

Société Nationale Industrielle et Minière (SNIM)

Year ended December 31, 2021

Statutory auditor's and Independent auditor's report on the annual financial statements

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Société Nationale Industrielle et Minière (SNIM)

Year ended December 31, 2021

Statutory auditor's and Independent auditor's report on the annual financial statements

To the President,

Opinion

We have audited the annual financial statements of Société Nationale Industrielle et Minière (SNIM) which comprise a statement of financial position as at December 31, 2021, as well as the income statement, statement of change in equity and cash flow statement for the year ended December 31, 2020 and notes to the annual financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies (together the "Annual Financial Statements"). These Annual Financial Statements were prepared by Management on April 26, 2022, on the basis of the elements available at that date.

In our opinion, the accompanying Annual Financial Statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Entity as at December 31, 2021 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended, in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards.

Basis for Opinion

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

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Annual Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the Annual Financial Statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the EU and for such internal control as Management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of Annual Financial Statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the Annual Financial Statements, Management is responsible for assessing the Entity'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 Entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Entity's financial reporting process.

Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Annual Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Annual Financial Statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these Annual Financial Statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the Annual 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 Entity'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 Entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditors' report to the related disclosures in the Annual 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 auditors' report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Entity to cease to continue as a going concern.

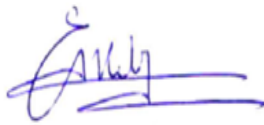
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the annual Financial Statements, including the disclosures, and whether the Annual Financial Statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance 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.

Nouakchott & Paris-La Défense, May 10, 2022

The Statutory Auditor and the Independent Auditor

The Statutory Auditor
CONEX



El Agheb Limam Brahim

The Independent Auditor
ERNST & YOUNG Audit



Pierre Abily

SOCIETE NATIONALE INDUSTRIELLE ET MINIERE

STANDALONE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED ON DECEMBER 31st, 2021

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SNIM
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
As at December 31 st, 2021

Assets

In MUM	Note	31/12/2021	31/12/2020
Non-current assets			
Property, Plant & Equipment	4.1	61 515	62 101
Exploration assets		2	4
Intangible assets	4.2	206	245
Other financial assets	4.3	1 555	1 499
Investment in associates	4.3	4 691	3 701
Total of non-current assets		67 970	67 549
Current Assets			
Inventories and work in progress	4.4	7 803	7 347
Trade receivables	4.5	6 645	12 417
Other receivables	4.6	3 663	2 898
Derivatives	4.7	11	78
Cash and cash equivalents	4.8	51 008	29 135
Total current assets		69 130	51 875
TOTAL ASSETS		137 099	119 425

EQUITY & LIABILITIES

In MUM	Note	31/12/2021	31/12/2020
Equity			
Issued capital	4.9	18 270	18 270
Share premium		646	646
Underlying net earnings on forward contracts	4.7	1 649	1 856
Accumulated profits (not distributed)		97 197	73 200
Total Equity		117 762	94 972
Non-current liabilities			
Interest bearing loans and borrowing	4.10	2 516	8 343
Retirement benefit obligations	4.11	3 416	3 067
Provisions	4.12	738	567
Total non-current liabilities		6 671	11 976
Current Liabilities			
Trade payables	4.13	6 285	4 777
State and other public taxes	4.14	2 360	2 677
Other taxes	4.15	44	26
Other payables	4.16	3 939	5 981
Forward contracts	4.7	38	15
Total current liabilities		12 664	14 586
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		137 099	119 425

SNIM
INCOME STATEMENT
Period of 12 months ended December 31st, 2021

In MUM	Note	31/12/2021	31/12/2020
Sales	5.1	59 277	45 146
Revenue from ancillary business activities	5.2	754	666
Other operating income	5.3	1 170	671
Operating income		61 201	46 482
Changes in inventory of finished goods and work-in-progress		550	(229)
Capitalized production		331	352
Raw materials and consumables used	5.4	(10 732)	(8 786)
Personnel expenses	5.5	(5 152)	(4 078)
Depreciation, amortization and provision expenses	5.6	(6 934)	(5 952)
Taxes and duties	5.7	(42)	(159)
Other operating expenses	5.8	(2 073)	(1 654)
Profit from operation		37 149	25 977
Financial income	5.9	1 297	1 300
Financial expenses	5.10	(1 418)	(1 848)
Profit before tax		37 027	25 428
Income tax		(5 400)	(4 107)
Net Result		31 627	21 321
Earnings per share in Ouguiya		1 731	1 167

STATEMENT OF COMPRENSIVE INCOME

In MUM	31/12/2021	31/12/2020
Net Result of the year	31 627	21 321
Impact of financial instruments	(207)	(61)
Comprehensive Income	31 419	21 260

SNIM
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
Period of 12 months ended December 31st, 2021

In MUM	Note	31/12/2021	31/12/2020
Operating activities			
Income before tax		37 027	25 428
Amortization, depreciation and provision	6.1	5 933	5 644
Reversal of amortization, depreciation and provisions	6.4	(398)	(763)
Gains /losses on asset sales		0	0
Gains /losses on exchange	6.5	(372)	(161)
Investment income		(219)	(338)
Financial expenses		329	500
Changes in working capital	6.2	6 017	(5 767)
Cash flow generated by operating activities		48 317	24 598
Interest paid		(383)	(489)
Income tax paid		(5 873)	(3 097)
Net cash flow from operating activities		42 061	20 985
Investing activities			
Acquisition of fixed assets	6.3	(5 678)	(5 992)
Loan repayment		0	153
Proceeds from sale of equipment		0	325
Interests received		154	259
Dividends received		66	78
Net cash flow from investing activities		(5 459)	(5 177)
Financing activities			
Proceed from long-term borrowings		0	0
Other financial payments		197	178
Payments on long-term borrowings		(7 232)	(2 270)
Other financial Proceeds		(68)	(38)
Dividends paid		(7 626)	(2 841)
Net cash flow from financing activities		(14 729)	(4 971)
Net Change in cash and cash equivalents		21 873	10 810
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period		29 135	18 325
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period	6.6	51 008	29 135

SNIM
STATEMENT OF CHANGES OF EQUITY
As of December 31st, 2021

In MUM	Issued capital	Share premium	Accumulated profits	Underly ng net earnings on FC (1)	Total
Shareholders' equity as of January 1st, 2020	18 270	646	54 750	1 916	75 583
Revaluation of financial instruments	-	-	-	(62)	(62)
Dividends	-	-	(2 871)	-	(2 871)
Net result of the period	-	-	21 321	-	21 321
Shareholders' equity as of January 1st, 2021	18 270	646	54 750	1 917	94 972
Revaluation of financial instruments	-	-	-	(207)	(207)
Dividends	-	-	(7 629)	-	(7 629)
Net result of the period	-	-	31 627	-	31 627
Shareholders' equity as of December 31st, 2021	18 270	646	97 197	1 649	117 762

(1) FC : Forward contracts

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
As at December 31st, 2021

NOTES TO THE STANDALONE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The statutory financial statements for the year ended December 31st, 2021 were authorized for issuance in accordance with Board of Directors resolution on April 26th, 2022.

1- MAIN EVENTS OF THE YEAR 2021

The financial year 2021 has been marked by the following events:

- Mineral sales amount to 50.2 MMMRU (1.6 trillion USD), up 27% compared to 2020.
- Sales volume amounts to 12.7 million tons, up 2% compared to 2020.
- Early repayment of debts relating to the financing of the Guelb II project for a total amount of 139 M USD.
- Commissioning of the dredging project by of mid-December 2021.
- Authorization granted by the board for the financing of the development of AL AOUJ project (up to 400 M USD SNIM share).

2- OBJET ET ACTIVITES DE LA SOCIETE

The National Industrial and Mining Company (SNIM) is a limited company under Mauritanian laws. The company is registered in the Islamic Republic of Mauritania. The company headquarters are located in Nouadhibou, PO. 42.

The company carries out the exploration, production and marketing of iron ore. The company extracts iron ore from the mines of M'haoudat, Guelbs and Kédia.

3- ACCOUNTING POLICIES

3-1 Principles for the preparation of the Financial Statements

3.1.1 Applicable standards

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). The publication of the financial statements in IFRS is justified by:

- The wish for harmonization expressed by investors and sponsors, who are the main users of our financial statements;
- The use of these standards by SNIM's partners;
- Our concern to give comparable financial information.

Standards, amendments and interpretation applicable as of January 1st, 2021

The financial statements as at December 31st, 2021 have been prepared in accordance with IFRS (International Financial Reporting Standards) as approved by the EU (European Union) in effect on that date, and in accordance with IFRS standard as issued by the IASB (International Accounting Standards Board) and mandatory as at December 31st, 2021.

New standards and interpretations applied from January 1, 2021

The following IFRS standards and IFRIC interpretations which came into force on January 1, 2021 had no impact on the financial statements of SNIM.

Standards	Topics
Amendments to IFRS 9, IAS 39, IFRS 7, IFRS 4 and IFRS 16	Interest Rate Benchmark Reform – Phase 2
Amendment to IFRS 16	Covid-19-Related Rent Concessions beyond 30 June 2021
Interpretation IAS 38	Configuration or Customization Costs in a Cloud Computing Arrangement

Standards, amendments and interpretations not yet mandatory as of December 31st, 2021

The IFRS standards and IFRIC interpretations published by the IASB that have not yet entered into force should not have a significant impact on the financial statements of SNIM.

Standards	Topics	Effective date
Amendments to IAS 1	Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-current	January 2024
Amendments to IAS 1	Accounting method disclosures	January 1 st , 2023
Amendments to IAS 8	Definition of Accounting Estimates	January 1 st , 2023
Amendments to IAS 12	Recognition of deferred tax on transactions that, on initial recognition, give rise to equal amounts of taxable and deductible temporary difference	January 1 st , 2023
Amendments to IAS 16	Proceeds before Intended Use	January 1 st , 2022
Amendments to IAS 37	Cost of fulfilling a contract	January 1 st , 2022
Amendments to IFRS 3	Reference to the Conceptual Framework	January 1 st , 2022
Annual improvements to IFRS standards	Cycle 2018-2020 (IFRS 1, IFRS 9, IFRS 16, IAS 41)	January 1 st , 2022

3.1.2 General principles

The principles used are based on the historical cost method and the accrual basis of accounting method, except for (1) derivative financial instruments and (2) categories of reevaluated fixed assets that have been measured at fair value.

The carrying values of assets and liabilities that are hedged at fair value are adjusted to record changes in the fair value attributable to the risks that are being hedged.

The financial statements are presented and evaluated in ouguiyas. All tables and annexes are presented in millions of ouguiyas (MMRUs).

The income statement is presented by category.

3-2 Property, plant, and equipment

Accounting policies:

Tangible assets are recorded on the basis of cost model according to the standard IAS 16. Cost includes the purchase price, all costs necessary to bring the asset into working condition less the accumulated depreciation and impairment. The fair value model is applied for some asset categories as following:

✦ Buildings:	Acquisition cost
✦ Specialized complex installations:	Fair value
✦ Railway rolling stock and railroad track equipment:	Fair value
✦ Operating equipment:	Acquisition cost
✦ Transport equipment:	Acquisition cost
✦ Other tangible assets:	Acquisition cost

Depreciation:

Depreciation of tangible assets is calculated on a straight-line basis over the useful life of the asset to reflect the rhythm of consumption of the future economic advantages expected from the asset according to the IAS 16.

The estimated useful life of the respective asset categories are as follows:

✦ Buildings:	14 to 30 years
✦ Specialized complex installations:	15 to 30 years
✦ Railway rolling stock and railroad equipment:	10 to 30 years
✦ Operating equipment:	5 to 30 years
✦ Transport equipment:	5 years
✦ Other tangible assets:	5 years

Lease agreements

Since financial year 2009, assets held under finance lease agreements are initially recorded in the statement of financial position at the lower of their fair value, or if this one is lower, at the discounted value of the minimum payments under the lease related to contract in accordance with IAS 17.

The corresponding commitment is recognized in financial liabilities. The financial expenses which represent the difference between the total lease commitments and the fair value of the assets are recognized in profit or loss over the term of the lease

Arrangements that do not take the legal form of a lease are analyzed on the basis of IFRIC 4 to determine whether they contain a lease to be recognized according to IAS 17 or not.

From the year ended December 31, 2019, leases are accounted in accordance to IFRS 16.

Impairment

The carrying value of tangible assets is reviewed for impairment when events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying value may be inferior to the recoverable amount.

If any such indication exists and when the carrying values exceed the estimated recoverable amount, the asset or cash-generating units are written down to their recoverable value.

The recoverable amount of property, plant and equipment is the greater of the fair value net of disposal costs and the value in use. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments, the time value of money as well as the specific risks to the asset. For an asset that does

not generate largely independent cash inflows, the recoverable amount is determined for the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. Impairment losses are recognized in the income statement.

Stripping costs

In surface mining operations, entities may find it necessary to remove mine waste materials ('overburden') to gain access to mineral ore deposits. This waste removal activity is known as 'stripping'. There can be two benefits accruing to the entity from the stripping activity: usable ore that can be used to produce inventory and an improved access to further quantities of material that will be mined in future periods.

- **Stripping cost incurred during the development phase:** costs incurred are capitalized and are included in the cost of mine construction and subsequently amortized over its useful life. Capitalization of discovery costs ceases when the mine or component is commissioned and ready for use as planned by management.
- **Stripping cost incurred during the operating phase:** IFRIC 20 provides for the following treatments:
 - (a) Accounted for as current costs of production in accordance with IAS 2 if they are related to routine stripping cost.
 - (b) Recognition as a non-current asset (stripping activity asset') when stripping activities provide better access to the natural resource in subsequent periods if, and only if, all of the following conditions are met:
 - (i) It is probable that the future economic benefit (improved access to the ore body) associated with the stripping activity will flow to the entity;
 - (ii) The entity can identify the component of the ore body for which access has been improved;
 - iii) The costs relating to the stripping activity associated with that component can be measured reliably.

Given the constraints related to the implementation of the standard that affect the reliability of the information to be produced, the stripping cost incurred during the production phase is allocated to inventories produced during the period

The costs of obligations for dismantling, removing and restoring the site

Within the context of the Guelbs 2 project and the mineral port, implicit commitments could lead SNIM to recognize assets with a view to the dismantling and/or rehabilitation of the facilities. SNIM also remains attentive to any changes in legislation and decisions taken in such matters by the Mauritian authorities (cf.3.14 Site rehabilitation).

3-3 Intangible assets

Intangible assets are recognized at their acquisition cost in accordance with IAS 38. They are depreciated on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful life, between 3 and 5 years.

The carrying value of intangible assets is reviewed for impairment when events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying value may be less than its recoverable amount or when the asset does not meet the amortization requirements of IAS 38 (economic benefits consumed over several years).

The company's intangible assets do not include any Goodwill.

3-4 Exploration for and Evaluation of Mineral Resources

IFRS 6, which specifies the financial information to be disclosed relative to the exploration and evaluation of mineral resources, has been compulsory since 2006.

An entity shall determine an accounting policy specifying which expenditures are recognized as assets of exploration and apply the policy consistently and permanently, the method applied by SNIM is as follows:

For intangible assets, recognized expenditures are as specified in §9 and only concern the research and development costs provided for by IFRS 6, including:

- Acquisition of rights to explore,
- Topographical, geological, geochemical, and geophysical studies.
- Exploratory drilling,
- Trenching,
- Sampling

For tangible assets these are the tangible assets used by the entity dedicated to research.

3-5 Other financial assets

The Company grants interest-free loans to employees. Deposits and guarantees, requested by the Mauritanian electricity, water and telecommunications companies, are intended to cover the risk of credit and potential equipment damage. Loans and guarantees are accounted for at their historical cost.

3-6 Investments in associates

Investments in subsidiaries, joint ventures and associates are recorded in the statement of financial position at their acquisition value in accordance with the provisions of IAS 27. A provision is made in the event of a loss in value at the acquisition value.

3-7 Inventories and work-in-progress

Inventories and work in progress are mainly composed of raw materials, iron ore and other supplies (Spare parts).

In accordance with IAS 2, raw materials, and other supplies, including spare parts, are valued at the lower of the weighted average cost and net realizable value.

Inventories of iron ore and other supplies are depreciated every year and are valued at its net realizable value. The depreciation method of raw materials and other supplies can be presented as follows:

Items in stock :

- ✦ No depreciation on items with a regular consumption for which coverage is less or equal to one year;
- ✦ 15% Statistical depreciation per year for items having recorded at least one movement (consumption) during the last two years;
- ✦ 100% Statistical depreciation per year for dead items (items with no movement in the last three years except strategic items)
- ✦ 100% Statistical depreciation per year for disputed items

Iron ore inventories:

Inventories of iron ore, including ore stockpiles, are valued at their weighted average price or at their net realizable value if such value proves to be lower. The cost includes the direct costs of the mines, the production sites, the railway and the port, as well as a portion of amortization and depreciation and general expenses. This valuation does not take into account financial expenses, the fixed and variable general administrative expenses incurred to transform the raw materials into finished products and the costs related to sales and marketing.

Net realizable value is the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business, less estimated costs of completion and the estimated costs necessary to make the sale. The ore with a poor quality is totally depreciated. It has no market value.

3-8 Impairment test

In accordance with IAS 36, impairment tests are performed on tangible and intangible assets when any indication of potential loss of value is identified. Such tests are performed at least once a year on intangible assets with an indefinite useful life and on goodwill.

When the net book value of assets grouped together in a cash-generating unit exceeds their recoverable value, depreciation is recorded for an amount corresponding to the difference between the net book value and the recoverable value. Recoverable value is defined as the highest value between the asset's fair value less costs to sell and its useful value. Useful value is determined according to the discounted cash-flow method.

In case of cash generating unit, goodwill on consolidation is apportioned by cash-generating unit for the purposes of the impairment test. Depreciation that is charged at first on goodwill when necessary, is recognized in a specific section of the income statement when the amounts are significant. Any impairment recorded on goodwill cannot be reversed later.

Cash generating unit definition

According to IAS 36, goodwill, tangible asset and intangible asset values are subject to impairment tests whenever there is an indication of loss of value. These indications are reviewed at year-end. This test must be performed at least once a year for assets with an undefined life, a category which does not exist at SNIM.

In order to perform such a test, assets are gathered into cash-generating units (CGUs). These CGUs are composed of homogeneous assets which generate cash-flows that are largely independent of cash-flows generated by other groups of assets.

The criterion for defining CGUs has led SNIM to make the following grouping: Company SNIM: this is a homogeneous, integrated unit which groups the three mines operated at Zouerate, the private railway siding and the port facilities in Nouadhibou. These items cannot generate cash-flows that are largely independent of cash-flows generated by the other components of SNIM.

The useful value of these units is determined according to net discounted cash-flows. When the net value of assets grouped into a cash-generating unit exceeds its useful value, depreciation is recorded for an amount corresponding to the difference between net value and useful value. Depreciation is allocated first to reduce the carrying amount of any goodwill.

3-9 Trade receivable

Trade receivables are recognized and carried at original invoice amount less an allowance for any uncollectible amounts in accordance with IAS 9. An estimate for doubtful debt is made when collection of the full amount is no longer probable. Bad debts are recorded as losses when identified as such.

3-10 Borrowing cost

In accordance with IAS 23, borrowing costs directly attributable to the acquisition, construction or production of a qualifying asset are recorded as part of the cost of that asset. Since 2016, all interests of qualifying assets have been recorded in expenses further to the putting into service of the projects relative to it (mainly Guelb, Port).

3-11 Cash or cash-equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash at bank and in hand and short-term deposits with an original maturity of three months or less.

For the purposes of the cash flow statement, cash and cash equivalents correspond to the definition above and are net of outstanding bank overdrafts.

3-12 Interest-bearing borrowings

SNIM's financial debt is mainly contracted with international financial sponsors at preferred rates.

According to IAS 39 principles, loans at preferred rates are accounted for as "other financial liabilities". Thus, they should initially be registered at fair value, i.e., a discounted value based on the current market rate for a loan with similar conditions or for a similar borrower.

In order to determine the market value of a loan granted at a preferential rate, and therefore off the market, it is necessary to reliably determine a discount rate for future flows. This rate is determined according to the market and takes into account several elements: currency of the loan, signature of the borrower (or even the credit spread).

When no information is directly available on the market, IAS 39 allows the recording of a favorable-rate loan by comparison with fixed-rate loans of equal maturity taken out by the company or by a similar company (size and activity) under normal market conditions.

In view of SNIM's specific environment, the market information that is necessary for determining a rate trend, in order to calculate the market value of favorable-rate loans, is not available because of the following:

- No market for long-term financing of private business in foreign currencies exists in Mauritania,
- It is difficult to evaluate SNIM's credit spread,
- No comparable ore extracting company exists in Western Africa.

It is consequently impossible to reliably determine a market value for the favorable-rate loans taken out by SNIM. In such a case IAS 39 allows the accounting of financial assets and liabilities at historical cost, which equals the amounts received. Interest is recorded on a nominal rate basis.

The debt ratio calculated from the data of the year ended **31/12/2021** is **-1,14**.

Within the context of the Development and Modernization Project, SNIM signed financing agreements with commercial financial institutions and institutional sponsors. Among these agreements, two loans contracted within the following banking pool:

- i) the African development bank, the French Development Agency, the European Investment Bank, the Islamic Development bank, BNP Paribas, Société Générale, BHF-BANK Aktiengesellschaft et KfW as regards the financing GuelbII project and
- ii) BNP Paribas, Société Générale, BHF-BANK Aktiengesellschaft et KfW for the financing of new mineral harbor project.

These two bank loans are subject to covenants requiring compliance with certain ratios. Failure to comply with these ratios gives lenders the option to require early repayment of their loans. The ratios are calculated every six months on the basis of the individual and consolidated financial statements.

These ratios are as follows:

- o Debt coverage service ratio (Free Cash-Flow /Debt Service): >1,3
- o Indebtedness Ratio (DLMT/Exceeds gross operating): <3,5
- o Ratio of Financial Structure (DLM / Equity): <2
- o Current Ratio (Current Assets /Current liabilities) : >1,5

On June 20, 2018, SNIM concluded an agreement with its donors, the main terms of which are as follows:

- 1) Debt ratio: The Debt Ratio (financial debt to EBITDA) is replaced by the Net Debt Ratio (net debt (net of cash on financial debt) to EBITDA).
- 2) Communication to lenders on a monthly basis of i) Cash Balance On shore and Offshore and ii) Customer invoicing
- 3) Communication to lenders of offtake contracts
- 4) The introduction of a new liquidity control: the minimum level of cash must be USD 100 million. Non-compliance will be considered as an Event of Default.
- 5) If the cash level falls below USD 150 million, SNIM agrees to have an analysis conducted by a third party of its forecasts and the measures taken to restore the cash level.

In course of 2021, SNIM's significant level of cash (linked to the rise in the price of iron ore) combined with the very low level of interest rates led SNIM to conclude with its donors an early repayment of USD 139 million in financing contracted under the Guelb II project.

The outstanding amount of these bank loans amounted to zero MUS\$ as of December 31, 2021 for the Guelb II project and 9.6 MUS\$ for the New Mineral Port Project and all the ratios provided for by the terms of the contracts described below. above have been respected.

3-13 Allowance for contingencies

In accordance with standard IAS 37, provisions are booked when the company has a present obligation (legal or constructive) which has arisen as a result of a past event, when it is probable that an outflow of resources representing economic benefits will be necessary to extinguish the obligation and when the amount can be estimated reliably.

The obligations resulting from restructuring operations are recognized at the time of their announcement to the people concerned.

3-14 Site rehabilitation

The legal obligations as of December 31st, 2020 related to the rehabilitation of mining extraction sites are governed by the following regulatory framework:

The obligation to rehabilitate sites is mentioned in 1979 mining code.

This code, as updated in 2009 following the publication of law no. 2009-26 of 7 April 2009, states that the abandonment of the operations of any mining extraction zone must be the subject of a ministerial order defining the action taken in terms of “public health and safety and essential features of the environment”.

As at April 26nd, 2021, the Council of Ministers has not adopted any decree instituting the practical obligations.

Law no. 2000-45 relating to the environment: The law confirms the existence of this legal obligation to rehabilitate extraction sites in Mauritania. Article 44 of this text, enacted on 26 July 2000, states that: «The operation of quarries and mines, as well as mineral exploration work, must be designed and performed in such a way that:

- It does not damage the environment surrounding the sites, or create or aggravate erosion phenomena
- The sites operated can be returned to their initial state.

The rehabilitation of the sites is the responsibility of the operator of the quarry or mine. The methods and deadlines for carrying out the work will be fixed by decree adopted on the basis of a joint report of the Minister for the Environment and the Minister for Mines."

(Title III: Protection of resources and the natural environment / Chapter III: Protection of the soil and subsoil / Article 44)

This law has been the subject of the adopting of the following decrees:

- Decree no. 2004-94 requires that an environmental impact assessment must be carried out before any mine with a capacity exceeding 100 tons/day is opened for operation

The decree no. 2007-107 confirms this obligation and its article 7.8 requires that the measures taken in connection with this obligation to clean up the sites be accompanied by a bank guarantee, but it does not give any guidelines as to the interpretation of the term "rehabilitation".

As at April 26nd, 2021, these two decrees have not been published.

- On 4 February 2009, decree no. 2009-051 was adopted within the framework of the law on the environment
The decree didn't modify the article 14 of decree no. 2008-159 ruling on the following obligation: "Two months before expiry of the operating license, the mining cadaster must inform the Mines and Geology Cadaster of such expiry so that it makes sure that the license-holder carries out the clean-up work in compliance with the provisions of the decree relating to the Mines Police and of the decree relating to the mining environment."

In conclusion, although the legal obligation exists, it is not accompanied by an implementing decree specifying its interpretation. As the obligation cannot be assessed reliably, no provision has been booked in the financial statements of SNIM as of year-end.

In addition, since the end of February 2011, SNIM has been certified ISO 14001. Within this context, the objectives set

- ✦ The environmental analysis of the sites, the launch of the environmental management plan and the definition of the environmental program targets.
- ✦ SNIM's legal department is monitoring any changes in the legislation relating to these obligations.
- ✦ Technical department is actually working on valuation hypothesis based on the interpretation of actual laws and based on informal obligations linked to ISO 14001's certification.

A provision will be recognized as soon as a reliable assessment of this obligation will be made. Variations of this passive evaluation will be record as per IFRIC 1's meanings.

3-15 Employee benefits

Benefit pension plan:

The company has a benefit pension plan which is qualified as a defined-benefit pension plan. Note that there is no separately administered fund financing whole or part of the pension plan.

The method applied for evaluating the plan is that of the projected unit credit actuarial valuation method. This method consists in measuring the benefit according to the projected wage at the end of the employee's career and to the acquired rights at valuation date. Actuarial differences have been booked according to the corridor method. Actuarial gains and losses are

recognized as income or expense when the net cumulative unrecognized actuarial gains or losses for each individual plan exceed 10 % of the higher of the defined-benefit obligation and the fair value of the plan assets. These gains or losses are recognized on the expected average remaining working lives of the employees participating in the plan.

The option provided by IAS 19 allowing the recognition of all the actuarial gaps in equity and not yet applied by the SNIM became mandatory as of 1st January 2013. The company offers certain additional non-post-employment benefits to its senior executives. These include mainly tax sharing, healthcare, company cars, fuel and allocated housing.

The costs related to these benefits are insignificant. Consequently, they are accounted for as expenses.

Definition of contribution plan:

SNIM has decided to set up, as from January 2011, a defined contribution supplementary pension plan with the following main characteristics:

- An employer contribution corresponding to 10% and an employee contribution corresponding to 7% of the reference salary
- The prior service cost is borne by SNIM
- The reference salary is the base salary plus the seniority bonus (cf. 4.11 Actuarial assumptions)

Increases and reversals of the lump-sum pension indemnities and supplementary pension are booked to personnel charges.

3-16 Income from ordinary activities

IFRS 15 requires the identification of service obligations for the transfer of goods and services to the customer for each contract. Revenue is recognized when the performance obligations are met on the basis of the amount of remuneration the company expects to receive in exchange for the transfer of goods and services to the customer.

Revenue from SNIM's ordinary activities consists essentially of turnover on mineral sales, which is recognized when control of the property is transferred to the buyer and the amount can be reasonably estimated. Mineral sales are made FOB and the transfer of control is made at the time of loading the minerals.

3-17 Public subsidies

Government grants are recognized at their fair value when there is reasonable assurance that the grant will be received, and all attached conditions will be complied with.

When the grant relates to an expense item, it is recognized, on a systematic basis, as income over the years necessary to match the grant to the costs that it is intended to offset. Where the grant relates to an asset, the fair value is credited to a deferred income account and is released to the income statement over the expected useful life of the relevant asset by equal annual installments.

3-18 Income tax

In view of SNIM's current fiscal status and the bases for the determination of tax (9% of the turnover) there are no deferred taxes.

3-19 Management of the functional and presentation currency

SNIM presents its financial statements in local currency, the Ouguiya. However, according to IAS 21 revised, the economic analysis of SNIM's activities shows that the Ouguiya is not SNIM's functional currency. If SNIM opts for USD as functional currency, the company will have to obtain authorization from the Mauritanian authorities to present its financial statements on that basis.

The information system is currently set for the Ouguiya as functional currency, with the Dollar being used as parallel currency. However, the system allows the editing of financial statements presented in USD. Shareholders' equity based on USD as a

functional currency and presented in MU (converted to average annual rate) can be estimated at 130 067 against 117 762 MUM in the presented financial statements. Likewise, income based on USD as a functional currency and presented in MU can be estimated at 31 278 MUM (profit) against 31 627 MUM disclosed in the financial statements.

3-20 Derivative financial instruments and Hedging transactions

SNIM uses derivative financial instruments to hedge against the risks relating to its business (exchange risk related to its operating, investing and financing activities).

Derivative financial instruments negotiated for hedging the company's exposure to risks linked to its business or to financing operations are qualified as cash-flow hedges where the company hedges exposure to variability in cash-flows attributable to a future transaction.

SNIM does not use financial instruments to cover the exposure to variations in the fair value of assets or liabilities, except for the exchange risk, or to cover investment in foreign activity.

Cash-flow hedging respecting the eligibility criteria of the hedge accounting

Gains or losses on hedging instruments are recognized in equity for the portion that is determined to be effective and in the income statement for the ineffective portion. At the time the hedging transaction is recognized, the associated gains or losses that had previously been recognized in equity are transferred to the income statement for the same period as the hedged transaction and to the same account.

Hedge accounting ceases to be applied when the hedging instrument expires or is sold, terminated or exercised, or when it no longer meets the criteria for hedge accounting as defined in IFRS 9. In this case, the cumulative gain or loss on the hedging instrument initially recognized directly in equity shall be maintained separately in equity until the commitment or forecast transaction has occurred

In the event that the hedged transaction is not realized, the cumulative changes in value recognized directly in equity are recognized in profit or loss for the year.

Derivative financial instrument operations not qualifying for hedge accounting:

Gains or losses arising from the changes in the fair value of the derivative instruments (such as the put options or the conditional contracts so called exotic contracts), are taken directly to net profit or loss for the year.

All derivative financial instruments are stated in assets or liabilities at their fair value when the contract is negotiated and later revalued at the fair value at every year-end. The market value of forward contracts and interest rate swaps, during their lifetime and at maturity, is determined by an independent expert based on immediate and at term data at the time when the different underlying items and risk-free interest rate trends are valued for discounting.

During the option lifetime and at maturity, the market value is determined by an independent expert according to the Black and Scholes model, based on the following elements:

- Market value of the underlying item
- Option exercise price
- Sensitivity "to the forward currency"
- Risk-free interest rate.
- Maturity of the option.

3-21 Interest and dividends

Dividend revenue is recognized when the shareholders' right to receive the payment is established.

The company's accounting policy is to classify dividends and interest received as investing activities, dividends paid as financing activities and interest paid as operating activities in the Cash flow Statement.

3-22 Segment reporting

SNIM's is dedicated to extraction of iron ore. Indeed, SNIM group's exposure to risk so as expectations for profitability objectives are considered as homogeneous. Subsidiaries of group, representing independent Cash-Generating Units, are below the quantitative thresholds needed to make a separate presentation of information related to their own operational sector. The analysis of the activity is carried out through geographical zones which constitute the primary level of sector-based information according to standard IFRS 8 "Sector-based investment" for the product of ordinary activities from external clients. Other information related to profit and loss, assets and liabilities are not followed by geographical zones. The group activity is indeed made integrally in the Islamic Republic of Mauritania. Geographical zones can be identified as follows:

- ✦ France,
- ✦ Germany,
- ✦ Belgium,
- ✦ Italy,
- ✦ Other countries member of the European Union,
- ✦ China,
- ✦ Others

4- ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RELATING TO THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**4.1 Tangible assets**

Assets valued at fair value	31/12/2020	Acquisitions	Transfers	Disposals	31/12/2021
Gross value	48 470	2 541	(5)	0	51 005
Accumulated depreciation	21 545	2 125	(5)	0	23 666
NET VALUE	26 925	415	0	0	27 340
Assets valued at cost	31/12/2020	Acquisitions	Transfers	Disposals	31/12/2021
Gross value	52 216	8 034	(22)	(1)	60 227
Right of use assets	3 723				3 723
Accumulated depreciation	31 869	2 783	(18)	0	34 635
NET VALUE	24 070	5 250	(4)	(1)	29 315
TOTAL GROSS VALUE	104 409	10 574	(27)	(1)	114 955
TOTAL AMORTIZATION	53 414	4 909	(22)	0	58 301
FIXED ASSETS IN PROGRESS	11 107	4 291	(10 352)	(186)	4 860
NET VALUE FIXED ASSETS	62 101	9 957	(10 356)	(187)	61 515

The additions of the year 2021 amount to 4 291 MUM of which 331 MUM of capitalized production.

There are no events or evidence of impairment on the company's assets. Therefore, no impairment test has been performed.

There is also no collateral on property, plant, and equipment.

Capitalized borrowing costs:

The loan costs incorporated into the cost of assets for the year are as follows:

In MUM	31/12/2020	Incorporated costs during the period	31/12/2021
Guelb2	2 024	-	2 024
Mineral harbor	406	-	406
Harbor Dredging	101	28	139
Total	2 531	64	2 569

Finance leases

The gross value of the financial leases included in the final assets (see 4.1 Tangible fixed assets) is as follows:

In MUM	31/12/2020	Acquisitions	Disposals	31/12/2021
Renewal of Port Equipment (part BID)	769	-	-	769
Other materials Guelbs II (part BID)	2 324	-	-	2 324
Railway Materials (Part BID)	631	-	-	631
Gross value	3 723	-	-	3 723

Other materials Guelbs II correspond to:

- ✦ 10 mining trucks for MUM 6 14
- ✦ 6 locomotives for MUM 573
- ✦ 6 loading systems of wagon for MUM 463
- ✦ 4 wet concentrations for MUM 674

Railway materials correspond to:

- ✦ Concrete sleepers' plant for MUM 375
- ✦ Supplies of equipment of Railway for MUM 256

Finance lease obligations

Minimum lease payments in thousands of USD	31/12/2021	31/12/2020
Due within one year	2 938	10 796
From 2 nd to 5 th year inclusive	8 239	37 239
More than five years	-	-
Less future financial charges	(471)	(4 343)
Finance lease debt	10 706	43 691

4.1.1 Property, plant, and equipment at fair value

Tangible assets are valued at their acquisition cost except for the categories of fixed assets that were revalued during financial year 2000. The revalued amounts were confirmed during financial year 2001 by an independent expert, the firm Met-Chem.

Certain classes of assets have been regularly revalued since then, notably during financial year 2006. The fair value has been determined according to the replacement cost method less accumulated depreciation, as there was no market-based evidence.

The replacement cost has been estimated taking the following criteria into consideration:

- ✦ Value at purchase
- ✦ The technical condition of the equipment
- ✦ The useful life and the age of the equipment

GROSS VALUE	31/12/2020	Acquisitions	Transfers	Disposals	31/12/2021
In MUM					
Specialized complex installations	39 486	2 455	0	0	41 941
Railway rolling stock and railroad track	8 983	86	(5)	0	9 065
TOTAL	48 470	2 541	(5)	0	51 005
DEPRECIATIONS	31/12/2020	Allowance	Transfers	Reversals	31/12/2021
Specialized complex installations	17 046	1 927	0	0	18 973
Railway rolling stock and railroad track	4 499	199	(5)	0	4 693
TOTAL	21 545	2 125	(5)	0	23 666
NET BOOK VALUE	31/12/20	Augmentation/ Allowance	Transfers	Diminution	31/12/2021
Specialized complex installations	22 440	528	0	0	22 968
Railway rolling stock and railroad track	4 484	(113)	0	0	4 371
TOTAL	26 925	415	0	0	27 340

4.1.2 Property, plant, and equipment at acquisition cost

GROSS VALUE	31/12/2020	Acquisitions	Transfers	Disposals	31/12/2021
IN MUM					
Land	470	0	0	0	470
Land improvements	19	0	0	0	19
Buildings	22 775	5 218	(14)	0	27 979
Operating equipment	30 169	2 372	(3)	0	32 538
Transportation equipment	1 588	417	(4)	0	2 001
Office and IT equipment	575	12	0	0	587
Office furniture	343	15	(1)	(1)	356
TOTAL	55 939	8 034	(22)	(1)	63 949
Depreciation	31/12/2020	Allowance	Transfers	Reversals	31/12/2021
Land	0	0	0	0	0
Land improvements	17	(0)	0	0	17
Buildings	9 870	1 024	(11)	0	10 882
Operating equipment	19 795	1 573	0	0	21 367
Transportation equipment	1 445	126	(4)	0	1 567
Office and IT equipment	551	9	0	0	560
Office furniture	192	52	(2)	0	242
TOTAL	31 869	2 783	(18)	0	34 635
NET BOOK VALUE	31/12/2020	Increase/ Allowance	Transfers	Decrease	31/12/2021
Land	470	0	0	0	470
Land improvements	2	0	0	0	2
Buildings	12 905	4 194	(2)	0	17 096
Operating equipment	10 374	799	(3)	0	11 171
Transportation equipment	143	291	0	0	434
Office and IT equipment	25	3	0	0	27
Office furniture	152	(37)	1	(1)	113
TOTAL	24 070	5 250	(4)	(1)	29 314

The following table shows the gross values of fully depreciated property, plant and equipment that are still in use as of December 31st, 2021:

Description In MUM	Gross value	
	2 020	2 021
Buildings	2 345	1 506
Railway rolling stock and railroad track equipment	2 426	1 021
Specialized complex installations	8 089	8 174
Operating equipment	10 336	14 334
Transportation equipment	1 330	1 381
Other tangible assets	660	673
TOTAL	25 186	27 089

4.2 Intangible assets

Variation in Intangible gross fixed assets	31/12/2020	Acquisitions	Transfers	Disposals	31/12/2021
Intangible fixed assets value	808	-	-	-	808
TOTAL	808	-	-	-	808

Change in depreciation	31/12/2020	Allowance	Transfers	Reversals	31/12/2021
Intangible fixed assets value	563	41	-	(2)	602
TOTAL	563	41	-	(2)	602
Net Value	245	(41)	-	2	206

These intangible assets relate to acquired patents and software

Sensitivity tests and goodwill value

In closing context, company's assessment regarding reasonably possible variations related to the key assumptions corresponds to the ranges of values used in the sensitivity tests.

According to IAS36, property, plant and equipment with extinct useful lives are subject to an impairment test when there are indications of an impairment possibility. Sensitivity tests on key assumptions, particularly operational, taking into account reasonably possible variations are carried out during the impairment test, namely:

- A sensitivity test on ore prices
- A sensitivity test on growth rates and WACC

During financial year 2021, no indication for impairment of fixed asset have been identified for the property, plant and equipment has been revealed.

4.3 Other financial assets and investments in Associates

In MUM	31/12/2021	31/12/2020
Loans and advances	1 679	1 525
Deposits and guarantees	13	112
Provision for other assets' impairment	(138)	(138)
Other financial assets	1 555	1 499
Investment in associates	4 691	3 701
TOTAL	6 246	5 200

4 .3.1 Other financial assets:

Loans and advances mainly include:

- ✦ Loans and advances granted to the company's employees. These loans are recorded at the value of the amounts lent and do not generate interest.
- ✦ The Najah loan, which relates to the tripartite agreement (State, SNIM and NAJAH) by which the State undertakes to pay the SNIM the remainder of the loan and NAJAH undertakes to carry out certain works in favor of the State.

Deposits and guarantees are valued on the disbursed amounts basis. The gap with their fair value is not significant.

The provision for impairment of other financial assets corresponds to the impairment of loans.

4.3.2 Investments in associates

In MUM	31/12/2020	Increase	Transfers	Disposals	31/12/2021
Investments in associates	5 919	1 082	0	0	7 001
Subsidiary loans	1 961	469	0	(38)	2 429
Gross Value	7 880	1 511	0	(38)	9 393
Impairment of Investments in associates	(3 020)	(523)	0	0	(3 543)
Impairment of Subsidiary Loans	(1 160)	0	0	0	(1 160)
Provision for impairment	(4 179)	(523)	0	0	(4 702)
Interest	2 899	519	0	0	3 458
Loans to subsidiaries	801	469	0	(38)	1 232
Net Value	3 701	988	0	(38)	4 691

The increase in the Interest to Subsidiaries item corresponds to:

- ✦ GHM : 724 MMRU
- ✦ SAMIA : 288 MMRU
- ✦ GMM : 39,7 MMRU
- ✦ GIM : 30 MMRU

The increase in the Loans to Subsidiaries item corresponds to:

- ✦ To shareholder advances in favor of ATTM for 360 MUM
- ✦ To shareholder advances in favor of TKAMUL for 54 MUM
- ✦ Draws of the shareholder advance granted to EMC pour 13 MUM

Investment in associated companies at 31 12 2021 In MMRU												
Company	Capital	Equity other than capital	Share of capital held (in %)	Book value of the investment in the balance sheet		Loans or advances granted and not repaid in balance sheet		Guarantees and endorsements given	Turnover	Income	Total of balance sheet	Dividends received during the year
				Gross	Net	Gross	Net					
SOMASERT	57	21	100%	56	56	-	-	-	49	3	107	
SAFA	30	206	100%	28	28	-	-	-	163	21	288	10
SAMMA	10	255	53%	1	1	-	-	-	128	42	292	21
ATTM	304	(744)	79%	2 376	-	534	134	-	688	(944)	2 180	-
COMECA	20	87	94%	18	18	10	-	-	246	28	216	4
SAMIA	364	(82)	50%	326	251	5	-	-	76	28	247	
GMM	110	(66)	97%	305	10	64	30	-	18	(2)	147	-
EL AOUJ SA	2 457	(440)	50%	1 228	1 008	1 155	996	-	-	(35 274)	4 798	
GIP	728	423	68%	495	495	-	-	-	142	99	1 916	-
MAIL	2 099	(2 034)	15%	316	16	-	-	-	1 687	(365)	5 907	-
DAMANE ASSURANCE SA	625	108	20%	120	120	-	-	-	152	61	985	21
M2E	50	38	100%	50	50	-	-	-	98	13	253	
MSMS (TAKAMUL)	1 075	160	50%	535	526	110	-	-	-	-	3 529	-
GHM	1 581	-0	62%	976	790	544	-	-	-	(2)	2 349	
SRN	8	59	35%	3	3	-	-	-	236	28	156	11
GIM	30	(1)	100%	8	8	-	-	-	-	(1)	29	-
Total	10 648	(2 009)		6 939	3 389	2 429	1 160	-	3 682	-36 263	23 369	66

The business purpose of each of the subsidiaries is presented below:

- **La Société Mauritanienne de Services et de Tourisme (SOMASERT)** is managing hotel infrastructures and promotion of potential tourism in the country.
- **La Société Arabe du Fer et de l'Acier (SAFA)** is producing iron and operating an iron-foundry with a capacity of 2,000 tons.
- **La Société d'Acconage et de Manutention en Mauritanie (SAMMA)** does operations of consignment, transit and handling in the ports of Nouakchott and Nouadhibou;
- **La Société d'Assainissement, de Travaux, de Transport et de Maintenance (ATTM)** does civil engineering and road construction.
- **La société Construction Mécanique de l'Atlantique (COMECA)** does manufacturing, production and repair framework mechanical parts, mechanical ensembles, and boiler works.
- **La Société Arabe des Industries Métallurgiques (SAMIA)** extracts and produces gypsum and plaster.
- **La société Granite et Marbre de Mauritanie (GMM)** does the exploitation and trade of ornamental stones, mainly granite and marble.
- **Gestion des Installations Pétrolières (GIP)** does the storage, transport and distribution of refined hydrocarbons.
- **Tazadit Underground Mine** does the search and underground mining of iron ore.
- **El Aouj Mining Company (EMC)** produces pellets for the direct reduction of iron ore from the El Aouj guelbs;
- **Mauritanian Airlines International (MAIL)** deals with the domestic, regional and international air transport.
- **Damane Assurance:** industrial insurance.
- **Mauritanienne d'Eau et d'Electricité (M2E)** for execution and management of water and electricity distribution network.
- **Mauritania Saudi Mining and Steel (TAKAMUL):** produces and exports iron ore.
- **Grand Hôtel de Mauritanie (GHM):** construction and the management of hotels to cost categories.
- **Société de Remorquage Nouadhibou (SRN)** has for object the realization of activity of towing as well as any service of laminate and piloting in the port of Nouadhibou and in quite different port of Mauritania out outside.
- **AMSAGA:** The realization of geological exploration activities, and mining activities (production and exploitation)
- **Engineering and Consulting Associes (ENCO):** Strategic and operational consulting services
- **IQAR:** Real state
- **Générale de l'immobilier (GIM) :** Construction and property development management

Presentation of the Guelb El Aouj project

(a) Joint venture agreement

EL AOUJ MINING COMPANY (EMC) is a 50/50 joint venture between SNIM and Sphere Minerals, an Australian company 100% owned by the Glencore group, one of the world leaders in natural resources trading. Glencore produces and sells over 90 raw materials, including copper, nickel, zinc, cobalt, ferrochrome and coal. It is listed on stock exchanges in London and Hong Kong. It employs 158,000 people at 150 production sites in more than 50 countries and has a turnover of \$220 billion (2018 data).

EMC's vision is to become a leading Mauritanian mining company that creates long-term wealth for the prosperity and well-being of its shareholders, employees and local communities. Its objective is to develop the El Aouj deposits in the Tiris Zemmour region, where it holds a mining license valid for 30 years and renewable for consecutive periods of 10 years each. EMC's operating permit covers 5 Guelbs close to SNIM's operations: El Aouj East, Center and West, Tintekrat and Bouderga. It also holds a water exploitation license valid for 30 years, renewable, covering the aquifers of Touajil and Aouchich. EMC has a share capital of MRU 2.45 billion; it currently employs 11 permanent employees, including 3 executives seconded by SNIM and 1 executive seconded by Glencore.

In the 1970s, SNIM began geological research on the guelbs of Tiris (including Guelb El Aouj) which aimed to analyze the reserves of the various guelbs in the region and to select the optimal Guelb to take over from the decreasing activity of KEDIA. In 2001, SNIM and Sphere created a joint venture to study the implementation of a project to pelletize magnetic ores from Guelb El Aouj and, with this in mind, attract outside investors. In 2004, El Aouj SA was created to conduct the feasibility studies for the project. These studies were completed in February 2008 by SNC Lavallin. SNIM and Sphere then decided to use El Aouj SA as an operational entity for the development of the project. In August 2009, El Aouj SA changed its name to El Aouj Mining Company SA. In 2010, it decided to update the 2008 feasibility study and entrusted this work to SNC Lavalin, which completed it in February 2011, concluding that it was possible to have a project of different sizes.

In January 2011, Xstrata acquired Sphere Minerals and a concept study showed that a project with a production of over 30 Mtpa could be envisaged. In April 2012, the EMC Board of Directors approved a new development strategy for the project in 2 phases:

- 1st phase: production of 15Mt/year of concentrates;
- 2nd phase: production of 15Mt/year of concentrates including 7Mt used for the production of Pellets by direct reduction.

In May 2013, Xstrata and Glencore merged and in April 2014, the pre-feasibility study carried out by Worley Parsons shows that the most optimal development of the project is done by production units of 9.5 Mt/year each. On this basis, the EMC Board of Directors decided to carry out a feasibility study for the first unit, of 9.5Mt/year, which constitutes the initial investment. The feasibility study improved this unit to reach 11.3 Mt/year. The second phase is planned a few years later, after the first has been tested and has started to generate cash flow.

(c) Exploration programs

The exploration programs carried out, in chronological order, are presented below:

- Until 2010: 54,800 m of boreholes were carried out by SNIM and Sphere;
- In 2011/12: drillings were carried out at Bou Derga & Tintekrate where 31,500 m were drilled from April 2011 to May 2012;
- In 2012/2013: surveys were carried out at El Aouj East & Center where 92,800 m were drilled from June 2012 to June 2013.

In all, 179,100 m of drilling were carried out.

(d) Mineral Resources

The exploration programs carried out on all 5 Guelbs show that the reserves of the entire permit amount to 4.4 billion tonnes, with the Guelb El Aouj East, alone representing almost half of the available mineral resources.

It is for this reason that the EMC decided to focus on Guelb El Aouj Est.

(e) Project studies

A range of studies were carried out as part of the project, including:

- Phase I pre-feasibility study: Entrusted to Worley Parsons and completed in April 2014;
- Phase II concept study: Entrusted to Worley Parsons and completed in June 2014;
- Study on financing: Entrusted to BNPP and completed in May 2014;
- Environmental study (ESIA): Started in March 2013 and completed in February 2016;
- Phase I feasibility study: Entrusted to Ausenco and completed in December 2015; the mining study was entrusted to BBA and completed in November 2015;
- HR study: Development in 2013 of a strategic map and HR policies;
- Railway and Port Capacity Study: Entrusted to Hatch and completed in November 2015;
- FEED study: Entrusted to Hatch and completed in October 2018.

(f) Technical & Financial Model

Following all of these studies, the project was fully defined both technically and financially. Thus, the following was decided:

- ✦ An open-pit mine over a period of 41 years;
- ✦ A Dry Magnetic Separation Treatment Plant;
- ✦ The use of the SNIM Railway and Port;
- ✦ The production of 11.6 million tons of Concentrate at a content of 66.5% Fe;
- ✦ A global investment (CAPEX) of 1.578 Billion USD (including 196.7 Million \$ for the Railway and the Port);
- ✦ A Production Cost (OPEX) of \$27.6 per tonne of Concentrate (FOB Nouadhibou);
- ✦ In 2018, an average price of \$72 (IODEX 65) was used to obtain an Internal Rate of Return (IRR) of 8.5% (before taxes) for 100% equity. Following the dizzying rise in iron ore prices, an analysis of the financial model with a price of \$105 (IODEX 65 – December 2021) was carried out and achieved an IRR of 21% (Before taxes) for 100 % equity.

(g) Project Schedule

The Project Schedule is as follows:

- ✦ -Start of works: April 2022
- ✦ -Start of Production: September 2026
- ✦ -Ramp Up in less than 3 years: 1st year: 1.5 Mt, 2nd year: 9.5 Mt and 3rd year: 12.7 Mt

(h) Project Impacts

The Project will have multiple positive impacts for local communities and for the Country in general. So He will allow

- The creation of more than 1,200 direct jobs and 400 indirect jobs;
- Construction of a 220 housing estate in F'derik;
- Supply of water, electricity and a sewage treatment plant to F'derik;
- The generation of significant income through, for example, the rental of the SNIM train and port estimated at 8 dollars per ton of concentrate (which could reach 88 million dollars per year) and also other income for the 'State.

(i) Environmental and Social Study

The Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) of the project was carried out by URS between March 2013 and February 2016 and Public Consultations on the Terms of Reference were organized in F'derik in 2015. The Environmental Permit was obtained in 2016, after validation of the ESIA.

The ESIA allowed the identification of potential impacts on the environment and proposed adequate mitigation measures concerning:

- Air quality through dust emission (PM10) and gas emission (NO2, SO2);
- Surface water and groundwater resources;
- Noise emissions from mining activities;
- Waste treatment.

(j) Accounting data

As of December 31, 2021, the fair value of SNIM's stake in the El Aouj joint venture has not been modified and is based on Sphere's expenses for the feasibility study closed on December 31, 2009, i.e. 1,228 MUM (see 4.3.1 shareholdings in companies). As part of the agreement between the two parties, SNIM receives assets corresponding to the expenses incurred by Sphere, in return for an exploration right contributed which was partially valued in SNIM's accounts.

As of December 31, 2021, the expenditure incurred under this program, including that of the carryover from the previous year, was 3,108 MUM, an increase of 23 MUM compared to 2020. This increase is due to the capitalization of Guelb El Aouj which increased from 1943 MUM in 2020 to 1967 MUM in 2021. The other headings in the table below such as Bouderga Tintekrate, Study 2010 and South Capitalized were not subject to expenditure in 2021.

In MUM	31/12/2020	31/12/2021
Cap Bouderga Tintekrate	1 095	1 095
Cap Expenses Study 2010	19	19
JV south Cappitalized	28	28
Cap Guelb El Aouj	1 943	1 967
TOTAL	3 085	3 108

Presentation of TAKAMUL Joint venture

Mauritania Saudi Mining and Steel Company (TAKAMUL) is an equal joint venture (JV) between SABIC and SNIM (Société Nationale Industrielle et Minière). The JV agreement was signed in September 2012 and the company was officially created on December 12, 2012 under number 14 113 in Nouadhibou, Mauritania.

In 2013, Takamul began developing the Atomai project, which corresponds to a magnetite deposit located 9 km from the town of F'DERIK in the Zouerate region of Mauritania. The project aims to produce 10 million tons per year of pellets over 25 years from 2024 to 2026.

The BFS was completed in July March 2020 by Ausenco, a Canadian company, and the shareholders decided to go further in the FEED, after a complementary update on the BFS.

Takamul selected two suppliers to complete the water program, a monitoring office and a drilling company, and the data analysis phase was launched for the identification of potential boreholes. Metallurgical tests have started in Germany to confirm and fix the final flowsheet of the project.

The evaluation of the technical offers of FEED (the basic engineering study) has been made and the evaluation of the financial offers will start on May 10, 2022.

4.4 Inventories and work-in-progress

In MUM	31/12/2021	31/12/2020
Raw materials at weighted average cost	8 535	7 528
Goods at weighted average cost	3 348	2 798
Ore at weighted average cost	30	26
Gross value of inventories	11 913	10 351
Impairment of raw materials	(2 891)	(1 962)
Impairment of ore inventories	(1 220)	(1 042)
Total inventories at the lower of weighted average cost and net realizable value	7 803	7 347

Inventories are valued at the lower of weighted average cost and net realizable value.

In MUM	31/12/2021	31/12/2020
Raw materials at weighted average cost	8 535	7 528
Raw materials at net realizable value	5 644	5 566
Goods	30	26
Iron ore at weighted average cost	3 348	2 798
Iron ore at net realizable value	2 128	1 756
Total inventories at the lower of weighted average cost and net realizable value	7 803	7 347

The company does not practice any pledge on stocks

4.5 Trade receivables and related accounts

Trade receivables are detailed as follows:

In MUM	31/12/2021	31/12/2020
Iron ore trade receivables	5 287	11 388
Receivables due from group companies	717	661
Other trade receivables	1 217	827
Total Gross	7 221	12 876
Impairment of Iron ore trade receivables	(12)	(12)
Impairment of Receivables due from group companies	(312)	(230)
Impairment of Other trade receivables	(253)	(217)
Total impairment	(576)	(459)
Iron ore trade receivables net	5 275	11 376
Receivables due from group companies net	406	431
Other trade receivables net	964	608
Total net value	6 645	12 417

The table for the receivables' impairment is presented as follows:

In MUM	31/12/2021	31/12/2020
Impairment as of 1st January	459	379
Impairment loss under IFRS 9	0	0
Additional depreciation	117	80
Impairment as of 31st December 2021	577	459
Amount recovered from impaired receivables	11 388	4 335
Gross amounts of impaired receivables	7 221	12 876

4.6 Other receivables

The other receivables are detailed as follows:

In MUM	31/12/2021	31/12/2020
Trade payables – debit balances	1 487	864
Personnel receivables	205	131
Trustee	1 319	1 408
Sundry receivables	87	15
Tax receivables	381	297
Deferred expenses	183	183
TOTAL	3 663	2 898

- ✦ Trade payables - debit balances relate to advances granted to its suppliers and orders realized before the issuing of the corresponding invoices
- ✦ Personnel receivables are mainly composite of short-term advances granted to staff.
- ✦ Tax receivables are mainly composite of unique tax or other income from State.
- ✦ Deferred expenses are mainly composite of prepaid expenses and revenues to be received

4.7 Financial instruments: disclosure

4.7.1 Financial instruments presented in the statement of financial position

The company defines its financial assets into the following categories: assets measured at fair value through profit or loss, assets and liabilities measured at amortized cost.

Financial assets are initially recognized at fair value which generally corresponds to the price paid, and do, to the acquisition cost (including related acquisition costs, where applicable). Subsequently, financial assets are measured at fair value or at amortized cost depending on the category of financial asset they belong to.

As from 1 January 2020, financial assets are classified in the categories "financial assets measured at amortized cost", "assets measured at fair value through other comprehensive income" and "financial assets measured at fair value through net income". This classification depends on the entity's business model for managing financial assets and the contractual conditions under which it is determined whether cash flows are only the payment of principal and interest (SPPI). Financial assets with an embedded derivative are considered in their entirety to determine whether their cash flows are SPPI.

Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss

Financial assets measured at fair value through profit or loss are financial assets held for trading. A financial asset is classified in this category if it was acquired primarily for the purpose of resale in the short term. Derivative financial instruments are also designated as held for trading unless they qualify as hedges. They are classified as current assets.

Financial assets measured at amortized cost

Financial assets measured at amortized cost include debt instruments whose management intention is to collect contractual cash flows that correspond solely to the repayment of the nominal amount and the payment of interest on the remaining nominal amount due. At each balance sheet date, these assets are measured at amortized cost using the effective interest rate method. When there is objective evidence that the financial asset has lost all or part of its value, an impairment loss corresponding to the difference between the net carrying amount and the recoverable amount (discounting of expected cash flows at the original effective interest rate) is recognized in income. It is reversible if the recoverable amount is likely to change favorably in the future.

The main financial liabilities consist of borrowings and trade payables. The main purpose of these financial liabilities is to finance the company's operating activities.

On initial recognition, borrowings should be measured at fair value with transaction costs directly attributable to them as a result of the issuance of the liability being charged to them. Debt issue costs and premiums are not included in the initial cost but should be included in the calculation of amortized cost using the effective interest rate method and should be recognized in profit or loss on an actuarial basis over the life of the liability.

As at December 31st2021, the financial instruments included in the statement of financial position are as follows:

Breakdown by instrument category					
In MUM	Amortized Cost	Fair value through profit or loss	Fair value through equity	Value in the statement of financial position	Fair value
Other financial fixed assets	1 555	-	-	1 555	1 555
Trade receivables and related accounts	6 645	-	-	6 645	6 645
Other receivables and related accounts	3 663	-	-	3 663	3 663
Cash and cash equivalents	40 636	10 372	-	51 008	51 008
Assets	52 499	10 372	0	62 871	62 871
Interest bearing loans and borrowings	2 516	-	-	2 516	2 516
Trade payables	6 285	-	-	6 285	6 285
Other payables	3 939	-	-	3 939	3 939
Liabilities	12 740	0	0	12 740	12 740

As at December 31st2020, the financial instruments included in the statement of financial position are as follows:

Breakdown by instrument category					
In MUM	Amortized Cost	Fair value through profit or loss	Fair value through equity	Value in the statement of financial position	Fair value
Other financial fixed assets	1 499	-	-	1 499	1 499
Trade receivables and related accounts	12 417	-	-	12 417	12 417
Other receivables and related accounts	2 898	-	-	2 898	2 898
Cash and cash equivalents	25 855	3280	-	29 135	29 135
Assets	42 669	3 280	0	45 949	45 949
Interest bearing loans and borrowings	8 343	-	-	8 343	8 343
Trade payables	4 777	-	-	4 777	4 777
Other payables	5 981	-	-	5 981	5 981
Liabilities	19 100	0	0	19 100	19 100

The fair value of other financial instruments (loans and deposits) was not deemed significant, and these items are therefore valued at amortized cost.

The fair value of the trade receivables, other receivables, trade payables and other payables was not deemed significant, and these items are therefore valued at amortized cost discounted at closing market price in the transaction currency.

Taking into account SNIM's economic environment (lack of market data required to determine a yield curve in order to estimate the market value of loans and borrowings at preferential rates), borrowings and loans are valued at amortized cost.

4.7.2 Derivative financial instruments

The company uses financial instruments such as term hedges or interest rate swaps. These derivative financial instruments should be initially recognized at fair value when the contract is negotiated and should be subsequently measured at the fair value. The derivatives must be recognized as assets when the fair value is positive and as liabilities when the fair value is negative.

Gains or losses resulting from changes in market value of hedging instruments, within the framework of a future cash flow hedges, for which the group has chosen to apply the hedge accounting, are recognized in equity at an effective hedge percentage.

When the group has chosen not to apply hedge accounting, the gains or losses resulting from the changes in market value are recognized in income statement. In accordance with IFRS 7, the fair values of financial instruments are classified according to the various valuation techniques defined as follows:

- Level 1: direct reference to prices published on an active market;
- Level 2: valuation techniques based on observable data;
- Level 3: valuation techniques based on unobservable data.

The group is using level 2 for the fair value valuation of derivative financial instruments.

Foreign currency risk:

As of December, 31st2021, financial instruments on exchange rates available at closing date are detailed below:

Hedging accounting	2021				2020			
	Fair value in MUM	Fair value in KUSD	Nominal in thousands of EURO		Fair value in MUM	Fair value in KUSD	Nominal in thousands of EURO	
			Bought	Sold			Bought	Sold
a) Cash flow hedging (CFH)								
Forward contracts in foreign currency								
Euro	(4)	(121)	19 000	-	9	250	5 084	-
- Options on currency								
Euro	(1)	(32)	23 000	23 000	50	1 360	46 500	43 000
b) Fair value hedging (FVH)								
- Forward contracts in foreign currency								
Euro	(11)	(303)	11 500	-	14	375	20 416	-
- Options on currency								
Euro	(2)	(53)	4 000	4 000	1	32	5 500	5 500
c) Other operations								
Euro			-	-	(5)	(132)	-	29 000
Total	(18)	(509)	57 500	27 000	68	1 853	72 000	72 000

Commodity price risk:

As of December 31, 2021, due to the downward trend in material prices over the 2020 financial year, SNIM did not set up financial instruments to hedge the price risk on raw materials. At the closing date, no hedging on raw materials is available.

Interest rate risk:

As of December 31st 2021, financial instruments related to interest rate risk at the balance sheet date are as follows:

Hedging Accounting	2021				2020			
	Fair value in MUM	Fair value in KUSD	Nominal in thousand USD		Fair value in MUM	Fair value in KUSD	Nominal in thousand USD	
			Bought	Sold			Bought	Sold
a) Cash Flow Hedging (CFH)								
Swaps on Raw Material								
EUR	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Options on commodities								
Euro	(1)	(33)	22 500	-	-	3	42 500	-
b) Other operations								
EUR	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Interest rate	(1)	(33)	22 500	-	-	3	42 500	-
Total	(20)	(541)	80 000	27 000	68	1 856	114 500	72 000

The impacts on the income statement of derivative financial instruments as of December 31st, 2020 are presented here below:

Cash-Flow Hedging in USD	Amount transferred to gains and losses during the year	Inefficiency booked in Profit
Cash-Flow Hedge		
Foreign currency hedging	590 625 USD	379 100 USD
Interest rate hedging	-	-
Commodities hedging	-	-

Hedging objective and policy:

Fair Value Hedge in USD	Gain and losses on Hedging instruments	Gain and losses on hedging instruments	Inefficiency booked in profit
Fair Value Hedge			
Currency hedging	(36 396)	(284 227)	-
Interest rate hedging	-	-	-
Commodities hedging	-	-	-

Non-qualifying derivative hedging in USD	Unrealized gains and losses recorded in profit or loss
Foreign currency hedging	(190 916)
Interest rate hedging	(11 782)
Commodities hedging	-

The iron ore market is denominated in US dollars; therefore, all of SNIM's sales are made in US dollars.

Mauritania's exchange regulations prohibit any possibility of managing exchange rate risks against the national currency. SNIM is therefore exposed to foreign exchange risk against the US dollar on operating expenses denominated in third currencies (import of euros, in CAD against US dollars).

In addition, to finance its development, SNIM has contracted loans denominated in US dollars, euros, and yen from international donors.

Depending on the evolution of the US dollar against these currencies, a greater or lesser proportion of revenue will have to be allocated to debt servicing. Consequently, SNIM is indeed exposed to currency risk against the dollar for all its debt expressed in a third currency.

The company has formalized its risk management policy and its tolerance level for these risks.

Procedures for measuring the Company's exposure to currency risk (actual and forecast) have been established. These procedures have been approved by Executive Management and are reviewed annually. The Company undertakes to treat its hedging transactions with leading banks (Société Générale, BNP Paribas).

Foreign exchange risk:

SNIM's policy for managing its exposure to foreign currency risk consists in hedging foreign currency risk on firm and estimated purchasing commitments denominated in foreign currencies. Financial instruments that have been negotiated have a lifetime corresponding to that of firm or estimated operations. Usually, financial instruments' maturities do not exceed one year.

To reach its hedging objectives, the company resorts to forward purchasing contracts or option sales on currency contracts. Usually, option sales contracts are part of an overall hedging strategy (tunnel). Derivative financial instruments are negotiated by mutual agreement with first-rated financial institutions.

The analysis of sensitivity of profit before tax (due to variation of monetary assets and liabilities' fair value) and equity (linked to variation in forward contracts' fair value) of SNIM is presented below. This analysis is based on the following assumptions: on one hand, a reasonable variation in the euro exchange rate, on the other hand, all other variables remain stable.

In USD	Variation of EURO	Impact on profit and loss before tax	Impact on equity
2021	10%	1 410 747	3 949 218
	(10%)	(3 342 835)	(4 553 805)

Dollar = 36,13 ouguiyas

Commodity price risk:

The company is exposed to the commodity price risk on firm and estimated operational transactions.

SNIM's policy is to hedge against exposure to these risks. In order to reach its hedging objectives, the company resorts to purchase and selling contracts on commodity options or on swap contracts. Some selling contracts are part of a global hedging strategy. Management of this risk is spread over less than a year.

The analysis of the sensitivity of SNIM's profit before tax (due to variations in the fair value of the monetary assets and liabilities) and equity (linked to variations in the fair value of the swaps) gives a reasonable variation of the raw materials exchange rate, as all other variables remain stable.

As of December 31st, 2021, the company did not have any raw material coverage. Therefore, no sensitivity test has been performed.

Interest rate risk:

SNIM has obtained important funding for the realization of the Development and Modernization Program (DMP).

These funding are indexed on variable rates (libor). Therefore, the company is exposed to a financial risk related to the increase of interest rates.

SNIM's policy is to hedge the risks related to interest rates fluctuations on its floating rate debt on a 5-year management horizon.

In order to reach its hedging objectives, the company resorts to interest-rate derivative instruments, signs interest swaps and conditional financial instruments (caps, floors and collars).

In order to limit the effect of the dollar rate increase on its financial instruments, SNIM decided to implement a hedging policy, aimed at guaranteeing a maximum income rate.

The analysis of the sensitivity of SNIM's profit before tax and equity (linked to variations in the fair value of the derivative instruments) provides a change in interest rate within reason, all other variables remaining constant.

In USD	Variation in rate	Impact on profit and loss before tax	Impact on equity
2021	5%	-	(20 626)
	(5%)	-	(36 548)

Credit risk:

SNIM maintains commercial relations exclusively with reliable third parties.

Most of the client portfolio is constituted by iron ore customers whose terms of payments require a 90% advance at order and the remaining 10% within 24 days after delivery. Thus, for those clients, there exists no risk of credit. For the other customer, trade receivables are not material, and a credit risk analysis is performed regularly to adapt the possible depreciation on receivables. The maximum exposure is equal to the book value mentioned in **Note 4.5**

Regarding the credit risk on other financial assets of the Group, i.e., cash and cash equivalents, financial assets available for sale, loans and certain derivative instruments, the Group' exposure is due to a potential failure of the third party with the maximum exposure not exceeding the accounting value of those instruments.

Liquidity risk:

SNIM controls its liquidity risk based on a projected financial investment maturity and an estimated cash flow generated by operational activities.

To further reduce the risk of liquidity, 40% of loans contracted by SNIM are placed under trustees. The trustee system consists of deducting an amount from monthly sales until maturity is set three months in advance and can only be used for the repayment of these loans. As of December 31st, 2021, 27% of SNIM's debts are due in less than one year, compared with 24% in 2020.

Maturity:

The table below shows the maturity of the financial liabilities as of December 31st2021, based on contractual payments not discounted. The principal considers only the debt drawn by the company as of December 31st2021. Similarly, interest expenses reflect the interests of the company totally drawn as of December 31st2021.

Therefore, future withdrawals of the debt of Financing agreements and corresponding interest expenses are not considered in the preparation of this table of maturity.

The following table shows the debt maturity schedule year by year:

Year	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Principal	936	306	307	213	223	223	210
Interest	499	101	88	75	65	55	45
TOTAL	1 435	407	395	288	288	278	255
Year	2 029	2 030	2 031	2 032	2 033	2 034	2 035
Principal	201	176	157	117	117	117	10
Interest	35	25	18	12	6	3	3
TOTAL	236	201	175	129	123	120	12
Year	2 036	2 037	2 038	2 039	2 040	2 041	2 042
Principal	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Interest	3	2	2	2	2	2	1
TOTAL	12	12	12	12	12	11	11
Year	2 043	2 044	2 045	2 046	2 047	2 048	2 049
Principal	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Interest	1	1	1	1	0	0	0
TOTAL	11	11	11	10	10	10	10
Year	TOTAL						
Principal	3 451						
Interest	1 047						
TOTAL	4 497						

4.8 Cash and cash equivalents

IN MUM	31/12/2021	31/12/2020
Cash	10 372	25 855
Cash equivalents	40 636	3 280
Total	51 008	29 135

Cash and cash equivalents include cash at bank and cash in hand.

Cash equivalents are short-term deposits with an original maturity of less than three months, liquid and immediately convertible

4.9 Equity

In 2013 the company's issued capital increased by 170,520,000,000 MRO ((Equivalent to 17 052 000 000 MRU) by capitalization of available reserves to bring it up to 182 700 000 000 MRO (18 270 000 000 MRU), i.e., 18,270,000 shares each with a nominal value of 1000 UM each. The capital is called up and paid up in full.

Capital does not comprise any share with favorable voting right. The share capital structure is presented as follows:

IN MRU	31/12/2021	31/12/2020	(%)
Mauritanian State	14 314 545 000	14 314 545 000	78,35%
Kuwait Investment Authority	1 309 800 000	1 309 800 000	7,17%
Arab Mining Company	1 034 685 000	1 034 685 000	5,66%
Iraki Fund for External Development	838 230 000	838 230 000	4,59%
Office National des Hydrocarbures	419 250 000	419 250 000	2,30%
Islamic Development Bank	327 450 000	327 450 000	1,79%
Private shareholders	26 040 000	26 040 000	0,14%
TOTAL	18 270 000 000	18 270 000 000	100%

Premiums arising from shares issuance relate to previous capital increases and amount to 646 MUM.

As of December 31st, 2021, the legal reserve amounts to 1 827 MUM, representing 10% of the equity.

4.10 Interest bearing borrowings

4.10.1 Loans within the scope of trustee agreement

These loans are covered by a trust agreement signed on July 7, 1980 between the company, sponsors, the government of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, the Société Générale bank (to encourage the development of trade and industry in France) and the Law Debenture Trust Corporation. According to this agreement the latter was appointed as "Trustee", and regular credit transfers to the trust account would serve to make the half-yearly repayments to the sponsors.

Furthermore, another agreement was concluded on July 7, 1980 between the company, sponsors, Mauritania Central bank and the Société Générale bank. Under this agreement, through which a debit account would be opened with the Société Générale to receive all cash from sales of ore, the Société Générale would make the necessary transfers to the "Trustee" to enable the latter to meet the provisions stipulated in the Trust Agreement referred to above.

The Trust account referred to above has a debit balance of 1 319 MUM as of December 31, 2021 against 1 408 MUM as of December 31, 2020. It is charged to the "Trustee" item (Note 4.6 Section Other debtors)

The debts under trustees are as follows:

In MUM	Currency	Interest rate	Maturity	31/12/2021	31/12/2020
AFD (Centre de formation)	EUR	Var.	2 021	-	31
PDM					
RAIL					
BID	USD	Var.	2 024	281	379
GUELBES II					
BEI	USD	6,03%	2 021	-	1 324
BAD	USD	Var.	2 021	-	2 328
AFD	USD	Var.	2 021	-	1 323
BID	USD	Var.	2 021	-	1 219
KFW/G21/USD	USD	Var.	2 021	-	44
KFW/G22/USD01	USD	5,96%	2 021	-	584
PORT					
KFW NP1	USD	Var.	2 022	187	379
KFW NP2	USD	Var.	2 022	162	328
DRAGAGE					
BEI DRG	EUR	7,231	2 031	341	410
BAD DRG	USD	Var.	2 031	398	366
Subtotal				1 368	8 708

The situation of Financing agreements is presented as follows:

Project	Lender	Currency	Interest rate	Maturity	Total Millions	Drawn Millions	Un-Drawn Millions
Guelb II	AFD	EUR	Var	2024	100	100	-
	BEI	EUR	Fixe	2024	100	100	-
	BAD	USD	Var	2024	175	175	-
	BID	USD	Var	2023	80	80	-
	Banques commerciales (tranche 1)	EUR	Var	2021	24	24	-
	Banques commerciales (tranche 2)	EUR	Fixe	2023	53	53	-
Port	Banques commerciales (tranche 1)	EUR	Var	2022	43	43	-
	Banques commerciales (tranche 2)	EUR	Var	2022	52	52	-
Railway	BID	USD	Var	2024	28	28	-
Training center	AFD	EUR	Var	2021	7	7	-
Guelb 1 Plant	ADF	KWD	Fixe	2049	32	2	30
Dredging	BEI	EUR	Fixe	2031	10	10	-
Dredging	BAD	USD	Var	2030	10	10	-

GUELB II financing has been fully refunded in 2021.

4.10.2 Loans outside the scope of the trustee agreement

These loans relate to mining projects that are not included in the trustee agreement. Repayments are made directly to lenders and are detailed as follows:

IN MUM	Currency	Interest Rate	Maturity	31/12/2021	31/12/2020
FED/03/EUR	EUR	Var.		1 396	1 533
Deposit				2	2
FADS	KWD		2 048	236	242
Subtotal				1 773	1 773

4.10.3 Rescheduled Debts

In the context of the 8th club of Paris which met on July 8, 2002 and following the bilateral agreement between the government of the French Republic and the government of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania signed on May 26, 2003, the French debt that was rescheduled under agreements III, IV, V and VI, was cancelled for the benefit of the Mauritanian Islamic Republic, within the framework of PPTE initiative. Rescheduled debt of SNIM concerning these concessions, was reorganized by an agreement signed between the Ministry of Finance and SNIM dated August 21, 2003. This protocol defines the payment terms to the Mauritanian state of the debt initially due by SNIM to the Bank of France and Coface.

The total amount of this treaty (Agreement 8) is EUR 15,235,989.75, which represents interest accumulated from June 30, 2002 to June 30, 2019 for agreements III, IV, V and VI, including EUR 12,763,021.30 of principal amount (corresponding to the non-repaid amount on these agreements) and EUR 2,472,968.44 of interest.

The outstanding balance for this agreement amounts to 117 MUM as at December 31st, 2021 and as for December 31st, 2020.

In MUM	Currency	Interest Rate	Maturity	31/12/2021	31/12/2020
Rescheduled maturities on French debt					
Accord 8	EUR	3,00%	2 019	117	117
Subtotal				117	117

4.10.4 Reassigned debt

Within the framework of the ACP / EEC convention signed in Lomé on December 8, 1984 and the indicative program of EEC aid to Mauritania, the EEC granted the Mauritanian State a loan of 18 million Euros for the financing of the SNIM Rehabilitation project subject to convention n ° 4122 / MAU of July 19, 1988 (SYSMIN I). The agreement provides for the repayment of this loan over 30 years after 10 years of grace.

In this same program, the European Union also granted the Mauritanian State a subsidy of 45 million euros by agreement No. 6589 / MAU (SYSMIN III) dated February 7, 2003, the agreement provides for the retrocession of the subsidy in the form of a loan to SNIM for the renewal of the mineral port of Nouadhibou. SNIM used 34.14 million euros. As part of this retrocession, a tripartite agreement between the European Union, the Mauritanian Government and SNIM defining the terms of the retrocession and repayment of the loan is in the process of being signed.

The Company had undertaken, in the contracts of most of the afore mentioned loans, to respect certain conditions, including the payment of sums due when they fall due.

In MUM	Currency	Interest rate	Maturity	31/12/2021	31/12/2020
Reassigned debt					
European Economic Community (Sysmin 1)	EUR	0,50%	2 028	332	339
Subtotal				332	339
TOTAL LOANS					
				3 451	10 937
Loans maturing in less than one year					
				935	2 595
Long and mid-term loans					
				2 516	8 343

Loans maturing in less than one year comprise the part of loans that will be paid within the twelve coming months.

The table of changes in borrowings between December 31st, 2021 and December 31st,2020 is as follows:

MUM	31/12/2020	Cash movements	FX	Other	31/12/2021
Long and mid-term loans	8 343	(4 637)	(255)	(935)	2 516
Loans maturing in less than one year	2 595	(2 595)	0	935	935
TOTAL	10 937	(7 232)	(255)	0	3 451

Other mainly includes the reclassification of maturities of less than one year.

4.11 Retirement benefit obligation

In MUM	31.12.2020	Allowance	Reversals	31.12.2021
Provisions for retirement indemnities	701	220	0	921
Provisions for additional retirement	2 366	197	(68)	2 495
TOTAL	3 067	417	(68)	3 416

Description of plan:

A benefit is provided to employees when they retire, depending on:

- ✦ Their salary when they leave the company.
- ✦ The employee's length of service in the company.

Note that this benefit is provided without any condition of the employee's presence within the company at retirement date.

Actuarial assumption:

The benefit obligation amount is determined according to the projected unit credit actuarial valuation method. This method consists in valuing the benefit according to the projected salary at the end of the employee's career and to the eligible amount at valuation date. The following assumptions were used:

Assumptions	Applied Assumptions
Age of retirement	63 year
Future salary increase	1,71%
Actual rate of return	5,14%%
Death rate	TM 60-64 – 20%
Employee turnover rate	0,24% on average, distributed in decreasing order by age
Inflation	

The accrual basis held to recognize actuarial gains and losses is a booking in equity.

ASSUMPTIONS for the period ended as of	31/12/2020	31/12/2021
Beginning of the period	01 January 2020	01 January 2021
End of the period	31 December 2020	31 December 2021
Actuarial rate	6%	5,14%
Expected rate of return on investments	-	-
Expected average remaining working lives	9	9

Variation in benefit obligation:

IN MUM	31/12/2020	31/12/2021
Benefit obligation at the beginning of the period	516	673
Current service cost	24	30
Interest cost	32	37
Actuarial (gains) losses	101	153
<i>of which changes in assumptions</i>	<i>(65)</i>	<i>(63)</i>
<i>of which experience differences</i>	<i>166</i>	<i>216</i>
Benefits paid	-	-
Benefit obligation at the end of the period	673	893

Variations in investments:

The benefits defined by SNIM are not covered by investments.

Financial cover:

FINANCIAL COVER	31/12/2020	31/12/2021
Financial cover	673	893
Provisions) Pension assets	673	893

Actuarial cost for the year:

Couverture financière	31/12/2020	31/12/2021
Current service cost	24	30
Interest on debt	32	37
Expected return on assets		
Amortization of actuarial gains & losses		
Amortization of past service costs		
Impacts of plan reductions/liquidations	-	-
Charges (Incomes)	56	67

Description of the defined contribution plans: Employees receive an indemnity upon retirement, death or redundancy at the initiative of the company, which is equal to one hundred twentieths:

- ✦ The 10% employer contribution and the 7% employee contribution based on the reference salary
- ✦ The income from the investment of the employer and employee contributions
- ✦ The prior service cost borne by SNIM (10% of the reference salary)
- ✦ The reference salary is the base salary plus the seniority bonus

In other cases, only the employee contributions and the income from the investment of the employee contributions are paid to the employee.

4.12 Provisions

These provisions are detailed as follow:

4.13 Trade payables

IN MUM	31/12/2020	Allowance	Reversals	31/12/2021
Contingency provision	567	238	(67)	738
TOTAL	567	238	(67)	738

Trade payables are detailed as follows:

IN MUM	31/12/2021	31/12/2020
Trade payables	5 451	4 229
Accrued payables	834	548
TOTAL	6 285	4 777

4.14 State and other public taxes

State and other public taxes are detailed as follows:

IN MUM	31/12/2021	31/12/2020
Current Tax Income	1 920	2 393
Taxes on wages and salaries	440	285
TOTAL	2 360	2 677

SNIM has a specific regime. An agreement was signed on December 23, 1998 between the Mauritanian Government – represented by the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Industry and Mines - and the company, for a period of 20 years starting on January 1, 1999. This agreement ensures SNIM's autonomy for management and importation.

On March 27, 2018, the National Assembly ratified the renewal of the special agreement for an additional 20 years starting January 1, 2019

The single tax includes all taxes payable on profits for the financial year. Under the special agreement with the State, SNIM is liable for the single tax, by which it pays the State an annual royalty equal to 9% of FOB turnover from the export of iron ore. The special agreement was the subject of an amendment signed in December 2008 on the basis of the single tax. Under this agreement, the single tax is equal to 9% of FOB turnover from the export of iron ore increased by demurrage.

There is no need to recognize deferred taxes, as there is no difference between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities on the statement of financial position. SNIM also pays an annual lump sum of 8 million ouguiyas representing the totality of the taxation of tax compensation and benefits in kind granted by SNIM to its employees.

Single tax advances and VAT credit are offset against the Single Tax because the due dates of the Single Tax and VAT credit are similar, and these amounts are recovered or paid by the same administration and there is a legal right of set-off.

4.15 Other taxes

IN MUM	31/12/2021	31/12/2020
Other taxes	44	26
TOTAL	44	26

SNIM is exempted from all customs duty and assimilates taxes of all kind related to goods, equipment, services, and exploration of sources of ore and water by the convention signed with Mauritanian government. SNIM is also exempted from all customs and assimilated taxes on materials, consumables and goods imported by companies and subcontractors, which are dedicated to SNIM.

Clause N°1 was added to this convention on June 19, 2001 concerning VAT and subjugation of SNIM to this tax. Consequently, SNIM is subject to VAT on goods and services that are not in correlation with industrial and mining exploitation.

4.16 Other creditors

Other creditors are detailed as follows:

IN MUM	31/12/2021	31/12/2020
Payroll expenses and related costs	241	192
Dividends payable	10	7
Sundry payables and pre-payments	2 753	3 187
Short term loan	935	2 595
TOTAL	3 939	5 981

Sundry payables and prepayments are detailed as follows:

IN MUM	31/12/2021	31/12/2020
SABIC advance on ATOMAI permit sale	-	1 097
Credit customers	511	156
Accrued expenses	970	813
Investment of subsidiaries	276	276
Accrued expenses on borrowings	406	445
Remaining payment on the capital increase	172	147
Marking taxes	7	144
Social security contributions	114	22
Accruals and deferred income	298	87
TOTAL	2 753	3 187

The sale of the ATOMAI permit of USD 30 million is accounted for as income in the financial year 2021 following the fulfilment of the conditions of the sale provided for in the purchase agreement between SNIM and SABIC, namely:

- The Feed has confirmed an ore reserve level of more than 450 million tons
- The transfer of the license to the name of TAKAMUL is acted by decree
- and SABIC has given the release on SNIM's deposit of the SABIC advance of 30 million USD.

5- ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RELATING TO THE INCOME STATEMENT**5.1 Sales**

The production sold represents the sales of iron ore for the sum of 59 277 MUM (1 646 785 K USD) for 2021 financial year (net of demurrage).

Sales are made in FOB (Free on Board) and are recorded at the time of the transfer of control, which corresponds to the loading of the ore in Nouadhibou Port. Almost all iron ore sales are made to various Western European countries and China. Three customers (GLENCORE, CARGIL and AMS ARCELOR METTAL) accounted for 79% of the total revenue in 2021.

The breakdown by countries is as follows:

In MUM	2021	2020
China	37 498	30 949
Italy	5 981	3 057
Japan	5 459	1 607
Germany	3 004	3 507
Australia	3 683	3 716
France	778	776
Poland	660	668
Belgium	0	495
Spain	910	97
Others	1 304	274
TOTAL	59 277	45 146

5.2 Other income

Other income is detailed as follow:

IN MUM	2021	2020
Rents, material disposal, telecom	582	527
Rental of buildings and equipment	5	11
Other services	14	14
Supply of personnel	151	111
Disposals	2	2
TOTAL	754	666

5.3 Other operating income

Other operating income are detailed as follow:

IN MUM	2021	2020
Discounts, rebates and refunds obtained	0	26
Products and Profits (*)	1 100	91
Reversals / provisions	67	554
Profits / disposal	3	0
TOTAL	1 170	671

(*) Of which 1,084 MMRU on the sale of the ATOMAI permit.

5.4 Consumable materials

Consumable materials are detailed as follows:

IN MUM	2021	2020
Consumables used	10 532	8 630
Maintenance products	30	26
Supplies	80	58
Water and electricity	63	67
Materials & supplies	28	6
TOTAL	10 732	8 786

5.5 Employees cost

The personnel costs heading is as follows:

IN MUM	2021	2020
Wages	4 575	3 645
Social charges	470	328
Provision for retirement indemnities	0	0
Complementary pension schemes	106	105
TOTAL	5 152	4 078

The increase in personnel costs is mainly explained by:

- The increase in the workforce and promotions granted to employees who have been without promotion for more than ten years
- The increase in premiums in connection with the increase in the production premium
- The increase in overtime

The evolution of the company's headcount by category is as follows:

Category	2021	2020
Executives	383	357
Supervisory staff	3 401	3 267
Workers	2 584	2 560
TOTAL	6 368	6 184

The average workforce is calculated based on the present number employees working for the company at the end of each month.

5.6 Depreciation, amortization, and provision

Depreciation, amortization, and provision are detailed as follows:

IN MUM	2021	2020
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	4 913	5 201
Amortization of intangible assets	39	46
Depreciation of financial assets	523	0
Depreciation of inventories	1 107	371
Depreciation and accrual for accounts receivable	116	93
Other depreciation	237	240
TOTAL	6 934	5 952

The increase in depreciation and provisions is explained by the depreciation of raw material stock of 1,107 MUM and a depreciation of securities of 523 (ATTM/GHM and SAMA).

5.7 Taxes

Taxes are detailed as follows:

IN MUM	2021	2020
Tax on benefit	8	8
Other taxes	33	151
TOTAL	41	159

5.8 Other operating expenses

The other operating expenses are detailed as follows:

IN MUM	2021	2020
Expenses related to investment (1)	1 392	1 033
Expenses related to operations (2)	248	186
Other Charges (3)	432	435
TOTAL	2 072	1 654

(1) The investment-related expenses relate mainly to repair and maintenance costs, insurance and the costs of studies and technical assistance.

(2) Expenses related to the operations concerns mainly the assignment expenses, fees, telephone, ore analysis and bank charges.

(3) Other Charges are related to donations, grants, fines, penalties and slowdown of stock.

5.9 Financial income

Financial incomes are detailed as follows:

IN MUM	2021	2020
Interest and related income	154	347
Income on financial instrument	67	40
Foreign exchange gains	1 063	908
Other financial income	12	4
TOTAL	1 297	1 300

Foreign exchange gains are detailed as follows:

IN MUM	2021	2020
Unrealized exchange gains	292	180
Other exchange gains	772	729
TOTAL	1 063	908

- Unrealized exchange gains mainly correspond to exchange gains on debt denominated in US dollars following the fall in the dollar's rate.
- Other foreign exchange gains are related to gains on the revaluation of cash accounts, foreign currency investments as well as foreign customers and suppliers.

5.10 Financial expenses

Financial Expenses are detailed as follow:

IN MUM	2021	2020
Interest and related charges	336	511
Foreign exchange losses	1 043	1 306
Charges on financial instruments	38	32
TOTAL	1 418	1 848

Exchange losses are detailed as follows:

IN MUM	2021	2020
Unrealized exchange losses	686	188
Other exchange losses	357	1 119
TOTAL	1 043	1 306

- Unrealized exchanges losses correspond to the foreign exchange loss on the revaluation of financial debt denominated in euro.
- Other losses are related to foreign exchange losses on the revaluation of investments, cash accounts, customers and suppliers.

5.11 Earnings per share

Earnings per share are detailed as follow:

IN MUM	2021	2020
Net income in million Ouguiyas	31 627	21 321
Total number of shares	18 270 000	18 270 000
Earnings per share in MUM	1 731	1 169

SNIM's capital does not include any preferential or potential ordinary shares as of December 31st, 2021. Thus, earnings per share are equal to diluted earnings per share.

The dividends recognized for disbursement amounted to 7 629 MMRU.

6- ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RELATED TO THE STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**6.1 Restatement of amortizations and provisions**

IN MUM	2021	2020
Amortization of property, plant and equipment	4 913	5 201
Amortization of intangible assets	39	46
Amortization of financial assets	523	0
Allocation to provisions (risks & charges + IDR)	459	397
TOTAL AMORTIZATIONS AND PROVISIONS	5 933	5 644

6.2 Changes in working capital

IN MUM	2021	2020
Decrease (Increase) in inventories	(455)	123
Decrease (Increase) in trade receivables	5 772	(6 960)
Decrease (Increase) in other receivables	(143)	1 447
Increase (Decrease) in trade payables	1 003	466
Increase (Decrease) State and other local authorities	173	(33)
Increase (Decrease) in other payables	(333)	(810)
CHANGE IN WORKING CAPITAL	6 017	(5 767)

6.3 Expenditures on fixed assets

IN MUM	2021	2020
Acquisition of property, plant & equipment	(4 112)	(5 534)
Acquisition of intangible assets	-	(128)
Acquisition of Financial assets	(1 567)	(329)
TOTAL ACQUISITIONS	(5 678)	(5 992)

6.4 Reversal of depreciations and provisions

IN MUM	2021	2020
Capitalized production	(352)	(352)
Reversal of depreciations and provisions	(67)	(411)
TOTAL	(763)	(763)

6.5 Foreign exchange gains and losses

IN MUM	2021	2020
FX gains / loss on loans	(254)	(55)
FX gains / loss on financial instruments	(118)	(106)
TOTAL	(372)	(161)

6.6 Net Cash

IN MUM	2021	2020
Cash equivalents	40 636	25 855
Cash	10 372	3 280
Net Cash	51 008	29 135

7- OTHER COMMITMENTS AND LIABILITIES

Off balance sheet commitments are detailed as follows:

IN MUM	2021	2020
Documentary credits in progress	765	964
Commitments on contracts	0	1 117
Sub-Total Commitments Given	765	2 081
Guarantees received from contractors	373	366
Balances of undisbursed funds	3 618	6 864
Sub-Total Commitments Received	3 991	7 230
Total	4 756	9 311

8- RELATED PARTIES DISCLOSURE

Transactions with related parties are not significant. They mainly include disposal of materials and fuel and workshop services.

The following table summarizes the main intergroup services invoiced in 2021 in MUM:

	Purchase																						
	FILIALES	ATTM	RSN	COMECA	DONDATION	AL AOUJ	SAMMA	SAMIA	SOMASERT	GMM	SAFA	GIP	TAKAMUL	M2E	DAMANE	TUM	MAIL	IQAR	GHM	GIM	SNIM	TOTAUX	
ATTM																						0	
RSN																							0
COMECA	0,2										0,1	0,2										234	235
FONDATION																							0
AL AOUJ																							0
SAMMA				1			0	0	0	0												85	86
SAMIA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SOMASERT	0	0	2	0	0	1	0				0	1	0	0	0							40	45
GMM																						0	0
SAFA																						165	165
GIP																						58	58
TAKAMUL																							0
M2E									0,5				0,2									15	16
DAMANE																							0
TUM																							0
MAIL																							0
IQAR																							0
GHM																							0
GIM																							0
SNIM	1,8		3,6			23,2	1	0,3	5,5	12,7	14											62	62
TOTAUX	2	0	5,8	0,49	0,1	24,3	1	0,8	5,5	13,6	14,8	0,25	0,1	0,09	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	598	667

The information relating to the remuneration of the managers of the subsidiaries is not disclosed for reasons of confidentiality.

9- EVENTS AFTER THE REPORTING PERIOD

The financial statements have been approved and authorized by the Executive Board on **April 26th, 2022**. They don't reflect the occurrence of subsequent events after this date. No significant event directly affecting the company has occurred after closing date.