Registration Number: 2259590

DIRECTOR'S REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2000

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REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR

Baring Asset Management Holdings Limited, the director of the Company, presents its annual report and the audited financial statements of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2000.

Principal Activity

The business of the Company is, and will continue to be, the provision of administrative services to group companies.

Results

The profit for the year amounted to £403,919 (1999 Loss of: £220,300) and has been transferred to reserves. The director does not recommend that a dividend be paid.

Employment Policies

The director is committed to equal opportunities with the clear intention that individuals should be judged on their merits and capabilities regardless of sex, age, race, religion, ethnic origin or disability.

The director places considerable emphasis and value on the Company's policy of encouraging internal communication between employees and management. Employees are kept informed on matters which affect them and on the performance of the business as a whole through bulletins, a monthly newsletter and managers' briefing sessions.

The director attaches a high priority to developing the skills of all employees and to their training and, where necessary, their retraining. The performance assessment system assists management in career development and succession planning. Promotion from within the Company is strongly supported.

The Company encourages the involvement of all of its employees in its overall performance and profitability through discretionary bonus and profit sharing incentive schemes, which are based on the financial results of the Company and other subsidiary companies of Baring Asset Management Holdings Limited.

Director

The director who served during the year was:

Baring Asset Management Holdings Ltd

Secretary N Donnelly

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR

Director's Responsibilities

Company law requires the director to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company and of the profit or loss of the Company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the director has:

- selected suitable accounting policies and applied them consistently;
- made reasonable and prudent judgements and estimates;

Donnelly

- followed applicable accounting standards;
- prepared the financial statements on the going concern basis.

The director is responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company and to enable it to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. It is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Director's Interests

The interests of Baring Asset Management Holdings Limited are disclosed in note 6 to the accounts.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

N Donnelly Secretary

London

30th March 2001

REPORT OF THE AUDITOR

TO THE MEMBERS OF BARING INVESTMENT SERVICES LIMITED

We have audited the financial statements pages 5 to 14.

Respective Responsibilities of Director and Auditor

The director is responsible for preparing the director's report and, as described on page 3, the financial statements in accordance with applicable United Kingdom law and accounting standards. Our responsibilities, as independent auditors, are established in the United Kingdom by statute, the Auditing Practices Board and by our profession's ethical guidance.

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view and are properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act. We also report to you if, in our opinion, the director's report is not consistent with the financial statements, if the company has not kept proper accounting records, if we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit, or if information specified by law regarding directors' remuneration and transactions with the company is not disclosed.

Basis of audit opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the director in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Company's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion, we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the Company's affairs as at 31 December 2000 and of its profit for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

KPMG Audit Plc Chartered Accountants Registered Auditor 8 Salisbury Square London EC4Y 8BB

KAME Audit Ple

30th March 2001.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2000

	Notes	<u>2000</u> ₤	1999 £
Income	2	43,033,100	38,713,351
Administrative expenses	3	(41,545,351)	(38,329,446)
Operating Profit		1,487,749	383,905
Interest payable to group undertaking	s	(755,413)	(615,007)
Profit on ordinary activities before	taxation	732,336	(231,102)
Tax on Profit/(Loss) on ordinary activ	vities 7	(328,417)	(10,802)
Profit for the financial year		403,919	(220,300)
Retained Profit/(Loss) for the year	17	403,919	(220,300)

The notes on pages 7 to 14 form part of these financial statements.

All gains and losses have been recognised in the profit and loss account. In accordance with Financial Reporting Standard No. 3, a Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses is therefore not required.

All the results for the year arise from continuing operations.

RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENTS IN SHAREHOLDERS FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2000

	<u>2000</u> €	$\frac{1999}{£}$
Profit/(Loss) for the financial year	403,919	(220,300)
Opening shareholders' funds	44,623	264,923
Closing shareholders' funds	448,542	44,623
		

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2000

	Notes	<u>2000</u> €	1999 £
Fixed Assets Tangible assets Investments	8 9	13,307,674 97,051	8,736,001 83,051
		13,404,725	8,819,052
Current Assets			
Stocks	1.0	16,105	20,822
Debtors Investments	10 11	8,385,545 4,706,047	7,218,342 2,438,862
Cash at bank and in hand	5	377,734	455,075
		13,485,431	10,133,101
Creditors			
Amounts falling due within one year	12	(6,723,477)	(6,160,227)
Net Current Assets		6,761,954	3,972,874
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities	i .	20,166,679	12,791,926
Creditors Amounts falling due after more than one year	13	(19,718,137)	(12,747,303)
Net Assets		448,542	44,623
Capital and Reserves			
Called up share capital	16	100	100
Profit and loss account	17	448,442	44,523
Shareholders' Funds		448,542	44,623

The notes on pages 7 to 14 form part of these financial statements.

The financial statements were approved by the director on 30th March 2001 and signed on its behalf by:

JT SWAYNE

J.T. Swaye

For and on behalf of
Baring Asset Management Holdings Ltd, Director

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2000

1. Accounting Policies

a. Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards and under the historical cost accounting rules.

Under Financial Reporting Standard 1 the company is exempt from the requirement to prepare a cash flow statement on the grounds that a parent undertaking includes the company in its own published consolidated financial statements.

b. Income

Income is accounted for on an accruals basis and mostly relates to the recovery of costs incurred on behalf of group undertakings.

c. Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on a straight line basis to write-off the cost of fixed assets over their expected useful lives as follows:

Leasehold property - Not depreciated if lease is

greater than 100 years; over the remainder of the lease term if shorter.

Leasehold improvements - 10 years

Furniture & fittings - 10 years except paintings which are

not depreciated.

Office equipment - 4 years Computer equipment - 2-4 years

d. Taxation

The charge for taxation is based on the profit for the year and takes into account taxation deferred because of timing differences between the treatment of certain items for taxation and accounting purposes. Provision is made for deferred tax on a full provision only to the extent that it is probable that an actual liability will crystallise.

e. Fixed Asset Investments

Investments are stated at the lower of cost and director's valuation.

f. Foreign Currency Translation

Assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at rates ruling at the balance sheet date and gains or losses on translations are included in the profit and loss account. Transactions that are effected in foreign currency are translated into Sterling at the rate applicable on the date of the transaction.

g. Operating Leases

Operating lease rentals are charged to the profit and loss account on a straight line basis over the lease term.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2000 (continued)

h. Post-retirement Benefits

The company participates in the ING Barings group pension schemes, which include both defined benefit and defined contribution schemes. The assets of both schemes are held separately from those of the company in independently administered funds.

For the defined contribution scheme the charge against profits represents the contributions payable to the scheme in respect of the current accounting period. For the defined benefit scheme, benefits are provided based on the final pensionable pay of employees. Such future liabilities are provided for by the accumulation of assets held in the independently administered funds mentioned above. Contributions to the scheme are charged to the profit and loss account so as to spread the cost of pensions over the employees' working lives with the Company.

i. Long Term Incentive Plans

The Company has made contributions to an independent Guernsey based employee benefit trust (the "Trust") that has made conditional awards under the Baring Asset Management Holdings Limited Long Term Incentive Plan ("LTIP") to employee-beneficiaries who have undertaken duties on behalf of the Company. Once an award has been made, its potential value on redemption is linked to movements in an annual independent valuation of the ordinary shares in Baring Asset Management Holdings Limited. The resulting funds in the Trust have been invested in listed equities, including investments in comparator companies, in order to provide an element of hedge against final liabilities under the LTIP. The relevant proportion of the listed equities held by the Trust that relate to the Company are stated at their mid-market value within the Company's current assets, while the corresponding liabilities of the LTIP are included in the company's creditors, amounts falling due within one year and amounts falling due after more than one year. Movements in any excess of the liabilities under the LTIP over the mid-market value of the shares held by the Trust are taken to the profit and loss account on an annual basis.

2.	Income

Income	<u>2000</u> €	<u>1999</u> €
Recovery of costs incurred on behalf of group undertakings Other income	42,675,685 357,415	36,498,942 2,214,409
	43,033,100	38,713,351
	<u> </u>	

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2000 (continued)

3. Administrative Expenses

-	<u>2000</u> €	<u>1999</u> ₤
Auditor's remuneration	27,979	10,164
Auditor's other fees	27,932	164,286
Depreciation	3,740,325	3,410,836
Operating lease rentals	5,885,955	4,846,478
Other operating expenses	31,863,160	29,897,682
	41,545,351	38,329,446

4. Employees

The average number employed in management and administration by the Company during the year ended 31 December 2000 was 305 (1999: 282)

Aggregate remuneration of all employees was:

	<u>2000</u> €	<u>1999</u> €
Salaries	12,890,233	11,383,708
Social Security costs	1,265,703	978,165
Other pension costs	77,785	328,632
	14,233,721	12,690,505

5. Cash at Bank

The bank balances of the company are held by Barings (Guernsey) Limited, a subsidiary undertaking of ING Groep NV.

6. **Director's Interests**

The interests of Baring Asset Management Holdings Limited, the director of the Company, in the shares of Barings Group companies were as follows:

	r	2000	1999
Company	Class of Share	Number	Number
Financial Services Group Limited	Ordinary £1 Shares	25,626,100	25,626,100
Baring Investment Services Limited	Ordinary £1 Shares	100	100
Baring Investment Services (Caymans) Limited* (dormant)	Ordinary £1 Shares	1	1
Baring Asset Management Limited	Ordinary £1 Shares	71,999,900	66,701,715
Baring Global Fund Managers Limited	Ordinary £1 Shares	100	100
Baring International Investment Limited*	Ordinary £1 Shares	5,000,000	5,000,000
Baring International Investment Management Holdings	Ordinary £1 Shares	27,601,815	27,601,815
Limited*			
Baring International Investment Management Limited*	Ordinary HK\$10 Shares	11,966,153	11,966,153
Baring International Investment Management Limited*	Deferred HK\$10 Shares	599,999	599,999
Baring Asset Management France S.A *	Ordinary FFR100	35,329	35,322
Baring Asset Management Holdings Inc*	Common Stock US\$1	533,033	533,033
Baring Asset Management Inc*	Class B Voting Preference Stock US	S\$1 1,490,000	1,490,000

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2000 (continued)

6. Director's Interests (continued)

	•	2000	1999
Company	Class of Share	Number	Number
Baring Asset Management Inc*	Common Stock US\$1	35,757	35,757
Baring Investment Services Inc.*	Common Stock US\$1	14	14
Baring Asset Management UK Holdings Limited*	Ordinary £1 Shares	1,779,711	1,779,711
European and Asia Fund Management SA*	Ordinary £50 Shares	4,400	4,400
Baring Mutual Fund Management SA*	Ordinary £25 Shares	12,800	12,800
Baring International Fund Managers (Ireland) Limited*	Ordinary £1 Shares	100,000	100,000
Baring Asset Management (CI) Limited*	Ordinary £10 Shares	1,000	1,000
Baring Mutual Fund Management (Ireland) Limited*	Ordinary £1 Shares	325,000	325,000
Baring Asset Management (Asia) Holdings Limited*	Ordinary HK\$10	1,031,942	1,031,942
Baring International Fund Managers (Bermuda) Limited*	Ordinary B\$1	7,670	7,670
Baring Asset Management (Asia) Limited*	Ordinary HK\$10	2	2
Baring International Fund Managers Limited*	Ordinary HK\$10	1,000	1,000
Baring International Investment (Far East) Limited*		•	,
(liquidated 28/02/01)	Ordinary HK\$10	10,000	10,000
Baring Asset Management (Japan) Limited*	Ordinary Yen50,000	5,000	5,000
Baring Asset Management (Australia) Limited*	Ordinary A\$1	180,000	180,000
Baring (SICE) Taiwan Limited	Ordinary NT\$10	1,000,000	1,000,000
Barings (Guernsey) Limited*	Ordinary £1 Shares	10,000,000	10,000,000
Baring Trustees (Guernsey) Limited*	Ordinary £1 Shares	1,000,000	1,000,000
Baring Private Investment Management Limited*	Ordinary £1 Shares	5,405,002	5,405,002
Baring Trust Co. Limited*	Ordinary £1 Shares	850,002	850,002
Guernsey International Fund Managers Limited*	Ordinary £1 Shares	1,000,000	1,000,000
Baring Fund Managers Limited*	Ordinary £1 Shares	1,650,000	1,650,000
International Fund Managers UK Limited*	Ordinary £1 Shares	100	100
Barings (Isle of Man) Limited*	Ordinary £1 Shares	500,000	500,000
Barings (Ireland) Limited*	Ordinary £1 Shares	100,000	100,000
International Fund Managers (Ireland) Limited*	Ordinary £1 Shares	100,000	100,000
International Securitisation Managers (Ireland) Limited*	Ordinary £1 Shares	1,000	1,000
Ravensbourne Registration Services Limited*	Ordinary £1 Shares	125,000	125,000
International Fund Managers (Jersey) Limited*	Ordinary £1 Shares	10,000	10,000
Baring Fonds Service GmbH*	Ordinary DM1Shares	195,583	100,000
Baring Investment Administrative Services (SA) Limited *	Ordinary ZAR1 Shares	2,000,000	2,000,000
ING Trust (Jersey) Limited*	Ordinary £1 Shares	979	979
Baring Asset Management Life Limited	Ordinary £1 Shares	100	
*Indirect holdings	·	-00	

7. Taxation

Taxation	2000 £	<u>1999</u> €
UK Corporation Tax at 30% (1999: 30.25%) Current year Prior year Deferred taxation	154,582	(50,403)
Current year Prior year	128,541 45,294	(50,928) 90,529
	328,417	(10,802)

The taxation charge for the year is more than 30% of profit due to adjustments to capital allowances received on fixed assets purchased in prior years and tax on disallowed expenses.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2000 (continued)

8. Fixed Assets

	Leasehold Property & Improvements	Furniture & Fittings	Office Equipment	Computer Equipment	Total
Cost					
At 1 January 2000	6,346,746	6,758,545	3,483,397	26,419,103	43,007,791
Additions	2,955,697	301,051	424,426	4,660,646	8,341,820
Intra Group Transfer	-	· •	142,848	-	142,848
Disposals	(9,000)	(79,830)	(104,238)	(7,912,837)	(8,105,905)
31 December 2000	9,293,443	6,979,766	3,946,433	23,166,912	43,386,554
Depreciation	5 700 001	2 (71 500	2 000 510	21 002 (41	24 271 700
At 1 January 2000	5,708,021	3,671,590	2,999,538	21,892,641	34,271,790
Charge for the year	127,523	622,330	313,490	2,676,983	3,740,326
Intra Group Transfer	-	(20, (02)	98,192	(7.010.027)	98,192
Disposals	-	(32,623)	(85,968)	(7,912,837)	(8,031,428)
31 December 2000	5,835,544	4,261,297	3,325,252	16,656,787	30,078,880
Net book value at 31 December 2000	3,457,899	2,718,469	621,181	6,510,125	13,307,674
NT-4 1114			=====		
Net book value at 31 December 1999	638,725	3,086,955	483,859	4,526,462	8,736,001

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2000 (continued)

9. Investments

10.

Investment in Subsidiary Undertakings	$\frac{2000}{5}$	<u>1999</u>
At cost	£	£
At 1 January and 31 December	1	1
		 _

The Company owns 100% of the £1 Ordinary shares of Baring Investment Services (Caymans) Limited, a company incorporated in the Cayman Islands. This is a dormant company.

Other Fixed Asset Investment

	Fixed Asset Investment 2000	Fixed Asset Investment 1999
	Corporate <u>Membership</u> £	Corporate Membership
Cost		
At 1 January and 31 December Additions at cost	83,050 14,000	72,000 11,050
Net book value at 31 December	97,050	83,050
Total Investments	97,051	83,051
		
Debtors	2000 £	<u>1999</u>
Amounts owed by group undertakings	2,347,922	1,955,568
Other debtors	2,087,814	1,789,344
Prepayments and accrued income	3,949,809	3,473,430
	8,385,545	7,218,342
	=======	

(£427,285 of the above Prepayments and Accrued Income balance relates to a deferred tax asset, see note 14)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2000 (continued)

11. Current Asset Investments

These relate to investments in listed securities and are stated at mid-market value. Such investments are used as hedges against the liabilities of the Long Term Incentive Plan, see note 1(i).

12. Creditors

	Amounts Falling Due Within One Year	<u>2000</u> €	<u>1999</u> €
	Amounts owed to group undertakings Other creditors including taxation and social security Accruals and deferred income	239,409 2,578,276 3,905,792	500,185 1,623,833 4,036,209
		6,723,477	6,160,227
13.	Creditors		
	Amounts Falling Due After More Than One Year	2000 £	<u>1999</u> €
	Amounts owed to group undertakings Other creditors	17,300,000 2,418,137	11,000,000 1,747,303
		19,718,137	12,747,303
14.	Deferred Taxation	2000 £	1999 £
	At 1 January Transfer to profit & loss	(601,120) 173,835	(640,720) 39,600
	At 31 December	(427,285)	(601,120)

15. Operating Leases

At 31 December 2000 the company had annual commitments under operating leases as follow:

ionow.	2000 Property £	Property £
Expiring within one year Expiring in over five years	6,417,016	268,392 4,472,346
	6,417,016	4,740,738
		

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2000 (continued)

16.	Share Capital	<u>2000</u> €	1999 £
	Authorised: 1,000 Ordinary Shares of £1 each	1,000	1,000
	Issued and fully paid: 100 Ordinary Shares of £1 each	100	100
17.	Reserves	2000 £	1999 £
	Profit & Loss Account		
	At 1 January	44,523	264,823
	Retained Profit for the financial year	403,919	(220,300)
	At 31 December	448,442	44,523

18. Pension Scheme

As stated in note 1(h) the Company participates in ING Barings group pension schemes. The costs of the Company are based on pension costs across the Group as a whole. The most recent actuarial valuation of the defined benefit scheme was effective at 31st March 1998. This valuation highlighted that the scheme has a significant surplus of funds to meet future pension cost liabilities, therefore the actuary recommended an indefinite contribution holiday on the Scheme. Particulars of the actuarial valuations of the group defined benefit scheme are disclosed in the accounts of Baring Asset Management Holdings Limited.

19. Ultimate Holding Company

The Company is a subsidiary undertaking of ING Groep NV, a company incorporated in the Netherlands.

The largest group in which the results of the Company are consolidated is that headed by ING Groep NV.

The smallest group in which they are consolidated is that headed by ING Bank NV.

The consolidated financial statements of these groups are available to the public and may be obtained from the Secretary, ING Groep NV, Strawinskylaan 2631, 107722 Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

20. Related Party Transactions

The company is controlled by Baring Asset Management Holdings Limited, its immediate parent undertaking. The ultimate controlling party is ING Groep NV. As the company is a wholly owned subsidiary of the ING Groep NV which prepares

As the company is a wholly owned subsidiary of the ING Groep NV which prepares consolidated financial statements in the Netherlands, it has taken advantage of the exemption contained in FRS8 and has therefore not disclosed separately transactions or balances with entities which form part of the ING Groep NV.