ANNUAL REPORT 2023

WE SEE GUYANA THROUGH YOUR EYES

GBTI

We see Guyana through your eyes

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CONTENT

Our Journey

GBTI

1987

WATER STREET

GBTI Water Street branch opened its doors in December 1987. Barclays bank ceased operations after 150 years.

1992

REGENT STREET BRANCH

This was the 1st branch established by GBTI. Regent Street branch opened its doors in January 1992 to serve the hub of Regent Street and its environs.

1994

1ST ATM KAIETEUR CLASSIC CARD

In 1994, GBTI launched the first ATM at the Water Street branch. Customers used the Kaieteur Classic card to access funds from their account through the ATM.

GBTI has grown and continues to solidify its presence throughout Guyana, positively impacting every sector and community we serve.

GBTI prides itself with many firsts; the first ATM in Guyana was established by GBTI in 1994, and then in 2010, the first drive-through ATM.

In 2006 and 2013, GBTI was the first bank in Regions 9 and 1, respectively. This gave the mining and hinterland areas a gateway to progress. Today, with its strategic focus and innovative business solutions, GBTI is becoming the bank for everyone.

2010

CORPORATE OFFICE & 1ST DRIVE THROUGH ATM

In July 2010, the GBTI Corporate Office was commissioned. It forged ahead its plans to continue its growth and development in banking and its service in Guyana. Also, it houses the 1st drive through ATM.

2006

1ST BANK IN REGION 9

GBTI Lethem branch was opened in August 2006. The bank's presence is pivotal to our country's trade with neighbouring Brazil and the expansion of business activities within the region.

2013

1ST BANK IN REGION 1

A gateway to the rich mining Region, GBTI opened the first bank in Port Kaituma in March 2013. This branch also serves residents of Mabaruma, Matthew's Ridge, Moruca and Arakaka in Region 1.

2021

E-STATEMENT

Digital statement was implemented by GBTI in February 2021. No more paper clutter. Easy access 24/7.

2023

GBTI INTRODUCED THE FIRST BLACK CREDIT CARD IN GUYANA.

The bank added Mastercard Black and Mastercard Gold Credit Cards to its product portfolio.

Expanded its ATM footprint to West Central Mall, Leonora, West Coast Demerara.

2001

EARLY SAVERS CALENDAR PROJECT

September 11, 2001 was a devastating day; The day the World Trade Center collapsed. GBTI believed and still believes that young people can make a difference in the world. The calendar idea was birthed using the Early Savers product line. Young people were given a chance to express their views on how they can make a difference through writing and art. The response was overwhelming. The calendar had become an annual feature until 2020.

2022

UPGRADED CORE BANKING SOFTWARE & DIGITAL PLATFORM

The bank upgraded its core banking software and digital banking channels to improve customer experience.
GO Banking is available online or via the GBTI Mobile App.

Our Vision

To innovate, serve and deliver value for generations to come, by embracing our rich and inclusive Guyanese heritage.

Our Mission

We will deliver the highest standard of integrity, respect and value to our clients by building strong, sustainable relationships, continuously improving efficiency and adopting leading technologies. We will attract, nurture, retain and empower a highly skilled, cohesive and engaged team that will operate in a culture of robust governance, environmental and social responsibility.

Corporate Objectives

To create a friendly banking environment through the effective structuring of business operations and the provision of the highest standard of service in a courteous, confidential and reliable manner. To keep abreast of modern technology in the areas of transaction processing, information provision and communication with a view to enhancing customer service and convenience.

To earn a reputation for ourselves as leaders in the areas of innovation and product diversification, and to increase our market share through the maintenance of a wide network of branches and an aggressive marketing policy.

To provide on-going training for staff at all levels in order to improve the quality of our human resources and ultimately the quality of our service.

To fulfill responsibilities of a good corporate citizen based on generally accepted corporate practices through the maintenance of standards of accountability and integrity.

To earn a reasonable return on capital employed primarily through the maintenance of strong deposit and loan portfolios to the end that the shareholders will be adequately rewarded for their investment, and staff attractively remunerated for their efforts.

Corporate Profile

GBTI has a rich and successful history of over 185 years that began with the establishment of the first commercial Bank in British Guiana, the Colonial Bank, in May 1836, continuing with the operations of Barclays PLC.

In 1987, the assets and liabilities of Barclays PLC were acquired by the Government of Guyana and renamed Guyana Bank for Trade and Industry Limited, whose doors were opened to the public on 1st December the same year. In January 1990, GBTI merged with Republic Bank (Guyana) Ltd. formerly Chase Manhattan Bank N.A, and in 1991, the Bank was privatised. With over 1,800 shareholders, the majority shareholder of the Bank is Secure International Finance Company Inc. with 61% of the issued shares.

Notice of Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the 36th Annual General Meeting of Guyana Bank for Trade and Industry Limited will be held on Friday, 24th May, 2024, at the GBTI Corporate Office, High and Young Streets, Kingston, Georgetown at 18:00hrs for the following purposes: -

1. To receive the Report of the Directors and the Audited Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2023.
2. To approve the declaration of a dividend.
3. To elect Directors.
4. To fix the remuneration of the Directors.
5. To appoint Auditors.
6. To empower the Directors to fix the remuneration of the Auditors.
7. To consider and confirm the amendments to the By-laws in the form hereto attached.
8. To transact any other business of an Annual General Meeting.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

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NADIA SAGAR
SECRETARY
03rd May, 2024

REGISTERED OFFICE:
High and Young Streets
Kingston, Georgetown

N.B. Only Shareholders may attend.

Any member entitled to attend and vote is entitled to appoint a proxy to do so for him/her. A proxy need not be a member of the company. The instrument appointing a proxy shall be in writing under the hand of the Appointer or of his/her Attorney, or if the Appointer is a Corporation, either under seal, or under the hand of an Officer or Attorney duly authorised and shall be deposited at the registered office of the company not less than 36 hours before the time for holding the Meeting.

A Corporation which is a member of the company may, by resolution of its Directors or other governing body, authorise such person as it thinks fit to act as its Representative at any or all meetings of the company.

Please bring this Notice to gain entry to the Meeting.

Corporate Information

CHAIRMAN
Mr. Robin Stoby, S.C.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Mr. James Foster

DIRECTORS
Mr. Edward A. Beharry
Mr. Suresh E. Beharry
Mr. James Foster
Mrs. Kathryn Eytle-McLean
Mr. Carlton James
Mr. Basil D. R. Mahadeo
Mrs. Anna Lisa Fraser-Phang
Mr. Glenn Parmassar
Mr. Richard Isava

REGISTERED OFFICE
High & Young Streets
Kingston
Georgetown
Guyana
South America

P. O. Box # 10280
Telephone: 592-231-4400 – 8
Fax: 592-231-4411
Email: banking@gbtibank.com
Website: www.gbtibank.com
SWIFT ID: GUTIGYGE

ATTORNEYS AT LAW
Messrs. Hughes, Fields & Stoby
62 Hadfield Street
Werk-en-Rust
Georgetown

Messrs. Cameron & Shepherd
2 Avenue of the Republic
Stabroek
Georgetown

Messrs. Sievewright Stoby & Co.
Chancery Chambers
15 Ketley & Drysdale Streets
Charlestown
Georgetown

Messrs. Fraser and Housty
Attorneys-at-Law
260 Middle Street
North Cummingsburg
Georgetown

AUDITORS
TSD Lal & Co.
Chartered Accountants
77 Brickdam
Stabroek
Georgetown

REGISTRAR AND TRANSFER OFFICE
Guyana Americas Merchant Bank
GBTI Corporate Office
High and Young Streets
Kingston
Georgetown

BRANCHES

CORRIVERTON
211 No. 78 Village
Corriverton, Berbice
Tel.: 592-335-3399-3404

ANNA REGINA
2 Anna Regina
Essequibo Coast
Tel.: 592-771-4830-3

PARIKA
300 Parika Highway,
East Bank Essequibo
Tel.: 592-260-4400-5

VREED-EN-HOOP
Lot N Plaintain Walk
Vreed-en-Hoop
West Bank Demerara
Tel.: 592-264-2191/3-4

DIAMOND
Diamond Public Road
East Bank Demerara
Tel.: 592-265-3936/3943

LETHEM
Barrack Retreat
Lethem
Rupununi
Tel.: 592-772-2241/2270-3

PORT KAITUMA
Turn Basin
Port Kaituma
Tel.: 592-777-4087-9

PROVIDENCE
c/o Ramada Princess Hotel
Providence
East Bank Demerara
Tel.: 592-265-7064-5

PORT MOURANT
Lot 2, Area Q
Port Mourant
Berbice
Tel.: 336-6585-6/6652-3

BARTICA
Lot 59 Second Avenue
Bartica
Essequibo River
Tel.: 455-2011/2

WATER STREET
47- 48 Water Street
Robbstown
Georgetown
Tel.: 592-226-8430-9

REGENT STREET
138 Regent Street
Lacytown
Georgetown
Tel.: 592-225-5291-3/5

Leadership Team

JAMES FOSTER
Chief Executive Officer

SHAWN GURCHARRAN
Deputy Chief Executive Officer

NADIA SAGAR
Company Secretary/Legal Officer

TONIA GRIFFITH
Manager, Risk

KWABINA GRIIFFTH
Chief Operating Officer

HANCE THEODORE
Manager, Internal Audit

LALEETA SAHADEO-GUNRAJ
Manager, Human Resources & Training

RANDIR RAMKISSOON
Manager, Information Technology Services

RAWATTIE MOHANDEO
Manager, Business Development

CHRISTINA DE AGRELLA
Team Lead, Strategy and Channels

SHANTEL ADAMS
Officer-in-Charge, Administration

AMRITA PATTERSON
Manager, Remedial

NAZRUL AZEEZ
Manager, Finance and Treasury

MADHAVI HANIF
Manager, Card Centre

PERNELL CUMMINGS
Manager, Marketing

JUANITA PERSAUD
Manager, Operations

BIBI KHAN
Financial Planning & Reporting Manager

CHAIRMAN

ROBIN STOBY

Chairman's Report

It is my honour and privilege to present as the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Guyana Bank for Trade and Industry our annual report for the year 2023. I continue to serve and perform in this role at a critical time with a strong sense of responsibility and deep appreciation for the rich history and traditions of this important Guyanese institution.

The world continues to navigate through choppy waters, the Ukraine / Russia and the Israel / Palestine wars, inflation, and the knock-on effects of the pandemic. Your Bank, however, stayed true to our purpose - helping our clients thrive and communities prosper, while delivering an excellent return to our shareholders, and we can be satisfied that we excelled in these purposes.

With Guyana's increasing world importance, there comes the complexity and dynamism associated with that scrutiny; the Board played an increasingly important oversight role supporting the Bank's operational and financial resilience. To better protect the Bank's clients, businesses and functions, the members maintained their focus on identifying the most critical services and where the most severe harm could result in a prolonged disruption.

Additionally, the Bank continued to advance its risk management operating model, approach and capabilities, to withstand stress and unexpected events, which supported the continuing efforts to build resilience and help sustain the public's trust in GBTI.

Critically important to support this position is talent management, given the enduring advantage of enabling GBTI's employees to perform at their highest level. The Board has undertaken to help develop the next generation of executives by overseeing succession planning and advising on career pathways that hone essential skills. Further, we also closely monitor the Bank's ongoing efforts to enhance board and executive representation of women in the organisation.

Additionally, the Bank has committed to support the transition to a digital economy, which includes working closely with clients to help them achieve their ease of Banking and financial objectives. GBTI believes that in

Chairman's Report Cont'd

this regard, our contribution will make an impact on the development of these objectives.

Notable Accomplishments in 2023

The Bank performed well with strong financial and operational performances delivered through customer focus and discipline by a team of professionals that never give up. Net Profit after tax was 30% higher, displaying strong performance growth in our core business; most importantly a decrease in the NPL portfolio to a net of 3.36% should be noted; as a result, your Board of Directors has approved a final dividend of G$6.5 per share which we expect will be paid on or around May 24th, 2024, to shareholders. This will bring a total dividend for 2023 to G$24.5 per share.

Throughout this past year, the Bank has made notable progress on key milestones as it executed its strategic plan, in particular:

- We launched an improved online banking solution and welcomed many new users from our customer base.
- We managed to operate efficiently even with a notably high employee turnover, brought about by immigration, the attraction of the energy sector, and by further education.
- We fueled an improvement in the non-performing loan portfolio – down to 6.60% a reduction of 4.53 % year over year and resulting in a considerable ease in our loan portfolio.

People

GBTI continued to make good progress executing its strategy and again delivered a strong financial performance. The external environment we faced was mixed. As these events unfold, it is clear that GBTI's role – connecting high-growth assets – is more vital than ever. Our financial performance, and the resiliency of our unique geographic footprint, means that we are well-positioned to capitalize on opportunities for growth in the coming years.

Our performance in 2023 reflects the incredible work of our team members across the nation, supported by the Management Team, and led by CEO James Foster. Every day, GBTI delivers first-rate results for our clients with the utmost integrity and professionalism, providing tailored solutions, products, and services to help them grasp the opportunities at hand. Anchored in our purpose, we continue to drive commerce and prosperity in Guyanese markets. I am extremely proud of what we have achieved together in 2023, and I look forward to the opportunities that 2024 will bring.

Risk

Risk management and governance remain at the forefront of everything we do. We continue to be selective so as to do the right business in the right way, upholding our governance and ethical principles. We worked closely with relevant government departments and regulators to strengthen financial crime controls, in line with the recommendations of the authorities and will continue to do so. We also engaged extensively with stakeholders including the regulators on issues related to conduct and fair treatment of customers.

Looking Ahead

Our commitment to our stakeholders is to continue to place our clients' needs and aspirations at the centre of everything we do, thereby transforming their experience.
We will continue to look after our people whose hard work, dedication, and professionalism are the cornerstones of our successes.
We will strive to deliver strong financial results through earnings growth and improved asset quality, and we will contribute meaningfully to the communities where we operate.

We believe the knowledge we have gained will position us for a brighter future. The decisions we make today will carve the pathway for our future success.

As we look ahead to 2024, the Board remains fully committed to guiding and supporting a talented and dedicated executive team as they implant the Bank's strategic plan, while ensuring compliance with regulatory standards and advocating for responsible banking practices.

Finally, I extend my sincerest appreciation to my fellow Board members, our CEO James Foster, and members of our leading executive team for their invaluable work and contributions throughout the year, and to our shareholders, customers and stakeholders for your unwavering trust, support and dedication to this historic Guyanese institution.

Chief Executive Officer Report 2023

2023 has been another year of satisfactory performance for the Bank. With Profit after Tax recorded at $3.1 billion representing a 30 percent growth, further, the Bank has shown improvement in a significant number of areas. Our years of consolidation and investment in our people and processes have begun to provide returns for our stakeholders.

The Global Economy

Growth in advanced economies was estimated to have decelerated to 1.5 percent in 2023 from 2.5 percent the year prior. This largely reflects a significant slowdown in the Euro Area, which was estimated to have grown by less than 1 percent. Conversely, growth of 2.5 percent was recorded in the United States (US) amid favorable consumption and business sentiment while, growth in the emerging market and developing economies (EMDEs) was estimated at 4 percent for 2023, 0.3 of a percentage point above the growth rate observed in 2022.

In the Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) region, economic growth was estimated to have moderated to 2.2 percent in 2023 from 3.9 percent in 2022, partially reflective of weakened demand from trading partners, such as the US and China, as well as lower commodity prices. The Caribbean region was projected to have expanded by 4.6 percent in 2023, slower than the 8.6 percent recorded one year prior. Excluding Guyana, the region was estimated to have expanded by 2.3 percent in 2023.

The Local Economy

Guyana remained among the fastest–growing economies in 2023, experiencing another year of double-digit real GDP growth of 33.1 percent. Non–oil GDP also surpassed projections in 2023, growing by 11.7 percent, after being projected to grow by 7.9 percent. The non-oil economy is projected to grow 11.9 percent in 2024.

In 2023 the oil and gas sector was estimated to have expanded by 45.9 percent, with a total of 142.9m barrels of oil produced, compared with 101.4m barrels produced in 2022. In total, there were 142 lifts of crude oil from Guyana's three producing FPSOs.

US$1.6 billion in petroleum revenue was deposited into the Natural Resource Fund (NRF), and at the end of the year, the overall balance, inclusive of interest income, stood at US$1,973.5 million. During the same period, US$1,002 million was withdrawn to finance national development priorities, pursuant to the conditions of the NRF Act 2021.

At the end of 2023, total Public and Publicly Guaranteed (PPG) debt stood at US$4,508.8 million, up 23.4 percent from 2022, due to increased external and domestic borrowing. Guyana's total PPG debt-to-GDP was 27 percent at the end of 2023, with external debt amounting to US$1,775.5 million and domestic debt totaling US$2,733.4 million representing 13.0 percent and 31.0 percent increases from 2022 respectively.

The agriculture, forestry, and fishing sectors were estimated to have expanded by 7.0 percent in 2023, despite the effects of El Niño while other crops, livestock, forestry, and fishing subsectors grew by 4.1 percent, 12.7 percent, 5.4 percent, and 37.8 percent respectively. Additionally, the sugar sector grew by 28.0 percent while the rice sector grew by 7.0 percent.

The mining and quarrying sector was estimated to have expanded by 42.6 percent in 2023, an increase attributed primarily to the inclusion of the oil and gas sector. Conversely, the gold mining industry was estimated to have contracted by 11.2 percent in 2023, while the bauxite mining industry was estimated to have declined by 20.4 percent. Stone and sand extraction saw an estimated growth of 98.0 percent and 21.0 percent, respectively, with demand from construction activity in the public and private sectors continuing to expand.

Net credit to the private sector grew by an estimated 14.4 percent. Consistent with performances in the real sector, there was notable growth in credit to the services, manufacturing, and agriculture sectors, of 12.9 percent, 15.8 percent, and 14.7 percent, respectively.

The expansion in credit to the agriculture sector was largely a result of an increase of $2.4 billion in lending for paddy production, while higher lending for manufacturing was driven primarily by an expansion of $3.7 billion in credit for other construction and engineering. Strong growth was also estimated in real estate mortgage loans of 22.5 percent to $128.6 billion, based on increases of 118.1 percent and 12.4 percent in mortgages granted for industrial and commercial properties and private dwellings, respectively.

Total reserves deposited with BOG increased by an estimated 2.6 percent to $136 billion. Of this amount, excess deposits were reduced by an estimated 14.7 percent to $45.2 billion, consistent with the continued improved sentiment of our banking sector amid the expansion in lending. Required statutory reserves expanded by an estimated 14.2 percent to $90.8 billion.

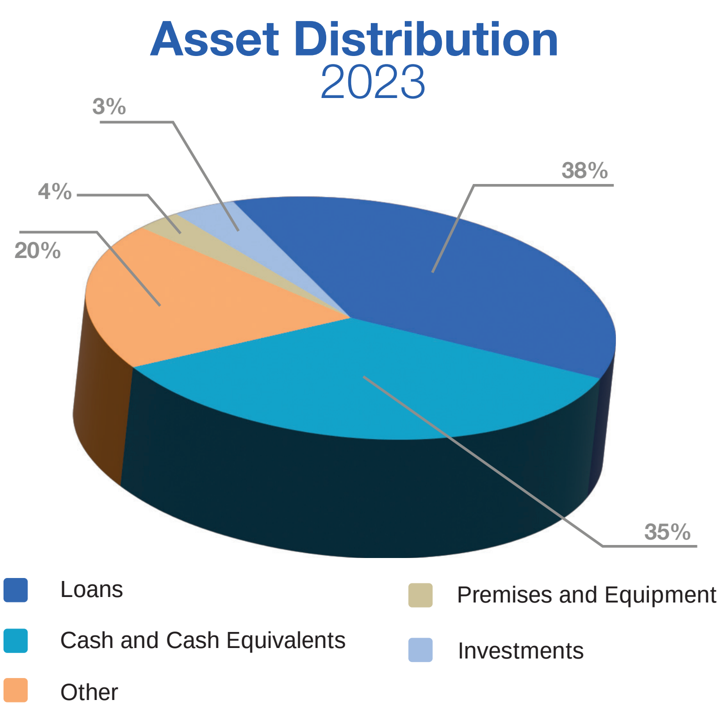
Total liquid assets of commercial Banks expanded by an estimated 26.3 percent to $343.5 billion at the end of 2023, when compared with 2022.

According to the Government, Guyana's 12-month inflation rate at the end of 2023 was estimated at 2.0 percent, significantly lower than the 7.2 percent recorded in 2022. Treasury bill yields trended downward with the 91-day, 182-day, and 364-day treasury bill yields falling from 1.54 percent, 1.00 percent, and 1.09 percent to an estimated 1.10 percent, and 0.99 percent for the latter two investments.

The National Budget 2024, presented under the theme, Staying the Course: Building Prosperity for All was the country's largest fiscal package of $1.146 trillion. Key areas of spending included infrastructure at 29 percent, education and health at 12 percent, and Security at 7 percent. Key projects included in the budget were expenditures on the new Demerara Harbour Bridge as well as the Gas to Shore Project.

Overall, Guyana's economy has demonstrated formidable strength and an upward trajectory buoyed by investments in diverse sectors providing a stable landscape for banking operations.

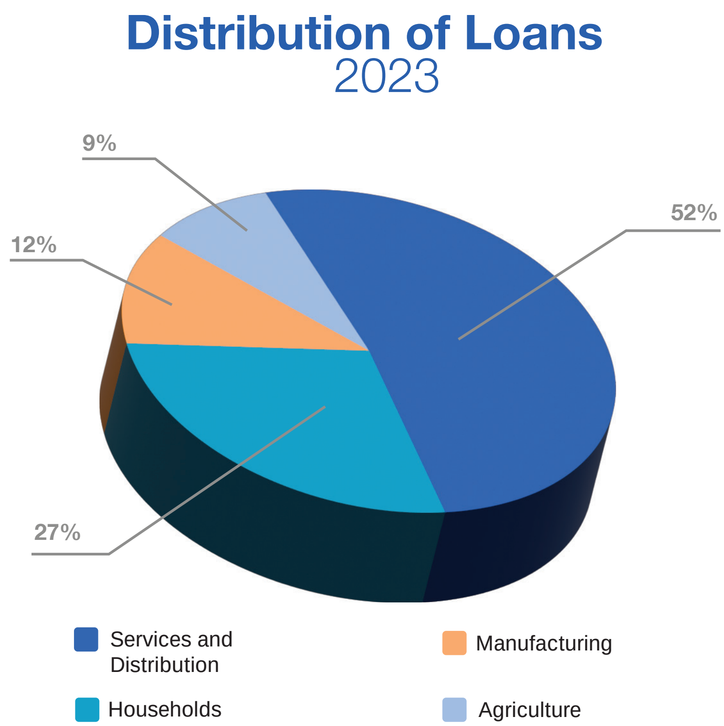
GBTI Group in 2023
As at December 31 2023, total assets were recorded at $201 billion, up from $175 billion reflecting a growth of 15 percent for the year. With a Profit after Tax of $3.1 billion, the Bank recorded a strong year's performance. Return on average Assets was recorded at 1.57 percent, an increase from 2022.



Loans and Advances
At year-end, the Bank's total loan portfolio was recorded at $77 billion, a growth of 18 percent from 2022. The Trade, Services, and Distribution sector remains the highest concentration, as can be expected with the economic activity in the country. Credit to Deposit ratio was 46 percent. The portfolio's exposure to the Oil and Gas sector is consistent with the industry's growth. We continue to be a key player in food security with continued support to the agriculture sector.

The Bank has made efforts to improve the retail corporate mix with Household exposure now at 27 percent of the Portfolio compared to 24 percent in the previous year.

The various housing initiatives locally have led to expansion in the Real Estate market and has been a boon for the construction industry catalyzing positive ripple effects across related sectors. The Bank is a registered mortgage lender with the Ministry of Finance and is in a prime position to leverage these growth opportunities.



Our Non-Performing Loans ratio was recorded at 6.6 percent for the end of the year and fell by 32 percent for the year under review. Our remedial efforts, while good, have been stymied by constraints in the judicial system. Net NPL was 3 percent compared to 5 percent in 2022.

Constant review of our lending practices and policies has yielded positive returns as has our proactive approach to defining our risk appetite; though conservative, it has been adjusted based on the economic cycles and development.

Asset Quality

Maintaining adequate asset quality has been a key objective. With the rapid growth of many sectors in the economy, the Bank has been measured and consistent in its application of good banking practices as we onboard new exposures. We have proactively reviewed sectoral exposure limits in line with forecasted growth and expected economic activities. Our income-earning portfolio of assets is well-diversified and is regularly stress-tested.

The Bank continues to monitor the level of risk exposure relative to capital levels in line with the Basel III guidelines. Capital Adequacy Ratio was 14 percent at year-end compared to a benchmark of 8 percent. Net Stable Funds Ratio, Value at Risk Ratio, and the Liquidity Coverage ratio were all above required benchmarks.

Stress Testing Analysis was executed as part of our Enterprise-wide Risk Management Framework, the results of which were consistent with our established Risk Tolerance levels.

Treasury and Investments

Total Funds invested at year-end was $70 billion composed primarily of sovereign and investment-graded exposures. The current global interest rate environment has allowed for improved returns with a fairly low-risk tolerance. Total Income from investments for 2023 was recorded at $1.8 billion, an increase of 29 percent from the previous year.

Our portfolio of Treasury and Investments remains low to average risk resulting in reduced Estimated Credit Losses (ECL) as at year end.

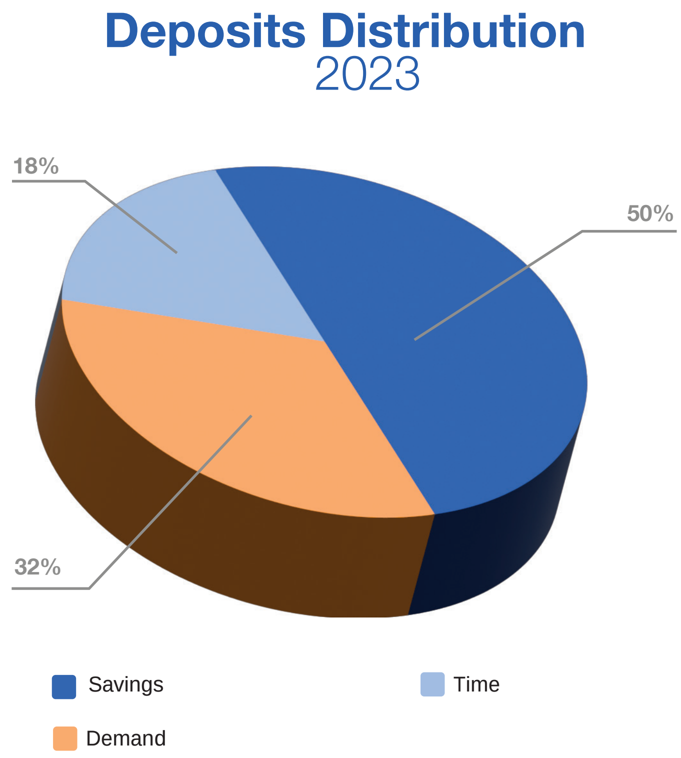
There has been a significant increase in the issue of short-term Local Treasury Bills which has allowed us to deploy more funds in income-earning instruments, contributing to greater income and profitability.

Gains from Exchange Trading were recorded at $1.4 billion, consistent with prior year levels. We continue our efforts to onboard new clients on both sides of the market to ensure equilibrium in our market position, while also exploring new partnerships with international Banks and financial institutions. These strategic steps have enabled us to offer new financial products and services to our clients which are increasingly necessary in the international payments' ecosystem.

Additionally, our current partnership with the International Finance Corporation has provided an avenue for us to make available a suite of Trade Finance Products to our clients.

Deposit Mobilization

Total deposits as of December 31 2023 have increased to $168 billion, a growth of 17 percent, consistent with the trend for the last three years. This growth reflects the continued confidence in our institution as we continue to attract significant savings depositors evidenced by 50 percent of our deposits coming from savings accounts.

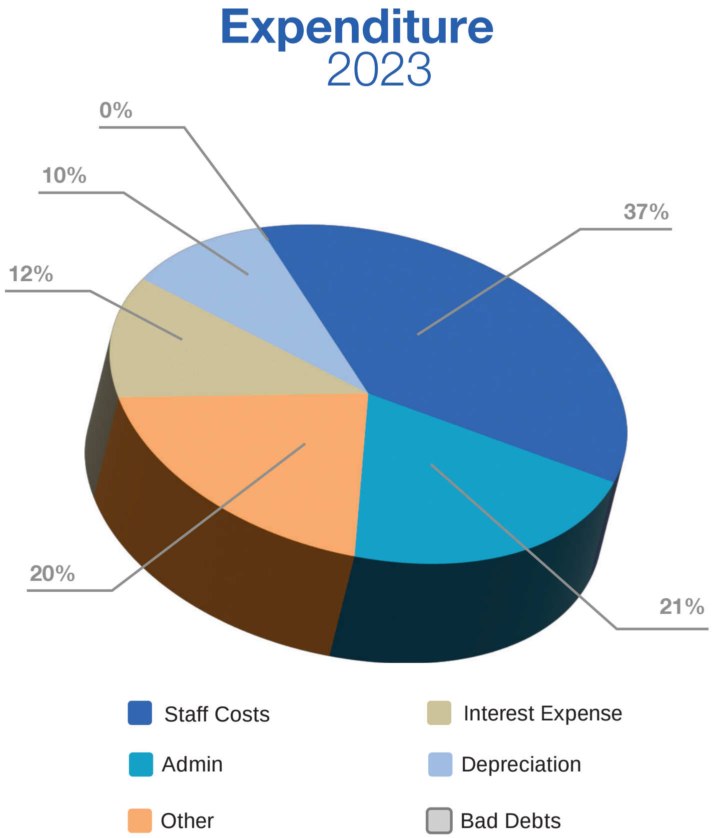


Interest Margins

The global interest rate environment has impacted our spreads positively at 3.53 percent, up from 3.36 percent in 2022. The growth of the lending opportunities has also impacted on this area positively.

Expenditure

The Bank continues to invest heavily in its people and systems. Total expenditure was well managed even in an inflationary environment. Careful resource planning has led to efficient allocation of capital resources that will yield positive returns in the years to come. Spending on Provision for bad debts has been offset against recoveries made and a healthier credit portfolio.



GBTI Mutual Funds

Our Mutual Fund arm continues to provide above-market returns for investors. 2023 saw a significant growth of the funds as our educational and marketing campaigns have yielded positive results. Total Assets under Management were just under $2 billion at the end of the year, a growth of 5 percent with growth in subscribers pegged at 154 percent. Total Distributions for the year was $58 million.

As our country continues to grow, we are confident that the suite of funds will provide diverse, investment vehicles for investors. The funds have also been classified as acceptable by the regulators for the Statutory Funds held by insurance companies and pension funds.

Digital Transformation

To satisfy GBTI's current and future vision, our IT Department has strived to implement modern technology solutions and continues to play a vital role in driving the Bank's digital transformation endeavors. We continue to improve our service delivery channels and have implemented a range of measures to redefine the way we interact with clients and manage financial services.

Our continued work on developing the Bank's system to allow for greater automation of processes and ways to allow the Bank to expand its online services reflects our dedication to customer service excellence and positions us at the forefront of the industry's shift toward a more agile, technology-driven future. We continue to focus on upskilling our team members to enhance our capabilities in key areas, recognizing that our growth is inextricably linked to the advancement of our team.

Governance Risk and Compliance

The Bank's GRC framework has been making steady progress demonstrating our unwavering commitment to maintaining the highest standards of ethical conduct, transparency, and regulatory adherence. We believe Guyana's preeminence on the world stage warrants entities to adopt these measures to be competitive on the global stage. Our Bank will continue to invest in these areas to ensure robust governance, effective risk management, and compliance, reinforcing the trust and confidence placed in us by our clients and the wider community.

Enterprise-Wide Risk Management (ERM)

Our adoption of ERM has provided significant gains in the way we operate and continues to be an integral component of your operational strategy. Our risk reporting has contributed to better-informed decision-making. ERM has also contributed positively to the identification of key opportunities and has bolstered our capacity to adapt to dynamic market conditions.

The proactive and continuous nature of ERM has improved our mindset and attitudes towards risk and will remain the cornerstone of our commitment to ensuring the stability, resilience, and sustainable growth of our Bank.

Corporate Social Responsibility

The Bank maintains a stream of activity that contributes positively to our society. We strive to manage our operations in a manner that is sustainable to our environment.

We partnered with the First Lady's Office for the Georgetown Seawall Project and it is indeed a pleasing environment that has been created for all to enjoy.

The Bank led fundraising activities for the Madhia Fire Victims as well as support to various cultural events throughout the year.

The Bank also continues to support the very successful GBTI/Buxton Pride Steel Orchestra.

As we move forward, our pledge to corporate social responsibility will remain integral to our identity as a Bank that strives to not only drive economic growth but also enrich the lives of those we serve.

Looking Ahead 2024

As we settle into 2024, subdued growth, easing interest rates, geopolitical conflicts, and elections are major themes expected to shape the economic and financial market narrative. Globally, real GDP growth rates are expected to slow further in 2024 while global growth will be moderated by the lag effects of the aggressive monetary policy tightening, a diminished Chinese growth forecast, and geopolitical disruptions.

More central Banks around the world are expected to pursue accommodative monetary policy, with 2024 widely expected to mark a turn in the interest rate cycle. An increasing number of the world's major central Banks are expected to reverse restrictive monetary and are widely expected to slash interest rates for the first time since 2020 by mid-2024. Notably, there is a 65% probability of a Fed cut in March.

In Guyana Real GDP was projected to grow by 34.3 percent in 2024. Once realized, this will translate to an annual average of 38.8 percent over five years.

The outlook for the oil and gas sector remains strong as high forward prices are expected to stimulate investment activity across the basin.

Monetary policy in 2024 is expected to remain focused on containing prices and keeping exchange rates steady even as inflation is projected at 2.5 percent.

At the Bank, we will continue our path of enhancing our internal systems and channels to improve the way we interact with our valued clients. As the local economy continues to expand, it is important that as a local institution, we strive for best practices in all we do so our clients can enjoy their banking experience. We also anticipate greater investment in our people as the labor market continues to become more developed and competitive as we seek to retain our most valued resources.

We aim to continue our efforts to improve asset quality and ensure that adequate returns are generated for stakeholders in a way that is compliant with environmental, social, and governance standards.

We embrace the changing landscape of Guyana and the effects it will have on banking. Accordingly, the Bank will continue to modernize its approach to banking practices consistent with the expectations of the growing economy.

Appreciation

My sincerest appreciation to Team GBTI for their outstanding efforts and dedication in 2023. The Bank's success has been underpinned by your unwavering commitment to customer service and achieving our goals and objectives.

Our Board remains a resolute group that has led us well. Their guidance and strategic propositions have continued to challenge us to achieve even greater heights.

To our clients, we deeply appreciate the opportunity you have given us to be partners in your success stories. We trust that our partnership will continue to yield positive results for you and your families, and we can play a role in supporting the achievement of your dreams and aspirations.

GBTI Manifesto

OUR COMMITMENT

At GBTI we commit to improving the growth and wellness of all team members, our customers and our community. We commit, as a team, to a culture of trust, accountability, compliance and being accessible to all.

OUR PROMISE

We promise to embrace an inclusive culture despite our diversity, and to respect each other in a manner that is caring and professional. We promise open communication, honest feedback and a clear path for escalation for all stakeholders.

OUR GOAL

Together, we will work diligently to maintain and protect our rich, warm Guyanese Brand. Our leaders and engaged team members will be proactive, innovative and agile. We will optimize customer experience through our highly skilled and trained team members in an environment of transparency, equity, and recognition for excellence. Our GBTI Culture will be the benchmark for customer experience and satisfaction in Guyana and all markets in which we operate.

CORE VALUES

Be Accountable

We take ownership for our actions, our organization and our community. We celebrate our successes and are responsible for results.

Act With Integrity

We're honest, transparent, and committed to doing what's best for our customers and our company.

Show Respect

We show appreciation for someone's traits or qualities and treat everyone with dignity and gratitude.

Efficiency

We use the most cost-efficient way to fulfill our customers' demands and work with continuous improvements.

Innovation

We are continually upgrading our use of technology along with new initiatives to provide our customers with excellent and efficient service.

GO FOR GOLD!

GBTI's Gold Mastercard

- 4% Cashback
- 40 Million + Merchants Worldwide
- Real-time Transaction Alerts

AVAILABLE NOW

Terms and Conditions Apply

GBTI
We see Guyana through your eyes

Our Commitment to ESG

569

Total Team Members

174

Total **Male** Team Members

395

Total **Female** Team Members

Who we are

GBTI is Guyana's oldest and largest indigenous Bank.

Guyanese Connection

We are member of the Edward B. Beharry Group of companies, the largest conglomerate in Guyana comprising Guyana's Merchant Bank, Insurance, Stock Brokerage, Restaurant Holdings, Automobile Franchises amongst others.

Adaptable

Our aspiration is to help you meet your goals in a dynamic market. We are poised with a resilient and experienced team, customized banking and investment solutions.

Trusted

Our brand is deeply rooted in our **Guyanese** culture and trusted in every community.

Building Partnerships/Investing in our Country

"I've been banking with GBTI for over 10 years. Because of their friendly customer service and efficiency. I got started with you guys after opening my small business, which you guys facilitated, opening a savings account for me and then a checking account. I have plans furthering my new company, expanding my new company, which we do roadworks and procurement and has been showing positive growth within the last two years."

Mr Danesh Singh, Managing Director – Luxury Auto

"The Puran Brothers has been banking with GBTI for over two decades and GBTI has been proven to be one of the trusted bankers. They would always be there for us and we're happy with working with GBTI. I remember maybe two decades ago when we really need capital for business operations. GBTI came into our office and offered us $5 million collateral free and I think that was something, days where we started our banking with GBTI and then we started taking more facilities as we go by. GBTI has been one of our principal bankers"

Kalesh Puran, General Manager – Puran Brothers Inc.

"Why we chose GBTI in the first place, we were looking for a customer friendly Bank. We were looking for more of a friend than a Bank. Someone we can call on, someone we can rely on, someone to answer our questions.
I think over the years, the service has improved from when we first started banking with GBTI and having facilities with GBTI. I think daily we're seeing positive changes. I look forward for continued good service, continued good banking deals, and a continual friendship."

Geraldo Alphonso, Director – Arimu Investment Inc.

Living with Our People

We understand the everyday needs and aspirations of our people and we support and celebrate each other.

GBTI Buxton Pride Steel Orchestra

We identify with our Guyanese culture and the excitement and richness of music, and we nurture new talent every year supporting this homegrown group of young people, touching lives and igniting our culture.

Championing Sports

Our partnership with the Guyana Lawn Tennis Association keeps our young people disciplined and engaged in various communities, with access to our facilities and community resources.

Empowering Women & Girls

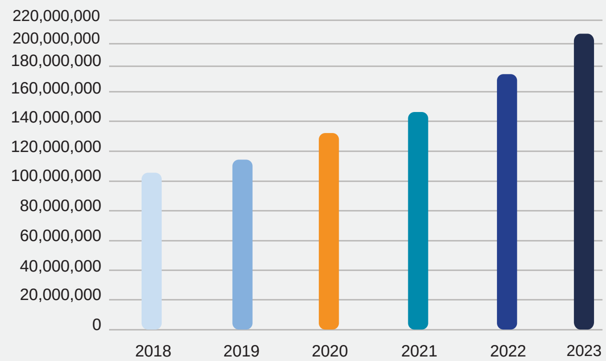
Our support, idealism and sense for women as equal partners is intrinsic in our culture and is exemplified in the winning spirit of the GBTI Women's Hockey Team and as the first Guyanese Bank, to endorse the United Nations Women Empowerment Principles.

We commit to providing financial support to women entrepreneurs and to review our value chain to promote procurement opportunities for women in business.

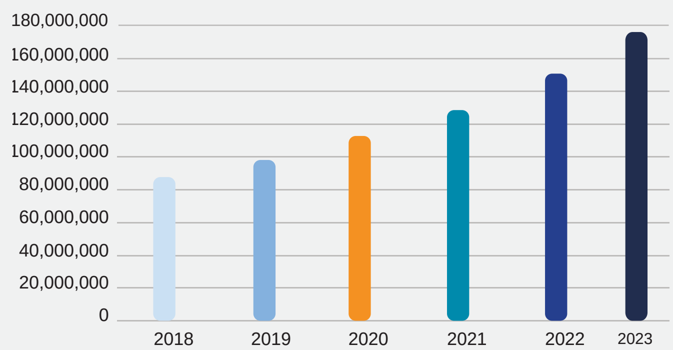
Financial Highlights

	2018 G$000	2019 G$000	2020 G$000	2021 G$000	2022 G$000	2023 G$000
Total Assets	107,491,745	115,995,341	130,358,467	145,451,078	174,985,989	200,507,722
Shareholders' Equity	16,066,260	16,987,913	17,968,509	19,307,689	20,817,811	23,027,646
Reserves and Retained Earnings	15,266,260	16,187,913	17,168,509	18,507,689	20,017,811	22,227,646
Total Deposits	89,285,118	97,011,107	110,028,009	123,221,623	144,257,137	168,477,094
Loans and Advances	42,799,376	39,111,657	41,791,918	49,693,768	65,225,381	77,038,136
Profit before Taxation	1,588,029	1,709,280	1,324,096	2,430,051	3,544,721	4,748,166
Profit after Taxation	1,448,322	1,486,795	1,274,264	1,917,031	2,424,311	3,141,868
Return on Average Assets (%)	1.40%	1.33%	1.03%	1.39%	1.51%	1.67%
Return on Average Equity (%)	9.18%	9.00%	7.29%	10.29%	12.08%	14.33%
Earnings per Share ($)	36.21	37.17	30.26	47.03	60.08	78.28

Total Assets
G$000

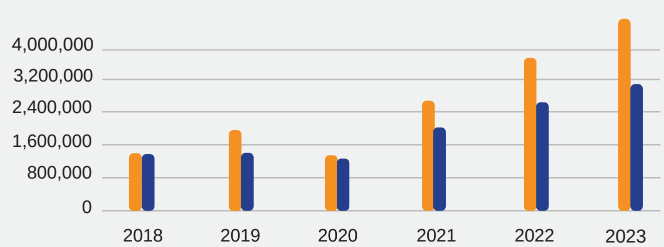


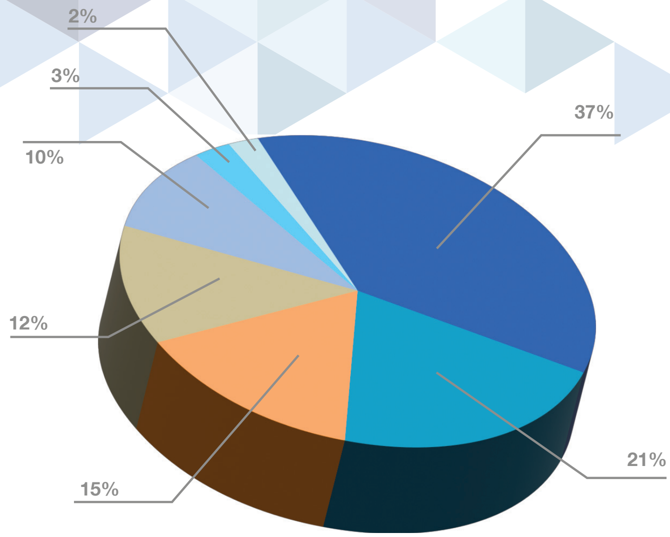
Total Deposits
G$000



Income
G$000

- Profit before Taxation
- Profit after Taxation



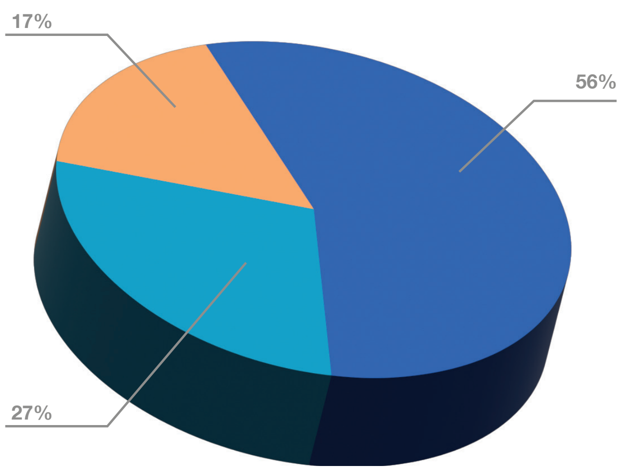


Staff Costs
Admin
Others
Interest Expense
Depreciation
Property Tax
Marketing and public relations

Expenses 2023

Amount in millions of Guyana Dollars

	Amount	%
Interest Expense	752	12
Staff Costs	2,249	37
Depreciation	616	10
Admin	1,257	21
Marketing and public relations	114	2
Property Tax	186	3
Others	911	15
	6,085	**100.00**

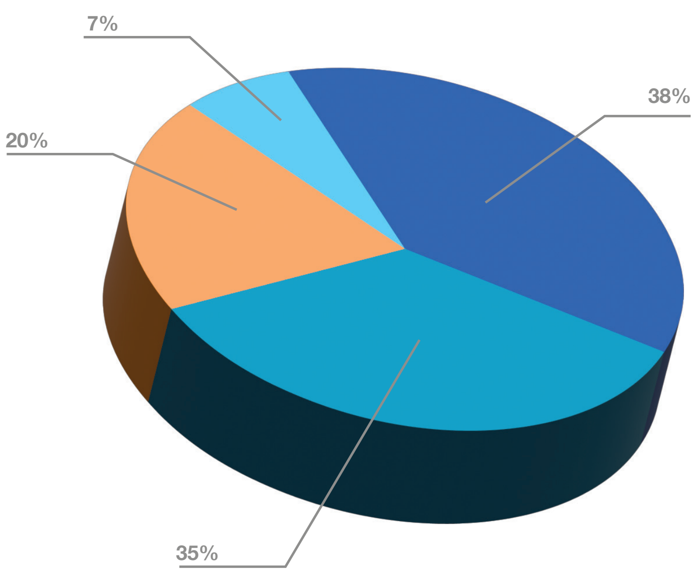


Loans & Advances
Commissions and Other Income
Investment Securities

Sources of Income 2023

Amount in millions of Guyana Dollars

	Amount	%
Loans & Advances	6,077	55.76
Investment Securities	1,848	16.96
Commissions and Other Income	2,974	27.29
	10,899	**100.00**



Loans & Advances
Cash Resources
Investments
Other Assets

Distribution of Assets & Liabilities

Amount in millions of Guyana Dollars

ASSETS	Amount	%
Cash Resources	40,138	20.02
Investments	70,194	35.01
Loans & Advances	77,038	38.42
Other Assets	13,138	6.55
	200,508	**100.00**

LIABILITIES	Amount	%
Deposits	168,477	83.12
Other Liabilities	9,003	7.45
Shareholders Equity	23,028	9.43
	200,508	**100.00**

Corporate Governance

The nature of the Corporate Governance of the Guyana Bank for Trade and Industry Limited is characterized by the strong commitment of the Board of Directors to various ethical and prudential guidelines in managing the affairs of the Bank, and adherence to the principle of transparency in all decision making.

The Board of Directors comprises the Chief Executive Officer and nine (9) Non-Executive Directors from diverse backgrounds in business and finance, providing the Board with a wealth of knowledge and experience, enabling it to discharge its responsibilities effectively and to maintain a high degree of probity in the management of the affairs of the Bank.

The Board exhibits true transparency by not allowing its members to participate in decision making where they may have an interest in the subject matter, and has made mandatory, full disclosure to the Board by all Directors of contracts with the Bank, where they may be deemed parties or related parties.

The Board is led by a Non-Executive Chairman who along with the other Non-Executive Directors, promotes the accountability of the entire Board.

Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee

The Audit, Risk and Compliance is an active committee within the Bank which provides an independent reporting channel for the work of the Internal Audit, Risk and Compliance Departments.

This Committee comprises four (4) Non-Executive Directors: Mr Basil Mahadeo (Chairman), Mr Robin Stoby, S.C., Mr Suresh Beharry, Mr Glenn Parmassar and the Chief Executive Officer. The Committee holds bi-monthly meetings at which reports are presented by the Managers of the various departments.

The Committee through the Internal Audit Department reviews the Bank's internal control procedures, monitors and reviews the Bank's risk management processes and risk profile, and the Bank's compliance with prudential regulations, anti-money laundering regulations, and other statutory and regulatory requirements.

The Committee also evaluates the effectiveness and independence of the External Auditors; the Manager, Internal Audit; and the Compliance Officer.

Human Resources and Compensation Committee

The Human Resources and Compensation Committee brings the desired degree of objectivity and transparency to decisions on all human resources matters.

The Committee approves key executive appointments and remuneration, monitors and reviews executive succession planning, and monitors the performance of the Bank's Chief Executive Officer and Leadership Team.

The Human Resources and Compensation Committee comprises five (5) Non-Executive Directors: Mrs Kathryn Eytle-Mc Lean (Chairman), Mr Edward A. Beharry, Mr Richard Isava, Mr Robin Stoby, S.C., Mrs A. Fraser-Phang and the Chief Executive Officer.

Credit and Investment Committee

The Committee comprises the full Board, chaired by Mr. Robin Stoby, and plays a crucial role within the Bank's sphere of credit appraisals and investment decisions.

The granting of credit is paramount among the Bank's income generating activities, and the Committee makes all credit decisions involving amounts over a stipulated level. This Committee expends much effort in the analyzing of the risk related to credit decisions, and reviews and monitors the processes for the maintenance of credit quality, and gives direction on the areas where surplus funds may be invested after taking full account of the relevant risks. This Committee meets once per month and more frequently as necessary.

Building and Premises Committee

The Committee plays a monitoring and advisory role in relation to all major construction projects undertaken by the Bank, and is active throughout the building process, from the appointment of an Architect to the handing over of the completed project. This Committee comprises three (3) Non-Executive Directors: Mr Edward A. Beharry (Chairman), Mr Richard Isava, Mr Basil Mahadeo, and the Chief Executive Officer. This Committee meets as the need arises.

External Auditors

The Board believes in the maintenance of the independence of its External Auditors and therefore does not use its External Auditors for 'other' services, to ensure conflicts of interest are obviated.

Strategy

The Board approves and reviews the Bank's Strategic Plan and within the context of this plan, approves annual budgets, which include all capital and current expenditure, proposed developments in information technology and the provision of new products to customers.

The Board meets once per month and deliberates on matters concerning the strategic direction of the Bank and seeks to arrive at consensus before approving implementation.

Directors' Report

The Directors have pleasure in submitting their Report and Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2023.

Principal Activities

The Bank provides a comprehensive range of commercial Banking services. Banking operations are considered a single business operation that includes lending, investments, foreign exchange trading and deposit-taking. The contribution of these activities to overall revenues is included in Note 30 of the financial statements.

Financial Results

Group Net Profit after Taxation	$3,141,868,000
Interim Dividend	$(720,000,000)
Retained Earnings	$2,421,868,000
Proposed Final Dividend	$260,000,000

Dividends

The Directors recommend a dividend of $24.50 per share, of which $18.00 per share has already been paid.

Reserves & Retained Earnings

The Bank's Statutory Reserve Account equals its Paid-Up Capital thus no sum is transferred. The sum of 2,421,868,000 was placed to the Retained Earnings Account.

Share Capital

The authorized Share Capital for the Bank is $500,000,000 divided into 50,000,000 shares of which 40,000,000 have been issued and fully paid.

Directors

At the 35th Annual General Meeting of the Bank, the following persons retired and were re-appointed Directors of the Bank:

Mr. Suresh E. Beharry
Mrs. Kataryn Eytle McLean
Mr. Richard A. Isava

Directors' Interests

The interests of the Directors holding office as at December 31, 2023, in the ordinary shares of Guyana Bank for Trade and Industry Limited were as follows:

Directors	Directors' Interest		Associate's Interest	
	Non Beneficial	Non Beneficial	Non Beneficial	Non Beneficial
Mr. Robin Stoby, SC	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Mr. Edward A. Beharry	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Mr. Suresh E. Beharry	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Mrs. Kathryn Eytle-Mc Lean	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Mr. Carlton James	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Mr. Basil D.R. Mahadeo	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Mrs. Anna Lisa Fraser-Phang	2,000	NIL	NIL	NIL
Mr. Glenn Parmassar	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Mr. Richard A. Isava	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Mr. James Foster	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

No Director or any associate of the Director has any right to subscribe to equity or debt securities of the Bank.

Directors' Fees Per Annum

Directors		2023 GYD$
1	Mr. Robin Stoby S.C. (Chairman/Non Executive)	4,086,192
2	Mr. Richard Isava (Non-Executive)	1,391,646
3	Mr. Edward A Beharry (Non-Executive)	1,391,646
4	Mr. Suresh E Beharry (Non-Executive)	1,391,646
5	Mr. Basil D.R. Mahadeo (Non-Executive)	1,391,646
6	Mr. Carlton James (Non-Executive)	1,391,646
7	Mrs. Kathryn Eytle-Mclean (Non-Executive)	1,391,646
8	Mrs. Anna Lisa Fraser-Phang (Non-Executive)	1,391,646
9	Mr. Glenn Parmassar (Non-Executive)	1,391,646
10	Mr. James Foster (Executive)	1,391,646
	Total	**16,611,006**

Geographical Analysis Of Revenue And Contribution To Results

The Bank's operations are based in Guyana, but investments are maintained overseas from which income of $1,202M (2022: $1,170M) was earned during the year.

Capitalised Interest
The amount of interest capitalized by the Bank for the year was $396M (2022: $49M).

Capital Expenditure
The Bank incurred a total of $438M on capital expenditure in 2023 in areas including rehabilitation and construction of Regent Street Branch premises.

Financial Highlights

Summary of Assets and Liabilities

	2023 $000	2022 $000
Total Assets	200,507,722	174,985,989
Liabilities	177,480,076	154,168,178
Shareholders' Equity	23,027,646	20,817,811
	200,507,722	174,985,989

Summary of Income and Expenditure

	2023 $000	2022 $000
Net Interest Income	7,173,263	5,986,767
Other Income	2,973,827	2,776,539
	10,147,090	**8,763,306**
Loan Impairment Expenses	(220)	(680,991)
Operating Expense	(5,333,591)	(4,522,311)
Share of Associate (Loss)	(65,113)	(15,283)
Net Profit Before Taxes	**4,748,166**	**3,544,721**
Taxation	(1,606,298)	(1,120,410)
Net Profit After Taxes	**3,141,868**	**2,424,311**
Interim Dividend Paid	(720,000)	(480,000)
Retained Earnings	**2,421,868**	**1,944,311**
Proposed Final Dividend	(260,000)	(320,000)

Substantial Shareholders

	2023 Amount	2023 %	2022 Amount	2022 %
Secure International Finance Company Incorporated	24,400,000	61	24,400,000	61

A substantial shareholder is defined as a person or entity entitled to exercise control of five (5%) or more of the voting power at any general meeting.

Pension Scheme

The valuation of the company's Defined Benefit Pension Plan was completed as at December 31, 2023 in accordance with Section 111, (1) (2) and (3) of the Insurance Act of 1998. The status of the plan revealed that the valuation of the scheme's assets exceeded the value of its liabilities by $159M (2022: $98M surplus). The Bank conducts annual actuarial valuations of the pension plan. IAS 19 disclosures are included in Note 24 of the audited financial statements.

Auditors

TSD Lal & Co. – Chartered Accountants, retire and being eligible, offer themselves for re-appointment.

Principal Activity Of Our Subsidiary Companies

The Bank owns 100% of the issued share capital of GBTI Property Holdings Inc. The principal activity of this subsidiary is real estate management. GBTI Property Holdings Inc. Operating Profit for the year 2023 was $2.4M.

The Bank owns 76.54% of the issued share capital of GBTI Mutual Funds which returned an Operating Profit of $46M.

Principal Activity Of Our Associate Company

The Bank owns 40% of the issued share capital of Guyana Americas Merchant Bank Inc. The principal activity of this associate company is the provision of investment management and advisory services. The Guyana Americas Merchant Bank Inc. Operating Loss for the year 2023 was $163M.

Service Contracts

The Bank has a retainer contract with the law firm; Sieve Wright Stoby and Co; headed by Mr. R.M.S. Stoby S.C. All other contracts between the Bank and its directors or affiliated companies are disclosed in Note 26 of the Audited Financial Statements that forms part of the Bank's Annual Report.

Transactions with Related Parties

Related Party transactions with the parent company are addressed in Note 26 of the financial statements.

The Bank leases space in its corporate head office building to Guyana Americas Merchant Bank Inc., an associate company. The Bank leases space in several of its branches to Nalico/Nafico.

Controlling Shareholder Contract

The Bank maintains a non-contributory Defined Contribution Pension Plan which is administered under the terms of a Trust Deed by North American Life Insurance Company Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of Edward B. Beharry and Company Limited. The Bank also maintains a non-contributory Group Life and Accidental Death & Dismemberment Plan and Group Health Plan with North American Life Insurance Company Limited.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

NADIA SAGAR
SECRETARY

Independent Auditor's Report

TO THE MEMBERS OF
GUYANA BANK FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY LIMITED AND SUBSIDIARIES
(SUBSIDIARY OF SECURE INTERNATIONAL FINANCE COMPANY INCORPORATED)
ON THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the consolidated financial statements of the Guyana Bank for Trade and Industry Limited and Subsidiaries (the Group), which comprise the consolidated statement of financial position as at 31 December 2023, the consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, consolidated statement of changes in equity, consolidated statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies as set out on pages 35 to 107.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Group as at 31 December 2023, its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards

Basis for Opinion

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

Emphasis of Matter

We draw attention to Note 10 (c), which explains that the Guyana Revenue Authority (GRA) has issued additional assessments for corporation and property tax liabilities for the years of income 2010 to 2022 (years of assessment 2011 to 2023) totalling G$951,207,116. These additional taxes are currently in dispute in which they are at varying stages of the legal process (i.e. objection or appeal). Management is of the opinion that the Bank will be successful on appeal and accordingly no provision has been recognized in these financial statements for the effect of the additional tax assessments. Our opinion is not qualified in respect of this matter.

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 for the year ended 31 December 2023. 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.

Loans and advances

G$000 (Refer to note 13)

The Bank's loans and advances of G$77,038,136 (2022 – G$65,225,381) are recorded net of provision. Provision is computed under two methods, one based on the requirement of the Financial Institutions Act 1995 (FIA) and the other based on the requirements of the International Financial Reporting Standards. Under the requirements of the Financial Institutions Act 1995, provisioning is made based on the classification of loans and advances as per the Bank of Guyana's Supervisory Guideline number 5. In relation to the latter, provision is computed by management's expert based on an expected credit loss basis. Where there are differences between the two computations, the excess provision under the FIA is transferred to the General Banking Risk Reserve from Retained Earnings. Differences arise because there are two separate bases used in computing provisions. Also, additional assessments for corporation tax liability were issued by Guyana Revenue Authority (GRA) with regards to the provision as per note 10 (c).

Loans and advances are considered a key audit matter as both of the above computations involve significant management judgement.

How our audit addressed the key audit matter:

Our audit tests were carried out on samples for both provisions computed as at 31 December 2023 to ensure that they comply with the requirements of the Bank of Guyana's Supervisory Guideline and the International Financial Reporting Standards.

For loans and advances, our audit tests were not limited to but focused on the following procedures:

- Verifying that a sample of loans and advances are secured, active and monitored in accordance with the Bank of Guyana's Supervisory Guideline number 5 and evaluating management's compliance with this guideline. We verified whether these loans and advances were classified based on the criteria outlined in this guideline;
- Assessing the control environment for the processing, approval and monitoring of loans and advances;
- Direct confirmations were sent for a sample of loans and advances;
- Reviewing provisioning models for inconsistencies in data and checking accuracy of calculations;
- Reviewing models for compliance with FIA and IFRS 9 requirements;
- Reviewing and performing tests on the source data used by management's expert to ascertain its completeness and accuracy;
- We assessed the professional competence, including the qualifications, experience and reputation, of management's expert.

Valuation of Investments
G$000 (Refer to note 12)

At 31 December 2023 the Bank and Group's investments amounted to G$70,546,281 (2022 – G$63,734,940) and G$70,193,821 (2022 – G$63,514,745) respectively. Included in the Group's investments are structured financial instruments valued at amortised cost and fair value through profit/loss (FVPL) investments valued based on quoted prices in active markets. Investments are also stated net of expected credit losses. These expected credit losses are computed using significant judgement by management's experts.

At 31 December 2023, there is significant measurement uncertainty involved in these valuations. As a result, the valuation of these investments was significant to our audit.

How our audit addressed the key audit matter:
Our procedures included but were not limited to the following:

- Ensuring valuation methodologies are consistent with the accounting policies;
- Ensuring fair value classification, measurement and disclosures are in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards;
- Ensuring additions and disposals were approved by the appropriate level of management;
- We verified a sample of investments to quoted prices in active markets;
- Obtaining an understanding of the methodology and assumptions used by management's expert in calculating expected credit losses;
- Reviewing and performing tests on the source data used by management's expert to ascertain its completeness and accuracy.

Property and equipment
G$000 (Refer to note 14(a)

Property and equipment are stated at a net book value of G$8,092,649 (2022 – G$8,265,021) and G$8,092,649 (2022 – G$8,265,945) for the company and group respectively. No revaluation of property and equipment was done during the year.

Property and equipment are considered a key audit matter as significant management judgment was used to select depreciation rates for items of property and equipment. In addition, an annual impairment review of all property and equipment was done which involved significant management judgment.

How our audit addressed the Key Audit Matter:
Our procedures included but were not limited to the following:

- Testing depreciation rates for all property and equipment to ensure consistency with accounting standards;
- Assessing the methodology used by the Directors to carry out their impairment review;
- Verifying assets physically in current and prior years on a sample basis for existence;
- Testing of internal controls governing the procurement, monitoring and disposal of property and equipment and verifying samples of the material assets to supporting documents.

Other Information in the Annual Report
Management is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises all the information disclosed in the 2023 annual report but does not include the consolidated financial statements, notes to the consolidated financial statements and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the consolidated financial statements does not cover the other information and we do 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, and in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the consolidated financial statements or our knowledge obtained during the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of the other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard. At the time of our report, the other information was not available.

Responsibilities of Those Charged with Governance for the Consolidated Financial Statements
The Directors/Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the consolidated financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards, 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.

Responsibilities of Those Charged with Governance for the Consolidated Financial Statements (Cont'd)
In preparing the consolidated financial statements, the Directors are 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 the Directors either intend to liquidate the Group or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Audit Committee assists the Directors in discharging their responsibilities for overseeing the Group's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements
The objectives of our audit 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 auditor's 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 International Standards on Auditing 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 the Directors.

- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Directors' 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 auditor's 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 auditor's 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 the Audit Committee 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 the Audit Committee with a statement that we 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 our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements Cont'd

From the matters communicated with the Audit Committee, we determine those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the consolidated financial statements of the year ended 31 December, 2023 and are therefore the Key Audit Matters. We describe these matters in our auditor's 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.

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

The financial statements comply with the requirements of the Financial Institutions Act 1995, the Securities Industry Act 1998 and the Companies Act 1991.

The engagement partner responsible for the audit resulting in this independent auditor's report is Rajiv Nandalal FCCA.

TSD Lal & Co.

TSD LAL & CO
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Date: February 16, 2024

77 Brickdam,
Stabroek, Georgetown
Guyana

Consolidated Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income

For the Year Ended 31st December 2023

		COMPANY		GROUP	
	Notes	2023 $'000	2022 $'000	2023 $'000	2022 $'000
Interest income	4	7,812,945	6,590,076	7,924,806	6,726,179
Interest expense	5	(751,543)	(739,412)	(751,543)	(739,412)
Net interest income		7,061,402	5,850,664	7,173,263	5,986,767
Other income	6	2,980,030	2,775,509	2,973,827	2,776,539
Net interest and other income		10,041,432	8,626,173	10,147,090	8,763,306
Operating expenses	7	(5,249,630)	(4,462,031)	(5,333,591)	(4,522,311)
Loan provisioning net of recoveries		(220)	(680,991)	(220)	(680,991)
Associate company: share of loss	12	(65,113)	(15,283)	(65,113)	(15,283)
Profit before taxation		4,726,469	3,467,868	4,748,166	3,544,721
Taxation	10(a)	(1,583,946)	(1,097,694)	(1,606,298)	(1,120,410)
Profit after taxation		**3,142,523**	**2,370,174**	**3,141,868**	**2,424,311**
Attributable to:					
Equity holders of the parent		3,142,523	2,370,174	3,131,124	2,403,129
Non controlling interest		-	-	10,744	21,182
Basic earnings per share in dollars	9	78.56	59.25	78.28	60.08

"The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements".

Consolidated Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income

CONT'D

For the Year Ended 31st December 2023

	Note	COMPANY 2023 $'000	COMPANY 2022 $'000	GROUP 2023 $'000	GROUP 2022 $'000
Profit for the year		**3,142,523**	**2,370,174**	**3,141,868**	**2,424,311**
Other Comprehensive Income					
Items that will not be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss					
Remeasurement of defined benefit asset (net of deferred tax)	10(b)	41,320	(4,547)	41,320	(4,547)
		41,320	(4,547)	41,320	(4,547)
Items that may be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss					
Share of comprehensive profit/(loss) of associate company	10(b)	16,865	(3,367)	16,865	(3,367)
		16,865	(3,367)	16,865	(3,367)
Other comprehensive income net of tax		58,185	(7,914)	58,185	(7,914)
Total comprehensive income for the year		**3,200,708**	**2,362,260**	**3,200,053**	**2,416,397**
Attributable to:					
Equity holders of the parent		3,200,708	2,362,260	3,189,309	2,395,215
Non controlling interest		-	-	10,744	21,182

"The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements".

Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity

For the Year Ended 31st December 2023

		COMPANY						
	Note	Share Capital G$ 000	Retained Earnings G$ 000	Other Reserve G$ 000	Statutory Reserve G$ 000	Revaluation Reserve G$ 000	General Banking Risk Reserve G$ 000	Total G$ 000
Balance at 1 January 2022		**800,000**	**16,879,344**	**29,440**	**800,000**	**18,963**	**611,423**	**19,139,170**
Changes in equity 2022								
Dividends	28	-	(980,000)	-	-	-	-	(980,000)
Total comprehensive income for the year		-	2,370,174	(7,914)	-	-	-	2,362,260
Balance at 31 December 2022		**800,000**	**18,269,518**	**21,526**	**800,000**	**18,963**	**611,423**	**20,521,430**
Changes in equity 2023								
Dividends	28	-	(1,040,000)	-	-	-	-	(1,040,000)
Transfer to/ (from) reserves		-	503,423	-	-	-	(503,423)	-
Total comprehensive income for the year		-	3,142,523	58,185	-	-	-	3,200,708
Balance at 31 December 2023		**800,000**	**20,875,464**	**79,711**	**800,000**	**18,963**	**108,000**	**22,682,138**

"The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements".

Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity

CONT'D

For the Year Ended 31st December 2023

	Note	Share Capital G$ 000	Retained Earnings G$ 000	Non Controlling Interest G$ 000	Other Reserve G$ 000	Statutory Reserve G$ 000	Revaluation Reserve G$ 000	General Banking Risk Reserve G$ 000	Total G$ 000
		GROUP							
Balance at 1 January 2022		**800,000**	**16,832,903**	**214,960**	**29,440**	**800,000**	**18,963**	**611,423**	**19,307,689**
Changes in equity 2022									
Adjustment		-	(1)	-	-	-	-	-	(1)
Dividends	28	-	(980,000)	(10,319)	-	-	-	-	(990,319)
Increase in unit holders capital		-	-	84,045	-	-	-	-	84,045
Total comprehensive income for the year		-	2,403,129	21,182	(7,914)	-	-	-	2,416,397
Balance at 31 December 2023		**800,000**	**18,256,031**	**309,868**	**21,526**	**800,000**	**18,963**	**611,423**	**20,817,811**
Changes in equity 2023									
Adjustment		-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
Dividends	28	-	(1,040,000)	(9,586)	-	-	-	-	1,049,586)
Transfer to/ (from) reserves		-	503,423	-	-	-	-	(503,423)	-
Increase in unit holders capital		-	-	59,366	-	-	-	-	59,366
Total comprehensive income for the year		-	3,131,124	10,744	58,185	-	-	-	3,200,053
Balance at 31 December 2023		**800,000**	**20,850,580**	**370,392**	**79,711**	**800,000**	**18,963**	**108,000**	**23,027,646**

"The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements".

Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

For the Year Ended 31st December 2023

		COMPANY		GROUP	
	Notes	2023 $'000	2022 $'000	2023 $'000	2022 $'000
ASSETS					
Cash resources	11	40,003,045	32,353,451	40,138,398	32,408,197
Investments	12	70,546,281	63,734,940	70,193,821	63,514,745
Loans and advances	13	77,038,136	65,225,381	77,038,136	65,225,381
Property and equipment	14(a)	8,092,649	8,265,021	8,092,649	8,265,945
Investment property	14(b)	-	-	358,361	360,844
Deferred tax	10	263,347	504,640	263,347	504,640
Defined benefit asset	24	159,453	98,030	159,453	98,030
Other assets	15	4,194,255	4,525,571	4,263,557	4,608,207
TOTAL ASSETS		**200,297,166**	**174,707,034**	**200,507,722**	**174,985,989**
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY					
LIABILITIES					
Deposits	17	168,671,835	144,345,885	168,477,094	144,257,137
Other liabilities	18	8,943,193	9,839,719	9,002,982	9,911,041
TOTAL LIABILITIES		**177,615,028**	**154,185,604**	**177,480,076**	**154,168,178**
SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY					
Share capital	19	800,000	800,000	800,000	800,000
Retained earnings		20,875,464	18,269,518	20,850,580	18,256,031
Non controlling interest		-	-	370,392	309,868
Other reserve	20(a)	79,711	21,526	79,711	21,526
Statutory reserve	20(b)	800,000	800,000	800,000	800,000
Revaluation reserve	20(c)	18,963	18,963	18,963	18,963
General banking risk reserve	20(d)	108,000	611,423	108,000	611,423
TOTAL SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY		**22,682,138**	**20,521,430**	**23,027,646**	**20,817,811**
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY		**200,297,166**	**174,707,034**	**200,507,722**	**174,985,989**

The Directors approved these financial statements for publication on 16th February 2024.

On behalf of the Board:

Mr. Suresh Beharry
Director

Mr. Richard Isava
Director

"The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements."

Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows

For the Year Ended 31st December 2023

	COMPANY		GROUP	
	2023 $'000	2022 $'000	2023 $'000	2022 $'000
Operating activities				
Profit before taxation	4,726,469	3,467,868	4,748,166	3,544,721
Adjustments for:				
IFRS 9 re-measurements	729,066	935,278	729,066	935,278
Expected credit loss/(gain) on investment	(19,689)	1,272	(19,689)	1,272
Share of profit/(loss) of associate company	65,113	15,283	65,113	15,283
Lease interest expense	2,680	5,450	2,680	5,450
Depreciation: property and equipment	608,310	461,681	609,234	464,183
Depreciation: investment property	-	-	6,277	6,278
(Loss)/gain on sale of property and equipment	920	(2,788)	920	(3,176)
Unrealized (gains)/losses	-	-	33,879	(11,386)
Realized gains	-	-	(77,003)	(85,803)
Net increase in customers' loans	(12,541,821)	(16,466,891)	(12,541,821)	(16,466,891)
Net increase in customers' deposits	24,325,950	24,326,346	24,219,957	24,476,573
(Increase)/ decrease in other assets	331,316	(2,394,586)	345,640	(2,404,758)
Increase/ (decrease) in other liabilities	(784,120)	3,603,423	(786,190)	3,608,336
Decrease in defined benefit asset	7,443	6,386	7,443	6,386
Increase in required reserve with Bank of Guyana	(2,846,932)	(5,314,706)	(2,846,932)	(5,314,706)
Cash provided by operating activities	**14,604,705**	**8,644,016**	**14,496,740**	**8,777,040**
Taxation				
Taxes paid/adjusted	(1,430,593)	(1,058,761)	(1,463,393)	(1,072,867)
Net cash provided by operating activities	**13,174,112**	**7,585,255**	**13,033,347**	**7,704,173**
Investing activities				
Proceeds from sale of property and equipment	2,890	2,957	2,890	3,757
Investments(net)	(6,839,899)	(9,397,616)	(6,664,513)	(9,536,334)
Additions to property and equipment	(438,454)	(1,099,550)	(438,454)	(1,099,550)
Additions to investment property	-	-	(3,794)	-
Net cash used in investing activities	**(7,275,463)**	**(10,494,209)**	**(7,103,871)**	**(10,632,127)**
Financing activities				
Non controlling interest	-	-	59,366	84,045
Dividends paid	(1,040,000)	(980,000)	(1,049,586)	(990,319)
Lease interest expense	(2,670)	(5,450)	(2,670)	(5,450)
Repayment of lease liability	(53,317)	(47,198)	(53,317)	(47,198)
Net cash used in financing activities	**(1,095,987)**	**(1,032,648)**	**(1,046,207)**	**(958,922)**
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	4,802,662	(3,941,602)	4,883,269	(3,886,876)
Cash and short term funds at beginning of year	14,918,425	18,860,027	14,973,171	18,860,047
Cash and short term funds at end of year (Note 11)	**19,721,087**	**14,918,425**	**19,856,440**	**14,973,171**

"The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements".

Notes to the Financial Statements

1. Incorporation and activities

The Bank was incorporated on the 27 November 1987 in Guyana as a limited liability company under the Companies Act, Chapter 89:01 continued under the Companies Act 1991 and is licensed as a banker under the Financial Institutions Act 1995.

On 30 November 1987 the Government of Guyana acquired the assets and liabilities of the Guyana banking operations of Barclays Bank PLC and vested these assets and liabilities on 1 December 1987 in the Guyana Bank for Trade and Industry Limited.

On 1 January 1990 the Guyana Bank for Trade and Industry Limited merged with Republic Bank (Guyana) Limited taking over their assets and liabilities at the net values at that date.

On 15 December 1995 a rights issue of 1 share for every share held was made at G$30.00 each. All shares were taken up increasing the issued capital to $800 million. Secure International Finance Company Incorporated owns 61% of the Bank's shares. Secure International Finance Company Incorporated is a wholly owned subsidiary of Edward Beharry & Company Limited. Both companies are incorporated in Guyana.

2. New and amended standards and interpretations

Amendments effective for the current year end

New and Amended Standards	Effective for annual periods beginning on or after
IFRS 17 Insurance contracts	1 January 2023
Amendments to IAS 1 and IFRS Practice statement 2:	
Disclosure of Accounting Policies	1 January 2023
Amendments to IAS 8: Definition of Accounting Estimates	1 January 2023
Amendments to IAS 12 Income Taxes: Deferred Tax related to Assets and Liabilities arising from a Single Transaction	1 January 2023

IFRS 17 Insurance Contracts

IFRS 17 Insurance Contracts applies to: insurance contracts, including reinsurance contracts, issued by an entity with specified exceptions; reinsurance contracts held by an entity; and investment contracts with discretionary participation features issued by an entity that issues insurance contracts. An insurance contract is defined as 'a contract under which one party (the issuer) accepts significant insurance risk from another party (the policyholder) by agreeing to compensate the policyholder if a specified uncertain future event (the insured event) adversely affects the policyholder.

In the statement of financial position, an entity is required to measure profitable insurance contracts at the risk-adjusted present value of the future cash flows plus unearned profit for services to be provided under the contract. IFRS 17 requires an entity to recognise profit from a group of insurance contracts over the period the entity provides services, and as the entity is released from risk. If a group of contracts is or becomes loss-making, the entity is required to recognise the loss immediately.

2. New and amended standards and interpretations – Cont'd

IFRS 17 Insurance Contracts - Cont'd

The Accounting Standard also requires insurance revenue, insurance service expenses, and insurance finance income or expenses to be presented separately. Entities applying for the temporary exemption for deferral of IFRS 9 would be required to apply IFRS 9 for annual periods beginning on or after January 1, 2023.

Amendments to IAS 1 and IFRS Practice statement 2: Disclosure of Accounting Policies

The amendments replace the requirement for entities to disclose their significant accounting policies with the requirement to disclose their material accounting policy information. The amendments also include guidance to help entities apply the definition of material in making decisions about accounting policy disclosures.

Amendments to IAS 8: Definition of Accounting Estimates

The amendments introduced the definition of accounting estimates and included other amendments to help entities distinguish changes in accounting estimates from changes in accounting policies.

Amendments to IAS 12 Income Taxes: Deferred Tax related to Assets and Liabilities arising from a Single Transaction

The amendments narrowed the scope of the recognition exemption in paragraphs 15 and 24 of IAS 12 so that it no longer applies to transactions that, on initial recognition, give rise to equal taxable and deductible temporary differences. The amendments apply to transactions such as leases and decommissioning obligations.

None of the foregoing amendments had a significant impact on the financial statements.

Pronouncements effective in future periods available for early adoption

New and Amended Standards	Effective for annual periods beginning on or after
Amendments to IAS 1: Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-current, and Non-current Liabilities with Covenant	1 January 2024
Amendments to IFRS 16: Lease Liability in a Sale and Leaseback	1 January 2024
Amendments to IAS 7 and IFRS 7: Supplier Finance Arrangements	1 January 2024
Amendments to IAS 12: International Tax Reform—Pillar Two Model Rules	1 January 2024
IFRS S1: General Requirements for Disclosure of Sustainability-related Financial Information	1 January 2024
IFRS S2: Climate-related Disclosures	1 January 2024

The standards and amendments that are expected to have a material impact on the Company's and Group's accounting policies when adopted are explained below.

2. New and amended standards and interpretations – Cont'd

Pronouncements effective in future periods available for early adoption

Amendments to IAS 1: Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-current

The amendments aim to promote consistency in applying the requirements by helping companies determine whether, in the statement of financial position, debt and other liabilities with an uncertain settlement date should be classified as current (due or potentially due to be settled within one year) or non-current. The Board proposed to defer the effective date to no earlier than 1 January 2024 (from 1 January 2023).

Amendments to IAS 1: Non-current Liabilities with Covenants

The amendments improve the information an entity provides when its right to defer settlement of a liability for at least twelve months is subject to compliance with covenants. The amendments also respond to stakeholders' concerns about the classification of such a liability as current or noncurrent.

Amendments to IFRS 16: Lease Liability in a Sale and Leaseback

Lease Liability in a Sale and Leaseback amends IFRS 16 by adding subsequent measurement requirements for sale and leaseback transactions.

Amendments to IAS 7 and IFRS 7: Supplier Finance Arrangements

Amendments require an entity to disclose qualitative and quantitative information about its supplier finance programs, such as terms and conditions – including, for example, extended payment terms and security or guarantees provided. Amongst other characteristics, IAS 7 explains that a supplier finance arrangement provides the entity with extended payment terms, or the entity's suppliers with early payment terms, compared to the related invoice payment due date.

Amendments to IAS 12: International Tax Reform— Pillar Two Model Rules

The amendments introduce an immediate temporary mandatory exception from accounting for deferred tax related to Globe top-up tax. However, companies will be required to provide new disclosures about their potential exposure to the top-up tax at the reporting date in periods in which a tax law is enacted but the top-up tax does not yet apply. The disclosure requirements apply from December 31, 2023. No disclosures are required in interim periods ending on or before December 31, 2023.

IFRS S1: General Requirements for Disclosure of Sustainability-related Financial Information

IFRS S1 sets out overall requirements for sustainability-related financial disclosures with the objective to require an entity to disclose information about its sustainability-related risks and opportunities that is useful to primary users of general-purpose financial reports in making decisions relating to providing resources to the entity.

IFRS S2 Climate-related Disclosures

IFRS S2 sets out the requirements for identifying, measuring and disclosing information about climate-related risks and opportunities that is useful to primary users of general-purpose financial reports in making decisions relating to providing resources to the entity.

3.1 Summary of significant accounting policies

(a) Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified for the revaluation of certain investments, property and equipment, and conform with International Financial Reporting Standards. The principal accounting policies are set out below.

(b) Interest income and the effective interest rate method

Under IFRS 9 interest income is recorded using the effective interest rate (EIR) method for all financial instruments measured at amortised cost.

The EIR is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash receipts through the expected life of the financial instrument or, when appropriate, a shorter period, to the net carrying amount of the financial asset. The EIR (and therefore, the amortised cost of the asset) is calculated by taking into account any discount or premium on acquisitiontion, fees and costs that are an integral part of the EIR. The Bank recognises interest income using a rate of return that represents the best estimate of a constant rate of return over the expected life of the loan. Hence, it recognises the effect of potentially different interest rates charged at various stages, and other characteristics of the product life cycle (including prepayments, penalty interest and charges).

The Bank calculates interest income by applying the EIR to the gross carrying amount of financial assets other than credit-impaired assets. When a financial asset becomes credit-impaired and is, therefore, regarded as 'Stage 3', the Bank calculates interest income by applying the effective interest rate to the net amortised cost of the financial asset. If the financial assets cures and is no longer credit-impaired, the Bank reverts to calculating interest income on a gross basis.

Interest income on all trading assets and financial assets mandatorily required to be measured at FVPL is recognised using the contractual interest rate in net trading income and net gains/(losses) on financial assets at fair value through profit or loss, respectively.

Interest income is not recognized on non-accrual loans.

The Bank earns fee income from a diverse range of services provided to its customers.

Income earned from the provision of services is recognized as revenue as the services are provided.

Fees and commissions are recognized as earned. Examples of these types of accounts are:
- ATM – transaction charge for use of ATM service
- Commitment Fees – negotiation, application fees for new loan accounts
- Drafts and Transfers – cost of drafts, telegraphic transfer
- Ledger Fees – charge for new cheque books
- Safe Custody – annual rental of safe deposit boxes, Telephone Banking – transaction cost.

<u>Rental income</u>

Income from rental of property to third parties are recognized on an accrual basis.

3.1 Summary of significant accounting policies – Cont'd

(c) Loans and advances

It is the Bank's policy to provide for impaired loans on a consistent basis in accordance with the Financial Institutions Act (FIA) 1995 and established International Accounting Standards and practices.

Loans and advances to customers include loans and advances originated by the Bank and are classified as financial assets at amortised cost.

Loans and advances are recognized when cash is advanced to borrowers and are derecognized when borrowers repay their obligations or when written off.

The aggregate provisions, which are made during the year, (less recoveries for amounts previously written off) are charged against operating profit.

Upon classification of a loan to a non-accrual status, interest is not taken up in income on an accrual basis. In subsequent periods, interest is only recognised to the extent payments are received.

(d) Loan impairment

The Bank records the allowance for expected credit losses for all loans, loan commitments and financial guarantee contracts. The ECL allowance is based on the credit losses expected to arise over the life of the asset (the lifetime expected credit loss or LTECL), unless there has been no significant increase in credit risk since origination, in which case, the allowance is based on the 12 months' expected credit loss (12mECL). The 12mECL is the portion of LTECLs that represent the ECLs that result from default events on a financial instrument that are possible within the 12 months after the reporting date. Both LTECLs and 12mECLs are calculated on either an individual basis or a collective basis, depending on the nature of the underlying portfolio of financial instruments. The Bank has established a policy to perform an assessment, at the end of each reporting period, of whether a financial instrument's credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition, by considering the change in the risk of default occurring over the remaining life of the financial instrument.

Based on the above process, the Bank groups its loans into Stage 1, Stage 2, and Stage 3 as described below:

• Stage 1: When loans are first recognised, the Bank recognises an allowance based on 12mECLs. Stage 1 loans also include facilities where the credit risk has improved and the loan has been reclassified from Stage 2.

• Stage 2: When a loan has shown a significant increase in credit risk since origination, the Bank records an allowance for the LTECLs. Stage 2 loans also include facilities, where the credit risk has improved and the loan has been reclassified from Stage 3.

• Stage 3: Loans considered credit-impaired. The Bank records an allowance for the LTECLs.

<u>The calculation of ECLs</u>
The Bank calculates ECLs based on probability-weighted scenarios to measure the expected cash shortfalls, discounted at an approximation to the effective interest rate (EIR). A cash shortfall is the difference between the cash flows that are due to an entity in accordance with the contract and the cash flows that the entity expects to receive.

3.1 Summary of significant accounting policies – Cont'd

(d) Loan impairment – Cont'd

Collateral

It is the Bank's policy that all facilities are fully and tangibly secured. However, under the current Quality Lifestyle Loan Plan some loans such as the Consumer Care, Personal and Automobile Loans are issued against Bills of Sale over moveable assets, which are not considered as tangible collateral, hence these facilities can be considered as unsecured. In exceptional cases, depending on the customer's credit history, size, type of product and duration of credit, facilities may also be unsecured

Classification

The Bank follows the prescriptions of the Financial Institutions Act 1995 and classifies loans and overdrafts into the following categories: -

Grade 1 represents commercial loans and overdrafts demonstrating financial condition, risk factors and capacity to repay that are good to excellent; Quality Lifestyle loans with low to moderate loan to value ratios; and generally, reflect accounts which are not impaired and are up to date in repayments or operating within approved limits as per the Bank's policy guidelines.

Grade 2 represents satisfactory risk and includes credit facilities which require closer monitoring, or which operate outside product guidelines, or which require various degrees of special attention, where the collateral is not fully in place; where current market conditions are affecting a sector or industry; and that are progressively between 30 and 90 days past due.

Grade 3 represents overdrafts with approved limits which have exceeded between 90 and 180 days for reasons such as shortfall in the borrower's cash flow and are being monitored, or which are between 90 and 179 days expired.

Grade 3 also represents loans for which principal and interest is due and unpaid between 90 and 179 days or, where interest charges for three to five months have been capitalized for reasons such as primary source of repayment has become insufficient, and where appropriate, mortgages in arrears by greater than 90 days where the value of the collateral is sufficient to repay both principal and interest in the event the account is identified for recovery action.

Grade 4 represents loans and advances accounts which are considered uncollectible or for which the collection of the full debt is improbable; accounts which have shown little or no improvement over the twelve months period prior to its present classification; principal or interest is due and unpaid for twelve months or more; or an account which may have some recovery value but it is not considered practical nor desirable to defer write-off, for example, where litigation becomes protracted.

The Financial Institutions Act 1995 requires that a Financial Institution shall report in its monthly statement of assets and liabilities, the outstanding balance of its loan portfolio considered to be past-due and those considered to be non-performing.

The Act further states that the principal balance (and not the number of delinquent payments) shall be used in calculating the aggregate amount of past-due or non-performing accounts.

3.1 Summary of significant accounting policies – Cont'd

(d) Loan impairment – Cont'd

Past due

A loan is classified as past due when:

(i) Principal or interest is due and unpaid for one month to less than three months or

(ii) Interest charges for one to two months have been capitalized, refinanced or rolled over.

An overdraft is classified as past due when:

(i) The approved limit has been exceeded for one month to less than three months.

(ii) The interest charges for one month to two months have not been covered by deposits.

(iii) The account had turnovers which did not conform to the business Cycle.

Non-performing loans

For individually assessed accounts, loans are required to be designated as non-performing as soon as there is objective evidence that an impairment loss has incurred. Objective evidence of impairment includes observable data such as when contractual payments of principal or interest are 90 days overdue. Portfolios of loans are designated as non-performing if facilities are 90 days or more overdue.

Loan Accounts reported as past due are reclassified and reported as non-performing when:

Loans

(i) Principal or interest is due and unpaid for three months or more, or

(ii) Interest charges for three months or more have been capitalized, refinanced or rolled over.

Overdrafts

(i) The approved limit has been exceeded for three months or more into a term loan after three months or more.

(ii) Interest charges for three months or more have not been covered by deposits.

(iii) The account has developed a hardcore which was not converted.

Loan losses

The Financial Institutions Act 1995 prescribes that a loan be classified as loss where one or more of the following conditions apply:

(i) An account is considered uncollectible.

(ii) An account classified as doubtful with little or no improvement over the twelve-month period.

(iii) The unsecured portion of a loan with fixed repayment dates when: -
(1) Principal or interest is due and unpaid for twelve months or more, or
(2) Interest charges for twelve months or more have been capitalized, refinanced or rolled over

(iv) The unsecured portion of an overdraft when: -
(1) The approved limit has been exceeded for six months or more, or
(2) Interest charges for six months or more have not been covered by deposits, or
(3) The account has developed a hardcore which was not converted into a term loan after 12 months or more.

3.1 Summary of significant accounting policies – Cont'd

(d) Loan impairment – Cont'd

<u>Loan losses - cont'd</u>

Loans and advances under this category include accounts which are considered uncollectible or for which the collection of the debt is highly improbable; accounts which have shown little or no improvement over the twelve months period prior to its present classification; principal or interest is due and unpaid for twelve months or more; or an account which may have some recovery value but it is not considered practical nor desirable to defer write-off, for example, where litigation becomes protracted.

The Bank follows the prescriptions of the Financial Institutions Act 1995 and writes off such a loan three months after being so classified unless it shows a definite and significant improvement which indicates recovery within the next six months.

<u>Provisioning</u>

Provisioning for each classification categories is made based on the following minimum level:

Classification	Level of Provision
Pass	0%
Special Mention	0%
Sub-standard	0 – 20%
Doubtful	20-50%
Loss	100%

A general provision of 1% of the portion of the loan portfolio not individually assessed is also made.

<u>Renegotiated loans</u>

The Bank's policy in relation to renegotiated loans is in accordance with the Financial Institutions Act (FIA) of 1995 -Supervision Guideline No. 5, paragraph No. 37 and 38.

These are credit exposures which have been refinanced, rescheduled, rolled over, or otherwise modified because of weaknesses in the borrower's financial position or the nonrepayment of the debt as arranged and shall be subject to more stringent classification criteria.

Renegotiations should only be allowed under the following conditions:

a) the borrower has demonstrated the capacity to service the credit facility under the new conditions of the contract;

b) credits classified as doubtful or loss shall not be eligible for renegotiation unless such exposures have an up-front cash payment on principal and the customer's cash flow position is adequate to service the facility in the foreseeable future;

3.1 Summary of significant accounting policies – Cont'd

(d) Loan impairment – Cont'd

Renegotiated loans - Cont'd

c) the terms of the restructured credit exposure are comparable with the current market terms applicable for a credit exposure of comparable risk;

d) the interest on the renegotiated exposure is not below the LFI's average cost of funds; and

e) a commercial credit shall not be renegotiated more than twice over the life of the original loan, and mortgage or personal loan not more than twice in a five-year period.

Impairment losses

Impairment losses are calculated by discounting the expected future cash flows of a loan at its original effective interest rate and comparing the resultant present value with the loan's current carrying value.

The General Banking Risk Reserve Account is computed in accordance with the Financial Institutions Act. It carries the excess in the provisioning arrived at by the application of the requirements of the Financial Institutions Act over the impairment computed in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standards.

The carrying amount of impaired loans on the financial statement is reduced through the use of a provisioning account in accordance with the Financial Institutions Act. Any loss is charged to the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income.

Assets acquired in exchange for loans

Non-financial assets acquired in exchange for loans in order to achieve an orderly realization are recorded as "Assets Held for Sale". No depreciation is provided in respect of such assets.

(e) Foreign currencies

Transactions in currencies other than Guyana dollars are recorded at the official or cambio rates of exchange prevailing on the dates of the transaction.

At each reporting date, monetary assets and liabilities that are denominated in foreign currencies are retranslated at the official or Cambio rates prevailing on that date. Non-monetary assets and liabilities carried at fair value that are denominated in foreign currencies are translated at rates prevailing at the date when the fair value was determined. Gains and losses arising on retranslation are included in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income for the period, except for exchange differences arising on non-monetary assets and liabilities where the changes in fair value are recognized directly in equity.

3.1 Summary of significant accounting policies – Cont'd

(f) Property, equipment and depreciation

Freehold land and buildings held for use in the supply of services or for administrative purposes are stated in the financial statements at their revalued amounts. Revalued amounts are taken as the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated impairment losses and any subsequent accumulated depreciation.

Any revaluation increase arising on the revaluation of such land, buildings and equipment is credited to revaluation reserve.

Depreciation on revalued buildings and equipment is charged to profit or loss.

Depreciation of property and equipment is calculated on the straight-line method at rates sufficient to write off the cost or valuation of these assets to their residual values over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Buildings	-	50 years
Furniture and Equipment	-	4 to 10 years

The gain or loss arising on the disposal or retirement of an item of property and equipment is determined as the difference between the sales proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset and is recognized in statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income.

(g) Acceptances, guarantees and letters of credit

The Bank's potential liability under acceptances, guarantees and letters of credit is reported as a contingent liability.

(h) Balances excluded from the accounts

The financial statements do not include certain balances where, in the opinion of management, the Bank bears no financial responsibility as it acts merely as an intermediary. These balances are instead disclosed in note 25 of the accounts.

(i) Pension plan

At 1st January, 2004 the defined benefit plan was changed to a defined contribution plan. However, employees in the scheme as of 31st December, 2003 will receive benefits accrued to them under the defined benefit plan up to 31st December, 2003. For service after 31st December, 2003 pensions and contributions will be in accordance with the defined contribution plan. This also applies to new employees, who joined the scheme after 1st January, 2004.

The Contribution Plan is administered by an insurance company under the terms of a trust deed dated 1 January, 1999 which makes it responsible to ensure that contribu-tions are adequate to meet the liabilities of the plan. The Bank's total contribution to the pension plan for the year amounted to G$120,709,000 (2022 - G$115,560,000) with a total of 521 members (2022 – 556 members).

3.1 Summary of significant accounting policies – Cont'd

(i) Pension plan - Cont'd

Defined benefit scheme
Pension accounting costs are assessed using the Projected Unit Credit Method as required by International Accounting Standard 19-Employee Benefits (Revised).

There is 1 (2022-1) employee remaining in this scheme.

(j) Statutory reserve

The Financial Institutions Act 1995 requires that a minimum of 15% of the net profit after deduction of taxes in each year must be transferred to a statutory reserve account until the balance on this reserve is not less than the paid-up capital. This reserve is not distributable.

This reserve account is now equal to the 'paid up' capital.

(k) Reserve requirement

Bank of Guyana requires each Commercial Bank to maintain a current account with a balance of 12% of their time and demand liabilities calculated on a weekly basis.

(l) Revaluation reserve

Surplus on revaluation of property and equipment (land, buildings and equipment) is credited to this reserve. This reserve is not distributable.

(m) Other Reserve

The Bank's share of reserve of its associate company and re-measurements of the defined benefit asset are credited to this reserve. This reserve is not distributable.

(n) Taxation

Income tax expense represents the sum of tax currently payable and deferred tax.

Current tax
The tax currently payable is based on taxable profit for the year. Taxable profit differs from profit as reported in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income because it excludes items of income or expenses that are taxable or deductible in other years and it further excludes items that are never taxable or deductible.

The Group's liability for current tax is calculated using tax rates that have been en-acted in Guyana at the reporting date.

3.1 Summary of significant accounting policies – Cont'd

(n) Taxation - Cont'd

Deferred tax
Deferred tax is recognized on the differences between the carrying amount of the assets and liabilities in the financial statements and the corresponding tax bases used in the computation of taxable profit and is accounted for using the liability method. Deferred tax liabilities are generally recognized for all taxable temporary differences and deferred tax assets are recognized to the extent that it is probable that taxable profits will be available against which deductible temporary differences can be utilized.

The carrying amount of the deferred tax assets is reviewed at each reporting date and reduced to the extent that it is no longer probable sufficient taxable profit will be available to allow all or part of the assets to be recovered.

Deferred tax is calculated at the tax rates that are expected to apply in the period when the liability is settled or the asset realized based on tax rates (and tax laws) that have been enacted or substantively been enacted by the end of the reporting period. Deferred tax is charged or credited to statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, except when it relates to items charged or credited directly to equity, in which case the deferred tax is also dealt with in equity.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are offset when there is a legally enforceable right to set off current tax assets against current tax liabilities, and when they relate to in-come taxes levied by the same taxation authority, and the group intends to settle its current tax assets and liabilities on a net basis.

(o) Financial instruments

Financial assets and liabilities are recognized on the Group's statement of financial position when the Group becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instruments.

These instruments are intended to be held on a continuing basis and are recognized when the Group enters contractual arrangements with counter parties to purchase securities.

Financial instruments carried on the statement of financial position include investment securities, loans and overdrafts, receivables, customer's deposits, payables, accruals, borrowing and cash resources. The recognition methods adopted for loans and overdrafts and investment securities are disclosed in the individual policy statements.

Other receivables
Other receivables are measured at amortised cost. Appropriate allowances for estimated unrecoverable amounts are recognized on an expected credit loss basis.

Cash and short-term funds
For the purpose of presentation in the statement of cash flows, cash and short-term funds comprised of cash and due by and to Banks, deposits with Bank of Guyana in excess of the required reserve and cheques and other items in transit, bills discounted, bankers' acceptances with original maturities of three months or less.

3.1 Summary of significant accounting policies – Cont'd

(o) Financial instruments - Cont'd

Deposits and other payables
These are measured at amortised cost.

Derecognition
'Other receivables' and 'cash and short-term funds' are derecognized when the right to receive cash flows from the asset has expired.

Financial liabilities are derecognized when they are extinguished, i.e., when the obligation is discharged, cancelled or expired.

(p) Financial investments

Financial assets at amortised cost
The Group only measures loans and advances and other financial investments at amortised cost if both of the following conditions are met:

- The financial asset is held within a business model with the objective to hold financial assets in order to collect contractual cash flows
- The contractual terms of the financial asset give rise on specified dates to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest (SPPI) on the principal amount outstanding. The Group determines its business model at the level that best reflects how it manages groups of financial assets to achieve its business objectives.

Financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss
Financial assets and financial liabilities in this category are those that are not held for trading and have been either designated by management upon initial recognition or are mandatorily required to be measured at fair value under IFRS 9. Financial assets and financial liabilities at FVPL are recorded in the statement of financial position at fair value. Changes in fair value are recorded in profit or loss with the exception of movements in fair value of liabilities designated at FVPL due to changes in the Group's own credit risk which are recorded through OCI and do not get recycled to the profit or loss.
Dividend income from equity instruments measured at FVPL is recorded in profit or loss as other operating income when the right to the payment has been established.

Reclassification of financial assets and liabilities
The Group does not reclassify its financial assets subsequent to their initial recognition, apart from the exceptional circumstances in which the Group acquires, disposes of, or terminates a business line.

Financial liabilities are never reclassified. The Group did not reclassify any of its financial assets or liabilities in 2023.

Investment in subsidiaries
Investment in the subsidiary companies is stated at cost in the Bank's financial statements.

3.1 Summary of significant accounting policies – Cont'd

(q) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Group has a present obligation (legal or constructive) as a result of a past event, it is probable that the Group will be required to settle the obligation, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. The amount recognised as a provision is the best estimate of the consideration required to settle the present obligation at the reporting date, taking into account the risks and uncertainties surrounding the obligation.

Where a provision is measured using the cash flows estimated to settle the present obligation, its carrying amount is the present value of those cash flows. When some or all of the economic benefits required to settle a provision are expected to be recovered from a third party, the receivable is recognised as an asset if it is virtually certain that reimbursement will be received, and the amount of the receivable can be measured reliably.

(r) Non-current assets held for sale

A noncurrent asset is classified as held for sale when: its carrying amount will be recovered principally through a sale transaction rather than through continuing use; the asset is available for immediate sale in its present condition; and its sale is highly probable.

Assets classified as held for sale are not depreciated or amortised and are carried at the lower of carrying amount and fair value less costs to sell. Fair values of these assets are determined by independent valuators.

(s) Impairment of tangible assets

At the end of the financial period, the Group reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any). Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, the Group estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs.

Recoverable amount is the higher of fair value less costs to sell and value in use. If the recoverable amount of an asset is estimated to be less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset is reduced to its recoverable amount. An impairment loss is recognised immediately in statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, unless the relevant asset is carried at a revalued amount, in which case the impairment loss is treated as a revaluation decrease.

(t) Dividends

Dividends that are proposed and declared are recorded as an appropriation of retained earnings in the statement of changes in equity in the period in which they have been approved. Dividends that are proposed and declared after the financial year end are disclosed as a note to the financial statements.

3.1 Summary of significant accounting policies – Cont'd

(u) Investment in associate company

An associate is an entity over which the company has significant influence and that is neither a subsidiary nor an interest in a joint venture. Significant influence is the power to participate in the financial and operating policy decisions of the investee but is not in control or in joint control over those policies.

The results and assets and liabilities of the Associate Company are incorporated in these financial statements using the equity method of accounting. Under the equity method, investment in associate is carried in the statement of financial position at cost as adjusted for post-acquisition changes in the Bank's share of the net assets of the associate, less any impairment in the value of individual investments. Losses of the associate in excess of the Bank's interest in the associate (which includes any long-term interests that, in substance, form part of the Bank's net investment in the associate) are not recognized, unless the Bank has incurred legal or constructive obligations or made payments on behalf of the associate.

(v) Segment reporting

A business segment is a group of assets and operations engaged in providing similar products and services that are subject to risks and returns that are different from those of other business segments.

A geographical segment is engaged in providing products, or services within a particular economic environment that are subject to risks and returns that are different from those of segments operating in other economic environments.

The Group analyses its operations by both business and geographic segments. The primary format is business reflecting ''retail and commercial banking" and ''treasury". Its secondary format is that of geographic segments reflecting the primary economic environments in which the Group has exposure.

(w) Earnings per share

Basic earnings per share attributable to ordinary equity holders of the Group's equity is calculated by dividing profit or loss attributable to ordinary equity holders of the Group's equity by the weighted number of ordinary shares outstanding during the period.

(x) Intangible asset

Intangible assets are recognized at amortized cost and tested annually for impairment.

<u>Software</u>
The software is for a period of 5 years and is amortized at a rate of 20% over the useful life of the software.

(y) Consolidation

The consolidated financial statements incorporate the financial statements of the Company and entities controlled by the Company (its subsidiaries). Control is achieved through share ownership. The results of subsidiaries acquired or disposed of during the year are included in the consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income from the effective date of acquisition or up to effective date of disposal, as appropriate. Where necessary, adjustments are made to the financial statements of subsidiaries to bring their accounting policies into line with those used by other members of the group.

3.1 Summary of significant accounting policies – Cont'd

(y) Consolidation - Cont'd

All intra-group transactions, balances, income and expenses are eliminated in full on consolidation.

Non-controlling interest in the net assets of consolidated subsidiary is identified separately from the group's equity therein. Non-controlling interest consists of the amount of those interests at the date of the original business combination and non-controlling interest's share of changes in equity since the date of the combination.

Profit and losses applicable to the non-controlling interest in the subsidiary's equity are allocated against the interests of the group except to the extent that the non-controlling interest has a binding obligation and is able to make an additional investment to cover the losses.

(i) The consolidated accounts incorporate the accounts as at 31 December 2023 of the following:

Name of company	Country of Registration	% Shareholding	Main Business
GBTI Property Holdings Inc.	Guyana	100	Real estate management
GBTI Mutual Funds	Guyana	76.54	Investment

The financial statement of GBTI Property Holdings Inc in summary form as at 31st December is presented below:
Statement of Financial Position

	2023 G$000	2022 G$000
Total assets	446,180	443,736
Total Liabilities	43,194	43,170
Equity	535,016	535,016
Accumulated loss	(132,030)	(134,450)

The financial statement of GBTI Mutual Funds in summary form as at 31st December is presented below:
Statement of Financial Position

	2023 G$000	2022 G$000
Total assets	1,938,262	1,854,244
Total Liabilities	16,595	28,151
Unitholders capital	1,785,143	1,676,907
Accumulated Profit	136,524	149,186

3.1 Summary of significant accounting policies – Cont'd

(y) Consolidation - Cont'd

(ii) Associate company
The Guyana Bank for Trade and Industry Limited owns 40% of the share capital of the Guyana Americas Merchant Bank Inc. The company's main business is investment management.

(z) Investment properties and lease contracts

<u>Investment properties</u>
Properties which are held to earn rentals and or capital appreciation are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation at each reporting date.

After initial recognition, investment properties are measured at cost.

Depreciation is charged on premises using the straight-line method at 2 % per annum.

No depreciation is charged on work in progress.

<u>Leases</u>

The Group assesses whether a contract is or contains a lease, at inception of the contract. The lease liability is initially measured at the present value of the lease payments that are not paid at the commencement date, discounted by using the lessee's incremental borrowing rate.

Lease payments included in the measurement of the lease liability comprise:
- Fixed lease payments less any lease incentives receivable;
- Variable lease payments that depend on an index or rate, initially measured using the index or rate at the commencement date;
- Amounts payable by the lessee under residual value guarantees;
- Value of purchase options if the lessee is reasonably certain to exercise the options; and termination options, if the lease term reflects the exercise of an option to terminate the lease.

The lease liability is subsequently measured by increasing the carrying amount to re-flect interest on the lease liability (using the effective interest method) and by reducing the carrying amount to reflect the lease payments made.

The right-of-use assets comprise the initial measurement of the corresponding lease liability, lease payments made at or before the commencement day, less any lease incentives received and any initial direct costs. They are subsequently measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses

Right-of-use assets are depreciated over the shorter period of lease term and useful life of the underlying asset. If a lease transfers ownership of the underlying asset or the cost of the right-of-use asset reflects that the Group expects to exercise a purchase option, the related right-of-use asset is depreciated over the useful life of the underlying asset. The depreciation starts at the commencement date of the lease.

3.1 Summary of significant accounting policies – Cont'd

(z) Investment properties and lease contracts - Cont'd

Leases as lessor

Investment property comprises a number of commercial properties that are leased to third parties. Each of the leases contain an initial non-cancellable period of five years, with annual rent as listed below. Subsequent renewals are negotiated with the lessee and historically the average renewal period is two years. No contingent rent is charged.

At 31 December, the future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable leases were receivable as follows:

	2023 G$000	2022 G$000
One year	6,500	6,000
Between two and four years	10,300	10,800
	16,800	16,800

3.2 Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

It is the Directors' responsibility to select suitable accounting policies and to make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with International Financial Reporting Standards requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reported period. Actual results could differ from those estimated.

Critical accounting estimates and judgements in applying accounting policies

(i) Impairment losses on loans and advances

The Bank on a regular basis reviews its portfolio of loans and advances with a view of assessing impairment. This is done in addition to what is required under the Financial Institutions Act 1995 with respect to provisioning. Certain judgements are made that reflect the Bank's assessment of several critical factors that can influence future cash flows.

(ii) Useful lives of property and equipment

Management reviews the estimated useful lives of property and equipment at the end of each year to determine whether the useful lives of property and equipment should remain the same.

3.2 Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty - Cont'd

(iii) Impairment of financial assets

The measurement of impairment losses under IFRS 9 across all categories of financial assets requires judgement, in particular, the estimation of the amount and timing of future cash flows and collateral values when determining impairment losses and the assessment of a significant increase in credit risk. These estimates are driven by a number of factors, changes in which can result in different levels of allowances.

The Bank's ECL calculations are outputs of complex models with a number of underlying assumptions regarding the choice of variable inputs and their interdependencies. Elements of the ECL models that are considered accounting judgements and estimates include:

- The Bank's internal credit grading model, which assigns probabilities of default (PDs) to the individual grades;
- The Bank's criteria for assessing if there has been a significant increase in credit risk and so allowances for financial assets should be measured on a LTECL basis and the qualitative assessment;
- The segmentation of financial assets when their ECL is assessed on a collective basis;
- Development of ECL models, including the various formulas and the choice of inputs;
- Determination of associations between macroeconomic scenarios and, economic inputs, such as unemployment levels and collateral values, and the effect on PDs, exposure at default and loss given default;
- Selection of forward-looking macroeconomic scenarios and their probability weightings, to derive the economic inputs into the ECL models.

(iv) Lease liability

Lease liability, which represents the present value of all future lease payments, is discounted at an appropriate interest rate over an appropriate lease term. At the end of each reporting period, management reviews the appropriateness of both the rate and lease term used, and determines whether a revision is necessary.

(v) Retirement benefit asset/obligation

The provisions for defined benefit asset/obligation are determined by the actuary based on data provided by management. The computation of the provisions by the actuary assumes that the data provided is not materially misstated.

	COMPANY		GROUP	
	2023 G $'000	2022 G $'000	2023 G $'000	2022 G $'000
4 Interest Income				
Loans and advances	6,077,210	5,297,388	6,077,210	5,297,388
Investment securities:				
-Amortised Cost	1,295,223	949,488	1,295,223	949,488
-FVPL	-	-	111,861	184,970
Other	440,512	343,200	440,512	294,333
	7,812,945	**6,590,076**	**7,924,806**	**6,726,179**
5 Interest Expense				
Savings deposits	377,422	321,690	377,422	321,690
Term deposits	348,171	380,165	348,171	380,165
Other	25,950	37,557	25,950	37,557
	751,543	**739,412**	**751,543**	**739,412**
6 Other Income				
Commissions	1,504,481	1,275,572	1,504,481	1,275,572
Exchange trading and revaluation gains	1,432,817	1,480,817	1,432,817	1,480,817
Rental and other income	23,043	20,392	16,840	21,422
Expected credit gain/(loss)	19,689	(1,272)	19,689	(1,272)
	2,980,030	**2,775,509**	**2,973,827**	**2,776,539**
7 Operating Expenses				
Staff costs (Note 8)	2,245,934	2,171,411	2,249,084	2,174,441
Depreciation	608,310	461,681	615,511	470,461
General administrative expenses	1,256,899	894,027	1,257,012	927,658
Marketing and public relations	113,387	90,150	114,327	90,150
Auditor remuneration	17,525	24,000	18,735	24,000
Directors' fees	16,611	14,787	16,611	14,787
Other operating expenses	819,987	657,613	876,201	652,439
Property taxes	170,977	148,362	186,110	168,375
	5,249,630	**4,462,031**	**5,333,591**	**4,522,311**

		COMPANY		GROUP	
		2023 G $'000	2022 G $'000	2023 G $'000	2022 G $'000
8	**Staff Costs**				
	Salaries and wages	1,435,862	1,384,122	1,439,012	1,387,152
	Other staff costs	689,339	671,729	689,339	671,729
	Pension	120,733	115,560	120,733	115,560
		2,245,934	**2,171,411**	**2,249,084**	**2,174,441**
9	**Basic Earnings Per Share**				
	Calculated as follows:				
	Profit after taxation	3,142,523	2,370,174	3,131,124	2,403,129
	Number of ordinary shares issued and fully paid	40,000,000	40,000,000	40,000,000	40,000,000
	Basic earnings per share in dollars	**78.56**	**59.25**	**78.28**	**60.08**

	COMPANY		GROUP	
	2023 G $'000	2022 G $'000	2023 G $'000	2022 G $'000
10 (a) Taxation				
Reconciliation of Tax Expense and Accounting Profit				
Accounting profit	4,726,469	3,467,868	4,748,166	3,544,721
Share of Associate Company's profit/(loss)	65,113	15,283	65,113	15,283
	4,791,582	3,483,151	4,813,279	3,560,004
Corporation tax at 40%/25%	1,916,633	1,393,260	1,931,768	1,431,040
Add:				
Tax effect of expenses not deductible in determining taxable profits				
Depreciation for accounting purposes	243,324	184,673	245,124	186,868
Other	41,811	29,593	57,223	30,784
Property tax	68,391	59,345	74,017	66,924
	2,270,159	1,666,871	2,308,132	1,715,616
Deduct:				
Tax effect of depreciation for tax purposes	440,623	160,663	442,844	163,058
Other	21,327	21,059	(1,309)	1,318
Tax exempt income	438,010	465,357	474,046	508,732
Corporation tax	1,370,199	1,019,792	1,392,551	1,042,508
Deferred tax	213,747	77,902	213,747	77,902
	1,583,946	**1,097,694**	**1,606,298**	**1,120,410**
Components of deferred tax asset				
Property and equipment	327,128	543,852	327,128	543,852
Defined benefit asset	(63,781)	(39,212)	(63,781)	(39,212)
	263,347	504,640	263,347	504,640

Movement in temporary differences

	COMPANY AND GROUP		
	Defined Benefit Asset/(Liability) G$ 000	**Property and Equipment G$ 000**	**Total G$ 000**
At 1 January 2022	(44,799)	624,310	579,511
Movement during the year:-			
Statement of profit or loss	2,556	(80,458)	(77,902)
Statement of other comprehensive income	3,031	-	3,031
At 31 December 2022	(39,212)	543,852	504,640
Movement during the year:-			
Statement of profit or loss	2,977	(216,724)	(213,747)
Statement of other comprehensive income	(27,546)	-	(27,546)
At 31 December 2023	**(63,781)**	**327,128**	**263,347**

10 (b) Disclosure of tax effects relating to each component of other comprehensive income and statement of changes in equity

	2023 COMPANY AND GROUP			2022 COMPANY AND GROUP		
	Before tax amount G$'000	**Tax(expense)/ benefit G$'000**	**Net of tax amount G$'000**	**Before tax amount G$'000**	**Tax(expense)/ benefit G$'000**	**Net of tax amount G$'000**
Remeasurement of defined benefit pension plan	68,866	(27,546)	41,320	(7,578)	3,031	(4,547)
Share of other comprehensive profit/(loss) of associate company	16,865	-	16,865	(3,367)	-	(3,367)
	85,731	**(27,546)**	**58,185**	**(10,945)**	**3,031**	**(7,914)**

10 (c) Tax Assessments

i. On December 17, 2018, the Company received Notice of Assessment ("Assessments") from the Guyana Revenue Authority ("GRA") claiming additional corporation taxes of GY$63,528,300 as a result of the disallowance of the Company's claim for deduction for impairment losses on financial assets in relation to the year of income ended December 31, 2010.

On December 31, 2019, The Company filed objections in relation to this assessment.

10 (c) Tax Assessments - Cont'd

ii. On August 20, 2019, the Company received Notices of Assessment ("Assessments") from the Guyana Revenue Authority ("GRA") claiming additional corporation taxes of GY$355,596,400 as a result of the disallowance of the Company's claim for deduction for impairment losses on financial assets in relation to the years of income ended December 31, 2012, 2014, 2015 and 2016.

On August 31st, 2019, The Company filed objections in relation to these assessments.

On January 25th, 2023, the GRA reviewed the assessments and issued letters in disagreement of the objections filed with a total sum now payable of $419,124,700.

On February 22nd, 2023, the Company appealed this matter through the High Court. In order to hear the appeal G$419,124,700 taxes by way of a bond were lodged to the GRA in accordance with the Income Tax Act

iii. On January 27, 2019, the Company received Notices of Assessment ("Assessments") from the Guyana Revenue Authority ("GRA") claiming additional corporation taxes of GY$388,817,636 as a result of the disallowance of the Company's claim for deduction for impairment losses on financial assets in relation to the years of income ended December 31, 2017, 2020 and 2021.

The company also received assessments for the above years relating to property taxes for G$142,264,780 for financial years ended 31st December 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021 which related to the disallowance of deductions of impairment losses in relation to the Company's advances in determining chargeable net assets.

On February 09th, 2023, the Company filed objections in relation to these assessments.

On February 23rd, 2023, the GRA acknowledged the objection and the tax in dispute is being held in abeyance.

On May 11, 2023, the GRA reviewed the assessments and issued letters in disagreement of the objections filed with a total sum now payable of $532,082,416.

On June 02, 2023, the Company appealed this matter through the High Court. In order to hear the appeal G$532,082,416 taxes by way of a Bank draft was lodged to the GRA in accordance with the Income Tax Act.

The accounting policy on impairment losses on financial assets, as described in Note 3.1 (d) to these financial statements, recognizes the Company's obligation to comply with provisioning requirements contained in the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and in the Supervision Guidelines issued by the Bank of Guyana. For purposes of its corporation and property tax computations , the Company's impairment losses on financial assets were computed and claimed as deductions in accordance with sections 16(l)(e) of the Income Tax Act, which provides for the deduction of provisions for bad and doubtful debts incurred in a trade or business.

A summary of the above is presented below:-

Years of income (financial year)	Years of assessment (tax year)	Tax type	Taxes assessed (G$)	Current status
2010, 2012, 2014, 2015, 2016	2011, 2013, 2015, 2016, 2017	Corporation tax	419,124,700	Appealed
2017, 2020, 2021	2018, 2021, 2022	Corporation tax	388,817,636	Appealed
2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021	2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022	Property tax	143,264,780	Appealed
Total tax in dispute			**951,207,116**	

The Company has been advised by its attorneys that its objection is based on valid grounds.

11 Cash Resources

	COMPANY		GROUP	
	2023 G$ 000	2022 G$ 000	2023 G$ 000	2022 G$ 000
Cash in hand	4,192,676	3,831,279	4,328,029	3,886,025
Balance with Bank of Guyana in excess of required reserves	3,845,396	3,615,068	3,845,396	3,615,068
Balances with other Banks	10,992,729	6,969,748	10,992,729	6,969,748
Cheques and other items in transit	690,286	502,330	690,286	502,330
Total Cash and Short Term Funds	19,721,087	14,918,425	19,856,440	14,973,171
Reserve requirement with Bank of Guyana	20,281,958	17,435,026	20,281,958	17,435,026
Total Cash Resources	**40,003,045**	**32,353,451**	**40,138,398**	**32,408,197**

12 Investments

	COMPANY 2023	COMPANY 2022	GROUP 2023	GROUP 2022
Amortised cost	68,456,577	61,669,045	68,456,577	61,669,045
FVPL	-	-	1,626,685	1,710,081
Expected credit loss	(37,468)	(60,656)	(37,468)	(60,656)
	68,419,109	**61,608,389**	**70,045,794**	**63,318,470**
Investment in Subsidiary's shares:				
GBTI Property Holdings Inc.	535,016	535,016	-	-
GBTI Mutual Funds	1,444,129	1,395,260	-	-
	1,979,145	**1,930,276**	**-**	**-**
Investment in Associate Company				
Non Current Asset - Associate Company (i)	**148,027**	**196,275**	**148,027**	**196,275**

The Bank holds 40% (2022 - 40%) of the share capital of the Guyana Americas Merchant Bank Inc.

	COMPANY 2023	COMPANY 2022	GROUP 2023	GROUP 2022
Total Investments	**70,546,281**	**63,734,940**	**70,193,821**	**63,514,745**

(i) Associate Company

	COMPANY 2023	COMPANY 2022	GROUP 2023	GROUP 2022
At 1st January	196,275	214,925	196,275	214,925
Share of loss of associate company	(65,113)	(15,283)	(65,113)	(15,283)
	131,162	199,642	131,162	199,642
Share of investment reserve of associate company	16,865	(3,367)	16,865	(3,367)
At 31st December	148,027	196,275	148,027	196,275

12 Investments - Cont'd

(i) Associate Company

The financial statements of Guyana Americas Merchant Bank Inc. in summary form as at 31st December is presented below:

	COMPANY & GROUP	
	2023 G$ 000	2022 G$ 000
Statement of Income		
Income	158,759	118,257
Loss after taxation	(162,782)	(38,208)
Statement of Financial Position		
Total assets	489,592	618,212
Equity and liabilities		
Capital and reserves	468,422	589,041
Liabilities	19,095	28,220
Tax liability	2,075	951
Total equity and liabilities	489,592	618,212

13 (a) Loans and advances

	COMPANY & GROUP			
	Agriculture & Other	**Personal & Services**	**Real Estate**	**Total**
	G$ 000	**G$ 000**	**G$ 000**	**G$ 000**
2023				
Gross Loans and advances	21,707,143	41,723,562	16,182,787	79,613,492
Stage 1: 12 Month ECL	(542,634)	(808,940)	(69,268)	(1,420,842)
Stage 2: Lifetime ECL	(67,141)	(426)	(3,305)	(70,872)
Stage 3: Credit impaired financial assets - Lifetime ECL	(821,361)	(252,261)	(10,020)	(1,083,642)
Net loans and advances	**20,276,007**	**40,661,935**	**16,100,194**	**77,038,136**
Stage 1: 12 Month ECL				
ECL allowance as at January 1, 2023	(418,630)	(744,805)	(7,187)	(1,170,622)
ECL on new instruments issued during the year	(16,242)	(133,694)	(14,762)	(164,698)
Other credit loss movements, repayments etc.	(107,762)	69,559	(47,319)	(85,522)
At December 31st, 2023	**(542,634)**	**(808,940)**	**(69,268)**	**(1,420,842)**
Stage 2: Lifetime ECL				
ECL allowance as at January 1, 2023	(71,122)	(402,135)	-	(473,257)
ECL on new instruments issued during the year	-	(32)	-	(32)
Other credit loss movements, repayments etc.	3,981	401,741	(3,305)	402,417
At December 31, 2023	**(67,141)**	**(426)**	**(3,305)**	**(70,872)**
Stage 3: Credit-impaired financial assets – Lifetime ECL				
ECL allowance as at January 1, 2023	(1,100,477)	(1,114,603)	(60,229)	(2,275,309)
Charge-offs and write-offs	549,627	1,388,439	134,833	2,072,899
Credit loss expense	(270,511)	(526,097)	(84,624)	(881,232)
At December 31, 2023	**(821,361)**	**(252,261)**	**(10,020)**	**(1,083,642)**
Total	**(1,431,136)**	**(1,061,627)**	**(82,593)**	**(2,575,356)**

13 (a) Loans and advances - Cont'd

	COMPANY & GROUP			
	Agriculture & Other	Personal & Services	Real Estate	Total
	G$ 000	G$ 000	G$ 000	G$ 000
2022				
Gross Loans and advances	23,431,160	44,016,618	1,696,791	69,144,569
Stage 1: 12 Month ECL	(418,630)	(744,805)	(7,187)	(1,170,622)
Stage 2: Lifetime ECL	(71,122)	(402,135)	-	(473,257)
Stage 3: Credit impaired financial assets - Lifetime ECL	(1,100,477)	(1,114,603)	(60,229)	(2,275,309)
Net loans and advances	**21,840,931**	**41,755,075**	**1,629,375**	**65,225,381**
Stage 1: 12 Month ECL				
ECL allowance as at January 1, 2022	(343,329)	(354,274)	(24,120)	(721,723)
ECL on new instruments issued during the year	(31,948)	(51,224)	(734)	(83,906)
Other credit loss movements, repayments etc.	(43,353)	(339,307)	17,667	(364,993)
At December 31, 2022	**(418,630)**	**(744,805)**	**(7,187)**	**(1,170,622)**
Stage 2: Lifetime ECL				
ECL allowance as at January 1, 2022	(52)	(6,734)	-	(6,786)
ECL on new instruments issued during the year	(11,354)	(1,719)	-	(13,073)
Other credit loss movements, repayments etc.	(59,716)	(393,682)	-	(453,398)
At December 31, 2022	**(71,122)**	**(402,135)**	**-**	**(473,257)**
Stage 3: Credit-impaired financial assets – Lifetime ECL				
ECL allowance as at January 1, 2022	(1,913,079)	(1,565,737)	(76,162)	(3,554,978)
Charge-offs and write-offs	839,925	424,200	328	1,264,453
Credit loss expense	(27,323)	-	-	(27,323)
Recoveries	-	26,934	15,605	42,539
At December 31, 2022	**(1,100,477)**	**(1,114,603)**	**(60,229)**	**(2,275,309)**
Total	**(1,590,229)**	**(2,261,543)**	**(67,416)**	**(3,919,188)**

13 (b) Provision for loan losses by economic sectors

	Gross Performing G$ 000	Gross Non-Performing G$ 000	Expected Credit Loss G$ 000	Net amount G$ 000
2023				
Agriculture & Other	18,676,972	3,030,171	(1,431,136)	20,276,007
Personal & Services	40,088,505	1,635,057	(1,061,628)	40,661,934
Real Estate	15,593,268	589,519	(82,592)	16,100,195
	74,358,745	**5,254,747**	**(2,575,356)**	**77,038,136**
2022				
Agriculture & Other	19,078,080	4,353,080	(1,590,229)	21,840,931
Personal & Services	40,799,257	3,217,361	(2,261,543)	41,755,075
Real Estate	1,573,981	122,810	(67,416)	1,629,375
	61,451,318	**7,693,251**	**(3,919,188)**	**65,225,381**

14 (a) Property and Equipment

	COMPANY				
	Land and buildings G$ 000	Right-of-use assets G$ 000	Equipment G$ 000	Capital work-in-progress G$ 000	Total G$ 000
Cost/valuation					
At 1 January 2022	7,248,872	208,420	3,435,259	1,169,152	12,061,703
Additions	-	16,793	-	1,244,349	1,261,142
Disposals	-	-	(48,975)	(144,799)	(193,774)
Transfers	17,708	-	1,517,989	(1,535,697)	-
At 31 December 2022	7,266,580	225,213	4,904,273	733,005	13,129,071
Additions	-	1,293	-	1,114,358	1,115,651
Disposals	-	-	(110,108)	(675,904)	(786,012)
Transfers	324,190	-	576,436	(900,626)	-
At 31 December 2023	**7,590,770**	**226,506**	**5,370,601**	**270,833**	**13,458,710**
Comprising:					
Cost	7,569,476	226,506	5,370,601	270,833	13,437,416
Valuation	21,294	-	-	-	21,294
	7,590,770	**226,506**	**5,370,601**	**270,833**	**13,458,710**

14 (a) **Property and Equipment - Cont'd**

	COMPANY				
	Land and buildings G$ 000	Right-of-use assets G$ 000	Equipment G$ 000	Capital work-in-progress G$ 000	Total G$ 000
Accumulated Depreciation					
At 1 January 2022	1,746,736	121,032	2,583,407	-	4,451,175
Charge for the year	134,589	50,280	276,812	-	461,681
Writeback on disposals	-	-	(48,806)	-	(48,806)
At 31 December 2022	1,881,325	171,312	2,811,413	-	4,864,050
Charge for the year	138,094	46,022	424,194	-	608,310
Write back on disposals	-	-	(106,299)	-	(106,299)
At 31 December 2023	**2,019,419**	**217,334**	**3,129,308**	**-**	**5,366,061**
Net book values:					
At 31 December 2022	**5,385,255**	**53,901**	**2,092,860**	**733,005**	**8,265,021**
At 31 December 2023	**5,571,351**	**9,172**	**2,241,293**	**270,833**	**8,092,649**

(i) Refer to note 18(b) for details of lease liabilities

14 (a) Property and Equipment - Cont'd

	GROUP				
	Land and buildings G$ 000	Right-of-use assets G$ 000	Equipment G$ 000	Capital work-in-progress G$ 000	Total G$ 000
Cost/valuation					
At 1 January 2022	7,249,011	208,420	3,462,686	1,170,498	12,090,615
Additions	-	16,793	-	1,244,349	1,261,142
Disposals	-	-	(52,065)	(144,799)	(196,864)
Transfers	17,708	-	1,517,989	(1,535,697)	-
At 31 December 2022	7,266,719	225,213	4,928,610	734,351	13,154,893
Additions	-	1,293	-	1,114,358	1,115,651
Disposals	-	-	(110,108)	(675,904)	(786,012)
Transfers	324,190	-	576,436	(900,626)	-
At 31 December 2023	**7,590,909**	**226,506**	**5,394,938**	**272,179**	**13,484,532**
Comprising:					
Cost	7,569,615	226,506	5,394,938	272,179	13,463,238
Valuation	21,294	-	-	-	21,294
	7,590,909	**226,506**	**5,394,938**	**272,179**	**13,484,532**
Accumulated depreciation					
At 1 January 2022	1,746,736	121,032	2,608,481	-	4,476,249
Charge for the year	134,589	50,280	279,314	-	464,183
Write back on disposals	-	-	(51,484)	-	(51,484)
At 31 December 2022	1,881,325	171,312	2,836,311	-	4,888,948
Charge for the year	138,094	46,022	425,118	-	609,234
Write back on disposals	-	-	(106,299)	-	(106,299)
At 31 December 2023	**2,019,419**	**217,334**	**3,155,130**	**-**	**5,391,883**
Net book values:					
At 31 December 2022	**5,385,394**	**53,901**	**2,092,299**	**734,351**	**8,265,945**
At 31 December 2023	**5,571,490**	**9,172**	**2,239,808**	**272,179**	**8,092,649**

Refer to note 29 for details of revaluation of property and equipment.

	COMPANY AND GROUP	
	2023	2022
	G$ 000	G$ 000
Intangible assets		
Net Book Value of acquired software (Included in equipment)	1,598,599	2,142,300

14 (b) Investment Property

	GROUP	
	Premises	Total
	G$'000	G$'000
COST		
At 1 January 2022	408,871	408,871
Additions	-	-
At 31 December 2022	408,871	408,871
Additions	3,794	3,794
At 31 December 2023	**412,665**	**412,665**
ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION		
At 1 January 2022	41,749	41,749
Charge for the year	6,278	6,278
At 31 December 2022	48,027	48,027
Charge for the year	6,277	6,277
At 31 December 2023	**54,304**	**54,304**
NET BOOK VALUES		
At 31 December 2022	**360,844**	**360,844**
At 31 December 2023	**358,361**	**358,361**

15 Other Assets

	COMPANY		GROUP	
	2023 G$ 000	2022 G$ 000	2023 G$ 000	2022 G$ 000
Interest and commissions accrued	167,656	375,621	167,656	375,621
Prepaid expenses	197,713	176,695	197,713	176,695
Prepaid stationery/inventory	97,845	83,452	97,845	83,452
Sundry receivables	600,711	35,258	600,711	35,258
Agriculture diversification fund	22,576	22,576	22,576	22,576
Assets classified as held for sale (See note 16)	22,810	67,660	22,810	67,660
Taxes recoverable	659,613	659,613	715,513	714,523
Other	2,425,331	3,104,696	2,438,733	3,132,422
	4,194,255	**4,525,571**	**4,263,557**	**4,608,207**

16 Assets classified as held for sale
Properties on hand

At 1 January	67,660	85,703	67,660	85,703
Additions	-	44,005	-	44,005
Disposals	(44,850)	(62,048)	(44,850)	(62,048)
At 31 December	**22,810**	**67,660**	**22,810**	**67,660**

17 Deposits

Demand	54,760,004	38,815,641	54,565,263	38,726,893
Savings	84,128,211	72,677,096	84,128,211	72,677,096
Term	29,783,620	32,853,148	29,783,620	32,853,148
	168,671,835	**144,345,885**	**168,477,094**	**144,257,137**

18 Other Liabilities

	COMPANY		GROUP	
	2023 G$ 000	2022 G$ 000	2023 G$ 000	2022 G$ 000
Outstanding cheques	2,929,948	3,441,059	2,929,948	3,441,059
Agriculture diversification fund (a)	180,863	180,863	180,863	180,863
Due to Banks	29	29	29	29
Accrued interest on deposits	241,565	241,954	241,565	241,954
Unpresented drafts	10,686	4,057	10,686	4,057
Accrued expenses	643,580	635,161	682,728	674,291
Lease liability (b)	9,885	61,910	9,885	61,910
Taxes payable	350,406	410,787	350,406	431,643
ATM contra account	23,303	384,292	23,303	384,292
Visa prepaid account	540,268	414,809	540,268	414,809
Funds payable to 4'c	1,851,538	1,347,603	1,851,538	1,347,603
Others	2,161,122	2,717,195	2,181,763	2,728,531
	8,943,193	**9,839,719**	**9,002,982**	**9,911,041**

(a) On June 14, 2011, the Bank entered into a contract with the Ministry of Agriculture to carry out the implementation of a Financial Facility of US$1.7M which was funded by the Inter American Development Bank (IDB). The Financial Facility aims to increase Guyana's export growth rate in the agricultural sector by making financial resources through loans and grants available to eligible beneficiaries in three (3) clusters of non traditional agricultural exports, aquaculture, fruits and vegetables, and livestock (beef).

In 2011, two (2) tranches of funds totalling US$1,130,090 were disbursed to the Bank. Interest earned on the loans are exempted from Corporation Tax. The Financial Facility came to an end on 31.08.2021. The Bank and the Ministry of Agriculture have agreed to an interest rate of 5% to 8% per annum.

	COMPANY		GROUP	
	2023 G$ 000	2022 G$ 000	2023 G$ 000	2022 G$ 000
(b) Lease liabilities analysed as:				
Current	6,117	52,449	6,117	52,449
Non-current	3,768	9,461	3,768	9,461
	9,885	61,910	9,885	61,910

The above represents rental for ATMs at various locations and building space for Port Mourant, Bartica, Providence and Port Kaituma branches. The interest charge is 4% for the duration of these leases.

The Group does not face a significant liquidity risk with regard to its lease liabilities.

19 Share Capital

	COMPANY & GROUP	
	2023	**2022**
Authorised		
Number of ordinary shares	50,000,000	50,000,000
	G$ 000	**G$ 000**
Issued and fully paid 40,000,000 ordinary shares	800,000	800,000

These shares are all ordinary shares with equal voting rights and no par value

20 Reserves

(a) Other Reserve

(i) Re-measurement of defined benefit asset:-		
At 1 January	74,870	79,417
Movement	41,320	(4,547)
At 31 December	116,190	74,870
(ii) Share of reserve of associate company:-		
At 1 January	(53,344)	(49,977)
Share of comprehensive profit/(loss)	16,865	(3,367)
At 31 December	(36,479)	(53,344)
Total	**79,711**	**21,526**

(b) Statutory Reserve

At 1 January and 31 December	**800,000**	**800,000**

This reserve is computed in accordance with the Financial Institutions Act.

(c) Revaluation Reserve

At 1 January and 31 December	**18,963**	**18,963**

This represents revaluation increase of land, buildings and equipment

(d) General Banking Risk Reserve

At 1 January	611,423	611,423
Movement	(503,423)	-
At 31 December	**108,000**	**611,423**

21 Capital Risk Management

The Group manages its capital structure on an on-going basis. As part of this review, management considers the cost of capital and the risks associated with each class of capital. The Group's overall strategy remains unchanged from 2022.

The capital structure of the Group consists of equity, comprising issued capital, reserves and retained earnings.

<u>Capital Adequacy</u>

The Group monitors its Capital Adequacy with reference to the risk-based capital adequacy guidelines issued by the Bank of Guyana in keeping with the BASEL convention. The guidelines evaluate Capital Adequacy based upon the perceived risk associated with balance sheet assets, as well as certain off balance sheet exposures, and stipulate a minimum ratio of qualifying capital (Tier 1 and Tier 11) to risk-weighted assets of 8%.

GBTI remains well capitalised with the Bank's Tier 1 Capital Adequacy Ratio standing at 13.94% as at 31 December, 2023.

Total Tier 1 and Tier 11 Capital was 13.97% of risk-adjusted assets at 31 December, 2023 compared to 13.6% at the end of the previous year.

The Group did not have a fixed rate or range to distribute dividends but its dividends policy is based on the performance of the Bank and future development plans.

<u>Gearing ratio</u>

The gearing ratio at the year end was as follows:

	COMPANY		GROUP	
	2023 G$ 000	2022 G$ 000	2023 G$ 000	2022 G$ 000
Debt (i)	168,681,720	147,848,854	168,486,979	147,760,106
Cash and cash equivalents	(40,003,045)	(32,353,451)	(40,138,398)	(32,408,197)
Net debt	128,678,675	115,495,403	128,348,581	115,351,909
Equity (ii)	22,682,138	20,521,430	23,027,646	20,817,811
Net debt to equity ratio	5.67:1	5.63:1	5.57:1	5.54:1

(i) Debt is defined as long-term and short-term funds.

(ii) Equity includes all capital and reserves of the Group.

22 Financial Risk Management

Financial risk management objectives

The Group's Management monitors and manages the financial risks relating to the operations of the Group through internal risk reports which analyse exposures by degree and magnitude of risks. These risks include market risk (currency risk, interest rate risk and price risk), credit risk and liquidity risk.

The Group seeks to minimise the effects of these risks by the use of techniques that are governed by management's policies on foreign exchange risk, interest rate risk and credit risk which are approved by the Board of Directors.

The Group's Management reports monthly to the Board of Directors on matters relating to risk and management of risk.

(a) Market risk

The Group's activities expose it to the financial risks of changes in foreign currency exchange rates and interest rates. The Group uses gap analysis, interest rate sensitivity and exposure limits to financial instruments to manage its exposure to interest rate and foreign currency risk. There has been no change in the Group's exposure to market risks or the manner in which it manages these risks.

(i).Price risk

Other price risk
Other price risk is the risk that the value of financial instruments will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices whether those changes are caused by factors specific to the individual security of its issuer or factors affecting all securities traded in the market. Management continually identifies the risk and diversifies the portfolio in order to minimize the risk.

Cross-border risk though relatively minimal, exists in relation to investments in Caricom Sovereign Bonds and such risk is mitigated by the application of prudent selection and stringent monitoring of the Group's investment portfolio by its intermediary Guyana Americas Merchant Bank Inc.

The Group does not actively trade in equity investments.

(ii).Interest rate sensitivity analysis
The following analyses the sensitivity of interest rates exposure for both financial assets and liabilities at the end of the reporting period. For floating rate instruments, the analysis is prepared assuming the amount of the instrument outstanding at the end of the reporting period was outstanding for the whole year. A 50 basis point increase or decrease is used when reporting interest rate risk internally to key management personnel and represents management's assessment of the reasonably possible change in interest rate.

Apart from the foregoing with respect to the other financial assets and liabilities, it was not possible to determine the expected impact of a reasonable possible change in interest rates on profit or equity as other factors such as credit risks, market risks, political and disaster risks can affect the value of the assets and liabilities.

22 Financial Risk Management - (Cont'd)

(a) Market Risk - (Cont'd)

(ii) Interest rate sensitivity analysis - (Cont'd)

The impact on the profit for the year is the effect of changes in interest rates on the floating interest rates of financial assets and liabilities.

This impact is illustrated on the following table.

	GROUP		
	Impact on profit for the year		
	Increase/ Decrease in Basis Point	2023 Increase/(Decrease)	2022 Increase/(Decrease)
		G' 000	G' 000
Local Currency	+/-50	424,600	337,264
Foreign Currencies	+/-50	141,285	120,852

(iii) Interest rate risk

The Group is exposed to interest rate risk but the Group's sensitivity to interest is immaterial as its financial instruments are substantially at fixed rates. The Group's exposures to interest rate risk on financial assets and financial liabilities are listed below:

		GROUP				
		Maturing 2023				
	Average Interest rate %	Within 1 year G$ 000	1 to 5 years G$ 000	Over 5 years G$ 000	Non-interest bearing G$ 000	Total G$ 000
Assets						
Cash resources	0.00 to 17.75	9,925,004	539,061	-	29,674,333	40,138,398
Investments	1.00 to 8.00	57,766,034	5,196,757	5,456,318	1,774,712	70,193,821
Loans and advances (net)	0.00 to 17.50	23,658,321	11,180,527	42,199,288	-	77,038,136
Other assets	-	-	-	-	13,137,367	13,137,367
		91,349,359	**16,916,345**	**47,655,606**	**44,586,412**	**200,507,722**
Liabilities						
Deposits	0.50 to 0.90	168,477,094	-	-	-	168,477,094
Other liabilities	4.00	6,117	3,768	-	8,993,097	9,002,982
		168,483,211	**3,768**	**-**	**8,993,097**	**177,480,076**
Interest sensitivity gap		**(77,133,852)**	**16,912,577**	**47,655,606**		

22 Financial Risk Management - (Cont'd)

(a) Market Risk - (Cont'd)

(iii) Interest rate risk - (Cont'd)

		GROUP				
		Maturing 2022				
	Average Interest rate %	**Within 1 year G$ 000**	**1 to 5 years G$ 000**	**Over 5 years G$ 000**	**Non-interest bearing G$ 000**	**Total G$ 000**
Assets						
Cash resources	0.00 to 4.50	31,921,747	486,450	-	-	32,408,197
Investments	1.00 to 9.00	49,081,579	3,968,902	10,267,989	196,275	63,514,745
Loans and advances (net)	0.00 to 27.00	24,824,376	11,497,474	28,903,531	-	65,225,381
Other assets	-	-	-	-	13,837,666	13,837,666
		105,827,702	**15,952,826**	**39,171,520**	**14,033,941**	**174,985,989**
Liabilities						
Deposits	0.50 to 0.90	105,530,244	-	-	38,726,893	144,257,137
Other liabilities	4.00	52,449	9,461	-	9,849,131	9,911,041
		105,582,693	**9,461**	**-**	**48,576,024**	**154,168,178**
Interest sensitivity gap		**245,009**	**15,943,365**	**39,171,520**		

22 Financial Risk Management - (Cont'd)

(a) Market Risk - (Cont'd)

(iv) Currency risk

The Group's exposure to the effects of fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates arose mainly from investments and foreign Bank balances. The currencies which the Bank is mainly exposed to are Euro , United States Dollars, Pounds Sterling and Canadian Dollars.

The aggregate amount of assets and liabilities denominated in currencies other than Guyana dollars are shown:

	GROUP					
	Euro € G$ 000	US $ G$ 000	GBP £ G$ 000	Cdn $ G$ 000	Others G$ 000	Total G$ 000
31 December 2023						
Assets	58,986	36,515,931	74,429	40,056	1,658	36,691,060
Liabilities	42,077	10,446,591	71,536	2,043	-	10,562,246
31 December 2022						
Assets	26,269	31,005,829	47,432	31,577	2,295	31,113,401
Liabilities	46,437	6,288,931	65,245	5,259	-	6,405,873

Foreign currency sensitivity analysis

The following table details the Group's sensitivity to a 2.5% increase or decrease in the Guyana dollar (GYD) against the relevant currencies. 2.5% is the sensitivity rate used when reporting foreign currency risk internally to key management personnel and represents management's assessment of the reasonably possible change in foreign exchange rates.

The sensitivity analysis includes only outstanding foreign currency denominated monetary items and adjusts their translation at the period end for a 2.5% change in foreign currency rates. A positive number below indicates an increase in profit and other equity where the foreign currency strengthens 2.5% against the GYD. For a 2.5% weakening of the relevant foreign currency against the Guyana dollar, there would be an equal and opposite impact on the profit and other equity, and the balances below would be negative.

	Euro Impact		US Dollar Impact		£ Sterling Impact		Canadian Dollar Impact	
	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022
	$M	$M	$M	$M	$M	$M	$M	$M
Profit or (loss)	0.42	(0.50)	651.73	617.92	0.07	(0.45)	0.95	0.66

22 Financial Risk Management - (Cont'd)

(b) Liquidity risk

The Group maintains a diversified and stable funding base comprising core retail and corporate customer deposits and institutional balances, coupled with wholesale funding and portfolios of liquid assets which are diversified by currency and maturity, in order to be able to respond quickly and smoothly to unforeseen liquidity requirements.

The Group's policy is to maintain a strong liquidity position and to manage the liquidity profile of assets, liabilities and commitments so that cash flows are appropriately balanced and all funding obligations met when due.

It is unusual for Banks to have the maturities of its assets and liabilities completely matched since business transacted is often of uncertain term and differing types. As such the matching and controlled mismatching of the maturities and interest rates of assets and liabilities are fundamental to the management of the Group.

The information given below relates to the major financial liabilities based on the remaining period at 31 December to the contractual maturity dates.

	GROUP			
	Maturing 2023			
	Within 1 year			
	On Demand G$ 000	Due in 3 Months G$ 000	Due within 3 to 12 Months G$ 000	Total G$ 000
Liabilities				
Deposits	138,693,474	1,635,165	28,148,455	168,477,094
Other liabilities	8,980,270	-	22,712	9,002,982
Total liabilities	**147,673,744**	**1,635,165**	**28,171,167**	**177,480,076**

	GROUP			
	Maturing 2022			
	Within 1 year			
	On Demand G$ 000	Due in 3 Months G$ 000	Due within 3 to 12 Months G$ 000	Total G$ 000
Liabilities				
Deposits	111,403,989	11,995,615	20,857,533	144,257,137
Other liabilities	9,787,270	4,041	119,730	9,911,041
Total liabilities	**121,191,259**	**11,999,656**	**20,977,263**	**154,168,178**

22 Financial Risk Management - (Cont'd)

(c) Credit risk

Credit risk exposures arise principally in lending and investment activities. Credit risk also occurs in off balance sheet financial instruments such as guarantees and letters of credit. This risk relates to the possibility that a counter party will cause a financial loss to the Group by failing to discharge an obligation. The Group's lending and investing activities are conducted with various counterparties and in pursuing these activities the Group is exposed to credit risk. These are the principal areas of activity for the Group and it is expected that such exposures will continue to exist for the foreseeable future. The management of credit risks is of utmost importance and an appropriate organizational structure has been put in place to ensure that this function is effectively discharged. Management carefully manages its exposure to credit risk through appropriate policies, procedures, practices and audit functions together with approved limits.

Credit risk management
In its management of credit risk, the organisational structure supports the lending philosophy of the Group. This structure comprises the Board of Directors, the Board Credit Committee (BCC), the Executive Director, Head of Credit, Senior Management of Risk and Compliance and the Internal Audit Function.

To facilitate day to day decision making and timely implementation of decisions, the Board has delegated authority for specific areas to specific committees and/or officers with an appropriate reporting system to the Board. The Board's Credit Committee focuses primarily on credit risk appetite and in so doing sanction amendments to credit policies, delegation of lending authority to senior management and credit requests exceeding the authority of management.

The Executive Director along with the Senior Manager of Risk monitors the effectiveness of credit procedures and policies and may direct changes to strategies to improve the effectiveness of policies. Policies are established and communicated through the Bank's written Credit Policy Manual. This document sets out in detail the current policies governing the lending function and provides a comprehensive framework for prudent risk management of the credit function. Major areas of focus are: General Credit Criteria; Credit Risk Rating; Control Risk Mitigants over the Credit Portfolio and Credit Concentration among others. The Bank's policies and procedures are dedicated to controlling and monitoring risk from such activities. Compliance with credit policies and exposure limits is reviewed by the Internal Auditors on a continuous basis.

Risk limit control and mitigation policy
The Group structures the levels of credit risk it undertakes by placing limits on the amount of risk accepted in relation to one borrower, or group of borrowers, industry and country segments. The Bank monitors its concentration of credit exposure so that no single borrower or industry default will have a material impact on the Group.

(a) Single borrower and Bank borrower exposure limits
Limits established by regulatory authorities have been incorporated into the credit policies where concentration is restricted by limiting credit amounts to a fraction of the capital base. This is supported by a stringent reporting requirement and is further enhanced by policies requiring periodic review of all commercial credit relationships.

(b) Industry exposure limits
These limits have been established based on a ranking of the riskiness of various industries. The ranking is guided by a model developed for the Bank for this purpose. The model utilizes a scale incorporating scores of 1 to 8 with 1 being the least risky. These have been consolidated into four (4) bands of exposure limits which have been set in relation to the total credit portfolio with a smaller limit being assigned to the riskier industries.

22 Financial Risk Management - (Cont'd)

(c) Credit risk - (Cont'd)

Risk limit control and mitigation policy - (Cont'd)

These policies include but are not limited to:

i. Conducting interviews to obtain an overall impression of the applicant's ability to manage its finances and service the credit facility .

ii. Collateral offered is subjected to inspection/field visit to enable the Group to decide whether it concurs with the valuator's opinion. Valuations are assessed conservatively and reviewed regularly with the support of empirical evidence.

iii. Adherence to a loan to equity ratio policy that conforms to the tenets of sound banking.

iv. Loans and overdrafts are generally collateralised with some or all of the following:
- Cash
- Mortgages
- Debentures
- Bills of Sale
- Guarantees
- Assignment of Traded Shares
- Assignment of Salary or Crop Proceeds
- Assignment of Insurance Policies
- Promissory Notes

v. Security structures and legal conditions are reviewed from time to time to ensure they continue to fulfil their intended purpose and remain in line with current banking practice.

vi. Generally, funds are not disbursed unless mortgages or debentures are duly executed in the High Court.

vii. Loan Officers are required to continually track loans recommended or approved by themselves to ensure projects are implemented as conceptualized, approved and scheduled; repayments are made in accordance with loan agreements; potential problems are identified and appropriate actions are taken to avoid the performance of the loans being adversely affected; and generally to maintain and improve the healthiness of the Bank's credit portfolio.

viii. Credit exposure is controlled by lending limits that are reviewed and approved by the Credit Committee and the Board of Directors.

ix. Ongoing training is conducted for Credit Officers to enhance their skills and techniques in assessing credit.

x. Compliance with the "single borrower" or "group borrower's" limit as set out in the Financial Institutions Act (1995), other regulatory guidelines and the Group's own prudential judgements.

xi. Authorized lending limits utilizing the hierarchical structure of the Group.

xii. Generation of daily and monthly management exception reports.

xiii. The avoidance of being one of multiple lenders to a borrower. In the event this occurs, the Group seeks to rank in priority to the other lenders.

xiv. Monthly credit meetings are conducted to review loans and overdrafts at varying degrees of default so that actions are taken in a timely manner.

xv. Non-performing accounts are provided for or written-off in accordance with accepted banking principles and the Financial Institutions Act (1995).

22 Financial Risk Management - (Cont'd)

(c) Credit risk - (Cont'd)

Risk limit control and mitigation policy - (Cont'd)

xvi. Interest on non-accrual/impaired accounts is not taken to income.

xvii. Observation of the market trends, both local and global, which may be affecting a particular industry or sector.

xviii. Diversification of the Group's lending portfolio so as to spread the risk and stabilise financial results.

Credit risk measurement

As part of the ongoing process of prudent risk management, the Group's policy is to risk rate credit facilities at the time of approval and on a regular basis. The Credit Classification System is in place to assign risk indicators to credits in the portfolio and engages the traditional categories utilized by regulatory authorities.

The table below shows the Group's maximum exposure to credit risk.

	COMPANY		GROUP	
	2023 Maximum Exposure G' 000	2022 Maximum Exposure G' 000	2023 Maximum Exposure G' 000	2022 Maximum Exposure G' 000
Cash equivalent and short term funds	15,528,411	11,087,146	15,528,411	11,087,146
Deposit with Bank of Guyana	20,281,958	17,435,026	20,281,958	17,435,026
Investments:				
FVTPL	-	-	1,626,685	1,710,081
Amortised cost	68,456,577	61,669,045	68,456,577	52,320,296
Loans and advances	77,038,136	65,225,381	77,038,136	65,225,381
Total	**181,305,082**	**155,416,598**	**182,931,767**	**147,777,930**
Customer liability under acceptances, guarantees and letters of credit	**5,559,505**	**6,308,240**	**5,559,505**	**6,308,240**
Total credit risk exposure	**186,864,587**	**161,724,838**	**188,491,272**	**154,086,170**

The above table represents a worst case scenario of credit risk exposure to the Group without taking account of any collateral held or other credit enhancements attached.

22 Financial Risk Management - (Cont'd)

(c) Credit risk - (Cont'd)

Credit risk measurement (Cont'd)

Credit quality loans & advances	COMPANY 2023 G$ 000	COMPANY 2022 G$ 000	GROUP 2023 G$ 000	GROUP 2022 G$ 000
Neither past due nor impaired	72,424,242	59,850,467	72,424,242	59,850,467
Past due but not impaired	1,934,503	1,600,851	1,934,503	1,600,851
Impaired	5,254,747	7,693,251	5,254,747	7,693,251
	79,613,492	**69,144,569**	**79,613,492**	**69,144,569**

The collateral held are in excess of 100% of total loans and advances.

The undiscounted fair value of collateral that the Bank held relating to loans individually determined to be impaired at 31 December 2023 amounted to G$14,236,748,666 (2022 - G$21,722,496,927).

During the year, the Bank realised collateral amounting to G$101,300,000 (2022 - G$80,716,219).

The table below shows the credit quality and the maximum exposure to credit risk based on the Bank's credit rating system, aging and year-end stage classification.

Loans and advances	COMPANY AND GROUP			
	Stage 1 (12 Month ECL) G$ 000	Stage 2 (Lifetime ECL) G$ 000	Stage 3 Credit impaired financial assets (Lifetime ECL) G$ 000	Total G$ 000
2023				
Gross exposure	72,881,076	2,154,649	4,577,767	79,613,492
ECL	(1,420,842)	(70,872)	(1,083,642)	(2,575,356)
Net Exposure	**71,460,234**	**2,083,777**	**3,494,125**	**77,038,136**
2022				
Gross exposure	55,113,630	4,979,077	9,051,862	69,144,569
ECL	(1,170,622)	(473,257)	(2,275,309)	(3,919,188)
Net exposure	**53,943,008**	**4,505,820**	**6,776,553**	**65,225,381**

22 Financial Risk Management - (Cont'd)

(c) Credit risk - (Cont'd)

Credit risk measurement (Cont'd)

Investments - Amortised Cost	COMPANY			
	Stage 1 (12 Month ECL) G$ 000	Stage 2 (Lifetime ECL) G$ 000	Stage 3 Credit impaired financial assets (Lifetime ECL) G$ 000	Total G$ 000
2023				
Gross exposure	68,130,330	326,247	-	68,456,577
ECL	(29,096)	(8,372)	-	(37,468)
Net Exposure	**68,101,234**	**317,875**	**-**	**68,419,109**
2022				
Gross exposure	61,331,879	95,545	241,621	61,669,045
ECL	(28,178)	(2,197)	(30,281)	(60,656)
Net exposure	**61,303,701**	**93,348**	**211,340**	**61,608,389**

There are a variety of reasons why certain loans and advances designated as 'past due' are not regarded as impaired. Unless other information is available to the contrary, all loans and advances between 90 and 180 days are not considered impaired as they may be well secured. In addition, renewals may be delayed due to pending submission of required documentation and as such do not reflect any concern on the creditworthiness of the borrower. Further, past due loans and advances secured in full by cash collateral are not considered impaired, and where appropriate, neither are mortgages in arrears by greater than 90 days where the value of the collateral is sufficient to repay both principal and interest in the event the account is identified for recovery action.

Loans and advances which were past due but not impaired as at 31st December can be assessed by reference to the Bank's credit grading system. The following information is based on that system.

	2023 G$000	2022 G$000
Grade 1- Satisfactory risk	72,424,242	59,850,467
Grade 2- Monitor list		
Past Due up to 29 days	1,446,777	1,179,966
Past Due up 30-59 days	413,645	321,110
Past Due 60-89 days	74,081	99,775
	1,934,503	**1,600,851**

The security held for these loans are the same as those stated in Note 22 (c) (iv).

22 Financial Risk Management - (Cont'd)

(d) Impaired loans and advances

The Bank's rating process for credit facilities extends across its Branches and is designed to detect exposure requiring greater management attention based on a higher probability of default and potential loss. Management particularly focuses on facilities with delinquencies 90 days and above with a view to taking action such as working with the borrowers to restore their performing status, or instituting legal or recovery action if considered necessary.

The Bank's risk response strategy also includes regular evaluation of the adequacy of provision allocated for impaired loans and advances by conducting detailed half-yearly reviews of the total loan portfolio, comparing performance and delinquency statistics with historical trends and prevailing economic conditions.

The Bank's policy in its reviews of the level of impairment allowances for loans and advances includes a review of collateral held (e.g. reconfirmation of its enforceability) and an assessment of actual and anticipated receipts. For significant commercial and corporate debts, specialized credit committees with experience in insolvency and specific market factors are used to determine likely losses.

Reduction or reversals on calculated impairment allowances are recognized when the Group has reasonable evidence that the established estimate of loss has been reduced.

Impaired loans and advances by product type (includes corporate facilities).

		COMPANY AND GROUP	
		2023 G$ 000	2022 G$ 000
Grade 3	- Sub-standard		
	- Past due 90 - 179 days	440,101	21,336
Grade 4	- Doubtful and loss		
	- Past due 180 - 359 days	43,191	17,840
	- Past due 360 days and over	4,771,455	7,654,075
		4,814,646	7,671,915
	Total impaired loans and advances	**5,254,747**	**7,693,251**
	Impaired loans and advances by product type (includes corporate facilities)		
	Quality lifestyle loans	155,147	178,631
	Commercial loans and advances (includes corporate facilities)	5,099,600	7,514,620
		5,254,747	**7,693,251**

22 Financial Risk Management - (Cont'd)

(d) Impaired loans and advances - (Cont'd)

The tables below depict the Group's exposure to credit risk based on the geographic region where financial instruments are held.

	GROUP					
As at December 2023	**Guyana G$' 000**	**Caricom G$' 000**	**North America G$' 000**	**Europe G$' 000**	**Others G$' 000**	**Total G$' 000**
On Statement of Financial Position						
Cash resources	29,114,952	8,001,105	2,198,236	824,105	-	40,138,398
Investments	55,459,873	11,960,301	2,194,567	52,994	526,086	70,193,821
Loans and advances (net)	76,324,015	714,121	-	-	-	77,038,136
	160,898,840	**20,675,527**	**4,392,803**	**877,099**	**526,086**	**187,370,355**
Off Statement of Financial Position						
Acceptances, guarantees and letters of credit	5,559,505	-	-	-	-	5,559,505
	5,559,505	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**5,559,505**
Total	**166,458,345**	**20,675,527**	**4,392,803**	**877,099**	**526,086**	**192,929,860**
As at 31st December 2022						
On Statement of Financial Position						
Cash resources	25,383,718	3,921,060	2,949,736	153,683	-	32,408,197
Investments	48,284,866	12,117,839	1,887,880	156,923	1,067,237	63,514,745
Loans and advances (net)	64,249,964	975,417	-	-	-	65,225,381
	137,918,548	**17,014,316**	**4,837,616**	**310,606**	**1,067,237**	**161,148,323**
Off Statement of Financial Position						
Acceptances, guarantees and letters of credit	6,308,240	-	-	-	-	6,308,240
	6,308,240	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**6,308,240**
Total	**144,226,788**	**17,014,316**	**4,837,616**	**310,606**	**1,067,237**	**167,456,563**

22 Financial Risk Management - (Cont'd)

(e) Investment securities

The Group utilizes external ratings such as international credit rating agencies or their equivalent in managing credit risk exposures for investments.

The table below represents an analysis of debt securities, treasury bills and other eligible bills by rating agency designation.

	GROUP		
31st December 2023	**Treasury Bills G$'000**	**Other Securities G$'000**	**Total G$'000**
A- to AAA	1,658,274	292,030	1,950,304
BBB- to BBB+	-	2,550,980	2,550,980
Lower than BBB-	655,319	9,577,344	10,232,663
Unrated	52,840,829	2,619,045	55,459,874
	55,154,422	**15,039,399**	**70,193,821**

31st December 2022	**Treasury Bills G$'000**	**Other Securities G$'000**	**Total G$'000**
A- to AAA	1,180,474	338,663	1,519,137
BBB- to BBB+	-	1,749,116	1,749,116
Lower than BBB-	673,223	11,288,403	11,961,626
Unrated	44,664,825	3,620,041	48,284,866
	46,518,522	**16,996,223**	**63,514,745**

The carrying value of past due or impaired loans and advances whose terms have been renegotiated.

	COMPANY AND GROUP	
	2023 G$ 000	**2022 G$ 000**
Renegotiated loans/overdrafts	2,105,121	3,969,190

Commitment fees

There has been no deferral of commitment fees on the grounds that the amount calculated for possible deferral has been deemed immaterial.

22 Financial Risk Management - (Cont'd)

(f) Diversification of exposure

The Bank provides a wide range of financial services to borrowers in over 7 (seven) sectors within Guyana. As a result, its portfolio of financial instruments with credit risk is highly diversified with no exposure to individual borrowers and group borrowers totaling more than 25% and 40% respectively of the Bank's capital base.

The major activity of the Bank is in providing Banking Services to commercial, industrial and domestic consumers. The risk is spread over a cross-section of clients. At the reporting date there were no significant concentrations of credit risk for loans. There is no special collateral requirement relating to concentration of risks.

The carrying amount reflected below represents the Bank's maximum exposure to credit risk for such loans.

	COMPANY & GROUP	
	2023 G$ 000	2022 G$ 000
Loans and Advances		
Agriculture	6,323,650	6,248,701
Services and distribution	44,105,553	35,340,713
Manufacturing	7,945,951	7,947,917
Household	19,941,827	18,216,829
Mining and quarrying	1,296,511	1,390,409
	79,613,492	69,144,569
Impairment allowances	(2,575,356)	(3,919,188)
Net loans and advances	**77,038,136**	**65,225,381**

Concentration of deposits	COMPANY		GROUP	
	2023 G$ 000	2022 G$ 000	2023 G$ 000	2022 G$ 000
Deposits				
State entities	28,550,116	31,147,094	28,550,116	31,147,094
Commercial sector	50,704,828	34,845,957	50,510,087	34,757,209
Personal sector	87,431,332	72,806,204	87,431,332	72,806,204
Other enterprises	1,324,241	4,532,340	1,324,241	4,532,340
Non residents	661,318	1,014,290	661,318	1,014,290
	168,671,835	**144,345,885**	**168,477,094**	**144,257,137**

23 Contingencies

(i) Contingent liabilities

(a) Pending litigations
There are several pending litigations against the Bank. The Directors are of the view that no provision for any contingency is necessary.

(b) Customers' liability under acceptances, guarantees and letters of credit.

	COMPANY & GROUP			
	2023			
	Under 3 mths G$'000	3 to 12 mths G$'000	Over 12 mths G$'000	Total G$'000
State entities	-	-	66	66
Commercial sector	1,199,760	2,844,089	1,466,010	5,509,859
Personal sector	18,040	31,540	-	49,580
	1,217,800	**2,875,629**	**1,466,076**	**5,559,505**

	COMPANY & GROUP			
	2022			
	Under 3 mths G$'000	3 to 12 mths G$'000	Over 12 mths G$'000	Total G$'000
State entities	-	-	26	26
Commercial sector	684,984	3,705,045	1,870,685	6,260,714
Personal sector	18,000	29,500	-	47,500
	702,984	**3,734,545**	**1,870,711**	**6,308,240**

24 Defined Benefit Asset

The most recent actuarial valuation of the plan assets and the present value of the defined benefit asset were carried out as at 31 December, 2023 by Bacon Woodrow & de Souza Limited. The present value of the defined benefit obligation and the related current service cost were measured using the Projected Unit Credit Method.

		COMPANY & GROUP	
		2023 G$ 000	2022 G$ 000
(a)	**Amounts in the statement of financial position:**		
	Defined benefit obligation	1,300,075	1,259,701
	Fair value of plan assets	(1,459,528)	(1,357,731)
	Surplus	(159,453)	(98,030)
	Effect on asset ceiling	-	-
	Defined benefit asset	**(159,453)**	**(98,030)**
(b)	**Changes in the present value of the defined benefit obligation**		
	Defined benefit obligation at the start of the year	1,259,701	1,138,740
	Current service cost	127,665	123,042
	Interest cost	56,202	50,579
	Transfer payments received	-	8,066
	Remeasurements		
	- Experience adjustments	(121,709)	(22,805)
	Members' contribution		
	Benefits paid	(21,784)	(37,921)
	Defined benefit obligation at the end of the year	**1,300,075**	**1,259,701**
(c)	**Changes in the fair value of the plan assets**		
	Plan assets at start of year	1,357,731	1,250,734
	Interest income	63,134	58,048
	Return on plan assets, excluding interest income	(52,843)	(30,383)
	Bank contributions	113,290	109,187
	Transfer payments received	-	8,066
	Benefits paid	(21,784)	(37,921)
	Plan assets at the end of the year	**1,459,528**	**1,357,731**

24 Defined Benefit Asset - (Cont'd)

	COMPANY & GROUP	
	2023	2022
	G$ 000	G$ 000
(d) Asset allocation		
Deposit administration contract	1,309,465	1,216,209
Annuity policies	150,063	141,522
Fair value of plan asset at the end of the year	**1,459,528**	**1,357,731**

The value of the plan's assets is equal to the face value of the deposit administration contract provided by the insurance company provider, NALICO plus an estimate of the value of the plan's immediate annuity policies which was calculated using the same assumptions used to calculate the defined benefit obligation. The value of these policies is not quoted and is reliant on NALICO's financial strength.

The plan's assets are invested in a strategy agreed with the plan's trustees which is largely driven by statutory constraints and asset availability. There are no asset-liability matching strategies used by the plan other than the decision to purchase immediate annuity policies to match pensions in payments.

	COMPANY & GROUP	
	2023	2022
	G$ 000	G$ 000
(e) Expense recognised in profit or loss		
Current service cost	127,665	123,042
Net interest on net defined benefit asset	(6,932)	(7,469)
Net pension cost	**120,733**	**115,573**
(f) Re-measurements recognised in other comprehensive income		
Experience (gains)/losses	(68,866)	7,578
Effect of asset ceiling	-	-
Total amount recognised in other comprehensive income	**(68,866)**	**7,578**
(g) Reconciliation of opening and closing balance sheet entries		
Opening defined benefit asset	(98,030)	(111,994)
Net pension cost	120,733	115,573
Re-measurements recognised in other comprehensive income	(68,866)	7,578
Bank's contributions paid	(113,290)	(109,187)
Closing defined benefit asset	**(159,453)**	**(98,030)**

24 Defined Benefit Asset - (Cont'd)

(h)

Summary of principal assumptions as at 31st December	2023	2022
	Per annum %	Per annum %
Discount rate	4.5	4.5
Average individual salary increases	N/A	N/A
Future pension increases	0.0	0.0

Assumptions regarding future morality are based on published morality tables. The life expectancies underlying the value of the defined benefit obligation as at 31st December are as follows:

	2023	2022
Life expectancy for current pensioner in years		
- Male (aged 60)	21.9	21.9
- Female (aged 55)	30.9	30.9
Life expectancy for current members age 40 in years		
- Male (aged 60)	22.8	22.7
- Female (aged 55)	31.9	31.9

(i) Sensitivity analysis

Since the majority of the plan's liabilities are defined contribution in nature and pensions in payment are insured, the surplus or deficit in the Plan is not very sensitive to the actuarial assumptions used in the calculations.

(j) Funding

The Bank meets the cost of funding the pension plan. The funding requirements are based on regular (at least every 3 years) actuarial valuations of the plan and the assumptions used to determine the funding required may differ from those set out above. The Bank expects to pay G$118M to the pension plan during 2024.

(k)

Experience history	2019 G$ 000	2020 G$ 000	2021 G$ 000	2022 G$ 000	2023 G$ 000
Defined benefit obligation	954,685	1,010,890	1,138,740	1,259,701	1,300,075
Fair value of plan assets	(1,021,892)	(1,133,072)	(1,250,734)	(1,357,731)	(1,459,528)
Surplus	**(67,207)**	**(122,182)**	**(111,994)**	**(98,030)**	**(159,453)**

25 Balances excluded from the accounts

	COMPANY AND GROUP	
	2023	**2022**
	G$ 000	**G$ 000**
	9,379	9,379

Monies received on behalf of customers and deposited in the External Payments Deposits Scheme with the Bank of Guyana, in accordance with the terms of agreement signed with each customer which specifically exclude the Group from any liability.

26 Related party transactions and balances

Parties are considered to be related if one party has the ability to control the other party or exercise significant influence over the other party in making financial or operating decisions.

A number of banking transactions are entered into with related parties in the normal course of business. Such transactions were executed at rates of interest and charges that are similar to transactions involving third parties in the normal course of business. Transactions were both secured and unsecured.

Employees in the Group are granted loans, advances and other banking services at preferential rates.

(a) Group companies

	GROUP	
	2023	**2022**
	G$ 000	**G$ 000**
(i) Loans and advances		
Balances at end of year	10,186,899	7,208,140
Interest income	580,184	57,817
Commission	164,350	28,912
(ii) Deposits		
Balance at end of year	1,845,453	3,855,324
Interest expense	29,897	23,152
(iii) Commissions	4,206	3,195
(iv) Insurance coverage	6,692,786	6,667,632
(v) Insurance premiums paid	30,967	27,824

The nature of these contracts relate to policies held for fire insurance, cash on premises, public liability, fidelity guarantee, employers liability, computer all risk, cash-in-transit and various risks

(vi) Rental of locations-NALICO	2,052	2,052

(vii) All pension payments have been secured by annuities from NALICO.

26 Related party transactions and balances - Cont'd

(b) Parent Company

	GROUP 2023 G$ 000	GROUP 2022 G$ 000
Deposits		
Balance at end of year	26,171	166,886
Interest expense	55	1,077

(c) Associate Company

	GROUP 2023 G$ 000	GROUP 2022 G$ 000
(i) Deposits		
Balance at end of year	6,372	16,166
(ii) Investments		
Investments effected through associate company (fair value)	1,206,497	1,188,168
(iii) Fees paid to associate company- Guyana Americas Merchant Bank Inc.	2,380	2,941
(iv) Annual rental income received- Guyana Americas Merchant Bank Inc.	7,223	7,223
(v) Annual rental paid - Guyana Americas Merchant Bank Inc.	1,985	1,691

(d) Subsidiary Company

	GROUP 2023 G$ 000	GROUP 2022 G$ 000
(i) Deposits		
Balance at end of year - GBTI Mutual Funds	148,643	47,719
Balance at end of year - GBTI Property Holdings Inc	47,057	41,142
(ii) Rental paid - GBTI Property Holdings Inc	10,260	10,260
(iii) Property Management Fee paid - GBTI Property Holdings Inc	4,272	3,903
(iv) Distribution received - GBTI Mutual Funds	48,870	48,867
(v) Management Fees - GBTI Mutual Funds	13,209	8,050

(e) Key management personnel

(i) Compensation

The Group's 81 (2022 -83) key management personnel comprise its Directors, its Executive Director and Managers. The remuneration paid to key management for the year was as follows:

26 Related party transactions and balances - Cont'd

(e) Key management personnel - Cont'd

	GROUP	
	2023 G$ 000	2022 G$ 000
Short-term employee benefits	637,250	628,519
Post-employment benefits	37,364	38,500
	674,614	667,019

(ii) Directors emoluments

Amounts represents fees paid to individuals in respect of their services as Directors (included in key management compensation)

Chairman	4,086	3,750
Executive Director	1,392	874
Non- Executive Directors	11,133	10,163
	16,611	14,787

(iii) Loans and advances

Balance at end of year	775,505	1,598,151
Interest income	25,924	18,322

(iv) Deposits

Balance at end of year	258,717	498,710
Interest expense	1,302	961

Employees of the Bank are granted loans at concessionary rates of interest.

No provision was made for loan losses to related parties.

(v) **Sievewright Stoby & Co.**

Fees	900	1,315

Sievewright Stoby & Co. provides a range of legal services to the Group which include the preparation, filing and registration of mortgages, debentures and bills of sale; preparation and filing of cancellation of mortgages and debentures; conveyance of transported properties, and transfer of titles; issues demand letters; represents the Group in actions filed by the Group against defaulting customers, as well as in actions filed against the Group; follows through on the entering of judgements obtained and levy proceedings commenced; and generally provides legal advice on miscellaneous Group related matters. The fees charged for these services are paid directly to Sievewright Stoby & Co. by the customer.

27 Capital commitments

	COMPANY AND GROUP	
	2023	**2022**
	G$ 000	**G$ 000**
Authorized and not contracted for	1,162,675	1,223,804
Authorized and contracted for	429,889	1,041,251
	1,592,564	**2,265,055**

28 Dividends

Amounts recognised as distributions to shareholders in the year:

Final dividend for year ended 31 December 2022		
G$8.00 per share (2021- G$12.50)	320,000	500,000
Interim dividend of G$18 per share (2022 - G$12.00)	720,000	480,000
	1,040,000	**980,000**
Proposed final dividend of G$6.5 per share (2022 - G$8.00)	260,000	320,000

The proposed final dividend is subject to approval by shareholders at the annual general meeting and has not been included as a liability in the financial statements.

29 Fair value estimation

Fair value measurement recognised in the statement of financial position.

Level 1- Fair value determination is with reference to quoted prices in active markets for identical assets and liabilities. Quotation from recognised stock exchange was used to value financial assets under this ranking.

Level 2- Fair value measurement are those derived from inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly(i.e. as prices) or indirectly(i.e. derived from prices).

29 Fair value estimation - Cont'd

The following assets and liabilities are not carried at fair value. However, fair values have been stated for disclosure purposes

		2023 GROUP	
	IFRS 13 Level	Carrying amount G$'000	Fair value G$'000
ASSETS			
Investment property	2	358,361	358,361
Cash resources	1	40,138,398	40,138,398
Investments - amortised cost	2	68,456,577	68,456,577
Loans and advances	2	77,038,136	77,038,136
Other assets	2	4,263,557	4,263,557
		190,255,029	**190,255,029**
LIABILITIES			
Deposits	2	168,477,094	168,477,094
Other liabilities	2	9,002,982	9,002,982
		177,480,076	**177,480,076**

		2022 GROUP	
	IFRS 13 Level	Carrying amount G$'000	Fair value G$'000
ASSETS			
Investment property	2	360,844	360,844
Cash resources	1	32,408,197	32,408,197
Investments - amortised cost	2	61,669,045	61,669,045
Loans and advances	2	65,225,381	65,225,381
Other assets	2	4,608,207	4,608,207
		164,271,674	**164,271,674**
LIABILITIES			
Deposits	2	144,257,137	144,257,137
Other liabilities	2	9,911,041	9,911,041
		154,168,178	**154,168,178**

29 Fair value estimation - Cont'd

Valuation techniques and assumptions applied for the purposes of measuring fair value.

The fair values of financial assets and liabilities were determined as follows:

(a) Investment properties fair values were measured primarily at cost less accumulated depreciation. Management's judgment was used to determine that fair value approximates the carrying value.

(b) Loans and advances are net of specific and other provisions for impairment. The fair value of loans and advances is based on expected realisation of outstanding balances taking into account the Bank's history with respect to delinquencies.

(c) Financial instruments where the carrying amounts are equal to fair value:- Due to their short-term maturity, the carrying amounts of certain financial instruments are assumed to approximate their fair values. These include cash resources, customer's deposits accounts, other assets and other liabilities.

(d) Defined benefit assets were measured by management on the advice from the Actuary.

Assets carried at fair value

Property and equipment
Land and buildings vested in the Bank on 1st December 1987 were revalued in 1988 by professional valuer and the surplus arising out of this revaluation is shown as Revaluation Reserve.

Equipment taken over on the merger with Republic Bank (Guyana) Limited was previously valued by their Directors on 1 June 1985 and the surplus is also included in the Revaluation Reserve.

A revaluation of land, building and erections of the properties was done by Mr. David Patterson from Patterson Associates, a qualified valuer in 2014 which resulted in no change. The revalued amount approximated the carrying value in the financial statements.

During 2018 a revaluation of the Bank's properties was done by Mr. Peter R. Green, a qualified valuer. The revalued amount approximated the carrying value in the financial statements.

All valuations were based on open market value. The most significant input of these valuation approaches is the value or replacement cost per square foot which is considered to be observable. The valuation of property is classified at level 2.

The following table provides an analysis of financial instruments that are measured subsequent to initial recognition at fair value, grouped into levels 1 and 2 based on the degree to which the value is observable.

Investments

	GROUP	
	2023 G$000	2022 G$000
FVPL		
Level 1	820,663	700,048
Level 2	806,022	1,010,033
	1,626,685	1,710,081

30 Segment Information

The accounting policies of the operating segments are the same as those described in note 3.1(v) of the summary of significant accounting policies except that pension expenses for each operating segments are recognised and measured on the basis of cash payments to the pension plan. The Group evaluates performance on the basis of profit or loss from operations before tax expense not including non-recurring gains and losses and foreign exchange gains and losses.

The Group accounts for intersegment revenue and transfers as if the revenue or transfers were with third parties at current market prices.

The Group's reportable segments are strategic business units that offer different products and services. They are managed separately because each business requires different technologies and marketing strategies. Most of the business were acquired as individual units, and the management at the time of the acquisition was retained.

Operating segments are being identified on the basis of internal reports maintained by components of the Group that are regularly reviewed by management in order to allocate resources to the segments and to assess their performance.

Effective from 1 January 2021 the Group's business has been classified primarily into three main segments, namely Retail and Commercial Banking, Treasury and Investment Property.

The table below shows segment information by class of business

	GROUP			
	2023			
	Retail and Commercial Banking $'000	Treasury $'000	Investment Property $'000	Total $'000
Interest income	6,077,210	1,847,596	-	7,924,806
Interest expense	(751,543)	-	-	(751,543)
Net interest income	5,325,667	1,847,596		7,173,263
Loan impairment expense net of recoveries	(220)	-	-	(220)
	5,325,447	1,847,596		7,173,043
Other income	2,966,821	-	7,006	2,973,827
Share of loss of associate company	(65,113)	-	-	(65,113)
Operating expenses	(5,329,517)	-	(4,074)	(5,333,591)
Profit before taxation	**2,897,638**	**1,847,596**	**2,932**	**4,748,166**

30 Segment Information - Cont'd

	GROUP			
	2023			
	Retail and Commercial Banking $'000	Treasury $'000	Investment Property $'000	Total $'000
Segment assets				
Cash resources	40,138,398	-	-	40,138,398
Investments:-				
FVPL	-	1,626,685	-	1,626,685
Amortised cost	-	68,419,109	-	68,419,109
Non current assets-associate company	-	148,027	-	148,027
Loans and advances	77,038,136	-	-	77,038,136
Property and equipment	8,092,649	-	-	8,092,649
Investment property	-	-	358,361	358,361
Deferred tax assets	263,347	-	-	263,347
Other assets	-	4,263,557	-	4,263,557
Defined benefit asset	159,453	-	-	159,453
Total segment assets	**125,691,983**	**74,457,378**	**358,361**	**200,507,722**
Segment liabilities				
Deposits:-				
Demand	54,565,263	-	-	54,565,263
Savings	84,128,211	-	-	84,128,211
Term	29,783,620	-	-	29,783,620
Due to Banks	29	-	-	29
Other	9,002,953	-	-	9,002,953
Total segment liabilities	**177,480,076**	**-**	**-**	**177,480,076**

30 Segment Information - Cont'd

	GROUP			
	2022			
	Retail and Commercial Banking $'000	Treasury $'000	Investment Property $'000	Total $'000
Interest income	5,297,388	1,428,791	-	6,726,179
Interest expense	(739,412)	-	-	(739,412)
Net interest income	4,557,976	1,428,791		5,986,767
Loan impairment expense net of recoveries	(680,991)	-	-	(680,991)
	3,876,985	1,428,791		5,305,776
Other income	2,767,459	-	9,080	2,776,539
Share of loss of associate company	(15,283)	-	-	(15,283)
Operating expenses	(4,516,663)	-	(5,648)	(4,522,311)
Profit before taxation	**2,112,498**	**1,428,791**	**3,432**	**3,544,721**
Segment assets				
Cash resources	32,408,197	-	-	32,408,197
Investments:-				
FVPL	-	1,710,081	-	1,710,081
Amortised cost	-	61,608,389	-	61,608,389
Non current assets-associate company	-	196,275	-	196,275
Loans and advances	65,225,381	-	-	65,225,381
Property and equipment	8,265,021	-	924	8,265,945
Investment property	-	-	360,844	360,844
Deferred tax assets	504,640	-	-	504,640
Other assets	-	4,608,207	-	4,608,207
Defined benefit asset	98,030	-	-	98,030
Total segment assets	**106,501,269**	**68,122,952**	**361,768**	**174,985,989**
Segment liabilities				
Deposits:-				
Demand	38,726,864	-	-	38,726,864
Savings	72,677,096	-	-	72,677,096
Term	32,853,148	-	-	32,853,148
Due to Banks	29	-	-	29
Other	9,911,041	-	-	9,911,041
Total segment liabilities	**154,168,178**	**-**	**-**	**154,168,178**

30 Segment Information - Cont'd

(a) The classification shown below is followed by a secondary classification into geographical segments.

	Additions to non current assets			
	Company		Group	
	2023 G$ 000	2022 G$ 000	2023 G$ 000	2022 G$ 000
Retail and commercial lending	1,114,358	1,244,349	1,114,358	1,244,349
Other	1,293	16,793	1,293	16,793
	1,115,651	**1,261,142**	**1,115,651**	**1,261,142**

(b) Revenue from major services

The following is an analysis of the Group's revenue from its major services

	Group	
	2023 G$ 000	2022 G$ 000
Retail and commercial lending	6,077,210	5,297,388
Treasury	1,847,596	1,428,791
	7,924,806	**6,726,179**

(c) Geographical information

(i) The Group operates in three principal geographical areas-Retail Commercial Banking, Treasury and Investment Property.

The Group's revenue derived from operations from external customers and information about its non current assets by geographical location are detailed below

	GROUP			
	Revenue		Non Current Assets	
	2023 G$ 000	2022 G$ 000	2023 G$ 000	2022 G$ 000
Retail and commercial banking (other branches)	9,044,031	8,064,847	5,023,975	5,440,715
Treasury (corporate office)	1,847,596	1,428,791	3,068,674	2,825,230
Investment Property	7,006	9,080	358,361	360,844
	10,898,633	**9,502,718**	**8,451,010**	**8,626,789**

30 Segment Information - Cont'd

(c) Geographical information - Cont'd

Revenue by geographic location

2023

	Guyana G$ 000	Caricom G$ 000	Others G$ 000	Total G$ 000
Interest income	7,924,806	-	-	7,924,806
Other income	2,973,827	-	-	2,973,827
Total revenue	**10,898,633**	**-**	**-**	**10,898,633**

2022

	Guyana G$ 000	Caricom G$ 000	Others G$ 000	Total G$ 000
Interest income	6,726,179	-	-	5,555,897
Other income	2,776,539	-	-	1,968,023
Total revenue	**9,502,718**	**-**	**-**	**7,523,920**

Major customer

There were no revenues earned from an individual or group of customers that exceeded 10% of total revenues.

31 Analysis of financial assets and liabilities by measurement basis

	COMPANY		
ASSETS	**Financial Assets and Liabilities at amortised cost G$ 000**	**Total G$ 000**	**2022 Total G$ 000**
2023			
Cash resources	40,003,045	40,003,045	32,353,451
Investments	68,456,577	68,456,577	61,669,045
Loans & advances (net)	77,038,136	77,038,136	65,225,381
Other assets	4,194,255	4,194,255	4,525,571
Total assets	**189,692,013**	**189,692,013**	**163,773,448**
LIABILITIES			
2023			
Deposits	168,671,835	168,671,835	144,345,885
Other liabilities	8,943,193	8,943,193	9,839,719
Total liabilities	**177,615,028**	**177,615,028**	**154,185,604**

	GROUP			
ASSETS	**FVPL G$ 000**	**Financial Assets and Liabilities at amortised cost G$ 000**	**Total G$ 000**	**2022 Total G$ 000**
2023				
Cash resources	-	40,138,398	40,138,398	32,408,197
Investments	1,626,685	68,456,577	70,083,262	63,379,126
Loans & advances (net)	-	77,038,136	77,038,136	65,225,381
Other	-	4,263,557	4,263,557	4,608,207
Total Assets	**1,626,685**	**189,896,668**	**191,523,353**	**165,620,911**
LIABILITIES				
2023				
Deposits	-	168,477,094	168,477,094	144,257,137
Other	-	9,002,982	9,002,982	9,911,041
Total liabilities	**-**	**177,480,076**	**177,480,076**	**154,168,178**

32 Pending litigations

The Bank is the claimant in several litigation matters involving defaulting customers. These matters are currently receiving the attention of the High Court and the outcome cannot be determined at this date.

33 Reclassification

Certain prior year amounts were reclassified to conform with current year presentation.

34 Approval of financial statements

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors and authorised for issue on 16th February 2024.

Our Services

ONLINE BANKING

GO Banking allows all registered customers a real time view of their financial worth, spending and financial standing among other things in one place.

- Check Account Balances
- View Account History
- Transfer funds between GBTI accounts
- Peer to Peer Transfers
- Make Bill/Utility Payments
- Requesting Bank Drafts/Account Statements
- Request Cheque Books
- Initiate and amend Term Deposit Instructions
- Mobile Top Up

STATEMENT SAVINGS ACCOUNT

- Minimum opening balance of $5,000
- Interest is calculated quarterly and paid semi-annually
- ATM, POS and Utility bills payment facilities
- Withdrawals at ATM up to $200,000 per day
- Transact business at any branch

PERSONAL CHEQUING ACCOUNTS

- No minimum balance
- Personalised cheque books
- Free online statement
- Transact business at any branch

EARLY SAVERS CLUB ACCOUNT

- From birth to 17 years
- Minimum opening balance of $1,000
- Interest is calculated quarterly and paid semi-annually
- Access to ATM facilities
- Withdrawals at ATM per day:
  - $10,000 – 12-14 years
  - $15,000 – 15-17 years
- Annual Rewards
- National Grade Six Assessment Bursary Award

PRIMELIFE CLUB SAVINGS ACCOUNT

- Available to persons 55 years and over
- Minimum opening balance of $5,000
- Interest is calculated quarterly and paid semi-annually
- Higher exchange rates for foreign currency deposits
- Free access to ATM/POS services

TERM DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

- Minimum opening balance of $250,000
- Available for periods of 3, 6 and 12 months
- Roll-over options available
- Competitive interest rates
- Can be initiated through GO Banking

SPECIAL INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS

- Monthly and quarterly terms
- No notice of withdrawal
- Easy access to funds
- Competitive interest rates

BUSINESS CHEQUING ACCOUNTS

- No minimum opening balance
- Customised cheque books
- Overdraft facilities available
- Flexible statement period at no cost
- Transact business at any branch

MOBILE BANKING

GBTI Mobile App is available 24/7 on Apple and Android devices.

View
- Account balances
- Transaction history
- E-Statements

Execute
- Transfers between personal, third party GBTI and other local Bank accounts
- Peer To Peer Transfers using user Email or Facebook ID
- Wire Transfers
- Cardless Cash transactions such as Merchant Payments
- Real time credit card payments
- Loans Payments
- Bill/utility payments
- New Term Deposit

Initiate
- Service Requests for various Account Statements
- Goals to save towards

LOANS AND ADVANCES

RETAIL LOANS
- Housing Loan
- Automobile Loan
- Personal Loan
- Express Loan
- Education Loan
- Home Improvement Loan
- Residential Mortgage Loan

BUSINESS FINANCING
COMMERCIAL LOAN PLANS
- Corporate Loan
- Manufacturing Loan
- Agriculture Loan
- Rice Farming Loan
- Trading & Services Loan
- Green Loan
- Overdrafts
- US$ Loans
- Small Business Bureau Guaranteed Loans (SME Loans)
- Invoice Backed financing

OTHER FACILITIES

- Bonds and Guarantees

BENEFITS
- Competitive rates
- Fast approval
- Flexible repayment schedule

CREDIT CARDS

- Mastercard Business Executive
- Mastercard Black up to USD$50,000
- Mastercard Gold up to USD$ 10,000
- Visa Classic up to USD$5,000
- Visa Gold up to USD$10,000

PREPAID CARD

- GBTI Visa Travel Classic up to US$5,000

BENEFITS
- Secure alternative to cash
- Shop anywhere, anytime
- Flexible repayment schedules

Our Services

AUTOMATED TELLER MACHINES

- Easy access to funds 24 hours a day
- Available at GBTI branches and other convenient locations
- Withdrawal at ATM up to $200,000 per day
- Allows balance enquiries, deposits and transfer of funds between accounts
- Easy payment of utility bills

POINT OF SALE TERMINALS

- Eliminates the need to carry cash
- Convenient payment for purchases at over 200 locations countrywide

FOREIGN TRADE

- Bills for Collection
- Letters of Credit
- Shipping Guarantees
- Export Trade Financing/ Discounting Facilities

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

- Competitive currency exchange rates
- Issue US, CAN
- Negotiation of CAN drafts
- SWIFT Transfers – US, CAN, STG and EURO
- Fund Transfers
- Foreign currency accounts

SAFE DEPOSIT BOXES

- Available in three sizes
- Foolproof security system

NIGHT DEPOSITORY

- Security bags: Canvas and Disposable bags
- Secure fireproof chute
- Convenient

PAYMENT OF UTILITY BILLS

- Over-the-counter facilities for the payment of G.P.L and G.W.I Bills
- GRA Road License

PAYROLL PROCESSING

- Eliminates preparation of pay cheques and pay envelopes.
- Electronic Funds Transfer:
- Transfer between Bank Accounts
- Convenient
- Self-initiated/managed through GBTI Online

MUTUAL FUNDS

The GBTI Mutual Funds pools money from people with similar investment objectives. People who invest money become unitholders of the mutual fund. Unitholders share the mutual funds' income, expenses, and any gains or losses the mutual fund makes on its investments in proportion to the number of units they own. GBTI Mutual Funds are managed by Guyana Americas Merchant Bank.

Invest in any of the Funds offered based on your risk tolerance and time horizon:

- G$ Income and Growth Fund
- US$ Income and Growth Fund
- G$ Growth and Income Fund

Proxy Form

GBTI

We see Guyana through your eyes

I/We ....

of ....

being a member/members of the Guyana Bank for Trade and Industry Limited,

hereby appoint ....

of .... or failing him/her

....

of ....

as my/our proxy to attend and act on my/our behalf at the 36th Annual General Meeting of the said Company to be held on Friday, 24th May, 2024, and at any adjournment thereof.

Dated this .... day of 2024

Signature of Member ....

Shareholder's Notes

Shareholder's Notes

GBTI

We see Guyana through your eyes

GUYANA BANK FOR TRADE & INDUSTRY LIMITED
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