# 6.7 Statutory Auditors' report on the consolidated financial statements

# For the year ended 30 June 2021

This is a translation into English of the statutory auditors' report on the financial statements of Pernod Ricard issued in French and it is provided solely for the convenience of English-speaking users.

This statutory auditors' report includes information required by European regulation and by French law, such as information about the appointment of the statutory auditors or verification of the management report and other documents provided to shareholders.

This report should be read in conjunction with, and construed in accordance with, French law and professional auditing standards applicable in France.

To the Pernod Ricard S.A. Shareholders' Meeting,

# **Opinior**

In compliance with the engagement entrusted to us by your Shareholders' Meetings, we have audited the accompanying consolidated financial statements of Pernod Ricard S.A. for the year ended 30 June 2021.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements give a true and fair view of the assets and liabilities and of the financial position of the Group as at 30 June 2021 and of the results of its operations for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the European Union.

The audit opinion expressed above is consistent with our report to the Audit Committee.

# **Basis for Opinion**

# AUDIT FRAMEWORK

We conducted our audit in accordance with professional standards applicable in France. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the "Statutory Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements" section of our report.

### **INDEPENDENCE**

We conducted our audit engagement in compliance with independence requirements of the French Commercial Code (Code de commerce) and the French Code of Ethics (Code de déontologie) for statutory auditors for the period from 1 July 2020 to the date of our report and specifically we did not provide any prohibited non-audit services referred to in Article 5 (1) of Regulation (EU) No 537/2014.

# Justification of Assessments - Key Audit Matters

Due to the global crisis related to the Covid-19 pandemic, the financial statements of this period have been prepared and audited under specific conditions. Indeed, this crisis and the exceptional measures taken in the context of the state of sanitary emergency have had numerous consequences for companies, particularly on their operations and their financing, and have led to greater uncertainties on their future prospects. Those measures, such as travel restrictions and remote working, have also had an impact on the companies' internal organization and the performance of the audits.

It is in this complex and evolving context that, in accordance with the requirements of Articles L. 823-9 and R. 823-7 of the French Commercial Code ("Code de commerce") relating to the justification of our assessments, we inform you of the key audit matters relating to risks of material misstatement that, in our professional judgment, were of most significance in our audit of the consolidated financial statements of the current period, as well as how we addressed those risks.

These matters were addressed in the context of our audit of the consolidated financial statements as a whole, approved in the conditions mentioned above, and in forming our opinion thereon, and we do not provide a separate opinion on specific items of the consolidated financial statements.

# **Key Audit Matters**

# Brands' valuation

(Notes 1.1.4, 3.1 and 4.1 to the consolidated financial statements) As of 30 June 2021, indefinite-life brands were recorded in the balance sheet for a net carrying amount of €10,525 million, i.e. 33% of total assets.

Cash Generating Units ("CGUs") are defined as the brand and all assets required to generate the cash flows associated with the brand. An impairment loss is recorded when their net carrying amount exceeds their recoverable amount. Their recoverable amount is determined as part of mandatory annual impairment tests given their indefinite life and/or specific tests required in the event of an indication of a loss in value. Recoverable amounts are generally determined based on discounted future cash flow calculations and involve significant management judgments of components such as price and volume growth rates, the timing of future operating expenses and discount and long-term growth rates.

In certain countries, difficult trade conditions impacted the performance and future outlook of certain CGUs, leading the Company to record an impairment loss before tax of €72 million for the year ended 30 June 2021, as disclosed in Notes 3.1 and 4.1 to the consolidated financial statements.

# Responses as part of our audit

Our procedures mainly consisted in:

- assessing the principles and methods of calculating CGUs' accounting and recoverable amounts;
- testing the operation of Group controls covering the calculation of CGUs' recoverable amounts;
- for CGUs with a recoverable amount close to their carrying amount ("sensitive brands' CGUs"), confirming the results of the valuation model used by management by comparing them with the results of our models;
- corroborating the reasonableness of the main data and assumptions underlying the estimates (such as the discount rates and long-term growth rates), primarily for "sensitive brands' CGUs", especially with regard to available market analyses and in relation to economic environments where the Group operates;
- being informed of the commercial outlook of the brands based on interviews with management and comparing the accounting estimates of prior period cash flow projections with corresponding actual values to assess reliability;
- testing the arithmetical accuracy of the valuations used by the Company on a sample basis;
- assessing management's sensitivity analysis on recoverable amounts to changes in main assumptions.

#### **Key Audit Matters**

#### Responses as part of our audit

Furthermore, the sensitivity of CGUs' recoverable amounts to assumptions was analysed by management and presented in Note 4.1. Changes in these assumptions could give rise to further impairment losses.

Considering the weight of brands on the balance sheet, the complexity of the models used and their sensitivity to changes in the data and assumptions underlying the estimates, particularly cash flow forecasts and discount rates used, we considered the recoverable amount of brands to be a key audit matter presenting a risk of material misstatement.

We also assessed the appropriateness of the disclosures in Notes 1.1.4, 3.1 and 4.1 to the consolidated financial statements and verified the arithmetical accuracy of the presented sensitivity analysis.

#### Tax risk

(Notes 1.1.4, 4.7, 4.7.1, 4.7.2, 6.4 and 6.5 to the consolidated financial statements)

The Group operates in numerous different tax jurisdictions. The tax authorities of the countries in which the Group companies operate regularly have queries on issues relating to their everyday activities. Tax audits can therefore give rise to tax reassessments and litigation with these tax authorities. The assessment of the risk related to each tax litigation is regularly reviewed by each concerned subsidiary or region and by the Group's tax department, with the support of its external counsels for the most significant and complex litigations. Part of the amount of provisions for contingences for all legal disputes or risks involving the Group relate to tax risks and litigation.

More particularly, the Indian subsidiary is involved in disputes with customs and tax authorities over, among others, the declared transaction value of imported products into India and the tax deductibility of promotional and advertising expenses. As indicated in the Note 6.5 "Disputes", the reassessment proposals are only the subject of provisions or income tax payables where appropriate, when it is likely that a current liability resulting from a past event will require an outflow of resources which can be reliably estimated. Given the Group's exposure to tax issues, which are in part specific to its business sector, and the high level of management judgment in estimating the risks and amounts recorded, we considered tax risks to be a key audit matter and the understatement of the corresponding provisions to be a possible source of material misstatement in the financial statements.

Based on discussions with management, we have been informed of the procedures implemented by the Group to identify uncertain tax positions and, where necessary, provide for tax risks or income tax payables.

In addition, we assessed the judgments made by management in evaluating the probability of taxes being payable, the amount of potential exposure and the reasonableness of the estimates adopted for provisions for tax risks or income tax payables. We particularly focused on the impact of changes in local tax regulations and ongoing audits conducted by local tax authorities.

To assess whether the tax liabilities were appropriately recognized, and with the assistance of our tax experts, we:

- conducted interviews with the Group's tax department and regional and local management teams in order to assess the current state of the investigations and reassessments made by tax authorities and monitor the development of ongoing tax disputes;
- consulted the recent Group company decisions and correspondence with local tax authorities, and reviewed the correspondence between the relevant companies and their lawyers, where necessary;
- analyzed lawyers' responses to our information requests;
- performed a critical review of the estimates and positions adopted by management;
- assessed whether the latest developments were taken into account in the provisions recorded in the balance sheet.
   We also assessed the disclosures in Notes 1.1.4, 4.7, 4.7.1, 4.7.2, 6.4 and 6.5 to the consolidated financial statements.

# **Specific Verifications**

We have also performed, in accordance with professional standards applicable in France, the specific verifications required by laws and regulations of the Group's information given in the management report of the Board of Directors.

We have no matters to report as to its fair presentation and its consistency with the consolidated financial statements.

We attest that the consolidated non-financial statement required by Article L.225-102-1 of the French Commercial Code ("Code de commerce") is included in the Group's information given in the management report, it being specified that, in accordance with the provisions of Article L.823-10 of the code, we have verified neither the fair presentation nor the consistency with the consolidated financial statements of the information contained therein and this information should be reported by an independent third party.

# Report on other legal and regulatory requirements FORMAT OF PRESENTATION OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS INCLUDED IN THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

We have also verified, in accordance with the professional standard applicable in France relating to the procedures performed by the statutory auditor relating to the annual and consolidated financial statements presented in the European single electronic format, that the presentation of the consolidated financial statements intended to be included in the annual financial report mentioned in Article L.451-1-2, I of the French Monetary and Financial Code (code monétaire et financier), prepared under the responsibility of the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, complies with the single electronic format defined in the European Delegated Regulation N° 2019/815 of 17 December 2018. As it relates to consolidated financial statements, our work includes verifying that the tagging of these consolidated financial statements complies with the format defined in the above delegated regulation.

Based on the work we have performed, we conclude that the presentation of the consolidated financial statements included in the annual financial report complies, in all material respects, with the European single electronic format.

# **APPOINTMENT OF THE STATUTORY AUDITORS**

We were appointed as statutory auditors of Pernod Ricard by the Shareholders' Meeting held on 13 May 2003 for Deloitte & Associés and on 17 November 2016 for KPMG S.A.

As at 30 June 2021, Deloitte & Associés and KPMG S.A. were in the  $18^{\rm th}$  year and  $5^{\rm th}$  year of total uninterrupted engagement, respectively.

# 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 International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the European Union, 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 Company'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 it is expected to liquidate the Company or to cease its operations.

The Audit Committee is responsible for monitoring the financial reporting process and the effectiveness of internal control and risks management systems and where applicable, its internal audit, regarding the accounting and financial reporting procedures.

The consolidated financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors.

# Statutory Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements

# **OBJECTIVE AND AUDIT APPROACH**

Our role is to issue a report on the consolidated financial statements. Our objective is to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with professional standards 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 specified in Article L. 823-10-1 of the French Commercial Code ("Code de commerce"), our statutory audit does not include assurance on the viability of the Company or the quality of management of the affairs of the company.

As part of an audit conducted in accordance with professional standards applicable in France, the statutory auditor exercises professional judgment throughout the audit and furthermore:

- Identifies and assesses the risks of material misstatement of
  the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or
  error, designs and performs audit procedures responsive to
  those risks, and obtains audit evidence considered to be
  sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for his 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.
- Obtains 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 internal control.
- Evaluates the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management in the consolidated financial statements.
- Assesses 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 Company's ability to continue as a going concern. This assessment is based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of his audit report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to continue as a going concern. If the statutory auditor concludes that a material uncertainty exists, there is a requirement to draw attention in the audit report to the related disclosures in the consolidated financial statements or, if such disclosures are not provided or inadequate, to modify the opinion expressed therein.
- Evaluates the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements and assesses whether these statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Obtains 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. The statutory auditor is responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the audit of the consolidated financial statements and for the opinion expressed on these consolidated financial statements.

# \_\_\_ 6. CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# STATUTORY AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# REPORT TO THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

We submit a report to the Audit Committee which includes in particular a description of the scope of the audit and the audit program implemented, as well as the results of our audit. We also report, if any, significant deficiencies in internal control regarding the accounting and financial reporting procedures that we have identified.

Our report to the Audit Committee includes the risks of material misstatement that, in our professional judgment, were of most significance in the audit of the consolidated financial statements of the current period and which are therefore the key audit matters, that we are required to describe in this report.

We also provide the Audit Committee with the declaration provided for in Article 6 of Regulation (EU) N° 537/2014, confirming our independence within the meaning of the rules applicable in France such as they are set in particular by Articles L.822-10 to L.822-14 of the French Commercial Code ("Code de commerce") and in the French Code of Ethics ("Code de déontologie") for statutory auditors. Where appropriate, we discuss with the Audit Committee the risks that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and the related safeguards.

Paris-La Défense, 20 September 2021 The Statutory Auditors French original signed by

KPMG Audit A division of KPMG S.A. Deloitte & Associés

Éric Ropert

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