

AMALGAMATED GROWTH & INCOME FUND

a fund of

AMALGAMATED INVESTMENTS SICAV p.l.c.

October 2023 - October 2023 - October 2023 - October 2023 - October 2023



Annual Report & Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 October 2023

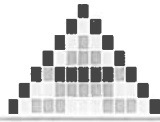
AMALGAMATED GROWTH & INCOME FUND

a fund of

AMALGAMATED INVESTMENTS SICAV p.l.c.

a collective investment scheme organised
as a multi-fund investment company with variable share capital
under the laws of Malta on the 5 August 2000
and licensed by the Malta Financial Services Authority
under the Investment Services Act and re-organised as a
Professional Investor Fund.

21 February 2024



ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 OCTOBER 2023
A M A L G A M A T E D G R O W T H & I N C O M E F U N D

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ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 OCTOBER 2023

A M A L G A M A T E D G R O W T H & I N C O M E F U N D

Report of the Directors

The Directors present their Annual Report and the Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31 October 2023.

Principal Activities

Amalgamated Investments SICAV p.l.c. is organised under the laws of Malta as a multi-fund investment company with variable share capital (SICAV) pursuant to the Companies' Act, 1995. The Company was registered on the 5 August 2000 with registration number SV13 and consists of one fund, the Amalgamated Growth & Income Fund. On 1 July 2007, the Company was re-licensed as a Professional Investor Fund targeting Experienced Investors and on 18 November 2013, the Company was re-licensed as a Professional Investor Fund targeting Qualifying Investors. Amalgamated Investments SICAV plc qualifies as a de minimis self-managed scheme pursuant to Article 3 of Directive 2011/61/EU.

Review of Business

The Fund has continued to adopt a low marketing profile in the current year. 5,160,499 new shares (2022: 3,380,260) were created in 2023 and no shares were redeemed during 2023 (2022: nil).

As dividend income is substantially distributed, movements in the total of shareholders' funds as at each year end reflect substantially the market price movements of the Company's underlying investments between the start and end of the relevant periods and the net subscriptions/redemptions for that period. The total value of shareholder funds on 31 October 2023 at €87,993,439 represents an increase of 30.85% from the total shareholder funds at 31 October 2022 which stood at €67,246,135.

Dividend income increased from €1,984,180 in 2022 to €2,692,687 in 2023, an increase of 35.71%, mainly a result of higher distributions from certain underlying investments. The Company's total expenses have increased from €76,882 in 2022 to €88,059 in 2023.

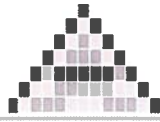
The Company's statement of comprehensive income registered a positive movement in the other net fair value changes on the financial assets held at fair value through profit or loss of €9,542,193 (2022: negative movement of €3,016,415) resulting from the positive share price movements of the Company's main listed equities. In the light of the Fund's primary objective of investing in large local market capitalisation shares, its performance over the entire operating period has been affected by the price movements registered in these securities. The Fund's net asset value per share (NAVPS) as at 31 October 2023 of €2.20 represents an increase of 13.99% compared to the NAVPS of €1.93 as at 31 October 2022. The NAVPS at 31 October 2023 represents an increase of 2.8% on the opening market price of €2.14 on the Fund's launch date, 30 October 2000.

Future dividend income flows remain dependent on the performance of the Company's underlying investments and are accordingly expected to reflect the dividend distributions that are likely to occur in the case of the Company's major shareholdings, primarily those of the two major local banks. Given the long term perspective outlined in the Fund's investment objectives, it is still considered that a hold strategy for the local large cap investments that represent the bulk of the Fund's portfolio remains the best option for the Fund.

Financial risk management objectives, policies and exposures of the Company are further described in Note 15 to the financial statements.

Compliance with Standard Licence Conditions

During the period under review, there were no breaches of Standard Licence Conditions except for a breach of SLC 1.32 of the PIF Rules, which inter alia requires that the MFSA's consent shall be sought prior to the appointment or replacement of an auditor. The Company's auditors were appointed on 30 November 2021. The required MFSA consent was duly obtained on 30 May 2023. This breach was duly recorded in the breaches register of the Scheme. No regulatory sanctions were imposed.



ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 OCTOBER 2023

A M A L G A M A T E D G R O W T H & I N C O M E F U N D

Results and Dividends

The results for the period under review can be found in the Statement of Comprehensive Income. The Directors have on 28 May 2023 paid an interim net dividend of €500,000 and on 29 September 2023 paid an interim net dividend of €650,000. The Directors do not recommend a payment of a further dividend.

Directors

The Directors of the Company who held office during the period under review are:

Professor Emanuel P Delia B.A. (Hons) Econ, M.A., M.Litt (Oxon) - Chairman
Mr. Joseph C Caruana ACIB – deceased 13 December 2022
Dr. Norbert Tabone B. Accty (Hons), FCCA, FIA, Ph.D (Loughborough), CPA
Chev. Michael Pace Ross B.A. (Hons) Mgt, MBA
Dr. Peter Caruana Galizia LL.D. – appointed on 28 July 2023
Mr. Antoine Sacco B. Accty (Hons), FIA, Cert. Tax, CPA - appointed on 28 July 2023

In accordance with article 22.5 (vi) of the Company's Articles of Association, the office of the Directors shall be vacated by the Directors at the closure of the next annual general meeting following their appointment or at the end of the calendar year during which such annual general meeting should have been held, whichever is the earlier.

The Directors are eligible and offer themselves for re-election.

Statement of Directors' Responsibilities for the Financial Statements

The directors are required by the Companies Act, 1995 to prepare financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of each financial period and of the profit or loss for that period.

In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for:

- ensuring that the financial statements have been drawn up in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the EU;
- selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies;
- making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances;
- ensuring that the financial statements are prepared on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business as a going concern.

The directors are also responsible for designing, implementing and maintaining internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and that comply with the Companies Act, 1995. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Auditors

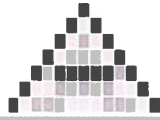
Mazars Malta have indicated their willingness to continue in office and a resolution for their reappointment will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting.

On behalf of the Board

Prof. E. P. Delia
Chairman

21 February 2024

Dr. N. Tabone
Director



ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 OCTOBER 2023

AMALGAMATED GROWTH & INCOME FUND

Financial Statements

Statement of Financial Position

as at 31 October 2023

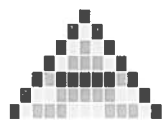
	Notes	2023 €	2022 €
Assets			
Current assets			
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	3	86,904,591	66,868,133
Accrued income		760,768	1,320
Prepayments	4	74,102	5,000
Cash and cash equivalents	14	286,074	396,957
Total assets		88,025,535	67,271,410
Equity			
Capital and reserves attributable to equity holders of the fund			
Share capital	6	89,803,748	80,116,366
Equalisation reserve	7	484,598	351,980
Accumulated losses		(2,294,907)	(13,222,211)
Total equity		87,993,439	67,246,135
Liabilities			
Current liabilities			
Accrued expenses	5	32,096	25,275
Total liabilities		32,096	25,275
Total equity and liabilities		88,025,535	67,271,410
Shares in issue as at 31 October 2023			
Shares in issue as at 31 October 2022	6	39,994,126	34,833,627
Shares in issue as at 31 October 2021		31,453,367	
Net asset value as at 31 October 2023			
Net asset value as at 31 October 2022		67,246,135	63,483,732
Net asset value as at 31 October 2021		63,483,732	
Net asset value per share as at 31 October 2023			
Net asset value per share as at 31 October 2022	8	2.200	1.930
Net asset value per share as at 31 October 2021		2.018	

The accounting policies and notes on pages 8 to 16 are an integral part of these financial statements.

These financial statements on pages 4 to 16 were authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on 21 February 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:

Prof. E. P. Delia
Chairman

Dr. N. Tabone
Director



ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 OCTOBER 2023
AMALGAMATED GROWTH & INCOME FUND

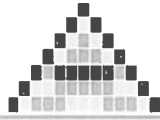
Financial statements (ctd)

Statement of Comprehensive Income

for the year ended 31 October 2023

	Notes	2023 €	2022 €
Income			
Bank interest		12	10
Dividend income		2,692,687	1,984,180
Interest income		831,632	-
Other net changes in fair value on financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss		9,542,193	(3,016,415)
Total net income / (loss)		13,066,524	(1,032,225)
Expenses			
Fees	9,10		
- Fund administrator fees		9,913	7,989
- Foreign portfolio management fees		28,048	27,524
- Performance fees		1,207	-
- Custodian fees		15,454	6,829
Transaction costs		1,730	960
Directors' remuneration		6,175	6,142
Legal & professional fees		590	5,664
License & listing fees		9,005	6,432
Other costs		15,937	15,342
Total operating expenses		88,059	76,882
Profit / (loss) before tax		12,978,465	(1,109,107)
Tax expense	11	(901,161)	(573,503)
Profit / (loss) for the year - total comprehensive income		12,077,304	(1,682,610)

The accounting policies and notes on pages 8 to 16 are an integral part of these financial statements.

**ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 OCTOBER 2023**
A M A L G A M A T E D G R O W T H & I N C O M E F U N D***Financial statements (ctd)******Statement of Changes in Equity***
for the year ended 31 October 2023

	Share capital €	Equalisation reserve €	Retained earnings €	Total €
Balance as at 01 November 2021	73,591,956	276,377	(10,384,601)	63,483,732
Comprehensive income				
Loss for the year	-	-	(1,682,610)	(1,682,610)
Transactions with owners				
Subscriptions of redeemable shares	6,524,410	75,603	-	6,600,013
Dividend distributions (note 12)	-	-	(1,155,000)	(1,155,000)
Balance as at 31 October 2022	80,116,366	351,980	(13,222,211)	67,246,135
Comprehensive income				
Profit for the year	-	-	12,077,304	12,077,304
Transactions with owners				
Subscriptions of redeemable shares	9,687,382	132,618	-	9,820,000
Dividend distributions (note 12)	-	-	(1,150,000)	(1,150,000)
Balance as at 31 October 2023	89,803,748	484,598	(2,294,907)	87,993,439

The accounting policies and notes on pages 8 to 16 are an integral part of these financial statements.



ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 OCTOBER 2023

AMALGAMATED GROWTH & INCOME FUND

Financial statements (ctd)

Statement of Cash Flows

for the year ended 31 October 2023

	Notes	2023 €	2022 €
Cash flows from operating activities			
Dividend income received		2,681,708	1,913,255
Interest received		83,232	147
Operating expenses paid		(79,581)	(179,981)
Net purchases of investments		(10,565,081)	(6,490,898)
Cash used in operating activities		(7,879,722)	(4,757,477)
Tax paid		(901,161)	(573,503)
Net cash used in operating activities		(8,780,883)	(5,330,980)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Amounts received on subscriptions of redeemable shares		9,820,000	6,600,013
Dividend distributions	12	(1,150,000)	(1,155,000)
Net cash generated from financing activities		8,670,000	5,445,013
Net movements in cash and cash equivalents		(110,883)	114,033
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year		396,957	282,924
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year	14	286,074	396,957

The accounting policies and notes on pages 8 to 16 are an integral part of these financial statements.



ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 OCTOBER 2023

AMALGAMATED GROWTH & INCOME FUND

Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

1 Basis of preparation

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) as adopted by the EU and the requirements of the Maltese Companies Act, Cap. 386. They have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of financial assets at fair value through profit or loss.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with IFRSs as adopted by the EU requires the use of certain accounting estimates. It also requires the directors to exercise their judgement in the process of applying the Fund's accounting policies (note 2).

(a) Standards and amendments to existing standards effective 1 November 2022

There are no other standards, amendments to standards or interpretations that are effective for annual periods beginning on 1 November 2022 that have a material effect on the financial statements of the Fund.

(b) New standards, amendments and interpretations effective after 1 November 2022 and have not been early adopted

A number of new standards, amendments to standards and interpretations are effective for annual periods beginning after 1 November 2022 and earlier application is permitted. However, the Company has not early applied these new or amended standards or interpretations in preparing these financial statements.

2 Foreign currency translation

(a) Functional and presentation currency

The Fund's investors are mainly from the Eurozone, with the subscriptions and redemptions of the redeemable shares denominated in Euro. The performance of the Fund is measured and reported to the investors in Euro. The Directors consider the Euro as the currency that most faithfully represents the economic effects of the underlying transactions, events and conditions. The financial statements are presented in Euro, which is the Fund's functional and presentation currency.

(b) Transactions and balances

Foreign currency transactions are translated into the functional currency using the exchange rates prevailing at the dates of the transactions. Foreign currency assets and liabilities are translated into the functional currency using the exchange rate prevailing at the reporting date.

Foreign exchange gains and losses arising from translation are included in the statement of comprehensive income as follows:

- (i) Foreign exchange gains and losses relating to cash and cash equivalents are presented in the statement of comprehensive income within 'net foreign currency gains on cash and cash equivalents'.
- (ii) Foreign exchange gains and losses relating to the financial assets carried at fair value through profit or loss are presented in the statement of comprehensive income within 'other net changes in fair value on financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss'.

3 Financial assets and financial liabilities

(a) Classification

The Fund classifies its investments based on both the Fund's business model for managing those financial assets and the contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial assets. The Fund classifies its financial assets and liabilities in the following categories:

- (i) Those to be measured subsequently at fair value through profit or loss; and
- (ii) Those to be measured at amortised cost.

Financial assets and liabilities at fair value through profit or loss

The Fund is primarily focused on fair value information and uses that information to assess the investments' performance and to make decisions. The Fund has not taken the option to irrevocably designate any equity securities as fair value through other comprehensive income. Consequently, all investments are measured at fair value through profit or loss.

Financial assets at amortised cost

The Fund classifies its financial assets at amortised cost only if both the following criteria are met:

- The asset is held with a business model whose objectives is to collect contractual cash flows; and
- The contractual terms give rise to cash flows that are solely payment of principal and interest

Financial liabilities at amortised cost

Financial liabilities that are not classified at fair value through profit or loss are classified at amortised cost. Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost include accrued expenses and redeemable shares.



ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 OCTOBER 2023

AMALGAMATED GROWTH & INCOME FUND

Accounting policies (ctd)

3 Financial assets and financial liabilities (continued)

(b) Recognition, derecognition and measurement

Regular purchases and sales of investments are recognised on the trade date – the date on which the Fund commits to purchase or sell the investment. Financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss are initially recognised at fair value. Transaction costs are expensed as incurred in the statement of comprehensive income. Financial assets or liabilities not at fair value through profit or loss are recognised on the date they are originated and are recognised initially at fair value plus transaction costs that are directly attributable to their acquisition or issue.

Financial assets are de-recognised when the right to receive cash flows from the investments expires or the Fund has transferred substantially all risks and rewards of ownership. The Fund derecognises a financial liability when its contractual obligations are discharged, cancelled or expired.

Financial assets and liabilities at fair value through profit or loss

Subsequent to initial recognition, all financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss are measured at fair value. Gains and losses arising from changes in the fair value of the 'financial assets or financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss' category are presented in the statement of comprehensive income within 'net movement on financial assets and liabilities at fair value through profit or loss' in the period in which they arise.

Financial assets at amortised cost

Financial assets at amortised cost are subsequently measured at amortised cost. At each reporting date, the Fund measures the loss allowance on this type of financial assets at an amount equal to the lifetime ECL if the credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition. If, at the reporting date, the credit risk has not increased significantly since initial recognition, the Fund measures the loss allowance at an amount equal to 12-month ECL. Significant financial difficulties of the counterparty, probability that the counterparty will enter bankruptcy or financial reorganisation, and default in payments are all considered indicators that a loss allowance may be required. If the credit risk increases to the point that it is considered to be credit-impaired, interest income will be calculated based on the gross carrying amount adjusted for the loss allowance. A significant increase in credit risk is defined by management as any contractual payment which is more than 30 days past due. Any contractual payment which is more than 90 days past due is considered credit impaired.

Financial liabilities at amortised cost

Financial liabilities arising from the puttable feature of shares issued by the fund are carried at the amount representing the shareholder's right to a residual interest in the Fund's net assets. Financial liabilities at amortised cost are measured using the effective interest rate method.

(c) Fair value measurement

Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The fair value of financial assets and liabilities traded in active markets (such as publicly traded securities) is based on quoted market prices at the close of trading on the reporting date. The Fund utilises the last traded market price for both financial assets and financial liabilities where the last traded price falls within the bid-ask spread. In circumstances where the last traded price is not within the bid-ask spread, management will determine the point within the bid-ask spread that is most representative of fair value.

Transfers between levels of the fair value hierarchy

(d) Transfers between levels of the fair value hierarchy are deemed to have control at the beginning of the reporting period.

4 Offsetting financial instruments

Financial assets and liabilities are offset and the net amount reported in the statement of financial position when there is a legally enforceable right to offset the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously. The legally enforceable right must not be contingent on future events and must be enforceable in the normal course of business and in the event of default, insolvency or bankruptcy of the company or the counterparty.

5 Other receivables and payables

Other receivables and payables represent amounts receivable and payable respectively, for transactions contracted for but not yet delivered by the end of the period.

These amounts are initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost. At each reporting date, the Company shall measure the loss allowance on receivable balances at an amount equal to the lifetime expected credit losses if the credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition. If, at the reporting date, the credit risk has not increased significantly since initial recognition, the Company shall measure that loss allowance at an amount equal to 12-month expected credit losses. If the credit risk increases to the point that it is considered to be credit impaired, interest income will be calculated based on the gross carrying amount adjusted for the loss allowance.

6 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks and other short-term investments in an active market with original maturities of three months or less and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts, where applicable, are shown in current liabilities in the statement of financial position. Cash and cash equivalents are measured at amortised cost.

7 Accrued expenses

Accrued expenses are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently stated at amortised cost using the effective interest method, where the effect is material.



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AMALGAMATED GROWTH & INCOME FUND

Accounting policies (ctd)

8 Share Capital

The Fund issues redeemable shares, which are redeemable at the holder's option. Certain criteria exist which require puttable financial instruments that meet the definition of a financial liability to be classified as equity. These criteria include: the puttable financial instruments must entitle the holder to a pro-rata share of net assets; the puttable instruments must be the most subordinated class and that class's features must be identical; there must be no contractual obligations to deliver cash or another financial asset other than the obligation on the issuer to repurchase; and the total expected cash flows from the puttable instrument over its life must be based substantially on the profit or loss of the issuer. The Fund's redeemable shares meet the above criteria and accordingly are classified as equity.

Should the redeemable shares' terms or conditions change such that they do not comply with the above mentioned strict criteria, the redeemable shares would be reclassified to a financial liability from the date the instrument ceases to meet the criteria. The financial liability would be measured at the instrument's fair value at the date of reclassification. Any difference between the carrying value of the equity instrument and fair value of the liability on the date of reclassification would be recognised in equity.

Incremental costs directly attributable to the issue of new shares are shown in equity as a deduction from the proceeds.

Redeemable shares can be put back to the Fund at any time for cash or in specie equal to a proportionate share of the Fund's trading net asset value calculated in accordance with the Fund's regulations.

9 Equalisation reserve

The Fund operates an equalisation account to ensure that the amount distributed in respect of each share will be the same for all shares notwithstanding different dates of issue of those shares. Accordingly, a sum equal to that part of the issue/redemption price of a share, which reflects income (if any) accrued up to the date of issue/redemption, will be deemed to be equalisation payment/charge and credited (in the case of share issues)/debited (in the case of share redemptions) by the directors to the equalisation account. Part of the first distribution to holders in respect of which equalisation payments are made, will be paid out of these amounts. Therefore, on distribution, these amounts are transferred to retained earnings. The closing balance of this reserve represents amounts that were not distributed by the year end.

However, in the absence of significant fluctuations between the redemption and issue or creation of shares, it is not expected to consider equalisation when determining distributions to shareholders nor to pay to shareholders any excess of equalisation credits over debits. Any fluctuations between redemptions and creations of shares that could have an effect of 1 per cent or more on the Net Asset Value per share shall be considered significant.

10 Dividend distributions

In the absence of unforeseen circumstances, subject to the availability of distributable profits and in the absence of exceptional market conditions, the directors shall distribute to shareholders all Malta taxed dividend income received by the Fund. The directors may, if they consider it in the best interests of shareholders, also distribute part or all of the Fund's other income after deduction of related expenses.

Dividend distribution to the Fund's shareholders is recognised as a liability in the Fund's financial statements in the period in which the dividends are approved by the Fund's shareholders.

11 Dividend income and interest income

Dividend income from financial assets at fair value through profit or loss is recognised in the statement of comprehensive income within dividend income when the Fund's right to receive payments is established. Interest is recognised on a time-proportionate basis using the effective interest method. Interest income includes interest from cash and cash equivalents and debt securities classified as financial assets at amortised cost.

12 Transaction costs

Transaction costs are costs incurred on acquisition/disposal of financial assets or liabilities at fair value through profit and loss. They include the bid-ask spread, fees and commissions paid to agents, advisers, brokers and dealers. Transaction costs, when incurred, are immediately recognised in the statement of comprehensive income as an expense.



ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 OCTOBER 2023

AMALGAMATED GROWTH & INCOME FUND

Notes to the financial statements

1. GENERAL

Amalgamated Investments SICAV p.l.c. ("the Fund") is an open-ended investment company and was incorporated with limited liability in Malta on 5 August 2000. On 1 July 2007, it was re-organised as a Professional Investor Fund targeting Experienced Investors and on 18 November 2013, the Fund was re-licensed as a Professional Investor Fund targeting Qualifying Investors. The registered address of the Company is Aragon House Business Centre, Dragonara Road, St Julians, Malta.

The Company is licensed by the Malta Financial Services Authority as a Collective Investment Scheme under the Investment Services Act, 1994. The Amalgamated Growth & Income Fund is listed on the Official List of the Malta Stock Exchange.

The investment objective of the Fund is to endeavour to maximise the total return to Investors while minimising risks associated with investment in particular securities, primarily through investment in a portfolio of Maltese listed equity securities as well as securities listed on foreign exchanges issued by entities at the time of investment by the Fund having a market capitalisation in excess of €60,000,000.

2. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGEMENTS

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and based on historical experience and other factors including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

In the opinion of the directors, the accounting estimates and judgements made generally in the course of preparing these financial statements, and in particular the accounting policies adopted as disclosed therein, are not difficult, subjective or complex to a degree which would warrant their description as critical in terms of the requirements of IAS 1.

3. FINANCIAL ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

Financial assets and liabilities at fair value through profit or loss

	Fair value 31/10/2023 €	% of net assets	Fair value 31/10/2022 €	% of net assets
Financial assets designated at fair value through profit or loss				
Equity investments	72,249,537	82.11%	63,042,079	93.75%
Exchange traded funds	4,454,214	5.06%	3,826,054	5.69%
Corporate bonds	10,200,840	11.59%	-	-
	<u>86,904,591</u>	<u>98.76%</u>	<u>66,868,133</u>	<u>99.44%</u>

4. PREPAYMENTS

	31/10/2023 €	31/10/2022 €
Prepayments	5,016	5,000
Preplacements	69,086	-
	<u>74,102</u>	<u>5,000</u>

5. ACCRUED EXPENSES

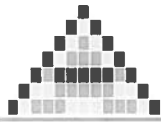
	31/10/2023 €	31/10/2022 €
Accrued custodian fees	3,797	297
Accrued foreign portfolio management fees	14,631	12,696
Accrued performance fees	1,207	-
Other accrued expenses	12,461	12,282
	<u>32,096</u>	<u>25,275</u>

6. SHARE CAPITAL

a) Authorised share capital

	31/10/2023 Shares	31/10/2022 Shares
Authorised shares	<u>80,000,000</u>	<u>40,000,000</u>

During the current year, the Company increased its authorised share capital from 40,000,000 at no nominal value to 80,000,000 at no nominal value.



ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 OCTOBER 2023

AMALGAMATED GROWTH & INCOME FUND

Notes to the financial statements (ctd)

6. SHARE CAPITAL (continued)

- b) Issued and fully paid

	31/10/2023	31/10/2022
	Shares	Shares
Shares in issue at beginning of the year	34,833,628	31,453,368
Issue of shares	5,160,499	3,380,260
Shares in issue at end of the year	39,994,127	34,833,628

The Fund's capital is represented by the redeemable shares with no par value and with each carrying one vote. They are entitled to dividends and to payment of a proportionate share based on the Fund's net asset value per share on the redemption date. The directors may mandatorily redeem all outstanding shares where the Net Asset Value of the shares in the Fund falls below €7,000,000 (or its equivalent). The relevant movements are shown in the statement of changes in equity under transactions with owners, recorded directly in equity. In accordance with the objective outlined in Note 1 and the risk management policies in Note 15, the Fund endeavours to invest the subscriptions received in appropriate investments. The Fund typically will, and in any event may, at all times in its sole discretion, satisfy any redemption instructions by the transfer to that shareholder of assets of the Fund in specie, other than in respect of the investors at launch (see 15 (A [b])). As at the date at which these financial statements are rendered, the Fund has the option to redeem shares in specie in accordance with the Offering Memorandum.

The Fund's issued share capital as at 31 October 2023 amounted to €89,803,748 (2022: €80,116,366) with 39,994,126 shares in issue as shown above (2022: 34,833,627 shares).

7. EQUALISATION RESERVE

	31/10/2023	31/10/2022
	€	€
Balance at beginning of year	351,980	276,377
Equalisation created upon issue of shares (Note 6 refers)	132,618	75,603
Balance at end of year	484,598	351,980

The equalisation reserve is a distributable reserve.

8. NET ASSET VALUE PER SHARE

The consideration received or paid for shares issued or re-purchased respectively is based on the value of the Fund's net asset value per redeemable share at the date of the transaction.

9. FEES

- a) *Fund administrator fees*

Under the terms of an agreement dated 10 October 2013, the Fund appointed BOV Fund Services Ltd as Fund Administrator. The Fund Administrator is entitled to receive from the Fund a fee of 0.0125% per annum of the net asset value of the Fund subject to a minimum of €6,250 per annum.

- b) *Foreign portfolio management fees*

On 9 September 2019, BOV Asset Management Limited, a Company licensed under the Investment Services Act (Chap. 370 of the Laws of Malta) to carry out the management of collective investment schemes, were appointed to undertake the day-to-day investment management of certain assets forming part of the foreign portfolio (the "Designated Investment Portfolio") as may be stipulated from time to time at the discretion of the Fund acting through the Investment Committee. The Fund Manager is entitled to receive from the Fund a fee of 0.40% per annum of the net asset value of the Designated Investment Portfolio and a performance fee should the Designated Investment Portfolio perform above the agreed high-water mark. Management fees incurred during the year under review amounts to €28,048 (2022: €27,524). Performance fees incurred during the year under review amounts to €1,207 (2022: €Nil).

- c) *Custodian fees*

The Custodian, Bank of Valletta p.l.c., receives, for safekeeping of the foreign portfolio assets of the Fund and other services, a custody fee of 0.04% on market value of foreign investments, with a minimum of €3,500 per annum (2022: €3,500).

- d) *Investment advisory fees*

Investment advisory fees are incurred under arrangements whereby the Investment Committee may seek advice from reputable organisations in respect of the Fund's investments.

- e) *Auditor's fees*

Fees charged by the auditor for services rendered (excluding VAT) during the financial year relate to:

	31/10/2023	31/10/2022
	€	€
Annual statutory audit	4,000	4,000
Tax compliance services	500	500
	4,500	4,500



ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 OCTOBER 2023

AMALGAMATED GROWTH & INCOME FUND

Notes to the financial statements (ctd)

10. AGREEMENTS

- a) Under the terms of an agreement dated 10 October 2013, the Fund, appointed BOV Fund Services Limited as Fund Administrator with effect from 1 November 2013.
- b) On 9 September 2019, BOV Asset Management Limited, were appointed to undertake the day-to-day investment management of certain assets forming part of the foreign portfolio (the "Designated Investment Portfolio") as may be stipulated from time to time at the discretion of the Fund acting through the Investment Committee.

11. TAX EXPENSE

The tax regime for collective investment schemes is based on the classification of funds into prescribed or non-prescribed funds in terms of the conditions set out in the Collective Investment Schemes (Investment Income) Regulations, 2001 (as amended). In general, a prescribed fund is defined as a resident fund, which has declared that the value of its assets situated in Malta amount to at least 85% of the value of the total assets of the fund.

On the basis that the Amalgamated Growth & Income Fund is currently classified as a prescribed fund for income tax purposes, it is subject to Maltese tax on its investment income as defined in the Income Tax Act at a rate of 10% or 15% depending on the nature of the income. Taxed dividends received from Maltese-resident companies may be subject to tax at source at the applicable rates of up to 35%. In the case of the Fund's foreign investments, capital gains, dividends, interest and other gains or profits may be subject to tax imposed by the foreign country concerned and such taxes may not be recoverable by the Fund or by its unit holders.

Distributions of profits allocated to the Maltese Taxed Account should not be subject to further tax in the hands of the shareholders, whilst distributions from other sources of income or from the Equalisation Reserve may be subject to a 15% final withholding tax in certain circumstances. No tax on capital gains should be incurred by investors upon the disposal of units in such a fund.

12. DIVIDEND DISTRIBUTIONS

Net dividends paid in 2023 and 2022 amounted in total to €1,150,000 (€0.0290 per share) and €1,155,000 (€0.0358 per share) respectively and are presented as transactions with owners, recorded directly in equity within the statement of changes in equity.

The net dividend paid in 2023 comprise an interim dividend of €500,000 (€0.0126 per share) which was paid on 28 May 2023, and a further net interim dividend of €650,000 (€0.0164 per share) which was paid on 29 September 2023.

The net dividend paid in 2022 comprise an interim dividend of €650,000 (€0.0205 per share) which was paid on 6 May 2022, €280,000 (€0.0088 per share) which was paid on 9 June 2022 and a further net interim dividend of €225,000 (€0.0065 per share) which was paid on 17 October 2022.

13. RELATED PARTIES

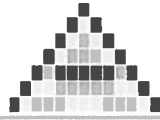
The immediate and ultimate parent company of Amalgamated Investments SICAV p.l.c. (AIS) is Mercury p.l.c., whose directors are also appointed on the Board of AIS. Mercury p.l.c. is a public company incorporated in Malta with its registered address at Aragon House - Business Centre, Dragonara Road, St Julians, Malta.

Director's fees during the year under review amounted to €6,175 (2022: €6,142). There were no other payments to key management personnel as defined in IAS 24.

14. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, the year end cash and cash equivalents comprise bank balances held at call as follows:

	31/10/2023	31/10/2022
	€	€
Bank balances - Euro denominated	107,684	293,075
Bank balances - other	178,390	103,882
	<u>286,074</u>	<u>396,957</u>
Deposits held with banks earn interest at floating rates	286,074	396,957
	<u>286,074</u>	<u>396,957</u>



ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 OCTOBER 2023

AMALGAMATED GROWTH & INCOME FUND

Notes to the financial statements (ctd)

15. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

A Risk management

The Fund's activities potentially expose it to a variety of financial risks: credit risk, liquidity risk and market risk (including currency risk, fair value interest rate risk, cash flow interest rate risk and price risk). The Fund's overall risk management strategy focuses on minimising potential adverse effects on the Fund's financial performance.

(a) Credit Risk

The Fund is exposed to credit risk, which is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause a financial loss for the other party by failing to discharge an obligation.

Credit risk is managed through investment limits in any particular security falling within the parameters established in the Offering Memorandum and through ensuring that the issuer or counterparty is a reputable and creditworthy institution.

Financial instruments, which potentially subject the Fund to credit risk, consist principally of debt securities and cash balances.

The Fund measures credit risk and expected credit losses using probability of default, exposure at default and loss given default. Management considers both historical analysis and forward looking information in determining any expected credit loss. Management manages credit risk of debt securities by investing in debt instruments issued by reputable and credit worthy institutions.

The cash and cash equivalents are held with quality a financial institution. Management considers the probability of default to be close to zero as the counterparty has a strong capacity to meet its contractual obligations in the near term. As a result, no loss allowance has been recognised based on 12-month expected credit losses as any such impairment would be wholly insignificant to the Fund.

Accrued income and prepayments are all short term and the Fund has no significant credit risk in respect of these receivables.

(b) Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Fund will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities. The Fund is exposed to cash redemptions of shares, albeit that it has the right to, and will typically, effect all redemptions in specie whether or not the investment was originally made in cash or in specie. Redemptions are processed on the Fund's dealing day, which is the last business day in the month of October or, in the case of redemption requests during the year, the first Wednesday immediately following the date of receipt of the redemption request. 80.13% (2022: 90.52%) of the Fund's net assets are securities listed on the Malta Stock Exchange. The market in such securities may be illiquid in view of the fact that the trading volumes on the Malta Stock Exchange, which is a relatively new market when compared to more established markets, are limited. The Fund has the ability to borrow to meet short term liquidity requirements. Additionally, the Fund has the option to redeem shares in specie in accordance with the requirements of the Offering Memorandum.

Redeemable shares are redeemable on demand at the holders' option. However, the directors do not envisage that the contractual maturity disclosed above will be representative of the actual cash outflows, as holders of these instruments typically retain them for the medium to long term. All other liabilities are payable within one year.



ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 OCTOBER 2023

AMALGAMATED GROWTH & INCOME FUND

Notes to the financial statements (ctd)

15. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (continued)

A Risk management (continued)

(c) Market Risk

(i) Currency Risk

Currency risk is the risk that the fair value of a financial instrument will fluctuate due to changes in foreign exchange rates.

Currency fluctuations between the functional currency of the Fund and the currency of the underlying investments of the Fund, may adversely affect the value of the investments and the income derived therefrom.

The currency exposure of the Amalgamated Growth & Income Fund is managed by ensuring that foreign investments are made primarily in major currencies. In any event, the Fund primarily holds assets denominated in its functional currency with a relatively low percentage of assets denominated in foreign currencies, amounting to 1.33% of the net asset value of the Fund (31 October 2022: 2.50%).

The Fund is not significantly exposed to currency risk, and accordingly a sensitivity analysis for foreign exchange risk disclosing how net assets attributable to shareholders would have been affected by changes in foreign exchange rates that were reasonably possible at the reporting date is not deemed necessary.

(ii) Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate due to changes in market interest rates. Assets issued at variable rates expose the Fund to cash flow interest rate risk. Assets issued at fixed rates expose the Fund to fair value interest rate risk.

The Fund's exposure to interest rate risk is summarised in the table below.

	31/10/2023 % of NAV	31/10/2022 % of NAV
Asset held at fixed rates	0.58%	-
Asset held at variable rates	11.33%	0.59%

The direct exposure in interest rate risk is managed through the limits in interest bearing securities within the parameters established in the Offering Memorandum. The potential impact on profit or loss of a defined interest rate shift that is reasonably possible at the reporting date is not considered to be material.

(iii) Price risk

Price risk is the risk that the fair value of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices (other than those arising from interest rate risk or currency risk), whether those changes are caused by factors specific to the individual financial instruments or its issuer, or factors affecting all similar financial instruments traded in the market. As the majority of the Fund's financial instruments are carried at fair value with fair value changes recognised in profit or loss, all changes in market conditions will directly affect the profit or loss.

A statement showing the composition of the Portfolio is reproduced below.

	Foreign €	Local €
Quoted bonds, equities and exchange traded funds	6,708,093	80,196,498
Bank balances	191,214	94,860
	<u>6,899,307</u>	<u>80,291,358</u>
Total investments and cash balances		<u>87,190,665</u>
% of investments and cash balances held	<u>7.91%</u>	<u>92.09%</u>
Total % of investments and cash balances		<u>100.00%</u>

Given the predominance of local listed equities in the Fund's portfolio (which as at 31 October 2023 amounted to 80.13%), an increase or decrease in the MSE equity index, with all other variables held constant, would result in an increase or decrease in the net assets attributable to holders of redeemable shares. To illustrate this sensitivity, if the MSE equity index, with all other variables held constant, increases or decreases by 10%, the net assets attributable to holders of redeemable shares would increase or decrease by circa €7.1m (2022: €6.1m). This sensitivity is based on a simplistic scenario and in practice, effects may not be linear. Furthermore, it does not allow for future investment decisions that may be taken to take advantage or mitigate these effects, nor do they take into account wider macro-economic factors.

Investments that can be made on the Malta Stock Exchange are limited and this may lead to concentration of risk by having an exposure to a particular security or industry sector, which is higher than that normally associated with a diversified portfolio. The risk is managed through ensuring that the issuer or counterparty is a reputable and creditworthy institution. At 31 October 2023, 45.44% (2022: 41.92%) of the Amalgamated Growth and Income Fund's total assets were held in two equity instruments.

Furthermore, the Fund's performance is also influenced by the level of dividends receivable from its underlying equity securities. Consequently, any significant downturn in the dividend policy adopted by the underlying investments will accordingly impact the Fund's performance by reducing the amount of distributable profits available to be paid to shareholders.



ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31 OCTOBER 2023

AMALGAMATED GROWTH & INCOME FUND

Notes to the financial statements (ctd)

15. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (continued)

B Fair value hierarchy

The table below analyses financial instruments carried at fair value, by valuation method. The different levels have been defined as follows:

Level 1: quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities

Level 2: 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)

Level 3: inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable).

	2023			Total €
	Level 1 €	Level 2 €	Level 3 €	
Assets				
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	86,904,591	-	-	86,904,591
	86,904,591	-	-	86,904,591
	2022			
	Level 1 €	Level 2 €	Level 3 €	Total €
Assets				
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	66,868,133	-	-	66,868,133
	66,868,133	-	-	66,868,133

Investments whose values are based on quoted market prices in active markets, and are therefore classified within Level 1, include active listed equities, exchange traded funds and corporate bonds. The Fund does not adjust the quoted price for these

As at 31 October 2023 and 31 October 2022, the carrying amounts of the Fund's other financial assets and liabilities reflected in the financial statements are reasonable estimates of fair value in view of the nature of these instruments or the relatively short period of time between the origination of the instrument and their expected realisation.

C Capital risk management

The capital of the Fund is represented by the net assets attributable to equity holders of the Fund. The Fund's objective when managing capital is to safeguard the Fund's ability to continue as a going concern in order to provide returns for equity holders of the Fund and maintain a strong capital base to support the development of the investment activities of the Fund.

The Board of Directors monitor capital on the basis of the value of net assets attributable to equity holders of the Fund.

Independent auditor's report

To the Shareholders of Amalgamated Investments SICAV p.l.c.

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Amalgamated Investments SICAV p.l.c. (the Company), set out on pages 4 to 16, which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 October, 2023 and the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements show a true and fair view of the financial position of the Company as at 31 October 2023, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the EU (EU IFRSs) and have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act (Cap. 386).

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Company 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 accordance with the Accountancy Profession (Code of Ethics for Warrant Holders) Directive issued in terms of the Accountancy Profession Act (Cap. 281) in Malta, 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.

Key Audit Matters

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

Valuation and existence of financial assets at fair value through profit or loss

Risk description

At 31 October 2023, the Company held financial assets at fair value through profit or loss of €86,904,591, of which all securities are listed on regulated markets. As described in the Accounting Policies in note 3 to the financial statements, financial assets at fair value through profit or loss are measured at fair value.

How the scope of our audit responded to the risk

We obtained assurance over the appropriateness of management's assumptions applied in calculating the value and existence of the financial assets at fair value through profit or loss by:

- Agreeing the prices used in their valuation with independent pricing sources.

Independent auditor's report - continued

To the Shareholders of Amalgamated Investments SICAV p.l.c. (continued)

Key Audit Matters (continued)

Valuation and existence of financial assets at fair value through profit or loss (continued)

How the scope of our audit responded to the risk (continued)

- Agreeing the holdings to the Malta Stock Exchange Statement of Holding as at 31 October 2023 received directly by us with respect to the company's investments in listed local securities. Custodian confirmation from Bank of Valletta plc was also obtained and the investment holdings were agreed with respect to the investments in listed foreign securities.
- We evaluated the adequacy of the disclosures made in note 15 of the financial statements.

Other Information

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the directors' report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover this information, including the directors' report.

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

With respect to the Directors' Report, we also considered whether the Directors' Report includes the disclosures required by Article 177 of the Maltese Companies Act (Cap. 386). Based on the work we have performed, in our opinion:

- the information given in the directors' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report has been prepared in accordance with the Maltese Companies Act (Cap.386).

In addition, in light of the knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we are required to report if we have identified material misstatements in the directors' report. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the Directors

The directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with EU IFRS's, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the Company'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 Company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Independent auditor's report – continued

To the Shareholders of Amalgamated Investments SICAV p.l.c. (continued)

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these 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 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 Company'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 Company'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 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 company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure, and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the directors 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.

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

Adequacy of explanations received and accounting records

Under the Maltese Companies Act (Cap. 386) we are required to report to you if, in our opinion:

- We have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.
- Adequate accounting records have not been kept, or that returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us.
- The financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns.

We have nothing to report to you in respect of these responsibilities.

Independent auditor's report - continued

To the Shareholders of Amalgamated Investments SICAV p.l.c. (continued)

Appointment of auditors

We were appointed by the shareholders as auditors of Amalgamated Investments SICAV p.l.c. on 30 November 2021, as for the year ended 31 October 2021. The period of total uninterrupted engagement is 3 years.

Consistency with the additional report to those charged with Governance

Our opinion on our audit of the financial statements is consistent with the additional report to the audit committee required to be issued by the Audit Regulation (as referred to in the Act).

Non-audit services

We have not provided any of the prohibited services as set out in the accountancy profession act.

Use of audit report

This report is made solely to the company's members as a body in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act (Cap 386) of the laws of Malta. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters that we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the full extent permitted by law we do not assume responsibility to anyone other than the company's members as a body for our audit work, for this report or for the opinions we have formed.



*This copy of the audit report has been signed by
Anita Grech for and on behalf of*

Mazars Malta

Certified Public Accountants
The Watercourse, Level 2
Mdina Road
Zone 2, Central Business District,
Birkirkara CBD2010
Malta

21 February 2024