

SCICOM (MSC) BERHAD
(Company No. 200201029763 (597426-H))
(Incorporated in Malaysia)
FIRST QUARTER REPORT ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Board of Directors of Scicom (MSC) Berhad (hereinafter referred to as “Scicom” or “the Company”) is pleased to announce the following unaudited consolidated results for the first quarter ended 30 September 2023.

UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

	INDIVIDUAL QUARTER			CUMULATIVE QUARTERS		
	Current Period	Preceding Year	Changes	Current Financial	Preceding Financial	Changes
	Quarter	Corresponding		Period Ended	Period Ended	
30.9.2023	Quarter	Quarter	30.9.2023	30.9.2022		
	RM'000	RM'000	%	RM'000	RM'000	%
Revenue	62,366	67,769	-8%	62,366	67,769	-8%
Operating expenses	(46,195)	(52,123)	-11%	(46,195)	(52,123)	-11%
Depreciation and amortisation	(4,629)	(4,377)	6%	(4,629)	(4,377)	6%
Operating profit	11,542	11,269	2%	11,542	11,269	2%
(Loss)/Gain on foreign exchange	(177)	695		(177)	695	
Finance income	389	141		389	141	
Finance costs	(413)	(481)		(413)	(481)	
Profit before taxation	11,341	11,624	-2%	11,341	11,624	-2%
Taxation	(3,790)	(2,608)	45%	(3,790)	(2,608)	45%
Profit for the financial period	7,551	9,016	-16%	7,551	9,016	-16%

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UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
(cont'd)

	INDIVIDUAL QUARTER			CUMULATIVE QUARTERS		
	Current Period Quarter 30.9.2023	Preceding Year Corresponding Quarter 30.9.2022	Changes	Current Financial Period Ended 30.9.2023	Preceding Financial Period Ended 30.9.2022	Changes
	RM'000	RM'000	%	RM'000	RM'000	%
Other comprehensive loss, net of tax						
Foreign currency translation differences for foreign operations	(10)	(25)	-60%	(10)	(25)	-60%
Total comprehensive income for the financial period	7,541	8,991	-16%	7,541	8,991	-16%
Profit attributable to:						
- Owners of the Company	7,552	9,017	-16%	7,552	9,017	-16%
- Non-controlling interest	(1)	(1)	0%	(1)	(1)	0%
Profit for the financial period	7,551	9,016	-16%	7,551	9,016	-16%
Total comprehensive income attributable to:						
- Owners of the Company	7,542	8,992	-16%	7,542	8,992	-16%
- Non-controlling interest	(1)	(1)	0%	(1)	(1)	0%
Total comprehensive income for the financial period	7,541	8,991	-16%	7,541	8,991	-16%
Earnings per share attributable to equity holders of the Company:						
- Basic (sen)	2.12	2.54	-16%	2.12	2.54	-16%
- Diluted (sen)	2.12	2.54	-16%	2.12	2.54	-16%

Other disclosure items pursuant to Paragraph 16, Part A of Appendix 9B of the Main Market Listing Requirements of Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad are not applicable.

The condensed consolidated statement of comprehensive income should be read in conjunction with the audited financial statements for the financial year ended 30 June 2023 and the accompanying explanatory notes attached to the interim financial report.

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UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	As At Current Financial Period Ended 30.9.2023 RM'000	As At Preceding Financial Year Ended 30.6.2023 RM'000
ASSETS		
Non-Current Assets		
Plant and equipment	15,695	17,079
Intangible assets	8,982	9,805
Right-of-use assets	25,271	27,769
Other receivables, deposits and prepayments	3,337	3,337
Deferred tax assets	932	1,421
	54,217	59,411
Current Assets		
Trade receivables and contract assets	52,320	55,816
Other receivables, deposits and prepayments	8,500	7,626
Tax recoverable	2,573	3,086
Investments in cash funds	19,658	16,131
Cash and bank balances	24,671	19,939
	107,722	102,598
TOTAL ASSETS	161,939	162,009
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		
Equity attributable to Owners of the Company		
Share capital	35,545	35,545
Retained earnings	89,971	89,528
Currency translation reserve	(7,114)	(7,104)
Total equity attributable to Owners of the Company	118,402	117,969
Non-controlling interest	(1,625)	(1,624)
TOTAL EQUITY	116,777	116,345
Non-Current Liabilities		
Lease liabilities	18,861	21,007
Deferred tax liabilities	2,099	2,196
	20,960	23,203
Current Liabilities		
Trade and other payables	15,445	13,398
Lease liabilities	8,757	9,063
	24,202	22,461
TOTAL LIABILITIES	45,162	45,664
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES	161,939	162,009
NET ASSETS PER SHARE ATTRIBUTABLE TO OWNERS OF THE COMPANY (RM)	0.33	0.33

The condensed consolidated statement of financial position should be read in conjunction with the audited financial statements for the financial year ended 30 June 2023 and the accompanying explanatory notes attached to the interim financial report.

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UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

	-----Attributable to Owners of the Company-----					
	Issued and fully paid ordinary shares		Non- distributable	Distributable		Total Equity
	Number of shares	Share capital	Currency translation reserve	Retained earnings	Non-controlling interest	
	'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000
3 months ended 30.9.2022						
As at 1 July 2022	355,454	35,545	(7,415)	85,626	(1,619)	112,137
Currency translation differences	0	0	(25)	0	0	(25)
Profit/(expense) for the financial period	0	0	0	9,017	(1)	9,016
Total comprehensive (expense)/income for the financial period	0	0	(25)	9,017	(1)	8,991
Dividends paid for the financial period ended: - 30 June 2022	0	0	0	(7,109)	0	(7,109)
As at 30 September 2022	355,454	35,545	(7,440)	87,534	(1,620)	114,019
3 months ended 30.9.2023						
As at 1 July 2023	355,454	35,545	(7,104)	89,528	(1,624)	116,345
Currency translation differences	0	0	(10)	0	0	(10)
Profit/(expense) for the financial period	0	0	0	7,552	(1)	7,551
Total comprehensive (expense)/income for the financial period	0	0	(10)	7,552	(1)	7,541
Dividends paid for the financial period ended: - 30 June 2023	0	0	0	(7,109)	0	(7,109)
As at 30 September 2023	355,454	35,545	(7,114)	89,971	(1,625)	116,777

The condensed consolidated statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the audited financial statements for the financial year ended 30 June 2023 and the accompanying explanatory notes attached to the interim financial report.

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UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW

	Current Financial Period Ended 30.9.2023 RM'000	Preceding Financial Period Ended 30.9.2022 RM'000
Operating Activities		
Net profit for the financial period	7,551	9,016
Adjustments:		
Depreciation of plant and equipment	1,577	1,575
Amortisation of intangible assets	719	554
Depreciation of right-of-use assets	2,333	2,248
Unrealised foreign exchange (gain)/loss	54	(233)
Taxation	3,795	2,595
Finance income	(389)	(141)
Finance cost	413	481
Operating profit before changes in working capital	16,053	16,095
Trade and other receivables	2,567	1,968
Trade and other payables	2,048	3,219
Cash flow from operations	20,668	21,282
Net tax paid	(2,889)	(2,565)
Net cash flow generated from operating activities	17,779	18,717
Investing Activities		
Purchase of plant and equipment	(228)	(1,727)
Purchase of intangible assets	-	(331)
Decrease in fixed deposits with maturity of more than 3 months	1,400	-
Placement of investments in cash funds	(3,527)	(67)
Interest received	389	141
Net cash flow used in investing activities	(1,966)	(1,984)
Financing Activities		
Payment of principal element of lease liabilities	(2,287)	(2,090)
Payment of interest element of lease liabilities	(413)	(481)
Payment of dividends	(7,109)	(7,109)
Net cash flow used in financing activities	(9,809)	(9,680)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	6,004	7,053
Effect of foreign exchange on cash and cash equivalents	128	(26)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of financial year	12,956	21,568
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial period	19,088	28,595
Deposits with maturity of more than 3 months	5,583	2,000
Cash and bank balances at the end of the financial period	24,671	30,595

The condensed consolidated statement of cash flow should be read in conjunction with the audited financial statements for the financial year ended 30 June 2023 and the accompanying explanatory notes attached to the interim financial report.

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NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT

1. BASIS OF PREPARATION

The unaudited interim financial report has been prepared in accordance with the reporting requirements of Malaysian Financial Reporting Standards (“MFRS”) 134 “Interim Financial Reporting”, International Accounting Standards (“IAS”) 34 “Interim Financial Reporting” and paragraph 9.22 and Appendix 9B of the Main Market Listing Requirements of Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad (“Bursa Securities”). The unaudited interim financial report should be read in conjunction with the Group’s most recent audited financial statements for the financial year ended 30 June 2023.

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accounting policies and method of computation adopted by the Group in this interim financial report are consistent with those adopted in the annual financial statements for the financial year ended 30 June 2023.

Amendments to published standards that are effective and applicable to the Group

The Group have applied the following for the first time for the financial year beginning on 1 January 2023:

- Amendments to MFRS 101 “Disclosure of Accounting Policies”
- Amendments to MFRS 108 “Definition of Accounting Estimates”
- Amendments to MFRS Practice Statement 2 “Disclosure of Accounting Policies”
- Amendments to MFRS 112 “Deferred Tax related to Assets and Liabilities arising from a Single Transaction”
- Amendments to MFRS 112 ‘International Tax Reform – Pillar Two Model Rules’

The adoption of the above did not have any impact on the current period or any prior period and is not likely to affect future periods.

Amendments that are applicable to the Group but not yet effective

Amendments effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2024

- Amendments to MFRS 101 “Non-current Liabilities with Covenants”
- Amendments to MFRS 107 and MFRS 7 “Supplier Finance Arrangements”
- Amendments to MFRS 16 “Lease Liability in a Sale and Leaseback”

The Group will adopt the above amendments when they become effective in the respective financial periods. The Group is in the process of assessing the impact of the adoption of these amendments to existing standards.

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3. AUDITORS' REPORT OF PRECEDING AUDITED ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The auditors' report on the financial statements for the financial year ended 30 June 2023 was not qualified.

4. SEASONAL / CYCLICAL FACTORS

The operations of the Group were not significantly affected by seasonal and cyclical factors during the financial quarter under review.

5. UNUSUAL ITEMS

There were no significant unusual items affecting assets, liabilities, equity, net income or cash flows during the financial quarter under review and financial period to date.

6. MATERIAL CHANGES IN ESTIMATES OF AMOUNTS REPORTED

There were no material changes in the basis of estimates of amounts previously reported which have a material effect in the financial quarter under review and financial period to date.

7. MOVEMENT IN DEBT AND EQUITY SECURITIES

During the current financial quarter and financial period to date, there were no issuances, cancellation, repurchases, resale and repayments of debt and equity securities.

8. DIVIDENDS PAID

The following dividends were paid during the financial year to date :-

In respect of the financial year ended	Dividend	Date of dividend payment	Amount paid
2023	Interim dividend of 2.0 sen per ordinary share	22 September 2023	RM7,109,071

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9. SEGMENT RESULTS AND REPORTING

Management monitors the operating results of its business units separately for the purpose of making decisions about resource allocation and performance assessment. Segment performance is evaluated based on operating profit or loss.

The two primary segments that are the focus of the management's internal financial and operational reporting structure are as follows:

- a. Business Process Outsourcing (BPO)'s suite of services includes integrated solutions in Customer Lifecycle Management, Digital/ E-Commerce Solutions and E-Government (Gov-Tech) Solutions.
- b. Education provides physical and online educational and industrial training services primarily focused on customer care in the service industry and also internal training for the Group.

Segmental analysis by geographical areas:

	Current Period Quarter 30.9.2023	Preceding Year Corresponding Quarter 30.9.2022
	RM'000	RM'000
Revenue		
Malaysia	49,565	52,624
Singapore	1,568	1,414
Philippines	5,585	6,211
Sri Lanka	1,261	948
Greater China	2,118	4,570
Germany	1,357	653
Others	912	1,349
	62,366	67,769

Segmental analysis by business segment is as follows:

For the financial period ended 30 September 2023

FY 2024	Current Financial Period Ended 30.9.2023			
	Outsourcing services	Education	Elimination	Consolidated
	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000
Revenue from external customers	62,364	2	-	62,366
Inter-segment revenue	1,500	-	(1,500)	-
Total revenue	63,864	2	(1,500)	62,366
Segment results	16,135	(141)	-	15,994
Depreciation of plant and equipment				(1,577)
Amortisation of intangible assets				(719)
Amortisation of right-of-use assets				(2,333)
Finance income				389
Finance cost				(413)
Profit before taxation				11,341
Taxation				(3,790)
Net profit for the financial period				7,551

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9. SEGMENT RESULTS AND REPORTING (cont'd)

For the financial period ended 30 September 2022

FY 2023	Current Financial Period Ended 30.9.2022			
	Outsourcing services	Education	Elimination	Consolidated
	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000
Revenue from external customers	67,424	345	-	67,769
Inter-segment revenue	1,500	-	(1,500)	-
Total revenue	68,924	345	(1,500)	67,769
Segment results	16,178	163	-	16,341
Depreciation of plant and equipment				(1,575)
Amortisation of intangible assets				(554)
Amortisation of right-of-use assets				(2,248)
Finance income				141
Finance cost				(481)
Profit before taxation				11,624
Taxation				(2,608)
Net profit for the financial period				9,016

10. VALUATION OF PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

There was no revaluation of plant and equipment during the financial quarter under review and financial year to date. As at 30 September 2023, all plant and equipment were stated at cost less accumulated depreciation.

11. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

There were no material events subsequent to the end of the financial quarter under review up to the date of the interim financial report.

12. CHANGES IN THE COMPOSITION OF THE GROUP

There were no changes in the composition of the Group, including business combinations, acquisition or disposal of subsidiaries and long term investments, restructuring and discontinuing operations for the financial quarter under review.

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13. CONTINGENT LIABILITY OR CONTINGENT ASSET

There was no contingent liability or contingent asset arising since the last audited financial statement for the financial year ended 30 June 2023.

14. COMMITMENTS

Commitments for the Group not provided for are as follows:

(a) Capital commitments

In respect of plant and equipment
- Authorised and contracted

	Current Financial Period Ended 30.9.2023	Preceding Financial Period Ended 30.9.2022
	RM'000	RM'000
	428	223

15. SIGNIFICANT RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

There were no significant related party transactions during the financial period under review.

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16. REVIEW OF PERFORMANCE

PERFORMANCE BY QUARTER/ PERIOD

Financial quarter/ period ended	30 Sep 2023	30 Sep 2022	Increase/ (decrease)
Revenue	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000
BPO	62,364	67,424	(5,060)
Education	2	345	(343)
Total revenue	62,366	67,769	(5,403)
Profit before taxation	11,341	11,624	(283)

a. Revenue

BPO

The Group recorded a decrease in BPO revenue of RM5.06 million for the current financial quarter under review as compared to the preceding year corresponding quarter. The decrease in revenue for the BPO business is due mainly to lower transactional volume during the current quarter under review.

b. Profit before taxation

Despite a higher operating profit for the current financial quarter, the Group recorded a lower profit before tax as compared to the preceding year corresponding quarter due primarily to exchange gain recognised in the preceding quarter.

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17. COMPARISON WITH PRECEDING QUARTER'S RESULTS

Financial quarter ended	30 Sep 2023	30 Jun 2023	Increase/ (decrease)
Revenue	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000
BPO	62,364	56,645	5,719
Education	2	360	(358)
Total revenue	62,366	57,005	5,361
Profit before taxation	11,341	8,856	2,485

a. Revenue

BPO

The Group recorded an increase in BPO revenue of RM5.72 million for the current financial quarter under review as compared to the preceding quarter due mainly to higher transactional volume for certain customers.

b. Profit before taxation

The increase in the Group's profit before taxation for the current financial quarter under review as compared to the preceding quarter is due mainly to higher revenue achieved by the Group.



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18. CURRENT YEAR REVIEW

For the current financial period under review, the Group registered a decrease in revenue and profit before taxation of 8.0% and 2.4% respectively, as compared to the preceding year corresponding period. The lower revenue is primarily due to lower transactional volume during the current quarter under review for certain clients as a result of the current uncertain global economic environment. Due to the diversity of the Group's client base which operates in different industry verticals, the decrease in revenue is mitigated by an increase in transactions for other clients.

Continued supply chain and inflationary challenges and associated negative consumer sentiment faced by our clients' customers has resulted in an economic impact that has reduced business transactional volume for our clients and correspondingly the Group. However the Group has developed new products and services offerings that have been designed to positively impact the Group's top and bottom line. The Group has also been vigorous in its global business development efforts for both its customer lifestyle and Gov-tech business sectors. With the new revenue streams developed for existing clients and the conversion of current prospects in the Group's pipeline, the Group expects to achieve growth in its profitability for the current financial year.

19. EXPLANATORY NOTES FOR VARIANCE OF ACTUAL PROFIT FROM PROFIT FORECAST OR PROFIT GUARANTEE

The Group did not publish any profit forecast in respect of the financial period ended 30 September 2023.

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20. TAXATION

	Current Financial Quarter Ended 30.9.2023 RM '000	Current Financial Period Ended 30.9.2023 RM '000
<u>Group</u>		
Current tax	3,402	3,402
Deferred tax	388	388
	3,790	3,790
Effective tax rate	33.4%	33.4%

The Malaysian current income tax is calculated at the statutory tax rate of 24% (2023: 24%) of the estimated assessable profit for the financial year.

Numerical reconciliation between the average effective tax rate and the Malaysian statutory tax rate:

	Current Financial Quarter Ended 30.9.2023 RM '000	Current Financial Period Ended 30.9.2023 RM '000
<u>Group</u>		
Malaysian statutory tax rate	24.0%	24.0%
Tax effects of:		
- Expenses not deductible for tax purposes	6.0%	6.0%
- Under provision of prior year deferred tax, net	3.4%	3.4%
Effective tax rate	33.4%	33.4%

As reported in the previous financial years, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company, Scicom Contact Centre Services Private Limited (India) has received tax assessment notices of RM1.3 million, INR23.8 million (2023: RM1.4 million, INR23.8 million). These assessments are in respect to transfer pricing adjustments and the disallowance of certain expenses for tax purposes. Currently, the subsidiary is challenging the assessments on the ground that the tax matter has become barred by limitation of time. The Board of Directors have received expert advice on this matter from a tax agent. Based on the advice received, the Board of Directors are of the view that no significant liability will crystallize from these assessments.

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21. STATUS OF CORPORATE PROPOSALS ANNOUNCED

There were no corporate proposals announced but not completed as at 30 November 2023, being the date of this report.

22. GROUP BORROWINGS AND DEBT SECURITIES

The Group does not have any borrowings and debt securities as at 30 September 2023.

23. UPDATE ON LITIGATION

Informatics International Limited

With reference to our disclosures made in the previous quarterly announcements and our annual report for the financial year ended 30th September 2023, the matter on 8th November 2023 at the Supreme Court was adjourned by the Supreme Court – this time one of the judges presiding said due to his impending retirement in March 2024 it would be prudent for him not to hear the case as if judgment was not reached then it would have to reheard. It has been relisted on 24th March 2024.

Other than the above, there were no material litigation matters dealt with during the financial period or pending as at 30th November 2023, being the date of this report.

24. DIVIDENDS

The Board of Directors has approved and declared a first interim dividend of 2.0 sen, single-tier, per ordinary share, amounting to RM7,109,071 which is payable on 28 December 2023.

	Current Financial Period Ended 30.9.2023	Preceding Financial Period Ended 30.9.2022
Interim dividend for the financial year ending/ended 30 June	2024	2023
<i>First interim</i>		
Approved and declared on	30-Nov-23	21-Nov-22
Date payable/paid	28-Dec-23	21-Dec-22
Based on register members dated	15-Dec-23	6-Dec-22
Amount per share	2.0 sen single-tier	2.0 sen single-tier
Net dividend payable/paid(RM)	7,109,071	7,109,071
Interim dividend for the financial year ended 30 June	2023	2022
<i>Fourth interim</i>		
Approved and declared on	25-Aug-23	26-Aug-22
Date paid	22-Sep-23	28-Sep-22
Based on register members dated	12-Sep-23	13-Sep-22
Amount per share	2.0 sen single-tier	2.0 sen single-tier
Net dividend paid (RM)	7,109,071	7,109,071

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25. EARNINGS PER SHARE (“EPS”)

The basic earnings per share for the financial quarter/year under review are computed as follows:

	Current Financial Quarter Ended 30.9.2023	Current Financial Period Ended 30.9.2023
Profit attributable to the Owners of the Company for the financial period (RM'000)	7,552	7,552
Weighted average number of ordinary shares in issue ('000)	355,454	355,454
Basic earnings per share (sen)	2.12	2.12

Diluted earnings per share is the same as basic earnings per share as the Company has no potential ordinary shares to be issued.

26. DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

There were no outstanding derivative financial instruments as at 30 September 2023.

27. FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL LIABILITIES

There were no gains/losses arising from fair value changes of financial liabilities for the financial period ended 30 September 2023.

By order of the Board of Directors

DATO' SRI LEO SURESH ARIYANAYAKAM
DIRECTOR
30 NOVEMBER 2023