# **Corporate governance**

#### Corporate governance

- 76 Chairman's introduction to Corporate Governance
- **80** Board of Directors
- 83 Executive committee
- 86 Directors' report
- **90** Board Audit, Compliance and Risk Management Committee report
- 91 Board Finance and Investment Committee report
- 92 Board Sustainability and Technical Committee report
- **93** Board Remuneration, Governance and Nomination Committee report



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## Chairman's introduction to Corporate Governance



# A culture of strong governance

Esteemed shareholders, it brings me immense pleasure to present the Corporate Governance Report, which is an integral component of the Directors Report and sets out the guiding principles that governs the operations of Dangote Cement Plc.

#### **Corporate Governance Framework**

Our Board of Directors has instituted a robust Corporate Governance Framework, addressing pivotal aspects such as the Board's mission, its composition and Committees, Directors duties and remuneration, the role and evaluation of the Group Managing Director and the strategy for Board and Executive succession. The Board consistently monitors corporate governance developments and reviews the Corporate Governance Framework as deemed necessary. Our governance ethos is tailored to foster fairness, integrity and transparency in all business endeavours.

#### **Role of the Board of Directors**

Central to our corporate governance framework is our Board of Directors, serving as the paramount decision-making body of the Company, except for matters expressly reserved for, or shared with, the shareholders. The roles and obligations of the Board and its Committees are outlined in the respective Board and Committee Charters. The Board is answerable for the Company's operations, strategy formulation, risk oversight, financial performance, and the overarching corporate governance framework.

#### **Composition of the Board**

As of December 31, 2023, the Board was comprised of 15 Directors, boasting expertise spanning manufacturing, finance, engineering, business and law. Collectively, they bring a wealth of experience vital for charting the Company's strategic course and ensuring the realisation of its business objectives. The Board consists of myself, the Group Managing Director, the Group Deputy Managing Director, five independent Non-Executive Directors and seven Non-Executive Directors.

In my capacity as the Chairman of the Board, I serve as a conduit between the Board and Management, facilitated through the Group Managing Director. I oversee the governance of the Board and collaborate with the Group Managing Director and the Company Secretary to set the agenda, drawing insights from fellow Board members. Consistent with the SEC Guidelines and the NCCG Code ("the Corporate Governance Codes"), the roles of the Chairman and Group Managing Director are distinct, each held by separate individuals. Arvind Pathak and Philip Mathew, serving as Group Managing Director and Deputy Group Managing Director, respectively, spearhead strategy execution and daily operations management of the Group, aided by the Executive Committee (ExCo).

The Board periodically evaluates the independence of the Independent Non-Executive Directors in line with the Corporate Governance Codes, affirming their autonomy in character and judgement. Non-Executive Directors contribute diverse international perspective, leveraging their senior roles across industry, finance or public service. We deem the current Board size and composition appropriate, with a commitment to enhancing gender diversity.

#### **Company Secretary's Role**

The Board is supported by the Acting Company Secretary and General Counsel, Edward Imoedemhe who provides support and guidance to the Directors on their duties, powers, and responsibilities. He ensures procedural compliance and regulatory adherence essential for the Board's operations, in addition to serving as as Secretary to all Committees meetings.

#### **Board Committees**

The Board exercises governance through dedicated Committees, each equipped with specific mandates sanctioned by the Board. All Committee Chairs furnish reports on proceedings of their Committee meetings during Board meetings. The Board currently has four Committees – the Audit, Compliance and Risk Management Committee; the Finance and Investment Committee; the Sustainability and Technical Committee; and the Remuneration, Governance and Nomination Committee. Reports from these Committees, are found on pages 90 to 94.

#### **Delegation to Management**

The Board delegates the responsibility for implementation of the Company's strategy and Group management to the Group Managing Director and Deputy Managing Director, who are supported by the Executive Committee. Profiles of the Executive Committee members can be found on pages 83 to 85.

#### **Directors Appointment and Re-election**

The Board Remuneration, Governance and Nomination Committee, spearheads the appointment process, adhering to the Board Appointment Policy and evaluating nominees against predefined membership criteria and experience. Newly appointed Directors receive appointment letters delineating their roles, tenure, responsibilities and powers. Our Tenure Policy, aligned with Corporate Governance Codes, stipulates term limits and renewal criteria, subject to satisfactory performance. According to the Policy, an Executive Director serves for initial term of three years, a Non-Executive Director for an initial term of three years with additional terms of three years each; and an Independent Non-Executive Director for an initial term of three years with additional terms of three years each. The terms are renewable, subject to satisfactory performance. Non-Executive Directors who are 70 or more years of age are disclosed to shareholders at Annual General Meetings in line with the Companies and Allied Matters Act, 2020 (CAMA).

All Directors are required to retire by rotation and stand for reappointment at least every three years in compliance with the provisions of CAMA and the Corporate Governance Codes. At the upcoming Annual General Meeting, Devakumar Edwin, Dorothy Udeme Ufot SAN, Halima Aliko-Dangote, Philip Mathew and Abdu Dantata will retire by rotation and be presented for re-election. The Board recognises the need to reinforce its effectiveness by injecting new members, fresh ideas and perspectives. We therefore, welcome Mr. Alvaro Poncioni Mérian with his wealth of experience, to the Board, and anticipate the ratification of his appointment by shareholders at the upcoming General Meeting.

#### **Director Induction and Development**

As Chairman, I oversee induction and training programmes tailored to Directors needs and identified gaps, in consultation with the respective Directors. The Board has established an Induction and Training Policy for Directors and they receive periodic trainings and inductions. The Board is confident in its members' competence to fulfil the obligations expected of director of a listed company.

#### **Board and Committee meetings**

Meeting schedules for Board and Committees are predetermined, with timely distribution of meeting notices and related documents of Directors. Working alongside the Acting Company Secretary, I coordinate an Annual Agenda Plan, facilitating the fulfilment of Board and Committee roles as outlined in their charters. Board meetings were well attended with attendance of Directors surpassing the two-thirds requirement mandated by the Corporate Governance Codes. Directors' attendances at Board and Committee meetings are detailed on pages 197 to 198.

Central to our corporate governance framework is our Board of Directors, serving as the paramount decision-making body of the Company, except for matters expressly reserved for, or shared with, the shareholders."

## Chairman's introduction to Corporate Governance continued

#### Key matters considered during the year

The Board met five times during 2023 and details of key matters discussed at these Board meetings are indicated below:

Appointment of new Director	The Board in consideration of its internal processes, policies and best practice appointed an Independent Non-Executive Director. The appointment will enhance the Board's effectiveness and development.
Review and approval of budget	The Board reviewed and approved the Budget for the succeeding financial year.
Board and subsidiary Board meetings	The Board reviewed and approved Board and Committee Meeting dates for the succeeding financial year.
Quarterly and full year financial statements	The Board reviewed and approved unaudited quarterly accounts and the audited financial statements and submitted the latter to the shareholders to approve at the Annual General Meeting.
Proposal of dividends	The Board proposed a dividend for the financial year, which was approved by shareholders at the Annual General Meeting.
Quality/operational efficiency	The Board reviewed and approved several initiatives to enhance quality and improve operational efficiency in the Company.
Health, Safety, Security and Environment	The Board reviewed and approved systemic and strategic approaches to improve health, safety, social and environmental matters within the Company and its subsidiaries.
Transport	The Board reviewed and approved strategic approaches to improve transport operations in the Company.
Annual General Meeting	The Board resolved on the date, venue and other modalities for the Annual General Meeting of the Company.

#### **Review of the Governance Framework and policy formulation**

The Board ensures continuous reviews of the Company's governance framework. Further to these reviews, the Board approves the formulation of policies that are in line with good governance and has taken cognisance of the regulatory and business environment. These include:

Annual Agenda Cycle	This represents the minimum agenda to be considered by the Board and Board Committees considering the current information needs of the Board. Additional matters requiring the Board's attention are added as required.
Anti-Bribery and Corruption Policy	The policy demonstrates the Group's zero tolerance for all forms of fraud including but not limited to bribery, corruption, asset misappropriation and financial fraud. The Company has established an Anti-Fraud Programme that sets out the anti-fraud prevention and detection strategies.
Board Appointment Policy	This policy sets out the standards for the appointment of the Directors and aims to achieve a balance of experience and diversity amongst its Directors.
Board Development Policy	This policy seeks to institutionalise training and development of the Directors.
Board Evaluation Policy	This policy provides a systematic method of assisting Board members in the assessment of the Board's scope of operation and responsibilities.
Board Remuneration Policy	This policy reflects the Group's desire to sustain value creation for shareholders and aims to attract the requisite people to deliver the Group's strategy.
Board Reporting Framework	This provides guidance on information to be provided by Senior Management to the Board and Board Committees, to aid the discharging of their responsibilities in line with the Framework.
Board Tenure Policy	This outlines the criteria for ensuring the rotation and appointment of Board members in order to maintain continuity of experience and introduce people with new ideas.
Communication Governance Policy	This establishes guidelines for communication of general and price-sensitive information about the Company to stakeholders in line with regulatory requirements.
Complaints Management Policy	This policy has been designed in line with the requirements of the SEC's Rules. It defines a procedure for managing complaints from shareholders.
Conflict of Interest/Related Party Transaction Policy	This provides a framework to identify, and manage actual and perceived conflicts of interest.
Dangote Safety Golden Rule	This describes mandatory safety rules and regulations applicable to all staff, contractors and visitors.
Directors' Code of Conduct Policy	This sets out the standards that each Director is expected to adhere to while conducting his/her fiduciary duties. This Code is intended to provide guidance to Directors on ethical issues and help foster a culture of integrity.
Executive Management Remuneration Framework	This policy seeks to link performance and reward by providing a variable/at risk element of executive remuneration that encourages performance.

Group Executive Committee Charter	This Charter governs the operations of the Group Executive Committee (ExCo) of DCP.
Group HSSE Standards	These Standards describe the requirements for reporting and investigating HSSE incidents. They ensure DCP adopts a rigorous risk analysis process to make informed and productive decisions.
Insider Trading Policy	This Policy provides guidelines regarding the dealing in DCP's shares or securities on the basis of potentially price-sensitive information that is not in the public domain. The Company issues "Closed Trading Period" notifications to insiders as required by capital market regulations. Having enquired, we can confirm that all Directors complied with the Insider Trading Policy during the year.
Subsidiary Governance Framework	This articulates the framework to assist the Board of Directors in the governance of subsidiary companies, with the goal of achieving the Company's vision, strategic objectives and business goals.
Succession Planning Policy	This policy describes the process of identifying and developing successors for critical positions in the Company. The focus of this policy is to ensure that qualified people are available to fill vacancies at Executive Management level as and when needed.
Whistleblowing Policy	In line with the SEC Code and international best practice in corporate governance, this policy seeks to enable stakeholders raise concerns about possible improprieties without fear of reprisal.
Sustainability Policy	This Policy guides the Group's sustainability principles and the business operations are mainstreamed through the Dangote 7 Sustainability Pillars which include the financial, institutional, operational, cultural, economic, social and environmental pillars.
Climate Change Policy	This policy recognises the risk of climate change and identifies opportunities for mitigation and adaptation. The policy is developed in compliance with the goals and targets of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs), Paris Climate Change Agreement, Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP), Global Cement and Concrete Association (GCCA), National Policy on Climate Change (NPCC) amongst others.
Diversity, Equality & Inclusion Policy	Our Diversity, Equality and Inclusion policy outlines our commitment to a diverse workforce and how we implement this across our business operations. We recognise that our openness to diversity, equality and inclusion allows us to attract and retain employees with the best minds and skills, leading to enhanced innovation, creativity, productivity, and results for DCP.
Human Right Policy	Dangote Cement Plc upholds and respects internationally recognised human rights principles. This policy is informed by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Labour Organisation's Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, the Principles of the United Nations Global Compact, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), the International Covenant on Economic, Social, & Cultural Rights (ICESCR) and the Nigerian Labour Law.

#### **Code of Ethics**

The Board has formalised a Directors' Code of Ethics, setting out the standards of conduct expected from Directors. To this end, the Directors attest to a Code of Conduct annually. To inculcate good ethical conduct, the Company has also established a Code of Conduct for employees, which has been disseminated to all employees through the employee handbook.

#### **Succession planning**

The Board views succession planning as important for business continuity. To ensure its success, the Board has, established a Succession Planning Policy to ensure that there are processes in place to provide for the orderly succession of senior management.

#### **Board and Directors' evaluation**

In line with the provisions of the Corporate Governance Codes and in accordance with the Board Evaluation Policy, we conduct evaluations of the Board and individual Directors, as well as the Company Secretarial function. Upon completion, the results are given to the Chairman, who in turn provides assessment feedback to each Director. The result of the evaluation indicated that the Board and Corporate Governance framework is in compliance with the Codes of Corporate Governance. The process is designed to enhance Board performance, comply with regulatory requirements and demonstrate accountability to all stakeholders.

#### Shareholder engagement

As a Board of a premium-listed company on the Nigerian Exchange Group, our Board attaches importance to constructive relationships with all stakeholders. We have a dedicated Investor Relations team that reports to the Group Chief Financial Officer. The team is responsible for maintaining long-term relationships with investors and analysts. As Chairman, I also had engagements with investors to discuss matters of interest.

#### **Annual General Meeting**

The Annual General Meeting is the principal opportunity for the Board to meet shareholders and for me, as the Chairman, to give a report on the Company's activities during the year, and provide clarifications on issues raised by shareholders. Shareholders have the right to ask questions at the Annual General Meeting or submit them in writing to the Acting Company Secretary no later than 24 hours before the start of the AGM. The Notice of Annual General Meeting is sent to our shareholders, at least 21 days before the AGM is held. I hope the Annual Report, which outlines the work of our Board and its Committees during the year, will be informative to you as co-owners of the Company.

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Aliko Dangote Chairman 1 March 2024

## **Board of Directors**



Aliko Dangote, GCON Chairman Date of appointment: 4 November 2002

Aliko Dangote is the Chairman of the Board of Directors, Dangote Cement Plc. He is the founder and President/Chief Executive of Dangote Industries Limited, the largest conglomerate in West Africa. A Business Studies graduate from Al-Azhar University in Cairo, Egypt, he started business in 1978, trading in commodities before he ventured into full-scale manufacturing. He has been conferred several honorary doctorate degrees from various prestigious Universities across the globe, including Coventry University in the United Kingdom (2016), the University of Ibadan in Nigeria (2016), and Ahmadu Bello University (2019). He is well known for his philanthropic engagements in local and international initiatives via the Aliko Dangote Foundation; committed to improving healthcare, education, and social wellbeing. In addition, he sits on the boards of notable international bodies involved in global economic growth, sustainable development, and healthcare initiatives. These include the JP Morgan International Council, the Clinton Health Access Initiative, the McKinsey Advisory Council, the International Business Council of the World Economic Forum, and the Harvard Advisory Council. The Nigerian Government conferred on him the Grand Commander of the Niger (GCON), the first person outside government functionaries to bag this honour.



**Arvind Pathak Group Managing Director** Date of appointment: 1 March 2023

Arvind Pathak is an experienced business leader who worked as MD and CEO of Birla Corporation Ltd before his appointment to Dangote Cement Plc. Prior to this appointment, he was the Chief Operating Officer and Deputy Group Managing Director of Dangote Cement Plc until 2021. With over 37 years of experience in the cement industry, he has worked most of his tenure in turning around businesses, operations and maintenance of plants, as well as leading important greenfield projects. Mr. Arvind Pathak also worked at Reliance Cement as CEO from 2008 to 2015. He was previously the Regional CEO of Associated Cement Company Limited. He obtained a degree in Electrical Engineering in 1980 and a postgraduate degree in Industrial Engineering and Management in 1982 He has also been trained in several international management colleges and was a Fulbright scholar.



**Philip Mathew Deputy Group Managing Director** Date of appointment: 15 September 2021

Philip Mathew has over 35 years of experience in the cement industry, with large regional and international companies. Prior to joining Dangote Cement, he was Head of Cement Manufacturing Excellence for LafargeHolcim APAC region. He has worked across various countries in Europe and Asia, in different roles, leading plant, country and regional manufacturing teams. Apart from a background in leading operational excellence, he has broad-ranging experience in establishing and stabilising new cement plants and piloting transformational change in large industrial organisations. He is a chemical engineer from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Madras.



Abdu Dantata **Non-Executive Director** Date of appointment: 22 July 2005

Abdu Dantata is a Non-Executive Director in Dangote Cement Plc and an Executive Director in Dangote Industries Ltd. He is also the Chairman of Agad Nigeria Limited, a trading and transportation company operating throughout Nigeria. He is a fellow of the Nigerian Institute of Shipping. He obtained an Executive Programme Certificate in Sales and Marketing from the Kellogg Senior Management School at Northwestern University, Chicago.



**Devakumar Edwin** Non-Executive Director Date of appointment: 22 July 2005

Devakumar V. G. Edwin was previously the Chief Executive Officer of Dangote Cement Plc until he resigned as the Group CEO on 31 January 2015. Following 14 years spent in industrial management, including a stint of three years as a Managing Director in India, he joined Dangote Industries Limited in 1992 and has held several managerial positions within the Group. He is a Chartered Engineer, holding graduate and master's degrees in engineering from the Madras University, India. He holds a postgraduate diploma in Management from IITM, Holland, all obtained in 1978, 1980 and 1986 respectively. He was recently appointed Vice President (Oil & Gas), Dangote Industries Limited.

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**Olakunle Alake** Non-Executive Director Date of appointment: 22 July 2005

Olakunle Alake was appointed to the Board of Dangote Cement Plc on 22nd July 2005. He is also the Vice President of Dangote Industries Limited. He was appointed to the Board of Dangote Industries Limited as Executive Director in 2001. He holds a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife and is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria. He joined Dangote Industries Limited in 1990, after six years at PricewaterhouseCoopers. He has held several management positions in Dangote Industries Limited, including Financial Controller and Head of Strategic Services

A Audit, Compliance and Risk Management Committee

F Finance and Investment Committee

Sustainability and Technical Committee

- R Remuneration, Governance and Nomination Committee
  No Committee
- Chairman



**Emmanuel Ikazoboh** Independent Non-Executive Director Date of appointment:

30 January 2014

Emmanuel Ikazoboh has over 40 years of experience in senior management roles in Nigeria, Côte d'Ivoire, Cameroon and South Africa. He was previously the Group Chairman of Ecobank Transnational Inc., the Pan-African banking group. He started his professional career at Akintola Williams Deloitte. He first became the Managing Partner for francophone offices in Cameroon and Côte d'Ivoire and later became the Managing Partner of the Deloitte firm in West and Central Africa until 2009. In 2010 he was appointed by the Securities and Exchange (SEC) as an Interim Administrator to carry out capital market reforms of the Nigerian Stock Exchange (NSE) and the Central Securities Clearing System Plc. (CSCS). He serves on several corporate boards as Chairman or Non-Executive Director. He obtained an MBA in Financial Management and Marketing from Manchester University Business School in 1979, is a Certified Accountant in the United Kingdom, and is a fellow of the Nigeria Institute of Chartered Accountants.



Ernest Ebi MFR Independent Non-Executive Director Date of appointment:

30 January 2014

Ernest Ebi has more than 40 years of banking experience from various leadership positions in Nigeria. He is also the former Chairman of the Board of Directors of Fidelity Bank Plc. In a very distinguished career within the financial services industry, he went on to serve in leadership positions across a number of banks. In June 1999, he was appointed as a Deputy Governor at the Central Bank of Nigeria where he covered the policy and corporate services portfolios over a ten-year period. He maintained oversight functions over Nigeria's External Reserves, International Economic Relations, Trade & Exchange and Research Department among other responsibilities. He was a key member of the banking sector reform team, especially during the major consolidation process in 2006. In recognition for his sound professional background and track record of meritorious service, the Federal Government of Nigeria in 2007 awarded him the National Honour of Member of the Order of the Federal Republic (MFR). He sits on the boards of several blue-chip companies.



**Douraid Zaghouani** Non-Executive Director Date of appointment: 29 April 2015

Douraid Zaghouani is EVP and Chief Operating Officer of Investment Corporation of Dubai - ICD, Dubai's sovereign wealth fund (a diversified and international fund with over \$340 billion Total Assets). Leading the Corporate Affairs (including Finance, Corporate Strategy, ESG, Governance, HR, Technology), he is responsible for the efficient management of the organisation with the aim of optimising business performance. Douraid is a member of several boards including IHI – International Hotel Investments, Dangote Cement, SmartStream and Dubai Global Connect, Prior to joining ICD, he was with Xerox for over 25 years during which he held several board, CEO, general management, leadership and transformation roles in Europe, North America and globally. His last position was Corporate Officer and President, Channel Partner Operations for Xerox based in New York, leading an end-to-end global business generating over \$10 billion in revenue

On a social and humanitarian level, he has always been very active in the fields of education, health, innovation, and ESG. He is a member of the board of directors of IPEMED, a Euro-Mediterranean Think Tank and enjoys delivering practicum classes to Master students at different universities. Douraid attended Lycée Louis-le-Grand in Paris, holds a civil engineering degree from ENTPE (Paris) and is graduated in Business Administration – Strategy and Management – from ESSEC (Paris). He is multilingual, speaks French, English, Spanish, Italian and Arabic and has lived in France, USA, Spain, Italy, UK, and Dubai.



Dorothy Udeme Ufot, SAN Independent Non-Executive Director Date of appointment: 19 April 2016

Dorothy Udeme Ufot has more than 26 years' experience in commercial litigation, having been admitted to the Nigerian Bar in 1989 and then admitted to the Inner Bar as a Senior Advocate of Nigeria (SAN) in April 2009. She also qualified as a Chartered Arbitrator at the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, London, in 2003. She obtained bachelor's degrees in Political Science in 1983 and Law in 1988 from the University of Calabar, Nigeria and the University of Lagos, respectively. She also obtained a master's degree in Law in 1996 and an Advanced Diploma in Commercial Law Practice from the University of Lagos in 1998. She is an internationally recognised expert in commercial arbitration and was appointed as a member of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)'s International Court of Arbitration, Paris (2006 -2018). She became one of the eight Global Vice-Presidents of the ICC Commission on Arbitration (2014 - 2016) and won the prestigious African Arbitrator of the Year Award in 2020.



Viswanathan Shankar Non-Executive Director Date of appointment: 10 December 2017

Viswanathan Shankar is Co-founder and Chief Executive Officer of Gateway Partners, a private equity and alternative investments manager focused on investing in the dynamic growth markets of Africa, Asia and the Middle East. He previously served as CEO - Europe, Middle East, Africa and Americas, and member of the global board of Standard Chartered Plc. Prior to that, he served as Head of Investment Banking for the Asia Pacific at Bank of America. Mr. Shankar is currently a Non-Executive Director of Dangote Industries Limited, Nigeria: Vision Blue Resources, Guernsey: Gateway Real Estate Africa, Mauritius; and, Fund for Export Development in Africa, Egypt. His past appointments in non-executive roles include the boards of the Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore; Enterprise Singapore; Majid Al Futtaim Holdings, and Vice-Chair of the Future of Banking Global Agenda Council of the World Economic Forum. The Government of Singapore awarded him the Public Service Medal in 2014. Mr. Shankar obtained a bachelor's degree in Physics from Loyola College, Madras in 1977 and a master's degree in Business Administration in 1979 from the Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore



Cherie Blair CBE, (KC) Independent Non-Executive Director Date of appointment: 20 April 2018

Cherie Blair is a leading international lawyer, arbitrator and mediator, a former judge and a committed campaigner for women's rights. She is the Founder of the Cherie Blair Foundation for Women, and the Founder and Chair of Omnia Strategy LLP, an international law firm. She is Chancellor of the Asian University for Women, Chancellor Emeritus of the Liverpool John Moores University and has served in this capacity since 2011. She is also the President of the Loomba Foundation, Honorary Vice President of Barnardo's, Patron of Scope, and a number of other charities. She was appointed Independent Director on the Board of Groupe Renault from 2015 to 2019. She was awarded a CBE in 2013 for services to women's issues and charity in the UK and overseas. She graduated with firstclass honours in 1975 from the London School of Economics. She was called to the Bar of England and Wales in 1976 and appointed Queen's Counsel in 1995.

## Board of Directors continued

A Audit, Compliance and Risk Management Committee

- F Finance and Investment Committee
- T Sustainability and Technical Committee
- R Remuneration, Governance and Nomination Committee
- N No Committee
  - Chairman



Berlina Moroole Non-Executive Director Date of appointment: 24 July 2020

Berlina Moroole is a qualified Chartered Accountant (SA) and the Group Chief Operating Officer for Rand Mutual Assurance (RMA); she was previously the Group Chief Risk Officer. Prior to joining RMA, she held several senior management roles at different companies, Motus Holding Limited and Liberty Holding Limited, and was a partner at Deloitte. She was previously an Independent Non-Executive Board Member and member of the Audit and Risk Committee for Emira Property Fund Limited; a Board Member and Chairperson for both the Audit Committee and Social Ethics Committee; and a member of the Risk Committee at Assupol Holding and Life; Advisory Audit Committee member for the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Board Member for the Legal Aid South Africa.



Halima Aliko-Dangote Non-Executive Director Date of appointment: 26 February 2022

Ms. Halima Aliko-Dangote served as Executive Director of Dangote Flour Mills, where she led the successful turnaround and recent sale of the business. Prior to then, she served as Executive Director of NASCON and continues to serve as a Non-Executive Director of NASCON. She is currently the Board President of The Africa Center (TAC) in New York, a Board member of Endeavour Nigeria and a member of the Women Corporate Directors (WCD). Ms. Dangote started off her career as an Analyst at KPMG and has over 13 years of professional experience, holds a bachelor's degree in Marketing from American Intercontinental University. London, and a Master of Business Administration from Webster Business School. She is a Trustee of the Aliko Dangote Foundation and is happily married with children



Alvaro Poncioni Mérian Independent Non-Executive Director Date of appointment: 1 August 2023

Mr. Alvaro Poncioni Mérian is the Founder & Managing Partner of EDNAM Capital. He was the Global Head of Building Materials at Morgan Stanley Investment Banking. During his nearly 20-year career, he was involved in most of the cement sector's reshaping M&A transactions. Alvaro has acted as trusted adviser to senior decision makers around the globe and has advised on completed M&A and capital markets transactions totalling more than US\$110 billion. Alvaro attended "Classes Preparatoires" at Lycee Chateaubriand, holds an MSc. in Management & Finance from HEC Paris and M.A. in Public Affairs & International Relations from Sciences-Po Paris. He is a "Concours General des Lycées" laureate. A Brazilian born French citizen, Alvaro was educated in Brazil, Argentina, France and Portugal. He is passionate about mountaineering, history and literature. He is a member of the Royal Philatelic Society. He speaks French, Spanish, Portuguese and English.

## **Executive committee**



Arvind Pathak Group Managing Director/ Chief Executive Officer

Arvind Pathak was appointed Group Managing Director/ Chief Executive Officer Dangote Cement Plc effective 1st March, 2023. Arvind Pathak is an experienced business leader who worked as MD and CEO of Birla Corporation I to before his appointment to Dangote Cement Plc. Prior to this appointment, he was the Chief Operating Officer and Deputy Group Managing Director of Dangote Cement Plc until 2021. With over 37 years of experience in the cement industry, he has worked most of his tenure in turning around businesses, operations and maintenance of plants, as well as leading important greenfield projects. Mr. Arvind Pathak also worked at Reliance Cement as CEO from 2008 to 2015. He was previously the Regional CEO of Associated Cement Company Limited. He obtained a degree in Electrical Engineering in 1980 and a postgraduate degree in Industrial Engineering and Management in 1982. He has also been trained in several international management colleges and was a Fulbright scholar.



Philip Mathew Deputy Group Managing Director

Philip Mathew joined Dangote Cement in 2021, as the Deputy Group Managing Director. He has over 35 years of experience in the cement industry, with large regional and international companies. Prior to joining Dangote, he was Head of Cement Manufacturing Excellence for LafargeHolcim APAC region. He has worked across various countries in Europe and Asia, in different roles, leading plant, country and regional manufacturing teams. Apart from a background in leading operational excellence, he has broad-ranging experience in establishing and stabilising new cement plants and piloting transformational change in large industrial organisations. He is a chemical engineer from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Madras.



**Dr. Gbenga Fapohunda** Group Chief Financial Officer (Ag.)

Dr Gbenga Fapohunda was appointed Acting Group Chief Finance Officer of DCP on 1 July 2022. He is a multiskilled finance professional with over 22 years experience in Financial Advisory; Risk Management; Treasury Management; Investment Management. Strategy Development, and Implementation; Corporate Governance; Corporate Finance, Internal Audit & Controls; Accounting; Auditing; and Financial Control. He joined DCP as the Regional Chief Finance Officer (CFO) in Nigeria, effective March 1, 2021. Before this, he was the Executive Finance Director (for West Africa) at Japan Tobacco International (JTI), where he was on the Board. He joined JTI from United Parcel Service (UPS), where he was the Chief Finance Officer (CFO). Prior to UPS, he was the CFO and a board member at British American Tobacco (BAT) Ghana, where he oversaw 12 countries in Africa. Earlier in his career, he was a Manager within the Financial advisory team at PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) and worked at KPMG Professional Services within the Assurance Team

He holds an MBA in Finance from London Business School – UK (Full merit-based scholarship) and a Doctorate from Rome Business School (Europe). Gbenga is a Fellow Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria; An Associate Member of the Chartered Institute of Taxation.



Adenike Fajemirokun Group Chief Risk Officer

Dr Adenike Fajemirokun is the Group's Chief Risk Officer, leading the Risk Management functions for the Group and overseeing the Company's governance model and Enterprise Risk Programme. She is a renowned Risk Management & Insurance specialist with over 21 years of diverse experience in developing and implementing Risk Management strategies in Financial, Engineering, Manufacturing and other Industries. She served in top management roles at Deutsche Bank AG, UK and was Director of the Management Group for leverage finance at the Corporate and Investment Bank. Dr. Fajemirokun holds a B.Eng. in Civil. Structural and Fire Engineering and a PhD in Risk Informed Engineering, both from the University of Manchester. A Fellow of the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC), and Specialist member (SIRM) of the Global Institute of Risk Management.



**Edward Imoedemhe** Ag. Company Secretary/ General Counsel

Edward Imoedemhe is the Acting Company Secretary/ General Counsel of Dangote Cement Plc. He was the Deputy Company Secretary/Legal Adviser of Dangote Cement Plc (DCP), a position he held from June 29, 2018, until his appointment on November 21, 2022. He has a master's degree in Maritime and Commercial Law. He is a Chartered Secretary, Chartered Arbitrator, and member of the Society of Corporate Governance. His over 25 years of experience spans the manufacturing, telecommunications, oil & gas and shipping industries, covering company secretarial practice, governance and corporate affairs administration, dispute resolutions, international commercial transactions and legal advisory to company management and the boards.



#### **Gloria Byamugisha** Group Chief Human Resource Officer

Gloria Byamugisha is the Group Chief Human Resources Officer with over 20 years' experience in Human Resources, of which 15 were in C-suit roles. She has held several Director roles in leading organisations and her experience spans across different sectors: Public, Telecommunications, Banking and Manufacturing in different geographies. She holds an undergraduate degree in Business Administration & Management from Uganda Martyrs University. She has a Post Graduate Diploma in Human Resources from the University of Bedfordshire and an MBA in Finance & Management from the University of Westminster with Strategic Business Analysis at the London Business School. She is a certified trainer of the Extraordinary Leader Program by Louis Allen.



**Igazeuma Okoroba** Head of Sustainability

Igazeuma Okoroba is the Head of Sustainability at Dangote Cement Plc. She is a sociologist and experienced sustainability leader with experience which spans diverse sectors, including manufacturing, energy, telecommunications, media, and civil society. She has a master's degree in sustainable development from the University of Exeter, UK, and a PhD in development sociology from the University of Port Harcourt, Nigeria. Driving business ethics and compliance is central to her role as a corporate governance leader. She manages the integration of environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors in Dangote Cement's operational locations in Nigeria and pan-Africa. Igazeuma represents the African region on the Global Sustainability Standards Board (GSSB) of the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) as a sustainability thought leader. She serves as a member of Nigeria's Awareness Readiness Working Group of the International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB) of the IFRS and supports other multi-stakeholder African initiatives for advancing sustainable business practices. Igazeuma is also a published author and researcher. She sits on the board of non-governmental organisations where she advocates for active citizenship, diversity and inclusion for development.



Jonathan Ogiku MBA, FCA Group Chief Internal Auditor

Jonathan Ogiku is the Group Chief Internal Auditor for Dangote Cement. He holds a master's degree (Executive MBA) from Lagos Business School, Pan Atlantic University and is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria. Mr. Ogiku started his career with the British American Tobacco (BAT) Company Plc, as a management trainee in 1989 and held various senior roles as Operations Finance Manager, Treasurer and Head of Audit. During these years he had extensive international trainings in the UK in diverse areas in finance, internal audit, investigations, corporate security management and risk management. Jonathan's professional experience combines a deep understanding of manufacturing operations, cultural sensitivity and a commercial approach to business. He is a regular paper presenter at the ICAN MCPE & CPE programmes and a member of the Board of Directors of the Institute of Internal Auditors, Nigeria.

Jonathan joined Dangote Cement Group from BAT as General Manager, Internal Audit responsible for Nigerian Operations. He was promoted to Senior General Manager, Group Head Internal Audit and Group Chief Internal Auditor over the years. He is currently leading various business improvement and transformation projects to transform Dangote Cement internal audit department to a world class internal audit function.



Kashinath Bhairappa Director of Projects

Kashinath joined Dangote Cement in February 2001 as a General Manager and was subsequently elevated to Deputy Director of Projects, responsible for looking after Dangote Cement's projects. He previously worked with different cement manufacturers in India, including BK Birla Group (Cement), Ambuja Cements and Grasim Industries Limited at different levels in project management and execution. He obtained a BA in Mechanical Engineering from Karnataka University, Karnataka State, in 1973.



Knut Ulvmoen Supply Chain Director

Knut joined Dangote Industries Limited in 1996 as Finance Director. He previously had extensive finance experience in companies including Norcem, Bulkcem and Scancem. As Group Managing Director of Dangote Cement, from 2002 to 2007, he was instrumental in Dangote Cement's transition from importing cement to becoming Nigeria's leading manufacturer. As part of this expansion, he was a key figure in the acquisition of Benue Cement Company and in the development of plans to build the Obajana Cement factory in Kogi State. In addition to his work in cement, he was also involved in the development of Dangote Industries Limited's flour and sugar operations.

Mr. Knut holds a degree in Environmental Management from Manchester Metropolitan University in the United Kingdom and a post-graduate degree in Organisation Leadership.



#### **Onyekachukwu Oliver Obu** Group Financial Controller

Oliver joined Dangote Industries in 2012, specialising in Finance. After substantial in-house training , he was assigned to Dangote Cement in 2015 as Head of Internal Reporting and Planning. He is a key member of the Company's Finance team, shaping its internal reporting and planning framework and working on developing financial models for numerous projects undertaken by the Group. Oliver holds a BA in Economics and Statistics from the University of Benin and an MBA from the Lagos Business School in Nigeria. Oliver is a member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, ACCA, UK.



#### Rajesh Kumar Kothari Director of Operations, Pan-Africa

Rajesh joined Dangote Cements as the Director Operations (Pan Africa) in October 2019. He is a competent technical professional with 39 years of wide and varied experience in cement manufacturing process right from "quarry" to "lorry" specially, green and brownfield projects as well as plant maintenance. Rajesh has played a significant role in technical, production and maintenance while working in companies like Shree Digvijay Cement Co. Ltd for 20 years, Saurashtra Chemicals Limited for two years and Ambuja Cements Limited – a flag ship company of Lafarge Holcim for 18 years. He is a qualified Mechanical Engineer B.E. (Mechanical) from Sardar Patel University, W Nagar, Gujarat, India in 1978.



#### **Rabiu Umar** Group Sales and Marketing Director

Rabiu Abdullahi Umar joined Dangote Cement PLC, as Group Sales and Marketing Director, with over 20 years' experience in senior and executive functions within the downstream Petroleum and Cement manufacturing sectors with a focus on transformational leadership Rabiu started his career in Oando PLC, and rapidly rose to hold different management roles within the marketing business and led the Sales and Marketing Transformation plan successfully. In 2014, he moved to Lafarge Africa as the Energy and Power Director, and subsequently managed Strategy and Business Development portfolios for West Africa, where he also led the development and execution of critical projects within Nigeria. Ghana and Cameroon. In 2016, he became the Managing Director/ Chief Executive Officer of Ashaka Cement PLC and spearheaded the turnaround of the business, until his departure in 2019 to join Dangote Industries Ltd., as Group Chief Commercial Officer. A graduate of accounting from Bayero University Kano and an alumnus of Harvard Business School, he is also a member of the Institute of Directors.



Sada Ladan-Baki Head, International Trade/Export

Alhaji Sada Ladan-Baki is a graduate of Economics from Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria. He holds a master's degree in Business Administration. He has about 30 years of experience in public service and fund administration. In 1991, Alhaji Ladan-Baki was appointed the General Manager of NASCON and in 1994 he rose to the position of Managing Director. He joined the Dangote Group as Executive Director in charge of Logistics and Distribution in 1998. He then took over the responsibility for the Foods Division with the factories producing sugar, flour, semolina, spaghetti, and salt. In 2002. he became the Executive Director, Sales, and Marketing, Salt and Pasta. He sits on the board of several companies and belongs to many professional associations including the Institute of Logistics and Distribution (Chartered Fellow), Institute of Directors (Chartered Fellow) and the Nigerian Institute of Marketing (Chartered Member).



#### Satya Prakash Group Head, Health, Safety & Environment

Satya joined Dangote Cement in 2016 as Group Head, Health, Safety & Environment. He is a qualified mining engineer with first class honours. He has over 30 years' experience in HSE and quarrying operations. He was the Health & Safety Operation Head at ACC Ltd, Holcim and LH Group. Satya brings rich operational experience in cement with excellent knowledge on Safety. He has undergone international training on safety leadership and played an important role in setting OH&S in Dangote Cement. He has certifications in IOSH, NEBOSH IGC & OTHM Level. He is currently the Group Head OHS&E (CGM) Nigeria and PAN Africa.



**Temilade Aduroja** Head of Investor Relations

Temilade is an experienced debt and equity capital market professional with expertise in SSA Oil & Gas and Infrastructure sectors. She has 15 years of finance experience with a demonstrated history of working in the investment banking industry.

Temilade was appointed Head of Investor Relations in February 2020. Temilade is skilled in Capital Markets, Portfolio Management, Corporate Finance, Investments and Investor Roadshows. She has vast proficiencies in raising and structuring equity and debt capital across Africa. She has worked at Standard Chartered Bank, Price Waterhouse Coopers, and Renaissance Capital. She joined DCP from Standard Bank Group, where she was the Senior Africa Infrastructure and Oil & Gas Equity analyst. She has a first degree in Physics and Computer Science and holds an MBA in Finance from London Business School.



Wakeel Olayiwola Head of Social Performance

Wakeel Olayiwola joined DCP as Group Head, Social Performance in November 2022. He is a professional social performance practitioner with varied experience managing stakeholder engagement, social investment and social impact management in the oil and gas sector. During his extensive career, Wakeel worked with the Shell Petroleum Development Company where he held various management positions including, Social Performance Lead for Major Projects, Community Interface Co-Ordinator, Head Community Relations Planning and Strategy and was appointed as the External Relations Manager, Western Operations. With almost 3 decades of experience, Wakeel holds a master's degree in Public Administration from the University of Benin and a degree in Agriculture from the Obafemi Awolowo University. He is a Fellow of Institute of Agricultural Management of Nigeria (FIAMN) and a member of the Nigerian Institute of Public Relations (NIPR) among others.

## **Directors' report**

The Directors of Dangote Cement Plc present the consolidated and separate financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023. The Directors have considered all the matters brought before them in the financial year under review, and they are satisfied that the Directors' Report represents a fair, balanced and realistic view of events.

#### Legal form

Obajana Cement Plc. was subsequently renamed Dangote Cement Plc by a special resolution dated 14 July 2010, was incorporated in Nigeria as a public limited company on 4 November 1992 and commenced operations in January 2007. Dangote Cement Plc listed its shares on the Nigerian Exchange Limited ("the Exchange") on 26 October 2010, and it has a market capitalisation of N5.4 trillion as of 31 December 2023.

#### **Principal activities**

The Company was incorporated for the purpose of establishing factories for the preparation, manufacture, sale and distribution of cement and related products. Our operational activities are undertaken at various plants in Nigeria and through our subsidiaries across Africa. Details of our production, grinding and import facilities in Africa can be found in note 18 of the financial statements.

#### **Subsequent events**

Other than those disclosed in note 36 of the financial statements, there were no other events after the reporting date which could have had a material effect on the financial position of Dangote Cement Plc ("the Company") and its Subsidiaries (together "the Group) as of 31 December 2023, which have not been adequately provided for in the financial statements.

#### **Directors' responsibilities**

The Directors are responsible for preparing the financial statements, which they confirm give a true and fair view of the Group and Company's state of affairs and the profit or loss for the year ended 31 December 2023. The financial statements comply with the provisions of the Companies and Allied Matters Act (CAMA), 2020, International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and Financial Reporting Council of Nigeria (Amendment) Act, 2023. In so doing, they ensure that they act in accordance with the Directors' responsibilities outlined below:

- 1. The Board is charged with ensuring that appropriate values and ethics of the Company are agreed upon and that appropriate procedures and policies are in place to ensure that these are implemented effectively. The Board ensures leadership through oversight and review. Supported by its Committees, the Board sets the Company's strategic direction and aims to deliver a sustainable increase in shareholder value over the longer term.
- 2. The Board ensures that proper accounting records are maintained. The accounting policies are consistently applied, and appropriate financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, conforming to applicable laws and standards. Most of this responsibility is delegated to the Board Finance and Investment Committee.
- 3. The Board ensures that internal control procedures are established to safeguard the Company's assets and detect fraud and other irregularities. It also oversees the implementation of risk assessment processes to identify, manage and mitigate the principal risks of the Company's business. Much of this work is delegated to the Board Audit, Compliance and Risk Management Committee.

- 4. The Board reviews the remuneration framework, performance criteria and succession planning at Board and Executive Management level. It also oversees the Group's human resources strategy, including the organisational and compensation structures. Much of these responsibilities are delegated to the Board Remuneration, Governance and Nomination Committee.
- 5. The Board reviews the structure of the Board and develops governance policies in line with regulatory requirements and international best practices. Many of these responsibilities are delegated to the Board Remuneration, Governance and Nomination Committee.
- 6. The Board ensures that the technical and operational aspects of the business are conducted in line with global best practices. It assesses the feasibility of proposed new projects and ensures that plant operations comply with local and international laws and align with our business goals. Also, it is responsible for overseeing the business's new technology and development programmes. Many of these responsibilities are delegated to the Board Sustainability and Technical Committee.

#### **Board Committees**

The Board Committees do not assume the functions of Management, which remain the responsibility of the Group Managing Director and Executive Management. Members of Senior Management are invited to attend meetings of Board Committees as required, while the Committee Chairperson hold further meetings with certain members of Executive Management to better review areas of concern. The Reports of the Committees are presented at Board meetings. As part of the review of the effectiveness of its Committees, the Board considered the qualifications and experience of Members and is satisfied that all Committee Members bring a wide range of knowledge and skills and will effectively discharge their duties. The Company Secretary is the Secretary to each Committee.

#### **Results for The Year**

- Group revenue increased by 36% to ₦2,208 billion (2022: ₦1,618 billion).
- Company revenue increased by 8% to ₩1,298 billion (2022: ₩1,205 billion).
- Group net profit increased by 19% to ₩456 billion (2022: ₩382 billion).
- Company net profit increased by 22% to ₩490 billion (2022: ₩403 billion).
- Group earnings per share increased by 19% to ₩26.47 (2022: ₩22.27).
- Company earnings per share increased by 22% to ₩29.15 (2022: ₩23.87).

#### **Dividends**

The Directors pursue a dividend policy that reflects the Company's earnings and cash flow, while maintaining appropriate levels of dividend cover. They consider the capital needed to fund the Company's operations and expansion plans. For the 2023 financial year, the Directors are pleased to recommend a dividend of №30.00 per ordinary 50 kobo share (2022: №20.00). The Board considers that the proposed dividend is appropriate and is in line with the Company's strategic growth objectives. If the shareholders approve this dividend at the Annual General Meeting, dividends will be paid to the shareholders whose names are registered in the Company's Register of Members at the close of business on the Qualification Date.

#### **Unclaimed dividends**

The total unclaimed dividends outstanding as of 31 December 2023 is ₩4.7 billion (2022: ₩4.4 billion). A list of unclaimed dividends is available on the Company's website at www.dangotecement.com. The Company notes that some dividend warrants remain unclaimed. Shareholders with unclaimed share certificates or dividends should address their claims to Coronation Registrars Ltd registrars at eforms@coronationregistrars.com or 9, Amodu Ojikutu Street, Victoria Island, Lagos, Nigeria. Members are encouraged to notify the registrars of any changes in their details.

#### **Directors**

As of 26 February 2024, Dangote Cement Plc had 15 Directors, all of whom held office as of the 31 December 2023. Michel Puchercos resigned effective 28 February 2023, while Arvind Pathak was appointed Group Managing Director effective 1st March 2023. Mr. Michael Davis resigned effective 13 April 2023, and Alvaro Poncioni Mérian was appointed Director effective 1st August 2023. The appointment, removal or reappointment of Directors is governed by the Company's Articles of Association, the Companies and Allied Matters Act (CAMA), 2020, and Board and Governance policies. These documents also set out the rights and obligations of Directors. In accordance with the Articles of Association of Dangote Cement Plc, prevailing legislation and any directions via resolution, the business of the Company is managed by the Directors, who, in good faith, exercise all such powers on behalf of the Company.

#### **Directors' interests**

In accordance with the Companies and Allied Matters Act (CAMA), 2020, the Directors' interests in the issued share capital of the Company are recorded in the Register of Members and stated below:

			As at 26 February	As at 31 December	As at 31 December
S/N	REG NO	Shareholder	2024	2023	2022
1a	9749911	Aliko Dangote	27,642,637	27,642,637	27,642,637
1b	9780595,	(Indirect: Aliko Dangote) Dangote Industries Ltd.	14,621,387,610	14,621,387,610	14,621,387,610
	9745479				
2	9801662	Olakunle Alake	8,000,000	8,000,000	8,000,000
3	9793235	Abdu Dantata	8,680	8,680	8,680
4	9816994	Devakumar V. G. Edwin	6,000,000	6,000,000	6,000,000
5	9823752	Ernest Ebi	100,000	100,000	100,000
6a	9861679,	Emmanuel Ikazoboh	600,000	250,000.00	_
	9860372				
6b	9822918	Indirect: Emmanuel Ikazoboh) Arm Nom: Osigbeme,	—	—	58,149
		Enterprises Limited			
7a		Douraid Zaghouani	_		_
7b	9798680	(Indirect: Douraid Zaghouani)	243,540,000	243,540,000	243,540,000
		Investment Corporation of Dubai			
8a		Viswanathan Shankar	_		_
8b	9838639	(Indirect: Viswanathan Shankar) GW Grey, Pte Ltd	128,560,764	128,560,764	128,560,764
9	9858127	Halima Aliko-Dangote	500,000	500,000	_
10		Dorothy Udeme Ufot	—	_	_
11		Alvaro Poncioni Mérian	—	_	_
12		Cherie Blair	—	_	_
13		Arvind Pathak	-	—	—
14		Berlina Moroole	-	_	—
15		Philip Mathew	_	_	

#### **Conflicts of interest**

The Company maintains a Register of Directors' interest in accordance with the requirements of the Companies and Allied Matters Act (CAMA), 2020. The Company also applies a conflict of interest Policy developed in accordance with international best practices and Corporate Governance Codes, as well as the Investment and Securities Act, 2007.

#### **Supplier payment policy**

It is the practice of the Company to agree on the terms of payment negotiated with suppliers and pay according to those terms based upon receipt of accurate invoices. Trade creditor days for the year ended 31 December 2023 were 67 days on average for the Group (2022: 38 days) and 45 days for the Company (2022: 21 days).

#### **Property, plant and equipment**

Information relating to changes in property, plant and equipment is disclosed in note 15 of the financial statements.

#### **Donations**

Sponsorship and charitable donations amounted to \17 billion (2022: \16 billion) for the Group and \12 billion (2022: \13 billion) for the Company. In accordance with Section 43(2) of the Companies and Allied Matters Act, 2020 ("CAMA"), the Company did not make any donation or give gifts to any political party, political association or for any political purpose during the year (2022: Nil).

#### Sustainability

Dangote Cement Plc is committed to complying with all applicable legislation, regulations and codes of practice. We integrate sustainability considerations into all our business decisions and ensure our stakeholders know our Sustainability Policy.

#### **Corporate governance and investor relations**

During the financial year under review, the Company complied with the Nigerian Exchange Limited Rules and has not been fined by the Financial Reporting Council (FRC), Securities & Exchange Commission (SEC), or Nigerian Exchange Limited (NGX) for any infringements. The Board conducted a corporate governance and Board evaluation review for the period under review. The result indicated that the Corporate Governance framework in Dangote Cement Plc complies with the extant Codes of Corporate Governance provisions. The Company pursues an active investor relations programme with annual investor meetings and earnings calls. Our website contains information about the Company's performance and strategy.

#### **Employees**

Dangote Cement Plc operates a policy of non-discrimination and considers all employment applications equitably. Efforts are made to ensure that the most qualified person is recruited for the position, irrespective of religion, ethnic Group, physical condition or state of origin. While no disabled people were employed during the year under review, it is the policy where existing employees become disabled to provide continuing employment under similar or, if possible, adjusted conditions. We review our employment policies in line with the strategic objectives of our business and ensure that information is disseminated to employees through various means, including through notice boards and Company emails. We consult employees regularly to ensure that their views are considered when making decisions that are likely to affect their interests and to achieve a shared awareness of the factors affecting the Company.

#### Health, safety at work and welfare of employees

Dangote Cement Plc recognises the importance of health, safety and well-being of its employees. To continue to enhance the safety culture at workplace, toolbox talks and various HSE trainings are organised to further improve awareness and competencies. Visible leadership rounds, inspections and inter departmental health and safety audits are conducted. To deal with fire emergency, heat and smoke detectors are strategically installed. Fire fighting equipment are available at strategic locations and employees are trained regularly and mock drills are conducted. Workshops on Job Safety Analysis, Hazard identification and Risk Control, Healthy lifestyle for healthy living, Visible Leadership etc. are conducted. Employees are encouraged to report unsafe acts and unsafe conditions and are empowered to stop any unsafe act. Various H&S standards, procedures are developed for the safety of DCP employees. A Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) policy is in place and all employees are provided with required PPEs. Team of competent HSE officers are available at all locations to assist line managers in working safely.

#### **Training and development**

Dangote Cement Plc is committed to supporting the development of all its employees. The fundamental purpose is to facilitate personal and professional development enabling individuals to achieve their full potential at work. Our robust Learning Management System gives employees access to learning resources anytime, anywhere to improve their skills and competencies. The Dangote Academy offers training programmes for employees across the Group, with facilitation from professionals and other training experts. The courses are designed to help employees in the performance of their designated roles and to help them to fulfil their potential. Our policy is that all employees have at least one annual performance review a year, with their head of department or line manager. Training and development needs will be assessed, and ways of meeting these will be identified, and an appropriate timescale agreed.

#### **Retirement benefits**

The Company operates a group life policy and a contributory pension scheme for its employees in Nigeria, in line with the provisions of the Pension Reform Act 2014. The scheme is funded through employees' and employers' contributions as prescribed by the Act.

#### **Research and innovation**

With rapid urbanisation and population growth in Africa, the Company realises that meeting housing and infrastructure needs will be a challenge. We are constantly looking for new product solutions to respond to these construction challenges.

#### **Capital structure**

The Company has one class of ordinary shares, which reflect the total value of the share capital. Each ordinary share carries the right to one vote at the Company's Annual General Meeting. The shareholding and transfer of shares are governed by the Company's Articles of Association and relevant regulations. There are no restrictions with respect thereto. The Articles of Association may be amended by a special resolution approved by the shareholders.

#### **Substantial interest in shares**

All shares other than treasury shares and shares held by Dangote Industries Limited (85.8%) and Aliko Dangote (0.16%) are considered freefloat shares. Aliko Dangote is the ultimate owner of Dangote Industries Limited. All issued shares are fully paid, and no additional shares were issued during the year under review. As of 31 December 2023, and 26 February 2024, Dangote Industries Limited and Stanbic IBTC Nominees Nigeria Ltd held more than 5% of the Company's issued share capital, detailed below. Aside from Dangote Industries Limited and Stanbic IBTC Nominees Nigeria Limited, no other individual(s) or entity(s) hold(s) 5% and above of the Company's shares.

Date	Details	Dangote Industries Ltd.	Stanbic IBTC Nominees Ltd
As of 31 December 2022	Units	14,621,387,610	962,835,709
	%	85.8	5.65
As of 31 December 2023	Units	14,621,387,610	961,790,939
	%	85.8	5.64
As of 26 February 2024	Units	14,621,387,610	955,392,741
	%	85.8	5.61

#### **Share Buy-Back Programme**

The Company's shareholders approved the execution of the Share Buy-Back Programme at the Extraordinary General Meeting, which was held on 13 December 2022. This Programme, which involves the Company's buy-back of up to 10% of its issued shares, will be effected in tranches. In July 2023, the Company successfully completed Tranche I of its second share buy-back programme, repurchasing 0.71% of the outstanding shares. The execution of the Share Buy-Back Programme did not have any material impact on the Company's financial position. Further details are as follows:

Programme 2		
Shares bought back from 17 to 18 July 2023 (Tranche I) (121,404,714)		
Programme 2		(120,710,100)
	Shares bought back from 19 to 20 January 2022 (Tranche II)	(126,748,153
Shares bought back from 19 to 20 January 2022 (Tranche II) (126,748,153		(40,200,000
Shares bought back from 30 to 31 December 2020 (Tranche I) (40,200,000	Pre-Buy-Back number of shares	17,040,507,404
Programme IShares bought back from 30 to 31 December 2020 (Tranche I)(40,200,0)	Share capital analysis Pre-Ruy-Back number of shares	17 0/10 507

#### **Independent auditors**

Messrs. KPMG Professional Services, having satisfied the relevant corporate governance rules on their tenure in office, have indicated their willingness to continue in office as auditors to the Company. In accordance with Section 401(2) of the Companies and Allied Matters Act (CAMA), 2020, the Independent Auditors will be re-appointed at the Company's next Annual General Meeting without any resolution being passed. However, a resolution will propose authorising the Directors to fix their remuneration.

By the Order of the Board of Directors.

Edward Imoedemhe Acting Company Secretary FRC/2021/002/0000022594 Leadway Marble House, 1, Alfred Rewane Road, P. O. Box 40032, Falomo, Ikoyi, Lagos. Dated 1 March 2024

## **Board Audit, Compliance and Risk Management Committee report**



Ernest Ebi MFR Independent Non-Executive Director

Members	Meetings attended (eligible to attend)
Ernest Ebi (Chairman)	
Dorothy Udeme Ufot	
Emmanuel Ikazoboh	
Cherie Blair	

Attended Not attended

## Introduction

I am pleased to present to you the 2023 report of the Board Audit, Compliance and Risk Management Committee. The Board is ultimately accountable for the risk management process, system of internal control and monitoring compliance with applicable laws and regulations. These functions have been delegated to the Audit, Compliance & Risk Management Committee, in accordance with the Company's corporate governance framework.

#### **Roles and Responsibilities**

The Committee has oversight over the Audit, Compliance & Risk Management functions and assists the Board in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities regarding:

- Oversight of the Group Internal Audit function and ensuring cooperation between statutory auditors and the Group Internal Audit function;
- · Oversight of the execution of risk management framework;
- Review of legal matters that could have significant impact on the Company's operations;
- Oversight of the Company's compliance and ethics programme; and
- Monitoring of the whistleblowing mechanism.

#### Activities during the year

The reports of the Committee are presented to the Board, providing the Board with summaries of discussions as well as its recommendations. During the year, the Committee carried out the following:

- · Review of risk management reports on risk exposures;
- Monitoring of the Company's compliance with applicable laws and standards;
- Review of the Internal Audit Plan and internal audit reports; and
- Provision of recommendations to the Board on various audit, compliance and risk matters.

#### **Composition and attendance**

As an Independent Non-Executive Director, I serve as the Chairman of the Committee. Some members of our Senior and Executive Management teams were invited to meetings to provide information on directives given by the Committee. The Committee met 4 times in 2023 and its composition and attendance are stated on page 197.

The Board is ultimately accountable for the risk management process, system of internal control and monitoring compliance with applicable laws and regulations. These functions have been delegated to the Board Audit, Compliance and Risk Management Committee."

mestallor

Ernest Ebi MFR Chairman of the Audit, Compliance and Risk Management Committee 1 March 2024



**Viswanathan Shankar Non-Executive Director** 

Members	Meetings attended (eligible to attend
Viswanathan Shankar (Chairman)	
Olakunle Alake	
Douraid Zaghouani	
Devakumar V.G. Edwin	
Halima Aliko-Dangote	
Alvaro Poncioni Mérian	

Attended 💮 Not attended 🔵 Not a member as at date

The Committee assists the **Board in fulfilling its oversight** responsibilities by advising the **Board on matters relating to the** Group's capital structure and the corporate finance strategy."

## Introduction

I am pleased to introduce the report of the Board Finance and Investment Committee for the 2023 financial year. The Committee receives its insight into the challenges and goals of the Company from the financial and business targets set by the Board. Some members of senior and Executive Management are invited to attend meetings to provide necessary information, as well as updates on directives requested by the Committee. As Chairman of the Committee, I regularly hold meetings with the Group Chief Financial Officer, and members of the senior management team, prior to the Committee meetings to better address any areas of concern and to allow sufficient time for meaningful discussion in the Committee meetings.

### **Roles and Responsibilities**

The Committee assists the Board in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities by advising the Board on matters relating to:

- The Group's capital structure and the corporate finance strategy, including the issuance of equity and debt securities, general financing plans, debt ratings, share repurchase philosophy and strategy, and the Company's dividend policy;
- In consultation with the independent auditors and the internal auditors, all financial statement presentations, as well as the integrity of the Company's financial reporting processes and controls;
- Treasury operations, investment strategies, banking and cash management arrangements and financial risk management;
- Major investments, or similar transactions and the policies and processes of the Company;
- Critical accounting policies and practices to be used by the Company: and
- Any major issues as to the adequacy of the Company's internal controls and any audit steps adopted in light of control deficiencies.

### **Activities during the year**

The reports of the Committee are presented to the Board, providing the Board with summaries of discussions as well as its recommendations. During the year, the Committee carried out the following:

- Reviewed and recommended the financial statements to the Board for approval;
- Pricing strategy and impact on revenue and profits;
- Tax impact and tax exemption status of entities within the group, and total tax liability of the Group;
- Review of organic and inorganic expansion plans;
- Review of the carrying amount of Group assets including any potential impairment loss to be recognised during the year; and
- Review of various funding plans including issuance of bond and commercial papers.

### **Composition and attendance**

The Committee met 5 times in 2023 and its composition and attendance are stated on page 197.



**Viswanathan Shankar Chairman of the Finance and Investment Committee** 1 March 2024

## **Board Sustainability and Technical Committee report**



**Douraid Zaghouani** Non-Executive Director

#### **Role of the Committee**

Members	Meetings attended (eligible to attend)
Douraid Zaghouani (Chairman)	
Olakunle Alake	
DVG Edwin	
Abdu Dantata	
Dorothy Udeme Ufot	
Alvaro Poncioni Mérian	

Attended 📃 Not a member as at date

The Committee assists the Board and has an oversight function over matters related to the construction, expansion of capacity, maintenance and operation of plants and sustainability of the Group's operations."

## Introduction

I am pleased to introduce the report of the Board Sustainability and Technical Committee for the 2023 financial year. The Committee assists the Board and has an oversight function over matters related to the construction, expansion of capacity, maintenance and operation of plants and sustainability of the Group's operations.

#### **Roles and Responsibilities**

The Committee assists the Board in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities regarding:

- Reviewing the technical scope, feasibility and status of plant projects including risk assessment and the Quality Management Plan;
- Reviewing the status of projects according to scope, schedule, project milestones and KPIs;
- Reviewing safety, health and environmental performance and improvement plans;
- Reviewing operational, staffing and commissioning readiness plans;
- Monitoring the production budget, standards, raw material supplies, energy and key performance indicators per plant;
- · Reviewing asset/plant care policy and performance;
- Ensuring effective technical, research and development programmes to continue innovation and improvement; and
- Overseeing the development of corporate social responsibility and community programmes throughout our locations.
- Monitoring and evaluating the group's sustainability initiatives to ensure they align with corporate goals and values;
- Assess risks and opportunities associated with sustainability and provide guidance on strategies to improve sustainability
- Reviewing sustainability reports, setting achievable targets, monitoring progress, and offering advice on integrating sustainability into business operations.

#### Activities during the year

The reports of the Committee are presented to the Board, providing the Board with summaries of discussions as well as its recommendations. During the year, the Committee carried out the following:

- Implemented measures across operations to achieve cost savings;
- Reviewed production targets across the Group;
- Monitored the enforcement of health, safety and environment policies;
- Ensured that sustainability strategy and policies were implemented; and
- Oversaw the implementation of transport and transport safety initiatives.

#### **Composition and attendance**

The Committee met 4 times in 2023 and its composition and attendance are stated on page 198.

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**Douraid Zaghouani** Chairman of the Sustainability and Technical Committee 1 March 2024

## **Board Remuneration, Governance and Nomination Committee report**



Emmanuel Ikazoboh Independent Non-Executive Director

#### **Role of the Committee**

Members	Meetings attended (eligible to attend)
Emmanuel Ikazoboh (Chairman)	
Ernest Ebi	
Cherie Blair	
Berlina Moroole	
Douraid Zaghouani	
Halima Aliko-Dangote	

Attended

The purpose of the committee is to assist the Board to discharge its oversight responsibilities."

## Introduction

I am pleased to introduce the report of the Board Remuneration, Governance and Nomination Committee. The Company's remuneration principles aim to remunerate personnel commensurately in compliance with applicable law. The fixed component of remuneration is paid as a base salary; the variable components are intended to reflect, clearly and directly, the joint performance of the Board and Management, taking cognisance of interests of various stakeholders.

#### **Roles and Responsibilities**

The purpose of the Committee is to assist the Board to discharge its oversight responsibilities including:

- Establishing the criteria for Board and Board Committee memberships, and assessing candidates' qualifications and the contribution of current Directors;
- Reviewing the implementation and effectiveness of the governance policies;
- Planning the Board composition, as well as succession planning for the Board and Executive management;
- Ensuring that the performance of the Board is periodically evaluated;
- Monitor the implementation of the remuneration policy and making recommendations on the remuneration of the directors; and
- Overseeing the Group's human capital strategy and make recommendations to the Board on the Group's organisational and compensation structures.

#### Activities during the year

The reports of the Committee are presented to the Board, providing the Board with summaries of discussions as well as its recommendations. During the year, the Committee carried out the following:

- Reviewed proposals to train the Directors;
- Monitored the effectiveness of governance policies vis-à-vis regulatory requirements;
- Reviewed Management reports on the remuneration structure;
- Implemented succession planning initiatives; and
- Monitored the performance evaluation of the Board, and of the KPIs of the Executive Committee.

#### **Composition and attendance**

Some members of senior and Executive Management are invited to attend meetings to provide necessary information, as well as updates on directives requested by the Committee. The Committee met 4 times in 2023 and its composition and attendance are stated on page 198.

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**Emmanuel Ikazoboh** Chairman of the Remuneration, Governance and Nomination Committee 1 March 2024

# Board Remuneration, Governance and Nomination Committee report continued

### **Directors' emoluments for 2023**

	Directors' fees a	and allowances	Sitting allo	owances	Other all	owances	To	tal
	2023 ₦′000	2022 <b>N</b> ′000	2023 ₦′000	2022 ₦′000	2023 ₦′000	2022 ₦′000	2023 ₩′000	2022 ₩′000
Aliko Dangote	35,000	26,600	2,000	2,000	39,212	25,740	76,212	54,340
Olakunle Alake	34,000	25,600	15,050	15,050	39,212	25,740	88,262	66,390
Abdu Dantata	34,000	25,600	4,200	4,200	39,212	25,740	77,412	55,540
Sir Michael Davis	11,214	41,613	3,350	6,350	6,932	25,740	21,496	73,703
Ernest Ebi	34,000	25,600	8,050	8,400	56,012	42,040	98,062	76,040
Emmanuel Ikazoboh	34,000	25,600	10,000	12,200	56,012	42,040	100,012	79,840
Devakumar V.G. Edwin	34,000	25,600	10,400	10,000	39,212	21,450	83,612	57,050
Douraid Zaghouani	60,585	41,613	5,850	4,750	39,212	25,740	105,647	72,103
Viswanathan Shankar	60,585	41,613	3,200	3,200	39,212	25,740	102,997	70,553
Dorothy Udeme Ufot	34,000	25,600	5,600	5,600	56,012	46,940	95,612	78,140
Cherie Blair	60,585	41,613	3,300	4,750	39,212	25,740	103,097	72,103
Berlina Moorole	60,585	41,613	3,000	3,350	39,212	21,450	102,797	66,413
Halima Dangote	34,000	19,200	7,100	7,100	39,212	25,740	80,312	52,040
Alvaro Poncioni Mérian	19,414	_	1,100	—	8,412	—	28,926	-
Total	545,968	407,465	82,200	86,950	536,288	379,840	1,164,456	874,255
Executive Directors							1,275,724	969,101
Grand total							2,440,180	1,843,356