

Earnings - Full Year 2019

Strong performance driven by doubling profitability in East Africa and successful execution of Ambition 2020 strategic plan

Press Release

31 March 2020

MUA Ltd (**MUA**) today released its financial results for the year ended 31 December 2019.

Some of the **key highlights** of this financial year include:

- Gross premiums earned **up 5%** to Rs 4,480m
- Group Profit after Tax **increased by 25%** to Rs 444m
- Earnings per Share **up 24%** to Rs 8.47
- MUA East Africa's Profit after Tax **increased by 105%**

MUA has **successfully completed** the second year of its three year strategic plan Ambition 2020, delivering **strong operational performance** in 2019. Diligent execution of MUA's strategy, **sound profitability in East Africa**, stable General Insurance performance and a focus on **business transformation** lead to a solid set of results. MUA Life operations once again reported **commendable results** while reinforcing its balance sheet, digitalising the client experience and introducing new product offerings.

Driven by the **engagement** and **commitment** of our experienced local teams and the support of centralised group functions, MUA East Africa's **profit after tax more than doubled** during the period. "A key contributor was the **positive turnaround** of MUA Kenya. Encouraging results in all four East African countries in which MUA operates is testament to our **ability to deliver improved results** despite challenging market conditions", said **Bertrand Casteres**, MUA Group CEO.

"MUA has made **considerable progress** across all strategic axes outlined in Ambition 2020, with particular focus in 2019 placed on **digital transformation** of the group and **business development initiatives** in East Africa", said Bertrand Casteres. "We aim to provide a **seamless and simplified experience** for our clients whilst unlocking **significant efficiency gains** for the entire group."



In early 2020, MUA announced further steps towards achieving its **East African expansion target** with the proposed **acquisition of Saham Kenya**, representing a significant milestone. The acquisition is expected to conclude during the course of 2020 and is subject to the relevant regulatory approvals. “This acquisition will allow MUA to **strengthen its presence** in the Kenyan market and will lead to **significant synergies**” commented Bertrand Casteres.

“The world is currently facing **significant challenges** as a result of COVID-19. This pandemic is generating unprecedented circumstances, causing significant concerns in financial markets across the world. MUA's share price has not been immune to the growing uncertainty. Despite a 21% increase in market capitalisation over the course of 2019 to reach Rs 3.8bn as at 31 December, the figure stood at Rs 3.4bn on 19 March 2020 (the last day of trading before the national lockdown in Mauritius). MUA is **closely monitoring the developments** surrounding the spread of COVID-19 and is taking the necessary steps to ensure the **continuity of its business operations** and to ensure the **resilience of its business model**. We **stand ready to assist** our **clients** and the **community** during this pandemic.”

Details of the results for the year ended 31 December 2019 will be available for download at mua.mu on Wednesday 1 April 2020.