

# INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT



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## To the Shareholders of Sri Lanka Telecom PLC Report on the audit of the Financial Statements

### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Sri Lanka Telecom PLC (the Company) and the consolidated Financial Statements of the Company and its subsidiaries (the Group), which comprise the Statement of Financial Position as at 31 December 2018, and the Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Changes in Equity and Statement of Cash Flows for the year then ended, and notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying Financial Statements of the Company and the Group give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Company and the Group as at 31 December 2018, and of their financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Sri Lanka Accounting Standards.

### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Sri Lanka Auditing Standards (SLAuSs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Group in accordance with the Code

of Ethics issued by CA Sri Lanka (Code of Ethics) and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code of Ethics. We believe that the audit evidence we have 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 judgement, were of most significance in our audit of the Financial Statements of the current period. These matters were addressed in the context of our audit of the Financial Statements as a whole, and in forming our opinion thereon, and we do not provide a separate opinion on these matters. For each matter below, our description of how our audit addressed the matter is provided in that context.

We have fulfilled the responsibilities described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the Financial Statements section of our report, including in relation to these matters. Accordingly, our audit included the performance of procedures designed to respond to our assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the Financial Statements. The results of our audit procedures, including the procedures performed to address the matters below, provide the basis for our audit opinion on the accompanying Financial Statements.

Partners: W R H Fernando FCA FCMA M P D Cooray FCA FCMA R N de Saram ACA FCMA Ms. N A De Silva FCA Ms. Y A De Silva FCA W K B S P Fernando FCA FCMA  
Ms. K R M Fernando FCA ACMA Ms. L K H L Fonseka FCA A P A Gunasekera FCA FCMA A Herath FCA D K Hulangamuwa FCA FCMA LLB (Lond) H M A Jayasinghe FCA FCMA  
Ms. A A Ludowyke FCA FCMA Ms. G G S Manatunga FCA Ms. P V K N Sajewani FCA N M Sulaiman ACA ACMA B E Wijesuriya FCA FCMA

Principal T P M Ruberu FCMA FCCA

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Key audit matter	How our audit addressed the key audit matter
<p><b>Revenue recognition</b></p> <p>The Group recognised revenue of LKR 81,445 Mn. from the provision of telecommunications services (mobile and fixed-line) year ended 31 December 2018.</p> <p>Significant effort was spent auditing the revenue recognised by the Group because systems related to revenue recognition are complex, involves frequent changes in rate structures and comprises of a large volume of transactions which arise from a combination of different hardware or services sold which is recognised in accordance with Sri Lanka Accounting Standard – SLFRS 15 Revenue from contracts.</p>	<p>How our audit addressed the key audit matter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We involved our internal Information Technology specialists to assist us with testing the IT general controls and application controls of IT systems connected with revenue recognition.</li> <li>• In relation to the timing of revenue recognition and allocation of the transaction price in bundled products and services, we independently selected major revenue streams, assessed revenue recognition of key contracts within each stream based on their respective contractual terms and conditions.</li> <li>• We tested the end-to-end reconciliations from data records extracted from source systems to the billing systems and to the general ledger including testing the key controls related to the revenue assurance process.</li> <li>• We tested the key controls over the calculation of the amounts billed to customers including application of relevant rates and the capturing and recording of the revenue transactions to relevant accounts.</li> <li>• We performed substantive tests on a sample of customer contracts by independently reviewing usage and rates applied on underlying invoices.</li> <li>• We also assessed the adequacy of related disclosures reflected in Note 3(x) and Note 6 of the Financial Statements</li> </ul>
<p><b>Estimating useful lives of network equipment</b></p> <p>As at December 31, 2018, the Group's network equipment accounted for 42% of the consolidated total assets. Depreciation on these assets amount to LKR 14,010 Mn. for the year ended 31 December 2018. The company policy is to depreciate the cost of the asset over its useful economic life on a straight-line basis.</p> <p>Estimating the useful lives of the network equipment requires judgment by the company and is a key focus for our audit. It involves the Group's collective assessment of the industry practice, internal technical evaluation and experience with the similar assets in concluding the useful economic life of the network assets.</p> <p>The Group's disclosures on property and equipment are included in Notes 3(d) and 14 to the consolidated Financial Statements.</p>	<p>How our audit addressed the key audit matter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We obtained an understanding of the Group's process in estimating the useful lives of network equipment.</li> <li>• We inquired with the Group's network operations and information technology engineers on its future technological roadmap and its evaluation of the relevance of current technology and its utilisation for future periods.</li> <li>• We tested management assessment on the estimated useful lives of the network equipment against industry data and practice, market outlook, and other relevant external data.</li> <li>• We also assessed the adequacy of related disclosures made in the Financial Statements.</li> </ul>

### **Other Information included in the 2018 Annual Report**

Other information consists of the information included in the Annual Report, other than the Financial Statements and our auditor's report thereon. Management is responsible for the other information.

Our opinion on the Financial Statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the Financial Statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the Financial Statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard

### **Responsibilities of the management and those charged with governance**

Management is responsible for the preparation of Financial Statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with Sri Lanka Accounting Standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the Financial Statements, management is responsible for assessing the Group'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 management either intends to liquidate the Group or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Company's and the Group's financial reporting process.

### **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the Financial Statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Financial Statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an 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 SLAuSs 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 Financial Statements.

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

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the Financial Statements, 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 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 internal controls of the Company and the Group.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on 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 Group's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the Financial Statements 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 auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Group to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the Financial Statements, including the disclosures, and whether the Financial Statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Obtain 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. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the group audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among 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.

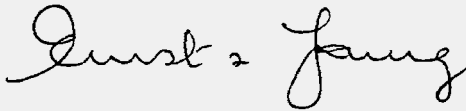
We also provide those charged with governance with a statement that we have complied with ethical requirements in accordance with the Code of Ethics regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

From the matters communicated with those charged with governance, we determine those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the Financial Statements of the current period and are therefore the key audit matters. We describe these matters in our auditor's report unless law or regulation precludes public disclosure about the matter or when, in extremely rare circumstances, we determine that a matter should not be communicated in our report because the adverse consequences of doing so would reasonably be expected to outweigh the public interest benefits of such communication.

#### **Report on other legal and regulatory requirements**

As required by section 163 (2) of the Companies Act No. 07 of 2007, we have obtained all the information and explanations that were required for the audit and, as far as appears from our examination, proper accounting records have been kept by the Company.

CA Sri Lanka membership number of the engagement partner responsible for signing this independent auditor's report is 1420.



28 February 2019  
Colombo