externalizing this obligation, the Company is committed to making annual contributions to the externalized pension fund in an estimated amount that is not material in respect of the universe of employees affected.

In addition, the Company grants its employees certain voluntary retirement bonuses of undetermined amount. These bonuses, which are scanty material, are recognized as an expense when they are paid.

**P) INCOME TAX EXPENSE**

Income tax expense for the year is calculated as the sum of current tax resulting from applying the corresponding tax rate to taxable profit for the year, less any applicable tax credits, taking into account changes during the year in recognized deferred tax assets and liabilities. The corresponding tax expense is recognized in the income statement, except when it relates to transactions recognized directly in equity, in which case it is likewise recognized in equity, and when it relates to business combinations, in which case it is recognized with a charge or credit to goodwill.

Deferred income tax is recognized using the liability method on all temporary differences at the balance sheet date between the tax bases of assets and liabilities and their carrying amounts. The tax base of an asset or liability is the amount attributed to it for tax purposes.

The tax effect of temporary differences is included in 'Deferred tax assets' or 'Deferred tax liabilities' on the balance sheet, as applicable.

The Company recognizes deferred tax liabilities in respect of all taxable temporary differences, except as stipulated in prevailing legislation.

The Company recognizes deferred tax assets for all deductible temporary differences and the carryforward of unused tax credits and unused tax losses to the extent that it is probable that taxable profit will be available against which the deductible temporary difference can be utilized, except as disallowed under prevailing legislation.

At each reporting date the Company reassesses recognized and unrecognized deferred taxes. Based on the outcome of this assessment, the Company derecognizes a previously recognized deferred tax asset if its recovery is no longer deemed probable, and recognizes a previously unrecognized deferred tax asset to the extent that it has become probable that future taxable profit will allow the deferred tax asset to be recovered.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured at the tax rate expected to apply in the period in which they reverse, as required by enacted tax laws, and in the manner in which it reasonably expects to recover or settle the deferred tax asset or liability, respectively.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are not discounted and are classified as non-current assets or non-current liabilities, respectively.

#### **Q) NON-CURRENT ASSETS AND DISPOSAL GROUPS HELD FOR SALE**

The Company classifies assets as 'Non-current assets held for sale' when their carrying amount is expected to be realized through a sale transaction, rather than through continuing use, when the following criteria are met:

- ❖ They are available for immediate sale in their present condition, subject to customary terms and conditions of sale; and
- ❖ Their sale is deemed highly probable

Non-current assets held for sale are accounted for at the lower of their carrying amount and fair value less costs to sell, except deferred tax assets, assets arising from employee benefits, and financial assets other than investments in group companies, jointly controlled entities and associates, which are measured according to specific standards. These assets are not depreciated and, where necessary, the corresponding impairment loss is recognized to ensure that their carrying amount does not exceed fair value less costs to sell.

Disposal groups held for sale are measured using the same criteria. The disposal group as a whole is then remeasured at the lower of carrying amount and fair value less costs to sell.

Related liabilities are classified as 'Liabilities associated with non-current assets held for sale'.

#### **R) DISTINCTION BETWEEN CURRENT AND NON-CURRENT**

A distinction is made between current and non-current assets and liabilities in the balance sheet. An item is classified as current if it is associated with the Company's normal operating cycle and its realization, sale or consumption is expected to occur within this cycle; falling beyond this scope, if its realization is expected to occur within twelve months of the reporting period; if it is held primarily for the purpose of trading; or if it is cash or a cash equivalent, so long as its use is not restricted for more than one year.

#### **S) INCOME AND EXPENSE**

Revenue and expenses are recognized in the income statement on an accruals basis, regardless of when actual payment or collection occurs.

#### **Revenue from sales of goods and rendering of services**

Revenue is recognized when it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the Company and the costs incurred or to be incurred in respect of the transaction can be measured reliably. Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable, net of any discounts, price reductions or similar promotions the Company may grant, and, where relevant, net of the interest income arising from sales financing granted. Applicable indirect taxes on transactions which are reimbursed by third parties are not included.

Revenue is recognized based on the economic substance of the transaction and only when all of the following prerequisites have been met:

- a) The Company has transferred to the buyer the significant risks and rewards of ownership of the goods (regardless of when they are legally transferred)
- b) The Company retains neither continuing managerial involvement to the degree usually associated with ownership nor effective control over the goods sold
- c) The amount of revenue can be measured reliably
- d) It is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the Company; and
- e) The costs incurred or to be incurred in respect of the transaction can be measured reliably

#### **T) DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS**

The income and expenses of discontinued operations are included in a single line item, net of the corresponding tax effect, under 'Profit/(loss) for the year from discontinued operations, net of income tax'. This heading also includes the after-tax gain or loss recognized upon measuring the assets or disposal groups constituting the discontinued operation at fair value less costs to sell.

#### **U) FOREIGN CURRENCY TRANSACTIONS**

The Company's functional and presentational currency is the euro.

Transactions in foreign currency are initially translated at the spot rate prevailing at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currency are translated at the spot rate prevailing at the balance sheet date. All exchange gains or losses arising from translation as well as those resulting from settlement of balance sheet items are recognized in the income statement in the year in which they arise.

Non-monetary items measured at historical cost are translated at the exchange rate prevailing on the date of the transaction. As an exception, as indicated in note 4j above, valuation adjustments deriving from the impact of exchange rate movements on the Company's US subsidiaries are recognized by restating the value of these net investments with a credit or charge in profit or loss.

Non-monetary items measured at fair value are translated at the exchange rate prevailing when fair value is determined. When a gain or loss on a non-monetary item is recognized directly in equity, any exchange component of that gain or loss is similarly recognized in equity; conversely, when the gain or loss is recognized in profit or loss, any exchange component is recognized in the income statement.

#### **V) ENVIRONMENTAL ASSETS AND LIABILITIES**

Expenses relating to decontamination and restoration work in contaminated areas, as well as the elimination of waste and other expenses incurred to comply with environmental legislation are expensed in the year to which they relate, unless they correspond to the purchase of assets for the purpose of long-standing use in its business operations whose main use is to minimize environmental damages and/or enhance environmental protection, in which case they are recognized in the corresponding heading within 'Property, plant and equipment' and are depreciated using the same criteria as other assets so classified.

#### **X) SEVERANCE**

Under prevailing legislation, the Company is obliged to pay severance to employees that are discontinued under certain circumstances. Termination benefits that can be reasonably estimated are recognized as an expense in the year in which the redundancy decision is taken.

#### **Y) RELATED-PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

The Company conducts all related party transactions on an arm's length basis. In addition, its transfer prices are duly documented so that the Company's directors do not believe there is a significant risk of related liabilities going forward.

## 5. INTANGIBLE ASSETS

The reconciliation of the carrying amounts of the various items comprising intangible assets at the beginning and the end of 2014 and 2013 is as follows:

### CARRYING AMOUNTS

|                              | TRADEMARKS<br>& PATENTS | COMPUTER<br>SOFTWARE | TOTAL |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|-------|
| Balance at December 31, 2012 | 7,868                   | 910                  | 8,778 |
| Balance at December 31, 2013 | 7,866                   | 467                  | 8,333 |
| Balance at December 31, 2014 | 7,866                   | 360                  | 8,226 |

### GROSS CARRYING AMOUNTS

|                                     | TRADEMARKS<br>& PATENTS | COMPUTER<br>SOFTWARE | TOTAL         |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| <b>BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2012</b> | <b>13,112</b>           | <b>2,230</b>         | <b>15,342</b> |
| Business combination                |                         |                      | 0             |
| Additions                           |                         | 53                   | 53            |
| Decreases                           |                         |                      | 0             |
| Translation differences             |                         |                      | 0             |
| Transfers                           | (2)                     | 2                    | 0             |
| <b>BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2013</b> | <b>13,110</b>           | <b>2,285</b>         | <b>15,395</b> |
| Business combination                |                         |                      | 0             |
| Additions                           |                         | 189                  | 189           |
| Decreases                           |                         |                      | 0             |
| Translation differences             |                         |                      | 0             |
| Transfers                           |                         |                      | 0             |
| <b>BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2014</b> | <b>13,110</b>           | <b>2,474</b>         | <b>15,584</b> |

### AMORTIZATION AND IMPAIRMENT CHARGES

|                                     | TRADEMARKS<br>& PATENTS | COMPUTER<br>SOFTWARE | TOTAL          |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| <b>BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2012</b> | <b>(5,244)</b>          | <b>(1,320)</b>       | <b>(6,564)</b> |
| Business combination                |                         |                      | 0              |
| Additions                           |                         | (498)                | (498)          |
| Decreases                           |                         |                      | 0              |
| Translation differences             |                         |                      | 0              |
| Transfers                           |                         |                      | 0              |
| <b>BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2013</b> | <b>(5,244)</b>          | <b>(1,818)</b>       | <b>(7,062)</b> |
| Business combination                |                         |                      | 0              |
| Additions                           |                         | (296)                | (296)          |
| Decreases                           |                         |                      | 0              |
| Translation differences             |                         |                      | 0              |
| Transfers                           |                         |                      | 0              |
| <b>BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2014</b> | <b>(5,244)</b>          | <b>(2,114)</b>       | <b>(7,358)</b> |

At year-end 2014, the Company had patents and trademarks with an original cost of 1,648 thousand euros (year-end 2013: 1,648 thousand euros) and computer software with an original cost of 1,280 thousand euros (year-end 2013: 1,105 thousand euros) still in use that were fully amortized.

None of the Company's intangible assets is located outside Spain other than the Portuguese brand "Saludaes" and the Dutch brand "Lassie", acquired in 2011. The Company was not party to any firm commitments for the acquisition of intangible assets at either year-end.

There were no major movements in intangible assets in either reporting period.

In 2014, the Company recognized 296 thousand euros of amortization charges in respect of these intangible assets (2013: 498 thousand euros); it did not recognize any impairment losses on these assets in either reporting period.

The recoverable amount of these trademarks and brands was determined by calculating their value in use, using cash flow projections that are based on budgets that cover a five-year horizon and are then projected for another five years. The rates used to discount these assets' projected cash flows in 2014 were 5.9% in Netherlands (2013: 6.2%) and 7.8% in Portugal (10.1%), depending on the business market of each brand. Cash flows beyond the initial 5-year budget horizon were extrapolated using the corresponding units' medium to long-term growth rates, which are typically between 1.4% and 1.5% (0.8% - 1.5% in 2013), depending on the business.

With respect to the assumptions used to calculate these brands' value in use, management believes that no reasonably-possible change in the key assumptions used would cause their carrying amounts to significantly exceed their recoverable amounts, indicating the need to recognize additional impairment losses.

## 6. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

The reconciliation of the carrying amounts of the various items comprising property, plant and equipment at the beginning and the end of 2014 and 2013 is as follows:

### CARRYING AMOUNTS

|                              | LAND | BUILDINGS | PLANT AND OTHER PP&E | PP&E UNDER CONSTRUCTION & PREPAYMENTS | TOTAL |
|------------------------------|------|-----------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|-------|
| Balance at December 31, 2012 | 307  | 219       | 1,648                | 0                                     | 2,174 |
| Balance at December 31, 2013 | 307  | 207       | 1,116                | 0                                     | 1,630 |
| Balance at December 31, 2014 | 307  | 195       | 749                  | 0                                     | 1,251 |

### GROSS CARRYING AMOUNTS

|                                     | LAND       | BUILDINGS    | PLANT AND EQUIPMENT | PP&E UNDER CONSTRUCTION | TOTAL        |
|-------------------------------------|------------|--------------|---------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| <b>BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2012</b> | <b>307</b> | <b>1,150</b> | <b>4,514</b>        | <b>0</b>                | <b>5,971</b> |
| Additions                           |            |              | 66                  |                         | 66           |
| Decreases                           |            |              |                     |                         | 0            |
| Transfers                           |            | (1)          | 1                   |                         | 0            |
| <b>BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2013</b> | <b>307</b> | <b>1,149</b> | <b>4,581</b>        | <b>0</b>                | <b>6,037</b> |
| Additions                           |            |              | 184                 |                         | 184          |
| Decreases                           |            |              | (41)                |                         | (41)         |
| Transfers                           |            |              |                     |                         | 0            |
| <b>BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2014</b> | <b>307</b> | <b>1,149</b> | <b>4,724</b>        | <b>0</b>                | <b>6,180</b> |

### ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION

|                                     | LAND     | BUILDINGS    | PLANT AND EQUIPMENT | PP&E UNDER CONSTRUCTION | TOTAL          |
|-------------------------------------|----------|--------------|---------------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| <b>BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2012</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>(931)</b> | <b>(2,866)</b>      | <b>0</b>                | <b>(3,797)</b> |
| Additions                           |          | (11)         | (599)               |                         | (610)          |
| Decreases                           |          |              |                     |                         | 0              |
| Transfers                           |          |              |                     |                         | 0              |
| <b>BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2013</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>(942)</b> | <b>(3,465)</b>      | <b>0</b>                | <b>(4,407)</b> |
| Additions                           |          | (12)         | (528)               |                         | (540)          |
| Decreases                           |          |              | 18                  |                         | 18             |
| Transfers                           |          |              |                     |                         | 0              |
| <b>BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2014</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>(954)</b> | <b>(3,975)</b>      | <b>0</b>                | <b>(4,929)</b> |

There were no movements in these assets of material amount in either reporting period.

According to the directors' estimates and projections, there are no indications that its property, plant or equipment may be impaired. The Company has taken out insurance policies to cover the carrying amount of its property, plant and equipment. The breakdown at year-end of the original cost of fully-depreciated items of property, plant and equipment still in use is shown in the next table:

|                                     | 2014  | 2013 |
|-------------------------------------|-------|------|
| Other fixtures, tools and furniture | 219   | 211  |
| Other items of PP&E                 | 1,749 | 971  |

There were no firm commitments for the acquisition of material amounts of property, plant and equipment at either year-end. No material items of property, plant or equipment are located outside Spain.

### Operating leases

The Company leases its head offices in Madrid under an agreement in force until April 6, 2018, and its Barcelona office, which it opened in 2009, under an agreement that terminates on December 1, 2018; it also leases its systems office space in Granada. These leases are rolled over automatically if neither party gives termination notice. There are no material contingent payments under these leases. Expenditure under operating leases totaled 1,145 thousand euros in 2014 (2013: 1,211 thousand euros). The future minimum payments under the Company's non-cancelable operating leases at December 31, 2014 break down as follows:

|                            | 12-31-2014   |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| Within one year            | 1,145        |
| Between one and five years | 1,905        |
| More than five years       | 0            |
|                            | <b>3,050</b> |

## 7. INVESTMENT PROPERTIES

The reconciliation of the carrying amounts of the Company's investment properties at the beginning and the end of 2014 and 2013 is as follows:

### CARRYING AMOUNTS

|                              | LAND  | BUILDINGS | TOTAL  |
|------------------------------|-------|-----------|--------|
| Balance at December 31, 2012 | 7,276 | 4,836     | 12,112 |
| Balance at December 31, 2013 | 7,276 | 4,805     | 12,081 |
| Balance at December 31, 2014 | 7,276 | 4,744     | 12,020 |

### GROSS CARRYING AMOUNTS

|                                     | LAND         | BUILDINGS    | TOTAL         |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| <b>BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2012</b> | <b>7,276</b> | <b>6,032</b> | <b>13,308</b> |
| Additions                           |              | 30           | 30            |
| Decreases                           |              |              | 0             |
| <b>BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2013</b> | <b>7,276</b> | <b>6,062</b> | <b>13,338</b> |
| Additions                           |              |              | 0             |
| Decreases                           |              |              | 0             |
| <b>BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2014</b> | <b>7,276</b> | <b>6,062</b> | <b>13,338</b> |

### ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION

|                                     | LAND     | BUILDINGS      | TOTAL          |
|-------------------------------------|----------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2012</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>(1,196)</b> | <b>(1,196)</b> |
| Additions                           |          | (61)           | (61)           |
| Decreases                           |          |                | 0              |
| <b>BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2013</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>(1,257)</b> | <b>(1,257)</b> |
| Additions                           |          | (61)           | (61)           |
| Decreases                           |          |                | 0              |
| <b>BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2014</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>(1,318)</b> | <b>(1,318)</b> |

There were no material changes in this heading in either reporting period.

None of the investment properties is located outside Spain. The original cost of fully-depreciated investment properties still in use was 81 thousand euros at both year-ends. The expenses associated with these properties related to their upkeep and the related depreciation charges. Maintenance expenses totaled 337 thousand euros in 2014 (2013: 340 thousand euros). All expenses are recognized in the income statement as accrued. The Company has no contractual obligations to acquire, build on or develop its investment properties or to repair, maintain or upgrade them.



The breakdown of the future minimum payments receivable under non-cancelable operating leases at year-end is as follows:

|                            | 12-31-2014 |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Within one year            | 115        |
| Between one and five years | 256        |
| More than five years       | 0          |
|                            | <b>371</b> |

There are no restrictions on the realizability of the Company's investment properties or the remittance of income or proceeds of disposal.

## 8. NON-CURRENT INVESTMENTS IN GROUP COMPANIES AND ASSOCIATES

The reconciliation of the carrying amounts of the Company's investments at the beginning and the end of 2014 and 2013 is as follows:

### ITEM

|  | BALANCE AT<br>12-31-12 | ADDITIONS     | DECREASES       | TRANSFERS | BALANCE AT<br>12-31-2013 |
|--|------------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------|--------------------------|
| Equity instruments in group companies                      | 1,463,886              | 1,978         | (13,816)        | 0         | 1,452,048                |
| Equity instruments in associates                           | 0                      | 18,000        | 0               | 0         | 18,000                   |
| Impairment losses  | (63,799)               | (3,047)       | 1,535           | 0         | (65,311)                 |
|  | <b>1,400,087</b>       | <b>16,931</b> | <b>(12,281)</b> | <b>0</b>  | <b>1,404,737</b>         |
| Loans to group companies                                   | 165                    | 32            | 0               | 0         | 197                      |
| <b>TOTAL INVESTMENTS IN GROUP COMPANIES AND ASSOCIATES</b> | <b>1,400,252</b>       | <b>16,963</b> | <b>(12,281)</b> | <b>0</b>  | <b>1,404,934</b>         |

### ITEM

|  | BALANCE AT<br>12-31-12 | ADDITIONS      | DECREASES | TRANSFERS | BALANCE AT<br>12-31-2013 |
|--|------------------------|----------------|-----------|-----------|--------------------------|
| Equity instruments in group companies                      | 1,452,048              | 102,409        | 0         | 0         | 1,554,457                |
| Equity instruments in associates                           | 18,000                 | 0              | 0         | 0         | 18,000                   |
| Impairment losses  | (65,311)               | (1,296)        | 0         | 0         | (66,607)                 |
|  | <b>1,404,737</b>       | <b>101,113</b> | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>1,505,850</b>         |
| Loans to group companies                                   | 197                    | 2              | 0         | 0         | 199                      |
| <b>TOTAL INVESTMENTS IN GROUP COMPANIES AND ASSOCIATES</b> | <b>1,404,934</b>       | <b>101,115</b> | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>1,506,049</b>         |

## A) EQUITY INSTRUMENTS IN GROUP COMPANIES:

The main changes in each year are as follows:

### IN 2014

1. An increase of 21,000 thousand euros: the original cost basis of the investment in Riviana Foods Inc. (original acquisition cost) is 240,753 thousand euros. However, this financial asset is a designated hedged item; the hedging item, which is effective, is the loan taken on to fund the acquisition; accordingly, the changes in value arising between its original cost in US dollars and its euro equivalent gives rise to adjustments in this cost basis. The corresponding adjustment in 2014 was an increase of 21,000 thousand euros that was recognized as a gain in the income statement; the accumulated net gain at year-end stood at 2,750 thousand euros.
2. An increase of 17,954 thousand euros: the original cost basis of the investment in New World Past Co. (original acquisition cost) is 285,884 thousand euros. However, this financial asset is a designated hedged item; the hedging item, which is effective, is the loan taken on to fund the acquisition; accordingly, the changes in value arising between its original cost in US dollars and its euro equivalent gives rise to adjustments in this cost basis. The corresponding adjustment in 2014 was an increase of 17,954 thousand euros that was recognized as a gain in the income statement; the accumulated net gain at year-end stood at 2,351 thousand euros.
3. An increase of 63,455 thousand euros in the investment in Italiana Semola, S.r.l. due to the acquisition of 100% of its share capital: On June 18, 2014, Ebro Foods, S.A. acquired 52% of Italy's Garofalo through a wholly-owned subsidiary, Semola, S.r.l. This Italian company owns the Garofalo, Santa Lucia and Russo de Cicciano brands, among others, giving it a significant position in the premium dry pasta segment in Italy and other countries. The Company acquired a 52% interest, through Semola, S.r.l., for 63,455 thousand euros; it has already paid 58,255 thousand and will pay the remaining 5,200 thousand on June 30, 2015 (note 9.2). The Company financed the acquisition partially from internal funds and partially with bank borrowings.

In addition, the Ebro Group has arranged two options with the other shareholder over the remaining 48%, granting the seller a put option (exercisable until May 2024) and the Ebro Group a call option (exercisable from June 2024 to May 2026). The price of these options will be determined as a function of Garofalo's average earnings metrics over a series of years, as well as other terms and conditions customary in arrangements of this nature. This put option contractually gives rise to a financial derivative for the next four years (until June 30, 2018), due to the existence of a minimum price guarantee during that period, which has been recognized as a non-current financial liability (note 9.2.b).

### IN 2013

4. A decrease of 7,448 thousand euros: the original cost basis of the investment in Riviana Foods Inc. (acquisition cost) is 240,753 thousand euros. However, this financial asset is a designated hedged item; the hedging item, which is effective, is the loan taken on to fund the acquisition; accordingly, the changes in value arising between its original cost in US dollars and its euro equivalent gives rise to adjustments in this cost basis. The corresponding adjustment in 2013 was a decrease of 7,448 thousand euros that was recognized as a loss in the income statement; the accumulated net loss at year-end 2013 stood at 18,249 thousand euros.

5. A decrease of 6,368 thousand euros: the original cost basis of the investment in New World Past Co. (original acquisition cost) is 285,884 thousand euros. However, this financial asset is a designated hedged item; the hedging item, which is effective, is the loan taken on to fund the acquisition; accordingly, the changes in value arising between its original cost in US dollars and its euro equivalent gives rise to adjustments in this cost basis. The corresponding adjustment in 2013 was a decrease of 6,368 thousand euros that was recognized as a loss in the income statement; the accumulated net loss at year-end 2013 stood at 15,603 thousand euros.
6. An increase of 1,200 thousand euros in the investment in Azucarera Energías, S.A. due to the acquisition of a 40% shareholding; Subsequent to this add-on investment, the Company's ownership interest rose to 100%.
7. An increase of 778 thousand euros due to the rights issue completed by wholly-owned subsidiary, Dosbio 2010, S.L.

#### **B) EQUITY INSTRUMENTS IN ASSOCIATES:**

No changes in 2014. The 18,000 thousand euro increase in 2013 corresponds to the acquisition in August 2013 of 25% of Italy's Riso Scotti S.p.A., the parent company of the Scotti Group. The Scotti Group is an Italian group specialized in the production and processing of rice. It is the leading maker of risotto rice in Italy and boasts a broad portfolio of products that it sells under the Scotti brand in more than 70 markets. This portfolio includes multiple value-added products (rice and soy milk, rice biscuits, rice oils, ready meals etc.) that represent a modern take on Italian cuisine and are targeted at the premium segment. The Company's 25% interest in the Scotti Group is accounted for as an investment in an associate.

#### **C) NON-CURRENT LOANS TO GROUP COMPANIES:**

The Company has extended a loan to Beira Terrace Soc. de Construções, Ltda., a 100%-owned Portuguese subsidiary (note 17), this being the most significant item presented under this line item; the balance receivable at year-end 2014 stood at 199 thousand euros (year-end 2013: 197 thousand euros).

These loans don't have a fixed maturity and earn interest at 3-month Euribor plus 0.90% (1.5% in 2013).

#### **D) IMPAIRMENT LOSSES:**

The increases and decreases recognized in 2014 and 2013 correspond to impairment allowances on the Company's investments in Beira Terrace Soc. de Construções, Ltda., Ebro Germany, GmbH., Dosbio, S.L. and Azucarera Energías, S.A.

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The earnings of the companies shown in the table provided at the end of this note correspond to continuing operations except for those of Ebro Germany, GmbH.

None of the group companies is publicly traded other than Ebro Foods, S.A.

The Company has sent its investees the notifications required under the Spanish Corporate Enterprises Act.

The direct investments held by Ebro Foods, S.A. in group companies and associates at December 31, 2014 are:

#### SUBSIDIARIES AND ASSOCIATES

|   | INVESTMENT       | IMPAIRMENT<br>LOSSES | PERCENTAGE<br>INTEREST | REGISTERED OFFICE    | BUSINESS ACTIVITY                       | (A)<br>CAPITAL AND<br>RESERVES | (A)<br>2014<br>PROFIT/(LOSS) | DIVIDEND<br>PAID<br>IN 2014 | TOTAL<br>EQUITY | OP.<br>PROFIT/<br>(LOSS) |
|---|------------------|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---|--------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Dosbio 2010, S.L.                         | 22,297           | (13,059)             | 100.00%                | Madrid (Spain)       | Flour production                        | 10,463                         | (1,216)                      | -                           | 9,247           | (1,582)                  |
| Fincas e Inversiones Ebro, S.A.           | 4,926            | -                    | 100.00%                | Madrid (Spain)       | Agricultural holding                    | 7,779                          | 46                           | -                           | 7,825           | 68                       |
| Azucarera Energías, S.A.                  | 3,048            | (899)                | 100.00%                | Madrid (Spain)       | Combined heat and power                 | 1,899                          | 257                          | -                           | 2,156           | 238                      |
| Arotz Foods, S.A.                         | 22,864           | -                    | 100.00%                | Madrid (Spain)       | Tinned vegetables                       | 31,113                         | 194                          | -                           | 31,307          | (39)                     |
| Herba Foods S.L.                          | 59,695           | -                    | 100.00%                | Madrid (Spain)       | Investment management                   | 89,821                         | (412)                        | -                           | 89,409          | 616                      |
| Herba Ricemills S.L.                      | 153,451          | -                    | 100.00%                | Madrid (Spain)       | Production and sale of rice             | 222,788                        | 13,450                       | (49,349)                    | 186,889         | 19,839                   |
| Herba Nutrición S.L.                      | 526              | -                    | 100.00%                | Madrid (Spain)       | Production and sale of rice             | 2,904                          | 6,015                        | (6,000)                     | 2,919           | 60                       |
| Jiloca Industrial, S.A.                   | 1,500            | -                    | 100.00%                | Teruel (Spain)       | Production of organic fertilizer        | 1,806                          | 504                          | (501)                       | 1,809           | 766                      |
| Networks Meal Solutions, S.A.             | 2                | -                    | 100.00%                | Madrid (Spain)       | Dormant                                 | 1                              | 0                            | -                           | 1               | 0                        |
| Fundación Ebro                            | 0                | -                    | 100.00%                | Madrid (Spain)       | Charitable foundation                   | 301                            | 0                            | -                           | 301             | 0                        |
| Ebro Financial Corporate Services, S.L.   | 150,003          | -                    | 100.00%                | Madrid (Spain)       | Financial and insurance management      | 153,153                        | 852                          | -                           | 154,005         | (144)                    |
| Beira Terrace Soc. de Const., Ltda.       | 12,436           | (10,952)             | 100.00%                | Porto (Portugal)     | Real estate                             | 1,555                          | (71)                         | -                           | 1,484           | (69)                     |
| Riceland, Ltda. (*)                       | 597              | -                    | 20.00%                 | Budapest (Hungary)   | Production and sale of rice             | 1,250                          | 42                           | -                           | 1,292           | 120                      |
| Riviana Foods Inc. (Group) (**)           | 243,504          | -                    | 75.00%                 | Houston, Texas (USA) | Production and sale of rice             | 535,576                        | 45,655                       | -                           | 581,231         | 68,929                   |
| Panzani, SAS (Group)                      | 440,838          | -                    | 100.00%                | Lyon (France)        | Production and sale of pasta and sauces | 557,328                        | 38,229                       | -                           | 595,557         | 63,782                   |
| New World Pasta Comp. (Group)             | 288,236          | -                    | 100.00%                | Harrisburg (USA)     | Production and sale of pasta and sauces | 528,978                        | 29,257                       | -                           | 558,235         | 43,996                   |
| Ebro Germany, GmbH (Group) (***)          | 87,078           | (41,697)             | 68.90%                 | Germany              | Production and sale of pasta and sauces | 67,241                         | 498                          | -                           | 67,739          | (534)                    |
| Ebro Foods Alimentación, S.A.             | 1                | -                    | 100.00%                | Mexico               | Sale and marketing of rice              | 423                            | 122                          | -                           | 545             | 182                      |
| Pastificio Lucio Garofalo, S.r.l. (Group) | 63,455           | -                    | 52.00%                 | Naples (Italy)       | Production and sale of pasta and sauces | 122,548                        | 1,410                        | -                           | 123,958         | 4,518                    |
| Riso Scotti, S.p.a.                       | 18,000           | -                    | 25.00%                 | Milan (Italy)        | Production and sale of rice             | 75,967                         | 2,250                        | (347)                       | 77,870          | 6,500                    |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                              | <b>1,572,457</b> | <b>(66,607)</b>      |                        |                      |   |                                |                              | <b>(56,197)</b>             |                 |                          |

(a) Whenever the subsidiary's name is followed by "(Group)", the figures pertaining to that company's capital, reserves and profit or loss refer to the consolidated figures of that investee and its own subsidiaries and associates before considering dividends paid in 2014. In order to present uniform data for the various companies and groups of companies, the capital, reserves and earnings figures are obtained applying the International Financial Reporting Standard adopted by the European Union.

(\*) Ebro Foods, S.A. owns 100% of this company, 20% directly and the other 80% indirectly via Herba Foods, S.L.

(\*\*) Ebro Foods, S.A. owns 100% of this company, 75% directly and the other 25% indirectly via wholly-owned subsidiaries of Riviana.

(\*\*\*) Ebro Foods, S.A. owns 100% of this company, 68.9% directly and the other 31.1% indirectly via subsidiaries.

The direct investments held by Ebro Foods, S.A. in group companies and associates at December 31, 2013 are itemized below:

#### SUBSIDIARIES AND ASSOCIATES

|   | INVESTMENT       | IMPAIRMENT<br>LOSSES | PERCENTAGE<br>INTEREST | REGISTERED OFFICE    | BUSINESS ACTIVITY                       | (A)<br>CAPITAL AND<br>RESERVES | (A)<br>2013<br>PROFIT/(LOSS) | DIVIDEND<br>PAID<br>IN 2013 | TOTAL<br>EQUITY | OP.<br>PROFIT/<br>(LOSS) |
|---|------------------|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---|--------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Dosbio 2010, S.L.                       | 22,297           | (11,834)             | 100.00%                | Madrid (Spain)       | Flour production                        | 12,612                         | (2,149)                      | -                           | 10,463          | (3,106)                  |
| Fincas e Inversiones Ebro, S.A.         | 4,926            | -                    | 100.00%                | Madrid (Spain)       | Agricultural holding                    | 7,757                          | 22                           | -                           | 7,779           | 31                       |
| Azucarera Energías, S.A.                | 3,048            | (899)                | 100.00%                | Madrid (Spain)       | Combined heat and power                 | 1,501                          | 398                          | -                           | 1,899           | 369                      |
| Arotz Foods, S.A.                       | 22,864           | -                    | 100.00%                | Madrid (Spain)       | Tinned vegetables                       | 30,727                         | 386                          | -                           | 31,113          | 226                      |
| Herba Foods S.L.                        | 59,695           | -                    | 100.00%                | Madrid (Spain)       | Investment management                   | 86,131                         | 3,690                        | -                           | 89,821          | 3,194                    |
| Herba Ricemills S.L.                    | 153,451          | -                    | 100.00%                | Madrid (Spain)       | Production and sale of rice             | 205,577                        | 17,212                       | -                           | 222,789         | 25,144                   |
| Herba Nutrición S.L.                    | 526              | -                    | 100.00%                | Madrid (Spain)       | Production and sale of rice             | 13,480                         | 2,172                        | (12,748)                    | 2,904           | 227                      |
| Jiloca Industrial, S.A.                 | 1,500            | -                    | 100.00%                | Teruel (Spain)       | Production of organic fertilizer        | 1,762                          | 500                          | (457)                       | 1,805           | 785                      |
| Networks Meal Solutions, S.A.           | 2                | -                    | 100.00%                | Madrid (Spain)       | Dormant                                 | 1                              | 0                            | -                           | 1               | 0                        |
| Fundación Ebro                          | 0                | -                    | 100.00%                | Madrid (Spain)       | Charitable foundation                   | 303                            | (2)                          | -                           | 301             | (2)                      |
| Ebro Financial Corporate Services, S.L. | 150,003          | -                    | 100.00%                | Madrid (Spain)       | Financial and insurance management      | 151,810                        | 1,343                        | -                           | 153,153         | (194)                    |
| Beira Terrace Soc. de Const., Ltda.     | 12,436           | (10,881)             | 100.00%                | Porto (Portugal)     | Real estate                             | 1,520                          | 35                           | -                           | 1,555           | 37                       |
| Riceland, Ltda. (*)                     | 597              | -                    | 20.00%                 | Budapest (Hungary)   | Production and sale of rice             | 1,232                          | 98                           | -                           | 1,330           | 113                      |
| Riviana Foods Inc. (Group) (**)         | 222,504          | -                    | 75.00%                 | Houston, Texas (USA) | Production and sale of rice             | 437,462                        | 36,245                       | -                           | 473,707         | 52,245                   |
| Panzani, SAS (Group)                    | 440,838          | -                    | 100.00%                | Lyon (France)        | Production and sale of pasta and sauces | 523,769                        | 34,510                       | -                           | 558,279         | 61,612                   |
| New World Pasta Comp. (Group)           | 270,282          | -                    | 100.00%                | Harrisburg (USA)     | Production and sale of pasta and sauces | 440,440                        | 36,925                       | -                           | 477,365         | 53,669                   |
| Birkel Teigwaren GmbH (Group) (***)     | 87,078           | (41,697)             | 68.90%                 | Germany              | Production and sale of pasta and sauces | 73,372                         | (7,507)                      | -                           | 65,865          | (10,938)                 |
| Ebro Foods Alimentación, S.A.           | 1                | -                    | 100.00%                | Mexico               | Sale and marketing of rice              | 334                            | 86                           | -                           | 420             | 113                      |
| Riso Scotti, S.p.a.                     | 18,000           | -                    | 25.00%                 | Milan (Italy)        | Production and sale of rice             | 71,998                         | 3,969                        | -                           | 75,967          | 7,929                    |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                            | <b>1,470,048</b> | <b>(65,311)</b>      |                        |                      |   |                                |                              | <b>(13,205)</b>             |                 |                          |

## 9. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

### 9.1 FINANCIAL ASSETS

The breakdown of financial assets, excluding investments in group companies and jointly-controlled entities (note 8), at year-end, is as follows:

#### NON-CURRENT FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (ASSETS)

| CATEGORIES                                   | EQUITY INSTRUMENTS |               | DEBT INSTRUMENTS |          | LOANS & RECEIVABLES AND DERIVATIVES |               | TOTAL         |               |
|--|--------------------|---------------|------------------|----------|-------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
|  | 12-31-14           | 12-31-13      | 12-31-14         | 12-31-13 | 12-31-14                            | 12-31-13      | 12-31-14      | 12-31-13      |
| Assets at fair value through profit or loss: |                    |               |                  |          |                                     |               |               |               |
| a) Held for trading                          |                    |               |                  |          |                                     |               | 0             | 0             |
| b) Other                                     |                    |               |                  |          |                                     |               | 0             | 0             |
| Held-to-maturity investments                 |                    |               |                  |          |                                     |               | 0             | 0             |
| Loans and receivables                        |                    |               |                  |          | 25,759                              | 25,477        | 25,759        | 25,477        |
| Available-for-sale financial assets:         |                    |               |                  |          |                                     |               |               |               |
| a) Measured at fair value                    | 693                | 46,132        |                  |          |                                     |               | 693           | 46,132        |
| b) Measured at cost                          |                    |               |                  |          |                                     |               | 0             | 0             |
| Hedging derivatives                          |                    |               |                  |          |                                     |               | 0             | 0             |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                 | <b>693</b>         | <b>46,132</b> | <b>0</b>         | <b>0</b> | <b>25,759</b>                       | <b>25,477</b> | <b>26,452</b> | <b>71,609</b> |

#### CURRENT FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (ASSETS)

| CATEGORIES                                   | EQUITY INSTRUMENTS |          | DEBT INSTRUMENTS |          | LOANS & RECEIVABLES AND DERIVATIVES |              | TOTAL         |              |
|--|--------------------|----------|------------------|----------|-------------------------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
|  | 12-31-14           | 12-31-13 | 12-31-14         | 12-31-13 | 12-31-14                            | 12-31-13     | 12-31-14      | 12-31-13     |
| Assets at fair value through profit or loss: |                    |          |                  |          |                                     |              |               |              |
| a) Held for trading                          |                    |          |                  |          |                                     |              | 0             | 0            |
| b) Other                                     |                    |          |                  |          |                                     |              | 0             | 0            |
| Held-to-maturity investments                 |                    |          |                  |          |                                     |              | 0             | 0            |
| Loans and receivables                        |                    |          |                  |          | 10,578                              | 6,982        | 10,578        | 6,982        |
| Available-for-sale financial assets:         |                    |          |                  |          |                                     |              |               |              |
| a) Measured at fair value                    |                    |          |                  |          |                                     |              | 0             | 0            |
| b) Measured at cost                          |                    |          |                  |          |                                     |              | 0             | 0            |
| Hedging derivatives                          |                    |          |                  |          |                                     |              | 0             | 0            |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                 | <b>0</b>           | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b>         | <b>0</b> | <b>10,578</b>                       | <b>6,982</b> | <b>10,578</b> | <b>6,982</b> |

#### AVAILABLE-FOR-SALE FINANCIAL ASSETS

##### 1. Investment in Deoleo, S.A.

This investment was fully sold during the first half of 2014. The investment in Deoleo, S.A. was made in December 2010, in the amount of 47,756 thousand euros, when the Company acquired 95,510,218 of this entity's shares as part of a rights issue at a cost of 0.50 euros per share. This investment gave the Company an 8.272% ownership interest in Deoleo in the wake of equity issues undertaken in 2013 (9.3% at year-end 2012).

This financial investment was carried at fair value and changes therein were recognized in equity insofar as the investment was neither impaired nor sold, at which time the fair value gains or losses would be reclassified to profit or loss.

In the wake of the impairment loss recognized in the 2012 income statement, the fair value of this investment at year-end 2013, based on its quoted share price, was equivalent to 0.47 euros per share; the corresponding year-on-year fair value gain of 13,038 thousand euros was recognized directly in equity at December 31, 2013 (a gross gain of 18,626 thousand euros less the corresponding tax effect of 5,588 thousand euros).

This entire shareholding was sold down in a series of transactions during the first half of 2014 for an overall sum of 40,267 thousand euros. The pre-tax gain on the sale of this investment, which was recognized in the income statement under finance income in 2014, was 14,003 thousand euros (the reclassification of the pre-tax fair value gain recognized directly in equity in 2013 in the amount of 18,626 thousand less the loss generated on its sale in 2014 with respect to its carrying amount at year-end 2013).

## 2. Investment in Biosearch, S.A.

This financial investment is carried at fair value and changes therein are recognized in equity insofar as the investment is neither impaired nor sold, at which time the fair value gains or losses would be reclassified to profit or loss.

At year-end 2013, this investment corresponded to 1,801,000 shares of Biosearch, S.A., equivalent to a 3.121% ownership interest. At that date, this investment's fair value, based on its share price, was 1,242 thousand euros (0.690 euros per share).

The Company did not sell any shares of Biosearch, S.A. in 2014, so that at year-end, this investment continued to correspond to 1,801,000 shares of Biosearch, S.A. and a 3.121% ownership interest. At year-end 2014, the fair value of this investment, based on its share price, was 693 thousand euros, equivalent to 0.385 euros per share; in keeping with prevailing accounting standards, this decline in value from year-end 2013 was recognized directly in equity in the amount of 385 thousand euros (a 549 thousand euro gross loss less the corresponding tax effect of 164 thousand euros).

| <b>LOANS AND RECEIVABLES</b>            | <b>12-31-14</b> | <b>12-31-13</b> |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>NON-CURRENT FINANCIAL ASSETS</b>     |                 |                 |
| Loans to group companies (notes 8 & 17) | 199             | 197             |
| Loans to third parties                  | 25,413          | 25,133          |
| Long-term deposits                      | 147             | 147             |
|   | <b>25,759</b>   | <b>25,477</b>   |
| <b>NON-CURRENT FINANCIAL ASSETS</b>     |                 |                 |
| Trade and other receivables (note 10)   | 9,673           | 5,212           |
| Loans to third parties                  | 905             | 1,770           |
|   | <b>10,578</b>   | <b>6,982</b>    |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                            | <b>36,337</b>   | <b>32,459</b>   |

The balance of loans to third parties at both reporting dates corresponds mainly to the deferred portion of the purchase price for the Nomen brands under the agreement reached in 2012. This agreement was renegotiated in September to extend the collection term by a further two years and reduce the interest rate from 4.2% to 3.4%. The non-current portion of this vendor loan is 25,413 thousand and the current portion, 905 thousand euros. This loan accrues interest at a rate of 3.4% and the last instalment is due in September 2027. The Nomen trademarks have been pledged as collateral to guarantee repayment of this loan.

## Exchange differences recognized in profit or loss for the year

The exchange differences recognized in profit or loss in 2014 and 2013 for each financial asset category are broken down below:

### EXCHANGE DIFFERENCES RECOGNIZED IN PROFIT OR LOSS

|   | LOANS AND RECEIVABLE |              | EQUITY INSTRUMENTS IN GROUP COMPANIES |                 | LOANS AND PAYABLE |               | TOTAL          |            |
|---|----------------------|--------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------|----------------|------------|
|   | 2014                 | 2013         | 2014                                  | 2013            | 2014              | 2013          | 2014           | 2013       |
| For transactions settled during the year        | (136)                | (314)        | 0                                     | 0               | 104               | 0             | (32)           | (314)      |
| For transactions pending settlement at year-end | 0                    | 0            | 0                                     | 0               | (1,873)           | 838           | (1,873)        | 838        |
| For foreign exchange hedges                     | 0                    | 0            | 38,954                                | (13,816)        | (38,954)          | 13,816        | 0              | 0          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                    | <b>(136)</b>         | <b>(314)</b> | <b>38,954</b>                         | <b>(13,816)</b> | <b>(40,723)</b>   | <b>14,654</b> | <b>(1,905)</b> | <b>524</b> |

## 9.2 FINANCIAL LIABILITIES

The breakdown of financial liabilities at December 31, 2014 and 2013 is as follows:

### NON-CURRENT FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (LIABILITIES)

| CATEGORIES   | BANK BORROWINGS |                | BONDS AND OTHER MARKETABLE SECURITIES |          | DERIVATIVES & OTHER ACCOUNTS PAYABLE |           | TOTAL          |                |
|--|-----------------|----------------|---------------------------------------|----------|--------------------------------------|-----------|----------------|----------------|
|  | 12-31-14        | 12-31-13       | 12-31-14                              | 12-31-13 | 12-31-14                             | 12-31-13  | 12-31-14       | 12-31-13       |
| Debts and payables (liabilities at amortized cost) | 128,061         | 210,069        |                                       |          | 12                                   | 12        | 128,073        | 210,081        |
| Liabilities at fair value through profit or loss   |                 |                |                                       |          |                                      |           |                |                |
| a) Held for trading                                |                 |                |                                       |          |                                      |           | 0              | 0              |
| b) Other   |                 |                |                                       |          | 4,800                                |           | 4,800          | 0              |
| Hedging derivatives                                |                 |                |                                       |          |                                      |           | 0              | 0              |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                       | <b>128,061</b>  | <b>210,069</b> | <b>0</b>                              | <b>0</b> | <b>4,812</b>                         | <b>12</b> | <b>132,873</b> | <b>210,081</b> |

### CURRENT FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (LIABILITIES)

| CATEGORIES   | BANK BORROWINGS |               | BONDS AND OTHER MARKETABLE SECURITIES |          | DERIVATIVES & OTHER ACCOUNTS PAYABLE |              | TOTAL          |               |
|--|-----------------|---------------|---------------------------------------|----------|--------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|
|  | 12-31-14        | 12-31-13      | 12-31-14                              | 12-31-13 | 12-31-14                             | 12-31-13     | 12-31-14       | 12-31-13      |
| Debts and payables (liabilities at amortized cost) | 191,124         | 36,314        |                                       |          | 11,777                               | 6,055        | 202,901        | 42,369        |
| Liabilities at fair value through profit or loss   |                 |               |                                       |          |                                      |              |                |               |
| a) Held for trading                                |                 |               |                                       |          |                                      |              | 0              | 0             |
| b) Other   |                 |               |                                       |          |                                      |              | 0              | 0             |
| Hedging derivatives                                |                 |               |                                       |          |                                      |              | 0              | 0             |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                       | <b>191,124</b>  | <b>36,314</b> | <b>0</b>                              | <b>0</b> | <b>11,777</b>                        | <b>6,055</b> | <b>202,901</b> | <b>42,369</b> |



a) **Bank borrowings:** See note 13.

**b) Derivatives and other accounts payable**

The breakdown of the financial liabilities included in this category is as follows:

|                             | 2014          | 2013         |
|-----------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Non-current                 |               |              |
| Derivatives                 | 4,800         | 0            |
| Deposits                    | 12            | 12           |
|                             | <b>4812</b>   | <b>12</b>    |
| Current                     |               |              |
| Derivatives                 | 0             | 0            |
| Trade and other payables    | 6,519         | 5,997        |
| Other financial liabilities | 5,258         | 58           |
|                             | <b>11,777</b> | <b>6,055</b> |

*Thousands of euros*

Non-current derivatives includes the value allocated to the contractual derivative implied by the put option granted over 48% of the Garofalo pasta group (note 8.a.3). And the most significant item under other current financial liabilities is the 5,200 thousand euro vendor loan from Semola, S.r.l. (the portion of the purchase price deferred until June 30, 2015) (note 8.a.3).

**c) Nature and extent of risks arising from financial instruments**

The main objective of the Company's capital management policy is to guarantee a capital structure that complies with prevailing regulations in its group's operating markets. In addition, its capital management policy is designed to preserve its credit metrics and to maximize shareholder value.

The Company's business activities and operations expose it to financial risks including foreign currency and interest rate risk.

**Interest rate risk:** The Company is exposed to changes in market interest rates, mainly on account of its non-current payment obligations arranged at floating rates of interest. Its policy is to manage its borrowing costs by using a mix of fixed and variable rates. The goal is minimize the Company's exposure to this risk factor, to which end it tracks market rate trends exhaustively with the help of external experts.

It arranges interest-rate hedges as deemed necessary under which it agrees to swap, during specific periods, the difference between the amount of fixed and variable interest, calculated on the basis of a notional amount of principal agreed between the parties. These derivative or structured products are designed to hedge the underlying payment obligations.

**Foreign currency risk:** As a result of the investments made in the US, the carrying amounts of the Company's assets and liabilities are significantly exposed to changes in the USD / EUR exchange rate. The Company attempts to mitigate the impact of this structural exchange-rate risk by denominating its borrowings in US dollars. As a result, 61.3% of the Company's US investments are hedged in this manner.

At year-end 2014, non-current borrowings include two loans in an aggregate amount of 290 million US dollars (year-end 2013: 327 million euros) (note 13), while non-current borrowings from group companies include a loan of 105 million US dollars (year-end 2013: 68 million US dollars) (note 17), all of which have been designated as hedges of the Company's net investments in its US subsidiaries; they are used to hedge the Company's exposure to exchange rate risk on these investments. The gains and losses generated upon translation of these loans into euros are recognized in the income statement and exactly offset the exchange gains and losses recognized on the translation of these net investments into euros (notes 8.a & 9.1).

**Liquidity risk:** The Company manages the risk of a shortfall of short-term liquidity with a liquidity planning tool. This tool analyzes the maturity of the Company's financial assets and liabilities in conjunction with its operating cash flow projections. Ebro Foods, S.A. is the parent of a consolidated group comprising it and its subsidiaries and associates with which it separately presents consolidated financial statements. This fact should be taken into consideration in assessing the working capital position typical of year-end in the separate annual financial statements of Ebro Foods, S.A., which, as the group's parent company, has the option of financing itself via dividends, among other alternatives.

## 10. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

The breakdown of trade and other receivables in 2014 and 2013 is as follows:

|   | 12-31-14     | 12-31-13     |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| Trade receivables   | 696          | 841          |
| Trade receivables from group companies and associates (note 17) | 8,872        | 4,311        |
| Other receivables   | 8            | 8            |
| Receivable from employees                                       | 97           | 52           |
|   | <b>9,673</b> | <b>5,212</b> |

*Thousands of euros*

Impairment allowances: The 'Trade receivables' balance in the table above is presented net of impairment losses. The Company did not recognize any new impairment losses against its trade receivables in 2014, nor did it use any existing provisions. In 2013 it recognized 1 thousand euros of allowances. The accumulated balance of impairment allowances was 24 thousand euros at both reporting dates.

All of the balances recognized under trade receivables are denominated in euros.

## 11. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Cash equivalents are typically bank deposits with a maturity of three months or less at the time of their acquisition.

There are no restrictions on these balances.

## 12. CAPITAL AND RESERVES

**a) Issued capital:** The Company's share capital consisted of 153,865,392 fully subscribed and paid bearer shares with a par value of 0.60 euros each at both year-ends. All shares belong to the same class and carry identical rights.

The shareholders with direct or indirect interests of more than 3% in the capital of Ebro Foods, S.A. at December 31, 2014 (2013), based on information furnished to Spain's securities market regulatory, the CNMV, and to Ebro Foods, S.A., are as follows:

- ❖ Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.: direct holder of 13,790,336 shares (13,725,601), representing a 8.963% interest (8.921%) and indirect holder, through Hispafoods Invest, S.L., of 10,707,282 shares (10,702,282), representing a 6.959% interest (6.959%). In total this shareholder holds 24,497,618 shares (24,432,883), representing a 15.921% (15.879%) shareholding.
- ❖ Sociedad Anónima Damm: indirect holder, via Corporación Económica Damm, S.A., of 15,426,438 shares (15,000,000), representing a 10.026% interest (9.749%).
- ❖ Sociedad Estatal de Participaciones Industriales: indirect holder, via Alimentos y Aceites, S.A., of 15,940,377 shares (15,940,377), representing a 10.36% interest (10.36%).
- ❖ Corporación Financiera Alba: indirect holder, via Alba Participaciones, S.A., of 15,400,000 shares (12,625,080), representing a 10.009% interest (8.205%).
- ❖ Juan Luis Gómez-Trenor Fos: indirect holder, via Empresas Comerciales e Industriales Valencianas, S.L., of 10,924,443 shares (7,847,135), representing a 7.1% interest (5.1%).

**b) Share premium:** The Consolidated Text of the Spanish Corporate Enterprises Act permits the use of the share premium account balance to increase share capital and provides no specific limitation with respect to its availability.

**c) Legal reserve:** The companies that generate a profit are required to earmark 10% of net profit for the year to a legal reserve until such reserve is equivalent to 20% of share capital. The legal reserve cannot be distributed except in the event of dissolution but it can be used to offset losses insofar as other reserves are not available for this purpose and to increase capital by the amount that exceeds 10% of capital after the increase. The Company had fully endowed its legal reserve at both year-ends.

**d) Voluntary reserves:** This reserve is unrestricted other than the limitations imposed under prevailing company law in respect of unamortized capitalized research and development costs.

**e) Revaluation reserve, Royal Decree-Law 7/1996:** As a result of the asset restatements made in the past by Sociedad General Azucarera de España, S.A. and Puleva S.A. under the scope of Royal Decree-Law 7/1996 of June 7, 1996, the Company recognized the corresponding revaluation reserves of 21,767 thousand euros; in the wake of the derecognitions of 2001 following the split-off of the sugar business and in 2003 following the dissolution of A. E. Gestion de Patrimonio, S.L., the remaining balance stands at 3,169 thousand euros (included under other reserves).

This balance can be used, without accruing taxes, to offset tax losses accumulated in prior, current and future tax periods and for the purpose of increasing share capital. Since April 1, 2007, this balance can be earmarked to unrestricted reserves to the extent that the monetary gain has been realized.

The monetary gain is deemed realized in respect of the corresponding depreciation charges recognized or when the restated asset items have been sold or derecognized for accounting purposes. If this balance were used in a manner other than that provided for in Royal Decree-Law 7/1996, it would be taxable.

**f) Own shares:** In 2014, the Parent had the power to buy back and sell own shares under the scope of the authorization granted at the Annual General Meeting held on June 15, 2011 for a period of five years (and duly notified to the CNMV in keeping with prevailing legislation). In 2014, the Company bought back 858,506 shares, sold 814,939 and delivered 24,104 own shares to employees. At December 31, 2014, the Company held 19,463 own shares as treasury shares, equivalent to 0.013% of share capital. Management had not established any specific purpose for these own shares at year-end.

In 2013, the Parent similarly had the power to buy back and sell own shares under the scope of the authorization granted at the Annual General Meeting held on June 15, 2011. Specifically, in 2013, the Company bought back 20,784 shares, which it delivered to employees. The Company did not hold any treasury shares at December 31, 2013.

**g) Dividends paid in 2014:** Distribution of the dividends approved at the Annual General Meeting of June 4, 2014 at which the shareholders ratified the motion to pay a cash dividend with a charge against unrestricted reserves of 0.50 euros per share, for a total payment of 76,932 thousand euros; this dividend was paid in instalments of 0.125 euros per share on April 2, July 2, October 2 and December 22, 2014.

**h) Valuation adjustments:** See note 9.1.

### 13. BANK BORROWINGS

The breakdown of current and non-current bank borrowings (in thousands of euros) at both year-ends:

|                                     | 2014           |                | 2013           |               |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|
|                                     | NON-CURRENT    | CURRENT        | NON-CURRENT    | CURRENT       |
| Bank loans arranged in euros        | 49,879         | 30,000         | -              | -             |
| Bank loans arranged in US dollars   | 78,182         | 160,613        | 210,069        | 26,744        |
| Credit facilities arranged in euros | -              | 142            | -              | 8,935         |
| Interest accrued but not due        | -              | 369            | -              | 635           |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                        | <b>128,061</b> | <b>191,124</b> | <b>210,069</b> | <b>36,314</b> |

The long-term bank loans denominated in US dollars were taken out to finance the investments in Riviana Inc (2004) and New Word Pasta Company (2006). These long-term loans are guaranteed by Group subsidiaries Herba Food, S.L., Herba Ricemills, S.L., Panzani SAS and Riviana Foods Inc. and correspond to:

- ❖ The bilateral loan agreement entered into in November 2006 and amended in April 2009 and again in June 2010, in the amount of 190 million US dollars. This loan is repayable in four six-monthly instalments of 47.5 million US dollars starting in May 2015. The annual rate of interest applicable to this dollar-denominated loan is benchmarked against 1-, 3-, 6- or 12-month LIBOR plus a market spread.
- ❖ A bilateral 2-year loan agreement arranged in November 2013, in the amount of 100 million US dollars, repayable upon maturity; the parties may agree to extend maturity by one additional year. The annual rate of interest applicable to this dollar-denominated loan is benchmarked against 1-, 2-, 3- or 6-month LIBOR plus a market spread.

In 2014, the Company arranged bilateral loans in the amount of 50 and 30 million euros on May 27 and July 1, respectively. These loans are denominated in euros and are repayable in a single bullet payment upon maturity. The 50 million euro loan matures on June 30, 2017 and the 30 million euro loan matures on June 25, 2015; the parties have the option of agreeing two annual extensions to the latter facility's maturity. The annual rates of interest applicable to these loans is 1-, 2-, 3- or 6-month EURIBOR plus a market spread.

The Company is obliged to comply with a series of covenants, specifically a series of ratios calculated on basis of the consolidated financial statements of the group of which the Company is the parent, throughout the term of these loans. Any breach of these covenants would increase the related borrowing costs and in some cases would trigger an early repayment requirement. The Company was in compliance with all these covenants at both year-ends.

In addition, at year-end 2014 the Company had arranged unsecured credit facilities with an aggregate limit of 25 million euros (year-end 2013: 22 million euros), of which 142 thousand euros (8,935 thousand euros) had been drawn down. The average annual rate of interest on these borrowings, excluding the long-term loans, is 3-month EURIBOR plus a market spread of 1.67% (2013: 2.15%) on average.

In addition, the Company has extended sureties and other guarantees to third parties via banks totaling 114,355 thousand euros at year-end 2014 (29,633 thousand euros at year-end 2013) (note 16).

The maturity schedule for bank borrowings (at December 31, 2014):

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| Due 2015 | 160,613 thousand euros (195,000 thousand US\$) |
| Due 2015 | 30,000 thousand euros                          |
| Due 2016 | 78,182 thousand euros (95,000 thousand US\$)   |
| Due 2017 | 49,879 thousand euros                          |

## 14. NON-CURRENT PROVISIONS

The reconciliation of the provisions at the beginning and end of 2014 and 2013 is as follows:

### NON-CURRENT PROVISIONS

|                                       | EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS |                          |              | OTHER PROVISIONS FOR CONTINGENCIES |                 |              | TOTAL         |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|---------------|
|                                       | LONG-SERVICE BONUSES         | NON-CURRENT REMUNERATION | TOTAL        | BUSINESS SALE REPS & WARRANTIES    | TAX ASSESSMENTS | TOTAL        |               |
| <b>OPENING BALANCE: YEAR-END 2012</b> | <b>176</b>                   | <b>1,854</b>             | <b>2,030</b> | <b>8,828</b>                       | <b>0</b>        | <b>8,828</b> | <b>10,858</b> |
| Additions (reversal of provisions)    | (47)                         | 667                      | 620          | (3,403)                            | 0               | (3,403)      | (2,783)       |
| Amounts used                          | 0                            | (278)                    | (278)        | (5,425)                            | 0               | (5,425)      | (5,703)       |
| <b>CLOSING BALANCE: YEAR-END 2013</b> | <b>129</b>                   | <b>2,243</b>             | <b>2,372</b> | <b>0</b>                           | <b>0</b>        | <b>0</b>     | <b>2,372</b>  |
| Additions (reversal of provisions)    | 32                           | 699                      | 731          | 8,740                              | 280             | 9,020        | 9,751         |
| Amounts used                          | 0                            | (1,442)                  | (1,442)      | 0                                  | 0               | 0            | (1,442)       |
| <b>CLOSING BALANCE: YEAR-END 2014</b> | <b>161</b>                   | <b>1,500</b>             | <b>1,661</b> | <b>8,740</b>                       | <b>280</b>      | <b>9,020</b> | <b>10,681</b> |

*Thousands of euros*

### PROVISION FOR CONTINGENCIES - REPS AND WARRANTIES GRANTED IN CONNECTION WITH THE SALES OF THE SUGAR AND DAIRY BUSINESSES

The provisions recognized to cover the outcome of lawsuits related to the sales of the sugar business (sold in 2009) and the dairy business (sold in 2010) related to the reps and warranties extended to the buyers of these businesses under which an unfavorable ruling in these lawsuits would have the effect of reducing the sale-purchase prices for these business. Additions to this provision (or reversals thereof) imply an adjustment to the sale price and are accordingly recognized as a reduction (or increase) in profit in the year in which they are recognized.

These lawsuits had been substantially resolved by year-end 2013, so that the related provision stood at zero at that reporting date. However, in the course of 2014 a number of smaller-sized disputes came to light. Management determined it was necessary to recognize a provision in respect of certain of these cases in light of the possible outflow of resources in the future.

In addition, in August 2014, Grupo Lactalis Iberia, S.A. passed the proposed ruling (“Proposed Ruling”) in respect of the disciplinary proceedings initiated by the investigative unit of Spain’s anti-trust authority, the CNMC, against Spain’s leading dairy transformation companies, including Puleva Food, S.L., in connection with alleged anti-competitive practices between 2003 and 2013, on to Ebro Foods, S.A. Ebro Foods, S.A. sold Puleva Food, S.L. to Grupo Lactalis Iberia, S.A. in 2010; the related share purchase agreement (the “SPA”) included a liability regime covering future contingencies. Under this regime, Ebro Foods, S.A., as seller, could be held liable for any fine imposed on Puleva Food, S.L. with respect to developments taking place prior to the sale.

The Proposed Ruling qualifies the conduct investigated as a very serious infraction of article 62.4.a) of Spain’s Anti-Trust Act and recommends that the Board of the CNMC hand down the fine contemplated in article 63 of this same piece of legislation. Grupo Lactalis Iberia, S.A. and Puleva Food, S.L., in keeping with the procedure agreed upon in the SPA, duly presented statements outlining their pleas against the Proposed Ruling, categorically denying the conduct charges therein.

The CNMC ruling issued by its Board on February 26, 2015 was received on March 3, 2015. It hands down a fine against Puleva Food, S.L. of 10,270 thousand euros. Based on the information currently available, Ebro Foods, S.A. believes it has solid grounds for appealing the ruling before the corresponding judicial bodies; however, the likelihood of an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits is deemed probable and the corresponding provision has accordingly been recognized in the 2014 financial statements.

#### **PROVISION FOR CONTINGENCIES - TAX ASSESSMENTS**

See note 15.

#### **PROVISION FOR LONG-SERVICE BONUSES**

Some Ebro Foods, S.A. employees are entitled to receive long-service bonuses after 25 to 40 years’ service from a fund managed internally by the Company. The provision recognized for long-service bonuses at year-end 2014 in the amount of 161 thousand euros (year-end 2013: 129 thousand euros) represents the present value, calculated using actuarial studies performed by independent experts, of the potential future payments to these employees. The key assumptions used in the most recent actuarial study with effect as of each reporting date are as follows:

- a) A discount rate of 2.11% (2013: 3.41%)
- b) Wage increases: compound annual growth of 3% (2013: 3%)
- c) Mortality and survival tables: PERM/F 2000 tables (new policies)

#### **PROVISION FOR LONG-TERM REMUNERATION TO EXECUTIVES**

See note 18. The provisions recognized in 2013 and 2014 correspond to the 2013-2015 bonus plan that will be settled between 2015 and 2017. The amounts utilized correspond to the 2010-2012 plan which was partially paid out in 2012 and 2013 and fully liquidated in 2014.

## 15. TAX MATTERS

The breakdown of taxes payable and receivable at year-end is as follows:

|  | 12-31-14        | 12-31-13        |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>Current</b>                                   |                 |                 |
| Current tax assets                               | 4,343           | 7,179           |
| Other amounts receivable from public authorities | 567             | 1,135           |
| Current tax liabilities                          | 0               | 0               |
| Other payables to public authorities             | (2,185)         | (3,596)         |
|  | <b>2,725</b>    | <b>4,718</b>    |
| <b>Non-current</b>                               |                 |                 |
| Deferred tax assets                              | 8,938           | 23,092          |
| Deferred tax liabilities                         | (30,573)        | (48,303)        |
|  | <b>(21,635)</b> | <b>(25,211)</b> |

*Thousands of euros*

Under prevailing legislation, tax returns may not be considered final until either they have been inspected by the tax authorities or until the inspection period has prescribed.

The Company has its books open to inspection since 2012 in respect of all applicable taxes. The Company's directors believe there is no need to provide for potential additional tax liabilities that could arise from differing interpretations of tax regulations.

**15.1** The tax group that files its return under the consolidated tax regime is made up of:

Ebro Foods, S.A. (parent of the tax group), Ebro Financial Corporate Services, S.L., Network Meal Solutions, S.L., Fincas e Inversiones Ebro, S.A., Dosbio 2010, S.L., Arotz Foods, S.A., Herba Foods, S.L., Herba Ricemills, S.L. and its subsidiaries, Herba Nutrición, S.L., Fallera Nutrición, S.L., Jiloca, S.A. and Azucarera Energías, S.A.

The tax inspection of the Spanish tax group in respect of 2008 to 2011, both inclusive, concluded in May 2014. The results of this inspection are shown below:



|          | ASSESSMENTS<br>UNCONTESTED | ASSESSMENTS<br>CONTESTED | TOTAL        |
|----------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| Tax      | 2,580                      | 2,452                    | 5,032        |
| Interest | 443                        | 426                      | 869          |
| Fines    | 1                          | 355                      | 356          |
|          | <b>3,024</b>               | <b>3,233</b>             | <b>6,257</b> |

|  |                | EBRO FOODS<br>S.A. | REST OF TAX<br>GROUP | TOTAL          |
|--|----------------|--------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| <b>Accounting treatment:</b>                                 |                |                    |                      |                |
| <b>Income statement</b>                                      |                |                    |                      |                |
| Income tax expense   | 2,656          | 1,265              | 1,391                | 2,656          |
| Other operating expenses                                     | 70             | 21                 | 49                   | 70             |
| Finance costs  | 869            | 422                | 447                  | 869            |
| Deferred taxes   | 1,295          | 60                 | 1,235                | 1,295          |
| Taxes payable (provisions)                                   | 1,367          | 1,367              | 0                    | 1,367          |
| <b>TOTAL CHARGES</b>   | <b>6,257</b>   | <b>3,135</b>       | <b>3,122</b>         | <b>6,257</b>   |
| Other non-current provisions                                 | (355)          | (280)              | (75)                 | (355)          |
| Inter-company balances receivable / payable within tax group | 0              | 2,697              | (2,697)              | 0              |
| Taxes payable (payables)                                     | (5,902)        | (5,552)            | (350)                | (5,902)        |
| <b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>  | <b>(6,257)</b> | <b>(3,135)</b>     | <b>(3,122)</b>       | <b>(6,257)</b> |

*Thousands of euros*

All of the assessments presented in the table above have been settled (using financial criteria), with the exception of the fines, even though the assessments have been signed under protest.

The assessments signed but being contested are in the initial stages of plea hearings and/or appeals and, accordingly, it is possible that the assessment settlement agreements ultimately received will differ from the amounts presented, albeit not materially; nonetheless, all of the assessments signed under protest have been or will be appealed.

In addition, the tax group has also signed assessments handed down in connection with the deduction accredited and applied as warranted in relation to the 2008 Volvo Ocean Race under protest. The amount contested, which applies from 2008 to 2010, amounts to 3,021 thousand euros. In this instance, the balance has not been provided for as the assessments will be appealed and the likelihood of winning this claim is deemed high due to the precedent set by National High Court rulings in favor of other taxpayers bringing identical cases. Therefore, the directors believe that the risk that the outcome of this process will not favor the tax group is remote and will not entail an outflow of resources.

15.2 The reconciliation of net income and expense for both reporting periods to taxable income (tax loss) is set forth below:

| TAX EXPENSE   | 2014            |                 | 2013           |                |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
|   | ACCOUNTING      | TAX             | ACCOUNTING     | TAX            |
| <b>PROFIT BEFORE TAX FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS</b>                 | <b>39,180</b>   | <b>39,180</b>   | <b>2,934</b>   | <b>2,934</b>   |
| Permanent differences   | 151             | 151             | 512            | 512            |
| Permanent differences arising from fiscal consolidation adjustments | (55,850)        | (55,850)        | (13,205)       | (13,205)       |
| <b>ADJUSTED ACCOUNTING PROFIT</b>                                   | <b>(16,519)</b> | <b>(16,519)</b> | <b>(9,759)</b> | <b>(9,759)</b> |
| Temporary differences   |                 | (20,922)        |                | 15,263         |
| Temporary differences arising from fiscal consolidation adjustments |                 | 1,225           |                | 2,148          |
| Tax group tax losses for offset                                     |                 | 9,873           |                | (8,878)        |
| <b>TAXABLE INCOME (TAX LOSS) OF THE COMPANY</b>                     | <b>(16,519)</b> | <b>(26,343)</b> | <b>(9,759)</b> | <b>(1,226)</b> |
| Tax calculated at 30%   | (4,956)         | (7,903)         | (2,928)        | (368)          |
| Tax credits   | 0               | 0               | (2,480)        | (2,480)        |
| <b>TAX EXPENSE/(INCOME) FOR THE YEAR</b>                            | <b>(4,956)</b>  | <b>(7,903)</b>  | <b>(5,408)</b> | <b>(2,848)</b> |
| Restatement of prior-year's income tax                              | (459)           |                 | 0              | 0              |
| Tax assessments (note 15.1)   | 1,265           |                 | 0              |                |
| Change in deferred tax assets and liabilities (note 15.7)           | 5,019           |                 | 0              |                |
| Effect of change in tax rate (note 15.7)                            | (4,420)         |                 | 0              |                |
| <b>TOTAL INCOME TAX: EXPENSE (INCOME)</b>                           | <b>(3,551)</b>  | <b>(7,903)</b>  | <b>(5,408)</b> | <b>(2,848)</b> |

*Thousands of euros*

The reconciliation of income tax payable/(refundable) by/to Ebro Foods, S.A. and total income tax payable/(refundable) as a result of application of the consolidated tax regime is provided below:

|  | 2014           | 2013           |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| Tax payable (refundable) corresponding to Ebro Foods, S.A.                     | (7,903)        | (2,848)        |
| Payments made on account during the year                                       | (2,216)        | (9,028)        |
| Tax withholdings   | (22)           | (26)           |
| Tax refundable pending collection from prior years                             | (2,047)        | (4,102)        |
| Tax payable (refundable) corresponding to the other companies in the tax group | 7,845          | 8,825          |
| <b>TAX GROUP TAX PAYABLE (RECEIVABLE)</b>                                      | <b>(4,343)</b> | <b>(7,179)</b> |

15.3 The reconciliation of tax expense (income) to the result of multiplying total recognized income and expense, as opposed to profit or loss as per the income statement, by applicable tax rates, is as follows:

| <b>INCOME STATEMENT</b>                      | <b>2014</b>    | <b>2013</b>    |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| Profit before tax from continuing operations | 39,180         | 2,934          |
| Statutory tax rate                           | 30%            | 30%            |
| <b>Theoretical tax expense</b>               | <b>11,754</b>  | <b>880</b>     |
| <b>Effect of:</b>                            |                |                |
| Non-deductible expenses                      | 156            | 161            |
| Non-taxable income                           | 0              | 0              |
| Dividends within tax group                   | (16,755)       | (3,962)        |
| Dividends within parent company group        | (104)          | 0              |
| Deductions and other items                   | (7)            | (2,487)        |
|  | <b>(4,956)</b> | <b>(5,408)</b> |
| <b>Breakdown of tax expense (income)</b>     |                |                |
| Current                                      | (7,903)        | (2,848)        |
| Deferred                                     | 2,947          | (2,560)        |
| <b>EFFECTIVE TAX EXPENSE (INCOME)</b>        | <b>(4,956)</b> | <b>(5,408)</b> |

*Thousands of euros*

15.4 The breakdown of the temporary differences arising at Ebro Foods, S.A. in 2014 and 2013 is as follows:

| <b>TEMPORARY DIFFERENCES - ADDITIONS</b>                            | <b>2014</b>     | <b>2013</b>   |
|---|-----------------|---------------|
| Additions to provision for long-term remuneration obligations       | 728             | 734           |
| Additions to provision for long-service bonuses                     | 32              | (47)          |
| Addition to impairment provisions on investments in group companies | 3,409           | 3,047         |
| Available-for-sale financial assets                                 | 0               | 18,362        |
| 30% of depreciation charges that are not deductible                 | 269             | 351           |
| Additions to provision for contingencies                            | 1,240           | 0             |
| <b>TOTAL ADDITIONS</b>  | <b>5,678</b>    | <b>22,447</b> |
| <b>TEMPORARY DIFFERENCES - DECREASES</b>                            |                 |               |
| Goodwill amortization charges                                       | 401             | 401           |
| Provisions for long-term remuneration obligations used              | 1,442           | 278           |
| Temporary difference on account of goodwill amortization            | 4,045           | 4,045         |
| Amortization of brands for tax purposes                             | 313             | 312           |
| Impairment provisions for investments in group companies used       | 0               | 0             |
| Available-for-sale financial assets                                 | 19,174          | 0             |
| <b>TOTAL DECREASES</b>  | <b>25,375</b>   | <b>5,036</b>  |
| <b>TOTAL NET ADDITIONS (DECREASES)</b>                              | <b>(19,697)</b> | <b>17,411</b> |

**15.5** The breakdown of the permanent differences differences arising at Ebro Foods, S.A. in 2014 and 2013 is as follows:

| <b>PERMANENT DIFFERENCES - ADDITIONS</b>              | <b>2014</b>     | <b>2013</b>     |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|
| Fines and penalties                                   | 9               | 4               |
| Donations   | 494             | 513             |
| Other non-deductible expenses                         | 18              | 18              |
| <b>TOTAL ADDITIONS</b>                                | <b>521</b>      | <b>535</b>      |
| <b>PERMANENT DIFFERENCES - DECREASES</b>              |                 |                 |
| Adjustments for dividends from tax group subsidiaries | 55,850          | 13,205          |
| Adjustments for dividends from foreign subsidiaries   | 347             | 0               |
| Amortization of goodwill for tax purposes             | 23              | 23              |
| Non-taxable gains                                     | 0               | 0               |
| <b>TOTAL DECREASES</b>                                | <b>56,220</b>   | <b>13,228</b>   |
| <b>TOTAL NET ADDITIONS (DECREASES)</b>                | <b>(55,699)</b> | <b>(12,693)</b> |

**15.6** Given that Ebro Foods, S.A. generated a tax loss in 2014, it did not apply any deductions last year. In 2014 it generated 169 thousand euros of tax credits, mainly corresponding to donations, for utilization in future years, in addition to the 7.1 million euros generated and unused in prior years (mainly deductions generated by the reinvestment of extraordinary gains).

In 2014 the Spanish tax group did not make any investments that qualify for proceed reinvestment tax relief so that it did not generate any related tax credits. In each of the years between 2013 and 2006, both inclusive, it reinvested qualifying proceeds totaling 33.1, 5.0, 115.3, 57.3, 1.5, 16.2, 11.2 and 76.3 million euros, respectively. These reinvestments satisfied all of the requirements for qualifying for the related tax relief.

15.7 A reconciliation of Ebro Foods, S.A.'s deferred tax assets and liabilities is provided below:

|  | 12-31-12        | ADDITIONS      | DE-<br>RECOGNITIONS | RE-<br>RECOGNITIONS | 12-31-13        | ADDITIONS      | DE-<br>RECOGNITIONS | TAX ASSESS-<br>MENTS AND<br>ADJ. IN<br>RESPECT OF<br>PRIOR YEARS | OTHER<br>CHANGES | IMPACT<br>OF CHANGE<br>IN TAX RATE | 12-31-14        |
|--|-----------------|----------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------------|--|------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Deferred tax assets</b>                               |                 |                |                     |                     |                 |                |                     |  |                  |                                    |                 |
| Goodwill   | 4,696           |                | (20)                |                     | 4,576           |                | (120)               |  |                  | (731)                              | 3,725           |
| Intangible assets: trademarks                            | 2,580           |                | (47)                | (763)               | 1,770           |                | (47)                |  |                  | (283)                              | 1,440           |
| Property, plant and equipment: land                      | 129             |                |                     |                     | 129             |                |                     |  |                  | (21)                               | 108             |
| Property, plant and equipment: depreciation              | 0               | 105            |                     |                     | 105             | 81             |                     |  |                  | (29)                               | 157             |
| Financial assets   | 306             | 5,587          | (79)                |                     | 5,814           |                | (5,752)             |  |                  | (4)                                | 58              |
| Long-term remuneration obligations                       | 577             | 137            |                     | 106                 | 820             | 218            | (433)               |  |                  | (56)                               | 549             |
| Provisions for contingencies                             | 0               |                |                     |                     | 0               | 372            |                     |  |                  | (62)                               | 310             |
| Provisions for long-service bonuses                      | 65              |                | (14)                |                     | 51              | 10             |                     |  |                  | (10)                               | 51              |
| Impairment provisions: investments<br>in group companies | 12,173          | 914            |                     | (6,810)             | 6,277           | 1,023          |                     | 1,309  | (8,609)          |                                    | 0               |
| Unused tax credits                                       | 0               |                |                     | 3,550               | 3,550           |                |                     |  | (3,550)          |                                    | 0               |
| Unused tax losses  | 0               |                | (2,663)             | 2,663               | 0               | 2,962          |                     |  |                  | (422)                              | 2,540           |
|  | <b>20,526</b>   | <b>6,743</b>   | <b>(2,923)</b>      | <b>(1,254)</b>      | <b>23,092</b>   | <b>4,666</b>   | <b>(6,352)</b>      | <b>1,309</b>   | <b>(12,159)</b>  | <b>(1,618)</b>                     | <b>8,938</b>    |
| <b>Deferred tax liabilities</b>                          |                 |                |                     |                     |                 |                |                     |  |                  |                                    |                 |
| Amortization of goodwill for tax purposes                | (33,643)        | (1,215)        |                     |                     | (34,858)        | (1,213)        |                     | 60   |                  | 5,945                              | (30,066)        |
| Amortization of brands for tax purposes                  | (46)            | (47)           |                     |                     | (93)            | (47)           |                     |  |                  | 23                                 | (117)           |
| Accrual of gains on brand sales                          | (7,903)         |                |                     | 763                 | (7,140)         |                |                     |  | 7,140            |                                    | 0               |
| Deferral of gains by tax group                           | (398)           |                |                     |                     | (398)           |                |                     |  |                  | 66                                 | (332)           |
| Fair value of financial instruments                      | (306)           | (5,587)        | 79                  |                     | (5,814)         |                | 5,752               |  |                  | 4                                  | (58)            |
|  | <b>(42,296)</b> | <b>(6,849)</b> | <b>79</b>           | <b>763</b>          | <b>(48,303)</b> | <b>(1,260)</b> | <b>5,752</b>        | <b>60</b>  | <b>7,140</b>     | <b>6,038</b>                       | <b>(30,573)</b> |
| <b>TOTAL DEFERRED TAXES, NET</b>                         | <b>(21,770)</b> | <b>(106)</b>   | <b>(2,844)</b>      | <b>(491)</b>        | <b>(25,211)</b> | <b>3,406</b>   | <b>(600)</b>        | <b>1,369</b>   | <b>(5,019)</b>   | <b>4,420</b>                       | <b>(21,635)</b> |

Thousands of euros

#### OTHER CHANGES:

- a) The deferred tax liability reverted in 2014 in the amount of 7,140 thousand euros relates to the deferred tax charge recognized at year-end 2012 in connection with the sale of the Nomen and other less prominent brands. Under Additional Provision Four of the Consolidated Text of Spain's Corporate Income Tax Act, enacted by means of Royal Decree-Law 4/2004, of March 5, 2004, the gain obtained on the sale of assets arranged to comply with anti-trust requirements does not have to be added to taxable income if the proceeds from the sale are reinvested on the terms stipulated in article 42 of this same piece of legislation within three years from the date of sale. The related reinvestment commitment totaled 32.5 million euros. As indicated in note 8.a.3, the acquisition of Garofalo in 2014 complies with this reinvestment commitment, to which end the associated deferred tax liability has been reversed.
- b) Under prevailing Spanish tax legislation, companies cannot recognize material amounts of deferred tax assets in respect of differences not expected to revert for more than 10 years. In relation to the deferred tax assets originating from the recognition of impairment losses on investments in group companies, these have only been recognized to the extent it is estimated that they will be recovered within this 10-year term.

The recoverability of these assets is reassessed every year; in 2014 the Company wrote off 12,159 thousand euros of tax assets based on the assessment that the timing of their recoverability has changed and is now more than 10 years.

#### IMPACT OF THE REDUCTION IN THE STATUTORY INCOME TAX RATE IN SPAIN FROM 2015:

The corporate income tax rate applied in Spain until 2014 is 30%. This rate will be cut to 28% in 2015 and 25% from 2016 on. The effects that the reduction in income tax rate in Spain will have on the Company's various deferred taxes were recognized at year-end 2014.

## 16. GUARANTEES EXTENDED

The Company had extended the following guarantees in the form of bank sureties at both reporting dates:

|   | 2014    | 2013   |
|---|---------|--------|
| <b>Guarantees extended via banks</b>  |         |        |
| Provided to courts and other bodies in relation to claims and tax deferrals                                 | 3,033   | 0      |
| Provided to third parties to guarantee fulfilment of obligations arising in the ordinary course of business | 770     | 770    |
| <b>Guarantees awarded directly by Ebro Foods, S.A.</b>  |         |        |
| Guarantees given to banks to secure other companies' obligations  | 110,552 | 28,863 |

The guarantees extended to banks to secure other companies' obligations correspond mainly to the guarantees given by Ebro Foods, S.A. to its subsidiaries Herba Foods, S.L. (100%-directly owned), Ebro India, Ltda. (100%-directly owned), Pastificio Lucio Garofalo, S.r.l. (52%-directly-owned), Ebro Financial Corporate Services, S.L. (100%-directly owned) and Mundiriz, Ltda. (100%-directly owned) to secure their short-term credit facilities.

## 17. BALANCES WITH GROUP COMPANIES AND ASSOCIATES

Note 8 lists Ebro Foods, S.A.'s subsidiaries and associates. Transactions with associates did not result in material balances at either year-end.

The main transactions performed by the Company with group companies and associates in 2014 and 2013 are shown below:

|                                     | 2014            |            | 2013            |            |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|------------|-----------------|------------|
|                                     | GROUP COMPANIES | ASSOCIATES | GROUP COMPANIES | ASSOCIATES |
| External services                   | (500)           | 0          | (587)           | 0          |
| Employee benefits expense           | 0               | 0          | 0               | 0          |
| Finance costs                       | (3,188)         | 0          | (3,169)         | 0          |
| <b>TOTAL PURCHASES AND EXPENSES</b> | <b>(3,688)</b>  | <b>0</b>   | <b>(3,756)</b>  | <b>0</b>   |
| Services rendered and other income  | 7,938           | 0          | 7,805           | 0          |
| Finance income                      | 2               | 0          | 3               | 0          |
| Dividend income received            | 55,850          | 347        | 13,205          | 0          |
| <b>TOTAL REVENUE AND INCOME</b>     | <b>63,790</b>   | <b>347</b> | <b>21,013</b>   | <b>0</b>   |

The resulting balances between Ebro Foods, S.A. and its group companies and associates at the respective year-ends are as follows:

### AT DECEMBER 31, 2014

| BALANCES WITH<br>SUBSIDIARIES AND ASSOCIATES | NON-CURRENT<br>LOANS | RECEIVABLES  | CURRENT<br>LOANS | ACCOUNTS PAYABLE |                | SUPPLIERS   |
|--|----------------------|--------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|-------------|
|  |                      |              |                  | NON-CURRENT      | CURRENT        |             |
| Panzani, SAS                                 |                      | 369          |                  |                  |                |             |
| Herba Foods, S.L.                            |                      | 122          |                  |                  |                |             |
| Arotz Foods, S.A.                            |                      | 88           |                  | (28,929)         | (48)           |             |
| New World Pasta, Inc                         |                      | 223          |                  | (87,540)         |                |             |
| Ebro de Costa Rica, S.A.                     |                      |              |                  | (14,551)         |                |             |
| Ebro Riviana de Guatemala, S.A.              |                      |              |                  | (8,948)          |                |             |
| Dosbio 2010, S.L.                            |                      | (430)        |                  |                  |                |             |
| Herba Ricemills, S.L.                        |                      | 7,049        |                  |                  |                | (7)         |
| Riviana Foods, Inc                           |                      | 225          |                  |                  |                | (71)        |
| Ebro Financial Corporate Services, S.L.      |                      | 358          |                  | (150,850)        | (1,781)        |             |
| Lassie Group (Netherlands)                   |                      | 218          |                  |                  |                |             |
| Jiloca, S.A.                                 |                      | 223          |                  |                  |                |             |
| Fundación Ebro Foods                         |                      |              |                  |                  | (300)          |             |
| Other companies (minor balances)             | 199                  | 427          |                  | 0                | (1,755)        | (2)         |
|  | <b>199</b>           | <b>8,872</b> | <b>0</b>         | <b>(290,818)</b> | <b>(3,884)</b> | <b>(80)</b> |

**AT DECEMBER 31, 2013**

| BALANCES WITH<br>SUBSIDIARIES AND ASSOCIATES | NON-CURRENT<br>LOANS | RECEIVABLES  | CURRENT<br>LOANS | ACCOUNTS PAYABLE |                 | SUPPLIERS    |
|--|----------------------|--------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|--------------|
|  |                      |              |                  | NON-CURRENT      | CURRENT         |              |
| Panzani, SAS                                 |                      | 76           |                  |                  |                 | (14)         |
| Herba Foods, S.L.                            |                      | 215          |                  | (20,470)         |                 | (59)         |
| Arotz Foods, S.A.                            |                      | 416          |                  | (28,965)         | (55)            | (6)          |
| New World Pasta, Inc                         |                      | 217          |                  | (50,866)         |                 |              |
| Ebro de Costa Rica, S.A.                     |                      |              |                  | (13,627)         |                 |              |
| Ebro Riviana de Guatemala, S.A.              |                      |              |                  | (7,821)          |                 |              |
| Dosbio 2010, S.L.                            |                      |              |                  |                  | (863)           | (8)          |
| Herba Ricemills, S.L.                        |                      | 1,605        |                  |                  | (22,000)        | (76)         |
| Riviana Foods, Inc                           |                      | 382          |                  |                  |                 |              |
| Ebro Financial Corporate Services, S.L.      |                      | 447          |                  | (129,000)        | (293)           |              |
| Lassie Group (Netherlands)                   |                      | 168          |                  |                  |                 |              |
| Jiloca, S.A.                                 |                      | 226          |                  |                  |                 |              |
| Fundación Ebro Foods                         |                      |              |                  | (299)            |                 |              |
| Other companies (minor balances)             | 197                  | 559          |                  | (1,735)          | 0               | (2)          |
|  | <b>197</b>           | <b>4,311</b> | <b>0</b>         | <b>(252,783)</b> | <b>(23,211)</b> | <b>(165)</b> |

All of these balances are denominated in euros, other than the balances payable to New World Pasta, Inc, Ebro de Costa Rica, S.A. and Ebro Riviana de Guatemala, S.A. which are denominated in US dollars.

The long-term loans payable do not carry any fixed maturity; accordingly, the Company has classified them as non-current as it does not expect to repay them in the short term. The balance payable to New World Pasta, Inc. has a face value of 105 million US dollars at year-end 2014 (year-end 2013: 68 million US dollars); this loan is a hedge of an investment in an asset denominated in this same currency (note 9.2.c). It carries interest at 3m LIBOR + 90 basis points.

The Company has a current business account arrangement with most of its subsidiaries under which it guarantees coverage of all of their financing needs and, as required, remuneration of their cash surpluses, all of which at market interest rates.



## 18. RELATED-PARTY DISCLOSURES

The sales to and purchases from related parties are made on terms equivalent to those that prevail in arm's length transactions. Outstanding balances at the year-end are unsecured and interest free and settlement occurs in cash. The Company has not extended or received other guarantees in respect of accounts receivable from or payable to its related parties.

The Company did not record any impairment of receivables relating to amounts owed by related parties in either reporting period. This assessment is undertaken each financial year through examining the financial position of the related party and the market in which the related party operates.

### 18.1 Transactions with significant shareholders (or parties related thereto) of Ebro Foods, S.A. (excluding directors)

Note 12 lists the companies that have a significant equity interest in Ebro Foods, S.A.

There were no transactions between Ebro Foods, S.A. and its significant shareholders other than dividend payments (excluding directors, for whom the related disclosures are provided in note 18.3) in either reporting period.

### 18.2 Transactions with directors and executives (or parties related thereto) of Ebro Foods, S.A.

Ebro Foods, S.A. realized the following transaction with one of its directors in 2014 and 2013 other than the dividend and remuneration transactions disclosed in notes 18.3 and 18.6 (amounts in thousands of euros):

| DIRECTOR  | TYPE OF TRANSACTION | 2014 | 2013 |
|---|---------------------|------|------|
| Antonio Hernández Callejas<br>(Luis Hernández González) | Lease (expense)     | 37   | 37   |

### 18.3 Other transactions with significant shareholders and directors/executives: dividends received from Ebro Foods, S.A.

Against the backdrop of the general dividend policy of Ebro Foods, S.A., the following amounts were paid in each reporting period (expressed in thousands of euros):

- ❖ Dividends 2014 (2013):
  - Dividends paid to significant shareholders: 15,361 (17,146)
  - Dividends paid to directors and executives: 26,194 (26,739)

### 18.4 Other disclosures

- ❖ Ebro Foods, S.A. held a 3.121% ownership interest in Biosearch, S.A. at December 31, 2014. This interest is recognized as an available-for-sale financial asset in the Company's financial statements.

Biosearch, S.A. is a listed company whose corporate purpose is analogous to that of Ebro Foods, S.A. and was part of the Ebro Group until January 2011. During the first half of 2014, the former non-member secretary of the Board of Directors of Ebro Foods, Miguel Ángel Pérez Álvarez, was also a proprietary director of Biosearch, having been appointed at the proposal of Ebro Foods in its capacity as significant shareholder.

Between January 1 and December 31, 2014, Ebro Foods, S.A. rendered services to Biosearch, S.A. in the amount of 42 thousand euros (2013: 74 thousand euros).

- ❖ During the first half of 2014, Ebro Foods, S.A. held an ownership interest in Deoleo, S.A. which was recognized in the Company's financial statements as an available-for-sale financial asset. Ebro Foods, S.A. reduced its shareholding to under 3% on March 28, 2014 (ceasing to qualify as significant shareholder) and fully sold down its investment on May 13, 2014.

Antonio Hernández Callejas, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Ebro Foods, S.A., was proprietary director of Deoleo until January 31, 2014, when he resigned for professional reasons.

Between January 1 and March 28, 2014, Ebro Foods, S.A. rendered services to Deoleo, S.A. in the amount of 261 thousand euros (254 thousand euros in all of 2013).

- ❖ Ebro Foods, S.A. holds a 25% shareholding in Riso Scotti S.p.A. The investment in this associate is accounted for using the equity method. Riso Scotti S.p.A. is an Italian company whose corporate purpose is analogous to that of Ebro Foods, S.A.

The Chairman of the Board of Directors of Ebro Foods, S.A., Antonio Hernández Callejas, also sits on this investee's Board of Directors.

### **18.5 Fiduciary duties: conflicts of interest and non-compete duty**

In keeping with articles 229, 230 and 231 of Spain's Corporate Enterprises Act, this section of this note replicates the information provided by the Company's directors, in keeping with their fiduciary duties, to the Company regarding the interests and positions held in/at companies with the same, analogous or complementary core business as that of Ebro Foods, S.A., regardless of whether the former are part of the Ebro Foods Group.

- ❖ Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.:
  - Direct ownership of 100% of the following Hisparroz group companies: El Cobujón, S.A., Dehesa Norte, S.A., Mundiarroz, S.A., Pesquerías Isla Mayor, S.A., Australian Commodities, S.A. and Islasur, S.A. In all instances it is represented on the boards.

It is hereby noted that Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A. is a company devoted to a business considered analogous to the corporate purpose of Ebro Foods and that it holds a 15.921% ownership interest in the latter (a direct interest of 8.963% and an indirect interest of 6.959% via Hispafoods Invest, S.L., an indirectly wholly-owned subsidiary on whose board it is represented).

- ❖ Antonio Hernández Callejas:
  - Direct interest in Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A. of 16.666%. He does not hold any post at this company.
- ❖ Dr. Rudolf-August Oetker:
  - Direct interest in Dr. August Oetker KG. of 12.5%. He is Chairman of the Advisory Board.
  - Until March 31, 2014 he was member of the Advisory Board of the following Dr. August Oetker KG group companies: Dr. Oetker GmbH, Dr. August Oetker Nahrungsmittel KG, Dr. Oetker International Beteiligungs GmbH, Dr. August Oetker Nahrungsmittel Beteiligungs GmbH and Hamburg Südamerikanische Dampfschiffahrts-Gesellschaft KG.

Below is a list of the positions held by Antonio Hernández Callejas at other Ebro Foods Group companies in which he does not have a direct interest:

| <b>EBRO FOODS GROUP COMPANY</b>   | <b>POSITION</b>                       |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| A.W. Mellish, Ltd.                | Director                              |
| American Rice, Inc.               | Chairman                              |
| Anglo Australian Rice, Ltd.       | Director                              |
| Arrozeiras Mundiarroz, S.A.       | Chairman                              |
| Bertolini Import und Export, GmbH | Director (acting joint and severally) |
| Blue Ribbon Mills, Inc.           | Chairman                              |
| Boost Nutrition, CV               | Director                              |
| Bosto Panzani Benelux, N.V.       | Director                              |
| Ebro America, Inc.                | Chairman                              |
| Ebro Foods, GmbH                  | Director (acting joint and severally) |
| Heap Comet, Ltd.                  | Director                              |
| Herba Germany, GmbH               | Director (acting joint and severally) |
| Joseph Heap Property, Ltd.        | Director                              |
| Joseph Heap & Sons, Ltd.          | Director                              |
| N&C Boost, N.V.                   | Director                              |
| New World Pasta Company           | Chairman                              |
| Panzani, S.A.S.                   | Director                              |
| Pastificio Lucio Garofalo, S.p.A. | Director                              |
| Riviana Foods, Inc.               | Chairman                              |
| S&B Herba Foods, Ltd.             | Director                              |
| SOS Cuetara USA, Inc.             | Chairman                              |
| T.A.G. Nahrungsmittel, GmbH       | Director (acting joint and severally) |
| Vogan, Ltd.                       | Director                              |

It is hereby noted, as detailed in note 18.4, that Antonio Hernández Callejas is also a member of the Board of Directors of Riso Scotti, S.p.A., an Italian company with an analogous corporate purpose to that of Ebro Foods, S.A. and an associate thereof.

It is also noted that Antonio Hernández Callejas is a Trustee of the Ebro Foods Foundation.

Other than the cases outlined above, it is hereby stated that no other director has informed the Company of any ownership interests in or positions held at entities with an identical, similar or complementary corporate purpose to that of Ebro Foods, S.A. and its Group companies.

The directors of Ebro Foods, S.A. did not perform any transactions with Ebro Foods Group companies outside their ordinary course of business or other than on an arm's length basis in either reporting period.

The directors have not informed the Company of any direct or indirect potential conflicts of interest between them or their related parties and the Company other than those disclosed in this note.

## 18.6 Director and executive remuneration

**Director remuneration.** The remuneration accrued by the members of the Board of Directors of Ebro Foods, S.A. totaled 5,556 thousand euros in 2014 (2013: 4,518 thousand euros), broken down as follows (in thousands of euros):

| <b>DIRECTOR REMUNERATION AND OTHER BENEFITS</b> | <b>2014</b>  | <b>2013</b>  |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| <b>Type of remuneration</b>                     |              |              |
| Meeting attendance fees                         | 297          | 285          |
| Bylaw-stipulated profit-sharing                 | 2,565        | 2,565        |
| <b>TOTAL DIRECTOR REMUNERATION</b>              | <b>2,862</b> | <b>2,850</b> |
| Wages, salaries and professional fees           | 2,694        | 1,668        |
| Termination and other benefits                  | 0            | 0            |
| <b>TOTAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REMUNERATION</b>    | <b>2,694</b> | <b>1,668</b> |
| <b>TOTAL REMUNERATION</b>                       | <b>5,556</b> | <b>4,518</b> |
| <b>Other benefits</b>                           |              |              |
| Life insurance and post-employment benefits     | 0            | 0            |

The Company's bylaws stipulate remuneration equivalent to a 2.5% share of net profit for the year provided that the required appropriations to the legal reserve have been made and the minimum shareholder dividend established in prevailing legislation has been declared (currently 4% of paid-in capital).

At a meeting held on February 25, 2015, the Board of Directors resolved, at the recommendation of its Nomination and Remuneration Committee:

1. to freeze by-law stipulated remuneration in 2014, implying no change whatsoever with respect to that of the last four years, specifically implying submission at the Annual General Meeting of a motion to pay a sum of 2,565 thousand euros, which is equivalent to 1.76% of consolidated profit for 2014 attributable to equity holders of the parent.
2. to leave attendance fees at 1,600 euros per Board meeting and 800 euros for attendance at the meetings of its various committees.

Note that in the table titled 'Director remuneration and other benefits' above, the figures include the remuneration corresponding to an external director who stepped down on December 1, 2014.

The individual breakdown of director remuneration earned in 2014 (in thousands of euros) is provided below:

#### DIRECTOR

|   | BY-LAW<br>STIPULATED<br>EMOLUMENTS | ATTENDANCE<br>FEES | FIXED REMUNERATION<br>FOR PERFORMANCE<br>OF EXECUTIVE DUTIES | VARIABLE REMUNERATION<br>FOR PERFORMANCE<br>OF EXECUTIVE DUTIES | TOTAL        |
|---|------------------------------------|--------------------|--|---|--------------|
| Hernández Callejas, Antonio                                 | 370                                | 22                 | 694  | 2,000   | 3,086        |
| Carceller Arce, Demetrio                                    | 345                                | 27                 | 0  | 0   | 372          |
| Alimentos y Aceites, S.A.                                   | 116                                | 18                 | 0  | 0   | 134          |
| Castelló Clemente, Fernando                                 | 189                                | 28                 | 0  | 0   | 217          |
| Comenge Sánchez-Real, José Ignacio                          | 149                                | 23                 | 0  | 0   | 172          |
| Daurella Comadrán, Sol<br>(director until December 1, 2014) | 174                                | 26                 | 0  | 0   | 200          |
| Empresas Comerciales<br>e Industriales Valencianas, S.L     | 116                                | 18                 | 0  | 0   | 134          |
| Hispafoods Invest, S.L                                      | 182                                | 28                 | 0  | 0   | 210          |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A                          | 139                                | 18                 | 0  | 0   | 157          |
| Nieto de la Cierva, José                                    | 255                                | 22                 | 0  | 0   | 277          |
| Oetker, Rudolf-August                                       | 116                                | 17                 | 0  | 0   | 133          |
| Ruiz-Gálvez Priego, Eugenio                                 | 149                                | 23                 | 0  | 0   | 172          |
| Segurado García, José Antonio                               | 265                                | 27                 | 0  | 0   | 292          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>2,565</b>                       | <b>297</b>         | <b>694</b>   | <b>2,000</b>  | <b>5,556</b> |

Of the total variable remuneration earned by the Chairman of the Board of Directors for performance of his executive duties in 2014, 1,297 thousand euros correspond to the Deferred Annual Bonus Scheme tied to the Group's 2010-2012 Business Plan in respect of 2012 (the last year of the Plan). This sum represents 70% of the deferred bonus entitlement accrued over the term of the three-year scheme, which was provided for in the 2012 financial statements and settled in 2014. Of the total variable remuneration earned by the Chairman of the Board of Directors for performance of his executive duties in 2013, 271 thousand euros corresponded to the Deferred Annual Bonus Scheme tied to the Group's 2010-2012 Business Plan in respect of 2011. This sum represented 15% of the deferred bonus entitlement accrued over the term of the three-year scheme (2010-12), which was provided for in the 2011 financial statements and settled in 2013.

Elsewhere, in relation to the total remuneration earned by the Chairman of the Board of Directors for the performance of his executive duties in 2014, the 2014 financial statements recognize a provision of 455 thousand euros in respect of the provisional estimate of the amount corresponding to 2014 under the Deferred Annual Bonus Scheme tied to the Group's 2013-2015 Plan, which represents 25% of the deferred bonus entitlement expected to be accrued during the three-year period. This figure will be paid in 2016.

Meanwhile, in relation to the remuneration earned by the Chairman of the Board of Directors for the performance of his executive duties in 2013, the 2013 financial statements recognized a provision of 524 thousand euros in respect of the provisional estimate of the corresponding amount under the Deferred Annual Bonus Scheme tied to the Group's 2013-2015 Plan, which represents 25% of the deferred bonus entitlement expected to be accrued during the three-year period. This figure has been paid in 2015.

These bonus schemes are not tied to Ebro Foods' share price performance nor do they entitle their beneficiaries to the receipt of shares or any rights over such shares.

Elsewhere, none of the members of the Board of Directors benefits from complementary life insurance or pension cover. Moreover, the Company neither extended any form of credit or advances to the members of its Board of Directors nor assumed any obligations on their behalf under guarantees.

**Executive remuneration.** A total of 10 people were considered executives of Ebro Foods, S.A. at both year-ends; in 2014 these executives accrued aggregate remuneration (wages and salaries) of 2,189 thousand euros (2,120 thousand euros in 2013). The amount shown for 2014 includes the remuneration of an executive who resigned on July 30, 2014 as well as that of another executive who was hired by the Company on October 6, 2014.

In 2014, the team of executives (excluding the Chairman of the Board of Directors) of Ebro Foods, S.A. covered by the Deferred Annual Bonus Scheme tied to the Group's 2010-2012 Business Plan were paid 145 thousand euros corresponding to 2012 (last year of the Plan), a figure representing 70% of the bonuses earned during the three-year term of the scheme that had been provisioned in the 2012 financial statements. In 2013 this team was paid 7 thousand euros corresponding to 2011, a figure equivalent to 15% of the bonuses earned during the three-year term of the scheme that had been provisioned in the 2011 financial statements.

Meanwhile, in relation to the team of executives (excluding the Chairman of the Board of Directors) of Ebro Foods, S.A. covered by the Deferred Annual Bonus Scheme tied to the Group's 2013-2015 Business Plan, the 2014 financial statements recognize a provision of 117 thousand euros in respect of the provisional estimate of the amount corresponding to 2014 under the scheme, which represents 25% of the deferred bonus entitlement expected to be accrued during the three-year period. This sum will be paid in 2016, in keeping with the plan rules.

Similarly, the 2013 financial statements recognized a provision of 128 thousand euros in respect of the provisional estimate of the amount corresponding to 2013 under the new bonus scheme tied to the Group's 2013-2015 Plan, which represents 25% of the estimated deferred bonus entitlement for the three-year period. This figure has been paid in 2015.

The employment contracts of two executives include change of control clauses guaranteeing payments that exceed the amounts applicable under the Employees' Statute. The clauses initially stipulated in the contracts of another two executives provide for payments that are lower than those established in the Employees' Statute due to their length of service.

Note lastly that the figures reflect the remuneration of all of the executives of Ebro Foods, S.A. even though not all of them belong to senior management.

Lastly, Ebro Foods, S.A. has taken out civil liability insurance cover for its directors and executives; these policies cover all of its subsidiaries up to an annual claims cap of 45 million euros. The policies have an annual cost of 56 thousand euros, are effective until April 30, 2015 and are currently in the process of being renewed.

## 19. OTHER DISCLOSURES

### A) FOREIGN-CURRENCY TRANSACTIONS

The Company usually transacts in euros, other than the dollar denominated borrowing arrangements described in notes 13 and 17.

### B) WORKFORCE STRUCTURE

#### 2014

|                   | AT YEAR-END |           | AVERAGE   |
|-------------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|
|                   | MEN         | WOMEN     | TOTAL     |
| Executives        | 9           | 3         | 12        |
| Middle management | 15          | 10        | 25        |
| Clerical staff    | 11          | 10        | 21        |
|                   | <b>35</b>   | <b>23</b> | <b>58</b> |

#### 2013

|                   | AT YEAR-END |           | AVERAGE   |
|-------------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|
|                   | MEN         | WOMEN     | TOTAL     |
| Executives        | 10          | 3         | 13        |
| Middle management | 17          | 10        | 27        |
| Clerical staff    | 10          | 10        | 20        |
|                   | <b>37</b>   | <b>23</b> | <b>60</b> |

### C) AUDIT FEES

The fees paid for account auditing and other services to the Company's auditor, Ernst & Young, S.L., and entities related to the latter by means of control, joint ownership or joint management, in 2014 and 2013 (which services were provided by a different auditor in 2013) were as follows:

- ❖ The fees corresponding to auditing services provided in 2014 amounted to 135 (2013: 205) thousand euros; those corresponding to other assurance services amounted to 40 (2013: 62) thousand euros.
- ❖ The fees for tax advisory and and/other services totaled 220 (2013: zero) thousand euros.

### D) ENVIRONMENTAL DISCLOSURES

The activities carried on by the various Ebro Foods Group companies require investments to management and control their environmental risks. Investments that increase the capacity of their facilities and machinery are capitalized and depreciated on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful life. Ebro Foods, S.A., in its capacity as the group's holding company, does not directly undertake this effort; rather its group companies make and incur the required environmental investments and expenditure.

The work performed on this front in recent years has been very broad but has focused above all on ensuring adequate control of wastewater discharges, combustion gas and dust emissions and inert solid and organic waste and rubbish generation.

The Company's directors believe there are no significant environmental protection or enhancement contingencies and therefore, have not deemed it necessary to record any related provision.

**E) DISCLOSURES REGARDING AVERAGE SUPPLIER PAYMENT TERMS**

The Company paid its suppliers at 31 days on average in 2014 and 2013.

**F)** For the purposes of compliance with the obligation stipulated in article 42 bis of Regulation 1065/2007, of July 27, 2007, enacting the general regulations governing tax management and inspections and establishing common procedural rules in respect of tax matters, and in keeping with the terms of article 4.b of the said article, there follows a list of the accounts with foreign financial institutions held by non-resident subsidiaries for which physical persons that work for Ebro Foods, S.A. have power of attorney:

**COMPANY**

|                                      | <b>HERBA GERMANY GMBH</b> | <b>SEMOLA, S.R.L.</b>       |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Account particulars                  | IBAN                      | IBAN                        |
| Account code                         | DE86200700240610938300    | IT39D0350003205000000037267 |
| Financial institution                | Deutsche Bank AG          | Banco Di Brescia Spa        |
| Branch                               | Hamburg                   | Rome                        |
| Country in which account is held     | Germany                   | Italy                       |
| Date opened                          | May 2003                  | April 2013                  |
| Balance at Dec. 31 (euros)           | 166,325.74                | 874,267.69                  |
| Average balance last quarter (euros) | 166,323.02                | 884,535.00                  |
| Ownership interest, %                | 100%                      | 100%                        |
| Currency                             | EUR                       | EUR                         |

**COMPANY**

|                                      | <b>EBRO INDIA PRIVATE LTD.</b> | <b>EBRO INDIA PRIVATE LTD.</b> | <b>EBRO INDIA PRIVATE LTD.</b> |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Account particulars                  | Current account                | Current account                | Current account                |
| Account code                         | 50200001041939                 | 1681400001486                  | 00004059881                    |
| Financial institution                | HDFC Bank Ltd                  | YES Bank Ltd                   | Barclays Bank                  |
| Branch                               | Taraori                        | New Delhi                      | New Delhi                      |
| Country in which account is held     | India                          | India                          | India                          |
| Date opened                          | May 2013                       | March 2013                     | March 2013                     |
| Balance at Dec. 31 (euros)           | 1,042,243.00                   | 22,331.00                      | 45,120.00                      |
| Average balance last quarter (euros) | 3,432,826.00                   | 66,627.00                      | 129,416.00                     |
| Ownership interest, %                | 100%                           | 100%                           | 100%                           |
| Currency                             | INR                            | INR                            | INR                            |

**20. EVENTS AFTER THE REPORTING PERIOD**

There have been no significant events or developments between the end of the reporting period and the date of authorizing the accompanying financial statements for issue other than the CNMC verdict received on March 3, 2015 (note 14).





# **DIRECTORS' REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013**

# DIRECTORS' REPORT INDIVIDUAL 2014

(EXPRESSED IN THOUSANDS OF EUROS)

## 1. COMPANY SITUATION

Ebro Foods S.A. is the parent of the Ebro Foods Group, Spain's largest food group. Through its subsidiaries, it commands a presence in the rice and pasta markets in Europe and North America as well as a growing presence in other countries.

As a holding company, its overriding objective is to lead, coordinate and foster the development of the Group it heads up, whose strategy is articulated around the provision of healthy food solutions to consumers that enable it to differentiate its brands by means of innovation and new product and format development.

The Ebro Foods Group organizes its management around business segments that combine business activities and their geographic location. Its key business lines are the production and distribution of pasta and rice and their culinary derivatives and accompaniments. Geographically, it is structured into four major regions: the Americas, Spain, Europe & RoW.

Decision-making is spearheaded by the Board of Directors, which is ultimately responsible for defining the Company's general strategy and management guidelines. The Board delegates, within the legally stipulated limits, certain tasks in its Executive Committee, including, notably, monitoring and oversight of delivery of the strategic and corporate development guidelines, while the Management Committee, on which the heads of the various business areas are represented, is tasked with monitoring and preparing the decisions taken at the management level.

The Annual Corporate Governance Report contains detailed information on the Company's ownership and governance structure.

The Management Report accompanying the consolidated financial statements provides detailed coverage of key trends in and the performance of the various segments and businesses that comprised the Ebro Food Group in 2014.

## 2. BUSINESS PERFORMANCE OF EBRO FOODS, S.A.

Ebro Foods, S.A.'s key sources of revenue are the dividends paid by its subsidiaries, the services it provides to these subsidiaries and certain real estate transactions. Its expenditure relates mainly to staff costs and the financial cost of the borrowings taken on in its capacity as parent of the Ebro Foods Group. In addition, depending on developments with respect to the value of its investments in its subsidiaries, it recognizes and reverses impairment provisions on its portfolio of investees as required. Recurring revenue and expenditure were flat year-on-year.

Operating profit amounted to 38,558 thousand euros, compared to 6,377 thousand in 2013. This increase is mainly attributable to the revenue generated by an extraordinary dividend paid out by one of its subsidiaries.

Net finance income amounted to 622 thousand euros, compared to net finance expense of 3,443 thousand in 2013. This increase was driven by the recognition of gains on the sale of investments (that were classified as available for sale) of 14,003 thousand euros less the 4,800 thousand euro loss triggered by the measurement at fair value of the call option over a 48% interest in the Garofalo group and exchange losses shaped by unhedged exposure to the dollar.

Profit after tax accordingly amounted to 42,731 thousand euros, up from 8,342 thousand euros in 2013.

The most significant developments last year related to its activity as parent of the Ebro Foods Group were the following:

#### **KEY INVESTMENTS AND EXITS CONCLUDED BY THE GROUP**

Note 8 to the financial statements lists Ebro Foods, S.A.'s direct investments in group companies and associates. The main transactions coordinated by Ebro Foods, S.A. in 2014:

##### **Investment in Italy:**

The Ebro Group acquired 52% of Italy's pasta-maker Garofalo on June 18, 2014. This company owns the Garofalo, Santa Lucia and Russo de Cicciano brands, among others, giving it a significant position in the premium dry pasta segment in Italy and other countries. This company generated 134 million euros of revenue in 2013. This acquisition evidences Ebro's strategic commitment to the premium pasta segment in Italy, known as 'pasta di Gragnano'; preparation and consumption of this class of pasta is part of Italy's gastronomic tradition and culture.

The investment totaled 63,455 thousand euros; 58,255 thousand euros has already been paid and the remaining 5,200 thousand euros will be paid on June 30, 2015. The Company financed the acquisition partially from internal funds and partially with bank borrowings.

In addition, the Group has arranged two options with the other shareholder over the remaining 48%, granting the seller a put option (exercisable until May 2024) and the Ebro Group a call option (exercisable from June 2024 to May 2026). The price of these options will be determined as a function of Garofalo's average earnings metrics over a series of years, as well as other terms and conditions customary in arrangements of this nature. This put option contractually gives rise to a financial derivative for the next four years (until June 30, 2018), due to the existence of a minimum price guarantee during that period; this obligation has been recognized as a non-current financial liability.

##### **Exit from Deoleo, S.A. (available-for-sale financial asset):**

This investment was sold down in full in a series of transactions closed during the first half of 2014. The investment in Deoleo, S.A. was made in December 2010, in the amount of 47,756 thousand euros, when the Company acquired 95,510,218 of this entity's shares as part of a rights issue at a cost of 0.50 euros per share. This investment gave it an 8.272% ownership interest in Deoleo, S.A. in the wake of equity issues undertaken in 2013 (9.3% at year-end 2012).

The aggregate sale price fetched was 40,267 thousand euros. The sale generated a pre-tax gain, which is recognized as finance income in the 2014 income statement, of 14,003 thousand euros.

### **3. EMPLOYEE AND ENVIRONMENTAL DISCLOSURES**

#### **EMPLOYEES**

Ebro Food's ultimate objective on the labor front is to foster mutually-beneficial labor relations, by making its employees feel vested in the organization, encouraging their career development, promoting equal opportunities and taking a zero-tolerance stance on discrimination and establishing, in a nutshell, a tranquil workplace climate.

Each of the Group companies is governed by the labor legislation prevailing in the countries in which they do business. In addition, the bigger subsidiaries have formulated their own human resource policies that regulate relations between management and employees. Above all of these policies, and notwithstanding the terms of the collective bargaining agreements of the various companies comprising the Ebro Foods Group, there is a corporate Code of Conduct designed not only to ensure the ethical and responsible conduct of the professionals of all Ebro Foods Group companies on the job but also to serve as a guide for defining employment policies and safeguards, workplace health and safety policy, training issues and the principles for guaranteeing the absence of discrimination and the promotion of diversity and equality in hiring decisions.

The key Ebro Foods, S.A. staff disclosures are provided in notes 18 and 19 of the accompanying financial statements.

#### **ENVIRONMENT**

Although the Company's business activities do not imply environmental consequences per se, one of Ebro Foods's basic management commitments is to provide its companies with the tools and measures needed to strike an optimal balance between their business activities and environmental protection. See note 19.d to the financial statements for additional information.

### **4. LIQUIDITY AND FINANCING**

Ebro Foods, S.A. manages the Group's financing requirements in respect of strategic matters such as dividend policy and the Group's organic growth. To this end it relies on the cash generated by its subsidiaries which act as guarantors on the long-term loans taken on to facilitate this role.

The Management Report accompanying the consolidated financial statements provides an in-depth overview of the Group's liquidity and financial position.

### **5. BUSINESS RISK MANAGEMENT TARGETS AND POLICIES**

Ebro Foods, in its capacity as the parent of a group of companies, is indirectly exposed to risks affecting its subsidiaries via the valuation of its investment portfolio and the amount of dividends it receives from them. The business activities performed by the Ebro Foods Group companies are carried out in an environment shaped by exogenous factors that could influence their business and financial performances.

These risks are mainly environmental, business, financial, borrowings, labor and technology related. These risks and the measures taken to identify, manage and mitigate them are described in detail in both the Management Report accompanying the consolidated financial statements and in the Group's Annual Corporate Governance Report.

On the basis of the main risks identified each year, management assesses the instruments in place for mitigating them and the main associated processes and controls.

#### **FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT AND USE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**

The main financial instruments used are bank loans, bank overdraft facilities, cash and short-term deposits. The overriding goal of use of these instruments is to expand the sources of financing available to the Group.

In the past, the Company has written derivatives to hedge interest and exchange rate risk. It is Company policy not to use financial instruments for speculative purposes.

The main risks arising from the financial instruments used are credit risk, cash flow interest rate risk, liquidity risk and foreign currency risk.

The Board of Directors reviews and establishes the policies put in place for managing each of these risks, while the Finance Department identifies and manages them with a view to minimizing or ring-fencing their potential impact on the Group's performance.

#### **CREDIT RISK**

Ebro Foods, S.A.'s exposure to credit risk is not significantly concentrated. Moreover, it deposits its cash and arranges its financial instruments with highly solvent and creditworthy financial institutions.

#### **CASH FLOW INTEREST RATE RISK**

The Company is exposed to changes in market interest rates, mainly on account of its non-current payment obligations arranged at floating rates of interest.

Its policy is to use a mix of fixed and variable rates. It seeks to achieve a balanced debt structure that minimizes borrowing costs while containing volatility. To this end it tracks interest rate trends with the help of external experts. Whenever deemed necessary, Ebro Foods, S.A. arranges interest rate derivatives.

#### **FOREIGN CURRENCY RISK**

As a result of the investments made in the US, the carrying amounts of the Company's assets and liabilities are significantly exposed to changes in the USD / EUR exchange rate. It has mitigated this structural exchange-rate risk by denominating specific borrowings in this currency. In this manner, it has hedged the majority of its US investments.

Foreign currency risk also arises from the purchases and sales made by the various subsidiaries in currencies other than the functional currency. In this instance, the subsidiaries themselves arrange their own forward contracts or other exchange rate hedges, in keeping with Group policy.

#### **LIQUIDITY RISK**

Ebro Foods, S.A.'s objective is to maintain a balance between continuity of funding and flexibility through the use of renewable credit facilities, bank loans and short-term deposits.

## **6. EVENTS AFTER THE REPORTING PERIOD**

There have been no significant events or developments between the end of the reporting period and the date of authorizing this management report for issue other than the CNMC verdict received on March 3, 2015 (note 14 to the accompanying financial statements).

## **7. BUSINESS OUTLOOK**

Ebro Foods' financial performance going forward will depend on the dividends received from its subsidiaries, the gains recognized on properties deemed non-core and the finance costs incurred on the debt taken on to finance its assets.

The Company's directors believe that the dividends declared by its subsidiaries will be sufficient to enable Ebro Foods to fund an adequate shareholder remuneration policy.

## **8. R&D**

R&D initiatives are shaped by the subsidiaries' strategic initiatives (to which end we refer the reader to the Management Report accompanying the consolidated financial statements).

## **9. OWN SHARE TRANSACTIONS**

In 2014, the Parent had the power to buy back and sell own shares under the scope of the authorization granted at the Annual General Meeting held on June 15, 2011 for a period of five years (and duly notified to the CNMV in keeping with prevailing legislation). In 2014, the Company bought back 858,506 shares, sold 814,939 and delivered 24,104 own shares to employees.

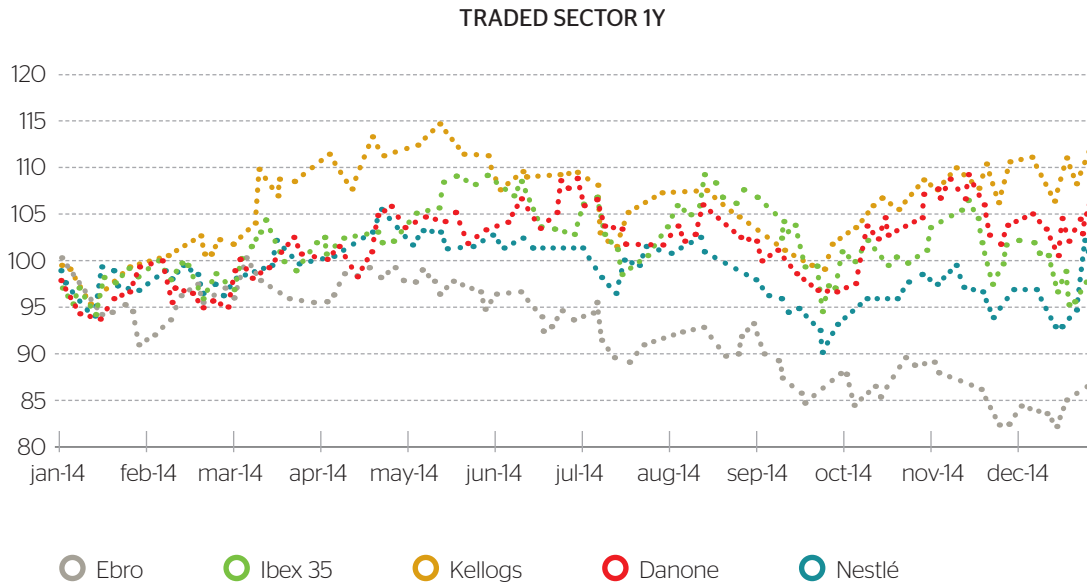
At December 31, 2014, the Company held 19,463 own shares as treasury shares, equivalent to 0.013% of share capital. Management had not established any specific purpose for these own shares at year-end.

## 10. OTHER RELEVANT DISCLOSURES

### AVERAGE PAYMENT PERIOD

The Company paid its suppliers at 31 days on average in 2014 and 2013.

### SHARE PRICE PERFORMANCE



### DIVIDEND DISTRIBUTION

At the Annual General Meeting of June 4, 2014, the Parent's shareholders ratified the motion to pay a cash dividend with a charge against unrestricted reserves of 0.50 euros per share, for a total payment of 76,932 thousand euros; this dividend was paid in equal instalments of 0.125 euros per share on April 2, July 2, October 2 and December 22, 2014.

# **ANNUAL CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014**



## ANNEX 1

### ANNUAL CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT OF LISTED COMPANIES

#### DETAILS OF ISSUER

|                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| <b>YEAR ENDED</b>              | 31/12/2014   |
| <b>TAX REGISTRATION NUMBER</b> | A47412333  |
| <b>NAME</b>                    | EBRO FOODS, S.A.                                   |
| <b>REGISTERED OFFICE</b>       | PASEO DE LA CASTELLANA 20, PLANTAS 3ª Y 4ª, MADRID |

# ANNUAL CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT LISTED COMPANIES

## A OWNERSHIP STRUCTURE

A.1 Complete the following table on the capital of the company:

| Date latest modification | Capital ( € ) | Number of shares | Number of voting rights |
|--------------------------|---------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| 11/06/2002               | 92,319,235.20 | 153,865,392      | 153,865,392             |

Indicate whether there are different classes of shares with different associated rights:

YES  NO

A.2 Give details on the direct and indirect holders of significant interests in your company at year-end, excluding directors:

| Name of shareholder                              | Number of direct voting rights | Number of indirect voting rights | Interest / total voting rights (%) |
|--|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| CORPORACIÓN FINANCIERA ALBA, S.A.                | 0                              | 15,400,000                       | 10.01%                             |
| JUAN LUIS GÓMEZ-TRENOR FOS                       | 0                              | 10,924,443                       | 7.10%                              |
| SOCIEDAD ANÓNIMA DAMM                            | 0                              | 15,426,438                       | 10.03%                             |
| SOCIEDAD ESTATAL DE PARTICIPACIONES INDUSTRIALES | 0                              | 15,940,377                       | 10.36%                             |

| Name of indirect holder of the interest          | Through: Name of direct holder of the interest        | Number of voting rights |
|--|---|-------------------------|
| CORPORACIÓN FINANCIERA ALBA, S.A.                | ALBA PARTICIPACIONES, S.A.                            | 15,400,000              |
| JUAN LUIS GÓMEZ-TRENOR FOS                       | EMPRESAS COMERCIALES E INDUSTRIALES VALENCIANAS, S.L. | 10,924,443              |
| SOCIEDAD ANÓNIMA DAMM                            | CORPORACIÓN ECONÓMICA DAMM, S.A.                      | 15,426,438              |
| SOCIEDAD ESTATAL DE PARTICIPACIONES INDUSTRIALES | ALIMENTOS Y ACEITES, S.A.                             | 15,940,377              |

Indicate the principal movements in the shareholding structure during the year:

A.3 Complete the following tables on directors with voting rights in the company:

| Name of director                                      | Number of direct voting rights | Number of indirect voting rights | % of total voting rights held |
|---|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS                            | 30                             | 0                                | 0.00%                         |
| ALIMENTOS Y ACEITES, S.A.                             | 15,940,377                     | 0                                | 10.36%                        |
| FERNANDO CASTELLÓ CLEMENTE                            | 2,307,828                      | 0                                | 1.50%                         |
| JOSÉ IGNACIO COMENGE SÁNCHEZ-REAL                     | 3,030                          | 3,080,000                        | 2.00%                         |
| EMPRESAS COMERCIALES E INDUSTRIALES VALENCIANAS, S.L. | 10,707,282                     | 0                                | 6.96%                         |

| Name of director                    | Number of direct voting rights | Number of indirect voting rights | % of total voting rights held |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| HISPAFOODS INVEST, S.L.             | 13,790,336                     | 10,707,282                       | 15.92%                        |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | 8,969                          | 2,044                            | 0.01%                         |
| JOSÉ NIETO DE LA CIERVA             | 30                             | 0                                | 0.00%                         |
| EUGENIO RUIZ-GÁLVEZ PRIEGO          | 153                            | 0                                | 0.00%                         |
| JOSÉ ANTONIO SEGURADO GARCÍA        | 100                            | 0                                | 0.00%                         |

| Name of indirect holder of the interest | Through: Name of direct holder of the interest | Number of direct voting rights |
|---|--|--------------------------------|
| JOSÉ IGNACIO COMENGE SÁNCHEZ-REAL       | LA FUENTE SALADA, S.L.                         | 3,080,000                      |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A.     | HISPAFOODS INVEST, S.L.                        | 10,707,282                     |
| JOSÉ NIETO DE LA CIERVA                 | M <sup>a</sup> MACARENA AGUIRRE GALATAS        | 2,044                          |

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| <b>Total % of voting rights held by board members</b> | 36.89% |
|---|--------|

Complete the following tables on directors with stock options in the company:

- A.4 Indicate family, commercial, contractual or corporate relationships among significant shareholders known to the company, if any, except any that are insignificant and those deriving from ordinary commercial business:

| Name of related parties           |
|-----------------------------------|
| CORPORACIÓN FINANCIERA ALBA, S.A. |
| ALBA PARTICIPACIONES, S.A.        |

**Type of relationship:** Corporate

**Brief description:**

Corporación Financiera Alba, S.A. holds a direct interest of 100% in Alba Participaciones, S.A.

| Name of related parties          |
|----------------------------------|
| SOCIEDAD ANÓNIMA DAMM            |
| CORPORACIÓN ECONÓMICA DAMM, S.A. |

**Type of relationship:** Corporate

**Brief description:**

Sociedad Anónima Damm holds a direct interest of 99.93% in Corporación Económica Damm, S.A.

| Name of related parties                               |
|---|
| JUAN LUIS GÓMEZ-TRENOR FOS                            |
| EMPRESAS COMERCIALES E INDUSTRIALES VALENCIANAS, S.L. |

**Type of relationship:** Corporate

**Brief description:**

Juan Luis Gómez-Trenor Fos owns 100% of the capital of Empresas Comerciales e Industriales Valencianas, S.A.: direct interest of 99.995% and indirect interest of 0.005% through Valvega, S.L. Mr Gómez-Trenor Fos is the Sole Director of Empresas Comerciales e Industriales Valencianas, S.A.

| Name of related parties                          |
|--|
| SOCIEDAD ESTATAL DE PARTICIPACIONES INDUSTRIALES |

**Type of relationship:** Corporate

**Brief description:**

Sociedad Estatal de Participaciones Industriales holds a direct interest of 91.9625% in Alimentos y Aceites, S.A.

A.5 Describe the commercial, contractual or corporate relationships between significant shareholders and the company and/or its group, if any, except any that are insignificant and those deriving from ordinary commercial business:

A.6 State whether the company has been notified of any shareholders' agreements that may affect it pursuant to sections 530 and 531 of the Corporate Enterprises Act. If any, describe them briefly and list the shareholders bound by the agreement:

YES  NO

Indicate and describe any concerted actions among company shareholders of which the company is aware:

YES  NO

Expressly indicate any change or break-up of those agreements or concerted actions, if any, that has taken place during the year.

A.7 Indicate any individuals or entities that exercise or may exercise control over the company in pursuance of section 4 of the Securities Market Act and identify it/them if appropriate:

YES  NO

**Comments**

A.8 Complete the following tables on the company's treasury stock:

At year-end:

| Number of direct shares | Number of indirect shares (*) | Treasury stock/capital (%) |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 19,463                  | 0                             | 0.02%                      |

(\*) Through:

Describe any significant variations during the year, according to the provisions of Royal Decree 1362/2007:

A.9. Indicate the term and conditions of the authorisation granted by the General Meeting to the Board to buy or sell own shares

The Annual General Meeting of Shareholders held on second call on 15 June 2011 resolved, under item five on the agenda, to authorise the Board of Directors to buy back own shares and reduce the company's capital and to authorise

subsidiaries to acquire shares in the parent company, by purchase or on any other payment basis, subject to the limits and other requisites stipulated in law.

a. Conditions of the authorisation

Authorisation to the Board of Directors to buy back own shares and authorisation of subsidiaries to acquire shares in the parent company, by purchase or on any other payment basis, on one or several occasions, subject to the limits and other requisites stipulated in sections 146, 509 and other applicable provisions of the Corporate Enterprises Act:

- The par value of the shares acquired directly or indirectly, when added to the par value of any shares already held by the company and its subsidiaries, may not at any time exceed 10% of the capital.

- The acquisition, including any shares that the company, or any person acting in his own name but on behalf of the company, has acquired earlier and holds as treasury stock, does not reduce the equity to below the amount of capital plus legal or statutory undistributable reserves. For this purpose, equity shall be the amount calculated as such according to the criteria for drawing up the annual accounts, less any profits attributed directly thereto and plus any uncalled subscribed capital and the par value and share premiums of any subscribed capital that is accounted for as liabilities.

- The shares acquired must be fully paid up.

- The minimum and maximum price of the acquisition must be equivalent to the par value of the own shares bought back and their market price on an official secondary market, respectively, at the time of purchase.

b. Contents of the authorisation

- Authorisation of the Board to buy back own shares, by virtue of a direct decision or through delegation to the Executive Committee or such person or persons as the Board may authorise for this purpose, to hold those shares as treasury stock, dispose of them or, as the case may be, propose their redemption to the General Meeting, subject to the limits stipulated in law and the conditions established in this resolution. The authorisation is extended to the possibility of buying back own shares for delivery directly to employees or directors of the company or its group, on one or several occasions, or upon exercise of any stock options that they may hold, pursuant to s. 146.1(a), paragraph 3, of the Corporate Enterprises Act.

- Authorisation of the Board to reduce the capital in order to redeem shares bought back by the company or acquired by any of the companies in its group, against the capital (for their par value) and unappropriated reserves (for the amount of their acquisition in excess of that par value), in such amounts as may be deemed fit from time to time, up to the maximum of the own shares held from time to time.

- Delegation to the Board to execute the resolution to reduce the capital, so that it may do so on one or several occasions or decline to do so, within a period not exceeding 5 years from the date of this General Meeting, taking whatsoever actions may be necessary for this purpose or required by prevailing legislation.

c. Term of the authorisation

- The authorisations are granted for a maximum of five years from the date of the General Meeting.

The resolutions transcribed rendered null and void the corresponding resolutions adopted at the General Meeting held on 1 June 2010 and remain in force, not having been since revoked.

**A.10** Indicate any constraints on the transferability of shares and/or any restrictions on voting rights. In particular, indicate the existence of any constraint or limitation that may hamper takeover of the company through the acquisition of its shares on the market.

YES  NO

**A.11** Indicate whether the General Meeting has resolved to apply the breakthrough rule against a takeover bid, under Act 6/2007:

YES  NO

If so, explain the measures approved and the terms on which the restrictions will become ineffective:

A.12 State whether the company has issued any shares that are not traded on an EU regulated market.

YES  NO

If appropriate, indicate the different classes of shares and the rights and obligations conferred for each class.

## B. GENERAL MEETING

B.1 Indicate whether there are any differences between the quorums established for General Meetings and the minimums stipulated in the Corporate Enterprises Act and, if any, explain.

YES  NO

B.2 Indicate whether there are any differences in respect of the system stipulated in the Corporate Enterprises Act for adopting corporate resolutions and, if any, explain.

YES  NO

What differences exist in respect of the system stipulated in the Corporate Enterprises Act?

B.3 Indicate the rules for alteration of the company's articles of association. In particular, indicate the majorities stipulated for altering the articles of association and the rules, if any, protecting shareholders' rights in any alteration of the articles.

There are no requirements for altering the articles of association other than those stipulated in the Corporate Enterprises Act.

B.4 Give details of attendance of general meetings held during the year of this report and the previous year:

| Date General Meeting | Details of Attendance |            |                   |        | Total  |
|----------------------|-----------------------|------------|-------------------|--------|--------|
|                      | % in person           | % by proxy | % distance voting |        |        |
|                      |                       |            | Electronic vote   | Others |        |
| 04/06/2013           | 1.71%                 | 63.69%     | 0.00%             | 0.00%  | 65.40% |
| 04/06/2014           | 5.29%                 | 65.67%     | 0.00%             | 0.00%  | 70.96% |

B.5 Are any restrictions are established in the articles of association requiring a minimum number of shares to attend general meetings?

YES  NO

B.6 State whether it has been ruled that certain decisions which entail a structural modification of the company (spin-offs, sale and purchase of essential operating assets, transactions equivalent to liquidation of the company...) are to be laid before the general meeting for approval even though this is not expressly required under commercial law.

YES  NO

## B.7 Indicate the address and access to the company's website and where to find information on corporate governance and other information on general meetings that must be made available to shareholders through the company's website.

The corporate website of Ebro Foods, <http://www.ebrofoods.es>, is set up as a vehicle of continuous, up-to-date information for the company's stakeholders and the financial market in general.

In this respect, the home page includes a specific section, called "Information for shareholders and investors", which contains all the information required under the applicable legal provisions.

Pursuant to current legislation, this section includes the chapter on Corporate Governance at the following address:

<http://www.ebrofoods.es/informacion-para-accionistas-e-inversores/gobierno-corporativo/reglamento-de-la-junta-general/> or:  
<http://www.ebrofoods.es/information-for-shareholders-and-investors/corporate-governance/regulations-of-the-general-meeting/>

And within that Corporate Governance section we can find all the information that the company makes available to shareholders for general meetings, specifically at <http://www.ebrofoods.es/informacion-para-accionistas-e-inversores/gobierno-corporativo/junta-general-de-accionistas/> (or: <http://www.ebrofoods.es/information-for-shareholders-and-investors/corporate-governance/general-meeting/>). There is also a direct link to the General Meeting of the current year from the home page (<http://www.ebrofoods.es/>).

The Corporate Governance chapter is structured in the following sub-sections:

- Regulations of the General Meeting
- General Meeting of Shareholders
- Shareholders' Agreements
- Regulations of the Board
- Board of Directors
- Corporate Governance Report
- Report on the Remuneration Policy for Directors
- Code of Conduct

The contents of this chapter are structured and hierarchical, with a concise, explanatory title, to permit rapid, direct access to each section, in accordance with legal recommendations, at less than three clicks from the home page.

All these sections have been designed and prepared according to the principle of accessibility, aiming to enable fast location and downloading of the required information.

The corporate website has been set up in several languages.

## C. MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE OF THE COMPANY

### C.1 Board of Directors

C.1.1 State the maximum and minimum numbers of directors stipulated in the articles of association:

|                                    |    |
|------------------------------------|----|
| <b>Maximum number of directors</b> | 15 |
| <b>Minimum number of directors</b> | 7  |

C.1.2 Give details of the board members:

| Name of director           | Representative           | Position on Board | Date first appointment | Date latest appointment | Election procedure       |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS |                          | CHAIRMAN          | 24/01/2002             | 04/06/2014              | RESOLUTION PASSED AT AGM |
| DEMETRIO CARCELLER ARCE    |                          | VICE-CHAIRMAN     | 01/06/2010             | 04/06/2014              | RESOLUTION PASSED AT AGM |
| ALIMENTOS Y ACEITES, S.A.  | CONCEPCIÓN ORDÍZ FUERTES | DIRECTOR          | 23/07/2004             | 04/06/2014              | RESOLUTION PASSED AT AGM |
| FERNANDO CASTELLÓ CLEMENTE |                          | DIRECTOR          | 29/05/2012             | 04/06/2014              | RESOLUTION PASSED AT AGM |

|   |                                  |          |            |            |                          |
|---|----------------------------------|----------|------------|------------|--------------------------|
| JOSÉ IGNACIO COMENGE SÁNCHEZ-REAL                     |                                  | DIRECTOR | 29/05/2012 | 04/06/2014 | RESOLUTION PASSED AT AGM |
| EMPRESAS COMERCIALES E INDUSTRIALES VALENCIANAS, S.L. | JUAN LUIS GÓMEZ-TRENOR FOS       | DIRECTOR | 18/12/2013 | 04/06/2014 | RESOLUTION PASSED AT AGM |
| HISPAFOODS INVEST, S.L.                               | MARÍA BLANCA HERNÁNDEZ RODRÍGUEZ | DIRECTOR | 30/01/2013 | 04/06/2014 | RESOLUTION PASSED AT AGM |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A.                   | FÉLIX HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS         | DIRECTOR | 01/06/2010 | 04/06/2014 | RESOLUTION PASSED AT AGM |
| JOSÉ NIETO DE LA CIERVA                               |                                  | DIRECTOR | 29/09/2010 | 04/06/2014 | RESOLUTION PASSED AT AGM |
| RUDOLF-AUGUST OETKER                                  |                                  | DIRECTOR | 01/06/2010 | 04/06/2014 | RESOLUTION PASSED AT AGM |
| EUGENIO RUIZ-GÁLVEZ PRIEGO                            |                                  | DIRECTOR | 25/07/2000 | 04/06/2014 | RESOLUTION PASSED AT AGM |
| JOSÉ ANTONIO SEGURADO GARCÍA                          |                                  | DIRECTOR | 29/05/2012 | 04/06/2014 | RESOLUTION PASSED AT AGM |

|                                  |           |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Total Number of Directors</b> | <b>12</b> |
|----------------------------------|-----------|

Indicate any retirements from the board during the reporting period:

| Name of director      | Type of director at time of retirement | Date of retirement |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|
| SOL DAURELLA COMADRÁN | Independent                            | 01/12/2014         |

C.1.3 Complete the following tables on the types of board members:

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS**

| Name of Director           | Committee proposing appointment       | Position in company's organisation |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | NOMINATION AND REMUNERATION COMMITTEE | CHAIRMAN                           |

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| <b>Total number of executive directors</b> | <b>1</b>     |
| <b>% of board</b>                          | <b>8.33%</b> |



## **NON-EXECUTIVE PROPRIETARY DIRECTORS**

| Name of Director                                      | Committee proposing appointment       | Name of significant shareholder represented or that proposed appointment |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| ALIMENTOS Y ACEITES, S.A.                             | NOMINATION AND REMUNERATION COMMITTEE | SOCIEDAD ESTATAL DE PARTICIPACIONES INDUSTRIALES                         |
| DEMETRIO CARCELLER ARCE                               | NOMINATION AND REMUNERATION COMMITTEE | SOCIEDAD ANÓNIMA DAMM  |
| EMPRESAS COMERCIALES E INDUSTRIALES VALENCIANAS, S.L. | NOMINATION AND REMUNERATION COMMITTEE | JUAN LUIS GÓMEZ-TRENOR FOS   |
| HISPAFOODS INVEST, S.L.                               | NOMINATION AND REMUNERATION COMMITTEE | INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A.                                      |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A.                   | NOMINATION AND REMUNERATION COMMITTEE | INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A.                                      |
| JOSÉ NIETO DE LA CIERVA                               | NOMINATION AND REMUNERATION COMMITTEE | CORPORACIÓN FINANCIERA ALBA, S.A.  |
| RUDOLF-AUGUST OETKER                                  | NOMINATION AND REMUNERATION COMMITTEE | SOCIEDAD ANÓNIMA DAMM  |

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| <b>Total number of proprietary directors</b> | 7      |
| <b>% of board</b>                            | 58.33% |

## **NON-EXECUTIVE INDEPENDENT DIRECTORS**

### **Name of Director**

FERNANDO CASTELLÓ CLEMENTE

#### **Profile**

Born in Mollerusa (Lleida). Industrial Engineer and MBA (IESE). Lecturer at the School of Engineers and Architects of Fribourg (Switzerland). Has held several important executive and management positions in companies operating in the dairy sector and has extensive experience in the sector. Currently Vice-Chairman of Merchpensión, S.A. and on the board of other consultancy and financial services companies.

### **Name of Director**

JOSÉ IGNACIO COMENGE SÁNCHEZ-REAL

#### **Profile**

Born in San Sebastián. Economist and graduate in International Banking. Extensive experience in the financial sector, director and executive positions in several financial institutions and insurance companies, such as Banco Hispano Americano, Mutua Madrileña and Axa Winterthur, among others. Chairman of Rexam Ibérica and Arbitraje Inversiones S.L.

### **Name of Director**

JOSÉ ANTONIO SEGURADO GARCÍA

#### **Profile**

Born in Barcelona. Graduate in Law and Economics. Insurance broker and entrepreneur. Chairman of SEFISA, AEF and AEIM. Joint founder of CEIM and CEOE. President of the Liberal Party and MP in the National Government in the III and IV Parliamentary Terms. Member of the Trilateral Commission. Director of Unión y Fénix, Acerinox, J.W.Thompson and Vusa. Currently Chairman of Segurado & Galobart, S.L. and of the Advisory Council of Alkora EBS, Correduría de Seguros, S.A., Honorary Chairman & Founder of CEIM and member of the Management Board and Executive Committee of CEOE and on the Advisory Board of Coviran, S.C.A. Grand Cross of the Order of 2 May awarded by the Community of Madrid.

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| <b>Total number of independent directors</b> | 3      |
| <b>% of board</b>                            | 25.00% |

State whether any director qualified as independent receives from the company or any other company in the same group any sum or gain other than directors' emoluments, or has or has had a business relationship with the company or any other company in its group during the past year, in his/her own name or as controlling shareholder, director or senior executive of a company which has or has had such a relationship.

None of the independent directors is in any of these circumstances.

If appropriate, include a reasoned statement by the board explaining why it considers that the director in question can perform his/her duties as an independent director.

### **OTHER NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS**

| <b>Name of Director</b>    | <b>Committee proposing appointment</b> |
|----------------------------|--|
| EUGENIO RUIZ-GÁLVEZ PRIEGO | NOMINATION AND REMUNERATION COMMITTEE  |

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| <b>Total number of other non-executive directors</b> | 1     |
| <b>% of board</b>                                    | 8.33% |

Explain why they cannot be considered proprietary or independent directors and their relationships, with the company or its executives or with the shareholders:

**Name of Director**

EUGENIO RUIZ-GÁLVEZ PRIEGO

**Company, executive or shareholder with which he is related**

EBRO FOODS, S.A.

**Profile**

Eugenio Ruiz-Gálvez Priego is not a proprietary director because he does not hold a significant interest in the company or represent a significant shareholder; nor can he be considered an independent director since he has been a director of Ebro Foods, S.A. for 12 years in succession.

Indicate any variations during the year in the type of each director:

C.1.4 Complete the following table with details of the number of female directors over the past 4 years and the type of female directors:

|                            | <b>Number of female directors</b> |             |             |             | <b>Female directors / total directors of each type (%)</b> |             |             |             |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|
|                            | <b>2014</b>                       | <b>2013</b> | <b>2012</b> | <b>2011</b> | <b>2014</b>  | <b>2013</b> | <b>2012</b> | <b>2011</b> |
| <b>Executive</b>           | 0                                 | 0           | 0           | 0           | 0.00%  | 0.00%       | 0.00%       | 0.00%       |
| <b>Proprietary</b>         | 2                                 | 2           | 1           | 1           | 28.57%   | 28.57%      | 16.67%      | 14.29%      |
| <b>Independent</b>         | 0                                 | 1           | 1           | 1           | 0.00%  | 25.00%      | 25.00%      | 25.00%      |
| <b>Other non-executive</b> | 0                                 | 0           | 0           | 0           | 0.00%  | 0.00%       | 0.00%       | 0.00%       |
| <b>Total</b>               | 2                                 | 3           | 2           | 2           | 16.67%   | 23.08%      | 16.67%      | 15.38%      |

- C.1.5 Explain any measures taken to endeavour to include in the board a number of women to give a balanced composition of men and women directors.

**Explanation of measures**

Notwithstanding any that may be decided on in the future by the Nomination and Remuneration Committee under the Corporate Enterprises Act as amended by Act 31/2014 of 3 December, no measures of this nature have been adopted because the board members are appointed regardless of gender, so there is no positive or negative discrimination of any nature in the election of directors.

- C.1.6 Explain any measures agreed by the nomination committee to ensure that the selection procedures are not implicitly biased against the selection of female directors and that a conscious effort is made to include women with the target profile among the candidates:

**Explanation of measures**

No measures of this nature have been adopted for the reason indicated in point C.1.5 above.

If, despite the measures taken, if any, there are few or no female directors, explain the reasons that justify this situation:

**Explanation of reasons**

Although the number of female directors has been reduced to two following the resignation of one of them as of 1 December 2014, all appointments of new directors in the future will take into account the prevailing legal provisions.

- C.1.7 Explain the form of representation on the board of shareholders with significant interests.

- The directors nominated by Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A. and appointed by the general meeting are Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A., Hispafoods Invest, S.L. (also a significant shareholder of the company) and Antonio Hernández Callejas.

- The director nominated by Sociedad Estatal de Participaciones Industriales and appointed by the general meeting is Alimentos y Aceites, S.A.

- The directors nominated by Sociedad Anónima Damm and appointed by the general meeting are Demetrio Carceller Arce and Dr Rudolf-August Oetker.

- The director nominated by Corporación Financiera Alba, S.A. and appointed by the general meeting is José Nieto de la Cierva.

- The director nominated by Juan Luis Gómez-Trenor Fos and appointed by the general meeting is Empresas Comerciales e Industriales Valencianas, S.L.

- C.1.8 Explain, if appropriate, why proprietary directors have been appointed at the request of shareholders holding less than 5% of the capital:

State whether any formal requests for presence on the board have been rejected from shareholders holding interests equal to or greater than others at whose request proprietary directors have been appointed. If appropriate, explain why such requests were not met:

YES                          NO   

- C.1.9 State whether any director has retired before the end of his/her term of office, whether said director explained the reasons for such decision to the Board and through what means, and if the explanations were sent in writing to the entire Board, explain below at least the reasons given by the director:

**Name of director:**  
SOL DAURELLA COMADRÁN

**Reason for retirement:**

Professional reasons notified as of 1 December 2014 in a letter addressed to each of the Board members.

C.1.10 Indicate the powers delegated to the Managing Director(s), if any:

C.1.11 Name Board members, if any, who are also directors or executives of other companies in the same group as the listed company:

| Name of director           | Name of Group company             | Position                 |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | VOGAN, LTD                        | DIRECTOR                 |
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | JOSEPH HEAP PROPERTY, LTD         | DIRECTOR                 |
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | JOSEPH HEAP&SONS, LTD             | DIRECTOR                 |
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | A W MELLISH, LTD                  | DIRECTOR                 |
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | ANGLO AUSTRALIAN RICE LIMITED     | DIRECTOR                 |
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | SOS CUETARA USA, INC              | CHAIRMAN                 |
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | NEW WORLD PASTA COMPANY           | CHAIRMAN                 |
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | EBRO AMERICA, INC.                | CHAIRMAN                 |
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | HEAP COMET, LTD                   | DIRECTOR                 |
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | RIVIANA FOODS, INC.               | CHAIRMAN                 |
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | AMERICAN RICE, INC.               | CHAIRMAN                 |
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | N&C BOOST, N.V.                   | DIRECTOR                 |
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | BOOST NUTRITION, C.V.             | DIRECTOR                 |
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | BOSTO PANZANI BENILUX, N.V.       | DIRECTOR                 |
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | BLUE RIBBON MILLS, INC.           | CHAIRMAN                 |
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | EBRO FOODS, GMBH                  | JOINT & SEVERAL DIRECTOR |
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | T.A.G. NAHRUNGSMITTEL, GMBH       | JOINT & SEVERAL DIRECTOR |
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | BERTOLINI IMPORT UND EXPORT, GMBH | JOINT & SEVERAL DIRECTOR |
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | HERBA GERMANY, GMBH               | JOINT & SEVERAL DIRECTOR |
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | PANZANI, S.A.S.                   | DIRECTOR                 |
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | S&B HERBA FOODS, LTD              | DIRECTOR                 |

| Name of director           | Name of Group company            | Position |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|----------|
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | ARROZEIRAS MUNDIARROZ. S.A.      | CHAIRMAN |
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | PASTIFICIO LUCIO GAROFAO, S.P.A. | DIRECTOR |

C.1.12 Name the company directors, if any, who are on the Boards of non-group companies listed on Spanish stock exchanges, insofar as the company has been notified:

| Name of Director           | Listed Company                        | Position        |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| DEMETRIO CARCELLER ARCE    | SOCIEDAD ANÓNIMA DAMM                 | CHAIRMAN        |
| DEMETRIO CARCELLER ARCE    | GAS NATURAL SDG, S.A.                 | DIRECTOR        |
| DEMETRIO CARCELLER ARCE    | SACYR, S.A.                           | VICE-CHAIRMAN 1 |
| JOSÉ NIETO DE LA CIERVA    | CORPORACIÓN FINANCIERA ALBA, S.A.     | DIRECTOR        |
| EUGENIO RUIZ-GÁLVEZ PRIEGO | CORPORACIÓN FINANCIERA ALBA, S.A.     | DIRECTOR        |
| EUGENIO RUIZ-GÁLVEZ PRIEGO | PROSEGUR, COMPAÑÍA DE SEGURIDAD, S.A. | DIRECTOR        |

C.1.13 Indicate and, where appropriate, explain whether the company has established rules on the number of directorships its directors may hold:

YES  NO

| Explanation of the rules |
|--------------------------|
|--------------------------|

Article 25 of the Regulations of the Board (“General Duties of Directors”) provides in section 1 that Directors shall dedicate to the company such attention and time as may be necessary to guarantee the effective and adequate fulfilment of each and all of the duties corresponding to their position. Consequently, the maximum number of other directorships they may hold will be such as to ensure that they are able at all times to meet each and all of their obligations to the company.

C.1.14 Indicate the company policies and general strategies that must be approved by the full Board:

|   | Yes | No |
|---|-----|----|
| Investment and financing policy   | X   |    |
| Definition of the structure of the group of companies   | X   |    |
| Corporate governance policy   | X   |    |
| Corporate social responsibility policy  | X   |    |
| Strategic or business plan, annual management objectives and budget                                 | X   |    |
| Pay policy and performance rating of senior executives  | X   |    |
| Risk management and control policy and regular monitoring of internal reporting and control systems | X   |    |
| Dividend policy, treasury stock policy and, in particular, the limits established                   | X   |    |

C.1.15 Indicate the overall remuneration of the board:

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| <b>Remuneration of the board (thousand euros)</b>   | 5,561 |
| <b>Amount of the overall remuneration corresponding to the vested rights of directors in pension schemes (thousand euros)</b> | 0     |
| <b>Overall remuneration of the board (thousand euros)</b>   | 5,561 |

C.1.16 Name the members of top management who are not executive directors and indicate the aggregate remuneration accrued in their favour during the year:

| <b>Name</b>  | <b>Position</b>                                       |
|--|---|
| PABLO ALBENDEA SOLÍS                                     | CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER                               |
| LEONARDO ÁLVAREZ ARIAS                                   | MANAGER I.T.  |
| ANA MARÍA ANTEQUERA PARDO                                | MANAGER COMMUNICATIONS                                |
| YOLANDA DE LA MORENA CEREZO                              | VICE-SECRETARY  |
| JESÚS DE ZABALA BAZÁN                                    | MANAGER INTERNAL AUDIT                                |
| ALFONSO FUERTES BARRÓ                                    | FINANCE MANAGER                                       |
| MANUEL GONZÁLEZ DE LUNA                                  | MANAGER INVESTOR RELATIONS AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS |
| LUIS PEÑA PAZOS  | SECRETARY   |
| GABRIEL SOLÍS PABLOS                                     | TAX MANAGER   |
| <b>Total remuneration top management (thousand euro)</b> | 2,189   |

C.1.17 Name any board members who are also on the boards of companies holding significant interests in the listed company and/or in companies of its group:

| <b>Name of director</b>    | <b>Name of significant shareholder</b> | <b>Position</b> |
|----------------------------|--|-----------------|
| DEMETRIO CARCELLER ARCE    | SOCIEDAD ANÓNIMA DAMM                  | CHAIRMAN        |
| JOSÉ NIETO DE LA CIERVA    | CORPORACIÓN FINANCIERA ALBA, S.A.      | DIRECTOR        |
| RUDOLF-AUGUST OETKER       | SOCIEDAD ANÓNIMA DAMM                  | DIRECTOR        |
| EUGENIO RUIZ-GÁLVEZ PRIEGO | CORPORACIÓN FINANCIERA ALBA, S.A.      | DIRECTOR        |

Describe the significant relationships of the board members with the controlling shareholders and/or companies in their group, other than as mentioned above:

**Name of director**

DEMETRIO CARCELLER ARCE

**Name of significant shareholder**

SOCIEDAD ANÓNIMA DAMM

**Description of relationship**

Demetrio Carceller Arce has an indirect holding of 0.687% in Sociedad Anónima Damm

**Name of director**

ALIMENTOS Y ACEITES, S.A.

**Name of significant shareholder**

SOCIEDAD ESTATAL DE PARTICIPACIONES INDUSTRIALES

**Description of relationship**

Sociedad Estatal de Participaciones Industriales has a direct holding of 91.9625% in Alimentos y Aceites, S.A. and its company secretary and secretary of the board, Concepción Ordiz Fuertes, represents Alimentos y Aceites, S.A. on the board of Ebro Foods, S.A.

**Name of director**

EMPRESAS COMERCIALES E INDUSTRIALES VALENCIANAS, S.L.

**Name of significant shareholder**

JUAN LUIS GÓMEZ-TRENOR FOS

**Description of relationship**

Juan Luis Gómez-Trenor Fos wholly owns Empresas Comerciales e Industriales Valencianas, S.L. with a direct interest of 99.995% and an indirect interest of 0.005%. He is Sole Director of the company.

C.1.18 State whether any modifications have been made during the year to the Regulations of the Board:

YES  NO

C.1.19 Describe the procedures for selection, appointment, re-election, assessment and removal of directors. Indicate the competent bodies, the formalities and the criteria to be followed in each of these procedures.

The procedures for appointment, re-election and removal of the directors are regulated in Articles 19, 20 and 25 of the Articles of Association and Articles 5, 21, 23, 24 and 33.1 of the Regulations of the Board.

The General Meeting is responsible for deciding on the number of directors the company is to have, within the minimum (7) and maximum (15) established in the Articles of Association, and for appointing or re-electing directors as proposed by the Board, subject to a favourable report by the Nomination and Remuneration Committee.

The Board may appoint directors by cooptation, subject to a report by the Nomination and Remuneration Committee. The initiative of the Board regarding the incorporation of members by no means detracts from the sovereign power of the General Meeting to appoint and remove directors, or from any potential exercise by shareholders of their right to proportional representation.

The persons nominated by the Board for appointment or re-appointment as directors must be persons of recognised repute, with adequate experience and expertise to be able to perform their duties.

As regards the role of the Nomination and Remuneration Committee in the appointment of directors, see the duties of this Committee in section C.2.4 of this Report and Explanatory Note Eight in section H.

Directors are appointed for a term of four years, after which they are eligible for re-election on one or several occasions for terms of an equal duration. This term of four years is counted from the date of the General Meeting at which they are appointed, or ratified when previously appointed by cooptation by the Board.

If vacancies arise during the term for which they were appointed, the Board may appoint shareholders to fill those vacancies up to the next general meeting. Directors' appointments shall end at the first general meeting held after expiry of their term or lapse of the time stipulated in law for holding the general meeting that is to approve the accounts of the previous year.

The Board regularly rates the Directors on their efficiency and fulfilment of their obligations, requesting the corresponding reports from its Committees, and if considered necessary it may propose any modifications that may be appropriate to improve their performance.

Directors retire upon expiry of the term for which they were appointed and in all other events stipulated in law, the Articles of Association or the Regulations of the Board. They must tender their resignations to the Board and step down in the events established in Article 24 of the Regulations of the Board.

C.1.20 Indicate whether the board has made any assessment of its activity during the reporting period.

YES  NO

If yes, explain to what extent the self-assessment has given rise to major changes in its internal organisation and the procedures applicable to its activities:

| Description of modifications |
|------------------------------|
|------------------------------|

It has not given rise to any change.

C.1.21 State the events in which directors are obliged to step down.

The retirement and resignation of directors are regulated in Article 24 of the Regulations of the Board:

- Directors must step down at the end of the term for which they were appointed and in all other events stipulated in law, the Articles of Association and the Regulations of the Board.

- Directors must also tender their resignations and step down in the following cases:

a) When they are affected by one of the causes of incompatibility or disqualification established in law, the articles of association or the regulations.

b) When they step down from the executive post to which their appointment as director was linked, when the shareholder they represent on the Board disposes of its shares in the company or reduces its interest to an extent requiring a reduction in the number of proprietary directors and, in general, whenever the reasons for their appointment disappear.

c) When the Board, following a report by the Nomination and Remuneration Committee, considers that the Director has seriously defaulted his obligations or for reasons of corporate interests.

The Board of Directors shall propose to the General Meeting of Shareholders that a Director be removed if one of the circumstances described above occurs and the Director fails to tender his resignation.

C.1.22 Explain whether the Chairman of the Board is the highest executive of the company. If so, state what measures have been adopted to limit the risks of any single person having unfettered powers:

YES  NO

**Measures taken to limit risks**

With a view to establishing corrective measures in the Articles of Association to prevent excessive concentration of power in the Chairman when he is also the most senior executive of the company, Article 25 creates the figure of a Vice-Chairman appointed from among the non-executive directors to boost the management supervision and control duties.

José Antonio Segurado García was appointed Lead Independent Director on 29 January 2015 and has since then been performing the aforesaid duties.

Up to then and in accordance with this provision, the current Vice-Chairman of the Board, Demetrio Carceller Arce (non-executive proprietary director), had been performing those duties.

Indicate and if appropriate explain whether rules have been established authorising one of the independent directors to request the calling of a board meeting or the inclusion of new items on the agenda, to coordinate and echo the concerns of non-executive directors and to direct the assessment by the board.

YES  NO

**Explanation of the rules**

The Regulations of the Board specify the events in which directors may request the calling of a board meeting or inclusion of items on the agenda; this power is not limited to independent directors.

Article 9.2 of the Regulations establishes that one-third of the board members may, no less than six days prior to the scheduled date of the Board meeting, request the inclusion of any items they believe ought to be transacted.

Article 9.5 of the Regulations states that the board may discuss and resolve on issues included on the agenda and any others that all the directors present and represented agree to transact.

Article 25.2.b) stipulates that Directors shall also request meetings of the corporate bodies to which they belong whenever they consider this necessary in the interests of the Company, proposing whatever items they think should be included on the agenda.



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Finally, Article 33.1 provides that if the Chairman of the Board is also the chief executive of the company, a Vice-Chairman must be appointed from among the non-executive directors with the power to request the calling of a board meeting or the inclusion of new items on the agenda, who may organise meetings to coordinate non-executive directors and will direct the Chairman performance rating. If no Vice-Chairman is appointed, the Board shall authorise an independent director to perform those duties.

At present José Antonio Segurado García, as Lead Independent Director, is authorised to request the calling of a board meeting or the inclusion of new items on the agenda of a meeting that has already been called, coordinate and call meetings of the non-executive directors and, if appropriate, direct the periodical performance rating of the Chairman.

C.1.23 Are special majorities differing from those stipulated in law required for any type of decision?

YES  NO

If yes, describe the differences:

C.1.24 Are there any specific requirements, other than those established for directors, to be appointed Chairman?

YES  NO

C.1.25 Does the Chairman have a casting vote?

YES  NO

|   |
|---|
| <b>Matters on which there is a casting vote</b> |
|---|

All.

C.1.26 Do the Articles of Association or Regulations of the Board establish an age limit for directors?

YES  NO

C.1.27 Do the Articles of Association or Regulations of the Board establish a limited term of office for independent directors other than as stipulated in law?

YES  NO

C.1.28 Do the Articles of Association or Regulations of the Board establish specific rules for the delegation of votes at board meetings, how they are to be delegated and, in particular, the maximum number of delegations that a director may hold, and whether it is compulsory to delegate to a director of the same type? If yes, include a brief description.

Both the Articles of Association (Article 24) and the Regulations of the Board (Article 10) contemplate the possibility of directors attending Board meetings through a duly authorised proxy.

The proxy must be made in advance, in writing, especially for each board meeting, in favour of another director.

The represented director may issue specific instructions on how to vote on any or all of the items on the agenda.

Following the amendment of the Corporate Enterprises Act by Act 31/2014 of 3 December, non-executive directors may only grant proxies in favour of another non-executive director.

C.1.29 State the number of meetings held by the Board of Directors during the year, indicating, if appropriate, how many times the Board has met without the Chairman. Proxies made with specific instructions will be considered attendances:

|   |    |
|---|----|
| <b>Number of board meetings</b>                           | 11 |
| <b>Number of board meetings held without the chairman</b> | 0  |

Indicate the number of meetings held by the different Committees of the Board:

| <b>Committee</b>                      | <b>No. meetings</b> |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE                   | 6                   |
| AUDIT AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE        | 6                   |
| NOMINATION AND REMUNERATION COMMITTEE | 5                   |
| STRATEGY AND INVESTMENT COMMITTEE     | 0                   |

C.1.30 State the number of meetings held by the Board during the period attended by all its members. Proxies made with specific instructions will be considered attendances:

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| <b>Attendance of directors</b>                       | 11      |
| <b>% attendance over total votes during the year</b> | 100.00% |

C.1.31 Are the separate and consolidated annual accounts submitted to the Board for approval previously certified?

YES  NO

If yes, name the person(s) who certify the separate or consolidated annual accounts of the company before they are approved by the Board:

C.1.32 Explain the mechanisms, if any, established by the Board to avoid a qualified auditors' report on the separate and consolidated accounts laid before the General Meeting.

Relations with the auditors are expressly regulated in Article 19 of the Regulations of the Board. Article 19.2 stipulates that the Board shall endeavour to draw up the Annual Accounts in such a way as to avoid a qualified Auditors' report.

Within the specific duties attributed to the board in certain areas, Article 7.1 of the Regulations establishes that the Board shall see that the separate and consolidated Annual Accounts and Directors' Reports give a true and fair view of the equity, financial position and results of the company, as stipulated in law, and each and all of the Directors shall have all the necessary information before signing the Annual Accounts.

Article 13.3 of the Regulations of the Board gives the Audit and Compliance Committee certain powers to ensure that the Annual Accounts are filed without a qualified auditors' report (see section C.2.4 of this Report).

C.1.33 Is the Secretary of the Board a Director?

YES  NO

C.1.34 Explain the procedure for appointment and removal of the Secretary of the Board, indicating whether the Nomination Committee has issued a report for such appointment and removal and whether they were approved by the full board.

**Appointment and removal procedure**

The Secretary of the Board may or may not be a director and is appointed by the Board upon recommendation by the Nomination and Remuneration Committee, after ensuring that his/her professional profile is adequate to guarantee the best performance of the duties corresponding to this position by law, the Articles of Association and Regulations of the Board.

The company has not established any procedure for removal of the Secretary of the Board other than that stipulated in law, although Article 24.3 of the Regulations of the Board submits the Secretary, regardless of whether or not he/she is also a director, to the same obligations as the directors of explaining to all the Board members the reasons for retirement or resignation prior to the end of his/her term of office.

|  | Yes | No |
|--|-----|----|
| Does the Nomination Committee issue a report on the appointment? | X   |    |
| Does the Nomination Committee issue a report on the removal?     | X   |    |
| Does the full Board approve the appointment?                     | X   |    |
| Does the full Board approve the removal?                         | X   |    |

Is the Secretary of the Board responsible especially for overseeing compliance with the recommendations on good governance?

YES                          NO   

**Comments**

Article 35.2 of the Regulations of the Board provides that in addition to the duties assigned by law and the Articles of Association, the Secretary of the Board shall, in particular:

a) Ensure that the Board's actions:

- Conform to the text and spirit of the laws and statutory instruments, including those approved by the watchdogs.
- Conform to the company Articles of Association and the Regulations of the General Meeting, the Board and any other regulations the company may have.
- Take account of the recommendations on good governance accepted by the company.

b) Keep all company documents, duly record the proceedings of meetings in the corresponding minute books and certify the resolutions of those corporate bodies of which he/she is Secretary.

c) Channel, generally, the Company's relations with Directors in all matters concerning the functioning of the Board and the Committees he/she is on, following the instructions of the respective Chairman.

d) Implement and facilitate exercise by the Directors of their right to information on the terms stipulated in these Regulations.

**C.1.35. Describe any mechanisms established by the company to preserve the independence of the auditor, financial analysts, investment banks and rating agencies.**

Both the Articles of Association and the Regulations of the Board vest in the Audit and Compliance Committee the power, among others, to contact the auditors and receive information on any issues that may jeopardise their independence for examination by the Audit Committee, as well as any other issues relating to the auditing of accounts, and receive information from and exchange communications with the auditors in accordance with prevailing auditing standards and legislation.

Article 19 of the Regulations of the Board addresses relations with the auditors, obliging the Board to establish an objective, professional, continuous relationship with the External Auditors of the Company appointed by the General Meeting, guaranteeing their independence and putting at their disposal all the information they may require to perform their duties. It further establishes that the aforesaid relationship with the External Auditors of the Company and the relationship with the Internal Audit Manager shall be conducted through the Audit and Compliance Committee.

Finally, Article 28.2 of the Articles of Association and Article 13.3 of the Regulations of the Board establish the following powers of the Audit and Compliance Committee in this respect:

- Propose to the Board, for submission to the General Meeting, the appointment of the external auditors and (i) their terms of contract, (ii) the scope of their commission and (iii) the renewal or revocation of their engagement.

- Ensure the independence of the auditors and the existence of a discussion procedure enabling the external auditors, the internal auditors and any other expert to notify the company of any significant weaknesses in internal control detected during the auditing of the annual accounts or any others in respect of which they may have acted.

- Issue a report annually, prior to issuance of the auditors' report, stating an opinion on the independence of the external auditors and pronouncing on the rendering of additional services.

C.1.36 Indicate whether the external auditors have changed during the year. If so, name the incoming and outgoing auditors:

YES  NO

| Outgoing Auditor | Incoming Auditor    |
|------------------|---------------------|
| Deloitte, S.L.   | Ernst & Young, S.L. |

Explain any disagreements with the outgoing auditor:

YES  NO

C.1.37 State whether the firm of auditors does any work for the company and/or its group other than standard audit work and if so, declare the amount of the fees received for such work and the percentage it represents of the total fees invoiced to the company and/or its group:

YES  NO

|   | Company | Group  | Total  |
|---|---------|--------|--------|
| <b>Cost of work other than auditing (thousand euro)</b>                             | 260     | 138    | 398    |
| <b>Cost of work other than auditing / Total amount invoiced by the auditors (%)</b> | 65.80%  | 12.30% | 26.20% |

C.1.38 Indicate whether the auditors' report on the annual accounts of the previous year was qualified. If so, state the reasons given by the Chairman of the Audit Committee to explain the content and scope of the qualifications.

YES  NO

C.1.39 State the number of years in succession that the current firm of auditors has been auditing the annual accounts of the company and/or its group. Indicate the ratio of the number of years audited by the current auditors to the total number of years that the annual accounts have been audited:

|  | Company | Group |
|--|---------|-------|
| <b>Number of years in succession</b>   | 1       | 1     |
| <b>Number of years audited by current auditors / Number of years that the company has been audited (%)</b> | 4.20%   | 4.20% |

C.1.40 Indicate, giving details if appropriate, whether a procedure has been established for directors to receive external counselling:

YES  NO

**Details of procedure**

The directors' right to counselling and information is regulated in Article 30 of the Regulations of the Board, which provides in 30.2 that:

a. Any Director may, in the course of any specific duties commissioned to him on an individual level or within the framework of any of the Committees of the Board, request the Chairman to contract, at the Company's expense, such legal advisers, accountants, technical, financial or commercial experts or others as he may consider necessary, in order to assist him in the performance of his duties, provided such counselling is justified to resolve specific problems that are particularly complex and important.

b. Considering the circumstances of the specific case, the Chairman may (i) deny or authorise the proposal in a communication sent through the Secretary of the Board, who shall, provided the proposal is authorised, contract the expert in question; and (ii) put the proposal to the Board, which may refuse to finance the counselling if it considers it unnecessary for discharging the duties commissioned, or out of proportion with the importance of the matter, or if it considers that the technical assistance requested could be adequately provided by Company employees.

C.1.41 Indicate, with details if appropriate, whether there is an established procedure for directors to obtain sufficiently in advance any information they may need to prepare the meetings of the governing bodies:

YES  NO

**Details of procedure**

Article 25.2 a) of the Regulations of the Board establishes the duty of directors to request the necessary information to adequately prepare Board and Committee meetings.

Articles 9.1 and 9.3 of the Regulations of the Board in turn establish that (i) directors shall receive information at Board meetings on the most important aspects of corporate management, any foreseeable risk situations for the company and its subsidiaries and the actions proposed by the senior management in respect thereof; and (ii) whenever possible, any necessary information relating to the items on the agenda shall be sent to the Directors together with the notice of call.

The procedure for informing directors is regulated in Article 30.1 of the Regulations of the Board, which provides that whenever so required in the performance of their duties, directors shall have the fullest powers to obtain information on any corporate affairs, obtaining such documents, records, background information or other elements as they may require in this respect. This right to information is extended to subsidiaries.

All requests for information shall be addressed to the Chairman and met by the Secretary of the Board, who shall supply the information directly or indicate who is to be contacted within the Company and, in general, establish the necessary measures to fully meet the director's right to information.

C.1.42 Indicate, with details if appropriate, whether the company has established any rules obliging Directors to report and, if necessary, retire in any situations that could be detrimental to the prestige and reputation of the company:

YES  NO

**Explain the rules**

Article 22 of the Regulations of the Board, which regulates the incompatibilities of directors and establishes their obligations in respect of no competition, conflicts of interest and related-party transactions, also expressly stipulates that if a director is sued or tried for any of the offences contemplated in the applicable laws, the Board shall examine the case as soon as possible and decide, in consideration of the specific circumstances, whether or not the Director in question should remain in office, including a reasoned account in the Annual Corporate Governance Report.

C.1.43 Has any member of the Board informed the company that he/she has been sued or brought to trial for any of the offences contemplated in s. 213 of the Corporate Enterprises Act?

YES  NO

**Name of Director**

DEMETRIO CARCELLER ARCE

**Criminal Case**

Tax offence

**Comments:**

The director informed the board of the criminal action brought against him.

Has the Board studied the case? If so, indicate and explain the decision made as to whether or not the director should remain in office or, if appropriate, describe the actions taken by the board up to the date of this report, or which it plans to take.

YES  NO

**Decision adopted:**

The Board was informed of the information received by the director and resolved, with his abstention, not to make any decision or take any initiative in this regard.

**Reasoned explanation:**

The Board considers that proceedings brought against the director have nothing to do with the company and does not affect its business.

C.1.44 Describe any significant agreements entered into by the company which enter into force, are modified or terminated in the event of a takeover of the company following a takeover bid, and the effects thereof.

There are no agreements of this type and the circumstances have not arisen.

C.1.45 Indicate globally and describe in detail any agreements made between the company and its directors, executives or employees contemplating golden handshake clauses in the event of resignation or unfair dismissal or termination of employment following a takeover bid or any other type of transaction.

**Number of beneficiaries: 2**

**Type of beneficiary:**

Executives

**Description of the agreement:**

Golden handshake clauses are established for two non-director executives in the event of dismissal or takeover in excess of the amount that would be payable pursuant to the Workers' Statute.

State whether these contracts have to be notified to and/or approved by the governing bodies of the company/group companies:

|                                     |                           |                        |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
|                                     | <b>Board of Directors</b> | <b>General Meeting</b> |
| <b>Body authorising the clauses</b> | <b>Yes</b>                | <b>No</b>              |

|   |            |           |
|---|------------|-----------|
|   | <b>Yes</b> | <b>No</b> |
| Is the General Meeting informed on the clauses? | <b>X</b>   |           |

## C.2 Committees of the Board

C.2.1 Give details of the different committees, their members and the proportion of proprietary and independent directors in each committee:

### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

| <b>Name</b>                  | <b>Position</b> | <b>Type</b> |
|------------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS   | CHAIRMAN        | Executive   |
| DEMETRIO CARCELLER ARCE      | VICE CHAIRMAN   | Proprietary |
| JOSÉ NIETO DE LA CIERVA      | MEMBER          | Proprietary |
| JOSÉ ANTONIO SEGURADO GARCÍA | MEMBER          | Independent |

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| <b>% executive directors</b>           | 25.00% |
| <b>% proprietary directors</b>         | 50.00% |
| <b>% independent directors</b>         | 25.00% |
| <b>% other non-executive directors</b> | 0.00%  |

### **AUDIT AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE**

| <b>Name</b>                       | <b>Position</b> | <b>Type</b>         |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| JOSÉ IGNACIO COMENGE SÁNCHEZ-REAL | CHAIRMAN        | Independent         |
| FERNANDO CASTELLÓ CLEMENTE        | MEMBER          | Independent         |
| HISPAFOODS INVEST, S.L.           | MEMBER          | Proprietary         |
| EUGENIO RUIZ-GÁLVEZ PRIEGO        | MEMBER          | Other non-executive |

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| <b>% executive directors</b>           | 0.00%  |
| <b>% proprietary directors</b>         | 25.00% |
| <b>% independent directors</b>         | 50.00% |
| <b>% other non-executive directors</b> | 25.00% |

### **NOMINATION AND REMUNERATION COMMITTEE**

| <b>Name</b>                  | <b>Position</b> | <b>Type</b> |
|------------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| FERNANDO CASTELLÓ CLEMENTE   | CHAIRMAN        | Independent |
| DEMETRIO CARCELLER ARCE      | MEMBER          | Proprietary |
| HISPAFOODS INVEST, S.L.      | MEMBER          | Proprietary |
| JOSÉ ANTONIO SEGURADO GARCÍA | MEMBER          | Independent |

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| <b>% executive directors</b>           | 0.00%  |
| <b>% proprietary directors</b>         | 50.00% |
| <b>% independent directors</b>         | 50.00% |
| <b>% other non-executive directors</b> | 0.00%  |

## STRATEGY AND INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

| Name                                | Position | Type        |
|-------------------------------------|----------|-------------|
| DEMETRIO CARCELLER ARCE             | CHAIRMAN | Proprietary |
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS          | MEMBER   | Executive   |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | MEMBER   | Proprietary |
| JOSÉ NIETO DE LA CIERVA             | MEMBER   | Proprietary |

|                                 |        |
|---------------------------------|--------|
| % executive directors           | 25.00% |
| % proprietary directors         | 75.00% |
| % independent directors         | 0.00%  |
| % other non-executive directors | 0.00%  |

C.2.2 Complete the following table with information on the number of female directors on the board committees over the past four years:

|                                       | Number of female directors |        |      |        |      |        |      |        |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                       |                            |        | 2013 |        | 2012 |        | 2011 |        |
|                                       | No.                        | %      | No.  | %      | No.  | %      | No.  | %      |
| EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE                   | 0                          | 0.00%  | 0    | 0.00%  | 0    | 0.00%  | 0    | 0.00%  |
| AUDIT AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE        | 1                          | 25.00% | 2    | 40.00% | 2    | 40.00% | 2    | 50.00% |
| NOMINATION AND REMUNERATION COMMITTEE | 1                          | 25.00% | 2    | 40.00% | 2    | 40.00% | 2    | 50.00% |
| STRATEGY AND INVESTMENT COMMITTEE     | 0                          | 0.00%  | 0    | 0.00%  | 0    | 0.00%  | 0    | 0.00%  |

C.2.3 State whether the Audit Committee has the following duties:

|   | Yes | No |
|---|-----|----|
| Supervise the preparation and integrity of the company's, and where appropriate the group's, financial reporting, checking compliance with the legal requirements, adequate definition of the scope of consolidation and correct application of accounting principles   | X   |    |
| Regularly check the internal risk management and control systems, ensuring that the principal risks are adequately identified, managed and reported   | X   |    |
| Oversee the independence and efficacy of the internal audit department; propose the nomination, appointment, re-appointment and removal of the chief audit officer; propose the budget for this department; receive regular information on its activities; and check that the top management heeds the conclusions and recommendations set out in its reports | X   |    |
| Establish and supervise a "whistle-blowing" procedure so employees can confidentially and, where appropriate, even anonymously report any potentially important irregularities they observe within the company, particularly in financial and accounting aspects  | X   |    |
| Submit to the Board proposals for nomination, appointment, re-appointment and replacement of external auditor, and terms of engagement  | X   |    |
| Receive regularly from the external auditor information on the audit plan and the outcome of its fulfilment and see that top management heeds its recommendations   | X   |    |
| Guarantee the independence of the external auditor  | X   |    |



#### C.2.4 Describe the rules of organisation and procedure and the responsibilities attributed to each Committee.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.** This Committee has a maximum of 7 members, including the Chairman (who chairs the committee) and the Vice-Chairman of the Board. The committee generally holds one meeting a month. Whenever, in the opinion of the Chairman or 3 of its members, circumstances so require, the resolutions adopted by the Committee are submitted to the Board for ratification. This also applies to any issues which the Board has delegated to the Committee to study, reserving for itself the final decision on the matter. The Committee is responsible for monitoring and overseeing compliance with the guidelines on strategy and corporate development, preparing the annual budget and controlling the business management of the company, ensuring adequate coordination of subsidiaries in their common interests and those of the company.

**AUDIT COMMITTEE.** This Committee has a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 5 non-executive directors. The Chairman must be an independent director and must be replaced every four years, becoming eligible for re-election one year after his retirement as such. The Committee is responsible for ensuring that the internal audit procedures, the internal control systems in general, including the risk management control system and, in particular, the financial reporting internal control system are adequate; that the external auditors and internal audit manager are selected on the basis of professional, objective criteria, guaranteeing their independence in the performance of their duties; informing the board on any related party transactions submitted for its consideration; controlling possible conflicts of interest; and making sure, in general, that the company's reporting, particularly financial reporting, complies with the principle of truth and maximum transparency for shareholders and markets.

**NOMINATION AND REMUNERATION COMMITTEE.** This Committee has a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 5 non-executive directors and its chairman must be an independent director. The Committee reports on the appointment and removal of directors and their assignment to the different committees, and submits proposals on the remuneration policy. In turn, it oversees the senior management of the company in respect of their appointments and dismissals, assessment of the management training, promotion and selection policy, remuneration systems and levels, being informed of and monitoring the decisions on these issues adopted in the group subsidiaries.

**STRATEGY AND INVESTMENT COMMITTEE.** This Committee has a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 5 Directors. With support and assistance from the senior management of the company, this committee informs and submits proposals to the board on the growth, yield and market share of the company, new investments, restructuring processes and agreements with other groups, designing strategic development plans, if necessary, and monitoring these aspects also in the subsidiaries, adopting such initiatives as may be considered necessary for the common interest and benefit of the Company and its subsidiaries.

The following rules are also applicable regarding the composition and responsibilities of all the committees:

- In the event of temporary absence or unavailability of the Chairman of each Committee, he will be replaced by the member of the Committee provisionally appointed by the Board, or otherwise by the oldest member of the Committee. The Executive Committee is an exception to this rule, since it has a Vice-Chairman who will stand in for the Chairman in these cases.
- The Secretary of the Board acts as non-member Secretary of each Committee.
- The Committees meet whenever called by their respective Chairman or at the request of two of their members, and in any case whenever the Board requests the issuance of reports, the submission of proposals or the adoption of resolutions within their respective duties. Meetings are called by the Secretary, following instructions from the Chairman.
- Committee meetings are attended, with the right to speak but not vote, by any members of the management team that the Committee in question may consider necessary.
- The Committees report to the Board on their decisions at the first Board meeting held after such decisions have been made.
- Board meetings have access to the minutes of Committee meetings through the Secretary of the Board.

The powers of the Board Committees are described in Explanatory Note Eight in section H.

#### C.2.5 Indicate the existence, if appropriate, of regulations of the board committees, where they are available for consultation and any modifications made during the year. State whether an annual report has been issued voluntarily on the activities of each committee.

There is no separate text regulating any of the Committees of the Board, since they are all sufficiently regulated in the following articles of the Regulations of the Board:

- Executive Committee, Article 12
- Audit and Compliance Committee, Article 13
- Nomination and Remuneration Committee, Article 14
- Strategy and Investment Committee, Article 15.

Both the Audit and Compliance Committee and the Nomination and Remuneration Committee have issued activity reports for 2014 for submission to the Board of Directors and, if deemed fit, to be laid before the shareholders at the AGM 2015.

C.2.6 Does the composition of the Executive Committee reflect the participation on the Board of the different types of Director?

YES  NO

## D. RELATED PARTY AND INTER-COMPANY TRANSACTIONS

D.1 Name the competent body and explain the procedure, if any, for approving related party and inter-company transactions.

**Body competent for approving related party transactions**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Procedure for approving related party transactions**

Related party transactions are approved by the Board subject to a report by the Audit and Compliance Committee.

Under Article 28 of the Articles of Association, the Audit and Compliance Committee has, among others, the power to ensure that transactions between the company and its subsidiaries or between these companies and directors and controlling shareholders are made on arm's length terms and respecting the principle of equal treatment, thus controlling any conflicts of interest that may arise in these related-party transactions.

The Regulations of the Board establish, in general, that the Audit and Compliance Committee shall see that the procedures of the financial reporting internal control system are adequate, informing the Board on any related party transactions submitted for its consideration.

Article 13.3 of the Regulations establishes that the Audit and Compliance Committee shall inform the Board prior to the adoption by the latter of any decisions on related party transactions requiring its authorisation.

Explain whether the power to approve related party transactions has been delegated, if so indicating the person or body to whom it has been delegated.

The Board has not delegated the power to approve related party transactions.

D.2 List any transactions for a significant amount or object between the company and/or companies in its group and controlling shareholders of the company:

| Name of significant shareholder | Name of company or group company | Relationship | Type of transaction                   | Amount (thousand euro) |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------|
| SOCIEDAD ANÓNIMA DAMM           | HERBA RICEMILLS, S.L.U.          | Contractual  | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise) | 700                    |
| SOCIEDAD ANÓNIMA DAMM           | HERBA RICEMILLS, S.L.U.          | Contractual  | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise) | 3,627                  |

D.3 List any significant transactions for a significant amount or object between the company and/or companies in its group and the directors or executives of the company:

| Name of director or executive       | Name of company or group company | Relationship | Type of transaction                       | Amount (thousand euro) |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|---|------------------------|
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS          | LUIS HERNÁNDEZ GONZÁLEZ          | Relative     | Leases                                    | 37                     |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | DEHESA NORTE, S.A.               | Corporate    | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 118                    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | DEHESA NORTE, S.A.               | Corporate    | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 68                     |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | DEHESA NORTE, S.A.               | Corporate    | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 36                     |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | DEHESA NORTE, S.A.               | Corporate    | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 30                     |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | DEHESA NORTE, S.A.               | Corporate    | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise)     | 118                    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | DEHESA NORTE, S.A.               | Corporate    | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise)     | 68                     |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | DEHESA NORTE, S.A.               | Corporate    | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise)     | 30                     |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | DEHESA NORTE, S.A.               | Corporate    | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise)     | 36                     |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | ISLASUR, S.A.                    | Corporate    | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 309                    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | ISLASUR, S.A.                    | Corporate    | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 181                    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | ISLASUR, S.A.                    | Corporate    | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 67                     |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | ISLASUR, S.A.                    | Corporate    | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 30                     |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | ISLASUR, S.A.                    | Corporate    | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 73                     |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | ISLASUR, S.A.                    | Corporate    | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise)     | 83                     |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | ISLASUR, S.A.                    | Corporate    | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise)     | 181                    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | ISLASUR, S.A.                    | Corporate    | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise)     | 67                     |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | ISLASUR, S.A.                    | Corporate    | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise)     | 30                     |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | AUSTRALIAN COMMODITIES, S.A.     | Corporate    | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 101                    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | AUSTRALIAN COMMODITIES, S.A.     | Corporate    | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 53                     |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | AUSTRALIAN COMMODITIES, S.A.     | Corporate    | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 30                     |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | AUSTRALIAN COMMODITIES, S.A.     | Corporate    | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 73                     |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | AUSTRALIAN COMMODITIES, S.A.     | Corporate    | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise)     | 173                    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | AUSTRALIAN COMMODITIES, S.A.     | Corporate    | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise)     | 52                     |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | AUSTRALIAN COMMODITIES, S.A.     | Corporate    | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise)     | 30                     |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | EL COBUJÓN, S.A.                 | Corporate    | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 163                    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | EL COBUJÓN, S.A.                 | Corporate    | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 34                     |

|                                     |                             |           |   |       |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|---|-------|
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | EL COBUJÓN, S.A.            | Corporate | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 25    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | EL COBUJÓN, S.A.            | Corporate | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 86    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | EL COBUJÓN, S.A.            | Corporate | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise)     | 193   |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | EL COBUJÓN, S.A.            | Corporate | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise)     | 34    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | EL COBUJÓN, S.A.            | Corporate | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise)     | 55    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | EL COBUJÓN, S.A.            | Corporate | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise)     | 24    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | MUNDIARROZ, S.A.            | Corporate | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 132   |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | MUNDIARROZ, S.A.            | Corporate | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 68    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | MUNDIARROZ, S.A.            | Corporate | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 73    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | MUNDIARROZ, S.A.            | Corporate | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 30    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | MUNDIARROZ, S.A.            | Corporate | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise)     | 203   |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | MUNDIARROZ, S.A.            | Corporate | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise)     | 68    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | MUNDIARROZ, S.A.            | Corporate | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise)     | 30    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | PESQUERÍAS ISLA MAYOR, S.A. | Corporate | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 76    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | PESQUERÍAS ISLA MAYOR, S.A. | Corporate | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 68    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | PESQUERÍAS ISLA MAYOR, S.A. | Corporate | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 51    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | PESQUERÍAS ISLA MAYOR, S.A. | Corporate | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise)     | 75    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | PESQUERÍAS ISLA MAYOR, S.A. | Corporate | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise)     | 68    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | PESQUERÍAS ISLA MAYOR, S.A. | Corporate | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise)     | 50    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | -                           | -         | Leases                                    | 79    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | -                           | -         | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 7,719 |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | -                           | -         | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise)     | 304   |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | -                           | -         | Services rendered                         | 2     |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | -                           | -         | Services received                         | 175   |

**D.4 Report any significant transactions with other companies in the group that are not eliminated in the consolidated financial statements and which do not, by virtue of their object or terms, correspond to the normal business of the Company:**

In any case, inform on any inter-company transaction with companies established in countries or territories considered tax havens:

**D.5 State the amount of transactions made with other related parties.**

0 (thousand euros).

**D.6 Describe the mechanisms established to detect, define and resolve possible conflicts of interest between the company and/or its group, and its directors, executives or controlling shareholders:**

The Audit and Compliance Committee ensures that the internal audit procedures and internal control systems are adequate and informs the Board on the related-party transactions submitted for its consideration and control of any possible conflicts of interest.

Under Article 28 of the Articles of Association, the Audit Committee has, among others, the power to ensure that transactions between the company and its subsidiaries or between these companies and directors and controlling shareholders are made on arm's length terms and respecting the principle of equal treatment, thus controlling any conflicts of interest that may arise in these related-party transactions.

Under Article 6.5 of the Regulations of the Board, the Board is competent, once a favourable report has been issued by the Audit and Compliance Committee, to authorise any related-party transactions between the company or group companies and directors, controlling shareholders, other related parties or shareholders represented on the board. This authorisation is not necessary when the transactions meet all of the following three conditions:

- If the transactions are made under contracts with standard terms and conditions applied globally to many clients.
- If the transactions are made at prices or rates established generally by the supplier of the good or service in question.
- If the amount of the transaction is no more than 1% of the annual income of the company.

Article 22 of the Regulations of the Board establishes the following prohibitions and disqualifications, among others, for directors:

- Holding positions or duties of representation, management, counselling or rendering of services in rival companies or the holding or performance of such positions, duties or services in companies having a controlling stake in rival companies.
- Attendance and participation in the discussions of any of the corporate bodies concerning business in which the director personally, or a member of his/her family has an interest or a company in which the director has an executive position or a significant shareholding.
- Direct or indirect participation in related-party transactions with the company or other group companies without previously informing the Board and seeking its approval, except in the cases contemplated in Article 6.5 of these Regulations.

The article also bars from the board anyone who, personally or through an intermediary, holds office in or is a representative of or is otherwise related to companies that are habitual clients or suppliers of goods and services of the company, whenever this condition may give rise to a conflict or clash of interest with the Company or its subsidiaries; in such cases the Chairman shall be informed of the situation and request a report from the Audit and Compliance Committee. Financial institutions providing financial services for the company are excluded from the foregoing.

Directors and executives are also subject to the specific obligations regarding conflicts of interests and related party transactions established in the Internal Code of Market Conduct (Rules 4, 8, 12 and 14).

**D.7 Is more than one company of the Group listed in Spain?**

YES  NO

Name any subsidiaries listed in Spain:

**Listed subsidiary**

State whether the respective areas of business and possible business relationships between them have been precisely and publicly defined, as well as those of the listed subsidiary with other group companies;

**Define any business relationships between the parent company and the listed subsidiary and between the latter and the other group companies**

Describe the mechanisms in place to settle any possible conflicts of interest between the listed subsidiary and other companies in the group:

|  |
|--|
| <b>Mechanisms for solving possible conflicts of interest</b> |
|--|

## **E. RISK CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS**

### **E.1 Explain the scope of the company's Risk Management System.**

The Group has an integral, homogenous system for assessing any risks to which it might be exposed. That system is based on the preparation of a risk map using a software tool called GIRO, through which information is input in the subsidiaries by the risk managers of each unit. In the process of pinpointing, assessment and management of risks, the risks are ranked from greater to lesser impact for the Group and by probability of occurrence. The risk universe is structured in four main groups: compliance, operational, strategic and financial, and all of them are subdivided into a large number of categories.

The process dynamically assesses both the inherent risk and the residual risk after application of the internal controls and action protocols established to mitigate them. These controls include preventive controls, adequate separation of duties, clear levels of authorisation and definition of policies and procedures. These controls can in turn be grouped into manual and automatic, made by data processing applications.

This model is both qualitative and quantitative and can be measured in the Group's results, for which purpose the risk level is considered acceptable or tolerable on a corporate level.

This model is used for both the pasta and rice divisions, covering the Group's entire business.

### **E.2 Name the corporate bodies responsible for preparing and implementing the Risk Management System.**

The Group's Chief Operating Officer is responsible for risk management on a corporate level, reporting directly to the Chairman of the Board. The senior management of the principal subsidiaries of the Group report regularly on any risks affecting them and the protocols and controls established to mitigate them. Process-level managers oversee those controls and solve any gaps or weaknesses (critical points) that may arise. Risk management is dynamic, such that the risks to be considered vary with the changing circumstances of our business.

Article 9.1 of the Regulations of the Board establishes that the Board shall receive information on the most important aspects of business management and any foreseeable risk situations for the Company and its subsidiaries, together with the actions proposed by the senior management in respect thereof.

Similarly, Article 6.3, which addresses the board's scope of action, establishes in respect of the transparency and truth of the company's reporting, that the Board shall, as such and through its different Committees:

- a) Ensure the independence and professional suitability of the External Auditor.
- b) Supervise the services of the Internal Audit Department, overseeing the financial reporting process and internal control systems.
- c) Control the financial information disclosed to the shareholders or the markets in general.

In particular, the Audit and Compliance Committee is responsible for overseeing and boosting internal control of the Group and risk management systems and proposing the risk management and control policy to the Board, identifying at least the following:

- The types of risk (operational, technological, financial, legal and reputational) to which the company is exposed
- The level of risk that the company considers acceptable
- The measures to mitigate the impact of the risks identified should they occur
- The control and reporting systems to be used to control and manage those risks.

### E.3 Define the main risks that could have a bearing on achievement of the company's business goals.

- Health risks: Owing to the nature of our business, we consider this risk particularly important. The aspects regarding food safety are another critical point to which the Group pays the utmost attention, being bound by a large number of laws and standards in each of the countries in which we distribute our products. Respect for the environment is another critical point for the Group, considering our industrial activity, with a large number of plants distributed throughout Europe and the USA, mainly.

The Group's policy is based on the principal of compliance with the laws and regulations in place from time to time, for which it has defined, developed and implemented a quality, environment and food safety management system that complies with the requirements of the standards UNE-EN-ISO 9001:2000/8 (Food Safety System Certification), UNE-EN-ISO 14001:2004 (Environment Management) and ISO 22000:2005.

The food safety programmes are designed to follow protocols that seek to identify and control certain Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) to minimise the residual risk.

The principal control points are grouped into:

- Physical points: controls to detect foreign objects in the product or the presence of metals.
- Chemical points: detection of chemical elements or presence of allergens.
- Biological points: presence of elements such as salmonella or other types of pathogen.

Most of our handling processes have obtained IFS (International Food Standard) certification and the pasta plants in the United States have obtained compliance certification from the Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI).

The Group has also implemented several initiatives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and atmospheric waste, improve the quality of water and reduce effluent, enhance energy and hydrological efficiency and implement physical waste recycling programmes for paper, aluminium and other materials.

The company provides its employees with continuous, adequate training in food safety and the rules of safety and hygiene in the workplace.

- Commodity supply risk: The availability of commodities in the quantity and quality required to meet commitments to customers and the requirements of our brands is a key factor for our business both nationally (Spanish paddy rice) and internationally (semi-processed rice for the Group subsidiaries). Any material risk in this area is critical for the Group.

- Market risk (prices): Unexpected variations in the prices of our commodity supplies may seriously affect the profitability of our commercial transactions, in both the industrial and brand-based segments.

- Customer concentration risk: This risk factor affects both the industrial and retail segments.

- Competition risk: In general, the pressure from white label brands is the main threat for maintaining our market shares.

- Customer credit risk: In the present international crisis, many companies find it difficult to meet their payment commitments so there is a growing risk of default.

- Reputational risk: This is the risk associated with changes of opinion resulting in a negative perception of the Group, its brands or products by customers, shareholders, suppliers, market analysts, etc. and adversely affecting the Group's ability to maintain its commercial and financial relations.

- Climate risk: The effects of droughts and flooding in the countries where we source our supplies cause problems of availability and unstable commodity prices, in both rice and durum wheat.

- Changes in lifestyle: Low carbohydrate diets.

- Technological risk, especially the risk of a possible "technological lag". In our sector, one of the most important tools for competing with our rivals is based on constant technological innovation and searching for ways to adapt to consumers' desires.

- Natural disasters, fires, etc.: As a major industrial group, a significant part of the assets on the balance sheet corresponds to its factories. The Group has insured all its factories and facilities, which would mitigate the effect of any incidents that may jeopardise their value.

Finally, there are another two risks to which the Group is exposed:

- Regulatory risk: The food industry is a sector subject to numerous regulations affecting export and import quotas, customs duties, intervention prices, etc., subject to the directives laid down in the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP).

- Country or market risk.

These risks have been mitigated over recent years through a firm business and geographical diversification policy, increasing our presence in Europe, America (United States and Canada), Asia (Thailand and India) and Africa (Egypt and Morocco).

#### E.4 State whether the company has a risk tolerance level.

Risks are measured by both inherent and residual risk. A scorecard is made each year of the principal ten risks to which the Group may be exposed (the TOP TEN), which are rated and measured as far as possible. If the economic consequences of a risk could cause a loss (or a loss of profit) of more than 5% of the consolidated EBITDA budgeted, it is considered a threat requiring corporate action. A risk with an effect of over 20% of the individual EBITDA of a business must also be reported on a corporate level to take such mitigation measures as may be considered necessary.

Risk identification and assessment corresponds to the manager of each business unit or division, who should quantify the maximum risk exposure. Tolerance is set in terms of the percentages of EBITDA indicated above. The Management Committee adopts such measures as may be considered necessary to mitigate risks.

#### E.5 What risks have occurred during the year?

- Although the situation has been addressed in the past two crop years, in 2014 the surplus supply of rice on the international market has intensified, pushing down market prices. This situation has been caused by several factors: surplus stocks globally, especially in Thailand, together with a growing supply of countries benefiting from the EBA treaties and the relatively weak US dollar. As a result of this combination of factors, rice from outside the EU has become cheaper, making European rice less competitive.

The impact of this risk was felt in the subsidiary Herba Ricemills, where our production of parboiled rice was reduced by approx. 40,000 tonnes, which would have contributed around €2 million to profit. Herba has responded to this critical risk by sourcing rice for our European subsidiaries from mainly Asian countries, saving our domestic production for uses and applications with a higher value added.

- In respect of credit risk in Spain, one of our main clients in the American region (IPACPA, in Mexico) is very close to insolvency. Despite the control in customer collections management, the alarm over payment delays by this client arose at the peak of our sales, with a cumulative balance of almost USD 2 million. A rapid alert enabled us to interrupt the latest shipments, deviating their delivery to controlled destinations and thereby more than halving the risk.

- The main risk in France is associated with the volatile commodity prices, particularly those of durum wheat, which rose by 60% over the year. This pushed the cost of our supplies up by €5 million. Our subsidiary Panzani was able to pass that extra cost on to white label distributors almost immediately and only at the end of the year to our specific brands.

- Just as in the preceding year, the persistent drought in Texas caused supply problems for our rice subsidiary in the United States and logistics problems for our factory in Freeport. Our subsidiary, Riviana, had to transfer part of its production to another factory in Tennessee, where it is easier to obtain rice from Arkansas and Louisiana. At the same time, shifts and workforce were reduced at our Freeport plant. The total impact on our profit and loss account was 8 million dollars.

- Our pasta subsidiary New World Pasta also suffered logistic problems during the year in the United States. These problems were caused by extreme weather conditions and the shortage of hauliers in Canada and the north west United States. This affects the supplies of raw material to our production plants in Canada and Winchester (USA) and pushed up our supply costs, which was mitigated by reducing promotion costs.

- In general, we highlight the following risks, as they affected several of our subsidiaries:

(i) The volatility on the foreign exchange markets affected all of our subsidiaries, although the overall effect was positive, mainly due to the evolution of the dollar towards the end of the year.

(ii) Owing to the economic crisis mainly in Europe, we have had to make concessions to some clients in respect of their payment schedules, slightly lengthening the average collection period for some of our subsidiaries. As a result, the Group has also tightened the credit terms for some of our clients.



## E.6 Explain the response and supervision plans for the main risks to which the company is exposed.

The management committee in each subsidiary is responsible for monitoring the subsidiary's risk supervision system. Management committees usually meet monthly to analyse any risks that may have materialised and follow up the contingency plans and actions taken to mitigate them. Control and monitoring of the economic variables in each subsidiary against the corresponding budget also ensures the immediate detection of unforeseen risk situations.

In the subsidiaries with greatest weight within the Group, such as the American subsidiaries, those plans are documented in the "Crisis Management Plan" (CMP), which specifies the main risks to which the company is exposed, the protocols for responding to them and the company officers responsible for implementation.

## F FINANCIAL REPORTING INTERNAL RISK CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (FRICS)

Describe the mechanisms comprising the financial reporting internal control and risk management systems (FRICS) of your company

### F.1 Control environment

Report on at least the following, describing their principal features:

#### F.1.1 What bodies and/or duties are responsible for: (i) the existence and maintenance of an adequate and effective FRICS; (ii) its implementation; and (iii) its oversight?

As established in its Regulations, the Board of Directors is ultimately responsible for the existence, maintenance and oversight of an adequate, effective financial reporting internal control system (FRICS), delegating the existence and maintenance of the procedures to ensure that the financial reporting is correct to the Audit and Compliance Committee and the design and promotion to the Management Committee.

The Management Committee is responsible for the design, implementation and functioning of the FRICS through the Group Finance Department and the Finance Departments of the different business units. The different general managements are responsible for effective implementation of these systems within their respective areas of activity.

The Audit and Compliance Committee supervises the Group financial reporting, assisted by the Internal Audit Department, the external auditors and certain executives of the organisation (from the Finance Department or other areas) when required.

As established in the Regulations of the Board, the Audit and Compliance Committee has the following duties:

- a) Supervise and promote internal control of the company and its risk management systems.
- b) Oversee and promote the policies, procedures and systems used for preparing and controlling the company's financial reporting, checking the services performed in this regard by the Internal Audit Department, the Finance Department and the Management Committee and making sure the Group is adequately informed about them.
- c) Ensure that the internal control systems are adequate and effective in respect of the accounting practices and principles used when drawing up the company's annual accounts, supervising the policies and procedures established to ensure due compliance with applicable legal provisions and internal regulations.
- d) Oversee compliance with the internal codes of conduct and corporate governance rules. In particular, ensure implementation of and compliance with the internal regulations and codes applicable to the risk management and control systems in general and the financial reporting process in particular.

#### F.1.2 State whether the following elements exist, especially in respect of the financial reporting process:

- Departments and/or mechanisms responsible for: (i) designing and reviewing the organisational structure; (ii) clearly defining the lines of responsibility and authority, with an adequate distribution of tasks and duties; and (iii) ensuring that there are sufficient procedures

for adequately informing the company.

As established in its Regulations, the board is responsible for defining the general strategy and guidelines for management of the company and encouraging and supervising the actions taken by the senior officers, establishing an organisational structure that will guarantee the utmost efficiency of the senior management and the management team in general.

According to the Regulations of the Board, the Nomination and Remuneration Committee is responsible for checking the criteria followed regarding the composition and structure of the board and for selecting candidates for the board. It also nominates the chairman, CEO or managing directors and secretary of the board and proposes the assignment of directors to the different board committees, the members of the Management Committee and any other advisory committees that the board may create.

In turn, the Nomination and Remuneration Committee supervises the Senior Management of the group, both in appointments and removals and in assessing the senior executive remuneration and incentives policy, informing on the criteria applied in the subsidiaries, and the executive promotion, training and selection policies of both the parent and its subsidiaries.

Within each group company, the organisational structure of the units participating in the preparation of financial reporting depends on several factors, such as the volume of operations or type of business, but in all cases it corresponds to the need to cover the main duties of recording, preparing, checking and reporting the operations performed and the economic and financial position of the company. The executive directors and management of Ebro Foods participate actively in the management committees of the group's subsidiaries, thereby guaranteeing direct communication through the lines of responsibility and authority.

The senior management and the human resources departments of the Group and each of the subsidiaries are responsible for designing the organisational structure according to local needs, the most important subsidiaries having a formal definition through organisation charts, which include a description of the duties and responsibilities of the main areas participating in internal control of financial reporting.

The different job descriptions of positions and responsibilities are maintained by the human resources department of each subsidiary and the managements of all the subsidiaries, especially the financial managements, are informed of any new member of a subsidiary.

- Code of conduct, body responsible for its approval, degree of publicity and instruction, principles and values included (stating whether there is any specific mention of the recording of transactions and preparation of financial reporting), body responsible for analysing default and proposing corrective measures and penalties.

The Code of Conduct of the Ebro Group, an update of the Code of Ethics of 2003 and Code of Conduct of 2008, was approved by the board on 28 March 2012 and all levels of the organisation were notified.

The Code of Conduct provides guidance on how to act in the Group's internal and external relationships, strengthening the values that distinguish us and establishing a basic reference to be followed by the Group.

The Code aims to:

- Be a formal, institutional reference for personal and professional conduct.
- Guarantee the responsible, ethical behaviour of all the Group's professionals in their work.
- Reduce the element of subjectivity in personal interpretations of moral and ethical principles.
- Create a standardisation tool to guarantee progressive implementation throughout the Group of the ten principles of the UN Global Compact.
- Grow responsibly and committed to all our stakeholders.

As established in the Code of Conduct, the Group assumes a principle of conduct based on transparent reporting, consisting of an undertaking to report reliable financial, accounting or other information to the markets. Accordingly, the company's internal and external financial reporting will give a true and fair view of its real economic, financial and equity situation according to generally accepted accounting principles.

Employees formally sign the Code of Conduct when they join the workforce of practically any Group company and it has been distributed among all Group employees during the year.

The Code of Conduct is also published in the Intranet, where it can be consulted by any employee, and on the Group's website.

The Audit and Compliance Committee, by delegation of the Ebro Foods Board of Directors, is responsible for monitoring and controlling application of the Code.

The Audit and Compliance Committee has an e-mail address to which any Group employee may send queries and suggestions regarding the interpretation of the Code of Conduct.

The Audit and Compliance Committee reports regularly to the Group's Board of Directors, after obtaining a report from the Corporate Social Responsibility Management, on any queries raised in respect of the interpretation and application of the Code of Conduct, how they have been solved and, where appropriate, the interpretation criteria followed.

- Whistleblowing channel, through which the audit committee can be informed of any financial or accounting irregularities, any breaches of the code of conduct and irregular activities within the organisation, indicating whether this channel is confidential.

As established in the Regulations of the Board, the Audit and Compliance Committee is formally responsible for implementing a whistle-blowing channel accessible to all Group employees and defining a protocol for prioritising, processing, investigating and settling reports according to their importance and nature.

For this purpose, the Ebro Group has, through its Code of Conduct, established a whistle-blowing or reporting channel through which any irregular conduct in financial, accounting or other areas and any breach of the code of conduct can be reported confidentially.

The Audit and Compliance Committee has a specific e-mail address through which any employees may report whatever conduct they may consider necessary and contact the Audit and Compliance Committee to inform on breaches of the code of conduct.

The Audit and Compliance Committee guarantees the confidentiality of the reports handled, according to a confidentiality commitment signed by all those involved in handling the reports and other precautions included in the "Report Handling Protocol". That protocol, approved by the Audit and Compliance Committee in 2012, establishes the procedure to be followed on receiving reports, regarding their processing, prioritising, solving and notification.

- Training programmes and regular updates for employees involved in the preparation and checking of financial information and evaluation by the FRICS, covering at least accounting and auditing standards, internal control and risk management.

The Ebro Group has a policy of making sure it has personnel with sufficient training and experience to carry out the duties and responsibilities assigned to them. The Ebro employees involved in the preparation and checking of the financial information and FRICS evaluation participate in training and refresher courses regarding the laws and standards in place from time to time and good practices to guarantee the reliability of the financial information generated.

The Ebro Group also encourages and provides means and resources for its employees to keep their accounting knowledge up to date through the attendance of seminars, on-line information and other means and regular meetings are held with the external auditors to assess in advance the standards in place or those about to enter into force.

During the year the Ebro Group has focused its training for personnel involved in the preparation and checking of financial information and FRICS evaluation on the following aspects:

- Accounting updates
- Management and control of costs for business decision-making
- Training in the tax laws in different countries
- Financial reporting internal control system manual

## F.2 Measurement of risks in financial reporting

Report at least on:

F.2.1 What are the main features of the risk identification process, including risks of error or fraud, in respect of:

- Whether the process exists and is documented.

Risk Management is a process established by Management and supervised by the Board through the Audit and Compliance Committee. This process is specified through the Risk Management System based on the Corporate Risk Management Policy.

The potential risks events that could affect the organisation are identified and assessed through the Risk Management System, pinpointing and assessing the risks corresponding to each line of business. Through this Risk Management System the Ebro Group has drawn up a Consolidated Risk Map by compiling and combining the risk maps of its major subsidiaries.

This process is coordinated by a group-level team, which manages and establishes the permitted tolerance to the risk and coordinates actions to align the measures addressing risks with the Group's global risk policy so that the exposure to risk assumed by the Ebro Group overall is known at all times.

Based on the results obtained, systems are devised for addressing risks and internal control, to keep the likelihood and impact of those risks within the tolerance levels, thereby providing reasonable certainty regarding achievement of the strategic business goals.

The Ebro Group currently has a tool with which it is able to manage the Risk Management System, which covers all the most significant risks of the Ebro Group.

- Whether the process covers all the financial reporting objectives (existence and occurrence; integrity; measurement; presentation, breakdown and comparison; and rights and obligations); whether it is updated and how often.

The Ebro Group has established a continuous improvement process to minimise the risks related with financial reporting, improving the design and effectiveness of existing controls.

For this purpose, it has a process identifying the risks affecting the reliability of financial reporting, based on and beginning with a definition of the scope, according to quantitative criteria of materiality in respect of the consolidated amounts and other qualitative criteria (error, fraud, uncommon transactions, etc.). Companies in the major business units or divisions that meet any of the afore-mentioned criteria and the material accounting items of each one are defined according to those criteria. Once the material items have been defined on a company level, the processes and sub-processes they affect are established, according to a relationship matrix.

For each of the sub-processes included within the scope, the inherent risks are identified and the checks made by the responsible persons to mitigate those risks are defined, setting this information down in a Risks-Controls Matrix. Those risks take account of all the financial reporting objectives (existence and occurrence; integrity; measurement; presentation, breakdown and comparison; and rights and obligations).

The financial reporting risks are identified in the Ebro Group's Risks-Controls Matrix and updated to take account of any changes in the scope of consolidation of the Group or development of its business and their reflection in the financial statements, making a comparative analysis every year of the variations in material processes and sub-processes to establish any risks that have not been previously identified.

- The existence of a process for defining the scope of consolidation, taking into account, among other aspects, the possible existence of complex corporate structures, base companies or special purpose vehicles.

The Ebro Group has a documented process based on internal regulations that guarantees the correct identification of the scope of consolidation through an adequate separation of duties in the requesting, authorising, reporting and recording of any operation entailing the incorporation, merger, division, acquisition or sale of companies and any other corporate operation, directly involving the legal department, management committee and the board.

This process considers the possible existence of complex corporate structures, base companies or special purpose vehicles, among other means by establishing an adequate structure to separate the duties of requesting, authorising and reporting for any corporate operation within the Group. However, transactions or complex corporate structures that might entail off-balance sheet transactions which should be recorded within it are not identified at present.

- Whether the process takes into account the effects of other types of risk (operational, technological, financial, legal, reputational, environmental, etc.) insofar as they affect the financial statements.

The Risks Management System of the Ebro Group is designed to identify potential risk events that might affect the organisation. At present there are four types of risks: Operating, Compliance, Strategic and Financial risks, and the conclusions are taken into account insofar as the risks may affect financial reporting.

- Which governing body of the company supervises the process.

According to the regulations of the board, the Audit and Compliance Committee is responsible for regularly checking the internal risk management and control systems ensuring that the principal risks are adequately identified, managed and disclosed.

### F.3 Control activities

Inform whether the company has at least the following, describing their main features:

F.3.1 Procedures for checking and authorising financial information to be published on the stock markets and description of the FRICS, indicating who is responsible for these tasks and documentation describing the flows of activities and controls (including those checking for the risk of fraud) in the different types of transactions that may have a material effect on the financial statements, including the procedure for closing of accounts and the specific review of judgements, estimates, valuations and significant projections.

The priorities established within the Ebro Group include the quality and reliability of the financial information, both internal information for decision-making and external information published on the markets. The information to be provided by the different units is requested by the Group financial department, paying special attention to the processes of closing the accounts, consolidation, measurement of intangibles and areas subject to judgement and estimates.

The Ebro Group has procedures for checking and authorising the financial information and description of the FRICS, responsibility for which corresponds to the financial department, the management committee, the Audit and Compliance Committee and the board.

The Audit and Compliance Committee checks and analyses the financial statements and any other important financial information, as well as the principal judgements, estimates and projections included and discusses them with the corporate financial department and the internal and external auditors to confirm that the information is complete and the principles applied are consistent with those of the previous full-year accounts.

The procedure for checking and authorising the financial information corresponds to the Group financial department, based on the information checked and validated by the different units. The Audit and Compliance Committee supervises this information to be published on the market.

The Group has implemented an improvement process to increase the documentation and make the generation of financial information and its subsequent supervision more effective and efficient.

The significant processes involved in the generation of the Group financial reporting are documented based on the COSO internal control model. The main processes documented are:

- Closing of Financial Statements and Reporting
- Consolidation
- Sales and Receivables
- Purchases and Payables
- Fixed Assets
- Inventories
- Payroll

The documentation outline is extended progressively, according to the materiality and the general criteria established in the Group's financial reporting internal control system.

The persons responsible for each of the documented processes in each subsidiary have been identified. They are responsible for keeping those processes up to date on an annual basis, reporting to the Group Management all and any modifications made.

Process documentation includes details of the flows and transactions and the financial reporting objectives and controls established to ensure they are met. It also contemplates the risks of error and/or fraud that might affect the financial reporting objectives. The documentation of flows of activities and controls that may have a material effect on the financial statements, including the accounts closing procedure, includes the preparation of narratives on the processes, flow diagrams and risk and control matrices. The controls identified are both preventive and detective, manual and automatic, describing also their frequency and associated information systems.

### F.3.2 Internal control procedures and policies for the IT systems (including access security, track changes, operation, operating continuity and separation of duties) used for the significant processes of the company in the preparation and publication of financial information.

The Group has rules of action for managing information security. Those rules are applicable to the systems used to generate financial information and the IT Department is responsible for defining and proposing the security policies.

Within its policies and infrastructure management the Ebro Group has procedures to secure each of the following points:

i) Both physical and logical access are controlled to ensure that only authorised internal and external personnel can access the Ebro centres and systems. Ebro has several Data Centres, the main one in Spain where the company's critical systems are housed. The major subsidiaries also have local data centres. They all have their own infrastructure to guarantee adequate control of access to the installations. In small subsidiaries, the general rule is to have external service providers to provide that security. When external service providers are used, the Ebro Group makes internal audits of the information systems and their architecture, including the security aspect.

Logical access control is secured with efficient management of access to our systems, whether internal or external, and through a user management coordinated with the human resources department and the company's group of managers. Ebro has user access control systems and workflow tools to guarantee intra-departmental integration and efficient updating of user status, regularly identifying those who no longer access the systems.

External access is guaranteed through specific users and controlled management. The necessary elements have also been provided on a network level to ensure that only authorised users and process have access from outside.

ii) The larger subsidiaries mainly use the ERP system called SAP. In all those cases, Ebro has procedures underpinned by systems in which production changes are systematically filtered and assessed, their life cycle managed, and disseminated after acceptance by specific users and impact analysis in the systems currently used in production.

iii) The separation of duties is underpinned by the use of roles by groups of users, which allow access only to the information and transactions previously approved by the organisation. The modification or creation of new roles is backed by the same procedure that guarantees management of the user life cycle and is applicable to the major companies of the Ebro Group. Special attention is paid to separation in IT support processes to make sure that the tasks of development, sending to production and administration of the system are duly separated.

iv) Ebro has internal tools which, combined with the user support departments and systems (Help Desks), guarantee the management and traceability of incidents in the IT systems.

The critical information systems are always housed in our data centres and there are individuals assigned to each one who are responsible for proactive monitoring of the automatic processes and proactive assessment of the yield and functioning of the systems.

Ebro has global contracts with security control tool providers, which guarantee the installation of such tools in all the computer and data processing equipment used in the company.

v) Ebro has tools to guarantee the continuity of business support by its IT systems in the event of a fatal error or system crash. There are backup systems and policies in its data centres that guarantee access to information and systems in case of a crash. The use of tape backups and replicating the information in several computers with subsequent triangular distribution are habitual procedures for making incremental or complete backup copies. The current systems allow recovery of the information up to the specific time of the fatal error or system crash.

### F.3.3 Internal control procedures and policies to oversee the management of outsourced activities and any aspects of valuation, calculation or measurement commissioned to independent experts, which may have a material impact on the financial statements

In general, the Ebro Group manages all activities that may have a material impact on the reliability of the financial statements directly using internal resources to avoid outsourcing. There are very few outsourced

activities and the procedures and controls of those activities are regulated in the contracts signed with the service providers in question.

The valuation, calculation or measurement activities commissioned by the Ebro Group to independent experts are mainly concerned with the appraisal of properties, actuarial studies of commitments to employees and impairment testing of intangibles.

Only service providers of internationally recognised standing are used for these valuation reports, making sure that they are not affected by any circumstance or event that could compromise their independence.

The reports obtained from these firms are submitted to internal review to check that the most significant assumptions and hypotheses used are correct and that they comply with the International Valuation Standards (IVS) and International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

## F.4 Information and communication

Inform whether the company has at least the following, describing their main features:

**F.4.1** A specific department responsible for defining the accounting policies and keeping them up to date (accounting policy department or division) and solving queries or conflicts deriving from their interpretation, maintaining fluent communication with those responsible for operations in the organisation, as well as an updated accounting policy manual distributed among the units through which the company operates.

The Ebro Group has adequate procedures and mechanisms to put the applicable criteria across to the employees involved in the preparation of financial information and the IT systems used in that preparation. This is done through the Management Control Unit and the Corporate Financial Department, whose powers include the following, among others:

\* Define, administer, update and report on the Group's accounting policies, in compliance with the applicable accounting standards and rules of consolidation for the preparation and presentation of financial information to be disclosed.

\* Prepare, update and report on the Accounting Policy Manual to be applied by all financial units in the Group. This manual is updated annually.

\* Settle any queries or conflicts regarding the interpretation and application of the accounting policies, maintaining fluent communication with those responsible for these operations in the organisation.

\* Define and create templates, formats and criteria to be used for preparing and reporting the financial information. All financial information distributed on the markets is prepared by consolidating the reports of the different business units, prepared using mechanisms for data input, preparation and presentation that are homogenous for the entire Group. These mechanisms are designed to enable compliance with the standards applicable to the principal financial statements, including accounting criteria, valuation rules and presentation formats and embrace not only the balance sheet, profit and loss account, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows, but also the obtaining of other information that is necessary to prepare the notes to the financial statements.

**F.4.2** Mechanisms for collecting and preparing financial information with homogenous formats, applied and used by all business units in the company or group, valid for the main financial statements and notes, and the information given on the FRICS

The Group's financial information is prepared using a process of aggregating separate financial statements at source for subsequent consolidation according to the applicable accounting and consolidation standards, to obtain the consolidated financial information to be published on the markets.

The process of aggregation and consolidation of the Group's financial statements is based on homogenous, common format templates that include different tables and reports to be completed. They also have automatic internal controls to check the integrity and reasonability of the data input.

These templates are validated by a financial manager in each subsidiary before sending them for checking and consolidation. To complete the automatic checks, those data and the estimation, valuation and calculation principles used to obtain them, as well as the accounts closing procedure, are checked by the financial manager at each level of aggregation and consolidation until the Ebro Group consolidated financial information is obtained, prepared and checked by the corporate financial department.

The Ebro Group has established a reporting system for the Financial Reporting Internal Control System, which is available in the Group for all the subsidiaries included within the Scope. Through that reporting system, the management of the parent coordinates maintenance of the system in the rest of the subsidiaries annually through the assignment of persons responsible for their maintenance and updating in the event of any significant change to be taken into consideration in the documentation. Finally, if any weaknesses are detected in the financial reporting internal control system, the subsidiaries are notified of the necessary action plans and they are monitored by management of the parent.

## F.5 Supervision of the functioning of the system

- F.5.1 Inform on the FRICS supervisory activities performed by the Audit Committee and whether the company has an internal audit department responsible, among its duties, for assisting the committee in its supervision of the internal control system, including the financial reporting internal control system (FRICS). Inform also on the scope of the FRICS appraisal made during the year and the procedure through which the department or body responsible for the appraisal informs on the outcome, whether the company has an action plan defining any possible corrective measures and whether their impact on the financial information has been considered.

The board is ultimately responsible for the existence, maintenance and supervision of an adequate, effective financial reporting internal control system, which is designed and implemented by the management committee. Among the duties defined in the Regulations of the Board, the Audit and Compliance Committee assists and supports the board in its supervision of the accounting and financial information, the internal and external audit services and corporate governance.

The Audit and Compliance Committee must see that the internal audit procedures, the internal control systems in general, including the risk management control system and in particular the financial reporting internal control system, are adequate; the external auditor and manager of the internal audit department are selected on the basis of objective, professional qualifications, guaranteeing their independence in the performance of their duties; report to the board on any related party transactions submitted for its consideration; control any possible conflicts of interest; and, in general, make sure that all the company's information and reporting, particular financial, complies with the principle of truth and maximum transparency for shareholders and markets.

The internal audit department has submitted its annual working plan to the Audit and Compliance Committee and reported directly to said committee on any incidents detected in the performance of that work, proposing the corresponding action plan defining any necessary corrective measures; and at the end of each year, it has submitted an activity report.

The results of checks made by the internal audit department and any incidents detected have been reported to the Audit and Compliance Committee. Moreover, the action plan devised for remedying those incidents has been sent to both the person responsible for remedying them and the Audit and Compliance Committee.

- 7.5.2 Inform on whether the company has a discussion procedure whereby the auditor (according to the provisions of the auditing standards), the internal audit department and other experts can inform the senior management and audit committee or company directors of any significant weaknesses detected in internal control during the auditing or checking of the annual accounts or any other processes commissioned to them. Indicate also whether the company has an action plan to remedy or mitigate the weaknesses observed.

The Audit and Compliance Committee has a stable, professional relationship with the external auditors and the main companies in its group, strictly respecting their independence. That relationship favours communication and discussion of any internal control weaknesses pinpointed during the auditing of annual accounts or any other audit work commissioned to them.

In this regard, the Audit and Compliance Committee receives information from the external auditor at least every six months on the audit plan and outcome of its performance, and checks that the senior management heeds the auditor's recommendations.

In addition, as established in the Regulations of the Board, it is responsible for overseeing the Internal Audit Services, being informed on the financial reporting process and internal control systems.



During 2014, the External Auditor attended 4 meetings of the Audit and Compliance Committee and the Internal Auditor has attended 7 such meetings.

## F.6 Other significant information

N/A

## F.7 External auditor's report

7.7.1 Inform as to whether the FRICS information sent to the markets was checked by the external auditor, in which case the company should include the corresponding report in an annex. If not, why not.

The report by the external auditor, Ernst & Young, S.L. reviewing the FRICS information is appended.

## G EXTENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE CORPORATE GOVERNANCE RECOMMENDATIONS

Indicate the degree of compliance by the company with the recommendations of the Unified Good Governance Code.

If any recommendation is not followed or is only partly followed, include a detailed explanation of the reasons so that shareholders, investors and the market in general have sufficient information to assess the company's actions. General explanations are not acceptable.

1. The Articles of Association of listed companies should not limit the maximum number of votes that may be cast by an individual shareholder or impose other restrictions hampering takeover of the company via the market acquisition of its shares.

See sections: A.10, B.1, B.2, C.1.23 and C.1.24

Complies  Explanation

2. When both the parent company and a subsidiary are listed, they should both publish a document specifying exactly:

a) **The types of activity they are respectively engaged in and any business dealings between them, and between the listed subsidiary and other group companies;**

b) **The mechanisms in place to solve any conflicts of interest.**

See sections: D.4 and D.7

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation  Not applicable

3. Although not expressly required in company law, any operations involving a structural alteration of the company should be submitted to the General Meeting for approval, especially the following:

a) **Conversion of listed companies into holdings, through spin-off or "subsidiarisation", i.e. reallocating to subsidiaries of core activities thereunto performed by the company, even though the latter may retain full ownership of its subsidiaries;**

b) **Acquisition or disposal of key operating assets, if this involves an effective alteration of its objects;**

c) **Any operations producing effects equivalent to liquidation of the company.**

See section: B.6

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

4. Detailed proposals of the resolutions to be adopted at a General Meeting, including the information contemplated in Recommendation 27, should be published simultaneously with the notice of call to the General Meeting.

Complies  Explanation

5. Substantially independent items shall be voted separately at General Meetings to enable shareholders to express their preferences separately. This rule is particularly applicable:

**a) To the appointment or ratification of directors, which should be voted individually;**

**b) In the case of alterations to the Articles of Association, to each article or substantially independent group of articles.**

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

6. Companies should allow split votes, so that financial intermediaries on record as shareholders but acting on behalf of different clients can vote according to the latter's instructions.

Complies  Explanation

7. The Board should perform its duties with unity in proposal and independent criteria, affording all shareholders the same treatment and guided by corporate interests, which shall mean maximising the value of the company over time.

It shall also ensure that the company complies with the applicable laws and regulations in its relations with stakeholders; fulfils its contracts and obligations in good faith; respects good customs and practice in the sectors and territories in which it operates; and upholds any other social responsibility principles that it may have subscribed to voluntarily.

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

8. The Board should undertake, as its principal mission, to approve the company's strategy and the organisation required to put it into practice, and to oversee and ensure that Management meets the targets marked out and respects the objects and corporate interest of the company. For this purpose, the full Board shall approve the following:

**a) General policies and strategies of the Company, particularly:**

- i) The strategic or business plan, management objectives and annual budgets;
- ii) Investment and financing policy;
- iii) Definition of the structure of the corporate group;
- iv) Corporate governance policy;
- v) Corporate social responsibility policy;
- vi) Policy on the remuneration and performance assessment of senior officers;
- vii) Risk management and control policy and the regular monitoring of internal information and control systems;
- viii) The dividend policy and treasury stock policy, particularly regarding limits.

See sections: C.1.14, C.1.16 and E.2

**b) The following decisions:**

- i) Upon recommendation by the chief executive, the appointment and possible removal of senior officers, and corresponding severance clauses;
- ii) Directors' emoluments and, for executive directors, supplementary remuneration for their executive duties and any other terms and conditions to be included in their contracts;

- iii) The financial information that listed companies are obliged to disclose periodically;
- iv) Any investments or transactions considered strategic by virtue of their amount or special characteristics, unless approval corresponds to the General Meeting;
- v) Creation or acquisition of shares in special purpose vehicles or companies domiciled in countries or territories considered tax havens, and any transactions or operations of a similar nature which could, by virtue of their complex structure, impair the group's transparency.

**c) Transactions between the company and its directors, significant shareholders or shareholders with representatives on the Board, or persons related thereto ("related-party transactions").**

This authorisation will not be necessary for related-party transactions that meet all of the following three conditions:

1. Made under contracts with standard terms and conditions applied across the board to large numbers of clients;
2. Made at the general prices or rates established by the person supplying the good or service;
3. Made for a sum not exceeding 1% of the company's annual earnings.

The Board is recommended to make approval of related-party transactions dependent on a favourable report by the Audit Committee, or such other committee as may be assigned this duty. Apart from not exercising or delegating their vote, the affected Directors shall leave the room during the corresponding discussion and voting by the Board.

It is recommended that these competences of the Board be non-delegable, except those contemplated in paragraphs b) and c), which may be adopted by the Executive Committee in an emergency, subject to subsequent ratification by the full Board.

See sections: D.1 and D.6

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

**9. The Board should have an adequate size to secure efficient, participative performance of its duties. The recommended size is between five and fifteen members.**

See section: C.1.2

Complies  Explanation

**10. Non-executive proprietary and independent directors should have an ample majority on the board, while the number of executive directors should be kept to a minimum, taking account of their equity ownership and the complexity of the corporate group.**

See sections: A.3 and C.1.3

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

**11. Among the non-executive directors, the ratio of proprietary to independent directors should reflect the proportion between capital represented and not represented on the Board.**

**This strictly proportional distribution may be relaxed so that proprietary directors have a greater weight than that corresponding to the total percentage of capital they represent:**

1. In companies with a high capitalisation with few or no shareholdings considered significant by law, but in which certain shareholders have interests with a high absolute value.
2. In companies with a plurality of unrelated shareholders represented on the Board.

See sections: A.2, A.3 and C.1.3

Complies  Explanation

12. The total number of Independent Directors should represent at least one-third of the total Directors.

See section: C.1.3

Complies  Explanation

Following the resignation for professional reasons of Sol Daurella Comadrán (independent director) as of 1 December 2014, there are 3 independent directors, representing 25% of the total directors.

Although the company considers that the composition of the board reflects the shareholding structure of the company, it is considering measures to fill the vacancy produced by the resignation of the aforesaid independent director.

13. The Board should explain the nature of each director at the general meeting at which an appointment is to be made or ratified. The type of director should be confirmed or altered, as the case may be, in the Annual Corporate Governance Report, following verification by the Nomination Committee. The reasons why proprietary directors have been appointed at the request of shareholders with an interest of less than 5% in the capital shall be explained in that Report, as well as the reasons, where appropriate, for not meeting formal requests for presence on the board from shareholders with an interest equal or greater than others at whose request proprietary directors have been appointed.

See sections: C.1.3 and C.1.8.

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

14. When there are few or no female directors, when vacancies arise on the Board, the Nomination Committee should ensure that:

- a) **There is no hidden bias against female candidates in the selection procedures;**
- b) **A conscious effort is made to include women with the target profile among the candidates.**

See sections: C.1.2, C.1.4, C.1.5, C.1.6, C.2.2 and C.2.4

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation  Not applicable

Board members have traditionally been appointed regardless of candidates' gender, so there is no positive or negative discrimination of any nature in the election of directors, without prejudice to any measures that may be taken in the future by the Nomination and Remuneration Committee in pursuance of the amended Corporate Enterprises Act.

Following the resignation tendered on 1 December 2014 by one independent director, the female directors on the board at present are Blanca Hernández Rodríguez and Concepción Ordiz Fuertes.

15. The Chairman, being responsible for the effective operation of the Board, should make sure that directors receive sufficient information in advance; stimulate debate and active participation by directors at all Board meetings, protecting their free stand and expression of opinion on any issues; and organise and coordinate periodic assessment of the Board, and the Managing Director or CEO, if any, with the chairmen of the principal committees.

See section: C.1.19 and C.1.41

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

16. When the Chairman of the Board is also the chief executive officer of the company, one of the independent directors should be authorised to request the calling of a board meeting or the inclusion of new items on the agenda; coordinate and express the concerns of the non-executive directors; and direct the assessment by the Board of its Chairman.

See section: C.1.22

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation  Not applicable

The company partially complied with this recommendation in 2014, since the Regulations of the Board recognises the right of all directors to request the calling of a board meeting or the inclusion of items on the agenda, not limiting this power exclusively to independent directors.

Article 9.2 of the Regulations of the Board stipulates that one-third of the board members may, at least six days prior to the date

of a board meeting, request the inclusion of items which, in their opinion, should be transacted.

Article 9.5 of the Regulations stipulates that the board may discuss and adopt resolutions on issues included on the agenda, as well as any others which all the directors present and represented at the meeting agree to dispatch.

Similarly, Article 25.2.b) of the Regulations establishes that directors shall request a meeting of any corporate bodies they belong to whenever they may consider this to be in the company's interests, proposing such items as they may consider adequate for the agenda.

Finally, Article 33.1 of the Regulations provide that when the chairman of the board is also the chief executive officer of the company, the board may appoint a vice-chairman from among the non-executive directors, who will be entitled to call board meetings or include new items on the agenda and organise meetings to coordinate among non-executive directors, and who will direct the assessment of the chairman. If no vice-chairman is appointed, the board will authorise an independent director to perform these duties.

At present José Antonio Segurado García, as Lead Independent Director, is authorised to request the calling of a board meeting or the inclusion of new items on the agenda of a meeting that has already been called, coordinate and call meetings of the non-executive directors and, if appropriate, direct the periodical performance rating of the Chairman.

17. The Secretary of the Board should especially ensure that the Board's actions:

- a) **Conform to the text and spirit of the laws and regulations, including those adopted by the market watchdogs;**
- b) **Conform to the company's Articles of Association and the Regulations of the General Meeting, the Board and any other internal regulations of the Company;**
- c) **Take account of the good governance recommendations contained in this Unified Code endorsed by the company.**

To guarantee the independence, impartiality and professionalism of the Secretary, his/her appointment and removal should require a report by the Nomination Committee and approval by the full Board; and the procedure for appointment and removal should be set down in the Regulations of the Board.

See section: C.1.34

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

18. The Board should meet as often as may be necessary to secure efficient performance of its duties, following the calendar and business established at the beginning of the year, although any director may propose other items not initially contemplated to be included on the agenda.

See section: C.1.29

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

19. Non-attendance of Board meetings should be limited to inevitable cases and stated in the Annual Corporate Governance Report. If a director is forced to grant a proxy for any Board meeting, the appropriate instructions should be issued.

See sections: C.1.28, C.1.29 and C.1.30

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

20. When the Directors or the Secretary express concern over a proposal, or, in the case of Directors, the company's performance, and those concerns are not settled by the board, they should be put on record, at the request of those expressing them.

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation  Not applicable

21. The full Board should assess once a year:

- a) **The quality and effectiveness of the Board's actions;**
- b) **Based on the report issued by the Nomination Committee, the performance by the Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of their respective duties;**

**c) The performance of its Committees, based on the reports issued by each one.**

See section: C.1.19 and C.1.20

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

22. All the Directors should be entitled to obtain such supplementary information as they may consider necessary on business within the competence of the Board. Save otherwise stipulated in the Articles of Association or Board Regulations, their requests should be addressed to the Chairman or Secretary of the Board.

See section: C.1.41

Complies  Explanation

23. All Directors should be entitled to call on the company for specific guidance in the performance of their duties, and the company should provide adequate means for exercising this right, which in special circumstances may include external assistance, at the company's expense.

See section: C.1.40

Complies  Explanation

24. Companies should establish an induction programme to give new Directors a rapid, sufficient insight into the company and its rules on corporate governance. Directors should also be offered refresher courses in the appropriate circumstances.

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

25. Companies should require Directors to devote the necessary time and efforts to perform their duties efficiently. Accordingly:

**a) Directors should inform the Nomination Committee of any other professional obligations they may have, in case they may interfere with the required dedication;**

**b) Companies should limit the number of directorships that its Directors may hold.**

See sections: C.1.12, C.1.13 and C.1.17

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

26. Proposals for the appointment or re-appointment of directors submitted by the Board to the General Meeting and the provisional appointment of directors by cooptation should be approved by the Board:

**a) At the proposal of the Nomination Committee, in the case of independent directors;**

**b) Subject to a report by the Nomination Committee for other directors.**

See section: C.1.3

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

27. Companies should publish on their websites and regularly update the following information on their directors:

**a) Professional and biographical profile;**

**b) Other directorships held, in listed or unlisted companies;**

**c) Type of director, indicating in the case of proprietary directors the shareholders they represent or are related with.**

**d) Date of first and subsequent appointments as company director; and**

**e) Company shares and stock options held.**

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

Although there is no specific section of the corporate website containing information on other directorships held by the directors of Ebro Foods, S.A., the annual accounts and corporate governance report of each year published in the corresponding section of the website contain information on the directorships held in listed companies and companies engaged in activities identical or

similar to those of Ebro Foods.

28. Proprietary directors should resign when the shareholder they represent disposes of its entire shareholding in the company. They should also resign in the corresponding number when the shareholder disposes of part of its shares to an extent requiring a reduction in the number of proprietary directors.

See sections: A.2, A.3 and C.1.2

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

29. The Board should not propose the removal of any independent director before the end of the period for which he or she was appointed, unless there are just grounds for doing so, as appreciated by the Board subject to a report by the Nomination Committee. Just grounds are deemed to exist when the director has acted in breach of his/her duties or when he or she falls into any of the circumstances by virtue of which he/she would no longer be considered independent, according to the provisions of Order ECC/461/2013.

**The removal of independent directors may also be proposed as a result of takeover bids, mergers or similar corporate operations producing a change in the capital structure of the company, whenever those changes in the structure of the Board correspond to the principle of proportionality established in Recommendation 11.**

See sections: C.1.2, C.1.9, C.1.19 and C.1.27

Complies  Explanation

30. Companies should establish rules obliging directors to report and, if necessary, resign in any cases that may jeopardise the company's reputation. In particular, directors should be obliged to inform the Board of any criminal proceedings brought against them and the subsequent development of the proceedings.

**If a director is tried for any of the offences contemplated in section 213 of the Corporate Enterprises Act, the Board should study the case as soon as possible and, in view of the specific circumstances, decide whether or not the director should remain in office. A reasoned account should be included in the Annual Corporate Governance Report.**

See sections: C.1.42 and C.1.43

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

31. All the directors should clearly express their opposition whenever they consider that any proposed decision submitted to the Board may go against corporate interests. The independent and other directors not affected by the potential conflict of interest should also do so when the decisions may be detrimental to shareholders not represented on the Board.

**And when the Board adopts significant or reiterated decisions regarding which a director has expressed serious reservations, the latter should reach the appropriate conclusions and, if he or she opts to resign, explain the reasons in the letter contemplated in the following recommendation.**

**This recommendation also affects the Secretary of the Board, even if he or she is not a director.**

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation  Not applicable

32. If a director resigns or retires from office on whatsoever other grounds before the end of his or her term of office, he or she should explain the reasons in a letter sent to all the Board members. Regardless of whether the retirement is announced as a regulatory disclosure, the reason shall be indicated in the Annual Corporate Governance Report.

See section: C.1.9

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation  Not applicable

33. Remunerations in the form of shares in the company or group companies, stock options or instruments linked to

the value of the share and any variable remuneration linked to the company's performance or welfare schemes should be limited to executive directors.

**This recommendation shall not be applicable to the delivery of shares when subject to the condition that the directors keep them up to their retirement from the Board.**

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation  Not applicable

34. The remuneration of non-executive directors should be sufficient to remunerate their dedication, qualifications and responsibilities, but not so high as to compromise their independence.

Complies  Explanation  Not applicable

35. Earnings-linked remuneration should take account of any qualifications in the external auditor's report that may reduce such earnings.

Complies  Explanation  Not applicable

36. In the case of variable remuneration, the pay policies should establish such limits and technical precautions as may be necessary to ensure that such remuneration is related to the professional performance of its beneficiaries, not merely deriving from general trends on the markets or in the company's sector of business or other similar circumstances.

Complies  Explanation  Not applicable

37. When there is an Executive Committee, the balance between the different types of director should roughly mirror that of the Board and its secretary should be the Secretary of the Board.

See sections: C.2.1 and C.2.6

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation  Not applicable

38. The Board should be informed at all times of the business transacted and decisions made by the Executive Committee and all Board members should receive a copy of the minutes of Executive Committee meetings.

Complies  Explanation  Not applicable

39. In addition to the Audit Committee which is mandatory under the Securities Market Act, the Board shall set up a Nomination and Remuneration Committee, or two separate Committees.

**The rules on composition and procedure of the Audit Committee and the Nomination and Remuneration Committee or Committees should be set out in the Regulations of the Board, including the following:**

- a) **The Board should appoint the members of these Committees, taking account of the directors' knowledge, expertise and experience and the duties corresponding to each Committee and discuss their proposals and reports. The Committees should report to the Board on their actions at the first full Board meeting after each Committee meeting, being accountable for the work done.**
- b) **These Committees should have a minimum of three members, who should be exclusively non-executive directors. This notwithstanding, executive directors or senior officers may attend their meetings when expressly so decided by the Committee members.**
- c) **The Committees should be chaired by Independent Directors.**
- d) **They may obtain external assistance whenever this is considered necessary for the performance of their duties.**
- e) **Minutes should be issued of Committee meetings and a copy sent to all members of the Board.**

See sections: C.2.1 and C.2.4

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation



40. The Audit Committee, Nomination Committee or, if separate, the Compliance or Corporate Governance Committee(s) should be responsible for overseeing compliance with internal codes of conduct and corporate governance rules and regulations.

See sections: C.2.3 and C.2.4

Complies  Explanation

41. All members of the Audit Committee, particularly its Chairman, should be appointed in view of their knowledge of and experience in accounting, auditing or risk management.

Complies  Explanation

42. Listed companies should have an internal audit department, supervised by the Audit Committee, to guarantee the effectiveness and efficiency of the internal reporting and control systems.

See section: C.2.3

Complies  Explanation

43. The chief audit officer should submit an annual work programme to the Audit Committee, reporting directly on any irregularities arising during its implementation and submitting an activity report at each year end.

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

44. The risk management and control policy should define at least:

- a) The different types of risk (operational, technological, financial, legal, reputational...) to which the company is exposed, including under financial or economic risks any contingent liabilities or other off-balance-sheet exposure;
- b) The level of risk that the company considers acceptable;
- c) The measures envisaged to soften the effects of the risks identified, should they materialise;
- d) The internal reporting and control systems to be used to control and manage those risks, including contingent liabilities or off-balance-sheet risks.

See section: E

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

45. The Audit Committee should:

**1. In connection with the internal reporting and control systems:**

- a) Ensure that the principal risks identified through supervision of the effective internal control of the company and internal auditing are adequately managed and disclosed.
- b) Oversee the independence and effectiveness of the internal audit department; propose the nomination, appointment, reappointment and removal of the chief audit officer; propose the budget for this department; receive periodical information on its activities; and check that the top management heeds the conclusions and recommendations set out in its reports.
- c) Establish and supervise a “whistle-blowing” procedure so employees can confidentially and, if considered appropriate, anonymously report any potentially important irregularities they may observe in the company’s conduct, especially in financial and accounting aspects.

**2. In connection with the external auditor:**

- a) Receive regular information from the external auditor on the audit plan and findings and make sure the senior management acts on its recommendations.
- b) Guarantee the independence of the external auditor, and for this purpose:

i) **The company should inform the CNMV as a significant event whenever the auditor is changed, attaching a declaration on any disagreements that may have arisen with the outgoing auditor and their content.**

ii) **Investigate the circumstances giving rise to resignation of any external auditor.**

See sections: C.1.36, C.2.3, C.2.4 and E.2

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

46. **The Audit Committee may call any employee or executive of the company into its meetings, even ordering their appearance without the presence of any other senior officer.**

Complies  Explanation

47. **The Audit Committee should report to the Board on the following matters from Recommendation 8 before the latter adopts the corresponding decisions:**

a) **The financial information that listed companies are obliged to disclose periodically. The Committee shall ensure that interim financial statements are drawn up under the same accounting principles as the annual statements, requesting a limited external audit if necessary.**

b) **Creation or acquisition of shares in special purpose vehicles or companies domiciled in countries or territories which are considered tax havens, and any transactions or operations of a similar nature which could, by virtue of their complex structure, impair the group's transparency.**

c) **Related-party transactions, unless this prior reporting duty has been assigned to another supervision and control committee.**

See sections: C.2.3 and C.2.4

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

48. **The Board should endeavour to avoid a qualified auditor's report on the accounts laid before the General Meeting, and in exceptional circumstances when such qualifications exist, both the Chairman of the Audit Committee and the auditors shall clearly explain to the shareholders their content and scope.**

See section: C.1.38

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

49. **The majority of the members of the Nomination Committee – or Nomination and Remuneration Committee if there is just one – should be independent directors.**

See section: C.2.1

Complies  Explanation  Not applicable

Of the four members of the Nomination and Remuneration Committee, two are independent directors, one of whom chairs the committee.

50. **Apart from the duties specified in preceding Recommendations, the Nomination Committee should:**

a) **Assess the expertise, knowledge and experience of Board members; define the duties and skills required of candidates to fill vacancies; and determine the time and dedication considered necessary for them to adequately perform their duties.**

b) **Study or organise as appropriate the succession of the Chairman or Chief Executive Officer and, if necessary, make recommendations to the Board to secure an orderly, well-planned handover.**

c) **Report on any appointments and removals of senior officers proposed by the Chief Executive Officer.**

d) **Report to the Board on the gender issues contemplated in Recommendation 14.**

See section: C.2.4

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation  Not applicable

In 2014, notwithstanding the powers assigned to the Nomination and Remuneration Committee under the amended Corporate Enterprises Act, all the powers indicated in this recommendation corresponded to this committee except the power indicated in d).

51. The Nomination Committee should consult the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, especially on matters concerning Executive Directors.

**Any director may request the Nomination Committee to consider potential candidates they consider suitable to fill vacancies on the Board.**

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation  Not applicable

52. Apart from the duties indicated in the preceding Recommendations, the Remuneration Committee should:

**a) Submit proposals to the Board on:**

- i) **The remuneration policy for directors and senior officers;**
- ii) **The individual remuneration of executive directors and other terms of contract;**
- iii) **The basic conditions of senior executive contracts.**

**b) Ensure compliance with the remuneration policy established by the company.**

See sections: C.2.4

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation  Not applicable

53. The Remuneration Committee should consult the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, especially on matters concerning executive directors and senior officers.

Complies  Explanation  Not applicable

## H OTHER INFORMATION OF INTEREST

1. If you consider there to be any important aspects regarding the corporate governance practices applied by your company or other companies in the group that have not been mentioned in this report, but which should be included to obtain more complete, reasoned information on the corporate governance practices and structure in the company or group, describe them below and give a brief explanation.
2. This section may be used to include any other information, clarification or qualification relating to the previous sections of the report, provided it is relevant and not repetitive.

In particular, state whether the company is subject to any laws other than the laws of Spain on corporate governance and, if this is the case, include whatever information the company may be obliged to supply that differs from the information included in this report.

3. The company may also state whether it has voluntarily applied any international, sector-based or other codes of ethical principles or good practices. If so, it should name the code in question and the date of its accession.

### EXPLANATORY NOTE ONE, ON SECTION A.4

Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A. and Hispafoods Invest, S.L. are directors and also significant shareholders of the company (see percentage shareholdings indicated in A.3) and the relationships contemplated in explanatory note six to section C.1.17 exist between them.

#### EXPLANATORY NOTE TWO, ON SECTION A.5

For relationships between the companies of the Ebro Foods Group and the controlling shareholders, see section C.2 of this Report.

#### EXPLANATORY NOTE THREE, ON SECTION C.1.2

The director José Antonio Segurado García was appointed Lead Independent Director by virtue of a resolution adopted by the Board on 29 January 2014, as mentioned in several sections of this report.

#### EXPLANATORY NOTE FOUR, ON SECTIONS C.1.4 AND C.2.2

Following the resignation by a female independent director for professional reasons on 1 December 2014, the presence of women on the Board of Directors has been reduced to two and the number of independent directors on the Audit and Compliance Committee and the Nomination and Remuneration Committee has fallen to two.

#### EXPLANATORY NOTE FIVE, ON SECTION C.1.16

- The total amount indicated in section C.1.16 includes (i) the remuneration of all the company executives, even though they are not all part of the senior management; and (ii) the remuneration of an executive who left the company as of 30 July 2014 and that of another executive who joined the company on 6 October 2014.

- In 2014 a sum of €145,000 was distributed among all executives (except the Chairman of the Board) included in the Deferred Annual Bonus Scheme linked to the Group's Strategic Plan 2010-2012, corresponding to 2012 (the last year of the Plan). This sum represents 70% of the Deferred Annual Variable Remuneration for the three-year period and was provided for in the 2012 accounts.

- A provision has been recognised in the 2014 accounts of €117,000 as the provisional estimate of the sum corresponding to 2014 to be distributed among all executives (except the Chairman of the Board) included in the Deferred Annual Bonus Scheme linked to the Group's Strategic Plan 2013-2015, equivalent to 25% of the Deferred Annual Variable Remuneration for that three-year period. This sum has been paid in 2015.

- Finally, these Deferred Annual Bonus Schemes are not indexed to the value of the company share and the beneficiaries do not receive any shares or rights thereover.

#### EXPLANATORY NOTE SIX, ON SECTION C.1.17

- Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A. and Hispafoods Invest, S.L. are directors and controlling shareholders of Ebro Foods, S.A. Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A. holds 100% of the capital of Hispafoods Invest, S.L. (direct interest of 51.62% and indirect interest of 48.38%) and is director of that company.

- Antonio Hernández Callejas has a direct interest of 16.666% in Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A. and an indirect interest of 16.666% in Hispafoods Invest, S.L. Therefore, Antonio Hernández Callejas has an indirect interest in Ebro Foods, S.A. through the 15.879% interest held directly and indirectly in this company by Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A. Antonio Hernández Callejas does not hold any office in those companies.

Demetrio Carceller Arce has an indirect interest in Ebro Foods, S.A. through the 10.026% interest held indirectly in this company by Sociedad Anónima Damm through Corporación Económica Damm, S.A.

#### EXPLANATORY NOTE SEVEN, ON SECTION C.1.29

During 2014 both the Board of Directors and the Audit and Compliance Committee adopted written resolutions (without a meeting) on one occasion each, which should be added to the number of meetings indicated in section C.1.29.

#### EXPLANATORY NOTE EIGHT, ON SECTION C.2

-The audit committee in Ebro Foods S.A. is called the Audit and Compliance Committee and the nomination and remuneration committee is called the Nomination and Remuneration Committee (lit. Selection and Remuneration Committee in Spanish).

-The powers of the different Committee of the Board established in the Regulations of the Board, without prejudice to those corresponding to them by law, are set out below:

##### 1. POWERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

- a) Adopt resolutions corresponding to the powers delegated to it by the Board of Directors.
- b) Monitor and supervise the day-to-day management of the company, ensuring adequate coordination with subsidiaries in the common interests of the latter and the company.
- c) Study and propose to the Board of Directors the guidelines defining business strategy, supervising their implementation.
- d) Debate and inform the Board on any issues corresponding to the following matters, regardless of whether or not they have been delegated by the Board:

- Separate and consolidated annual budget of the company, itemising the provisions corresponding to each line of business.
- Monthly monitoring of the financial management, budget deviations and proposed remedial measures, if necessary.
- Significant financial investments and investments in property, plant and equipment and the corresponding economic justification.
- Alliances and agreements with other companies which, by virtue of their amount or nature, are important for the company.
- Financial transactions of a material economic significance for the company.
- Programme of medium-term actions.
- Assessment of the achievement of objectives by the different operating units of the company.
- Monitoring and assessment of the subsidiaries in respect of the matters contemplated in this sub-section d).

e) Adopt resolutions corresponding to the acquisition and disposal of treasury stock by the Company, in accordance with the authorisation, if any, granted by the General Meeting. A Director may be designated to execute and formalise the decisions to buy or sell own shares, supervising and, if appropriate, authorising any resolutions that may be adopted by subsidiaries to buy and sell their own shares or shares in the Company, whenever such authorisation is required by law.

## 2. POWERS OF THE AUDIT AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE:

a) Supervise and promote internal control of the company and the risk management systems and submit recommendations to the Board regarding the risk management and control policy.

b) Supervise and promote the policies, procedures and systems used for drawing up and controlling the company's financial information, checking the services performed in this regard by the Internal Audit Department, the Financial Department and the Management Committee and making sure they are correctly distributed throughout the Group.

c) Receive the information sent regularly to the Stock Exchange Councils, issue prospectuses and any public financial information offered by the Company and, in general, all information prepared for distribution among shareholders, ensuring the existence of internal control systems that guarantee the transparency and truth of the information.

d) Ensure that the systems used for preparing the separate and consolidated Annual Accounts and Directors' Report submitted to the Board to be officially drawn up and authorised for issue in accordance with current legislation give a true and fair view of the equity, financial position and results of the Company and make sure that any interim financial statements are drawn up according to the same accounting principles as the annual accounts, considering the possibility of asking the external auditors to make a limited audit if necessary. In this respect, it shall also see that the internal control systems are adequate and effective in respect of the accounting practices and principles used for drawing up the company's annual accounts, supervising the policies and procedures established to ensure due compliance with applicable legal provisions and internal regulations. The Committee shall, through its Chairman, obtain information and collaboration from both the Internal Audit Manager and the External Auditors to perform these duties. Furthermore, whenever the Committee so requests its Chairman, its meetings may be attended by any member of the company management, who may speak but not vote.

e) Establish regular contact with the External Auditors to receive information on any issues that may jeopardise their independence, and any other issues relating to the auditing of accounts, receiving information from and exchanging communications with the External Auditors in accordance with prevailing auditing standards and legislation.

f) Be informed of the decisions adopted by the senior management according to recommendations made by the External Auditors in connection with the audit.

g) Report to the Board prior to the adoption of any decisions on related party transactions submitted for its authorisation.

h) Implement a confidential whistle-blowing channel accessible to all Group employees and a protocol for establishing priority, processing, investigating and solving any issues reported through that channel according to their importance and nature, paying special attention to those involving possible falsehood or misrepresentation in financial or accounting documents and possible fraud.

i) Supervise compliance with the internal codes of conduct and rules of corporate governance. In particular, oversee the implementation of and compliance with the internal regulations and codes applicable to the risk management and control systems in general and the financial reporting process in particular.

j) Propose to the Board, for submission to the General Meeting, the appointment of the External Auditors of the Company and their terms of contract, the scope of their commission and the renewal or revocation of their engagement. The Committee shall ensure the independence of the External Auditors and the existence of a discussion procedure enabling the External Auditors, the Internal Audit Department and any other expert to inform the company of any significant weaknesses in its internal control detected while checking the annual accounts or any other processes in which they have worked. It shall also inform the Board on the proposal submitted to the Board by the Company Chairman regarding the appointment of the Internal Audit Manager, who shall report directly to the Chairman of the Board.

k) Supervise and report to the Board on intragroup and related party transactions of the company or subsidiaries and settle any conflicts of interest that may arise between the company or the group and its directors, executives, significant shareholders and listed subsidiaries, if any.

l) Report to the General Meeting on any issues raised by shareholders concerning matters within its competence.

### 3. POWERS OF THE NOMINATION AND REMUNERATION COMMITTEE:

The Committee shall study, issue reports and submit proposals for the Board on the following matters:

- a) Definition and, where appropriate, revision of the criteria to be followed for the composition and structure of the Board and selection of candidates to join the Board, informing always prior to the appointment of a Director by cooptation or the submission to the General Meeting of any proposal regarding the appointment or removal of Directors.
- b) Appointment of the Chairman and, if any, the Vice-Chairman, Managing Director(s) and Secretary of the Board; appointment of Directors to the Executive Committee, Audit and Compliance Committee and Strategy and Investment Committee; appointment of members of the Management Committee and any other advisory committees the Board may create; and appointment and possible dismissal of senior executives and their termination benefit clauses.
- c) Position of the Company regarding the appointment and removal of board members in subsidiaries.
- d) Proposal of directors' emoluments, according to the system of remuneration established in the Articles of Association and the executive directors' relationship with the Company. The Committee shall also inform in advance on any resolution or proposal of the Board on the remuneration of directors and executives indexed to the value of the shares in the Company or its subsidiaries or consisting of the delivery of shares in the Company or its subsidiaries or the granting of options thereover.
- e) Supervision of the senior management remuneration and incentives policy, obtaining information and reporting on the criteria followed by the Company's subsidiaries in this respect.
- f) Assessment of the principles of the management training, promotion and selection policy in the parent company and, where appropriate, in its subsidiaries.
- g) Examination and organisation, as deemed adequate, of the succession of the Chairman and chief executive and, if appropriate, submission of proposals to the Board to ensure that such succession is made in an orderly, well-planned manner.
- h) Preparation and proposal of the Annual Report on Directors' Remuneration in accordance with the laws and regulations in place from time to time.

### 4. POWERS OF THE STRATEGY AND INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

The Committee shall study, issue reports and submit proposals for the Board on the following matters:

- a) Setting of targets for growth, yield and market share of the company.
- b) Strategic development plans, new investments and restructuring processes.
- c) Coordination with subsidiaries in the matters contemplated in paragraphs a) and b) above, for the common interests and benefit of the Company and its subsidiaries.

In the performance of its duties, it may, where necessary, obtain information and collaboration from the members of the Company management, through the Chairman of the Committee.

#### EXPLANATORY NOTE NINE, ON SECTION D.3

The transactions performed directly by the director Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A. listed in section D.3 are grouped by type of transaction and were all made with the subsidiaries of the Ebro Foods Group and for the amounts indicated below:

- The "purchases of goods (finished or otherwise)" in a total sum of €7,719 thousand were made directly with the following companies of the Ebro Foods Group: Herba Ricemills, S.L.U. (€7,484 thousand), Boost Nutrition, C.V. (€68 thousand), Arrozeiras Mundiarroz, S.A. (€79 thousand) and TBA Suntra BV (€88 thousand).
- The "sales of goods (finished or otherwise)" in a total sum of €304 thousand were made directly with the following companies of the Ebro Foods Group: Herba Ricemills, S.L.U. (€119 thousand), Boost Nutrition, C.V. (€68 thousand), Arrozeiras Mundiarroz, S.A. (€30 thousand) and TBA Suntra BV (€87 thousand).
- "Services rendered" in a sum of €2 thousand were made directly with Herba Ricemills, S.L.U.
- "Services received" in a sum of €175 thousand were made directly with Herba Ricemills, S.L.U. (€125 thousand) and Herba Foods, S.L.U. (€50 thousand).

#### EXPLANATORY NOTE TEN, ON SECTION G

- Regarding Recommendation 2, there are no listed companies in the Ebro Foods Group apart from the parent, Ebro Foods S.A.
- Regarding Recommendation 20, none of the directors or the non-director Secretary have expressed any concern over the proposed resolutions submitted to the board or the development of the company.
- Regarding Recommendation 31, no directors have expressed their opposition to any of the proposals considering them to go against the company's interests. When the potential conflict of interests of certain Board members has been examined, neither the independent directors nor the directors affected by such potential conflicts have expressed such opposition or considered that the decisions adopted could be detrimental to shareholders not represented on the board.

## EXPLANATORY NOTE ELEVEN

- Ebro Foods, S.A. had an interest of 3.121% in Biosearch, S.A. at 31 December 2014. This interest is recognised in the Ebro Group accounts as "Available-for-sale financial assets".

Biosearch, S.A. is a listed company engaged in activities similar to the objects of Ebro Foods, S.A. It was part of the Ebro Group until January 2011. During the first half of 2014, the former non-director Secretary of the Board, Miguel Ángel Pérez Álvarez, was a proprietary director of Biosearch, nominated by Ebro as significant shareholder.

The transactions made between 1 January and 31 December 2014 between Biosearch, S.A. and different companies of the Ebro Foods Group are indicated below:

- Herba Ricemills, S.L.U., operating lease (income) for €26 thousand.
- Dosbio 2010, S.L.U., operating lease (expense) for €7 thousand.
- Ebro Foods, S.A., services rendered for €42 thousand.

- During the first half of 2014 Ebro Foods, S.A. held an interest in Deóleo, S.A. which was recognised in the Ebro Group accounts as "Available-for-sale financial assets". On 28 March 2014 Ebro Foods, S.A. reduced its interest to below 3% (ceased to be a significant shareholder) and since 13 May 2014 it has not held any interest in that company.

Antonio Hernández Callejas, Chairman of the Board of Ebro Foods, S.A., was proprietary director of Deóleo up to 31 January 2014, when he stepped down for professional reasons.

The transactions made between 1 January and 28 March 2014 between Deóleo and different companies of the Ebro Foods Group are indicated below:

- Herba Ricemills, S.L.U., services received for €12 thousand.
- Lassie Nederland BV, services received for €39 thousand.
- Ebro Foods, S.A., services rendered for €261 thousand.

- Ebro Roods, S.A. has an interest of 25% in Riso Scotti S.p.A. This is an associate consolidated by the equity method.

The transactions made in 2014 between Riso Scotti and a subsidiary of the Ebro Foods Group are indicated below:

- Herba Ricemills, S.L.U., sale of goods (finished or otherwise), €1 thousand
- Herba Ricemills, S.L.U., services rendered, €6 thousand
- Herba Ricemills, S.L.U., purchase of goods (finished or otherwise), €62 thousand
- Herba Ricemills, S.L.U., services received, €1 thousand

## EXPLANATORY NOTE TWELVE

Both the Board of Directors and its Committees have already taken up the powers corresponding to them by virtue of the Corporate Enterprises Act as amended by Act 31/2014 of 3 December. At the date of this report the company is in the process of adapting its Articles of Association, Regulations of the General Meeting and Regulations of the Board to the new legal provisions.

This Annual Corporate Governance Report was approved by the Board of Directors of the company on 21/03/2015.

State whether any directors voted against approval of this Report or abstained in the corresponding vote.

YES  NO



Translation of a report originally issued in Spanish. In the event of discrepancy, the Spanish-language version prevails.

**AUDIT REPORT ON THE “DISCLOSURES REGARDING THE INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING (ICFR) SYSTEM” OF EBRO FOODS, S.A. FOR 2014**

Dear Directors,

As per the request made by the Board of Directors of EBRO FOODS, S.A. (hereinafter, the Company) and our proposal letter of December 2, 2014, we have applied certain procedures in relation to the accompanying “ICFR disclosures” of EBRO FOODS, S.A. for 2014, which summarize the Company's internal control procedures in respect of its annual reporting exercise.

The Board of Directors is responsible for taking the opportune measures to reasonably assure the implementation, maintenance and supervision of an adequate internal control system, making improvements to this system and preparing the contents of the ICFR disclosures required in section F) of the accompanying Annual Corporate Governance Report.

Against this backdrop, it is important to note that, regardless of the quality of the design and effective functioning of the ICFR system adopted by the Company in respect of its annual financial reporting effort, the latter can only provide reasonable but not absolute assurance regarding the objectives pursued, due to the limitations intrinsic to any internal control system.

In the course of our financial statement audit work and in keeping with Spain's Technical Auditing Standards, the sole purpose of our assessment of the Company's internal controls was to enable us to establish the scope, nature and timing of the Company's financial statement audit procedures. Accordingly, our internal control assessment, performed in connection with the financial statement audit, was not sufficiently broad in scope to enable us to issue a specific opinion on the effectiveness of the internal controls over the annual financial disclosures that the Company is required to present.

For the purpose of issuing this report, we have only carried out the specific procedures described below, as indicated in the Procedures for external audit reviews of an entity's ICFR disclosures contained in the Internal Control over Financial Reporting in Listed Companies report published by Spain's securities market regulator, the CNMV (and available on its website), which establishes the procedures to be performed, the scope thereof and the contents of this report. Given that the product resulting from these procedures is at any rate limited in scope and substantially more limited than an audit or review of the internal control system, we do not express any opinion on the effectiveness of the system or on its design or effective functioning in respect of the Company's 2014 financial reporting disclosures, as described in the accompanying ICFR disclosures. As a result, had we performed additional procedures to those stipulated in the abovementioned CNMV report or had we performed an audit or review of the internal controls over the annual financial disclosures that the Company is required to present, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

Furthermore, given that this special assignment neither constitutes a financial statement audit nor is subject to the Consolidated Text of Spain's Financial Statement Audit Act, enacted by means of Royal Decree-Law 1/2011, of July 1, 2011, we do not express an audit opinion in the terms provided for in that piece of legislation.

The procedures performed are itemized below:

1. Reading and understanding of the information prepared by the Company regarding ICFR – disclosures included in the management report – and an evaluation of whether this information meets all the minimum reporting requirements needed to fill out section F on the ICFR system in the Annual Corporate Governance Report template established in CNMV Circular 5/2013 of June 12, 2013.
2. Questioning of personnel responsible for drawing up the information detailed in item 1 above: (i) to obtain an understanding of the process that goes into drawing up the information; (ii) to obtain information that permits an evaluation of whether the terminology used complies with the framework definitions; and (iii) to obtain information on whether the control procedures described are in place and functioning.
3. Reviewing the explanatory documents supporting the information detailed in item 1 above, including documents directly made available to those responsible for describing ICFR systems. The documentation to be reviewed may include reports prepared for the audit committee by internal audit, senior management and other internal or external specialists.
4. Comparing the information detailed in item 1 above with their knowledge of the Company's ICFR obtained through the external audit procedures applied during the annual audit.
5. Reading of the minutes taken at meetings of the board of directors, audit committee and other committees of the Company to evaluate the consistency between the ICFR business transacted and the information detailed in item 1 above.
6. Obtaining a management representation letter in connection with the work performed, signed by those responsible for preparing and formulating the information detailed in item 1 above.

The specific procedures carried out in respect of the Company's ICFR disclosures did not reveal any inconsistencies or incidents that could affect such disclosures.

This report was prepared exclusively under the scope of the requirements stipulated in article 540 of the Consolidated Text of Spain's Corporate Enterprises Act and CNMV Circular 5/2013 of June 12, 2013 on ICFR-related descriptions in listed companies' Annual Corporate Governance Reports.

ERNST & YOUNG, S.L.

(Signed in the original in Spanish)

March 24, 2015

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David Ruíz-Roso Moyano

# FINANCIAL INFORMATION

## CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL ACCOUNTS



7.4 Auditors' Report on Consolidated  
7.5 Consolidated Annual Accounts  
7.6 Consolidated Directors' Report

Translation of a report originally issued in Spanish. In the event of discrepancy, the Spanish-language version prevails

## INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT ON THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

To the Shareholders of Ebro Foods, S.A.:

### **Report on the consolidated financial statements**

We have audited the accompanying consolidated financial statements of Ebro Foods, S.A. (the parent company) and its subsidiaries (the Group), which comprise consolidated statement of financial position at December 31, 2014, the consolidated income statement, the consolidated statement of comprehensive income, the consolidated statement of changes in equity, the consolidated cash flow statement, and the notes thereto for the year then ended.

#### *Directors' responsibility for the consolidated financial statements*

The directors of the parent company are responsible for the preparation of the accompanying consolidated financial statements so that they give a true and fair view of the consolidated equity and consolidated financial position and the consolidated results of Ebro Foods, S.A. and its subsidiaries, in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), as adopted by the European Union, and other provisions in the regulatory framework applicable to the Group in Spain, and for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### *Auditor's responsibility*

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the accompanying consolidated financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with prevailing audit regulations in Spain. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the preparation of consolidated financial statements by the directors of the parent company 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 entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements.



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

### *Opinion*

In our opinion, the accompanying consolidated financial statements give a true and fair view, in all material respects, of the consolidated equity and consolidated financial position of Ebro Foods, S.A. and its subsidiaries at December 31, 2014, and its consolidated results and consolidated cash flow for the year then ended, in accordance with IFRS, as adopted by the EU, and other provisions in the regulatory framework for financial information applicable in Spain.

### *Other matter*

On April 1, 2014 other auditors issued their audit report on the 2013 consolidated financial statements in which they expressed an unqualified opinion.

### **Report on other legal and regulatory requirements**

The accompanying consolidated 2014 management report contains such explanations as the directors of the parent company consider appropriate concerning the situation of the Group, the evolution of its business and other matters; however, it is not an integral part of the consolidated financial statements. We have checked that the accounting information included in the aforementioned consolidated management report agrees with the 2014 consolidated financial statements. Our work as auditors is limited to verifying the consolidated management report in accordance with the scope mentioned in this paragraph, and does not include the review of information other than that obtained from the accounting records of Ebro Foods, S.A. and its subsidiaries.

ERNST & YOUNG, S.L.

(Signed in the original in Spanish)

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David Ruiz-Roso Moyano

April 1, 2015



# **CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014**

# EBRO FOODS GROUP

## CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

AT DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013

| ASSETS                                | NOTES | 12-31-14         | 12-31-13         |
|---------------------------------------|-------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>             |       |                  |                  |
| Intangible assets                     | 9     | 433,974          | 375,339          |
| Property, plant and equipment         | 10    | 612,771          | 512,573          |
| Investment properties                 | 11    | 30,832           | 33,139           |
| Financial assets                      | 12    | 44,875           | 85,580           |
| Investments in associates             | 13    | 22,857           | 22,559           |
| Deferred tax assets                   | 25    | 55,871           | 55,455           |
| Goodwill                              | 14    | 932,596          | 846,922          |
|                                       |       | <b>2,133,776</b> | <b>1,931,567</b> |
| <b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>                 |       |                  |                  |
| Inventories                           | 15    | 428,107          | 384,947          |
| Trade and other receivables           | 16    | 347,394          | 305,954          |
| Current tax assets                    | 25    | 19,109           | 11,693           |
| Tax receivables                       | 25    | 28,467           | 24,107           |
| Financial assets                      | 12    | 2,980            | 11,874           |
| Derivative and other financial assets | 28    | 2,233            | 135              |
| Other current assets                  |       | 7,723            | 8,089            |
| Cash and cash equivalents             | 17    | 192,279          | 94,314           |
|                                       |       | <b>1,028,292</b> | <b>841,113</b>   |
| Non-current assets held for sale      |       | 0                | 0                |
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>                   |       | <b>3,162,068</b> | <b>2,772,680</b> |

*Thousands of euros*

The accompanying notes 1 to 31 are an integral part of the consolidated balance sheet at December 31, 2014.

# EBRO FOODS GROUP

## CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

AT DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013

|  | NOTES | 12-31-14         | 12-31-13         |
|--|-------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>EQUITY</b>  |       | <b>1,873,805</b> | <b>1,728,263</b> |
| <b>Equity attributable to equity holders of the parent</b>   |       |                  |                  |
| Share capital  |       | 92,319           | 92,319           |
| Share premium  |       | 4                | 4                |
| Restricted parent company reserves                           |       | 21,633           | 21,633           |
| Retained earnings  |       | 1,695,582        | 1,646,384        |
| Interim dividends paid                                       |       | 0                | 0                |
| Translation differences                                      |       | 40,224           | (54,583)         |
| Own shares   |       | (277)            | 0                |
|  | 18    | <b>1,849,485</b> | <b>1,705,757</b> |
| <b>Non-controlling interests</b>                             |       | <b>24,320</b>    | <b>22,506</b>    |
| <b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>                               |       |                  |                  |
| Deferred income  | 19    | 4,409            | 2,048            |
| Provisions for pensions and similar obligations              | 20    | 42,144           | 35,931           |
| Other provisions   | 21    | 12,355           | 8,603            |
| Financial liabilities  | 22    | 267,168          | 225,553          |
| Other non-financial liabilities                              | 23    | 12               | 17               |
| Deferred tax liabilities                                     | 25    | 245,956          | 239,879          |
|  |       | <b>572,044</b>   | <b>512,031</b>   |
| <b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>                                   |       |                  |                  |
| Financial liabilities  | 22    | 331,545          | 205,626          |
| Derivative and other financial liabilities                   | 28    | 1,482            | 1,641            |
| Trade and other payables                                     | 24    | 354,918          | 305,926          |
| Current tax liabilities                                      | 25    | 12,951           | 4,677            |
| Taxes payable  | 25    | 13,745           | 12,006           |
| Other current liabilities                                    |       | 1,578            | 2,510            |
|  |       | <b>716,219</b>   | <b>532,386</b>   |
| Liabilities associated with non-current assets held for sale |       | 0                | 0                |
| <b>TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES</b>                          |       | <b>3,162,068</b> | <b>2,772,680</b> |

*Thousands of euros*

The accompanying notes 1 to 31 are an integral part of the consolidated balance sheet at December 31, 2014.



# EBRO FOODS GROUP

## CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT FOR THE YEARS

ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013

|   | NOTES      | 2014           | 2013           |
|---|------------|----------------|----------------|
| Revenue   | 6          | 2,120,722      | 1,956,647      |
| Change in inventories of finished goods and work in progress      |            | 949            | 6,042          |
| Own work capitalized  |            | 1,701          | 1,037          |
| Other operating income  | 8          | 26,931         | 15,988         |
| Raw materials and consumables used and other external expenses    | 6          | (1,189,285)    | (1,084,446)    |
| Employee benefits expense   | 8          | (261,710)      | (239,623)      |
| Depreciation and amortization                                     | 9, 10 & 11 | (60,009)       | (56,036)       |
| Other operating expenses  | 8          | (421,922)      | (386,702)      |
| <b>OPERATING PROFIT</b>   |            | <b>217,377</b> | <b>212,907</b> |
| Finance income  | 8          | 32,470         | 14,384         |
| Finance costs   | 8          | (24,758)       | (19,647)       |
| Impairment of goodwill  | 14         | (11,325)       | (177)          |
| Share of profit of associates                                     | 13         | 1,985          | 3,179          |
| <b>PROFIT BEFORE TAX</b>  |            | <b>215,749</b> | <b>210,646</b> |
| Income tax expense  | 25         | (64,407)       | (69,157)       |
| <b>PROFIT FOR THE YEAR FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS</b>             |            | <b>151,342</b> | <b>141,489</b> |
| Profit/(loss) after tax for the year from discontinued operations | 7          | (2,223)        | (7,507)        |
| <b>PROFIT FOR THE YEAR</b>  |            | <b>149,119</b> | <b>133,982</b> |
| Attributable to:  |            |                |                |
| <b>Equity holders of the parent</b>                               |            | <b>146,013</b> | <b>132,759</b> |
| Non-controlling interests   |            | 3,106          | 1,223          |
|   |            | <b>149,119</b> | <b>133,982</b> |

Thousands of euros

|                                   | NOTE | 2014  | 2013  |
|-----------------------------------|------|-------|-------|
| Earnings per share (euros)        | 18   |       |       |
| <b>From continuing operations</b> |      |       |       |
| Basic                             |      | 0.964 | 0.912 |
| Diluted                           |      | 0.964 | 0.912 |
| <b>From profit for the year</b>   |      |       |       |
| Basic                             |      | 0.949 | 0.863 |
| Diluted                           |      | 0.949 | 0.863 |

The accompanying notes 1 to 31 are an integral part of the consolidated income statement for the year ended December 31, 2014.

# EBRO FOODS GROUP

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEARS

ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013

|   | NOTE      | 12-31-14       |            |                  | 12-31-13       |            |                  |
|---|-----------|----------------|------------|------------------|----------------|------------|------------------|
|   |           | PRE-TAX AMOUNT | TAX EFFECT | AFTER-TAX AMOUNT | PRE-TAX AMOUNT | TAX EFFECT | AFTER-TAX AMOUNT |
| <b>1. Profit for the year</b>   |           |                |            | 149,119          |                |            | 133,982          |
| <b>2. Other income and expense recognized directly in equity:</b>                                       |           | 65,450         | 9,102      | 74,552           | (18,132)       | (8,622)    | (26,754)         |
| <b>2.1 Other comprehensive income to be reclassified to profit or loss in subsequent periods</b>        |           | 75,682         | 5,752      | 81,434           | (25,963)       | (5,509)    | (31,472)         |
| Gains/(losses) on the measurement of available-for-sale financial assets                                | 12        | (5,172)        | 1,551      | (3,621)          | 20,400         | (6,120)    | 14,280           |
| Gains/(losses) on the measurement of available-for-sale financial assets reclassified to profit or loss | 12        | (14,003)       | 4,201      | (9,802)          | (2,035)        | 611        | (1,424)          |
| Translation differences   | 18        | 94,857         | 0          | 94,857           | (44,328)       | 0          | (44,328)         |
| Translation differences taken to profit or loss   |           | 0              | 0          | 0                | 0              | 0          | 0                |
| <b>2.2 Other comprehensive income not to be reclassified to profit or loss in subsequent periods</b>    |           | (10,232)       | 3,350      | (6,882)          | 7,831          | (3,113)    | 4,718            |
| Actuarial gains and losses  | 20        | (10,232)       | 3,350      | (6,882)          | 7,831          | (3,113)    | 4,718            |
| <b>1+2 Total income and expense recognized during the year</b>  | <b>18</b> |                |            | <b>223,671</b>   |                |            | <b>107,228</b>   |
| <b>Attributable to:</b>   |           |                |            |                  |                |            |                  |
| Equity holders of the parent  | 18        |                |            | 220,559          |                |            | 106,005          |
| Non-controlling interests   | 18        |                |            | 3,112            |                |            | 1,223            |
|   |           |                |            | <b>223,671</b>   |                |            | <b>107,228</b>   |

Thousands of euros

The accompanying notes 1 to 31 are an integral part of the consolidated statement of comprehensive income for the year ended December 31, 2014.

# EBRO FOODS GROUP

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEARS

ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013

### ATTRIBUTABLE TO EQUITY HOLDERS OF THE PARENT

|  | EQUITY           | NON-CONTROLLING INTERESTS | TOTAL            | SHARE CAPITAL | SHARE PREMIUM | RESTRICTED     |               | UNRESTRICTED RESERVES |                     | INTERIM DIVIDEND PAID | TRANSLATION DIFFERENCES | OWN SHARES   |
|--|------------------|---------------------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
|  |                  |                           |                  |               |               | REVAL. RESERVE | LEGAL RESERVE | RETAINED EARNINGS     | PROFIT FOR THE YEAR |                       |                         |              |
| <b>BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2012</b>                                    | <b>1,693,237</b> | <b>1,028</b>              | <b>1,692,209</b> | <b>92,319</b> | <b>4</b>      | <b>3,169</b>   | <b>18,464</b> | <b>1,429,916</b>      | <b>158,592</b>      | <b>0</b>              | <b>(10,255)</b>         | <b>0</b>     |
| Distribution of prior-year profit                                      | 0                | 0                         | 0                | 0             | 0             | 0              | 0             | 158,592               | (158,592)           | 0                     | 0                       | 0            |
| Dividends paid (note 18)   | (92,319)         | 0                         | (92,319)         | 0             | 0             | 0              | 0             | (92,319)              | 0                   | 0                     | 0                       | 0            |
| Costs of issuing/cancelling share capital                              | (138)            | 0                         | (138)            | 0             | 0             | 0              | 0             | (138)                 | 0                   | 0                     | 0                       | 0            |
| Changes in consolidation scope   | 20,255           | 20,255                    | 0                | 0             | 0             | 0              | 0             | 0                     | 0                   | 0                     | 0                       | 0            |
| <b>Total distribution of profit and transactions with shareholders</b> | <b>(72,202)</b>  | <b>20,255</b>             | <b>(92,457)</b>  | <b>0</b>      | <b>0</b>      | <b>0</b>       | <b>0</b>      | <b>66,135</b>         | <b>(158,592)</b>    | <b>0</b>              | <b>0</b>                | <b>0</b>     |
| Profit for the year (as per income statement)                          | 133,982          | 1,223                     | 132,759          | 0             | 0             | 0              | 0             | 0                     | 132,759             | 0                     | 0                       | 0            |
| Change in translation differences                                      | (44,328)         | 0                         | (44,328)         | 0             | 0             | 0              | 0             | 0                     | 0                   | 0                     | (44,328)                | 0            |
| Fair value of financial instruments:                                   | 0                | 0                         | 0                | 0             | 0             | 0              | 0             | 0                     | 0                   | 0                     | 0                       | 0            |
| 1. Unrealized gains/(losses)   | 18,365           | 0                         | 18,365           | 0             | 0             | 0              | 0             | 18,365                | 0                   | 0                     | 0                       | 0            |
| Change due to actuarial gains/(losses)                                 | 7,831            | 0                         | 7,831            | 0             | 0             | 0              | 0             | 7,831                 | 0                   | 0                     | 0                       | 0            |
| Tax effect of gains/(losses) recognized in equity                      | (8,622)          | 0                         | (8,622)          | 0             | 0             | 0              | 0             | (8,622)               | 0                   | 0                     | 0                       | 0            |
| <b>Total income and expense recognized</b>                             | <b>107,228</b>   | <b>1,223</b>              | <b>106,005</b>   | <b>0</b>      | <b>0</b>      | <b>0</b>       | <b>0</b>      | <b>17,574</b>         | <b>132,759</b>      | <b>0</b>              | <b>(44,328)</b>         | <b>0</b>     |
| <b>BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2013</b>                                    | <b>1,728,263</b> | <b>22,506</b>             | <b>1,705,757</b> | <b>92,319</b> | <b>4</b>      | <b>3,169</b>   | <b>18,464</b> | <b>1,513,625</b>      | <b>132,759</b>      | <b>0</b>              | <b>(54,583)</b>         | <b>0</b>     |
| Distribution of prior-year profit                                      | 0                | 0                         | 0                | 0             | 0             | 0              | 0             | 132,759               | (132,759)           | 0                     | 0                       | 0            |
| Dividends paid (note 18)   | (76,932)         | 0                         | (76,932)         | 0             | 0             | 0              | 0             | (76,932)              | 0                   | 0                     | 0                       | 0            |
| Sale-purchase of own shares (net)                                      | (277)            | 0                         | (277)            | 0             | 0             | 0              | 0             | 0                     | 0                   | 0                     | 0                       | (277)        |
| Gain/(loss) on own share sales   | 378              | 0                         | 378              | 0             | 0             | 0              | 0             | 378                   | 0                   | 0                     | 0                       | 0            |
| Changes in consolidation scope   | (1,298)          | (1,298)                   | 0                | 0             | 0             | 0              | 0             | 0                     | 0                   | 0                     | 0                       | 0            |
| <b>Total distribution of profit and transactions with shareholders</b> | <b>(78,129)</b>  | <b>(1,298)</b>            | <b>(76,831)</b>  | <b>0</b>      | <b>0</b>      | <b>0</b>       | <b>0</b>      | <b>56,205</b>         | <b>(132,759)</b>    | <b>0</b>              | <b>0</b>                | <b>(277)</b> |
| Profit for the year (as per income statement)                          | 149,119          | 3,106                     | 146,013          | 0             | 0             | 0              | 0             | 0                     | 146,013             | 0                     | 0                       | 0            |
| Change in translation differences                                      | 94,857           | 50                        | 94,807           | 0             | 0             | 0              | 0             | 0                     | 0                   | 0                     | 94,807                  | 0            |
| Fair value of financial instruments:                                   | 0                | 0                         | 0                | 0             | 0             | 0              | 0             | 0                     | 0                   | 0                     | 0                       | 0            |
| 1. Unrealized gains/(losses)   | (19,175)         | 0                         | (19,175)         | 0             | 0             | 0              | 0             | (19,175)              | 0                   | 0                     | 0                       | 0            |
| Change due to actuarial gains/(losses)                                 | (10,232)         | (44)                      | (10,188)         | 0             | 0             | 0              | 0             | (10,188)              | 0                   | 0                     | 0                       | 0            |
| Tax effect of gains/(losses) recognized in equity                      | 9,102            | 0                         | 9,102            | 0             | 0             | 0              | 0             | 9,102                 | 0                   | 0                     | 0                       | 0            |
| <b>Total income and expense recognized</b>                             | <b>223,671</b>   | <b>3,112</b>              | <b>220,559</b>   | <b>0</b>      | <b>0</b>      | <b>0</b>       | <b>0</b>      | <b>(20,261)</b>       | <b>146,013</b>      | <b>0</b>              | <b>94,807</b>           | <b>0</b>     |
| <b>BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2014</b>                                    | <b>1,873,805</b> | <b>24,320</b>             | <b>1,849,485</b> | <b>92,319</b> | <b>4</b>      | <b>3,169</b>   | <b>18,464</b> | <b>1,549,569</b>      | <b>146,013</b>      | <b>0</b>              | <b>40,224</b>           | <b>(277)</b> |

Thousands of euros

The accompanying notes 1 to 31 are an integral part of the consolidated statement of changes in equity for the year ended December 31, 2014.

# EBRO FOODS GROUP

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEARS

ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND 2013

|  | 2014            | 2013             |
|--|-----------------|------------------|
| Receipts from customers  | 2,275,060       | 2,164,394        |
| Payments to suppliers and employees                                  | (1,996,516)     | (1,935,044)      |
| Interest paid  | (6,375)         | (5,140)          |
| Interest received  | 516             | 984              |
| Dividends received   | 1,491           | 1,696            |
| Other operating activity receipts / payments                         | 4,624           | 6,673            |
| Income tax paid  | (67,525)        | (72,445)         |
| <b>NET CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>                      | <b>211,275</b>  | <b>161,118</b>   |
| Purchase of fixed assets   | (67,123)        | (61,308)         |
| Proceeds from sale of fixed assets                                   | 10,390          | 9,122            |
| Purchase of financial assets (net of cash acquired)                  | (47,103)        | (116,491)        |
| Proceeds from sale of financial assets                               | 44,870          | 5,369            |
| Other investment activity proceeds / purchases                       | (1,227)         | (653)            |
| <b>NET CASH FLOWS USED IN INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>                   | <b>(60,193)</b> | <b>(163,961)</b> |
| Acquisition of own shares  | (11,804)        | 0                |
| Proceeds from the sale of own shares                                 | 11,903          | 0                |
| Dividends paid to shareholders                                       | (76,932)        | (92,319)         |
| Proceeds from borrowings   | 160,628         | 186,262          |
| Repayment of borrowings  | (150,431)       | (164,692)        |
| Other financing activity proceeds / payments and grants              | 265             | 273              |
| <b>NET CASH FLOWS USED IN FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>                   | <b>(66,371)</b> | <b>(70,476)</b>  |
| Translation differences arising on cash flows from foreign companies | 4,709           | (1,093)          |
| <b>NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS</b>          | <b>89,420</b>   | <b>(74,412)</b>  |
| Cash and cash equivalents, opening balance                           | 94,314          | 173,740          |
| Effect of year-end exchange rate on opening balance                  | 8,545           | (5,014)          |
| <b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, CLOSING BALANCE</b>                    | <b>192,279</b>  | <b>94,314</b>    |

Thousands of euros

The 2013 cash flow statement includes cash flows corresponding to the German pasta business, a discontinued operation. The main cash flows included in respect of this discontinued operation are:

|   |   |        |
|---|---|--------|
| Net cash flows from operating activities    | 0 | 10,238 |
| Net cash flows used in investing activities | 0 | (396)  |
| Net cash flows used in financing activities | 0 | 0      |

The accompanying notes 1 to 31 are an integral part of the consolidated statement of cash flows for the year ended December 31, 2014.

# **EBRO FOODS, S.A. CONSOLIDATED GROUP**

## **CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR**

ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014

(THOUSANDS OF EUROS)

### **1. GROUP INFORMATION**

Ebro Foods, S.A., a Spanish public limited company (sociedad anónima), hereinafter the Parent or the Company, was created by the merger by absorption of Puleva S.A. into Azucarera Ebro Agrícolas S.A. on January 1, 2001. On the occasion of that transaction, Azucarera Ebro Agrícolas, S.A.'s name was changed to Ebro Puleva, S.A. Later, at the Annual General Meeting of June 1, 2010, its registered name was changed again to its current name: Ebro Foods, S.A.

The Company's current registered office is in Madrid (28046), at Paseo de la Castellana, 20.

The corporate object of its consolidated group (hereinafter, the Ebro Foods Group, the Ebro Group or the Group) is to perform the following business activities in Spanish and foreign markets:

- a) The production, preparation, sale, research, export and import of all manner of food and dietary products for both human and animal consumption, in addition to energy food products, including their by-products and waste, and, in particular, rice, pasta, sauces and all manner of nutritional products.
- b) The production, exploitation and sale of all manner of food, soft and alcoholic beverages.
- c) The use of by-products and the provision of services or products of all types relating to the aforementioned activities, including refrigeration cabinets, ice, industrial gas, steam, cold and energy.
- d) The acquisition, lease, creation, installation, development and management of industrial, farming and livestock facilities in the food, nutrition and beverage (including alcohol) industries.
- e) The performance of projects and installation work and the provision of all manner of technical assistance to other companies in the aforementioned industries; the creation, development, protection and use of patents, trademarks and other assets susceptible to intellectual property protection.
- f) Staff training, computer programming or management, investment and monetization of resources, advertising and image, transport, distribution and sale and marketing activities that are ancillary or complementary to the aforementioned activities.

The activities comprising the Group's corporate object may be carried on through the subscription or acquisition of shares or other equity interests in companies with an identical or similar corporate purpose.

The Group currently operates in Spain and internationally. The revenue breakdown by geographic market is provided with the segment reporting disclosures (note 6).

The 2013 consolidated financial statements were approved at the Annual General Meeting held by Ebro Foods, S.A. on June 4, 2014 and duly filed with Madrid's Companies Register.

The distribution of profit of the Parent Company proposed by the directors of Ebro Foods, S.A. at a meeting of the Board of Directors on March 24, 2015 for submission for ratification at the upcoming Annual General Meeting is as follows:

#### Amounts relating only to the Parent's separate financial statements

|   | <b>AMOUNT</b>  |
|---|----------------|
| <b>Basis of distribution</b>                  |                |
| Unrestricted reserves                         | 751,463        |
| Profit for the year (as per income statement) | 42,731         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                  | <b>794,194</b> |

*Thousands of euros*

The profit generated by the Ebro Foods Group in 2014 makes it possible, as in prior years, to propose the payment of a cash dividend, with a charge against unrestricted reserves, of 0.66 euros per share (an ordinary dividend of 0.51 euros per share and a special dividend of 0.15 euros per share), payable in the course of 2015. The ordinary dividend will be paid out in three instalments of 0.17 euros per share on April 1, June 29 and October 2, 2015. The special dividend will be paid out in a single instalment of 0.15 euros per share on December 22, 2015.

#### LIMITATIONS ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF DIVIDENDS

Ebro Foods, S.A. is obliged to transfer 10% of profit for the year to a legal reserve until this reserve reaches an amount equal to at least 20% of share capital. Unless the balance of the reserve exceeds this amount, it cannot be distributed to shareholders.

Once the legal and bylaw-stipulated requirements have been met, dividends may be distributed against profit for the year or freely distributable reserves so long as the value of equity is not lower than or would not fall below share capital as a result of the distribution. For these purposes, any profit recognized directly in equity may not be distributed either directly or indirectly. If prior-year losses were to reduce the Company's equity to below the amount of share capital, profit would have to be allocated to offset these losses.

## 2. BASIS OF PREPARATION AND COMPARABILITY OF THE INFORMATION INCLUDED IN THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

These consolidated financial statements are presented in thousands of euros (unless expressly stated otherwise). The euro is the Ebro Foods Group's functional currency. Transactions performed in other currencies are translated into euros following the accounting policies outlined in note 3.

## A) BASIS OF PREPARATION

### 1. General accounting policies

The consolidated financial statements were prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) as adopted by the European Union, in conformity with Regulation (EC) no. 1606/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council.

The consolidated financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2014, which were authorized for issue by the Parent's directors on March 24, 2015, are pending approval by its shareholders at the Annual General Meeting; however, they are expected to be approved without modification. (Similarly, at the reporting date, the 2014 financial statements of Ebro Foods, S.A. and of its subsidiaries and associates had still to be ratified by their respective shareholders at the corresponding Annual General Meetings).

These financial statements have been prepared using the general historical cost measurement basis, except where the occasional IFRS requires performance of the corresponding revaluations.

### 2. Use of estimates and assumptions

The Parent's directors are responsible for the information included in these consolidated financial statements.

In preparing the accompanying consolidated financial statements, they have relied on occasion on estimates made by the management of the various Group companies in order to measure certain of the assets, liabilities, income, expenses and commitments recognized therein. Essentially, these estimates refer to:

- ❖ Measurement of the recoverable amounts of assets and goodwill for impairment testing purposes.
- ❖ The assumptions used in the actuarial calculation of pension and similar liabilities and obligations.
- ❖ The useful lives of property, plant and equipment and intangible assets.
- ❖ The assumptions used to calculate the fair value of financial instruments and put options.
- ❖ The probability of occurrence and amount of liabilities of uncertain amounts and/or contingent liabilities.
- ❖ The recoverability of deferred tax assets.

Although these estimates were made on the basis of the best information available at the date of authorizing these consolidated financial statements for issue regarding the facts analyzed, future events could make it necessary to revise these estimates (upwards or downwards) in coming years. Changes in accounting estimates would be applied prospectively, recognizing the effects of the changes in estimates in the related consolidated financial statements.

### 3. Materiality assessment

These consolidated financial statements omit information and disclosures that do not require detailed breakdown on account of their qualitative importance and were not deemed material in accordance with the relative materiality or significance concept defined in the IFRS Conceptual Framework, considering the consolidated financial statements of the Ebro Group as a whole.

## B) COMPARATIVE INFORMATION

For comparative purposes, the Group presents, in addition to the figures for the year ended December 31, 2014, for each item in the consolidated balance sheet, consolidated income statement, consolidated statement of cash flows, consolidated statement of changes in equity, consolidated statement of comprehensive income and notes to the consolidated financial statements, the figures for the year ended December 31, 2013.

The following significant changes were made to the prior-year figures in order to make them comparable year-on-year:

- ❖ Recognition of the impact of the definitive amounts recognized in respect of the Olivieri business combination (acquired in December 2013; for further information see the 2013 consolidated financial statements) compared to the provisional amounts recognized at year-end 2013, once the opportune appraisals and analyses had been carried out in order to establish the definitive fair value of the net assets acquired. This accounting process implied the following reclassifications: the amount of intangible assets recognized was increased by 1,795 thousand euros; the amount of property, plant and equipment was increased by 2,900 thousand euros; and the amount of goodwill recognized was decreased by 4,695 thousand euros.

No other significant changes were made to the prior-year figures in order to make them comparable year-on-year.

### **C) CHANGES IN THE SCOPE OF CONSOLIDATION**

Notes 4 and 5 detail the main changes affecting the consolidation scope in 2014 and 2013, outlining the corresponding consequences in terms of accounting methods used.

## **3. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The most significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these consolidated financial statements are set out below:

### **A) BASIS OF CONSOLIDATION**

#### **Subsidiaries**

All of the companies over which the Group has control are fully consolidated in these financial statements. Control is the power to affect an investee's returns through the ability to direct its relevant activities.

When the Group acquires a business, that business's assets, liabilities and contingent liabilities acquired are measured at their acquisition-date fair values. The difference between the cost of the business combination and the fair value of the net assets acquired is recognized as goodwill if positive and as a gain on a bargain purchase in the income statement if negative. The results of companies acquired during the year are consolidated from the effective date of acquisition.

Non-controlling interests are determined at the acquisition date at their percentage interest in the fair value of the acquiree's recognized assets and liabilities or at their proportionate share of the fair value of the acquired business, i.e., including their share of goodwill.

When necessary, adjustments are made to the financial statements of subsidiaries to bring their accounting policies in line with the Group's accounting policies.

All material intra-group balances relating to transactions between members of the Group are eliminated in full on consolidation.



### **Investments in associates and joint ventures**

The Group's investments in associates (companies over which it has significant interest but not control) and joint ventures are accounted for using the equity method. Under the equity method, an investment in an associate or a joint venture is initially recognized at cost. The carrying amount of the investment is adjusted to recognize changes in the Group's share of net assets of the associate or joint venture since the acquisition date, adjusted for impairment charges as necessary. The Group's share of the results of operations of its associates or joint ventures is recognized, net of the related tax effect, in the consolidated income statement or consolidated statement of other comprehensive income, as warranted.

### **B) FOREIGN CURRENCY TRANSLATION: RESULTS AND FINANCIAL POSITION OF FOREIGN OPERATIONS**

The Group companies' individual financial statements are expressed in each company's local currency.

On consolidation, their assets and liabilities are translated into euros using the year-end exchange rate; income statement items are translated at the average exchange rate for the period; while share capital, share premium and reserve accounts are translated using the historical exchange rate. The exchange differences arising on translation for consolidation purposes of investments in foreign subsidiaries and associates are recognized in equity under "Translation differences".

If there are non-controlling interests in these subsidiaries, the translation differences are recognized under "Non-controlling interests" within equity.

Any goodwill arising on the acquisition of a foreign operation and any fair value adjustments to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities arising on the acquisition are treated as assets and liabilities of the foreign operation and translated at the rate of exchange prevailing at the reporting date.

On disposal of an investment in a foreign subsidiary or associate, the translation differences relating to that particular foreign operation, deferred in equity until the transaction date, are recognized in profit or loss.

### **C) FOREIGN CURRENCY TRANSLATION**

Each Group company translates its transactions in foreign currencies to its respective functional currency using the rate prevailing on the transaction date. Differences arising on settlement of these transactions or translation of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in currencies other than each Group company's functional currency are recognized in profit or loss.

### **D) CASH AND CASHEQUIVALENTS**

Cash and cash equivalents are mainly certificates of deposits, short-term deposits, short-term marketable securities, short-term government bonds and other money market assets with a maturity of three months or less, and bank deposits with a maturity of more than three months from the date of acquisition but immediately drawable without incurring any kind of penalty. These assets are valued at cost, which is deemed a fair approximation of their realizable amount.

### **E) PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT AND INVESTMENT PROPERTIES**

Items of property, plant and equipment and investment properties are stated at the lower of:

- ❖ Acquisition (or production) cost, net of accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses, if any.
- ❖ Their recoverable amount, i.e. the amount that will be recovered via the cash-generating units to which they belong or via their sale, capital appreciation or a combination of the two.

For items of property, plant and equipment and investment properties acquired in business combinations, acquisition cost equates to their fair value on the date that the Group obtained control, determined using appraisals carried out by independent experts, as detailed in section a) above.

Transfers are made to (or from) investment property only when there is a change in use. For a transfer from investment property to owner-occupied property, the deemed cost for subsequent accounting is its carrying amount on the date of the change in use.

If owner-occupied property becomes an investment property, the Group accounts for such property in accordance with the policy stated under property, plant and equipment up to the date of change in use.

Investment properties are derecognized either when they have been disposed of or when they are permanently withdrawn from use and no future economic benefit is expected from their disposal. The difference between the net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset is recognized in profit or loss in the period of derecognition.

In the event that management detects indications that these assets may be impaired, the corresponding impairment losses are recognized.

Borrowing costs directly attributable to the construction of a qualifying asset are capitalized as part of the cost of the asset until such assets are commissioned. Extension, upgrade or improvement costs that represent an increase in productivity, capacity or efficiency or an extension in the useful life of assets are capitalized as an increase in the cost of the corresponding assets. Upkeep and maintenance costs are expensed in the year they are incurred.

Items of property, plant and equipment are depreciated on a straight-line basis over their respective useful lives, taking into consideration actual depreciation sustained through operation, usage and wear and tear, as follows: The residual values, useful lives and methods of depreciation of property, plant and equipment are reviewed at each financial year-end.

#### DEPRECIATION RATES

|                                     |            |
|-------------------------------------|------------|
| Buildings and other structures      | 1.0 a 3.0% |
| Plant and machinery                 | 2.0 a 20%  |
| Other fixtures, tools and furniture | 8 a 25%    |
| Other items of PP&E                 | 5.5 a 25%  |

Assets acquired under finance lease agreements, i.e., when the Group assumes substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership, are capitalized, recognizing the present value of the total lease liability in tandem. Lease payments are apportioned between finance charges and principal (reduction of the lease liability) so as to achieve a constant rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability. Leased assets are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the useful life of the assets, using the rates shown above. Operating lease payments are recognized as an operating expense in the income statement on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

## F) INTANGIBLE ASSETS (EXCLUDING GOODWILL AND GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION ALLOWANCES)

Intangible assets are recognized at their acquisition or production cost, which is reviewed continually and written down for impairment, as warranted, as described in note 3.h) below. Intangible assets with finite lives are amortized; their residual values, amortization periods and amortization methods are reviewed annually. The assets included under this heading are the following:

❖ **Development costs:** The costs incurred in specific projects for the development of new projects for sale or internal use that are reasonably certain to be recovered, are capitalized and amortized on a straight-line basis over the period of expected future benefit from its date of completion.

Recovery is reasonably regarded as assured when it is considered technically feasible and the Group has the ability and intention to complete the asset and use it or sell it and it is expected to generate future economic benefits.

❖ **Trademarks, patents and licenses:** Capitalized development expenditure is recognized under this heading when the corresponding patent or similar protection is obtained. This heading also includes new trademarks or brand names acquired from third parties (recognized at their acquisition cost) and those acquired in business combinations (recognized at their fair value on the date control is obtained). Based on an analysis of all the relevant factors, the Group has determined that there is no foreseeable limit to the period of time for which its most significant trademarks will generate cash inflows for the Group, which is why it has classified them as intangible assets with indefinite useful lives. Nevertheless, it reviews its trademarks' indefinite useful life assessment every year.

Those that are amortized over their estimated useful life, which varies between 10 and 20 years.

❖ **Computer software:** Computer software includes the amounts paid for title to or the right to use computer programs and the costs incurred to develop software in-house, only to the extent that the software is expected to be used over several years. Software is amortized on a straight-line basis over its useful life, which is usually around three years.

Software maintenance expenses are expensed in the year incurred.

## G) GOODWILL

Goodwill is the excess of the consideration transferred in exchange for control of a business and the acquisition-date fair value of the share of the net assets acquired, including the portion attributable to non-controlling interests, as detailed above. The excess acquisition price that corresponds to investments in associates is recognized in the consolidated balance sheet within 'Investments in associates', while any corresponding impairment losses are recognized under 'Share of profit of associates' in the consolidated income statement.

When the price of a business combination includes contingent consideration, the acquisition price includes the present value of such contingent consideration.

Goodwill is not amortized but is tested for impairment annually. Any impairment of goodwill indicated by such tests is recognized immediately in profit or loss and cannot be reversed in subsequent years.

If the fair value of the net assets acquired is in excess of the consideration transferred, the Group recognizes the corresponding gain in profit or loss once it has confirmed the fair value of the net assets acquired.

Whenever the Group disposes of a subsidiary or associate to which goodwill has been allocated, the amount of such goodwill is included in the carrying amount in order to determine the gain or loss on disposal.

## H) IMPAIRMENT OF NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS

The Group regularly tests its assets for impairment.

If its impairment tests indicate that that an asset's recoverable amount is less than its carrying amount, the asset is written down to its recoverable amount by recognizing an impairment loss in the consolidated income statement. An asset's recoverable amount is the higher of its realizable value and its value in use. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using an appropriate discount rate.

If an asset being tested for impairment does not generate cash inflows that are largely independent of those from other assets or groups of assets, the impairment test is performed in respect of the group of assets to which it belongs (cash-generating unit or CGU).

The recoverable value of intangible assets with indefinite useful lives is reassessed annually (annual impairment test) or whenever there are indications that such assets may be impaired. The reversal of an asset impairment loss is recognized in the consolidated income statement.

## D) NON-CURRENT ASSETS HELD FOR SALE AND DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS

Non-current assets classified as held for sale and discontinued operations are measured at the lower of their acquisition cost and fair value less costs of disposal.

Assets are classified into this category when their carrying amount is expected to be realized through a sale transaction, rather than through continuing use, the asset is available for immediate sale in its present condition and the sale is expected to qualify for recognition as a completed sale within one year.

## J) FINANCIAL ASSETS

Financial assets are recognized (and derecognized) on the effective transaction or trade date; they are initially recognized at fair value, which generally coincides with their acquisition cost, adjusted for transaction costs as warranted.

### Investments

Investments are classified as:

- ❖ Held-to-maturity financial assets: those with fixed or determinable payments and fixed maturity. The Group must have the positive intention and ability to hold these assets to maturity. This heading primarily includes short-term deposits. After initial recognition they are measured at amortized cost.
- ❖ Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss: assets held for trading, i.e, with the objective of generating a profit from short-term fluctuations in price or the dealer's margin. After initial recognition they are measured at fair value to the extent this can be determined reliably. Net changes in these assets' fair value are presented in the consolidated income statement.
- ❖ Available-for-sale financial assets: this category includes debt securities and equity instruments issued by other companies that have not been classified in any of the preceding categories. These assets are measured as follows:
  - Either: At fair value, when this can be determined reliably by means of its quoted price, recent benchmark transaction prices or the present value of its discounted cash flows.

Unrealized fair value gains or losses are recognized in equity until the investment is derecognized, at which time the cumulative gain or loss recognized equity is reclassified to profit or loss.

If fair value is less than acquisition cost and there is objective evidence that the asset has become impaired and this impairment is not considered temporary, the difference is recognized directly in the consolidated income statement.

- Or: In the event of unlisted securities, whose fair value cannot always be determined reliably, these assets are measured at their acquisition cost, less any impairment losses.

At year-end 2014, the fair value of the Group's available-for-sale financial assets was determined by reference to (unadjusted) quoted prices in active markets, meaning Level 1 of the fair value hierarchy established under IFRS 7.

No financial assets were reclassified between the above financial asset categories in either 2014 or 2013.

### **Other loans**

Non-trade loans, whether current or non-current, are recognized at the amounts granted (amortized cost). The interest collected on these loans is accrued as interest income using the effective interest rate method.

Non-trade loans are not usually discounted to their present value.

### **K) TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES**

Trade and other receivables are recognized at their face value, which coincides with their amortized cost. Impairment losses are estimated and recognized to provide for the risk of non-payment.

The balance corresponding to discounted bills is recognized through maturity under both trade and other receivables and bank borrowings (current financial liabilities).

### **L) INVENTORIES**

Inventories are measured at weighted average acquisition or production cost. The acquisition price includes the amount stated on the invoice plus all additional costs incurred until the goods are stored in the warehouse.

Production cost is determined by adding to the cost of acquiring raw materials and other consumables, manufacturing costs directly attributable to the product and the corresponding portion of indirect costs attributable to the product in question, to the extent such costs are incurred in the manufacturing period. If the selling price less estimated costs of completion and the estimated costs necessary to make the sale are less than the costs indicated above, the inventories are written down for impairment.

### **M) DEFERRED INCOME - GRANTS**

The grants received by the Group are accounted for as follows:

- a. Non-repayable grants related to assets: grants are measured at the amount awarded and reclassified to profit and loss on a straight-line basis over a period of 10 years, which is roughly equivalent to the average period during which the assets financed by such grants are depreciated. They are presented on the liability side of the consolidated balance sheet.
- b. Grants related to income: when a grant relates to an expense item, it is recognized as income in the period that the costs it is intended to compensate are expensed.

### **N) PENSION COMMITMENTS AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS**

The Group manages several defined benefit and defined contribution pension plans. The cost of providing benefits under defined benefit plans is determined using the projected unit credit method.

The defined benefit commitment is calculated by independent actuarial experts annually for the most significant plans and regularly for the rest. The actuarial assumptions used to calculate the Group's obligations depend on each country's economic situation.

The various funds may be funded through an external fund or through internal provisions.

For defined benefit plans funded externally, any deficit in the fair value of the plan assets with respect to the present value of the obligation as a result of actuarial gains or losses is recognized directly in equity net of the related tax effect, and any changes in past service costs are recognized in profit or loss. A gain is only recognized in the consolidated balance sheet in respect of a surplus to the extent that it represents a future economic benefit, in the form of refunds from the plan or a reduction in future contributions.

Actuarial gains and losses arise mainly as a result of changes in actuarial assumptions or differences between estimated and actual variables.

In the case of defined benefit plans, the actuarial cost charged to the consolidated income statement is the sum of the current service cost, interest cost, the expected return on any plan assets and the past service cost, while any material actuarial gains and losses are recognized directly in equity.

Contributions to defined contribution plans are charged to the consolidated income statement when they are made.

Pursuant to the prevailing collective bargaining agreement and other non-binding agreements, Ebro Foods, S.A. (mainly) is obliged to pay bonuses for long service to certain of its permanent employees upon retirement at the legally-stipulated age or early retirement.

In accordance with the prevailing collective bargaining agreements and other non-binding agreements, the Riviana and the NWP subgroups and certain European Group companies (mainly) are obliged to make annual supplementary payments of various kinds and other bonuses for long service and retirement, where applicable, to certain of their permanent employees upon retirement at the legally-stipulated age or early retirement.

The provision recognized represents the present value, calculated by means of actuarial studies, most of which performed by independent experts, of the future payment obligations of the companies concerned to their former and current employees in connection with the aforementioned retirement bonus obligations, net of the present value of the financial assets in which the related funds are invested. These plans are managed independently by a Management Committee made up of employees, executives and third parties.

In addition, certain Group companies grant their employees certain voluntary retirement bonuses of undetermined amount. These bonuses, which are scanty material, are recognized as an expense when they are paid. The other Group companies do not have similar obligations or have obligations that are scanty material.

#### **O) OTHER PROVISIONS**

Provisions are recognized when the Group has a present obligation (legal or constructive) as a result of a past event, it is probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

They are measured at the year-end estimate of the amounts (at their present value) that will be required to discharge probable or certain liabilities arising as a result of lawsuits or other outstanding obligations.

If an outflow of resources is considered possible but not probable, the Group does not recognize a provision but discloses the nature of such contingent liability in the notes to the annual financial statements.

Restructuring provisions are recognized only when the Group has a constructive obligation, which exists when a detailed formal plan identifies the business concerned, the locations affected, the function and number of employees who will be compensated for terminating their services, a detailed estimate of the associated costs, and when the plan will be implemented, and a valid expectation has been raised among those affected that the restructuring will be carried out because the plan has started to be implemented or because the main features of the plan have been announced to those affected by it. These provisions are estimated on the basis of their economic substance and not just their legal form.

#### **P) FINANCIAL LIABILITIES - LOANS AND BORROWINGS**

Loans and borrowings are classified by maturity: those maturing within less than twelve months from the reporting date are classified as current liabilities and those maturing within more than twelve months are classified as non-current liabilities.

All loans and borrowings are initially recognized at their original cost less associated arrangement costs. Subsequent to initial recognition they are measured at amortized cost. The interest generated by borrowings and all associated costs are recognized in the consolidated income statement using the effective interest rate method.

#### **Q) INCOME TAX**

Current tax expense is recognized in the consolidated statement of profit or loss, except for current income tax relating to items recognized directly in equity, the tax effect of which is recognized in equity.

Deferred tax is provided using the liability method. Under this method, deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognized on the basis of the temporary differences between the carrying amounts of the assets or liabilities and their tax bases and are measured at the tax rates that are expected to apply in the period when the asset is realized or the liability is settled, based on tax rates (and tax laws) that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the end of the reporting period.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities that arise from items recognized in equity are directly credited to or charged against equity. Deferred tax assets and unused tax credits are recognized to the extent that it is probable that sufficient taxable profit will be available to allow the benefit to be utilized and they are written down if this expectation changes. Deferred tax liabilities associated with investments in subsidiaries and associates are not recognized unless the Parent has the power to control the timing of the reversal of the temporary difference and it is probable that the temporary difference will not reverse in the foreseeable future.

#### **R) DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**

The Group uses certain financial derivatives to manage its exposure to fluctuations in interest rates and exchange rates. All of these derivatives are measured at fair value, regardless of whether or not they are designated as hedges, their fair value being their market value in the case of listed instruments and valuations based on options or discounted cash flow analysis in the case of unlisted instruments. The following criteria are used for recognition purposes:

- ❖ Cash flow hedges: the gains and losses derived from the measurement at fair value at the reporting date of derivatives designated as hedges, to the extent effective, are recognized directly in equity (net of tax) until the committed or forecast transaction is realized, at which point they are reclassified to profit or loss. Gains and losses on ineffective hedges are recognized directly in profit or loss.

- ❖ Hedges of a net investment in a foreign operation: the gains and losses derived from the measurement at fair value of these investments in respect of the portion of the hedge deemed effective are recognized, net of tax, directly in equity under 'Translation differences' and are reclassified to profit or loss when the hedged investment is disposed of. Gains and losses on ineffective hedges are recognized directly in profit or loss.
- ❖ Accounting treatment for financial instruments not designated as hedges or not qualifying for hedge accounting: The gains and losses arising from the restatement to fair value of these financial instruments are recognized directly in the consolidated income statement.

#### **S) REVENUE RECOGNITION**

Revenue and expenses are recognized on an accrual basis. Revenue is the gross inflow of economic benefits during the period arising in the course of the Group's ordinary activities insofar as those inflows result in increases in equity, other than increases relating to contributions from equity participants, and the benefits can be measured reliably. Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable.

Revenue from services is only recognized when the outcome of a transaction involving the rendering of services can be estimated reliably and is recognized by reference to the stage of completion of the transaction at the end of the reporting period.

Revenue includes only the gross inflows of economic benefits received and receivable by the Group on its own account; amounts collected on behalf of third parties, such as in an agency relationship, are not recognized as revenue.

Revenue arising from exchanges of goods or services that are not commercial in nature are not considered revenue-producing transactions.

The Group recognizes non-financial asset purchase or sale agreements settled at the net amount in cash or through some other financial instrument at their net amount. Agreements entered into and held for the purpose of receiving or delivering such non-financial assets are recognized in accordance with the contractual terms of the purchase, sale or expected usage requirements.

Interest income is recognized using the effective interest method, by reference to the principal outstanding and the applicable effective interest rate.

#### **T) ENVIRONMENTAL DISCLOSURES**

Expenditure incurred under initiatives taken or that have to be undertaken to manage the environmental effects of the Group's business operations and that deriving from environmental commitments are considered environmental expenses.

Capitalized assets acquired or produced by the Group for the purpose of long-lasting use in its business operations whose main use is to minimize environmental damages and/or enhance environmental protection, including assets intended to make the Group's operations less contaminating, are considered environmental assets. These assets are accounted for using the same criteria as for items of property, plant and equipment.



## **U) GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION ALLOWANCES**

The Group recognizes its greenhouse gas emission allowances as intangible assets with an infinite useful life. Allowances received for free under the various national allocation plans are measured at their fair value at the time of receipt and a deferred income balance is recognized in the same amount.

Since 2013 the Group is no longer obliged to meet allowance requirements and will therefore not be allocated additional free allowances.

## **V) OWN SHARES**

Own equity instruments that are reacquired (own shares or treasury shares) are deducted from equity. No gain or loss is recognized in profit or loss on the purchase, sale, issue or cancellation of the Group's own equity instruments.

## **W) NEW AND AMENDED STANDARDS AND INTERPRETATIONS**

The measurement standards (accounting policies) applied in preparing the accompanying consolidated financial statements are consistent with those used to prepare the 2013 consolidated financial statements with the exception of the following new and amended standards and interpretations which are effective for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2014:

1. Standards and amendments published by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) and adopted by the European Union for application in Europe for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2014:
  - ❖ IFRS 10: Consolidated Financial Statements
  - ❖ IFRS 11: Joint Arrangements
  - ❖ IFRS 12: Disclosures of Interests in Other Entities
  - ❖ Amendment to IAS 27: Separate Financial Statements
  - ❖ Amendment to IAS 28: Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures
  - ❖ Amendments to IFRS 10, 11 & 12: Transition Guidance
  - ❖ Amendment to IAS 32: Offsetting Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities
  - ❖ Amendment to IAS 36: Recoverable Amount Disclosures for Non-Financial Assets
  - ❖ Amendment to IAS 39: Novation of Derivatives and Continuation of Hedge Accounting

Adoption of these new and amended standards and interpretations has not had a material impact on the Group's financial position, performance or disclosures. The Group has not early adopted any new or amended standard that has been published but whose application is not yet mandatory.

2. As of the date of issuance of the accompanying consolidated financial statements, the following new and amended standards and interpretations have been published and are effective for annual periods after December 31, 2014 that could have an impact on the consolidated financial statements of the Group in the future; although these standards have been published by the IASB, they are not yet effective either because their date of effectiveness is subsequent to the reporting date or because they have yet to be adopted by the European Union.

|                            |   | <b>EFFECTIVE FOR ANNUAL PERIODS<br/>BEGINNING ON OR AFTER</b> |
|----------------------------|---|---|
| IFRIC 21                   | Levies  | July 1, 2014 (*)  |
| Amendment to IAS 19:       | Defined Benefit Plans: Employee Contributions   | February 1, 2015 (*)  |
| Amendment to IFRS 11:      | Accounting for Acquisitions of Interests in Joint Operations  | January 1, 2016   |
| Amendments to IAS 16 & 38: | Acceptable Methods of Depreciation and Amortization   | January 1, 2016   |
| IFRS 15                    | Revenue from Contracts with Customers   | January 1, 2017   |
| IFRS 9                     | Financial Instruments: Classification and Measurement   | TBD   |
| IFRS 9                     | Hedge Accounting and Amendments to IFRS 9, IFRS 7 and IAS 39  | TBD   |
|                            | Annual Improvements, 2010-2012 Cycle  | February 1, 2015 (*)  |
|                            | Annual Improvements, 2011-2013 Cycle  | January 1, 2015 (*)   |
|                            | Annual Improvements, 2012-2014 Cycle  | January 1, 2016   |
| IFRS 10 and IAS 28         | Amendments to IFRS 10 and IAS 28 - Sale or Contributions of Assets between an Investor and its Associate or Joint Venture | January 1, 2015   |
| IFRS 10 & 12 and IAS 28    | Amendments to IFRS 10, IFRS 12 and IAS 28 - Investment entities: Applying the consolidation exception                     | January 1, 2016   |
| Amendment to IAS 1         | Disclosure Initiative   | January 1, 2016   |

As of the date of authorizing the accompanying consolidated financial statements for issue, these new and amended standards and interpretations were pending adoption by the European Union, with the exception of those marked with an asterisk, whose date of effectiveness is that indicated in the table. None of the above standards has been early adopted by the Group.

The Group is currently analyzing the impact of application of these new and amended standards and interpretations that have been published but whose application is not yet compulsory.

#### **4. SUBSIDIARIES AND ASSOCIATES**

Ebro Foods, S.A. has the following direct and indirect investments in subsidiaries and associates:

**SUBSIDIARIES AND ASSOCIATES**

|   | OWNERSHIP INTEREST, % |          | PARENT COMPANY |            | REGISTERED OFFICE    | BUSINESS ACTIVITY                       |
|---|-----------------------|----------|----------------|------------|----------------------|---|
|   | 12-31-14              | 12-31-13 | 12-31-14       | 12-31-13   |                      |   |
| Dosbio 2010, S.L.                       | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | EF             | EF         | Madrid (Spain)       | Flour production                        |
| Fincas e Inversiones Ebro, S.A.         | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | EF             | EF         | Madrid (Spain)       | Agricultural holding                    |
| Arotz Foods, S.A.                       | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | EF             | EF         | Madrid (Spain)       | Production of canned vegetables         |
| Jiloca Industrial, S.A.                 | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | EF             | EF         | Teruel (Spain)       | Production of organic fertilizer        |
| Beira Terrace, Ltda.                    | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | EF             | EF         | Porto (Portugal)     | Real estate (dormant)                   |
| Riviana Foods Inc. (Group) (Riviana)    | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | EF             | EF         | Houston, Texas (USA) | Production and sale of rice             |
| Panzani, SAS (Group) (Panzani)          | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | EF             | EF         | Lyon (France)        | Production and sale of pasta and sauces |
| New World Pasta Comp. (Group) (NWP)     | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | EF             | EF         | Harrisburg (USA)     | Production and sale of pasta and sauces |
| Ebro Germany, GmbH. (Group) (EFG)       | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | EF/Boost       | EF/Boost   | Hamburg (Germany)    | Holdco                                  |
| Ebro Alimentación México, S.A.          | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | EF             | EF         | Mexico               | Sale and marketing of rice              |
| Azucarera Energías, S.L.                | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | EF             | EF         | Madrid (Spain)       | Combined heat & power (CHP)             |
| Networks Meal Solutions, S.A. (NMS)     | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | EF             | EF         | Madrid (Spain)       | Dormant                                 |
| JJ. Software de Medicina, S.A. (A)      | 26.8%                 | 26.8%    | NMS            | NMS        | Madrid (Spain)       | Dormant                                 |
| Fundación Ebro Foods                    | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | EF             | EF         | Madrid (Spain)       | Foundation                              |
| Ebro Financial Corporate Services, S.L. | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | EF             | EF         | Madrid (Spain)       | Insurance and finance                   |
| Herba Foods S.L. (HF)                   | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | EF             | EF         | Madrid (Spain)       | Investment management                   |
| Herba Ricemills S.L. (HR)               | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | EF             | EF         | Madrid (Spain)       | Production and sale of rice             |
| Herba Nutrición S.L. (HN)               | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | EF             | EF         | Madrid (Spain)       | Production and sale of rice             |
| Semola, S.r.l. (SEM)                    | 100.0%                | -        | EF             | -          | Naples (Italy)       | Investment management                   |
| Riso Scotti, S.p.a. (Group) (A)         | 25.0%                 | 25.0%    | EF             | EF         | Milan (Italy)        | Production and sale of rice             |
| Fallera Nutrición, S. L.                | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | HN             | HN         | Valencia (Spain)     | Production and sale of rice             |
| Herba Germany, GmbH                     | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | EFG            | EFG        | Hamburg (Germany)    | Trademark holdco                        |
| Euryza, GmbH.                           | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | EFG            | EFG        | Hamburg (Germany)    | Sale and marketing of rice              |
| T.A.G. Nahrungsmittel GmbH.             | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | EFG            | EFG        | Stuttgart (Germany)  | Dormant                                 |
| Bertolini Import Export GmbH.           | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | EFG            | EFG        | Mannheim (Germany)   | Dormant                                 |
| Ebro Frost, GmbH (Efrost)               | 55.0%                 | 55.0%    | HF             | HF         | Munich (Germany)     | Investment management                   |
| Danrice A.S.                            | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | Efrost         | Efrost     | Orbaek (Denmark)     | Production and sale of rice and pasta   |
| Keck Spezializaten, GmbH.               | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | Efrost         | Efrost     | Munich (Germany)     | Production and sale of rice and pasta   |
| S&B Herba Foods, Ltda. (Group)          | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | HF/R. Int.     | HF/R. Int. | London (UK)          | Production and sale of rice             |
| Riceland Magyarorszag, KFT.             | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | HF/EF          | HF/EF      | Budapest (Hungary)   | Sale and marketing of rice              |
| Boost Nutrition C.V. (Boost)            | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | HF / NC        | HF / NC    | Merksem (Belgium)    | Production and sale of rice             |
| Mundi Riso S.R.L.                       | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | HF             | HF         | Vercelli (Italy)     | Production and sale of rice             |

**EBROFOODS**

CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

**SUBSIDIARIES AND ASSOCIATES**

|  | OWNERSHIP INTEREST, % |          | PARENT COMPANY |          | REGISTERED OFFICE       | BUSINESS ACTIVITY                      |
|--|-----------------------|----------|----------------|----------|-------------------------|--|
|  | 12-31-14              | 12-31-13 | 12-31-14       | 12-31-13 |                         |  |
| Herba Hellas, S.A.                         | 75.0%                 | 75.0%    | HF             | HF       | Tesalonica (Greece)     | In liquidation                         |
| Mundi Riz, S.A.                            | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | HF             | HF       | Larache (Morocco)       | Production and sale of rice            |
| Agromeruan, S.A.                           | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | HF             | HF       | Larache (Morocco)       | Farmland concessionaire                |
| Rivera del Arroz, S.A.                     | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | HF             | HF       | Larache (Morocco)       | Rice farming                           |
| Mundi Vap, Ltda.                           | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | HF             | HF       | Larache (Morocco)       | Production and distribution of rice    |
| Katania Magreb, Ltda.                      | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | HF             | HF       | Larache (Morocco)       | Production and distribution of legumes |
| Arrozeiras Mundiarroz, S.A.                | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | HF             | HF       | Lisbon (Portugal)       | Production and sale of rice            |
| Josep Heap Properties, Ltda.               | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | HF             | HF       | Liverpool (UK)          | Investment management                  |
| Risella OY                                 | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | HF             | HF       | Helsinki (Finland)      | Sale and marketing of rice             |
| Bosto Poland, S.L.                         | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | HF             | HF       | Warsaw (Poland)         | Sale and marketing of rice             |
| Herba Bangkok, S.L.                        | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | HF             | HF       | Bangkok (Thailand)      | Production and sale of rice            |
| Herba Egipto Rice Mills, S.A.E.            | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | HF             | HF       | Cairo (Egypt)           | Production and sale of rice            |
| Herba de Puerto Rico, LLC.                 | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | HF             | HF       | San Juan (Puerto Rico)  | Sale and marketing of rice             |
| Herba Ricemills Rom, SRL                   | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | HF             | HF       | Romania                 | Sale and marketing of rice             |
| Herba India, Pty.                          | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | HF             | HF       | New Delhi (India)       | Dormant                                |
| Ebro India, Ltda.                          | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | HF             | HF       | New Delhi (India)       | Production and sale of rice            |
| TBA Suntra Beheer, B.V. (Group) <b>(B)</b> | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | HF             | HF       | Netherlands and Belgium | Production and sale of rice            |
| TBA Suntra UK, Ltd. <b>(B)</b>             | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | HF             | HF       | Goole (UK)              | Production and sale of rice            |
| Ebro Foods Netherland, B.V. (EFN)          | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | HF             | HF       | Amsterdam (Netherlands) | Investment management                  |
| Lassie Netherland, B.V.                    | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | EFN            | EFN      | Amsterdam (Netherlands) | Production and sale of rice            |
| Lassie, B.V.                               | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | EFN            | EFN      | Amsterdam (Netherlands) | Industrial operations                  |
| Lassie Property, B.V.                      | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | EFN            | EFN      | Amsterdam (Netherlands) | Industrial operations                  |
| Herba Ingredients, B.V.                    | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | EFN            | EFN      | Amsterdam (Netherlands) | Industrial operations                  |
| Mediterranean Foods Label, B.V.            | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | EFN            | EFN      | Amsterdam (Netherlands) | Production and sale of rice            |
| Nuratri, S.L.                              | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | HR             | HR       | Madrid (Spain)          | Sale and marketing of rice             |
| Nutramas, S.L.                             | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | HR             | HR       | Madrid (Spain)          | Sale and marketing of rice             |
| Nutrial, S.L.                              | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | HR             | HR       | Madrid (Spain)          | Sale and marketing of rice             |
| Pronatur, S.L.                             | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | HR             | HR       | Madrid (Spain)          | Sale and marketing of rice             |
| Vitasan, S.L.                              | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | HR             | HR       | Madrid (Spain)          | Sale and marketing of rice             |
| Yofres, S.A.                               | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | HR             | HR       | Seville (Spain)         | Sale and marketing of rice             |
| Herba Trading, S.A.                        | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | HR             | HR       | Seville (Spain)         | Sale and marketing of rice             |
| Formalac, S.L.                             | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | HR             | HR       | Seville (Spain)         | Sale and marketing of rice             |

**EBROFOODS**

CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

## SUBSIDIARIES AND ASSOCIATES

|   | OWNERSHIP INTEREST, % |          | PARENT COMPANY |            | REGISTERED OFFICE     | BUSINESS ACTIVITY                         |
|---|-----------------------|----------|----------------|------------|-----------------------|---|
|   | 12-31-14              | 12-31-13 | 12-31-14       | 12-31-13   |                       |   |
| Eurodairy, S.L.                         | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | HR             | HR         | Seville (Spain)       | Sale and marketing of rice                |
| Española de I+D, S.A.                   | 60.0%                 | 60.0%    | HR             | HR         | Valencia (Spain)      | New product develop. & commercialization  |
| American Rice, Inc. (ARI)               | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | Riviana        | Riviana    | Houston (USA)         | Production and sale of rice               |
| Riviana International Inc. (R. Int.)    | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | Riviana        | Riviana    | Houston (USA)         | Investment management                     |
| Ebro Riviana de Guatemala, S.A.         | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | R. Int.        | R. Int.    | Guatemala             | Investment management                     |
| Ebro de Costa Rica, S. A.               | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | R. Int.        | R. Int.    | San José (Costa Rica) | Investment management                     |
| R&R Partnership (A)                     | 50.0%                 | 50.0%    | Riviana        | Riviana    | Houston (USA)         | Production and sale of rice               |
| South La Fourche, Inc (A)               | -                     | 50.0%    | Riviana        | Riviana    | Houston (USA)         | Agricultural holding                      |
| N&C Boost N.V. (N.C. Boost)             | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | R. Int.        | R. Int.    | Antwerp (Belgium)     | Investment management                     |
| Lustucru Riz                            | 99.8%                 | 99.8%    | Panzani        | Panzani    | Lyon (France)         | In liquidation                            |
| Lustucru Fraïs                          | 99.8%                 | 99.8%    | Panzani        | Panzani    | Lyon (France)         | Production and sale of fresh pasta        |
| Grands Moulins Maurel                   | 99.8%                 | 99.8%    | Panzani        | Panzani    | Lyon (France)         | Production and sale of flour and semolina |
| Silo de la Madrague                     | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | Panzani        | Panzani    | Lyon (France)         | Production and sale of flour and semolina |
| Rizerie Franco Americaine et Col., S.A. | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | Panzani        | Panzani    | Marseilles (France)   | Production and sale of rice               |
| Pastificio Lucio Garofalo, Spa. (GAROF) | 52.0%                 | -        | SEM            | -          | Naples (Italy)        | Production and sale of pasta              |
| Garofalo Nordic, AB.                    | 100.0%                | -        | GAROF          | -          | Sweden                | Sale and marketing of pasta               |
| Garofalo USA, Inc.                      | 100.0%                | -        | GAROF          | -          | New York (USA)        | Sale and marketing of pasta               |
| Garleb, SAL.                            | 70.0%                 | -        | GAROF          | -          | Lebanon               | Sale and marketing of pasta               |
| Mani e Materia, Srl.                    | 50.0%                 | -        | GAROF          | -          | Naples (Italy)        | Innovation & Internet                     |
| Bosto Panzani Benelux, S.A.             | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | Boost/Pzni     | Boost/Pzni | Merksem (Belgium)     | Sale and marketing of rice and pasta      |
| Cately Corp. (Ronzoni)                  | 100.0%                | 100.0%   | NWP            | NWP        | Montreal (Canada)     | Production and sale of pasta and sauces   |
| Garofalo France, S.A.                   | 100.0%                | -        | Garof/Pzni     | Boost/Pzni | Lyon (France)         | Sale and marketing of pasta and sauces    |

(A) Associates consolidated using the equity method.

(B) In 2011 the Ebro Group acquired 50% of Grupo TBA Suntra B.V. and 75% of TBA Suntra UK from one of their two shareholders. In addition, it signed an agreement with the other shareholder for the future acquisition of the remaining 50% of Grupo Suntra B.V and the remaining 25% of TBA Suntra UK. The agreement was structured as a put option written by the shareholder such that the latter can oblige the Ebro Group to acquire the remaining interests in these companies. The parties also signed a shareholder agreement that gives control of the Suntra Group to the Ebro Group. In addition, the Ebro Group has a right of first refusal such that third parties cannot acquire these interests. Lastly, the Ebro Group has an irrevocable call option over these investments in the event that the other shareholder dies or becomes incapacitated. As a result, this group has been fully consolidated in light of the control arrangement; in parallel the Group has recognized the estimated cost of the option over the remaining 50% and 25% interests as a non-current financial liability. At December 31, 2014, this financial liability was reclassified to current liabilities as the other shareholder exercised its put option in December (note 22).

None of the subsidiaries or associates is publicly traded. The financial statements of all of the companies consolidated by the Group correspond to the same financial year-end, namely December 31, 2014 and 2013.

## **5. SIGNIFICANT TRANSACTIONS (BUSINESS COMBINATIONS, DISPOSALS, ETC.) CLOSED IN 2014 AND 2013 AND IMPACT ON COMPARABILITY**

### **5.1 BUSINESS COMBINATIONS OF ENTITIES UNDER COMMON CONTROL IN 2014**

There were no significant business combinations of entities under common control in 2014.

### **5.2 BUSINESS COMBINATIONS OF ENTITIES UNDER COMMON CONTROL IN 2013**

There were no significant business combinations of entities under common control in 2013.

### **5.3 THIRD-PARTY BUSINESS COMBINATIONS UNDERTAKEN IN 2014 AND 2013 AND IMPACT ON COMPARABILITY. CHANGES IN CONSOLIDATION SCOPE:**

The most significant changes in the Group's consolidation scope in 2014 are outlined below:

#### **Acquisition of Italian pasta business Garofalo**

The Ebro Group acquired 52% of Italian pasta group, Garofalo, on June 18, 2014. This Italian company owns the Garofalo, Santa Lucia and Russo de Cicciano brands, among others, giving it a significant position in the premium dry pasta segment in Italy and other countries. This acquisition evidences Ebro's strategic commitment to the premium pasta segment in Italy, known as 'pasta di Gragnano'; preparation and consumption of this class of pasta is part of Italy's gastronomic tradition and culture.

The Group acquired a 52% interest for 63,455 thousand euros; it has already paid 58,255 thousand and will pay the remaining 5,200 thousand on June 30, 2015 (note 22). The Group financed the acquisition partially from internal funds and partially with bank borrowings. The Group took effective control of the Garofalo Group on June 30, 2014, which is also the date of first-time consolidation of this entity.

In addition, the Group has arranged two options with the other shareholder over the remaining 48%, granting the seller a put option (exercisable until May 2024) and the Ebro Group a call option (exercisable from June 2024 to May 2026). The price of these options will be determined as a function of Garofalo's average earnings metrics over a series of years, as well as other terms and conditions customary in arrangements of this nature. At December 31, 2014, these options, which are recognized under non-current financial liabilities, were valued at 59,112 thousand euros (note 22).

The consolidated balance sheet of the Garofalo Group at June 30, 2014 is replicated below:

**GAROFALO**

|  | <b>06-30-14</b>   |
|--|-------------------|
|  | <b>FAIR VALUE</b> |
| Intangible assets                                  | 35,197            |
| Property, plant and equipment                      | 64,395            |
| Financial assets                                   | 3,819             |
| Deferred tax assets                                | 636               |
| Inventories  | 11,731            |
| Cash   | 13,655            |
| Other current assets                               | 40,603            |
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>                                | <b>170,036</b>    |
| Deferred income                                    | 3,072             |
| Provisions for pensions and similar obligations    | 643               |
| Other provisions                                   | 22                |
| Non-current financial liabilities                  | 25,871            |
| Deferred tax liabilities                           | 20,760            |
| Current financial liabilities                      | 30,188            |
| Trade payables                                     | 21,799            |
| Other current liabilities                          | 3,439             |
| <b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>                           | <b>105,794</b>    |
| <b>TOTAL IDENTIFIABLE NET ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE</b> | <b>64,242</b>     |
| Goodwill generated                                 | 57,049            |
| <b>PURCHASE CONSIDERATION TRANSFERRED</b>          | <b>121,291</b>    |
| Non-controlling interests                          | 57,836            |
| Financed with financial liabilities and cash       | 63,455            |
| <b>PURCHASE CONSIDERATION TRANSFERRED</b>          | <b>121,291</b>    |
| Net debt acquired with the subsidiary              | (42,404)          |
| Revenue since the acquisition date                 | 61,239            |
| Net profit contribution since the acquisition date | 2,895             |
| Revenue since January 1 (a)                        | 123,219           |
| Net profit contribution since January 1 (a)        | 5,427             |

*Thousands of euros*

(a) Estimate as if the group had been acquired on January 1, 2014

The goodwill generated represents the future economic benefits the Ebro Group expects to obtain as a result, mainly, of the synergies implied by integration of this business into its supply, logistics, industrial, sales and human resources platforms.

The Group is still in the process of valuing and analyzing the various assets in order to determine the definitive fair value of the net assets acquired as of the date of first-time consolidation by the Ebro Group. Accordingly, the amounts recognized in respect of this business combination have been determined only provisionally (initial accounting incomplete).

There were no other significant changes in the Group's consolidation scope in 2014.

The most significant changes in the Group's consolidation scope changed in 2013 are outlined below:

#### COMPANIES ADDED TO THE CONSOLIDATION SCOPE IN 2013

| COMPANY AFFECTED  | SUBGROUP  | %                       | COMMENTS  |
|---|-----------|-------------------------|---|
| Ebro India, Ltda. (India)                                     | Rice      | 100%                    | Outright acquisition of this business                 |
| Keck Spezializaten, Gmbh. (Germany) and Danrice SAS (Denmark) | Rice      | 55% Keck<br>45% Danrice | Acquisition of 55% of Keck and sale of 45% of Danrice |
| Olivieri (fresh pasta and sauces business) (Canada)           | Pasta     | 100%                    | Outright acquisition of this business                 |
| Scotti Group (Italy)  | Associate | 25%                     | Acquisition of ownership interest                     |

#### COMPANIES REMOVED FROM THE CONSOLIDATION SCOPE AND DECREASES IN SHAREHOLDINGS IN 2013

| COMPANY AFFECTED    | SUBGROUP | %    | COMMENTS                   |
|---------------------|----------|------|----------------------------|
| Ebro Germany, Gmbh. | Pasta    | 100% | Sale of the pasta business |

#### Investment in India

The Group acquired a rice production plant in India from Olam International during the third quarter of 2013. The transaction closed on April 18, 2013, having received the opportune approval from the Indian anti-trust authority. The plant was acquired by the Group's wholly-owned subsidiary, Ebro India, Ltda. All of the plant's industrial assets, employees and its sales network were transferred to Ebro India, Ltda. The initial investment totaled 12,246 thousand euros and was paid for from internally-generated funds. This transaction was structured as an asset acquisition; the breakdown of the net assets acquired is provided in the summary table included at the end of this note.

#### Investment in Germany

In May 2013 the Group entered into an agreement with the shareholders of Germany's Keck Spezializaten, Gmbh (Keck) for its acquisition. The acquiree's business is the production and sale of frozen food products (mainly rice and pasta) in northern Europe.

In order to structure the acquisition, the Group incorporated a new, wholly-owned German company called Ebro Frost, Gmbh to which 100% of the shares of Keck and 100% of the shares of Danrice, A.S. (Danrice was a wholly-owned Group subsidiary at the time) were contributed. In the wake of these contributions, Ebro Frost, Gmbh. was held 55% by the Ebro Group and 45% by the shareholders of Keck.

The fair value of the 55% investment in Keck was 11,827 thousand, paid for by means of the fair value of 45% of Danrice plus 629 thousand euros in cash; the breakdown of the net assets acquired is provided in the summary table included at the end of this note.

From January 1, 2019, the shareholders of Keck have the option of requiring the Ebro Group to acquire their 45% interest in Ebro Frost, Gmbh at a variable price that will be set as a function of its earnings performance during the prior three years.

#### Investment in Canada

At the end of November 2013, the Group acquired Maple Leaf Foods of Canada's fresh pasta and sauces business, Olivieri Foods, a subsidiary of Canada Bread Company, Ltd. The investment totaled 82,832 thousand euros and was paid for using a mix of borrowings and internally-generated funds. This transaction was structured as an asset acquisition; the breakdown of the net assets acquired is provided in the summary table included at the end of this note.



## Investment in Italy

In August 2013, the Group acquired 25% of Italy's Riso Scotti S.p.A., the parent company of the Scotti Group. The 25% interest in the Scotti Group is accounted for as an associate and is therefore consolidated within the Ebro Group using the equity method (note 13). The investment totaled 18,000 thousand euros and was paid for from internally-generated funds.

## Disposal in Germany

Ebro Foods, S.A. closed the sale of the Group's pasta business in Germany (the Birkel and 3Glocken brands) to Newlat Group, S.A. on December 23, 2013 (note 7).

The following table illustrates the impact of the additions to the consolidation scope in 2013, specifically the investments in Ebro India, Keck Spezializaten and Olivieri:

|  | EBRO INDIA                       | KECK SPEZ.    | OLIVIERI      | TOTAL          |
|--|----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
|  | DATE OF FIRST-TIME CONSOLIDATION |               |               |                |
|  | 05-01-13                         | 06-01-13      | 12-01-13      |                |
|  | FAIR VALUE                       | FAIR VALUE    | FAIR VALUE    | FAIR VALUE     |
| Intangible assets                                  | 3                                | 18            | 29,523        | 29,544         |
| Property, plant and equipment                      | 11,797                           | 8,410         | 22,297        | 42,504         |
| Financial assets                                   | 29                               | 326           | 0             | 355            |
| Inventories  | 22                               | 1,302         | 5,094         | 6,418          |
| Other current assets                               | 445                              | 2,608         | 5,792         | 8,845          |
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>                                | <b>12,296</b>                    | <b>12,664</b> | <b>62,706</b> | <b>87,666</b>  |
| Provisions for pensions and similar obligations    | 18                               | 0             | 0             | 18             |
| Other non-current liabilities                      | 0                                | 62            | 0             | 62             |
| Current financial liabilities                      | 0                                | 2,086         | 0             | 2,086          |
| Trade payables                                     | 0                                | 907           | 2,849         | 3,756          |
| Other current liabilities                          | 32                               | 2,711         | 3,249         | 5,992          |
| <b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>                           | <b>50</b>                        | <b>5,766</b>  | <b>6,098</b>  | <b>11,914</b>  |
| <b>TOTAL IDENTIFIABLE NET ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE</b> | <b>12,246</b>                    | <b>6,898</b>  | <b>56,608</b> | <b>75,752</b>  |
| Goodwill arising on acquisition                    | 0                                | 14,606        | 26,224        | 40,830         |
| <b>PURCHASE CONSIDERATION TRANSFERRED</b>          | <b>12,246</b>                    | <b>21,504</b> | <b>82,832</b> | <b>116,582</b> |
| Non-controlling interests                          | 0                                | 9,677         | 0             | 9,677          |
| Financed with financial liabilities and cash       | 12,246                           | 11,827        | 82,832        | 106,905        |
| <b>PURCHASE CONSIDERATION TRANSFERRED</b>          | <b>12,246</b>                    | <b>21,504</b> | <b>82,832</b> | <b>116,582</b> |
| Net cash acquired with the subsidiary              | 199                              | (2,086)       | 0             | (1,887)        |
| Revenue since the acquisition date                 | 665                              | 9,935         | 5,656         | 16,256         |
| Net profit contribution since the acquisition date | (2,053)                          | 1,563         | 202           | (288)          |
| Revenue since January 1 (a)                        | 35,938                           | 17,500        | 52,000        | 105,438        |
| <b>NET PROFIT CONTRIBUTION SINCE JANUARY 1 (A)</b> | <b>719</b>                       | <b>2,900</b>  | <b>1,500</b>  | <b>5,119</b>   |

Thousands of euros

(a) Estimate as if the businesses had been acquired on January 1, 2013

The full-year revenue and net profit figures from January 1 corresponded to the estimated 2014 budgets, 2014 being deemed a year of ordinary business operations for these companies.

## 6. SEGMENT REPORTING

The operating segments are organized and managed separately by products and services; each segment represents a strategic business unit that offers different products and services different markets. Accordingly, the Group's segment reporting disclosures are articulated around its business segments, as the Group's risks and returns are shaped primarily by differences in the products and services provided.

Against this backdrop, the Ebro Foods is divided into the following business segments and/or activities:

- ❖ Rice business
- ❖ Pasta business
- ❖ Other businesses and/or activities

The Group structures its segment reporting disclosures around these businesses and/or activities. The financial information relating to these business segments is presented in the table provided at the end of this note.

### RICE BUSINESS

**Herba Group:** this group specializes in rice. It has established itself as Europe's leading rice group and one of the world's most importance players; it boasts an extensive and modern manufacturing base and sales network, engaging in business dealings in more than 60 markets.

It is the leading European player in rice retailing, the food service segment and in the supply of rice, rice derivatives and ingredients for industrial purposes. It follows a multi-brand strategy underpinned by a deep portfolio of successful brands that boast strong recognition in their operating markets. These high-profile brands include: SOS, La Fallera, La Cigala, Saludades, Lassie, Reis fit, Rix fis, Oryza, Bosto, Riceland, Risella, Peacock, Phoenix, El Mago and Sello Rojo.

The table below summarizes the Group's market shares in its main retail markets:

| COUNTRY     | BY VOLUME | BY VALUE | RANKING |
|-------------|-----------|----------|---------|
| Spain       | 22.7%     | 33.5%    | #1      |
| Portugal    | 14.3%     | 16.9%    | #1      |
| Germany     | 9.6%      | 17.3%    | #2      |
| Belgium     | 23.8%     | 29.8%    | #2      |
| Netherlands | 21.4%     | 28.8%    | #1      |
| Puerto Rico | 23.7%     | 24.3%    | #2      |

In parallel it supplies rice to Europe's leading food sector players:

- ❖ Beverage industries
- ❖ Industrial rice companies
- ❖ Baby food: cereals, baby food, etc.
- ❖ Pre-cooked dishes: non-refrigerated, dehydrated, frozen, etc.
- ❖ Animal and pet food

**Riviana Group:** This is the unit specialized in the rice business in the US, specifically through Riviana Inc, the largest rice company in the US with rice processing and production facilities in Tennessee, Texas and Arkansas.

Riviana is the leading rice retailer in the US and boasts a variety of brands including Mahatma and Minute, leaders in the traditional and instant rice segments, respectively. The Group's overall market share in the US rice retail segment is 27.9% by volume; its footprint extends to growth segments such as microwaveable and frozen rice, marketed under the Minute brand.

This subgroup also has a solid international presence in markets with long-standing trade ties with the US, such as Mexico, several Caribbean nations and the Middle East, the latter through the Abu Bint brand, which is the leading player in the par-boiled rice segment in Saudi Arabia.

#### **PASTA BUSINESS**

**Panzani Group:** This is the Group unit specialized in the pasta and sauces business. France's Panzani is the leading player in the dry and fresh pasta, rice, semolina and sauce segments in France.

The sauce and fresh pasta line is a premium customer proposition and a segment in which Panzani is the undisputed leader in France. Its brands, Panzani and Lustucru, command 33.3% and 38.3% of the market by volume, respectively. This business line is registering sharp growth and is being leveraged by the Group to spearhead its innovation with new products such as pan-fry products, new risotto sauces, fresh ready-to-eat dishes and new potato-based fresh specialties.

Panzani sells rice under two brands: Lustucru, devoted to conventional and quick-cook rice, and Taureau Ailé, specialized in exotic rices and the number-one player in this segment in France. Panzani sells semolina products under the Regia and Ferrero brands, which lead the market by sales volumes. It is also the market leader in Belgium and the Czech Republic with shares of 10.1% and 14.8%, respectively, and exports pasta and semolina products, particularly to northern Africa and other French-speaking markets.

**Garofalo Group:** The Ebro Group acquired 52% of Italy's Pasta Garofalo on June 18, 2014.

With a history dating back over 200 years and head-quartered in Gragnano (Naples), the region considered the cradle of pasta on account of its special climate conditions, this sub-group owns the Garofalo and Santa Lucia brands, among others, positioned at the premium end of the dry pasta segment.

This company has staged a growth trajectory during the past 15 years, transforming from a small-sized local player into a leader in the Italian premium dry pasta segment. Its brands are sold in most European markets and the US and are also a benchmark in the pasta segment in eastern Africa.

**New World Pasta Group:** a leading player in the dry pasta segment in the US and Canada. Its manufacturing base encompasses Montreal (Quebec), Fresno (California), Saint Louis (Missouri) and Winchester (Virginia). It follows a multi-brand strategy: its brands are strongly entrenched in their local markets; this company also commands an important presence in the health and well-being segments, in which it markets its products under the Healthy Harvest, Smart Taste and Garden Delight trademarks.

New World Pasta boasts an extensive range of complementary and solid brands, including: Ronzoni, Skinner, Prince, American Beauty, San Giorgio, Creamette and No Yolks in the US, and Catelli, Lancia and Ronzoni in Canada. It's market share (by volume) in the US and Canada is of 19.9% and 31.9%, respectively. Towards the end of 2013 it added Olivieri to this portfolio, a fresh pasta brand with a market share in Canada of 45.7%.

#### **OTHER BUSINESSES AND/OR ACTIVITIES**

The most notable activity in this category:

##### **Asset management**

This unit manages the Group's property that is not used in the core businesses (investment properties). Its goal is to centrally control all of the Group's properties with a view to remaining abreast of their status, reducing costs and selling off those not used for industrial purposes after taking action to maximize their valuation prior to monetization.

##### **Criteria used to allocate amounts to reportable segments**

The restructuring effort and initiatives undertaken by the Group in recent years have enabled it to scale each of its main business segments separately, thereby facilitating their management, decision-making and financial control. Accordingly, the allocation of consolidated expenses, income, assets and liabilities among the segments derives from the amounts that belong directly to each. It has not been necessary to establish criteria for allocating shared expenses and income or shared assets and liabilities among segments.

Against this backdrop, although the non-financial fixed assets and liabilities and working capital structure dovetail with the needs of each business or activity, the financial structure shown by segment is determined by internal financial management criteria in keeping with appropriate and necessary centralization and coordination at the Group level.

##### **Inter-segment transactions**

Although not material in relation to the total consolidated figures, inter-segment transactions have been eliminated for the purpose of determining the reportable segments' revenue, expenses and profits. Transfer prices between operating segments are on an arm's length basis in a manner similar to transactions with third parties. Inter-segment transactions are eliminated on consolidation.

#### **6.1 GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION**

The geographic information is provided on the basis of the Group's assets. Revenue from external customers is based on the the geographic location of the customers. The detailed descriptions of each of the Group's business segment provided above indicates the geographic areas in which each operates. A summary of the businesses and/or activities carried out by the Group by geographic areas is provided below:

- ❖ Spain - Herba's rice business.
- ❖ Rest of Europe - essentially the businesses of Herba, Panzani and Garofalo.
- ❖ USA - the Riviana, American Rice, NWP and Olivieri businesses.
- ❖ Rest of world - essentially the rice business of Herba and some of the exports of Panzani, American Rice and Garofalo.

The breakdown of assets and revenue provided by geographic market below for continuing operations, without considering the place where the goods are produced, is provided in the next table:

#### 2013 - GEOGRAPHIC MARKET

|                               | SPAIN          | EUROPE           | AMERICAS         | ROW            | TOTAL            |
|-------------------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Segment revenue               | 146,110        | 991,346          | 839,439          | 113,539        | 2,090,434        |
| Inter-segment revenue         | (5,343)        | (62,433)         | (65,990)         | (21)           | (133,787)        |
| <b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>          | <b>140,767</b> | <b>928,913</b>   | <b>773,449</b>   | <b>113,518</b> | <b>1,956,647</b> |
| Intangible assets             | 31,059         | 120,418          | 223,823          | 39             | 375,339          |
| Property, plant and equipment | 67,055         | 218,533          | 207,349          | 19,636         | 512,573          |
| Other assets                  | 318,063        | 871,847          | 618,815          | 76,043         | 1,884,768        |
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>           | <b>416,177</b> | <b>1,210,798</b> | <b>1,049,987</b> | <b>95,718</b>  | <b>2,772,680</b> |
| <b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</b>    | <b>4,675</b>   | <b>45,425</b>    | <b>12,142</b>    | <b>1,004</b>   | <b>63,246</b>    |

#### 2014 - GEOGRAPHIC MARKET

|                               | SPAIN          | EUROPE           | AMERICAS         | ROW            | TOTAL            |
|-------------------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Segment revenue               | 146,546        | 1,045,241        | 911,668          | 152,649        | 2,256,104        |
| Inter-segment revenue         | (1,770)        | (60,595)         | (72,379)         | (638)          | (135,382)        |
| <b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>          | <b>144,776</b> | <b>984,646</b>   | <b>839,289</b>   | <b>152,011</b> | <b>2,120,722</b> |
| Intangible assets             | 34,459         | 149,063          | 250,413          | 39             | 433,974          |
| Property, plant and equipment | 64,740         | 292,371          | 235,765          | 19,895         | 612,771          |
| Other assets                  | 292,416        | 998,419          | 739,140          | 85,348         | 2,115,323        |
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>           | <b>391,615</b> | <b>1,439,853</b> | <b>1,225,318</b> | <b>105,282</b> | <b>3,162,068</b> |
| <b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</b>    | <b>5,461</b>   | <b>36,419</b>    | <b>24,686</b>    | <b>2,829</b>   | <b>69,395</b>    |

#### 6.2 SEGMENT REPORTING DISCLOSURES

The following tables provide information on the revenue and earnings of continuing operations as well as certain asset and liability disclosures for the Group's reportable segments for the years ended December 31, 2014 and 2013.

**REPORTABLE SEGMENT DISCLOSURES - CONTINUING OPERATIONS**

| EBRO FOODS GROUP                                | TOTAL CONSOL. FIGURES |                  | RICE BUSINESS     |                  | PASTA BUSINESS   |                  | EF HOLDCO        |                  | OTHER BUSINESSES & CONSOL. ADJUSTMENTS |                    |
|---|-----------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|--|--------------------|
|   | 12-31-14              | 12-31-13         | 12-31-14          | 12-31-13         | 12-31-14         | 12-31-13         | 12-31-14         | 12-31-13         | 12-31-14                               | 12-31-13           |
| <b>BALANCE SHEET</b>                            |                       |                  |                   |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |  |                    |
| Intangible assets                               | 433,974               | 375,339          | 161,497           | 149,194          | 260,554          | 214,032          | 11,814           | 11,921           | 109                                    | 192                |
| Property, plant and equipment                   | 612,771               | 512,573          | 291,578           | 266,675          | 311,804          | 236,036          | 1,251            | 1,630            | 8,138                                  | 8,232              |
| Investment properties                           | 30,832                | 33,139           | 28,173            | 33,336           | 1                | 1                | 12,020           | 12,081           | (9,362)                                | (12,279)           |
| Financial assets                                | 47,855                | 97,454           | 2,287             | 1,333            | 18,388           | 22,913           | 27,158           | 73,182           | 22                                     | 26                 |
| Investments in associates                       | 22,857                | 22,559           | 54,021            | 48,786           | 32,276           | 31,776           | 1,354,676        | 1,292,517        | (1,418,116)                            | (1,350,520)        |
| Deferred tax assets                             | 55,871                | 55,455           | 18,076            | 15,486           | 26,057           | 22,495           | 8,938            | 23,092           | 2,800                                  | (5,618)            |
| Goodwill  | 932,596               | 846,922          | 327,730           | 307,005          | 604,138          | 539,189          | 0                | 0                | 728                                    | 728                |
| Other non-current assets                        | 0                     | 0                | 0                 | 0                | 0                | 0                | 0                | 0                | 0                                      | 0                  |
| Accounts receivable from group companies        | 0                     | 0                | 76,416            | 91,643           | 149,252          | 151,095          | 29,737           | 45,200           | (255,405)                              | (287,938)          |
| Other current assets                            | 1,025,312             | 829,239          | 532,633           | 492,296          | 428,007          | 299,746          | 51,417           | 23,459           | 13,255                                 | 13,738             |
|   | <b>3,162,068</b>      | <b>2,772,680</b> | <b>1,492,411</b>  | <b>1,405,754</b> | <b>1,830,477</b> | <b>1,517,283</b> | <b>1,497,011</b> | <b>1,483,082</b> | <b>(1,657,831)</b>                     | <b>(1,633,439)</b> |
| Assets held for sale                            | 0                     | 0                |                   |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  | 0                                      | 0                  |
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>                             | <b>3,162,068</b>      | <b>2,772,680</b> |                   |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  | <b>(1,657,831)</b>                     | <b>(1,633,439)</b> |
| Total equity                                    | 1,873,805             | 1,728,263        | 1,053,630         | 975,323          | 1,281,805        | 1,088,425        | 914,211          | 988,029          | (1,375,841)                            | (1,323,514)        |
| Deferred income                                 | 4,409                 | 2,048            | 1,542             | 1,911            | 2,849            | 0                | 0                | 0                | 18                                     | 137                |
| Provisions for pensions and similar oblig.      | 42,144                | 35,931           | 18,442            | 12,943           | 21,874           | 20,505           | 1,661            | 2,372            | 167                                    | 111                |
| Other provisions                                | 12,355                | 8,603            | 1,329             | 2,200            | 2,006            | 6,403            | 9,020            | 0                | 0                                      | 0                  |
| Non-current & current financial liabilities     | 598,713               | 431,179          | 67,235            | 73,619           | 159,549          | 80,703           | 371,553          | 276,467          | 376                                    | 390                |
| Other non-financial liabilities                 | 12                    | 17               | 12                | 17               | 0                | 0                | 0                | 0                | 0                                      | 0                  |
| Deferred tax liabilities                        | 245,956               | 239,879          | 105,951           | 90,964           | 107,639          | 88,223           | 31,178           | 60,714           | 1,188                                  | (22)               |
| Borrowings from group companies                 | 0                     | 0                | 99,775            | 118,197          | 27,980           | 49,337           | 155,883          | 146,003          | (283,638)                              | (313,537)          |
| Other current liabilities                       | 384,674               | 326,760          | 144,495           | 130,580          | 226,775          | 183,687          | 13,505           | 9,497            | (101)                                  | 2,996              |
|   | <b>3,162,068</b>      | <b>2,772,680</b> | <b>1,492,411</b>  | <b>1,405,754</b> | <b>1,830,477</b> | <b>1,517,283</b> | <b>1,497,011</b> | <b>1,483,082</b> | <b>(1,657,831)</b>                     | <b>(1,633,439)</b> |
| Liabilities of non-current assets held for sale | 0                     | 0                |                   |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  | 0                                      | 0                  |
| <b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>                        | <b>3,162,068</b>      | <b>2,772,680</b> |                   |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  | <b>(1,657,831)</b>                     | <b>(1,633,439)</b> |
| Capital expenditure for the year                | 69,395                | 63,246           | 34,653            | 22,884           | 34,262           | 38,551           | 373              | 149              |  |                    |
| Capital employed                                | 1,363,346             | 1,286,515        | 767,771           | 751,292          | 578,767          | 508,429          | 10,234           | 15,664           |  |                    |
| ROCE  | 16.7                  | 17.7             | 15.9              | 14.8             | 20.5             | 25.7             | -                | -                |  |                    |
| Leverage  | 18.0%                 | 15.3%            |                   |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |  |                    |
| Average headcount for the year                  | 5,189                 | 4,665            |                   |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |  |                    |
| <b>Stock market data:</b>                       |                       |                  |                   |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |  |                    |
| Number of shares outstanding ('000)             | 153,865               | 153,865          |                   |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |  |                    |
| Market cap. at year-end                         | 2,109                 | 2,621            | Millions of euros |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |  |                    |
| EPS   | 0.95                  | 0.86             |                   |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |  |                    |
| Dividend per share (DPS)                        | 0.5                   | 0.6              |                   |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |  |                    |
| Underlying carrying amount per share            | 12.06                 | 11.09            |                   |                  |                  |                  |                  |                  |  |                    |

*Thousands of euros*

**REPORTABLE SEGMENT DISCLOSURES - CONTINUING OPERATIONS**

| EBRO FOODS GROUP                                      | TOTAL CONSOL. FIGURES |                  | RICE BUSINESS    |                  | PASTA BUSINESS   |                | EF HOLDCO       |                | OTHER BUSINESSES & CONSOL. ADJUSTMENTS |                 |
|---|-----------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|--|-----------------|
|   | 12-31-14              | 12-31-13         | 12-31-14         | 12-31-13         | 12-31-14         | 12-31-13       | 12-31-14        | 12-31-13       | 12-31-14                               | 12-31-13        |
| <b>INCOME STATEMENT</b>                               |                       |                  |                  |                  |                  |                |                 |                |  |                 |
| External revenue                                      | 2,120,722             | 1,956,647        | 1,082,676        | 1,032,690        | 1,013,509        | 898,704        | 555             | 683            | 23,982                                 | 24,570          |
| Inter-segment revenue                                 |                       |                  | 57,021           | 61,994           | 15,785           | 16,416         | 5,049           | 4,727          | (77,855)                               | (83,137)        |
| <b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>                                  | <b>2,120,722</b>      | <b>1,956,647</b> | <b>1,139,697</b> | <b>1,094,684</b> | <b>1,029,294</b> | <b>915,120</b> | <b>5,604</b>    | <b>5,410</b>   | <b>(53,873)</b>                        | <b>(58,567)</b> |
| Change in inventories                                 | 949                   | 6,042            | 3,444            | 5,505            | (2,348)          | 551            | 0               | 0              | (147)                                  | (14)            |
| Own work capitalized                                  | 1,701                 | 1,037            | 51               | 93               | 1,650            | 944            | 0               | 0              | 0                                      | 0               |
| Other operating income                                | 26,931                | 15,988           | 14,736           | 7,811            | 12,048           | 6,004          | 5,232           | 6,815          | (5,085)                                | (4,642)         |
| Raw materials and consumables used and other expenses | (1,189,285)           | (1,084,446)      | (709,141)        | (681,335)        | (535,353)        | (462,021)      | 0               | 0              | 55,209                                 | 58,910          |
| Employee benefits expense                             | (261,710)             | (239,623)        | (110,043)        | (108,128)        | (138,734)        | (118,771)      | (10,344)        | (10,076)       | (2,589)                                | (2,648)         |
| Depreciation and amortization                         | (60,009)              | (56,036)         | (27,039)         | (27,470)         | (31,920)         | (27,230)       | (897)           | (1,169)        | (153)                                  | (167)           |
| Other operating expenses                              | (421,922)             | (386,702)        | (193,282)        | (188,404)        | (222,314)        | (199,316)      | (18,676)        | (9,516)        | 12,350                                 | 10,534          |
| <b>OPERATING PROFIT (LOSS)</b>                        | <b>217,377</b>        | <b>212,907</b>   | <b>118,423</b>   | <b>102,756</b>   | <b>112,323</b>   | <b>115,281</b> | <b>(19,081)</b> | <b>(8,536)</b> | <b>5,712</b>                           | <b>3,406</b>    |
| Finance income  | 32,470                | 14,384           | 15,530           | 8,418            | 5,841            | 4,826          | 30,666          | 32,530         | (19,567)                               | (31,390)        |
| Finance costs   | (24,758)              | (19,647)         | (16,436)         | (12,914)         | (5,632)          | (6,054)        | (10,141)        | (5,323)        | 7,451                                  | 4,644           |
| Impairment of goodwill                                | (11,325)              | (177)            | (11,325)         | (177)            | 0                | 0              | 0               | 0              | 0                                      | 0               |
| Share of profit of associates                         | 1,985                 | 3,179            | 3,932            | 4,288            | 0                | 0              | 0               | 0              | (1,947)                                | (1,109)         |
| <b>CONSOLIDATED PROFIT (LOSS) BEFORE TAX</b>          | <b>215,749</b>        | <b>210,646</b>   | <b>110,124</b>   | <b>102,371</b>   | <b>112,532</b>   | <b>114,053</b> | <b>1,444</b>    | <b>18,671</b>  | <b>(8,351)</b>                         | <b>(24,449)</b> |

*Thousands of euros*

## 7. DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS

No new operations were classified as discontinued operations in 2014. The sale of the Group's dry pasta business in Germany (Birkel) closed in December 2013. The income and expenses of this business for all of 2013 were classified as a discontinued operation (see the table at the end of this note for the breakdown).

During the first half of 2014, the buyer of this German dry pasta business presented certain claims. In order to resolve the controversy between the two parties, in early July 2014 the purchase agreement (signed in December 2013) was amended; the most notable changes were a reduction in the sale price of 3,400 thousand euros and a new timeline for settlement of the deferred portion of the purchase price. The accounting impact of this amendment was recognized in 2014: specifically, the Group recognized a pre-tax loss of 3,123 thousand euros and a tax effect of 900 thousand euros, implying an after-tax loss of 2,223 thousand euros.

### 2013

|   | <b>BIRKEL</b>    |
|---|------------------|
|   | <b>12 MONTHS</b> |
| Revenue   | 57,134           |
| Change in inventories   | 0                |
| Other operating income  | 1,153            |
|   | <b>58,287</b>    |
| Raw materials and consumables used and other expenses                 | (28,423)         |
| Employee benefits expense   | (8,416)          |
| Depreciation  | (2,257)          |
| External services   | (17,439)         |
| Other operating expenses  | (518)            |
|   | <b>(57,053)</b>  |
| <b>OPERATING PROFIT</b>   | <b>1,234</b>     |
| Net finance cost  | (462)            |
| <b>NET FINANCE COST</b>   | <b>(462)</b>     |
| <b>PROFIT BEFORE TAX</b>  | <b>772</b>       |
| Tax expense   | (387)            |
| <b>PROFIT FOR THE YEAR FROM DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS</b>               | <b>385</b>       |
| Pre-tax loss on the sale of the business                              | (12,172)         |
| Income tax effect of the loss generated by the sale                   | 4,280            |
| <b>TOTAL LOSS AFTER TAX FOR THE YEAR FROM DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS</b> | <b>(7,507)</b>   |

*Thousands of euros*



## 8. OTHER INCOME AND EXPENSE

### 8.1 OTHER OPERATING INCOME

|  | 2014          | 2013          |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| Government grants (related to income and grants)                                       | 1,266         | 1,382         |
| Other operating income   | 11,906        | 6,753         |
| Gains on disposal of non-current assets  | 398           | 2,165         |
| Gains on disposal of investment properties   | 7,078         | 1             |
| Reversal of non-current asset impairment provisions                                    | 828           | 731           |
| Other income   | 5,455         | 4,956         |
| Reversal of provisions recognized in connection with business sale reps and warranties | 1,583         | 3,403         |
| Reversal of provisions for other lawsuits  | 3,297         | 942           |
| Other less significant items   | 575           | 611           |
|  | <b>26,931</b> | <b>15,988</b> |

Other income includes the following less-recurring items in 2014:

- ❖ A gain of 236 thousand euros recognized on the sale of items of property, plant and equipment and a gain of 162 thousand euros on the sale of greenhouse gas emission allowances.
- ❖ A gain of 7,078 thousand euros obtained on the sale of investment properties (part of the site of the former Houston factory and the land in the agricultural estate of Group subsidiary South LaForche - 50%-owned by the Riviana Group - which had been previously dissolved in favor of its shareholders).
- ❖ Income generated by the reversal of provisions for lawsuits ruled in favor of the Group of 2,921 thousand euros (note 21), the reversal of provisions for pensions of 376 thousand euros and other dispute-related income in the amount of 1,583 thousand euros.
- ❖ Income generated by the partial reversal of an impairment provision recognized on one of the US pasta brands in the amount of 828 thousand euros, thanks to that brand's subsequent revaluation.

The rest of other operating income relates to grants and sundry other operating items.

In 2013 other income included the following less-recurring items:

- ❖ Income of 4,345 thousand euros generated by the reversal of provisions for lawsuits concluded during the year. Of this balance, the most significant item related to the resolution of several lawsuits in the sugar business whose net impact implied the reversal of provisions in the amount of 3,403 thousand euros.
- ❖ A gain of 2,897 thousand euros recognized on the sale of items of property, plant and equipment.

## 8.2 OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES

|  | 2014             | 2013             |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| External expenditure   | (313,285)        | (281,635)        |
| Advertising expenditure  | (72,414)         | (72,188)         |
| Research and development expenses                                  | (1,548)          | (1,542)          |
| Taxes/levies other than corporate income tax                       | (11,051)         | (10,035)         |
| Losses on the sale of non-current assets and impairment provisions | (5,401)          | (4,263)          |
| Other provisions and charges recognized                            | (18,223)         | (17,039)         |
| Provisions for lawsuits and disputes                               | (10,395)         | (2,597)          |
| Industrial and logistics restructuring charges                     | (5,415)          | (10,032)         |
| New business and investment acquisition costs                      | (1,374)          | (3,400)          |
| Other less significant items                                       | (1,039)          | (1,010)          |
|  | <b>(421,922)</b> | <b>(386,702)</b> |

Other operating expenses include the following less-recurring items in 2014:

- ❖ A loss of 1,278 thousand euros recognized on the derecognition or sale of several pieces of industrial equipment, items of plant and software.
- ❖ An impairment loss of 1,246 thousand euros recognized on industrial assets at the rice factory in Egypt.
- ❖ An impairment loss of 881 thousand euros recognized on a rice brand in Germany.
- ❖ Impairment losses recognized on certain Spanish investment properties in the amount of 1,994 thousand euros.
- ❖ Expenses and additions to provisions totaling 10,395 thousand euros as a result of certain contingencies and lawsuits in process.
- ❖ Industrial and logistics restructuring costs at several centers totaling 5,415 thousand euros. This includes the cost of redundancies, expenses in respect of factories closed in prior years and logistical restructuring at warehouses.
- ❖ Expenses incurred in acquiring new businesses and investments not eligible for capitalization in the amount of 1,374 thousand euros.

In 2013, other operating expenses included the following less-recurring items:

- ❖ A loss of 3,134 thousand euros recognized on the derecognition or sale of several pieces of industrial equipment and plant.
- ❖ An impairment loss of 1,129 thousand euros recognized on a pasta brand in the US.
- ❖ Expenses and additions to provisions totaling 2,597 thousand euros as a result of certain contingencies and lawsuits in process.
- ❖ Industrial and logistics restructuring costs at several centers totaling 10,032 thousand euros. This includes the cost of redundancies, expenses in respect of factories closed in prior years and logistical restructuring at warehouses.
- ❖ Expenses incurred in acquiring new businesses and investments not eligible for capitalization in the amount of 3,400 thousand euros.

### 8.3 FINANCE INCOME AND COSTS

|  | 2014            | 2013            |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>Finance costs</b>   |                 |                 |
| Third-party borrowings   | (8,031)         | (5,925)         |
| Unwinding of discount on provisions for pensions and similar obligations | (1,110)         | (1,270)         |
| Losses on derecognition of financial assets and liabilities              | (153)           | 0               |
| Impairment provisions on other financial assets                          | (1,716)         | (2,852)         |
| Expenses/losses related to derivatives and financial instruments         | (3,456)         | (2,968)         |
| Exchange losses  | (10,292)        | (6,632)         |
|  | <b>(24,758)</b> | <b>(19,647)</b> |
| <b>Finance income</b>  |                 |                 |
| Third-party loans  | 2,194           | 3,448           |
| Gains on derecognition of financial assets and liabilities (note 12)     | 14,003          | 2,035           |
| Reversal of financial asset impairment provisions                        | 1,153           | 873             |
| Gains on derivatives and financial instruments                           | 3,514           | 112             |
| Exchange gains   | 11,606          | 7,916           |
|  | <b>32,470</b>   | <b>14,384</b>   |
| <b>NET FINANCE INCOME/(COST)</b>   | <b>7,712</b>    | <b>(5,263)</b>  |

### 8.4 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS EXPENSE

The breakdown of employee benefits expense and the average Group headcount in 2014 and 2013 and at each year-end:

|  | 2014             | 2013             |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| Wages and salaries                           | (198,437)        | (181,760)        |
| Other employee benefit expense               | (21,926)         | (18,120)         |
| Social security and similar costs            | (35,097)         | (33,179)         |
| Cost of post-employment and similar benefits | (6,250)          | (6,564)          |
|  | <b>(261,710)</b> | <b>(239,623)</b> |

### AVERAGE 2014

|                   | MALE         |            | FEMALE       |            | TOTAL        |
|-------------------|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|
|                   | FIXED        | PART-TIME  | FIXED        | PART-TIME  |              |
| Executives        | 130          | 0          | 45           | 0          | 175          |
| Middle management | 410          | 10         | 187          | 17         | 624          |
| Clerical staff    | 230          | 15         | 359          | 21         | 625          |
| Assistants        | 557          | 130        | 163          | 45         | 895          |
| Sales staff       | 153          | 5          | 55           | 0          | 213          |
| Other staff       | 1,738        | 471        | 359          | 89         | 2,657        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>      | <b>3,218</b> | <b>631</b> | <b>1,168</b> | <b>172</b> | <b>5,189</b> |

## AVERAGE 2013

|                                       | MALE         |            | FEMALE       |            | TOTAL        |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|
|                                       | FIXED        | PART-TIME  | FIXED        | PART-TIME  |              |
| Executives                            | 124          | 0          | 38           | 0          | 162          |
| Middle management                     | 400          | 13         | 166          | 17         | 596          |
| Clerical staff                        | 210          | 14         | 341          | 21         | 586          |
| Assistants                            | 545          | 145        | 145          | 34         | 869          |
| Sales staff                           | 140          | 7          | 54           | 1          | 202          |
| Other staff                           | 1,547        | 446        | 306          | 86         | 2,385        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                          | <b>2,966</b> | <b>625</b> | <b>1,050</b> | <b>159</b> | <b>4,800</b> |
| Ebro Germany (discontinued operation) | 112          | 0          | 23           | 0          | 135          |
| <b>TOTAL EXCL. EBRO GERMANY</b>       | <b>2,854</b> | <b>625</b> | <b>1,027</b> | <b>159</b> | <b>4,665</b> |

## YEAR-END HEADCOUNT 2014

|                   | MALE         |            | FEMALE       |            | TOTAL        |
|-------------------|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|
|                   | FIXED        | PART-TIME  | FIXED        | PART-TIME  |              |
| Executives        | 128          | 0          | 45           | 0          | 173          |
| Middle management | 410          | 10         | 188          | 16         | 624          |
| Clerical staff    | 233          | 18         | 367          | 23         | 641          |
| Assistants        | 486          | 67         | 140          | 48         | 741          |
| Sales staff       | 157          | 5          | 57           | 0          | 219          |
| Other staff       | 1,744        | 377        | 359          | 76         | 2,556        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>      | <b>3,158</b> | <b>477</b> | <b>1,156</b> | <b>163</b> | <b>4,954</b> |

## YEAR-END HEADCOUNT 2013

|                                       | MALE         |            | FEMALE       |            | TOTAL        |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|
|                                       | FIXED        | PART-TIME  | FIXED        | PART-TIME  |              |
| Executives                            | 128          | 0          | 38           | 0          | 166          |
| Middle management                     | 403          | 12         | 178          | 19         | 612          |
| Clerical staff                        | 214          | 14         | 341          | 24         | 593          |
| Assistants                            | 490          | 48         | 146          | 18         | 702          |
| Sales staff                           | 148          | 7          | 56           | 0          | 211          |
| Other staff                           | 1,720        | 309        | 351          | 73         | 2,453        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                          | <b>3,103</b> | <b>390</b> | <b>1,110</b> | <b>134</b> | <b>4,737</b> |
| Ebro Germany (discontinued operation) | 112          | 0          | 23           | 0          | 135          |
| <b>TOTAL EXCL. EBRO GERMANY</b>       | <b>2,991</b> | <b>390</b> | <b>1,087</b> | <b>134</b> | <b>4,602</b> |

## 9. INTANGIBLE ASSETS

The reconciliation of the carrying amount of intangible assets at the beginning and end of 2014 and 2013, detailing the amortization and impairment provisions recognized and the movements recorded in each year, is provided below (in thousands of euros):

### CARRYING AMOUNTS

|                              | DEVELOPMENT COSTS | TRADEMARKS & PATENTS | COMPUTER SOFTWARE | EMISSION ALLOWANCES | INTANGIBLE ASSETS IN PROGRESS | TOTAL   |
|------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|---------|
| Balance at December 31, 2012 | 29                | 358,891              | 13,500            | 459                 | 1,114                         | 373,993 |
| Balance at December 31, 2013 | 0                 | 363,822              | 9,613             | 276                 | 1,628                         | 375,339 |
| Balance at December 31, 2014 | 421               | 424,983              | 6,936             | 171                 | 1,463                         | 433,974 |

### GROSS CARRYING AMOUNTS

|                                     | DEVELOPMENT COSTS | TRADEMARKS & PATENTS | COMPUTER SOFTWARE | EMISSION ALLOWANCES | INTANGIBLE ASSETS IN PROGRESS | TOTAL          |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2012</b> | <b>196</b>        | <b>368,770</b>       | <b>39,811</b>     | <b>501</b>          | <b>1,114</b>                  | <b>410,392</b> |
| Business combination                |                   | 29,526               | 18                |                     |                               | 29,544         |
| Business sales (exits)              | (31)              | (13,409)             | (365)             |                     |                               | (13,805)       |
| Additions                           |                   | 4                    | 922               | 10                  | 531                           | 1,467          |
| Decreases                           |                   | (136)                | (4,721)           | (186)               |                               | (5,043)        |
| Translation differences             |                   | (10,089)             | (580)             |                     | (17)                          | (10,686)       |
| Assets held for sale                |                   |                      |                   |                     |                               | 0              |
| Transfers                           |                   |                      |                   |                     |                               | 0              |
| <b>BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2013</b> | <b>165</b>        | <b>374,666</b>       | <b>35,085</b>     | <b>325</b>          | <b>1,628</b>                  | <b>411,869</b> |
| Business combination                | 475               | 34,575               | 147               |                     |                               | 35,197         |
| Business sales (exits)              |                   |                      |                   |                     |                               | 0              |
| Additions                           | 37                |                      | 1,773             | 33                  | (174)                         | 1,669          |
| Decreases                           |                   | (1)                  | (360)             | (130)               |                               | (491)          |
| Translation differences             |                   | 26,710               | 1,732             |                     | 9                             | 28,451         |
| Assets held for sale                |                   |                      |                   |                     |                               | 0              |
| Transfers                           | (79)              |                      | 22                |                     |                               | (57)           |
| <b>BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2014</b> | <b>598</b>        | <b>435,950</b>       | <b>38,399</b>     | <b>228</b>          | <b>1,463</b>                  | <b>476,638</b> |

## AMORTIZATION AND IMPAIRMENT PROVISIONS

|                                     | DEVELOPMENT COSTS | TRADEMARKS & PATENTS | COMPUTER SOFTWARE | EMISSION ALLOWANCES | INTANGIBLE ASSETS IN PROGRESS | TOTAL           |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2012</b> | <b>(167)</b>      | <b>(9,879)</b>       | <b>(26,311)</b>   | <b>(42)</b>         | <b>0</b>                      | <b>(36,399)</b> |
| Business combination                |                   |                      |                   |                     |                               | 0               |
| Business sales (exits)              |                   |                      | 310               |                     |                               | 310             |
| Additions                           | 2                 | (1,146)              | (4,712)           | (7)                 |                               | (5,863)         |
| Decreases                           |                   | 136                  | 4,717             |                     |                               | 4,853           |
| Translation differences             |                   | 45                   | 524               |                     |                               | 569             |
| Assets held for sale                |                   |                      |                   |                     |                               | 0               |
| Transfers                           |                   |                      |                   |                     |                               | 0               |
| <b>BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2013</b> | <b>(165)</b>      | <b>(10,844)</b>      | <b>(25,472)</b>   | <b>(49)</b>         | <b>0</b>                      | <b>(36,530)</b> |
| Business combination                |                   |                      |                   |                     |                               | 0               |
| Business sales (exits)              |                   |                      |                   |                     |                               | 0               |
| Additions                           | (90)              | (892)                | (4,274)           | (8)                 |                               | (5,264)         |
| Decreases                           |                   | 828                  |                   |                     |                               | 828             |
| Translation differences             |                   | (60)                 | (1,704)           |                     |                               | (1,764)         |
| Assets held for sale                |                   |                      |                   |                     |                               | 0               |
| Transfers                           | 78                | 1                    | (13)              |                     |                               | 66              |
| <b>BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2014</b> | <b>(177)</b>      | <b>(10,967)</b>      | <b>(31,463)</b>   | <b>(57)</b>         | <b>0</b>                      | <b>(42,664)</b> |

### MOVEMENTS IN 2014

The most significant movements under this heading in 2014:

- ❖ An increase of 1,669 thousand euros in relation to new intangible assets, mainly software purchases.
- ❖ An increase of 26,687 thousand euros due to exchange gains.
- ❖ Decreases of 4,383 thousand euros due to amortization charges, an impairment provision of 881 thousand euros on a rice brand in Germany and an increase of 828 thousand euros due to the reversal of an impairment provision previously recognized against a US pasta brand.
- ❖ An increase of 35,197 thousand euros due to business combinations.
- ❖ In 2014 the Group also derecognized intangible assets with a carrying amount of 482 thousand euros.

The most significant movements under this heading in 2013:

- ❖ An increase of 1,467 thousand euros in relation to new intangible assets, including 922 thousand euros of software purchases.
- ❖ A decrease of 10,117 thousand euros due to exchange losses.
- ❖ Decreases of 4,734 thousand euros due to amortization charges (70 thousand euros of which corresponded to discontinued operations) and an impairment provision of 1,129 thousand euros on a pasta brand in the US.
- ❖ An increase of 29,544 thousand euros due to business combinations.
- ❖ In 2013 the Group also derecognized intangible assets with a carrying amount of 13,685 thousand euros, 13,495 thousand euros of which corresponding to the sale of the German pasta business assets.

## TRADEMARKS

The trademarks and patents included within intangible assets were either acquired directly or via business combinations. Virtually all of these assets have been assessed as having an indefinite useful life and have been valued using the cost model.

The Group tested its most significant brands for impairment in 2014 and 2013 (these tests were mostly performed by independent experts - American Appraisal), as a result of which exercise the following brand-related carrying amounts were allocated to the following cash-generating units:

| SEGMENT                                       | CGU: TRADEMARKS    | NUMBER OF TRADEMARKS | BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2013 |                 |                | INCREASES     | DECREASES & OTHER | IMPAIRMENT LOSSES | EXCHANGE DIFFERENCES | BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2014 |                 |                |
|---|--------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
|   |                    |                      | GROSS                        | IMPAIRMENT      | NET            |               |                   |                   |                      | GROSS                        | IMPAIRMENT      | NET            |
| Herba rice                                    | Herba Germany      | 2                    | 21,065                       | (7,772)         | 13,293         |               |                   | (881)             |                      | 21,065                       | (8,653)         | 12,412         |
| Herba rice                                    | Risella (Finland)  | 1                    | 4,000                        | 0               | 4,000          |               |                   |                   |                      | 4,000                        | 0               | 4,000          |
| Herba rice                                    | SOS Europe         | 3                    | 39,723                       | 0               | 39,723         |               |                   |                   |                      | 39,723                       | 0               | 39,723         |
| US rice                                       | Riviana (US)       | 5                    | 88,079                       | 0               | 88,079         |               |                   |                   | 13,821               | 101,900                      | 0               | 101,900        |
| US rice                                       | ARI (SOS) (US)     | 4                    | 13,557                       | 0               | 13,557         |               |                   |                   |                      | 13,557                       | 0               | 13,557         |
| Europe pasta                                  | Panzani (France)   | 4                    | 83,198                       | 0               | 83,198         |               |                   |                   |                      | 83,198                       | 0               | 83,198         |
| Pasta US                                      | NWP (USA & Canada) | 16                   | 122,468                      | (1,088)         | 121,380        |               |                   | 828               | 12,798               | 135,334                      | (328)           | 135,006        |
| Europe pasta                                  | Garofalo (Italy)   | 3                    | 0                            | 0               | 0              | 34,575        |                   |                   |                      | 34,575                       | 0               | 34,575         |
|   |                    |                      | 372,090                      | (8,860)         | 363,230        | 34,575        | 0                 | (53)              | 26,619               | 433,352                      | (8,981)         | 424,371        |
| Other indefinite-lived trademarks and patents |                    |                      | 2,576                        | (1,984)         | 592            |               |                   | (12)              | 31                   | 2,598                        | (1,986)         | 612            |
|   |                    |                      | <b>374,666</b>               | <b>(10,844)</b> | <b>363,822</b> | <b>34,575</b> | <b>0</b>          | <b>(65)</b>       | <b>26,650</b>        | <b>435,950</b>               | <b>(10,967)</b> | <b>424,983</b> |

At year-end 2014, there are three trademarks with an original aggregate cost of 25,240 thousand euros (year-end 2013: 23,771 thousand euros) that have been written down for impairment by 8,961 thousand euros in total (year-end 2013: 8,860 thousand euros).

The recoverable amount of these trademarks, or the corresponding cash-generating units as appropriate, was determined by calculating their value in use, using cash flow projections that are typically derived from budgets that cover a five-year horizon and are then projected for another five years.

The rates used to discount these assets' projected cash flows in 2014 range between 6.9 and 7.1% in Canada and the US (2013: 6.7 - 6.9%); 6% in Germany (5.9%); 5.9% in France (6.5%); 6.8% in Spain (8.1%); and 7.8% in Portugal (10.1%), depending on the business market of each brand or cash-generating unit. Cash flows beyond the initial 5-year budget horizon were extrapolated using the corresponding units' medium to long-term growth rates, which are typically between 0.0% and 2% (0.0% - 2.1%), depending on the business.

With respect to the assumptions used to calculate these trademarks' value in use, management believes that no reasonably-possible change in the key assumptions used would cause their carrying amounts to exceed their recoverable amounts, with the exception of those already deemed impaired. More specifically, neither a 10% increase in the discount rates nor a 10% variation in the royalty rates used would trigger significant impairment charges.

## 10. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

The reconciliation of the carrying amount of the Group's property, plant and equipment at the beginning and end of 2014 and 2013, detailing the depreciation and impairment provisions recognized and movements recorded in each year, is provided below (in thousands of euros):

### CARRYING AMOUNTS

|                              | LAND   | BUILDINGS | PLANT AND EQUIPMENT | OTHER FIXTURES, TOOLS & FURNITURE | OTHER PP&E | PP&E UNDER CONSTRUCTION | TOTAL   |
|------------------------------|--------|-----------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|------------|-------------------------|---------|
| Balance at December 31, 2012 | 73,364 | 143,378   | 238,915             | 11,334                            | 3,716      | 25,338                  | 496,045 |
| Balance at December 31, 2013 | 76,522 | 137,644   | 253,926             | 11,444                            | 3,168      | 29,869                  | 512,573 |
| Balance at December 31, 2014 | 88,769 | 160,951   | 299,076             | 13,020                            | 3,590      | 47,365                  | 612,771 |

### GROSS CARRYING AMOUNTS

|                                     | LAND          | BUILDINGS      | PLANT AND EQUIPMENT | OTHER FIXTURES, TOOLS & FURNITURE | OTHER PP&E    | PP&E UNDER CONSTRUCTION | TOTAL            |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| <b>BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2012</b> | <b>73,364</b> | <b>256,015</b> | <b>705,698</b>      | <b>37,995</b>                     | <b>13,059</b> | <b>25,338</b>           | <b>1,111,469</b> |
| Business combination                | 8,428         | 6,657          | 25,610              | 1,229                             | 77            | 503                     | 42,504           |
| Business sales (exits)              | (2,608)       | (4,555)        | (19,108)            | (1,721)                           | (171)         | (414)                   | (28,577)         |
| Additions                           | 976           | 5,433          | 47,903              | 2,089                             | 637           | 4,711                   | 61,749           |
| Decreases                           | (454)         | (5,829)        | (34,138)            | (625)                             | (798)         |                         | (41,844)         |
| Translation differences             | (2,511)       | (4,680)        | (12,397)            | (157)                             | (193)         | (269)                   | (20,207)         |
| Transfers                           | (673)         | (1,054)        | 106                 |                                   | 11            |                         | (1,610)          |
| <b>BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2013</b> | <b>76,522</b> | <b>251,987</b> | <b>713,674</b>      | <b>38,810</b>                     | <b>12,622</b> | <b>29,869</b>           | <b>1,123,484</b> |
| Business combination                | 7,377         | 12,115         | 44,167              | 235                               | 389           | 112                     | 64,395           |
| Business sales (exits)              |               |                |                     |                                   |               |                         | 0                |
| Additions                           | 1,960         | 11,175         | 33,119              | 3,727                             | 977           | 15,842                  | 66,800           |
| Decreases                           | (318)         | (2,837)        | (11,535)            | (145)                             | (1,281)       |                         | (16,116)         |
| Translation differences             | 3,228         | 11,055         | 28,375              | 402                               | 289           | 1,542                   | 44,891           |
| Transfers                           |               |                | (1)                 | 4                                 |               |                         | 3                |
| <b>BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2014</b> | <b>88,769</b> | <b>283,495</b> | <b>807,799</b>      | <b>43,033</b>                     | <b>12,996</b> | <b>47,365</b>           | <b>1,283,457</b> |



## DEPRECIATION AND IMPAIRMENT PROVISIONS

|                                     | LAND     | BUILDINGS        | PLANT AND EQUIPMENT | OTHER FIXTURES, TOOLS & FURNITURE | OTHER PP&E     | PP&E UNDER CONSTRUCTION | TOTAL            |
|-------------------------------------|----------|------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| <b>BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2012</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>(112,637)</b> | <b>(466,783)</b>    | <b>(26,661)</b>                   | <b>(9,343)</b> | <b>0</b>                | <b>(615,424)</b> |
| Business sales (exits)              |          | 833              | 10,897              | 1,248                             | 126            |                         | 13,104           |
| Additions                           |          | (8,612)          | (41,123)            | (2,665)                           | (1,279)        |                         | (53,679)         |
| Decreases                           |          | 4,177            | 31,046              | 592                               | 928            |                         | 36,743           |
| Translation differences             |          | 840              | 6,250               | 133                               | 134            |                         | 7,357            |
| Transfers                           |          | 1,056            | (35)                | (13)                              | (20)           |                         | 988              |
| <b>BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2013</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>(114,343)</b> | <b>(459,748)</b>    | <b>(27,366)</b>                   | <b>(9,454)</b> | <b>0</b>                | <b>(610,911)</b> |
| Business sales (exits)              |          |                  |                     |                                   |                |                         | 0                |
| Additions                           |          | (8,974)          | (44,528)            | (2,478)                           | (827)          |                         | (56,807)         |
| Decreases                           |          | 2,616            | 10,560              | 145                               | 1,066          |                         | 14,387           |
| Translation differences             |          | (1,843)          | (15,022)            | (304)                             | (183)          |                         | (17,352)         |
| Transfers                           |          |                  | 15                  | (10)                              | (8)            |                         | (3)              |
| <b>BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2014</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>(122,544)</b> | <b>(508,723)</b>    | <b>(30,013)</b>                   | <b>(9,406)</b> | <b>0</b>                | <b>(670,686)</b> |

The Group's policy is to take out all the insurance policies deemed necessary to cover risks that could affect these assets.

Additions under 'PP&E under construction' include the amounts corresponding to projects related to the production of new product ranges and, in general, the upgrade of the quality of the Group's industrial processes, products and its assets' environmental performance.

Note that in relation to certain investments made by the various Group companies in 2014 and prior years, the Group obtained grants, the amounts of which are disclosed in note 19.

No material items of property, plant or equipment are not used for business purposes.

### MOVEMENTS IN 2014

The most significant movements under this heading in 2014:

- ❖ An increase of 27,539 thousand euros due to exchange gains.
- ❖ A decrease of 55,560 thousand euros on account of depreciation charges for the year.
- ❖ Additions of 66,800 thousand related to capital expenditure, essentially investments in technical upgrades and new facilities at the Group's factories.
- ❖ An increase of 64,395 thousand euros due to business combinations (note 5).
- ❖ In 2014, the Group also derecognized assets with a carrying amount of 1,730 thousand euros.
- ❖ A decrease of 1,246 thousand euros on account of asset impairment charges for the year (note 8.2).

### MOVEMENTS IN 2013

The most significant movements under this heading in 2013:

- ❖ A decrease of 12,850 thousand euros due to exchange losses.
- ❖ A decrease of 53,492 thousand euros on account of depreciation charges for the year (2,187 thousand euros of which corresponded to discontinued operations).
- ❖ Additions of 61,749 thousand related to capital expenditure, essentially investments in technical upgrades and new facilities at the Group's factories.

- ❖ An increase of 39,604 thousand euros due to business combinations.
- ❖ In 2013, the Group also derecognized intangible assets with a carrying amount of 20,574 thousand euros, 15,473 thousand euros of which corresponding to the sale of the German pasta business assets.
- ❖ A decrease of 187 thousand euros due to asset impairment charges and an increase of 731 thousand euros due to the reversal of previously-recognized impairment charges.
- ❖ A decrease due to transfers of assets with a carrying amount of 622 thousand euros to investment properties.

In 2014, the Group recognized 55,560 thousand euros of depreciation charges in respect of its property, plant and equipment (2013: 53,492 thousand euros) and 1,246 (2013: 187 thousand euros) of impairment losses on these assets in its consolidated income statement. Of these amounts, 2,187 thousand euros of depreciation charges corresponded to discontinued operations in 2013 (note 7).

The derecognition of items of property, plant and equipment in 2014 generated losses, on the one hand, of 1,278 thousand euros (2013: 3,134 thousand euros) and gains of 236 thousand euros (2013: 2,166 thousand euros), on the other.

## 11. INVESTMENT PROPERTIES

The reconciliation of the carrying amount of the Group's investment properties at the beginning and end of 2014 and 2013, detailing the depreciation and impairment provisions recognized and movements recorded in each year, is provided below (in thousands of euros):

### CARRYING AMOUNTS

|                              | LAND   | BUILDINGS | TOTAL  |
|------------------------------|--------|-----------|--------|
| Balance at December 31, 2012 | 23,759 | 8,878     | 32,637 |
| Balance at December 31, 2013 | 24,364 | 8,775     | 33,139 |
| Balance at December 31, 2014 | 24,072 | 6,760     | 30,832 |

|                                     | GROSS CARRYING AMOUNTS |               |               | DEPRECIATION AND IMPAIRMENT |                |                 |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
|                                     | LAND                   | BUILDINGS     | TOTAL         | LAND                        | BUILDINGS      | TOTAL           |
| <b>BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2012</b> | <b>24,343</b>          | <b>15,501</b> | <b>39,844</b> | <b>(584)</b>                | <b>(6,623)</b> | <b>(7,207)</b>  |
| Business combination                |                        |               | 0             |                             |                | 0               |
| Business sales (exits)              |                        |               | 0             |                             |                | 0               |
| Additions                           |                        | 30            | 30            |                             | (67)           | (67)            |
| Decreases                           |                        |               | 0             |                             |                | 0               |
| Translation differences             | (67)                   | (16)          | (83)          |                             |                | 0               |
| Transfers                           | 672                    | 949           | 1,621         |                             | (999)          | (999)           |
| <b>BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2013</b> | <b>24,948</b>          | <b>16,464</b> | <b>41,412</b> | <b>(584)</b>                | <b>(7,689)</b> | <b>(8,273)</b>  |
| Business combination                |                        |               | 0             |                             |                | 0               |
| Business sales (exits)              |                        |               | 0             |                             |                | 0               |
| Additions                           | 897                    | 29            | 926           |                             | (2,062)        | (2,062)         |
| Decreases                           | (1,347)                | (29)          | (1,376)       |                             |                | 0               |
| Translation differences             | 158                    | 48            | 206           |                             | (1)            | (1)             |
| Transfers                           |                        |               | 0             |                             |                | 0               |
| <b>BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2014</b> | <b>24,656</b>          | <b>16,512</b> | <b>41,168</b> | <b>(584)</b>                | <b>(9,752)</b> | <b>(10,336)</b> |

The depreciation charge recognized in 2014 amounted to 68 thousand euros (2013: 67 thousand euros), while the impairment provisions recognized totaled 1,994 thousand euros (2013: zero).

The most significant movements under this heading in 2014 included the additions arising from the dissolution of Group associate South LaForche and its subsequent sale (note 8.1), the sale of part of the site of the former factory in Houston (US) (note 8.1) and impairment provisions recognized on certain investment properties in Spain (note 8.2).

The most significant movement in 2013 was an addition due to transfers from property, plant and equipment of assets with a carrying amount of 622 thousand euros.

There are no restrictions on the realizability of the Group's investment properties or the remittance of income or proceeds of disposal.

Investment properties are initially recognized at their acquisition cost. The investment properties with the most significant fair values correspond to the sites on which dismantled factories were located and some unoccupied buildings in Spain and Portugal, as well as one property in the UK and another in the US.

These properties' fair values represent the values at which the assets can be exchanged on the date of valuation between knowledgeable, willing parties in an arm's length transaction, in keeping with the International Valuation Standards.

In determining their fair value, the properties have been valued individually and separately and not as part of a portfolio of properties. In some instances, the Group used the benchmark valuations provided by independent appraisers (updated internally as warranted), while in others it used comparable valuation methodology to reflect the market paradigm and the prices at which assets with similar characteristics are being transacted, adjusting as needed for changes in economic circumstances arising since the comparable transaction dates. This effort is coordinated by the Asset Management Unit which, as indicated in note 6 above, is the business unit tasked with management and control of all of the properties that are not used in the Group's core business activities (investment properties), its remit being to remain abreast of their status, reduce costs and sell off those not used for industrial purposes after taking action to maximize their valuation prior to monetization. Against this backdrop, the inputs used to determine these properties' fair value should be deemed level 1 for IFRS fair value hierarchy purposes.

The fair value of the Group's investment properties at year-end 2014 was an estimated 97 million euros (year-end 2013: 86 million euros).

## 12. FINANCIAL ASSETS

The breakdown of this balance sheet heading at year-end 2014 and 2013 (in thousands of euros) is as follows:

|                                     | 12-31-2014    |               |              | 12-31-2013    |               |               |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
|                                     | TOTAL         | NON-CURRENT   | CURRENT      | TOTAL         | NON-CURRENT   | CURRENT       |
| Assets held for trading:            | 1,700         | 1,700         | 0            | 1,060         | 1,056         | 4             |
| Available-for-sale financial assets | 693           | 693           | 0            | 46,132        | 46,132        | 0             |
| Held-to-maturity investments:       |               |               |              |               |               |               |
| Deposits and guarantees             | 6,230         | 5,863         | 367          | 2,275         | 2,074         | 201           |
| Loans extended:                     |               |               |              |               |               |               |
| Loans to associates                 | 0             | 0             | 0            | 0             | 0             | 0             |
| Loans to third parties              | 39,232        | 36,619        | 2,613        | 47,987        | 36,318        | 11,669        |
|                                     | <b>39,232</b> | <b>36,619</b> | <b>2,613</b> | <b>47,987</b> | <b>36,318</b> | <b>11,669</b> |
| <b>TOTAL FINANCIAL ASSETS</b>       | <b>47,855</b> | <b>44,875</b> | <b>2,980</b> | <b>97,454</b> | <b>85,580</b> | <b>11,874</b> |

### AVAILABLE-FOR-SALE FINANCIAL ASSETS

#### 1. Investment in Deoleo, S.A.

This investment was fully sold during the first half of 2014. The investment in Deoleo, S.A. was made in December 2010, in the amount of 47,756 thousand euros, when the Company acquired 95,510,218 of this entity's shares as part of a rights issue at a cost of 0.50 euros per share. This investment gave the Group an 8.272% ownership interest in Deoleo in the wake of equity issues undertaken in 2013 (9.3% at year-end 2012).

This financial investment was carried at fair value and changes therein were recognized in equity insofar as the investment was neither impaired nor sold, at which time the fair value gains or losses would be reclassified to profit or loss.

In the wake of the impairment loss recognized in the 2012 consolidated income statement, the fair value of this investment at year-end 2013, based on its quoted shared price, was equivalent to 0.47 euros per share; the corresponding year-on-year fair value gain of 13,038 thousand euros was recognized directly in equity at December 31, 2013 (a gross gain of 18,626 thousand euros less the corresponding tax effect of 5,588 thousand euros).

This entire shareholding was sold down in a series of transactions during the first half of 2014 for an overall sum of 40,267 thousand euros. The pre-tax gain on the sale of this investment, which was recognized in the consolidated income statement under finance income in 2014, was 14,003 thousand euros (the reclassification of the pre-tax fair value gain recognized directly in equity in 2013 in the amount of 18,626 thousand less the loss generated on its sale in 2014 with respect to its carrying amount at year-end 2013).

## 2. Investment in Biosearch, S.A.

This financial investment is carried at fair value and changes therein are recognized in equity insofar as the investment is neither impaired nor sold, at which time the fair value gains or losses would be reclassified to profit or loss.

At year-end 2013, this investment corresponded to 1,801,000 shares of Biosearch, S.A., equivalent to a 3.121% ownership interest. At that date, this investment's fair value, based on its share price, was 1,243 thousand euros (0.690 euros per share).

The Group did not sell any shares of Biosearch, S.A. in 2014, so that at year-end, this investment continued to correspond to 1,801,000 shares of Biosearch, S.A. and a 3.121% ownership interest. At year-end 2014, the fair value of this investment, based on its share price, was 693 thousand euros, equivalent to 0.385 euros per share; in keeping with prevailing accounting standards, this decline in value from year-end 2013 was recognized directly in equity in the amount of 385 thousand euros (a 549 thousand euro gross loss less the corresponding tax effect of 164 thousand euros).

### LOANS TO THIRD PARTIES

The year-on-year decrease in the balance of loans to third parties in 2014 is the result of repayments collected in accordance with the loan schedules, as detailed below. The outstanding balance relates primarily to:

- ❖ The deferred portion of the purchase price due from the sale of the Nomen brand under the agreement reached in 2012; this agreement was renegotiated in September 2014 to extend the collection term by a further two years and reduce the interest rate from 4.2% to 3.4%. The non-current portion of this vendor loan is 25,413 thousand and the current portion, 905 thousand euros. This loan accrues interest at a rate of 3.4% and the last instalment is due in September 2027. The Nomen trademarks have been pledged as collateral to guarantee repayment of this loan.
- ❖ The deferred portion of the purchase price for the assets of the German pasta business under the terms of the agreement reached in December 2013 and as amended in July 2014 (note 7); this non-current portion of this vendor loan is 10,308 thousand euros and the current portion, 1,689 thousand euros. This loan accrues interest (between explicit and implicit interest) at a rate of 2.80%. The first instalment of the long-term tranche is due on March 31, 2016; it will be repaid in quarterly instalments from then until June 30, 2021. The trademarks sold have been pledged as collateral against the vendor loan and would be returned to the seller in the event of non-payment.

Of this heading, 38,382 thousand (year-end 2013: 47,255 thousand euros) is denominated in euros and 850 thousand euros (732 thousand euros) is denominated in US dollars.

The maturity schedule for these non-current loans, which will begin to be repaid in 2016 is: 3,442 thousand euros in 2016, 3,685 thousand euros in 2017, 3,742 thousand euros in 2018, 3,990 thousand euros in 2019 and the remaining 21,760 thousand euros in 2020 and beyond.

### 13. INVESTMENTS IN ASSOCIATES

The movements under this heading in 2014 and 2013 (in thousands of euros) are shown below:

#### ASSOCIATE

|                                     | BALANCE AT<br>12-31-13 | INCREASES IN<br>INVESTMENT | DECREASES DUE<br>TO DISPOSALS | DIVIDENDS<br>PAID | PROFIT FOR<br>THE YEAR | EXCHANGE<br>DIFFERENCES | OTHER<br>MOVEMENTS | BALANCE AT<br>12-31-14 |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| Riso Scotti, S.p.a.                 | 18,992                 |                            |                               | (348)             | 200                    |                         |                    | 18,844                 |
| Associates of Riviana<br>Foods Inc. | 3,567                  |                            |                               | (1,131)           | 1,785                  | 484                     | (692)              | 4,013                  |
|                                     | 0                      |                            |                               |                   |                        |                         |                    | 0                      |
|                                     | <b>22,559</b>          | <b>0</b>                   | <b>0</b>                      | <b>(1,479)</b>    | <b>1,985</b>           | <b>484</b>              | <b>(692)</b>       | <b>22,857</b>          |

#### ASSOCIATE

|                                     | BALANCE AT<br>12-31-13 | INCREASES<br>DUE TO ACQ. | DECREASES DUE<br>TO DISPOSALS | DIVIDENDS<br>PAID | PROFIT FOR<br>THE YEAR | EXCHANGE<br>DIFFERENCES | OTHER<br>MOVEMENTS | BALANCE AT<br>12-31-13 |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| Riso Scotti, S.p.a.                 | 0                      | 18,000                   |                               |                   | 992                    |                         |                    | 18,992                 |
| Associates of Riviana<br>Foods Inc. | 3,209                  |                          |                               | (1,671)           | 2,187                  | (158)                   |                    | 3,567                  |
|                                     | 0                      |                          |                               |                   |                        |                         |                    | 0                      |
|                                     | <b>3,209</b>           | <b>18,000</b>            | <b>0</b>                      | <b>(1,671)</b>    | <b>3,179</b>           | <b>(158)</b>            | <b>0</b>           | <b>22,559</b>          |

The most significant change in 2014 was the dissolution of South LaForche, an associate of the Riviana Group.

In 2013, the most significant development was the acquisition of a 25% interest in Italy's Scotti.

The associates of Riviana Foods, Inc. do not have material amounts of assets, income, borrowings or employees. The Ebro Foods Group has not extended guarantees of material amount to any of its associates.

The most significant figures for the Scotti Group, using estimated financial statements at December 31, 2014, are as follows:

|  | 12-31-13      | 12-31-14      |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| Trademarks, other intangible assets and goodwill | 46,276        | 46,421        |
| Property, plant and equipment                    | 82,673        | 79,722        |
| Other non-current assets                         | 10,387        | 10,395        |
| Current assets                                   | 73,788        | 72,878        |
| Non-current, non-financial liabilities           | (30,743)      | (28,272)      |
| Financial liabilities                            | (52,013)      | (46,202)      |
| Current, non-financial liabilities               | (48,687)      | (54,402)      |
| Non-controlling interests                        | (5,714)       | (5,164)       |
|  | <b>75,967</b> | <b>75,376</b> |
| Ownership interest acquired                      | 25%           | 25%           |
|  | <b>18,992</b> | <b>18,844</b> |
| Revenue (5 months in 2013)                       | 77,813        | 190,475       |
| Net profit (5 months in 2013)                    | 3,968         | 800           |
| Headcount  | 287           | 291           |

Thousands of euros

## 14. GOODWILL

The movements under goodwill in 2014 and 2013 (in thousands of euros) are shown below:

### SEGMENT

|                                      | CGU OR GROUPS OF CGUS       | 12-31-13       | ADDITIONS     | DECREASES & OTHER | DECREASES LOSSES | EXCHANGE DIFFERENCES | 12-31-14        |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|---------------|-------------------|------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| Herba rice                           | Danrice (Denmark)           | 14,524         |               |                   |                  |                      | 14,524          |
| Herba rice                           | Vogan (UK)                  | 1,266          |               |                   |                  | 89                   | 1,355           |
| Herba rice                           | Riceland (Hungary)          | 2,126          |               |                   |                  |                      | 2,126           |
| Herba rice                           | Steve & Brotherton (UK)     | 618            | 1,289         |                   |                  | 45                   | 1,952           |
| Herba rice                           | Mundiriz (Morocco)          | 1,225          |               |                   | (177)            | 28                   | 1,076           |
| Herba rice                           | Suntra Group (Belgium)      | 11,154         |               |                   |                  | (46)                 | 11,108          |
| Herba rice                           | SOS business (Spain)        | 28,390         |               |                   |                  |                      | 28,390          |
| Herba rice                           | KECK (Germany)              | 14,606         |               |                   |                  |                      | 14,606          |
| Riviana US                           | Riviana Group (US)          | 219,597        |               |                   |                  | 29,861               | 249,458         |
| Riviana US                           | ARI Group (US)              | 13,499         |               |                   | (11,148)         | 784                  | 3,135           |
| Panzani France                       | Panzani Group               | 417,449        |               |                   |                  |                      | 417,449         |
| Pasta Americas                       | NWP Group                   | 96,026         |               |                   |                  | 6,833                | 102,859         |
| Pasta Americas                       | Olivieri (Catelli - Canada) | 25,713         |               |                   |                  | 1,067                | 26,780          |
| Europe pasta                         | Garofalo (Italy)            | 0              | 57,049        |                   |                  |                      | 57,049          |
| Other                                | Jiloca, S.A.                | 129            |               |                   |                  |                      | 129             |
| Other                                | Azucarera ENergías, S.A.    | 600            |               |                   |                  |                      | 600             |
| <b>TOTAL GROSS CARRYING AMOUNT</b>   |                             | <b>846,922</b> | <b>58,338</b> | <b>0</b>          | <b>(11,325)</b>  | <b>38,661</b>        | <b>932,596</b>  |
| <b>ACCUMULATED IMPAIRMENT LOSSES</b> |                             | <b>(1,416)</b> |               |                   | <b>(11,325)</b>  |                      | <b>(12,741)</b> |

### SEGMENT

|                                      | CGU OR GROUPS OF CGUS       | 12-31-12       | ADDITIONS     | DECREASES & OTHER | IMPAIRMENT LOSSES | EXCHANGE DIFFERENCES | 12-31-13       |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| Herba rice                           | Danrice (Denmark)           | 14,524         |               |                   |                   |                      | 14,524         |
| Herba rice                           | Vogan (UK)                  | 1,294          |               |                   |                   | (28)                 | 1,266          |
| Herba rice                           | Riceland (Hungary)          | 2,126          |               |                   |                   |                      | 2,126          |
| Herba rice                           | Steve & Brotherton (UK)     | 618            |               |                   |                   |                      | 618            |
| Herba rice                           | Mundiriz (Morocco)          | 1,412          |               |                   | (177)             | (10)                 | 1,225          |
| Herba rice                           | Suntra Group (Belgium)      | 11,141         |               |                   |                   | 13                   | 11,154         |
| Herba rice                           | SOS business (Spain)        | 28,390         |               |                   |                   |                      | 28,390         |
| Herba rice                           | KECK (Germany)              | 0              | 14,606        |                   |                   |                      | 14,606         |
| Riviana US                           | Riviana Group (US)          | 229,530        |               |                   |                   | (9,933)              | 219,597        |
| Riviana US                           | ARI Group (US)              | 14,110         |               |                   |                   | (611)                | 13,499         |
| Panzani France                       | Panzani Group               | 417,449        |               |                   |                   |                      | 417,449        |
| Pasta Americas                       | NWP Group                   | 102,484        |               |                   |                   | (6,458)              | 96,026         |
| Pasta Americas                       | Olivieri (Catelli - Canada) | 0              | 26,224        |                   |                   | (511)                | 25,713         |
| Other                                | Jiloca, S.A.                | 129            |               |                   |                   |                      | 129            |
| Other                                | Azucarera ENergías, S.A.    | 0              | 600           |                   |                   |                      | 600            |
| <b>TOTAL GROSS CARRYING AMOUNT</b>   |                             | <b>823,207</b> | <b>41,430</b> | <b>0</b>          | <b>(177)</b>      | <b>(17,538)</b>      | <b>846,922</b> |
| <b>ACCUMULATED IMPAIRMENT LOSSES</b> |                             | <b>(1,239)</b> |               |                   | <b>(177)</b>      |                      | <b>(1,416)</b> |

The Group undertook several business combinations in 2014 and 2013. Note 5 outlines these combinations in detail. Other significant movements in 2014 include an increase due to exchange gains on goodwill allocated mainly to its US subsidiaries (exchange losses in 2013) and the impairment loss recognized against the American Rice (ARI) business, as detailed below.

The goodwill balances were generated by business combinations. These asset were tested for impairment in 2014 and 2013 (by an independent expert, American Appraisal); the resulting values were allocated to the cash-generating units or groups of cash-generating units indicated in the table above.

To test these assets for impairment, the Group calculated the value in use of each cash-generating unit by discounting the associated cash flows, generally projected for a period of five years, and their terminal value, in turn calculated by projecting the last year's cash flows by a perpetuity growth rate. The cash flow projections were based on historical information and the best estimates of the managers of each CGU. The resulting CGU fair values were additionally cross-checked using comparable multiple methodology.

The growth rates used to extrapolate the cash flow projections beyond the projection horizon and the discount rates applied to the cash flow projections for the most important CGUs in 2014 (2013) were:

- ❖ In the European rice and pasta businesses, a discount rate of 5.0% on average (5.9%) and a perpetuity growth rate of between 1.0 and 1.3% (1.0 - 1.7%) were used, except for the Hungarian CGU, whose special circumstances warranted the use of a discount rate of 7.7% (8.9%) and a growth rate of 3% (3%). In Spain, the discount rate used was 5.8% (7.2%) and the growth rate applied was 1.3% (1.2%).
- ❖ In the US rice and pasta businesses, a discount rate of 6.1% on average (6.0%) and a perpetuity growth rate of between 0.4% and 2.0% (0.4 - 2.1%) were used.

The key assumptions used to value each CGU include the average rate of sales revenue growth modeled, the compound average annual rate of growth in EBITDA, the trend in working capital expressed as a number of days of sales and average annual capital expenditure, modeled as a percentage of projected EBITDA.

As for the assumptions used to calculate the recoverable amount of the various CGUs to which goodwill has been assigned, management believes that no reasonably-possible change in the key assumptions used would cause their carrying amounts to exceed their recoverable amounts. More specifically, neither a 20% increase in the discount rates nor a 20% variation in the growth rates used would trigger significant impairment charges. This sensitivity analysis is applicable to all of the CGUs itemized in the table above, with the exception of the 'ARI Group (US)' CGU, whose goodwill was written down to 3,135 thousand euros at year-end 2014 in the wake of the impairment loss recognized that year.

As noted in the 2013 consolidated financial statements, the profitability of the 'ARI Group (US)' CGU declined very significantly in 2013, due to the impact on raw material and manufacturing costs of the ongoing drought in the Texas region. The estimate that this situation could prove protracted over the short and medium term was factored into the profit projections prepared for this CGU for impairment testing purposes in 2013, at which time the test did not reveal the need to recognize an impairment loss; however the sensitivity analysis did warn of the potential need to recognize impairment provisions in the future. The fair value of this CGU fell further in 2014; this, coupled with an increase in the discount rate applied (from 5.2% in 2012 to 6.0% in 2013 and 6.9% in 2014) indicated the need to recognize an impairment loss against this CGU's goodwill in the amount of 11,148 thousand euros at year-end 2014.



## 15. INVENTORIES

The breakdown of inventories at year-end 2014 and 2013 (in thousands of euros):

| ITEM  | 12-31-14       | 12-31-13       |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| Goods held for resale                             | 17,252         | 16,243         |
| Raw materials                                     | 191,972        | 185,073        |
| Consumables and replacement parts                 | 9,032          | 4,698          |
| Containers  | 27,430         | 22,498         |
| Work in progress                                  | 15,516         | 17,579         |
| Finished goods                                    | 148,315        | 120,350        |
| By-products and waste                             | 3,312          | 2,817          |
| Prepayments to suppliers                          | 19,712         | 20,306         |
| <b>TOTAL GROSS CARRYING AMOUNT OF INVENTORIES</b> | <b>432,541</b> | <b>389,564</b> |
| Inventory impairment provision                    | (4,434)        | (4,617)        |
| <b>TOTAL CARRYING AMOUNT OF INVENTORIES</b>       | <b>428,107</b> | <b>384,947</b> |

At year-end 2014, a portion of the balance of prepayments to suppliers, specifically 17,978 thousand euros (year-end 2013: 19,649 thousand euros) corresponds to payments made to rice-growers; in this respect, the Group has entered into firm commitments for the purchase of rice from rice growers, cooperatives and exporters totaling 88,462 thousand euros (year-end 2013: 71,360 thousand euros). In addition, the Group has entered into raw material purchase commitments in the US, Canada, France and Italy totaling 124,066 thousand euros (year-end 2013: 92,246 thousand euros).

The net provision for inventory impairment recognized in 2014 was 2,909 thousand euros (2013: 2,020 thousand euros), while 3,357 thousand euros of previously recognized provisions were utilized (1,280 thousand euros); exchange losses on inventories amounted to 265 thousand euros (104 thousand euros in 2013).

## 16. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

The breakdown of this heading at year-end 2014 and 2013 (in thousands of euros):

| ITEM                       | 12-31-14       | 12-31-13       |
|----------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Due from customers         | 349,117        | 302,994        |
| Due from associates        | 1,054          | 392            |
| Sundry accounts receivable | 5,896          | 10,447         |
| Provisions for impairment  | (8,673)        | (7,879)        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>               | <b>347,394</b> | <b>305,954</b> |

For terms and conditions relating to related-party receivables, refer to note 27. Trade receivables are non-interest bearing and are generally on terms of 30 to 85 days. As at December 31, 2014, the ageing analysis of trade receivables is as follows:

## AGEING ANALYSIS

|                          | GROSS CARRYING<br>AMOUNT | PROVISION FOR<br>IMPAIRMENT | CARRYING<br>AMOUNT |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Less than 3 months       | 341,215                  | (2,878)                     | 338,337            |
| Between 3 and 6 months   | 3,519                    | (595)                       | 2,924              |
| Between 6 and 12 months  | 688                      | (597)                       | 91                 |
| Between 12 and 18 months | 372                      | (372)                       | 0                  |
| Between 18 and 24 months | 1,450                    | (1,450)                     | 0                  |
| Over 24 months           | 1,873                    | (1,873)                     | 0                  |
| <b>TOTAL</b>             | <b>349,117</b>           | <b>(7,765)</b>              | <b>341,352</b>     |

No material amounts of trade and other receivables were past due at year-end and not impaired.

In 2014, the Group recognized net provisions for the impairment of trade and other receivables of 715 thousand euros (2013: 1,977 thousand euros), utilized 612 thousand euros (2013: 55 thousand euros), added 404 thousand euros as a result of business combinations and recognized exchange losses on receivables of 287 thousand euros (52 thousand euros).

## 17. CASH AND SHORT-TERM DEPOSITS

The breakdown of this heading at year-end 2014 and 2013 (in thousands of euros):

| ITEM                                     | 12-31-14       | 12-31-13      |
|--|----------------|---------------|
| Cash on hand and at banks                | 191,477        | 94,014        |
| Short-term deposits and cash equivalents | 802            | 300           |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                             | <b>192,279</b> | <b>94,314</b> |

Cash at banks earns interest at floating rates based on daily bank deposit rates. Short-term deposits are made for varying periods of between one day and three months, depending on the immediate cash requirements of the Group, and earn interest at the respective short-term deposit rates. The fair value of the Group's cash and cash equivalents was 192,279 thousand euros at year-end 2014 (94,314 thousand euros at year-end 2013). Throughout the year the Group companies invested their occasional cash surpluses in repos and equivalent securities in order to generate a return on these balances. All of these investments are denominated in euros, other than a small balance denominated in US dollars. The average annual return earned on these investments in 2014 was around 1.75% (2013: 2.5%).

## 18. SHARE CAPITAL, RESERVES, EARNINGS PER SHARE AND DIVIDENDS

### 18.1 CAPITAL AND RESERVES

#### Share capital

The Company's share capital consisted of 153,865,392 fully subscribed and paid bearer shares with a par value of 0.60 euros each at both year-ends.

The shareholders with direct or indirect interests of more than 3% in the capital of Ebro Foods, S.A. at December 31, 2014 (2013), based on information furnished to Spain's securities market regulatory, the CNMV, and to Ebro Foods, S.A., are as follows:

- ❖ Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.: direct holder of 13,790,336 shares (13,725,601), representing a 8.963% interest (8.921%) and indirect holder, through Hispafoods Invest, S.L., of 10,707,282 shares (10,702,282), representing a 6.959% interest (6.959%). In total this shareholder holds 24,497,618 shares (24,432,883), representing a 15.921% (15.879%) shareholding.
- ❖ Sociedad Anónima Damm: indirect holder, via Corporación Económica Damm, S.A., of 15,426,438 shares (15,000,000), representing a 10.026% interest (9.749%).
- ❖ Sociedad Estatal de Participaciones Industriales: indirect holder, via Alimentos y Aceites, S.A., of 15,940,377 shares (15,940,377), representing a 10.36% interest (10.36%).
- ❖ Corporación Financiera Alba: indirect holder, via Alba Participaciones, S.A., of 15,400,000 shares (12,625,080), representing a 10.009% interest (8.205%).
- ❖ Juan Luis Gómez-Trenor Fos: indirect holder, via Empresas Comerciales e Industriales Valencianas, S.L., of 10,924,443 shares (7,847,135), representing a 7.1% interest (5.1%).

#### Share premium

As for the share premium, the Consolidated Text of the Spanish Corporate Enterprises Act permits the use of the share premium account balance to increase share capital and provides no specific limitation with respect to its availability. Virtually all of the share premium account was distributed in 2009 by means of the distribution on an in-kind special dividend paid in own shares.

#### Restricted reserves

Spanish enterprises that generate a profit are required to earmark 10% of net profit for the year to a legal reserve until such reserve is equivalent to 20% of share capital. The legal reserve cannot be distributed except in the event of dissolution but it can be used to offset losses insofar as other reserves are not available for this purpose, and to increase capital by the amount that exceeds 10% of capital after the increase. The Parent had fully endowed its legal reserve at both year-ends.

As for the restrictions on the reserves of the Group's subsidiaries, it is worth noting the existence of legal reserves at the Spanish subsidiaries and some of the international subsidiaries totaling approximately 20.2 million euros (19.1 million euros at year-end 2013) that are subject to the same regime as the Parent's legal reserve, as detailed above. The portion of such reserves arising on consolidation is included under retained earnings.

Consolidated retained earnings include 38,531 thousand euros (38,531 thousand euros at year-end 2013) corresponding to Herba Foods S.L.; distribution of these profits would be a taxable event. Note that the event would accrue whenever such distribution is ratified, something not expected to occur in the short or medium term.

#### Translation differences - foreign exchange translation differences reserve

The foreign exchange translation differences reserve is used to recognize the exchange differences arising from the translation of the financial statements of foreign subsidiaries. It is also used to recognize hedges of net investments in these entities.

The breakdown of translation differences at year-end by company (in thousands of euros) is provided below:

|   | 12-31-14      | 12-31-13        |
|---|---------------|-----------------|
| Herba companies                                 | 222           | (7,036)         |
| RIVIANA Group (US)                              | 3,057         | (30,722)        |
| ARI Group (US)                                  | 16,528        | 2,700           |
| NWP Group (US)                                  | 20,424        | (19,497)        |
| Ebro Alimentación Mexico                        | (25)          | (28)            |
| Garofalo Group (Italy) - International business | 18            | 0               |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                    | <b>40,224</b> | <b>(54,583)</b> |

#### Own shares

In 2014, the Parent had the power to buy back and sell own shares under the scope of the authorization granted at the Annual General Meeting held on June 15, 2011 for a period of five years (and duly notified to the CNMV in keeping with prevailing legislation). In 2014, the Company bought back 858,506 shares, sold 814,939 and delivered 24,104 own shares to employees. At December 31, 2014, the Company held 19,463 own shares as treasury shares, equivalent to 0.013% of share capital. Management had not established any specific purpose for these own shares at year-end.

In 2013, the Parent similarly had the power to buy back and sell own shares under the scope of the authorization granted at the Annual General Meeting held on June 15, 2011. Specifically, in 2013, the Company bought back 20,784 shares, which it delivered to employees. The Company did not hold any treasury shares at December 31, 2013.

#### 18.2 EARNINGS PER SHARE

Basic EPS amounts are calculated by dividing the profit for the year attributable to ordinary equity holders of the parent by the weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding during the year.

Diluted EPS amounts are calculated by dividing the profit attributable to ordinary equity holders of the parent (after adjusting for interest on the non-cumulative redeemable and convertible preference shares, of which Ebro Foods, S.A. did not have any at either year-end) by the weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding during the year plus the weighted average number of ordinary shares that would be issued on conversion of all the dilutive potential ordinary shares into ordinary shares (Ebro Foods, S.A. did not have any dilutive potential ordinary shares at either year-end).

The following table reflects the income and share data used in the basic and diluted EPS computations:

|   | 12-31-14       | 12-31-13       |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| Profit from continuing operations attributable to ordinary equity holders of the parent   | 148,236        | 140,266        |
| Loss from discontinued operations attributable to ordinary equity holders of the parent   | (2,223)        | (7,507)        |
| <b>Profit attributable to ordinary equity holders of the parent</b>   | <b>146,013</b> | <b>132,759</b> |
| Interest on non-cumulative convertible and redeemable preference shares   | 0              | 0              |
| <b>Profit attributable to ordinary equity holders of the parent adjusted for the effect of dilution (non-cumulative convertible and redeemable preference shares)</b> | <b>146,013</b> | <b>132,759</b> |

|  | 2014      | 2013      |
|--|-----------|-----------|
|  | THOUSANDS | THOUSANDS |
| Weighted average number of ordinary shares for basic EPS(*)                    | 153,787   | 153,865   |
| <b>Effects of dilution from:</b>   |           |           |
| Share options  | 0         | 0         |
| Redeemable preference shares   | 0         | 0         |
| Weighted average number of ordinary shares adjusted for the effect of dilution | 153,787   | 153,865   |

(\*) Takes into account the weighted average effect of changes in treasury share transactions during the year.

There have been no other transactions involving ordinary shares or potential ordinary shares between the reporting date and the date of authorization of these financial statements.

### 18.3 DIVIDENDS

Distribution of the dividends approved at the Annual General Meeting of June 4, 2014 at which the shareholders ratified the motion to pay a cash dividend with a charge against unrestricted reserves of 0.50 euros per share, for a total payment of 76,932 thousand euros; this dividend was paid in instalments of 0.125 euros per share on April 2, July 2, October 2 and December 22, 2014.

| <b>DIVIDENDS DECLARED, PAID AND PROPOSED:</b>  | 2014           | 2013          |
|--|----------------|---------------|
| <b>Dividends paid:</b>   |                |               |
| Final dividend paid in 2013: 0.50 euros (2012: 0.48 euros)   | 76,932         | 73,855        |
| Special 2012 dividend paid in 2013: 0.12 euros   | 0              | 18,464        |
|  | <b>76,932</b>  | <b>92,319</b> |
| <b>Proposed dividend subject to approval at the Annual General Meeting (not recognized as a liability at year-end)</b> |                |               |
| 2014 dividend proposal: 0.66 euros (2013: 0.50 euros)  | 101,550        | 76,932        |
|  | <b>101,550</b> | <b>76,932</b> |

## 19. DEFERRED INCOME

This heading essentially includes grants relating to assets, greenhouse gas emission allowances received (ceasing in 2013) and other items of deferred income that are not individually material. The movements under this heading in 2014 and 2013:

|   | GOVERNMENT GRANTS |              | EMISSION ALLOWANCES |            | OTHER DEFERRED INCOME |              | TOTAL        |              |
|---|-------------------|--------------|---------------------|------------|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
|   | 12-31-14          | 12-31-13     | 12-31-14            | 12-31-13   | 12-31-14              | 12-31-13     | 12-31-14     | 12-31-13     |
| <b>OPENING BALANCE</b>                                    | <b>824</b>        | <b>1,204</b> | <b>203</b>          | <b>244</b> | <b>1,021</b>          | <b>1,275</b> | <b>2,048</b> | <b>2,723</b> |
| Additions due to business combinations                    | 3,072             | 0            | 0                   | 0          | 0                     | 0            | 3,072        | 0            |
| Decreases due to disposals                                | 0                 | 0            | 0                   | 0          | 0                     | 0            | 0            | 0            |
| Grants received   | 17                | 0            | 0                   | 0          | 0                     | 0            | 17           | 0            |
| Additions due to GHG allowances                           | 0                 | 0            | 0                   | 0          | 0                     | 0            | 0            | 0            |
| Other increases/decreases                                 | 119               | 157          | (130)               | (41)       | (206)                 | (206)        | (217)        | (90)         |
| Translation differences                                   | 14                | (1)          | 0                   | 0          | 119                   | (48)         | 133          | (49)         |
| Reclassified to profit or loss from continuing operations | (644)             | (536)        | 0                   | 0          | 0                     | 0            | (644)        | (536)        |
| <b>CLOSING BALANCE</b>                                    | <b>3,402</b>      | <b>824</b>   | <b>73</b>           | <b>203</b> | <b>934</b>            | <b>1,021</b> | <b>4,409</b> | <b>2,048</b> |

The year-end balances mainly comprise government grants relating to assets awarded to various Group companies in relation to certain fixed asset investment projects (to date these companies have satisfied all the conditions attached to their grant).

The breakdown of grants by maturity is as follows:

### GRANTS RELATING TO ASSETS

|  | PENDING RELEASE TO PROFIT OR LOSS |           |           |       |
|--|-----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-------|
|  | < 1 YEAR                          | 2-5 YEARS | > 5 YEARS | TOTAL |
| Breakdown of closing balance by maturity | 675                               | 1,884     | 843       | 3,402 |

## 20. PROVISIONS FOR PENSIONS (POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS) AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS

The reconciliation of the opening and closing balances under this heading (in thousands of euros) is as follows:

|   | 12-31-14      | 12-31-13      |
|---|---------------|---------------|
|   | <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>TOTAL</b>  |
| <b>OPENING BALANCE</b>  | <b>35,931</b> | <b>44,760</b> |
| Translation differences                                       | 889           | (1,323)       |
| Business combinations   | 643           | 18            |
| Disposals   | 0             | (464)         |
| Amounts utilized and benefits paid                            | (12,608)      | (7,760)       |
| Amounts transferred to other accounts                         | 0             | 154           |
| Surplus provisions and employee departures                    | (376)         | (6)           |
| Amount provided for in the year for actuarial changes         | 10,232        | (7,831)       |
| Amount provided for in the year for unwind of discount        | 1,110         | 1,270         |
| Amount provided for in the year for employee benefits expense | 6,250         | 6,564         |
| Amount provided for in the year for other operating expenses  | 73            | 211           |
| Amount provided for in respect of discontinued operations     | 0             | 338           |
| <b>CLOSING BALANCE</b>  | <b>42,144</b> | <b>35,931</b> |

The breakdown by type of post-employment commitment (in thousands of euros):

|   | 12-31-14      | 12-31-13      |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| Defined benefit obligations                 | 22,701        | 15,852        |
| Retirement bonuses and similar obligations  | 16,591        | 14,924        |
| Senior management bonus schemes (note 27.7) | 2,852         | 5,155         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                | <b>42,144</b> | <b>35,931</b> |

The types of commitments extended by company/segment are summarized below:

|                              | DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PENSION COMMITMENTS | DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION COMMITMENTS | OTHER DEFINED PENSION COMMITMENTS | RETIREMENT BONUSES | LONG-SERVICE BONUSES | TERMINATION, OR RETIREMENT BENEFITS |
|------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Ebro Foods, S.A.             |  |                                     |                                   |                    | Yes (a)              |                                     |
| Riviana Group (US)           | Yes                                      | Yes (b)                             | Yes (b)                           |                    |                      |                                     |
| NWP Group (USA & Canada)     | Yes                                      | Yes (b)                             | Yes (b)                           |                    |                      |                                     |
| Panzani Group (France)       |  |                                     |                                   | Yes (a)            | Yes (a)              |                                     |
| Boost (Herba) (Belgium)      | Yes (c) 2007                             | Yes (c) 2006                        |                                   |                    |                      | Yes (a)                             |
| BPB (Belgium)                |  |                                     |                                   |                    |                      | Yes (a)                             |
| Mundiriso (Herba) (Italy)    |  |                                     |                                   |                    |                      | Yes (a)                             |
| Herba Bangkok and Ebro India |  |                                     |                                   |                    |                      | Yes (a)                             |
| Garofalo (Italy)             |  |                                     |                                   |                    |                      | Yes (a)                             |
| Euryza (Herba) (Germany)     |  | Yes (a)                             |                                   |                    |                      |                                     |
| S&B Group (Herba) (UK)       | Yes (d)                                  | Yes (d)                             |                                   |                    |                      |                                     |
| Birkel Group (Germany)       |  | Yes (a)                             |                                   | Yes (a)            |                      |                                     |
| Lassie Group (Netherlands)   | Yes (e)                                  | Yes (e)                             |                                   |                    |                      |                                     |
| Herba Ricemills (Spain)      |  |                                     |                                   | Yes (a)            |                      |                                     |

(a) Obligations not externalized. Managed and provided for in-house.

(b) These obligations are managed externally. The administration, management and investment decision-making with respect to these assets are performed by a committee that is independent from the Company's management.

(c) These became defined contribution obligations in 2007.

(d) Obligations to current employees were switched to a defined contribution benefit arrangement in 2007, while former employees continue to receive a defined benefit scheme.

(e) These became defined contribution obligations in 2014.

The next section outlines the most significant obligations on the basis of their relative materiality with respect to the overall obligation and/or because their specific circumstances warrant their individual disclosure.

## 20.1 RETIREMENT BONUSES AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS

The breakdown by company or business is as follows:

|                                  | 12-31-14      | 12-31-13      |
|----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Ebro Foods, S.A. (EF)            | 161           | 130           |
| Panzani France Group (Panzani)   | 13,954        | 13,322        |
| Herba Rice Group (Herba)         | 923           | 912           |
| Garofalo (Italy)                 | 703           | 0             |
| BIRKEL Group                     | 189           | 189           |
| Riviana American Group (Riviana) | 494           | 260           |
| Other minor obligations          | 167           | 111           |
| <b>SUBTOTAL</b>                  | <b>16,591</b> | <b>14,924</b> |

### 20.1.1 Ebro Foods, S.A.

The balance at year-end 2014 in respect of Ebro Foods, S.A. totals 161 thousand euros (year-end 2013: 130 thousand euros) and corresponds to the provision for the potential obligation to provide long-service bonuses to some of its employees. The Group is not legally required to externalize this obligation. The expense recognized in this respect was 61 thousand euros in 2014 (2013: 21 thousand euros).



### **20.1.2 Panzani Group companies**

The Panzani Group companies have obligations to their employees, mainly in respect of retirement bonuses (provisions of 12,825 and 12,267 thousand euros at year-end 2014 and 2013, respectively) and long-service bonuses (1,129 and 1,055 thousand euros at year-end 2014 and 2013, respectively). These provisions were recognized based on actuarial calculations performed internally. The related expenditure recognized in 2014 amounted to 2,571 thousand euros (2013: 2,223 thousand euros), of which 1,427 thousand euros (2013: 1,106 thousand euros) was charged directly against equity as actuarial losses. These provisions are funded in-house, albeit not by specific assets. The interest rate applied in 2014 was 1.50% (3.10% in 2013). The increase in this provision is mainly due to the impact of the updated discount rate applied.

### **20.1.3 Herba Group companies**

The collective bargaining agreement applicable at the subsidiaries in Italy, Belgium, Thailand and India include termination benefit obligations (voluntary or otherwise) for their employees. These provisions were recognized based on actuarial calculations performed internally in some instances and externally in others. The related provision at year-end 2014 amounted to 923 thousand euros (738 thousand euros at year-end 2013). Expenditure in 2014 was 174 thousand euros (2013: 178 thousand euros).

In addition, some Herba Group subsidiaries (S&B Herba in the UK, Boost in Germany, Danrice in Denmark, TBA Suntra UK and Grupo Ebro Netherland from 2014) have defined contribution pension plans for some of their employees under which they make an annual contribution based on a percentage of qualifying employees' salaries. Expenditure in 2014 was 1,135 thousand euros (2013: 662 thousand euros).

Lastly, in keeping with the rice sector's collective bargaining agreement, Herba Ricemills, S.L. has retirement bonus obligations that have been externalized under an insurance policy; the related provision at year end 2014 was 72 thousand euros (174 thousand euros at year-end 2013). Expenditure in 2014 was zero (2013: 37 thousand euros).

### **20.1.4 Garofalo (Italy)**

The applicable collective bargaining agreement includes termination benefit obligations (voluntary or otherwise) for employees. The provision has been recognized on the basis of external actuarial calculations. The related provision at year-end 2014 amounted to 703 thousand euros. The related expenditure recognized in 2014 amounted to 285 thousand euros, of which 91 thousand euros was charged directly against equity as actuarial losses.

### **20.1.5 Birkel Group (Germany)**

This company's business was sold to third parties at the end of 2013 and all its employees' contracts were transferred to the buyer. Accordingly the provisions were set up and recognized for accounting purposes for the services accrued by those employees until December 31, 2013. In addition to the defined benefit obligations detailed below, these former Birkel Group companies accrued retirement bonus benefits until December 31, 2013 (giving rise to a provision of 189 thousand euros at both year-ends). This provision was recognized based on actuarial calculations performed in-house. This provision is funded in-house, albeit not by specific assets.

### **20.1.6 Riviana Foods, Inc. and NWP, Inc.**

In addition to the defined benefit obligations detailed below, the Riviana and NWP companies offer their US employees voluntary contribution plans. These companies match their employees' contributions. Total expenditure in connection with these plans was 1,505 thousand euros in 2014 (2013: 1,193 thousand euros).

## 20.2 PENSION AND OTHER DEFINED BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS

The breakdown by company:

### DEFINED BENEFIT

|                            | 12-31-14            |                   |               | 12-31-13            |                   |               |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------|
|                            | PENSION COMMITMENTS | OTHER COMMITMENTS | TOTAL         | PENSION COMMITMENTS | OTHER COMMITMENTS | TOTAL         |
| Riviana Group (US)         | 9,828               | (3,696)           | 6,132         | 5,933               | (3,306)           | 2,627         |
| NWP Group (USA & Canada)   | 2,455               | 1,343             | 3,798         | 2,077               | 1,233             | 3,310         |
| Boost (Herba) (Belgium)    | 537                 |                   | 537           | 315                 |                   | 315           |
| Euryza (Herba) (Germany)   | 4,426               |                   | 4,426         | 3,830               |                   | 3,830         |
| Lassie Group (Netherlands) | 0                   |                   | 0             | 645                 |                   | 645           |
| S&B Group (Herba) (UK)     | 5,446               |                   | 5,446         | 3,428               |                   | 3,428         |
| Birkel Group (Germany)     | 2,362               |                   | 2,362         | 1,697               |                   | 1,697         |
|                            | <b>25,054</b>       | <b>(2,353)</b>    | <b>22,701</b> | <b>17,925</b>       | <b>(2,073)</b>    | <b>15,852</b> |

Thousands of euros

The reconciliation of the opening and closing balances included in the table above, broken down using geographic criteria, deemed the most appropriate and uniform criterion in terms of the underlying factors generating these obligations, in 2014 and 2013:

|  | RIVIANA GROUP   |                 | NWP GROUP       |                 | EUROPE          |                 |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|  | 12-31-14        | 12-31-13        | 12-31-14        | 12-31-13        | 12-31-14        | 12-31-13        |
| <b>Provisions for pensions - obligations</b> |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |
| Opening balance                              | 21,803          | 26,607          | 20,131          | 23,226          | 24,198          | 24,026          |
| Business combinations                        | 0               | 0               | 0               | 0               | 0               | 0               |
| Provisions recognized                        | 2,371           | 2,620           | 1,143           | 858             | 476             | 1,598           |
| Actuarial changes                            | 4,290           | (4,215)         | 1,653           | (1,740)         | 4,130           | 92              |
| Benefits paid                                | (2,402)         | (2,036)         | (1,487)         | (1,140)         | (6,000)         | (769)           |
| Workforce restructuring                      | 0               | 0               | 0               | 0               | 0               | (304)           |
| Translation differences                      | 2,962           | (1,173)         | 2,583           | (1,073)         | 862             | (269)           |
| <b>CLOSING BALANCE</b>                       | <b>29,024</b>   | <b>21,803</b>   | <b>24,023</b>   | <b>20,131</b>   | <b>23,666</b>   | <b>24,198</b>   |
| <b>Provisions for pensions - plan assets</b> |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |                 |
| Opening balance                              | (19,175)        | (17,546)        | (16,821)        | (15,693)        | (14,283)        | (13,158)        |
| Business combinations                        | 0               | 0               | 0               | 0               | 0               | 0               |
| Return on plan assets                        | (842)           | (577)           | (784)           | (581)           | (421)           | (414)           |
| Contributions by employer                    | (2,406)         | (2,467)         | (1,485)         | (1,227)         | (89)            | (613)           |
| Actuarial changes                            | (184)           | (1,415)         | (258)           | (769)           | (870)           | (714)           |
| Benefits paid                                | 2,402           | 2,036           | 1,484           | 1,140           | 5,387           | 445             |
| Translation differences                      | (2,687)         | 793             | (2,361)         | 309             | (619)           | 171             |
| <b>CLOSING BALANCE</b>                       | <b>(22,892)</b> | <b>(19,176)</b> | <b>(20,225)</b> | <b>(16,821)</b> | <b>(10,895)</b> | <b>(14,283)</b> |
| <b>NET BALANCE</b>                           | <b>6,132</b>    | <b>2,627</b>    | <b>3,798</b>    | <b>3,310</b>    | <b>12,771</b>   | <b>9,915</b>    |

Thousands of euros

## NET ANNUAL COST BY COMPONENT

|  | RIVIANA GROUP |              | NWP GROUP  |            | EUROPE    |              |
|--|---------------|--------------|------------|------------|-----------|--------------|
|  | 12-31-14      | 12-31-13     | 12-31-14   | 12-31-13   | 12-31-14  | 12-31-13     |
| Current service cost   | 1,328         | 1,645        | 247        | 31         | 50        | 748          |
| Interest cost  | 1,043         | 975          | 896        | 827        | 773       | 756          |
| Return on plan assets  | (842)         | (577)        | (784)      | (581)      | (392)     | (323)        |
| Workforce restructuring  | 0             | 0            | 0          | 0          | (376)     | 0            |
| Estimated losses not recognized  | 0             | 0            | 0          | 0          | 0         | 0            |
|  | <b>1,529</b>  | <b>2,043</b> | <b>359</b> | <b>277</b> | <b>55</b> | <b>1,181</b> |
| Actuarial changes recognized directly in consolidated equity: (gains)/losses | 4,106         | (5,630)      | 1,395      | (2,509)    | 3,260     | (813)        |

## ACTUARIAL ASSUMPTIONS

|                                | 12-31-14 | 12-31-13 | 12-31-14 | 12-31-13 | 12-31-14     | 12-31-13     |
|--------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|--------------|--------------|
| Discount rate                  | 3,97%    | 4,89%    | 3,75%    | 4,50%    | 2% al 3,6%   | 3,2% al 4,1% |
| Future salary increases        | 3,00%    | 3,00%    | 0,00%    | 0,00%    | 1,2% al 3,0% | 1,2% al 3,0% |
| Expected return on plan assets | 3,97%    | 4,89%    | 3,75%    | 4,50%    | 2% al 3,6%   | 3,2% al 4,1% |

In general these obligations relate to pension plans for most of the employees of the Riviana Group and the NWP Group and for certain employees of the European subsidiaries. At the S&B Group, these obligations now only correspond to former employees (the obligations in respect of current employees were transferred to defined contribution arrangements from January 1, 2006). The Riviana Group has not been adding new employees to this defined benefit scheme since February 2006. And at the Canadian subsidiary of the NWP Group (dry pasta division), the pension plan was liquidated by settling the benefits accrued by employees with effect until December 31, 2009. Lastly, the Lassie Group in Netherlands has transformed its benefits to defined contribution obligations with effect from 2014.

In the case of the Riviana Group and the NWP Group, the other commitments relate to health insurance, prescription drug plans and life insurance provided to just some of their employees.

## 21. OTHER PROVISIONS

The movements under this heading in 2014 and 2013 (in thousands of euros) are shown below:

### MOVEMENTS UNDER OTHER PROVISIONS

|   | 12-31-14      | 12-31-13     |
|---|---------------|--------------|
|   | TOTAL         | TOTAL        |
| <b>Opening balance</b>                                  | 8,603         | 21,926       |
| Translation differences                                 | 60            | (11)         |
| Business combinations                                   | 22            | 0            |
| Transfers   | 1,216         | 41           |
| Amounts utilized and payments                           | (5,020)       | (15,128)     |
| Additions with a charge to profit or loss               | 10,395        | 6,120        |
| Unused amounts reversed with a credit to profit or loss | (2,921)       | (4,345)      |
| <b>CLOSING BALANCE</b>                                  | <b>12,355</b> | <b>8,603</b> |

An analysis by underlying concept and company/business (in thousands of euros):

### BREAKDOWN OF OTHER PROVISIONS BY CONCEPT

|  | 12-31-14      | 12-31-13     |
|--|---------------|--------------|
| Lawsuits and disputes                              | 10,373        | 5,385        |
| Modernization and restructuring plan               | 1,227         | 2,022        |
| Sundry other contingencies of insignificant amount | 755           | 1,196        |
|  | <b>12,355</b> | <b>8,603</b> |

|                                    | 12-31-14      | 12-31-13     |
|------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Ebro Foods, S.A.                   | 9,020         | 0            |
| Panzani Group                      | 1,456         | 5,003        |
| Herba Group                        | 1,176         | 2,018        |
| Riviana Group                      | 153           | 182          |
| Birkel Group                       | 4             | 1,400        |
| Other                              | 546           | 0            |
| <b>TOTAL CONTINUING OPERATIONS</b> | <b>12,355</b> | <b>8,603</b> |

#### 21.1 PROVISIONS COVERING THE OUTCOME OF LAWSUITS RELATED TO THE SALES OF THE SUGAR AND DAIRY BUSINESSES

The provisions recognized to cover the outcome of lawsuits related to the sales of the sugar business (sold in 2009) and the dairy business (sold in 2010) related to the reps and warranties extended to the buyers of these businesses under which an unfavorable ruling in these lawsuits would have the effect of reducing the sale-purchase prices for these business. Additions to this provision (or reversals thereof) imply an adjustment to the sale price and are accordingly recognized as a reduction (or increase) in profit in the year in which they are recognized.

These lawsuits had been substantially resolved by year-end 2013, so that the related provision stood at zero. However, in the course of 2014 a number of smaller-sized disputes came to light. Management determined it was necessary to recognize a provision in respect of certain of these cases in light of the possible outflow of resources in the future.

In addition, in August 2014, Grupo Lactalis Iberia, S.A. passed the proposed ruling (“Proposed Ruling”) in respect of the disciplinary proceedings initiated by the investigative unit of Spain’s anti-trust authority, the CNMC, against Spain’s leading dairy transformation companies, including Puleva Food, S.L., in connection with alleged anti-competitive practices between 2003 and 2013, on to Ebro Foods, S.A. Ebro Foods, S.A. sold Puleva Food, S.L. to Grupo Lactalis Iberia, S.A. in 2010; the related share purchase agreement (the “SPA”) included a liability regime covering future contingencies. Under this regime, Ebro Foods, S.A., as seller, could be held liable for any fine imposed on Puleva Food, S.L. with respect to developments taking place prior to the sale.

The Proposed Ruling qualifies the conduct investigated as a very serious infraction of article 62.4.a) of Spain’s Anti-Trust Act and recommends that the Board of the CNMC hand down the fine contemplated in article 63 of this same piece of legislation. Grupo Lactalis Iberia, S.A. and Puleva Food, S.L., in keeping with the procedure agreed upon in the SPA, duly presented statements outlining their pleas against the Proposed Ruling, categorically denying the conduct charges therein.

The CNMC ruling issued by its Board on February 26, 2015 was received on March 3, 2015. It hands down a fine against Puleva Food, S.L. of 10,270 thousand euros. Based on the information currently available, Ebro Foods, S.A. believes it has solid grounds for appealing the ruling before the corresponding judicial bodies; however, the likelihood of an outflow of resources embodying economic benefits is deemed probable and the corresponding provision has accordingly been recognized in the 2014 financial statements.

## 21.2 STATUS OF OTHER LAWSUITS AND DISPUTES

In addition to the lawsuits outlined in section 21.1 above, at year-end 2014, the Group has recognized provisions for other lawsuits and disputes in the amount of 1,633 thousand euros (year-end 2013: 5,385 thousand euros).

These provisions relate to court proceedings underway and other claims; in the directors’ opinion, after taking appropriate legal advice from its in-house and external counsel, the outcome of these legal claims will not give rise to any significant liabilities beyond the amounts provided at year-end.

The breakdown of the maximum liability under these legal claims (items 21.1 and 21.2 above) is shown below (in thousands of euros):

|  | 12-31-14      | 12-31-13     |
|--|---------------|--------------|
| Tax and customs assessments signed under protest | 2,805         | 1,076        |
| Judicial review contingencies                    | 9,899         | 6,976        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                     | <b>12,704</b> | <b>8,052</b> |

## 22. FINANCIAL LIABILITIES

The breakdown of the items comprising financial liabilities (in thousands of euros) is provided in the table below:

### FINANCIAL LIABILITIES

|  | 12-31-14       |                | 12-31-13       |                |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|  | NON-CURRENT    | CURRENT        | NON-CURRENT    | CURRENT        |
| Bank loans                                 | 198,779        | 190,750        | 214,255        | 26,957         |
| Bank credit facilities                     |                | 124,275        |                | 178,430        |
| Other financial liabilities                | 68,324         | 16,519         | 11,233         | 224            |
| Borrowings from associates                 | 0              | 0              | 0              | 0              |
| Financial guarantees and deposits received | 65             | 1              | 65             | 15             |
| <b>TOTAL FINANCIAL LIABILITIES</b>         | <b>267,168</b> | <b>331,545</b> | <b>225,553</b> | <b>205,626</b> |

The breakdown of the Group's bank borrowings by business segment or company and the corresponding maturities (in thousands of euros):

### BREAKDOWN OF BANK BORROWINGS BY SEGMENT OR COMPANY

|                                    | 12-31-13       | 12-31-14       | 2016          | 2017           | 2018         | 2019         | BEYOND        |
|------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| Of Ebro Foods, S.A                 | 210,069        | 178,040        | 78,182        | 99,858         |              |              |               |
| Of Herba Group                     | 3,825          | 3,083          | 698           | 703            | 707          | 680          | 295           |
| Of Panzani Group                   | 29             | 15             | 2             | 2              | 2            | 2            | 7             |
| Of Garofalo Group                  | 0              | 17,360         | 1,886         | 1,591          | 1,654        | 1,720        | 10,509        |
| Of Arotz Foods, S.A.               | 330            | 281            | 48            | 48             | 48           | 48           | 89            |
| Of Jiloca, S.A.                    | 2              | 0              |               |                |              |              |               |
| <b>NON-CURRENT BANK BORROWINGS</b> | <b>214,255</b> | <b>198,779</b> | <b>80,816</b> | <b>102,202</b> | <b>2,411</b> | <b>2,450</b> | <b>10,900</b> |
| Of Ebro Foods, S.A                 | 66,386         | 188,301        |               |                |              |              |               |
| Of Panzani Group                   | 78,098         | 54,130         |               |                |              |              |               |
| Of Herba Group                     | 60,845         | 54,019         |               |                |              |              |               |
| Of Garofalo Group                  | 0              | 18,525         |               |                |              |              |               |
| Of other companies                 | 58             | 50             |               |                |              |              |               |
| <b>CURRENT BANK BORROWINGS</b>     | <b>205,387</b> | <b>315,025</b> |               |                |              |              |               |
| <b>TOTAL BANK BORROWINGS</b>       | <b>419,642</b> | <b>513,804</b> |               |                |              |              |               |

The breakdown of the above borrowings by currency of denomination is as follows:

| CURRENCY               | 12-31-14       | 12-31-13       |
|------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| EUR (euro)             | 242,297        | 157,742        |
| USD (US dollar)        | 241,553        | 236,358        |
| INR (Indian rupee)     | 23,614         | 21,774         |
| GBP (pound sterling)   | 0              | 214            |
| EGP (Egyptian pound)   | 2,750          | 1,135          |
| THB (Thailand baht)    | 619            | 426            |
| HUF (Hungarian forint) | 2,971          | 1,573          |
| Other                  | 0              | 420            |
| <b>TOTAL</b>           | <b>513,804</b> | <b>419,642</b> |

The long-term bank loans denominated in US dollars were taken out to finance the investments in Riviana Inc (2004) and New Word Pasta Company (2006). These long-term loans are guaranteed by Group subsidiaries Herba Food, S.L., Herba Ricemills, S.L., Panzani SAS and Riviana Foods Inc. and correspond to:

- ❖ The bilateral loan agreement entered into in November 2006 and amended in April 2009 and again in June 2010, in the amount of 190 million US dollars. This loan is repayable in four six-monthly instalments of 47.5 million US dollars starting in May 2015. The annual rate of interest applicable to this dollar-denominated loan is benchmarked against 1-, 3-, 6- or 12-month LIBOR plus a market spread.
- ❖ A bilateral 2-year loan agreement arranged in November 2013, in the amount of 100 million US dollars, repayable upon maturity; the parties may agree to extend maturity by one additional year. The annual rate of interest applicable to this dollar-denominated loan is benchmarked against 1-, 2-, 3- or 6-month LIBOR plus a market spread.

In 2014, the Group arranged bilateral loans in the amount of 50 and 30 million euros on May 27 and July 1, respectively. These loans are denominated in euros and are repayable in a single bullet payment upon maturity. The 50 million euro loan matures on June 30, 2017 and the 30 million euro loan matures on June 25, 2015; the parties have the option of agreeing two annual extensions to the latter facility's maturity. The annual rates of interest applicable to these loans is 1-, 2-, 3- or 6-month EURIBOR plus a market spread.

As for the rest of the Group's bank borrowings, at year-end 2014 the various companies had arranged unsecured credit facilities with an aggregate limit of 275 million euros (year-end 2013: 304 million euros), of which 124 million euros (178 million euros) had been drawn down.

The Panzani Group's credit facilities (with a drawdown limit at both year-ends of 90 million euros) are secured by its accounts receivable. The Garofalo Group's credit facilities are secured by a mortgage over its factory and site in Italy for up to 62.7 million euros.

The Group also had the following reverse factoring, receivable discounting, and trade finance lines and had issued the following sureties and other bank guarantees at year-end:

#### CREDIT FACILITIES ARRANGED

| AT DECEMBER 31, 2014  | AMOUNT<br>DRAWN DOWN | AMOUNT<br>UNDRAWN | TOTAL<br>LIMIT |
|---|----------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Reverse factoring, receivable discounting and trade finance | 9,138                | 39,570            | 48,708         |
| Bank guarantee lines  | 26,853               | 109,982           | 136,835        |
| <b>CONSOLIDATED GROUP TOTAL</b>                             | <b>35,991</b>        | <b>149,552</b>    | <b>185,543</b> |

#### CREDIT FACILITIES ARRANGED

| AT DECEMBER 31, 2013            | AMOUNT<br>DRAWN DOWN | AMOUNT<br>UNDRAWN | TOTAL<br>LIMIT |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Receivable discounting lines    | 4,863                | 137               | 5,000          |
| Bank guarantee lines            | 36,929               | 73,222            | 110,151        |
| <b>CONSOLIDATED GROUP TOTAL</b> | <b>41,792</b>        | <b>73,359</b>     | <b>115,151</b> |

The average rate of interest accrued on current loans in 2014 was 2.0% (2013: 3.0%).

The bank loans require compliance with a series of covenants, specifically a series of ratios calculated on the basis of the consolidated financial statements of the Ebro Foods Group, throughout the term of the loans. Any breach of these covenants would increase the related borrowing costs and in some cases would trigger an early repayment requirement. The Group was in compliance with these covenants at both year-ends.

The breakdown of other financial liabilities at December 31, 2014:

#### BREAKDOWN OF OTHER FINANCIAL LIABILITIES

|  | 12-31-14      |               |
|--|---------------|---------------|
|  | NON-CURRENT   | CURRENT       |
| Garofalo: put option granted over 48% - note 5         | 59,112        |               |
| Garofalo: deferred purchase price for 52% - note 5     |               | 5,200         |
| Garofalo: financing provided by non-financial entities | 5,902         | 393           |
| TBA Group: put option granted over 50% - note 4        |               | 9,498         |
| Other financial liabilities                            | 3,310         | 1,428         |
| <b>TOTAL FINANCIAL LIABILITIES</b>                     | <b>68,324</b> | <b>16,519</b> |

### 23. OTHER NON-FINANCIAL LIABILITIES

These relate to various payables that are not material on an individual basis.

### 24. TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES

Set out below are the movements in this heading:

|                           | 12-31-14       | 12-31-13       |
|---------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Trade accounts payable    | 285,470        | 235,637        |
| Other accounts payable    | 30,015         | 33,170         |
| Employee benefits payable | 38,933         | 36,600         |
| Payable to associates     | 500            | 519            |
| <b>TOTAL</b>              | <b>354,918</b> | <b>305,926</b> |

Trade payables are non-interest bearing and are normally settled on 60-80 day terms. Other payables are also non-interest bearing and have an average term of three months; they mainly correspond to payables related to the purchase of items of property, plant and equipment, the grant of trade discounts and rebates, and advertising and marketing initiatives.



## 25. TAX MATTERS

Year-end balances receivable from and payable to the tax authorities (in thousands of euros):

|  | TAXES RECEIVABLE |               | TAX PAYABLES    |                 |
|--|------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|  | 12-31-14         | 12-31-13      | 12-31-14        | 12-31-13        |
| VAT and personal income tax                | 27,277           | 22,969        | (9,747)         | (7,302)         |
| Social security                            | 209              | 29            | (1,486)         | (999)           |
| Grants pending collection                  | 745              | 909           |                 |                 |
| Other public authorities                   | 236              | 200           | (2,512)         | (3,705)         |
| <b>TOTAL TAXES RECEIVABLE/PAYABLE</b>      | <b>28,467</b>    | <b>24,107</b> | <b>(13,745)</b> | <b>(12,006)</b> |
| <b>INCOME TAX - TAX PAYABLE/REFUNDABLE</b> | <b>19,109</b>    | <b>11,693</b> | <b>(12,951)</b> | <b>(4,677)</b>  |

Certain Group companies file consolidated tax returns in keeping with applicable tax and other legislation prevailing in each country. The companies that file under a consolidated tax regime are: most of the Spanish companies (Spanish tax group), the Riviana Group (US), the Panzani Group (France), the NWP Group (US) with its Canadian subsidiary, and, since 2012, the German companies.

The statutory corporate income tax rates vary from one country to another, most notably (on account of their relative materiality): Spain at 30% (28% in 2015 and 25% in 2016 and beyond), France at 38%, the US at 37.5%, Germany at 30% and the Netherlands at 25.5%. The table provided later on in this note presents the impact of the national rates other than 30% (benchmark Spanish rate) under the dedicated line item, 'Effect of differing tax rates (taxable income)'.

It is important to consider certain extraordinary developments arising in 2014 in analyzing the Group's current tax expense. The major components of income tax expense for the year ended December 31, 2014 are:

|   |               |
|---|---------------|
| Income tax expense for the year   | 84,245        |
| a) Impact of change in income tax rate in Spain from 2015                       | (4,206)       |
| b) Impact of the inspection of the Spanish tax group in respect of 2008 to 2011 | 2,656         |
| c) Deferred tax liabilities contingent upon reinvestment obligations            | (7,140)       |
| d) Reversal of deferred taxes due to compliance with tax obligations            | (11,148)      |
|   | <b>64,407</b> |

*Thousands of euros*

a) Impacts deriving from the reduction in the statutory income tax rate in Spain from 2015: The corporate income tax rate applied in Spain until 2014 is 30%. This rate will be cut to 28% in 2015 and 25% from 2016 on. The Group recognized the effects that the reduction in income tax rate in Spain will have on its various deferred taxes at year-end 2014.

b) The tax inspection of the Spanish tax group in respect of 2008 to 2011, both inclusive, concluded in May 2014. The results of this inspection are shown below:

|  | ASSESSMENTS<br>UNCONTESTED | ASSESSMENTS<br>CONTESTED | TOTAL          |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| Tax  | 2,580                      | 2,452                    | 5,032          |
| Interest   | 443                        | 426                      | 869            |
| Fines  | 1                          | 355                      | 356            |
|  | 3,024                      | 3,233                    | 6,257          |
| <b>ACCOUNTING TREATMENT</b>                                  |                            |                          |                |
| Statement of profit or loss                                  |                            |                          |                |
| Income tax expense   |                            |                          | 2,656          |
| Other operating expenses                                     |                            |                          | 70             |
| Finance costs  |                            |                          | 869            |
| Deferred taxes   |                            |                          | 1,295          |
| Taxes payable (provisions)                                   |                            |                          | 1,367          |
| <b>TOTAL CHARGES</b>   |                            |                          | <b>6,257</b>   |
| Other non-current provisions                                 |                            |                          | (355)          |
| Inter-company balances receivable / payable within tax group |                            |                          | 0              |
| Taxes payable (payables)                                     |                            |                          | (5,902)        |
| <b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>  |                            |                          | <b>(6,257)</b> |

*Thousands of euros*

All of the assessments presented in the table above have been settled (using financial criteria), with the exception of the fines, even though the assessments have been signed under protest.

The assessments signed but being contested are in the initial stages of plea hearings and/or appeals and, accordingly, it is possible that the assessment settlement agreements ultimately received will differ from the amounts presented, albeit not materially; nonetheless, all of the assessments signed under protest have been or will be appealed.

In addition, the Group has also signed assessments handed down in connection with the deduction accredited and applied as warranted in relation to the 2008 Volvo Ocean Race under protest. The amount contested, which applies from 2008 to 2010, amounts to 3,021 thousand euros. In this instance, the balance has not been provided for as the assessments will be appealed and the likelihood of winning this claim is deemed high due to the precedent set by National High Court rulings in favor of other taxpayers bringing identical cases. Therefore, the directors believe that the risk that the outcome of this process will not favor the tax group is remote and will not entail an outflow of resources.

- c) The deferred tax liability reverted in 2014 relates to the deferred tax charge recognized at year-end 2012 in connection with the sale of the Nomen and other less prominent brands. Under Additional Provision Four of the Consolidated Text of Spain's Corporate Income Tax Act, enacted by means of Royal Decree-Law 4/2004, of March 5, 2004, the gain obtained on the sale of assets arranged to comply with anti-trust requirements does not have to be added to taxable income if the proceeds from the sale are reinvested on the terms stipulated in article 42 of this same piece of legislation within three years from the date of sale.

The related reinvestment commitment totaled 32.5 million euros. As indicated in note 5, the acquisition of Garofalo in 2014 complies with this reinvestment commitment, to which end the associated deferred tax liability has been reversed.

- d) The NWP Group (US) had tax credits that it utilized in 2010, contingent upon compliance with certain tax obligations. Having met these obligations, either through compliance or prescription, the deferred tax liability recognized to cover this potential commitment was reversed in 2014.

The breakdown of the tax expense accrued by the consolidated Group in 2014 and 2013 (in thousands of euros) is provided below:

|   | 2014            |                | 2013           |                |
|---|-----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|   | ACCOUNTING      | TAX            | ACCOUNTING     | TAX            |
| Accounting profit before tax from continuing operations                               | 215,749         | 215,749        | 210,646        | 210,646        |
| Loss before tax on sale of discontinued operations                                    | (3,123)         | (3,123)        | (11,400)       | (11,400)       |
| Loss before tax recognized in equity  | (29,407)        | (29,407)       | 26,058         | 26,058         |
| Net gains/(losses) on hedges of net investments recognized in translation differences | (38,954)        | (38,954)       | 13,816         | 13,816         |
|   | <b>144,265</b>  | <b>144,265</b> | <b>239,120</b> | <b>239,120</b> |
| Permanent differences   | 5,448           | 5,448          | (11,251)       | (8,640)        |
| Tax losses generated during the year  | 1,920           | 1,920          | 3,845          | 3,845          |
| Utilization of individual tax losses  | (5,271)         | (5,271)        | (12,303)       | (12,303)       |
| <b>ADJUSTED ACCOUNTING PROFIT</b>   | <b>146,362</b>  | <b>146,362</b> | <b>219,411</b> | <b>222,022</b> |
| Temporary differences   |                 | 6,081          |                | (57,587)       |
| Tax losses generated during the year  |                 | 2,954          |                | 1,592          |
| Utilization of tax losses   |                 | (1,508)        |                | (1,542)        |
| <b>ADJUSTED TAXABLE PROFIT</b>  | <b>146,362</b>  | <b>153,889</b> | <b>219,411</b> | <b>164,485</b> |
| Effect of differing tax rates (taxable income)  | 27,514          | 23,524         | 30,751         | 26,771         |
| <b>TAXABLE INCOME OF THE GROUP</b>  | <b>173,876</b>  | <b>177,413</b> | <b>250,162</b> | <b>191,256</b> |
| Tax calculated at statutory rate of 30%   | 52,163          | 53,224         | 75,049         | 57,377         |
| Tax credits utilized  | (10)            | 0              | (3,694)        | (2,979)        |
| <b>TAX PAYABLE</b>  | <b>52,153</b>   | <b>53,224</b>  | <b>71,355</b>  | <b>54,398</b>  |
| Adjustments in respect of prior-year's income tax                                     | 2,276           |                | (418)          |                |
| Restatement of net deferred taxes   | (23,770)        |                | (65)           |                |
| Inspection assessments and fines  | 2,656           |                | 0              |                |
| Equivalent tax charges  | 9,404           | 7,981          | 7,159          | 6,460          |
| Adjustment in respect of prior year's tax payable                                     |                 | 0              |                | (1,650)        |
| <b>TOTAL TAX EXPENSE</b>  | <b>42,719</b>   | <b>61,205</b>  | <b>78,031</b>  | <b>59,208</b>  |
| <b>TAX EXPENSE, CONTINUING OPERATIONS</b>   | <b>64,407</b>   |                | <b>69,157</b>  |                |
| <b>TAX EXPENSE, SALE OF DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS</b>                                   | <b>(900)</b>    |                | <b>(3,893)</b> |                |
| <b>TAX EXPENSE, RECOGNIZED DIRECTLY IN EQUITY</b>                                     | <b>(9,102)</b>  |                | <b>8,622</b>   |                |
| <b>TAX EXPENSE, RECOGNIZED DIRECTLY IN TRANSLATION DIFFERENCES</b>                    | <b>(11,686)</b> |                | <b>4,145</b>   |                |
|   | <b>42,719</b>   |                | <b>78,031</b>  |                |

#### INCOME STATEMENT - INCOME TAX

|  | 2014          | 2013          |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| Current tax expense, continuing operations           | 53,224        | 61,966        |
| Current tax expense, sale of discontinued operations | 0             | 0             |
| Total deferred tax expense                           | 7,781         | 767           |
| Tax expense deferred in equity                       | (8,852)       | 8,622         |
| Adjustments in respect of prior year's income tax    | 2,276         | (418)         |
| Restatement of net deferred taxes                    | (23,770)      | (65)          |
| Equivalent tax charges                               | 9,404         | 7,159         |
| Inspection assessments and fines                     | 2,656         | 0             |
|  | <b>42,719</b> | <b>78,031</b> |

**TAX EXPENSE, RECOGNIZED DIRECTLY IN EQUITY**

|   | 2014           | 2013         |
|---|----------------|--------------|
| Expense related to changes in subsidiaries' capital | 0              | 0            |
| Change in fair value of financial assets            | (5,752)        | 5,511        |
| Change due to actuarial gains/(losses)              | (3,350)        | 3,111        |
|   | <b>(9,102)</b> | <b>8,622</b> |

'Net gains/(losses) on hedges of net investments recognized in translation differences' refers to the effect of the exchange differences recognized directly in equity under translation differences in connection with the natural hedge provided on the investments in Riviana and NWP by the dollar-denominated loans.

Total expense for tax purposes less the withholdings and payments on account made during the year yields the amount of tax payable to the tax authorities in respect of current income tax.

The most significant temporary differences in 2014 and 2013:

- ❖ An increase of 38,954 thousand euros (decrease of 13,816 thousand euros in 2013) due to net exchange gains derived from the US dollar-denominated loans hedging net investments.
- ❖ An increase of 27,672 thousand euros (decrease of 27,479 thousand euros in 2013) due to the tax effect of the remeasurement to fair value of available-for-sale financial assets and the actuarial gains on pension obligations recognized directly in equity.
- ❖ An increase of 3,000 thousand euros (2013: 14,267 thousand euros) due to the impact of the sale of discontinued operations.
- ❖ A decrease of 19,174 thousand euros (increase of 18,362 thousand euros in 2013) due to the tax effect of the remeasurement to fair value of available-for-sale financial assets up to the limit of the impairment losses deducted for tax purposes in prior years.
- ❖ A decrease of 4,446 thousand euros in both years due to the amortization for tax purposes of the goodwill arising on the acquisition of foreign companies.
- ❖ A decrease of 14,982 thousand euros (8,893 thousand euros in 2013) in relation to temporary differences at NWP, mainly due to the amortization for tax purposes of brands and other assets, and the recognition in different periods for accounting versus tax purposes of items in provision and accrual accounts.
- ❖ A decrease of 13,008 thousand euros (15,375 thousand euros in 2013) in relation to temporary differences at Riviana, mainly due to the amortization for tax purposes of brands and other assets.
- ❖ A decrease of 2,969 thousand euros (2,152 thousand euros in 2013) in relation to temporary differences at the Herba Group, mainly due to the amortization for tax purposes of brands and other assets, accelerated depreciation regimes in Spain and the recognition in different periods for accounting versus tax purposes of items in provision accounts.
- ❖ A decrease of 2,245 thousand euros (increase of 9,323 thousand euros in 2013) in relation to temporary differences at the Panzani Group, due mainly to movements under provisions, partially offset by property, plant and equipment depreciation charges.
- ❖ A decrease of 7,800 thousand in consolidation adjustments due due different accounting criteria applied in preparing the separate versus the consolidated annual financial statements.
- ❖ A net increase of 1,079 thousand euros (2013: 461 thousand euros), mainly in relation to other companies, due to the origination and/or utilization for tax purposes of provisions recognized and/or reversed during the year, the recognition and/or reversal of impairment losses on non-financial assets and other contingencies cancelled and financial assets that were or were not eligible for deduction during the year.

The Group companies' permanent differences relate basically to amounts equivalent to tax that do not compute for income tax calculation purposes, the effect of expenses that are not deductible in determining tax profit, the deductibility for tax purposes of losses on non-current financial assets and the reversal of certain provisions that were not deductible for tax purposes when they were recognized in prior years.

The Group did not apply unused tax assets in 2014 due to the lack of sufficient taxable income. These tax credits mainly derive from new product development efforts, charitable donation deductions, deductions under double taxation treaties and tax relief on the reinvestment of gains generated by asset sales. In 2014 the Spanish tax group did not make any investments that qualify for proceed reinvestment tax relief so that it did not generate any related tax credits. In each of the years between 2013 and 2006, both inclusive, it reinvested qualifying proceeds totaling 33.1, 5.0, 115.3, 57.3, 1.5, 16.2, 11.2 and 76.3 million euros, respectively. These reinvestments satisfied all of the requirements for qualifying for the related tax relief.

The reconciliation of the opening and closing deferred tax balances (in thousands of euros) is provided below:

|  | 12-31-14      |                  | 12-31-13      |                  |
|--|---------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|
|  | ASSETS        | LIABILITIES      | ASSETS        | LIABILITIES      |
| <b>OPENING BALANCE</b>                 | <b>55,455</b> | <b>(239,879)</b> | <b>53,024</b> | <b>(229,999)</b> |
| Transfers                              | (32)          | 32               | 3,814         | (3,814)          |
| Translation differences                | 2,585         | (16,380)         | (892)         | 4,908            |
| Business combinations                  | 636           | (20,760)         | 0             | 0                |
| Disposals/derecognitions               | 0             | 0                | 0             | 0                |
| Charged / credited in income statement | (3,210)       | (2,257)          | 4,230         | (5,630)          |
| Charged / credited to equity           | 2,889         | 5,963            | (3,113)       | (5,509)          |
| Restatements                           | (2,452)       | 27,325           | (1,608)       | 165              |
| <b>CLOSING BALANCE</b>                 | <b>55,871</b> | <b>(245,956)</b> | <b>55,455</b> | <b>(239,879)</b> |

The breakdown of deferred taxes into their most significant components at year-end is provided in the next table:

|   | 12-31-14      |                  | 12-31-13      |                  |
|---|---------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|
|   | DEFERRED TAX  |                  | DEFERRED TAX  |                  |
|   | ASSETS        | LIABILITIES      | ASSETS        | LIABILITIES      |
| Property, plant and equipment                 | 4,614         | (88,278)         | 4,902         | (69,086)         |
| Investment properties                         | 2,809         | 0                | 4,236         | (580)            |
| Goodwill                                      | 3,725         | (30,534)         | 4,576         | (34,858)         |
| Other intangible assets                       | 1,831         | (123,445)        | 3,233         | (100,350)        |
| Inventories                                   | 1,789         | (424)            | (338)         | (319)            |
| Receivables and accruals (assets)             | 990           | (654)            | 732           | (476)            |
| Pensions and similar obligations              | 6,486         | (21)             | 4,037         | (407)            |
| Other non-current provisions                  | 8,328         | (1,405)          | 7,883         | (3,498)          |
| Payables and accruals (liabilities)           | 9,816         | 1,469            | 11,585        | 741              |
| Unused tax credits and tax losses             | 15,508        | (282)            | 8,795         | (430)            |
| Accrual of tax credits                        | 0             | (3,683)          | 0             | (14,645)         |
| Changes in value of AFS financial assets      | (25)          | 25               | 5,814         | (5,814)          |
| Provisions and gains on tax group investments | 0             | 1,276            | 0             | (10,157)         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                  | <b>55,871</b> | <b>(245,956)</b> | <b>55,455</b> | <b>(239,879)</b> |

At year-end 2014, the Group companies had around 45 million euros of unused tax losses (30 million euros at year-end 2013) that it can offset against taxable profit over the next 15 years.

The Spanish tax group has its books open to inspection from 2012 in respect of all applicable taxes. The other Group companies have their books open to inspection in respect of the taxes and years applicable under local tax legislation insofar as not already inspected, in most instances from 2009 or 2010. The directors believe there is no need to provide for potential additional tax liabilities that could arise from differing interpretations of tax regulations.

## 26. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

### OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS - GROUP AS LESSEE

The Group has entered into operating leases on certain vehicles, items of machinery, warehouses and offices. These leases have terms of between three and five years; the lease agreements do not have lease renewal clauses with the exception of the lease on the site of one of the factories in the US, which can be extended by a term of 20 years, and the lease on one of the factories in Canada, with a term of 10 years. These leases do not impose any restrictions on the lessees. Future minimum rentals payable under non-cancelable operating leases at December 31 (in thousands of euros) are as follows:

|   | 12-31-14      | 12-31-13      |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| Within one year                             | 16,992        | 12,366        |
| After one year but not more than five years | 44,526        | 26,817        |
| More than five years                        | 2,944         | 7,742         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                | <b>64,462</b> | <b>46,925</b> |

### OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS - GROUP AS LESSOR

The Group has entered into operating leases on several properties within its investment property portfolio. These non-cancelable leases have remaining terms of between three and five years. All leases include a clause to enable upward revision of the rental charge on an annual basis according to prevailing market conditions. Future minimum rentals receivable under non-cancelable operating leases at December 31 (in thousands of euros) are as follows:

|   | 12-31-14     | 12-31-13     |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| Within one year                             | 940          | 823          |
| After one year but not more than five years | 2,701        | 2,258        |
| More than five years                        | 332          | 837          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                | <b>3,973</b> | <b>3,918</b> |

## **CAPITAL COMMITMENTS**

Capital expenditure contracted for (machinery purchases and upgrades) at the end of the reporting period but not yet incurred totaled 13,350 thousand euros (16,600 thousand euros at year-end 2013).

## **INVESTMENT COMMITMENTS**

- ❖ In 2011 the Ebro Group acquired 50% of Grupo TBA Suntra B.V. and 75% of TBA Suntra UK from one of their two shareholders. In addition, it signed an agreement with the other shareholder for the future acquisition of the remaining 50% of Grupo Suntra B.V and the remaining 25% of TBA Suntra UK. The agreement was structured as a put option written by the shareholder such that the latter can oblige the Ebro Group to acquire the remaining interests in these companies. The parties also signed a shareholder agreement that gives control of the Suntra Group to the Ebro Group.

In addition, the Ebro Group has a right of first refusal such that third parties cannot acquire these interests. Lastly, the Ebro Group has an irrevocable call option over these investments in the event that the other shareholder dies or becomes incapacitated. As a result, this group has been fully consolidated in light of the control arrangement; in parallel the Group has recognized the estimated cost of the option over the remaining 50% and 25% interests as a non-current financial liability. At December 31, 2014, this financial liability was reclassified to current liabilities as the other shareholder exercised its put option in December (note 22).

- ❖ In May 2013, the Group entered into an agreement with the shareholders of Germany's Keck Spezialitäten, GmbH (Keck) for its acquisition. In order to structure the acquisition, the Group incorporated a new, wholly-owned German company called Ebro Frost, GmbH to which 100% of the shares of Keck and 100% of the shares of Danrice, A.S. (Danrice, a wholly-owned Group subsidiary at the time) were contributed. In the wake of these contributions, Ebro Frost, GmbH. was held 55% by the Ebro Group and 45% by the shareholders of Keck.

From January 1, 2019, the shareholders of Keck have the option of requiring the Ebro Group to acquire their 45% interest in Ebro Frost, GmbH at a variable price that will be set as a function of its earnings performance during the prior three years.

- ❖ The Ebro Group acquired 52% of Italian pasta group, Garofalo, on June 18, 2014. The Group acquired a 52% interest for 63,455 thousand euros; it has already paid 58,255 thousand and will pay the remaining 5,200 thousand on June 30, 2015 (note 22). The Group took effective control of the Garofalo Group on June 30, 2014, which is also the date of first-time consolidation of this entity.

In addition, the Group has arranged two options with the other shareholder over the remaining 48%, granting the seller a put option (exercisable until May 2024) and the Ebro Group a call option (exercisable from June 2024 to May 2026). The price of these options will be determined as a function of Garofalo's average earnings metrics over a series of years, as well as other terms and conditions customary in arrangements of this nature. At December 31, 2014, these options, which are recognized under non-current financial liabilities, were valued at 59,112 thousand euros (note 22).

## **INVENTORY COMMITMENTS**

See the disclosures provided in note 15.

## **LEGAL CLAIMS AND DISPUTE GUARANTEES**

See the disclosures provided in note 21.

## GUARANTEES

The guarantees provided in the form of bank guarantees at the end of each reporting period:

|  | 12-31-14      | 12-31-13      |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| Bank guarantees: provided to courts and other bodies in relation to claims and tax deferrals (note 21)   | 3,110         | 1,192         |
| Bank guarantees: provided to Spain's Agricultural Guarantee Fund (FEGA), customs authorities and third parties to guarantee fulfilment of obligations arising in the ordinary course of business | 21,611        | 35,737        |
| Other bank guarantees  | 2,132         | 0             |
| Provided to banks to guarantee performance of other affiliated or third-party groups   | 0             | 318           |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   | <b>26,853</b> | <b>37,247</b> |

Note, lastly, that the Panzani Group's credit facilities (with a drawdown limit at both year-ends of 90 million euros) are secured by its accounts receivable. The Garofalo Group's facilities, of up to 62.7 million euros, are secured by a mortgage over its factory and site in Italy.

## 27. RELATED-PARTY DISCLOSURES

The sales to and purchases from related parties are made on terms equivalent to those that prevail in arm's length transactions. Outstanding balances at the year-end are unsecured and interest free and settlement occurs in cash.

The Group did not record any impairment of receivables relating to amounts owed by related parties in either reporting period. This assessment is undertaken each financial year through examining the financial position of the related party and the market in which the related party operates.

### 27.1 TRANSACTIONS WITH SIGNIFICANT SHAREHOLDERS (OR PARTIES RELATED THERETO) OF EBRO FOODS, S.A. (EXCLUDING DIRECTORS)

Note 18.1 lists the companies that have a significant equity interest in Ebro Foods, S.A. (parent of the Ebro Foods Group).

A summary of the transactions, excluding dividends, between any Ebro Foods Group company and these significant shareholders (other than the directors, whose transactions are disclosed separately in note 27.2) is provided below (in thousands of euros):

| SIGNIFICANT SHAREHOLDER                           | EBRO FOODS GROUP COMPANY | TYPE OF TRANSACTION                      | 2014  | 2013  |
|---|--------------------------|--|-------|-------|
| Sociedad Anónima DAMM (Estrella de Levante, S.A.) | Herba Ricemills, S.L.U.  | Sale of goods (finished and in-progress) | 700   | 918   |
| Sociedad Anónima DAMM (Cía Cervecera Damm, S.A.)  | Herba Ricemills, S.L.U.  | Sale of goods (finished and in-progress) | 3,627 | 3,229 |



## 27.2 TRANSACTIONS WITH DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVES (OR PARTIES RELATED THERETO) OF EBRO FOODS, S.A.

A summary of the transactions entered into, other than dividends and remuneration, with the directors and executives of Ebro Foods, S.A. is provided below (in thousands of euros):

| DIRECTOR   | EBRO FOODS GROUP COMPANY | TYPE OF TRANSACTION                          | 2014  | 2013  |
|--|--------------------------|--|-------|-------|
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.                                | Herba Ricemills, S.L.U.  | Lease (expense)                              | 79    | 93    |
| Antonio Hernández Callejas (Luis Hernández González)               | Ebro Foods, S.A.         | Lease (expense)                              | 37    | 37    |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.                                | Herba Ricemills, S.L.U.  | Purchase of goods (finished and in-progress) | 7,484 | 6,588 |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.                                | Boost Nutrition, CV      | Purchase of goods (finished and in-progress) | 68    | 140   |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.                                | S&B Herba Foods, Ltd     | Purchase of goods (finished and in-progress) | 0     | 28    |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.                                | Arrozeiras Mundiarroz    | Purchase of goods (finished and in-progress) | 79    | 102   |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.                                | TBA Suntra BV            | Purchase of goods (finished and in-progress) | 88    | 89    |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A. (Dehesa Norte, S.A.)           | Herba Ricemills, S.L.U.  | Purchase of goods (finished and in-progress) | 118   | 82    |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A. (Dehesa Norte, S.A.)           | Boost Nutrition, CV      | Purchase of goods (finished and in-progress) | 68    | 140   |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A. (Dehesa Norte, S.A.)           | S&B Herba Foods, Ltd     | Purchase of goods (finished and in-progress) | 0     | 28    |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A. (Dehesa Norte, S.A.)           | TBA Suntra BV            | Purchase of goods (finished and in-progress) | 36    | 89    |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A. (Dehesa Norte, S.A.)           | Arrozeiras Mundiarroz    | Purchase of goods (finished and in-progress) | 30    | 27    |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A. (Islasur, S.A.)                | Herba Ricemills, S.L.U.  | Purchase of goods (finished and in-progress) | 309   | 260   |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A. (Islasur, S.A.)                | Boost Nutrition, CV      | Purchase of goods (finished and in-progress) | 181   | 76    |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A. (Islasur, S.A.)                | S&B Herba Foods, Ltd     | Purchase of goods (finished and in-progress) | 67    | 39    |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A. (Islasur, S.A.)                | Arrozeiras Mundiarroz    | Purchase of goods (finished and in-progress) | 30    | 56    |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A. (Islasur, S.A.)                | TBA Suntra BV            | Purchase of goods (finished and in-progress) | 73    | 98    |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A. (Australian Commodities, S.A.) | Herba Ricemills, S.L.U.  | Purchase of goods (finished and in-progress) | 101   | 75    |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A. (Australian Commodities, S.A.) | Boost Nutrition, CV      | Purchase of goods (finished and in-progress) | 53    | 76    |

| DIRECTOR  | EBRO FOODS GROUP COMPANY | TYPE OF TRANSACTION                          | 2014 | 2013 |
|---|--------------------------|--|------|------|
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.<br>(Australian Commodities, S.A.) | S&B Herba Foods, Ltd     | Purchase of goods (finished and in-progress) | 0    | 61   |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.<br>(Australian Commodities, S.A.) | Arrozeiras Mundiarroz    | Purchase of goods (finished and in-progress) | 30   | 56   |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.<br>(Australian Commodities, S.A.) | TBA Suntra BV            | Purchase of goods (finished and in-progress) | 73   | 87   |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.<br>(El Cobujon, S.A.)             | Herba Ricemills, S.L.U.  | Purchase of goods (finished and in-progress) | 163  | 59   |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.<br>(El Cobujon, S.A.)             | Boost Nutrition, CV      | Purchase of goods (finished and in-progress) | 34   | 77   |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.<br>(El Cobujon, S.A.)             | S&B Herba Foods, Ltd     | Purchase of goods (finished and in-progress) | 0    | 96   |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.<br>(El Cobujon, S.A.)             | Arrozeiras Mundiarroz    | Purchase of goods (finished and in-progress) | 25   | 27   |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.<br>(El Cobujon, S.A.)             | TBA Suntra BV            | Purchase of goods (finished and in-progress) | 86   | 89   |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.<br>(Mundiarroz, S. A.)            | Herba Ricemills, S.L.U.  | Purchase of goods (finished and in-progress) | 132  | 62   |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.<br>(Mundiarroz, S. A.)            | Boost Nutrition, CV      | Purchase of goods (finished and in-progress) | 68   | 77   |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.<br>(Mundiarroz, S. A.)            | S&B Herba Foods, Ltd     | Purchase of goods (finished and in-progress) | 0    | 28   |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.<br>(Mundiarroz, S. A.)            | TBA Suntra BV            | Purchase of goods (finished and in-progress) | 73   | 98   |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.<br>(Mundiarroz, S. A.)            | Arrozeiras Mundiarroz    | Purchase of goods (finished and in-progress) | 30   | 56   |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.<br>(Pesquería Isla Mayor, S.A.)   | Herba Ricemills, S.L.U.  | Purchase of goods (finished and in-progress) | 76   | 81   |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.<br>(Pesquería Isla Mayor, S.A.)   | Boost Nutrition, CV      | Purchase of goods (finished and in-progress) | 68   | 158  |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.<br>(Pesquería Isla Mayor, S.A.)   | S&B Herba Foods, Ltd     | Purchase of goods (finished and in-progress) | 0    | 59   |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.<br>(Pesquería Isla Mayor, S.A.)   | Arrozeiras Mundiarroz    | Purchase of goods (finished and in-progress) | 51   | 27   |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.<br>(Pesquería Isla Mayor, S.A.)   | TBA Suntra BV            | Purchase of goods (finished and in-progress) | 0    | 28   |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.                                   | Herba Ricemills, S.L.U.  | Rendering of services                        | 2    | 0    |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.                                   | Herba Ricemills, S.L.U.  | Services received                            | 125  | 183  |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.                                   | Herba Foods, S.L.U       | Services received                            | 50   | 50   |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.                                   | Herba Ricemills, S.L.U.  | Sale of goods (finished and in-progress)     | 119  | 202  |

| DIRECTOR  | EBRO FOODS GROUP COMPANY | TYPE OF TRANSACTION                      | 2014 | 2013 |
|---|--------------------------|--|------|------|
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.                                   | Boost Nutrition, CV      | Sale of goods (finished and in-progress) | 68   | 140  |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.                                   | Arrozeiras Mundiarroz    | Sale of goods (finished and in-progress) | 30   | 27   |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.                                   | TBA Suntra BV            | Sale of goods (finished and in-progress) | 87   | 0    |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.<br>(Dehesa Norte, S.A.)           | Herba Ricemills, S.L.U.  | Sale of goods (finished and in-progress) | 118  | 198  |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.<br>(Dehesa Norte, S.A.)           | Boost Nutrition, CV      | Sale of goods (finished and in-progress) | 68   | 140  |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.<br>(Dehesa Norte, S.A.)           | Arrozeiras Mundiarroz    | Sale of goods (finished and in-progress) | 30   | 27   |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.<br>(Dehesa Norte, S.A.)           | TBA Suntra BV            | Sale of goods (finished and in-progress) | 36   | 0    |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.<br>(Islasur, S.A.)                | Herba Ricemills, S.L.U.  | Sale of goods (finished and in-progress) | 83   | 144  |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.<br>(Islasur, S.A.)                | Boost Nutrition, CV      | Sale of goods (finished and in-progress) | 181  | 76   |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.<br>(Islasur, S.A.)                | S&B Herba Foods, Ltd     | Sale of goods (finished and in-progress) | 67   | 0    |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.<br>(Islasur, S.A.)                | Arrozeiras Mundiarroz    | Sale of goods (finished and in-progress) | 30   | 56   |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.<br>(Islasur, S.A.)                | TBA Suntra BV            | Sale of goods (finished and in-progress) | 0    | 98   |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.<br>(Australian Commodities, S.A.) | Herba Ricemills, S.L.U.  | Sale of goods (finished and in-progress) | 173  | 213  |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.<br>(Australian Commodities, S.A.) | Boost Nutrition, CV      | Sale of goods (finished and in-progress) | 52   | 76   |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.<br>(Australian Commodities, S.A.) | S&B Herba Foods, Ltd     | Sale of goods (finished and in-progress) | 0    | 8    |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.<br>(Australian Commodities, S.A.) | Arrozeiras Mundiarroz    | Sale of goods (finished and in-progress) | 30   | 56   |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.<br>(El Cobujon, S.A.)             | Herba Ricemills, S.L.U.  | Sale of goods (finished and in-progress) | 193  | 171  |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.<br>(El Cobujon, S.A.)             | Boost Nutrition, CV      | Sale of goods (finished and in-progress) | 34   | 77   |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.<br>(El Cobujon, S.A.)             | S&B Herba Foods, Ltd     | Sale of goods (finished and in-progress) | 0    | 69   |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.<br>(El Cobujon, S.A.)             | Arrozeiras Mundiarroz    | Sale of goods (finished and in-progress) | 24   | 27   |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.<br>(El Cobujon, S.A.)             | TBA Suntra BV            | Sale of goods (finished and in-progress) | 55   | 0    |

| DIRECTOR  | EBRO FOODS GROUP COMPANY | TYPE OF TRANSACTION                      | 2014 | 2013 |
|---|--------------------------|--|------|------|
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.<br>(Mundiarroz, S. A.)          | Herba Ricemills, S.L.U.  | Sale of goods (finished and in-progress) | 203  | 90   |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.<br>(Mundiarroz, S. A.)          | Boost Nutrition, CV      | Sale of goods (finished and in-progress) | 68   | 76   |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.<br>(Mundiarroz, S. A.)          | Arrozeiras Mundiarroz    | Sale of goods (finished and in-progress) | 30   | 56   |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.<br>(Mundiarroz, S. A.)          | TBA Suntra BV            | Sale of goods (finished and in-progress) | 0    | 98   |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.<br>(Pesquería Isla Mayor, S.A.) | Herba Ricemills, S.L.U.  | Sale of goods (finished and in-progress) | 75   | 167  |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.<br>(Pesquería Isla Mayor, S.A.) | Boost Nutrition, CV      | Sale of goods (finished and in-progress) | 68   | 157  |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.<br>(Pesquería Isla Mayor, S.A.) | Arrozeiras Mundiarroz    | Sale of goods (finished and in-progress) | 50   | 27   |

### 27.3 OTHER TRANSACTIONS WITH SIGNIFICANT SHAREHOLDERS AND DIRECTORS/EXECUTIVES: DIVIDENDS RECEIVED FROM EBRO FOODS, S.A.

Against the backdrop of the general dividend policy of Ebro Foods, S.A., the following amounts were paid in each reporting period (expressed in thousands of euros):

#### Dividends 2014 (2013):

- ❖ Dividends paid to significant shareholders: 15,361 (17,146)
- ❖ Dividends paid to directors and executives: 26,194 (26,739)

### 27.4 TRANSACTIONS UNDERTAKEN WITH OTHER EBRO GROUP COMPANIES THAT ARE NOT ELIMINATED IN THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND WHOSE PURPOSE OR TERMS FALL OUTSIDE THE GROUP'S ORDINARY COURSE OF BUSINESS:

There were no related-party transactions of this type in either reporting period.

### 27.5 OTHER DISCLOSURES

- ❖ Ebro Foods, S.A. held a 3.121% ownership interest in Biosearch, S.A. at December 31, 2014. This interest is recognized as an available-for-sale financial asset in the Group's consolidated financial statements.

Biosearch, S.A. is a listed company whose corporate purpose is analogous to that of Ebro Foods, S.A. and was part of the Group until January 2011. During the first half of 2014, the former non-member secretary of the Board of Directors of Ebro Foods, Miguel Ángel Pérez Álvarez, was also a proprietary director of Biosearch, having been appointed at the proposal of Ebro Foods in its capacity as significant shareholder.

The next table itemizes the transactions entered into between Biosearch, S.A. and various Ebro Foods Group companies in both reporting periods (in thousands of euros):

| GROUP COMPANY WITH WHICH BIOSEARCH TRANSACTED | TYPE OF TRANSACTION                          | 2014 | 2013 |
|---|--|------|------|
| Herba Ricemills, S.L.U.                       | Purchase of goods (finished and in-progress) | 0    | 41   |
| Herba Ricemills, S.L.U.                       | Lease (income)                               | 26   | 26   |
| Dosbio 2010, S.L.U.                           | Lease (expense)                              | 7    | 27   |
| Ebro Foods, S.A.                              | Rendering of services                        | 42   | 74   |

- ❖ During the first half of 2014, Ebro Foods, S.A. held an ownership interest in Deoleo, S.A. which was recognized in the Group's consolidated financial statements as an available-for-sale financial asset. Ebro Foods, S.A. reduced its shareholding to under 3% on March 28, 2014 (ceasing to qualify as significant shareholder) and fully sold down its investment on May 13, 2014.

Antonio Hernández Callejas, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Ebro Foods, S.A., was proprietary director of Deoleo until January 31, 2014, when he resigned for professional reasons.

The next table itemizes the transactions entered into between Deoleo and various Ebro Foods Group companies between January 1 and March 28, 2014 and in 2013 (in thousands of euros):

| GROUP COMPANY WITH WHICH DEOLEO TRANSACTED | TYPE OF TRANSACTION                          | AMOUNT 2014<br>(JAN. 1 - MAR. 28) | AMOUNT 2013<br>(JAN. 1 - DEC. 31) |
|--|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Herba Ricemills, S.L.U.                    | Services received                            | 12                                | 40                                |
| Lassie Nederland BV                        | Services received                            | 39                                | 156                               |
| Herba Ricemills, S.L.U.                    | Purchase of goods (finished and in-progress) | 0                                 | 10                                |
| Ebro Foods, S.A.                           | Rendering of services                        | 261                               | 254                               |

- ❖ Ebro Foods, S.A. holds a 25% shareholding in Riso Scotti S.p.A. The investment in this associate is accounted for using the equity method.

Riso Scotti S.p.A. is an Italian company whose corporate purpose is analogous to that of Ebro Foods, S.A.

The next table itemizes the transactions entered into between Riso Scotti and Herba Ricemills, S.L.U., a Group subsidiary, in 2014 (in thousands of euros):

| TYPE OF TRANSACTION                          | AMOUNT 2014 |
|--|-------------|
| Sale of goods (finished and in-progress)     | 1           |
| Rendering of services                        | 6           |
| Purchase of goods (finished and in-progress) | 62          |
| Services received                            | 1           |

## 276 FIDUCIARY DUTIES: CONFLICTS OF INTEREST AND NON-COMPETE DUTY

In keeping with articles 229, 230 and 231 of Spain's Corporate Enterprises Act, this section of this note replicates the information provided by the Parent's directors, in keeping with their fiduciary duties, to the Company regarding the interests and positions held in/at companies with the same, analogous or complementary core business as that of Ebro Foods, S.A., regardless of whether the former are part of the Ebro Foods Group.

### Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.:

- ❖ Direct ownership of 100% of the following Hisparroz group companies: El Cobujón, S.A, Dehesa Norte, S.A., Mundiarroz, S.A., Pesquerías Isla Mayor, S.A., Australian Commodities, S.A. and Islasur, S.A. In all instances it is represented on the boards.

It is hereby noted that Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A. is a company devoted to a business considered analogous to the corporate purpose of Ebro Foods and that it holds a 15.921% ownership interest in the latter (a direct interest of 8.963% and an indirect interest of 6.959% via Hispafoods Invest, S.L., an indirectly wholly-owned subsidiary on whose board it is represented).

### Antonio Hernández Callejas:

- ❖ Direct interest in Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A. of 16.666%. He does not hold any post at this company.

### Dr. Rudolf-August Oetker:

- ❖ Direct interest in Dr. August Oetker KG. of 12.5%. He is Chairman of the Advisory Board.
- ❖ Until March 31, 2014 he was member of the Advisory Board of the following Dr. August Oetker KG group companies: Dr. Oetker GmbH, Dr. August Oetker Nahrungsmittel KG, Dr. Oetker International Beteiligungs GmbH, Dr. August Oetker Nahrungsmittel Beteiligungs GmbH and Hamburg Südamerikanische Dampfschiffahrts-Gesellschaft KG.

Below is a list of the positions held by Antonio Hernández Callejas at other Ebro Foods Group companies in which he does not have a direct interest:

| EBRO FOODS GROUP COMPANY          | POSITION                              |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| A.W. Mellish, Ltd.                | Director                              |
| American Rice, Inc.               | Chairman                              |
| Anglo Australian Rice, Ltd.       | Director                              |
| Arrozeiras Mundiarroz, S.A.       | Chairman                              |
| Bertolini Import und Export, GmbH | Director (acting joint and severally) |
| Blue Ribbon Mills, Inc.           | Chairman                              |
| Boost Nutrition, CV               | Director                              |
| Bosto Panzani Benelux, N.V.       | Director                              |
| Ebro America, Inc.                | Chairman                              |
| Ebro Foods, GmbH                  | Director (acting joint and severally) |
| Heap Comet, Ltd.                  | Director                              |
| Herba Germany, GmbH               | Director (acting joint and severally) |
| Joseph Heap Property, Ltd.        | Director                              |
| Joseph Heap & Sons, Ltd.          | Director                              |
| N&C Boost, N.V.                   | Director                              |
| New World Pasta Company           | Chairman                              |
| Panzani, S.A.S.                   | Director                              |
| Pastificio Lucio Garofalo, S.p.A. | Director                              |
| Riviana Foods, Inc.               | Chairman                              |
| S&B Herba Foods, Ltd.             | Director                              |
| SOS Cuetara USA, Inc.             | Chairman                              |
| T.A.G. Nahrungsmittel, GmbH       | Director (acting joint and severally) |
| Vogan, Ltd.                       | Director                              |

It is hereby noted, as detailed in note 27.5, that Antonio Hernández Callejas is also a member of the Board of Directors of Riso Scotti, S.p.A., an Italian company with an analogous corporate purpose to that of Ebro Foods, S.A. and an associate thereof.

It is also noted that Antonio Hernández Callejas is a Trustee of the Ebro Foods Foundation.

Other than the cases outlined above, it is hereby stated that no other director has informed the Company of any ownership interests in or positions held at entities with an identical, similar or complementary corporate purpose to that of Ebro Foods, S.A. and its Group companies.

The directors of Ebro Foods, S.A. did not perform any transactions with Ebro Foods Group companies outside their ordinary course of business or other than on an arm's length basis in either reporting period.

The directors have not informed the Company of any direct or indirect potential conflicts of interest between them or their related parties and the Company other than those disclosed in this note.

## 27.7 DIRECTOR AND EXECUTIVE REMUNERATION

**Director remuneration.** The remuneration accrued by the members of the Board of Directors of Ebro Foods, S.A. at all of the Group companies totaled 5,561 thousand euros in 2014 (2013: 4,545 thousand euros), broken down as follows (in thousands of euros):

| <b>DIRECTOR REMUNERATION AND OTHER BENEFITS</b> | <b>2014</b>  | <b>2013</b>  |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| <b>TYPE OF REMUNERATION</b>                     |              |              |
| Meeting attendance fees                         | 302          | 312          |
| Bylaw-stipulated profit-sharing                 | 2,565        | 2,565        |
| <b>TOTAL DIRECTOR REMUNERATION</b>              | <b>2,867</b> | <b>2,877</b> |
| Wages, salaries and professional fees           | 2,694        | 1,668        |
| Termination and other benefits                  | 0            | 0            |
| <b>TOTAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REMUNERATION</b>    | <b>2,694</b> | <b>1,668</b> |
| <b>TOTAL REMUNERATION</b>                       | <b>5,561</b> | <b>4,545</b> |
| <b>OTHER BENEFITS</b>                           |              |              |
| Life insurance and post-employment benefits     | 0            | 0            |

The Company's bylaws stipulate remuneration equivalent to a 2.5% share of net profit for the year provided that the required appropriations to the legal reserve have been made and the minimum shareholder dividend established in prevailing legislation has been declared (currently 4% of paid-in capital).

At a meeting held on February 25, 2015, the Board of Directors resolved, at the recommendation of its Nomination and Remuneration Committee:

1. to freeze by-law stipulated remuneration in 2014, implying no change whatsoever with respect to that of the last four years, specifically implying submission at the Annual General Meeting of a motion to pay a sum of 2,565 thousand euros, which is equivalent to 1.76% of consolidated profit for 2014 attributable to equity holders of the parent.

2. to leave attendance fees at 1,600 euros per Board meeting and 800 euros for attendance at the meetings of its various committees.

Note that in the table titled 'Director remuneration and other benefits' above and in the individual disclosures provided below, the figures include: (i) the remuneration corresponding to an external director who stepped down on December 1, 2014; and (ii) the attendance fees received by the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Ebro Foods, S.A. for attending the board meetings of Pastificio Lucio Garofalo, S.p.A. (an Ebro Foods Group subsidiary).

In addition, it is hereby noted that in 2014 the Chairman of the Board of Directors received the following amounts of remuneration from two Ebro Foods Group associates (note 27.5):

- ❖ Attendance fees in the sum of 3,416 euros in his capacity as director of Deóleo, S.A. until January 31, 2014.
- ❖ Attendance fees in the sum of 5,200 euros in his capacity as director of Riso Scotti, S.p.A.

The individual breakdown of director remuneration earned in 2014 (in thousands of euros) is provided below:

#### DIRECTOR

|   | BYLAW-STIPULATED EMOLUMENTS | ATTENDANCE FEES | FIXED REMUNERATION FOR PERFORMANCE OF EXECUTIVE DUTIES | VARIABLE REMUNERATION FOR PERFORMANCE OF EXECUTIVE DUTIES | TOTAL        |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------|--|---|--------------|
| Hernández Callejas, Antonio                                 | 370                         | 27              | 694  | 2,000   | 3,091        |
| Carceller Arce, Demetrio                                    | 345                         | 27              | 0  | 0   | 372          |
| Alimentos y Aceites, S.A.                                   | 116                         | 18              | 0  | 0   | 134          |
| Castelló Clemente, Fernando                                 | 189                         | 28              | 0  | 0   | 217          |
| Comenge Sánchez-Real, José Ignacio                          | 149                         | 23              | 0  | 0   | 172          |
| Daurella Comadrán, Sol<br>(director until December 1, 2014) | 174                         | 26              | 0  | 0   | 200          |
| Empresas Comerciales e Industriales<br>Valencianas, S.L.    | 116                         | 18              | 0  | 0   | 134          |
| Hispafoods Invest, S.L.                                     | 182                         | 28              | 0  | 0   | 210          |
| Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A.                         | 139                         | 18              | 0  | 0   | 157          |
| Nieto de la Cierva, José                                    | 255                         | 22              | 0  | 0   | 277          |
| Oetker, Rudolf-August                                       | 116                         | 17              | 0  | 0   | 133          |
| Ruiz-Gálvez Priego, Eugenio                                 | 149                         | 23              | 0  | 0   | 172          |
| Segurado García, José Antonio                               | 265                         | 27              | 0  | 0   | 292          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>2,565</b>                | <b>302</b>      | <b>694</b>   | <b>2,000</b>  | <b>5,561</b> |

Note that the amount of attendance fees corresponding to Antonio Hernández Callejas shown in the table above includes the attendance fees earned in his capacity as director of Pastificio Lucio Garofalo, S.p.A. (an Ebro Foods Group company) in the amount of 5,000 euros.



Of the total variable remuneration earned by the Chairman of the Board of Directors for performance of his executive duties in 2014, 1,297 thousand euros correspond to the Deferred Annual Bonus Scheme tied to the Group's 2010-2012 Business Plan in respect of 2012 (the last year of the Plan). This sum represents 70% of the deferred bonus entitlement accrued over the term of the three-year scheme, which was provided for in the 2012 financial statements and settled in 2014. Of the total variable remuneration earned by the Chairman of the Board of Directors for performance of his executive duties in 2013, 271 thousand euros corresponded to the Deferred Annual Bonus Scheme tied to the Group's 2010-2012 Business Plan in respect of 2011. This sum represented 15% of the deferred bonus entitlement accrued over the term of the three-year scheme (2010-12), which was provided for in the 2011 financial statements and settled in 2013.

Elsewhere, in relation to the total remuneration earned by the Chairman of the Board of Directors for the performance of his executive duties in 2014, the 2014 financial statements recognize a provision of 455 thousand euros in respect of the provisional estimate of the amount corresponding to 2014 under the Deferred Annual Bonus Scheme tied to the Group's 2013-2015 Plan, which represents 25% of the deferred bonus entitlement expected to be accrued during the three-year period. This figure will be paid in 2016. Meanwhile, in relation to the remuneration earned by the Chairman of the Board of Directors for the performance of his executive duties in 2013, the 2013 financial statements recognized a provision of 524 thousand euros in respect of the provisional estimate of the corresponding amount under the Deferred Annual Bonus Scheme tied to the Group's 2013-2015 Plan, which represents 25% of the deferred bonus entitlement expected to be accrued during the three-year period. This figure has been be paid in 2015.

These bonus schemes are not tied to Ebro Foods' share price performance nor do they entitle their beneficiaries to the receipt of shares or any rights over such shares.

Elsewhere, none of the members of the Board of Directors benefits from complementary life insurance or pension cover. Moreover, the Company neither extended any form of credit or advances to the members of its Board of Directors nor assumed any obligations on their behalf under guarantees.

**Executive remuneration.** A total of 10 people were considered executives of Ebro Foods, S.A. at both year-ends; in 2014 these executives accrued aggregate remuneration (wages and salaries) of 2,189 thousand euros (2,120 thousand euros in 2013). The amount shown for 2014 includes the remuneration of an executive who resigned on July 30, 2014 as well as that of another executive who was hired by the Company on October 6, 2014.

In 2014, the team of executives (excluding the Chairman of the Board of Directors) of Ebro Foods, S.A. covered by the Deferred Annual Bonus Scheme tied to the Group's 2010-2012 Business Plan were paid 145 thousand euros corresponding to 2012 (last year of the Plan), a figure representing 70% of the bonuses earned during the three-year term of the scheme that had been provisioned in the 2012 financial statements. In 2013 this team was paid 7 thousand euros corresponding to 2011, a figure equivalent to 15% of the bonuses earned during the three-year term of the scheme that had been provisioned in the 2011 financial statements.

Meanwhile, in relation to the team of executives (excluding the Chairman of the Board of Directors) of Ebro Foods, S.A. covered by the Deferred Annual Bonus Scheme tied to the Group's 2013-2015 Business Plan, the 2014 financial statements recognize a provision of 117 thousand euros in respect of the provisional estimate of the amount corresponding to 2014 under the scheme, which represents 25% of the deferred bonus entitlement expected to be accrued during the three-year period. This sum will be paid in 2016, in keeping with the plan rules. Similarly, the 2013 financial statements recognized a provision of 128 thousand euros in respect of the provisional estimate of the amount corresponding to 2013 under the new bonus scheme tied to the Group's 2013-2015 Plan, which represents 25% of the estimated deferred bonus entitlement for the three-year period. This figure has been be paid in 2015.

The employment contracts of two executives include change of control clauses guaranteeing payments that exceed the amounts applicable under the Employees' Statute. The clauses initially stipulated in the contracts of another two executives provide for payments that are lower than those established in the Employees' Statute due to their length of service.

Note lastly that the figures reflect the remuneration of all of the executives of Ebro Foods, S.A. even though not all of them belong to senior management.

Lastly, Ebro Foods, S.A. has taken out civil liability insurance cover for its directors and executives; these policies cover all of its subsidiaries up to an annual claims cap of 45 million euros. The policies have an annual cost of 56 thousand euros, are effective until April 30, 2015 and are currently in the process of being renewed.

## **28. RISK MANAGEMENT TARGETS AND POLICIES AND USE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**

The primary objective of the Group's risk management policy is to safeguard the value of its assets and facilitate its sustainable growth by configuring an optimal capital structure tailored to the legislation in force in the countries in which it operates. In addition, its capital management policy is designed to preserve its credit metrics and to maximize shareholder value.

Risk management strategy encompasses key business performance indicators such as earnings, leverage, capital expenditure and business strategy with a view to enabling the Company to take substantiated decisions in order to deliver the above-mentioned objectives. The attached Group Management Report and Corporate Governance Report provide additional information on the key business risks.

### **CAPITAL MANAGEMENT**

The overriding objective of the Group's capital management is to safeguard the business's sustainability and maximize shareholder value. To this end it contemplates:

- ❖ The cost of capital, in keeping with industry calculation standards, with a view to combining debt and equity to optimize this cost.
- ❖ A leverage ratio that makes it possible to obtain and maintain the targeted credit ratings and ensure short- and long-term financing for the Group's projects.

The right combination of debt and equity, in order to optimize the cost of capital, enables adequate shareholder remuneration, business continuity and growth of the Ebro Food Group's business model.

Note that the Group is subject to certain capital requirements under certain long-term loan agreements and that is in compliance with these covenants (note 22).

In recent years, the Group has been concentrating its activities around key businesses by means of strategic acquisitions, while keeping leverage low.

## NET DEBT

|                           | CONSOLIDATED |           |           |           |           |
|---------------------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|                           | 2012         | 2013      | 2013/2012 | 2014      | 2014/2013 |
| Equity                    | 1,692,209    | 1,705,757 | 0,8%      | 1,849,485 | 8,4%      |
| Net debt                  | 244,804      | 338,291   | 38,2%     | 405,617   | 19,9%     |
| Average net debt          | 294,114      | 260,820   | (11,3%)   | 333,178   | 27,7%     |
| Leverage                  | 14,5%        | 19,8%     | 37,1%     | 21,9%     | 10,6%     |
| Leverage (avge. debt) (1) | 17,4%        | 15,3%     | (12,0%)   | 18,0%     | 17,8%     |
| EBITDA                    | 299,226      | 282,392   | (5,6%)    | 287,251   | 1,7%      |
| Coverage                  | 0,82         | 1,20      |           | 1,41      |           |

Thousands of euros

(1) Ratio of average net financial debt and borrowing costs divided by equity (excluding non controlling interests)

The leverage ratio remains low although it has increased in recent years in the wake of the acquisition of strategic businesses in Italy and Canada that still have still to make a key contribution to Group earnings. Elsewhere, the Group's working capital requirements are seasonal as a result of the timing of rice harvests and price-setting in the rice markets. Note lastly that leverage and cash flow generation are impacted to a significant degree by dollar exchange rate trends, as described next.

### FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT AND USE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The main financial instruments used by the Group are bank loans, bank overdraft facilities, equity instruments, cash and short-term deposits. In addition, the Group has other financial assets and liabilities such as trade accounts receivable and payable.

These financial instruments expose the Group to market risks via variability in interest rates, exchange rates and in the fair value of certain financial instruments. They also expose it to liquidity and credit risk.

The financial instruments that are used to hedge these risks may or may not qualify for designation as accounting hedges (cash flow or fair value hedges, depending on the nature of the hedged item).

In order to manage the foreign currency and interest rate risks arising in the course of the Group's operations and, from time to time, potential movements in the prices of certain raw materials (gas), the Group uses derivative (mainly interest or exchange rate forward sale-purchase contracts and put/call options) and non-derivative (currency-denominated borrowings) financial instruments in order to minimize or ring-fence them.

These hedges are arranged as a function of:

- ❖ Prevailing market conditions;
- ❖ Evolving management objectives; and
- ❖ The specific characteristics of the transactions giving rise to the financial risk being hedged.

The accounting policies used to measure these financial instruments are described in note 3 above.

The Board of Directors and senior management team review and establish the risk management policies applying to each and every one of these risks. The Board has delegated the development and oversight of the enterprise risk management system in its Audit Committee.

### Cash flow interest rate risk

This risk arises from borrowings denominated in euros or foreign currencies and arranged at floating rates of interest due to the risk that the cash flows associated with debt service payments will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. The Group's exposure to the risk of changes in market interest rates relates primarily to its long-term debt obligations with floating interest rates.

The Group manages this risk by having a balanced portfolio of fixed and variable rate borrowings. The Group's policy is to minimize exposure to this risk, to which end it continually monitors market conditions with the support of external experts in order to arrange new instruments or change the terms of existing instruments in order to minimize exposure to variability in the cash flows or fair value of its financial instruments.

Management has performed sensitivity analysis with respect to the impact of 50 basis point fluctuations in interest rates on the Group's rate-sensitive financial assets and liabilities with an impact on earnings: the estimated impact on profit in 2014 of such a change would be 1.9 million euros (1.5 million euros in 2013).

The main assumptions used to perform this sensitivity analysis are as follows:

- ❖ The analysis only models the impact on financial instruments susceptible to significant changes in the event of upward or downward movements in interest rates.
- ❖ The only input varied is the rate of interest, with all other variables held constant in the model.

### FLUCTUATION IN INTEREST RATES

|                   | 2014    |         |       |         | 2013    |         |       |         |
|-------------------|---------|---------|-------|---------|---------|---------|-------|---------|
| Income/(expense)  | (0,50%) | (0,25%) | 0,25% | 0,50%   | (0,50%) | (0,25%) | 0,25% | 0,50%   |
| Profit before tax | 1,916   | 958     | (958) | (1,916) | 1,501   | 751     | (751) | (1,501) |

### Foreign currency risk

Foreign currency risk is the risk that the future cash flows of an exposure will fluctuate because of changes in foreign exchange rates. The Group's exposure to the risk of changes in foreign exchange rates relates primarily to the Group's operating activities (when revenue or expense is denominated in a foreign currency) and its net investments in foreign subsidiaries.

As a result of significant investments in the US, the carrying amounts of the Group's assets and liabilities are significantly exposed to changes in the USD / EUR exchange rate.

The overriding objective of exchange rate risk management is to offset (at least partially) potential valuation losses on assets denominated in currencies other than the euro with savings, albeit smaller in magnitude, on liabilities denominated in the same currencies.

The Group attempts to mitigate the impact of its structural exchange rate risk by securing some of its loans in US dollars so that a very significant portion of its investments in the US are hedged naturally.

Other borrowings at December 31, 2014 include two loans totaling 290 million US dollars (three loans totaling 327 million US dollars at year-end 2013) (note 22) that have been designated as hedges of net investments in the Group's US subsidiaries and are used to hedge its exposure to US dollar foreign exchange rate risk on these investments. The gains or losses on retranslation of these borrowings into euros are recognized in equity in order to offset any gains or losses on the translation of the net investments in these subsidiaries.

The Group is also exposed to foreign exchange rate risk on account of its transactions. This risk arises from the purchases and sales made by the business units in currencies other than the functional currency. In the case of significant transactions, the Group's policy is to use foreign exchange forward contracts to eliminate or minimize the related exchange rate risk.

Against this backdrop, certain Group companies in the rice (Herba, S&B Herba and TBA Sundra) and pasta segments (Panzani and Garofalo) hold foreign currency future contracts or options (locking in exchange rates) in order to mitigate their transaction-related exposures. These transactions are arranged to minimize currency risk but have not been designated as hedges for accounting purposes. The contracts outstanding at year-end:

## CURRENCY

|     | NOTIONAL BALANCE (THOUSANDS) |         |
|-----|------------------------------|---------|
|     | 2014                         | 2013    |
| USD | 118,587                      | 90,459  |
| CZK | 21,000                       | 102,900 |
| EUR | 16,873                       | 14,401  |
| GBP | 9,249                        | 10,463  |
| THB | 703,393                      | 404,556 |

The following assumptions were used to model the sensitivity of the Group's assets and liabilities to changes in exchange rates:

- ❖ The analysis only models the impact on financial instruments susceptible to significant changes in the event of fluctuations in exchange rates.
- ❖ Borrowings designated as effective hedges of net investments are excluded from this analysis.
- ❖ The only input varied is the rate of exchange, with all other variables held constant in the model.

## Impact on profit

### FLUCTUATION IN EUR

|  | 2014     |         |       |         | 2013     |         |         |         |
|--|----------|---------|-------|---------|----------|---------|---------|---------|
|  | (10,00%) | (5,00%) | 5,00% | 10,00%  | (10,00%) | (5,00%) | 5,00%   | 10,00%  |
| <b>Due to derivatives:</b>                 |          |         |       |         |          |         |         |         |
| Income/(expense)                           | (10,00%) | (5,00%) | 5,00% | 10,00%  | (10,00%) | (5,00%) | 5,00%   | 10,00%  |
| Profit before tax                          | 1,703    | 854     | (854) | (1,703) | 2,215    | 1,030   | (1,030) | (2,215) |
| <b>Due to other financial instruments:</b> |          |         |       |         |          |         |         |         |
| Income/(expense)                           | (10,00%) | (5,00%) | 5,00% | 10,00%  | (10,00%) | (5,00%) | 5,00%   | 10,00%  |
| Profit before tax                          | (1,552)  | (813)   | 813   | 1,552   | (776)    | (406)   | 406     | 776     |

**FLUCTUATION IN GBP**

|  | 2014     |         |       |        | 2013     |         |       |         |
|--|----------|---------|-------|--------|----------|---------|-------|---------|
| <b>Due to derivatives:</b>                 |          |         |       |        |          |         |       |         |
| Income/(expense)                           | (10,00%) | (5,00%) | 5,00% | 10,00% | (10,00%) | (5,00%) | 5,00% | 10,00%  |
| Profit before tax                          | (763)    | (427)   | 427   | 763    | 1,066    | 550     | (550) | (1,066) |
| <b>Due to other financial instruments:</b> |          |         |       |        |          |         |       |         |
| Income/(expense)                           | (10,00%) | (5,00%) | 5,00% | 10,00% | (10,00%) | (5,00%) | 5,00% | 10,00%  |
| Profit before tax                          | (42)     | (22)    | 22    | 42     | -29      | (15)    | 15    | 29      |

**FLUCTUATION IN USD**

|  | 2014     |         |       |         | 2013     |         |       |        |
|--|----------|---------|-------|---------|----------|---------|-------|--------|
| <b>Due to derivatives:</b>                 |          |         |       |         |          |         |       |        |
| Income/(expense)                           | (10,00%) | (5,00%) | 5,00% | 10,00%  | (10,00%) | (5,00%) | 5,00% | 10,00% |
| Profit before tax                          | 630      | 304     | (304) | (630)   | (2,442)  | (1,164) | 1,164 | 2,442  |
| <b>Due to other financial instruments:</b> |          |         |       |         |          |         |       |        |
| Income/(expense)                           | (10,00%) | (5,00%) | 5,00% | 10,00%  | (10,00%) | (5,00%) | 5,00% | 10,00% |
| Profit before tax                          | 835      | 1,594   | (835) | (1,594) | 422      | 805     | (422) | (805)  |

**FLUCTUATION IN INTEREST RATES**

|                   | 2014    |         |       |         | 2013    |         |       |         |
|-------------------|---------|---------|-------|---------|---------|---------|-------|---------|
| Income/(expense)  | (0,50%) | (0,25%) | 0,25% | 0,50%   | (0,50%) | (0,25%) | 0,25% | 0,50%   |
| Profit before tax | 1,916   | 958     | (958) | (1,916) | 1,501   | 751     | (751) | (1,501) |

**Impact on net debt****FLUCTUATION IN USD**

|                               | 2014     |         |       |        | 2013     |         |       |        |
|-------------------------------|----------|---------|-------|--------|----------|---------|-------|--------|
| <b>Due to derivatives:</b>    |          |         |       |        |          |         |       |        |
| + Net debt / (- Net debt)     | (10,00%) | (5,00%) | 5,00% | 10,00% | (10,00%) | (5,00%) | 5,00% | 10,00% |
| Net debt as per balance sheet | (13,323) | (6,979) | 6,979 | 13,323 | (16,761) | (8,779) | 8,779 | 16,761 |

**Price risk in respect of other financial assets and liabilities**

Certain of the Group's financial assets and liabilities expose it to price risk. The most significant exposure derives from the valuation of the put-call option over 48% of the shares of the Garofalo Group (note 5) and the shares of Biosearch, S.A., which are classified as available-for-sale financial assets in the consolidated balance sheet at December 31, 2014 (note 12).

**Liquidity risk**

The Group's objective is to match its cash flow generation capabilities with its debt servicing and refinancing requirements. The Group aims to maintain a balance between continuity of funding and flexibility through the use of renewable credit facilities, bank loans with scope for grace periods to align them with the returns on the underlying assets and forward purchase contracts.

Note 22 analyzes the Group's borrowings at year-end 2014 by maturity.

### Credit (counterparty risk)

This is the risk that a counterparty will not meet its contractual obligations, generating a financial loss for the Group.

This risk is mitigated by means of careful selection of transactions and counterparty banks based on credit ratings and the negotiation of sufficient guarantees to mitigate this risk.

The Group has always taken a conservative approach to business transactions; it has risk committees that continually review limits, open positions and automated system alerts. As a result, the Group's trade credit non-performance ratio has been historically low. In addition, the sales and collections management departments work in a coordinated manner. Counterparties are selected on the basis of the credit ratings awarded by the credit insurance providers with which the Group works, these policies ultimately serving as guarantees. The Group's high level of geographic diversification results in a low level of customer credit risk concentration.

### FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The table below breaks down the Group's financial assets and liabilities at December 31, 2014 (in thousands of euros) other than its accounts payable and receivable or its cash and cash equivalents whose carrying amounts are deemed a reasonable approximation of their fair value. The carrying amounts shown in the table below are not materially different from these instruments' fair value.

#### FINANCIAL ASSETS

|                              | CARRYING AMOUNT |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
|                              | 12-31-2014      |
| <b>Financial assets</b>      |                 |
| Loans                        | 36,622          |
| Equity instruments           | 25,238          |
| Other instruments            | 5,872           |
| <b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT</b>     | <b>67,732</b>   |
| Loans                        | 2,613           |
| Other instruments            | 367             |
| Derivatives                  | 2,233           |
| <b>TOTAL CURRENT</b>         | <b>5,213</b>    |
| <b>Financial liabilities</b> |                 |
| Loans and credit facilities  | 198,779         |
| Other financial liabilities  | 68,389          |
| <b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT</b>     | <b>267,168</b>  |
| Loans and credit facilities  | 315,025         |
| Other financial liabilities  | 16,520          |
| Derivatives                  | 1,482           |
| <b>TOTAL CURRENT</b>         | <b>333,027</b>  |

## FINANCIAL ASSETS AND LIABILITIES MEASURED AT FAIR VALUE: FAIR VALUE HIERARCHY

All of the financial instruments measured at fair value are classified into one of the following levels depending on the inputs used to value them:

- ❖ Level 1. Use of quoted prices in active markets of identical assets and liabilities (without any adjustment)
- ❖ Level 2. Use of directly or indirectly observable inputs (other than level 1 quoted prices)
- ❖ Level 3. Use of unobservable inputs

|                              | 12-31-2014 | LEVEL 1 | LEVEL 2 | LEVEL 3 |
|------------------------------|------------|---------|---------|---------|
| <b>Financial assets</b>      |            |         |         |         |
| Equity instruments           | 693        | 693     | -       | -       |
| Derivatives                  | 2,233      | -       | 2,233   | -       |
| <b>Financial liabilities</b> |            |         |         |         |
| Other financial liabilities  | 69,229     | -       | -       | 69,229  |
| Derivatives                  | 1,482      | -       | 1,482   | -       |

Level 1 basically includes the valuation of equity interests classified as available for sale. Level 2 reflects the liability recognized under IAS 39 in connection with the shareholdings pending acquisition in TBA Suntra and the Garofalo Group.

The Group does not hold any financial instruments whose fair value cannot be reliably measured. No instruments were transferred between the various fair value hierarchy levels in the course of 2014.

## 29. ENVIRONMENTAL DISCLOSURES

The productive processes used at the Group's various factories, in both the rice and the pasta divisions, are relatively simple agricultural food processes that do not have a major impact on the environment and entail minimum risk of accidental contamination. The most significant environmental aspects pertaining to the Group can be categorized as follows:

- ❖ **Greenhouse gas emissions:** essentially the emission of particles related to the manipulation of cereals (rice and wheat) and gases produced in the combustion processes used to produce vapor and dry raw materials. The fuel most widely used is natural gas.
- ❖ **Productive processes:** essentially mechanic and hydrothermal, these processes require the use of very few chemical products, and in very small amounts. Most of these products are used to clean equipment and sanitize raw materials and are relatively safe for the environment.
- ❖ **Water consumption:** the Group uses relatively little water in its manufacturing processes (most of its products are dry products), so that the volume of wastewater produced is also small. Moreover, the wastewater generated is relatively uncontaminated as the water consumed is used basically to produce vapor, as a refrigerant or as an ingredient in finished products.
- ❖ **Waste generation and management:** the Group generates minimum amounts of waste, including both non-hazardous (mainly ingredient and auxiliary material packaging) and hazardous (maintenance operations) waste.



To minimize its environmental footprint, Ebro Foods builds environmental protection into its business development and deploys the tools, measures and resources needed to guarantee protection at its subsidiaries. More specifically, the Group's environmental policy is articulated around three lines of initiative:

- ❖ Ensuring that its companies comply with applicable environmental legislation in carrying out their business activities by means of the rollout of in-house management systems and monitoring of prevailing legislation in this arena.
- ❖ Minimizing the environmental impact of its business operations by searching for eco-efficient solutions and continually rolling out initiatives designed to reduce its emissions and waste generation and to optimize consumption of water, energy and packaging materials.
- ❖ Suitably and safely managing all its waste, fostering recycling and reuse. Using recycled and/or environmentally-friendly raw materials whenever possible.
- ❖ Rolling out environmental employee training and awareness programs.

In parallel, the Ebro Foods Group intervenes in the rest of its value chain by controlling the environmental performance of its industrial suppliers by means of internal and/or external audits and helping them to enhance their environmental management practices as appropriate.

The Group is also working actively on researching and promoting environmentally-sustainable farming practices for use in the production of its agricultural raw materials; the focus of this effort is currently on rice. This work is taking the form of in-house initiatives and ad-hoc collaborations with stakeholders and sector associations.

In 2015, the Group joined the Sustainable Agriculture Initiative Platform (SAI Platform), an industry initiative that brings together the key food players worldwide with the goal of attaining sustainable agricultural standards from an environmental and social standpoint. Within this initiative, alongside other sector members, a specific rice-growing taskforce has been set up to develop sustainable practices based on a common industry standard (mainly at the international level) and foster its implementation in the rice-growing regions from which this raw material is sourced.

Fuller information on the Group's environmental performance in 2014 can be found in its Annual Sustainability Report.

In addition, in order to guarantee compliance with the packaging and packaging waste reduction, recycling and recovery objectives laid down in Spanish Law 11/97, of April 24, 1997, the Group's Spanish subsidiary Herba is a member of Ecoembalajes España, S.A. (Ecoembes), a non-profit company whose mission is to design and develop systems oriented towards collecting, sorting and recovering used packaging and packaging waste. Ecoembes uses the concept known as the Green Dot (the symbol featured on the packaging) to certify that the product's packager has paid a certain amount of money for each item of packaging it places on the market.

In tandem, both the European rice subsidiaries and Ebro Foods' head offices have entered into agreements with entities akin to Ecoembes for the destruction of paper and other materials. These agreements allow then not only to comply with data protection legislation but also to guarantee the sustainable management of this documentation through recycling commitments.

Lastly, various Group companies have arranged civil liability insurance that covers third-party damages caused by a sudden and unintentional spill. Management believes that this policy adequately covers any potential risk in this respect. To date the Group has not been party to any material environmental-related claims; on the other hand it can claim a positive record on the basis of the results of audits and inspections and the lack of any pleas in respect of its integrated environmental permit processes, etc.

### **30. FEES PAID TO AUDITORS**

External services in the consolidated income statement include the fees paid to the auditors of the consolidated financial statements.

The fees paid for account auditing and other services to the Company's auditor, Ernst & Young, S.L., and entities related to the latter by means of control, joint ownership or joint management, in 2014 and 2013 (which services were provided by a different auditor in 2013) were as follows:

- ❖ The fees corresponding to auditing services provided by EY in 2014 (Deloitte in 2013) amounted to 1,123 (2013: 1,421) thousand euros; those corresponding to other assurance services amounted to 95 (2013: 99) thousand euros.
- ❖ The fees for tax advisory and and/other services totaled 303 (2013: 112) thousand euros.

### **31. EVENTS AFTER THE REPORTING PERIOD**

There have been no significant events or developments between the end of the reporting period and the date of authorizing the accompanying financial statements for issue other than the CNMC verdict received on March 3, 2015 (note 21).



# **DIRECTORS' REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2013**

# DIRECTORS' REPORT CONSOLIDATED 2014

(EXPRESSED IN THOUSANDS OF EUROS)

## 1. COMPANY SITUATION

### ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE AND BUSINESS MODEL

The Ebro Foods Group is Spain's largest food company. Through its subsidiaries, it commands a presence in the rice and pasta markets in Europe and North America as well as a growing presence in other countries.

The Group has decentralized certain areas of each business's management with a view to focusing on the business while maintaining a lean and dynamic structure that prioritizes performance, cohesion and market knowledge over a personality-driven culture.

The Ebro Foods Group articulates its management around business segments that combine business activities and their geographic location. The two core business lines are:

- ❖ **The rice business:** the production and distribution of rice and its culinary derivatives and accompaniments. It consists of industrial and branding activities, with the Group pursuing a multi-brand model. Its geographic footprint extends to Europe, the Mediterranean basin, India and Thailand (via the Herba Group companies) and North and Central America, the Caribbean and Middle East (via the Riviana Group and its subsidiary, American Rice or ARI).
- ❖ **Pasta business:** the production and marketing of dry and fresh pastas, sauces, semolina products, their culinary derivatives and accompaniments, carried out by the New World Pasta Group in the US, the Panzani Group and the Garofalo Group (rest of world).

Decision-making is spearheaded by the Board of Directors, which is ultimately responsible for defining the Group's general strategy and management guidelines. The Board delegates, within the legally stipulated limits, certain tasks in its Executive Committee, including, notably, monitoring and oversight of delivery of the strategic and corporate development guidelines, while the Management Committee, on which the heads of the various business areas are represented, is tasked with monitoring and preparing the decisions taken at the management level.

The Annual Corporate Governance Report contains detailed information on the Group's ownership and governance structure.

The production of the products sold by the Group relies heavily on the use of rice and durum wheat.

Rice is the most widely-consumed grain in the world; however, as some of the world's largest producers consume more than they produce (China, Philippines and Indonesia), the global rice trade is smaller than that of other grains and cereals. The sources of the rice sold by Ebro vary depending on the type of grain and quality/abundance of rice harvests. Supply sources can be grouped into three major regions which produce different varieties of rice: the US, southern Europe and Southeast Asia.

Pasta is produced from a variety of wheat that is high in protein called durum wheat. Durum wheat is produced in a far smaller geographic expanse and has a much smaller market than other varieties of wheat, essentially those used to make flour. Ebro mainly sources its durum wheat in the US, Canada and southern Europe (France, Spain and Italy).

It purchases from farmers, cooperatives and milling companies that provide the basic raw material used in the productive process, the required milling and/or transformation being carried out at the Group's factories. The processes performed differ depending on the product's end use and range from cleaning, milling, polishing and basic extrusion to more complex processes such as pre-cooking, cooking and freezing.

Note 6 to the consolidated financial statements (Segment reporting) overviews the key activities, brands and market shares of each reportable segment.

### **STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES**

The Group's strategic objective is to be a benchmark player in the rice and pasta markets and in segments of relevance to both areas such as meal solutions. It also aims to achieve a meaningful position in a highly global market and to spearhead innovation in its leading geographies, these ambitions trickling over to related products such as value-added legumes and noodles.

In order to deliver these strategic objectives, the Group taps a series of growth levers it deems key to increasing the value of the business, as enshrined in the various three-year business plans:

- ❖ Organic and M&A-led growth in large and established markets and, in parallel, the search for opportunities in high growth potential developing markets.
  - Penetration of new markets and product categories: chips, omelettes, new fresh products, new higher value-added functional food ranges, etc.
  - Development of products that offer a fuller culinary experience by adding new formats (maxi-cups, etc.), flavours (cup and sauce ranges) and meal solutions (pan-fried rices and pasta dishes, SOS dishes, etc.)
  - Meaningful positioning in the healthy-eating segment by introducing new concepts that capture emerging trends.
  - Expanded geographic footprint and rounding out of the product/country matrix:
    - Search for business opportunities that enable us to target our offering (Garofalo, Olivieri) at geographic markets presenting specific characteristics: a market size of 50-100m inhabitants with a developed retail sector or at least one under development, medium to high income per capita and business customs that are not too dissimilar to those of the Group.
    - Entry into new markets (India, Middle East, Eastern Europe and rest of Africa).
    - Expansion of success formulae into markets in which Ebro is already present (fresh products).

- ❖ Product differentiation and innovation. The Ebro Foods Group's product development strategy is structured around two articulating lines of initiative:
  - Research, development and innovation (R&D) The Group has four proprietary R&D centers. Its investment policy is designed to allow the crystallization of new ideas into realities for our customers.
  - The Group aims to have the leading brands in its respective segments, to which end it supports them with the required advertising budgets.
- ❖ Low risk exposure. The business has been marked by growing raw material price volatility in recent years, coupled with accelerating changes in consumer trends. The Ebro Group faces these challenges through firm strategic commitments to both change and sustainability. To this end it seeks balanced sources of recurring income (markets, currencies), low leverage in order to withstand financial turbulence, new sources of supply and the establishment of long-term relationships with its stakeholders (customers, suppliers, directors, employees, society).

## 2. BUSINESS PERFORMANCE AND RESULTS

### ENVIRONMENT

2014 was a disappointing year in the eurozone, shaped by doubts about the consolidation of the recovery, although the year ended on a more positive note. The GDP figures for the last two quarters and the improvement in economic indicators and consumer confidence towards the end of the year have dissipated risks of a third recession, albeit depicting a relatively unappealing landscape marked by slower than anticipated recovery, high unemployment rates and significant cross-country disparity. Nevertheless, the oil price correction, euro depreciation and renewal of credit, stimulated by expansionary monetary policy and investment policies, provide grounds for encouragement looking to 2015.

The US, in contrast, is clearly in recovery mode, having notched up GDP growth of 2.4% in 2014, with business and household confidence indicators bouncing back from the lows of 2009 and unemployment approaching the frictional rate. However, the surveys continue to show that a high percentage of US citizens believe that the recession is ongoing (70% according to the Nielsen Global Survey), while average household income remains below pre-crisis levels.

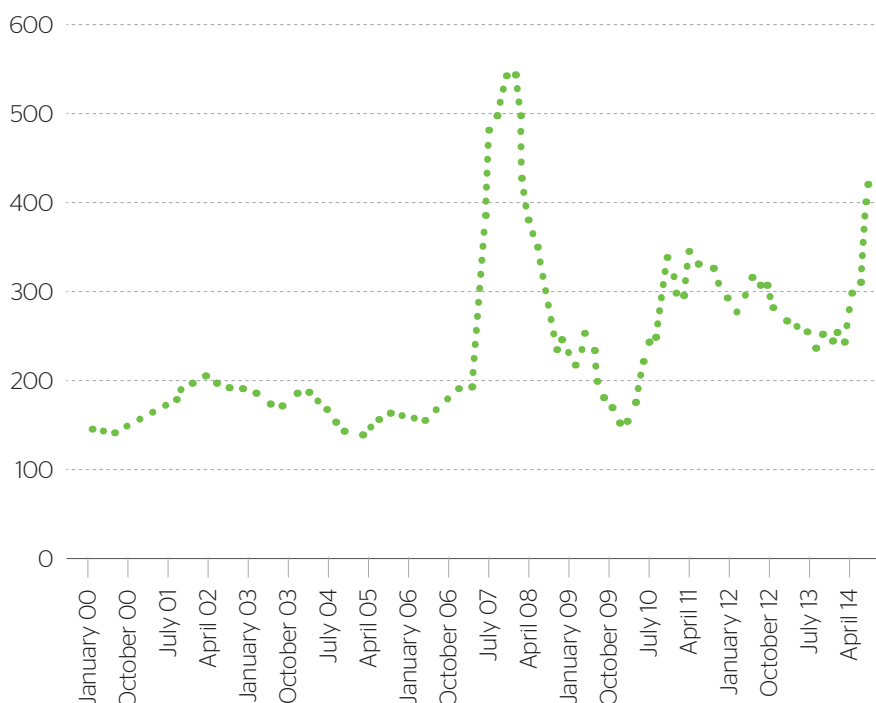
The years of uncertainty and high levels of unemployment that continue to afflict many developed economies have taken their toll on consumer habits. Shoppers have changed their ways: they are buying less, buying cheaper products and have traded down to high-quality private label brands or compellingly-priced brand name products.

The fact that the worst of the crisis is behind us is beginning to be palpable in consumer behavior indicative of more extensive price-benefit analysis relative to the price-sacrifice pattern typical during the recession. The shift in consumer habits has left the odd successful niche such as fresh products, designed to facilitate a pleasant experience without increasing household spending. The Group perceives significant upside in this segment against the backdrop of a market that is otherwise flat volume-wise in the developed world where demographic trends unlikely to help matters.

These changes have also affected the retail sector which is having to adapt to new tastes and preferences. New options are emerging that compete with traditional retailing such as online shopping, which is experiencing significant growth; the presence commanded by the leading offline retailers online is often not comparable with their conventional retailing market shares. As a result we are seeing M&A activity in some of the biggest markets.

An atypical year in the grain markets. Prices were stable for most crops, with inventory levels at historical highs. However, durum wheat provided the exception. The new harvest was affected by a reduction in acreage and a weaker-quality harvest due to strong seasonal rains in France and Canada: prices jumped from €250/MT in June to €430/MT in December. The durum wheat market is unusually tight, so that year-end inventory levels tend to be small; also there is no forward market and sector consolidation on the supply side has made it attractive to financial speculators. The price gap with respect to soft wheat grades has widened to unprecedented levels (around 2x on average) and this grain has become a highly volatile cereal. This trend is evident in its price performance over the last 15 years.

**DURUM WHEAT PRICE €/TM**



Source: the Ebro Foods Groupa

As for rice, it is estimated that the global 2014/15 harvest was approximately 3% smaller year-on-year (the prior year having constituted an all-time record), marking the first annual decline since 2007/2008. Despite this contraction, Chinese purchases of rice, an abundance of supply (Thailand continues to release the stock piled up by its government) and the downtrend in prices, the 2014 rice trade is estimated at 41.6 million tonnes, a record high. Generally speaking, long-grain prices were stable thanks to abundant supply in the main exporting markets, while the prices of the medium and short grain varieties were affected by droughts in California and Australia, which drove prices higher.

## GROUP FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

The Group's key financial indicators are presented below:

### CONSOLIDATED FIGURES

|   | 2012             | 2013             | 2013-2012        | 2014             | 2014-2013        | CAGR2014-2012 |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------|
| REVENUE   | 1,981,130        | 1,956,647        | (1.2%)           | 2,120,722        | 8.4%             | 3.5%          |
| EBITDA  | 299,226          | 282,392          | (5.6%)           | 287,251          | 1.7%             | (2.0%)        |
| % of Net Revenue  | 15.1%            | 14.4%            |                  | 13.5%            |                  |               |
| EBIT  | 244,319          | 226,356          | (7.4%)           | 227,242          | 0.4%             | (3.6%)        |
| % of Net Revenue  | 12.3%            | 11.6%            |                  | 10.7%            |                  |               |
| Profit/(loss) before taxes  | 250,438          | 210,646          | (15.9%)          | 215,749          | 2.4%             | (7.2%)        |
| % of Net Revenue  | 12.6%            | 10.8%            |                  | 10.2%            |                  |               |
| Taxes   | (89,464)         | (69,157)         | 22.7%            | (64,407)         | 6.9%             | (15.2%)       |
| % of Net Revenue  | (4.5%)           | (3.5%)           |                  | (3.0%)           |                  |               |
| Profit/(loss) for the year from continuing operations             | 160,974          | 141,489          | (12.1%)          | 151,342          | 7.0%             | (3.0%)        |
| % of Net Revenue  | 8.0%             | 7.2%             |                  | 7.1%             |                  |               |
| Profit/(loss) after tax for the year from discontinued operations | (2,523)          | (7,507)          | 197.5%           | (2,223)          | (70.4%)          | (6.1%)        |
| % of Net Revenue  | (0.1%)           | (0.4%)           |                  | (0.1%)           |                  |               |
| Net Profit  | 158,592          | 132,759          | (16.3%)          | 146,013          | 10.0%            | (4.0%)        |
| % of Net Revenue  | 8.0%             | 6.8%             |                  | 6.9%             |                  |               |
| Average working capital   | 402,403          | 420,517          | (4.5%)           | 442,036          | (5.1%)           |               |
| Capital employed  | 1,212,424        | 1,286,515        | (6.1%)           | 1,363,346        | (6.0%)           |               |
| ROCE (1)  | 20.0             | 17.7             |                  | 16.7             |                  |               |
| Capex (2)   | 52,930           | 61,308           | 15.8%            | 67,123           | 9.5%             |               |
| Average headcount   | 4,741            | 4,665            | (1.6%)           | 5,189            | 11.2%            |               |
|   | <b>31-12-12</b>  | <b>31-12-13</b>  | <b>2013-2012</b> | <b>31-12-14</b>  | <b>2014-2013</b> |               |
| Equity  | 1,692,209        | 1,705,757        | 0.8%             | 1,849,485        | 8.4%             |               |
| Net debt  | 244,804          | 338,291          | 38.2%            | 405,617          | 19.9%            |               |
| Average net debt  | 294,114          | 260,820          | (11.3%)          | 333,178          | 27.7%            |               |
| Leverage (3)  | 17.4%            | 15.3%            |                  | 18.0%            |                  |               |
| <b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>   | <b>2,731,812</b> | <b>2,772,680</b> |                  | <b>3,162,068</b> |                  |               |

Thousands of euros

(1) ROCE = (Operating income CAGR last 12 months / (intangible assets - property, plant & equipment - working capital)

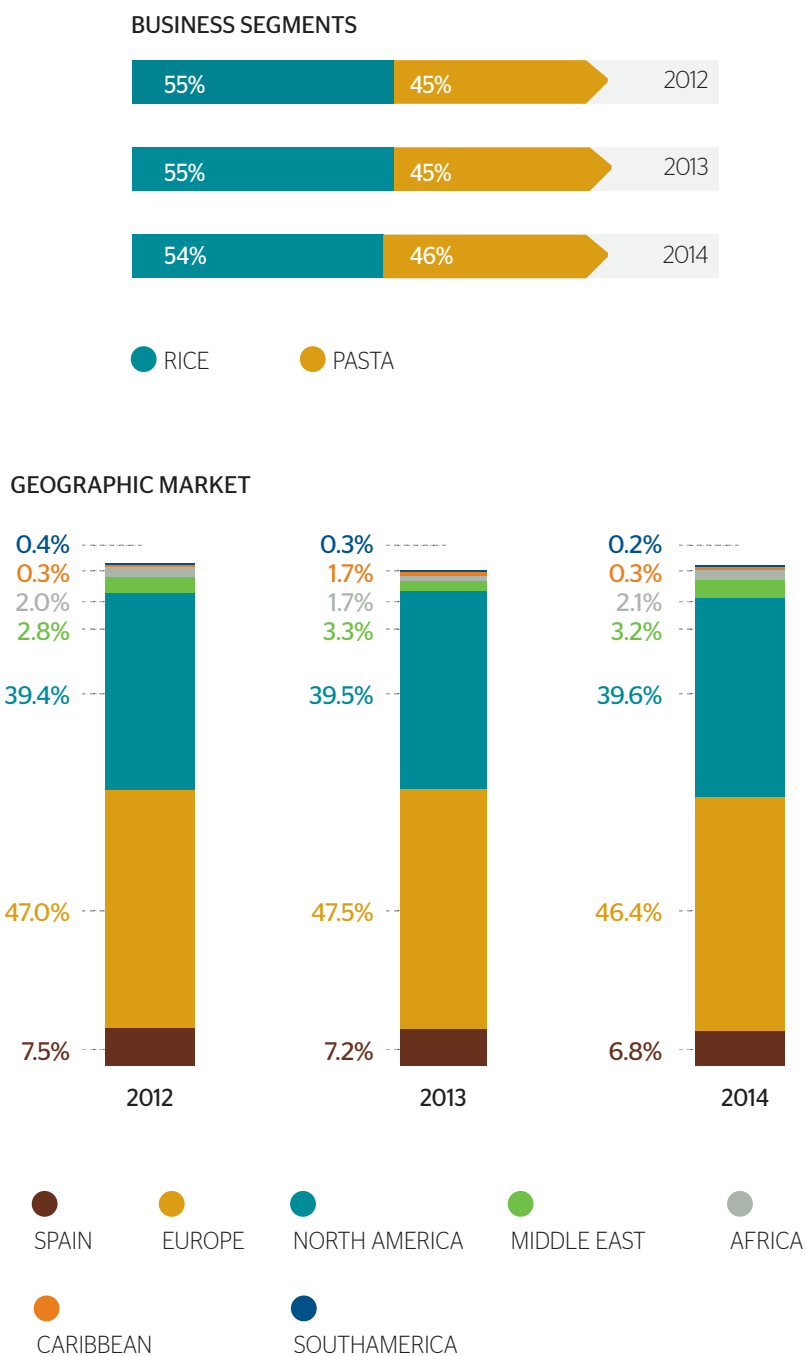
(2) Capex as cash outflow from investing activities

(3) Ratio of average net financial debt with cost to equity (excluding minority interests)

**Revenue** rose by 8.4% year-on-year, driven by significant volume growth and a contribution from new businesses (Olivieri and Garofalo) of 103 million euros.



The breakdown of revenue and the year-on-year trend by business line and geographic market is as follows:



**EBITDA** rose by 1.7%, shaped by a 9.4 million euro contribution by new businesses and relatively unmarked by exchange rate trends. The business performance was very strong in all segments except for the US pasta market, which is contracting (by 1.8% by value according to the Nielsen XAOC 52-week scantrack): abundant promotions and strong price competition made it impossible to pass on the increase in durum wheat prices in full. This development, coupled with a less favorable product mix, drove a 13 million euro reduction in EBITDA.

The EBITDA margin declined slightly to 13.5%, driven entirely by the US pasta business, specifically two factors:

- a) The abovementioned decline in profitability due to sharp price competition in a market suffering raw material price increases; and
- b) Lower margins in the Olivieri fresh pasta business relative to the traditional dry pasta business of New World Pasta. The Olivieri acquisition is deemed a strategic acquisition due to the presence it provides in the fresh pasta segment in the US; however, the Group has to complete a growth and consolidation process to bring its margin contributions in line with those of other businesses and/or markets.

**Profit for the year from continuing operations** increased by 7.0% thanks to growth in recurring profitability as well as a series of non-recurring items, the most important being: a goodwill impairment loss recognized at the ARI cash-generating unit in the amount of 11.1 million, the gain on the sale of the shareholding in Deoleo of 14.0 million euros and the various tax factors (see note 25 to the consolidated financial statements).

The **ROCE** declined to 16.7%, driven entirely by the decline in the profitability of the US pasta business.

The **after-tax loss from discontinued operations** includes the net gain or sale generated by businesses sold and their operating results until the transaction date. In this instance the amounts shown in all three years correspond to the German pasta business and the loss generated by its sale, as detailed in note 7 to the consolidated financial statements.

#### **ANALYSIS OF THE GROUP'S BALANCE SHEET**

The trend in the Group's businesses in the last three years evidences the business combinations completed during this period: Olivieri (December 2013) and the Garofalo Group (June 2014). The main movements related to the accounting treatment of these business combinations (additions to property, plant and equipment, intangible assets, goodwill, net current assets and borrowings) and the impact of the trend in the US dollar on subsidiary balance sheet items denominated in this currency (2014). Both movements have the effect of increasing assets: an increase due to the first-time consolidation of new assets and an increase of 12% in the assets and liabilities denominated in dollars due to their translation at year-end rates (which accounted for roughly half of consolidated assets at year-end).

Other noteworthy changes include the sale of certain non-operating assets classified as investment properties in the US and the sale of the shares in Deoleo classified as available for sale (this heading had increased in 2013 on the back of the gain in Deoleo's market value and the acquisition of a shareholding in Scotti Spa. for 18 million euros).

Other assets and other liabilities mainly include deferred taxes, pension obligations and provisions for charges and did not change significantly.

| ITEM  | BALANCE SHEET    |                  |                 |                  |                 |
|---|------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|
|   | 2012             | 2013             | 2013-2012       | 2014             | 2014-2013       |
| Intangible assets                             | 373,993          | 373,544          | (449)           | 433,974          | 60,430          |
| Property, plant and equipment                 | 496,045          | 509,673          | 13,628          | 612,771          | 103,098         |
| Investment properties                         | 32,637           | 33,139           | 502             | 30,832           | (2,307)         |
| <b>PP&amp;E AND INTANGIBLE ASSETS</b>         | <b>902,675</b>   | <b>916,356</b>   | <b>13,681</b>   | <b>1,077,577</b> | <b>161,221</b>  |
| <b>Financial assets</b>                       | <b>62,756</b>    | <b>108,141</b>   | <b>45,385</b>   | <b>67,732</b>    | <b>(40,409)</b> |
| <b>Goodwill</b>                               | <b>823,207</b>   | <b>851,617</b>   | <b>28,410</b>   | <b>932,596</b>   | <b>80,979</b>   |
| <b>Other assets</b>                           | <b>53,024</b>    | <b>55,455</b>    | <b>2,431</b>    | <b>55,871</b>    | <b>416</b>      |
| Inventories                                   | 347,307          | 384,947          | 37,640          | 428,107          | 43,160          |
| Trade receivables, Group companies            | 0                | 0                | 0               | 0                | 0               |
| Trade receivables                             | 317,261          | 302,994          | (14,267)        | 349,117          | 46,123          |
| Other accounts receivable                     | 51,708           | 58,721           | 7,013           | 56,556           | (2,165)         |
| Trade payables, Group companies               | 0                | 0                | 0               | 0                | 0               |
| Trade payables                                | (234,079)        | (236,156)        | (2,077)         | (285,970)        | (49,814)        |
| Other accounts payable                        | (86,343)         | (88,980)         | (2,637)         | (97,234)         | (8,254)         |
| <b>NET CURRENT ASSETS (WORKING CAPITAL)</b>   | <b>395,854</b>   | <b>421,526</b>   | <b>25,672</b>   | <b>450,576</b>   | <b>29,050</b>   |
| <b>NET INVESTMENT</b>                         | <b>2,237,516</b> | <b>2,353,095</b> | <b>115,579</b>  | <b>2,584,352</b> | <b>231,257</b>  |
| Capital                                       | 92,319           | 92,319           | 0               | 92,319           | 0               |
| Reserves                                      | 1,441,298        | 1,480,679        | 39,381          | 1,611,430        | 130,751         |
| Profit for the year                           | 158,592          | 132,759          | (25,833)        | 146,013          | 13,254          |
| Less: Interim dividend                        | 0                | 0                | 0               | 0                | 0               |
| Less: Own shares                              | 0                | 0                | 0               | (277)            | (277)           |
| <b>CAPITAL AND RESERVES</b>                   | <b>1,692,209</b> | <b>1,705,757</b> | <b>13,548</b>   | <b>1,849,485</b> | <b>143,728</b>  |
| <b>Non-controlling interests</b>              | <b>1,028</b>     | <b>22,506</b>    | <b>21,478</b>   | <b>24,320</b>    | <b>1,814</b>    |
| <b>Other liabilities</b>                      | <b>299,475</b>   | <b>286,541</b>   | <b>(12,934)</b> | <b>304,930</b>   | <b>18,389</b>   |
| Loans from Group companies and associates     | 0                | 0                | 0               | 0                | 0               |
| Less: Loans to Group companies and associates | 0                | 0                | 0               | 0                | 0               |
| Bank borrowings                               | 408,570          | 421,148          | 12,578          | 513,053          | 91,905          |
| Special financing                             | 9,974            | 11,457           | 1,483           | 84,843           | 73,386          |
| Less: Cash on hand and at banks               | (156,724)        | (94,014)         | 62,710          | (191,477)        | (97,463)        |
| Less: Cash equivalents                        | (17,016)         | (300)            | 16,716          | (802)            | (502)           |
| <b>NET BORROWINGS</b>                         | <b>244,804</b>   | <b>338,291</b>   | <b>93,487</b>   | <b>405,617</b>   | <b>67,326</b>   |
| <b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>                            | <b>2,237,516</b> | <b>2,353,095</b> | <b>115,579</b>  | <b>2,584,352</b> | <b>231,257</b>  |

In order to properly understand the Group's working capital requirement and borrowings, note that the factor with the biggest impact on these headings is the volume and measurement of inventories. Inventory volumes are sharply cyclical, moving in tandem with rice and wheat harvests, particularly the rice harvest in the northern hemisphere, which is where the Group buys the most rice from growers and cooperatives and where the inventory cycle is longest. More specifically, inventory volumes are at their lowest at the end of the rice season (end of summer) and at their highest at the end of the year.

RICE BUSINESS

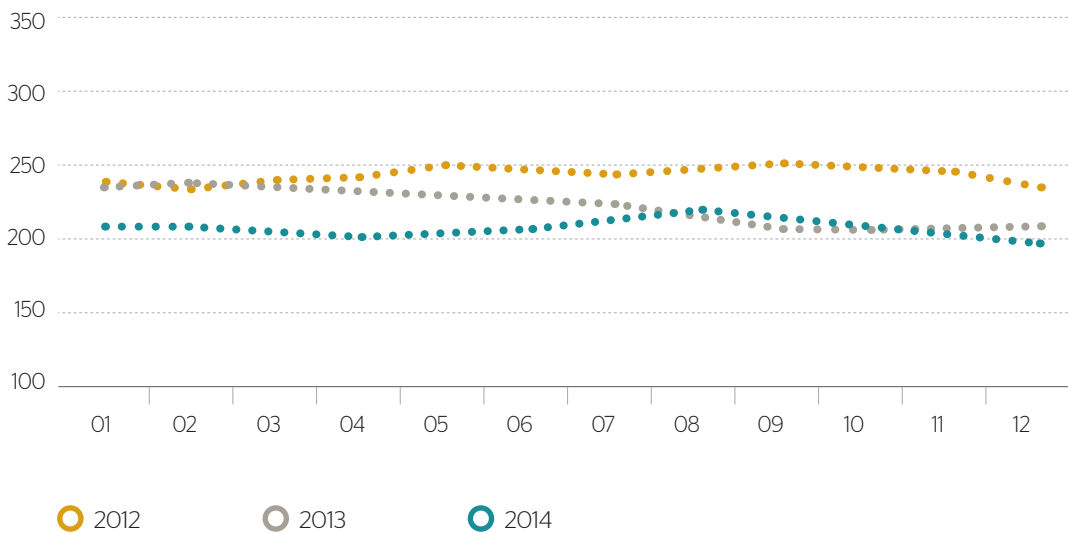
RICE BUSINESS

|                                     | 2012      | 2013      | 2013/2012 | 2014      | 2014/2013 | CAGR 2014-2012 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| Net Revenue                         | 1,105,738 | 1,090,459 | (1.4%)    | 1,139,697 | 4.5%      | 1.5%           |
| EBITDA                              | 161,035   | 137,627   | (14.5%)   | 148,828   | 8.1%      | (3.9%)         |
| % of Net Revenue                    | 14.6%     | 12.6%     |           | 13.1%     |           |                |
| EBIT                                | 133,927   | 110,156   | (17.7%)   | 121,789   | 10.6%     | (4.6%)         |
| % of Net Revenue                    | 12.1%     | 10.1%     |           | 10.7%     |           |                |
| Average working capital requirement | 298,822   | 329,938   | (10.4%)   | 339,882   | (3.0%)    |                |
| Capital employed                    | 729,320   | 751,292   | (3.0%)    | 767,771   | (2.2%)    |                |
| ROCE                                | 18.3      | 14.8      |           | 15.9      |           |                |
| Capex                               | 19,105    | 21,186    | 10.9%     | 32,440    | 53.1%     |                |

Thousands of euros

As indicated in the section addressing the business environment, the market was broadly stable in terms of prices, while global production hit an all-time high, with inventory levels also climbing to historically high levels. Asian rice variety export prices ticked higher in the summer but later reverted in the wake of forecasts for an uneventful El Niño-monsoon season and forecasts for a record harvest.

IPO RICE PRICE INDEX



In the US the season was very strong thanks to a very abundant harvest (+10% vs. 2013/14) which drove a reduction in the US l/g price gap with respect to other markets and a substantial improvement in export possibilities, particularly to South America.

## US HARVEST PRICES

|               | 14-15 | 13-14 | 12-13 |
|---------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Average price | 14.25 | 16.3  | 14.9  |
| Long grain    | 13.04 | 15.4  | 14.4  |
| Medium grain  | 18.11 | 19.2  | 16.7  |

\$/cwt

August-July. (Source: USDA)

The prices of medium grain varieties grown primarily in California held steady, widening the gap with respect to other long grain rices due to scarcity in other traditional markets (Egypt, Australia), coupled with relatively inelastic demand in north-eastern Asia.

The reduced size of the crop in this region was offset by higher long grain plantation volumes in the southern states.

As for the aromatic varieties, it is worth highlighting the fact that basmati rice prices settled back down at just over \$1,000/MT.

**Revenue** growth in this business was driven entirely by volumes, as prices were flat or slightly lower, in line with raw material payments at source. The revenue growth was underpinned by:

- ❖ Recovering volumes at some subsidiaries which had seen volumes decline in prior years: Morocco, where a change in sales strategy accompanied by better control over imports drove growth in branded product sales of 106%; Puerto Rico, where the business had been hindered for years by anti-trust legal battles, with branded product sales jumping 94%.
- ❖ New businesses such as that articulated around functional foods. This market is very promising growth-wise as well as offering an avenue for substituting part of the traditional low value-added offering with products positioned at the higher end of the value chain. The Group is presently in the throes of restructuring its industrial and sales activities around ingredients.
- ❖ The replacement of the traditional product range by those launched in recent years (extensive range of products in a cup, assembly dishes, Sabroz, etc.) are helping to defend market shares and sales by value.
- ❖ Riviana was particularly strong across all products in the US, offsetting the weaker performance at ARI, subject to pressure at the lower end of the domestic market and sharp price competition for its best-selling Abu Bint rice of Asian origin.

**EBITDA** increased by 8.1% year-on-year. Growth in EBITDA outpaced topline growth, implying margin expansion (13.1% in 2014 vs. 12.6% in 2013). The advertising spend was pared back by a slight 2 million euros, virtually all of which in the US.

It is worth singling out Riviana, which posted record revenue of 97 million dollars. The Group maintained its leadership position (21.7% by volume according to the Nielsen XAOC 52-week scantrack) and increased its share by value in a market that expanded by 3% by volume and value. The topline growth was accompanied by margin expansion thanks to the slight downtrend in prices coupled with relatively light competitive pressure in the domestic market.

In contrast, the issues afflicting Texas (scarcity of rain and low reservoir levels, at under 55% of capacity, preventing irrigation in certain traditional rice-producing regions) is now considered endemic and a grave supply threat for the Group's factory in Freeport (Texas), owned by American Rice (ARI). The need to ship rice in from the Mississippi Delta region makes it unable to compete in a significant part of its market. This situation was exacerbated by a decline in exports of Abu Bint-branded products, whose contribution fell to 3.2 million dollars.

These circumstances triggered the need to recognize an impairment loss against this business's goodwill, as detailed in note 14 to the accompanying consolidated financial statements.

The rice businesses in Europe and the rest of the world performed well, shaped by the aforementioned recoveries in Morocco and Puerto Rico and a satisfactory competitive positioning at our Asian subsidiaries thanks to expanded supply possibilities and competitive prices. In contrast, the production of par-boiled rice in Spain was hit by competition from the abovementioned markets. It is also worth noting that the re-establishment of normality in the basmati segment helped to significantly offset the margin erosion sustained in this segment, which is particularly important in northern Europe.

By market, the EBITDA contribution to the non-US rice business was as follows:

|                     | 2014          | %             | 2013          | %             |
|---------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Spain               | 28,539        | 38.9%         | 31,474        | 47.0%         |
| Europe              | 40,873        | 55.7%         | 33,454        | 49.9%         |
| Other               | 3,916         | 5.3%          | 2,100         | 3.1%          |
| <b>TOTAL EBITDA</b> | <b>73,328</b> | <b>100.0%</b> | <b>67,028</b> | <b>100.0%</b> |

The products launched in recent years continued to stage very healthy performances with the Sabroz brand spearheading this trend, registering year-on-year growth in sales volumes of 35% to 4,435 MT. Other new products launched in Spain such as SOS Sabores, the Sundari range of aromatic rice and Scotti Italian rice products helped the Group to defend its market shares against the backdrop of a stagnant or even shrinking market (by volume).

The rice cups deserve special mention. This product is creating cross-fertilization opportunities, paving the way for introduction of new products and new market penetration. The goal is to build a category comprising multiple formats (regular and XL), products (rice, pasta, other cereals and legumes), uses (mix & go) and cooking methods (microwave, pan-fry). This segment registered growth in Spain of 10% by value and 17% by volume and growth in the US of 10% by value.

**ROCE** in this business rose sharply thanks to wider profitability coupled with broadly unchanged average working capital after factoring in the impact of the new factory in India. Nevertheless, this return metric remains below 2011 levels due to the decline in profitability at ARI.

The most important investments undertaken in this business (**capex**) related to a new frozen pasta nest line (3 million euros), new finished product silos in Italy (1 million euros), a new packaging line at the Antwerp factory (0.6 million euros), the expansion and upgrade of the Wormer plant (1.6 million euros), the expansion and upgrade of the Algemesi mill (3.2 million euros), productivity improvements at the factory in Freeport (2.4 million euros) and the installation a new gluten-free production line in Memphis for 8.7 million euros.

## PASTA BUSINESS

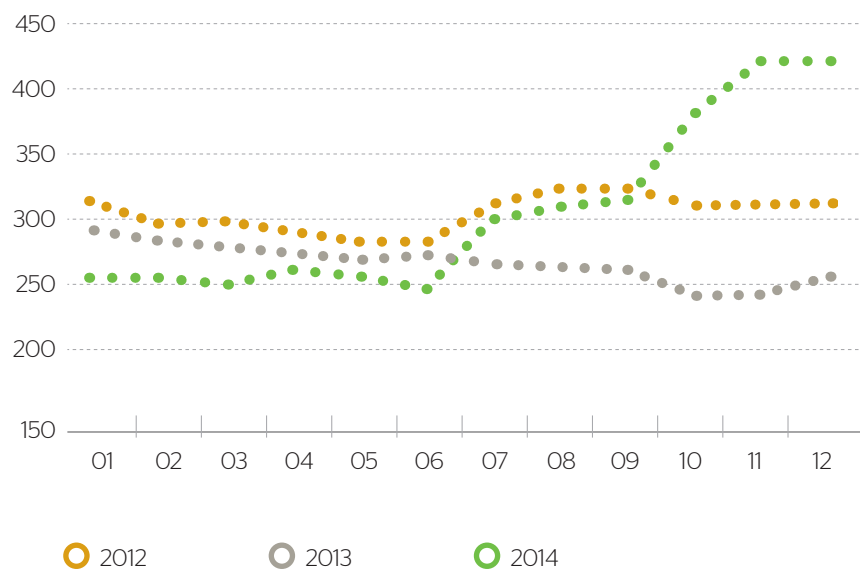
### PASTA BUSINESS

|                                     | 2012    | 2013    | 2013/2012 | 2014      | 2014/2013 | TAMI 2014-2012 |
|-------------------------------------|---------|---------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| Net Revenue                         | 914,783 | 915,120 | 0.0%      | 1,029,294 | 12.5%     | 6.1%           |
| EBITDA                              | 146,132 | 152,955 | 4.7%      | 146,317   | (4.3%)    | 0.1%           |
| % of Net Revenue                    | 16.0%   | 16.7%   |           | 14.2%     |           |                |
| EBIT                                | 118,884 | 125,725 | 5.8%      | 114,397   | (9.0%)    | (1.9%)         |
| % of Net Revenue                    | 13.0%   | 13.7%   |           | 11.1%     |           |                |
| Average working capital requirement | 90,115  | 76,369  | 15.3%     | 94,810    | (24.1%)   |                |
| Capital employed                    | 520,948 | 508,429 | 2.4%      | 578,767   | (13.8%)   |                |
| ROCE                                | 22.4    | 25.7    |           | 20.5      |           |                |
| Capex                               | 33,040  | 38,720  | 17.2%     | 34,249    | (11.5%)   |                |

Thousands of euros

As noted earlier in this report, durum wheat prices started to shoot up in June and, coinciding with the new harvest, ended the year at over 400 euros a tonne. Strong rains in the run-up to the harvest in Canada and a reduction in planted acreage in the European Union (particularly in France where quality issues arose again as a result of abundant seasonal rains) drove a drop in global production to the lowest level since 2002, as well as grain quality issues. The quality defects even prompted the emergence of specific markets for grain meeting pasta-making quality standards.

### DURUM WHEAT PRICES, EUR/TONNE



**Revenue** in this division increased thanks to the first-time consolidation of Olivieri (consolidated for just one month in 2013) and Garofalo (from June). The new businesses contributed 103 million euros. Both new companies are an important component of the Group's strategy and business development plans are in place to expand their reach to markets management views as complementary.

The rest of the year-on-year change is attributable to volume growth in France, the US and Canada, albeit accompanied by a less favorable sales mix in the latter two markets. The Group only started to pass the sharp growth in raw material costs on to end customers towards the end of the year.

By geographical markets:

- ❖ In France, the dry and fresh pasta markets increased by volume (+0.9% and +4.4%, respectively), with sales volumes of the Panzani (+1.7% volume growth in dry pasta) and Lustucru Frais (+7.2% volume growth in fresh products) brands despite the issues facing the retail sector, with our major customers in the throes of far-reaching concentration as a result of fierce competition. Nevertheless, Panzani registered record growth and saw its brand recognition increase (second most popular brand in the consumer preferences poll taken by Panel Toluna in July 2014). Innovation was key to surmounting the price war, particularly in the lower value-added product categories. The Group created new product categories (potato and potato derivative-based products such as cubes, noisettes, crisps and omelettes; +19% vs. 2013) and repositioned its fresh product line, launching Triglonis under the Lustucru Selection brand.
- ❖ Although it only contributed for six months of the year, Garofalo performed very well. This brand unquestionably leads the premium pasta segment in Italy and registered growth of 4.8% by volume and 6.8% by value. The Group has begun to distribute Garofalo products in other markets where management believes this range will complement existing product ranges.
- ❖ United States. This market contracted somewhat (-0.5% by volume) and was characterized by intense promotional activity (-1.8% by value). Against this weak overall backdrop, the contraction was more accentuated in the healthy pasta segment (which encompasses wholegrain pasta, high-fiber pasta, vegetable pasta, low-calorie pasta and gluten-free pasta). Within this segment, only gluten-free products registered growth; the Group has stepped up its strategic commitment to this niche with new varieties and specific investments at the Memphis factory.
- ❖ Canada. The dry pasta segment registered growth by volume (+1.4%) but contracted by value (-0.9%) due to intense price competition. As in the US, consumption of healthy pasta trended lower in all categories except for the gluten-free niche. Group subsidiary Catelli Foods continues to lead the market with a share of 31.9%. The fresh pasta segment registered growth by volume and value of 6.5% and 4.6%, respectively, and Olivieri defended its leadership with a market share of 45.7%.

**EBITDA** narrowed by 4.3% to leave it virtually flat over a three-year period, despite the positive contribution by the newer businesses, most particularly Garofalo, which contributed 7.4 million euros during the six months this business was consolidated. The advertising investment was pared back slightly (by 2 million euros) on a like-for-like basis (stripping out the new companies).

France's EBITDA contribution declined only slightly (-0.8 million euros) despite the pressure implied by supply costs thanks to volume growth, a powerful sales leadership policy and continual productivity gains at local factories (investment in the French pasta and semolina plants) and facilities (new logistics platform).

The negative note was struck by NWP whose profitability fell significantly due to the decline in sales volumes in the healthy pasta segment which led to a less favorable business mix, compounded by difficulties in passing on higher raw material costs due to intense price competition. The devaluation of the Canadian dollar also hurt this business as roughly 25% of this sub-group's income is generated in this currency.



NWP encompasses the dry and fresh pasta businesses in the US and Canada. The Olivieri-branded fresh pasta and sauces business suffered an important setback when Costco removed some of its products from its supermarket shelves to make way for its private-label brands; this company has a long way to go in order to improve its processes, renovate its brands, rejuvenate and expand its product portfolio and renew its sales and marketing policy, all these targets having been set down in its 5-year business plan.

The **ROCE** in the pasta business declined to 20.5% due to the reduction in profitability as the increase in working capital and capital employed corresponds to the new businesses.

**Capex** was concentrated at the factory level. Specifically, the Group added capacity and drove productivity gains in fresh products in Communay (vicinity of Lyon) (6.8 million euros to put investment to date at 23 million euros), which launched its first production lines at the end of the year; bought new equipment for the semolina plants (2.2 million euros), to expand capacity at the dry pasta factories (7.8 million euros) and for the couscous factory (2 million euros); invested in a new packaging line in Winchester (1.2 million euros), a new short pasta line in St. Louis (2.1 million euros) and upgraded a long pasta line in Winchester (1.1 million euros).

#### **STAFF MATTERS AND ENVIRONMENTAL DISCLOSURES**

The Group's ultimate objective on the labor front is to foster mutually-beneficial labor relations, making its employees feel vested in the organization, encouraging their career development, promoting equal opportunities and taking a zero-tolerance stance on discrimination and establishing, in a nutshell, a tranquil workplace climate.

Each of the Group companies is governed by the labor legislation prevailing in the countries in which they do business. In addition, the bigger subsidiaries have formulated their own human resource policies that regulate relations between management and employees. Above all of these policies, and notwithstanding the terms of the collective bargaining agreements of the various companies comprising the Ebro Foods Group, there is a corporate Code of Conduct designed not only to ensure the ethical and responsible conduct of the professionals of all Ebro Foods companies on the job but also to serve as a guide for defining employment policies and safeguards, workplace health and safety policy, training initiatives and the principles for guaranteeing the absence of discrimination and the promotion of diversity and equality in hiring decisions.

Note 8 to the consolidated financial statements provides additional staff disclosures.

Regarding the Group's sustainability policies, one of the Ebro Foods Group's 's basic management commitments is to provide its companies with the tools and measures needed to strike the optimal balance between their business activities and environmental protection. For more information, go to note 29 of the consolidated financial statements and the Ebro Food Group's Annual Sustainability Report.

### 3. LIQUIDITY AND FINANCING

The Group's finance department attempts to configure a capital structure that permits credit ratio stability while providing business flexibility in the short and long term.

The finance structure is articulated around long-term borrowings that fund the major investments and are generally denominated in the same currency as the investments in order to achieve a natural currency hedge. The rest of the Group's financing is arranged on a short-term basis and takes the form of credit facilities that cover shifting working capital requirements. All this financing is arranged in tandem with the Group's short- and long-term growth plans, which are crystallized in its annual budgets, budget revisions and multi-year business plans.

The breakdown of the Group's financial liabilities and the capital requirements embedded in certain long-term loan agreements are detailed in note 22 to the consolidated financial statements.

#### CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

##### Acquisition-led growth (asset and business acquisitions)

The main investment made in 2014 was the acquisition of 52% of the Garofalo Group (note 5 to the consolidated financial statements) for 63.5 million euros, 58.3 million of which was paid upfront, while the remainder was deferred. The acquisition was financed using a mix of internally-generated funds and third-party credit lines.

##### Organic growth

The Group underpins its pursuit of growth and innovation with a capex policy that in recent years has entailed the overhaul of its instant rice and fresh pasta productive capacity. Capex (cash outflows) during the past three years:

| YEAR | AMOUNT |
|------|--------|
| 2012 | 52,930 |
| 2013 | 61,308 |
| 2014 | 67,123 |

*Thousands of euros*

Since 2013, investment in innovation has been concentrated around the Fresh Pasta Plan and physically around the Lyon region. The goal is to increase capacity for the production of products such as pan-fry gnocchis and other potato-based dishes. In the rice business, capital expenditure has been mainly earmarked to the rice-based ingredients project, capacity additions in frozen products and investment in a gluten-free pasta line in 2014 (8.7 million euros) at the Memphis factory in order to cater to growth in this segment.

#### FINANCIAL POSITION

The Group is very satisfied with its leverage position.

## NET DEBT

|                           | CONSOLIDATED |           |           |           |           |
|---------------------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|                           | 2012         | 2013      | 2013/2012 | 2014      | 2014/2013 |
| Equity                    | 1,692,209    | 1,705,757 | 0.8%      | 1,849,485 | 8.4%      |
| Net debt                  | 244,804      | 338,291   | 38.2%     | 405,617   | 19.9%     |
| Average net debt          | 294,114      | 260,820   | (11.3%)   | 333,178   | 27.7%     |
| Leverage                  | 14.5%        | 19.8%     | 371%      | 21.9%     | 10.6%     |
| Leverage (avge. debt) (1) | 17.4%        | 15.3%     | (12.0%)   | 18.0%     | 17.8%     |
| EBITDA                    | 299,226      | 282,392   | (5.6%)    | 287,251   | 1.7%      |
| Coverage                  | 0.82         | 1.20      |           | 1.41      |           |

Thousands of euros

(1) Ratio of average net debt (interest-bearing) over equity (excluding NCI)

Note that 59 million euros of borrowings relate to the recognition for accounting purposes of the call option over the remaining 48% of the Garofalo Group. For accounting purposes, this unexercised option has been recognized as an increase in financial borrowings. The coverage ratio remains at an optimal level and implies ample scope for capital expenditure and continued M&A-led growth. The change in borrowings was shaped by the trend in free cash flow generation:

|   | CONSOLIDATED   |                 |           |               |           |
|---|----------------|-----------------|-----------|---------------|-----------|
|   | 2012           | 2013            | 2013/2012 | 2014          | 2014/2013 |
| Cash flows from operating activities        | 220,734        | 161,118         | (27.0%)   | 211,275       | 31.1%     |
| Cash flows used in investing activities     | (37,029)       | (163,961)       | 342.8%    | (60,193)      | (63.3%)   |
| Cash flows used in share-based transactions | (44,296)       | (92,319)        | 108.4%    | (76,833)      | (16.8%)   |
| <b>FREE CASH FLOW</b>                       | <b>139,409</b> | <b>(95,162)</b> |           | <b>74,249</b> |           |

Thousands of euros

Note that in 2013 the working capital requirement implied by the new factory in India and the need to hedge certain rice-related sourcing risks eroded operating cash flow by around 30 million euros. 2014 was marked by a return to normality in the rice business whereas the increase in durum wheat purchase prices did not significantly erode cash flow from operations via growth in inventories as this inventory cycle is shorter and was offset by other changes in payment and collection terms.

The other major movements correspond to:

- ❖ Investing activities. Capital expenditure, as outlined above, the purchase and/or sale of various businesses in recent years (acquisition of Olivieri and Scotti in 2013 and the acquisition of Garofalo and exit from Deoleo in 2014.)
- ❖ Share-based transactions. Dividend payment (special 2013 dividend) and trading in own shares (sale of treasury shares in 2012).

## **4. RISK MANAGEMENT TARGETS AND POLICIES AND USE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**

The Ebro Foods Group, guided by the Internal Control Integrated Framework of the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (“COSO”) has established enterprise risk identification, assessment, management and reporting systems.

In 2011 the Group defined its risk map which it manages using a computer application called GIRO. The risk map establishes a risk matrix at the Group and individual company levels, assigning probabilities of occurrence as a function of the related impacts and risk mitigation plans to each. Each year the Group reviews its key risks, the associated risks and the related control mechanisms.

Section E of the Corporate Governance Report provides a detailed description of the main risks to which the Group is exposed, its control systems and how it attempts to mitigate them.

### **FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT AND USE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**

The main financial instruments used by the Group are bank loans, bank overdraft facilities, equity instruments, cash and short-term deposits. In addition, the Group has other financial assets and liabilities such as trade accounts receivable and payable.

These financial instruments expose the Group to market risks via variability in interest rates, exchange rates and in the fair value of certain financial instruments. They also expose it to liquidity and credit risk.

The Board of Directors, with the assistance of its advisory and decision-making committees, reviews and establishes the policies for managing each of these risks.

A description of these risks and the mitigating measures taken is provided in note 28 to the consolidated financial statements.

## **5. EVENTS AFTER THE REPORTING PERIOD**

There have been no significant events or developments between the end of the reporting period and the date of authorizing this management report for issue other than the CNMC verdict received on March 3, 2015 (note 21 to the consolidated financial statements).

## 6. GROUP OUTLOOK

Although it may sound hollow after several years foreshadowing a recovery, general dynamics suggest that the recovery should indeed continue in 2015, although there is widespread consensus that the pace will vary by country. The firming being evidenced in macroeconomic and financial indicators pressingly needs to translate into tangible improvement for households. This trickle-down effect has yet to materialize even in the US, the developed economy furthest along the recovery path. Tailwinds include oil prices at around \$50/bbl, decisively accommodating, investment-friendly monetary policy in Europe and exchange rate trends.

The outlook for the rice market is for stability, marked by a gentle downtrend in long grain purchase prices in the wake of a beneficial monsoon season that left excellent harvests in southern Asia at the end of 2014. It remains to be seen how dollar trends will affect imports in this currency but it looks as if they will make Spanish rice, particularly par-boiled varieties for export, less competitive. The prices of short and medium grains, meanwhile, are expected to rise due to low reservoir levels in California and Australia where these varieties are most commonly grown. The production situation in Texas is not expected to change significantly.

### RICE BUSINESS

The outlook for consumption trends and demand for higher value-added products such as the instant and ready-to-serve rices in the US is bright. The concerns lie mainly with the apparently unstoppable appreciation of the dollar and its impact on US rice exports. If the price gap with rice from other markets increases, we could see intense competition exerting downward pressure on prices.

Despite these potential issues, the budget calls for slight growth in volumes supported by a higher marketing budget and intensification of commercial activity in a bid to offset a potential price war. Riviana is strategically committed to innovation, particularly instant and ready-to-serve (RTS) rice (minute rice) as well as new rice and bean mixes in RTS, instant and traditional formats.

Work at the Freeport plant (Texas) will focus on enhancing productivity to compete with Arkansas and Louisiana producers even though the scarcity of local rice will continue to imply an additional competitiveness-eroding cost factor.

No major changes are anticipated in Europe or the rest of the world. There is scope for continued improvement in northern European markets where the fruits of the restructuring efforts undertaken in 2013 and consolidation of the ingredients segment are gradually becoming tangible. The south-east Asian subsidiaries are expected to continue to perform well and continue to focus on providing the Group with quality rice at compelling prices. Innovation is the key value driver in this business, with new products compensating for volume contraction in traditional products. However, in 2015 the Group plans to step up efforts to defend the traditional segment, giving new product launches a rest and rebalancing the advertising and marketing budget. Lastly, the Group expects momentum in Brillante Sabroz to continue and is planning to create a full range of RTS rice.

## PASTA BUSINESS

The strategy in the pasta business will be shaped by the extraordinary rise in durum wheat prices. This situation requires complex negotiations with the retail sector in order to pass on price growth, a process that is increasingly more difficult in light of sector consolidation which is boosting the bargaining power of the remaining retailers. In addition, there is little room for manoeuvre in markets experiencing intense price competition (such as the US).

In the US, the Group is looking for consolidation of the gluten-free product range (multi-grain mix of rice, corn and quinoa) and low-calorie ranges and plans to make further progress on the launch of the Healthy Harvest range of ancient grains (wholegrain flour reformulated with other cereals with higher nutritional content) which it hopes will garner more supermarket shelf space, offsetting the downtrend in traditional healthy pasta products. Margins are likely to remain under pressure from launch costs; however the foundations will be laid for profitability gains going forward.

Olivieri is expected to continue to lead the fresh pasta and sauces market in Canada. The Group plans to reposition the company in the sauces segment and continue to adapt its strategy to the Group's needs. We expect these changes to begin to bear fruit from 2016.

In Europe the strategy is to defend margins despite higher raw material prices. Over a medium term horizon, the Group will analyze the entire supply chain in search of greater market stability in the wake of burgeoning volatility in recent years. The Group will continue to invest to boost productivity and capacity to support new launches. The new fresh products factory should be fully operational in 2015.

Other lines of strategic initiative planned include exploration of new sales channels that foster disintermediation (e-commerce), new product development (fresh pasta snacks) and new market approaches.

Development of the Garofalo brand is a top priority. In addition to defending its presence in existing markets, management believes this brand has the power to drive the Group's growth in the premium pasta segment; as such it plans to expand its distribution to the markets where management believes there is demand for this range and where a premium range would complement existing product lines.

## 7. R&D ACTIVITY

The Ebro Foods Group has always been a front-runner in terms of new consumer trends and an international benchmark in the research and development of products applied to the food sector. Aware that R&D is essential to the Group's quality and differentiation strategy, it remained unwaveringly committed to innovation in 2014.

In total, R&D expenditure totaled 4.3 million euros in 2014 (2.8 million euros of which funded internally and 1.5 million, externally).

Capitalized development costs amounted to 20.2 million euros, most of which corresponded to gluten-free products, the fresh pasta segment and frozen pasta portions (18.4 million euros on aggregate), with the rest earmarked to new manufacturing processes and/or product treatments.

The Group has articulated its R&D engine around research centers located in France, the US and Spain. These centers and their main projects in 2014 were:

1. CEREC, located in St. Genis Laval (France) with nine employees, focuses on the fresh pasta, potato, ready-cooked fresh meals and sauce segments of the pasta business. In 2014 it concentrated on expansion of the 'bolo balls' range of sauces, new squeezable and tube-based sauce formats, repositioning of the Triglioni fresh pasta range at the high end of the market and the development and launch of Croque (sandwiches).
2. CRECERPAL, located in Marseilles with eight professionals at the raw material analytical laboratory plus an assistant PhD, centers its research effort on developments in the durum wheat category: dry pasta, couscous and new food transformation technology applied to the food industry. In 2014 it continued to work on new uses for durum wheat flour for batters, breads and baked goods, development of new recipes for aromatic and spiced rice, and dry pasta product quality improvements.
3. The US center, with five employees who work to develop new products, processes and technologies and adapt them for the US rice and pasta divisions. Last year its efforts focused on rounding out the development and launch of the new Healthy Harvest (ancient grains) range, expanding the gluten-free and low-cal ranges, a series of initiatives designed to boost efficiency and productivity by means of new or reformulated processes and the fine-tuning of new grain varieties for the ready-to-serve cup range.
4. Centers associated with the Herba Group in Moncada (Valencia) and the San José de la Rinconada plant, with 31 employees devoted to the development of new and/or improved product and technologies and to the provision of technical assistance with rice technology for the fast food and catering distribution channels. The most important project underway at this center is the development of a line of functional flours and rice-, cereal- and legume-based ingredients that are expected to form the kernel of an entirely new business line.

## 8. OWN SHARE TRANSACTIONS

In 2014, the Parent had the power to buy back and sell own shares under the scope of the authorization granted at the Annual General Meeting held on June 15, 2011 for a period of five years (and duly notified to the CNMV in keeping with prevailing legislation). In 2014, the Company bought back 858,506 shares, sold 814,939 and delivered 24,104 own shares to employees.

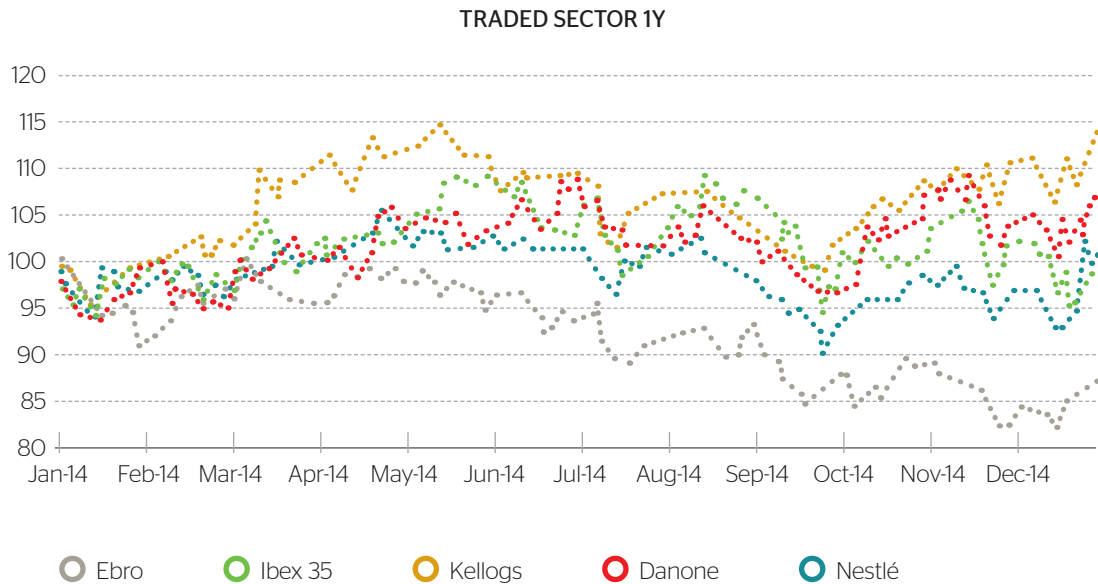
At December 31, 2014, the Company held 19,463 own shares as treasury shares, equivalent to 0.013% of share capital. Management had not established any specific purpose for these own shares at year-end.

## 9. OTHER RELEVANT DISCLOSURES

### AVERAGE PAYMENT PERIOD

As required under the Spanish Corporate Enterprises Act, it is hereby noted that the average payment period of the companies domiciled in Spain was 26 days in 2014 and 27 days in 2013, which is less than the deadline stipulated in legislation passed to tackle supplier non-payment.

### SHARE PRICE PERFORMANCE



Updated research reports by the analysts covering the Company's stock are available for consultation on the corporate website.

### DIVIDEND DISTRIBUTION

At the Annual General Meeting of June 4, 2014, the Parent's shareholders ratified the motion to pay a cash dividend with a charge against unrestricted reserves of 0.50 euros per share, for a total payment of 76,932 thousand euros; this dividend was paid in equal instalments of 0.125 euros per share on April 2, July 2, October 2 and December 22, 2014.



# **ANNUAL CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014**

## ANNEX 1

### ANNUAL CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT OF LISTED COMPANIES

#### DETAILS OF ISSUER

|                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| <b>YEAR ENDED</b>              | 31/12/2014   |
| <b>TAX REGISTRATION NUMBER</b> | A47412333  |
| <b>NAME</b>                    | EBRO FOODS, S.A.                                   |
| <b>REGISTERED OFFICE</b>       | PASEO DE LA CASTELLANA 20, PLANTAS 3ª Y 4ª, MADRID |

# ANNUAL CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT LISTED COMPANIES

## A OWNERSHIP STRUCTURE

A.1 Complete the following table on the capital of the company:

| Date latest modification | Capital ( € ) | Number of shares | Number of voting rights |
|--------------------------|---------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| 11/06/2002               | 92,319,235.20 | 153,865,392      | 153,865,392             |

Indicate whether there are different classes of shares with different associated rights:

YES  NO

A.2 Give details on the direct and indirect holders of significant interests in your company at year-end, excluding directors:

| Name of shareholder                              | Number of direct voting rights | Number of indirect voting rights | Interest / total voting rights (%) |
|--|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| CORPORACIÓN FINANCIERA ALBA, S.A.                | 0                              | 15,400,000                       | 10.01%                             |
| JUAN LUIS GÓMEZ-TRENOR FOS                       | 0                              | 10,924,443                       | 7.10%                              |
| SOCIEDAD ANÓNIMA DAMM                            | 0                              | 15,426,438                       | 10.03%                             |
| SOCIEDAD ESTATAL DE PARTICIPACIONES INDUSTRIALES | 0                              | 15,940,377                       | 10.36%                             |

| Name of indirect holder of the interest          | Through: Name of direct holder of the interest        | Number of voting rights |
|--|---|-------------------------|
| CORPORACIÓN FINANCIERA ALBA, S.A.                | ALBA PARTICIPACIONES, S.A.                            | 15,400,000              |
| JUAN LUIS GÓMEZ-TRENOR FOS                       | EMPRESAS COMERCIALES E INDUSTRIALES VALENCIANAS, S.L. | 10,924,443              |
| SOCIEDAD ANÓNIMA DAMM                            | CORPORACIÓN ECONÓMICA DAMM, S.A.                      | 15,426,438              |
| SOCIEDAD ESTATAL DE PARTICIPACIONES INDUSTRIALES | ALIMENTOS Y ACEITES, S.A.                             | 15,940,377              |

Indicate the principal movements in the shareholding structure during the year:

A.3 Complete the following tables on directors with voting rights in the company:

| Name of director                                      | Number of direct voting rights | Number of indirect voting rights | % of total voting rights held |
|---|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS                            | 30                             | 0                                | 0.00%                         |
| ALIMENTOS Y ACEITES, S.A.                             | 15,940,377                     | 0                                | 10.36%                        |
| FERNANDO CASTELLÓ CLEMENTE                            | 2,307,828                      | 0                                | 1.50%                         |
| JOSÉ IGNACIO COMENGE SÁNCHEZ-REAL                     | 3,030                          | 3,080,000                        | 2.00%                         |
| EMPRESAS COMERCIALES E INDUSTRIALES VALENCIANAS, S.L. | 10,707,282                     | 0                                | 6.96%                         |

| Name of director                    | Number of direct voting rights | Number of indirect voting rights | % of total voting rights held |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| HISPAFOODS INVEST, S.L.             | 13,790,336                     | 10,707,282                       | 15.92%                        |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | 8,969                          | 2,044                            | 0.01%                         |
| JOSÉ NIETO DE LA CIERVA             | 30                             | 0                                | 0.00%                         |
| EUGENIO RUIZ-GÁLVEZ PRIEGO          | 153                            | 0                                | 0.00%                         |
| JOSÉ ANTONIO SEGURADO GARCÍA        | 100                            | 0                                | 0.00%                         |

| Name of indirect holder of the interest | Through: Name of direct holder of the interest | Number of direct voting rights |
|---|--|--------------------------------|
| JOSÉ IGNACIO COMENGE SÁNCHEZ-REAL       | LA FUENTE SALADA, S.L.                         | 3,080,000                      |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A.     | HISPAFOODS INVEST, S.L.                        | 10,707,282                     |
| JOSÉ NIETO DE LA CIERVA                 | Mª MACARENA AGUIRRE GALATAS                    | 2,044                          |

|   |               |
|---|---------------|
| <b>Total % of voting rights held by board members</b> | <b>36.89%</b> |
|---|---------------|

Complete the following tables on directors with stock options in the company:

- A.4 Indicate family, commercial, contractual or corporate relationships among significant shareholders known to the company, if any, except any that are insignificant and those deriving from ordinary commercial business:

| Name of related parties           |
|-----------------------------------|
| CORPORACIÓN FINANCIERA ALBA, S.A. |
| ALBA PARTICIPACIONES, S.A.        |

**Type of relationship:** Corporate

**Brief description:**

Corporación Financiera Alba, S.A. holds a direct interest of 100% in Alba Participaciones, S.A.

| Name of related parties          |
|----------------------------------|
| SOCIEDAD ANÓNIMA DAMM            |
| CORPORACIÓN ECONÓMICA DAMM, S.A. |

**Type of relationship:** Corporate

**Brief description:**

Sociedad Anónima Damm holds a direct interest of 99.93% in Corporación Económica Damm, S.A.

| Name of related parties                               |
|---|
| JUAN LUIS GÓMEZ-TRENOR FOS                            |
| EMPRESAS COMERCIALES E INDUSTRIALES VALENCIANAS, S.L. |

**Type of relationship:** Corporate

**Brief description:**

Juan Luis Gómez-Trenor Fos owns 100% of the capital of Empresas Comerciales e Industriales Valencianas, S.A.: direct interest of 99.995% and indirect interest of 0.005% through Valvega, S.L.

Mr Gómez-Trenor Fos is the Sole Director of Empresas Comerciales e Industriales Valencianas, S.A.

| Name of related parties                          |
|--|
| SOCIEDAD ESTATAL DE PARTICIPACIONES INDUSTRIALES |

**Type of relationship:** Corporate

**Brief description:**

Sociedad Estatal de Participaciones Industriales holds a direct interest of 91.9625% in Alimentos y Aceites, S.A.

A.5 Describe the commercial, contractual or corporate relationships between significant shareholders and the company and/or its group, if any, except any that are insignificant and those deriving from ordinary commercial business:

A.6 State whether the company has been notified of any shareholders' agreements that may affect it pursuant to sections 530 and 531 of the Corporate Enterprises Act. If any, describe them briefly and list the shareholders bound by the agreement:

YES  NO

Indicate and describe any concerted actions among company shareholders of which the company is aware:

YES  NO

Expressly indicate any change or break-up of those agreements or concerted actions, if any, that has taken place during the year.

A.7 Indicate any individuals or entities that exercise or may exercise control over the company in pursuance of section 4 of the Securities Market Act and identify it/them if appropriate:

YES  NO

**Comments**

A.8 Complete the following tables on the company's treasury stock:

At year-end:

| Number of direct shares | Number of indirect shares (*) | Treasury stock/capital (%) |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 19,463                  | 0                             | 0.02%                      |

(\*) Through:

Describe any significant variations during the year, according to the provisions of Royal Decree 1362/2007:

A.9. Indicate the term and conditions of the authorisation granted by the General Meeting to the Board to buy or sell own shares

The Annual General Meeting of Shareholders held on second call on 15 June 2011 resolved, under item five on the agenda, to authorise the Board of Directors to buy back own shares and reduce the company's capital and to authorise

subsidiaries to acquire shares in the parent company, by purchase or on any other payment basis, subject to the limits and other requisites stipulated in law.

a. Conditions of the authorisation

Authorisation to the Board of Directors to buy back own shares and authorisation of subsidiaries to acquire shares in the parent company, by purchase or on any other payment basis, on one or several occasions, subject to the limits and other requisites stipulated in sections 146, 509 and other applicable provisions of the Corporate Enterprises Act:

- The par value of the shares acquired directly or indirectly, when added to the par value of any shares already held by the company and its subsidiaries, may not at any time exceed 10% of the capital.

- The acquisition, including any shares that the company, or any person acting in his own name but on behalf of the company, has acquired earlier and holds as treasury stock, does not reduce the equity to below the amount of capital plus legal or statutory undistributable reserves. For this purpose, equity shall be the amount calculated as such according to the criteria for drawing up the annual accounts, less any profits attributed directly thereto and plus any uncalled subscribed capital and the par value and share premiums of any subscribed capital that is accounted for as liabilities.

- The shares acquired must be fully paid up.

- The minimum and maximum price of the acquisition must be equivalent to the par value of the own shares bought back and their market price on an official secondary market, respectively, at the time of purchase.

b. Contents of the authorisation

- Authorisation of the Board to buy back own shares, by virtue of a direct decision or through delegation to the Executive Committee or such person or persons as the Board may authorise for this purpose, to hold those shares as treasury stock, dispose of them or, as the case may be, propose their redemption to the General Meeting, subject to the limits stipulated in law and the conditions established in this resolution. The authorisation is extended to the possibility of buying back own shares for delivery directly to employees or directors of the company or its group, on one or several occasions, or upon exercise of any stock options that they may hold, pursuant to s. 146.1(a), paragraph 3, of the Corporate Enterprises Act.

- Authorisation of the Board to reduce the capital in order to redeem shares bought back by the company or acquired by any of the companies in its group, against the capital (for their par value) and unappropriated reserves (for the amount of their acquisition in excess of that par value), in such amounts as may be deemed fit from time to time, up to the maximum of the own shares held from time to time.

- Delegation to the Board to execute the resolution to reduce the capital, so that it may do so on one or several occasions or decline to do so, within a period not exceeding 5 years from the date of this General Meeting, taking whatsoever actions may be necessary for this purpose or required by prevailing legislation.

c. Term of the authorisation

- The authorisations are granted for a maximum of five years from the date of the General Meeting.

The resolutions transcribed rendered null and void the corresponding resolutions adopted at the General Meeting held on 1 June 2010 and remain in force, not having been since revoked.

**A.10** Indicate any constraints on the transferability of shares and/or any restrictions on voting rights. In particular, indicate the existence of any constraint or limitation that may hamper takeover of the company through the acquisition of its shares on the market.

YES  NO

**A.11** Indicate whether the General Meeting has resolved to apply the breakthrough rule against a takeover bid, under Act 6/2007:

YES  NO

If so, explain the measures approved and the terms on which the restrictions will become ineffective:

A.12 State whether the company has issued any shares that are not traded on an EU regulated market.

YES  NO

If appropriate, indicate the different classes of shares and the rights and obligations conferred for each class.

## B. GENERAL MEETING

B.1 Indicate whether there are any differences between the quorums established for General Meetings and the minimums stipulated in the Corporate Enterprises Act and, if any, explain.

YES  NO

B.2 Indicate whether there are any differences in respect of the system stipulated in the Corporate Enterprises Act for adopting corporate resolutions and, if any, explain.

YES  NO

What differences exist in respect of the system stipulated in the Corporate Enterprises Act?

B.3 Indicate the rules for alteration of the company's articles of association. In particular, indicate the majorities stipulated for altering the articles of association and the rules, if any, protecting shareholders' rights in any alteration of the articles.

There are no requirements for altering the articles of association other than those stipulated in the Corporate Enterprises Act.

B.4 Give details of attendance of general meetings held during the year of this report and the previous year:

| Date General Meeting | Details of Attendance |            |                   |        | Total  |
|----------------------|-----------------------|------------|-------------------|--------|--------|
|                      | % in person           | % by proxy | % distance voting |        |        |
|                      |                       |            | Electronic vote   | Others |        |
| 04/06/2013           | 1.71%                 | 63.69%     | 0.00%             | 0.00%  | 65.40% |
| 04/06/2014           | 5.29%                 | 65.67%     | 0.00%             | 0.00%  | 70.96% |

B.5 Are any restrictions are established in the articles of association requiring a minimum number of shares to attend general meetings?

YES  NO

B.6 State whether it has been ruled that certain decisions which entail a structural modification of the company (spin-offs, sale and purchase of essential operating assets, transactions equivalent to liquidation of the company...) are to be laid before the general meeting for approval even though this is not expressly required under commercial law.

YES  NO

## B.7 Indicate the address and access to the company's website and where to find information on corporate governance and other information on general meetings that must be made available to shareholders through the company's website.

The corporate website of Ebro Foods, <http://www.ebrofoods.es>, is set up as a vehicle of continuous, up-to-date information for the company's stakeholders and the financial market in general.

In this respect, the home page includes a specific section, called "Information for shareholders and investors", which contains all the information required under the applicable legal provisions.

Pursuant to current legislation, this section includes the chapter on Corporate Governance at the following address:

<http://www.ebrofoods.es/informacion-para-accionistas-e-inversores/gobierno-corporativo/reglamento-de-la-junta-general/> or:  
<http://www.ebrofoods.es/information-for-shareholders-and-investors/corporate-governance/regulations-of-the-general-meeting/>

And within that Corporate Governance section we can find all the information that the company makes available to shareholders for general meetings, specifically at <http://www.ebrofoods.es/informacion-para-accionistas-e-inversores/gobierno-corporativo/junta-general-de-accionistas/> (or: <http://www.ebrofoods.es/information-for-shareholders-and-investors/corporate-governance/general-meeting/>). There is also a direct link to the General Meeting of the current year from the home page (<http://www.ebrofoods.es/>).

The Corporate Governance chapter is structured in the following sub-sections:

- Regulations of the General Meeting
- General Meeting of Shareholders
- Shareholders' Agreements
- Regulations of the Board
- Board of Directors
- Corporate Governance Report
- Report on the Remuneration Policy for Directors
- Code of Conduct

The contents of this chapter are structured and hierarchical, with a concise, explanatory title, to permit rapid, direct access to each section, in accordance with legal recommendations, at less than three clicks from the home page.

All these sections have been designed and prepared according to the principle of accessibility, aiming to enable fast location and downloading of the required information.

The corporate website has been set up in several languages.

## C. MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE OF THE COMPANY

### C.1 Board of Directors

C.1.1 State the maximum and minimum numbers of directors stipulated in the articles of association:

|                                    |    |
|------------------------------------|----|
| <b>Maximum number of directors</b> | 15 |
| <b>Minimum number of directors</b> | 7  |

C.1.2 Give details of the board members:

| Name of director           | Representative           | Position on Board | Date first appointment | Date latest appointment | Election procedure       |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS |                          | CHAIRMAN          | 24/01/2002             | 04/06/2014              | RESOLUTION PASSED AT AGM |
| DEMETRIO CARCELLER ARCE    |                          | VICE-CHAIRMAN     | 01/06/2010             | 04/06/2014              | RESOLUTION PASSED AT AGM |
| ALIMENTOS Y ACEITES, S.A.  | CONCEPCIÓN ORDÍZ FUERTES | DIRECTOR          | 23/07/2004             | 04/06/2014              | RESOLUTION PASSED AT AGM |
| FERNANDO CASTELLÓ CLEMENTE |                          | DIRECTOR          | 29/05/2012             | 04/06/2014              | RESOLUTION PASSED AT AGM |



|   |                                  |          |            |            |                          |
|---|----------------------------------|----------|------------|------------|--------------------------|
| JOSÉ IGNACIO COMENGE SÁNCHEZ-REAL                     |                                  | DIRECTOR | 29/05/2012 | 04/06/2014 | RESOLUTION PASSED AT AGM |
| EMPRESAS COMERCIALES E INDUSTRIALES VALENCIANAS, S.L. | JUAN LUIS GÓMEZ-TRENOR FOS       | DIRECTOR | 18/12/2013 | 04/06/2014 | RESOLUTION PASSED AT AGM |
| HISPAFOODS INVEST, S.L.                               | MARÍA BLANCA HERNÁNDEZ RODRÍGUEZ | DIRECTOR | 30/01/2013 | 04/06/2014 | RESOLUTION PASSED AT AGM |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A.                   | FÉLIX HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS         | DIRECTOR | 01/06/2010 | 04/06/2014 | RESOLUTION PASSED AT AGM |
| JOSÉ NIETO DE LA CIERVA                               |                                  | DIRECTOR | 29/09/2010 | 04/06/2014 | RESOLUTION PASSED AT AGM |
| RUDOLF-AUGUST OETKER                                  |                                  | DIRECTOR | 01/06/2010 | 04/06/2014 | RESOLUTION PASSED AT AGM |
| EUGENIO RUIZ-GÁLVEZ PRIEGO                            |                                  | DIRECTOR | 25/07/2000 | 04/06/2014 | RESOLUTION PASSED AT AGM |
| JOSÉ ANTONIO SEGURADO GARCÍA                          |                                  | DIRECTOR | 29/05/2012 | 04/06/2014 | RESOLUTION PASSED AT AGM |

|                                  |           |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Total Number of Directors</b> | <b>12</b> |
|----------------------------------|-----------|

Indicate any retirements from the board during the reporting period:

| Name of director      | Type of director at time of retirement | Date of retirement |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|
| SOL DAURELLA COMADRÁN | Independent                            | 01/12/2014         |

C.1.3 Complete the following tables on the types of board members:

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS**

| Name of Director           | Committee proposing appointment       | Position in company's organisation |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | NOMINATION AND REMUNERATION COMMITTEE | CHAIRMAN                           |

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| <b>Total number of executive directors</b> | <b>1</b>     |
| <b>% of board</b>                          | <b>8.33%</b> |

## **NON-EXECUTIVE PROPRIETARY DIRECTORS**

| Name of Director                                      | Committee proposing appointment       | Name of significant shareholder represented or that proposed appointment |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| ALIMENTOS Y ACEITES, S.A.                             | NOMINATION AND REMUNERATION COMMITTEE | SOCIEDAD ESTATAL DE PARTICIPACIONES INDUSTRIALES                         |
| DEMETRIO CARCELLER ARCE                               | NOMINATION AND REMUNERATION COMMITTEE | SOCIEDAD ANÓNIMA DAMM  |
| EMPRESAS COMERCIALES E INDUSTRIALES VALENCIANAS, S.L. | NOMINATION AND REMUNERATION COMMITTEE | JUAN LUIS GÓMEZ-TRENOR FOS   |
| HISPAFOODS INVEST, S.L.                               | NOMINATION AND REMUNERATION COMMITTEE | INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A.                                      |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A.                   | NOMINATION AND REMUNERATION COMMITTEE | INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A.                                      |
| JOSÉ NIETO DE LA CIERVA                               | NOMINATION AND REMUNERATION COMMITTEE | CORPORACIÓN FINANCIERA ALBA, S.A.  |
| RUDOLF-AUGUST OETKER                                  | NOMINATION AND REMUNERATION COMMITTEE | SOCIEDAD ANÓNIMA DAMM  |

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| <b>Total number of proprietary directors</b> | 7      |
| <b>% of board</b>                            | 58.33% |

## **NON-EXECUTIVE INDEPENDENT DIRECTORS**

### **Name of Director**

FERNANDO CASTELLÓ CLEMENTE

#### **Profile**

Born in Mollerusa (Lleida). Industrial Engineer and MBA (IESE). Lecturer at the School of Engineers and Architects of Fribourg (Switzerland). Has held several important executive and management positions in companies operating in the dairy sector and has extensive experience in the sector. Currently Vice-Chairman of Merchpensión, S.A. and on the board of other consultancy and financial services companies.

### **Name of Director**

JOSÉ IGNACIO COMENGE SÁNCHEZ-REAL

#### **Profile**

Born in San Sebastián. Economist and graduate in International Banking. Extensive experience in the financial sector, director and executive positions in several financial institutions and insurance companies, such as Banco Hispano Americano, Mutua Madrileña and Axa Winterthur, among others. Chairman of Rexam Ibérica and Arbitraje Inversiones S.L.

### **Name of Director**

JOSÉ ANTONIO SEGURADO GARCÍA

#### **Profile**

Born in Barcelona. Graduate in Law and Economics. Insurance broker and entrepreneur. Chairman of SEFISA, AEF and AEIM. Joint founder of CEIM and CEOE. President of the Liberal Party and MP in the National Government in the III and IV Parliamentary Terms. Member of the Trilateral Commission. Director of Unión y Fénix, Acerinox, J.W.Thompson and Vusa. Currently Chairman of Segurado & Galobart, S.L. and of the Advisory Council of Alkora EBS, Correduría de Seguros, S.A., Honorary Chairman & Founder of CEIM and member of the Management Board and Executive Committee of CEOE and on the Advisory Board of Coviran, S.C.A. Grand Cross of the Order of 2 May awarded by the Community of Madrid.

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| <b>Total number of independent directors</b> | 3      |
| <b>% of board</b>                            | 25.00% |

State whether any director qualified as independent receives from the company or any other company in the same group any sum or gain other than directors' emoluments, or has or has had a business relationship with the company or any other company in its group during the past year, in his/her own name or as controlling shareholder, director or senior executive of a company which has or has had such a relationship.

None of the independent directors is in any of these circumstances.

If appropriate, include a reasoned statement by the board explaining why it considers that the director in question can perform his/her duties as an independent director.

### **OTHER NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS**

| <b>Name of Director</b>    | <b>Committee proposing appointment</b> |
|----------------------------|--|
| EUGENIO RUIZ-GÁLVEZ PRIEGO | NOMINATION AND REMUNERATION COMMITTEE  |

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| <b>Total number of other non-executive directors</b> | 1     |
| <b>% of board</b>                                    | 8.33% |

Explain why they cannot be considered proprietary or independent directors and their relationships, with the company or its executives or with the shareholders:

#### **Name of Director**

EUGENIO RUIZ-GÁLVEZ PRIEGO

#### **Company, executive or shareholder with which he is related**

EBRO FOODS, S.A.

#### **Profile**

Eugenio Ruiz-Gálvez Priego is not a proprietary director because he does not hold a significant interest in the company or represent a significant shareholder; nor can he be considered an independent director since he has been a director of Ebro Foods, S.A. for 12 years in succession.

Indicate any variations during the year in the type of each director:

C.1.4 Complete the following table with details of the number of female directors over the past 4 years and the type of female directors:

|                            | <b>Number of female directors</b> |             |             |             | <b>Female directors / total directors of each type (%)</b> |             |             |             |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|
|                            | <b>2014</b>                       | <b>2013</b> | <b>2012</b> | <b>2011</b> | <b>2014</b>  | <b>2013</b> | <b>2012</b> | <b>2011</b> |
| <b>Executive</b>           | 0                                 | 0           | 0           | 0           | 0.00%  | 0.00%       | 0.00%       | 0.00%       |
| <b>Proprietary</b>         | 2                                 | 2           | 1           | 1           | 28.57%   | 28.57%      | 16.67%      | 14.29%      |
| <b>Independent</b>         | 0                                 | 1           | 1           | 1           | 0.00%  | 25.00%      | 25.00%      | 25.00%      |
| <b>Other non-executive</b> | 0                                 | 0           | 0           | 0           | 0.00%  | 0.00%       | 0.00%       | 0.00%       |
| <b>Total</b>               | 2                                 | 3           | 2           | 2           | 16.67%   | 23.08%      | 16.67%      | 15.38%      |

- C.1.5 Explain any measures taken to endeavour to include in the board a number of women to give a balanced composition of men and women directors.

**Explanation of measures**

Notwithstanding any that may be decided on in the future by the Nomination and Remuneration Committee under the Corporate Enterprises Act as amended by Act 31/2014 of 3 December, no measures of this nature have been adopted because the board members are appointed regardless of gender, so there is no positive or negative discrimination of any nature in the election of directors.

- C.1.6 Explain any measures agreed by the nomination committee to ensure that the selection procedures are not implicitly biased against the selection of female directors and that a conscious effort is made to include women with the target profile among the candidates:

**Explanation of measures**

No measures of this nature have been adopted for the reason indicated in point C.1.5 above.

If, despite the measures taken, if any, there are few or no female directors, explain the reasons that justify this situation:

**Explanation of reasons**

Although the number of female directors has been reduced to two following the resignation of one of them as of 1 December 2014, all appointments of new directors in the future will take into account the prevailing legal provisions.

- C.1.7 Explain the form of representation on the board of shareholders with significant interests.

- The directors nominated by Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A. and appointed by the general meeting are Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A., Hispafoods Invest, S.L. (also a significant shareholder of the company) and Antonio Hernández Callejas.

- The director nominated by Sociedad Estatal de Participaciones Industriales and appointed by the general meeting is Alimentos y Aceites, S.A.

- The directors nominated by Sociedad Anónima Damm and appointed by the general meeting are Demetrio Carceller Arce and Dr Rudolf-August Oetker.

- The director nominated by Corporación Financiera Alba, S.A. and appointed by the general meeting is José Nieto de la Cierva.

- The director nominated by Juan Luis Gómez-Trenor Fos and appointed by the general meeting is Empresas Comerciales e Industriales Valencianas, S.L.

- C.1.8 Explain, if appropriate, why proprietary directors have been appointed at the request of shareholders holding less than 5% of the capital:

State whether any formal requests for presence on the board have been rejected from shareholders holding interests equal to or greater than others at whose request proprietary directors have been appointed. If appropriate, explain why such requests were not met:

YES                         NO  

- C.1.9 State whether any director has retired before the end of his/her term of office, whether said director explained the reasons for such decision to the Board and through what means, and if the explanations were sent in writing to the entire Board, explain below at least the reasons given by the director:

**Name of director:**  
SOL DAURELLA COMADRÁN

**Reason for retirement:**

Professional reasons notified as of 1 December 2014 in a letter addressed to each of the Board members.

C.1.10 Indicate the powers delegated to the Managing Director(s), if any:

C.1.11 Name Board members, if any, who are also directors or executives of other companies in the same group as the listed company:

| Name of director           | Name of Group company             | Position                 |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | VOGAN, LTD                        | DIRECTOR                 |
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | JOSEPH HEAP PROPERTY, LTD         | DIRECTOR                 |
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | JOSEPH HEAP&SONS, LTD             | DIRECTOR                 |
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | A W MELLISH, LTD                  | DIRECTOR                 |
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | ANGLO AUSTRALIAN RICE LIMITED     | DIRECTOR                 |
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | SOS CUETARA USA, INC              | CHAIRMAN                 |
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | NEW WORLD PASTA COMPANY           | CHAIRMAN                 |
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | EBRO AMERICA, INC.                | CHAIRMAN                 |
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | HEAP COMET, LTD                   | DIRECTOR                 |
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | RIVIANA FOODS, INC.               | CHAIRMAN                 |
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | AMERICAN RICE, INC.               | CHAIRMAN                 |
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | N&C BOOST, N.V.                   | DIRECTOR                 |
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | BOOST NUTRITION, C.V.             | DIRECTOR                 |
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | BOSTO PANZANI BENILUX, N.V.       | DIRECTOR                 |
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | BLUE RIBBON MILLS, INC.           | CHAIRMAN                 |
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | EBRO FOODS, GMBH                  | JOINT & SEVERAL DIRECTOR |
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | T.A.G. NAHRUNGSMITTEL, GMBH       | JOINT & SEVERAL DIRECTOR |
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | BERTOLINI IMPORT UND EXPORT, GMBH | JOINT & SEVERAL DIRECTOR |
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | HERBA GERMANY, GMBH               | JOINT & SEVERAL DIRECTOR |
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | PANZANI, S.A.S.                   | DIRECTOR                 |
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | S&B HERBA FOODS, LTD              | DIRECTOR                 |

| Name of director           | Name of Group company            | Position |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|----------|
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | ARROZEIRAS MUNDIARROZ. S.A.      | CHAIRMAN |
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS | PASTIFICIO LUCIO GAROFAO, S.P.A. | DIRECTOR |

C.1.12 Name the company directors, if any, who are on the Boards of non-group companies listed on Spanish stock exchanges, insofar as the company has been notified:

| Name of Director           | Listed Company                        | Position        |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| DEMETRIO CARCELLER ARCE    | SOCIEDAD ANÓNIMA DAMM                 | CHAIRMAN        |
| DEMETRIO CARCELLER ARCE    | GAS NATURAL SDG, S.A.                 | DIRECTOR        |
| DEMETRIO CARCELLER ARCE    | SACYR, S.A.                           | VICE-CHAIRMAN 1 |
| JOSÉ NIETO DE LA CIERVA    | CORPORACIÓN FINANCIERA ALBA, S.A.     | DIRECTOR        |
| EUGENIO RUIZ-GÁLVEZ PRIEGO | CORPORACIÓN FINANCIERA ALBA, S.A.     | DIRECTOR        |
| EUGENIO RUIZ-GÁLVEZ PRIEGO | PROSEGUR, COMPAÑÍA DE SEGURIDAD, S.A. | DIRECTOR        |

C.1.13 Indicate and, where appropriate, explain whether the company has established rules on the number of directorships its directors may hold:

YES  NO

| Explanation of the rules |
|--------------------------|
|--------------------------|

Article 25 of the Regulations of the Board (“General Duties of Directors”) provides in section 1 that Directors shall dedicate to the company such attention and time as may be necessary to guarantee the effective and adequate fulfilment of each and all of the duties corresponding to their position. Consequently, the maximum number of other directorships they may hold will be such as to ensure that they are able at all times to meet each and all of their obligations to the company.

C.1.14 Indicate the company policies and general strategies that must be approved by the full Board:

|   | Yes | No |
|---|-----|----|
| Investment and financing policy   | X   |    |
| Definition of the structure of the group of companies   | X   |    |
| Corporate governance policy   | X   |    |
| Corporate social responsibility policy  | X   |    |
| Strategic or business plan, annual management objectives and budget                                 | X   |    |
| Pay policy and performance rating of senior executives  | X   |    |
| Risk management and control policy and regular monitoring of internal reporting and control systems | X   |    |
| Dividend policy, treasury stock policy and, in particular, the limits established                   | X   |    |

C.1.15 Indicate the overall remuneration of the board:

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| <b>Remuneration of the board (thousand euros)</b>   | 5,561 |
| <b>Amount of the overall remuneration corresponding to the vested rights of directors in pension schemes (thousand euros)</b> | 0     |
| <b>Overall remuneration of the board (thousand euros)</b>   | 5,561 |

C.1.16 Name the members of top management who are not executive directors and indicate the aggregate remuneration accrued in their favour during the year:

| <b>Name</b>  | <b>Position</b>                                       |
|--|---|
| PABLO ALBENDEA SOLÍS                                     | CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER                               |
| LEONARDO ÁLVAREZ ARIAS                                   | MANAGER I.T.  |
| ANA MARÍA ANTEQUERA PARDO                                | MANAGER COMMUNICATIONS                                |
| YOLANDA DE LA MORENA CEREZO                              | VICE-SECRETARY  |
| JESÚS DE ZABALA BAZÁN                                    | MANAGER INTERNAL AUDIT                                |
| ALFONSO FUERTES BARRÓ                                    | FINANCE MANAGER                                       |
| MANUEL GONZÁLEZ DE LUNA                                  | MANAGER INVESTOR RELATIONS AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS |
| LUIS PEÑA PAZOS  | SECRETARY   |
| GABRIEL SOLÍS PABLOS                                     | TAX MANAGER   |
| <b>Total remuneration top management (thousand euro)</b> | 2,189   |

C.1.17 Name any board members who are also on the boards of companies holding significant interests in the listed company and/or in companies of its group:

| <b>Name of director</b>    | <b>Name of significant shareholder</b> | <b>Position</b> |
|----------------------------|--|-----------------|
| DEMETRIO CARCELLER ARCE    | SOCIEDAD ANÓNIMA DAMM                  | CHAIRMAN        |
| JOSÉ NIETO DE LA CIERVA    | CORPORACIÓN FINANCIERA ALBA, S.A.      | DIRECTOR        |
| RUDOLF-AUGUST OETKER       | SOCIEDAD ANÓNIMA DAMM                  | DIRECTOR        |
| EUGENIO RUIZ-GÁLVEZ PRIEGO | CORPORACIÓN FINANCIERA ALBA, S.A.      | DIRECTOR        |

Describe the significant relationships of the board members with the controlling shareholders and/or companies in their group, other than as mentioned above:

**Name of director**

DEMETRIO CARCELLER ARCE

**Name of significant shareholder**

SOCIEDAD ANÓNIMA DAMM

**Description of relationship**

Demetrio Carceller Arce has an indirect holding of 0.687% in Sociedad Anónima Damm

**Name of director**

ALIMENTOS Y ACEITES, S.A.

**Name of significant shareholder**

SOCIEDAD ESTATAL DE PARTICIPACIONES INDUSTRIALES

**Description of relationship**

Sociedad Estatal de Participaciones Industriales has a direct holding of 91.9625% in Alimentos y Aceites, S.A. and its company secretary and secretary of the board, Concepción Ordiz Fuertes, represents Alimentos y Aceites, S.A. on the board of Ebro Foods, S.A.

**Name of director**

EMPRESAS COMERCIALES E INDUSTRIALES VALENCIANAS, S.L.

**Name of significant shareholder**

JUAN LUIS GÓMEZ-TRENOR FOS

**Description of relationship**

Juan Luis Gómez-Trenor Fos wholly owns Empresas Comerciales e Industriales Valencianas, S.L. with a direct interest of 99.995% and an indirect interest of 0.005%. He is Sole Director of the company.

C.1.18 State whether any modifications have been made during the year to the Regulations of the Board:

YES  NO

C.1.19 Describe the procedures for selection, appointment, re-election, assessment and removal of directors. Indicate the competent bodies, the formalities and the criteria to be followed in each of these procedures.

The procedures for appointment, re-election and removal of the directors are regulated in Articles 19, 20 and 25 of the Articles of Association and Articles 5, 21, 23, 24 and 33.1 of the Regulations of the Board.

The General Meeting is responsible for deciding on the number of directors the company is to have, within the minimum (7) and maximum (15) established in the Articles of Association, and for appointing or re-electing directors as proposed by the Board, subject to a favourable report by the Nomination and Remuneration Committee.

The Board may appoint directors by cooptation, subject to a report by the Nomination and Remuneration Committee. The initiative of the Board regarding the incorporation of members by no means detracts from the sovereign power of the General Meeting to appoint and remove directors, or from any potential exercise by shareholders of their right to proportional representation.

The persons nominated by the Board for appointment or re-appointment as directors must be persons of recognised repute, with adequate experience and expertise to be able to perform their duties.

As regards the role of the Nomination and Remuneration Committee in the appointment of directors, see the duties of this Committee in section C.2.4 of this Report and Explanatory Note Eight in section H.

Directors are appointed for a term of four years, after which they are eligible for re-election on one or several occasions for terms of an equal duration. This term of four years is counted from the date of the General Meeting at which they are appointed, or ratified when previously appointed by cooptation by the Board.

If vacancies arise during the term for which they were appointed, the Board may appoint shareholders to fill those vacancies up to the next general meeting. Directors' appointments shall end at the first general meeting held after expiry of their term or lapse of the time stipulated in law for holding the general meeting that is to approve the accounts of the previous year.

The Board regularly rates the Directors on their efficiency and fulfilment of their obligations, requesting the corresponding reports from its Committees, and if considered necessary it may propose any modifications that may be appropriate to improve their performance.

Directors retire upon expiry of the term for which they were appointed and in all other events stipulated in law, the Articles of Association or the Regulations of the Board. They must tender their resignations to the Board and step down in the events established in Article 24 of the Regulations of the Board.

C.1.20 Indicate whether the board has made any assessment of its activity during the reporting period.

YES  NO

If yes, explain to what extent the self-assessment has given rise to major changes in its internal organisation and the procedures applicable to its activities:

| Description of modifications |
|------------------------------|
|------------------------------|

It has not given rise to any change.



C.1.21 State the events in which directors are obliged to step down.

The retirement and resignation of directors are regulated in Article 24 of the Regulations of the Board:

- Directors must step down at the end of the term for which they were appointed and in all other events stipulated in law, the Articles of Association and the Regulations of the Board.

- Directors must also tender their resignations and step down in the following cases:

a) When they are affected by one of the causes of incompatibility or disqualification established in law, the articles of association or the regulations.

b) When they step down from the executive post to which their appointment as director was linked, when the shareholder they represent on the Board disposes of its shares in the company or reduces its interest to an extent requiring a reduction in the number of proprietary directors and, in general, whenever the reasons for their appointment disappear.

c) When the Board, following a report by the Nomination and Remuneration Committee, considers that the Director has seriously defaulted his obligations or for reasons of corporate interests.

The Board of Directors shall propose to the General Meeting of Shareholders that a Director be removed if one of the circumstances described above occurs and the Director fails to tender his resignation.

C.1.22 Explain whether the Chairman of the Board is the highest executive of the company. If so, state what measures have been adopted to limit the risks of any single person having unfettered powers:

YES  NO

**Measures taken to limit risks**

With a view to establishing corrective measures in the Articles of Association to prevent excessive concentration of power in the Chairman when he is also the most senior executive of the company, Article 25 creates the figure of a Vice-Chairman appointed from among the non-executive directors to boost the management supervision and control duties.

José Antonio Segurado García was appointed Lead Independent Director on 29 January 2015 and has since then been performing the aforesaid duties.

Up to then and in accordance with this provision, the current Vice-Chairman of the Board, Demetrio Carceller Arce (non-executive proprietary director), had been performing those duties.

Indicate and if appropriate explain whether rules have been established authorising one of the independent directors to request the calling of a board meeting or the inclusion of new items on the agenda, to coordinate and echo the concerns of non-executive directors and to direct the assessment by the board.

YES  NO

**Explanation of the rules**

The Regulations of the Board specify the events in which directors may request the calling of a board meeting or inclusion of items on the agenda; this power is not limited to independent directors.

Article 9.2 of the Regulations establishes that one-third of the board members may, no less than six days prior to the scheduled date of the Board meeting, request the inclusion of any items they believe ought to be transacted.

Article 9.5 of the Regulations states that the board may discuss and resolve on issues included on the agenda and any others that all the directors present and represented agree to transact.

Article 25.2.b) stipulates that Directors shall also request meetings of the corporate bodies to which they belong whenever they consider this necessary in the interests of the Company, proposing whatever items they think should be included on the agenda.

---

Finally, Article 33.1 provides that if the Chairman of the Board is also the chief executive of the company, a Vice-Chairman must be appointed from among the non-executive directors with the power to request the calling of a board meeting or the inclusion of new items on the agenda, who may organise meetings to coordinate non-executive directors and will direct the Chairman performance rating. If no Vice-Chairman is appointed, the Board shall authorise an independent director to perform those duties.

At present José Antonio Segurado García, as Lead Independent Director, is authorised to request the calling of a board meeting or the inclusion of new items on the agenda of a meeting that has already been called, coordinate and call meetings of the non-executive directors and, if appropriate, direct the periodical performance rating of the Chairman.

C.1.23 Are special majorities differing from those stipulated in law required for any type of decision?

YES  NO

If yes, describe the differences:

C.1.24 Are there any specific requirements, other than those established for directors, to be appointed Chairman?

YES  NO

C.1.25 Does the Chairman have a casting vote?

YES  NO

|   |
|---|
| <b>Matters on which there is a casting vote</b> |
|---|

All.

C.1.26 Do the Articles of Association or Regulations of the Board establish an age limit for directors?

YES  NO

C.1.27 Do the Articles of Association or Regulations of the Board establish a limited term of office for independent directors other than as stipulated in law?

YES  NO

C.1.28 Do the Articles of Association or Regulations of the Board establish specific rules for the delegation of votes at board meetings, how they are to be delegated and, in particular, the maximum number of delegations that a director may hold, and whether it is compulsory to delegate to a director of the same type? If yes, include a brief description.

Both the Articles of Association (Article 24) and the Regulations of the Board (Article 10) contemplate the possibility of directors attending Board meetings through a duly authorised proxy.

The proxy must be made in advance, in writing, especially for each board meeting, in favour of another director.

The represented director may issue specific instructions on how to vote on any or all of the items on the agenda.

Following the amendment of the Corporate Enterprises Act by Act 31/2014 of 3 December, non-executive directors may only grant proxies in favour of another non-executive director.

C.1.29 State the number of meetings held by the Board of Directors during the year, indicating, if appropriate, how many times the Board has met without the Chairman. Proxies made with specific instructions will be considered attendances:

|   |    |
|---|----|
| <b>Number of board meetings</b>                           | 11 |
| <b>Number of board meetings held without the chairman</b> | 0  |

Indicate the number of meetings held by the different Committees of the Board:

| <b>Committee</b>                      | <b>No. meetings</b> |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE                   | 6                   |
| AUDIT AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE        | 6                   |
| NOMINATION AND REMUNERATION COMMITTEE | 5                   |
| STRATEGY AND INVESTMENT COMMITTEE     | 0                   |

C.1.30 State the number of meetings held by the Board during the period attended by all its members. Proxies made with specific instructions will be considered attendances:

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| <b>Attendance of directors</b>                       | 11      |
| <b>% attendance over total votes during the year</b> | 100.00% |

C.1.31 Are the separate and consolidated annual accounts submitted to the Board for approval previously certified?

YES  NO

If yes, name the person(s) who certify the separate or consolidated annual accounts of the company before they are approved by the Board:

C.1.32 Explain the mechanisms, if any, established by the Board to avoid a qualified auditors' report on the separate and consolidated accounts laid before the General Meeting.

Relations with the auditors are expressly regulated in Article 19 of the Regulations of the Board. Article 19.2 stipulates that the Board shall endeavour to draw up the Annual Accounts in such a way as to avoid a qualified Auditors' report.

Within the specific duties attributed to the board in certain areas, Article 7.1 of the Regulations establishes that the Board shall see that the separate and consolidated Annual Accounts and Directors' Reports give a true and fair view of the equity, financial position and results of the company, as stipulated in law, and each and all of the Directors shall have all the necessary information before signing the Annual Accounts.

Article 13.3 of the Regulations of the Board gives the Audit and Compliance Committee certain powers to ensure that the Annual Accounts are filed without a qualified auditors' report (see section C.2.4 of this Report).

C.1.33 Is the Secretary of the Board a Director?

YES  NO

C.1.34 Explain the procedure for appointment and removal of the Secretary of the Board, indicating whether the Nomination Committee has issued a report for such appointment and removal and whether they were approved by the full board.

**Appointment and removal procedure**

The Secretary of the Board may or may not be a director and is appointed by the Board upon recommendation by the Nomination and Remuneration Committee, after ensuring that his/her professional profile is adequate to guarantee the best performance of the duties corresponding to this position by law, the Articles of Association and Regulations of the Board.

The company has not established any procedure for removal of the Secretary of the Board other than that stipulated in law, although Article 24.3 of the Regulations of the Board submits the Secretary, regardless of whether or not he/she is also a director, to the same obligations as the directors of explaining to all the Board members the reasons for retirement or resignation prior to the end of his/her term of office.

|   | Yes      | No |
|---|----------|----|
| <b>Does the Nomination Committee issue a report on the appointment?</b> | <b>X</b> |    |
| <b>Does the Nomination Committee issue a report on the removal?</b>     | <b>X</b> |    |
| <b>Does the full Board approve the appointment?</b>                     | <b>X</b> |    |
| <b>Does the full Board approve the removal?</b>                         | <b>X</b> |    |

Is the Secretary of the Board responsible especially for overseeing compliance with the recommendations on good governance?

YES                          NO   

**Comments**

Article 35.2 of the Regulations of the Board provides that in addition to the duties assigned by law and the Articles of Association, the Secretary of the Board shall, in particular:

a) Ensure that the Board's actions:

- Conform to the text and spirit of the laws and statutory instruments, including those approved by the watchdogs.
- Conform to the company Articles of Association and the Regulations of the General Meeting, the Board and any other regulations the company may have.
- Take account of the recommendations on good governance accepted by the company.

b) Keep all company documents, duly record the proceedings of meetings in the corresponding minute books and certify the resolutions of those corporate bodies of which he/she is Secretary.

c) Channel, generally, the Company's relations with Directors in all matters concerning the functioning of the Board and the Committees he/she is on, following the instructions of the respective Chairman.

d) Implement and facilitate exercise by the Directors of their right to information on the terms stipulated in these Regulations.

**C.1.35. Describe any mechanisms established by the company to preserve the independence of the auditor, financial analysts, investment banks and rating agencies.**

Both the Articles of Association and the Regulations of the Board vest in the Audit and Compliance Committee the power, among others, to contact the auditors and receive information on any issues that may jeopardise their independence for examination by the Audit Committee, as well as any other issues relating to the auditing of accounts, and receive information from and exchange communications with the auditors in accordance with prevailing auditing standards and legislation.

Article 19 of the Regulations of the Board addresses relations with the auditors, obliging the Board to establish an objective, professional, continuous relationship with the External Auditors of the Company appointed by the General Meeting, guaranteeing their independence and putting at their disposal all the information they may require to perform their duties. It further establishes that the aforesaid relationship with the External Auditors of the Company and the relationship with the Internal Audit Manager shall be conducted through the Audit and Compliance Committee.

Finally, Article 28.2 of the Articles of Association and Article 13.3 of the Regulations of the Board establish the following powers of the Audit and Compliance Committee in this respect:

- Propose to the Board, for submission to the General Meeting, the appointment of the external auditors and (i) their terms of contract, (ii) the scope of their commission and (iii) the renewal or revocation of their engagement.

- Ensure the independence of the auditors and the existence of a discussion procedure enabling the external auditors, the internal auditors and any other expert to notify the company of any significant weaknesses in internal control detected during the auditing of the annual accounts or any others in respect of which they may have acted.

- Issue a report annually, prior to issuance of the auditors' report, stating an opinion on the independence of the external auditors and pronouncing on the rendering of additional services.

C.1.36 Indicate whether the external auditors have changed during the year. If so, name the incoming and outgoing auditors:

YES  NO

| Outgoing Auditor | Incoming Auditor    |
|------------------|---------------------|
| Deloitte, S.L.   | Ernst & Young, S.L. |

Explain any disagreements with the outgoing auditor:

YES  NO

C.1.37 State whether the firm of auditors does any work for the company and/or its group other than standard audit work and if so, declare the amount of the fees received for such work and the percentage it represents of the total fees invoiced to the company and/or its group:

YES  NO

|   | Company | Group  | Total  |
|---|---------|--------|--------|
| <b>Cost of work other than auditing (thousand euro)</b>                             | 260     | 138    | 398    |
| <b>Cost of work other than auditing / Total amount invoiced by the auditors (%)</b> | 65.80%  | 12.30% | 26.20% |

C.1.38 Indicate whether the auditors' report on the annual accounts of the previous year was qualified. If so, state the reasons given by the Chairman of the Audit Committee to explain the content and scope of the qualifications.

YES  NO

C.1.39 State the number of years in succession that the current firm of auditors has been auditing the annual accounts of the company and/or its group. Indicate the ratio of the number of years audited by the current auditors to the total number of years that the annual accounts have been audited:

|  | Company | Group |
|--|---------|-------|
| <b>Number of years in succession</b>   | 1       | 1     |
| <b>Number of years audited by current auditors / Number of years that the company has been audited (%)</b> | 4.20%   | 4.20% |

C.1.40 Indicate, giving details if appropriate, whether a procedure has been established for directors to receive external counselling:

YES  NO

**Details of procedure**

The directors' right to counselling and information is regulated in Article 30 of the Regulations of the Board, which provides in 30.2 that:

a. Any Director may, in the course of any specific duties commissioned to him on an individual level or within the framework of any of the Committees of the Board, request the Chairman to contract, at the Company's expense, such legal advisers, accountants, technical, financial or commercial experts or others as he may consider necessary, in order to assist him in the performance of his duties, provided such counselling is justified to resolve specific problems that are particularly complex and important.

b. Considering the circumstances of the specific case, the Chairman may (i) deny or authorise the proposal in a communication sent through the Secretary of the Board, who shall, provided the proposal is authorised, contract the expert in question; and (ii) put the proposal to the Board, which may refuse to finance the counselling if it considers it unnecessary for discharging the duties commissioned, or out of proportion with the importance of the matter, or if it considers that the technical assistance requested could be adequately provided by Company employees.

C.1.41 Indicate, with details if appropriate, whether there is an established procedure for directors to obtain sufficiently in advance any information they may need to prepare the meetings of the governing bodies:

YES  NO

**Details of procedure**

Article 25.2 a) of the Regulations of the Board establishes the duty of directors to request the necessary information to adequately prepare Board and Committee meetings.

Articles 9.1 and 9.3 of the Regulations of the Board in turn establish that (i) directors shall receive information at Board meetings on the most important aspects of corporate management, any foreseeable risk situations for the company and its subsidiaries and the actions proposed by the senior management in respect thereof; and (ii) whenever possible, any necessary information relating to the items on the agenda shall be sent to the Directors together with the notice of call.

The procedure for informing directors is regulated in Article 30.1 of the Regulations of the Board, which provides that whenever so required in the performance of their duties, directors shall have the fullest powers to obtain information on any corporate affairs, obtaining such documents, records, background information or other elements as they may require in this respect. This right to information is extended to subsidiaries.

All requests for information shall be addressed to the Chairman and met by the Secretary of the Board, who shall supply the information directly or indicate who is to be contacted within the Company and, in general, establish the necessary measures to fully meet the director's right to information.

C.1.42 Indicate, with details if appropriate, whether the company has established any rules obliging Directors to report and, if necessary, retire in any situations that could be detrimental to the prestige and reputation of the company:

YES  NO

**Explain the rules**

Article 22 of the Regulations of the Board, which regulates the incompatibilities of directors and establishes their obligations in respect of no competition, conflicts of interest and related-party transactions, also expressly stipulates that if a director is sued or tried for any of the offences contemplated in the applicable laws, the Board shall examine the case as soon as possible and decide, in consideration of the specific circumstances, whether or not the Director in question should remain in office, including a reasoned account in the Annual Corporate Governance Report.

C.1.43 Has any member of the Board informed the company that he/she has been sued or brought to trial for any of the offences contemplated in s. 213 of the Corporate Enterprises Act?

YES  NO

**Name of Director**

DEMETRIO CARCELLER ARCE

**Criminal Case**

Tax offence

**Comments:**

The director informed the board of the criminal action brought against him.

Has the Board studied the case? If so, indicate and explain the decision made as to whether or not the director should remain in office or, if appropriate, describe the actions taken by the board up to the date of this report, or which it plans to take.

YES  NO

**Decision adopted:**

The Board was informed of the information received by the director and resolved, with his abstention, not to make any decision or take any initiative in this regard.

**Reasoned explanation:**

The Board considers that proceedings brought against the director have nothing to do with the company and does not affect its business.

C.1.44 Describe any significant agreements entered into by the company which enter into force, are modified or terminated in the event of a takeover of the company following a takeover bid, and the effects thereof.

There are no agreements of this type and the circumstances have not arisen.

C.1.45 Indicate globally and describe in detail any agreements made between the company and its directors, executives or employees contemplating golden handshake clauses in the event of resignation or unfair dismissal or termination of employment following a takeover bid or any other type of transaction.

**Number of beneficiaries: 2**

**Type of beneficiary:**

Executives

**Description of the agreement:**

Golden handshake clauses are established for two non-director executives in the event of dismissal or takeover in excess of the amount that would be payable pursuant to the Workers' Statute.

State whether these contracts have to be notified to and/or approved by the governing bodies of the company/group companies:

|                                     |                           |                        |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
|                                     | <b>Board of Directors</b> | <b>General Meeting</b> |
| <b>Body authorising the clauses</b> | <b>Yes</b>                | <b>No</b>              |

|   |            |           |
|---|------------|-----------|
|   | <b>Yes</b> | <b>No</b> |
| Is the General Meeting informed on the clauses? | <b>X</b>   |           |

## C.2 Committees of the Board

C.2.1 Give details of the different committees, their members and the proportion of proprietary and independent directors in each committee:

### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

| <b>Name</b>                  | <b>Position</b> | <b>Type</b> |
|------------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS   | CHAIRMAN        | Executive   |
| DEMETRIO CARCELLER ARCE      | VICE CHAIRMAN   | Proprietary |
| JOSÉ NIETO DE LA CIERVA      | MEMBER          | Proprietary |
| JOSÉ ANTONIO SEGURADO GARCÍA | MEMBER          | Independent |

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| <b>% executive directors</b>           | 25.00% |
| <b>% proprietary directors</b>         | 50.00% |
| <b>% independent directors</b>         | 25.00% |
| <b>% other non-executive directors</b> | 0.00%  |

### **AUDIT AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE**

| <b>Name</b>                       | <b>Position</b> | <b>Type</b>         |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| JOSÉ IGNACIO COMENGE SÁNCHEZ-REAL | CHAIRMAN        | Independent         |
| FERNANDO CASTELLÓ CLEMENTE        | MEMBER          | Independent         |
| HISPAFOODS INVEST, S.L.           | MEMBER          | Proprietary         |
| EUGENIO RUIZ-GÁLVEZ PRIEGO        | MEMBER          | Other non-executive |

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| <b>% executive directors</b>           | 0.00%  |
| <b>% proprietary directors</b>         | 25.00% |
| <b>% independent directors</b>         | 50.00% |
| <b>% other non-executive directors</b> | 25.00% |

### **NOMINATION AND REMUNERATION COMMITTEE**

| <b>Name</b>                  | <b>Position</b> | <b>Type</b> |
|------------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| FERNANDO CASTELLÓ CLEMENTE   | CHAIRMAN        | Independent |
| DEMETRIO CARCELLER ARCE      | MEMBER          | Proprietary |
| HISPAFOODS INVEST, S.L.      | MEMBER          | Proprietary |
| JOSÉ ANTONIO SEGURADO GARCÍA | MEMBER          | Independent |

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| <b>% executive directors</b>           | 0.00%  |
| <b>% proprietary directors</b>         | 50.00% |
| <b>% independent directors</b>         | 50.00% |
| <b>% other non-executive directors</b> | 0.00%  |



## STRATEGY AND INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

| Name                                | Position | Type        |
|-------------------------------------|----------|-------------|
| DEMETRIO CARCELLER ARCE             | CHAIRMAN | Proprietary |
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS          | MEMBER   | Executive   |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | MEMBER   | Proprietary |
| JOSÉ NIETO DE LA CIERVA             | MEMBER   | Proprietary |

|                                 |        |
|---------------------------------|--------|
| % executive directors           | 25.00% |
| % proprietary directors         | 75.00% |
| % independent directors         | 0.00%  |
| % other non-executive directors | 0.00%  |

C.2.2 Complete the following table with information on the number of female directors on the board committees over the past four years:

|                                       | Number of female directors |        |      |        |      |        |      |        |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|
|                                       |                            |        | 2013 |        | 2012 |        | 2011 |        |
|                                       | No.                        | %      | No.  | %      | No.  | %      | No.  | %      |
| EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE                   | 0                          | 0.00%  | 0    | 0.00%  | 0    | 0.00%  | 0    | 0.00%  |
| AUDIT AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE        | 1                          | 25.00% | 2    | 40.00% | 2    | 40.00% | 2    | 50.00% |
| NOMINATION AND REMUNERATION COMMITTEE | 1                          | 25.00% | 2    | 40.00% | 2    | 40.00% | 2    | 50.00% |
| STRATEGY AND INVESTMENT COMMITTEE     | 0                          | 0.00%  | 0    | 0.00%  | 0    | 0.00%  | 0    | 0.00%  |

C.2.3 State whether the Audit Committee has the following duties:

|   | Yes | No |
|---|-----|----|
| Supervise the preparation and integrity of the company's, and where appropriate the group's, financial reporting, checking compliance with the legal requirements, adequate definition of the scope of consolidation and correct application of accounting principles   | X   |    |
| Regularly check the internal risk management and control systems, ensuring that the principal risks are adequately identified, managed and reported   | X   |    |
| Oversee the independence and efficacy of the internal audit department; propose the nomination, appointment, re-appointment and removal of the chief audit officer; propose the budget for this department; receive regular information on its activities; and check that the top management heeds the conclusions and recommendations set out in its reports | X   |    |
| Establish and supervise a "whistle-blowing" procedure so employees can confidentially and, where appropriate, even anonymously report any potentially important irregularities they observe within the company, particularly in financial and accounting aspects  | X   |    |
| Submit to the Board proposals for nomination, appointment, re-appointment and replacement of external auditor, and terms of engagement  | X   |    |
| Receive regularly from the external auditor information on the audit plan and the outcome of its fulfilment and see that top management heeds its recommendations   | X   |    |
| Guarantee the independence of the external auditor  | X   |    |

#### C.2.4 Describe the rules of organisation and procedure and the responsibilities attributed to each Committee.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.** This Committee has a maximum of 7 members, including the Chairman (who chairs the committee) and the Vice-Chairman of the Board. The committee generally holds one meeting a month. Whenever, in the opinion of the Chairman or 3 of its members, circumstances so require, the resolutions adopted by the Committee are submitted to the Board for ratification. This also applies to any issues which the Board has delegated to the Committee to study, reserving for itself the final decision on the matter. The Committee is responsible for monitoring and overseeing compliance with the guidelines on strategy and corporate development, preparing the annual budget and controlling the business management of the company, ensuring adequate coordination of subsidiaries in their common interests and those of the company.

**AUDIT COMMITTEE.** This Committee has a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 5 non-executive directors. The Chairman must be an independent director and must be replaced every four years, becoming eligible for re-election one year after his retirement as such. The Committee is responsible for ensuring that the internal audit procedures, the internal control systems in general, including the risk management control system and, in particular, the financial reporting internal control system are adequate; that the external auditors and internal audit manager are selected on the basis of professional, objective criteria, guaranteeing their independence in the performance of their duties; informing the board on any related party transactions submitted for its consideration; controlling possible conflicts of interest; and making sure, in general, that the company's reporting, particularly financial reporting, complies with the principle of truth and maximum transparency for shareholders and markets.

**NOMINATION AND REMUNERATION COMMITTEE.** This Committee has a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 5 non-executive directors and its chairman must be an independent director. The Committee reports on the appointment and removal of directors and their assignment to the different committees, and submits proposals on the remuneration policy. In turn, it oversees the senior management of the company in respect of their appointments and dismissals, assessment of the management training, promotion and selection policy, remuneration systems and levels, being informed of and monitoring the decisions on these issues adopted in the group subsidiaries.

**STRATEGY AND INVESTMENT COMMITTEE.** This Committee has a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 5 Directors. With support and assistance from the senior management of the company, this committee informs and submits proposals to the board on the growth, yield and market share of the company, new investments, restructuring processes and agreements with other groups, designing strategic development plans, if necessary, and monitoring these aspects also in the subsidiaries, adopting such initiatives as may be considered necessary for the common interest and benefit of the Company and its subsidiaries.

The following rules are also applicable regarding the composition and responsibilities of all the committees:

- In the event of temporary absence or unavailability of the Chairman of each Committee, he will be replaced by the member of the Committee provisionally appointed by the Board, or otherwise by the oldest member of the Committee. The Executive Committee is an exception to this rule, since it has a Vice-Chairman who will stand in for the Chairman in these cases.
- The Secretary of the Board acts as non-member Secretary of each Committee.
- The Committees meet whenever called by their respective Chairman or at the request of two of their members, and in any case whenever the Board requests the issuance of reports, the submission of proposals or the adoption of resolutions within their respective duties. Meetings are called by the Secretary, following instructions from the Chairman.
- Committee meetings are attended, with the right to speak but not vote, by any members of the management team that the Committee in question may consider necessary.
- The Committees report to the Board on their decisions at the first Board meeting held after such decisions have been made.
- Board meetings have access to the minutes of Committee meetings through the Secretary of the Board.

The powers of the Board Committees are described in Explanatory Note Eight in section H.

#### C.2.5 Indicate the existence, if appropriate, of regulations of the board committees, where they are available for consultation and any modifications made during the year. State whether an annual report has been issued voluntarily on the activities of each committee.

There is no separate text regulating any of the Committees of the Board, since they are all sufficiently regulated in the following articles of the Regulations of the Board:

- Executive Committee, Article 12
- Audit and Compliance Committee, Article 13
- Nomination and Remuneration Committee, Article 14
- Strategy and Investment Committee, Article 15.

Both the Audit and Compliance Committee and the Nomination and Remuneration Committee have issued activity reports for 2014 for submission to the Board of Directors and, if deemed fit, to be laid before the shareholders at the AGM 2015.

C.2.6 Does the composition of the Executive Committee reflect the participation on the Board of the different types of Director?

YES  NO

## D. RELATED PARTY AND INTER-COMPANY TRANSACTIONS

D.1 Name the competent body and explain the procedure, if any, for approving related party and inter-company transactions.

**Body competent for approving related party transactions**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Procedure for approving related party transactions**

Related party transactions are approved by the Board subject to a report by the Audit and Compliance Committee.

Under Article 28 of the Articles of Association, the Audit and Compliance Committee has, among others, the power to ensure that transactions between the company and its subsidiaries or between these companies and directors and controlling shareholders are made on arm's length terms and respecting the principle of equal treatment, thus controlling any conflicts of interest that may arise in these related-party transactions.

The Regulations of the Board establish, in general, that the Audit and Compliance Committee shall see that the procedures of the financial reporting internal control system are adequate, informing the Board on any related party transactions submitted for its consideration.

Article 13.3 of the Regulations establishes that the Audit and Compliance Committee shall inform the Board prior to the adoption by the latter of any decisions on related party transactions requiring its authorisation.

Explain whether the power to approve related party transactions has been delegated, if so indicating the person or body to whom it has been delegated.

The Board has not delegated the power to approve related party transactions.

D.2 List any transactions for a significant amount or object between the company and/or companies in its group and controlling shareholders of the company:

| Name of significant shareholder | Name of company or group company | Relationship | Type of transaction                   | Amount (thousand euro) |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------|
| SOCIEDAD ANÓNIMA DAMM           | HERBA RICEMILLS, S.L.U.          | Contractual  | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise) | 700                    |
| SOCIEDAD ANÓNIMA DAMM           | HERBA RICEMILLS, S.L.U.          | Contractual  | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise) | 3,627                  |

D.3 List any significant transactions for a significant amount or object between the company and/or companies in its group and the directors or executives of the company:

| Name of director or executive       | Name of company or group company | Relationship | Type of transaction                       | Amount (thousand euro) |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|---|------------------------|
| ANTONIO HERNÁNDEZ CALLEJAS          | LUIS HERNÁNDEZ GONZÁLEZ          | Relative     | Leases                                    | 37                     |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | DEHESA NORTE, S.A.               | Corporate    | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 118                    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | DEHESA NORTE, S.A.               | Corporate    | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 68                     |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | DEHESA NORTE, S.A.               | Corporate    | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 36                     |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | DEHESA NORTE, S.A.               | Corporate    | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 30                     |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | DEHESA NORTE, S.A.               | Corporate    | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise)     | 118                    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | DEHESA NORTE, S.A.               | Corporate    | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise)     | 68                     |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | DEHESA NORTE, S.A.               | Corporate    | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise)     | 30                     |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | DEHESA NORTE, S.A.               | Corporate    | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise)     | 36                     |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | ISLASUR, S.A.                    | Corporate    | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 309                    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | ISLASUR, S.A.                    | Corporate    | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 181                    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | ISLASUR, S.A.                    | Corporate    | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 67                     |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | ISLASUR, S.A.                    | Corporate    | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 30                     |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | ISLASUR, S.A.                    | Corporate    | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 73                     |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | ISLASUR, S.A.                    | Corporate    | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise)     | 83                     |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | ISLASUR, S.A.                    | Corporate    | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise)     | 181                    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | ISLASUR, S.A.                    | Corporate    | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise)     | 67                     |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | ISLASUR, S.A.                    | Corporate    | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise)     | 30                     |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | AUSTRALIAN COMMODITIES, S.A.     | Corporate    | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 101                    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | AUSTRALIAN COMMODITIES, S.A.     | Corporate    | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 53                     |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | AUSTRALIAN COMMODITIES, S.A.     | Corporate    | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 30                     |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | AUSTRALIAN COMMODITIES, S.A.     | Corporate    | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 73                     |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | AUSTRALIAN COMMODITIES, S.A.     | Corporate    | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise)     | 173                    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | AUSTRALIAN COMMODITIES, S.A.     | Corporate    | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise)     | 52                     |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | AUSTRALIAN COMMODITIES, S.A.     | Corporate    | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise)     | 30                     |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | EL COBUJÓN, S.A.                 | Corporate    | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 163                    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | EL COBUJÓN, S.A.                 | Corporate    | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 34                     |

|                                     |                             |           |   |       |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|---|-------|
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | EL COBUJÓN, S.A.            | Corporate | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 25    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | EL COBUJÓN, S.A.            | Corporate | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 86    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | EL COBUJÓN, S.A.            | Corporate | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise)     | 193   |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | EL COBUJÓN, S.A.            | Corporate | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise)     | 34    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | EL COBUJÓN, S.A.            | Corporate | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise)     | 55    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | EL COBUJÓN, S.A.            | Corporate | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise)     | 24    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | MUNDIARROZ, S.A.            | Corporate | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 132   |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | MUNDIARROZ, S.A.            | Corporate | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 68    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | MUNDIARROZ, S.A.            | Corporate | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 73    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | MUNDIARROZ, S.A.            | Corporate | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 30    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | MUNDIARROZ, S.A.            | Corporate | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise)     | 203   |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | MUNDIARROZ, S.A.            | Corporate | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise)     | 68    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | MUNDIARROZ, S.A.            | Corporate | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise)     | 30    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | PESQUERÍAS ISLA MAYOR, S.A. | Corporate | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 76    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | PESQUERÍAS ISLA MAYOR, S.A. | Corporate | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 68    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | PESQUERÍAS ISLA MAYOR, S.A. | Corporate | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 51    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | PESQUERÍAS ISLA MAYOR, S.A. | Corporate | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise)     | 75    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | PESQUERÍAS ISLA MAYOR, S.A. | Corporate | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise)     | 68    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | PESQUERÍAS ISLA MAYOR, S.A. | Corporate | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise)     | 50    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | -                           | -         | Leases                                    | 79    |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | -                           | -         | Purchase of goods (finished or otherwise) | 7,719 |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | -                           | -         | Sale of goods (finished or otherwise)     | 304   |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | -                           | -         | Services rendered                         | 2     |
| INSTITUTO HISPÁNICO DEL ARROZ, S.A. | -                           | -         | Services received                         | 175   |

**D.4 Report any significant transactions with other companies in the group that are not eliminated in the consolidated financial statements and which do not, by virtue of their object or terms, correspond to the normal business of the Company:**

In any case, inform on any inter-company transaction with companies established in countries or territories considered tax havens:

**D.5 State the amount of transactions made with other related parties.**

0 (thousand euros).

**D.6 Describe the mechanisms established to detect, define and resolve possible conflicts of interest between the company and/or its group, and its directors, executives or controlling shareholders:**

The Audit and Compliance Committee ensures that the internal audit procedures and internal control systems are adequate and informs the Board on the related-party transactions submitted for its consideration and control of any possible conflicts of interest.

Under Article 28 of the Articles of Association, the Audit Committee has, among others, the power to ensure that transactions between the company and its subsidiaries or between these companies and directors and controlling shareholders are made on arm's length terms and respecting the principle of equal treatment, thus controlling any conflicts of interest that may arise in these related-party transactions.

Under Article 6.5 of the Regulations of the Board, the Board is competent, once a favourable report has been issued by the Audit and Compliance Committee, to authorise any related-party transactions between the company or group companies and directors, controlling shareholders, other related parties or shareholders represented on the board. This authorisation is not necessary when the transactions meet all of the following three conditions:

- If the transactions are made under contracts with standard terms and conditions applied globally to many clients.
- If the transactions are made at prices or rates established generally by the supplier of the good or service in question.
- If the amount of the transaction is no more than 1% of the annual income of the company.

Article 22 of the Regulations of the Board establishes the following prohibitions and disqualifications, among others, for directors:

- Holding positions or duties of representation, management, counselling or rendering of services in rival companies or the holding or performance of such positions, duties or services in companies having a controlling stake in rival companies.
- Attendance and participation in the discussions of any of the corporate bodies concerning business in which the director personally, or a member of his/her family has an interest or a company in which the director has an executive position or a significant shareholding.
- Direct or indirect participation in related-party transactions with the company or other group companies without previously informing the Board and seeking its approval, except in the cases contemplated in Article 6.5 of these Regulations.

The article also bars from the board anyone who, personally or through an intermediary, holds office in or is a representative of or is otherwise related to companies that are habitual clients or suppliers of goods and services of the company, whenever this condition may give rise to a conflict or clash of interest with the Company or its subsidiaries; in such cases the Chairman shall be informed of the situation and request a report from the Audit and Compliance Committee. Financial institutions providing financial services for the company are excluded from the foregoing.

Directors and executives are also subject to the specific obligations regarding conflicts of interests and related party transactions established in the Internal Code of Market Conduct (Rules 4, 8, 12 and 14).

**D.7 Is more than one company of the Group listed in Spain?**

YES  NO

Name any subsidiaries listed in Spain:

**Listed subsidiary**

State whether the respective areas of business and possible business relationships between them have been precisely and publicly defined, as well as those of the listed subsidiary with other group companies;

**Define any business relationships between the parent company and the listed subsidiary and between the latter and the other group companies**

Describe the mechanisms in place to settle any possible conflicts of interest between the listed subsidiary and other companies in the group:

|  |
|--|
| <b>Mechanisms for solving possible conflicts of interest</b> |
|--|

## **E. RISK CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS**

### **E.1 Explain the scope of the company's Risk Management System.**

The Group has an integral, homogenous system for assessing any risks to which it might be exposed. That system is based on the preparation of a risk map using a software tool called GIRO, through which information is input in the subsidiaries by the risk managers of each unit. In the process of pinpointing, assessment and management of risks, the risks are ranked from greater to lesser impact for the Group and by probability of occurrence. The risk universe is structured in four main groups: compliance, operational, strategic and financial, and all of them are subdivided into a large number of categories.

The process dynamically assesses both the inherent risk and the residual risk after application of the internal controls and action protocols established to mitigate them. These controls include preventive controls, adequate separation of duties, clear levels of authorisation and definition of policies and procedures. These controls can in turn be grouped into manual and automatic, made by data processing applications.

This model is both qualitative and quantitative and can be measured in the Group's results, for which purpose the risk level is considered acceptable or tolerable on a corporate level.

This model is used for both the pasta and rice divisions, covering the Group's entire business.

### **E.2 Name the corporate bodies responsible for preparing and implementing the Risk Management System.**

The Group's Chief Operating Officer is responsible for risk management on a corporate level, reporting directly to the Chairman of the Board. The senior management of the principal subsidiaries of the Group report regularly on any risks affecting them and the protocols and controls established to mitigate them. Process-level managers oversee those controls and solve any gaps or weaknesses (critical points) that may arise. Risk management is dynamic, such that the risks to be considered vary with the changing circumstances of our business.

Article 9.1 of the Regulations of the Board establishes that the Board shall receive information on the most important aspects of business management and any foreseeable risk situations for the Company and its subsidiaries, together with the actions proposed by the senior management in respect thereof.

Similarly, Article 6.3, which addresses the board's scope of action, establishes in respect of the transparency and truth of the company's reporting, that the Board shall, as such and through its different Committees:

- a) Ensure the independence and professional suitability of the External Auditor.
- b) Supervise the services of the Internal Audit Department, overseeing the financial reporting process and internal control systems.
- c) Control the financial information disclosed to the shareholders or the markets in general.

In particular, the Audit and Compliance Committee is responsible for overseeing and boosting internal control of the Group and risk management systems and proposing the risk management and control policy to the Board, identifying at least the following:

- The types of risk (operational, technological, financial, legal and reputational) to which the company is exposed
- The level of risk that the company considers acceptable
- The measures to mitigate the impact of the risks identified should they occur
- The control and reporting systems to be used to control and manage those risks.

### E.3 Define the main risks that could have a bearing on achievement of the company's business goals.

- Health risks: Owing to the nature of our business, we consider this risk particularly important. The aspects regarding food safety are another critical point to which the Group pays the utmost attention, being bound by a large number of laws and standards in each of the countries in which we distribute our products. Respect for the environment is another critical point for the Group, considering our industrial activity, with a large number of plants distributed throughout Europe and the USA, mainly.

The Group's policy is based on the principal of compliance with the laws and regulations in place from time to time, for which it has defined, developed and implemented a quality, environment and food safety management system that complies with the requirements of the standards UNE-EN-ISO 9001:2000/8 (Food Safety System Certification), UNE-EN-ISO 14001:2004 (Environment Management) and ISO 22000:2005.

The food safety programmes are designed to follow protocols that seek to identify and control certain Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) to minimise the residual risk.

The principal control points are grouped into:

- Physical points: controls to detect foreign objects in the product or the presence of metals.
- Chemical points: detection of chemical elements or presence of allergens.
- Biological points: presence of elements such as salmonella or other types of pathogen.

Most of our handling processes have obtained IFS (International Food Standard) certification and the pasta plants in the United States have obtained compliance certification from the Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI).

The Group has also implemented several initiatives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and atmospheric waste, improve the quality of water and reduce effluent, enhance energy and hydrological efficiency and implement physical waste recycling programmes for paper, aluminium and other materials.

The company provides its employees with continuous, adequate training in food safety and the rules of safety and hygiene in the workplace.

- Commodity supply risk: The availability of commodities in the quantity and quality required to meet commitments to customers and the requirements of our brands is a key factor for our business both nationally (Spanish paddy rice) and internationally (semi-processed rice for the Group subsidiaries). Any material risk in this area is critical for the Group.

- Market risk (prices): Unexpected variations in the prices of our commodity supplies may seriously affect the profitability of our commercial transactions, in both the industrial and brand-based segments.

- Customer concentration risk: This risk factor affects both the industrial and retail segments.

- Competition risk: In general, the pressure from white label brands is the main threat for maintaining our market shares.

- Customer credit risk: In the present international crisis, many companies find it difficult to meet their payment commitments so there is a growing risk of default.

- Reputational risk: This is the risk associated with changes of opinion resulting in a negative perception of the Group, its brands or products by customers, shareholders, suppliers, market analysts, etc. and adversely affecting the Group's ability to maintain its commercial and financial relations.

- Climate risk: The effects of droughts and flooding in the countries where we source our supplies cause problems of availability and unstable commodity prices, in both rice and durum wheat.

- Changes in lifestyle: Low carbohydrate diets.

- Technological risk, especially the risk of a possible "technological lag". In our sector, one of the most important tools for competing with our rivals is based on constant technological innovation and searching for ways to adapt to consumers' desires.

- Natural disasters, fires, etc.: As a major industrial group, a significant part of the assets on the balance sheet corresponds to its factories. The Group has insured all its factories and facilities, which would mitigate the effect of any incidents that may jeopardise their value.

Finally, there are another two risks to which the Group is exposed:



- Regulatory risk: The food industry is a sector subject to numerous regulations affecting export and import quotas, customs duties, intervention prices, etc., subject to the directives laid down in the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP).

- Country or market risk.

These risks have been mitigated over recent years through a firm business and geographical diversification policy, increasing our presence in Europe, America (United States and Canada), Asia (Thailand and India) and Africa (Egypt and Morocco).

#### E.4 State whether the company has a risk tolerance level.

Risks are measured by both inherent and residual risk. A scorecard is made each year of the principal ten risks to which the Group may be exposed (the TOP TEN), which are rated and measured as far as possible. If the economic consequences of a risk could cause a loss (or a loss of profit) of more than 5% of the consolidated EBITDA budgeted, it is considered a threat requiring corporate action. A risk with an effect of over 20% of the individual EBITDA of a business must also be reported on a corporate level to take such mitigation measures as may be considered necessary.

Risk identification and assessment corresponds to the manager of each business unit or division, who should quantify the maximum risk exposure. Tolerance is set in terms of the percentages of EBITDA indicated above. The Management Committee adopts such measures as may be considered necessary to mitigate risks.

#### E.5 What risks have occurred during the year?

- Although the situation has been addressed in the past two crop years, in 2014 the surplus supply of rice on the international market has intensified, pushing down market prices. This situation has been caused by several factors: surplus stocks globally, especially in Thailand, together with a growing supply of countries benefiting from the EBA treaties and the relatively weak US dollar. As a result of this combination of factors, rice from outside the EU has become cheaper, making European rice less competitive.

The impact of this risk was felt in the subsidiary Herba Ricemills, where our production of parboiled rice was reduced by approx. 40,000 tonnes, which would have contributed around €2 million to profit. Herba has responded to this critical risk by sourcing rice for our European subsidiaries from mainly Asian countries, saving our domestic production for uses and applications with a higher value added.

- In respect of credit risk in Spain, one of our main clients in the American region (IPACPA, in Mexico) is very close to insolvency. Despite the control in customer collections management, the alarm over payment delays by this client arose at the peak of our sales, with a cumulative balance of almost USD 2 million. A rapid alert enabled us to interrupt the latest shipments, deviating their delivery to controlled destinations and thereby more than halving the risk.

- The main risk in France is associated with the volatile commodity prices, particularly those of durum wheat, which rose by 60% over the year. This pushed the cost of our supplies up by €5 million. Our subsidiary Panzani was able to pass that extra cost on to white label distributors almost immediately and only at the end of the year to our specific brands.

- Just as in the preceding year, the persistent drought in Texas caused supply problems for our rice subsidiary in the United States and logistics problems for our factory in Freeport. Our subsidiary, Riviana, had to transfer part of its production to another factory in Tennessee, where it is easier to obtain rice from Arkansas and Louisiana. At the same time, shifts and workforce were reduced at our Freeport plant. The total impact on our profit and loss account was 8 million dollars.

- Our pasta subsidiary New World Pasta also suffered logistic problems during the year in the United States. These problems were caused by extreme weather conditions and the shortage of hauliers in Canada and the north west United States. This affects the supplies of raw material to our production plants in Canada and Winchester (USA) and pushed up our supply costs, which was mitigated by reducing promotion costs.

- In general, we highlight the following risks, as they affected several of our subsidiaries:

(i) The volatility on the foreign exchange markets affected all of our subsidiaries, although the overall effect was positive, mainly due to the evolution of the dollar towards the end of the year.

(ii) Owing to the economic crisis mainly in Europe, we have had to make concessions to some clients in respect of their payment schedules, slightly lengthening the average collection period for some of our subsidiaries. As a result, the Group has also tightened the credit terms for some of our clients.

## E.6 Explain the response and supervision plans for the main risks to which the company is exposed.

The management committee in each subsidiary is responsible for monitoring the subsidiary's risk supervision system. Management committees usually meet monthly to analyse any risks that may have materialised and follow up the contingency plans and actions taken to mitigate them. Control and monitoring of the economic variables in each subsidiary against the corresponding budget also ensures the immediate detection of unforeseen risk situations.

In the subsidiaries with greatest weight within the Group, such as the American subsidiaries, those plans are documented in the "Crisis Management Plan" (CMP), which specifies the main risks to which the company is exposed, the protocols for responding to them and the company officers responsible for implementation.

## F FINANCIAL REPORTING INTERNAL RISK CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (FRICS)

Describe the mechanisms comprising the financial reporting internal control and risk management systems (FRICS) of your company

### F.1 Control environment

Report on at least the following, describing their principal features:

#### F.1.1 What bodies and/or duties are responsible for: (i) the existence and maintenance of an adequate and effective FRICS; (ii) its implementation; and (iii) its oversight?

As established in its Regulations, the Board of Directors is ultimately responsible for the existence, maintenance and oversight of an adequate, effective financial reporting internal control system (FRICS), delegating the existence and maintenance of the procedures to ensure that the financial reporting is correct to the Audit and Compliance Committee and the design and promotion to the Management Committee.

The Management Committee is responsible for the design, implementation and functioning of the FRICS through the Group Finance Department and the Finance Departments of the different business units. The different general managements are responsible for effective implementation of these systems within their respective areas of activity.

The Audit and Compliance Committee supervises the Group financial reporting, assisted by the Internal Audit Department, the external auditors and certain executives of the organisation (from the Finance Department or other areas) when required.

As established in the Regulations of the Board, the Audit and Compliance Committee has the following duties:

- a) Supervise and promote internal control of the company and its risk management systems.
- b) Oversee and promote the policies, procedures and systems used for preparing and controlling the company's financial reporting, checking the services performed in this regard by the Internal Audit Department, the Finance Department and the Management Committee and making sure the Group is adequately informed about them.
- c) Ensure that the internal control systems are adequate and effective in respect of the accounting practices and principles used when drawing up the company's annual accounts, supervising the policies and procedures established to ensure due compliance with applicable legal provisions and internal regulations.
- d) Oversee compliance with the internal codes of conduct and corporate governance rules. In particular, ensure implementation of and compliance with the internal regulations and codes applicable to the risk management and control systems in general and the financial reporting process in particular.

#### F.1.2 State whether the following elements exist, especially in respect of the financial reporting process:

- Departments and/or mechanisms responsible for: (i) designing and reviewing the organisational structure; (ii) clearly defining the lines of responsibility and authority, with an adequate distribution of tasks and duties; and (iii) ensuring that there are sufficient procedures

for adequately informing the company.

As established in its Regulations, the board is responsible for defining the general strategy and guidelines for management of the company and encouraging and supervising the actions taken by the senior officers, establishing an organisational structure that will guarantee the utmost efficiency of the senior management and the management team in general.

According to the Regulations of the Board, the Nomination and Remuneration Committee is responsible for checking the criteria followed regarding the composition and structure of the board and for selecting candidates for the board. It also nominates the chairman, CEO or managing directors and secretary of the board and proposes the assignment of directors to the different board committees, the members of the Management Committee and any other advisory committees that the board may create.

In turn, the Nomination and Remuneration Committee supervises the Senior Management of the group, both in appointments and removals and in assessing the senior executive remuneration and incentives policy, informing on the criteria applied in the subsidiaries, and the executive promotion, training and selection policies of both the parent and its subsidiaries.

Within each group company, the organisational structure of the units participating in the preparation of financial reporting depends on several factors, such as the volume of operations or type of business, but in all cases it corresponds to the need to cover the main duties of recording, preparing, checking and reporting the operations performed and the economic and financial position of the company. The executive directors and management of Ebro Foods participate actively in the management committees of the group's subsidiaries, thereby guaranteeing direct communication through the lines of responsibility and authority.

The senior management and the human resources departments of the Group and each of the subsidiaries are responsible for designing the organisational structure according to local needs, the most important subsidiaries having a formal definition through organisation charts, which include a description of the duties and responsibilities of the main areas participating in internal control of financial reporting.

The different job descriptions of positions and responsibilities are maintained by the human resources department of each subsidiary and the managements of all the subsidiaries, especially the financial managements, are informed of any new member of a subsidiary.

- Code of conduct, body responsible for its approval, degree of publicity and instruction, principles and values included (stating whether there is any specific mention of the recording of transactions and preparation of financial reporting), body responsible for analysing default and proposing corrective measures and penalties.

The Code of Conduct of the Ebro Group, an update of the Code of Ethics of 2003 and Code of Conduct of 2008, was approved by the board on 28 March 2012 and all levels of the organisation were notified.

The Code of Conduct provides guidance on how to act in the Group's internal and external relationships, strengthening the values that distinguish us and establishing a basic reference to be followed by the Group.

The Code aims to:

- Be a formal, institutional reference for personal and professional conduct.
- Guarantee the responsible, ethical behaviour of all the Group's professionals in their work.
- Reduce the element of subjectivity in personal interpretations of moral and ethical principles.
- Create a standardisation tool to guarantee progressive implementation throughout the Group of the ten principles of the UN Global Compact.
- Grow responsibly and committed to all our stakeholders.

As established in the Code of Conduct, the Group assumes a principle of conduct based on transparent reporting, consisting of an undertaking to report reliable financial, accounting or other information to the markets. Accordingly, the company's internal and external financial reporting will give a true and fair view of its real economic, financial and equity situation according to generally accepted accounting principles.

Employees formally sign the Code of Conduct when they join the workforce of practically any Group company and it has been distributed among all Group employees during the year.

The Code of Conduct is also published in the Intranet, where it can be consulted by any employee, and on the Group's website.

The Audit and Compliance Committee, by delegation of the Ebro Foods Board of Directors, is responsible for monitoring and controlling application of the Code.

The Audit and Compliance Committee has an e-mail address to which any Group employee may send queries and suggestions regarding the interpretation of the Code of Conduct.

The Audit and Compliance Committee reports regularly to the Group's Board of Directors, after obtaining a report from the Corporate Social Responsibility Management, on any queries raised in respect of the interpretation and application of the Code of Conduct, how they have been solved and, where appropriate, the interpretation criteria followed.

- Whistleblowing channel, through which the audit committee can be informed of any financial or accounting irregularities, any breaches of the code of conduct and irregular activities within the organisation, indicating whether this channel is confidential.

As established in the Regulations of the Board, the Audit and Compliance Committee is formally responsible for implementing a whistle-blowing channel accessible to all Group employees and defining a protocol for prioritising, processing, investigating and settling reports according to their importance and nature.

For this purpose, the Ebro Group has, through its Code of Conduct, established a whistle-blowing or reporting channel through which any irregular conduct in financial, accounting or other areas and any breach of the code of conduct can be reported confidentially.

The Audit and Compliance Committee has a specific e-mail address through which any employees may report whatever conduct they may consider necessary and contact the Audit and Compliance Committee to inform on breaches of the code of conduct.

The Audit and Compliance Committee guarantees the confidentiality of the reports handled, according to a confidentiality commitment signed by all those involved in handling the reports and other precautions included in the "Report Handling Protocol". That protocol, approved by the Audit and Compliance Committee in 2012, establishes the procedure to be followed on receiving reports, regarding their processing, prioritising, solving and notification.

- Training programmes and regular updates for employees involved in the preparation and checking of financial information and evaluation by the FRICS, covering at least accounting and auditing standards, internal control and risk management.

The Ebro Group has a policy of making sure it has personnel with sufficient training and experience to carry out the duties and responsibilities assigned to them. The Ebro employees involved in the preparation and checking of the financial information and FRICS evaluation participate in training and refresher courses regarding the laws and standards in place from time to time and good practices to guarantee the reliability of the financial information generated.

The Ebro Group also encourages and provides means and resources for its employees to keep their accounting knowledge up to date through the attendance of seminars, on-line information and other means and regular meetings are held with the external auditors to assess in advance the standards in place or those about to enter into force.

During the year the Ebro Group has focused its training for personnel involved in the preparation and checking of financial information and FRICS evaluation on the following aspects:

- Accounting updates
- Management and control of costs for business decision-making
- Training in the tax laws in different countries
- Financial reporting internal control system manual

## F.2 Measurement of risks in financial reporting

Report at least on:

F.2.1 What are the main features of the risk identification process, including risks of error or fraud, in respect of:

- Whether the process exists and is documented.

Risk Management is a process established by Management and supervised by the Board through the Audit and Compliance Committee. This process is specified through the Risk Management System based on the Corporate Risk Management Policy.

The potential risks events that could affect the organisation are identified and assessed through the Risk Management System, pinpointing and assessing the risks corresponding to each line of business. Through this Risk Management System the Ebro Group has drawn up a Consolidated Risk Map by compiling and combining the risk maps of its major subsidiaries.

This process is coordinated by a group-level team, which manages and establishes the permitted tolerance to the risk and coordinates actions to align the measures addressing risks with the Group's global risk policy so that the exposure to risk assumed by the Ebro Group overall is known at all times.

Based on the results obtained, systems are devised for addressing risks and internal control, to keep the likelihood and impact of those risks within the tolerance levels, thereby providing reasonable certainty regarding achievement of the strategic business goals.

The Ebro Group currently has a tool with which it is able to manage the Risk Management System, which covers all the most significant risks of the Ebro Group.

- Whether the process covers all the financial reporting objectives (existence and occurrence; integrity; measurement; presentation, breakdown and comparison; and rights and obligations); whether it is updated and how often.

The Ebro Group has established a continuous improvement process to minimise the risks related with financial reporting, improving the design and effectiveness of existing controls.

For this purpose, it has a process identifying the risks affecting the reliability of financial reporting, based on and beginning with a definition of the scope, according to quantitative criteria of materiality in respect of the consolidated amounts and other qualitative criteria (error, fraud, uncommon transactions, etc.). Companies in the major business units or divisions that meet any of the afore-mentioned criteria and the material accounting items of each one are defined according to those criteria. Once the material items have been defined on a company level, the processes and sub-processes they affect are established, according to a relationship matrix.

For each of the sub-processes included within the scope, the inherent risks are identified and the checks made by the responsible persons to mitigate those risks are defined, setting this information down in a Risks-Controls Matrix. Those risks take account of all the financial reporting objectives (existence and occurrence; integrity; measurement; presentation, breakdown and comparison; and rights and obligations).

The financial reporting risks are identified in the Ebro Group's Risks-Controls Matrix and updated to take account of any changes in the scope of consolidation of the Group or development of its business and their reflection in the financial statements, making a comparative analysis every year of the variations in material processes and sub-processes to establish any risks that have not been previously identified.

- The existence of a process for defining the scope of consolidation, taking into account, among other aspects, the possible existence of complex corporate structures, base companies or special purpose vehicles.

The Ebro Group has a documented process based on internal regulations that guarantees the correct identification of the scope of consolidation through an adequate separation of duties in the requesting, authorising, reporting and recording of any operation entailing the incorporation, merger, division, acquisition or sale of companies and any other corporate operation, directly involving the legal department, management committee and the board.

This process considers the possible existence of complex corporate structures, base companies or special purpose vehicles, among other means by establishing an adequate structure to separate the duties of requesting, authorising and reporting for any corporate operation within the Group. However, transactions or complex corporate structures that might entail off-balance sheet transactions which should be recorded within it are not identified at present.

- Whether the process takes into account the effects of other types of risk (operational, technological, financial, legal, reputational, environmental, etc.) insofar as they affect the financial statements.

The Risks Management System of the Ebro Group is designed to identify potential risk events that might affect the organisation. At present there are four types of risks: Operating, Compliance, Strategic and Financial risks, and the conclusions are taken into account insofar as the risks may affect financial reporting.

- Which governing body of the company supervises the process.

According to the regulations of the board, the Audit and Compliance Committee is responsible for regularly checking the internal risk management and control systems ensuring that the principal risks are adequately identified, managed and disclosed.

### F.3 Control activities

Inform whether the company has at least the following, describing their main features:

F.3.1 Procedures for checking and authorising financial information to be published on the stock markets and description of the FRICS, indicating who is responsible for these tasks and documentation describing the flows of activities and controls (including those checking for the risk of fraud) in the different types of transactions that may have a material effect on the financial statements, including the procedure for closing of accounts and the specific review of judgements, estimates, valuations and significant projections.

The priorities established within the Ebro Group include the quality and reliability of the financial information, both internal information for decision-making and external information published on the markets. The information to be provided by the different units is requested by the Group financial department, paying special attention to the processes of closing the accounts, consolidation, measurement of intangibles and areas subject to judgement and estimates.

The Ebro Group has procedures for checking and authorising the financial information and description of the FRICS, responsibility for which corresponds to the financial department, the management committee, the Audit and Compliance Committee and the board.

The Audit and Compliance Committee checks and analyses the financial statements and any other important financial information, as well as the principal judgements, estimates and projections included and discusses them with the corporate financial department and the internal and external auditors to confirm that the information is complete and the principles applied are consistent with those of the previous full-year accounts.

The procedure for checking and authorising the financial information corresponds to the Group financial department, based on the information checked and validated by the different units. The Audit and Compliance Committee supervises this information to be published on the market.

The Group has implemented an improvement process to increase the documentation and make the generation of financial information and its subsequent supervision more effective and efficient.

The significant processes involved in the generation of the Group financial reporting are documented based on the COSO internal control model. The main processes documented are:

- Closing of Financial Statements and Reporting
- Consolidation
- Sales and Receivables
- Purchases and Payables
- Fixed Assets
- Inventories
- Payroll

The documentation outline is extended progressively, according to the materiality and the general criteria established in the Group's financial reporting internal control system.

The persons responsible for each of the documented processes in each subsidiary have been identified. They are responsible for keeping those processes up to date on an annual basis, reporting to the Group Management all and any modifications made.

Process documentation includes details of the flows and transactions and the financial reporting objectives and controls established to ensure they are met. It also contemplates the risks of error and/or fraud that might affect the financial reporting objectives. The documentation of flows of activities and controls that may have a material effect on the financial statements, including the accounts closing procedure, includes the preparation of narratives on the processes, flow diagrams and risk and control matrices. The controls identified are both preventive and detective, manual and automatic, describing also their frequency and associated information systems.

### F.3.2 Internal control procedures and policies for the IT systems (including access security, track changes, operation, operating continuity and separation of duties) used for the significant processes of the company in the preparation and publication of financial information.

The Group has rules of action for managing information security. Those rules are applicable to the systems used to generate financial information and the IT Department is responsible for defining and proposing the security policies.

Within its policies and infrastructure management the Ebro Group has procedures to secure each of the following points:

i) Both physical and logical access are controlled to ensure that only authorised internal and external personnel can access the Ebro centres and systems. Ebro has several Data Centres, the main one in Spain where the company's critical systems are housed. The major subsidiaries also have local data centres. They all have their own infrastructure to guarantee adequate control of access to the installations. In small subsidiaries, the general rule is to have external service providers to provide that security. When external service providers are used, the Ebro Group makes internal audits of the information systems and their architecture, including the security aspect.

Logical access control is secured with efficient management of access to our systems, whether internal or external, and through a user management coordinated with the human resources department and the company's group of managers. Ebro has user access control systems and workflow tools to guarantee intra-departmental integration and efficient updating of user status, regularly identifying those who no longer access the systems.

External access is guaranteed through specific users and controlled management. The necessary elements have also been provided on a network level to ensure that only authorised users and process have access from outside.

ii) The larger subsidiaries mainly use the ERP system called SAP. In all those cases, Ebro has procedures underpinned by systems in which production changes are systematically filtered and assessed, their life cycle managed, and disseminated after acceptance by specific users and impact analysis in the systems currently used in production.

iii) The separation of duties is underpinned by the use of roles by groups of users, which allow access only to the information and transactions previously approved by the organisation. The modification or creation of new roles is backed by the same procedure that guarantees management of the user life cycle and is applicable to the major companies of the Ebro Group. Special attention is paid to separation in IT support processes to make sure that the tasks of development, sending to production and administration of the system are duly separated.

iv) Ebro has internal tools which, combined with the user support departments and systems (Help Desks), guarantee the management and traceability of incidents in the IT systems.

The critical information systems are always housed in our data centres and there are individuals assigned to each one who are responsible for proactive monitoring of the automatic processes and proactive assessment of the yield and functioning of the systems.

Ebro has global contracts with security control tool providers, which guarantee the installation of such tools in all the computer and data processing equipment used in the company.

v) Ebro has tools to guarantee the continuity of business support by its IT systems in the event of a fatal error or system crash. There are backup systems and policies in its data centres that guarantee access to information and systems in case of a crash. The use of tape backups and replicating the information in several computers with subsequent triangular distribution are habitual procedures for making incremental or complete backup copies. The current systems allow recovery of the information up to the specific time of the fatal error or system crash.

### F.3.3 Internal control procedures and policies to oversee the management of outsourced activities and any aspects of valuation, calculation or measurement commissioned to independent experts, which may have a material impact on the financial statements

In general, the Ebro Group manages all activities that may have a material impact on the reliability of the financial statements directly using internal resources to avoid outsourcing. There are very few outsourced

activities and the procedures and controls of those activities are regulated in the contracts signed with the service providers in question.

The valuation, calculation or measurement activities commissioned by the Ebro Group to independent experts are mainly concerned with the appraisal of properties, actuarial studies of commitments to employees and impairment testing of intangibles.

Only service providers of internationally recognised standing are used for these valuation reports, making sure that they are not affected by any circumstance or event that could compromise their independence.

The reports obtained from these firms are submitted to internal review to check that the most significant assumptions and hypotheses used are correct and that they comply with the International Valuation Standards (IVS) and International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

## F.4 Information and communication

Inform whether the company has at least the following, describing their main features:

**F.4.1** A specific department responsible for defining the accounting policies and keeping them up to date (accounting policy department or division) and solving queries or conflicts deriving from their interpretation, maintaining fluent communication with those responsible for operations in the organisation, as well as an updated accounting policy manual distributed among the units through which the company operates.

The Ebro Group has adequate procedures and mechanisms to put the applicable criteria across to the employees involved in the preparation of financial information and the IT systems used in that preparation. This is done through the Management Control Unit and the Corporate Financial Department, whose powers include the following, among others:

\* Define, administer, update and report on the Group's accounting policies, in compliance with the applicable accounting standards and rules of consolidation for the preparation and presentation of financial information to be disclosed.

\* Prepare, update and report on the Accounting Policy Manual to be applied by all financial units in the Group. This manual is updated annually.

\* Settle any queries or conflicts regarding the interpretation and application of the accounting policies, maintaining fluent communication with those responsible for these operations in the organisation.

\* Define and create templates, formats and criteria to be used for preparing and reporting the financial information. All financial information distributed on the markets is prepared by consolidating the reports of the different business units, prepared using mechanisms for data input, preparation and presentation that are homogenous for the entire Group. These mechanisms are designed to enable compliance with the standards applicable to the principal financial statements, including accounting criteria, valuation rules and presentation formats and embrace not only the balance sheet, profit and loss account, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows, but also the obtaining of other information that is necessary to prepare the notes to the financial statements.

**F.4.2** Mechanisms for collecting and preparing financial information with homogenous formats, applied and used by all business units in the company or group, valid for the main financial statements and notes, and the information given on the FRICS

The Group's financial information is prepared using a process of aggregating separate financial statements at source for subsequent consolidation according to the applicable accounting and consolidation standards, to obtain the consolidated financial information to be published on the markets.

The process of aggregation and consolidation of the Group's financial statements is based on homogenous, common format templates that include different tables and reports to be completed. They also have automatic internal controls to check the integrity and reasonability of the data input.

These templates are validated by a financial manager in each subsidiary before sending them for checking and consolidation. To complete the automatic checks, those data and the estimation, valuation and calculation principles used to obtain them, as well as the accounts closing procedure, are checked by the financial manager at each level of aggregation and consolidation until the Ebro Group consolidated financial information is obtained, prepared and checked by the corporate financial department.



The Ebro Group has established a reporting system for the Financial Reporting Internal Control System, which is available in the Group for all the subsidiaries included within the Scope. Through that reporting system, the management of the parent coordinates maintenance of the system in the rest of the subsidiaries annually through the assignment of persons responsible for their maintenance and updating in the event of any significant change to be taken into consideration in the documentation. Finally, if any weaknesses are detected in the financial reporting internal control system, the subsidiaries are notified of the necessary action plans and they are monitored by management of the parent.

## F.5 Supervision of the functioning of the system

- F.5.1 Inform on the FRICS supervisory activities performed by the Audit Committee and whether the company has an internal audit department responsible, among its duties, for assisting the committee in its supervision of the internal control system, including the financial reporting internal control system (FRICS). Inform also on the scope of the FRICS appraisal made during the year and the procedure through which the department or body responsible for the appraisal informs on the outcome, whether the company has an action plan defining any possible corrective measures and whether their impact on the financial information has been considered.

The board is ultimately responsible for the existence, maintenance and supervision of an adequate, effective financial reporting internal control system, which is designed and implemented by the management committee. Among the duties defined in the Regulations of the Board, the Audit and Compliance Committee assists and supports the board in its supervision of the accounting and financial information, the internal and external audit services and corporate governance.

The Audit and Compliance Committee must see that the internal audit procedures, the internal control systems in general, including the risk management control system and in particular the financial reporting internal control system, are adequate; the external auditor and manager of the internal audit department are selected on the basis of objective, professional qualifications, guaranteeing their independence in the performance of their duties; report to the board on any related party transactions submitted for its consideration; control any possible conflicts of interest; and, in general, make sure that all the company's information and reporting, particular financial, complies with the principle of truth and maximum transparency for shareholders and markets.

The internal audit department has submitted its annual working plan to the Audit and Compliance Committee and reported directly to said committee on any incidents detected in the performance of that work, proposing the corresponding action plan defining any necessary corrective measures; and at the end of each year, it has submitted an activity report.

The results of checks made by the internal audit department and any incidents detected have been reported to the Audit and Compliance Committee. Moreover, the action plan devised for remedying those incidents has been sent to both the person responsible for remedying them and the Audit and Compliance Committee.

- 7.5.2 Inform on whether the company has a discussion procedure whereby the auditor (according to the provisions of the auditing standards), the internal audit department and other experts can inform the senior management and audit committee or company directors of any significant weaknesses detected in internal control during the auditing or checking of the annual accounts or any other processes commissioned to them. Indicate also whether the company has an action plan to remedy or mitigate the weaknesses observed.

The Audit and Compliance Committee has a stable, professional relationship with the external auditors and the main companies in its group, strictly respecting their independence. That relationship favours communication and discussion of any internal control weaknesses pinpointed during the auditing of annual accounts or any other audit work commissioned to them.

In this regard, the Audit and Compliance Committee receives information from the external auditor at least every six months on the audit plan and outcome of its performance, and checks that the senior management heeds the auditor's recommendations.

In addition, as established in the Regulations of the Board, it is responsible for overseeing the Internal Audit Services, being informed on the financial reporting process and internal control systems.

During 2014, the External Auditor attended 4 meetings of the Audit and Compliance Committee and the Internal Auditor has attended 7 such meetings.

## F.6 Other significant information

N/A

## F.7 External auditor's report

7.7.1 Inform as to whether the FRICS information sent to the markets was checked by the external auditor, in which case the company should include the corresponding report in an annex. If not, why not.

The report by the external auditor, Ernst & Young, S.L. reviewing the FRICS information is appended.

## G EXTENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE CORPORATE GOVERNANCE RECOMMENDATIONS

Indicate the degree of compliance by the company with the recommendations of the Unified Good Governance Code.

If any recommendation is not followed or is only partly followed, include a detailed explanation of the reasons so that shareholders, investors and the market in general have sufficient information to assess the company's actions. General explanations are not acceptable.

1. The Articles of Association of listed companies should not limit the maximum number of votes that may be cast by an individual shareholder or impose other restrictions hampering takeover of the company via the market acquisition of its shares.

See sections: A.10, B.1, B.2, C.1.23 and C.1.24

Complies  Explanation

2. When both the parent company and a subsidiary are listed, they should both publish a document specifying exactly:

a) **The types of activity they are respectively engaged in and any business dealings between them, and between the listed subsidiary and other group companies;**

b) **The mechanisms in place to solve any conflicts of interest.**

See sections: D.4 and D.7

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation  Not applicable

3. Although not expressly required in company law, any operations involving a structural alteration of the company should be submitted to the General Meeting for approval, especially the following:

a) **Conversion of listed companies into holdings, through spin-off or "subsidiarisation", i.e. reallocating to subsidiaries of core activities thereunto performed by the company, even though the latter may retain full ownership of its subsidiaries;**

b) **Acquisition or disposal of key operating assets, if this involves an effective alteration of its objects;**

c) **Any operations producing effects equivalent to liquidation of the company.**

See section: B.6

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

4. Detailed proposals of the resolutions to be adopted at a General Meeting, including the information contemplated in Recommendation 27, should be published simultaneously with the notice of call to the General Meeting.

Complies  Explanation

5. Substantially independent items shall be voted separately at General Meetings to enable shareholders to express their preferences separately. This rule is particularly applicable:

**a) To the appointment or ratification of directors, which should be voted individually;**

**b) In the case of alterations to the Articles of Association, to each article or substantially independent group of articles.**

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

6. Companies should allow split votes, so that financial intermediaries on record as shareholders but acting on behalf of different clients can vote according to the latter's instructions.

Complies  Explanation

7. The Board should perform its duties with unity in proposal and independent criteria, affording all shareholders the same treatment and guided by corporate interests, which shall mean maximising the value of the company over time.

It shall also ensure that the company complies with the applicable laws and regulations in its relations with stakeholders; fulfils its contracts and obligations in good faith; respects good customs and practice in the sectors and territories in which it operates; and upholds any other social responsibility principles that it may have subscribed to voluntarily.

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

8. The Board should undertake, as its principal mission, to approve the company's strategy and the organisation required to put it into practice, and to oversee and ensure that Management meets the targets marked out and respects the objects and corporate interest of the company. For this purpose, the full Board shall approve the following:

**a) General policies and strategies of the Company, particularly:**

- i) The strategic or business plan, management objectives and annual budgets;
- ii) Investment and financing policy;
- iii) Definition of the structure of the corporate group;
- iv) Corporate governance policy;
- v) Corporate social responsibility policy;
- vi) Policy on the remuneration and performance assessment of senior officers;
- vii) Risk management and control policy and the regular monitoring of internal information and control systems;
- viii) The dividend policy and treasury stock policy, particularly regarding limits.

See sections: C.1.14, C.1.16 and E.2

**b) The following decisions:**

- i) Upon recommendation by the chief executive, the appointment and possible removal of senior officers, and corresponding severance clauses;
- ii) Directors' emoluments and, for executive directors, supplementary remuneration for their executive duties and any other terms and conditions to be included in their contracts;

- iii) The financial information that listed companies are obliged to disclose periodically;
- iv) Any investments or transactions considered strategic by virtue of their amount or special characteristics, unless approval corresponds to the General Meeting;
- v) Creation or acquisition of shares in special purpose vehicles or companies domiciled in countries or territories considered tax havens, and any transactions or operations of a similar nature which could, by virtue of their complex structure, impair the group's transparency.

c) Transactions between the company and its directors, significant shareholders or shareholders with representatives on the Board, or persons related thereto ("related-party transactions").

This authorisation will not be necessary for related-party transactions that meet all of the following three conditions:

1. Made under contracts with standard terms and conditions applied across the board to large numbers of clients;
2. Made at the general prices or rates established by the person supplying the good or service;
3. Made for a sum not exceeding 1% of the company's annual earnings.

The Board is recommended to make approval of related-party transactions dependent on a favourable report by the Audit Committee, or such other committee as may be assigned this duty. Apart from not exercising or delegating their vote, the affected Directors shall leave the room during the corresponding discussion and voting by the Board.

It is recommended that these competences of the Board be non-delegable, except those contemplated in paragraphs b) and c), which may be adopted by the Executive Committee in an emergency, subject to subsequent ratification by the full Board.

See sections: D.1 and D.6

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

9. The Board should have an adequate size to secure efficient, participative performance of its duties. The recommended size is between five and fifteen members.

See section: C.1.2

Complies  Explanation

10. Non-executive proprietary and independent directors should have an ample majority on the board, while the number of executive directors should be kept to a minimum, taking account of their equity ownership and the complexity of the corporate group.

See sections: A.3 and C.1.3

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

11. Among the non-executive directors, the ratio of proprietary to independent directors should reflect the proportion between capital represented and not represented on the Board.

**This strictly proportional distribution may be relaxed so that proprietary directors have a greater weight than that corresponding to the total percentage of capital they represent:**

1. In companies with a high capitalisation with few or no shareholdings considered significant by law, but in which certain shareholders have interests with a high absolute value.
2. In companies with a plurality of unrelated shareholders represented on the Board.

See sections: A.2, A.3 and C.1.3

Complies  Explanation

12. The total number of Independent Directors should represent at least one-third of the total Directors.

See section: C.1.3

Complies  Explanation

Following the resignation for professional reasons of Sol Daurella Comadrán (independent director) as of 1 December 2014, there are 3 independent directors, representing 25% of the total directors.

Although the company considers that the composition of the board reflects the shareholding structure of the company, it is considering measures to fill the vacancy produced by the resignation of the aforesaid independent director.

13. The Board should explain the nature of each director at the general meeting at which an appointment is to be made or ratified. The type of director should be confirmed or altered, as the case may be, in the Annual Corporate Governance Report, following verification by the Nomination Committee. The reasons why proprietary directors have been appointed at the request of shareholders with an interest of less than 5% in the capital shall be explained in that Report, as well as the reasons, where appropriate, for not meeting formal requests for presence on the board from shareholders with an interest equal or greater than others at whose request proprietary directors have been appointed.

See sections: C.1.3 and C.1.8.

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

14. When there are few or no female directors, when vacancies arise on the Board, the Nomination Committee should ensure that:

- a) **There is no hidden bias against female candidates in the selection procedures;**
- b) **A conscious effort is made to include women with the target profile among the candidates.**

See sections: C.1.2, C.1.4, C.1.5, C.1.6, C.2.2 and C.2.4

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation  Not applicable

Board members have traditionally been appointed regardless of candidates' gender, so there is no positive or negative discrimination of any nature in the election of directors, without prejudice to any measures that may be taken in the future by the Nomination and Remuneration Committee in pursuance of the amended Corporate Enterprises Act.

Following the resignation tendered on 1 December 2014 by one independent director, the female directors on the board at present are Blanca Hernández Rodríguez and Concepción Ordiz Fuertes.

15. The Chairman, being responsible for the effective operation of the Board, should make sure that directors receive sufficient information in advance; stimulate debate and active participation by directors at all Board meetings, protecting their free stand and expression of opinion on any issues; and organise and coordinate periodic assessment of the Board, and the Managing Director or CEO, if any, with the chairmen of the principal committees.

See section: C.1.19 and C.1.41

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

16. When the Chairman of the Board is also the chief executive officer of the company, one of the independent directors should be authorised to request the calling of a board meeting or the inclusion of new items on the agenda; coordinate and express the concerns of the non-executive directors; and direct the assessment by the Board of its Chairman.

See section: C.1.22

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation  Not applicable

The company partially complied with this recommendation in 2014, since the Regulations of the Board recognises the right of all directors to request the calling of a board meeting or the inclusion of items on the agenda, not limiting this power exclusively to independent directors.

Article 9.2 of the Regulations of the Board stipulates that one-third of the board members may, at least six days prior to the date

of a board meeting, request the inclusion of items which, in their opinion, should be transacted.

Article 9.5 of the Regulations stipulates that the board may discuss and adopt resolutions on issues included on the agenda, as well as any others which all the directors present and represented at the meeting agree to dispatch.

Similarly, Article 25.2.b) of the Regulations establishes that directors shall request a meeting of any corporate bodies they belong to whenever they may consider this to be in the company's interests, proposing such items as they may consider adequate for the agenda.

Finally, Article 33.1 of the Regulations provide that when the chairman of the board is also the chief executive officer of the company, the board may appoint a vice-chairman from among the non-executive directors, who will be entitled to call board meetings or include new items on the agenda and organise meetings to coordinate among non-executive directors, and who will direct the assessment of the chairman. If no vice-chairman is appointed, the board will authorise an independent director to perform these duties.

At present José Antonio Segurado García, as Lead Independent Director, is authorised to request the calling of a board meeting or the inclusion of new items on the agenda of a meeting that has already been called, coordinate and call meetings of the non-executive directors and, if appropriate, direct the periodical performance rating of the Chairman.

17. The Secretary of the Board should especially ensure that the Board's actions:

- a) **Conform to the text and spirit of the laws and regulations, including those adopted by the market watchdogs;**
- b) **Conform to the company's Articles of Association and the Regulations of the General Meeting, the Board and any other internal regulations of the Company;**
- c) **Take account of the good governance recommendations contained in this Unified Code endorsed by the company.**

To guarantee the independence, impartiality and professionalism of the Secretary, his/her appointment and removal should require a report by the Nomination Committee and approval by the full Board; and the procedure for appointment and removal should be set down in the Regulations of the Board.

See section: C.1.34

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

18. The Board should meet as often as may be necessary to secure efficient performance of its duties, following the calendar and business established at the beginning of the year, although any director may propose other items not initially contemplated to be included on the agenda.

See section: C.1.29

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

19. Non-attendance of Board meetings should be limited to inevitable cases and stated in the Annual Corporate Governance Report. If a director is forced to grant a proxy for any Board meeting, the appropriate instructions should be issued.

See sections: C.1.28, C.1.29 and C.1.30

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

20. When the Directors or the Secretary express concern over a proposal, or, in the case of Directors, the company's performance, and those concerns are not settled by the board, they should be put on record, at the request of those expressing them.

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation  Not applicable

21. The full Board should assess once a year:

- a) **The quality and effectiveness of the Board's actions;**
- b) **Based on the report issued by the Nomination Committee, the performance by the Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of their respective duties;**

**c) The performance of its Committees, based on the reports issued by each one.**

See section: C.1.19 and C.1.20

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

22. All the Directors should be entitled to obtain such supplementary information as they may consider necessary on business within the competence of the Board. Save otherwise stipulated in the Articles of Association or Board Regulations, their requests should be addressed to the Chairman or Secretary of the Board.

See section: C.1.41

Complies  Explanation

23. All Directors should be entitled to call on the company for specific guidance in the performance of their duties, and the company should provide adequate means for exercising this right, which in special circumstances may include external assistance, at the company's expense.

See section: C.1.40

Complies  Explanation

24. Companies should establish an induction programme to give new Directors a rapid, sufficient insight into the company and its rules on corporate governance. Directors should also be offered refresher courses in the appropriate circumstances.

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

25. Companies should require Directors to devote the necessary time and efforts to perform their duties efficiently. Accordingly:

**a) Directors should inform the Nomination Committee of any other professional obligations they may have, in case they may interfere with the required dedication;**

**b) Companies should limit the number of directorships that its Directors may hold.**

See sections: C.1.12, C.1.13 and C.1.17

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

26. Proposals for the appointment or re-appointment of directors submitted by the Board to the General Meeting and the provisional appointment of directors by cooptation should be approved by the Board:

**a) At the proposal of the Nomination Committee, in the case of independent directors;**

**b) Subject to a report by the Nomination Committee for other directors.**

See section: C.1.3

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

27. Companies should publish on their websites and regularly update the following information on their directors:

**a) Professional and biographical profile;**

**b) Other directorships held, in listed or unlisted companies;**

**c) Type of director, indicating in the case of proprietary directors the shareholders they represent or are related with.**

**d) Date of first and subsequent appointments as company director; and**

**e) Company shares and stock options held.**

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

Although there is no specific section of the corporate website containing information on other directorships held by the directors of Ebro Foods, S.A., the annual accounts and corporate governance report of each year published in the corresponding section of the website contain information on the directorships held in listed companies and companies engaged in activities identical or

similar to those of Ebro Foods.

28. Proprietary directors should resign when the shareholder they represent disposes of its entire shareholding in the company. They should also resign in the corresponding number when the shareholder disposes of part of its shares to an extent requiring a reduction in the number of proprietary directors.

See sections: A.2, A.3 and C.1.2

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

29. The Board should not propose the removal of any independent director before the end of the period for which he or she was appointed, unless there are just grounds for doing so, as appreciated by the Board subject to a report by the Nomination Committee. Just grounds are deemed to exist when the director has acted in breach of his/her duties or when he or she falls into any of the circumstances by virtue of which he/she would no longer be considered independent, according to the provisions of Order ECC/461/2013.

**The removal of independent directors may also be proposed as a result of takeover bids, mergers or similar corporate operations producing a change in the capital structure of the company, whenever those changes in the structure of the Board correspond to the principle of proportionality established in Recommendation 11.**

See sections: C.1.2, C.1.9, C.1.19 and C.1.27

Complies  Explanation

30. Companies should establish rules obliging directors to report and, if necessary, resign in any cases that may jeopardise the company's reputation. In particular, directors should be obliged to inform the Board of any criminal proceedings brought against them and the subsequent development of the proceedings.

**If a director is tried for any of the offences contemplated in section 213 of the Corporate Enterprises Act, the Board should study the case as soon as possible and, in view of the specific circumstances, decide whether or not the director should remain in office. A reasoned account should be included in the Annual Corporate Governance Report.**

See sections: C.1.42 and C.1.43

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

31. All the directors should clearly express their opposition whenever they consider that any proposed decision submitted to the Board may go against corporate interests. The independent and other directors not affected by the potential conflict of interest should also do so when the decisions may be detrimental to shareholders not represented on the Board.

**And when the Board adopts significant or reiterated decisions regarding which a director has expressed serious reservations, the latter should reach the appropriate conclusions and, if he or she opts to resign, explain the reasons in the letter contemplated in the following recommendation.**

**This recommendation also affects the Secretary of the Board, even if he or she is not a director.**

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation  Not applicable

32. If a director resigns or retires from office on whatsoever other grounds before the end of his or her term of office, he or she should explain the reasons in a letter sent to all the Board members. Regardless of whether the retirement is announced as a regulatory disclosure, the reason shall be indicated in the Annual Corporate Governance Report.

See section: C.1.9

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation  Not applicable

33. Remunerations in the form of shares in the company or group companies, stock options or instruments linked to



the value of the share and any variable remuneration linked to the company's performance or welfare schemes should be limited to executive directors.

**This recommendation shall not be applicable to the delivery of shares when subject to the condition that the directors keep them up to their retirement from the Board.**

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation  Not applicable

34. The remuneration of non-executive directors should be sufficient to remunerate their dedication, qualifications and responsibilities, but not so high as to compromise their independence.

Complies  Explanation  Not applicable

35. Earnings-linked remuneration should take account of any qualifications in the external auditor's report that may reduce such earnings.

Complies  Explanation  Not applicable

36. In the case of variable remuneration, the pay policies should establish such limits and technical precautions as may be necessary to ensure that such remuneration is related to the professional performance of its beneficiaries, not merely deriving from general trends on the markets or in the company's sector of business or other similar circumstances.

Complies  Explanation  Not applicable

37. When there is an Executive Committee, the balance between the different types of director should roughly mirror that of the Board and its secretary should be the Secretary of the Board.

See sections: C.2.1 and C.2.6

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation  Not applicable

38. The Board should be informed at all times of the business transacted and decisions made by the Executive Committee and all Board members should receive a copy of the minutes of Executive Committee meetings.

Complies  Explanation  Not applicable

39. In addition to the Audit Committee which is mandatory under the Securities Market Act, the Board shall set up a Nomination and Remuneration Committee, or two separate Committees.

**The rules on composition and procedure of the Audit Committee and the Nomination and Remuneration Committee or Committees should be set out in the Regulations of the Board, including the following:**

- a) **The Board should appoint the members of these Committees, taking account of the directors' knowledge, expertise and experience and the duties corresponding to each Committee and discuss their proposals and reports. The Committees should report to the Board on their actions at the first full Board meeting after each Committee meeting, being accountable for the work done.**
- b) **These Committees should have a minimum of three members, who should be exclusively non-executive directors. This notwithstanding, executive directors or senior officers may attend their meetings when expressly so decided by the Committee members.**
- c) **The Committees should be chaired by Independent Directors.**
- d) **They may obtain external assistance whenever this is considered necessary for the performance of their duties.**
- e) **Minutes should be issued of Committee meetings and a copy sent to all members of the Board.**

See sections: C.2.1 and C.2.4

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

40. The Audit Committee, Nomination Committee or, if separate, the Compliance or Corporate Governance Committee(s) should be responsible for overseeing compliance with internal codes of conduct and corporate governance rules and regulations.

See sections: C.2.3 and C.2.4

Complies  Explanation

41. All members of the Audit Committee, particularly its Chairman, should be appointed in view of their knowledge of and experience in accounting, auditing or risk management.

Complies  Explanation

42. Listed companies should have an internal audit department, supervised by the Audit Committee, to guarantee the effectiveness and efficiency of the internal reporting and control systems.

See section: C.2.3

Complies  Explanation

43. The chief audit officer should submit an annual work programme to the Audit Committee, reporting directly on any irregularities arising during its implementation and submitting an activity report at each year end.

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

44. The risk management and control policy should define at least:

- a) **The different types of risk (operational, technological, financial, legal, reputational...) to which the company is exposed, including under financial or economic risks any contingent liabilities or other off-balance-sheet exposure;**
- b) **The level of risk that the company considers acceptable;**
- c) **The measures envisaged to soften the effects of the risks identified, should they materialise;**
- d) **The internal reporting and control systems to be used to control and manage those risks, including contingent liabilities or off-balance-sheet risks.**

See section: E

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

45. The Audit Committee should:

**1. In connection with the internal reporting and control systems:**

- a) **Ensure that the principal risks identified through supervision of the effective internal control of the company and internal auditing are adequately managed and disclosed.**
- b) **Oversee the independence and effectiveness of the internal audit department; propose the nomination, appointment, reappointment and removal of the chief audit officer; propose the budget for this department; receive periodical information on its activities; and check that the top management heeds the conclusions and recommendations set out in its reports.**
- c) **Establish and supervise a “whistle-blowing” procedure so employees can confidentially and, if considered appropriate, anonymously report any potentially important irregularities they may observe in the company’s conduct, especially in financial and accounting aspects.**

**2. In connection with the external auditor:**

- a) **Receive regular information from the external auditor on the audit plan and findings and make sure the senior management acts on its recommendations.**
- b) **Guarantee the independence of the external auditor, and for this purpose:**

i) **The company should inform the CNMV as a significant event whenever the auditor is changed, attaching a declaration on any disagreements that may have arisen with the outgoing auditor and their content.**

ii) **Investigate the circumstances giving rise to resignation of any external auditor.**

See sections: C.1.36, C.2.3, C.2.4 and E.2

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

46. **The Audit Committee may call any employee or executive of the company into its meetings, even ordering their appearance without the presence of any other senior officer.**

Complies  Explanation

47. **The Audit Committee should report to the Board on the following matters from Recommendation 8 before the latter adopts the corresponding decisions:**

a) **The financial information that listed companies are obliged to disclose periodically. The Committee shall ensure that interim financial statements are drawn up under the same accounting principles as the annual statements, requesting a limited external audit if necessary.**

b) **Creation or acquisition of shares in special purpose vehicles or companies domiciled in countries or territories which are considered tax havens, and any transactions or operations of a similar nature which could, by virtue of their complex structure, impair the group's transparency.**

c) **Related-party transactions, unless this prior reporting duty has been assigned to another supervision and control committee.**

See sections: C.2.3 and C.2.4

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

48. **The Board should endeavour to avoid a qualified auditor's report on the accounts laid before the General Meeting, and in exceptional circumstances when such qualifications exist, both the Chairman of the Audit Committee and the auditors shall clearly explain to the shareholders their content and scope.**

See section: C.1.38

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation

49. **The majority of the members of the Nomination Committee – or Nomination and Remuneration Committee if there is just one – should be independent directors.**

See section: C.2.1

Complies  Explanation  Not applicable

Of the four members of the Nomination and Remuneration Committee, two are independent directors, one of whom chairs the committee.

50. **Apart from the duties specified in preceding Recommendations, the Nomination Committee should:**

a) **Assess the expertise, knowledge and experience of Board members; define the duties and skills required of candidates to fill vacancies; and determine the time and dedication considered necessary for them to adequately perform their duties.**

b) **Study or organise as appropriate the succession of the Chairman or Chief Executive Officer and, if necessary, make recommendations to the Board to secure an orderly, well-planned handover.**

c) **Report on any appointments and removals of senior officers proposed by the Chief Executive Officer.**

d) **Report to the Board on the gender issues contemplated in Recommendation 14.**

See section: C.2.4

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation  Not applicable

In 2014, notwithstanding the powers assigned to the Nomination and Remuneration Committee under the amended Corporate Enterprises Act, all the powers indicated in this recommendation corresponded to this committee except the power indicated in d).

51. The Nomination Committee should consult the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, especially on matters concerning Executive Directors.

**Any director may request the Nomination Committee to consider potential candidates they consider suitable to fill vacancies on the Board.**

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation  Not applicable

52. Apart from the duties indicated in the preceding Recommendations, the Remuneration Committee should:

**a) Submit proposals to the Board on:**

- i) **The remuneration policy for directors and senior officers;**
- ii) **The individual remuneration of executive directors and other terms of contract;**
- iii) **The basic conditions of senior executive contracts.**

**b) Ensure compliance with the remuneration policy established by the company.**

See sections: C.2.4

Complies  Partial compliance  Explanation  Not applicable

53. The Remuneration Committee should consult the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, especially on matters concerning executive directors and senior officers.

Complies  Explanation  Not applicable

## H OTHER INFORMATION OF INTEREST

1. If you consider there to be any important aspects regarding the corporate governance practices applied by your company or other companies in the group that have not been mentioned in this report, but which should be included to obtain more complete, reasoned information on the corporate governance practices and structure in the company or group, describe them below and give a brief explanation.
2. This section may be used to include any other information, clarification or qualification relating to the previous sections of the report, provided it is relevant and not repetitive.

In particular, state whether the company is subject to any laws other than the laws of Spain on corporate governance and, if this is the case, include whatever information the company may be obliged to supply that differs from the information included in this report.

3. The company may also state whether it has voluntarily applied any international, sector-based or other codes of ethical principles or good practices. If so, it should name the code in question and the date of its accession.

### EXPLANATORY NOTE ONE, ON SECTION A.4

Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A. and Hispafoods Invest, S.L. are directors and also significant shareholders of the company (see percentage shareholdings indicated in A.3) and the relationships contemplated in explanatory note six to section C.1.17 exist between them.

#### EXPLANATORY NOTE TWO, ON SECTION A.5

For relationships between the companies of the Ebro Foods Group and the controlling shareholders, see section C.2 of this Report.

#### EXPLANATORY NOTE THREE, ON SECTION C.1.2

The director José Antonio Segurado García was appointed Lead Independent Director by virtue of a resolution adopted by the Board on 29 January 2014, as mentioned in several sections of this report.

#### EXPLANATORY NOTE FOUR, ON SECTIONS C.1.4 AND C.2.2

Following the resignation by a female independent director for professional reasons on 1 December 2014, the presence of women on the Board of Directors has been reduced to two and the number of independent directors on the Audit and Compliance Committee and the Nomination and Remuneration Committee has fallen to two.

#### EXPLANATORY NOTE FIVE, ON SECTION C.1.16

- The total amount indicated in section C.1.16 includes (i) the remuneration of all the company executives, even though they are not all part of the senior management; and (ii) the remuneration of an executive who left the company as of 30 July 2014 and that of another executive who joined the company on 6 October 2014.

- In 2014 a sum of €145,000 was distributed among all executives (except the Chairman of the Board) included in the Deferred Annual Bonus Scheme linked to the Group's Strategic Plan 2010-2012, corresponding to 2012 (the last year of the Plan). This sum represents 70% of the Deferred Annual Variable Remuneration for the three-year period and was provided for in the 2012 accounts.

- A provision has been recognised in the 2014 accounts of €117,000 as the provisional estimate of the sum corresponding to 2014 to be distributed among all executives (except the Chairman of the Board) included in the Deferred Annual Bonus Scheme linked to the Group's Strategic Plan 2013-2015, equivalent to 25% of the Deferred Annual Variable Remuneration for that three-year period. This sum has been paid in 2015.

- Finally, these Deferred Annual Bonus Schemes are not indexed to the value of the company share and the beneficiaries do not receive any shares or rights thereover.

#### EXPLANATORY NOTE SIX, ON SECTION C.1.17

- Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A. and Hispafoods Invest, S.L. are directors and controlling shareholders of Ebro Foods, S.A. Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A. holds 100% of the capital of Hispafoods Invest, S.L. (direct interest of 51.62% and indirect interest of 48.38%) and is director of that company.

- Antonio Hernández Callejas has a direct interest of 16.666% in Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A. and an indirect interest of 16.666% in Hispafoods Invest, S.L. Therefore, Antonio Hernández Callejas has an indirect interest in Ebro Foods, S.A. through the 15.879% interest held directly and indirectly in this company by Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A. Antonio Hernández Callejas does not hold any office in those companies.

Demetrio Carceller Arce has an indirect interest in Ebro Foods, S.A. through the 10.026% interest held indirectly in this company by Sociedad Anónima Damm through Corporación Económica Damm, S.A.

#### EXPLANATORY NOTE SEVEN, ON SECTION C.1.29

During 2014 both the Board of Directors and the Audit and Compliance Committee adopted written resolutions (without a meeting) on one occasion each, which should be added to the number of meetings indicated in section C.1.29.

#### EXPLANATORY NOTE EIGHT, ON SECTION C.2

-The audit committee in Ebro Foods S.A. is called the Audit and Compliance Committee and the nomination and remuneration committee is called the Nomination and Remuneration Committee (lit. Selection and Remuneration Committee in Spanish).

-The powers of the different Committee of the Board established in the Regulations of the Board, without prejudice to those corresponding to them by law, are set out below:

##### 1. POWERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

- a) Adopt resolutions corresponding to the powers delegated to it by the Board of Directors.
- b) Monitor and supervise the day-to-day management of the company, ensuring adequate coordination with subsidiaries in the common interests of the latter and the company.
- c) Study and propose to the Board of Directors the guidelines defining business strategy, supervising their implementation.
- d) Debate and inform the Board on any issues corresponding to the following matters, regardless of whether or not they have been delegated by the Board:

- Separate and consolidated annual budget of the company, itemising the provisions corresponding to each line of business.
- Monthly monitoring of the financial management, budget deviations and proposed remedial measures, if necessary.
- Significant financial investments and investments in property, plant and equipment and the corresponding economic justification.
- Alliances and agreements with other companies which, by virtue of their amount or nature, are important for the company.
- Financial transactions of a material economic significance for the company.
- Programme of medium-term actions.
- Assessment of the achievement of objectives by the different operating units of the company.
- Monitoring and assessment of the subsidiaries in respect of the matters contemplated in this sub-section d).

e) Adopt resolutions corresponding to the acquisition and disposal of treasury stock by the Company, in accordance with the authorisation, if any, granted by the General Meeting. A Director may be designated to execute and formalise the decisions to buy or sell own shares, supervising and, if appropriate, authorising any resolutions that may be adopted by subsidiaries to buy and sell their own shares or shares in the Company, whenever such authorisation is required by law.

## 2. POWERS OF THE AUDIT AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE:

a) Supervise and promote internal control of the company and the risk management systems and submit recommendations to the Board regarding the risk management and control policy.

b) Supervise and promote the policies, procedures and systems used for drawing up and controlling the company's financial information, checking the services performed in this regard by the Internal Audit Department, the Financial Department and the Management Committee and making sure they are correctly distributed throughout the Group.

c) Receive the information sent regularly to the Stock Exchange Councils, issue prospectuses and any public financial information offered by the Company and, in general, all information prepared for distribution among shareholders, ensuring the existence of internal control systems that guarantee the transparency and truth of the information.

d) Ensure that the systems used for preparing the separate and consolidated Annual Accounts and Directors' Report submitted to the Board to be officially drawn up and authorised for issue in accordance with current legislation give a true and fair view of the equity, financial position and results of the Company and make sure that any interim financial statements are drawn up according to the same accounting principles as the annual accounts, considering the possibility of asking the external auditors to make a limited audit if necessary. In this respect, it shall also see that the internal control systems are adequate and effective in respect of the accounting practices and principles used for drawing up the company's annual accounts, supervising the policies and procedures established to ensure due compliance with applicable legal provisions and internal regulations. The Committee shall, through its Chairman, obtain information and collaboration from both the Internal Audit Manager and the External Auditors to perform these duties. Furthermore, whenever the Committee so requests its Chairman, its meetings may be attended by any member of the company management, who may speak but not vote.

e) Establish regular contact with the External Auditors to receive information on any issues that may jeopardise their independence, and any other issues relating to the auditing of accounts, receiving information from and exchanging communications with the External Auditors in accordance with prevailing auditing standards and legislation.

f) Be informed of the decisions adopted by the senior management according to recommendations made by the External Auditors in connection with the audit.

g) Report to the Board prior to the adoption of any decisions on related party transactions submitted for its authorisation.

h) Implement a confidential whistle-blowing channel accessible to all Group employees and a protocol for establishing priority, processing, investigating and solving any issues reported through that channel according to their importance and nature, paying special attention to those involving possible falsehood or misrepresentation in financial or accounting documents and possible fraud.

i) Supervise compliance with the internal codes of conduct and rules of corporate governance. In particular, oversee the implementation of and compliance with the internal regulations and codes applicable to the risk management and control systems in general and the financial reporting process in particular.

j) Propose to the Board, for submission to the General Meeting, the appointment of the External Auditors of the Company and their terms of contract, the scope of their commission and the renewal or revocation of their engagement. The Committee shall ensure the independence of the External Auditors and the existence of a discussion procedure enabling the External Auditors, the Internal Audit Department and any other expert to inform the company of any significant weaknesses in its internal control detected while checking the annual accounts or any other processes in which they have worked. It shall also inform the Board on the proposal submitted to the Board by the Company Chairman regarding the appointment of the Internal Audit Manager, who shall report directly to the Chairman of the Board.

k) Supervise and report to the Board on intragroup and related party transactions of the company or subsidiaries and settle any conflicts of interest that may arise between the company or the group and its directors, executives, significant shareholders and listed subsidiaries, if any.

l) Report to the General Meeting on any issues raised by shareholders concerning matters within its competence.

### 3. POWERS OF THE NOMINATION AND REMUNERATION COMMITTEE:

The Committee shall study, issue reports and submit proposals for the Board on the following matters:

- a) Definition and, where appropriate, revision of the criteria to be followed for the composition and structure of the Board and selection of candidates to join the Board, informing always prior to the appointment of a Director by cooptation or the submission to the General Meeting of any proposal regarding the appointment or removal of Directors.
- b) Appointment of the Chairman and, if any, the Vice-Chairman, Managing Director(s) and Secretary of the Board; appointment of Directors to the Executive Committee, Audit and Compliance Committee and Strategy and Investment Committee; appointment of members of the Management Committee and any other advisory committees the Board may create; and appointment and possible dismissal of senior executives and their termination benefit clauses.
- c) Position of the Company regarding the appointment and removal of board members in subsidiaries.
- d) Proposal of directors' emoluments, according to the system of remuneration established in the Articles of Association and the executive directors' relationship with the Company. The Committee shall also inform in advance on any resolution or proposal of the Board on the remuneration of directors and executives indexed to the value of the shares in the Company or its subsidiaries or consisting of the delivery of shares in the Company or its subsidiaries or the granting of options thereover.
- e) Supervision of the senior management remuneration and incentives policy, obtaining information and reporting on the criteria followed by the Company's subsidiaries in this respect.
- f) Assessment of the principles of the management training, promotion and selection policy in the parent company and, where appropriate, in its subsidiaries.
- g) Examination and organisation, as deemed adequate, of the succession of the Chairman and chief executive and, if appropriate, submission of proposals to the Board to ensure that such succession is made in an orderly, well-planned manner.
- h) Preparation and proposal of the Annual Report on Directors' Remuneration in accordance with the laws and regulations in place from time to time.

### 4. POWERS OF THE STRATEGY AND INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

The Committee shall study, issue reports and submit proposals for the Board on the following matters:

- a) Setting of targets for growth, yield and market share of the company.
- b) Strategic development plans, new investments and restructuring processes.
- c) Coordination with subsidiaries in the matters contemplated in paragraphs a) and b) above, for the common interests and benefit of the Company and its subsidiaries.

In the performance of its duties, it may, where necessary, obtain information and collaboration from the members of the Company management, through the Chairman of the Committee.

#### EXPLANATORY NOTE NINE, ON SECTION D.3

The transactions performed directly by the director Instituto Hispánico del Arroz, S.A. listed in section D.3 are grouped by type of transaction and were all made with the subsidiaries of the Ebro Foods Group and for the amounts indicated below:

- The "purchases of goods (finished or otherwise)" in a total sum of €7,719 thousand were made directly with the following companies of the Ebro Foods Group: Herba Ricemills, S.L.U. (€7,484 thousand), Boost Nutrition, C.V. (€68 thousand), Arrozeiras Mundiarroz, S.A. (€79 thousand) and TBA Suntra BV (€88 thousand).
- The "sales of goods (finished or otherwise)" in a total sum of €304 thousand were made directly with the following companies of the Ebro Foods Group: Herba Ricemills, S.L.U. (€119 thousand), Boost Nutrition, C.V. (€68 thousand), Arrozeiras Mundiarroz, S.A. (€30 thousand) and TBA Suntra BV (€87 thousand).
- "Services rendered" in a sum of €2 thousand were made directly with Herba Ricemills, S.L.U.
- "Services received" in a sum of €175 thousand were made directly with Herba Ricemills, S.L.U. (€125 thousand) and Herba Foods, S.L.U. (€50 thousand).

#### EXPLANATORY NOTE TEN, ON SECTION G

- Regarding Recommendation 2, there are no listed companies in the Ebro Foods Group apart from the parent, Ebro Foods S.A.
- Regarding Recommendation 20, none of the directors or the non-director Secretary have expressed any concern over the proposed resolutions submitted to the board or the development of the company.
- Regarding Recommendation 31, no directors have expressed their opposition to any of the proposals considering them to go against the company's interests. When the potential conflict of interests of certain Board members has been examined, neither the independent directors nor the directors affected by such potential conflicts have expressed such opposition or considered that the decisions adopted could be detrimental to shareholders not represented on the board.

## EXPLANATORY NOTE ELEVEN

- Ebro Foods, S.A. had an interest of 3.121% in Biosearch, S.A. at 31 December 2014. This interest is recognised in the Ebro Group accounts as "Available-for-sale financial assets".

Biosearch, S.A. is a listed company engaged in activities similar to the objects of Ebro Foods, S.A. It was part of the Ebro Group until January 2011. During the first half of 2014, the former non-director Secretary of the Board, Miguel Ángel Pérez Álvarez, was a proprietary director of Biosearch, nominated by Ebro as significant shareholder.

The transactions made between 1 January and 31 December 2014 between Biosearch, S.A. and different companies of the Ebro Foods Group are indicated below:

- Herba Ricemills, S.L.U., operating lease (income) for €26 thousand.
- Dosbio 2010, S.L.U., operating lease (expense) for €7 thousand.
- Ebro Foods, S.A., services rendered for €42 thousand.

- During the first half of 2014 Ebro Foods, S.A. held an interest in Deóleo, S.A. which was recognised in the Ebro Group accounts as "Available-for-sale financial assets". On 28 March 2014 Ebro Foods, S.A. reduced its interest to below 3% (ceased to be a significant shareholder) and since 13 May 2014 it has not held any interest in that company.

Antonio Hernández Callejas, Chairman of the Board of Ebro Foods, S.A., was proprietary director of Deóleo up to 31 January 2014, when he stepped down for professional reasons.

The transactions made between 1 January and 28 March 2014 between Deóleo and different companies of the Ebro Foods Group are indicated below:

- Herba Ricemills, S.L.U., services received for €12 thousand.
- Lassie Nederland BV, services received for €39 thousand.
- Ebro Foods, S.A., services rendered for €261 thousand.

- Ebro Roods, S.A. has an interest of 25% in Riso Scotti S.p.A. This is an associate consolidated by the equity method.

The transactions made in 2014 between Riso Scotti and a subsidiary of the Ebro Foods Group are indicated below:

- Herba Ricemills, S.L.U., sale of goods (finished or otherwise), €1 thousand
- Herba Ricemills, S.L.U., services rendered, €6 thousand
- Herba Ricemills, S.L.U., purchase of goods (finished or otherwise), €62 thousand
- Herba Ricemills, S.L.U., services received, €1 thousand

## EXPLANATORY NOTE TWELVE

Both the Board of Directors and its Committees have already taken up the powers corresponding to them by virtue of the Corporate Enterprises Act as amended by Act 31/2014 of 3 December. At the date of this report the company is in the process of adapting its Articles of Association, Regulations of the General Meeting and Regulations of the Board to the new legal provisions.



This Annual Corporate Governance Report was approved by the Board of Directors of the company on 21/03/2015.

State whether any directors voted against approval of this Report or abstained in the corresponding vote.

YES  NO

Translation of a report originally issued in Spanish. In the event of discrepancy, the Spanish-language version prevails.

**AUDIT REPORT ON THE “DISCLOSURES REGARDING THE INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING (ICFR) SYSTEM” OF EBRO FOODS, S.A. FOR 2014**

Dear Directors,

As per the request made by the Board of Directors of EBRO FOODS, S.A. (hereinafter, the Company) and our proposal letter of December 2, 2014, we have applied certain procedures in relation to the accompanying “ICFR disclosures” of EBRO FOODS, S.A. for 2014, which summarize the Company's internal control procedures in respect of its annual reporting exercise.

The Board of Directors is responsible for taking the opportune measures to reasonably assure the implementation, maintenance and supervision of an adequate internal control system, making improvements to this system and preparing the contents of the ICFR disclosures required in section F) of the accompanying Annual Corporate Governance Report.

Against this backdrop, it is important to note that, regardless of the quality of the design and effective functioning of the ICFR system adopted by the Company in respect of its annual financial reporting effort, the latter can only provide reasonable but not absolute assurance regarding the objectives pursued, due to the limitations intrinsic to any internal control system.

In the course of our financial statement audit work and in keeping with Spain's Technical Auditing Standards, the sole purpose of our assessment of the Company's internal controls was to enable us to establish the scope, nature and timing of the Company's financial statement audit procedures. Accordingly, our internal control assessment, performed in connection with the financial statement audit, was not sufficiently broad in scope to enable us to issue a specific opinion on the effectiveness of the internal controls over the annual financial disclosures that the Company is required to present.

For the purpose of issuing this report, we have only carried out the specific procedures described below, as indicated in the Procedures for external audit reviews of an entity's ICFR disclosures contained in the Internal Control over Financial Reporting in Listed Companies report published by Spain's securities market regulator, the CNMV (and available on its website), which establishes the procedures to be performed, the scope thereof and the contents of this report. Given that the product resulting from these procedures is at any rate limited in scope and substantially more limited than an audit or review of the internal control system, we do not express any opinion on the effectiveness of the system or on its design or effective functioning in respect of the Company's 2014 financial reporting disclosures, as described in the accompanying ICFR disclosures. As a result, had we performed additional procedures to those stipulated in the abovementioned CNMV report or had we performed an audit or review of the internal controls over the annual financial disclosures that the Company is required to present, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

Furthermore, given that this special assignment neither constitutes a financial statement audit nor is subject to the Consolidated Text of Spain's Financial Statement Audit Act, enacted by means of Royal Decree-Law 1/2011, of July 1, 2011, we do not express an audit opinion in the terms provided for in that piece of legislation.

The procedures performed are itemized below:

1. Reading and understanding of the information prepared by the Company regarding ICFR – disclosures included in the management report – and an evaluation of whether this information meets all the minimum reporting requirements needed to fill out section F on the ICFR system in the Annual Corporate Governance Report template established in CNMV Circular 5/2013 of June 12, 2013.
2. Questioning of personnel responsible for drawing up the information detailed in item 1 above: (i) to obtain an understanding of the process that goes into drawing up the information; (ii) to obtain information that permits an evaluation of whether the terminology used complies with the framework definitions; and (iii) to obtain information on whether the control procedures described are in place and functioning.
3. Reviewing the explanatory documents supporting the information detailed in item 1 above, including documents directly made available to those responsible for describing ICFR systems. The documentation to be reviewed may include reports prepared for the audit committee by internal audit, senior management and other internal or external specialists.
4. Comparing the information detailed in item 1 above with their knowledge of the Company's ICFR obtained through the external audit procedures applied during the annual audit.
5. Reading of the minutes taken at meetings of the board of directors, audit committee and other committees of the Company to evaluate the consistency between the ICFR business transacted and the information detailed in item 1 above.
6. Obtaining a management representation letter in connection with the work performed, signed by those responsible for preparing and formulating the information detailed in item 1 above.

The specific procedures carried out in respect of the Company's ICFR disclosures did not reveal any inconsistencies or incidents that could affect such disclosures.

This report was prepared exclusively under the scope of the requirements stipulated in article 540 of the Consolidated Text of Spain's Corporate Enterprises Act and CNMV Circular 5/2013 of June 12, 2013 on ICFR-related descriptions in listed companies' Annual Corporate Governance Reports.

ERNST & YOUNG, S.L.

(Signed in the original in Spanish)

March 24, 2015

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David Ruíz-Roso Moyano

# DISCLAIMER



Ebro Foods, S.A.

## **DISCLAIMER BY THE DIRECTORS OF EBRO FOODS, S.A.** **REGARDING THE CONTENTS OF THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT 2014**

The members of the Board of Directors of Ebro Foods, S.A. (the “**Company**”) declare that, to the best of their knowledge and belief, the company’s Annual Financial Report 2014 containing the separate and consolidated annual accounts and directors’ reports has been prepared in accordance with the applicable accounting principles and gives a true and fair view of the equity, financial position and earnings of the issuer and the companies in its consolidated group overall, and that the directors’ report includes an accurate analysis of the business development and results and the position of the issuer and consolidated companies overall, together with a description of the main risks and uncertainties to which they are exposed.

This declaration is made in respect of the separate and consolidated annual accounts of Ebro Foods, S.A. for 2014, as authorised for issue by the Board of Directors of the company on the twenty-fourth of March two thousand and fifteen.

Madrid, 24 March 2015