

Argo Investments Limited

ABN 35 007 519 520

Appendix 4E

Preliminary Final Report for the year ended 30 June 2020 (previous corresponding period being the year ended 30 June 2019)

ARGO INVESTMENTS LIMITED ABN 35 007 519 520

RESULTS FOR ANNOUNCEMENT TO THE MARKET YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020

(Comparative figures being the year ended 30 June 2019)

				Consolidated \$A'000
Income from operating activities	down	28.6%	to	225,153
Profit for the year	down	31.8%	to	199,456

Dividends

Interim fully franked dividend paid 8 March 2020	16.0 cents
Final fully franked dividend payable 18 September 2020	14.0 cents
Total	30.0 cents

The final dividend does not include a LIC capital gain component.

The Company's Dividend Reinvestment Plan will operate for the final dividend. The Directors have resolved that the shares will be allotted at the market price of Argo shares, which will be the volume weighted average ex-dividend market price of the shares traded on the record date and the three business days following the record date. No discount will apply.

The record date for determining entitlements to the final dividend	31 August 2020
The election date for determining participation in the Dividend Reinvestment Plan	1 September 2020
Previous corresponding period	

Interim fully franked dividend paid 8 March 2019	16.0 cents
Final fully franked dividend paid 13 September 2019	17.0 cents
Total	33.0 cents

Net Asset Backing

Net Tangible Asset Backing per Argo share was \$7.27 as at 30 June 2020 compared with \$8.42 as at 30 June 2019.

As a long-term equity investor, Argo does not intend to dispose of its long-term investment portfolio. However, if estimated tax on unrealised portfolio gains was to be deducted, the net tangible asset backing per share would be \$6.56 as at 30 June 2020, compared with \$7.37 as at 30 June 2019.

Consolidated Statement of Profit or Loss

for the year ended 30 June 2020

	2020	2019
Note	\$'000	\$'000
Dividends and distributions 2	210,039	305,080
Interest	3,731	5,102
Other income	3,115	2,301
Net gains on trading investments	8,268	2,692
Income from operating activities	225,153	315,175
Administration expenses 3	(9,155)	(8,534)
Profit before income tax expense	215,998	306,641
Income tax expense thereon 4	(16,542)	(13,968)
Profit for the year	199,456	292,673
	cents	cents
Basic and diluted earnings per share5	27.8	41.1

Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income

for the year ended 30 June 2020

	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Profit for the year	199,456	292,673
Other comprehensive income:		
Items that will not be reclassified to profit or loss		
Revaluation of long-term investments	(792,097)	139,172
Provision for deferred tax benefit/(expense) on revaluation of		
long-term investments	235,268	(53,297)
Other comprehensive income for the year	(556,829)	85,875
Total comprehensive income for the year	(357,373)	378,548

(To be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes)

Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

as at 30 June 2020

		2020	2019
Current Assets	Note	\$'000	\$'000
Cash and cash equivalents	6	168,728	219,006
Receivables	7	17,063	86,323
Investments	8	2,500	10,595
Other financial cash assets	9	10,000	10,595
Current tax assets	5	14,534	-
Total Current Assets		212,825	315,924
Non-Current Assets		212,023	515,524
Receivables	7		56
Investments	8	- 5,068,924	5,747,794
Property, plant and equipment	10	1,789	537
Total Non-Current Assets	10	5,070,713	5,748,387
Total Assets		5,283,538	6,064,311
Current Liabilities		5,205,550	0,004,311
Payables	11	1,149	1,433
Derivative financial instruments	12	10,645	8,165
Current tax liabilities		10,045	16,107
Provisions	13	773	611
Total Current Liabilities	15	12,567	26,316
Non-Current Liabilities		12,307	20,310
Payables	11	1,055	_
Deferred tax liabilities	14	547,538	766,481
Provisions	13	139	195
Total Non-Current Liabilities	13	548,732	766,676
Total Liabilities		561,299	792,992
Net Assets		4,722,239	5,271,319
Shareholders' Equity		.,,	- / /
Contributed equity	15	2,883,783	2,838,980
Reserves	16	1,342,956	1,928,508
Retained profits	17	495,500	503,831
Total Shareholders' Equity		4,722,239	5,271,319

(To be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes)

Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity

for the year ended 30 June 2020

	Contributed Equity \$'000 (Note 15)	Reserves \$'000 (Note 16)	Retained Profits \$'000 (Note 17)	Total \$'000
Balance as at 1 July 2019	2,838,980	1,928,508	503,831	5,271,319
Profit for the year	-	-	199,456	199,456
Other comprehensive income	-	(556,829)	-	(556,829)
Total comprehensive income for the year	-	(556,829)	199,456	(357,373)
Transactions with shareholders:				
Dividend Reinvestment Plan	44,902	-	-	44,902
Cost of share issues net of tax	(99)	-	-	(99)
Executive performance rights reserve	-	(126)	-	(126)
Dividends paid	-	(28,597)	(207,787)	(236,384)
Total transactions with shareholders	44,803	(28,723)	(207,787)	(191,707)
Balance as at 30 June 2020	2,883,783	1,342,956	495,500	4,722,239
for the year ended 30 June 2019				
Balance as at 1 July 2018	2,795,816	1,871,129	410,203	5,077,148
Profit for the year	-	-	292,673	292,673
Other comprehensive income	-	85,875	-	85,875
Total comprehensive income for the year	-	85,875	292,673	378,548
Transactions with shareholders:				
Dividend Reinvestment Plan	43,254	-	-	43,254
Cost of share issues net of tax	(90)	-	-	(90)
Executive performance rights reserve	-	(123)	-	(123)
Dividends paid	-	(28,373)	(199,045)	(227,418)
Total transactions with shareholders	43,164	(28,496)	(199,045)	(184,377)

2,838,980

(To be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes)

Balance as at 30 June 2019

1,928,508

5,271,319

503,831

Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows

for the year ended 30 June 2020

Noto	2020	2019 \$'000
Cash flows from operating activities	\$'000	\$ 000
Dividends and distributions received	226,808	270,500
Interest received	, i	-
	3,552	5,400
Other receipts	3,151	2,251
Proceeds from trading investments	27,952	14,365
Payments for trading investments	(9,110)	(10,968)
Other payments	(8,887)	(8,183)
Income tax paid	(30,815)	(36,804)
Net operating cash inflows	212,651	236,561
Cash flows from investing activities		
Proceeds from sale of long-term investments	160,787	254,780
Payments for long-term investments	(221,739)	(316,139)
Proceeds from other financial cash assets	75,000	120,000
Payments for other financial cash assets	(85,000)	-
Executive share scheme repayments	22	22
Payments for fixed assets	(67)	(444)
Net investing cash (outflows)/inflows	(70,997)	58,219
Cash flows from financing activities		
Payments for lease liabilities	(309)	-
Cost of share issues	(141)	(129)
Dividends paid – net of Dividend Reinvestment Plan	(191,482)	(184,164)
Net financing cash outflows	(191,932)	(184,293)
Net (decrease)/increase in cash held	(50,278)	110,487
Cash at the beginning of the year	219,006	108,519
Cash at the end of the year6	168,728	219,006

(To be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes)

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2020

1. BASIS OF PREPARATION

The preliminary consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the measurement and recognition requirements of Australian Accounting Standards, Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board and the *Corporations Act 2001*. Compliance with Australian Accounting Standards ensures that the preliminary consolidated financial statements and notes comply with the measurement and recognition requirements of International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

The accounting policies adopted are consistent with those of the previous financial year.

The preliminary consolidated financial statements incorporate the assets and liabilities of the Company's wholly owned subsidiary Argo Service Company Pty Ltd as at 30 June 2020, and its results for the year then ended. Intercompany transactions and balances between Argo Investments Limited and Argo Service Company Pty Ltd are eliminated on consolidation.

2. DIVIDENDS AND DISTRIBUTIONS

	2020	2019
	\$'000	\$'000
Received/receivable from:		
Long-term investments held at the end of the year	207,847	298,718
Long-term investments sold during the year	1,833	6,140
Trading investments sold during the year	359	222
	210,039	305,080

3. ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES

	2020	2019
	\$'000	\$'000
Employment benefits	5,890	5,297
Depreciation	414	168
Other	2,851	3,069
	9,155	8,534

calculation of earnings per share

Basic and diluted earnings per share

Profit for the year

4. INCOME TAX EXPENSE

2020 \$'000(a) Reconciliation of income tax expense to prima facie tax payable: Profit before income tax expense215,998	2019 \$'000 306,641
(a) Reconciliation of income tax expense to prima facie tax payable: Profit before income tax expense215,998	306,641
tax payable:215,998Profit before income tax expense215,998	
	01 002
Prima facie tax expense calculated at 30% (2019: 30%)64,799	91,992
Tax effect of amounts which are not deductible (taxable) in calculating taxable income:	
Tax offset for franked dividends(50,449)	(68,579)
Non-taxable distributions -	(10,835)
Other 2,373	1,496
Over provision in previous year (181)	(106
Income tax expense 16,542	13,968
(b) Income tax expense composition:	
Charge for tax payable relating to current year 18,316	13,980
(Decrease)/increase in deferred tax liabilities (1,593)	94
Over provision in previous year (181)	(106)
16,542	13,968
(c) Amounts recognised directly in other comprehensive income:	
(Decrease)/increase in deferred tax liabilities (235,268)	53,297
EARNINGS PER SHARE	
2020	2019
number 2000	number 000'
Weighted average number of ordinary shares on issue used in the	

717,978

199,456

\$'000

cents

27.8

712,377

292,673

\$'000

cents

41.1

5.

6. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash on deposit with banks (floating interest rates between 0.25% and 0.50% at 30 June 2020; 2019: between 1.25% and 1.50%) and fixed term deposits with banks (fixed interest rates to maturity between 0.74% and 0.89% at 30 June 2020; 2019: 1.78% and 2.40%), maturing within three months from date of deposit.

	2020	2019
	\$'000	\$'000
Bank deposits	168,728	219,006

7. RECEIVABLES

	2020	2019
	\$'000	\$'000
Current		
Dividends and distributions receivable	14,414	33,849
Interest receivable	42	415
Outstanding settlements	2,148	51,207
Other	459	852
	17,063	86,323

Receivables are non-interest bearing and unsecured. Outstanding settlements include amounts due from brokers for settlement of security sales and are settled within two business days of the transaction date. None of the receivables are past due or impaired.

	2020	2019
	\$'000	\$'000
Non-Current		
Executive share plan loans	-	56

The Executive share plan loans are repaid in accordance with the terms of the superseded Argo Investments Executive Share Plan.

8. INVESTMENTS

	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Current		· · · · ·
Listed securities at fair value ⁽¹⁾	2,500	10,595
Non-Current		
Listed securities at fair value ⁽¹⁾	5,066,712	5,743,050
Unlisted securities at fair value ⁽²⁾	2,212	4,744
	5,068,924	5,747,794

(1) The fair value of listed securities is established from the quoted prices (unadjusted) in the active market of the ASX for identical assets in accordance with Level 1 of the fair value measurement hierarchy.

(2) The fair value of unlisted securities is not based on observable market data in accordance with Level 3 of the fair value measurement hierarchy. The Directors have made valuation judgements to determine the fair value of these securities based on inputs which include the cost and the net tangible asset values provided by the responsible entities of the securities.

Reconciliation of changes in unlisted securities valued in accordance with Level 3 of the fair value measurement hierarchy:

	2020	2019
	\$'000	\$'000
Carrying amount at beginning of year	4,744	1,394
Additions	1,201	3,350
Disposal	(3,514)	-
Fair value loss recognised in other comprehensive income	(219)	-
Carrying amount at end of year	2,212	4,744

There were 425 investment transactions during the financial year. The total brokerage paid on these transactions was \$1.0 million.

9. OTHER FINANCIAL CASH ASSETS

	2020	2019
	\$'000	\$'000
Bank term deposits	10,000	-

Other financial cash assets are fixed term deposits with banks (fixed interest rate to maturity of 0.85% at 30 June 2020; 2019: nil) maturing from three to six months from date of deposit.

10. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

	2020	2019
	\$'000	\$'000
Plant and equipment at cost	1,535	1,558
Accumulated depreciation	(1,035)	(1,021)
	500	537
Property right of use assets	1,599	-
Accumulated depreciation	(310)	-
	1,289	-
	1,789	537
Movements		
Carrying amount at beginning of year	537	261
Additions:		
- plant and equipment at cost	67	444
- property right of use assets	1,599	-
Depreciation	(414)	(168)
Carrying amount at end of year	1,789	537

From 1 July 2019, the Company's operating leases are recognised as a property right of use assets and a corresponding liability.

Assets and liabilities arising from a lease are initially measured on a present value basis using a incremental borrowing rate of 3%. The right of use assets are depreciated over the life of the lease on a straight line basis.

Lease liabilities are disclosed in Note 11.

11. PAYABLES

	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Current		
Lease liabilities	283	-
Other	866	1,433
	1,149	1,433
Non- Current		
Lease liabilities	1,055	-

Payables are non-interest bearing and unsecured. Lease liabilities have been determined based on the present value of the lease payments and are accounted for over the period of the lease.

12. DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

	2020	2019
	\$'000	\$'000
Exchange traded options at fair value	10,645	8,165

The fair value of exchange traded options is established from the quoted prices (unadjusted) in the active market of the ASX for identical assets in accordance with Level 1 of the fair value measurement hierarchy.

13. PROVISIONS

	2020	2019
	\$'000	\$'000
Current		
Provision for employee entitlements	773	611
Non-Current		
Provision for employee entitlements	139	195

14. DEFERRED TAX LIABILITIES

	2020	2019
	\$'000	\$'000
The balance comprises temporary differences attributed to:		
Deferred tax liability on unrealised gains on long-term investments	550,871	768,009
Income receivable which is not assessable for tax until receipt	1,175	1,823
Deferred tax asset on unrealised gains on trading investments	(146)	(19)
	551,900	769,813
Offset by deferred tax assets:		
Capital losses not utilised	(269)	-
Provisions and payables	(3,944)	(3,127)
Deferred tax on cost of share issues	(149)	(205)
	(4,362)	(3,332)
Net deferred tax liabilities	547,538	766,481
Movements		
Balance at beginning of year	766,481	734,653
(Credited)/debited to profit or loss	(1,593)	94
Charged to other comprehensive income	(235,268)	53,297
Changes to the tax base of investments	17,918	(21,563)
Balance at end of year	547,538	766,481

The amount of net deferred tax liabilities expected to be settled in the next 12 months is \$2.2 million (2019: \$0.8 million).

15. CONTRIBUTED EQUITY

Ordinary shares rank pari passu, have no par value and entitle the holder to participate in dividends and the proceeds on winding up of the Company in proportion to the number of the shares held. The Company does not have a limited amount of authorised capital.

	2020	2019	2020	2019
	No. of shares	No. of shares	\$'000	\$'000
Issued and fully paid ordinary shares:				
Opening balance	714,930,941	709,317,039	2,838,980	2,795,816
Dividend reinvestment plan ^(a)	5,340,766	5,613,902	44,902	43,254
Share purchase plan	-	-	-	-
Cost of share issues net of tax	-	-	(99)	(90)
Closing balance	720,271,707	714,930,941	2,883,783	2,838,980

(a) On 13 September 2019, 2,861,032 shares were allotted at \$8.05 per share pursuant to the Dividend Reinvestment Plan in operation for the final dividend paid for the year ended 30 June 2019.

On 6 March 2020, 2,479,734 shares were allotted at \$8.82 per share pursuant to the Dividend Reinvestment Plan in operation for the interim dividend paid for the year ended 30 June 2020.

The Company has an on-market share buy-back arrangement in place but it was not activated during the year.

16. RESERVES

	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Executive Performance Rights Reserve	522	648
Investment Revaluation Reserve	1,103,837	1,653,417
Capital Profits Reserve	238,597	274,443
	1,342,956	1,928,508
Movements in reserves during the year		
Executive Performance Rights Reserve		
Balance at beginning of year	648	771
Accrued entitlement for unvested rights	1,039	797
Executive performance shares purchased	(1,165)	(920)
Balance at end of year	522	648
Investment Revaluation Reserve		
Balance at beginning of year	1,653,417	1,619,164
Revaluation of long-term investments	(792,097)	139,172
Provision for deferred tax expense on revaluation of long-term investments	235,268	(53,297)
Realised losses/(gains) on sale of long-term investments transferred to capital profits reserve	10,341	(72,563)
Income tax (benefit)/expense thereon	(3,092)	20,941
Balance at end of year	1,103,837	1,653,417
Capital Profits Reserve		
Balance at beginning of year	274,443	251,194
Dividend paid	(28,597)	(28,373)
Transfer from investment revaluation reserve	(7,249)	51,622
Balance at end of year	238,597	274,443
Total Reserves	1,342,956	1,928,508

Long-term investments were sold in the normal course of the Company's operations as a listed investment company or as a result of takeovers. The fair value of the investments sold during this period was \$127.4 million (2019: \$255.5 million). The cumulative loss after tax on these disposals was \$7.2 million (2019: profit \$51.6 million), which has been transferred from the investment revaluation reserve to the capital profits reserve.

Nature and Purpose of Reserves

Executive Performance Rights Reserve

This reserve contains the fair value of the short-term incentive (STI) and long-term incentive (LTI) performance rights pursuant to the Argo Investments Limited Executive Performance Rights Plan. When rights are exercised, shares are purchased on market and issued to the executive.

STI performance rights

The values of the STI performance rights are calculated and allocated to each reporting period from the commencement of the performance periods to the vesting dates. The value of the STI performance rights for the current reporting period, which are yet to be issued to participants, has been estimated.

LTI performance rights

The values of the LTI performance rights are calculated at grant dates and allocated to each reporting period from the grant dates to the vesting dates.

Investment Revaluation Reserve

Increments or decrements on the revaluation of long-term investments after provision for deferred capital gains tax are recorded in this reserve.

Capital Profits Reserve

Gains or losses arising from the sale of long-term investments, net of any tax expense or benefit, are recorded in this reserve.

17. RETAINED PROFITS

	2020	2019
	\$'000	\$'000
Balance at beginning of year	503,831	410,203
Dividends paid	(207,787)	(199,045)
Profit for the year	199,456	292,673
Balance at end of year	495,500	503,831

18. CAPITAL MANAGEMENT

The Company's objective in managing its capital is to maximise long-term returns to shareholders through a balance of capital and dividend growth from a diversified Australian investment portfolio. This is achieved by the process of providing shareholders with a steady stream of fully franked dividends and enhancement of capital invested, with the goal of paying an increasing level of dividends and providing attractive total returns over the long term.

The Company recognises that its capital will fluctuate in accordance with market conditions and in order to maintain or adjust the capital structure, it may be necessary to vary the amount of dividends paid, issue new shares from time to time or buy back its own shares.

The Company's capital consists of its shareholders' equity and the changes to this capital are shown in the Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity.

19. DIVIDENDS

	2020	2019
	\$'000	\$'000
(a) Dividends paid during the year		
Final dividend for the year ended 30 June 2019 of 17.0 cents fully franked at 30% tax rate paid 13 September 2019 (2018: 16.0 cents fully franked at 30% tax rate)	121,538	113,491
Interim dividend for the year ended 30 June 2020 of 16.0 cents fully franked at 30% tax rate paid 8 March 2020 (2019: 16.0 cents fully franked at 30% tax rate)	114,846	113,927
Total dividends paid	236,384	227,418

The final dividend paid contained a listed investment company (LIC) capital gain component of 4.0 cents per share (2019: 4.0 cents). The interim dividend paid did not contain a LIC capital gain component (2019: nil).

	2020	2019
	\$'000	\$'000
(b) Dividend declared after balance date		
Since the end of the financial year, the Directors have declared the following dividend which has not been recognised as a liability at the end of the financial year:		
Final dividend for the year ended 30 June 2020 of 14.0 cents fully franked at 30% tax rate payable 18 September 2020		
(2019: 17.0 cents fully franked at 30% tax rate)	100,838	121,538

The final dividend declared will not contain a LIC capital gain component (2019: 4.0 cents).

20. FRANKING ACCOUNT

	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Balance of the franking account after allowing for tax payable and the receipt of franked dividends recognised as receivables	114,719	149,254
Impact on the franking account of the dividend declared but not recognised as a liability at the end of the financial year	(43,216)	(52,088)
	71,503	97,166
The franking account balance would allow the Company to fully frank additional dividend payments up to an amount of	166,840	226,721

The Company's ability to continue to pay franked dividends is dependent upon the receipt of franked dividends from the investment portfolio and the Company paying tax.

21. LISTED INVESTMENT COMPANY (LIC) CAPITAL GAIN ACCOUNT

	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Balance of the LIC capital gain account	5,640	32,734
Impact on the LIC capital gain account of the dividend declared but not recognised as a liability at the end of the financial year	-	(28,597)
	5,640	4,137
This equates to an attributable amount of	8,057	5,910

LIC capital gains available for distribution are dependent upon the disposal of investment portfolio holdings which qualify for LIC capital gains and the receipt of LIC capital gain distributions from LIC securities held in the investment portfolio. No LIC capital gain will be paid out as part of the final dividend on 18 September, 2020.

22. FINANCIAL REPORTING BY SEGMENTS

The Company operates in the investment industry predominately within Australia.

The Company is managed as a whole and is considered to have a single operating segment. There is no further division of the Company or internal segment reporting used by the Directors when making strategic, investment or resource allocation decisions.

The Company is domiciled in Australia and derives its income from the investment portfolio through the receipt of dividends, distributions, interest and other income. The portfolio is highly diversified, with no single investment accounting for more than 10% of income.

There has been no change to the operating segments during the year.

23. EVENTS OCCURING AFTER THE REPORTING PERIOD

No matters or circumstances have occurred subsequent to the financial year end that have significantly affected, or may affect, the operations of the Company, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the Company in subsequent financial years.

24. CONTINGENCIES

At balance date the Company is not aware of any material contingent liabilities or contingent assets.

Audit of Accounts

The accounts for the year ended 30 June 2020 are in the process of being audited.