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Hill+Knowlton Strategies A/S Central Business Registration No 13991707 Bredgade 65, 2. DK-1260 Copenhagen K

**Annual report 2015** 

The Annual General Meeting adopted the annual report on 30.05.2016

# **Chairman of the General Meeting**

Name: Lars Petersen

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# **Entity details**

# **Entity**

Hill+Knowlton Strategies A/S Bredgade 65, 2. DK-1260 Copenhagen K

Central Business Registration No: 13991707

Registered in: Copenhagen

Financial year: 01.01.2015 - 31.12.2015

Phone: +4533131433

## **Board of Directors**

Henrik Christopher Halvorsen, Chairman Rune Vilhelmsen Bo Øksnebjerg

## **Executive Board**

Bo Øksnebjerg Leif Hindsted

## **Auditors**

Deloitte Statsautoriseret Revisionspartnerselskab Weidekampsgade 6 Postboks 1600 0900 Copenhagen K

# Statement by Management on the annual report

The Board of Directors and the Executive Board have today considered and approved the annual report of Hill+Knowlton Strategies A/S for the financial year 01.01.2015 - 31.12.2015.

The annual report is presented in accordance with the Danish Financial Statements Act.

In our opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the Entity's financial position at 31.12.2015 and of the results of its operations for the financial year 01.01.2015 - 31.12.2015.

We believe that the management commentary contains a fair review of the affairs and conditions referred to therein.

We recommend the annual report for adoption at the Annual General Meeting.

Copenhagen, 30.05.2016

## **Executive Board**

Bo Øksnebjerg Leif Hindsted

## **Board of Directors**

Henrik Christopher Halvorsen Chairman Rune Vilhelmsen

Bo Øksnebjerg

# **Independent auditor's reports**

# To the owners of Hill+Knowlton Strategies A/S

# **Report on the financial statements**

We have audited the financial statements of Hill+Knowlton Strategies A/S for the financial year 01.01.2015 - 31.12.2015, which comprise the accounting policies, income statement, balance sheet, statement of changes in equity and notes. The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the Danish Financial Statements Act.

#### Management's responsibility for the financial statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with the Danish Financial Statements Act and for such internal control as Management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### **Auditor's responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing and additional requirements under Danish audit regulation. This requires that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatements of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Entity's preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view 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. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by Management, as well as the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Our audit has not resulted in any qualification.

#### **Opinion**

In our opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the Company's financial position at 31.12.2015 and of the results of its operations for the financial year 01.01.2015 - 31.12.2015 in accordance with the Danish Financial Statements Act.

# **Independent auditor's reports**

## **Statement on the management commentary**

Pursuant to the Danish Financial Statements Act, we have read the management commentary. We have not performed any further procedures in addition to the audit of the financial statements.

On this basis, it is our opinion that the information provided in the management commentary is consistent with the financial statements.

Copenhagen, 30.05.2016

## **Deloitte**

Statsautoriseret Revisionspartnerselskab Central Business Registration No 33963556

Kim Mücke Morten Jarlbo

State Authorised Public Accountant

State Authorised Public Accountant

# **Management commentary**

# **Primary activities**

The Company's activity is to operate PR related activities, such as public relations, communication, public affairs and marketing.

## **Development in activities and finances**

Despite the difficult market situation in Denmark, Hill+Knowlton Strategies A/S performed satisfactory in 2015. The Company acquired a series of new customers and has also managed to develop a couple of new services that were introduced into the market place.

#### Outlook

Hill+Knowlton Strategies A/S expects to continue and finalise the planned changes in the workforce in order to create the right match between the Company's competencies and the requirements of the market place. Despite the costs of these changes, Hill+Knowlton Strategies A/S expects slightly higher top and bottom line in 2016 compared to 2015.

## Events after the balance sheet date

No major events have occurred after the balance sheet date to this date which would influence the evaluation of this annual report.

## **Reporting class**

This annual report has been presented in accordance with the provisions of the Danish Financial Statements Act governing reporting class B enterprises.

The accounting policies applied for these financial statements are consistent with those applied last year.

# **Recognition and measurement**

Assets are recognised in the balance sheet when it is probable as a result of a prior event that future economic benefits will flow to the Entity, and the value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Liabilities are recognised in the balance sheet when the Entity has a legal or constructive obligation as a result of a prior event, and it is probable that future economic benefits will flow out of the Entity, and the value of the liability can be measured reliably.

On initial recognition, assets and liabilities are measured at cost. Measurement subsequent to initial recognition is effected as described below for each financial statement item.

Anticipated risks and losses that arise before the time of presentation of the annual report and that confirm or invalidate affairs and conditions existing at the balance sheet date are considered at recognition and measurement.

Income is recognised in the income statement when earned, whereas costs are recognised by the amounts attributable to this financial year.

#### **Foreign currency translation**

On initial recognition, foreign currency transactions are translated applying the exchange rate at the transaction date. Receivables, payables and other monetary items denominated in foreign currencies that have not been settled at the balance sheet date are translated using the exchange rate at the balance sheet date. Exchange differences that arise between the rate at the transaction date and the one in effect at the payment date, or the rate at the balance sheet date are recognised in the income statement as financial income or financial expenses. Property, plant and equipment and other non-monetary assets that have been purchased in foreign currencies are translated using historical rates.

#### **Income statement**

#### Gross profit or loss

Gross profit or loss comprises revenue less other external expenses.

#### Revenue

Revenue is recognised in the income statement as work is performed. Revenue is recognised net of VAT, duties and sales discounts.

Contract work in progress is included in revenue based on the stage of completion so that revenue corresponds to the sales value of the work performed.

#### Other external expenses

Other external expenses comprise expenses incurred to earn revenue.

#### **Staff costs**

Staff costs comprise salaries and wages as well as social security contributions, pension contributions, etc. for the Entity staff.

## Amortisation, depreciation and impairment losses

Depreciation and impairment losses relating to property, plant and equipment is calculated on the basis of the residual values and useful lives of the individual assets and impairment testing as well as gains and losses from the sale of property, plant and equipment.

## Other operating expenses

Other operating expenses comprise expenses for sale, marketing, administration, premises, bad debts, other corporate expenses, etc.

#### Other financial income

Other financial income comprises interest income, including interest income on receivables from group enterprises and net gains on transactions in foreign currencies.

#### Other financial expenses

Other financial expenses comprise interest expenses, including interest expenses on payables to group enterprises, net losses on transactions in foreign currencies, amortisation of financial liabilities as well as tax surcharge under the Danish Tax Prepayment Scheme etc.

#### **Income taxes**

Tax for the year, which consists of current tax for the year and changes in deferred tax, is recognised in the income statement by the portion attributable to the profit for the year and recognised directly in equity by the portion attributable to entries directly in equity.

The Entity is jointly taxed with all Danish WPP companies. The current Danish income tax is allocated among the jointly taxed entities proportionally to their taxable income (full allocation with a refund concerning tax losses).

#### **Balance sheet**

#### Property, plant and equipment

Other fixtures and fittings, tools and equipment are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

Cost comprises the acquisition price, costs directly attributable to the acquisition and preparation costs of the asset until the time when it is ready to be put into operation.

The basis of depreciation is cost less estimated residual value after the end of useful life. Straight-line depreciation is made on the basis of the following estimated useful lives of the assets:

Other fixtures and fittings, tools and equipment

3 years

Property, plant and equipment are written down to the lower of recoverable amount and carrying amount.

#### Receivables

Receivables are measured at amortised cost, usually equalling nominal value less write-downs for bad and doubtful debts.

#### **Deferred** tax

Deferred tax is recognised on all temporary differences between the carrying amount and tax-based value of assets and liabilities, for which the tax-based value of assets is calculated based on the planned use of each asset.

Deferred tax assets, including the tax base of tax loss carryforwards, are recognised in the balance sheet at their estimated realisable value, either as a set-off against deferred tax liabilities or as net tax assets.

#### **Contract work in progress**

Contract work in progress is measured at the sales value of the work carried out at the balance sheet date.

The sales value is measured based on the stage of completion and the total estimated income from the individual contracts in progress. Each contract in progress is recognized in the balance sheet under receivables or liabilities, depending on whether the net value, calculated as the selling price less on accounts billings, is positive or negative.

Costs of securing contracts are recognised in the income statement as incurred.

## **Prepayments**

Prepayments comprise incurred costs relating to subsequent financial years. Prepayments are measured at cost.

#### Other financial liabilities

Other financial liabilities are measured at amortised cost, which usually corresponds to nominal value.

#### **Income tax receivable or payable**

Current tax payable or receivable is recognised in the balance sheet, stated as tax calculated on this year's taxable income, adjusted for prepaid tax.

## Cash pool

The Company is participating in a cash pool with other Danish WPP companies. Deposits in the cash pool are included in receivables from group enterprises. Drawings from the cash pool are included in payables with group enterprises.

# **Income statement for 2015**

	Notes	2015 DKK	2014 DKK
Gross profit		16.240.360	14.179.602
Staff costs	1	(10.380.718)	(9.785.450)
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment losses		(61.497)	(33.407)
Other operating expenses		(3.699.275)	(2.710.499)
Operating profit/loss		2.098.870	1.650.246
Other financial income		2	0
Other financial expenses		(6.394)	(17.564)
Profit/loss from ordinary activities before tax		2.092.478	1.632.682
Tax on profit/loss from ordinary activities	2	(491.733)	(407.436)
Profit/loss for the year		1.600.745	1.225.246
Proposed distribution of profit/loss			
Retained earnings		1.600.745	1.225.246
		1.600.745	1.225.246

# **Balance sheet at 31.12.2015**

	Notes	2015 DKK	2014 DKK
Other fixtures and fittings, tools and equipment		113.547	91.113
Property, plant and equipment		113.547	91.113
Other receivables		488.582	474.405
Deferred tax		17.305	17.305
Fixed asset investments		505.887	491.710
Fixed assets		619.434	582.823
Trade receivables		4.530.837	4.463.549
Contract work in progress		521.941	1.108.443
Receivables from group enterprises		2.194.517	701.152
Prepayments		175.855	106.991
Receivables		7.423.150	6.380.135
Current assets		7.423.150	6.380.135
Assets		8.042.584	6.962.958

# **Balance sheet at 31.12.2015**

	Notes	2015 DKK	2014 DKK
Contributed capital	3	500.000	500.000
Retained earnings		3.449.419	1.848.674
Equity		3.949.419	2.348.674
Contract work in progress		618.950	697.802
Trade payables		397.983	214.222
Debt to group enterprises		979.283	1.870.768
Income tax payable		70.559	35.798
Other payables		2.026.390	1.795.694
Current liabilities other than provisions		4.093.165	4.614.284
Liabilities other than provisions		4.093.165	4.614.284
Equity and liabilities		8.042.584	6.962.958
Unrecognised rental and lease commitments	4		
Contingent liabilities	5		
Consolidation	6		

# **Statement of changes in equity for 2015**

	Contributed capital DKK	Retained ear- nings DKK	Total DKK
Equity beginning of year	500.000	1.848.674	2.348.674
Profit/loss for the year	0	1.600.745	1.600.745
Equity end of year	500.000	3.449.419	3.949.419

# **Notes**

		2015 DKK	2014 DKK
1. Staff costs			
Wages and salaries		9.035.585	8.514.512
Pension costs		736.428	719.827
Other social security costs		117.931	107.951
Other staff costs		490.774	443.160
		10.380.718	9.785.450
		2015 DKK	2014 DKK
2. Tax on ordinary profit/loss for the year			
Current tax		491.733	401.292
Change in deferred tax for the year		0	6.144
		491.733	407.436
		December	Nominal
	Number	Par value DKK	value DKK
3. Contributed capital	1 (umbel	Dini	DIII
Ordinary shares	500	1.000,00	500.000
	500		500.000

The shares have not been divided into classes. The share capital has not changed for the past 5 years.

	2015	2014
	DKK	DKK
4. Unrecognised rental and lease commitments		
Commitments under rental agreements or leases until expiry	1.223.814	1.888.097

# 5. Contingent liabilities

The Company is party to a national Danish joint taxation scheme with WPP Holding Denmark A/S as the management company. Consequently, from the financial year 2013, the Company is liable for corporation taxes for the jointly taxed companies and with effect from 1 July 2012, the Company is also liable for any obligations to withhold tax at source on interest, royalties and returns for the jointly taxed companies.

## **Notes**

## 6. Consolidation

Name and registered office of the Parent preparing consolidated financial statements for the largest group:

Hill+Knowlton Strategies A/S is included in the consolidated financial statements of the Ultimate Parent WPP plc, 27 Farm Street, W17 5RJ, London, England.

Name and registered office of the Parent preparing consolidated financial statements for the smallest group:

Hill+Knowlton Strategies A/S is included in the consolidated financial statements of WPP Holding BV. Rotterdam, Netherlands.

The consolidated financial statements can be obtained from the companies mentioned above.