10. Accounting Policies

These consolidated financial statements have been prepared using the historical cost method, except with respect to financial derivatives, which are measured at fair value.

In its cash flow statement for the year ended December 31st 2008 the Group reclassified the amounts resulting from settlement of financial instruments. In the 2007 financial statements, such amounts were disclosed by the Company and by the Group under cash flows from operating activities. In these consolidated financial statements, the amounts resulting from settlement of financial instruments were disclosed under cash flows from financing activities and stood at PLN (238,166) thousand and PLN 31,632 thousand for the year ended December 31st 2008 and for the year ended December 31st 2007, respectively.

The key accounting policies adopted by the Group are presented below.

10.1.Basis for Consolidation

These consolidated financial statements have been prepared on the basis of the financial statements of the Parent Undertaking and financial statements of the undertakings it controls, prepared as at December 31st 2008.

The financial statements of the subsidiaries, subject to the restatements made to ensure compliance with the IFRS, are prepared for the same reporting period as the financial statements of the Parent Undertaking, with the use of consistent accounting policies and in accordance with uniform accounting policies applied for transactions and economic events of a similar nature. Adjustments are made in order to eliminate any discrepancies in the adopted accounting policies.

All significant balances and transactions between the Group's undertakings, including significant unrealised profits on intra-group transactions, have been eliminated in their entirety. Unrealised losses are eliminated unless they are indicative of an impairment of value.

Subsidiary undertakings are consolidated starting from the date when the Group assumes control over them and cease to be consolidated when the control is lost. The Company is deemed to exert control when it holds, directly or through its subsidiary undertakings, more than 50% of votes in a given undertaking unless it is possible to prove that the ownership of over 50% of votes is not tantamount to exerting control. The Company's ability to influence a given undertaking's financial and operational policies is also deemed exerting control.

10.2. Investments in Associated Undertakings

Investments in associated undertakings are recognised using the equity method. Associated undertakings are the undertakings over which the Parent Undertaking has significant influence, either directly or indirectly through its subsidiary undertakings, and which are neither its subsidiary undertakings nor interests in joint ventures. The financial statements of associated undertakings serve as a basis for the equity method valuation of the shares held by the Parent Undertaking. Associated undertakings' financial years coincide with the Parent Undertaking's financial year.

Investments in associated undertakings are initially recognised in the balance-sheet at acquisition cost, adjusted for subsequent changes in the Parent Undertaking's share in the net assets of the associated undertakings, and reduced by impairment losses, if any. The income statement includes the Parent Undertaking's share of the profits and losses of the associated undertakings. In the case of a change recognised directly in an associated undertaking's equity, the Parent Undertaking recognises its share in such change and, if applicable, discloses it in the statement of changes in equity.

10.3. Intangible Assets

Intangible assets are recognised if the Group is likely to obtain future economic benefits attributable directly to the assets. Initially, intangible assets are recognised at acquisition or production cost, if they are acquired in separate transactions. Intangible assets acquired as part of the acquisition of a business are recognised at fair value as at the acquisition date. Following initial recognition, intangible assets are valued at acquisition or production cost less accumulated amortisation and impairment losses.

The Group capitalises and recognises as an intangible asset both the licence fees for the exploration and identification of crude oil and natural gas reserves as well as the fees under the concluded mining use agreements for the exploration and identification of crude oil and natural gas reserves. The commencement and execution of the exploration work is conditional upon obtaining relevant licence and establishing the mining use.

Intangible assets are amortised using the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives.

The expected useful lives of the Group's intangible assets range from 2 to 25 years.

The amortisation period and the amortisation method for an intangible asset are reviewed at the end of each financial year. Changes in the expected useful life or pattern of consumption of the future economic benefits embodied in the asset are reflected by changing the amortisation period or amortisation method, respectively, and are accounted for as changes in accounting estimates.

Useful lives are also reviewed each year and, if required, they are adjusted with effect from the beginning of the following financial year.

With the exception of capitalised expenditure on research and development, expenditure on intangible assets produced by the Group is not capitalised and is disclosed under expenses for the period in which they were incurred.

10.4. Goodwill Related to Subordinated Undertakings

The goodwill relating to acquisition of a business undertaking is initially recognised at acquisition cost, equal to the excess of the cost of the business combination over the acquiring undertaking's share in the net fair value of the identifiable assets, liabilities and contingent liabilities of the acquired undertaking. Following the initial recognition, goodwill is carried at acquisition cost less cumulative impairment losses. Goodwill is tested for impairment once a year. It is not amortised.

As at the date of assuming control, the acquired goodwill is allocated to every identifiable cash-generating unit. The Group calculates any impairment of value by estimating recoverable value of the cash-generating unit relevant to a given part of goodwill. If the recoverable value of a cash-generating unit is lower than its carrying value, the Group recognises impairment losses. If goodwill comprises a part of a cash-generating unit and the Group sells a part of the business of the cash-generating unit, the goodwill connected with the sold business is included in the carrying value of the sold business for the purpose of calculating gains or losses on disposal of the part of business. In such a case, goodwill pertaining to the sold business should be measured using the relative value of the sold business, pro-rata to the interest in the retained part of the cash-generating unit.

10.5. Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, plant and equipment, other than land, are valued at acquisition or production cost, less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

Land is valued at acquisition cost less any impairment losses. In the case of perpetual usufruct of land, acquisition cost is understood to mean the amount paid to a third party.

Initial cost of property, plant and equipment comprises the acquisition cost plus all costs directly related to their acquisition and adaptation for use. This cost also includes the cost of replacing component parts of plant and equipment, which is recognised when incurred, if relevant recognition criteria are fulfilled. Costs incurred on an asset which is already in service, such as repairs, overhauls or operating fees, are expensed in the reporting period in which they were incurred.

Property, plant and equipment (including their components), other than land and property, plant and equipment used for oil production activities, are depreciated using the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives, which are as follows:

Buildings and structures	1–80 years	1.14% - 30%
Plant and equipment	1–25 years	1.4% - 50%
Vehicles	1–15 years	6% - 50%
Other property, plant and equipment	1–10 years	6.67% - 33.33%

Property, plant and equipment used for production activities are depreciated with the use of unit-of-production method, i.e. depreciation per unit of produced crude oil is charged to expenses. The depreciation rate is estimated in reference to forecasts of crude oil production from a given geological area. If the estimated reserves change significantly as at the balance-sheet date, depreciation per unit of produced crude oil is re-valued. Then, starting from the new financial year, the re-valued depreciation rate is applied.

An item of property, plant and equipment may be derecognised from the balance sheet if it is sold or if the company does not expect to realise any economic benefits from its further use. Gains or losses on derecognition of an asset (calculated as the difference between net proceeds from its sale, if any, and the carrying value of the asset) are disclosed in the income statement in the period when the asset was derecognised.

The residual value, useful economic life and depreciation method are reviewed on an annual basis – and adjusted if required – with effect from the beginning of the next financial year.

The costs of each overhaul are included in the carrying value of property, plant and equipment, if relevant recognition criteria are fulfilled.

In its consolidated financial statements, under property, land and equipment, the Group discloses an asset corresponding to the value of provision for the decommissioning of an oil rig. The asset was created in accordance with IAS 16: Property, Plant and Equipment, which reads: “The cost of an item of property, land and equipment comprises … the initial estimate of the costs of dismantling and removing the item and restoring the site on which it is located, the obligation for which an entity incurs when the item is acquired or as a consequence of having used the item during a particular period for purposes other than to produce inventories during that period”. The Group’s obligation to incur costs of decommissioning of the Offshore Oil Rigs results directly from the reasons specified in IAS 16. Under Paragraph 63 of the same standard, the entities applying the IAS are obliged to test the value of an asset periodically, at least at each balance-sheet date. It should further be emphasised that the International Financial Reporting Interpretations Committee (IFRIC) has issued Interpretation IFRIC 1: Changes in Existing Decommissioning, Restoration and Similar Liabilities. The Interpretation directly refers to, inter alia, IAS 16, including in particular to the revaluation of an asset recognised as future decommissioning cost. Revaluation of an asset so recognised may be caused by:

- change in estimated cash used to ensure the performance of the decommissioning obligation,
- change in the current market discount rate,
- increase in the value resulting from the passage of time – shortening of the time remaining until decommissioning, leading to the adjustment of the discount rate.

The Group complied with IFRIC’s requirement in this respect, therefore these consolidated financial statements show the asset at its present value.

10.6. Tangible Assets under Construction

Investments in progress are valued at the amount of aggregate costs directly attributable to the acquisition or production of such assets, including financial expenses, less impairment losses, if any. Investments in progress are not depreciated until completed and placed in service.

Investments in progress comprise property, plant and equipment which is under construction or assembly and are recognised at acquisition or production cost.

Financial expenses capitalised under tangible assets under construction include servicing costs of the debt incurred to finance the assets.

The cost of exploration for crude oil and natural gas reserves is capitalised as tangible assets under construction until the size of the deposit and the economic viability of production are determined. Upon confirmation of the existence of deposits whose exploitation is technically and economically viable, the expenditure incurred on the exploration activities is transferred to tangible assets and is subsequently depreciated. If exploration drillings do not result in discovery of any deposits whose exploitation is technically and economically viable, impairment losses on tangible assets under construction are recognised in the profit or loss of the period in which it is found that there is no possibility of any economic utilisation of the discovered deposits.

10.7. Expenditure on Exploration and Appraisal of Resources

Assets related to exploration and appraisal of mineral resources comprise expenditure on exploration and appraisal of mineral resources disclosed as assets in accordance with the accounting policies adopted by the Group. The expenditure on exploration and appraisal of mineral resources includes expenses incurred by the Group in connection with exploration and appraisal of mineral resources before technical and economic viability of exploitation of the mineral resources can be proven. The exploration and appraisal of mineral resources involves the exploration for mineral resources, including crude oil, natural gas and similar non-renewable resources, after the company has obtained the licence to conduct exploration work in a given area, and the determination of the technical and commercial viability of exploitation of the mineral resources. The Group classifies assets related to exploration and appraisal of mineral resources as property, plant and equipment or intangible assets, depending on the type of the acquired assets, and applies this classification policy in a consistent manner. After the technical and commercial viability of exploitation of mineral resources has been proven, the Group no longer classifies such assets as related to exploration and evaluation of mineral resources. The Group presents and discloses impairment losses on assets related to exploration and appraisal of mineral resources in accordance with IFRS 6 and evaluates such assets in accordance with IAS 36. The impairment losses are recognised in profit or loss, in accordance with IAS 36.

The Group examines a need to recognise impairment losses on assets related to exploration and appraisal of mineral resources by considering, inter alia, the following circumstances related to a given area of exploration:

- the term for which the company was granted the licence to conduct exploration work expired in the course of the current financial period or will expire in the near future, and no extension of the term is envisaged,
- the Group does not expect to incur significant expenditure for further exploration and appraisal of mineral resources,
- exploration and appraisal of mineral resources did not result in discovery of any commercial mineral resources and the company decided to discontinue its exploration activities,
- available data suggests that despite continuation of the development work, the carrying value of the assets related to exploration and appraisal of mineral resources could not be fully recovered, even if the development work is successfully completed or the assets are sold.

10.8.Leasing

A lease is classified as a finance lease if it transfers substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership onto the lessee. All other types of leases are treated as operating leases.

The Group as a Lessor

Finance leases are disclosed in the balance sheet as receivables, at amounts equal to the net investment in the lease less the principal component of lease payments for the given reporting period calculated based on a pattern reflecting a constant periodic rate of return on the lessor's net investment outstanding in respect of the finance lease.

Finance income from interest on a finance lease is disclosed in the relevant reporting periods based on a pattern reflecting a constant periodic rate of return on the lessor's net investment outstanding in respect of the finance lease.

Income from operating leases is recognised in the income statement on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

The Group as a Lessee

Assets used under a finance lease are recognised as assets of the Group and at initial recognition are measured at fair value or, if lower, the present value of the minimum lease payments. The resultant obligation towards the lessor is presented in the balance sheet under finance lease liabilities. Lease payments are broken down into the interest component and the principal component so as to produce a constant rate of interest on the remaining balance of the liability. Finance expense is charged to profit or loss.

Operating lease payments are recognised in the income statement on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

10.9. Non-Current Assets Held For Sale

Non-current assets and disposal groups are classified as held for sale if their carrying amount will be recovered principally through a sale transaction rather than through continuing use. This condition is deemed to be met only if the sale is highly probable and the asset (or disposal group) is available for immediate sale in its present condition. Classification of an asset as held for sale means that the management intends to complete the sale within one year from the change of its classification.

Non-current assets and disposal groups classified as held for sale are measured at the lower of their carrying amount and fair value less costs to sell.

10.10. Impairment Losses on Non-Financial Assets

As at each balance-sheet date, the Group assesses whether there is any evidence of impairment of any of its assets. If the Group finds that there is such evidence, or if the Group is required to perform annual impairment tests, the Group estimates the recoverable value of the given asset.

The recoverable value of an asset is equal to the higher of the fair value of the asset or cash generating unit, less the transaction costs, or its value in use. The recoverable value is determined for the individual assets, unless a given asset does not generate separate cash inflows largely independent from those generated by other assets or asset groups. If the carrying value of an asset is higher than its recoverable value, the value of the asset is impaired and an impairment loss is recognised up to the established recoverable value. In assessing value in use, the projected cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate which reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset. Impairment losses related to the assets used in the continued operations are disclosed under the cost categories corresponding to the function of the asset with respect to which impairment has been identified.

As at each balance-sheet date, the Group assesses whether there is evidence that any impairment loss recognised in the previous periods with respect to a given asset is no longer necessary or should be reduced. If there is such evidence, the Group estimates the recoverable value of the given asset. The recognised impairment loss is reversed only when following the recognition of the last impairment loss there has been a change in the estimates used to determine the recoverable value of the asset. In such a case, the carrying value of the asset is increased up to its recoverable value. The increased value may not exceed the carrying value of the asset that would have been determined (net of accumulated amortisation/depreciation) if the impairment loss related to that asset had not been recognised in the previous years. Reversal of an asset impairment loss is immediately recognised as revenue in the income statement, unless the asset has been revalued, in which case the reversal of an impairment loss is treated as an increase in the revaluation capital reserve. Following reversal of an impairment loss, in the subsequent periods the amortisation/depreciation charge related to the given asset is adjusted so that over the remaining useful life of that asset its verified carrying value, less its residual value, can be regularly written off.

10.11. Investment Property

Investment property is valued at acquisition cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

Investment property, including investments in land, perpetual usufruct of land, buildings and structures, include property which the Group does not use for its own purposes but which will generate benefits in the form of value appreciation or income from rent.

10.12. Inventories

Inventories are valued at the lower of: their acquisition or production cost or their net realisable value.

Costs incurred in order to bring each inventory item to its present location and conditions are accounted for in the following manner:

- materials and goods for resale – acquisition cost calculated on weighted average basis,
- finished goods and work-in-progress – the cost of direct materials and labour and an appropriate portion of indirect production costs, established on the basis of normal capacity.

Net realisable value is the selling price estimated as at the balance sheet date net of VAT, excise taxes and fuel charge, less any rebates, discounts and other similar items, and less the estimated costs to complete and costs to sell.

10.13. Trade and Other Receivables

Trade receivables, which typically become due and payable in 7 to 60 days, are valued and recognised at amounts initially invoiced, accounting for any impairment charges for doubtful receivables. Impairment charges for receivables are estimated when the collection of the full amount of receivables is no longer probable. Uncollectible receivables are written off through the income statement when recognised as unrecoverable accounts.

If the effect of time value of money is significant, the value of receivables is determined by discounting the projected future cash flows to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate reflecting the current market estimates of the time value of money. If the discount method is applied, an increase in receivables over time is recognised as financial income.

10.14. Foreign Currency Transactions

Transactions denominated in foreign currencies are reported in the functional currency of the Group companies (Polish złoty) as at the transaction date, using the following exchange rates:

1. buy or sell rate of the bank at which the transaction is effected – in the case of sale and purchase of currencies and payment of receivables and payables; or
2. mid exchange rate quoted for the given currency by the National Bank of Poland as at that date unless a different exchange rate in specified in another document binding on a given undertaking.

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies as at the balance-sheet date are translated into the złoty at relevant złoty mid exchange rates quoted by the National Bank of Poland as at that date. The resulting foreign exchange gains and losses are carried as financial income/(expense) or cost of sales, except for foreign exchange gains and losses which are considered a part of external financing cost and are capitalised under non-current assets. Non-monetary assets and liabilities recognised at historic cost expressed in a foreign currency are recognised at the historic exchange rate effective as at the date of the transaction. Non-monetary assets and liabilities disclosed at fair value expressed in a foreign currency are translated as at the balance-sheet date at the exchange rate effective as at the date of determining the fair value.

Exchange rates applied for the purposes of balance-sheet valuation:

Mid exchange rate quoted by NBP as at	Dec 31 2008	Dec 31 2007
USD	2.9618	2.435
EUR	4.1724	3.582

The financial statements of foreign undertakings are translated into the Polish currency at the following exchange rates:

- items of the balance sheet – at the mid exchange rate quoted by the National Bank of Poland for the balance-sheet date,
- items of the income statement – at the exchange rate computed as the arithmetic mean of mid exchange rates quoted by the National Bank of Poland for the days ending each financial month. The resulting currency-translation differences are recognised directly in equity as a separate component.

At the time of disposal of a foreign undertaking, the accumulated deferred currency-translation differences recognised in equity and relating to this foreign undertaking are transferred to the income statement.

10.15. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash in hand and at banks, as well as and non-current deposits held to maturity are valued at face value.

Cash and cash equivalents as disclosed in the consolidated cash-flow statement comprise cash in hand and cash at banks, overdraft facilities as well as those bank deposits maturing within three months which are not classified as placements.

10.16. Accruals and Deferrals

The Group recognises prepayments if they relate to future reporting periods.

Accrued expenses are recognised at probable values of current-period liabilities.

Employees of the Group undertakings are entitled to holidays in accordance with the rules set forth in the Polish Labour Code, The Group recognises the cost of employee holidays on an accrual basis using the liability method, The amount of the provision for unused holidays is calculated on the basis of the difference between the balance of holidays actually used and the balance of holidays used established proportionately to the passage of time.

10.17. Equity

Equity is recognised in the consolidated financial statements by categories, in accordance with the rules set forth in applicable laws and in the Articles of Association.

The share capital of the LOTOS Group is the share capital of the Parent Undertaking and is recognised at its par value, in the amount specified in the Company's Articles of Association and in the relevant entry in the National Court Register.

10.18. Provisions

Provisions are created when the Group has an obligation (legal or following from commercial practice) resulting from past events, and when it is probable that the discharge of this obligation will cause an outflow of funds representing economic benefits, and the amount of the obligation may be reliably estimated. If the Group anticipates that the costs for which provisions have been made will be recovered, e.g. under an insurance agreement, the recovery of such funds is recognised as a separate item of assets, but only when such recovery is practically certain to occur. The cost related to a given provision is disclosed in the income statement, less any recoveries. If the effect of the time value of money is significant, the amount of provisions is determined by discounting projected future cash flows to their present value at gross discount rates reflecting the current market estimates of the time value of money and risks, if any, related to a given obligation. If the discount method is applied, an increase in provisions as a result of lapse of time is recognised as financial expenses.

10.19. Retirement Severance Pays and Length-of-Service Awards

In accordance with the company remuneration systems applied by the LOTOS Group companies, the Group's employees are entitled to length-of-service awards and severance pays upon retirement due to old age or disability. Length-of-service awards are paid out after a specific period of employment. Old-age and disability retirement severance pays are one-off and paid upon retirement. Amounts of severance pays and length-of-service awards depend on the length of employment and the average remuneration. The Company creates a provision for future liabilities under retirement severance pays and length-of-service awards in order to assign costs to the periods in which they are incurred. According to IAS 19 Employee Benefits, length-of-service awards are classified as other long-term employee benefits, while retirement severance pays – as defined post-employment benefit plans. The present value of the obligations as at each balance-sheet date is calculated by an independent actuary. The calculated value of the obligations is equal to the amount of discounted future payments, taking into account the employment turnover, and relate to the period ending at the given balance-sheet date. Information concerning demographics and employment turnover is sourced from historical data. Actuarial gains and losses are recognised in the income statement.

10.20. Profit Distribution for Employee Benefits and Special Accounts

According to the business practice followed in Poland, company shareholders have the right to allocate a part of profit for employee benefits in the form of contributions to the Company's social benefits fund and for other special accounts. In the financial statements prepared in accordance with the IFRS such distributions are charged to operating expenses of the period which the distribution concerns.

10.21. Interest-Bearing Bank Loans, Borrowings, and Debt Securities

All bank loans, borrowings, and debt securities are initially recognised at acquisition cost equal to the fair value of funds received, less cost of obtaining the loan.

Following initial recognition, interest-bearing loans, borrowings, and debt securities are valued at amortised acquisition cost, using the effective interest rate method. Amortised acquisition cost includes cost of obtaining the loan as well as discounts or premiums obtained at settlement of the liability. Gains or losses are charged to the income statement upon removal of the liability from the balance sheet or recognition of value impairment.

10.22. Borrowing Costs

Borrowing costs are disclosed as the costs of the period in which they were incurred, except for the costs which relate directly to the acquisition, construction or production of an asset being completed, which costs are capitalised as a part of the acquisition or production cost of such an asset,

To the extent that the funds are borrowed specifically for the purpose of acquiring the asset being completed, the amount of the borrowing costs which may be capitalised as part of such asset is determined as the difference between the actual borrowing costs incurred in connection with a given loan in a given period and the proceeds from temporary investments of the borrowed funds.

To the extent that the funds are borrowed without a specific purpose and are later allocated for the acquisition of an asset being completed, the amount of the borrowing costs which may be capitalised is determined by applying the capitalisation rate to the capital expenditure on that asset.

10.23. Government Subsidies

If there is reasonable certainty that the subsidy will be received and that all related conditions will be fulfilled, government subsidies are recognised at fair value.

If a subsidy concerns a cost item, it is recognised as income in matching with the expenses it is to compensate for. If it concerns an asset, its fair value is recognised as deferred income, and then it is written off annually in equal parts through profit or loss over the estimated useful life of the asset.

10.24. Carbon Dioxide (CO_2) Emission Allowances

The Group recognises carbon emission allowances in its financial statements based on the net liability method – the Group recognises only those liabilities that result from exceeding the emission limit granted to it, and the liability is recognised only after the Company actually exceeds the limit. Income from the sale of unused emission allowances is recognised in the income statement at the time of sale.

10.25. Income Tax

Mandatory decrease of profit/(increase of loss) comprises: current income tax (CIT) and deferred income tax. The current portion of the income tax is calculated based on the net profit/(loss) (taxable income) for a given financial year. The net profit (loss) established for tax purposes differs from the net profit (loss) established for financial reporting purposes due to the exclusion of the income which is taxable and the costs which are deductible in future years and the expenses and income items which will never be subject to deduction/taxation. The tax charges are calculated based on the tax rates effective for a given financial year.

For the purposes of financial reporting, the Company creates a deferred tax liability using the balance-sheet liability method in relation to all temporary differences existing as at the balance-sheet date between the tax base of assets and liabilities and their carrying value as disclosed in the consolidated financial statements.

Deferred tax liability is recognised for all taxable temporary differences:

- except to the extent that the deferred tax liability arises from the initial recognition of goodwill or the initial recognition of an asset or liability in a transaction which is not a business combination, and, at the time of the transaction, affects neither accounting profit nor taxable profit (tax loss), and
- in the case of taxable temporary differences associated with investments in subsidiary or associated undertakings, and interests in joint ventures, unless the investor is able to control the timing of the reversal of the temporary differences and it is probable that the temporary difference will not reverse in the foreseeable future.

Deferred tax assets are disclosed in relation to all deductible temporary differences, unused tax assets, and unused tax losses brought forward in the amount of the probable taxable income which would enable these differences, assets and losses to be used:

- except to the extent that the deferred tax asset related to deductible temporary differences arises from the initial recognition of an asset or liability in a transaction which is not a business combination, and, at the time of the transaction, affects neither accounting profit nor taxable profit (tax loss), and
- in the case of deductible temporary differences associated with investments in subsidiary or associated undertakings and interests in joint ventures, the related deferred tax asset is recognised in the balance sheet to the extent it is probable that in the foreseeable future the temporary differences will be reversed and taxable income will be generated which will enable the deductible temporary differences to be offset.

The carrying value of a deferred tax asset is verified as at each balance-sheet date and is subject to appropriate reduction to the extent it is no longer probable that taxable income sufficient for a partial or full realisation of this deferred tax asset would be generated.

Deferred tax assets and deferred tax liabilities are calculated using tax rates expected to be effective at the time of realisation of particular asset or release of particular provision, based on tax rates (and tax legislation) effective as at the balance-sheet date or tax rates (and tax legislation) certain to be effective as at the balance-sheet date in the future.

Income tax related to items posted directly to equity is disclosed under equity and not in the income statement.

Deferred tax assets and deferred tax liability are recognised in the balance sheet in the amount obtained after they are offset for particular undertakings consolidated within the Group.

10.26. Financial Instruments

At the time of their initial recognition, financial instruments are valued at acquisition cost (price), equal to the fair value of the payment made for them. The transaction costs are included in the initial value of the financial instruments.

Following the initial recognition, financial instruments are classified under one of the following four categories and are valued as follows:

- Financial instruments (financial assets and liabilities) which are recognised at fair value through profit or loss.
- Financial instruments held to maturity which are recognised at amortised cost using the effective interest rate.
- Loans and accounts receivable which are recognised at amortised cost using the effective interest rate; the related gains and losses are disclosed in the income statement. Accounts receivable which mature in the short term and do not have a specified interest rate are recognised at amounts due.
- Financial instruments available for sale which are recognised at fair value; the revaluation gains/(losses) are charged to the revaluation capital reserve until the investment is sold or its value is reduced. Then, the cumulative revaluation gain/loss is charged to the income statement.
- Financial liabilities which are recognised at amortised cost.

The fair value of financial instruments for which a ready market exists is determined in relation to the prices quoted on that market as at the relevant balance-sheet date. If there is no quoted market price, the fair value is estimated using appropriate valuation techniques.

Financial liabilities other than under financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss are recognised at amortised cost using the effective interest rate.

Financial instruments are derecognised from the balance sheet when the Group loses control over contractual rights comprising particular financial instruments; this is usually the case when a financial instrument is sold or when all the cash flows related to a given instrument are transferred to a third party.

10.27. Derivative Financial Instruments

Derivatives used by the Group to hedge against currency risk include in particular FX forwards. In addition, the Group relies on full barrel swaps to hedge its exposure to raw material and petroleum product prices, uses futures contracts to manage its exposure to prices of carbon dioxide (CO2) emission allowances, and enters into IRSs and FRAs to hedge its interest rate exposure.

Derivative financial instruments of this type are measured at fair value. The fair value of FX forwards is established by reference to the forward rates of contracts with similar maturities prevailing at a given time. The fair value of interest rate swaps is established by reference to the market value of similar instruments. Derivative instruments are recognised as assets if their value is positive and as liabilities if their value is negative. Gains or losses resulting from changes in the fair value of a derivative which does not qualify for hedge accounting are charged directly to the net profit or loss for the financial year.

10.28. Impairment of Financial Assets

As at each balance-sheet date the Group determines whether there is objective evidence of impairment of a financial asset or a group of financial assets.

Assets Carried at Amortised Cost

If there is objective evidence that the value of loans and receivables measured at amortised cost has been impaired, the impairment loss is recognised in the amount equal to the difference between the carrying value of a financial asset and the present value of estimated future cash flows (excluding future losses relating to irrecoverable receivables, which have not yet been incurred), discounted using the initial effective interest rate (i.e. the interest rate used at the time of initial recognition). The carrying value of an asset is reduced directly or by creating relevant provisions. The amount of loss is recognised in the income statement.

First the Group determines whether there exists objective evidence of impairment with respect to each financial asset that is deemed material, and with respect to financial assets that are not deemed material individually. If the analysis shows that there exists no objective evidence of impairment of an individually tested asset, regardless of whether it is material or not, the Group includes the asset into the group of financial assets with similar credit risk profile and tests it for impairment together with the other assets from this group. Assets which are tested for impairment individually, and with respect to which an impairment loss has been recognised or a previously recognised loss is deemed to remain unchanged, are not taken into account when a group of assets are jointly tested for impairment.

If an impairment loss decreases in the next period, and the decrease may be objectively associated with an event that occurred subsequent to the impairment loss recognition, the recognised impairment loss is reversed. The subsequent reversal of an impairment loss is recognised in the income statement to the extent that the carrying value of the asset does not exceed its amortised cost as at the reversal date.

Financial Assets Carried at Cost

If there exists objective evidence of impairment of a non-traded equity instrument which is not carried at fair value since such value cannot be reliably determined, or of a related derivative instrument which must be settled by delivery of such non-traded equity instrument, the amount of impairment loss is established as the difference between the carrying value of the financial asset and the present value of estimated future cash flows discounted with the market rate applicable to similar financial assets prevailing at a given time.

Financial Assets Available for Sale

If there exists objective evidence of impairment of a financial asset available for sale, the amount of the difference between the acquisition cost of that asset (less any principal payments and depreciation/amortisation charges) and its current fair value, reduced by any impairment losses previously recognised in the income statement, is derecognised from equity and charged to the income statement. Reversal of an impairment loss concerning equity instruments qualified as available for sale may not be recognised in the income statement. If the fair value of a debt instrument available for sale increases in the next period, and the increase may be objectively associated with an event that occurred subsequent to the impairment loss recognition in the income statement, the amount of the reversed impairment loss is recognised in the income statement.

10.29. Recognition of Revenue

Revenue is recognised in the amount of probable economic benefits to be derived by the Group which may be reliably estimated.

10.30. Sales of Products, Goods for Resale and Services

Sales revenue is disclosed at the fair value of payments received or due, and it represents the accounts receivable for the products, goods for resale and services provided in the ordinary course of business, less discounts, VAT and other sales-related taxes (excise tax, fuel charge). The sales of products and goods for resale are recognised at the moment of delivery, when material risk and benefits resulting from the ownership of the products and goods have been transferred to the purchaser.

10.31. Interest

Interest income is recognised as the interest accrues (using the effective interest rate), unless the receipt of the interest is doubtful.

10.32. Dividend

Dividend is recognised as financial income as of the date on which the appropriate governing body of the Company adopts a resolution concerning distribution of profit, unless the resolution specifies another dividend record date.

10.33. Management's Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standards requires a number of judgments and estimates which affect the value of items disclosed in the financial statements and in the notes thereto. Although the judgments and estimates are based on the Management Board's best knowledge of the current and future events and actions, the actual results might differ from the estimates. The areas in which the Management Board prepared estimates include provisions, property, plant and equipment, as well as intangible assets, goodwill, merger transactions, financial assets, and the deferred tax asset. The material assumptions used in the estimates are described in the relevant notes.

Valuation of Provisions

Provisions for employee benefits are estimated with actuarial methods once a year, unless major changes to the assumptions underlying the estimates occur during a given year

Depreciation/Amortisation Charges

Depreciation/amortisation charges are determined based on the expected useful lives of property, plant and equipment and intangible assets. The Group reviews the useful lives of its assets annually, on the basis of current estimates.

Fair Value of Financial Instruments

The fair value of financial instruments for which no active market exists is determined by means of appropriate valuation methods. In selecting appropriate methods and assumptions, the Group relies on professional judgment.

Deferred Tax Asset

The Group recognises a deferred tax asset if it is assumed that taxable profit will be generated in the future against which the asset can be used. If the taxable profit deteriorates in the future, this assumption may prove invalid.

10.34. Net Earnings/(Loss) per Share

Net earnings/(loss) per share for each period are/(is) calculated by dividing the net profit/(loss) for a given period by the weighted average number of shares in this reporting period. The Group does not disclose diluted earnings/(loss) per share, since there are no dilutive instruments outstanding.

10.35. Contingent Liabilities and Receivables

A contingent liability is understood as a duty to discharge an obligation which is conditional upon the occurrence of certain circumstances. Contingent liabilities are not recognised in the balance sheet, however information on contingent liabilities is disclosed, unless the likelihood of the outflow of funds embodying economic benefits is negligible. Contingent receivables are not recognised in the balance sheet, however information on contingent receivables is disclosed if an inflow of funds embodying economic benefits is probable.