REPORT OF THE AUDITOR-GENERAL ON CONSOLIDATED BANK OF KENYA LIMITED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER, 2020

REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Opinion

The accompanying financial statements of Consolidated Bank of Kenya Limited set out on pages 15 to 96, which comprise the Group and the Bank statements of financial position as at 31 December, 2020, statements of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statements of changes in equity and the statements of cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, have been audited on my behalf by Ernst & Young LLP, auditors appointed under Section 23 of the Public Audit Act, 2015. The auditors have duly reported to me the results of their audit and on the basis of their report, I am satisfied that all the information and explanations which, to the best of my knowledge and belief, were necessary for the purpose of the audit were obtained.

In my opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Consolidated Bank of Kenya Limited as at 31 December, 2020, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended, in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and comply with the Kenya Companies Act, 2015.

Basis for Opinion

The audit was conducted in accordance with International Standards of Supreme Audit Institutions (ISSAIs). I am independent of the Consolidated Bank of Kenya Limited Management in accordance with ISSAI 130 on Code of Ethics. I have fulfilled other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the ISSAIs and in accordance with other ethical requirements applicable to performing audits of financial statements in Kenya. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Emphasis of Matter

Material Uncertainty Related to Going Concern

As previously reported, the Bank continued to incur losses in the year under review of Kshs.277,073,000 (2019-loss Kshs.530,199,000), resulting into an accumulated deficit of Kshs.2,891,962,000 (2019-Kshs.2,562,072,000) as at 30 June, 2020. Further, Note 9 to the financial statements indicates that the Bank's total capital to risk weighted assets ratio was 9.2% (2019-13.5%) against a regulatory minimum ratio of 14.5%. These conditions alongside other matters as disclosed under Note 9 are indicative of the Bank's inability to continue as a going concern.

My opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Key Audit Matters

Key audit matters are those matters that, in my professional judgment, are of most significance in the audit of the financial statements. There were no key audit matters to report in the year under review.

Other Information

The Directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the Bank information, corporate governance and the report of the Directors as required by the Kenya Companies Act, 2015. The other information does not include the financial statements and the auditor's report thereon.

My opinion on the financial statement does not cover the other information and I do not express an audit opinion or any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

REPORT ON LAWFULNESS AND EFFECTIVENESS IN USE OF PUBLIC RESOURCES

Conclusion

As required by Article 229(6) of the Constitution, based on the audit procedures performed, I confirm that, nothing has come to my attention to cause me to believe that public resources have not been applied lawfully and in an effective way.

Basis for Conclusion

The audit was conducted in accordance with ISSAI 4000. The standard requires that I comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain assurance about whether the activities, financial transactions and information reflected in the financial statements are in compliance, in all material respects, with the authorities that govern them. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my conclusion.

REPORT ON EFFECTIVENESS OF INTERNAL CONTROLS, RISK MANAGEMENT AND OVERALL GOVERNANCE.

Conclusion

As required by Section 7(1)(a) of the Public Audit Act,2015, based on the audit procedures performed, I confirm that, nothing has come to my attention to cause me to believe that that internal controls, risk management and overall governance were not effective.

Basis for Conclusion

The audit was conducted in accordance with ISSAI 2315 and ISSAI 2330. The standards require that I plan and perform the audit to obtain assurance about whether effective processes and systems of internal control, risk management and overall governance were operating effectively, in all material respects. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my conclusion.

REPORT ON OTHER LEGAL AND REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS

As required by Kenya Companies Act, 2015, I report based on my audit, that:

i. I have obtained all the information and explanations which, to the best of my knowledge and belief, were necessary for the purpose of the audit;

ii. In my opinion, adequate accounting records have been kept by the Bank, so far as appears from the examination of those records; and,

iii. The Bank financial statements are in agreement with the accounting records and returns.

Responsibilities of Management and the Board of Directors

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards and for maintaining effective internal control as Management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control, risk management and overall governance.

In preparing the financial statements, Management is responsible for assessing the Bank'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 is aware of the intention to liquidated the Bank or cease operations.

Management is also responsible for the submission of the financial statements to the Auditor-General in accordance with the provisions of Section 47 of the Public Audit Act, 2015.

In addition to the responsibility for the preparation and presentation of the financial statements described above, Management is also responsible for ensuring that the activities, financial transactions and information reflected in the financial statements are in compliance with the authorities which govern them, and that public resources are applied in an effective way.

The Board of Directors are responsible for overseeing the financial reporting process, reviewing the effectiveness of how the Bank monitors compliance with relevant legislative and regulatory requirements, ensuring that effective processes and systems are in place to address key roles and responsibilities in relation to overall governance and risk management, and ensuring the adequacy and effectiveness of the control environment.

Auditor-General's Responsibilities for the Audit

The audit objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion in accordance with the provisions of Section 48 of the Public Audit Act, 2015 and submit the audit report in compliance with Article 229(7) of the Constitution. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISSAIs will always detect a material misstatement and weakness when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

In addition to the audit of the financial statements, a compliance audit is planned and performed to express a conclusion about whether, in all material respects, the activities, financial transactions and information reflected in the financial statements are in compliance with the authorities that govern them and that public resources are applied in an effective way, in accordance with the provisions of Article 229(6) of the Constitution and submit the audit report in compliance with Article 229(7) of the Constitution.

Further, in planning and performing the audit of the financial statements and audit of compliance, I consider internal control in order to give an assurance on the effectiveness of internal controls, risk management and overall governance processes and systems in accordance with the provisions of Section 7(1)(a) of the Public Audit Act, 2015 and submit the audit report in compliance with Article 229(7) of the Constitution. My consideration of the internal control would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control that might be material weaknesses under the ISSAIs. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements caused by error or fraud in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control may not prevent or detect misstatements and instances of non-compliance. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies and procedures may deteriorate.

As part of an audit conducted in accordance with ISSAIs, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my 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.

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

- Conclude on the appropriateness of the 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 Bank's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in the auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my audit report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Bank to cease to continue as a going concern.

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

- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information and business activities of the Bank to express an opinion on the financial statements.

- Perform such other procedures as I consider necessary in the circumstances.

I communicate with the Management regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that are identified during the audit.

I also provide Management with a statement that I have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on my independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

CPA Nancy Gathungu CBS
AUDITOR-GENERAL

Nairobi

03 June, 2021