

#### **NORDIC GROUP LIMITED**

(Company Registration Number: 201007399N)

#### RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS FROM SHAREHOLDERS

The Board of Directors (the "Board") of Nordic Group Limited (the "Company", and together with its subsidiaries, the "Group" or "Nordic") wishes to respond to questions received from our shareholders ("Shareholders") ahead of the Company's annual general meeting to be held on 29 April 2025 at 10.00 a.m.

1. Overseas Presence. The expansion of Nordic's overseas footprint with offices across Asia, the Middle East, Europe, and South America is encouraging. Could you please elaborate on the criteria used to determine the locations of these sales offices and the modes of operation employed in each region? Specifically, are these operations primarily managed through distributors, sales agents or direct employees? Furthermore, could you provide an overview of the associated operating costs for these international sales offices?

### The Board's response

Nordic sets up overseas offices where there are sales opportunities that commensurate with our growth strategies and technical expertise.

As stated on page 4 of our Annual Report 2024 ("AR2024"), Nordic is headquartered in Singapore, with operational facilities in China, Malaysia and Abu Dhabi. The Group has legal entities set up as wholly-owned subsidiaries and representative office in these countries. In addition, the Group has a presence in other locations through strategic partnerships and these are mainly managed through agency agreements. Overseas subsidiaries and representative office are profitable and agency costs is not significant to the Group's cost of sales.

2. Project and Maintenance Margins. The growth of maintenance revenue to a level comparable with Project Services is noteworthy. However, there appears to be a discrepancy regarding profitability. On page 8, the Chairman's Statement mentions "higher-margin project services," while Note 4B indicates that the EBITDA margin for Maintenance Services is higher than that of Project Services. Could you please clarify which of these segments yields better margins for the Group?

## The Board's response

As stated on page 21 of our AR2024 under "Orderbook Replenishment Driven Primarily by the PS Segment" and page 22 of our AR2024 under "Stable Revenue and Improving Profitability in FY2024", the 3Q2024 and 4Q2024 net profits increased to \$4.1 million and \$4.8 million from \$3.5 million and \$2.4 million respectively due mainly to higher margins from projects. Our maintenance services segment gross margins were in the range of 24% to 34% and project services segment gross margins were in the range of 14% to 26% for the past 5 years.

3. **Credit Terms**. Note 20, Trade and Other Receivables, indicates that the gross amount over 90 days due totals \$11.4 million, representing approximately 25% of the total. Do the Group's credit terms extend to 90 days or more for certain customers? If so, what measures are being taken to negotiate potentially shorter credit terms with these customers to improve cash flow?

### The Board's response

As disclosed in Note 20 on page 104 of our AR2024, the average credit period generally granted to customers is about 30 to 90 days. 28% of the trade receivables above 90 days past due were collected after year end and 38% comprises sales retention from projects. These retention will be collected based on the milestones for claims for each contract.

4. **List of Properties**. For the benefit of shareholders, could you please provide a comprehensive list of the properties the Group currently operates from? This list should include the description of each property and the respective lease tenure.

### The Board's response

The list of properties which the Group owns are listed below:

Property address	Property description	Tenure	Area
1 Tuas Ave 10 Singapore 639125	2 storey detached factory with ancillary office	30+14 years leasehold from	Land area 8,863.5 sqm
		November 1990	3,000.00
2 Tuas Ave 10 Singapore	Part 2/Part 3 storey	30+30 years	Land area
639126	detached factory	leasehold from	5,677.9 sqm
		December 1989	
6 Tuas View Circuit	Part single storey with	30+30 years	Land area
Singapore 637599	mezzanine and part 3	leasehold from	8,805.6 sqm
	storey detached factory	December 1998	
2 Woodlands Sector 1,	Stack up factory with	30 years leasehold	Floor area
#01-01 Woodlands	mezzanine level office	from July 2002	1,838.0 sqm
Spectrum 1 Singapore	located on the 1st storey		
738068	of a 6-storey ramped-up		
	industrial building		

5. Macroeconomic Risks. The Annual Report highlights macroeconomic risks such as trade tariffs and economic downturns. Could you please elaborate on the specific strategies the company is implementing to mitigate these potential negative impacts? Furthermore, could you provide an assessment of the robustness of these mitigation strategies in the current global economic climate?

#### The Board's response

As stated in Note 4E on page 84 of our AR2024, 73.6% (2023: 63.5%) of the total revenue is derived from Singapore. The remaining revenue from other countries primarily comes from various projects and significant projects were substantially completed in 4Q2024. The management is closely monitoring the impact of the macroeconomic risks mentioned above on our businesses and some mitigation strategies are as follows:

- Diversification of supply chain by sourcing from different countries to mitigate cost increase and ensuring we receive the same or better quality supplies.
- Hedging financial risks by converting foreign currencies to SGD as soon as possible as SGD is our functional currency.
- Cost optimization initiatives such as investment or research and development on technology to derive longer term benefits and looking at relocating operations to lower cost countries.
- Market expansion to emerging markets which can provide significant growth opportunities.
- Strategic partnerships and alliances to enhance the Group's capabilities and market reach.
- 6. Dormitory Expenses. The cost of workers' accommodation/dormitory expenses is a significant concern. Could you please provide a comparative figure for this expense between FY2024 and FY2019? It has been mentioned that the cost of workers accommodation has skyrocketed over the years. Accommodation costs represent an economic friction with no real value creation, as they do not directly increase productivity like investments in training or technology. The substantial increase in accommodation costs presents economic challenges, such as:
  - Resource diversion from more productive uses (e.g., R&D, wage increases)
  - Increased business costs, leading to reduced profitability and potentially higher consumer prices
  - Negative impacts on national competitiveness

Has the company engaged with government authorities to provide feedback or seek potential solutions to address this rising cost?

### The Board's response

Dormitory expense in FY2024 was \$4.7 million (excluding the expenses of Envipure Group, Eratech Pte Ltd, Starburst Group and Avon Industries Pte Ltd which are entities we acquired from 2019) and it was \$3.2 million in FY2019, representing a 62% increase.

The Group has engaged with the authorities through trade agencies such as Aspri and Asmi on concerns regarding dormitory-related issues since the COVID pandemic in 2020.

7. Dividends. Is there a possibility of dividends being increased and by how much more?

# The Board's response

Whether the dividend levels can be potentially increased will depend on, amongst other things, the Group's results of operations, future prospects, financial conditions, projected capital expenditure, other investment plans, general economic and business conditions in Singapore, Malaysia, China and the Middle East as well as other factors deemed relevant by the Directors. For FY2024, the Company paid an interim dividend of 0.8526 Singapore cent per ordinary share. The Board has also proposed a final one-tier tax exempt dividend of 0.8987 Singapore cent per ordinary share, which will be subject to shareholders' approval at the forthcoming AGM. This is in line with the Company's dividend policy of paying out 40% of the Group's annual net profit every half yearly.

### BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

Chang Yeh Hong Executive Chairman 24 April 2025