

Independent auditor's limited assurance report on Sustainability Statement

To the Shareholders of Podravka d.d.

Scope

We have been engaged by Podravka d.d. to perform a 'limited assurance engagement,' as defined by International Standards on Assurance Engagements, here after referred to as the engagement, to report on consolidated Sustainability Statement (the "Subject Matter") of Podravka d.d. (the "Company", an EU/EEA entity) and its subsidiaries (together "the Group"), contained in the Management Report (the "Sustainability Statement"), as at 31 December 2024 and for the year then ended.

Criteria applied by the Group

In preparing the Sustainability Statement, the Group applied the provisions of the Articles 32 and 36 of the Croatian Accounting Act, including:

- Compliance with the European Sustainability Reporting Standards (ESRS), including that the process carried out by the Group to identify the information reported in the Sustainability Statement (the "Process") is in accordance with the description set out in note ESRS 2 IRO-1 *Double materiality assessment for the Podravka Group* and IRO-2 *Content of the sustainability statement of the Podravka Group*; and
- Compliance of the disclosures set out in the Sustainability Statement with the reporting requirements of Article 8 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852 (the "Taxonomy Regulation").

Inherent limitations in preparing the sustainability statement

Inherent limitations exist in all assurance engagements.

The criteria, nature of the Sustainability Statement, and absence of long-standing established authoritative guidance, standard applications and reporting practices allow for different, but acceptable, measurement methodologies to be adopted which may result in variances between entities. The adopted measurement methodologies may also impact the comparability of sustainability matters reported by different organizations and from year to year within an organization as methodologies evolve.

In reporting forward-looking information in accordance with ESRS, Management is required to prepare the forward-looking information on the basis of disclosed assumptions about events that may occur in the future and possible future actions by the Group. The actual outcome is likely to be different since anticipated events frequently do not occur as expected.

In determining the disclosures in the Sustainability Statement, Management interprets undefined legal and other terms. Undefined legal and other terms may be interpreted differently, including the legal conformity of their interpretation and, accordingly, are subject to uncertainties.



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Management and Audit Committee responsibilities

Management is responsible for designing and implementing a process to identify the information reported in the Sustainability Statement in accordance with the ESRS and for disclosing this process in note ESRS 2 IRO-1 *Double materiality assessment for the Podravka Group* and IRO-2 *Content of the sustainability statement of the Podravka Group*. This responsibility includes:

- understanding the context in which the Group's activities and business relationships take place and developing an understanding of its affected stakeholders;
- the identification of the actual and potential impacts (both negative and positive) related to sustainability matters, as well as risks and opportunities that affect, or could reasonably be expected to affect, the Group's financial position, financial performance, cash flows, access to finance or cost of capital over the short-, medium-, or long-term;
- the assessment of the materiality of the identified impacts, risks and opportunities related to sustainability matters by selecting and applying appropriate thresholds; and
- making assumptions that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Management is further responsible for the preparation of the Sustainability Statement, in accordance with Croatian Accounting Act Articles 32 and 36, including:

- compliance with the ESRS;
- preparing the disclosures in the *Report on the requirements of the Taxonomy Regulation* within the environmental section of the Sustainability Statement, in compliance with Article 8 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852 (the "Taxonomy Regulation");
- designing, implementing and maintaining such internal controls that Management determines are necessary to enable the preparation of the Sustainability Statement that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; and
- the selection and application of appropriate sustainability reporting methods and making assumptions and estimates about individual sustainability disclosures that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Audit committee is responsible for overseeing the Group's sustainability reporting process.

Auditor's responsibilities

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the *International Standard for Assurance Engagements Other Than Audits or Reviews of Historical Financial Information* ('ISAE 3000 (Revised)') as prescribed by the Article 37 of the Croatian Accounting Act, and the terms of reference for this engagement as agreed with Podravka d.d. on 18 December 2024. Those standards require that we plan and perform our engagement to express a conclusion on whether we are aware of any material modifications that need to be made to the Subject Matter in order for it to be in accordance with the Criteria, and to issue a report. The nature, timing, and extent of the procedures selected depend on our judgment, including an assessment of the risk of material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the presentation of the Subject Matter based on the evidence we have obtained.



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Our responsibilities in respect of the Subject Matter, in relation to the Process, include:

- Obtaining an understanding of the process but not for the purpose of providing a conclusion on the effectiveness of the process, including the outcome of the process;
- Considering whether the information identified addresses the applicable disclosure requirements of the ESRS; and
- Designing and performing procedures to evaluate whether the process is consistent with the Group's description of its process, as disclosed in note ESRS 2 IRO-1 *Double materiality assessment for the Podravka Group* and IRO-2 *Content of the sustainability statement of the Podravka Group*.

Our other responsibilities in respect of the Subject Matter include:

- Identifying disclosures where material misstatements are likely to arise, whether due to fraud or error;
- Designing and performing procedures responsive to disclosures in the Sustainability Statement where material misstatements are likely to arise. 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.

We believe that the evidence obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our limited assurance conclusions.

Our independence and quality management

We have maintained our independence and confirm that we have met the requirements of the Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants issued by the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants, which establishes the fundamental principles of integrity, objectivity, professional competence and due care, confidentiality and professional behavior. We have the required competencies and experience to conduct this assurance engagement.

We also apply International Standard on Quality Management 1, *Quality Management for Firms that Perform Audits or Reviews of Financial Statements, or Other Assurance or Related Services engagements*, which requires that we design, implement and operate a system of quality management including policies or procedures regarding compliance with ethical requirements, professional standards and applicable legal and regulatory requirements.

Description of procedures performed

Procedures performed in a limited assurance engagement vary in nature and timing and are less in extent than for a reasonable assurance engagement. Consequently, the level of assurance obtained in a limited assurance engagement is substantially lower than the assurance that would have been obtained had a reasonable assurance engagement been performed. Our procedures were designed to obtain a limited level of assurance on which to base our conclusion and do not provide all the evidence that would be required to provide a reasonable level of assurance.

Although we considered the effectiveness of management's internal controls when determining the nature and extent of our procedures, our assurance engagement was not designed to provide assurance on internal controls. Our procedures did not include testing controls or performing procedures relating to checking aggregation or calculation of data within IT systems.



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A limited assurance engagement consists of making enquiries, primarily of persons responsible for preparing the Sustainability statement and related information, and applying analytical and other appropriate procedures.

A limited assurance engagement involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about the Sustainability Statement.

The nature, timing and extent of procedures selected depend on professional judgement, including the identification of disclosures where material misstatements are likely to arise, whether due to fraud or error, in the Sustainability Statement.

In conducting our limited assurance engagement, with respect to the Process, we:

- Obtained an understanding of the Process by:
 - performing inquiries to understand the sources of the information used by Management (e.g., stakeholder engagement, business plans and strategy documents); and
 - reviewing the Group's internal documentation of its Process; and
- Evaluated whether the evidence obtained from our procedures about the process implemented by the Group was consistent with the description of the process set out in note ESRS 2 IRO-1 *Double materiality assessment for the Podravka Group* and IRO-2 *Content of the sustainability statement of the Podravka Group*.

In conducting our limited assurance engagement, with respect to the Sustainability Statement, we:

- Obtained an understanding of the Group's reporting processes relevant to the preparation of its Sustainability Statement including the consolidation process by obtaining an understanding of the Group's control environment, processes and information systems relevant to the preparation of the Sustainability Statement, but not evaluating the design of particular control activities, obtaining evidence about their implementation or testing their operating effectiveness;
- Evaluated whether material information identified by the process to identify the information reported in the Sustainability Statement is included in the Sustainability Statement;
- Evaluated whether the structure and the presentation of the Sustainability Statement is in accordance with the ESRS;
- Performed inquiries of relevant personnel and analytical procedures on selected information in the Sustainability Statement;
- Evaluated methods, assumptions and data for developing material estimates and forward-looking information and on how these methods were applied;
- Obtained an understanding of the process to identify EU taxonomy eligible and aligned economic activities for turnover, CAPEX and OPEX and the corresponding disclosures in the Sustainability Statement;
- Evaluated the presentation and use of EU taxonomy templates in accordance with relevant requirements;
- Reconciled and ensured consistency between the reported EU taxonomy economic activities and the items reported in the primary financial statements including the disclosures provided in related notes.

We also performed such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.



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Limited Assurance Conclusion

Based on the procedures we have performed and the evidence we have obtained, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the Sustainability Statement is not prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with Articles 32 and 36 of the Croatian Accounting Act, including:

- Compliance with the European Sustainability Reporting Standards (ESRS), including that the process carried out by the Management to identify the information reported in the Sustainability Statement (the "Process") is in accordance with the description set out in note ESRS 2 IRO-1 *Double materiality assessment for the Podravka Group* and IRO-2 *Content of the sustainability statement of the Podravka Group*; and
- compliance of the disclosures in *Report on the requirements of the Taxonomy Regulation* within the environmental section of the Sustainability Statement with Article 8 of Regulation (EU) 2020/852 (the "Taxonomy Regulation").

Other matters

The comparative information included in the Sustainability statement of the Group for the financial year 1 January - 31 December 2023 was not subject to an assurance engagement. Our conclusion is not modified with respect of this matter.

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Berislav Horvat
President of the Management Board and Certified auditor

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