PUBLIC JOINT STOCK COMPANY “ACRON”

Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2018 and Independent Auditors’ Report

Contents

Independent Auditors' Report

To the Shareholders and Board of Directors of Public Joint Stock Company "Acron"

Opinion

We have audited the consolidated financial statements of PJSC "Acron" (the "Company") and its subsidiaries (the "Group"), which comprise the consolidated statement of financial position as at 31 December 2018, the consolidated statements of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, changes in equity and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes, comprising significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In our opinion, the accompanying consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of the Group as at 31 December 2018, and its consolidated financial performance and its consolidated cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Group in accordance with the independence requirements that are relevant to our audit of the consolidated financial statements in the Russian Federation and with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (IESBA Code), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the requirements in the Russian Federation and the IESBA Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Key Audit Matters

Key audit matters are those matters that, in our professional judgment, were of most significance in our audit of the consolidated financial statements of the current period. These matters were addressed in the context of our audit of the consolidated financial statements as a whole, and in forming our opinion thereon, and we do not provide a separate opinion on these matters.

Audited entity: PJSC "Acron".

Registration No. in the Unified State Register of Legal Entities 1025300786610.

Veliky Novgorod, Russia

Independent auditor: JSC "KPMG", a company incorporated under the Laws of the Russian Federation, a member firm of the KPMG network of independent member firms affiliated with KPMG International Cooperative ("KPMG International"), a Swiss entity.

Registration No. in the Unified State Register of Legal Entities 1027700125628.

Member of the Self-regulated organization of auditors "Russian Union of auditors" (Association). The Principal Registration Number of the Entry in the Register of Auditors and Audit Organisations: No. 11603053203.

Fair value of derivative financial instruments	
Please refer to the Notes 11, 13, 27 in the consolidated financial statements.	
The key audit matter	**How the matter was addressed in our audit**
The Group has derivative financial instruments - call and put options for ordinary shares of CJSC Verkhnekamsk Potash Company, a subsidiary of the Group that holds a license to develop a potash deposit. The primary input for determining the fair value of the options recognised in the Group's consolidated financial statements is the fair value of the underlying asset - shares of CJSC Verkhnekamsk Potash Company, which is estimated using the discounted cash flow model. We focused our attention on the issue of assessing the fair value of options due to the following: — there is an inherent risk of uncertainty in forecasting and discounting future cash flows; — the use of significant unobservable valuation inputs increases the degree of uncertainty in the calculations; — financial model includes specific parameters and subjective estimates, requiring management to apply significant professional judgment.	We have gained an understanding of the Group's internal controls over the valuation process. We assessed independence and professional competence of the appraiser engaged by the Group to perform fair value calculation of the underlying asset. We involved our valuation specialists and conducted a critical analysis of the key assumptions underlying the discounted cash flow forecast used to determine the fair value of CJSC Verkhnekamsk Potash Company's shares by comparing them to external industry, economic and financial data and other available information. We checked the mathematical accuracy of the calculations. We assessed whether the applied methodology is in line with the specific conditions of the Group, as well as the generally accepted valuation practice. We checked the accuracy and completeness of the relevant disclosures in the consolidated financial statements.

Other Information

Management is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual report of PJSC "Acron" but does not include the consolidated financial statements and our auditors' report thereon. The Annual report is expected to be made available to us after the date of this auditors' report.

Our opinion on the consolidated financial statements does not cover the other information and we will not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the consolidated financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information identified above when it becomes available and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the consolidated financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Consolidated Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the consolidated financial statements in accordance with IFRS, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the consolidated financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Group's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Group or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

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

Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these consolidated financial statements.

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

Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Group's internal control.

Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.

Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Group's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditors' report to the related disclosures in the consolidated financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditors' report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Group to cease to continue as a going concern.

Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the consolidated financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the consolidated financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the Group to express an opinion on the consolidated financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the group audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

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

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

The engagement partner on the audit resulting in this independent auditors' report is:

Ilya O. Belyatski

JSC "KPMG"

Moscow, Russia

25 March 2019

(in millions of Russian Roubles)

	Note	31 December 2018	31 December 2017
ASSETS			
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	10	93,532	87,820
Subsoil licences and related costs	11	36,557	33,134
Investment in equity instruments measured at fair value through other comprehensive income	12	11,670	22,698
Long-term derivative financial instruments	13	2,844	-
Deferred tax assets	24	164	172
Other non-current assets		3,092	2,971
Total non-current assets		**147,859**	**146,795**
Current assets			
Inventories	9	16,724	14,950
Accounts receivable	8	10,815	9,940
Cash and cash equivalents	7	10,460	14,302
Other current assets		926	907
Total current assets		**38,925**	**40,099**
TOTAL ASSETS		**186,784**	**186,894**
EQUITY			
Share capital	16	3,046	3,046
Treasury shares		(6)	(6)
Retained earnings		65,253	68,035
Revaluation reserve		(14,137)	(2,902)
Other reserves		(3,963)	(3,416)
Cumulative currency translation difference		7,400	5,543
Equity attributable to the Company's owners		**57,593**	**70,300**
Non-controlling interests	17	20,572	20,656
TOTAL EQUITY		**78,165**	**90,956**
LIABILITIES			
Non-current liabilities			
Long-term borrowings	15	66,946	55,593
Long-term derivative financial instruments	13	1,875	-
Deferred tax liabilities	24	6,951	5,446
Other non-current liabilities		641	750
Total non-current liabilities		**76,413**	**61,789**
Current liabilities			
Accounts payable	14	7,226	5,695
Short-term derivative financial instruments	13	-	3,359
Short-term borrowings	15	17,539	18,930
Advances received		5,737	4,041
Other current liabilities		1,704	2,124
Total current liabilities		**32,206**	**34,149**
TOTAL LIABILITIES		**108,619**	**95,938**
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		**186,784**	**186,894**

The Consolidated Financial Statements were approved for issue on 25 March 2019.

V.Y. Kunitskiy
President

ПУБЛИЧНОЕ АКЦИОНЕРНОЕ ОБЩЕСТВО "АКРОН"
ОГРН 1025300786610
Россия, г. Великий Новгород

A.V. Milenkov
Finance Director

(in millions of Russian Roubles, except for per share amounts)

	Note	2018	2017*
Revenue	5	108,062	94,342
Cost of sales	18	(54,444)	(51,909)
Gross profit		**53,618**	**42,433**
Transportation expenses	20	(17,715)	(13,728)
Selling, general and administrative expenses	19	(8,115)	(7,162)
Other operating expenses, net	22	(349)	(366)
Operating profit		**27,439**	**21,177**
Finance (expense) / income, net	21	(8,422)	358
Interest expense		(1,607)	(4,110)
Loss on disposal of investments		-	(7)
Gain on derivatives, net		896	342
Profit before taxation		**18,306**	**17,760**
Income tax expense	24	(4,988)	(3,500)
Profit for the year		**13,318**	**14,260**
Other comprehensive loss on items that will not be reclassified to profit or loss:			
Investment in equity instruments measured at fair value through other comprehensive income:			
-Losses arising during the period	12	(11,235)	-
Other comprehensive income on items that are or may be reclassified to profit or loss:			
Available-for-sale investments:			
- Gains arising during the period	12	-	4,733
Currency translation differences		1,931	602
Other comprehensive (loss) / income for the year		**(9,304)**	**5,335**
Total comprehensive income for the year		**4,014**	**19,595**
Profit is attributable to:			
Owners of the Company		12,768	13,432
Non-controlling interests		550	828
Profit for the year		**13,318**	**14,260**
Total comprehensive income is attributable to:			
Owners of the Company		3,390	18,748
Non-controlling interests		624	847
Total comprehensive income for the year		**4,014**	**19,595**
Earnings per share			
Basic (expressed in Russian Roubles)	23	324.63	339.43
Diluted (expressed in Russian Roubles)	23	323.77	335.92

* The Group has initially applied IFRS 9 and IFRS 15 at 1 January 2018. Under the transition methods chosen, comparative information is not restated (Note 4).

(in millions of Russian Roubles)

	Note	2018	2017
Cash flows from operating activities			
Profit for the period		**13,318**	**14,260**
Adjustments for:			
Income tax expense	24	4,988	3,500
Depreciation and amortisation on property, plant and equipment and intangible assets	10	9,026	7,957
(Reversal of) / provision for inventory obsolescence		(28)	7
(Reversal of) / provision for impairment of accounts receivable		(44)	15
Loss on disposal of investments		-	7
Loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment	10	1,033	122
Interest expense		1,607	4,110
Interest income	21	(161)	(226)
Gain on derivatives, net		(896)	(342)
Dividend income	21	(402)	(224)
Loss on disposal of exploration licences		905	-
Other expense		-	80
Unrealised foreign exchange effect on non-operating balances		6,559	(945)
Operating cash flows before working capital changes		**35,905**	**28,321**
Increase in gross trade receivables		(1,238)	(827)
Decrease/(increase) in advances to suppliers		44	(1,029)
Decrease in other receivables		324	281
Increase in inventories		(1,761)	(306)
Increase in other current assets		(19)	(58)
Increase/(decrease) in trade payables		776	(1,088)
Increase/(decrease) in other payables		389	(729)
Increase/(decrease) in advances from customers		1,696	(159)
Increase/(decrease) in other current liabilities		814	(94)
Cash generated from operations		**36,930**	**24,312**
Income taxes paid		(3,658)	(2,743)
Interest paid		(4,866)	(4,935)
Net cash from operating activities		**28,406**	**16,634**
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment and intangible assets		(14,542)	(11,299)
Interest received		126	215
Dividend received		402	224
Purchase of investment measured at fair value through other comprehensive income		(207)	-
Net change in other non-current assets and liabilities		(218)	655
Net cash used in investing activities		**(14,439)**	**(10,205)**
Cash flows from financing activities			
Acquisition of non-controlling interest		(340)	(628)
Purchase of shares of subsidiary	13	(15,905)	-
Proceeds from sale of shares of subsidiary	13	10,743	-
Acquisition and redemption of treasury shares		(620)	(1,335)
Dividend paid to shareholders		(13,278)	(13,047)
Dividend paid to non-controlling shareholders		(215)	(118)
Proceeds from borrowings		35,633	53,420
Repayment of borrowings		(35,661)	(56,326)
Loan agreement costs		-	(733)
Security deposit made for auction		-	(1,060)
Repayment of security deposit made for auction		-	1,060
Net cash used in financing activities		**(19,643)**	**(18,767)**
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents		**(5,676)**	**(12,338)**
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January		14,302	27,168
Effect of movements in exchange rates on cash and cash equivalents		1,834	(528)
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December	7	**10,460**	**14,302**

(in millions of Russian Roubles)

	Capital and reserves attributable to the Company's owners							
	Share capital	**Treasury shares**	**Retained earnings**	**Revaluation reserve**	**Other reserves**	**Cumulative currency translation difference**	**Non-controlling interests**	**Total equity**
Balance at 1 January 2017	**3,046**	**(4)**	**68,439**	**(7,635)**	**(1,650)**	**4,960**	**20,566**	**87,722**
Total comprehensive income								
Profit for the year	-	-	13,432	-	-	-	828	14,260
Other comprehensive income								
Fair value gains on available-for-sale investments (Note 12)	-	-	-	4,733	-	-	-	4,733
Currency translation differences	-	-	-	-	-	583	19	602
Total other comprehensive income	**-**	**-**	**-**	**4,733**	**-**	**583**	**19**	**5,335**
Total comprehensive income for the year	**-**	**-**	**13,432**	**4,733**	**-**	**583**	**847**	**19,595**
Acquisition of non-controlling interest PJSC Dorogobuzh	-	-	11	-	-	-	(639)	(628)
Loss at recognition of options for CJSC VPC shares	-	-	-	-	(433)	-	-	(433)
Dividend declared (Note 16)	-	-	(13,047)	-	-	-	(118)	(13,165)
Acquisition of treasury shares	-	(2)	-	-	(1,333)	-	-	(1,335)
Other	-	-	(800)	-	-	-	-	(800)
Total transactions with Company's owners	**-**	**(2)**	**(13,836)**	**-**	**(1,766)**	**-**	**(757)**	**(16,361)**
Balance at 31 December 2017	**3,046**	**(6)**	**68,035**	**(2,902)**	**(3,416)**	**5,543**	**20,656**	**90,956**
Balance at 1 January 2018	**3,046**	**(6)**	**68,035**	**(2,902)**	**(3,416)**	**5,543**	**20,656**	**90,956**
Total comprehensive income								
Profit for the year	-	-	12,768	-	-	-	550	13,318
Other comprehensive (loss) / income								
Loss on investment in equity instruments measured at fair value through other comprehensive income (Note 12)	-	-	-	(11,235)	-	-	-	(11,235)
Currency translation differences	-	-	-	-	-	1,857	74	1,931
Total other comprehensive (loss) / income	**-**	**-**	**-**	**(11,235)**	**-**	**1,857**	**74**	**(9,304)**
Total comprehensive (loss) / income for the year	**-**	**-**	**12,768**	**(11,235)**	**-**	**1,857**	**624**	**4,014**
Acquisition of non-controlling interest	-	-	153	-	-	-	(493)	(340)
Acquisition and redemption of treasury shares	-	-	-	-	(620)	-	-	(620)
Dividend declared (Note 16)	-	-	(13,278)	-	-	-	(215)	(13,493)
Transactions with shares of subsidiary	-	-	(2,425)	-	73	-	-	(2,352)
Total transactions with Company's owners	-	**-**	**(15,550)**	**-**	**(547)**	**-**	**(708)**	**(16,805)**
Balance at 31 December 2018	**3,046**	**(6)**	**65,253**	**(14,137)**	**(3,963)**	**7,400**	**20,572**	**78,165**

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

1 Acron Group and its Operations

These consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2018 comprise Public Joint Stock Company "Acron" (the "Company" or "Acron") and its subsidiaries (together referred to as the "Group" or "Acron Group"). The Company's shares are traded on the Moscow and London Stock Exchange.

The Group's principal activities include the manufacture, distribution and sale of chemical fertilisers and related mineral primary and by-products. The Group's manufacturing facilities are primarily based in the Novgorodskaya, Smolenskaya, and Murmanskaya regions of Russia.

The Company's registered office is at Veliky Novgorod, Russian Federation, 173012.

As at 31 December 2018, the Group`s immediate parent company is Redbrick Investments S.a.r.l. (Luxembourg). Effective 9 June 2017, the Group's ultimate parent is Terasta Enterprises Limited (The Republic of Cyprus). Until 9 June 2017, the Group's ultimate parent was Subero Associates Inc. (British Virgin Islands). In 2018 and 2017, the Group is ultimately controlled by Mr. Viatcheslav Kantor.

2 Basis of accounting

Basis of preparation. These consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with, and comply with, International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS") under the historical cost convention except as modified by the fair value revaluation of derivative financial instruments, investments in equity instruments measured at fair value through other comprehensive income.

This is the first set of the Group's annual financial statements in which IFRS 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers and IFRS 9 Financial Instruments have been applied. Changes to significant accounting policies are described in Note 4.

Functional and presentation currency. Functional currency of the Group's consolidated financial statements is the currency of the primary economic environment in which the Group operates. Company's functional currency and presentation currency is the national currency of the Russian Federation - Russian Rouble (RUB).

Unless otherwise indicated, all financial information presented in these consolidated financial statements are presented in millions of Russian Roubles (RUB). These consolidated financial statements have been prepared based on the statutory records, with adjustments and reclassifications recorded for the fair presentation in accordance with IFRS.

3 Critical Accounting Estimates, and Judgments in Applying Accounting Policies

The preparation of consolidated financial statements in conformity with IFRSs requires management to make judgments, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of accounting policies and the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. Actual results may differ from those estimates.

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on management's experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Management also makes certain judgements, apart from those involving estimations, in the process of applying the accounting policies. Judgements that have the most significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements and estimates that can cause a significant adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

Information about critical judgments in applying accounting policies that have the most significant effect on the amounts recognised in the consolidated financial statements is included in the following notes:

Evaluation of put/call options for JSC Verkhnekamsk potash company (CJSC VPC) shares. The fair value of stock options is estimated based on Black–Scholes Option Pricing Model which was developed for use in estimating the fair value of options on quoted shares. Option pricing method requires use of subjective inputs and assumptions including expected volatility of the share price and share spot price at the date of valuation. Since CJSC VPC shares are not publicly traded, expected volatility was determined based on historical stock quotes of companies in the same industry and estimates. The estimate of the current fair value price of the shares was made on the basis of discounted cash flows attributable to CJSC VPC adjusted for non-controlling discount (Notes 13 and 27).

Accounting treatment for put options, that will be regulated by the Company's shares. In 2012, 2014, and 2017, the Group sold shares of CJSC VPC to the non-controlling shareholders linked to put options, which gave the right to the non-controlling shareholders to sell their shares back to the Group in exchange for the variable amount of shares in PJSC Acron. Because at the option exercise date the Group does not have obligation to deliver cash or another financial asset, the subsidiary's shares that are held by non-controlling interest holders were presented in equity as non-controlling interests and the put options were recognised as derivative financial liabilities (Note 17).

Impairment of subsoil licences and related costs. The Group performed annual impairment test of mining licence and related costs of CJSC VPC. The recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit (CGU) was determined based on fair value less costs to sell calculations as at 31 December 2018. These calculations used cash flow projections based on financial budgets approved by management and incorporating expected market prices for key fertilisers for the same period according to leading industry publications. The growth rate did not exceed the long-term average growth rate for the business sector of the economy in which the CGU operates. The discount rate used reflected the risks inherent in this CGU, as further disclosed in Note 11.

(in millions of Russian Roubles, except for per share amounts)

Capitalisation of borrowing costs for subsoil licences. Subsoil licences represent part of investment projects for development of mineral deposits that necessarily take a substantial time to get ready for intended use. Accordingly, management considers exploration rights as qualifying assets for capitalisation of borrowing costs. Management assesses whether capitalisation of borrowing costs shall be continued during periods when active development is interrupted while substantial design or technical work is carried out (Note 11).

Functional currency of foreign operation. Operations of related foreign legal entities registered in Luxembourg and Cyprus in substance represent a passive activity related to holding investment portfolio within the economic environment of the Company. With regard to the above, management concluded that the functional currency of these entities should be the Russian Rouble.

4 Changes in Significant Accounting Policies

The Group has initially adopted IFRS 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers and IFRS 9 Financial Instruments from 1 January 2018. A number of other new standards are effective from 1 January 2018 but they do not have a material effect on the Group's financial statements.

In accordance with the transition methods chosen by the Group in applying these standards, the comparative information in these financial statements is not restated to reflect the requirements of the new standards.

IFRS 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers

IFRS 15 establishes a comprehensive framework for determining whether, how much and when revenue is recognised. It replaced IAS 18 Revenue, IAS 11 Construction Contracts and related interpretations.

The Group has adopted IFRS 15 using the cumulative effect method (without practical expedients). The effect of initially applying this standard at the date of initial application (i.e. 1 January 2018) is estimated as inconsequential. Accordingly, the information presented for 2017 has not been restated – i.e. it is presented, as previously reported, under IAS 18, IAS 11 and related interpretations.

The Group assessed the impact of the new standard on the Group's performance and financial position. The Group identified that under contract conditions related to significant portion of fertilisers sales the Group promises to provide shipping and other freight services after the date when control of the goods passes to the customer at the loading port. Under IAS 18, the Group recognised revenue for such services and associated costs in full immediately after loading as revenue from trading activities. Under IFRS 15 such revenue is expected to be a separate performance obligation and shall be recognised over time of shipping as revenue from logistic services. However, the Group recognises revenue from logistic services at a point in time at the end of shipping due to the fact that potential impact was calculated and estimated as inconsequential.

The Group has also assessed the impact of the new standard on revenue disclosures. The Group concluded that existing disclosures are consistent with the new requirements. The Group will continue monitoring the impact of treating logistic services as a separate performance obligation and will adjust its accounting policies as appropriate in the future if and when such impact becomes material.

The impact of applying the new standard as at 31 December 2018:

31 December 2018	***Note***	**Amounts according to IAS 18**	**Adjustments**	**Amounts with adoption of IFRS 15**
Revenue	5	108,577	(515)	108,062
Cost of sales		(54,959)	515	(54,444)
Gross profit		53,618	-	53,618

In addition, according to the terms of a number of contracts, the final price for the delivered goods is determined after the transfer of control over the goods to the buyer. In accordance with current requirements, the Group recognises revenue based on an estimate of the expected price. At the time of determining the final price, the difference between expected and final price is recognised as other revenue. IFRS 15 application did not result in a significant change in the amount of recognised revenue. However IFRS 15 impacts the classification of the revenue recognised: only the revenue initially recognised at the moment of control transfer to the customer is recognised as revenue from contract with customers.

IFRS 9 Financial Instruments

IFRS 9 Financial instruments replaces IAS 39 Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement and introduces new classification and measurement requirements, a single forward-looking "expected loss" impairment model and a substantially-reformed approach to hedge accounting. This Standard does not have a significant impact on the Group's consolidated financial statements.

(in millions of Russian Roubles, except for per share amounts)

Classification and measurement of financial assets

IFRS 9 contains three principal classification categories for financial assets: measured at amortised cost, FVOCI and FVTPL. The classification of financial assets under IFRS 9 is generally based on the business model in which a financial asset is managed and its contractual cash flow characteristics. IFRS 9 eliminates the previous IAS 39 categories of held to maturity, loans and receivables and available for sale. Under IFRS 9, derivatives embedded in contracts where the host is a financial asset in the scope of the standard are never separated. Instead, the hybrid financial instrument as a whole is assessed for classification.

The following table and the accompanying notes below explain the original measurement categories under IAS 39 and the new measurement categories under IFRS 9 for the most significant Group's financial assets as at 1 January 2018. The effect of adopting IFRS 9 on the carrying amounts of financial assets at 1 January 2018 relates solely to the new impairment requirements.

	Original classification under IAS 39	New classification under IFRS 9	Original carrying amount under IAS 39	New carrying amount under IFRS 9
Financial assets				
Equity securities	Available-for-sale	FVOCI – equity instrument	22,698	22,698
Total financial assets			**22,698**	**22,698**

IFRS 9 largely retains the existing requirements in IAS 39 for the classification and measurement of financial liabilities.

The adoption of IFRS 9 has not had a significant effect on the Group's accounting policies related to financial liabilities.

These equity securities represent investments that the Group intends to hold for the long term for strategic purposes. As permitted by IFRS 9, the Group has designated these investments at the date of initial application as measured at FVOCI. Unlike IAS 39, the accumulated fair value reserve related to these investments will never be reclassified to profit or loss.

Impairment of financial assets

IFRS 9 replaces the 'incurred loss' model in IAS 39 with an 'expected credit loss' (ECL) model. The new impairment model applies to financial assets measured at amortised cost, contract assets and debt investments at FVOCI, but not to investments in equity instruments. Under IFRS 9, credit losses are recognised earlier than under IAS 39.

For assets in the scope of the IFRS 9 impairment model, impairment losses are generally expected to increase and become more volatile. The Group has determined that the application of IFRS 9's impairment requirements at 1 January 2018 does not result in an additional allowance for impairment.

5 Segment Information

The Group prepares its segment analysis in accordance with IFRS 8, Operating Segments. Operating segments are components that engage in business activities that capable to earn revenues or incur expenses, whose operating results are regularly reviewed by the chief operating decision maker(s) ("CODM") and for which discrete financial information is available. The CODM is the person or group of persons who allocates resources and assesses the performance for the entity. The functions of CODM are performed by the Management Board of the Group.

The development and approval of strategies, market situation analysis, the risk assessment, investment focus, technological process changes, goals and priorities are set and assessed in line with the current segment structure of the Group:

- Acron – representing manufacturing and distribution of chemical fertilisers by PJSC Acron;
- Dorogobuzh – representing manufacturing and distribution of chemical fertilisers by PJSC Dorogobuzh;
- Logistics – representing transportation an logistic services rendered by Estonian ports of the Group and some minor transportation companies in Russia. Comprises such entities as AS DBT, JSC Acron-Trans, LLC Andrex. Constitutes an aggregation of a number of operating segments;
- Trading – representing overseas & domestic distribution companies of the Group;
- Mining NWPC – representing production of apatite-nepheline ore and subsequent processing in apatite concentrate;
- Mining excluding NWPC - comprise mining entities CJSC VPC, JSC Mining Company Partomchorr, North Atlantic Potash Inc., and other assets in Canada being at the stage of development, exploration and evaluation;
- Other – representing certain logistic (other than included in logistic segment), service, agriculture and management operations.

The Group's segments are strategic business units that focus on different customers. They are managed separately because each business unit has significant business and risk profile.

(in millions of Russian Roubles, except for per share amounts)

Segment financial information is presented and reviewed by the CODM based on the IFRS and includes revenues from sales and EBITDA.

The CODM evaluates performance of each segment based on measure of operating profit adjusted by depreciation and amortisation, foreign exchange gain or loss, other non-cash and extraordinary items (EBITDA). Since this term is not a standard IFRS measure Acron Group's definition of EBITDA may differ from that of other companies.

Information for the reportable segments for the year ended 31 December 2018 is set out below:

	Segment sales	Eliminable intersegment sales	External sales	EBITDA
Acron	67,754	(58,492)	9,262	23,746
Dorogobuzh	27,152	(20,285)	6,867	8,347
Logistics	4,729	(4,543)	186	1,042
Trading	94,708	(4,780)	89,928	719
Mining NWPC	9,543	(8,333)	1,210	3,352
Mining excluding NWPC	-	-	-	(65)
Other	1,582	(973)	609	(88)
Total	**205,468**	**(97,406)**	**108,062**	**37,053**

Information for the reportable segments for the year ended 31 December 2017 is set out below:

	Segment sales	Eliminable intersegment sales	External sales	EBITDA
Acron	54,783	(47,459)	7,324	17,764
Dorogobuzh	24,002	(8,889)	15,113	7,063
Logistics	3,771	(3,562)	209	705
Trading	73,302	(3,551)	69,751	1,261
Mining NWPC	8,660	(7,122)	1,538	2,698
Mining excluding NWPC	-	-	-	(40)
Other	1,859	(1,452)	407	366
Total	**166,377**	**(72,035)**	**94,342**	**29,817**

Reconciliation of EBITDA to Profit Before Tax:

	2018	2017
Operating Profit	**27,439**	**21,177**
Depreciation and amortisation of property, plant and equipment and intangible assets	9,026	7,957
Foreign currency (profit)/loss on operating transactions, net	(1,350)	561
Loss on disposal of exploration licences	905	-
Loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment	1,033	122
Total consolidated EBITDA	**37,053**	**29,817**

Information about geographical areas:

The geographic information below analyses the Group's revenue on external sales and non-current assets. In presenting the following information, segment revenue has been based on the geographic location of customers and segment assets were based on the geographic location of the assets.

	2018	2017
Revenue		
Russia	19,937	16,035
European Union	20,890	16,040
Commonwealth of Independent States	5,976	14,044
USA and Canada	13,598	9,296
Latin America	22,291	16,985
PRC	7,242	6,292
Asia (excluding PRC)	12,931	9,777
Other regions	5,197	5,873
Total	**108,062**	**94,342**

(in millions of Russian Roubles, except for per share amounts)

	2018	2017
Non-current assets		
Russia	122,879	113,731
Canada	4,686	4,895
Estonia	4,349	3,966
Total	**131,914**	**122,592**

Non-current assets represent non-current assets other than financial instruments and deferred tax assets.

For 2018, revenues from logistics activities representing a separate performance obligation under IFRS 15 amounted to RUB 5,155. Adjustment associated with price changes under IFRS 15 amounted to (349) RUB.

This revenue was accounted for as part of the Trading in Information for the reportable segments for the year ended 31 December 2018.

In the reporting period, there is one individual export customer contributing 17% to the total revenue (2017: 16%).

6 Balances and Transactions with Related Parties

Related parties are defined in IAS 24, Related Party Disclosures. Parties are generally considered to be related if one party has the ability to control the other party, is under common control, or can exercise significant influence or joint control over the other party in making financial and operational decisions. In considering each possible related party relationship, attention is directed to the substance of the relationship, not merely the legal form.

The nature of the related party relationships for those related parties with whom the Group entered into significant transactions or had significant balances outstanding at 31 December 2018 or 2017 are detailed below.

The following turnovers and balances arise from transactions with related parties:

i Balances with related parties

Statement of financial position caption	Note	Relationship	2018	2017
Trade receivables, gross	8	Companies under common control	4	5
Trade payables	14	Companies under common control	(5)	(4)

ii Transactions with related parties

	Note	Relationship	2018	2017
Sales of chemical fertilisers	5	Companies under common control	8	8
Purchases of raw materials	18	Companies under common control	(73)	(71)
Charity expenses	22	Companies under common control	(119)	(65)

iii Key management personnel compensation

Total key management personnel compensation in the amount of RUB 1,269 (2017: RUB 801) was recorded in general and administrative expenses. Related state social and pension costs included in this amount equalled to RUB 171 (2017: RUB 124).

7 Cash and Cash Equivalents

	2018	2017
Cash on hand and bank balances denominated in RUB	2,602	2,018
Bank balances denominated in USD	5,582	10,143
Bank balances denominated in EUR	1,952	1,680
Bank balances denominated in CNY	154	230
Bank balances denominated in other foreign currencies	170	231
Total cash and cash equivalents	**10,460**	**14,302**

Cash and cash equivalents include term deposits of RUB 2,391 (2017: RUB 3,679).

The fair value of cash and cash equivalents is equal to their carrying amount. All bank balances and term deposits are neither past due nor impaired. Analysis of the credit quality of bank balances and term deposits is as follows:

	2018	2017
A to AAA* rated	3,884	1,943
BBB- to BBB+* rated	5,348	10,671
BB- to BB+* rated	418	661
Baa3 (2017: Ba2)**	747	748
Unrated	63	279
Total	**10,460**	**14,302**

* Based on the credit ratings of Fitch Ratings, an independent rating agency.

** Based on the credit ratings of Moody's, an independent rating agency.

(in millions of Russian Roubles, except for per share amounts)

8 Accounts Receivable

	2018	2017
Trade accounts receivable	3,555	2,317
Notes receivable	85	91
Other accounts receivable	588	498
Impairment provision	(43)	(50)
Total financial assets	**4,185**	**2,856**
Advances to suppliers	2,471	2,515
Value-added tax recoverable	3,123	3,546
Income tax prepayments	383	457
Other taxes receivable	656	606
Impairment provision	(3)	(40)
Total accounts receivable	**10,815**	**9,940**

The fair value of accounts receivable does not differ significantly from their carrying amounts.

As at 31 December 2018, trade and other accounts receivable of RUB 43 (31 December 2017: RUB 50) were individually impaired and an impairment provision was recognised. Not past due receivables are not credit-impaired under IFRS 9. Exposure to credit risk is minimal due to high turnover.

The aging of trade and other accounts receivable is as follows:

	Gross 2018	Impairment 2018	Gross 2017	Impairment 2017
Not past due	4,086	-	2,750	-
Past due for less than 3 months	-	-	-	-
Past due from 3 to 9 months	11	(1)	14	(5)
Past due from 9 to 12 months	4	(4)	9	(8)
Past due over 12 months	42	(38)	42	(37)
Total	**4,143**	**(43)**	**2,815**	**(50)**

The movements in the provision for impairment of trade and other accounts receivable are as follows:

	2018	2017
Provision for impairment at 1 January	**(50)**	**(41)**
Provision for impairment	(1)	(11)
Provision used	8	2
Provision for impairment at 31 December	**(43)**	**(50)**

As at 31 December 2018, the Group hold no collateral as security for trade receivable (31 December 2017: the Group held collateral as security for trade receivable in the amount of RUB 685, included in advances received).

Besides trade accounts receivable and advances to suppliers, the other classes within accounts receivable do not contain impaired assets.

9 Inventories

	2018	2017
Raw materials and spare parts	8,079	8,056
Work in progress	460	314
Finished products	8,185	6,580
	16,724	**14,950**

Raw materials are shown net of obsolescence provision of RUB 99 (2017: RUB 127). No inventory was pledged as security at 31 December 2018 and 2017.

(in millions of Russian Roubles, except for per share amounts)

10 Property, Plant and Equipment

	Buildings and constructions	Plant and equipment	Transport	Other	Land	Mining and primary ore dressing assets	Mining assets under construction	Assets under construction	Total
Cost									
Balance at 1 January 2018	**38,501**	**41,360**	**4,933**	**2,894**	**2,603**	**29,465**	**14,703**	**7,936**	**142,395**
Additions	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,951	10,482	**15,433**
Reclassification	2,970	5,174	821	198	11	6,302	(6,302)	(9,174)	**-**
Disposals	(44)	(302)	(958)	(11)	-	(717)	-	-	**(2,032)**
Translation difference	477	433	30	15	-	-	-	-	**955**
Balance at 31 December 2018	**41,904**	**46,665**	**4,826**	**3,096**	**2,614**	**35,050**	**13,352**	**9,244**	**156,751**
Accumulated Depreciation									
Balance at 1 January 2018	**17,775**	**23,811**	**2,681**	**1,320**	**-**	**8,988**	**-**	**-**	**54,575**
Depreciation charge	2,299	3,642	168	248	-	2 642	-	-	**8,999**
Disposals	(28)	(281)	(537)	(10)	-	(143)	-	-	**(999)**
Translation difference	309	293	29	13	-	-	-	-	**644**
Balance at 31 December 2018	**20,355**	**27,465**	**2,341**	**1 571**	**-**	**11,487**	**-**	**-**	**63,219**
Net Book Value									
Balance at 1 January 2018	**20,726**	**17,549**	**2,252**	**1,574**	**2,603**	**20,477**	**14,703**	**7,936**	**87,820**
Balance at 31 December 2018	**21,549**	**19,200**	**2,485**	**1 525**	**2 614**	**23,563**	**13,352**	**9,244**	**93,532**

(in millions of Russian Roubles, except for per share amounts)

	Buildings and constructions	Plant and equipment	Transport	Other	Land	Mining and primary ore dressing assets	Mining assets under construction	Assets under construction	Total
Cost									
Balance at 1 January 2017	**37,430**	**38,023**	**5,000**	**2,794**	**2,594**	**23,505**	**15,318**	**6,713**	**131,377**
Additions	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,356	6,250	**11,606**
Reclassification	1,104	3,758	64	98	9	5,971	(5,971)	(5,033)	**-**
Disposals	(388)	(627)	(146)	(5)	-	(11)	-	-	**(1,177)**
Translation difference	355	206	15	7	-	-	-	6	**589**
Balance at 31 December 2017	**38,501**	**41,360**	**4,933**	**2,894**	**2,603**	**29,465**	**14,703**	**7,936**	**142,395**
Accumulated Depreciation									
Balance at 1 January 2017	**15,592**	**21,013**	**2,640**	**1,050**	**-**	**6,909**	**-**	**-**	**47,204**
Depreciation charge	2,335	3,290	162	273	-	2,083	-	-	**8,143**
Disposals	(286)	(625)	(135)	(5)	-	(4)	-	-	**(1,055)**
Translation difference	134	133	14	2	-	-	-	-	**283**
Balance at 31 December 2017	**17,775**	**23,811**	**2,681**	**1,320**	**-**	**8,988**	**-**	**-**	**54,575**
Net Book Value									
Balance at 1 January 2017	**21,838**	**17,010**	**2,360**	**1,744**	**2,594**	**16,596**	**15,318**	**6,713**	**84,173**
Balance at 31 December 2017	**20,726**	**17,549**	**2,252**	**1,574**	**2,603**	**20,477**	**14,703**	**7,936**	**87,820**

(in millions of Russian Roubles, except for per share amounts)

Included in the 2018 additions to assets under constructions and mining assets under construction, related to CJSC VPC and JSC NWPC, is approximately RUB 1,283 of capitalised borrowing costs in accordance with IAS 23, Borrowing costs (2017: RUB 793) at the borrowing rate from 6.17% to 10.2% (2017: from 6.19% to 9.05%).

At 31 December 2018 and 2017, no pledges over property, plant and equipment.

No impairment loss in respect of individual assets was recognised in 2018 and 2017.

Non-current assets impairment test. Cash-generating units (CGUs) represent the lowest level within the Group at which the goodwill is monitored by management and which are not larger than a segment.

Management concluded that there were no impairment indicators for CGUs as at on 31 December 2018, except for CJSC VPC (Note 11), where development phase determines the necessity to perform impairment testing.

11 Subsoil Licences and Related Costs

Licence of CJSC Verkhnekamsk potash company (CJSC VPC)

In May 2008, the Group’s subsidiary, CJSC VPC, following an auction process, acquired a licence for the exploration and development of the Talitsky section of the Verkhnekamsk potash deposit, located in Perm region, Russian Federation. The licence expires in April 2053. In 2016 CJSC VPC agreed on a technical project for the development of the Talitsky section. In accordance with the amended conditions of the licence changed in 2016 CJSC VPC has the commitment that no later than 2028 the mine output shall be brought to a designed capacity levels.

In 2018 the Group resumed active construction of the mining and processing enterprise CJSC VPC. Therefore capitalised borrowing costs in amount of RUB 3,505 in the reporting period and applied borrowing rate of 10.2%. Mining assets under construction related to CJSC VPC also include capitalised borrowing costs in amount of RUB 596.

Exploration Licences in Canada

In 2018, the Group continued exploration of potash deposits in the Canadian province of Saskatchewan. The term of permits expired in 2016, and the Group exercised the pre-emptive right for registration of exploration licences. As of 31 December 2018, the Group holds 11 exploration licences on potash deposits for RUB 4,685 (31 December 2017: RUB 4,894). In 2018, the Group considered unpromising the development of several deposits and returned back to the province licences in the amount of RUB 905. In 2018, the Group acquired a new permit for exploration in the amount of RUB 27. In 2018 the Group did not perform active development on the following deposits.

	2018	2017
Cost		
Balance at 1 January	**34,298**	**33,242**
Additions	3,897	978
Disposal	(905)	-
Currency translation difference	443	78
Balance at 31 December	**37,733**	**34,298**
Accumulated Amortisation and Impairment Loss		
Balance at 1 January	**(1,164)**	**(1,152)**
Amortisation charge	(12)	(12)
Balance at 31 December	**(1,176)**	**(1,164)**
Net Book Value		
Balance at 1 January	**33,134**	**32,090**
Balance at 31 December	**36,557**	**33,134**

Subsoil licences and related costs comprise of:

	2018	2017
Apatite-nepheline deposits (production / development stage)	812	824
Potash deposits (development stage)	29,716	26,211
Exploration licences	4,685	4,894
Licence and expenditure on deposit in exploration and evaluation stage	1,039	940
Asset related to the discharge of licence obligations	305	265
	36,557	**33,134**

Impairment test of CJSC VPC

Since the assets of CJSC VPC are under development, Management of the Group performed an annual testing of this cash-generating unit (CGU) for impairment as at 31 December 2018.

The recoverable amount of each CGU is determined as the highest of the fair value less costs to sell and value in use. The management of the Group attracted an independent appraiser JSC NEO Center to determine the fair value of CJSC VPC shares as of 31 December 2018. These calculations used cash flow forecast prepared in nominal terms, based on financial budgets approved by management. Growth rates do not exceed the long-term average growth rates projected for the sector of the economy in which the CGU operates.

(in millions of Russian Roubles, except for per share amounts)

Based on these estimates, management of the Group concluded that no impairment charge is required. The main assumptions for calculating the value in use are presented below:

	31 December 2018	30 September 2017
EBITDA margin range over the forecast period after reaching the designed capacity	80-83%	63-69%
Revenue growth rate beyond forecast period	2.75%	2%
Start of production	2023	2021
Discount rate	13.2-13.7%	12.0%

Management determined the target EBITDA based on its most realistic expectations regarding market development. The weighted average growth rates used in the calculations are in line with the forecast calculations in industry reports. Discount rates used are post-tax rates reflecting the specific risks inherent in the CGU and estimated on the basis of the weighted average cost of capital.

The estimated recoverable amount of the CGU exceeded its carrying value by approximately RUB 41,707. Management identified that the recoverable amount strongly depends on changes in export prices expressed in roubles and discount rates. Decrease of over 19.7% in the export prices or increase by 3.2 percentage points in the discount rate used would have caused the recoverable amount to equal the carrying amount.

12 Investment in Equity Instruments Measured at Fair Value through Other Comprehensive Income

	2018	2017
Balance at 1 January	**22,698**	**17,965**
Fair value (loss)/gain recognised directly in OCI	(11,235)	4,733
Additions	207	-
Balance at 31 December	**11,670**	**22,698**

The Group has investments in the following companies:

Name	Activity	Country of registration	31 December 2018	31 December 2017
Non-current				
Grupa Azoty S.A.	Fertilisers manufacture	Poland	11,322	22,557
Other		Russia	348	141
Total non-current			**11,670**	**22,698**
Total			**11,670**	**22,698**

The fair value of investment in Grupa Azoty S.A. was determined by reference to their quoted market prices as at 31 December 2018. As at 31 December 2018, the share price of Grupa Azoty S.A. on Warsaw Stock Exchange was RUB 575.99 (31 December 2017: RUB 1,147.51).

13 Derivative Financial Assets and Liabilities

In June 2018, Sberbank Investments LLC, being a financial equity investor of CJSC VPC, decided to extend the term of participation in the potash project. At the same time, the Group compensated the partner for the accumulated profitability through the exercise of the put-option on 19.9% of the shares of CJSC VPC with the simultaneous sale of the said block of shares back to Sberbank Investments LLC and setting up a number of option agreements. The effect from acquisition and sale back of the shares of CJSC VPC was recognised in equity.

The net assets as at 31 December 2018 are represented by one call option, which gives the Group the right to purchase from non-controlling shareholders the 19.9% stake in CJSC VPC up to June 2020 and two put options that give non-controlling shareholders the right to sell to the Group their 20% and 19.9% stakes of their interest in CJSC VPC correspondingly in June and August 2020.

(in millions of Russian Roubles, except for per share amounts)

	31 December 2018			
	Assets		Liabilities	
	Non-Current	Current	Non-Current	Current
Put/call options on CJSC VPC shares	2,844	-	(1,875)	-
	2,844	**-**	**(1,875)**	**-**

	31 December 2017			
	Assets		Liabilities	
	Non-Current	Current	Non-Current	Current
Put/call options on CJSC VPC shares	-	-	-	(3,359)
	-	**-**	**-**	**(3,359)**

14 Accounts Payable

	2018	2017
Trade accounts payable	4,023	3,247
Dividend payable	71	40
Notes payable	8	21
Total financial payables	**4,102**	**3,308**
Payables to employees	1,411	1,263
Accrued liabilities and other creditors	774	717
Other taxes payable	939	407
Total accounts payable and accrued expenses	**7,226**	**5,695**

15 Short-Term and Long-Term Borrowings

Borrowings consist of the following:

	2018	2017
Bonds issued	13,772	23,767
Credit lines	7,160	5,890
Term loans	63,553	44,866
	84,485	**74,523**

The Group’s borrowings mature as follows:

	2018	2017
Borrowings due:		
- within 1 year	17,539	18,930
- between 1 and 5 years	66,671	55,382
- after 5 years	275	211
	84,485	**74,523**

The Group’s borrowings are denominated in currencies as follows:

	2018	2017
Borrowings denominated in:		
- RUB	21,813	30,422
- EUR	4,930	3,551
- USD	57,742	40,550
	84,485	**74,523**

The Group did not enter into any hedging arrangements in respect of its foreign currency obligations or interest rate exposures.

At 31 December 2018, unused credit lines available under the long-term loan facilities were RUB 41,818 (31 December 2017: RUB 18,614). The terms and conditions of unused credit lines are consistent with other borrowings.

(in millions of Russian Roubles, except for per share amounts)

The details of the significant short-term loan balances are summarised below:

	2018	2017
Short-term borrowings		
RUB		
Bonds with fixed interest rate of 9.1% per annum	-	9,995
Loans with fixed interest rate of 9.75% per annum	-	115
Loans with floating interest rates from the key rate of the Bank of Russia+0.55% to the key rate of the Bank of Russia+1.5% per annum	6,813	5,811
EUR		
Loans with floating interest rates from 6M EURIBOR+0.65% to 6M EURIBOR+1.9% (2017: from 6M EURIBOR+0.75% to 6M EURIBOR+2.85%) per annum	414	371
Loans with floating interest rate from 3M EURIBOR+1.35% to 3M EURIBOR+1.7% per annum	248	243
Loans with fixed interest rate of 5.27% per annum	125	217
USD		
Loans with fixed interest rates from 2.48% to 5.61% per annum	82	1,015
Loans with floating interest rate of 1M LIBOR+2.25% (2017: from LIBOR O/N+1.56% to LIBOR O/N+2.05%) per annum	9,857	1,163
Total short-term borrowings	**17,539**	**18,930**

The details of the significant long-term loan balances are summarised below:

	2018	2017
Long-term borrowings		
RUB		
Bonds with fixed interest rates from 8.6% to 10.2% per annum	13,772	13,772
Loans with floating interest rate: the key rate of the Bank of Russia +2% per annum	1,228	729
EUR		
Loans with floating interest rates from 6M EURIBOR+0.65% to 6M EURIBOR+1.9% per annum	1,531	1,379
Loans with floating interest rates from 3M EURIBOR+1.25% to 3M EURIBOR+1.7% per annum	2,612	1,233
Loans with fixed interest rate of 5.27% per annum	-	108
USD		
Loans with fixed interest rates from 5.11% to 5.61% per annum	-	68
Loans with floating interest rate of 3M LIBOR+3.65% per annum	-	2,016
Loans with floating interest rates from 1M LIBOR+2.1% to 1M LIBOR+2.25% (2017: 1M LIBOR+2.8%) per annum	47,803	36,288
Total long-term borrowings	**66,946**	**55,593**

In May 2011, the Group placed through an offering to the public under an open subscription RUB non-convertible bonds with a face value of RUB 7,500 to be redeemed in May 2021. In 2012, the Group redeemed bonds in the amount of RUB 3,377. The holders of this bond issue were granted an option to redeem the bonds in May 2015 and May 2016 which resulted in early redemption of bonds for RUB 1,354. The Group further placed the bonds of this issue for RUB 1,354. At 31 December 2018, the Group's subsidiary PJSC Dorogobuzh held bonds in the amount of RUB 351.

In November 2015, the Group placed non-convertible interest-bearing documentary bonds in the amount of RUB 10,000 to be redeemed in November 2018. The bonds were placed at 9.1%. In May 2017, partial redemption took place during buyback option period for RUB 5. In November 2018, the Group redeemed bonds in amount of RUB 9,995.

In October 2016, the Group placed non-convertible interest-bearing documentary bonds in the amount of RUB 5,000 to be redeemed in September 2026. The bonds were placed at 9.55% with the option of early redemption in October 2020.

In June 2017, the Group placed non-convertible interest-bearing documentary bonds in the amount of RUB 5,000 to be redeemed in May 2027. The bonds were placed at 8.6% with the option of early redemption in December 2021.

All of the above bonds were admitted to the quotation list B and are traded on Moscow Stock Exchange. The fair value of the outstanding bonds as at 31 December 2018 was RUB 14,001 with reference to Moscow Stock Exchange quotations as of this date (31 December 2017: RUB 24,450).

In 2018 the Group borrowed funds under a 5-year syndicated pre-export loan agreement concluded in May 2017 in the amount of USD 120 million (RUB 7,442) at 1M LIBOR+2.25% rate per annum, as at 31 December 2018, with the purpose to satisfy general corporate finance requirements (2017: The Group borrowed USD 630 million (RUB 35,831) at 1M LIBOR+2.8% rate per annum, with the purpose to refinance previous syndicated pre-export loan as well as to satisfy general corporate finance requirements).

(in millions of Russian Roubles, except for per share amounts)

Significant loan agreements contain certain covenants including those which require the Group and the Group entities to maintain a minimum level of net assets, net debt/EBITDA ratio, and EBITDA/interest expense ratio. Some of the loan agreements provide for the borrower's obligation to maintain the required level of inflows through the accounts opened with the lending banks. The loan agreements also contains a number of covenants and acceleration clause in case of the borrower's failure to fulfil its obligations under the loan agreements which include restrictions on significant transactions with assets. Also, these covenants permit the respective banks to directly debit the accounts opened by the debtors with the banks to ensure repayment of the loans. The Group is in compliance with these covenants.

Reconciliation of movements of liabilities to cash flows arising from financing activities:

	Loans	Bonds	Total
Balance at 1 January 2018	**50,756**	**23,767**	**74,523**
Changes from financing cash flows			
Proceeds from borrowings	35,633	-	35,633
Repayment of borrowings	(25,666)	(9,995)	(35,661)
Total changes from financing cash flows	**60,723**	**13,772**	**74,495**
The effect of changes in foreign exchange rates	**9,932**	**-**	**9,932**
Other changes			
Capitalised borrowing costs (Notes 10 and 11)	1,894	1,423	**3,317**
Interest expense	883	724	**1,607**
Interest paid	(2,719)	(2,147)	**(4,866)**
Total liability-related other changes	**58**	**-**	**58**
Balance at 31 December 2018	**70,713**	**13,772**	**84,485**

16 Capital and Reserves

The total authorised number of ordinary shares is 40,534,000 shares (31 December 2017: 40,534,000) with a par value of RUB 5 per share. All authorised shares have been issued and fully paid.

Total number of outstanding shares comprises (par value is expressed in roubles per one share):

	No. of outstanding ordinary shares	No. of treasury shares	Total share capital	Treasury share capital	Outstanding share capital
At 1 January 2017	**40,534,000**	**(726,208)**	**3,046**	**(4)**	**3,042**
Acquisition	-	(420,244)	-	(2)	(2)
At 31 December 2017	**40,534,000**	**(1,146,452)**	**3,046**	**(6)**	**3,040**
Redemption of treasury shares	-	121,100	-	-	-
Acquisition of treasury shares	-	(260,448)	-	-	-
At 31 December 2018	**40,534,000**	**(1,285,800)**	**3,046**	**(6)**	**3,040**

In January 2018, dividend for previous years was declared and paid in amount of RUB 112 per ordinary share. In May 2018, dividend for 2017 was declared and paid in amount of RUB 185 per ordinary share. In October 2018, dividend for 2017 was declared and paid in amount of RUB 40 per ordinary share. In March 2019, subsequent to reporting period, dividend for previous years was declared in amount of RUB 130 per ordinary share.

Shares issue to non-controlling interest

In accordance with the agreements with the banks the Group has unconditional right to discharge of obligations by transferring to option holders Company's own shares (ordinary shares of PJSC Acron) in amount, calculated based on the total amount of obligation and own shares fair value to be transferred at a future date. As at 31 December 2018, related financing received by the Group was recorded in the Group's equity as non-controlling interest in amount of RUB 18,376 (31 December 2017: RUB 17,869).

Derivative financial instruments related to above share issues are disclosed in Note 13.

(in millions of Russian Roubles, except for per share amounts)

17 Non-controlling Interests

The following table summarises the information relating to each of the Group's subsidiaries that has material non-controlling interest, before any intra group eliminations.

As at 31 December 2018

	CJSC VPC	PJSC Dorogobuzh	Other individually immaterial subsidiaries	Intra-group elimination	Total
Non-controlling interest percentage	**39.9%**	**3.31%**			
Non-current assets	24,578	14,877			
Current assets	23,341	33,824			
Long-term liabilities	(1,658)	(585)			
Current liabilities	(205)	(2,145)			
Net assets	**46,056**	**45,971**			
Carrying amount of non-control interests	18,376	1,522	674	-	20,572
Revenue	-	27,152			
Profit and total comprehensive income	1,272	9,380			
Profit attributed to non-controlling interest	508	309	(267)	-	550
Other comprehensive income attributed to non-control interest	-	-	-	74	74
Cash flows (used in)/from operating activities	(59)	4,712			
Cash flows used in investment activities	(157)	(529)			
Cash flows used in financing activities (dividend to non-controlling interests PJSC Dorogobuzh: 215)	-	(6,900)			
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(216)	(2,717)			
Effect of exchange rate changes	64	604			

(in millions of Russian Roubles, except for per share amounts)

As at 31 December 2017

	CJSC VPC	PJSC Dorogobuzh	Other individually immaterial subsidiaries	Intra-group elimination	Total
Non-controlling interest percentage	**39.9%**	**4.08%**			
Non-current assets	23,267	19,427			
Current assets	23,162	31,733			
Long-term liabilities	(1,499)	(416)			
Current liabilities	(145)	(3,658)			
Net assets	**44,785**	**47,086**			
Carrying amount of non-control interests	17,869	1,921	866	-	20,656
Revenue	-	24,002			
Profit and total comprehensive income	1,176	7,469			
Profit attributed to non-controlling interest	469	305	54	-	828
Other comprehensive income attributed to non-control interest	-	-	19	-	19
Cash flows from operating activities	-	3,596			
Cash flows (used in)/ from investment activities	(14)	10,017			
Cash flows used in financing activities (dividend to non-controlling interests PJSC Dorogobuzh: 118)	-	(14,587)			
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(14)	(974)			
Effect of exchange rate changes	(1)	(453)			

18 Cost of Sales

	2018	2017
Natural gas	15,550	15,406
Depreciation and amortisation of property, plant and equipment and intangible assets	9,026	7,957
Fuel and energy	7,630	7,219
Potash used in production	6,721	5,192
Staff costs	6,331	6,062
Repairs and maintenance	3,214	3,057
Other materials and components	3,437	4,736
Services	901	886
Social expenditure	717	670
Drilling and blasting	471	398
Production overheads	446	300
Impairment loss	-	26
	54,444	**51,909**

19 Selling, General and Administrative Expenses

	2018	2017
Staff costs	4,059	3,624
Buildings maintenance and rent	718	580
Taxes other than income tax	640	452
Representation expenses	582	516
Audit, legal and consulting services	443	315
Security	388	391
Commission fees	340	195
Business trip expenses	284	197
Marketing services	168	129
Telecommunication costs	79	63
Bank services	71	177
Insurance	64	64
Change in provision for bad debts	(23)	15
Other expenses	302	444
	8,115	**7,162**

(in millions of Russian Roubles, except for per share amounts)

20 Transportation Expenses

	2018	2017
Railway tariff	4,418	3,822
Ocean freight	4,505	2,747
Handling of goods	4,262	3,722
Container transportation	1,795	1,553
Railcar lease	1,115	635
Maintenance of rolling stock	1,086	932
Other	534	317
	17,715	**13,728**

21 Finance (Expenses) / Income, net

	2018	2017
Foreign exchange (loss)/gain on financial transactions, net	(8,393)	856
Other finance costs	(309)	(376)
Commission expense	(283)	(572)
Dividend income	402	224
Interest income from loans provided and term deposits	161	226
	(8,422)	**358**

22 Other Operating Expenses, net

	2018	2017
Foreign exchange gain/(loss) on operating transactions, net	1,350	(561)
Loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment	(1,033)	(122)
Loss on disposal of exploration licences	(905)	-
Charity expenses	(242)	(277)
Other income	481	594
	(349)	**(366)**

23 Earnings per Share

Basic earnings per share are calculated by dividing the profit attributable to equity holders of the Company by the weighted average number of ordinary shares in issue during the year, excluding treasury shares. As at 31 December 2018 and as at 31 December 2017, ordinary shares of the Company have a potential dilutive effect associated with the right to exercise obligations under the redemption put-options by transferring its own ordinary shares (Note 16).

	2018	2017
Weighted average number of shares outstanding	40,534,000	40,534,000
Adjusted for weighted average number of treasury shares	(1,202,565)	(961,499)
Weighted average number of shares outstanding (basic)	**39,331,435**	**39,572,501**
Effect of right to settle in own ordinary shares	103,838	413,290
Weighted average number of shares outstanding (diluted)	**39,435,273**	**39,985,791**
Profit attributable to the equity holders of the Company	12,768	13,432
Basic (in Russian Roubles)	**324.63**	**339.43**
Diluted (in Russian Roubles)	**323.77**	**335.92**

(in millions of Russian Roubles, except for per share amounts)

24 Income Tax

	2018	2017
Income tax expense – current	4,095	3,195
Adjustment for prior years	-	95
Deferred tax charge – origination and reversal of temporary differences	893	210
Income tax charge	**4,988**	**3,500**

Profit before taxation for financial reporting purposes is reconciled to tax charge as follows:

	2018	2018	2017	2017
Profit before taxation	**18,304**	**100%**	**17,760**	**100%**
Theoretical tax charge at statutory rate of 20%	3,661	20%	3,552	20%
Effects of different tax rates	(144)	(1%)	(229)	(1%)
Tax effect of items which are not deductible or assessable for taxation purposes	1,152	6%	352	2%
Change in unrecognised deductible temporary differences	319	2%	(270)	(2%)
Adjustment for prior years	-	-	95	1%
Income tax charge	**4,988**	**27%**	**3,500**	**20%**

In the context of the Group's current structure, tax losses and current tax assets of different group subsidiaries may not be offset against current tax liabilities and taxable profits of other group companies and, accordingly, taxes may accrue even where there is a consolidated tax loss. Therefore, deferred tax assets and liabilities are offset only when they relate to the same taxable entity. Differences between IFRS and Russian and other countries statutory taxation regulations give rise to temporary differences between the carrying amount of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and their tax bases. The tax effect of the movements in these temporary differences is detailed below and is recorded for major Russian subsidiaries at the rate of 20% (2017: 20%).

Unrecognised deferred tax liabilities

At 31 December 2018, a deferred tax liability of RUB 13,764 (31 December 2017: RUB 14,884) for temporary differences of RUB 68,821 (31 December 2017: RUB 74,420) related to an investment in a subsidiary was not recognised because the Company controls whether the liability will be incurred and it is satisfied that it will not be incurred in the foreseeable future.

(in millions of Russian Roubles, except for per share amounts)

Movement in deferred tax balances

	1 January 2017	Charged to profit or loss	31 December 2017	Charged to profit or loss	Charged to capital	31 December 2018
Property, plant and equipment	2,031	526	2,557	408	-	2,965
Investments	33	(28)	5	(5)	-	-
Subsoil Licences and Related Costs	4,148	(346)	3,802	939	-	4,741
Inventory	(157)	93	(64)	(612)	-	(676)
Financial instruments	(681)	69	(612)	181	620	189
Tax loss carry-forwards	(138)	1	(137)	(78)	-	(215)
Accounts receivable	(5)	33	28	15	-	43
Accounts payable	(109)	14	(95)	(8)	-	(103)
Staff costs payable	(29)	(1)	(30)	-	-	(30)
Other temporary differences	(124)	(56)	(180)	53	-	(127)
Net deferred tax (asset)/liability	**4,969**	**305**	**5,274**	**893**	**620**	**6,787**
Recognised deferred tax asset	(341)	169	(172)	8	-	(164)
Recognised deferred tax liability	5,310	136	5,446	885	620	6,951
Net deferred tax (asset)/liability	**4,969**	**305**	**5,274**	**893**	**620**	**6,787**

Substantially all deferred assets and liabilities presented in the statement of financial position are expected to be realised after more than 12 months from the reporting date.

25 Contingencies, Commitments and Operating Risks

i Contractual commitments and guarantees

As at 31 December 2018, the Group had outstanding capital commitments in relation to property, plant and equipment for the amount of RUB 13,285 (31 December 2017: RUB 12,771).

In accordance with the conditions of the exploration licences the Group has to commence the extraction of certain mineral resources by certain dates as stipulated by licence agreements (Note 11).

The Group has already allocated the necessary resources in respect of these commitments. The Group believes that future net income and funding will be sufficient to cover this and any similar such commitments.

Guarantees are irrevocable assurances that the Group will make payments in the event that another party cannot meet its obligations. As at 31 December 2018 and 2017, the Group had no issued guarantees.

ii Legal proceedings

From time to time and in the normal course of business, claims against the Group are received. On the basis of its own estimates and both internal and external professional advice the Management is of the opinion that no material losses will be incurred in respect of claims.

iii Business environment

The Group's operations are primarily located in the Russian Federation, also the Group has distribution companies in the countries of European Union, USA, Asia and Latin America. Consequently, the Group is exposed not only to the economic and financial markets of the Russian Federation which display characteristics of an emerging market, but also is exposed both to macroeconomic indicators and specific requirements of local regulators in other countries where the Group operates.

The legal, tax and regulatory frameworks in the Russian Federation continue development, but are subject to varying interpretations and frequent changes which together with other legal and fiscal impediments contribute to the challenges faced by entities.

Starting in 2014, the United States of America, the European Union and some other countries have imposed and gradually expanded economic sanctions against a number of Russian individuals and legal entities. The imposition of the sanctions has led to increased economic uncertainty, including more volatile equity markets, a depreciation of the Russian rouble, a reduction in both local and foreign direct investment inflows and a significant tightening in the availability of credit. As a result, some Russian entities may experience difficulties accessing the international equity and debt markets and may become increasingly dependent on state support for their operations. The longer-term effects of the imposed and possible additional sanctions are difficult to determine.

The consolidated financial statements reflect management's assessment of the impact of the Russian business environment on the operations and the financial position of the Group. The future business environment may differ from management's assessment.

iv Taxation contingencies in Russian Federation

The taxation system in the Russian Federation continues to evolve and is characterised by frequent changes in legislation, official pronouncements and court decisions, which are sometimes contradictory and subject to varying interpretation by different tax authorities.

Taxes are subject to review and investigation by a number of authorities, which have the authority to impose severe fines, penalties and interest charges. A tax year generally remains open for review by the tax authorities during the three subsequent calendar years. Recent events within the Russian Federation suggest that the tax authorities are taking a more assertive and substance-based position in their interpretation and enforcement of tax legislation.

In addition, a number of new laws introducing changes to the Russian tax legislation have been recently adopted. In particular, starting from 1 January 2015 Russian Federal law 376-FZ introduced changes aimed at regulating tax consequences of transactions with foreign companies and their activities. These changes may potentially impact the Group's tax position and create additional tax risks going forward. This legislation is still evolving and the impact of legislative changes should be considered based on the actual circumstances.

Transfer pricing legislation enacted in the Russian Federation starting from 1 January 2012 provides for major modifications making local transfer pricing rules closer to OECD guidelines, but creating additional uncertainty in practical application of tax legislation in certain circumstances.

These transfer pricing rules provide for an obligation for the taxpayers to prepare transfer pricing documentation with respect to controlled transactions and prescribe the basis and mechanisms for accruing additional taxes and interest in case prices in the controlled transactions differ from the market level.

The transfer pricing rules apply to cross-border transactions between related parties, as well as to certain cross-border transactions between independent parties, as determined under the Russian Tax Code (no threshold is set for the purposes of prices control in such transactions). In addition, the rules apply to in-country transactions between related parties if the accumulated annual volume of the transactions between the same parties exceeds a particular threshold (RUB 1 billion in 2014 and thereon).

The compliance of prices with the arm’s length level could be as well subject to scrutiny on the basis of unjustified tax benefit concept.

All these circumstances may create tax risks in the Russian Federation that are substantially more significant than in other countries. Management believes that it has provided adequately for tax liabilities based on its interpretations of applicable Russian tax legislation, official pronouncements and court decisions. However, the interpretations of the tax authorities and courts, especially due to reform of the supreme courts that are resolving tax disputes, could differ and the effect on these consolidated financial statements, if the authorities were successful in enforcing their interpretations, could be significant.

The amount of possible tax liabilities related to uncertainties in practical application of legislation could be material, but cannot be determined with sufficient reliability. However, management believes that its interpretation of the relevant legislation is generally appropriate, and the Group's tax, currency and customs positions will be sustained. Management believes that all necessary provisions in respect of probable tax risks were recognised as liabilities.

v Environmental matters

The environmental regulation in the Russian Federation continues to evolve. The Group periodically evaluates its obligations under environmental regulations. As obligations are determined, they are recognised immediately. Potential liabilities, which might arise as a result of changes in existing regulations, civil litigation or legislation, cannot be estimated but could be material. In the current climate under existing legislation, management believes that there are no significant liabilities for environmental damage.

(in millions of Russian Roubles, except for per share amounts)

26 Financial and Capital Risk Management

26.1. Financial risk management

Presentation of Financial Instruments by Measurement Category

The following table provides a reconciliation of financial assets with these measurement categories as at 31 December 2018:

	2018			
	Financial assets at amortised cost	**Fair value through other comprehensive income - equity instruments**	**Mandatorily at fair value through profit or loss – others**	**Total**
Assets				
Cash and cash equivalents (Note 7)				
- Cash on hand and bank balances	10,460	-	-	10,460
Trade and other receivables (Note 8)				
- Trade receivables, net of provision	3,512	-	-	3,512
- Notes receivable	85	-	-	85
- Other financial receivables	588	-	-	588
Investments in equity instruments (Note 12)				
- Corporate shares	-	11,670	-	11,670
Total financial assets	**14,645**	**11,670**	**-**	**26,315**

All of the Group's financial liabilities except for derivatives are carried at amortised cost.

The following table provides a reconciliation of financial assets with these measurement categories as at 31 December 2017 in accordance with IAS 39 "Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement", which was applicable before 1 January 2018:

	2017			
	Loans and receivables	**Available-for-sale assets**	**Trading Assets**	**Total**
Assets				
Cash and cash equivalents (Note 7)				
- Cash on hand and bank balances	14,302	-	-	14,302
Trade and other receivables (Note 8)				
- Trade receivables, net of provision	2,267	-	-	2,267
- Notes receivable	91	-	-	91
- Other financial receivables	498	-	-	498
Loans receivable				
- Long term loans receivable	29	-	-	29
Trading Investments	-	-	51	51
Available-for-sale investments (Note 12)				
- Corporate shares	-	22,698	-	22,698
Total financial assets	**17,187**	**22,698**	**51**	**39,936**

The Group's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks: market risk (including foreign currency exchange risk, interest rate risk and price risk), credit risk and liquidity risk. The overall risk management programme seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the financial performance of the Group.

(a) Market risk

(i) Foreign currency risk

Foreign currency risk is the risk of losses resulting from adverse movements in different currency exchange rates against the Group functional currency. Foreign currency risk arises from the international operations of the Group, future commercial transactions in foreign currencies, including repayment of foreign currency denominated borrowings and recognition of assets and liabilities denominated in a currency which is not a functional currency of the Group.

The objective of the Group's foreign exchange risk management activities is to minimise the volatility of the Group's financial results by matching the same foreign currency denominated assets and liabilities.

The Group relies on export sales to generate foreign currency earnings. As the Group sells approximately 73% of its production outside the Russian Federation, it is exposed to foreign currency risk arising primarily on volatility of USD rate. Since the Group's major operational expenses are denominated in Russian Roubles the benefit from the weak Rouble exchange rate is partially offset by the growth of borrowing costs and foreign exchange differences on the Group's loans which presumably denominated in USD.

(in millions of Russian Roubles, except for per share amounts)

Group's policies for attracting foreign exchange denominated borrowings depend on current and forward rates of foreign currencies to Russian Rouble. Credit lines denominated in various currencies allow the Group to be flexible in reaction to foreign currency rate shocks and minimise foreign currency exposure.

The tables below summarise the Group's exposure to foreign currency exchange rate risk at the reporting date:

At 31 December 2018	USD	EUR	CNY
Financial assets:			
Cash and cash equivalents	5,582	1,952	154
Accounts receivable	2,683	165	98
Derivative financial instruments	-	2,844	-
	8,265	**4,961**	**252**
Financial liabilities:			
Accounts payable and other liabilities	(283)	(346)	(3)
Borrowings and notes payable	(57,742)	(4,930)	-
Derivative financial instruments	-	(1,875)	-
	(58,025)	**(7,151)**	**(3)**
Net position	**(49,760)**	**(2,190)**	**249**

At 31 December 2017	USD	EUR	CNY
Financial assets:			
Cash and cash equivalents	10,143	1,680	230
Accounts receivable	2,079	15	126
	12,222	**1,695**	**356**
Financial liabilities:			
Accounts payable and other liabilities	(651)	(269)	-
Borrowings and notes payable	(40,550)	(3,551)	-
Derivative financial instruments	(3,359)	-	-
	(44,560)	**(3,820)**	**-**
Net position	**(32,338)**	**(2,125)**	**356**

The foreign exchange rate sensitivity is calculated by aggregation of the net foreign exchange risk exposure and primarily arises from accounts receivable, cash and cash equivalents, borrowings, accounts payable, derivative financial assets and liabilities denominated in US dollars.

	2018	2017
Impact on post-tax profit and on equity of:		
USD strengthening by 20%	(7,962)	(5,174)
USD weakening by 20%	7,962	5,174

Since the Group does not hold any foreign currency denominated equity securities and other financial instruments revalued through equity, the effect of a change in the exchange rate on equity would be the same as that on the post-tax profit.

(ii) Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk arises from movements in interest rates which could affect the Group's financial results or the value of the Group's equity. A change in interest rates may cause variations in interest income and expense. The primary objective of the Group's interest rate management is to protect the net interest result. Interest risk management is carried out by the corporate finance and corporate treasury functions of the Group.

All entities of the Group obtain any required financing through the corporate treasury function of the Group in the form of loans. Generally, the same concept is adopted for deposits of cash generated by the units.

Monitoring of current market interest rates and analysis of the Group's interest-bearing position is performed by the corporate treasury and corporate finance functions as a part of interest rate risk management procedures. Monitoring is performed taking into consideration refinancing, renewal of existing positions and alternative financing.

The Group's income and operating cash flows are substantially independent of changes in market interest rates. The Group interest rate risk arises from various debt facilities. Borrowings at variable rates expose the Group's cash flow to an interest rate risk. At 31 December 2018 and 2017 borrowings at variable rates amounted to RUB 70,506 and RUB 49,233 respectively (Note 15).

At 31 December 2018, if interest rates at that date had been 5 percentage points higher with all other variables held constant, profit for the year would have been RUB 3,286 (2017: RUB 2,811) lower, mainly as a result of higher interest expense on variable interest liabilities. The effect of a change for the year in the interest rate on equity would be the same as that on post-tax profit.

(iii) Price risk

From time to time the Group makes investments in entities with high upside market potential. Investments are assessed by corporate treasury department and accepted provided that internal rate of return for investment exceeds current weighted average cost of capital.

The Group does not enter into any transactions with financial instruments whose value is exposed to the value of any commodities traded on a public market.

(b) Credit risk

Credit risk arises from the possibility that counterparties to transactions may default on their obligations, causing financial losses for the Group. Financial assets, which potentially subject Group entities to credit risk, consist principally of trade receivables, cash and bank deposits. The objective of managing credit risk is to prevent losses of liquid funds deposited with or invested in financial institutions or the loss in value of receivables.

The maximum exposure to credit risk of RUB 14,645 (2017: RUB 17,238) resulting from financial assets is equal to the carrying amount of the Group's financial assets, including loans receivable, cash and cash equivalents. The amount does not include equity investments disclosed in Note 26(i).

As at 31 December 2018, cash and cash equivalents in the amount RUB 5,259 were held in Russian bank with credit rating BBB- (2017: RUB 10,493) and RUB 747 was held in Russian bank with credit rating Baa3 (2017: RUB 748 with credit rating Ba2). The Group has no significant concentrations of credit risk for other financial assets.

Cash and cash equivalents. Cash and short-term deposits are placed in major multinational and Russian banks with independent credit ratings and Chinese banks with top internal credit ratings. All bank balances and term deposits are neither past due nor impaired. See analysis by credit quality of bank balances and term deposits in Note 7.

Trade receivables. Trade receivables and loans receivable are subject to a policy of active credit risk management which focuses on an assessment of ongoing credit evaluation and account monitoring procedures. The objective of the management of receivables is to sustain the growth and profitability of the Group by optimising asset utilisation whilst maintaining risk at an acceptable level.

The monitoring and controlling of credit risk is performed by the corporate treasury function of the Group. The credit policy requires the performance of credit evaluations and ratings of customers or borrowers. The credit quality of each new customer is analysed before the Group provides it with the standard terms of goods supply and payments. The credit quality of new borrowers is analysed before the Group provides it with the loan. The credit quality of customers and borrowers is assessed taking into account their financial position, past experience and other factors. Customers which do not meet the credit quality requirements are supplied on a prepayment basis only.

Management monitors and discloses concentrations of credit risk by obtaining reports listing exposures to counterparties with aggregated balances in excess of 10% of the Group's gross accounts receivable balances. At 31 December 2018, the Group has 1 counterparty with aggregated receivables balances in excess of 10% of the Group's gross accounts receivable balances (2017: 2 counterparties).

Although the collection of receivables could be influenced by economic factors, management believes that there is no significant risk of loss to the Group beyond the provision already recorded (Note 8).

(c) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk results from the Group's potential inability to meet its financial liabilities, such as settlements of financial debt and payments to suppliers. The Group's approach to liquidity risk management is to maintain sufficient readily available reserves in order to meet its liquidity requirements at any point in time.

The Group seeks to maintain a stable funding base primarily consisting of borrowing, trade and other payables and debt securities. The Group invests the funds in diversified portfolios of liquid assets, in order to be able to respond quickly and smoothly to unforeseen liquidity requirements. The Group's liquidity portfolio comprises cash and cash equivalents (Note 7), investment in equity instruments measured at fair value through other comprehensive income (Note 12). Management estimates that the liquidity portfolio can be realised in cash within a day in order to meet unforeseen liquidity requirements.

Weekly liquidity planning is performed by the corporate treasury function and reported to the management of the Group. Beyond cash management, the Group mitigates liquidity risk by keeping committed credit lines available.

The table below analyses the Group's financial liabilities into the relevant maturity groupings based on the time remaining from the reporting date to the contractual maturity date.

(in millions of Russian Roubles, except for per share amounts)

	Carrying amount	On demand and less than 3 months	From 3 to 12 months	From 1 to 2 years	From 2 to 5 years	Over 5 years	Total
As at 31 December 2018							
Bonds issued*	13,772	-	1,289	9,868	5,429	-	**16,586**
Credit lines*	7,160	220	6,985	355	-	-	**7,560**
Term loans*	63,553	506	11,234	15,615	29,693	282	**57,330**
Notes payable	8	8	-	-	-	-	**8**
Trade payables	6,279	6,279	-	-	-	-	**6,279**
Derivatives	1,875	-	-	1,875	-	-	**1,875**
Total	**92,647**	**7,013**	**19,508**	**27,713**	**35,122**	**282**	**89,638**

	Carrying amount	On demand and less than 3 months	From 3 to 12 months	From 1 to 2 years	From 2 to 5 years	Over 5 years	Total
As at 31 December 2017							
Bonds issued*	23,767	-	12,191	1,289	15,083	-	**28,563**
Credit lines*	5,890	93	4,121	2,092	-	-	**6,306**
Term loans*	44,866	673	6,206	9,043	33,591	218	**49,731**
Notes payable	21	21	-	-	-	-	**21**
Trade payables	5,267	5,267	-	-	-	-	**5,267**
Derivatives	3,359	3,308	51	-	-	-	**3,359**
Total	**83,170**	**9,362**	**22,569**	**12,424**	**48,674**	**218**	**93,247**

* The table above shows undiscounted cash outflows for financial liabilities (including interest together with the borrowings) based on conditions existing as at 31 December 2018 and 31 December 2017, respectively.

The Group controls the minimum required level of cash balances available for short-term payments in accordance with the financial policy of the Group. Such cash balances are represented by current cash balances on bank accounts and bank deposits. Group's policy for financing its working capital is aimed at maximum reliance on own operating cash flows, availability of short-term bank and other external financing to maintain sufficient liquidity.

At 31 December 2018, unused credit lines available under long-term loan facilities were RUB 41,818 (2017: RUB 18,614).

26.2. Capital risk management

The Group's objectives when managing capital are to safeguard its ability to continue as a going concern, to provide returns for shareholders and benefits for other stakeholders, to have available the necessary financial resources for investing activities and to maintain an optimal capital structure in order to reduce the cost of capital.

The Group monitors capital on the basis of the gearing ratio. This ratio is calculated as total debt divided by total capital under management. The Group considers total capital under management to be equity as shown in the IFRS consolidated statement of financial position. This is considered more appropriate than alternative methods available, such as the value of equity shown in the Company's statutory financial (accounting) reports. In 2018, the Group's strategy, as in 2017, was to maintain the gearing ratio at the level not exceeding 150%.

The gearing ratio as at 31 December 2018 and 31 December 2017 is shown in the table below:

	2018	2017
Long-term borrowings	66,946	55,593
Short-term borrowings	17,539	18,930
Total debt	**84,485**	**74,523**
Shareholders' equity	**78,165**	**90,956**
Gearing ratio, %	**108%**	**82%**

The Group also maintains an optimal capital structure by tracing certain capital requirements based on the minimum level of EBITDA/net interest expense ratio.

In 2018, the Group's strategy, which was unchanged from 2010, was to maintain EBITDA/net interest expense ratio at the level not lower than 3.5:1. For this purpose EBITDA is defined as earnings before tax, interest, depreciation and amortisation adjusted for operating foreign exchange gain or loss, result on disposal of property, plant and equipment and investments and extraordinary items. Net interest expense is defined as interest expense less interest income. This ratio is included as a covenant in the loan agreements (Note 15).

(in millions of Russian Roubles, except for per share amounts)

The ratios of EBITDA over net interest expense are shown in the table below:

	2018	2017
EBITDA	**37,053**	**29,817**
Interest income (Note 21)	(161)	(226)
Interest expense	1,607	4,110
Interest expense capitalised (Notes 10 and 11)	3,317	793
Net interest expense	**4,763**	**4,677**
EBITDA/Net interest expense	**7.8:1**	**6.4:1**

The Group's capital management includes compliance with the externally imposed minimum capital requirements arising from the Group's borrowings (Note 15) and imposed by the statutory legislation of the Russian Federation and Estonia. Since EBITDA is not standard IFRS measure the Group's definition of EBITDA may differ from that of other companies.

27 Fair Value of Financial Instruments

Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The best evidence of fair value is the price in an active market.

The estimated fair values of financial instruments have been determined by the Group using available market information, where it exists, and appropriate valuation methodologies. However, judgement is necessarily required to interpret market data to determine the estimated fair value. The Russian Federation continues to display some characteristics of an emerging market and economic conditions continue to limit the volume of activity in the financial markets. Market quotations may be outdated or reflect distress sale transactions and therefore not represent fair values of financial instruments. Management has used all available market information in estimating the fair value of financial instruments.

Financial instruments carried at fair value. Investment in equity instruments measured at fair value through other comprehensive income, and derivatives are carried in the consolidated statement of financial position at their fair value.

This Group discloses the value of financial instruments that are measured in the consolidated statement of financial position at fair value by three levels in accordance with IFRS 13, Fair values.

The level in the fair value hierarchy into which the fair values are categorised as one of the three categories:

Level 1: quoted price in an active market;
Level 2: valuation technique with inputs observable in markets;
Level 3: valuation technique with significant non-observable inputs.

Investment in equity instruments was included in level 1 category in the amount of RUB 11,322 (31 December 2017: RUB 22,749).

All liabilities on bonds issued were included in level 1 category in the amount of RUB 13,772 (31 December 2017: RUB 23,767)

The fair value of the call/put options on shares of CJSC VPC was determined based on the Black–Scholes Option Pricing Model with the adjustments and using of unobservable inputs, and included in level 3.

The spot price of CJSC VPC is one of the inputs to the valuation using Black–Scholes Option Pricing Model. Since the shares are not quoted, management applied discounted cash flows method attracting an independent appraiser. The appraisal model provides for the calculation of the present value of the CJSC VPC CGU using the risk-adjusted discount rate. The calculation was based on the cash flow forecast prepared in nominal terms and derived from financial budgets.

Significant unobservable inputs	Inter-relationship between significant unobservable inputs data and fair value measurement
• Forecast annual revenue growth rate: 2.75%. • Forecast EBITDA margin after reaching the designed capacity: 80%-83%. • Risk-adjusted discount rate: 13.2-13.7%. • Production start year: 2023. • Non-controlling discount: 15.97%.	The estimated fair value of the shares of CJSC VPC would increase (decrease) if: • The annual revenue growth rate were higher (lower); • The EBITDA margin were higher (lower); or • risk-adjusted discount rate were lower (higher) ; or • production began earlier (later); or • non-controlling discount were lower (higher). Generally, EBITDA margin follows any changes in the trend set by the annual revenue growth rate.

(in millions of Russian Roubles, except for per share amounts)

Significant unobservable inputs of Black–Scholes Option Pricing Model are shown in the following table:

Financial instrument	Significant unobservable inputs	Inter-relationship between significant unobservable inputs data and estimate of fair value
Put option on shares of CJSC VPC (liability)	• The current fair value of the shares (calculated as above) • Volatility: 29.11%-29.53%. • Risk-free rate of return: (0.21)%. • No dividend assumed	The estimated fair value would increase (decrease) if: • current fair value of the shares were lower (higher); • volatility were higher (lower); or • the risk-free rate of return were lower (higher).

Financial assets carried at amortised cost. The fair value of floating rate instruments is normally their carrying amount. The estimated fair value of fixed interest rate instruments is based on estimated future cash flows expected to be received discounted at current interest rates for new instruments with similar credit risk and remaining maturity. Discount rates used depend on credit risk of the counterparty. Carrying amounts of trade receivables and loans receivable approximate fair values.

Liabilities carried at amortised cost. The fair value of floating rate liabilities is normally their carrying amount. The fair value is based on quoted market prices, if available. The estimated fair value of fixed interest rate instruments with stated maturity, for which a quoted market price is not available, was estimated based on expected cash flows discounted at current interest rates for new instruments with similar credit risk and remaining maturity. At 31 December 2018, the fair value of borrowings was RUB 558 higher than their carrying amounts. At 31 December 2017, the fair value of borrowings was RUB 539 higher than their carrying amounts.

The fair value of payables does not differ significantly from their carrying amounts.

28 Subsequent Events

No subsequent events.

29 Significant Accounting Policies

29.1 Group accounting

Consolidated financial statements. Subsidiaries are those companies and other entities (including special purpose entities) in which the Group, directly or indirectly, has an interest of more than one half of the voting rights or otherwise has power to govern the financial and operating policies so as to obtain benefits. The existence of possibility when the Group has existing rights that give it the current ability to direct the relevant activities of other entity, i.e. the activities that significantly affect the other entity's returns, is considered when assessing whether the Group controls another entity. The Group can have power over other entity even if other entities have existing rights that give them the current ability to participate in the direction of the relevant activities. Subsidiaries are consolidated from the date on which control is transferred to the Group (acquisition date) and are de-consolidated from the date that control ceases.

The purchase method of accounting is used to account for the acquisition of subsidiaries except for those acquired as the result of the business combinations under common control. Identifiable assets acquired and liabilities and contingent liabilities assumed in a business combination are measured at their fair values at the acquisition date, irrespective of the extent of any non-controlling interest. The Group measures non-controlling interest that represents present ownership interest and entitles the holder to a proportionate share of net assets in the event of liquidation on a transaction by transaction basis, either at: (a) fair value, or (b) the non-controlling interest's proportionate share of net assets of the acquiree.

Goodwill is measured by deducting the net assets of the acquiree from the aggregate of the consideration transferred for the acquiree, the amount of non-controlling interest in the acquiree and fair value of an interest in the acquiree held immediately before the acquisition date. Any negative amount ("negative goodwill") is recognised in profit or loss, after management reassesses whether it identified all the assets acquired and all liabilities and contingent liabilities assumed and reviews appropriateness of their measurement.

The consideration transferred for the acquiree is measured at the fair value of the assets given up, equity instruments issued and liabilities incurred or assumed, including fair value of assets or liabilities from contingent consideration arrangements but excludes acquisition related costs such as advisory, legal, valuation and similar professional services. Transaction costs related to the acquisition and incurred for issuing equity instruments are deducted from equity; transaction costs incurred for issuing debt as part of the business combination are deducted from the carrying amount of the debt and all other transaction costs associated with the acquisition are expensed.

Intercompany transactions, balances and unrealised gains on transactions between group companies are eliminated; unrealised losses are also eliminated unless the cost cannot be recovered. The Company and all of its subsidiaries use uniform accounting policies consistent with the Group's policies.

Non-controlling interest is that part of the net results and of the net assets of a subsidiary, which is attributable to interests which are not owned, directly or indirectly, by the Company. Non-controlling interest forms a separate component of the Group's equity.

Purchases of non-controlling interests. The Group applies economic entity model to account for transactions with non-controlling shareholders. Any difference between the purchase consideration and the carrying amount of non-controlling interest acquired is recorded as capital transaction directly in equity.

Purchases of subsidiaries from parties under common control. Purchases of subsidiaries as the result of business combinations under common control are accounted for using the predecessor values method. Under this method the financial statements of the combined entity are presented as if the businesses had been combined from the beginning of the earliest period presented or, if later, the date when the combining entities were first brought under common control. The assets and liabilities of the subsidiary transferred under common control are at the predecessor entity's carrying amounts. The predecessor entity is considered to be the highest reporting entity in which the subsidiary's IFRS financial information was consolidated. Related goodwill inherent in the predecessor entity's original acquisitions is also recorded in these financial statements. The consideration paid is accounted for in these consolidated financial statements as an adjustment to equity.

Investments in associates. Associates are entities over which the Group has significant influence (directly or indirectly), but not control, generally accompanying a shareholding of between 20 and 50 percent of the voting rights. Investments in associates are accounted for by the equity method of accounting and are initially recognised at cost. The carrying amount of associates includes goodwill identified on acquisition less accumulated impairment losses, if any. The Group's share of the post-acquisition profits or losses of associates is recorded in profit or loss for the year as share of result of associates.

When the Group's share of losses in an associate equals or exceeds its interest in the associate, including any other unsecured receivables, the Group does not recognise further losses, unless it has incurred obligations or made payments on behalf of the associate.

Unrealised gains on transactions between the Group and its associates are eliminated to the extent of the Group's interest in the associates; unrealised losses are also eliminated unless the transaction provides evidence of an impairment of the asset transferred.

Disposals of subsidiaries, associates or joint ventures. When the Group ceases to have control or significant influence, any retained interest in the entity is re-measured to its fair value, with the change in carrying amount recognised in profit or loss. The fair value is the initial carrying amount for the purposes of subsequently accounting for the retained interest as an associate, joint venture or financial asset. In addition, any amounts previously recognised in other comprehensive income in respect of that entity, are accounted for as if the Group had directly disposed of the related assets or liabilities. This may mean that amounts previously recognised in other comprehensive income are recycled to profit or loss.

If the ownership interest in an associate is reduced but significant influence is retained, only a proportionate share of the amounts previously recognised in other comprehensive income are reclassified to profit or loss where appropriate.

29.2 Discontinued operations

A discontinued operation is a component of the Group's business, the operations and cash flows of which can be clearly distinguished from the rest of the Group and which:

- represents a separate major line of business or geographical area of operations;
- is part of a single co-ordinated plan to dispose of a separate major line of business or geographical area of operations; or
- is a subsidiary acquired exclusively with a view to resale.

Classification as a discontinued operation occurs upon disposal or when the operation meets the criteria to be classified as held for sale, if earlier.

When an operation is classified as a discontinued operation, the comparative statement of comprehensive income is re-presented as if the operation had been discontinued from the start of the comparative period.

29.3 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less. Cash and cash equivalents are carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in the current liabilities statement of financial position. Restricted balances are excluded from cash and cash equivalents for the purposes of the cash flow statement. Balances restricted from being exchanged or used to settle a liability for at least twelve months after the reporting date are included in other non-current assets.

29.4 Trade and other receivables

Trade and other receivables are carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method. A trade receivable without a significant financing component is initially measured at the transaction price.

(in millions of Russian Roubles, except for per share amounts)

Loss allowances for trade receivables are measured at an amount equal to lifetime expected credit losses (ECLs). Lifetime ECLs are the ECLs that result from all possible default events over the expected life of a financial instrument. ECLs are a probability-weighted estimate. Credit losses are measured as the present value of all cash shortfalls (i.e. the difference between the cash flows due to the entity in accordance with the contract and the cash flows that the Group expects to receive). The Group takes into account credit risk of each debtor based on data that is determined to be predictive of the risk of loss (including external ratings) applying experienced credit judgement and actual credit loss experience.

Loss allowances for trade and other receivables are deducted from the gross carrying amount of the assets.

29.5 Value added tax

Output value added tax related to sales is payable to tax authorities on the earlier of (a) collection of the receivables from customers or (b) delivery of goods or services to customers. Input VAT is generally recoverable against output VAT upon receipt of the VAT invoice. The tax authorities permit the settlement of VAT on a net basis. VAT related to sales and purchases is recognised in the statement of financial position on a gross basis and disclosed separately as an asset and liability. Where provision has been made for impairment of receivables, impairment loss is recorded for the gross amount of the debtor, including VAT.

29.6 Inventories

Inventories comprise raw materials, finished goods, work in progress, catalytic agents, spare parts and other materials and supplies. Inventories are recorded at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost of inventory is determined on the weighted average basis. The cost of finished goods and work in progress comprises raw material, direct labour, other direct costs and related production overheads (based on normal operating capacity) but excludes borrowing costs. Net realisable value is the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business, less the cost of completion and selling expenses.

29.7 Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment are recorded at cost, restated where applicable to the equivalent purchasing power of the Russian Rouble at 31 December 2002 for assets acquired prior to 1 January 2003, less accumulated depreciation and provision for impairment, where required.

At each reporting date management assesses whether there is any indication of impairment of property, plant and equipment. If any such indication exists, the management estimates the recoverable amount, which is determined as the higher of an asset's fair value less cost to sell and its value in use. The carrying amount is reduced to the recoverable amount and the difference is recognised as an expense (impairment loss) in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income. An impairment loss recognised for an asset in prior years is reversed if there has been a change in the estimates used to determine the assets recoverable amount. Gains and losses on disposals determined by comparing proceeds with carrying amount are recognised in the profit or loss.

Land is not depreciated. Depreciation on other items of property, plant and equipment is calculated to allocate cost of property, plant and equipment to their residual values on a straight-line basis. The depreciation periods, which approximate the estimated useful economic lives of the respective assets, are as follows:

	Number of years
Buildings	40 to 50
Plant and machinery	10 to 20
Other equipment and motor vehicles	5 to 20

The residual value of an asset is the estimated amount that the Group would currently obtain from disposal of the asset less the estimated costs of disposal, if the asset were already of the age and in the condition expected at the end of its useful life. The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each reporting date.

Management assesses the remaining useful life of property, plant and equipment in accordance with the current technical conditions of assets and the estimated period during which these assets will bring economic benefit to the Group.

Repair and maintenance expenditure is expensed as incurred. Major renewals and improvements are capitalised and the assets replaced are retired. Gains and losses arising from the retirement or disposal of property, plant and equipment are included in profit or loss.

Borrowing costs on specific or general funds borrowed to finance the construction of qualifying asset are capitalised, during the period of time that is required to complete and prepare the asset for its intended use. All other borrowing costs are expensed.

29.8 Leasehold land

Leases of land are classified as operating leases. The pre-paid lease payments are amortised over the lease period of 30 years on a straight-line basis.

29.9 Amortisation of exploration and evaluation licences and expenditure

Exploration and evaluation licences and expenditure are amortised on a straight-line basis over expected term of site development, commencing upon readiness of processing facilities to produce ore usable for production of complex mineral fertilizers or for external sale.

29.10 Borrowings

Borrowings are stated at amortised cost using the effective interest method; any difference between fair value of the proceeds (net of transaction costs) and the redemption amount is recognised as interest expense over the period of the borrowings.

Capitalisation of borrowing costs. Borrowing costs directly attributable to the acquisition, construction or production of assets that necessarily take a substantial time to get ready for intended use or sale (qualifying assets) are capitalised as part of the costs of those assets. Capitalisation of borrowing costs continues up to the date when the assets are substantially ready for their use or sale.

The Group capitalises borrowing costs that could have been avoided if it had not made capital expenditure on qualifying assets. Borrowing costs capitalised are calculated at the group's average funding cost (the weighted average interest cost is applied to the expenditures on the qualifying assets), except to the extent that funds are borrowed specifically for the purpose of obtaining a qualifying asset. Where this occurs, actual borrowing costs incurred less any investment income on the temporary investment of those borrowings are capitalised. Foreign exchange differences regarded as an adjustment to interest costs are included in borrowing costs capitalised in the qualifying asset. The adjustment includes the amount of additional interest that would have been incurred on a borrowing with identical terms in the entity's functional currency.

29.11 Income tax

Income taxes have been provided for in the consolidated financial statements in accordance with the legislation of the countries, where most significant subsidiaries of the Group are located, enacted or substantively enacted by the end of the reporting period. The income tax charge comprises current tax and deferred tax and is recognised in the profit or loss except if it is recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity because it relates to transactions that are also recognised, in the same or a different period, in other comprehensive income or directly in equity.

Current income tax is the amount expected to be paid to or recovered from the taxation authorities in respect of taxable profits or losses for the current and prior periods. Taxes, other than on income, are recorded within operating expenses.

Deferred income tax is provided using the balance sheet liability method for tax loss carry forwards and temporary differences arising between the tax bases of assets and liabilities and their carrying amounts for financial reporting purposes. In accordance with the initial recognition exemption, deferred taxes are not recorded for temporary differences on initial recognition of an asset or a liability in a transaction other than a business combination if the transaction, when initially recorded, affects neither accounting nor taxable profit. Deferred tax liabilities are not recorded for temporary differences on initial recognition of goodwill and subsequently for goodwill which is not deductible for tax purposes. Deferred tax balances are measured at tax rates enacted or substantively enacted at the reporting date, which are expected to apply to the period when the temporary differences will reverse or the tax loss carry forwards will be utilised. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are netted only within the individual companies of the Group. Deferred tax assets for deductible temporary differences and tax loss carry forwards are recorded only to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profit will be available against which the deductions can be utilised.

Deferred income tax is provided on post acquisition retained earnings of subsidiaries, except where the Group controls the subsidiary's dividend policy and it is probable that the difference will not reverse through dividends or otherwise in the foreseeable future.

The Group's uncertain tax positions are reassessed by management at the end of each reporting period. Liabilities are recorded for income tax positions that are determined by management as more likely than not to result in additional taxes being levied if the positions were to be challenged by the tax authorities. The assessment is based on the interpretation of tax laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the end of the reporting period and any known court or other rulings on such issues. Liabilities for penalties, interest and taxes other than on income are recognised based on management's best estimate of the expenditure required to settle the obligations at the end of the reporting period.

29.12 Foreign currency transactions

Foreign currency translation. For the Company and its subsidiaries monetary assets and liabilities are translated into each entity's functional currency at the official exchange rate of the Central Bank at the respective ends of the reporting periods. Foreign exchange gains and losses resulting from the settlement of the transactions and from the translation of monetary assets and liabilities into each entity's functional currency at year-end official exchange rates of the Central Bank are recognised in profit or loss. Translation at year-end rates does not apply to non-monetary items. Effects of exchange rate changes on the fair value of equity securities are recorded as part of the fair value gain or loss.

Foreign exchange gains and losses on operating items are presented within other operating expenses, foreign exchange gain and losses on finance items are presented within net finance income.

Translation from functional to presentation currency. The results and financial position of each group entity (functional currency of none of which is a currency of a hyperinflationary economy) are translated into the presentation currency as follows:

(i) assets and liabilities for each statement of financial position presented are translated at the closing rate at the date of that statement of financial position;
(ii) income and expenses for each statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income are translated at average exchange rates (unless this average is not a reasonable approximation of the cumulative effect of the rates prevailing on the transaction dates, in which case income and expenses are translated at the dates of the transactions); and
(iii) components of equity are translated at the historic rate; and
(iv) all resulting exchange differences are recognised in other comprehensive income.

Goodwill and fair value adjustments arising on the acquisition of a foreign entity are treated as assets and liabilities of the foreign entity and translated at the closing rate. When a subsidiary is disposed of through sale, liquidation, repayment of share capital or abandonment of all, or part of, that entity, the exchange differences deferred in equity are reclassified from other comprehensive income to profit or loss.

At 31 December 2018 the principal rate of exchange used for translating foreign currency balances was USD 1 = RUB 69.4706 , USD 1 = CNY 6.8632, EUR 1 = RUB 79.4605 (31 December 2017: USD 1 = RUB 57.6002, USD 1 = CNY 6.5342, EUR 1 = RUB 68.8668). Exchange restrictions and controls exist relating to converting Russian Roubles into other currencies.

29.13 Provisions for liabilities and charges

Provisions are recognised when the Group has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of past events, it is probable that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation, and a reliable estimate of the amount can be made. Where the Group expects a provision to be reimbursed, for example under an insurance contract, the reimbursement is recognised as a separate asset but only when the reimbursement is virtually certain.

Provisions are evaluated and re-estimated annually, and are included in the financial statements at their expected net present values using discount rates appropriate to the Company or its subsidiaries in applicable economic environment at each end of the reporting period.

Provisions are measured at the present value of management’s best estimate of the expenditure required to settle the present obligation at the reporting date. Provisions are reassessed annually and changes in provisions resulting from the passage of time are reflected in the consolidated income statement each year within interest expense. Other changes in provisions related to a change in the expected repayment plan, in the estimated amount of the obligation or in the discount rates, are treated as a change in an accounting estimate in the period of the change and, with the exception of provision for restoration liabilities, reflected in the consolidated income statement.

Provisions for restoration liability are recognised when the Group has a present legal or constructive obligation to dismantle, remove and restore items of property, plant and equipment. The amount of the provision is the present value of the estimated expenditures expected to be required to settle the liability, determined using pretax risk free discount rates adjusted for risks specific to the liability. Changes in the provision resulting from the passage of time are recognised as interest expense. Changes in the provision, which is reassessed at each reporting date, related to a change in the expected pattern of settlement of the liability, or in the estimated amount of the provision or in the discount rates, are treated as a change in an accounting estimate in the period of change. Such changes are reflected as adjustments to the carrying value of property, plant and equipment and the corresponding liability.

29.14 Shareholders’ equity

Share capital. Ordinary shares are classified as equity. Incremental costs directly attributable to the issue of new shares are shown in equity as a deduction, net of tax, from the proceeds. Any excess of the fair value of consideration received over the par value of shares issued is presented in the notes as a share premium.

Treasury shares. Where any Group company purchases the Company’s equity share capital, the consideration paid, including any directly attributable incremental costs (net of income taxes) is deducted from equity attributable to the Company’s owners until the shares are cancelled, reissued or disposed of. Where such shares are subsequently sold or reissued, any consideration received, net of any directly attributable incremental transaction costs and the related income tax effects, is included in equity attributable to the Company’s owners.

Dividends. Dividends are recognised as a liability and deducted from equity at the reporting date only if they are declared and approved before or on the reporting date. Dividends are disclosed when they are proposed before the reporting date or proposed or declared after the balance sheet date but before the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Accounting treatment for put options to be settled in shares of Company. The subsidiaries sell to non-controlling shareholders own shares linked to put option. This gives to non-controlling shareholders the right to sell the Group those shares in exchange for a variable number of Company’s shares. If at the option exercise date the Group has no obligation to deliver cash or another financial asset, the subsidiary’s shares that are held by non-controlling interest holders are presented as equity and the put options are recognised as derivative financial liabilities. Such options are accounted at fair value with changes recognised in profit or loss for the period in accordance with IAS 39.

On initial recognition of the liability, the debit entry it to other equity. The interests of non-controlling shareholders that hold the written put options or forwards (in respect of those shares) are not derecognised when the financial liability is recognised.

Accounting treatment for call options over subsidiary shares. The Group buys the call options issued by third parties, which entitle to buy (from this third party) the shares in a subsidiary. Initially the call option is recognised in capital of the owner's of the Company for credit side and on as a derivative financial asset for debit side. Further it is accounted at fair value with changes are recognised in profit or loss in accordance with IAS 39.

29.15 Revenue recognition

Revenues from sales of chemical fertilisers and related by-products are recognised at the point when control of the goods passes to the customer. Control passes to the customer at the point of transfer of risks and rewards of ownership of the goods normally when the goods are shipped. From 1 January 2018, the Group changed its approach to the recognition of revenue under the contracts involving shipping after the transfer of risks and rewards to the customer. Information about the Group's accounting policies relating to contracts with customers is provided in Note 4.

Sales are shown net of VAT, custom duties and discounts, and after eliminating sales within the Group.

29.16 Mutual cancellations

A portion of sales and purchases are settled by mutual settlements or non-cash settlements. These transactions are generally in the form of direct settlements through cancellation of mutual trade receivables and payables balances within the operational contracts. Non-cash settlements include promissory notes or bills of exchange, which are negotiable debt obligations. Sales and purchases that are expected to be settled by mutual settlements or other non-cash settlements are recognised based on the estimate of the fair value to be received or given up in non-cash settlements. The fair value is determined with reference to various market information. Non-cash transactions have been excluded from the consolidated cash flow statement, so investing activities, financing activities and the total of operating activities represent actual cash transactions.

The Group also accepts bills of exchange from its customers (both issued by customers and third parties) as a settlement of receivables. A provision for impairment of bills of exchange is established when there is objective evidence that the Group will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms. The amount of the provision is the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows, discounted at the original effective interest rate.

29.17 Employee benefits

Wages, salaries, contributions to the Russian Federation state pension and social insurance funds, paid annual leave and sick leave, bonuses, and non-monetary benefits (such as health services and kindergarten services) are accrued in the year in which the associated services are rendered by the employees of the Group and are included within labour costs in operating expenses.

Social costs. The Group incurs significant costs on social activities. These costs include the provision of health services, kindergartens, and the subsidy of worker holidays. These amounts represent an implicit cost of employing principally production workers and other staff and, accordingly, have been charged to operating expenses.

Pension costs. In the normal course of business the Group contributes to state pension schemes on behalf of its employees. Mandatory contributions to the governmental pension scheme are accrued in the year in which the associated services are rendered by the employees of the Group. The Group recognises these contributions as part of labour costs.

29.18 Financial assets and liabilities

Recognition and initial measurement. Trade receivables and debt securities issued are initially recognised when they are originated. All other financial assets and financial liabilities are initially recognised when the Group becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

A financial asset (unless it is a trade receivable without a significant financing component) or financial liability is initially measured at fair value plus, for an item not at FVTPL, transaction costs that are directly attributable to its acquisition or issue.

Classification and subsequent measurement. On initial recognition, a financial asset is classified as measured at: amortised cost; FVOCI – debt investment; FVOCI – equity investment; or FVTPL.

Financial assets are not reclassified subsequent to their initial recognition unless the Group changes its business model for managing financial assets, in which case all affected financial assets are reclassified on the first day of the first reporting period following the change in the business model.

A financial asset is measured at amortised cost if it meets both of the following conditions and is not designated as at FVTPL:

- it is held within a business model whose objective is to hold assets to collect contractual cash flows; and
- its contractual terms give rise on specified dates to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding.

On initial recognition of an equity investment that is not held for trading, the Group may irrevocably elect to present subsequent changes in the investment's fair value in OCI. This election is made on an investment-by-investment basis.

All financial assets not classified as measured at amortised cost or FVOCI as described above are measured at FVTPL***.***

The Group makes an assessment of the objective of the business model in which a financial asset is held at a portfolio level because this best reflects the way the business is managed and information is provided to management.

Financial assets – Subsequent measurement and gains and losses

Financial assets at FVTPL	These assets are subsequently measured at fair value. Net gains and losses, including any interest or dividend income, are recognised in profit or loss.
Financial assets at amortised cost	These assets are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. The amortised cost is reduced by impairment losses. Interest income, foreign exchange gains and losses and impairment are recognised in profit or loss. Any gain or loss on derecognition is recognised in profit or loss.
Debt investments at FVOCI	These assets are subsequently measured at fair value. Interest income calculated using the effective interest method, foreign exchange gains and losses and impairment are recognised in profit or loss. Other net gains and losses are recognised in OCI. On derecognition, gains and losses accumulated in OCI are reclassified to profit or loss.
Equity investments at FVOCI	These assets are subsequently measured at fair value. Dividends are recognised as income in profit or loss unless the dividend clearly represents a recovery of part of the cost of the investment. Other net gains and losses are recognised in OCI and are never reclassified to profit or loss.

Financial liabilities – Classification, subsequent measurement and gains and losses. Financial liabilities are classified as measured at amortised cost or FVTPL. A financial liability is classified as at FVTPL if it is classified as held-for-trading, it is a derivative or it is designated as such on initial recognition. Financial liabilities at FVTPL are measured at fair value and net gains and losses, including any interest expense, are recognised in profit or loss. Other financial liabilities are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Interest expense and foreign exchange gains and losses are recognised in profit or loss. Any gain or loss on derecognition is also recognised in profit or loss.

Derecognition

Financial assets. The Group derecognises a financial asset when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire, or it transfers the rights to receive the contractual cash flows in a transaction in which substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset are transferred or in which the Group neither transfers nor retains substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership and it does not retain control of the financial asset.

The Group enters into transactions whereby it transfers assets recognised in its statement of financial position, but retains either all or substantially all of the risks and rewards of the transferred assets. In these cases, the transferred assets are not derecognised.

Financial liabilities. The Group derecognises a financial liability when its contractual obligations are discharged or cancelled, or expire. The Group also derecognises a financial liability when its terms are modified and the cash flows of the modified liability are substantially different, in which case a new financial liability based on the modified terms is recognised at fair value.

On derecognition of a financial liability, the difference between the carrying amount extinguished and the consideration paid (including any non-cash assets transferred or liabilities assumed) is recognised in profit or loss.

Derivative financial instruments. As part of its financing activities the Group is also party to derivative financial instruments including foreign currency and interest rate swap contracts and put/call option on shares. The Group's policy is to measure these instruments at fair value with resultant gains or losses being reported within the profit and loss. The fair value of derivative financial instruments is determined using actual market data information and valuation techniques based on prevailing market interest rate for similar instruments as appropriate. All derivative instruments are carried as assets when fair value is positive and as liabilities when fair value is negative. The Group has no derivatives accounted for as hedges.

29.19 Finance lease liabilities

Where the Group is a lessee in a lease which transferred substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership to the Group, the assets leased are capitalised in property, plant and equipment at the commencement of the lease at the lower of the fair value of the leased asset and the present value of the minimum lease payments. Each lease payment is allocated between the liability and finance charges so as to achieve a constant rate on the finance balance outstanding. The interest cost is charged to profit or loss over the lease period using the effective interest method. The assets acquired under finance leases are depreciated over their useful life or the shorter lease term if the Group is not reasonably certain that it will obtain ownership by the end of the lease term.

29.20 Earnings per share

The Group presents basic and diluted earnings per share (“EPS”) data for its ordinary shares. Basic EPS is calculated by dividing the profit or loss attributable to ordinary shareholders of the Company by the weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding during the period, adjusted for own shares held. Diluted EPS is determined by adjusting the profit or loss attributable to ordinary shareholders and the weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding, adjusted for own shares held, for the effects of all dilutive potential ordinary shares, which comprise share repurchase option.

29.21 Segment reporting

An operating segment is a component of the Group that engages in business activities from which it may earn revenues and incur expenses, including revenues and expenses that relate to transactions with any of the Group’s other components. All operating segments’ operating results are reviewed regularly by the Group’s chief operating decision maker to make decisions about resources to be allocated to the segment and assess its performance.
Segment results include items directly attributable to a segment as well as those that can be allocated on a reasonable basis.

Operating segments which external and inter-segment sales, assets, profit and loss are 10% or more from appropriate operational segments measure are reported separately.

29.22 Exploration and evaluation expenditure

Exploration and evaluation costs are capitalized. Capitalized costs are directly related to exploration and evaluation activities in the relevant area of interest and include acquisition of rights to explore, including cost related to compliance with licence terms; topographical, geological, geochemical and geophysical studies; exploratory drilling; trenching and sampling; and activities in relation to evaluating the technical feasibility and commercial viability of extracting a mineral resource. In accordance with IFRS 6, Exploration for and Evaluation of Mineral Resources, exploration assets are measured applying the cost model described in IAS 16, Property, Plant and Equipment, after initial recognition. Exploration assets are not depreciated until the production phase.

The stripping costs associated with future production are capitalized prior to the start of the production stage.

The Group tests exploration and evaluation assets for impairment when there are facts and circumstances that suggest that the carrying value of the asset may not be recoverable.

29.23 Development expenditure

Development expenditure incurred by or on behalf of the Group is accumulated separately for each area of interest in which economically recoverable resources have been identified. Such expenditure comprises cost directly attributable to the construction of a mine and the related infrastructure. Once a development decision has been taken, the expenditure in respect of the area of interest is classified in “mining assets under construction” category and separately disclosed in Note 10. Costs incurred are tested for impairment upon commencement of development phase.

Development expenditure is reclassified as a “Mining and primary ore dressing assets” at the end of the commissioning phase, when the mine and surface infrastructure are capable of operating in the manner intended by management. No depreciation is recognised in respect of development expenditures until they are reclassified as “Mining and primary ore dressing assets”.

30 New Standards and Interpretations not yet adopted

A number of new Standards, amendments to Standards and Interpretations are effective for annual periods beginning after 1 January 2019 and have not been applied in preparing these consolidated financial statements. Of these pronouncements, potentially the following will have an impact on the Group’s operations. The Group plans to adopt these pronouncements when they become effective.

IFRS 16 *Leases*

IFRS 16 replaces existing leases guidance including IAS 17 Leases, IFRIC 4 Determining whether an Arrangement contains a Lease, SIC-15 Operating Leases—Incentives and SIC-27 Evaluating the Substance of Transactions Involving the Legal Form of a Lease.

The standard is effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2019. Early adoption is permitted.

IFRS 16 introduces a single, on-balance lease sheet accounting model for lessees. A lessee recognises a right-of-use asset representing its right to use the underlying asset and a lease liability representing its obligation to make lease payments. There are optional exemptions for short-term leases and leases of low value items. Lessor accounting remains similar to the current standard – i.e. lessors continue to classify leases as finance or operating leases.

The Group is assessing the potential impact on its consolidated financial statements resulting from the application of IFRS 16. The new Standard is not expected to have a significant effect on the consolidated financial statements of the Group.