



Biocartis Group NV

Statutory auditor's report to the shareholders' meeting for the year ended
31 December 2019 - Annual accounts

The original text of this report is in Dutch

Statutory auditor's report to the shareholders' meeting of Biocartis Group NV for the year ended 31 December 2019 - Annual accounts

In the context of the statutory audit of the annual accounts of Biocartis Group NV (the "company"), we hereby submit our statutory audit report. This report includes our report on the annual accounts and the other legal and regulatory requirements. These parts should be considered as integral to the report.

We were appointed in our capacity as statutory auditor by the shareholders' meeting of 11 May 2018, in accordance with the proposal of the board of directors ("bestuursorgaan" / "organe d'administration") issued upon recommendation of the audit committee. Our mandate will expire on the date of the shareholders' meeting deliberating on the annual accounts for the year ending 31 December 2020. We have performed the statutory audit of the annual accounts of Biocartis Group NV for 5 consecutive periods.

Report on the annual accounts

Unqualified opinion

We have audited the annual accounts of the company, which comprises the balance sheet as at 31 December 2019 and the income statement for the year then ended, as well as the explanatory notes. The annual accounts show total assets of 584 336 (000) EUR and the income statement shows a loss for the year ended of 91 014 (000) EUR.

In our opinion, the annual accounts give a true and fair view of the company's net equity and financial position as of 31 December 2019 and of its results for the year then ended, in accordance with the financial reporting framework applicable in Belgium.

Basis for the unqualified opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISA), as applicable in Belgium. In addition, we have applied the International Standards on Auditing approved by the IAASB applicable to the current financial year, but not yet approved at national level. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the "Responsibilities of the statutory auditor for the audit of the annual accounts" section of our report. We have complied with all ethical requirements relevant to the statutory audit of the annual accounts in Belgium, including those regarding independence.

We have obtained from the board of directors and the company's officials the explanations and information necessary for performing our audit.

We believe that the audit evidence 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 annual accounts of the current period. These matters were addressed in the context of our audit of the annual accounts as a whole and in forming our opinion thereon, and we do not provide a separate opinion on these matters.

Key audit matters	How our audit addressed the key audit matters
<p>Realisation of investments in and amounts receivable from group companies</p> <p>Financial fixed assets in associated companies amount to 445 116 KEUR and receivables from group companies amount to 9 005 KEUR at 31 December 2019, representing 78% of the balance sheet total.</p> <p>According to the accounting policies, impairments or downward value adjustments are recorded at the event of a sustainable reduction in value.</p> <p>There is a risk that certain investments in and amounts receivable from group companies may be overvalued as a result of non-recognition of impairment losses based on the financial performance of the underlying subsidiaries.</p> <p>The analysis of the recoverability of the financial fixed assets is important to our audit as the related amounts are material, the assessment process is judgmental and is based on assumptions that are affected by expected future profitability.</p>	<p>As part of our audit, we have obtained an understanding of the process and the existence of preventive and detective controls regarding the analysis of possible impairments of financial fixed assets and recoverability of receivables.</p> <p>As substantive procedures, we have focused our audit on identifying impairment indicators that could point to the recoverable amount to be below the carrying amounts of such assets and we have challenged the recorded values.</p> <p>In performing the above mentioned procedures we have considered the documentation of management judgements, the latest budgets, minutes of the board of directors, analyst reports as well as the group market capitalization.</p>

Responsibilities of the board of directors for the preparation of the annual accounts

The board of directors is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the annual accounts in accordance with the financial reporting framework applicable in Belgium and for such internal control as the board of directors determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the annual accounts that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the annual accounts, the board of directors is responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters to be considered for going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the board of directors either intends to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Responsibilities of the statutory auditor for the audit of the annual accounts

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the annual accounts as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue a statutory auditor's 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 ISA 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 annual accounts.

During the performance of our audit, we comply with the legal, regulatory and normative framework as applicable to the audit of annual accounts in Belgium. The scope of the audit does not comprise any assurance regarding the future viability of the company nor regarding the efficiency or effectiveness demonstrated by the board of directors in the way that the company's business has been conducted or will be conducted¹.

¹It is a copy of the text available in article 3:75 of the Code of companies and associations. We are aware of the inconsistency between the French version (referring to "l'étendue du contrôle légal") and the Dutch version (referring to "de wettelijke controle"). It has been decided however to stick to the text as provided by law. For the English version, we have opted to align the translation based on the French version.

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

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the annual accounts, 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 an 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 company's internal control;
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the board of directors;
- conclude on the appropriateness of the use of the going concern basis of accounting by the board of directors 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. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our statutory auditor's report to the related disclosures in the annual accounts 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 statutory auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the company to cease to continue as a going concern;
- evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the annual accounts, and whether the annual accounts represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the audit committee regarding, amongst 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 the audit committee with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and we communicate with them about all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

From the matters communicated to the audit committee, we determine those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the annual accounts of the current period and are therefore the key audit matters. We describe these matters in our report unless law or regulation precludes any public disclosure about the matter.

Other legal and regulatory requirements

Responsibilities of the board of directors

The board of directors is responsible for the preparation and the content of the directors' report on the annual accounts, for maintaining the company's accounting records in compliance with the legal and regulatory requirements applicable in Belgium, as well as for the company's compliance with the Companies Code, the Code of companies and associations and the company's articles of association.

Responsibilities of the statutory auditor

As part of our mandate and in accordance with the Belgian standard complementary to the International Standards on Auditing (ISA) as applicable in Belgium, our responsibility is to verify, in all material respects, the director's report on the annual accounts and other matters disclosed in the annual report, and compliance with certain obligations referred to in the Companies Code, the Code of companies and associations and the articles of association, as well as to report on these matters.

Aspects regarding the directors' report

In our opinion, after performing the specific procedures on the directors' report on the annual accounts, the directors' report on the annual accounts is consistent with the annual accounts for that same year and has been established in accordance with the requirements of article 3:5 and 3:6 of the Code of companies and associations.

In the context of our statutory audit of the annual accounts we are also responsible to consider, in particular based on information that we became aware of during the audit, if the directors' report on the annual accounts is free of material misstatement, either by information that is incorrectly stated or otherwise misleading. In the context of the procedures performed, we are not aware of such material misstatement.

Statement on the social balance sheet

The social balance sheet, to be filed at the National Bank of Belgium in accordance with article 3:12, § 1, 8° of the Code of companies and associations, includes, both in form and in substance, all of the information required by this Code and is free from any material inconsistencies with the information available to us in the context of our mission.

Statements regarding independence

- Our audit firm and our network have not performed any prohibited services and our audit firm has remained independent from the company during the performance of our mandate.
- The fees for the additional non-audit services compatible with the statutory audit of the annual accounts, as defined in article 3:65 of the Code of companies and associations, have been properly disclosed and disaggregated in the notes to the annual accounts.

Other statements

- Without prejudice to certain formal aspects of minor importance, the accounting records are maintained in accordance with the legal and regulatory requirements applicable in Belgium.
- The appropriation of results proposed to the general meeting is in accordance with the relevant legal and regulatory requirements.
- We do not have to report any transactions undertaken or decisions taken which may be in violation of the company's articles of association, the Companies Code or, as from 1 January 2020, the Code of companies and associations.
- This report is consistent with our additional report to the audit committee referred to in article 11 of Regulation (EU) N° 537/2014.
- The decision of the board of directors on 21 February 2019 relating to the determination of the amount of the variable remuneration of the CEO and director of the company, and the vesting of his performance-based warrants under the warrant plan 2017 regarding performance year 2018, the determination of his KPIs for the variable remuneration package regarding performance years 2019 to 2021, and the KPIs for the vesting of his performance-based warrants regarding performance year 2019 is described in the annual report of the company. The financial consequences for the company Biocartis Group NV have been described in summary and should be read in conjunction with the annual report and the notes to the financial statement.

Zaventem, 31 March 2020

The statutory auditor



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