

#### FIVE-YEAR GROUP FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

For 2021 and 2022, Revenue, EBITDA, PAT and Normalised PATAMI below are presented as continuing and discontinued operations as well as on combined basis post completion of the Celcom-Digi merger.

Financial Resilience



#### Notes:

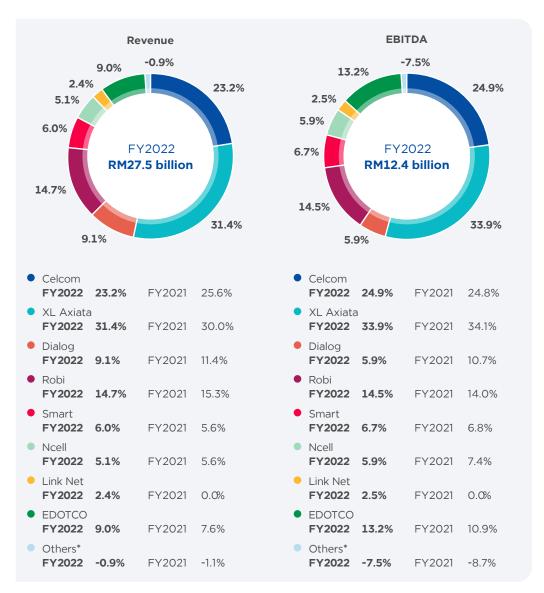
- Note 1 2022 normalised PATAMI excludes one-off net gain on disposal of Celcom Group<sup>1</sup> (RM13,530.1 million), goodwill impairment (RM4,141.2 million), one-off regulatory fees and penalties (RM127.9 million), purchase price allocation amortisation (RM160.6 million) and foreign exchange losses and derivatives (RM830.1 million).
- Note 2 2021 normalised PATAMI excludes goodwill impairment (RM338.4 million), gain on disposal of towers (RM79.8 million), purchase price allocation amortisation (RM111.8 million) and foreign exchange losses and derivatives (RM116.5 milli on).
- Note 3 2020 normalised PATAMI excludes accelerated depreciation and assets write-off (RM604.3 million), gain on disposal of towers (RM367.5 million), purchase price allocation amortisation (RM113.1 million) and foreign exchange losses and derivatives (RM3.5 million).
- 2019 normalised PATAMI excludes gain on divestment of non-core digital businesses (RM367.1 million), Note 4 gain on disposal of associate (RM113.4 million), gain on disposal of Idea rights (RM96.1 million), foreign exchange gains and derivatives (RM51.7 million), gain on disposal of towers (RM82.2 million) and purchase price allocation amortisation (RM121.8 milli on).

- Note 5 2018 normalised PATAMI excludes Idea related losses (RM3,862.5 million), one-off asset write-off, impairment and accelerated depreciation on property, plant and equipment (gross: RM1,816.6 million), foreign exchange loss and derivatives (RM208.9 million), gain on disposal of towers (RM80.5 million) and purchase price allocation amortisation (RM236.3 million).
- Note 6 2022 normalised ROIC is 6.0% after excluding goodwill impairment at Earnings Before Interest and Tax (EBIT) (RM4,152.8 million).
- Note 7 2018 is based on restated financials.
- From FY2019 onwards, based on post MFRS 16 "Leases".
- 1 Celcom Group refers to Celcom Berhad (Celcom) [formerly known as Celcom Axiata Berhad] and its subsidiaries

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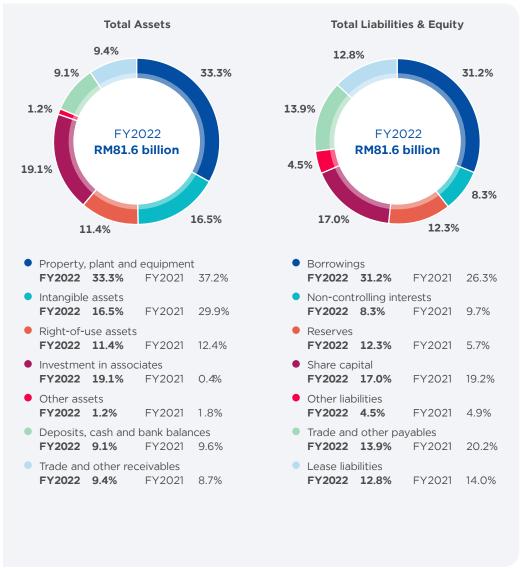
# FINANCIAL REVIEW

#### SUMMARY BREAKDOWN OF REVENUE AND EBITDA



#### SUMMARY BREAKDOWN OF TOTAL ASSETS AND TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY

For 2022, total asset and liabilities & equity below are balances post completion of the Celcom-Digi merger.



<sup>\*</sup> Others includes Axiata Digital Analytics (ADA), Boost Holdings Sdn Bhd (Boost), investment holding entities, special purpose vehicle entities (SPV) and consolidation adjustments

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## FINANCIAL REVIEW

All i	n RM Million unless stated otherwise	FY2022 <sup>7</sup>	FY2021 <sup>7</sup>	FY2020	FY2019 <sup>2</sup>	FY2018 <sup>2</sup>
1.	Revenue	27,496	25,901	24,203	24,583	23,886
2.	Earnings Before Interest, Tax, Depreciation and Amortisation (EBITDA)	12,434	11,404	10,657	10,619	8,334
3.	Earnings from Associates and Joint Ventures	(51)	4	19	(3)	(428)
4.	Profit Before Tax (PBT)	11,114	2,174	1,171	2,780	(4,073)
5.	Profit After Tax (PAT)	10,019	1,277	624	1,815	(4,975)
6.	Profit After Tax and Minority Interests (PATAMI)	9,751	819	365	1,458	(4,762)
7.	Normalised PATAMI <sup>1</sup>	1,529	1,326	865	960	1,010
8.	Total Shareholders' Equity	23,935	18,005	17,641	16,181	17,477
9.	Total Equity	30,680	25,066	23,879	22,220	23,215
10.	Total Assets	81,641	72,550	67,962	66,534	63,855
11.	Total Borrowings (exclude lease liabilities)	25,436	19,050	17,745	16,826	19,130
12.	Total Lease Liabilities	10,444	10,171	9,629	8,840	N/A
13.	Customers (million)	174	163	157	153	149
Gro	wth Rates YoY					
1.	Revenue	6.2%	7.0%	-1.5%	2.9%	-2.1%
2.	EBITDA	9.0%	7.0%	0.4%	27.4%	-9.7%
3.	Total Shareholders' Equity	32.9%	2.1%	9.0%	-7.4%	-29.3%
4.	Total Assets	12.5%	6.8%	2.1%	4.2%	-8.7%
5.	Total Borrowings (exclude lease liabilities)	33.5%	7.4%	5.5%	-12.0%	-0.3%
Sha	re Information					
1.	Per Share					
	Earnings (basic) - sen	106.3	8.9	4.0	16.0	(52.6)
	Earnings (diluted) - sen	106.2	8.9	4.0	16.0	(52.4)
	Net Assets - RM	2.6	2.0	1.9	1.8	1.9
2.	Share Price information - RM					
	High	3.96	4.19	4.60	5.26	5.70
	Low	2.36	3.25	2.66	3.73	3.25
Fina	ancial Ratio					
1.	Return on Invested Capital <sup>3</sup>	-1.8%	5.3%	3.7%	6.4%	1.3%
2.	Gross Debt to EBITDA⁴	2.9	2.6	2.6	2.4	2.3
	Debt Equity Ratio⁵	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.2	0.8

#### Notes:

- 1 Excludes foreign exchange gains/losses and derivatives, gain/loss on disposal of subsidiaries, associates and joint venture, gain on divestment of noncore digital businesses, one-off asset write-off, impairment and accelerated depreciation on property, plant and equipment, goodwill impairment, purchase price allocation amortisation, gain on disposal of towers, severance payment, Idea related transactions (loss on derecognition of associate, loss on dilution, operational losses and gain on disposal of rights) and one-off regulatory fees and penalties.
- 2 FY2019 and FY2018 are based on restated financials.
- 3 EBIT less tax over average invested capital.
- 4 From FY2019 onwards (Post MFRS 16): Gross debt (Total borrowings + Lease liabilities) over EBITDA; FY2018: Total borrowings over EBITDA.
- 5 From FY2019 onwards (Post MFRS 16): Debt (Total borrowings + Lease liabilities) over total equity; FY2018: Total borrowings over total equity.
- 6 From FY2019 onwards, based on post MFRS 16 "Leases".
- 7 Financial summary for FY2022 and FY2021 are combined reporting of continuing and discontinued operations.

### CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

	Financial Ye	Financial Year Ended	
	31/12/2022 RM'000	31/12/2021 RM'000	
Revenue	27,496,070	25,900,661	
Operating costs:			
- depreciation, impairment and amortisation	(12,203,972)	(8,094,868	
- foreign exchange (losses)/gains	(373,649)	58,239	
- domestic interconnect, international outpayment and other			
direct costs	(2,586,521)	(2,199,930)	
- marketing, advertising and promotion	(2,112,073)	(2,192,658)	
- other operating costs	(8,075,655)	(7,963,233)	
- staff costs	(2,180,537)	(2,071,006)	
- net impairment on receivables and amounts due from			
subsidiaries	(107,030)	(69,817)	
Other gains - net	28,221	52,034	
Other income - net	85,466	398,655	
Gain on disposal of a group of subsidiaries, net	13,530,081		
Profit before finance costs	13,500,401	3,818,077	
Finance income	238,354	150,982	
Finance costs	(1,951,429)	(1,565,069)	
Foreign exchange (losses)/gains on financing activities	(622,879)	(234,355)	
	(2,574,308)	(1,799,424)	
Associates			
- share of results (net of tax)	(41,103)	11,689	
Joint ventures			
- share of results (net of tax)	(9,709)	(7,706)	
Profit before taxation	11,113,635	2,173,618	
Taxation and zakat	(1,094,221)	(896,737)	
Profit for the financial year	10,019,414	1,276,881	
Profit for the financial year attributable to:			
- owners of the Company	9,751,077	818,900	
- non-controlling interests (NCI)	268,337	457,981	
	10,019,414	1,276,881	
Earnings per share (sen)			
- basic	106.3	8.9	
- diluted	106.2	8.9	
diaca	100.2	0.5	

### CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

	Financial Year Ended		
	31/12/2022 RM'000	31/12/2021 RM'000	
Receipt from customers and others	23,956,521	25,250,051	
Payments to suppliers, employees and others	(12,524,399)	(14,438,737)	
Payment of finance costs	(1,589,069)	(1,398,060)	
Payment of income taxes and zakat (net of refunds)	(908,219)	(576,240)	
Total cash flows from operating activities	8,934,834	8,837,014	
Purchase of PPE (net of disposal)	(9,730,275)	(6,248,195)	
Acquisition of intangible assets (net of disposal)	(447,058)	(570,347)	
Investment in deposits maturing more than three (3) months	(518,122)	80,400	
Investment in subsidiaries (net of cash acquired)	(2,780,487)	(1,400,993)	
Investment in associates	(4,504)	(2,421)	
Interest received	228,787	149,820	
Net purchase of other investments	(8,068)	(12,113)	
Net proceeds from disposal of Celcom Group	1,753,040	-	
Redemption of preference shares by an associate	(95,703)	(123,866)	
Payments for ROU assets	-	5,837	
Others	17,394	4,980	
Total cash flows used in investing activities	(11,584,996)	(8,116,898)	
Proceeds from borrowings and Sukuk (net of repayment)	6,994,085	668,241	
Capital injection and additional investment in a subsidiary by NCI	229	247,237	
Net proceed from rights issue of a subsidiary	167,997	-	
Net proceed from partial disposal of a subsidiary	(1,349,081)	420,667	
Repayments of lease liabilities	(1,705,311)	(1,522,063)	
Dividends paid	(695,589)	(1,030,315)	
Others	-	(309)	
Total cash flows from/(used in) financing activities	3,412,330	(1,216,542)	
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	762,168	(496,426)	
Exchange (losses)/gains and restricted cash	(748,304)	86,594	
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year	6,312,330	6,722,162	
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year	6,326,194	6,312,330	
Bank overdraft	142,481	213,632	
Deposits and others	983,068	443,390	
Deposits, cash and bank balances	7,451,743	6,969,352	
Net cash flows generated from/(used in) discontinued operations are as	follows:		
Cash flows from operating activities	2,145,880	2,599,853	
Cash flows from/(used in) investing activities	1,649,693	(1,028,207)	
Cash flows used in financing activities	(579,500)	(968,805)	
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalent	3,216,073	602,841	

### CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	As at		
	31/12/2022 RM'000	31/12/2021 RM'000	
CAPITAL AND RESERVES ATTRIBUTABLE TO OWNERS OF THE COMPANY			
Share capital	13,914,272	13,905,207	
Reserves	10,020,787	4,100,117	
Total equity attributable to owners of the Company	23,935,059	18,005,324	
Non-controlling interests	6,745,291	7,060,505	
Total equity	30,680,350	25,065,829	
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Borrowings	18,347,504	14,819,079	
Derivative financial instruments	168,717	91,162	
Deferred income	3,403	260,360	
Deferred gain on sale and leaseback assets	176,950	307,754	
Trade and other payables	805,965	1,116,080	
Provision for asset retirement	846,488	747,795	
Deferred tax liabilities	933,812	1,377,516	
Lease liabilities	8,604,274	8,412,149	
Total non-current liabilities	29,887,113	27,131,895	
	60,567,463	52,197,724	
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Intangible assets	13,442,150	21,722,687	
Contract cost assets	138,210	232,519	
Property, plant and equipment	27,200,975	26,975,288	
Right-of-use assets	9,313,782	8,983,213	
Associates	15,596,891	257,898	
Joint ventures	15,682	25,569	
Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income	179,180	220,744	
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	5,758	5,678	
Derivative financial instruments	25,945	76,817	
Trade and other receivables	852,513	1,280,866	
Deferred tax assets	175,638	358,530	
Total non-current assets	66,946,724	60,139,809	

	As at		
	31/12/2022 RM'000	31/12/2021 RM'000	
CURRENT ASSETS			
Inventories	216,351	222,747	
Trade and other receivables	6,943,592	5,060,933	
Derivative financial instruments	14,931	121	
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	34	65	
Tax recoverable	67,356	109,514	
Deposits, cash and bank balances	7,451,743	6,969,352	
	14,694,007	12,362,732	
Assets classified as held-for-sale	-	47,889	
Total current assets	14,694,007	12,410,621	
LESS: CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	10,579,565	13,555,061	
Deferred income	1,728	3,609	
Deferred gain on sale and leaseback assets	119,251	123,902	
Borrowings	7,088,128	4,231,416	
Lease liabilities	1,839,617	1,758,846	
Derivative financial instruments	17,925	20,497	
Current tax liabilities	601,102	653,031	
Dividend payable	825,952	-	
	21,073,268	20,346,362	
Liabilities classified as held-for-sale	-	6,344	
Total current liabilities	21,073,268	20,352,706	
Net current liabilities	(6,379,261)	(7,942,085)	
	60,567,463	52,197,724	

#### **GROUP FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT**

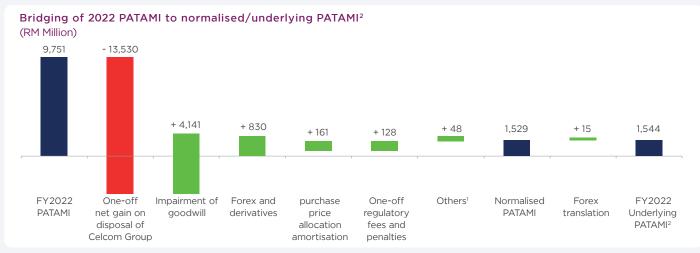
The Group's steadfast focus on operational excellence, meeting the growing demand for data and digitalisation, and leveraging synergies through mergers and acquisitions, led to a strong underlying performance across most markets. This has resulted in the Group exceeding its targets and closing its FY2022 on a high note despite a challenging year. Our commitment to deliver on the Axiata 5.0 Vision has resulted in upward growth in revenue, EBITDA and profits, closing the year with a robust balance sheet.

#### **REVENUE**

- Group revenue grew by 6.2% to RM27,496.1 million for FY2022 with growth across all Operating Companies (OpCos) except for Dialog (mainly impacted by adverse forex translation and macroeconomic conditions) and Ncell (mainly due to existing business challenges)
- · Key growth drivers are as follows:
- Higher data contribution at XL. Robi and Smart
- Contribution from fixed broadband and cable TV business in Link Net, which was acquired by Axiata, end of June 2022
- New acquisition of towers in the Philippines coupled with organic growth for EDOTCO
- Boost's growth in offline payment in Boost Life and increased loan disbursements in Boost Credit

### PAT/PATAMI

- Group PAT and PATAMI both increased by more than 100% to RM10,019.4 million and RM9,751.1 million respectively mainly driven by one-off net gain on disposal of Celcom Group amounting to RM13,530.1 million, partially offset by impairment of goodwill amounting to RM4,152.8 million (PATAMI: RM4,141.2 million). In addition, Group PAT and PATAMI were impacted by significant foreign exchange losses of RM996.5 million (unrealised: RM584.2 million) mainly from USD denominated loans and working capital, higher finance costs, higher taxes and one-off regulatory fees and penalties, partially cushioned by higher top lines
- Adjusting for one-off items mainly from one-off net gain on disposal of Celcom Group, impairment of goodwill, foreign exchange losses and derivatives, purchase price allocation amortisation and one-off regulatory fees and penalties, Group normalised PATAMI for FY2022 stood at RM1.529.0 million



Notes: 1 Others include gain on disposal of towers and one-off surcharge tax at Dialog

Numbers are based on constant currency

#### **EBITDA**

- Group EBITDA increased by 9.0% to RM12,434.3 million with improvement from all OpCos except Dialog and Ncell
- Growth in EBITDA is mainly driven by higher revenue, partially offset by higher operating costs and one-off regulatory fees

#### **COST OPTIMISATION**

The Group continued to deliver strong results in cost efficiencies through the Strategic Cost Excellence Programme in FY2022. The cost savings and cost avoidance totalled up to RM1.7 billion through execution of over 500unique Group-wide initiatives, mitigating the effects of global economic situation, other externalities and contributing towards resilient growth.

- The savings recorded from capital expenditure (capex) of RM1.1 billion and operating expenses (opex) of RMO.6 billion across multiple pillars is testament to a strict cost discipline, with the most significant savings derived from Network and IT through design optimisation and strategic negotiations with partners. vendors and suppliers
- · Other efficiency improvements included shift in subscriber acquisition and recharge channels to digital, optimisation in customer-care operations and omnichannel marketing presence for effective reach. These strategies have proved to deliver sustainable cost efficiency in operations and additionally improved customer experience
- The Strategic Cost Excellence Programme continued to drive efficiencies through cohesive collaboration within the Group, striving towards Axiata's target of achieving the lowest data production cost in all operating markets

#### **GROUP FINANCIAL POSITION**

As at 31 December 2022, the Group's financial position remained robust with a healthy cash balance at RM7.5 billion and gross debt to EBITDA of 2.9x.

#### **TOTAL EQUITY STOOD AT RM30.7 BILLION**

- Total equity increased by RM5.6 billion
- · Increase in equity balance is mainly contributed by profit of RM10.0 billion, mainly due to one-off net gain on disposal of Celcom Group of RM13.5 billion, partially offset by:
  - Dividends to shareholders and NCI of RM1.6 billion
  - Currency translation losses of RM1.8 billion as a result of strengthening of MYR against OpCos' local currencies
  - New investments in subsidiaries by NCI of RM594.5 million, mainly from the recognition of NCI from the acquisition of Link Net
  - Accretion of equity interest in subsidiaries of RM1.3 billion mainly from the Mandatory Tender Offer of Link Net, where Axiata acquired an additional 33.49% of equity interest from NCI

#### TOTAL ASSETS BALANCE STOOD AT RM81.6 BILLION

- Total assets increased by RM9.1 billion
- Investment in associates increased by RM15.3 billion, mainly resulting from the recognition of CelcomDigi Berhad as an associate following the completion of the merger in November 2022
- Trade and other receivables increased by RM1.5 billion mainly due to recognition of Celcom Group's shareholder loan as external receivables following the disposal of Celcom Group
- Right-of-use assets (ROU) increased by RM330.6million mainly due to additions in FY2022 amounting to RM3.4 billion mainly from XL and EDOTCO, partially offset by depreciation during the financial year of RM1.9 billion and disposal of Celcom Group amounting to RM1.2 billion
- Property, plant and equipment (PPE) increased by RM225.7 million resulting from the following:
  - Additions in FY2022 of RM9.5 billion mainly due to XL's accelerated capex and acquisition of towers in EDOTCO
  - Acquisition of subsidiaries amounting to RM2.5 billion mainly from the acquisition of Link Net

The increase in PPE is partially offset by:

- Depreciation during the financial year amounting to RM4.9 billion
- Disposal of Celcom Group amounting to RM4.5 billion
- Currency translation losses of RM2.1 billion

The increase in total assets is partially offset by:

- Intangible assets decreased by RM8.3 billion, mainly driven by:
  - Impairment of goodwill in Ncell, XL and Dialog of RM4.2 billion
- Disposal of Celcom Group of RM4.7 billion
- Amortisation during the financial year amounting to RM987.8 million and foreign exchange translation losses of RM767.3 million
- The decrease was partially cushioned by additional goodwill and other intangible assets recognised from acquisition of subsidiaries of RM2.0 billion
- · Reductions in deposits, cash and bank balances by RM482.4

#### TOTAL LIABILITIES STOOD AT RM51.0 BILLION

- Total liabilities increased by RM3.5 billion
- Gross borrowing (excluding lease liabilities) increased by RM6.4 billion mainly due to drawdown of loans to finance the acquisition of Link Net and acquisition of towers in EDOTCO
- Increase in dividends payable to shareholders of Axiata by RM826.0 million due to declaration of dividends during the year

#### Partially offset by:

• Trade and other payables decreased by RM3.3 billion, while deferred tax liabilities decreased by RM443.7 million, both due to the disposal of Celcom Group

#### CASH POSITION AND DIVIDENDS

- The Group's cash balance stands at RM7.5 billion
- As a result of strong performance supported by a resilient balance sheet and healthy cash balance, the Board of Directors approved a total dividend of 10 sen per ordinary share (interim) and 4 sen per ordinary share (special) respectively (FY2021: 9.5 sen per ordinary share). The dividend payout ratio for FY2022 is 60% (excluding special dividend of 4 sen per ordinary share)

### **CAPITAL STRUCTURE AND CAPITAL RESOURCES**

• The Group's debt to equity gearing ratio (total borrowing including lease liabilities over total equity) stood at 1.2x as at 31 December 2022

#### CAPITAL ALLOCATION

With multiple businesses and presence in 10 countries, we use the Capital Allocation Framework to guide the Group's strategy towards Axiata 5.0 Vision. The key outcomes we aim to deliver are Underlying PATAMI and Earnings Per Share, translating into Total Shareholder Returns.

Five guardrails in our Capital Allocation Framework:

- 1. **Country allocation -** determines a country's attractiveness for investment based on its political, economical, social, technology, environment and legal standings.
- 2. **Segment allocation -** determines a segment's attractiveness for investment based on industry landscape, market structure, barrier to entry, ease of switching and product substitutes.
- 3. **Affordability** investment affordability guardrail ring fences 'Source of Capital' for each segment, to ensure affordability and availability of funds for its investments.
- 4a. **Organic returns** return requirements measured using EBIT/ Gross Investment.
- 4b. **Inorganic returns -** return requirements measured using Internal Rate of Return (IRR).
- 5. **Portfolio mix -** this guardrail enables capital re-prioritisation glide path through partial divestment and/or full exit.

#### KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

On 22 February 2022, the Group announced its Headline KPIs guidance for the financial year ended 31 December 2022. The Group's 2022 Headline KPIs announced were as below:

,	FY2022 Achievement	FY2022 Headline KPIs	FY2022 Achievement	
@ /	Actual currency	@ Const	tant rate¹	
	6.1%	Mid single digit	10.2%	
	20.1%	High single digit	20.3%	

Revenue Growth<sup>2</sup> Earnings Before Interest, and Tax (EBIT)<sup>3</sup> Growth

### Notes:

- <sup>1</sup> Constant rate is based on FY2021 Average Forex Rate (e.g. 1 USD = RM4.143)
- <sup>2</sup> Revenue is based on revenue excluding device (revenue ex-device)
- <sup>3</sup> EBIT excludes impairment of goodwill

The Group posted strong operational performance in FY2022 with revenue and EBITDA growth, contributed by all OpCos except Dialog in Sri Lanka and Ncell in Nepal. PATAMI improvement was largely contributed by one-off net gain on disposal of Celcom Group, offset by higher depreciation and amortisation, goodwill impairment, unrealised forex losses from USD denominated borrowings, net finance cost and taxes.

Year on year (FY2022 versus FY2021), XL in Indonesia and Robi in Bangladesh have their performance lifted by strong industry data growth. Amidst a macroeconomic crisis in Sri Lanka, Dialog's revenue growth remained resilient, whilst profitability was affected by SLR devaluation against the USD, goodwill and asset impairment in FY2022. Ncell in Nepal continues to face challenges as growth in domestic data business has not been able to offset the decline from International Long Distance (ILD) and the impact of lower interconnection rate. Notwithstanding higher regulatory costs in Cambodia, Smart delivers another year of strong operational performance.

Digital businesses continue to grow on the back of accelerated digitalisation amongst consumer and businesses. In addition to its existing e-wallet platform, Boost was awarded a digital bank license in Malaysia and is expanding its credit business; while ADA reports profitability for four consecutive years. EDOTCO records strong operational performance, benefitting from organic growth mainly from Bangladesh, and tower acquisitions in Malaysia and the Philippines. The completion of the Link Net acquisition in Indonesia has also contributed positively to Group profits in the second half of FY2022.

Overall, the Group posted revenue ex-device growth of 6.1% and normalised EBIT growth of 20.1% in FY2022. Against headline KPIs at constant rate, the Group exceeded its target of mid single digit revenue ex-device growth and high single digit EBIT growth with 10.2% growth in revenue exdevice and 20.3% growth in EBIT respectively.

Financial Resilience

## **OUR SHARE PRICE PERFORMANCE**

In FY2022, Axiata's share price closed at RM3.09 with a market capitalisation of RM28.4 billion, ranking 15th in the FTSE Bursa Malaysia KLCI (FBMKLCI) by market capitalisation. Despite macroeconomic headwinds, the Group exceeded its headline Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for 2022, reflecting its commitment to creating value for stakeholders. Foreign shareholding increased to 11.3% at the end of FY2022 compared to 10.9% in the preceding year. Axiata's share price uplift in the second half of 2022 was due to the completion of the Celcom-Digi merger and acquisition of Link Net, while XL Axiata's rights issue signalled the strengthening of the balance sheet, providing a boost to share price in December 2022.

From 2009 b 2022, Axiata's share price increased by 25%.





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## OUR DIVIDEND POLICY

Supported by a robust performance in FY2022, Axiata announced a second interim dividend of 5.0 sen per share in February 2023, bringing the full year dividend declared for the financial year ended 31 December 2022 to 14.0 sen per share. This includes a first interim dividend of 5.0 sen per share and special dividend of 4.0 sen per share following the successful completion of the Celcom-Digi merger. The FY2022 dividend per share (DPS) of 14.0 sen is higher than FY2021 DPS of 9.5 sen.

The Board remains committed to our dividend policy whereby the Company intends to pay dividends of at least 30% of its consolidated normalised PATAMI and endeavours to progressively increase the payout ratio over a period of time, subject to a number of factors including business prospects, capital requirements and surplus, growth/expansion strategy, considerations for non-recurring items and other factors considered relevant by the Board.



DPS - Dividend per share

DPR - Dividend payout ratio excluding special dividend

The Group announced lower DPR in 2016 and 2017 based on two reasons. First, for prudent reasons, to mitigate against impacts of volatile forex and regulatory risk. Second, for strategic reasons, to enable 4G/data leadership investments as well as for possible mergers and acquisitions (M&A) exercises in the areas of market consolidation. Axiata reverted to DPR of 85% in 2018.