

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED
(Incorporated in Singapore. Registration Number: 195400150N)

ANNUAL REPORT
For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED
(Incorporated in Singapore)

ANNUAL REPORT
For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

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HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

DIRECTORS' STATEMENT

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

The directors present their statement to the member together with the audited financial statements for the financial year ended 31 December 2020.

In the opinion of the directors,

- (a) the financial statements as set out on pages 6 to 76 are drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Company as at 31 December 2020 and the financial performance, changes in equity and cash flows of the Company for the financial year covered by the financial statements; and
- (b) at the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

Directors

The directors of the Company in office at the date of this statement are as follows:

Vazquez Carlos M
Anthony William Cripps
Eric, Jean Marie, Armand Emore
Babak Nikzad Abbasabadi
Raghujit Singh Narula
Tan Lai Hing (appointed on 30 April 2020)
Mun Kurup (appointed on 1 Oct 2020)

Directors' interests in shares or debentures

The directors who held office at the end of the financial year have been granted exemption from compliance with Section 201(16) and paragraph 9 of the Twelfth Schedule of the Companies Act, Chapter 50 (the Act). Full detailed information regarding directors' interests in shares or debentures of the Company or of related corporations, either at the beginning of the financial year, or at the end of the financial year, can be obtained at the registered office of the Company, at 10 Marina Boulevard, Marina Bay Financial Centre Tower 2, Level 48-01 Singapore 018983.

HSBC Holdings plc (the ultimate holding company) maintains Employee Share Plans schemes, under which eligible employees including directors of the Company were granted Share Options and Discretionary Awards of shares in HSBC Holdings plc. Details of Employee Plans can be found from the Annual Report of HSBC Holdings plc. which is publicly available on the website.

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

DIRECTORS' STATEMENT

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

Directors' interests in shares or debentures (continued)

Except for the Employee Share Plans, neither at the end of, nor at any time during the financial year, was the Company a party to any arrangement whose objects were, or one whose object was, to enable the directors of the Company to acquire benefits by means of the acquisition of shares in, or debentures of, the Company or any other body corporate.

Except for salaries, bonuses and fees and those benefits that are disclosed in this report and in Note 25 to the financial statements, since the end of the last financial year, no director has received or become entitled to receive, a benefit by reason of a contract made by the Company or a related corporation with the director, or with a firm of which he is a member, or with a company in which he has a substantial financial interest.

Share options

No options were granted during the financial year to subscribe for unissued shares of the Company.

No shares were issued during the financial year by virtue of the exercise of options to take up unissued shares of the Company.

There were no unissued shares of the Company under option at the end of the financial year.

Independent Auditor

The independent auditor, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, has expressed its willingness to accept reappointment.

On behalf of the directors



Vazquez Carlos M
Director



Anthony William Cripps
Director

24 March 2021

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
TO THE MEMBER OF HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our Opinion

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements of HSBC Insurance (Singapore) Pte. Limited ("the Company") are properly drawn up in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act, Chapter 50 ("the Act") and Financial Reporting Standards in Singapore ("FRSs") so as to give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Company as at 31 December 2020 and of the financial performance, changes in equity and cash flows of the Company for the financial year ended on that date.

What we have audited

The financial statements of the Company comprise:

- the statement of comprehensive income for the financial year ended 31 December 2020;
- the balance sheet as at 31 December 2020;
- the statement of changes in equity for the financial year then ended;
- the statement of cash flows for the financial year then ended; and
- the notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Singapore Standards on Auditing ("SSAs"). 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 believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Independence

We are independent of the Company in accordance with the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics for Public Accountants and Accounting Entities ("ACRA Code") together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Singapore, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the ACRA Code.

Other Information

Management is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the Directors' Statement but does not include the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon.

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

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
TO THE MEMBER OF HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED. (continued)
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

Other Information (continued)

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. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of Management and Directors for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with the provisions of the Act and FRSS, and for devising and maintaining a system of internal accounting controls sufficient to provide a reasonable assurance that assets are safeguarded against loss from unauthorised use or disposition; and transactions are properly authorised and that they are recorded as necessary to permit the preparation of true and fair financial statements and to maintain accountability of assets.

In preparing the financial statements, management is 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 management either intends to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

The directors' responsibilities include overseeing the Company's financial reporting process.

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 SSAs 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 SSAs, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
TO THE MEMBER OF HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED. (continued)
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements (continued)

- 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 management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the 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

In our opinion, the accounting and other records required by the Act to be kept by the Company have been properly kept in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

Public Accountants and Chartered Accountants
Singapore, 24 March 2021

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

	Notes	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Gross written premiums	6	561,567	874,887
Gross written premiums ceded to reinsurers	6	(164,605)	(187,185)
Net premiums	6	396,962	687,702
Fee and commission income	7	8,833	8,674
Investment income	8	367,932	336,020
Other operating income		4,726	4,839
Net income before policyholder claims, benefits incurred and expenses		778,453	1,037,235
Gross policyholder claims and benefits incurred	9	(903,954)	(1,119,676)
Reinsurers' share of policyholder claims and benefits incurred	9	552,762	69,324
Net policyholder claims and benefits incurred	9	(351,192)	(1,050,352)
Acquisition costs	10	(46,004)	(78,650)
Provision for impairment on financial assets		(2,194)	(1,751)
Investment expense		(13,869)	(11,328)
Administrative and other expenses		(62,641)	(53,633)
Interest expense		(2,092)	(2,202)
Net currency exchange gains		40,674	30,843
Profit/(Loss) before tax		341,135	(129,838)
Income tax (expense)/credit	12	(62,215)	24,055
Profit/(Loss) for the year	11	278,920	(105,783)
Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the year		278,920	(105,783)

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

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

BALANCE SHEET

As at 31 December 2020

	Notes	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Assets			
Property, plant and equipment	14	459	643
Deferred tax assets	13	-	2,822
Current tax recoverable		-	30,263
Financial assets	15		
- Debt securities		5,074,159	4,921,118
- Collective investment schemes		1,388,652	1,220,512
- Derivative financial instruments		41,355	17,881
- Policy loans		19,812	20,635
Reinsurers' share of insurance and investment contracts including those with DPF provisions	19	3,110,921	47,920
Insurance receivables	16	1,480	1,438
Other receivables	17	66,015	64,605
Cash and cash equivalents	18	209,181	169,328
Total assets		9,912,034	6,497,165
Equity			
Share capital	22	75,000	75,000
Capital reserve	24	2,064	1,557
Retained earnings		714,030	435,110
Total equity		791,094	511,667
Liabilities			
Insurance payables	20	2,700,190	93,562
Other payables	21	55,241	31,620
Current tax payable		7,416	-
Deferred tax liabilities	13	22,387	-
Financial liabilities			
- Derivative financial instruments		5,293	5,503
Insurance and investment contracts including those with DPF provisions	19	6,230,110	5,754,187
Subordinated loan	28	100,303	100,626
Total liabilities		9,120,940	5,985,498
Total equity and liabilities		9,912,034	6,497,165

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

	Note	Share capital \$'000	Capital reserve \$'000	Retained earnings \$'000	Total equity \$'000
At 1 January 2020		75,000	1,557	435,110	511,667
Total comprehensive income for the year		-	-	278,920	278,920
Profit for the year		-	-	278,920	278,920
Total comprehensive income for the year		-	-	278,920	278,920
Value of employee services received for issue of share options/grants in ultimate holding company		-	507	-	507
Total transactions with owners, recognised directly in equity		-	507	-	507
At 31 December 2020		75,000	2,064	714,030	791,094

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

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

	Note	Share capital \$'000	Capital reserve \$'000	Retained earnings \$'000	Total equity \$'000
At 1 January 2019		75,000	1,542	640,893	717,435
Total comprehensive loss for the year		-	-	(105,783)	(105,783)
Total comprehensive loss for the year		-	-	(105,783)	(105,783)
Dividend	23	-	-	(100,000)	(100,000)
Value of employee services received for issue of share options/grants in ultimate holding company		-	482	-	482
Recharged by ultimate holding company		-	(467)	-	(467)
Total transactions with owners, recognised directly in equity		-	15	(100,000)	(99,985)
At 31 December 2019		75,000	1,557	435,110	511,667

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

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

	Notes	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Cash flows from operating activities			
Profit/(Loss) before tax		341,135	(129,838)
Adjustments for:			
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	14	184	175
Gain on sale of investments	8	(27,742)	(49,262)
Dividend income	8	(8,812)	(8,022)
Interest income	8	(212,509)	(199,806)
Interest expense		2,092	2,202
Fair value gain on investments	8	(178,550)	(139,166)
Net loss on foreign exchange	8	59,681	60,236
Provision for impairment on financial assets		2,194	1,751
Others		497	482
		(21,830)	(461,248)
Changes in working capital:			
Net insurance and investment contracts with DPF provisions		(2,586,404)	2,740,589
Insurance receivables		(42)	222
Other receivables		214	(3,756)
Insurance payables		2,606,628	(2,044,814)
Other payables		23,621	5,804
Policy loans		823	(4,418)
Cash generated from operations		23,010	232,379
Dividends received		8,824	8,020
Acquisition of investments		(1,411,547)	(1,144,416)
Proceeds from sale of investments		1,113,137	904,160
Interest received		213,161	196,964
Tax paid		-	(49,874)
Net cash (used in)/ generated from operating activities		(53,415)	147,233
Cash flows from investing activities			
Acquisition of investments		(11,565)	(108,948)
Proceeds from sale of investments		105,634	8,165
Interest received		1,614	1,734
Acquisition of property, plant and equipment	14	-	(137)
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		95,683	(99,186)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Proceeds from subordinated loan		-	100,000
Dividends paid		-	(100,000)
Interest paid		(2,415)	(1,576)
Net cash used in financing activities		(2,415)	(1,576)
Net increase in cash and equivalents		39,853	46,471
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January		169,328	122,857
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December	18	209,181	169,328

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

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS***For the financial year ended 31 December 2020***Reconciliation of liabilities arising from financing activities**

	1 January 2020 \$'000	Proceeds from borrowings \$'000	Interest expense \$'000	Interest payment \$'000	31 December 2020 \$'000
Subordinated loan	100,626	-	2,092	(2,415)	100,303

	1 January 2019 \$'000	Proceeds from borrowings \$'000	Interest expense \$'000	Interest payment \$'000	31 December 2019 \$'000
Subordinated loan	-	100,000	2,202	(1,576)	100,626

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

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

1. General information

HSBC Insurance (Singapore) Pte. Limited (“the Company”) is incorporated and domiciled in Singapore. The address of its registered office was 21 Collyer Quay #10-02, HSBC Building, Singapore 049320. The Company has changed its registered address to 10 Marina Boulevard, Marina Bay Financial Centre Tower 2, Level 48-01 Singapore 018983 on 16 March 2020.

The principal activities of the Company are those of transacting life insurance business.

The immediate holding company is HSBC Insurance (Asia-Pacific) Holdings Limited, a company incorporated in Hong Kong SAR. The ultimate holding company is HSBC Holdings plc, a company incorporated in England.

2. Basis of preparation

2.1 Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Financial Reporting Standards in Singapore (“FRS”) under the historical cost convention, except as disclosed in the accounting policies below.

The assets and liabilities of the Company that relate to the insurance business carried on in Singapore are subject to the requirements of the Insurance Act. Such assets and liabilities are accounted for in the books of the respective insurance funds established under Section 17 of the Insurance Act. The net assets of the Company held in the insurance funds must be sufficient to meet the solvency requirements stipulated in Section 18 at all times. Assets held in the insurance funds may be withdrawn only if the withdrawal meets the requirements stipulated in Section 17 and the Company continues to be able to meet the solvency requirements of Section 18.

The assets and liabilities of the Company that do not relate to the insurance business are accounted for in the Shareholder’s Fund.

Interpretations and amendments to published standards effective in 2020

On 1 January 2020, the Company adopted the new or amended FRS and Interpretations of FRS (“INT FRS”) that are mandatory for application for the financial year. Changes to the Company’s accounting policies have been made as required, in accordance with the transitional provisions in the respective FRS and INT FRS.

The adoption of these new or amended FRS and INT FRS did not result in substantial changes to the Company’s accounting policies and had no material effect on the amounts reported for the current or prior financial years.

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

2. **Basis of preparation** (continued)

2.2 Functional and presentation currency

Unless otherwise stated, the financial statements are presented in Singapore dollars, which is the Company's functional currency (i.e. currency of the primary environment in which the entity operates). All financial information presented in Singapore dollars has been rounded to the nearest thousand, unless otherwise stated.

2.3 Use of estimates and judgements

The preparation of these financial statements in conformity with FRS requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the Company's accounting policies. It also requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates and assumptions. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

Estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimates are revised and in any future periods affected.

The areas involving higher degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements are disclosed in Note 4.

2.4 Measurement of fair values

A number of the Company's accounting policies and disclosures require the measurement of fair values, for both financial and non-financial assets and liabilities.

The Company has an established control framework with respect to the measurement of fair values. This includes an investment operations team who has an overall responsibility for all significant fair value measurements. This team is supported and receive expert guidance from the parent / group companies.

On receipt of valuation from the fund managers, the referred team runs independent price verification for the securities for which market data is available. Any reasons of variance are investigated and addressed. For the securities where market inputs are unobservable and where derivation of fair value is more judgmental, for ascertaining the reasonableness, it relies on the advice and guidance from the parent / group companies who have established infrastructure & expertise to ascertain the same. In addition, all valuation matters are considered jointly by CFO & CIO and are deliberated, challenged & agreed at the Valuation Committee as part of formal governance process.

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

2. Basis of preparation (continued)

2.4 Measurement of fair values (continued)

The valuation team regularly reviews significant unobservable inputs if applicable and valuation adjustments. If third party information, such as broker quotes or pricing services, is used to measure fair values, then the valuation team assesses and documents the evidence obtained from the third parties to support the conclusion that such valuations meet the requirements of FRS, including the level in the fair value hierarchy in which such valuations should be classified.

When measuring the fair value of an asset or a liability, the Company uses market observable data as far as possible. Fair values are categorised into different levels in a fair value hierarchy based on the inputs used in the valuation techniques 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); and
- Level 3: inputs for the asset or liability that are not based on observable market data (unobservable inputs).

If the inputs used to measure the fair value of an asset or a liability might be categorised in different levels of the fair value hierarchy, then the fair value measurement is categorised in its entirety in the same level of the fair value hierarchy as the lowest level input that is significant to the entire measurement (with Level 3 being the lowest).

The Company recognises transfers between levels of the fair value hierarchy as of the end of the reporting period during which the change has occurred.

Further information about the assumptions made in measuring fair values is included in Note 5.7 – Financial risk.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

3. Significant accounting policies

The accounting policies set out below have been applied consistently to all periods presented in these financial statements, except for new accounting standards implemented in the current financial year.

3.1 Classification of contracts

(i) Insurance contracts

Contracts under which the Company accepts significant insurance risk from another party (the policyholder) by agreeing to compensate the policyholder or other beneficiary if a specified uncertain future event (the insured event) adversely affects the policyholder or other beneficiary are classified as insurance contracts. Insurance risk is risk other than financial risk. Financial risk is the risk of possible future changes in a specified interest rate, security price, commodity price, foreign exchange rate, index of prices or rates, a credit rating or credit index or other variable, provided in the case of a non-financial variable that the variable is not specific to a party to the contract. Insurance contracts may also transfer some financial risk.

(ii) Investment contracts

Contracts under which the transfer of insurance risk to the Company from the policyholder is not significant are classified as investment contracts.

(iii) Insurance and investment contracts including those with discretionary participation features (DPF)

Both insurance and investment contracts may contain discretionary participation features. A contract with a discretionary participation feature is a contractual right held by a policyholder to receive as a supplement to guaranteed minimum payments, additional payments that are likely to be a significant portion of the total contractual payments, and whose amount or timing is contractually at the discretion of the issuer based on the performance of a specified pool of contracts or a specified type of contract.

The discretionary element of these contracts has been included in the policy reserves and subjected to a liability adequacy test as described in Note 3.8.

The amount of distributable surplus allocated to shareholders in respect of the above contracts is in accordance with the Insurance Regulations of Singapore and limited to 1/9th of the bonuses allocated to policyholders. Unallocated surpluses are retained and classified as policy reserves.

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

3. Significant accounting policies (continued)

3.2 Recognition and measurement of life insurance and investment contracts including those with discretionary participation features

(i) Premiums and commissions

Premium is recognised as income when due from policyholders except for linked business where premiums are recognised when the liability arising from those premiums are created. The corresponding commission payable and reinsurance premium outwards (where applicable) is accounted for on the same basis. Premiums from linked policies comprise amounts used to purchase units in linked funds and to purchase life insurance protection.

(ii) Claims

Claims incurred reflect the cost of all claims arising during the year, including policyholder cash dividends payable upon policy anniversary.

Provision is made for all the full estimated costs less reinsurance recoveries of all claims notified but not settled at the reporting date, using the best information available at the time.

(iii) Embedded derivatives in insurance contracts

Guarantees inherent in some insurance contracts issued by the Company that do transfer significant insurance risk to the Company are not separated and measured at fair value.

The Company has taken advantage of the exemptions available in FRS 104 not to separate and fair value a policyholder's option to surrender an insurance contract for a fixed amount even if the exercise price differs from the carrying amount of the host insurance liability, and not to separate and fair value options to surrender insurance contracts with a DPF.

(iv) Commission

Commission expense is incurred or accrued for premiums paid or due within the grace period of one month before the financial year end.

3.3 Recognition and measurement of investment contracts

Amounts collected on investment contracts, which primarily involve the transfer of financial risk are accounted for using deposit accounting, under which the amounts collected less directly attributable transaction costs are credited directly to the balance sheet as an adjustment to the liability to the policyholder. Claims incurred are adjusted directly against the fair value of investment contract liability.

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

3. Significant accounting policies (continued)

3.4 Long-term business provision

The long-term business provision has been computed having due regards to the principles pursuant to Singapore Insurance Act (Cap 142). With the introduction of Singapore Risk Based Capital 2 ("RBC2") framework by MAS in 2020, the methodology to compute the long-term business provision is based on a prospective discounted cash flow valuation method for all major classes of business, with the exception of linked contracts where the unit reserves are based on the market value of the related assets. Within the long-term provision, an explicit provision is made for vested bonuses and a provision is also made for future reversionary and terminal bonuses. No changes from the previous Singapore Risk Based Capital ("RBC") framework except for the discount rates used in discounting the cash flows. Overall, the provision under RBC2 is lower than RBC due to adoption of Matching Adjustment.

The changes in the long-term business provision arising from RBC2 are accounted for as a change in accounting estimate. The transition impact on the adoption of RBC2 is a net reduction of long-term business provision.

3.5 Investment contract liabilities

Investment contract liabilities are measured at fair value. For these contracts, transaction costs that are directly attributable to the issue of the financial liability are deducted from the fair value of the consideration received when determining its initial measurement.

3.6 Reinsurance

Amounts recoverable under reinsurance contracts are assessed for impairment at each reporting date. Such assets are deemed impaired if, and only if, there is objective evidence, as a result of an event that occurred after its initial recognition, that the Company may not recover all amounts due and that the event has a reliably measurable impact on the amounts that the Company will receive from the reinsurer.

The Company ceded reinsurance in the normal course of business for the purpose of limiting its net loss potential through the diversification of its risks. Reinsurance arrangements do not relieve the Company from its direct obligations to its policyholders.

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

3. Significant accounting policies (continued)

3.6 Reinsurance (continued)

Reinsurance assets include balances due from reinsurance companies for ceded insurance liabilities. Amounts recoverable from reinsurers' are estimated in a manner consistent with the outstanding claims provision or settled claims associated with the reinsured policy. Additionally, the Company had a financial reinsurance treaty with an external reinsurer which was terminated on 31 December 2019 but subsequently reinstated in March 2020 with effect from 1 January 2020. This is a funds withheld coinsurance arrangement and the expense and risk charge paid by the Company at the end of the treaty is calculated based on the insurance contract liability valued under MAS regulations. Therefore, the amounts recoverable from reinsurer reflected in the financial statements are the same as the amount calculated under MAS regulations. Upon reinstatement of this financial reinsurance treaty, a total gain of \$568 million arising from ceding of in-force book is fully recognised at March 2020, instead of deferring over the lifetime of the contract.

3.7 Receivables and payables related to insurance contracts and investment contracts

Insurance receivables and insurance payables are recognised when due. These include policy loans, amounts due to and from insurance and reinsurance contract holders. They are measured on initial recognition at the fair value of the consideration receivable or payable. Subsequent to initial recognition, receivables and payables are measured at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

The carrying value of insurance receivables is reviewed for impairment whenever events or circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. If there is objective evidence that the insurance receivable is impaired, the Company reduces the carrying amount of the insurance receivable and recognises that impairment loss in profit or loss. The Company gathers objective evidence that an insurance receivable is impaired using the same process adopted for loans and receivables. The impairment loss is calculated under the same method used for these financial assets. Insurance receivables and insurance payables are derecognised based on the same derecognition criteria as financial assets and liabilities respectively, as described in Note 3.15 and Note 3.16.

3.8 Liabilities and related assets under liability adequacy test

Insurance contracts and investment contracts, including those with discretionary participation features, are tested for adequacy by discounting current estimates of all future contractual cash flows and comparing this amount to the carrying value of the liabilities. Where a shortfall is identified, an additional provision is made and the Company recognises the deficiency in the profit or loss.

The liability adequacy test is performed on each insurance fund.

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

3. Significant accounting policies (continued)

3.9 Revenue

Revenue comprises the following:

- (i) Earned premiums from insurance and investment contracts.

The accounting policies for the recognition of revenue from insurance and investment contracts are disclosed in Note 3.2.

- (ii) Fee and commission income

Fee income comprises annual management charges received on funds managed through investment-linked policies. Fee income is recognised on an accrual basis based on the daily net asset value of the respective investment linked fund.

Reinsurance commission is recognised on a basis that is consistent with the recognition of the costs incurred on the acquisition of the underlying insurance contracts. Profit commission in respect of reinsurance contracts is recognised on an accrual basis.

Other commissions received or receivable, which do not require the Company to render further services, are recognised as revenue by the Company on the effective commencement or renewal dates of the related policies. However, when it is probable that the Company will be required to render further services during the life of the policy, the commission, or part thereof, is deferred and recognised as revenue over the period during which the services are provided.

3.10 Investment income

Net investment income comprises interest income, dividend income, net gains/losses on the disposal financial assets, net foreign currency gains/losses, changes in the fair value of financial assets at fair value through profit or loss, impairment losses recognised on financial assets, and gains/losses on hedging instruments that are recognised in profit or loss.

Interest income from financial assets is recognised using the effective interest rate method. Dividend income is recognised when the right to receive payment is established, it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the dividend will flow to the Company, and the amount of the dividend can be reliably measured.

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

3. Significant accounting policies (continued)

3.11 Employee benefits

Employee benefits are recognised as an expense, unless the cost qualifies to be capitalised as an asset.

(i) Defined contribution plans

Defined contribution plans are post-employment benefit plans under which the Company pays fixed contributions into separate entities such as the Central Provident Fund on a mandatory, contractual or voluntary basis. The Company has no further payment obligations once the contributions have been paid.

(ii) Employee leave entitlement

Employee entitlements to annual leave are recognised when they accrue to employees. A provision is made for the estimated liability for annual leave as a result of services rendered by employees up to the balance sheet date.

(iii) Share-based payment transactions

The Company's ultimate holding company grants share options to its employees, including the Company's employees. The fair value of share options granted is recognised as an employee expense, with a corresponding increase in capital reserve. The fair value is measured at grant date and spread over the vesting period during which the employees unconditionally become entitled to the share options.

The fair value is measured at grant date using a binomial lattice model methodology. Where the employees have to meet vesting conditions before becoming unconditionally entitled to the share options, the total expense is spread over the vesting period, taking into account the probability that the option will vest.

At each reporting date, the number of share options that is expected to vest is reviewed. Any adjustment to the cumulative fair value recognised in prior years is charged/credited to profit or loss for the year under review. On vesting date, the amount recognised as an expense is adjusted to reflect the actual number of share options that vest, with a corresponding adjustment to the capital reserve.

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

3. Significant accounting policies (continued)

3.12 Income taxes

Current income tax for current and prior periods is recognised at the amount expected to be paid to or recovered from the tax authorities, using the tax rates and tax laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date. Management periodically evaluates positions taken in tax returns with respect to situations in which applicable tax regulation is subject to interpretation. It establishes provisions, where appropriate, on the basis of amounts expected to be paid to the tax authorities.

Deferred income tax is recognised for all temporary differences arising between the tax bases of assets and liabilities and their carrying amounts in the financial statements except when the deferred income tax arises from the initial recognition of an asset or liability that affects neither accounting nor taxable profit or loss at the time of the transaction.

Deferred income tax is measured at the tax rates that are expected to apply when the related deferred income tax asset is realised or the deferred income tax liability is settled, based on tax rates and tax laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date.

Current and deferred income taxes are recognised as income or expenses in profit or loss, except to the extent that the tax arises from a transaction which is recognised directly in equity.

The Company accounts for investment tax credits (for example, productivity and innovative credit) similar to accounting for other tax credits where deferred tax asset is recognised for unused tax credits to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profit will be available against which the unused tax credit can be utilised.

In determining the amount of current and deferred tax, the Company takes into account the impact of uncertain tax positions and whether additional taxes and interest may be due. The Company believes that its accruals for tax liabilities are adequate for all open tax years based on its assessment of many factors, including interpretations of tax law and prior experience. This assessment relies on estimates and assumptions and may involve a series of judgements about future events. New information may become available that causes the Company to change its judgement regarding the adequacy of existing tax liabilities; such changes to tax liabilities will impact tax expense in the period that such a determination is made.

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

3. Significant accounting policies (continued)

3.13 Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment are recognised at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

Subsequent expenditure relating to property, plant and equipment that has already been recognised is added to the carrying amount of the asset only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the Company and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. All other repair and maintenance expenses are recognised in profit or loss when incurred.

Depreciation is calculated using the straight-line method to allocate their depreciable amounts over their estimated useful lives. The estimated useful lives are as follows:

	<u>Useful lives</u>
Furniture, fittings and equipment	5 years
Computer equipment	3 to 5 years

The residual values, estimated useful lives and depreciation method of property, plant and equipment are reviewed, and adjusted as appropriate, at each balance sheet date. The effects of any revision are recognised in profit or loss when the changes arise.

3.14 Impairment of non-financial assets

Property, plant and equipment are tested for impairment whenever there is any objective evidence or indication that these assets may be impaired.

For the purpose of impairment testing of assets, recoverable amount (i.e. the higher of the fair value less cost to sell and the value-in-use) is determined on an individual asset basis unless the asset does not generate cash flows that are largely independent of those from other assets. If this is the case, the recoverable amount is determined for the cash-generating unit (CGU) to which the asset belongs.

If the recoverable amount of the asset or CGU is estimated to be less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset is reduced to its recoverable amount.

The difference between the carrying amount and recoverable amount is recognised as an impairment loss in profit or loss.

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

3. Significant accounting policies (continued)

3.14 Impairment of non-financial assets (continued)

An impairment loss for an asset is reversed if, and only if, there has been a change in the estimates used to determine the asset's recoverable amount since the last impairment loss was recognised. The carrying amount of this asset is increased to its revised recoverable amount, provided that this amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined (net of accumulated depreciation) had no impairment loss been recognised for the asset in prior years.

A reversal of impairment loss for an asset is recognised in profit or loss.

3.15 Financial assets

The Company classifies its financial assets into the following measurement categories:

- Amortised cost; and
- Fair value through profit or loss (FVTPL).

The classification of debt instruments depends on the Company's business model for managing the financial assets as well as the contractual terms of the cash flows of the financial assets.

Financial assets with embedded derivatives are considered in their entirety when determining whether their cash flows are solely payment of principal and interest.

The Company reclassifies debt instruments when and only when its business model for managing those assets changes.

(i) At initial recognition

At initial recognition, the Company measures a financial asset at its fair value plus, in the case of a financial asset not at fair value through profit or loss, transaction costs that are directly attributable to the acquisition of the financial assets. Transaction costs of financial assets carried at fair value through profit or loss are expensed in profit or loss.

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

3. Significant accounting policies (continued)

3.15 Financial assets (continued)

(ii) At subsequent measurement

a) *Financial assets measured at amortised cost*

Financial assets that are held to collect the contractual cash flows and which contain contractual terms that give rise on specified dates to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest are measured at amortised cost. Such financial assets include debt securities, cash and cash equivalents, policy loans, insurance and other receivables.

The Company accounts for regular way amortised cost financial assets using trade date accounting. The carrying value of these financial assets at initial recognition includes any directly attributable transactions costs.

Accordingly, this group of financial assets are measured at amortised cost subsequent to initial recognition.

A gain or loss on a debt investment that is subsequently measured at amortised cost and is not part of a hedging relationship is recognised in profit or loss when the asset is derecognised or impaired. Interest income from these financial assets are recognised using the effective interest rate method. Foreign exchange gains and losses are also recognised within investment income in the profit or loss.

The Company assesses on a forward looking basis the expected credit losses ("ECL") associated with its debt instruments carried at amortised cost. The impairment methodology applied depends on whether there has been a significant increase in credit risk.

At initial recognition, allowance is required for ECL resulting from default events that are possible within the next 12 months, or less, where the remaining life is less than 12 months ('12-month ECL'). In the event of a significant increase in credit risk, allowance is required for ECL resulting from all possible default events over the expected life of the financial instrument ('lifetime ECL').

Financial assets where 12-month ECL is recognised are considered to be 'stage 1'; financial assets that are considered to have experienced a significant increase in credit risk are in 'stage 2'; and financial assets for which there is objective evidence of impairment so are considered to be in default or otherwise credit impaired are in 'stage 3'.

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

3. Significant accounting policies (continued)

3.15 Financial assets (continued)

(ii) At subsequent measurement (continued)

b) *Financial assets measured at fair value through profit or loss*

A financial asset is classified at fair value through profit or loss if it is classified as held for trading (acquired for the purpose of selling in the short term) or is designated as such upon initial recognition.

Financial assets are designated at fair value through profit or loss if they meet one or more of the criteria set out below and are so designated irrevocably at inception:

- the use of the designation removes or significantly reduces an accounting mismatch;
- a group of financial assets and liabilities or a group of financial liabilities is managed and its performance is evaluated on a fair value basis, in accordance with a documented risk management or investment strategy. Designated financial assets are recognised when the Company enters into contracts with counterparties, which is generally on trade date, and are normally derecognised when the rights to the cash flows expire or are transferred. Subsequent changes in fair values are recognised in investment income in profit or loss.

Attributable transaction costs are recognised in profit or loss as incurred. Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss are measured at fair value, and changes therein are recognised in profit or loss. Interest income, dividend income and foreign exchange gains and losses arising from investments in debt securities, collective investment schemes and derivative financial instruments are recognised in profit and loss, all under investment income.

On disposal, the differences between the carrying amount and sales proceed is recognised in profit or loss.

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

3. Significant accounting policies (continued)

3.16 Financial liabilities

Financial liabilities (including liabilities designated at fair value through profit or loss) are recognised initially on the trade date, which is the date that the Company becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

The Company derecognises a financial liability when its contractual obligations are discharged, cancelled or expire.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset and the net amount presented in the balance sheet when, and only when, the Company has a legal right to offset the amounts and intends either to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

The Company classifies non-derivative financial liabilities into the other financial liabilities, which comprise insurance and other payables.

Such financial liabilities are recognised initially at fair value plus any directly attributable transaction costs. Subsequent to initial recognition, these financial liabilities are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

3.17 Derivative financial instruments

A derivative financial instrument for which no hedge accounting is applied is initially recognised at its fair value on the date the contract is entered into and is subsequently carried at its fair value. Changes in its fair value are recognised in profit or loss. The Company does not apply hedge accounting for its derivative financial instruments.

3.18 Trade and other payables

Trade and other payables represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the Company prior to the end of financial year which are unpaid. They are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less (or in the normal operating cycle of the business, if longer). Otherwise, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade and other payables are initially recognised at fair value, and subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

3. Significant accounting policies (continued)

3.19 Provisions

A provision is recognised if, as a result of a past event, the Company has a present legal or constructive obligation that can be estimated reliably, and it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation. Provisions are determined by discounting the expected future cash flows at a pre-tax rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised as finance cost.

3.20 Borrowings

Borrowings are presented as current liabilities unless the Company has an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least 12 months after the balance sheet date, in which case they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Borrowings are initially recognised at fair values (net of transaction costs) and subsequently carried at amortised cost. Borrowing costs are recognised in profit or loss using the effective interest method. Any difference between the proceeds (net of transaction costs) and the redemption value is recognised in profit or loss over the period of the borrowings using the effective interest method.

3.21 Cash and cash equivalents

For the purpose of presentation in the statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits with financial institutions which are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are presented as current borrowings on the balance sheet. For cash subjected to restriction, assessment is made on the economic substance of the restriction and whether they meet the definition of cash and cash equivalents.

3.22 Dividends

Dividends to the Company's shareholders are recognised when the dividends are approved for payment.

3.23 Share capital

Ordinary shares are classified as equity. Incremental costs directly attributable to the issuance of new ordinary shares are deducted against the share capital account.

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

3. Significant accounting policies (continued)

3.24 Key management personnel

Key management personnel of the Company are those persons having the authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the entity.

3.25 Foreign currency

Transactions in foreign currencies (i.e. transactions in a currency other than the functional currency) are translated to Singapore dollars using the exchange rates at the dates of the transactions. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the end of the reporting period are retranslated to Singapore dollars at the exchange rate at that date. The foreign currency gain or loss on monetary items is the total of currency exchange differences resulting from the settlement of transaction in foreign currencies and from the retranslation of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the end of the financial year.

Non-monetary assets and liabilities in a foreign currency that are measured in terms of historical cost are translated using the exchange rate at the date of the transaction. Non-monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies that are measured at fair value are retranslated to Singapore dollars at the exchange rate at the date that the fair value was determined.

The foreign exchange gains and losses relating to investments are recognised within investment income in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

All other foreign exchange gains and losses are presented within 'Net currency exchange gains/losses' in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

4. Critical accounting estimates, assumptions and judgements

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

4.1 Ultimate liability arising under long-term insurance contracts

The determination of the liabilities under long-term insurance contracts is based on the Singapore Risk Based Capital methodology based on MAS regulations. The liabilities are calculated by way of a discounted cash flow method on a policy-by-policy level. The valuation generally involves a projection of future cash flows using realistic assumptions and then discounting these cash flow streams at appropriate interest rates.

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

4. Critical accounting estimates, assumptions and judgements (continued)

4.1 Ultimate liability arising under long-term insurance contracts (continued)

The prospective projections of cash flow streams include the following parameters:

- Mortality and morbidity benefits
- Survival and maturity benefits
- Surrender benefits
- Distribution costs
- Management expenses
- Policy charges
- Premium payments
- Persistency

The process used to determine the assumptions is intended to result in neutral estimates of the most likely or expected outcome. The assumptions are reviewed to ensure that they are consistent with observable market prices or other published information, and take into account the recent experience or expected future outlook for the business. Additional provision is included in the valuation to allow for any adverse deviation from the best estimate experience.

In general, the policy liability of a single policy is the sum of the value of expected future payments less expected future receipts arising from the policy discounted using the risk-free discount rates plus any provision made for adverse deviation from the expected experience.

For those classes of non-linked business where policyholders participate in profits, the policy liabilities of the Participating Fund as a whole are taken to be the highest of:

- The sum of the best estimate liabilities (including a provision for adverse deviation) for each policy in the fund, determined by discounting the guaranteed and non-guaranteed cash flows at the best estimate rate of returns;
- The sum of the minimum condition liabilities for each policy in the fund, determined by discounting the guaranteed cash flows using the risk-free discount rates; or
- The policy assets which represent the value of assets backing the policy liabilities.

The non-guaranteed cash flows specifically refer to:

- Future distribution to policyholders by way of bonuses
- Future transfers to shareholders
- Future tax payable on distribution to policyholders

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

4. **Critical accounting estimates, assumptions and judgements** (continued)

4.1 Ultimate liability arising under long-term insurance contracts (continued)

For universal life policies, the insurance contract liabilities are calculated as the higher of the following on an individual policy basis:

- The value obtained by projecting the cash flows under the policy at the minimum guaranteed crediting rate and discounting at the risk-free discount rate; or
- The value obtained by projecting the cash flows under the policy at the current crediting rate and discounting at the best estimate investment return.

Assumptions

Mortality

The principal assumptions underlying the calculation of the long-term business provision are:

A base mortality table is selected which is most appropriate for each type of contract. The mortality rates reflected in this table are adjusted to reflect the expected mortality based on a statistical investigation of mortality into the Company's experience over the most recent nine years.

Where there is adequate data of sufficient quality to be statistically credible, the mortality statistics generated by the data are used in preference to using an adjusted base mortality table. An allowance may be made for future mortality improvements for contracts that insure survivorship. This allowance is based on trends identified in the data and on the mortality investigations performed by independent actuarial bodies.

Morbidity

The incidence of disability is derived with reference to the Company's reinsurers' risk premium rates. These are adjusted to calculate the best estimate of morbidity based on an investigation into the Company's experience, where this is appropriate.

Persistency

The Company performs an investigation into its experience over the last seven and a half years. Statistical methods are applied to the data produced by this investigation in order to determine persistency rates appropriate to the product types and duration. These rates are adjusted to a best estimate of persistency rates by taking account of any trends in the data.

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

4. Critical accounting estimates, assumptions and judgements (continued)

4.1 Ultimate liability arising under long-term insurance contracts (continued)

Assumptions (continued)

Discount rates

Effective 31 March 2020, the Company has adopted the new risk-free discount rate basis in valuing liabilities and a positive adjustment in the form of a Matching Adjustment ("MA") or an Illiquidity Premium ("IP") may be added to the risk-free discount rates, in accordance to MAS Notice 133.

For Participating Singapore Dollar ("SGD")/United States Dollar ("USD"), Non-Participating SGD/USD, and Universal Life SGD denominated policies (which are classified as Whole Life, Endowment, or Annuity in Form L6 as set out in MAS Notice 129), the IP is added to the risk free discount rates.

For Universal Life USD denominated policies, the MA is added to the risk-free discount rates.

The best estimate rate of return is set on active basis with reference to market risk-free yields and market or book bond yields.

Provision for adverse deviation

A provision for adverse deviation ("PAD") as directed by the MAS, is included relating to the inherent uncertainty in the best estimate value of policy liabilities.

Renewal expenses and inflation

The current level of renewal expenses is assumed to be an appropriate expense base. Expense inflation is assumed to be 2.0%.

Taxation

The Company has assumed that current tax legislation and rates will not change.

Changes in assumptions and sensitivity to changes in variables

Assumptions are adjusted for changes in mortality, morbidity, lapse rates, investment return, policy maintenance expenses and expense inflation to reflect anticipated changes in market conditions and mortality experience and price inflation.

The Company re-runs its valuation models on various bases. An analysis of sensitivity around various scenarios provides an indication of the adequacy of the Company's estimation process in respect of its life assurance contracts. The table presented below demonstrates the sensitivity of insured liability estimates to particular movements in assumptions used in the estimation process. Certain assumptions can be expected to impact on life assurance liabilities more than others, and consequently a greater degree of sensitivity to these variables may be expected.

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

4. Critical accounting estimates, assumptions and judgements (continued)

4.1 Ultimate liability arising under long-term insurance contracts (continued)

Sensitivity to changes in key variables

	Change in profit after taxes and equity \$'000	Change in Capital Adequacy Ratio (CAR) %
2020		
10% increase in mortality/morbidity rates	(24,510)	(4)
10% decrease in mortality/morbidity rates	24,000	3
10% increase in lapse rates	(60)	0
10% decrease in lapse rates	224	0
10% increase in policy maintenance expense rates	(17,382)	(3)
10% decrease in policy maintenance expense rates	17,339	3
	Change in profit after taxes and equity \$'000	Change in Capital Adequacy Ratio (CAR) %
2019		
10% increase in mortality/morbidity rates	(19,649)	(6)
10% decrease in mortality/morbidity rates	19,086	6
10% increase in lapse rates	(1,273)	11
10% decrease in lapse rates	1,434	(11)
10% increase in policy maintenance expense rates	(16,034)	(7)
10% decrease in policy maintenance expense rates	15,975	7

The analysis above has been prepared for a change in one variable with all other variables remaining constant. The Company recognised that some of the assumptions are interdependent but it will be difficult to analyse such interdependencies. However, the analysis assumes that the rate of inflation is correlated to the investment return, so the Company believes that the liability for claims reported in the balance sheet is adequate.

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

4. Critical accounting estimates, assumptions and judgements (continued)

4.2 Ultimate liability arising under investment contracts

The assumptions used in the determination of the liabilities under investment contracts are similar to that of the long-term insurance contracts disclosed in Note 4.1.

4.3 Fair value of financial instruments

The majority of the Company's financial instruments reported at fair value are based on quoted and observable market prices or on service providers' internally developed models. Judgement may also be applied in estimating prices for less readily observable external parameters.

4.4 Open tax assessments

In determining the income tax liabilities, management has estimated the amount of taxable income and the deductibility of certain expenses ("uncertain tax positions") in the relevant tax jurisdiction. This involves a degree of estimation and judgment in respect of certain items whose tax treatment cannot be finally determined until resolution has been reached with the tax authority. The Company has open tax assessments with the tax authority at the balance sheet date. Management believes that the tax position as at 31 December 2020 is sustainable.

5. Risk management

This section describes the Company's risk exposure, its concentration and the way the Company manages them.

5.1 Capital management

The Board's policy is to maintain a strong capital base so as to maintain creditor and market confidence and to sustain future development of the business. Capital consists of ordinary shares and retained earnings of the Company.

There were no changes in the Company's approach to capital management during the year.

All insurers and reinsurers that carry on insurance business in Singapore are registered with the MAS and are subject to the prudential standards which set out the basis for calculating the fund solvency requirements ("FSR") and capital adequacy requirement ("CAR") which is a minimal level of capital that must be held to meet policyholders' obligations. The FSR and CAR apply a risk-based approach to capital adequacy and is determined to be the sum of the aggregate of the total risk requirement of all insurance funds established and maintained by the insurer under the Insurance Act. It is the Company's policy to hold capital levels in excess of the minimum FSR of 100% of total risk requirements and at least 110% of CAR.

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

5. Risk management (continued)

5.1 Capital management (continued)

The Company seeks to maintain a balance between achieving higher returns while maintaining a sound capital position.

Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) pursuant to section 18 and 64(2) of the Insurance Act (Cap. 142) issued final regulations on 28 Feb 2020 making the new capital regime (RBC2) effective from 31 March 2020. The new regulations has materially increase the capital requirements for the industry and the Company as well. The company during the year has identified and has or is in the process of implementing various initiatives to effectively manage the Capital of the company under the new capital regime.

5.2 Risk management objectives and policies for mitigating insurance risk

The primary insurance activity carried out by the Company assumes the risk of loss from persons or organisations that are directly subject to the risk. Such risks may relate to life, accident, health, financial or other perils that may arise from an insurable event. As such, the Company is exposed to the uncertainty surrounding the timing and severity of claims under the contract. The Company also has exposure to market and credit risks through its insurance and investment activities.

The Company manages its insurance risk through underwriting limits, approval procedures for transactions that involve new products or that exceed set limits, pricing guidelines, centralised management of reinsurance and monitoring of emerging issues.

The Company uses several methods to assess and monitor insurance risk exposures both for individual types of risks insured and overall risks. These methods include internal risk measurement models, sensitivity analyses, scenario analyses and stress testing. The Risk Management Committee reviews all risks in accordance with the Group's Risk Management Framework (RMF) on a regular basis and reports these to the Board.

5.3 Underwriting strategy

The Company's underwriting strategy seeks diversity to ensure a balanced portfolio and is based on a large portfolio of similar risks over a number of years and, as such, it is believed that this reduces the variability of the outcome.

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

5. Risk management (continued)

5.3 Underwriting strategy (continued)

The underwriting strategy is set out in an annual business plan that sets out the classes of business, except individual business, to be written and the industry sectors to which the Company is prepared to expose itself. This strategy is cascaded down to individual underwriters through detailed underwriting authorities that set out the limits that any one underwriter can write by line size, class of business and industry in order to enforce appropriate risk selection within the portfolio.

5.4 Reinsurance strategy

The Company reinsures a portion of the risks it underwrites in order to control its exposures to losses and protect capital resources. The Company buys a combination of proportionate and non-proportionate reinsurance treaties to reduce the net exposure to the Company.

Ceded reinsurance contains credit risk, and such reinsurance recoverables are reported after deductions for known insolvencies and uncollectible items. The Company monitors the financial condition of reinsurers on an ongoing basis and reviews its reinsurance arrangements periodically. The Company complies with the HSBC Group's minimum security criteria for acceptable reinsurance and monitors the purchase of reinsurance against those criteria. The Board of Directors reviews the Reinsurance Management Strategy on an annual basis.

5.5 Terms and conditions of insurance contracts

The terms and conditions of insurance contracts that have a material effect on the amount, timing and uncertainty of future cash flows arising from insurance contracts are set out below.

The following gives an assessment of the Company's main products and the ways in which it manages the associated risks.

- (i) Long-term non-linked insurance contracts and investment contracts – with discretionary participation features

Product features

The Company writes participating business, comprising insurance and savings products including whole life and endowment plans. These plans offer benefit payout upon death, surrender or policy maturity. The bonus payments are designed to distribute to policyholder, the income on assets in the with-profits fund based on a long-term rate of return. These contracts provide more capital security to policyholders than unit-linked contracts.

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

5. Risk management (continued)

5.5 Terms and conditions of insurance contracts (continued)

- (i) Long-term non-linked insurance contracts and investment contracts – with discretionary participation features (continued)

Management of risks

The Company has complete contractual discretion on the timing and quantum of bonuses declared. In practice the Company considers policyholders' reasonable expectations when setting bonus levels. The Company's reputation may be at risk should the policyholders' dividend payment drop significantly from their expectation. It is the Company's intention to maintain a smooth dividend scale based on long-term rate of return. Annual reviews are performed to confirm whether the current bonus scale is supportable taking into account the overall experience on investment, claims, operating expense and lapse rate.

Investment risks are managed through matching assets and liabilities. Investment strategy has to ensure sufficient investment return is available to fulfill future policyholders' expected payout. Mortality risks are managed through reinsurance and sound underwriting.

- (ii) *Long-term insurance/investment contracts*

Product features

The Company writes non-participating life insurance policies and/or investment contracts. These plans offer benefit payout upon death, surrender or policy maturity. Policyholders can also choose to protect themselves against morbidity risks such as health, disability, critical illness and personal accident.

Management of risks

Investment risks are managed through matching assets and liabilities. Investment strategy has to ensure sufficient investment return is available to fulfill future policyholders' expected payout. Mortality and morbidity risks are managed through reinsurance and sound underwriting. The assumptions underlying the calculation of the liabilities under the contracts and adopted in product pricing are also reviewed regularly to ensure that they remain appropriate.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

5. Risk management (continued)

5.5 Terms and conditions of insurance contracts (continued)

(iii) Long-term insurance contracts – unit-linked products

Product features

The Company writes unit-linked life insurance policies, which provide policyholders life insurance protection with direct investment in a variety of funds. Premiums received are invested into chosen funds after deduction of charges for the cost of mortality, morbidity and administration. Funds accumulated within the account will belong to the policyholder.

Management of risks

For unit-linked products, the market risk, defined as the risk of loss of fair value resulting from adverse fluctuations in interest and foreign currency exchange rates and equity prices of linked assets, is mostly borne by the policyholders. As a result, the Company is not directly exposed to movements in market values of the underlying assets, except the second order impact on investment management revenues, which is relatively insignificant. The Company assumes reputational risk, as policyholders may compare the performance of the Company's products against similar products in the market.

Mortality and morbidity risks are managed through reinsurance and sound underwriting. Claims and expenses are reviewed regularly to ensure current charges are sufficient to cover the costs. The assumptions underlying the calculation of the liabilities under the contracts and adopted in product pricing are also reviewed regularly to ensure that they remain appropriate.

5.6 Concentrations of insurance risks

For an insurance company, concentration risk can arise when the Company holds large insurance positions in a specific geographical location, sector, product or individual counterparty. Though the Company's business focus is predominantly on risks originating from Singapore, this geographical concentration does not pose a significant risk to the Company given that Singapore has limited exposure to natural catastrophe. The Company also evaluates the concentration of exposures to individual and cumulative insurance risk and establishes appropriate risk limits and reinsurance policy to ensure that no significant concentrations to individual company or sector arise and reduce any such exposure to levels acceptable to the Company.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

5. Risk management (continued)

5.6 Concentrations of insurance risks (continued)

Reinsurance risk

The Company cedes insurance risk to limit exposure to underwriting losses under various agreements that cover individual risks, defined blocks of business, and on a co-insurance basis, yearly renewable term, excess or catastrophe excess basis. These reinsurance agreements spread the risk and minimise the effect of losses. The amount of each risk retained depends on the Company's evaluation of the specific risk, subject in certain circumstances, to maximum limits based on characteristics of coverage. Under the terms of the reinsurance agreements, the reinsurer agrees to reimburse the ceded amount or sums surplus of deductibles on non-proportional reinsurance in the event the claim is paid. However, the Company remains liable to its policyholders with respect to ceded insurance if any reinsurer fails to meet the obligations it assumes.

For long-term business, the level of reinsurance required is assessed by the use of specific modelling of the Company's exposure to life risks. The financial projections produced from these models are based on a number of possible scenarios providing a detailed analysis of the potential exposures.

When selecting a reinsurer, the Company considers their relative security, assessed from public rating information and internal assessments, in accordance with prescribed HSBC Group guidelines.

5.7 Financial risk

Investment philosophy

The core concepts of the Company's investment philosophy centre on the following principles:

- Insurance funds are segregated into distinct categories based on return or risk objectives and requirements such as time horizon, nature of liabilities.
- Return and risk objectives of the life insurance funds are determined in consultation with the Appointed Actuary, taking into account guaranteed returns and required returns, nature and duration of liabilities and tax considerations.
- Investment portfolios are constructed based on fund return objectives and the Company's risk appetite statements.
- Investment limits, including those stipulated by the MAS, Central Provident Fund (CPF) and HSBC Insurance Group, are considered constraints and communicated to Fund Managers.

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

5. Risk management (continued)

5.7 Financial risk (continued)

Investment philosophy (continued)

The core concepts of the Company's investment philosophy centre on the following principles (continued):

- Liquidity requirements that are known (maturity and coupon payments) are communicated to Fund Managers.
- The approved Market Risk and Credit Risk Mandates and Investment Policy will be provided to Fund Managers on an annual basis, or communicated when changed.

The philosophy serves as guidelines for the investment decisions and activities of the Company. It ensures consistency in the investment practice of the Company.

Investment objectives

The Participating Fund aims to achieve investment return that satisfies the implied guaranteed rate and the projected bonus level for policyholders and a reasonable return for shareholders.

The Non-participating Fund (excluding Universal Life products) aims to achieve investment returns that satisfies the guaranteed rate and reasonable return for shareholders. For Universal Life products, the target return objective will be reviewed depending on market conditions.

The Shareholder's Fund aims to preserve the capital and achieve reasonable return for shareholders.

Investment processes

The Company aims to maximise the economic benefits from investment activities whilst ensuring investment risks are prudently managed. This will include the development of an investment process/model for strategic and tactical asset allocation; implementation and monitoring of investment risks and hedging strategies for the Insurance and Shareholder funds; manage all investment related risks; monitor investment performance; conduct fund manager search and evaluation; and investment product due diligence; design and implement appropriate control measures to ensure compliance with risk limits, regulations and internal restrictions.

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

5. Risk management (continued)

5.7 Financial risk (continued)

Investment processes (continued)

The Insurance and Shareholder funds of the Company are predominantly managed by, HSBC Global Asset Management (Singapore) Private Limited (AMSG). AMSG is provided with the Investment Policy and, Market & Credit Risk Mandates for the funds under their management and are required to apply reasonable level of diligence and prudence to manage the funds.

Asset allocation by insurance funds:

Asset class	Participating Fund	Non-participating Fund	Shareholders' Fund
Bonds	70%	96%	88%
Growth Assets (Incl. Equities and Alternative Investments)	24%	1%	0%
Cash	6%	2%	12%
* Data as of 31 December 2020			

Participating Fund is invested in both fixed income assets and growth assets; while Non-participating Fund is invested predominantly in fixed income assets.

Investment-grade corporate bonds in the Insurance and Shareholder's funds are mainly denominated in US Dollar and Singapore Dollar. Hedging is typically used in the fixed income portfolios to manage foreign exchange risk. Growth assets exposures in Participating Fund are acquired through Exchange-traded funds ("ETFs"), collective investment schemes and derivative instruments. Currency risk derived from investment in foreign growth assets is managed tactically.

Being invested in the above asset classes exposes the Company to the various risk factors. Each of these risk factors are described below, together with a summary of the ways in which the Company manages these risks.

(i) **Market risk**

Market risk arises when the market values of assets and liabilities do not move consistently as financial markets change. Changes in market prices, such as foreign exchange rates, interest rates and equity prices will affect the Company's income or the value of its holdings of financial instruments. The objective of market risk management is to manage and control market risk exposures within acceptable parameters, while optimising returns.

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

5. Risk management (continued)

5.7 Financial risk (continued)

(i) **Market risk** (continued)

HSBC Group and the Asset and Liability Committee (“ALCO”) actively manage risks through setting of investment policy and strategic asset allocation, approving risk measurement methodologies and annual limits in the market risk mandate. Investment limits monitoring is in place at various levels to ensure that all investment activities are aligned with the Group’s risk management principles and philosophies.

The following table illustrates the effects of selected interest rate, equity price, foreign exchange rate and credit spread scenarios on the profit for the year, total equity and CAR.

The relationship between the profit and total equity and the risk factors is non-linear and, therefore, the results disclosed should not be extrapolated to measure sensitivities to different levels of stress. The sensitivities are stated before allowance for management actions which may mitigate the effect of changes in market rates, and for any factors such as policyholder behaviour that may change in response to changes in market risk.

Sensitivity to market risk factors

	Change in profit after taxes \$'000	Change in equity \$'000	Change in CAR %
2020			
+100 basis points parallel shift in yield curve	150,268	150,268	23
-100 basis points parallel shift in yield curve	(561,890)	(561,890)	(34)
+100 basis point increase in credit spread	35,202	35,202	11
10% increase in equity prices	3,168	3,168	2
10% decrease in equity prices	(3,168)	(3,168)	(2)
10% increase in US dollar exchange rate	3,503	3,503	(7)
10% decrease in US dollar exchange rate	(3,503)	(3,503)	8

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

5. Risk management (continued)

5.7 Financial risk (continued)

(i) **Market risk** (continued)

Sensitivity to market risk factors (continued)

	Change in profit after taxes \$'000	Change in equity \$'000	Change in CAR %
2019			
+100 basis points parallel shift in yield curve	124,267	124,267	0
-100 basis points parallel shift in yield curve	(519,111)	(519,111)	(51)
+100 basis point increase in credit spread	(9,450)	(9,450)	(66)
10% increase in equity prices	9,184	9,184	3
10% decrease in equity prices	(9,184)	(9,184)	(4)
10% increase in US dollar exchange rate	(23,972)	(23,972)	(13)
10% decrease in US dollar exchange rate	23,972	23,972	15

(ii) **Asset-liability matching**

The Company actively manages its assets using an approach that balances quality, diversification, asset/liability matching, liquidity and investment return. The goal of the investment process is to optimise the investment income and risk-adjusted total return, whilst ensuring that the assets and liabilities are managed on a cash flow and duration basis. The Asset-Liability Management Committee reviews and approves target portfolios on a periodic basis, establishing investment guidelines and limits, and providing oversight of the asset/liability management process.

The Company establishes target asset portfolios for each insurance class of products, which represents the investment strategies used to profitably fund its liabilities within acceptable levels of risk. Many of these estimates are inherently subjective and could impact the Company's ability to achieve its asset/liability management goals and objectives.

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

5. Risk management (continued)

5.7 Financial risk (continued)

(iii) Interest rate risk

The Company's exposure to market risk for changes in interest rate is concentrated in its investment portfolio and insurance liabilities. The Company monitors this exposure through periodic reviews of its asset and liability positions. Estimates of cash flows, as well as the impact of interest rate fluctuations relating to the investment portfolio and insurance liabilities, are modelled and reviewed regularly. The overall objective of these strategies is to limit the net changes in the value of assets and liabilities arising from interest rate movements. The Company is also exposed to reinvestment risk arising from the changes in future interest rates.

There will be minimal impact on interest rate for insurance liabilities from the transition from IBOR rates to risk free rates by end of 2021. Though the risk free rate used to derive the account value investment return and best estimate discount rate assumptions may base on swap rate which may be affected as part of the transition, the impact is expected to be low as the replacement is expected to be comparable.

Effective interest rates and repricing analysis

In respect of interest-earning financial assets and interest-bearing liabilities, the following table indicates their effective interest rate at the reporting date and the periods in which they mature:

	Effective interest rate %	Floating interest \$'000	Fixed interest rate maturing			Total \$'000
			within 1 year \$'000	1 to 5 years \$'000	after 5 years \$'000	
2020						
Financial assets						
Policy loans	6.5	-	19,812	-	-	19,812
Debt securities	0 – 9.9	-	177,041	388,875	4,508,243	5,074,159
Short-term bank deposits	1.01	-	120,376	-	-	120,376
		-	317,229	388,875	4,508,243	5,214,347
Financial liabilities						
Insurance contract provisions(non-linked)	0.0 – 3.5	-	64,465	240,752	4,903,532	5,208,749
Insurance contract provisions (linked)	0.3 – 3.5	-	7,148	33,357	959,598	1,000,103
		-	71,613	274,109	5,863,130	6,208,852

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

5. Risk management (continued)

5.7 Financial risk (continued)

(iii) Interest rate risk (continued)

Effective interest rates and repricing analysis (continued)

	Effective interest rate %	Floating interest \$'000	Fixed interest rate maturing			Total \$'000
			within 1 year \$'000	1 to 5 years \$'000	after 5 years \$'000	
2019						
Financial assets						
Policy loans	6.5	-	20,635	-	-	20,635
Debt securities	0 – 9.9	-	271,194	513,553	4,136,371	4,921,118
Short-term bank deposits	1.01	-	71,109	-	-	71,109
		-	362,938	513,553	4,136,371	5,012,862
Financial liabilities						
Insurance contract provisions (non-linked)	0.0 – 3.5	-	62,739	257,919	4,507,043	4,827,701
Insurance contract provisions (linked)	0.3 – 3.5	-	5,453	29,008	867,391	901,852
		-	68,192	286,927	5,374,434	5,729,553

(iv) Risk arising from guaranteed returns on insurance

On death or maturity, there is an effective guarantee under our conventional non-linked insurance. The Company pays the sum assured on death or maturity. The guaranteed returns vary by products and ranges from 0% to 5% of premium over the expected policy term. The Company is also exposed to a guarantee of minimum interest rates on certain insurance contracts. Existing policy reserves are sufficient to ensure that guarantees are met.

(v) Equity price risk

The Company's portfolio of marketable equity securities, which are carried at fair value, has exposure to price risk, defined as the potential loss in market value resulting from an adverse change in asset prices. The Company's objective is to earn competitive relative returns by investing in a diverse portfolio of high quality, liquid securities. Portfolio characteristics are analysed regularly where holdings are diversified across industries, and concentrations in any one company or industry are limited by parameters established by the HSBC Group.

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

5. Risk management (continued)

5.7 Financial risk (continued)

(vi) Foreign exchange risk

Premiums are received mainly in Singapore Dollars (SGD), United States Dollars (USD), Australian Dollars (AUD) and Great British Pound (GBP), depending on policies' denominated currency. Hence, the assets are primarily held in these currencies.

Where appropriate, the Company uses currency forward and swap contracts to hedge its foreign currency risk.

The following table presents the Company's main currency exposures in Singapore Dollar equivalents:

	SGD \$'000	USD \$'000	Others \$'000	Total \$'000
2020				
Assets				
<i>Financial assets</i>				
- Debt securities	405,451	4,616,508	52,200	5,074,159
- Collective investment schemes	1,044,465	344,187	-	1,388,652
- Policy loans	9,212	10,600	-	19,812
- Derivatives financial instruments	1,142,916	(1,101,561)	-	41,355
<i>Other assets</i>				
- Insurance receivables	1,480	-	-	1,480
- Reinsurers' share of insurance and investment contracts including those with DPF provisions	-	3,110,921	-	3,110,921
- Cash and cash equivalents	41,275	160,067	7,839	209,181
	<u>2,644,799</u>	<u>7,140,722</u>	<u>60,039</u>	<u>9,845,560</u>
	SGD \$'000	USD \$'000	Others \$'000	Total \$'000
2020				
Liabilities				
<i>Financial liabilities</i>				
- Derivative financial instruments	42,271	(54,067)	17,089	5,293
Insurance contract provisions (non-linked)	934,989	4,226,045	47,715	5,208,749
Insurance contract provisions (linked)	932,685	67,418	-	1,000,103
Outstanding claims provision	21,214	-	44	21,258
Insurance payables	92,575	2,607,430	185	2,700,190
	<u>2,023,734</u>	<u>6,846,826</u>	<u>65,033</u>	<u>8,935,593</u>

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

5. Risk management (continued)

5.7 Financial risk (continued)

(vi) Foreign exchange risk (continued)

	SGD \$'000	USD \$'000	Others \$'000	Total \$'000
2019				
Assets				
<i>Financial assets</i>				
- Debt securities	598,364	4,256,766	65,988	4,921,118
- Collective investment schemes	947,830	263,065	9,617	1,220,512
- Policy loans	12,093	8,542	-	20,635
- Derivatives financial instruments	5,050	12,831	-	17,881
<i>Other assets</i>				
- Insurance receivables	1,438	-	-	1,438
- Reinsurers' share of insurance and investment contracts including those with DPF provisions	-	47,920	-	47,920
- Cash and cash equivalents	42,048	122,233	5,047	169,328
	<u>1,606,823</u>	<u>4,711,357</u>	<u>80,652</u>	<u>6,398,832</u>
	SGD \$'000	USD \$'000	Others \$'000	Total \$'000
2019				
Liabilities				
<i>Financial liabilities</i>				
- Derivative financial instruments	2,183	3,255	65	5,503
Insurance contract provisions (non-linked)	850,301	3,933,171	44,229	4,827,701
Insurance contract provisions (linked)	861,359	40,493	-	901,852
Outstanding claims provision	24,588	-	46	24,634
Insurance payables	87,752	5,206	604	93,562
	<u>1,826,183</u>	<u>3,982,125</u>	<u>44,944</u>	<u>5,853,252</u>

(vii) Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk of financial loss to the Company if a customer or counterparty to a financial instrument fails to meet its contractual obligations, and hence, arises primarily from the Company's investment securities, insurance receivables and cash and cash equivalents.

The carrying amount of financial assets in the balance sheet represents the Company's respective maximum exposure to credit risk, before taking into account any collateral held.

Credit rating

The Company uses the following categories of internal credit risk rating for financial assets which are subject to expected credit losses under the 3-stage general approach. These four categories reflect the respective credit risk and how the loss provision is determined for each of those categories.

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

5. Risk management (continued)

5.7 Financial risk (continued)

(vii) **Credit risk** (continued)

Credit rating (continued)

Category of internal credit rating	Definition of category	Basis for recognition of expected credit losses
Performing	Borrower or issuer have a low risk of default and a strong capacity to meet contractual cash flows	12-month expected credit losses
Underperforming	Borrower or issuer for which there is a significant increase in credit risk; a significant increase in credit risk is presumed if interest and/or principal repayment are 30 days past due	Lifetime expected credit losses
Non-performing	Interest and/or principal payment are 90 days past due	Lifetime expected credit losses
Write-off	Interest and/or principal repayments are 120 days past due and there is no reasonable expectation of recovery	Asset is written off

Investments

Cash and equivalents are placed with banks and financial institutions which are regulated. The Company's portfolio of fixed income securities is subject to credit risk, defined as potential loss in market value due to adverse changes in the borrower's ability to repay the debt. This risk is managed by investing in a diversified portfolio of securities, coupled with stringent review of credit risk up-front and regular reviews of credit developments by ALCO.

The Company limits its credit risk exposure from fixed income securities by investing in more liquid securities and with counterparties that have sound credit ratings.

For investment in corporate bonds, financial loss may also materialise as a result of credit spread widening. When spreads widen between corporate bonds of different credit ratings, it implies that the market is factoring more risk of default on lower rated bonds. Credit spread widening will result in devaluation of the Company's bond portfolios. The Company limits its credit spread risk by adhering to parameters established by the HSBC Group.

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

5. Risk management (continued)

5.7 Financial risk (continued)

(vii) **Credit risk** (continued)

Investments (continued)

Group-wide credit risk managed by HSBC Group stipulates internal limits by issuer or counterparty and by credit rating. Approved limits in the Credit Risk Mandate are actively monitored to manage the credit and concentration risk.

The Company issues unit-linked investment policies. In the unit-linked business, the policyholder bears the investment risk on the assets held in the underlying funds as the policy benefits are directly linked to the value of the assets in the fund. Therefore, the Company has no material credit risk on unit-linked financial assets.

Policy loans are fully collateralised against the cash value of the policies. Therefore, the Company has no material credit risk on policy loans.

The table below provides information regarding the credit risk exposure of the Company as at 31 December by classifying the fixed income securities and cash and fixed deposits according to credit ratings of the counterparties which are based on Standard and Poor's financial strength rating or its equivalent. Management does not expect any of its counterparties to fail to meet its obligations.

	Financial strength rating				Total \$'000
	AAA \$'000	A to AA \$'000	B to BBB \$'000	Not rated \$'000	
2020					
Debt securities:					
Government bonds	109,975	64,302	-	-	174,277
Public authorities and corporate bonds	365,927	3,216,186	1,269,788	47,981	4,899,882
	475,902	3,280,488	1,269,788	47,981	5,074,159
Derivatives (net)	-	36,062	-	-	36,062
Cash and cash equivalents	-	209,181	-	-	209,181
	475,902	3,525,731	1,269,788	47,981	5,319,402

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

5. Risk management (continued)

5.7 Financial risk (continued)

(vii) Credit risk (continued)

Investments (continued)

	Financial strength rating				Total \$'000
	AAA \$'000	A to AA \$'000	B to BBB \$'000	Not rated \$'000	
2019					
Debt securities:					
Government bonds	182,675	64,667	-	-	247,342
Public authorities and corporate bonds	367,065	3,415,830	821,434	69,447	4,673,776
	549,740	3,480,497	821,434	69,447	4,921,118
Derivatives (net)	-	12,378	-	-	12,378
Cash and cash equivalents	-	169,328	-	-	169,328
	549,740	3,662,203	821,434	69,447	5,102,824

Insurance and other receivables

The Company establishes an allowance for impairment that represents its estimate of incurred losses in respect of insurance receivables. This allowance comprises a specific loss component that relates to individually significant exposures.

The allowance account in respect of insurance receivables is used to record impairment losses unless the Company is satisfied that no recovery of the amount owing is possible. At that point the financial asset is considered irrecoverable and the amount charged to the allowance account is written off against the carrying amount of the impaired financial asset.

At the reporting date there were no significant concentrations of credit risk. There may be exposure to significant credit risk relating to the reinsurance solution upon the occurrence of a significant adverse event in the future, however, the likelihood of occurrence of this event is remote.

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

5. Risk management (continued)

5.7 Financial risk (continued)

(vii) **Credit risk** (continued)

Impairment of financial assets

The Company has the following financial assets that are subject to more than immaterial credit losses where the expected credit loss model has been applied:

- Financial assets measured at amortised cost \$4,340,912,000 as at 31 December 2020 (\$4,336,018,000 as at 31 December 2019)

The impairment methodology is disclosed in Note 3.15.

The credit loss allowance for financial assets held at amortised cost as at 31 December 2020 is \$4,863,000 (2019: \$2,669,000).

Movement in credit loss allowance for financial assets are set out as follows:

	Financial assets at amortised cost \$'000	Total \$'000
Balance as at 1 January 2019	918	918
Movement in allowance recognised in profit or loss during the year on:		
- Asset acquired/originated	2,386	2,386
- Reversal of unutilised amount	(635)	(635)
	<u>1,751</u>	<u>1,751</u>
Balance as at 31 December 2019	<u>2,669</u>	<u>2,669</u>
Movement in allowance recognised in profit or loss during the year on:		
- Asset acquired/originated	2,246	2,246
- Reversal of unutilised amount	(52)	(52)
	<u>2,194</u>	<u>2,194</u>
Balance as at 31 December 2020	<u>4,863</u>	<u>4,863</u>

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

5. Risk management (continued)

5.7 Financial risk (continued)

(viii) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Company will encounter difficulties in meeting the obligations associated with its financial liabilities that are settled by delivering cash or another financial asset. The Company's approach to managing liquidity is to ensure, as far as possible, that it will always have sufficient liquidity to meet its liabilities when due, under both normal and stressed conditions, without incurring unacceptable losses or risking damage to the Company's reputation.

The Company has to meet daily calls on its cash resources, notably from claims arising on its claims maturities and surrenders. Expected liquidity demands are managed through a combination of investment and asset-liability management practices, which are monitored on an ongoing basis.

The Company conducts asset-liabilities modelling to determine exposures to liquidity needs. The investment committee has considered the nature of the liabilities in terms of their duration and has assessed that the current portfolio mix, combined with the participating nature of the insurance contract liabilities, has adequately mitigated the mismatching risk to an acceptable level.

The nature of insurance business is that the requirements of funding cannot be predicted with absolute certainty as the theory of probability is applied on insurance contracts to ascertain the likely provision and the time period when such liabilities will be settled. The amounts and maturities in respect of insurance and investment contract with DPF provisions are thus based on the management's best estimate and past experience.

Unexpected liquidity demands are managed through a combination of product design, diversification limits, investment strategies and systematic monitoring. The existence of surrender penalty in insurance contracts also protects the Company from losses due to unexpected surrender trends as well as reduces the sensitivity of surrender to changes in interest rates.

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

5. Risk management (continued)

5.7 Financial risk (continued)

(viii) Liquidity risk (continued)

The table below summarises the maturity profile of the financial liabilities of the Company based on the remaining undiscounted estimated obligations.

	Undiscounted values			Total \$'000
	Up to 1 year \$'000	1 to 5 years \$'000	Over 5 years \$'000	
2020				
Insurance and other payables	149,850	2,605,581	-	2,755,431
Derivative financial instruments (net)	17,285	12,802	5,975	36,062
2019				
Insurance and other payables	123,654	1,528	-	125,182
Derivative financial instruments (net)	4,326	6,606	1,446	12,378

It is not expected that the cash flows included in the above maturity analysis could occur significantly earlier, or at significantly different amounts.

Policyholders of the Life insurance and investment contracts with DPF issued by the Company have the option to terminate their contracts at any time and receive the surrender values of their policies. The carrying value of these policies at the reporting date is reflected as the contractual cash flow.

The following table summarises the expected undiscounted cash flows of the insurance and investment contracts with DPF issued by the Company:

	Undiscounted values			Total \$'000
	Up to 1 year \$'000	1 to 5 years \$'000	Over 5 years \$'000	
2020				
Net insurance and investment contract with DPF provisions				
- Non-linked	267,689	1,054,742	8,439,840	9,762,271
- Linked	212,406	626,701	1,418,092	2,257,199
- Net outstanding claims provision	13,912	2,058	5,288	21,258
	494,007	1,683,501	9,863,220	12,040,728
2019				
Net insurance and investment contract with DPF provisions				
- Non-linked	270,170	1,129,449	7,726,159	9,125,778
- Linked	215,166	580,687	1,455,622	2,251,475
- Net outstanding claims provision	10,039	1,933	4,822	16,794
	495,375	1,712,069	9,186,603	11,394,047

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

5. Risk management (continued)

5.7 Financial risk (continued)

(viii) **Liquidity risk** (continued)

The Company has made significant assumptions to determine the estimated undiscounted cash flows of the above insurance and investment contracts with DPF issued by the Company, which include mortality, morbidity, future lapse rates, expenses, investment returns, gross of expected future premiums on inforce policies. Due to the significance of the assumptions used, the periodic amounts presented could be materially different from actual required payments. The amounts presented in the above table are undiscounted, therefore, they do not reconcile to the insurance and investment contracts with DPF which have been presented on a discounted basis in the balance sheet.

(ix) **Embedded derivatives**

Material embedded derivatives contained in host insurance and investment contracts refer to the availability of the non-forfeiture values (surrender values) in the event of a surrender of an insurance or investment contract. The surrender values comprise of two separate components: a guaranteed portion and a non-guaranteed portion (for insurance and investment contracts with DPF).

The guaranteed component is adequately provided for by minimum reserves as required under the Risk Based Capital framework. Since the surrender values of the guaranteed component are always less than the minimum reserves, the risk arising from changes in interest rates and market risk is mitigated. In addition, past experience of the Company shows that surrenders are not sensitive to interest rates movements.

The non-guaranteed component may be impacted by falling interest rates and equity values. However, the Company has the ability to adjust the amounts payable by adjusting bonus rates. As such, the interest rate risk and market risk can be mitigated.

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

5. Risk management (continued)

5.7 Financial risk (continued)

(x) Accounting classifications and fair values

Fair values versus carrying amounts

The fair values of financial assets and liabilities, together with the carrying amounts shown in the balance sheet are as follows:

	Note	FVTPL \$'000	Designated as FVTPL upon initial recognition \$'000	Amortised cost \$'000	Other financial liabilities within scope of FRS 109 \$'000	Total carrying amount \$'000	Fair value \$'000
2020							
Financial assets	15						
- debt securities		1,009,208	19,769	4,045,182	-	5,074,159	5,478,807
- collective investment schemes		1,388,652	-	-	-	1,388,652	1,388,652
- policy loans		-	-	19,812	-	19,812	19,812
- derivative financial instruments		41,355	-	-	-	41,355	41,355
Insurance receivables	16	-	-	1,480	-	1,480	1,480
Other receivables	17	-	-	65,257	-	65,257	65,257
Cash and cash equivalents	18	-	-	209,181	-	209,181	209,181
		2,439,215	19,769	4,340,912	-	6,799,896	7,204,544
Financial liabilities							
- derivative financial instruments	20	(5,293)	-	-	-	(5,293)	(5,293)
Insurance payables	21	-	-	-	(2,700,190)	(2,700,190)	(2,700,190)
Other payables	28	-	-	-	(55,241)	(55,241)	(55,241)
Subordinated loan		-	-	(100,303)	-	(100,303)	(100,303)
		(5,293)	-	(100,303)	(2,755,431)	(2,861,027)	(2,861,027)

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

5. Risk management (continued)

5.7 Financial risk (continued)

(x) Accounting classifications and fair values (continued)

Fair values versus carrying amounts (continued)

The fair values of financial assets and liabilities, together with the carrying amounts shown in the balance sheet are as follows:

	Note	FVTPL \$'000	Designated as FVTPL upon initial recognition \$'000	Amortised cost \$'000	Other financial liabilities within scope of FRS 109 \$'000	Total carrying amount \$'000	Fair value \$'000
2019							
Financial assets	15						
- debt securities		814,091	25,410	4,081,617	-	4,921,118	5,478,807
- collective investment schemes		1,220,512	-	-	-	1,220,512	1,220,512
- policy loans		-	-	20,635	-	20,635	20,635
- derivative financial instruments		17,881	-	-	-	17,881	17,881
Insurance receivables	16	-	-	1,438	-	1,438	1,438
Other receivables	17	-	-	63,000	-	63,000	63,000
Cash and cash equivalents	18	-	-	169,328	-	169,328	169,328
		2,052,484	25,410	4,336,018	-	6,413,912	6,971,601
Financial liabilities							
- derivative financial instruments	20	(5,503)	-	-	-	(5,503)	(5,503)
Insurance payables	21	-	-	-	(93,562)	(93,562)	(93,562)
Other payables	21	-	-	-	(31,620)	(31,620)	(31,620)
Subordinated loan	28	-	-	(100,626)	-	(100,626)	(100,626)
		(5,503)	-	(100,626)	(125,182)	(231,311)	(231,311)

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

5. Risk management (continued)

5.7 Financial risk (continued)

(x) **Accounting classifications and fair values** (continued)

Fair values versus carrying amounts (continued)

Measurement of fair values

Fair values have been determinable for measurement and/or disclosure purposes based on the following methods. Where applicable, further information about assumptions made in determining fair values is disclosed in the notes specific to that asset or liability.

Investments in equity and debt securities

The fair value of financial assets at fair value through profit or loss is determined by reference to their quoted closing bid prices at the reporting date.

Derivatives

Forward exchange contracts are either marked to market using listed market prices or by discounting the contractual forward price and deducting the current spot rate.

The notional amount and net fair value of the forward foreign exchange contracts as at 31 December are as set out below. The valuations of the forward contracts reflect amounts which the Company expects to pay or receive to terminate the contracts or replace the contracts at their current market rates at the reporting date. The fair values of these financial instruments have been recognised in the financial statements under derivative financial instruments.

	<u>Notional amount</u>	<u>Fair Value</u>		<u>Notional amount</u>	<u>Fair Value</u>	
	<u>2020</u>	<u>Assets</u>	<u>Liabilities</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>Assets</u>	<u>Liabilities</u>
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Forward foreign exchange contracts	1,337,073	37,439	(5,293)	882,943	17,881	(4,538)
Interest rate swaps	42,432	3,319	-	4,823	-	(965)
Cross Currency Swaps	3,853	77	-	-	-	-
Equity Option	109,575	520	-	-	-	-
Total		41,355	(5,293)		17,881	(5,503)

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

5. Risk management (continued)

5.7 Financial risk (continued)

(x) Accounting classifications and fair values (continued)

Fair values versus carrying amounts (continued)

Derivatives (continued)

The amount of derivatives (net) held with a related party is \$ 32.7 million as at 31 December 2020 (2019: \$ 13.3 million) and \$24.2 million of collaterals (2019: \$13.2 million) included within other payables, are due to the related party in connection with the derivative transactions.

Other financial assets and liabilities

The carrying amounts of other financial assets and liabilities with a maturity of less than one year (including insurance receivables, other receivables, cash and cash equivalents, insurance payables and other payables) are assumed to approximate their fair values because of the short period to maturity.

As at 31 December 2020, a cash collateral amounting to \$24.2 million (\$13.2 million as at 31 December 2019) was set aside towards the derivative transactions entered into. The amount is recognised in the balance sheet under other payables.

Fair value hierarchy

Financial assets and financial liabilities carried at fair value

	Level 1 \$'000	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000	Total \$'000
2020				
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	1,566,731	736,351	114,546	2,417,628
Derivative financial assets	-	41,355	-	41,355
Derivative financial liabilities	-	(5,293)	-	(5,293)
	<u>1,566,731</u>	<u>772,413</u>	<u>114,546</u>	<u>2,453,690</u>
2019				
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	1,493,972	544,908	21,133	2,060,013
Derivative financial assets	-	17,881	-	17,881
Derivative financial liabilities	-	(5,503)	-	(5,503)
	<u>1,493,972</u>	<u>557,286</u>	<u>21,133</u>	<u>2,072,391</u>

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

5. Risk management (continued)

5.7 Financial risk (continued)

(x) Accounting classifications and fair values (continued)

Fair values versus carrying amounts (continued)

Financial assets and financial liabilities not carried at fair value but for which fair values are disclosed.

Fair value hierarchy (continued)

	Level 1 \$'000	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000	Total \$'000
2020				
Financial assets at amortised cost	402,277	3,514,387	128,518	4,045,182
Policy loans	-	19,812	-	19,812
2019				
Financial assets at amortised cost	463,931	3,564,967	32,709	4,061,607
Policy loans	-	20,635	-	20,635

Movement in Level 3 financial instruments

	Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss \$'000	Financial assets at Amortised Cost \$'000	Total \$'000
At 1 January 2020	21,133	32,709	53,842
Changes in fair value of financial investments measured at fair value through profit or loss	(1,851)	-	(1,851)
Amortisation and foreign exchange recognised in profit or loss for financial investments carried at amortised cost	-	(3,571)	(3,571)
Purchases	95,264	82,719	177,983
Sales	-	-	-
Transfer in from Level 2	-	17,993	17,993
ECL	-	668	668
At 31 December 2020	114,546	130,518	244,396
Total unrealised loss for the period included in profit or loss for assets held at the end of financial year	(1,851)	(4,442)	(6,293)

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

5. Risk management (continued)

5.7 Financial risk (continued)

(x) **Accounting classifications and fair values** (continued)

Fair values versus carrying amounts (continued)

Fair value hierarchy (continued)

	Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss \$'000	Financial assets at Amortised Cost \$'000	Total \$'000
At 1 January 2019	21,199	-	21,199
Change in fair value of financial investments measured at fair value through profit or loss	572	-	572
Amortisation and foreign exchange recognised in profit or loss for financial investments carried at amortised cost	-	(388)	(388)
Purchases	-	34,169	34,169
Sales	(638)	-	(638)
ECL	-	(1,072)	(1,072)
At 31 December 2019	21,133	32,709	53,842
Total unrealised gain/(loss) for the period included in profit or loss for assets held at the end of financial year	548	(388)	160

On 31 December 2020, the residual commitments in connection with the investments in private equity funds managed by third parties is USD \$17,883,667. During the year, USD \$4,155,400 commitment (2019: nil) were called against the initial commitment of USD \$37,000,000 (2019: USD 15,000,000).

The following table shows the valuation technique and input used in Level 3 fair value measurements.

<u>Description</u>	Fair value at 31 December 2020 \$'000	<u>Valuation technique</u>	<u>Unobservable inputs</u>	Reasonable possible shift +/-	Change in valuation \$'000
Private equity funds	\$26,668 (2019: \$21,133)	NAV - Adjusted	NAV and Fair Value Adjustments	+/- 5%	+/- 1,333
REITs	\$43,675 (2019: nil)	NAV - Adjusted	NAV and Fair Value Adjustments	+/- 5%	+/- 2,184
Infrastructure debts	\$155,852 (2019: \$32,709)	NAV - Adjusted	NAV and Fair Value Adjustments	+/- 5%	+/- 7,793
Bonds	\$18,869 (2019: Nil)	NAV - Adjusted	NAV and Fair Value Adjustments	+/- 5%	+/- 943

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

5. Risk management (continued)

5.8 Non-Financial risks

Non-financial risk is defined as: "The risk of loss resulting from people, inadequate or failed internal processes, data or systems, or external events." These risks arise during day-to-day operations. The RMF is supported by policies, procedures and operating instructions that enable the Company to identify and manage its risks effectively within established risk appetite.

Strong risk management and effective internal control are core elements of the Business strategy and all staff are responsible for managing and mitigating non-financial risk in their day-to-day operations. Overall accountability for risk resides with the Board of Directors; however, the day-to-day management of risk lies with everybody. In executing these responsibilities, the Business has adopted risk management and internal control structure referred to as the '**Three Lines of Defence**'.

The risk stewards for Non-Financial Risk support the Risk Management Meeting. They are accountable for setting policy and control standards to manage risks, providing advice and guidance to support these policies, and challenging the Business to ensure it is managing risk effectively. They are also responsible for non-financial risk reporting at Country level, including the preparation of reports for consideration by the Risk Management Meeting and Risk Committee. The Risk Management Meeting convenes regularly to discuss key risk issues and review the effective implementation of the RMF.

6. Premiums

	Total \$'000
2020	
Gross written premiums	561,567
Gross written premiums ceded to reinsurers	<u>(164,605)</u>
Net premiums	<u>396,962</u>
2019	
Gross written premiums	874,887
Gross written premiums ceded to reinsurers	<u>(187,185)</u>
Net premiums	<u>687,702</u>

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

7. Fee and commission income

	Total \$'000
2020	
Fund management based fees	7,597
Reinsurance commission	1,236
	<u>8,833</u>
2019	
Fund management based fees	7,615
Reinsurance commission	1,059
	<u>8,674</u>

8. Investment income

	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Recognised in profit or loss		
Interest income		
- Interest income from financial assets measured at amortised cost	184,450	173,217
- Interest income on financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	27,809	23,930
- Cash and cash equivalents	250	2,659
Dividend income	8,812	8,022
Net realised gain from sale of financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	26,713	49,262
Net realised gain from sale of financial assets measured at amortised cost	1,029	-
Fair value gain on re-measurement of financial assets at fair value	178,550	139,166
Net loss on foreign exchange	(59,681)	(60,236)
Net investment income	<u>367,932</u>	<u>336,020</u>

Included in investment income is an amount of \$152,082,000 (2019: \$133,815,000) that belongs to the Linked funds' policyholders.

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

9. Net policyholder claims and benefits incurred

	Life insurance (non-linked) \$'000	Life insurance (linked) \$'000	Total \$'000
2020			
Claims and loss adjustment expenses	3,911	3,164	7,075
Death, maturity and surrender benefits	248,313	166,389	414,702
Increase in claims liabilities	614	1,293	1,907
Allocation of surplus to contracts with DPF	7,120	-	7,120
Change in unit prices	-	101,197	101,197
Change in life insurance policy reserves	374,900	(2,947)	371,953
Gross policyholder claims and benefits incurred	634,858	269,096	903,954
Reinsurers' share of policyholder claims and benefits incurred	(552,648)	(114)	(552,762)
Net policyholder claims and benefits incurred	82,210	268,982	351,192
2019			
Claims and loss adjustment expenses	4,644	4,038	8,682
Death, maturity and surrender benefits	217,572	225,183	442,755
Increase in claims liabilities	6,118	(219)	5,899
Allocation of surplus to contracts with DPF	7,411	-	7,411
Change in unit prices	-	50,664	50,664
Change in life insurance policy reserves	631,914	(27,649)	604,265
Gross policyholder claims and benefits incurred	867,659	252,017	1,119,676
Reinsurers' share of policyholder claims and benefits incurred	(69,049)	(275)	(69,324)
Net policyholder claims and benefits incurred	798,610	251,742	1,050,352

Total net policyholder claims and benefits incurred in respect of insurance contracts amounted to \$351,192,000 (2019: \$1,050,352,000).

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

10. Acquisition costs

	Total \$'000
2020	
Commission expenses	<u>46,004</u>
2019	
Commission expenses	<u>78,650</u>

11. Profit/(Loss) for the year

The following items have been included in arriving at profit/(loss) for the year:

	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Fees paid to auditors:		
<i>Audit fees paid to Auditors of the Company</i>	900	637
<i>Non-audit fees paid to Auditors of the Company</i>	-	26
Staff costs	24,691	23,307
Contribution to CPF	2,239	2,151
Value of employee services received for issue of share options/grants	507	482
Net currency exchange gains	(40,674)	(30,843)
Intercompany recharges	26,194	16,743
Advertising	1,369	2,322
Professional fees	223	811

12. Income tax

Recognised in profit or loss

	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Current tax expense/(credit)		
Current year's tax charge	35,965	-
Adjustment for prior years	1,041	(33,742)
	37,006	(33,742)
Deferred tax expense/(credit)		
Movements in temporary differences	21,826	(96)
Movements in provision on future distributable surplus from Life participating fund	3,383	2,278
Benefit of tax losses recognised	-	(22,768)
Adjustment for prior years	-	30,273
	25,209	9,687
Tax expense/(credit)	62,215	(24,055)

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

12. Income tax (continued)

Reconciliation of effective tax charge

	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Profit/(Loss) before tax	341,135	(129,838)
Tax calculated using Singapore tax rates of 17% (2019: 17%)	57,993	(22,072)
Other income taxed at a concessionary rate of 10%	(598)	(653)
Non-deductible expenses	16	171
Tax exempt income	(17)	-
Tax effect of future distributable surplus from Life participating fund	3,383	2,278
Adjustment for prior years	1,041	(3,469)
Others	397	(310)
Tax expense/(credit)	62,215	(24,055)

Pursuant to Section 43C of the Singapore Income Tax Act, Chapter 134, income from offshore business is subject to the concessionary tax rate of 10%, instead of the standard rate of 17%.

13. Deferred tax

Recognised deferred tax (assets)/liabilities

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 the deferred taxes relate to the same tax authority. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are attributable to the following:

	Assets		Liabilities		Net	
	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Property, plant and equipment	(136)	-	-	144	(136)	144
Provisions	(289)	-	-	-	(289)	-
Impairment	(652)	(279)	-	-	(652)	(279)
Unused tax losses carried forward	-	(22,768)	-	-	-	(22,768)
Future distributable surplus from Life participating fund	-	-	23,464	20,081	23,464	20,081
Tax (assets)/liabilities	(1,077)	(23,047)	23,464	20,225	22,387	(2,822)
Set-off tax	1,077	20,225	(1,077)	(20,225)	-	-
Net tax (assets)/liabilities	-	(2,822)	22,387	-	22,387	(2,822)

Net deferred tax (assets)/ liabilities are non-current.

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

13. Deferred tax (continued)

Movements in deferred tax (assets) / liabilities (prior to offsetting of balances) during the year are as follows:

	At 1 January 2019 \$'000	Charged/ (Credited) to profit or loss \$'000	Charged/ (Credited) to other comprehensive income \$'000	At 31 December 2019 \$'000	At 1 January 2020 \$'000	Charged/ (Credited) to profit or loss \$'000	Charged/ (Credited) to other comprehensive income \$'000	At 31 December 2020 \$'000
Deferred tax liabilities								
Property, plant and equipment Investments	116	28	-	144	144	(280)	-	(136)
Future distributable surplus from Life participating fund	17,803	2,278	-	20,081	20,081	3,383	-	23,464
	17,919	2,306	-	20,225	20,225	3,103	-	23,328
Deferred tax assets								
Provision	(30,273)	30,273	-	-	-	(289)	-	(289)
Impairment	(155)	(124)	-	(279)	(279)	(373)	-	(652)
Unused tax losses carried forward	-	(22,768)	-	(22,768)	(22,768)	22,768	-	-
	(30,428)	7,381	-	(23,047)	(23,047)	22,106	-	(941)
	(12,509)	9,687	-	(2,822)	(2,822)	25,209	-	22,387

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

14. Property, plant and equipment

	Furniture, fittings and equipment \$'000	Computer equipment \$'000	Total \$'000
Cost			
At 1 January 2020	27	2,608	2,635
Additions	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-
At 31 December 2020	27	2,608	2,635
Accumulated depreciation and impairment losses			
At 1 January 2020	20	1,972	1,992
Depreciation charge for the year	3	181	184
Disposals	-	-	-
At 31 December 2020	23	2,153	2,176
Cost			
At 1 January 2019	27	2,471	2,498
Additions	-	137	137
Disposals	-	-	-
At 31 December 2019	27	2,608	2,635
Accumulated depreciation and impairment losses			
At 1 January 2019	16	1,801	1,817
Depreciation charge for the year	4	171	175
Disposals	-	-	-
At 31 December 2019	20	1,972	1,992
Carrying amounts			
At 31 December 2020	4	455	459
At 31 December 2019	7	636	643

Property, plant and equipment are non-current.

15. Financial assets

	Fair value through profit or loss \$'000	Designated as fair value through profit or loss \$'000	Amortised cost \$'000	Total \$'000
2020				
Debt securities	1,009,208	19,769	4,045,182	5,074,159
Collective investment schemes	1,388,652	-	-	1,388,652
Derivative financial instruments	41,355	-	-	41,355
Policy loans	-	-	19,812	19,812
Insurance receivables	-	-	1,480	1,480
Other receivables (excluding prepayments)	-	-	65,257	65,257
Cash and cash equivalents	-	-	209,181	209,181
	2,439,215	19,769	4,340,912	6,799,896

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

15. Financial assets (continued)

	Fair value through profit or loss \$'000	Designated as fair value through profit or loss \$'000	Amortised cost \$'000	Total \$'000
2019				
Debt securities	814,091	25,410	4,081,617	4,921,118
Collective investment schemes	1,220,512	-	-	1,220,512
Derivative financial instruments	17,881	-	-	17,881
Policy loans	-	-	20,635	20,635
Insurance receivables	-	-	1,438	1,438
Other receivables (excluding prepayments)	-	-	63,000	63,000
Cash and cash equivalents	-	-	169,328	169,328
	2,052,484	25,410	4,336,018	6,413,912

The current portion of financial assets is \$1,596,898,000 (2019: \$1,876,659,000) with the remaining being non-current.

The debt securities have stated interest rates of 0% to 9.75% (2019: 0% to 9.75%) per annum and mature in years 2020 to 2110.

Policy loans are secured by the cash value of the life policy and bear interest rate at 6.5% (2019: 6.5%) per annum for the Universal Life and Par products. Loans given to customers of Universal life products and Par products have a spread of 2% over the prevalent General Crediting Rate. Policy loans have no fixed terms of repayment.

The Company's maximum exposure to loss from its collective investment schemes is equal to the total fair value of its investments in the funds. Once the Company has disposed of its units in a fund the Company ceases to be exposed to any risk from that fund.

HSBC INSURANCE (SINGAPORE) PTE. LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

16. Insurance receivables

	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Insurance receivables	1,480	1,438
Impairment losses	-	-
	<u>1,480</u>	<u>1,438</u>

Insurance receivables are due within the next financial year.

Concentration of credit risk relating to insurance receivables is limited due to the Company's many varied customers. The Company's historical experience in the collection of insurance receivables falls within the recorded allowances. Due to these factors, management believes that no additional credit risk beyond amounts provided for collection losses is inherent in the Company's insurance receivables.

Impairment losses

The Company considers the financial strength of the customers and reinsurers, notified disputes and collection experience in determining which asset should be impaired.

The insurance receivables are within the 12 months age category as at 31 December 2020 and 2019. No impairment loss has been provided in respect of insurance receivables as at 31 December 2020 and 2019.

Based on historical default rates, the Company believes that no impairment allowance is necessary in respect of insurance receivables in the age category of less than 12 months. These receivables are mainly arising by customers and reinsurers that have a good record with the Company.

17. Other receivables

	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
<i>Other receivables and prepayments:</i>		
Other receivables:		
- interest receivable	58,019	56,382
- receivables from fund managers	6,100	6,006
- sundry deposits	28	88
- others	28	396
Amounts due from related companies (non-trade)	1,082	128
Total Loans and receivables	<u>65,257</u>	<u>63,000</u>
Prepayments	758	1,605
	<u>66,015</u>	<u>64,605</u>

Other receivables are due within the next financial year. Non-trade amounts due from related companies are unsecured, interest free and repayable on demand.

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For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

18. Cash and cash equivalents

	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
With related corporations:		
- Cash at bank and in hand	80,298	91,329
	<u>80,298</u>	<u>91,329</u>
With third parties:		
- Cash at bank and in hand	8,507	6,890
- Short-term bank deposits	120,376	71,109
	<u>128,883</u>	<u>77,999</u>
	<u>209,181</u>	<u>169,328</u>

The weighted average effective interest rate on short-term bank deposits at the reporting date is 0.25% (2019: 1.01%) per annum, with an average maturity of 4 days (2019: 4 days).

19. Insurance and investment contract with DPF provisions

	Gross \$'000	2020 Reinsurance \$'000	Net \$'000	Gross \$'000	2019 Reinsurance \$'000	Net \$'000
Life business						
Insurance contract provision						
- Non-linked	5,208,749	(3,110,470)	2,098,279	4,827,701	(47,441)	4,780,260
- Linked	1,000,103	-	1,000,103	901,852	-	901,852
Outstanding claims provision						
- Non-linked	21,258	(451)	20,807	24,634	(479)	24,155
- Linked	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>6,230,110</u>	<u>(3,110,921)</u>	<u>3,119,189</u>	<u>5,754,187</u>	<u>(47,920)</u>	<u>5,706,267</u>
Current	85,959	-	85,959	86,131	-	86,131
Non-current	6,144,151	(3,110,921)	3,033,230	5,668,056	(47,920)	5,620,136
	<u>6,230,110</u>	<u>(3,110,921)</u>	<u>3,119,189</u>	<u>5,754,187</u>	<u>(47,920)</u>	<u>5,706,267</u>

	Gross 2020 \$'000	Reinsurance 2020 \$'000	Net 2020 \$'000
Life business			
At 1 January	5,754,187	(47,920)	5,706,267
Benefits paid/payable	(421,777)	129,205	(292,572)
Movement during the year charged to the Statement of Comprehensive Income	903,954	(552,762)	351,192
Movement due to financial reinsurance arrangement with RGA	-	(2,639,444)	(2,639,444)
Others	(6,254)	-	(6,254)
At 31 December	<u>6,230,110</u>	<u>(3,110,921)</u>	<u>3,119,189</u>

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For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

19. Insurance and investment contract with DPF provisions (continued)

	Gross 2019 \$'000	Reinsurance 2019 \$'000	Net 2019 \$'000
Life business			
At 1 January	5,084,223	(2,117,805)	2,966,418
Benefits paid/payable	(451,437)	82,406	(369,031)
Movement during the year charged to the Statement of Comprehensive Income	1,119,676	(69,324)	1,050,352
Movement due to financial reinsurance arrangement with RGA	-	2,056,803	2,056,803
Others	1,725	-	1,725
At 31 December	<u>5,754,187</u>	<u>(47,920)</u>	<u>5,706,267</u>

Movements in insurance contract provisions include the aggregate of all events giving rise to additional policyholder liabilities in the year. These include death claims, surrenders, lapses, the setting up of liability to policyholders at the initial inception of the policy, the declaration of bonuses and other amounts attributable to policyholders.

20. Insurance payables

	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Insurance payables:		
- Insurance payables	2,612,253	14,815
- Prepaid premium and policy deposits	87,937	78,747
Amounts due to related corporations	-	-
	<u>2,700,190</u>	<u>93,562</u>

Amounts due to related corporations are unsecured, interest free and have no fixed repayment terms.

	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Current	97,516	93,562
Non - current	2,602,674	-
	<u>2,700,190</u>	<u>93,562</u>

Included within this balance is funds withheld payable arising from financial reinsurance arrangement with RGA of \$2,602,674,000 (2019: -).

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For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

21. Other payables

	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Other payables and accruals:		
- Accrued expenses	5,772	6,126
- Others	38,490	21,432
Amounts due to related corporations	10,979	4,062
	<u>55,241</u>	<u>31,620</u>

Other payables are due within the next financial year.

Amounts due to related corporations are unsecured, interest free and have no fixed repayment terms.

22. Share capital

	2020		2019	
	Number of shares '000	\$'000	Number of shares '000	\$'000
Fully paid ordinary shares, with no par value:				
On issue at 1 January and 31 December	50,625	75,000	50,625	75,000

23. Dividend

	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
<i>Ordinary dividends</i>		
Interim dividend paid in respect of the previous financial year of nil (2019: \$1.9753) per share	-	100,000

The holders of ordinary shares are entitled to receive dividends as declared from time to time and are entitled to one vote per share at meetings of the Company. All shares rank equally with regard to the Company's residual assets.

In 2020, no dividend was declared or paid.

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For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

24. Reserves

	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Capital reserve	<u>2,064</u>	<u>1,557</u>

The capital reserve comprises the cumulative value of employee services received for the issue of share options of the ultimate holding company.

The capital reserve are non-distributable.

25. Significant related party transactions

For the purpose of these financial statements, parties are considered to be related to the Company if the Company has the ability, directly or indirectly, to control the party or exercise significant influence over the party in making financial and operating decisions, or vice versa, or where the Company and the party are subject to common control or common significant influence. Related parties may be individuals or other entities.

The following significant transactions between the Company and related parties have been included in the profit before income taxes at terms agreed between the parties:

	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Related corporations		
Commission expense	16,309	21,577
Fund management fees income	1,602	1,416
Fund management fees expense	6,258	5,401
Interest expense – net	2,092	2,102
Tax, legal, secretarial and other expenses	<u>26,194</u>	<u>16,743</u>
Key management personnel		
Short-term employee benefits	3,833	3,981
Share-based payments	<u>320</u>	<u>342</u>

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26. Assets and related liabilities

	Life insurance (non-linked)		Life insurance (linked)		Total	
	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Assets						
<i>Financial assets</i>						
- Debt securities	5,052,851	4,808,915	-	-	5,052,851	4,808,915
- Collective investment schemes	348,990	282,061	1,039,662	938,451	1,388,652	1,220,512
- Derivative financial instruments	41,355	17,881	-	-	41,355	17,881
- Policy loans	19,812	20,635	-	-	19,812	20,635
Cash and cash equivalents	203,752	164,706	2,523	57	206,275	164,763
Total assets	5,666,760	5,294,198	1,042,185	938,508	6,708,945	6,232,706
Liabilities						
<i>Financial liabilities</i>						
- Derivative financial instruments	5,293	5,503	-	-	5,293	5,503
<i>Insurance and investment contract with DPF provisions</i>						
- Life business	2,098,279	4,780,260	1,000,103	901,852	3,098,382	5,682,112
- Outstanding claims provision	11,488	24,155	9,319	-	20,807	24,155
Total liabilities	2,115,060	4,809,918	1,009,422	901,852	3,124,482	5,711,770

The Company keeps linked investments separate from other investments and invests them separately, in accordance with the requests of the policyholders. Linked investments are held on account for and at the risk of life insurance policyholders, therefore policyholders are entitled to all the gains on investments shown under this heading, but they also have to bear any losses.

The assets and liabilities in the above analysis exclude those held in the non-insurance fund (shareholder's fund).

27. Equity compensation benefits

The Company's ultimate holding company has share option schemes and conditional awards plan which invite employees of the Company, including directors, to take up options to subscribe for shares of the ultimate holding company.

Savings-related share option schemes ("Sharesave")

The HSBC Holdings Savings-Related Share Option Plans are all-employee share plans under which eligible employees have been granted options to acquire HSBC Holdings Plc ordinary shares. There are two plans: the UK plan and the International Plan. The last grant of options under the International Plan was in 2012.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020

27. Equity compensation benefits (continued)

Savings-related share option schemes (“Sharesave”) (continued)

Eligible employees save up to £500 each month (for International options granted prior to 2014, employees save Singapore dollars equivalent of up to £250 each month) over a period of one, three or five years which may be used on the first, third or fifth anniversary of the commencement of the relevant savings contract, at the employee’s election, to exercise the options. Alternatively, the employee may elect to have the savings, plus (where applicable) any interest or bonus, repaid in cash. One year options are exercisable within three months following the first anniversary of the commencement of the savings contract. Three or five-year options are exercisable within six months following the third or fifth anniversary of the commencement of the relevant savings contract.

The exercise price is set at a 20% discount to the market value of the ordinary shares immediately preceding the invitation date.

There were no share options granted in 2020 and 2019.

The plan was introduced in Singapore in 2014. Shares are purchased in the market each quarter up to a maximum value of £250, or equivalent in local currency. Matching awards are added at a ratio of one free share for every three purchased. Matching awards vest subject to continued employment and the retention of the purchased shares for a maximum period of two years and nine months.

International Employee Share Purchase Plan (“Sharematch”)

The plan was introduced in Singapore in 2014. Shares are purchased in the market each quarter up to a maximum value of £250, or equivalent in local currency. Matching awards are added at a ratio of one free share for every three purchased. Matching awards vest subject to continued employment and the retention of the purchased shares for a maximum period of two years and nine months.

28. Subordinated loan

	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Due within 12 months	303	626
Due after 12 months	100,000	100,000
	<u>100,303</u>	<u>100,626</u>

The Company entered into an agreement with a related company - The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited, Singapore Branch to obtain a subordinated loan of SGD 100,000,000 for the purpose of supporting its regulatory capital requirements in 2019. The Subordinated Loan is unsecured and repayable in full on 11 April 2029. The interest rate of the Subordinated Loan for each 6 months interest period from the drawdown date is the 6-month Singapore Swap Offer Rate (“SOR”) plus 120 basis points for the entire duration of the Subordinated Loan.

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28. Subordinated loan (continued)

SOR is a pre-existing rate largely used in the derivatives market. It uses USD LIBOR as an input for the calculation of SOR. However, the UK Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) has stated that after 2021 it will no longer compel banks to submit rates used for the calculation of LIBOR. This means that LIBOR is expected to be discontinued post December 2021 which would have implications for the long term viability of SOR.

With the transition away from IBOR rates to risk free rates by end of 2021, the Company has made plans for transition from SOR to SORA for the Subordinated Loan by 31 March 2021.

SORA had been identified by the Association of Banks in Singapore and the Singapore Foreign Exchange Market Committee (ABS-SFEMC) in August 2019 as the most suitable and robust alternative benchmark for SOR derivatives. SORA has been published since 2005, and is based on transactions in a deep and liquid overnight funding market. The Steering Committee for SOR Transition to SORA (SC-STTS) was established by the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) to oversee the industry-wide interest rate benchmark transition from SOR to SORA.

29. New or revised accounting standards and interpretations

The Accounting Standards Council Singapore (ASC) has issued a number of new FRS and amendments to FRS that are effective in the current accounting period of the Company. Of these, the "Deferral for FRS 117 Insurance Contracts" is relevant to the Company's financial statements.

FRS 117 Insurance Contracts will replace the current FRS 104 insurance contract standard. FRS 117 includes some fundamental differences to current accounting in both insurance contract measurement and profit recognition. The general model is based on a discounted cash flow model with a risk adjustment and deferral of unearned profits. A separate approach applies to insurance contracts that are linked to returns on underlying items and meet certain requirements. Additionally, FRS 117 requires more granular information and a new presentation format for the statement of comprehensive income as well as extensive disclosures. In November 2018, IASB proposed to defer IFRS 17 (equivalent of FRS 117) and the temporary IFRS 9 (equivalent of FRS 109) exemption available to insurers until the financial period beginning on or after 1 January 2021. Subsequently, IASB proposed in June 2019 to defer IFRS 17 and extend the temporary IFRS 9 exemption available to insurers until the financial period beginning on or after 1 January 2022. The proposed deferral was published in the Exposure Draft amendments to IFRS 17 for public consultation which ended on 25 September 2019. IASB subsequently decided on 17 March 2020 that the effective date of IFRS 17 will be deferred to annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2023. IASB also decided to extend the exemption currently in place for some insurers regarding the application of IFRS 9 *Financial Instruments* to enable them to implement both IFRS 9 and IFRS 17 at the same time.

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30. Events After Reporting Period

We view the COVID-19 pandemic as an evolving situation with continued uncertainties that could impact the performance of the Company. There are still many unknowns surrounding the pandemic and the timing of its eradication remains uncertain. The impact of our business operations would hinge on each government's response to manage the health and economic effects of the pandemic.

We expect continued volatility in the financial markets, resulting in fluctuations in the mark-to-market valuation of our assets and liabilities, which will impact our profit. Key factors are the direction of interest rates, credit spreads and equity prices. As our bonds are mostly investment grade, the default risk is likely to be low.

31. Authorisation of financial statements

These financial statements were authorised for issue in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors of HSBC Insurance (Singapore) Pte. Limited on 24 March 2021.