

JSC Georgian Railway

**Consolidated Financial
Statements for 2023**

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Independent Auditors' Report

To the Shareholder of JSC Georgian Railway

Opinion

We have audited the consolidated financial statements of JSC Georgian Railway (the "Company") and its subsidiaries (the "Group"), which comprise the consolidated statement of financial position as at 31 December 2023, the consolidated statements of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, changes in equity and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes, comprising material accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In our opinion, the accompanying consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of the Group as at 31 December 2023, and its consolidated financial performance and its consolidated cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with IFRS Accounting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IFRS Accounting Standards).

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Group in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants International Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including International Independence Standards) (*IESBA Code*) together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the consolidated financial statements in Georgia, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the IESBA Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Key Audit Matters

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

Impairment of Property, Plant and Equipment

Please refer to the Note 10 in the consolidated financial statements.

The key audit matter

Due to significant changes in market trends during 2023 and considering that the impairment test conducted at 31 December 2022 was sensitive to changes in key assumptions the Management concluded that there was a need to perform an impairment test at 31 December 2023.
As a result of the impairment test conducted, the recoverable amount of

How the matter was addressed in our audit

We have performed the following primary audit procedures to address the key audit matter:

- Performed inquiries of management to obtain an understanding of the process for the impairment analysis;
- Evaluated the design and implementation of the processes and internal controls of the Group, surrounding the preparation of the impairment model, to assess the reliability and accuracy of the Group's forecasting and budgeting process;

<p>the Group's property, plant and equipment was determined to be close to and not lower of its carrying amount and no additional impairment loss or reversal was recognised in 2023.</p> <p>The impairment of property, plant and equipment is a Key Audit Matter due to the level of judgemental assumptions involved in Management's impairment analysis and inherent estimation uncertainties involved in the forecasting and discounting of future cash flows related to the impairment assessment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Involved our own valuation specialists to challenge the key assumptions and judgements underpinning the impairment testing model, such as cargo growth rates, inflation rate, discount rate, period of cash flow projections, annual maintenance capital expenditure and payments for the finalisation of the Main Line Modernization project by comparing those inputs to externally derived data, as well as our own expectations; - Evaluated the sensitivity of the impairment model outcomes by considering the downside scenarios against reasonably plausible changes to the key assumptions; and - Evaluated the adequacy of the disclosures made in Note 10 (c) of the consolidated financial statements by reference to the requirements of IAS 36 <i>Impairment of Assets</i> and IAS 1 <i>Presentation of financial statements</i>.
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Statement on Management Report

Management is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, covering the Management Report, prepared for statutory purposes, but does not include the consolidated financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The other information is expected to be available to us after the date of this auditors' report.

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

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

When we read the other information, we conclude whether the other information:

- is consistent with the consolidated financial statements and does not contain material misstatement;
- contains all information that is required by and is compliant with the Law of Georgia on Accounting, Reporting and Auditing.

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

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the consolidated financial statements in accordance with IFRS Accounting Standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Group's financial reporting process.

Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements

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

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

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

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

We also provide those charged with governance with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and communicate 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 those charged with governance, we determine those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the consolidated financial statements of the current period and are therefore the key audit matters. We describe these matters in our auditors' 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.

The engagement partner on the audit resulting in this independent auditors' report is:

Nikoloz Chochua



KPMG Georgia LLC
28 June 2024



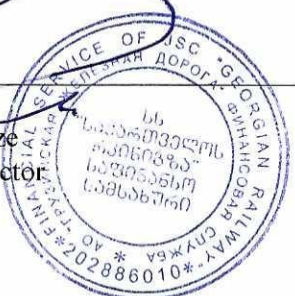
'000 GEL	Note	<u>31 December 2023</u>	<u>31 December 2022</u>
Assets			
Property, plant and equipment	10	1,921,379	1,831,197
Other non-current assets	12	158,909	181,709
Other receivable	11	53,037	47,738
Investments in equity accounted investee	22	27	-
Non-current assets		<u>2,133,352</u>	<u>2,060,644</u>
Inventories	13	37,330	33,944
Tax assets		7,265	3,363
Prepayments and other current assets		3,562	8,347
Trade and other receivables	14	30,905	14,519
Term deposit		-	4,071
Cash and cash equivalents	15	283,547	274,629
Current assets		<u>362,609</u>	<u>338,873</u>
Total assets		<u><u>2,495,961</u></u>	<u><u>2,399,517</u></u>
Equity			
Share capital	16 (a)	1,055,031	1,055,031
Non-cash owner contribution reserve	16 (b)	100,602	100,602
Accumulated losses		(287,589)	(374,365)
Total equity		<u>868,044</u>	<u>781,268</u>
Liabilities			
Loans and borrowings	18	1,339,840	1,378,147
Advance received from the Government	16 (e)	46,593	46,594
Payables for non-current assets	19	36,714	30,242
Non-current liabilities		<u>1,423,147</u>	<u>1,454,983</u>
Loans and borrowings	18	36,298	14,273
Trade and other payables	19	142,117	122,242
Liabilities to the Government	16 (c)	4,712	4,712
Provisions	20	11,214	13,981
Other current liabilities		10,429	8,058
Current liabilities		<u>204,770</u>	<u>163,266</u>
Total liabilities		<u>1,627,917</u>	<u>1,618,249</u>
Total equity and liabilities		<u><u>2,495,961</u></u>	<u><u>2,399,517</u></u>

JSC Georgian Railway
Consolidated Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income for 2023

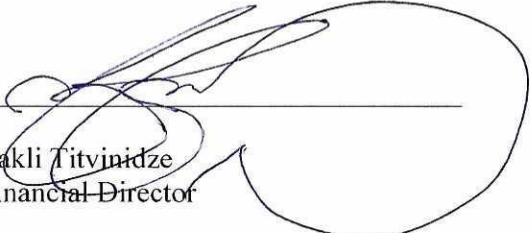
'000 GEL	Note	2023	2022
Revenue	6	627,173	674,773
Other income		8,993	15,825
Employee benefit expenses		(239,056)	(197,708)
Depreciation and amortisation expense		(76,895)	(66,585)
Electricity, consumables and maintenance costs	7	(74,722)	(80,207)
Reversal of impairment on trade receivables	21(b)(ii)	6,016	840
Other expenses	8	(153,948)	(128,521)
Profit from operating activities		97,561	218,417
Finance income	9	38,859	30,478
Finance costs	9	(61,090)	(70,493)
Net foreign exchange gain	9	12,065	218,923
Net finance (costs)/ income		(10,166)	178,908
Profit before income tax		87,395	397,325
Income tax expense		(619)	(644)
Profit and total comprehensive income for the year		86,776	396,681

These consolidated financial statements were approved by the Management Board on 28 June 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:

 David Peradze
 General Director



 Irakli Titvinidze
 Financial Director



JSC Georgian Railway
Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity for 2023

'000 GEL	Share capital	Non-cash owner contribution reserve	Accumulated losses	Total equity
Balance at 1 January 2022	1,054,805	100,585	(742,261)	413,129
Profit and total comprehensive income for the year	-	-	396,681	396,681
Transactions with owner, recorded directly in equity				
Net increase in share capital (Note 16 (a))	226	-	-	226
Non-cash contribution from owner	-	17	-	17
Other distribution to owner (Note 16 (d))	-	-	(26,356)	(26,356)
Effect on modification of related party loan (Note 11)	-	-	(2,429)	(2,429)
Total transactions with owner, recorded directly in equity	226	17	(28,785)	(28,542)
Balance at 31 December 2022	1,055,031	100,602	(374,365)	781,268
Balance at 1 January 2023	1,055,031	100,602	(374,365)	781,268
Profit and total comprehensive income for the year	-	-	86,776	86,776
Balance at 31 December 2023	1,055,031	100,602	(287,589)	868,044

JSC Georgian Railway
Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows for 2023

'000 GEL	Note	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash receipts from customers		620,993	691,891
Cash paid to suppliers and employees		(444,178)	(403,670)
Net cash from operating activities		<u>176,815</u>	<u>288,221</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Acquisition of property, plant and equipment		(139,342)	(134,968)
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment		262	7,383
Loans issued		-	(21,568)
Interest received		34,133	27,434
Increase/(decrease) in term deposit		4,071	(817)
Net cash used in investing activities		<u>(100,876)</u>	<u>(122,536)</u>
Cash flows from financing activities			
Repayment of borrowings	18 (b)	(11,346)	(12,617)
Other distribution to owner	16 (d)	-	(26,356)
Interest paid	18 (b)	(55,511)	(57,829)
Net cash used in financing activities		<u>(66,858)</u>	<u>(96,802)</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		9,081	68,883
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January		274,629	212,224
Effect of exchange rate fluctuations on cash and cash equivalents		(424)	(5,943)
Effect of movements in ECL on cash and cash equivalents		261	(535)
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December	15	<u>283,547</u>	<u>274,629</u>

1. Reporting entity

(a) Georgian business environment

The Group's operations are primarily located in Georgia. Consequently, the Group is exposed to the economic and financial markets of Georgia, which display characteristics of an emerging market. The legal, tax and regulatory frameworks continue development, but are subject to varying interpretations and frequent changes which together with other legal and fiscal impediments contribute to the challenges faced by entities operating in Georgia.

In February 2022, because of the military conflict between the Russian Federation and Ukraine, a number of countries imposed sanctions against the Russian Federation. The conflict affects not only the economic activity of two countries but the global economy as well. As a result of sanctions, commodity and food prices have risen in many countries around the world, the established links between supply of resources have been disrupted, inflation also affects the prices, and analysts also forecast economic implications for the global industry.

Despite global factors, economy grew by 7%, inflation rate amounted to 2.5% for 2023 in Georgia. The real GDP growth is mainly driven by the increased export, tourism revenues and acceleration of remittances related to the inflow of migrants/tourists from Russia, Ukraine and Belarus since the start of the conflict in Ukraine. Georgian Lari got jitters as the war in Ukraine broke, but it appreciated against the USD on balance by 9.87% in 2023 (2022: 12.53%). Sources: www.geostat.ge; www.nbg.gov.ge.

The consolidated financial statements reflect management's assessment of the impact of the Georgian business environment on the operations and the financial position of the Group. The future business environment may differ from management's assessment.

(b) Organisation and operations

JSC Georgian Railway (the "Company") and its subsidiaries (the "Group") comprise Georgian joint stock and limited liability companies as defined in the Civil Code of Georgia. The Company was established as a state-owned enterprise in December 1998 by the Decree of the President of Georgia # 929 as an entity engaged in the provision of railway transportation services in Georgia. The Company's registration number is 03/4-965.

The Company's registered office is 15 Queen Tamar Avenue, Tbilisi 0112, Georgia.

The Group's principal activity is the operation of a nationwide railway system providing freight and passenger transportation services, freight forwarding services, maintenance and development of railway infrastructure and construction of railway lines within Georgia.

The ultimate controlling party of the Group as at 31 December 2023 and 31 December 2022 is the Government of Georgia. On 29 November 2022, following the Decree of the Government of Georgia #2167, 100% of the Company's shares was transferred to the Government of Georgia.

Related party transactions are disclosed in Note 25.

2. Basis of accounting

Statement of compliance

These consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with IFRS Accounting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board ("IFRS Accounting Standards").

3. Functional and presentation currency

The national currency of Georgia is the Georgian Lari (“GEL”), which is the Company’s functional currency and the currency in which these consolidated financial statements are presented. All financial information presented in GEL has been rounded to the nearest thousands, except when otherwise indicated.

4. Use of estimates and judgments

The preparation of consolidated financial statements in conformity with IFRS Accounting Standards requires management to make judgments, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of accounting policies and the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. Actual results may differ from those estimates.

Estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to estimates are recognised prospectively.

Information about critical judgments in applying accounting policies that have the most significant effect on the amounts recognised in the consolidated financial statements is included in the following notes:

- Note 10 (c) – impairment of property, plant and equipment;
- Note 28 (h) (iii) – useful lives and residual values of property, plant and equipment;
- Notes 19 and 21 (b) (ii) – classification and measurement of advances paid and retention fees for Tbilisi Bypass and Main Line Modernization projects (including recoverability of the advances paid for Tbilisi Bypass project, classified as “receivable related to Tbilisi Bypass project” as at 31 December 2023).

Information about assumptions and estimation uncertainties that have a significant risk of resulting in a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year is included in the following notes:

- Note 10 (c) – sensitivity of impairment of property, plant and equipment;
- Note 10 (g) – sensitivity of residual values of property, plant and equipment.

Measurement of fair values

When measuring the fair value of an asset or a liability, the Group uses market observable data as far as possible. Fair values are categorised into different levels in a fair value hierarchy based on the inputs used in the valuation techniques as follows:

- Level 1: quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.
- Level 2: inputs other than quoted prices included in Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly (i.e. as prices) or indirectly (i.e. derived from prices).
- Level 3: inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs).

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

The Group recognises transfers between levels of the fair value hierarchy at the end of the reporting period during which the change has occurred.

Further information about the assumptions made in measuring fair values is included in the following notes:

- Note 21 (a) – fair value of financial assets and liabilities;
- Note 11 – fair value of 21.716% shares of Gardabani Thermal Power Plant LLC (“Gardabani TPP”).

5. Operating segments

The Group has two reportable segments, as described below, which are the Group’s strategic business units. The strategic business units offer different products and services, and are managed separately because they require different technology and marketing strategies. For each of the strategic business units, the Group’s Management Board reviews internal management reports on at least a quarterly basis. The following summary describes the operations in each of the Group’s reportable segments:

- *Freight transportation – includes transportation of goods and commodities and related services.*
- *Passenger transportation – includes transportation of passengers.*

There are no inter-segment charges.

Information regarding the results of each reportable segment is included below. Performance is measured based on segment profit before infrastructure costs, which are the cost of maintaining the rail network used by both reportable segments, central overheads, interest and income tax, as included in the internal management reports that are reviewed by the Group’s Management Board. Segment profit is used to measure performance as management believes that such information is the most relevant in evaluating the results of certain segments relative to other entities that operate within these industries. The Group’s Management Board does not monitor segment liabilities.

(i) *Information about reportable segments*

	Freight transportation		Passenger transportation		Total	
	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022
'000 GEL						
External revenues	578,579	614,836	41,219	27,423	619,798	642,259
Depreciation and amortization	(15,658)	(10,873)	(11,811)	(12,430)	(27,469)	(23,303)
Reportable segment profit/(loss) before infrastructure costs, net impairment, interest cost and income tax	378,916	431,245	(9,955)	(15,533)	368,961	415,712
Reportable segment assets	194,099	203,577	94,203	101,998	288,302	305,575
Capital expenditure and other additions to non-current assets	23,214	18,607	366	1,071	23,580	19,678

(ii) **Reconciliations of reportable segment revenues, profit or loss, assets and other material items**

'000 GEL	2023	2022
Revenues		
Total revenue for reportable segments	619,798	642,259
Other revenue	7,375	32,514
Consolidated revenue	627,173	674,773
Profit or loss		
Total profit for reportable segments before infrastructure costs, net impairment, interest cost and income tax	368,961	415,712
Employee benefits expense – infrastructure and headquarters	(103,163)	(85,177)
Depreciation expenses – infrastructure and headquarters	(49,426)	(43,283)
Net finance (costs) /income	(10,166)	178,908
Other net unallocated expenses*	(118,811)	(68,835)
Consolidated profit before income tax	87,395	397,325
Assets		
Total assets for reportable segments	288,302	305,575
Property, plant and equipment - infrastructure and headquarters	1,666,201	1,557,708
Other unallocated assets, principally cash and non-current assets	541,458	536,234
Consolidated total assets	2,495,961	2,399,517

* Other net unallocated expenses include logistic services expense of GEL 88,261 thousand (2022: GEL 71,285 thousand) which was not included in the freight transportation segment profit presented to the Group's Management Board.

(iii) **Other material items in 2023**

'000 GEL	Reportable segment totals	Infrastructure and headquarters	Consolidated totals
Capital expenditure and other additions to non-current assets	23,580	130,542	154,122
Depreciation and amortization	27,469	49,426	76,895

(iv) **Other material items in 2022**

'000 GEL	Reportable segment totals	Infrastructure and headquarters	Consolidated totals
Capital expenditure and other additions to non-current assets	19,678	124,682	144,360
Depreciation and amortization	23,303	43,282	66,585

(v) **Geographical information**

Approximately 98% of the Group's revenue is generated in Georgia with the remainder generated in CIS countries. The non-current assets of the Group are located in Georgia.

(vi) **Major customer**

In 2023, three customers of the Group's freight transportation segment represented approximately 17% of the Group's total revenue (2022: three customers - 12%).

6. Revenue

'000 GEL	2023	2022
Freight traffic	429,266	480,626
Logistic services	132,213	123,071
Passenger traffic	41,219	27,423
Rent of wagons and other rental income	4,158	4,072
Freight car cross-border charge	15,705	9,703
Other	4,612	29,878
	627,173	674,773

Railroad transportation in Georgia is a natural monopoly, however, the prices are not subject to government regulation. According to clause 64 of the Railway Code of Georgia, which came into force on 1 July 2005, the Government of Georgia allowed the Group to set the prices for all services provided, including freight transportation, freight transportation-related additional services and passenger transportation.

Tariffs for freight transportation are based on the International Rail Transit Tariff. The Group is a co-signatory of the Tariff Agreement together with CIS countries, Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia. The parties to the Agreement hold annual conferences to determine the tariff policy for the following year: each party declares tariffs denominated in Swiss Francs (CHF) for railway transportation and states the general rules that apply to and modify tariffs. The agreed tariffs indicate the maximum level of tariffs applicable.

(a) Performance obligations and revenue recognition policies

Revenue is measured based on the consideration specified in a contract with a customer. The Group recognises revenue when it transfers control over a good or service to a customer.

Freight traffic - Revenue generated by transporting freight from one point to another in return of the consideration determined based on the agreement.

Logistics services - Revenue for provision of general freight transportation supervision, document preparation and other related services to external parties.

Passenger traffic - Revenue generated by charging individuals for transporting from one place to another through sale of railway tickets.

Freight car cross-border charge - Revenue generated, when the Group's wagons cross the Georgian border and enter another country's territory, based on daily charges for wagons, containers and any other services.

Rent of wagons and other rental income – Income represents operating lease and is accounted for under IFRS 16, see Note 23.

Other revenue - Revenue is predominantly comprised of sale of scrap.

The following table provides information about the nature and timing of the satisfaction of performance obligations in contracts with customers, including significant payment terms, and the related revenue recognition policies.

Revenue Type	Nature and timing of satisfaction of performance obligations, including significant payment terms (Note 21 (b))	Revenue recognition policies
Freight traffic, logistic services and passenger traffic	Freight traffic, logistic services and passenger traffic revenue streams are to be recognized "over time" since transportation is the service, during which customer receives and consumes simultaneously the benefit as the Group performs. The customer benefits from the distance travelled.	Revenue is recognised over time as the services are provided. The stage of completion for determining the amount of revenue to recognise is assessed based on estimated time to completion of transportation.
Freight car cross-border charge	Freight car cross-border charge stream is to be recognized "over time" since it is the service, during which customer receives and consumes simultaneously the benefit as the Group performs.	Revenue for such services is recognised over time.
Other revenue	Other revenue is recognised at the point in time when sale has been commenced and control over the goods was transferred.	Revenue is recognised at a point in time when the goods have been accepted by customers at the Group's warehouse.

7. Electricity, consumables and maintenance costs

'000 GEL	2023	2022
Electricity	38,677	43,916
Materials	14,482	15,237
Repair and maintenance	12,824	10,569
Fuel	8,739	10,485
	74,722	80,207

8. Other expenses

'000 GEL	2023	2022
Logistic services	88,461	71,285
Taxes, other than on income	24,604	24,254
Freight car cross-border charge	8,325	10,928
Security	12,364	10,390
Other *	20,194	11,664
	153,948	128,521

* Included in Other above are fees paid to audit firms of about GEL 611 thousand for the provision of audit services (2022: GEL 686 thousand).

9. Finance income and finance costs

'000 GEL	2023	2022
Recognised in profit or loss		
Interest income under the effective interest method	37,229	30,338
Gain on modification of financial instruments	835	
Gain on fair value change of financial instruments	530	
Impairment reversal on other financial assets	265	140
Finance income	38,859	30,478
Impairment loss on cash in bank	-	(535)
Loss on modification of financial instruments	-	(5,762)
Interest expense on financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	(61,090)	(64,196)
Finance costs	(61,090)	(70,493)
Net foreign exchange gain	12,065	218,923
Net finance (costs)/ income recognised in profit or loss	(10,166)	178,908

10. Property, plant and equipment

'000 GEL	<u>Land</u>	<u>Buildings and constructions</u>	<u>Rail track infrastructure</u>	<u>Transport, machinery, equipment and other</u>	<u>Construction in progress</u>	<u>Total</u>
<i>Cost or deemed cost</i>						
Balance at						
1 January 2022	537,738	133,050	1,028,951	1,028,506	1,371,172	4,099,417
Additions	47	639	74	19,871	56,112	76,743
Disposals and write offs	(1,405)	(87)	(9,668)	(4,031)	-	(15,191)
Transfers	34	1,197	100,817	10,980	(113,028)	-
Balance at 31 December 2022	<u>536,414</u>	<u>134,799</u>	<u>1,120,174</u>	<u>1,055,326</u>	<u>1,314,256</u>	<u>4,160,969</u>
Balance at						
1 January 2023	536,414	134,799	1,120,174	1,055,326	1,314,256	4,160,969
Additions*	2	120	13	13,995	155,764	169,894
Disposals and write offs	(67)	(764)	(3,687)	(904)	(1,151)	(6,573)
Transfers	28	51	76,490	32,961	(109,530)	-
Balance at 31 December 2023	<u>536,377</u>	<u>134,206</u>	<u>1,192,990</u>	<u>1,101,378</u>	<u>1,359,339</u>	<u>4,324,290</u>
<i>Depreciation and impairment loss</i>						
Balance at 1						
January 2022	172,506	72,711	676,136	750,073	602,517	2,273,943
Depreciation for the year	-	2,514	35,495	27,299	-	65,308
Disposals and write offs	(321)	(528)	(8,091)	(273)	(266)	(9,479)
Reallocation of depreciation and impairment	-	-	18,516	-	(18,516)	-
Balance at 31 December 2022	<u>172,185</u>	<u>74,697</u>	<u>722,056</u>	<u>777,099</u>	<u>583,735</u>	<u>2,329,772</u>
Balance at 1						
January 2023	172,185	74,697	722,056	777,099	583,735	2,329,772
Depreciation for the year	-	2,545	39,534	33,598	-	75,677
Disposals and write offs	-	(405)	(1,431)	(702)	-	(2,538)
Reallocation of depreciation and impairment	-	-	2,079	132	(2,211)	-
Balance at 31 December 2023	<u>172,185</u>	<u>76,837</u>	<u>762,238</u>	<u>810,127</u>	<u>581,524</u>	<u>2,402,911</u>
<i>Carrying amounts</i>						
At 1 January 2022	<u>365,232</u>	<u>60,339</u>	<u>352,815</u>	<u>278,433</u>	<u>768,655</u>	<u>1,825,474</u>
At 31 December 2022	<u>364,229</u>	<u>60,102</u>	<u>398,118</u>	<u>278,227</u>	<u>730,521</u>	<u>1,831,197</u>
At 31 December 2023	<u>364,192</u>	<u>57,369</u>	<u>430,752</u>	<u>291,251</u>	<u>777,815</u>	<u>1,921,379</u>

*Significant additions during 2023 are primarily related to the purchase of locomotives, works related to Main Line Modernisation project, Khashuri electrosystem centralization project and construction of railway tracks on Khashuri -Kvishkheti -Moliti territory.

(a) Construction in progress

By the end of 2010, the Group started two large capital projects:

- The Main Line Modernisation; and
- Tbilisi Bypass Project.

The Group commenced the initiation of the above projects in September 2010 and November 2010, respectively. The Group issued unsecured bonds in 2010 to partly finance the projects above. During 2012, the Group redeemed the bonds issued in 2010 by issuing new bonds for general corporate and liquidity management purposes. The bonds were further refinanced in 2021 (see Note 18).

No borrowing costs were capitalized in 2023 and 2022 due to significant slowdown (that was considered as a suspension of the project under IFRS Accounting Standards) of the Modernization project since 2020, mainly linked with the COVID-19 pandemic situation in Georgia. Main Line Modernization project is expected to be mostly finalised in 2024.

(b) Impairment of Tbilisi Bypass Project (the Project)

In June 2013, the Group announced a decision to redesign the Tbilisi Bypass Project. The Group held negotiations with the Government of Georgia and with the main third-party construction companies to agree a plan for the conservation of the Project for the period of redesigning. All construction works in progress were substantially completed by the end of October 2013 and further construction was suspended. No borrowing costs are capitalised since October 2013.

In March 2014, the Government of Georgia decided that the suspension of the construction of the Tbilisi Bypass project will last for 18 months until the final modified project is presented.

During 2015 and 2016, the Group was in discussion with the Tbilisi City Hall and the Government of Georgia about various scenarios of completing the project. One of the scenarios under discussion included an option envisaging a change of the original bypass location, because of which the existing bypass infrastructure may become redundant. The alternative scenarios also included the determination of the future use of the existing infrastructure, should it become redundant. The options of future use of the infrastructure were bypass automobile road, light rail/extension of the Tbilisi Metro System, freight depot, etc., however, as at 31 December 2023 and the date these consolidated financial statements were authorized for issue, no decision was made by the Government of Georgia about the redesign of the Tbilisi Bypass Project.

Due to significant uncertainties associated with either the continuation of the existing Project or implementation of any other scenarios, envisaging the change in the existing use of the Project, and also considering the fact that Management does not expect that the Project will generate any future economic benefit to the Group either individually, or in combination with other non-current assets, the carrying value of the Project was written-down by GEL 382,616 thousand in 2017 to its recoverable amount GEL 14,689 thousand, representing land included in the construction in progress heading above.

During 2023 and 2022 no event or change in circumstances occurred which would result in a reversal of the provision.

(c) Impairment of property, plant and equipment (excluding Tbilisi Bypass Project)

At each reporting date, the Group assesses whether there is any indication that the recoverable amount of the Group's non-financial assets has declined below the carrying value or previously recognized impairment loss is subject to reversal. The Group allocates all its non-financial assets to one cash-generating unit ("CGU") for impairment test purposes.

At 31 December 2018, impairment testing was carried out by the Group due to the significant decline in the volumes transported (from 5,899 million metric-ton per kilometer of cargo in 2012 to 2,747 million metric-ton per kilometer of cargo in 2018) and revenue in freight transportation (from GEL 350,749 thousand in 2012 to GEL 241,572 thousand in 2018). As a result of the impairment testing, the Group recognized an impairment loss of GEL 691,387 thousand in 2018 and the impairment loss was allocated to items of property, plant and equipment on a pro-rata basis, but not less than the fair value less costs to sell of the individual items.

The recoverable amount of the CGU was based on its value in use, determined by discounting future cash flows to be generated from the continuing use of the CGU.

In 2022, the Group revisited some of its key assumptions with respect to longer-term prospects of growth as a result of new developments in the market, outside of the control of the Group. Consequently, the Group conducted an impairment test at 31 December 2022. As a result, neither additional impairment, nor reversal of previously recognized impairment losses were recognized.

As at 31 December 2023, the Management analyzed impairment indicators (external and internal) according to IAS 36 and concluded that there is a need to perform an impairment test because of the significant changes in market trends during 2023 and considering that the impairment test conducted at 31 December 2022 was sensitive to changes in key assumptions. The Management conducted a new impairment test at 31 December 2023. As a result, neither additional impairment, nor reversal of previously recognized impairment losses were recognized.

The following main key assumptions are used in the estimation of the recoverable amount:

- Cash flows are projected based on actual operating results and cash flows for five years and a terminal growth rate thereafter. A long-term growth rate for the terminal period is determined as approximate long-term economy growth forecast for Georgia and the region affecting the Group's operations.
- Volumes are projected based on the budgeted quantities during 2024, adjusted for the growth rates for Georgia and other relevant countries in the region of around 6% (31 December 2022: 4.5% - 5.1%) during the projected years. No volume growth is projected from 2028. Tariffs to be applied to the quantities above are projected based on the budgeted tariff per metric-ton per kilometer for 2024, adjusted for the changes in the US CPI forecast. The forecast resulted in an increase of 3% (31 December 2022: forecast increase of 3.8%, first two projected years 1.9% and remaining period 2%) during the remaining projected period;
- Cash flows include annual maintenance capital expenditures and payments for the finalization of the Main Line Modernization project. Projected cash flows include USD 27 million (31 December 2022: USD 26.6 million) associated with the Modernization project above.
- An after-tax discount rate of 14.6% (31 December 2022: 14.1%) is applied in determining the recoverable amount of the CGU. The discount rate reflects the required rate of return for the cash flows on the invested capital of similar companies denominated in USD. The long-term growth rate for the terminal period approximates to the long-term inflation forecast for USD, which is 2.1% (31 December 2022: 2%).

The key assumptions to which the impairment indicator analysis is most sensitive include:

- Discount rate – An increase of 1% point in the discount rate used would have resulted in an impairment loss of approximately GEL 173 million (31 December 2022: GEL 141 million) (1% point decrease in discount rate would have result in an impairment reversal of approximately GEL 203 million (31 December 2022: GEL 189 million));
- Volume growth – A decrease of 5% in the transported volumes projection used would have resulted in impairment loss of approximately GEL 302 million (31 December 2022: GEL 185 million) (5% point increase in the transported volumes projections used would have resulted in impairment reversal of GEL 302 million (31 December 2022: GEL 249 million));

- Terminal growth – A decrease of 1% point in the terminal growth rate used would have resulted in impairment loss of approximately GEL 118 million (31 December 2022: GEL 93 million) (1% point increase in the terminal growth rate used would have resulted in impairment reversal of approximately GEL 139 million (31 December 2022: GEL 133 million)).

(d) Capital contributions and distributions

The Government of Georgia contributes and distributes certain property, plant and equipment in the form of an increase or decrease in share capital. There were no contributions from Government of Georgia during 2023. In 2022 the share capital was increased by the fair value of assets contributed of GEL 226 thousand (See Note 16 (a)).

(e) Security

At 31 December 2023, property with a carrying amount of GEL 53,673 thousand (31 December 2022: GEL 59,898 thousand) is pledged in respect of the secured loan (See Note 18).

(f) Capital commitment

As at 31 December 2023, the Group had entered into contracts for the construction or purchase of property, plant and equipment of GEL 314,538 thousand (2022: GEL 315,426 thousand) mainly relating to the Main Line Modernization project of GEL 21,360 thousand (2022: GEL 66,184 thousand) and Tbilisi Bypass project of GEL 261,150 thousand (2022: GEL 238,661 thousand, increase is solely attributable to foreign exchange rate fluctuation).

Management does not expect that the future cessation of the construction agreement with the counterparty, responsible for the Tbilisi Bypass project completion, will result in the payment of the above amount.

(g) Change in estimate on residual values of property, plant and equipment

During 2023, the Group conducted a review of residual values the calculation of which depends on scrap value that is based on the price of ferrous metal. The scrap value of transportation equipment equaled to GEL 400 per ton compared to GEL 650 during prior year, resulting in increase in depreciation expense of approximately GEL 7 million.

(h) Sensitivity of changes in residual values of property, plant and equipment

The key assumptions to which the depreciation is most sensitive include:

- Residual Values – Decrease of 5% point in the scrap price used would have resulted in an increase of depreciation expense of approximately GEL 717 thousand.

11. Other receivable

'000 GEL	<u>31 December 2023</u>	<u>31 December 2022</u>
Other receivable	53,037	47,738
	<u>53,037</u>	<u>47,738</u>

Other receivable originated as a result of derecognition of loan issued to Development Fund of Georgia JSC (thereafter "DFG", former Partnership Fund JSC) on 29 November 2022.

On 29 November 2022, terms of the loan issued to DFG were amended as follows: currency was changed from USD to EUR, interest accrual was suspended and the parties agreed that the loan will be recovered in 2023 through cash that equals to carrying amount of the loan at modification date, on the basis that by 31 December 2023 DFG is able to sell its indirect 100% shareholding of Gardabani TPP (Option 1). In case DFG fails to sell Gardabani TPP in 2023, it will be obliged to transfer 21.716% of Gardabani TPP to the Company no later than one month from 31 December 2023 (Option 2).

The above was assessed as a substantial modification to the contractual terms of the loan during 2022. As a result, on 29 November 2022, the Group derecognised related party loan of GEL 49,152 thousand and recognised a receivable from DFG of GEL 46,723 thousand (classified as a financial asset at FVTPL due to not meeting SPPI test criteria). The difference between the balance of derecognised loan and recognized receivable of GEL 2,429 thousand was recognised directly in equity.

On initial recognition in 2022, receivable from DFG was measured at lower of present value of cash receivable of GEL 46,723 thousand and fair value of 21.716% shares of Gardabani TPP of GEL 53,187 thousand.

On 18 January 2023 the Company entered into a conditional agreement with DFG, under which the purchase price for 21.716% of Gardabani TPP shares was established as EUR 19,135,693. Additionally, parties agreed that in case Option 2 of original agreement is materialized, purchase price of Gardabani TPP shares will be settled as follows:

- Receivables from DFG will be settled via delivery of 21.716% shares of Gardabani TPP to the same counterparty.
- A payment of EUR 1,492,887 will be made to DFG within 5 days after the transfer of 21.716% of Gardabani TPP shares to the Company.

DFG failed to sell its 100% indirect shareholding of Gardabani TPP in 2023, hence, pursuant to conditional agreement with DFG, the Company recognised receivable from DFG at its fair value. Share transfer of Gardabani TPP was not finalised as at 31 December 2023 (see Note 29).

The Group estimated the fair value of the investment in Gardabani TPP by discounting future cash flows expected from the operations of the thermal power plant, owned by Gardabani TPP, by discount rate of 15.07% (31 December 2022: 16.55%) (in GEL), and adjusting the total business value by minority and liquidity discounts of 22.1% (31 December 2022: 22.1%) to derive the value of 21.716% investment. The valuation is included in Level 3 measurement. The movement in the financial asset at FVTPL represents GEL 530 thousand in 2023 and is included in the finance income. The valuation is relatively sensitive to discount rate; 2% increase in discount rate would result in decrease of fair value of GEL 5.6 million.

12. Other non-current assets

'000 GEL	<u>31 December 2023</u>	<u>31 December 2022</u>
Receivable related to Tbilisi Bypass project*	106,696	97,507
Construction materials	38,818	68,003
Prepayments for non-current assets	3,147	8,948
Intangible assets	10,248	7,251
	<u>158,909</u>	<u>181,709</u>

*Tbilisi Bypass project was suspended as at 31 December 2023 and 2022 (see Note 10). For the measurement of the receivable related to Tbilisi Bypass project, please see Note 19 and Note 21(b)(ii).

The Group's exposure to credit and currency risks and impairment losses related to receivables are disclosed in Note 21.

13. Inventories

'000 GEL	31 December 2023	31 December 2022
Materials	28,600	25,741
Fuel	3,303	2,539
Rails	2,044	1,982
Other	5,117	5,547
	39,064	35,809
Write-down for inventory obsolescence	(1,734)	(1,865)
	37,330	33,944

14. Trade and other receivables

'000 GEL	31 December 2023	31 December 2022
Trade receivables	241,881	220,078
Impairment allowance on trade receivables	(211,269)	(206,092)
	30,612	13,986
Other receivables	293	533
	30,905	14,519

The Group's exposure to credit and currency risks and impairment losses related to trade and other receivables are disclosed in Note 21.

15. Cash and cash equivalents

'000 GEL	31 December 2023	31 December 2022
Current accounts in banks	145,085	114,903
Call deposits	138,980	160,503
Petty cash	38	41
Provision for cash and cash equivalents	(556)	(818)
Cash and cash equivalents in the consolidated statement of financial position and in the consolidated statement of cash flows	283,547	274,629

Call deposits represent term deposits with banks with maturities greater than three months from the acquisition date but for which the Group has the unilateral right to withdraw the deposits within a few days of providing notification without incurring penalties or significant loss of interest. Consequently, these term deposits have been classified in accordance with their nature which is that of a call deposit.

The Group's exposure to interest rate risk is disclosed in Note 21.

16. Equity and liabilities to the Government

(a) Share capital

<i>Number of shares</i>	Ordinary shares	
	2023	2022
In issue at 1 January	1,055,030,995	1,054,805,235
Net increase for property, plant and equipment (See Note 10 (d))	-	225,760
In issue at 31 December, fully paid	1,055,030,995	1,055,030,995
Authorised shares - par value	1	1

All ordinary shares rank equally with regard to the Group's residual assets.

Ordinary shares

The holders of ordinary shares are entitled to receive dividends as declared from time to time and are entitled to one vote per share at meetings of the Group.

(b) Non-cash owner contribution reserve

The difference between the nominal amount of registered share capital for non-cash assets contributed by the owner and the fair value of the contributed assets is recognised in the non-cash owner contribution reserve.

(c) Liabilities to the Government

Liabilities to the Government represent liabilities in the form of property, plant and equipment which are withdrawn as a reduction in share capital but not yet transferred formally to the Government. These liabilities are recorded at the carrying amount of assets to be transferred to the owner.

'000 GEL	31 December 2023	31 December 2022
Liabilities to the Government	4,712	4,712

(d) Dividends and other distribution to owner

In 2022, following the request of Partnership Fund JSC, dated 12 September 2022, the Company made profit distribution of GEL 26, 356 thousand to Partnership Fund JSC. As at 31 December 2022, the mentioned payments were recalled back by the Company and recognized as a receivable which was fully written off in 2022 on the basis of the Government decree N 2254, dated 7 December 2022 (amendment to the Government decree N 2167, dated 29 November 2022) and was recognized as "other distribution to owner" directly in equity.

No dividends were declared or paid in 2023.

(e) Advance received from the Government

In April 2012, the Group and the Government entered into the Bypass Project Memorandum. According to the Bypass Project Memorandum the Government is interested and aims to purchase from the Group approximately 701,281 square meters of land plots with attached constructions which would be freed up as a result of the removal of railway infrastructure from Tbilisi city center and construction of a new bypass railway route for the purposes of further development of the land plots. The Government agreed to pay to the Group CHF 138 million equivalents in national currency through the reduction in the amount of dividends payable to the Government.

In 2012, the Group declared dividends of GEL 231,592 thousand (CHF 138 million). Subsequently, the Group agreed with the Government that the declared dividend amount would represent a consideration due from the Government for the future sale of the land plots in accordance with the Bypass Project Memorandum. As a result, the dividend payable was classified as an advance received from the Government for the sale of land. As of the date these consolidated financial statements were authorized for issue, there is no decision by the Government about these advances and no indication from the Government that this amount is due on demand. No transfer of the aforementioned land plots to the Government took place in 2023 or in 2022.

17. Capital management

The Group has no formal policy for capital management, but management seeks to maintain a sufficient capital base for meeting the Group's operational and strategic needs, and to maintain confidence of market participants. This is achieved with efficient cash management, constant monitoring of the Group's revenues and profit, and long-term investment plans mainly financed by the Group's operating cash flows and unsecured bonds. With these measures the Group aims for steady profits growth.

Neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries are subject to externally imposed capital requirements.

18. Loans and borrowings

This note provides information about the contractual terms of the Group's interest-bearing loans and borrowings, which are measured at amortised cost. For more information about the Group's exposure to interest rate, foreign currency and liquidity risk, see Note 21.

'000 GEL	<u>31 December 2023</u>	<u>31 December 2022</u>
<i>Non-current liabilities</i>		
Secured loan	-	33,115
Unsecured bonds	1,339,840	1,345,032
	<u>1,339,840</u>	<u>1,378,147</u>
<i>Current liabilities</i>		
Secured loan	34,241	12,195
Current portion of unsecured bonds	2,057	2,078
	<u>36,298</u>	<u>14,273</u>
	<u>1,376,138</u>	<u>1,392,420</u>

(a) Terms and debt repayment schedule

Terms and conditions of outstanding loans and borrowings were as follows:

'000 GEL	Currency	Nominal interest rate 2023	Nominal interest rate 2022	Year of maturity	<u>31 December 2023</u>		<u>31 December 2022</u>	
					Face value	Carrying amount	Face value	Carrying amount
Unsecured bonds	USD	4.00%	4.00%	2028	1,346,837	1,341,897	1,350,788	1,347,110
Secured loan	USD	SOFR + 1.25% + 0.42826%	Libor +1.25%	2026	35,142	34,241	49,036	45,310
Total interest- bearing liabilities					<u>1,381,979</u>	<u>1,376,138</u>	<u>1,399,824</u>	<u>1,392,420</u>

The secured loan was obtained for the sole purpose of the acquisition of passenger trains.

The secured loan is collateralized by the underlying passenger trains, with a carrying amount of GEL 53,673 thousand as at 31 December 2023 (31 December 2022: GEL 59,898 thousand) (See Note 10 (e)). As at 31 December 2023 a financial covenant related to Net debt to EBITDA ratio on the secured loan above was breached allowing the lender to request repayment on demand. Despite subsequent to the reporting date the Group obtained a waiver from the lender for this covenant, the Group classified the loan as current liability as at 31 December 2023 (same breach occurred as at 31 December 2022, however the Group obtained waiver from the lender prior to 31 December 2022).

Effective June 30, 2023, the Libor rate, a widely utilized benchmark by banks in Georgia and globally for interest rate calculations, ceased publication. In its place, a new benchmark called Term SOFR (The Secured Overnight Financing Rate) was adopted. Following this the interest rate of secured loan of the Group was changed to SOFR + 1.25% (Margin) + 0.42826% (Credit Adjustment Spread).

In July 2012, the Group carried out the issuance, placement and registration (listing) of unsecured bonds of USD 500 million on the London Stock Exchange with an interest rate of 7.75% due in 2022.

Part of the above bonds were used for an early redemption of the unsecured bonds of USD 250 million issued by the Group in 2010.

In June 2021 the Group has successfully issued USD 500 million worth of green bonds on the London Stock Exchange due 2028 with an interest rate of 4%. The proceeds from the issuance were used for redemption of the USD 500 million unsecured bonds.

(b) Changes in liabilities arising from financing activities (excluding payments of other distribution to owner (Note 16(d)))

'000 GEL	2023	2022
Balance at 1 January	1,392,420	1,606,832
Repayment of secured loans	(11,307)	(12,617)
Interest paid	(55,511)	(57,829)
Total change from financing cash flows	(66,818)	(70,446)
The effect of changes in foreign exchange rates	(6,826)	(206,436)
<i>Other changes</i>		
Interest expense recognised in finance costs	57,362	62,470
Total liability-related other changes	57,362	62,470
Balance at 31 December	1,376,138	1,392,420

19. Trade and other payables

'000 GEL	31 December 2023	31 December 2022
<i>Current</i>		
Payables for non-current assets	87,725	65,093
Trade payables	34,921	30,238
Advances received from customers	19,471	26,911
	142,117	122,242
<i>Non-current</i>		
Payables for non-current assets*	36,714	30,242
	36,714	30,242

*The management determined that as at 31 December 2022 it has an unconditional right to defer the payment related to the construction contract for the Modernisation Project for over 1 year.

Based on the agreements signed between the Company and the construction company responsible for the Tbilisi Bypass and Modernization projects, there is a specified percentage of each milestone payment to be withheld (retention fee), to protect the Group from the contractor failing to adequately complete its obligations under each of the contract. Such retention fee is due to pay within two years through and after the completion of the project. In 2022, on the basis of the legal analysis performed by the independent expert, the Company and the construction company agreed, that the retention fee payable for the Modernization project shall be denominated in CHF, rather than in GEL. Furthermore, on 12 August 2022, contractual terms of the Modernization project was amended to commence repayment of the retention fee from 2022, instead of 2023. The mentioned amendments were considered as a substantial modification to the contractual terms of the Modernization project.

Taking into account the above legal analysis performed by the independent expert for the Modernization project, and further internal legal analysis of the contractual terms of Tbilisi Bypass project, management retranslated the retention fee payable and receivable from the construction company for Tbilisi Bypass project from GEL to CHF, as it is expected that those funds will be settled in CHF. The resulting net foreign currency exchange gain of GEL 26,252 thousand was recognized in profit or loss in 2022.

There were no contractual changes in neither payable nor receivable from the construction company for Tbilisi Bypass project during 2023.

The Group's exposure to currency and liquidity risk related to trade and other payables is disclosed in Note 21.

20. Provisions

'000 GEL	2023	2022
Balance at 1 January	13,981	14,397
Additional provision during the year	599	1,662
Provision used	(2,654)	(988)
Reversal of provision during the year	(1,198)	(1,465)
Unwinding of provision	497	343
Net foreign exchange (loss)/gain	(11)	32
Balance at 31 December	11,214	13,981

The Group recognised a provision for the estimated cash outflow required to settle legal cases against the Group existing as at 31 December 2023 and as at 31 December 2022 as well as to settle the legal obligations towards the employees injured during the performance of their duties.

21. Fair values and risk management

(a) Fair value of financial assets and liabilities

The estimates of fair value are intended to approximate the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. However given the uncertainties and the use of subjective judgment, the fair value should not be interpreted as being realizable in an immediate sale of the assets or transfer of liabilities.

The Group has determined fair values of financial assets and liabilities using valuation techniques. The objective of valuation techniques is to arrive at a fair value determination that reflects the price that would be received to sell the asset or paid to transfer the liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The valuation technique used is the discounted cash flow model. Fair value of all financial assets and liabilities is calculated based on the present value of future principal and interest cash flows, discounted at the market rate of interest at the reporting date.

The carrying values of other financial assets and liabilities of the Group, other than bonds, are a reasonable approximation of their fair values.

The average market quotation as at 31 December 2023 of green bonds is 90.34% (31 December 2022: 87.5%) of par value (Level 1).

(b) Financial risk management

The Group has exposure to the following risks from its use of financial instruments:

- credit risk;
- liquidity risk;
- market risk.

(i) Risk management framework

The Management Board has overall responsibility for the establishment and oversight of the Group’s risk management framework.

The Group’s risk management policies are established to identify and analyse the risks faced by the Group, to set appropriate risk limits and controls, and to monitor risks and adherence to limits. Risk management policies and systems are reviewed regularly to reflect changes in market conditions and the Group’s activities. The Group, through its training and management standards and procedures, aims to develop a disciplined and constructive control environment in which all employees understand their roles and obligations.

The Group’s Audit Committee oversees how management monitors compliance with the Group’s risk management policies and procedures and reviews the adequacy of the risk management framework in relation to the risks faced by the Group. The Group’s Audit Committee is assisted in its oversight role by Internal Audit. Internal Audit undertakes both regular and ad hoc reviews of risk management controls and procedures, the results of which are reported to the Audit Committee.

(ii) Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk of financial loss to the Group if a customer or counterparty to a financial instrument fails to meet its contractual obligations, and arises principally from the Group’s receivables from customers, loans receivable and cash and cash equivalents.

The carrying amount of financial assets represents the maximum credit exposure. The maximum exposure to credit risk at the reporting date was as follows:

'000 GEL	Carrying amount	
	31 December 2023	31 December 2022
Cash and cash equivalents	283,509	274,588
Trade receivables	30,612	13,986
Receivables related to Tbilisi Bypass project	106,696	97,507
Receivable from Partnership Fund JSC	53,037	47,738
Balance at 31 December	473,854	433,819

Cash and cash equivalents

As at 31 December 2023, 100% (31 December 2022: 100%) of the bank balances are held with the largest Georgian banks with short-term default rating of B, rated by Fitch Ratings. All balances are categorized under Stage 1. The Group does not expect any counterparty to fail to meet its obligations.

Trade receivables

The Group's exposure to credit risk is influenced mainly by the individual characteristics of each customer. However, management also considers the factors that may influence the credit risk of the Group's customer base including the default risk of the industry and country in which customers operate. During 2023, about 17% of the Group's revenue is attributable to sales transactions with three customers (2022: 12% with two customers).

Credit risk is managed mostly by requesting prepayments from freight and passenger transportation customers. Accordingly, the Group's trade receivables mainly consist of receivables from foreign railway companies and two large customers. Credit risk related to receivables from foreign railway companies is managed through the monthly monitoring of receivable balances and requiring immediate repayment of a debt when the balance approaches specific limits set for each individual counterparty.

More than 90% of the Group's foreign railway customers have been transacting with the Group for several years, and losses have occurred infrequently. In monitoring customer credit risk, customers are grouped according to their credit characteristics, including aging profile, maturity and existence of previous financial difficulties.

No collateral in respect of trade receivables is generally required.

The Group establishes an allowance for impairment that represents its estimate of expected credit losses in respect of trade receivables.

The maximum exposure to credit risk for trade receivables at the reporting date by geographic region was:

'000 GEL	Carrying amount	
	31 December 2023	31 December 2022
Foreign countries	8,813	2,306
Domestic	21,799	11,680
	30,612	13,986

The Group's two most significant customers (2022: two customers) account for GEL 8,117 thousand of the trade receivables carrying amount as at 31 December 2023 (31 December 2022: GEL 3,893 thousand).

Expected credit loss assessment for corporate customers

The Group allocates each exposure to a credit risk grade based on data that is determined to be predictive of the risk of loss (including but not limited to external ratings, audited financial statements, management accounts and cash flow projections and available press information about customers) and applying experienced credit judgement regarding customer behaviour. Credit risk grades are defined using qualitative and quantitative factors that are indicative of the risk of default and are aligned to external credit rating definitions from agencies.

The following tables provides information about the exposure to credit risk and ECLs for trade receivables for customers as at 31 December 2023 and 31 December 2022:

'000 GEL	<u>31 December 2023</u>	<u>31 December 2023</u>	<u>31 December 2023</u>
Customer Credit risk grade	<u>Not credit-impaired</u>	<u>Credit-impaired</u>	<u>Total</u>
Low risk	11,666	-	11,666
Medium risk	-	-	-
High risk	-	230,215	230,215
Total Gross carrying amount	11,666	230,215	241,881
Loss allowance	(192)	(211,077)	(211,269)
	11,474	19,138	30,612

'000 GEL	<u>31 December 2022</u>	<u>31 December 2022</u>	<u>31 December 2022</u>
Customer Credit risk grade	<u>Not credit-impaired</u>	<u>Credit-impaired</u>	<u>Total</u>
Low risk	10,026	-	10,026
Medium risk	-	-	-
High risk	-	210,052	210,052
Total Gross carrying amount	10,026	210,052	220,078
Loss allowance	(600)	(205,492)	(206,092)
	9,426	4,560	13,986

The Group allocates each exposure to a credit risk grade based on data that is determined to be predictive of the risk of loss (including but not limited to external ratings, information on potential financial difficulties of the counterparties and information on past due days) and applying experienced credit judgement.

Exposures within each credit risk grade are segmented by geographic region and an ECL rate is calculated for each segment based on delinquency status, external credit rating and actual credit loss experience over the past two years. These rates are multiplied by scalar factors to reflect differences between economic conditions during the period over which the historical data has been collected, current conditions and the Group's view of economic conditions over the expected lives of the receivables.

The movement in the allowance for impairment in respect of trade receivables during the year was as follows.

'000 GEL	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Balance at 1 January	206,092	225,974
Net charge for the year	(6,016)	(840)
Effect of movements in foreign exchange rates	11,193	(19,042)
Balance at 31 December	211,269	206,092

The allowance account in respect of trade receivables is used to record impairment losses until all possible opportunities for recovery have been exhausted; at that point the amounts are written off against the financial asset directly.

Receivable from DFG

As at 31 December 2023, the Group has receivable from JSC Partnership Fund.

Management believes that the Group is not exposed to a significant amount of credit risk relating to the receivable. Since Gardabani TPP shares transfer was initiated in December 2023 (see Note 11), no significant risk remains for irrecoverability of receivables as at 31 December 2023 (see Note 29).

Receivable related to Tbilisi Bypass project

As at 31 December 2023, the Group expects to recover the receivable related to Tbilisi Bypass project through cash settlement (see Note 19). Per Management's assessment the receivable related to Tbilisi Bypass project is fully recoverable based on the performance guarantee from a commercial bank, which can be settled upon the discretion of the Company. The effect of guarantee protection was considered in assessing impairment of the receivable as at 31 December 2023. The asset is classified as Stage 1 and no material ECL is estimated as at 31 December 2023.

(iii) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Group will encounter difficulty in meeting the obligations associated with its financial liabilities that are settled by delivering cash or another financial asset. The Group's approach to managing liquidity is to ensure, as far as possible, that it will always have sufficient liquidity to meet its liabilities when due, under both normal and stressed conditions, without incurring unacceptable losses or risking damage to the Group's reputation.

The Group ensures that it has sufficient cash on demand to meet expected operational expenses for a period of three months, including the servicing of financial obligations; this excludes the potential impact of extreme circumstances that cannot reasonably be predicted, such as natural disasters or global pandemic.

Exposure to liquidity risk

The following are the contractual maturities of financial liabilities, including estimated interest payments and excluding the impact of netting agreements. It is not expected that the cash flows included in the maturity analysis could occur significantly earlier, or at significantly different amounts.

31 December 2023

'000 GEL	Carrying amount	Contractual cash flows	On demand	0-6 months	6-12 months	1-2 years	2-5 years	Over 5 years
Secured loan	34,241	34,241	34,241	-	-	-	-	-
Unsecured bonds	1,341,897	1,586,746	-	26,894	26,894	53,788	1,479,170	-
Trade and other payables	159,360	163,089	-	122,480	270	40,339	-	-
	1,535,498	1,784,076	34,241	149,374	27,164	94,127	1,479,170	-

31 December 2022

'000 GEL	Carrying amount	Contractual cash flows	On demand	0-6 months	6-12 months	1-2 years	2-5 years	Over 5 years
Secured loan	45,310	53,949	-	7,412	7,229	13,869	25,439	-
Unsecured bonds	1,347,110	1,648,220	-	27,020	27,020	54,040	162,120	1,378,020
Trade and other payables	125,573	131,243	-	95,234	262	523	35,224	-
	1,517,993	1,833,412	-	129,666	34,511	68,432	222,783	1,378,020

(iv) Market risk

Market risk is the risk that changes in market prices, such as foreign exchange rates, interest rates and equity prices will affect the Group's income or the value of its holdings of financial instruments. The objective of market risk management is to manage and control market risk exposures within acceptable parameters, while optimising the return.

Currency risk

The Group is exposed to currency risk to the extent that there is a mismatch between currencies in which sales, purchases and borrowings are denominated and the respective functional currencies of Group entities. The functional currencies of Group entities are the Georgian Lari (GEL). The currencies in which these transactions are primarily denominated and settled are U.S. Dollars (USD) and Swiss Francs (CHF). As at 31 December 2023, the Group is also exposed to EUR from its use of other receivable (disclosed in Note 11).

Borrowings and related interest are denominated in currencies that match the cash flows generated by the underlying operations of the Group. This provides an economic hedge without a need to enter into derivatives contracts.

Exposure to currency risk

The Group's exposure to foreign currency risk was as follows:

'000 GEL	USD - denominated 2023	CHF – denominated 2023	EUR – denominated 2023	USD - denominated 2022	CHF – denominated 2022	EUR – denominated 2022
Cash and cash equivalents	92,789	1,599	-	13,093	950	-
Trade receivables	12,003	1,763	-	6,286	332	-
Receivable related to Tbilisi Bypass project (Note 19)	-	106,696	-	-	97,507	-
Secured loan	(34,241)	-	-	(45,310)	-	-
Unsecured bonds	(1,341,897)	-	-	(1,347,110)	-	-
Trade and other payables (Note 19)	(37,826)	(94,811)	-	(4,477)	(72,874)	-
Other receivable			53,037			47,738
Net exposure	(1,309,172)	15,247	53,037	(1,377,518)	25,915	47,738

The following significant exchange rates applied during the year:

in GEL	Average Rate		Reporting date spot rate 31 December	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
USD 1	2.6279	2.9156	2.6894	2.7020
CHF 1	2.9254	3.0594	3.2085	2.9322
EUR 1	2.8416	3.0792	2.9753	2.8844

Sensitivity analysis

A reasonably possible weakening of the GEL, as indicated below, against all other currencies at 31 December would have affected the measurement of financial instruments denominated in a foreign currency and profit or loss and equity by the amounts shown below. The analysis assumes that all other variables, in particular interest rates, remain constant and ignores any impact of forecast sales and purchases.

'000 GEL	Profit or loss and equity
2023	
USD (10% weakening)	(130,917)
CHF (10% weakening)	1,525
EUR (10% weakening)	5,304
2022	
USD (10% weakening)	(137,752)
CHF (10% weakening)	2,592
EUR (10% weakening)	4,773

A strengthening of the GEL against the above currencies at 31 December would have had the equal but opposite effect on the above currencies to the amounts shown above, on the basis that all other variables remain constant.

(v) **Interest rate risk**

Changes in interest rates impact primarily loans and borrowings by changing either their fair value (fixed rate debt) or their future cash flows (variable rate debt). Management does not have a formal policy of determining how much of the Group's exposure should be to fixed or variable rates. However, at the time of raising new loans or borrowings management uses its judgment to decide whether it believes that a fixed or variable rate would be more favourable to the Group over the expected period until maturity.

Exposure to interest rate risk

At the reporting date the Group's exposure to interest rate risk was as follows:

'000 GEL	Carrying amount	
	31 December 2023	31 December 2022
Variable rate instruments		
Financial liabilities	(34,241)	(45,310)
Cash and cash equivalents	128,789	-
	94,548	(45,310)

Fair value sensitivity analysis for fixed rate instruments

The Group does not account for any fixed-rate financial instruments as FVTPL or FVOCI, except for other receivable. Changes in interest rates at the reporting date does not have a material effect in profit or loss or in equity.

Cash flow sensitivity analysis for variable rate instruments

A reasonably possible change of 100 basis points in interest rates as at 31 December 2023 would have affected profit or loss by GEL 356 thousand (31 December 2022: GEL 453 thousand). This analysis assumes that all other variables, in particular foreign currency rates, remain constant.

22. Subsidiaries and equity-accounted investees

Subsidiary	Country of incorporation	Principal activities	2023 Ownership/ voting	2022 Ownership/ voting
GR Property Management LLC	Georgia	Property management and development	100%	100%
GR Logistics and Terminals LLC	Georgia	Container transportation and terminal services	100%	100%
Georgian Railway Construction JSC	Georgia	Construction and other projects	100%	100%
Georgia Transit LLC	Georgia	Transportation services	100%	100%
GR Transit Line LLC	Georgia	Transportation services	100%	100%
GR Trans Shipment LLC	Georgia	Transportation services	100%	100%
GR Transit LLC	Georgia	Transportation services	100%	100%
Equity-accounted investees				
Middle Corridor Multimodal LLC*	Kazakhstan	Transportation services	33,33%	-

*During 2023 the Company, alongside with - Joint Stock Company "National Company "Kazakhstan Temir Zholy", a legal entity registered in accordance with the laws of the Republic of Kazakhstan and Closed Joint Stock Company "Azerbaijan Railways", a legal entity registered in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Azerbaijan, established "Middle Corridor Multimodal LLC", a private company.

Shares of participation in the authorized capital among the Founders is equal to 33,33% for each and authorized capital amounts to USD 30,000. Each founder to participate with USD 10,000 payments.

23. Operating leases

The Group leases out its wagons, other buildings, containers, locomotives and fittings. The Group has classified these leases as operating leases, because they do not transfer substantially all of the risks and rewards incidental to the ownership of the assets.

Rental income recognised by the Group during 2023 was GEL 4,158 thousand (2022: GEL 4,111 thousand) and included in revenue.

The following table sets out a maturity analysis of lease payments under non-cancellable period of lease contracts entered into as at 31 December 2023, showing the undiscounted lease payments to be received after the reporting date.

'000 GEL	
2023 – Operating leases under IFRS 16	
Less than one year	3,033
Between one and five years	5,367
More than five years	13,976
Total	<u>22,376</u>

'000 GEL	
2022 – Operating leases under IFRS 16	
Less than one year	3,648
Between one and five years	7,410
More than five years	19,282
Total	<u>30,340</u>

24. Contingencies

(a) Insurance

The insurance industry in Georgia is in a developing state and many forms of insurance protection common in other parts of the world are not yet generally available. The Group does not have full coverage for its property, business interruption, or third-party liability in respect of property or environmental damage arising from accidents on Group property or relating to Group operations. Until the Group obtains adequate insurance coverage, there is a risk that the loss or destruction of certain assets could have a material adverse effect on the Group's operations and financial position.

(b) Taxation contingencies

The taxation system in Georgia is relatively new and is characterised by frequent changes in legislation, official pronouncements and court decisions, which are sometimes unclear, contradictory and subject to varying interpretation. In the event of a breach of tax legislation, no liabilities for additional taxes, fines or penalties may be imposed by the tax authorities after three years have passed since the end of the year in which the breach occurred.

These circumstances may create tax risks in Georgia that are more significant than in other countries. Management believes that it has provided adequately for tax liabilities based on its interpretations of applicable Georgian tax legislation, official pronouncements and court decisions. However, the interpretations of the relevant authorities could differ and the effect on these consolidated financial statements, if the authorities were successful in enforcing their interpretations, could be significant.

(c) Litigation

In the ordinary course of business, the Group is subject to legal actions, litigations and complaints. Management believes that the ultimate liability not already provided for, if any, arising from such actions or complaints will not have a material adverse effect on the financial condition or the results of future operations.

25. Related parties

(a) Transactions with key management personnel

(i) Key management remuneration

Key management received the following remuneration during the year, which is included in employee benefit expenses:

'000 GEL	2023	2022
Salaries and bonuses	1,597	938

(b) Other related party transactions

(i) Transactions with the Government

The Group transacts in its daily operations with a number of entities that are either controlled, jointly controlled or under significant influence of the Government of Georgia. The Group has opted to apply the exemption in IAS 24 *Related Party Disclosures* that allows the presentation of reduced related party disclosures regarding transactions with government-related entities.

Related party transactions are disclosed in Notes 11 and 16 of these consolidated financial statements. The Group's other related party transactions are disclosed below.

(ii) Revenue, purchases and expenses

The Group purchases security services from a state agency, which amounted to GEL 7,060 thousand for 2023 (2022: GEL 10,138 thousand). In 2023, the Group purchases electricity service from a state-owned entity, which amounted to GEL 38,724 thousand (2022: 22,039 thousand). The Group usually does not have significant balances for these purchases.

Management estimates that the aggregate amounts of other income and expenses and the related balances with other Government-related entities are not significant.

(iii) Other receivable with Partnership Fund JSC

'000 GEL	Transaction value for the year ended 31 December		Outstanding balance as at 31 December	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
Loans issued:				
Partnership Fund JSC	-	21,568	-	-
Other receivable				
Receivable from Partnership Fund JSC	-	-	53,037	47,738

During 2023, interest income of GEL 3,097 thousand and gain from revaluation of GEL 530 thousand was recognised in profit or loss on other receivables (see Note 11).

During 2022, interest income of GEL 2,904 thousand was recognised in profit or loss in respect of a related party loan. In 2022, the related party loan was derecognized and receivable from Partnership Fund JSC was recognized, see details in Note 11. Transaction value of GEL 21,568 thousand represents funds issued by the Group to Partnership Fund JSC during 2022.

26. Subsequent events

On 1 February 2024, Gardabani TPP shares (21.716%) were transferred to the Company as settlement of other receivable (see also Note 11).

27. Basis of measurement

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, except for other receivables measured at fair value.

28. Material accounting policies

The accounting policies set out below have been applied consistently to all periods presented in these consolidated financial statements, and have been applied consistently by the Group entities.

In addition, the Group adopted Disclosure of Accounting Policies (Amendments to IAS 1 and IFRS Practice Statement 2) from 1 January 2023. The amendments require the disclosure of “material”, rather than “significant”, accounting policies. The amendments did not result in any changes to the accounting policies disclosed in Note 28 (a-n).

(a) Basis of consolidation

(i) Subsidiaries

Subsidiaries are entities controlled by the Group. The Group controls an entity when it is exposed to, or has rights to, variable returns from its involvement with the entity and has the ability to affect those returns through its power over the entity. The financial statements of subsidiaries are included in the consolidated financial statements from the date that control commences until the date that control ceases. The accounting policies of subsidiaries have been changed when necessary to align them with the policies adopted by the Group. Losses applicable to the non-controlling interests in a subsidiary are allocated to the non-controlling interests even if doing so causes the non-controlling interests to have a deficit balance.

(ii) Interests in equity-accounted investees

The Group’s interests in equity-accounted investees comprise interests in a joint venture.

A joint venture is an arrangement in which the Group has joint control, whereby the Group has rights to the net assets of the arrangement, rather than rights to its assets and obligations for its liabilities.

Interests in joint ventures are accounted for using the equity method. They are initially recognised at cost, which includes transaction costs. Subsequent to initial recognition, the consolidated financial statements include the Group’s share of the profit or loss and OCI of equity accounted investees, until the date on which significant influence or joint control ceases.

(iii) Transactions eliminated on consolidation

Intra-group balances and transactions, and any unrealised income and expenses arising from intra-group transactions, are eliminated.

(b) Revenue

Information about the Group's accounting policies relating to contracts with customers is provided in Note 6.

(i) Commissions

When the Group acts in the capacity of an agent rather than as the principal in a transaction, the revenue recognised is the net amount of commission earned by the Group.

(c) Finance income and costs

The Group's finance income and finance costs include:

- interest income on bank deposits and other receivable;
- interest expense on financial liabilities;
- the foreign currency gain or loss on financial assets and financial liabilities.

In calculating interest income and expense, the effective interest rate is applied to the gross carrying amount of the asset (when the asset is not credit-impaired) or to the amortised cost of the liability. However, for financial assets that have become credit-impaired subsequent to initial recognition, interest income is calculated by applying the effective interest rate to the amortised cost of the financial asset. If the asset is no longer credit-impaired, then the calculation of interest income reverts to the gross basis.

Borrowing costs that are not directly attributable to the acquisition, construction or production of a qualifying asset are recognised in profit or loss using the effective interest method.

Foreign currency gains and losses are reported on a net basis as either finance income or finance costs depending on whether foreign currency movements are in a net gain or net loss position.

(d) Foreign currency

(i) Foreign currency transactions

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated to the respective functional currencies of Group entities at exchange rates at the dates of the transactions.

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the reporting date are retranslated to the functional currency at the exchange rate at that date. The foreign currency gain or loss on monetary items is the difference between amortised cost in the functional currency at the beginning of the period, adjusted for effective interest and payments during the period, and the amortised cost in foreign currency translated at the exchange rate at the end of the reporting period.

Non-monetary items in a foreign currency that are measured based on historical cost are translated using the exchange rate at the date of the transaction.

Foreign currency differences arising in translation are recognised in profit or loss.

(e) Employee benefits

Short-term employee benefit obligations are measured on an undiscounted basis and are expensed as the related service is provided.

A liability is recognised for the amount expected to be paid under short-term cash bonus or profit-sharing plans if the Group has a present legal or constructive obligation to pay this amount as a result of past service provided by the employee, and the obligation can be estimated reliably.

(f) Income tax

Income tax is recognised in profit or loss except to the extent that it relates to a business combination, or items recognised directly in equity or in other comprehensive income.

(i) Current tax

Current tax comprises the expected tax payable or receivable on the taxable income or loss for the year, using tax rates enacted or substantively enacted at the reporting date, and any adjustment to tax payable in respect of previous years. Current tax payable also includes any tax liability arising from dividends.

On 13 May 2016 the Parliament of Georgia passed the bill on corporate income tax reform (also known as the Estonian model of corporate taxation), which mainly moves the moment of taxation from when taxable profits are earned to when they are distributed. The law has entered into force in 2016 and is effective for tax periods starting after 1 January 2017.

The new system of corporate income taxation does not imply exemption from Corporate Income Tax (CIT), rather CIT taxation is shifted from the moment of earning the profits to the moment of their distribution; i.e. the main tax object is distributed earnings. The Tax Code of Georgia defines Distributed Earnings (DE) to mean profit distributed to shareholder as a dividend. However, some other transactions are also considered as DE, for example non-arm's length cross-border transactions with related parties and/or with persons exempted from tax are also considered as DE for CIT purposes.

The corporate income tax arising from the payment of dividends is accounted for as an expense in the period when dividends are declared, regardless of the actual payment date or the period for which the dividends are paid. The amount of tax payable on a dividend distribution is calculated as 15/85 of the amount of the net distribution.

Set off the tax payable on dividends declared and paid is available for the corporate income tax paid on the undistributed earnings in the years 2008-2016, if those earnings are distributed in 2017 or further years.

The Tax Code of Georgia provides for charging corporate income tax on certain transactions not related to the entity's economic activities, free of charge supplies and representative expenses over the allowed limit. The Group considers the taxation of such transaction as outside of the scope of IAS 12 *Income Taxes* and accounts for the tax on such items as taxes other than on income.

(g) Inventories

Inventories are measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value. The cost of inventories is based on the weighted average cost principle, and includes expenditure incurred in acquiring the inventories, production or conversion costs and other costs incurred in bringing them to their existing location and condition.

Net realisable value is the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business, less the estimated costs of completion and selling expenses.

(h) Property, plant and equipment

(i) Recognition and measurement

Items of property, plant and equipment are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. The cost of property, plant and equipment at 1 January 2007, the date of transition to IFRS, was determined by reference to its fair value at that date.

Cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of the asset. The cost of self-constructed assets includes the cost of materials and direct labour, any other costs directly attributable to bringing the asset to a working condition for their intended use, the costs of dismantling and removing the items and restoring the site on which they are located, and capitalised borrowing costs. Purchased software that is integral to the functionality of the related equipment is capitalised as part of that equipment.

When parts of an item of property, plant and equipment have different useful lives, they are accounted for as separate items (major components) of property, plant and equipment.

Any gain or loss on disposal of an item of property, plant and equipment is determined by comparing the proceeds from disposal with the carrying amount of property, plant and equipment, and is recognised net within other income/other expenses in profit or loss.

(ii) Subsequent costs

The cost of replacing a component of an item of property, plant and equipment is recognised in the carrying amount of the item if it is probable that the future economic benefits embodied within the component will flow to the Group, and its cost can be measured reliably. The carrying amount of the replaced component is derecognised. The costs of the day-to-day servicing of property, plant and equipment are recognised in profit or loss as incurred.

Maintenance and repair expenses are recognised as follows:

- Rolling stock:
 - current maintenance expenses during the useful life of equipment (repair work and replacement of unusable and missing parts) are recognised as operating expenses in profit or loss as incurred;
 - expenses under multi-year major overhaul programmes are capitalised as a separate overhaul component and depreciated separately from the main asset;
 - overhauls performed near the end of the useful life of an asset, together with refurbishment, are capitalised when they extend the useful life of the underlying asset.
- Fixed installations:
 - current maintenance and repair expenses (technical inspections, maintenance contracts, etc.) are recognised as operating expenses in profit or loss as incurred;
 - labour, materials and other costs (associated with the installation of rails, sleepers and ballast) under multi-year major building or infrastructure maintenance programmes are capitalised through the partial or total replacement of each component concerned;
 - costs associated with infrastructure improvements are capitalized to the extent that they increase the functionality (traffic working speed) of the asset.

(iii) Depreciation

Items of property, plant and equipment are depreciated from the date that they are installed and are ready for use, or in respect of internally constructed assets, from the date that the asset is completed and ready for use. Depreciation is based on the cost of an asset less its residual value. Residual values for rails, wagons and locomotives are assessed based on the estimated market price of scrap metal and the estimated weight of rails, wagons and locomotives less deinstallation costs.

Depreciation is recognised in profit or loss on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of each part of an item of property, plant and equipment, since this most closely reflects the expected pattern of consumption of the future economic benefits embodied in the asset. Land is not depreciated. Major scheduled capital repairs for wagons and locomotives, estimated at 16% of the cost, are considered as major components and depreciated separately for an average useful life of 7 to 15 years based on the expected timing of the capital repairs.

The estimated average useful lives of significant items of property, plant and equipment for the current and comparative periods are as follows:

– buildings and constructions	30-44 years;
– rail track infrastructure	13-25 years;
– transport, machinery, equipment and other	10-16 years.

Depreciation methods, useful lives and residual values are reviewed at each financial year end and adjusted if appropriate.

(i) Financial instruments

(i) Recognition and initial measurement

Trade receivables and debt securities issued are initially recognised when they are originated. All other financial assets and financial liabilities are initially recognised when the Group becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

A financial asset (unless it is a trade receivable without a significant financing component) or financial liability is initially measured at fair value plus, for an item not at FVTPL, transaction costs that are directly attributable to its acquisition or issue. A trade receivable without a significant financing component is initially measured at the transaction price.

(ii) Classification and subsequent measurement

Financial assets

On initial recognition, a financial asset is classified as measured at: amortised cost; FVOCI – debt investment; FVOCI – equity investment; or FVTPL.

Financial assets are not reclassified subsequent to their initial recognition unless the Group changes its business model for managing financial assets, in which case all affected financial assets are reclassified on the first day of the first reporting period following the change in the business model.

A financial asset is measured at amortised cost if it meets both of the following conditions and is not designated as at FVTPL:

- it is held within a business model whose objective is to hold assets to collect contractual cash flows; and
- its contractual terms give rise on specified dates to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding.

Trade and other receivables and cash and cash are classified as measured at amortised cost. Other receivable is measured as FVTPL as the SPPI test criteria were not met at initial recognition (see Note 11).

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash balances, call deposits and highly liquid investments with maturities of three months or less from the acquisition date that are subject to insignificant risk of changes in their fair value. Call deposits represent term deposits with banks with maturities greater than three months from the acquisition date but for which the Group has the unilateral right to withdraw the deposits within a few days of providing notification without incurring significant penalties or loss of interest.

These financial assets are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. The amortised cost is reduced by impairment losses. Interest income, foreign exchange gains and losses and impairment are recognised in profit or loss. Any gain or loss on derecognition is recognised in profit or loss.

Financial liabilities – Classification, subsequent measurement and gains and losses

Financial liabilities are classified as measured at amortised cost or FVTPL. A financial liability is classified as at FVTPL if it is classified as held-for-trading, it is a derivative, or it is designated as such on initial recognition. Financial liabilities at FVTPL are measured at fair value and net gains and losses, including any interest expense, are recognised in profit or loss. Other financial liabilities are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Interest expense and foreign exchange gains and losses are recognised in profit or loss. Any gain or loss on derecognition is also recognised in profit or loss.

(iii) Derecognition

Financial assets

The Group derecognises a financial asset when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire, or it transfers the rights to receive the contractual cash flows in a transaction in which substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset are transferred or in which the Group neither transfers nor retains substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership and it does not retain control of the financial asset.

The Group enters into transactions whereby it transfers assets recognised in its consolidated statement of financial position but retains either all or substantially all of the risks and rewards of the transferred assets. In these cases, the transferred assets are not derecognised.

Financial liabilities

The Group derecognises a financial liability when its contractual obligations are discharged or cancelled or expire. The Group also derecognises a financial liability when its terms are modified and the cash flows of the modified liability are substantially different, in which case a new financial liability based on the modified terms is recognised at fair value.

On derecognition of a financial liability, the difference between the carrying amount extinguished and the consideration paid (including any non-cash assets transferred or liabilities assumed) is recognised in profit or loss.

(iv) Offsetting

Financial assets and financial liabilities are offset and the net amount presented in the statement of financial position when, and only when, the Group currently has a legally enforceable right to set off the amounts and it intends either to settle them on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

(j) Share capital

Ordinary shares

Ordinary shares are classified as equity. Incremental costs directly attributable to issue of ordinary shares and share options are recognised as a deduction from equity, net of any tax effects.

Increase of share capital

Share capital increase is affected through the issuance of new shares. When share capital is increased, any difference between the registered amount of share capital and the fair value of the assets contributed is recognized as a separate component of equity as a fair value adjustment reserve for non-cash owner contributions.

Reduction of share capital

Share capital reductions and non-cash distributions are recognized at the carrying amount of the assets distributed. Non-cash distributions of the Group are out of scope of IFRIC 17 *Distributions of Non-cash Assets to Owners* since the ultimate controlling party controls the assets before and after the distribution.

(k) Impairment

(i) Non-derivative financial assets

The Group recognises loss allowances for ECLs on financial assets measured at amortised cost.

The Group measures loss allowances at an amount equal to lifetime ECLs, except for the following, which are measured at 12-month ECLs:

- debt securities that are determined to have low credit risk at the reporting date; and
- other debt securities and bank balances for which credit risk (i.e. the risk of default occurring over the expected life of the financial instrument) has not increased significantly since initial recognition.

Loss allowances for trade receivables are always measured at an amount equal to lifetime ECLs.

When determining whether the credit risk of a financial asset has increased significantly since initial recognition and when estimating ECLs, the Group considers reasonable and supportable information that is relevant and available without undue cost or effort. This includes both quantitative and qualitative information and analysis, based on the Group's historical experience and informed credit assessment and including forward-looking information.

The Group assumes that the credit risk on a financial asset has increased significantly if it is more than 30 days past due.

The Group considers a financial asset to be in default when:

- the borrower is unlikely to pay its credit obligations to the Group in full, without recourse by the Group to actions such as realising security (if any is held); or
- the financial asset is more than 90 days past due.

Lifetime ECLs are the ECLs that result from all possible default events over the expected life of a financial instrument.

12-month ECLs are the portion of ECLs that result from default events that are possible within the 12 months after the reporting date (or a shorter period if the expected life of the instrument is less than 12 months).

The maximum period considered when estimating ECLs is the maximum contractual period over which the Group is exposed to credit risk.

Measurement of ECLs

ECLs are a probability-weighted estimate of credit losses. Credit losses are measured as the present value of all cash shortfalls (i.e. the difference between the cash flows due to the entity in accordance with the contract and the cash flows that the Group expects to receive).

ECLs are discounted at the effective interest rate of the financial asset.

Credit-impaired financial assets

At each reporting date, the Group assesses whether financial assets carried at amortised cost are credit-impaired. A financial asset is 'credit-impaired' when one or more events that have a detrimental impact on the estimated future cash flows of the financial asset have occurred.

Evidence that a financial asset is credit-impaired includes the following observable data:

- significant financial difficulty of the borrower or issuer;
- a breach of contract such as a default or being more than 90 days past due;
- the restructuring of a loan or advance by the Group on terms that the Group would not consider otherwise;
- it is probable that the borrower will enter bankruptcy or other financial reorganisation; or
- the disappearance of an active market for a security because of financial difficulties.

Presentation of allowance for ECL in the consolidated statement of financial position

Loss allowances for financial assets measured at amortised cost are deducted from the gross carrying amount of the assets.

Write-off

The gross carrying amount of a financial asset is written off when the Group has no reasonable expectations of recovering a financial asset in its entirety or a portion thereof. The Group individually makes an assessment with respect to the timing and amount of write-off based on whether there is a reasonable expectation of recovery. The Group expects no significant recovery from the amount written off. However, financial assets that are written off could still be subject to enforcement activities in order to comply with the Group's procedures for recovery of amounts due.

(ii) *Non-financial assets*

The carrying amounts of the Group's non-financial assets, are reviewed at each reporting date to determine whether there is any indication of impairment. If any such indication exists, then the asset's recoverable amount is estimated.

For the purpose of impairment testing, assets that cannot be tested individually are grouped together into the smallest group of assets that generates cash inflows from continuing use that are largely independent of the cash inflows of other assets or CGU.

The Group's corporate assets do not generate separate cash inflows and are utilised by more than one CGU. Corporate assets are allocated to CGUs on a reasonable and consistent basis and tested for impairment as part of the testing of the CGU to which the corporate asset is allocated.

The recoverable amount of an asset or CGU is the greater of its value in use and its fair value less costs to sell. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset or CGU.

An impairment loss is recognised if the carrying amount of an asset or its related cash-generating unit (CGU) exceeds its estimated recoverable amount.

Impairment losses are recognised in profit or loss. Impairment losses recognised in respect of CGUs are allocated to reduce the carrying amounts of the assets in the CGU (group of CGUs) on a pro rata basis.

An impairment loss recognised in prior periods, is assessed at each reporting date for any indications that the loss has decreased or no longer exists. An impairment loss is reversed if there has been a change in the estimates used to determine the recoverable amount. An impairment loss is reversed only to the extent that the asset's carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined, net of depreciation or amortisation, if no impairment loss had been recognised.

(l) Provisions

A provision is recognised if, as a result of a past event, the Group has a present legal or constructive obligation that can be estimated reliably, and it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation. Provisions are determined by discounting the expected future cash flows at a pre-tax rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as finance cost.

(m) Leases

At inception of a contract, the Group assesses whether a contract is, or contains, a lease. A contract is, or contains, a lease if the contract conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration. To assess whether a contract conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset, the Group uses the definition of a lease in IFRS 16.

(i) As a lessee

The Group does not have significant lease agreements where it acts as a lessee as at 31 December 2023 and 2022. The Group has elected not to recognise right-of-use assets and lease liabilities for short-term leases. The Group recognises the lease payments associated with these leases as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

(ii) As a lessor

At inception or on modification of a contract that contains a lease component, the Group allocates the consideration in the contract to each lease component on the basis of their relative stand-alone prices.

When the Group acts as a lessor, it determines at lease inception whether each lease is a finance lease or an operating lease.

To classify each lease, the Group makes an overall assessment of whether the lease transfers substantially all of the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of the underlying asset. If this is the case, then the lease is a finance lease; if not, then it is an operating lease. As part of this assessment, the Group considers certain indicators such as whether the lease is for the major part of the economic life of the asset.

If an arrangement contains lease and non-lease components, then the Group applies IFRS 15 to allocate the consideration in the contract.

The Group applies the derecognition and impairment requirements in IFRS 9 to the net investment in the lease. The Group further regularly reviews estimated unguaranteed residual values used in calculating the gross investment in the lease.

(n) Segment reporting

An operating segment is a component of the Group that engages in business activities from which it may earn revenues and incur expenses, including revenues and expenses that relate to transactions with any of the Group's other components. All operating segments' operating results are reviewed regularly by the Management Board to make decisions about resources to be allocated to the segment and assess its performance.

Segment results that are reported to the Management Board include items directly attributable to a segment as well as those that can be allocated on a reasonable basis. Unallocated items comprise mainly railway infrastructure, corporate assets (primarily the Group's headquarters), head office expenses, financial income and expenses, tax expenses and tax assets and liabilities. Items related to infrastructure are not allocated as the Group has not implemented systems for such allocations. The Group's Management Board does not monitor segment liabilities.

Segment capital expenditure is the total cost incurred during the year to acquire property, plant and equipment, and intangible assets.

29. New standards and interpretations not yet adopted

A number of new standards are effective for annual periods beginning after 1 January 2023 and earlier application is permitted; however, the Group has not early adopted the new or amended standards in preparing these consolidated financial statements. The following amended standards and interpretations are not expected to have a significant impact on the Group's consolidated financial statements.

- *Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-Current and Non-Current Liabilities with Covenants (Amendments to IAS 1)*
- *Supplier Finance Arrangements (Amendments to IAS 7 and IFRS 7)*
- *Lease Liability in a Sale and Leaseback (Amendments to IFRS 16)*
- *Lack of Exchangeability (Amendments to IAS 21)*