Report of the statutory auditor

to the General Meeting of VP Bank Ltd., Vaduz

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of VP Bank Ltd ('the Company'), which comprise the balance sheet as at 31 December 2023, the income statement for the year then ended and the notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the financial statements (pages 205 to 222) give a true and fair view of the consolidated financial position of the Company as at 31 December 2023 and its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with Liechtenstein law.

Basis for opinion

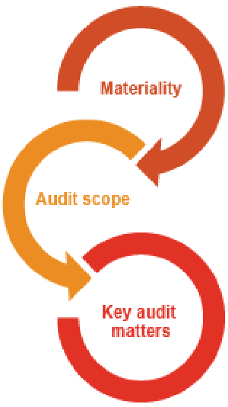
We conducted our audit in accordance with Liechtenstein law and International Standards on Auditing (ISA). Our responsibilities under those provisions and standards are further described in the "Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements" section of our report.

We are independent of the Company in accordance with the provisions of Liechtenstein law and the requirements of the audit profession, as well as the International Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including International Independence Standards) of the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants (IESBA Code) and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

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

Our Audit Approach

Overview



Overall materiality: CHF 1,456,000

We tailored the scope of our audit in order to perform sufficient work to enable us to provide an opinion on the financial statements as a whole, taking into account the structure of the entity, the accounting processes and controls, and the industry in which the entity operates.

As key audit matters, the following areas of focus were identified:

- Impairment testing of due from customers
- Completeness and valuation of provisions for legal risks

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Materiality

The scope of our audit was influenced by our application of materiality. Our audit opinion aims to provide reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement. Misstatements may arise due to fraud or error. They are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial statements.

Based on our professional judgement, we determined certain quantitative thresholds for materiality, including the overall materiality for the financial statements as a whole as set out in the table below. These, together with qualitative considerations, helped us to determine the scope of our audit and the nature, timing and extent of our audit procedures and to evaluate the effect of misstatements, both individually and in aggregate, on the financial statements as a whole.

Overall materiality	CHF 1,456,000
Benchmark applied	Income from normal business operations (average of the last three years)
Rationale for the materiality benchmark applied	We chose income from normal business operations (average of the last three years) as the benchmark because, in our view, it is the benchmark against which the performance of the Company is most commonly measured. Income from normal business operations represents income before taxes and before changes to the provisions for general banking risks and is a generally accepted benchmark for materiality considerations.

Audit scope

We designed our audit by determining materiality and assessing the risks of material misstatement in the financial statements. In particular, we considered where subjective judgements were made; for example, in respect of significant accounting estimates that involved making assumptions and considering future events that are inherently uncertain. As in all of our audits, we also addressed the risk of management override of internal controls, including among other matters consideration of whether there was evidence of bias that represented a risk of material misstatement.

Reporting on key audit matters

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

Impairment testing of due from customers

Key audit matter	How our audit addressed the key audit matter
As at 31 December 2023, the Company reported due from customers in the amount of CHF 4.637 billion, of which 0.35 % were assessed as impaired. Due from customers is the Company's largest asset and about 66.0 % are backed by mortgages, 28.4 % by other collateral provided by customers (i.e., mainly in the form of Lombard loans) and 5.6 % are provided without collateral. Due from customers are valued by calculating the expected credit loss. Determining the factors and calculating the expected credit loss and the resulting valuation allowances requires judgement. We consider the impairment testing of due from customers a key audit matter because of the amount they represent on the balance sheet and the significant scope for judgement inherent in their valuation. The accounting principles applied to due from customers and the methods used to identify default risk, to determine	Our audit procedures were primarily tests of the proper functioning of the internal controls performed by the Company. We tested compliance with the rules and processes as well as the effectiveness of these controls through risk-based sample testing. In doing so, we assessed the design of the key controls and, on a sample basis, tested compliance with them. Where significant scope for judgement exists (e.g., in the valuation of collateral or the estimation of property values), we also challenged Company's decisions with our own critical opinion as part of our substantive audit procedures. Our substantive tests included sample-based testing of loans at risk in the loan portfolio to assess whether an additional valuation allowance was needed. We also assessed the method and accuracy of the calculation of the expected credit losses.

the need for impairment and to evaluate collateral are described in the annual report. Please refer to page 210 (Principles of accounting and valuation) and page 212 (Notes regarding the balance sheet and income statement: Analysis of collateral).	Overall, on the basis of our audit procedures, we consider the principles and assumptions applied by the Company to test for the impairment of due from customers to be reasonable.

Completeness and valuation of provisions for legal risks

Key audit matter	How our audit addressed the key audit matter
As at 31 December 2023, the Company has recorded provisions for legal risks of CHF 0.36 million. The Company is exposed to legal risks as it operates in a regulatory and legal environment. The completeness and valuation of provisions for legal risks involves significant scope for judgement. We therefore consider the audit of the accounting for provisions for legal risks to be a key audit matter. The Company assesses the legal risks through internal analyses conducted by the department responsible and in cooperation with external legal counsel. The annual report provides details on the accounting and valuation principles for the provisions. Please refer to page 211 (Principles of accounting and valuation) and page 215 (Notes regarding valuation allowances / provisions for general banking risks).	We assessed the accounting principles for the provisions for the settlement of litigation and regulatory proceedings. In doing so, we used a risk-based approach to test the Company's estimates of the amounts for potential claims for damages and the provisions required for such. The evidence we examined included, among others, correspondence with third parties, confirmations from external legal counsel on selected litigation and claims, and the Company's internal analyses. Regarding as yet unidentified risks, we reviewed a sample of customer complaints. In this way, we assessed whether systematic weaknesses existed for which provisions might have to be made. Further, on the basis of our understanding of the Company's business and our inspection of business correspondence, we assessed the completeness of the provisions. Additionally, the completeness of the provisions was evaluated on the basis of selected assessments by external legal counsel. Overall, we consider the basis and assumptions used by the Company to assess the completeness and valuation of the provisions for legal risks in the course of own audit procedures as reasonable.

Other information

The Board of Directors is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises all information, but does not include the consolidated financial statements, the stand-alone financial statements, the consolidated annual report, the stand-alone annual report and our auditor's reports thereon.

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

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the Board of Directors for the financial statements

The Board of Directors is responsible for the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with the requirements of Liechtenstein law, and for such internal control as the Board of Directors determines is necessary to enable the preparation of consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Board of Directors is responsible for assessing the entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Board of Directors intends either to liquidate the entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Board of Directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Board of Directors respectively its committees regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

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

From the matters communicated with the Board of Directors respectively its committees, we determine those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the financial statements of the current period and are therefore the key audit matters. We describe these matters in our auditor's report unless law or regulation precludes public disclosure about the matter or when, in extremely rare circumstances, we determine that a matter should not be communicated in our report because the adverse consequences of doing so would reasonably be expected to outweigh the public interest benefits of such communication.

Report on other legal and regulatory requirements

Further information pursuant to Article 10 of Regulation (EU) No 537/2014

We were elected as statutory auditor by the General Meeting on 28 April 2023. We have been the statutory auditor of the Company without interruption since the financial year ending as of 31 December 2020.

We declare that the audit opinions contained in this statutory auditor's report are consistent with the additional report to the Board of Directors respectively its committees pursuant to Article 11 of Regulation (EU) No 537/2014.

Further, we declare that no prohibited non-audit services pursuant to Article 5 in accordance with Article 10 para. 2 lit. f Regulation (EU) No. 537/2014 Article 5 para. 1 Regulation (EU) No. 537/2014 were provided.

Other confirmations persuant to Article 196 PGR

The annual report (page 204) as at 31 December 2023 complies with Liechtenstein law and the articles of incorporation. The annual report accords with the financial statements and, in our opinion, does not contain any material inaccurate information.

We further confirm that the financial statements and the proposed appropriation of profit comply with Liechtenstein law and the articles of incorporation, and we recommend that the financial statements submitted to you be approved.

PricewaterhouseCoopers AG

Roman Berlinger
Liechtenstein Certified Public Accountant
Auditor in charge

Patrick Wiech

Zurich, 8 March 2024