

Sector-specific

The tenuous and hesitant recovery of private consumption, after the severe disruption seen in recent years, mainly in Portugal, will continue to affect sales in restaurants. To mitigate the impact on its results, the company has implemented rigorous cost control, with monthly monitoring of market trends and subsequent reviews of resource planning.

Operating as it does in the food service business, the company is also subject to the risk of epidemics, disruptions in raw materials markets and changes in consumption patterns, which can have a material impact on the financial statements.

54. Description of the identification, assessment, monitoring, control and risk management process

Risk management is carried out with the aim of creating value by managing and controlling uncertainties and threats that could affect Group companies from a business continuity perspective, while taking advantage of business opportunities.

In the context of strategic planning, the risks to the portfolio of existing businesses, the development of new businesses and the implementation of the most important projects are identified and assessed; and strategies to manage those risks are defined.

At operational level the management risks affecting the objectives of each business are identified and assessed, and actions are planned to manage those risks. These actions are included and monitored through the plans of the individual businesses and functional units.

As regards the risks to the security of tangible assets and persons, policies and standards have been established and are monitored to ensure compliance. All units are subject to external audits and preventive and corrective measures are taken in respect of the risks that have been identified.

To ensure that the established procedures are followed, the Group's main internal control systems are evaluated periodically.

55. Main elements of the internal control systems and risk management implemented by the company regarding the financial disclosure process

The Company does not have any specific internal audit services reporting directly to the Audit Committee (given the Latin model adopted), the necessary compliance services being overseen by the individual departments of the company. Organizationally and functionally, the various units of the Group are directly responsible for compliance services to the Board of Directors and of the Audit Committee, whenever requested by the latter, and the persons responsible are duly identified in the Company's organization chart. Under the Latin model of corporate governance, the individual departments of the Company oversee the compliance services in interaction with the Audit Committee or the non-executive director of the Company, reporting functionally to that director, independently of the departments' reporting relationship with the Company's executive management.

External audit assesses and reports on the reliability and integrity of accounting and financial information, validating the internal control system established in the Group and the effectiveness of the separation between the persons who prepare the information and those who use it and carrying out various validation procedures throughout the financial information preparation and disclosure process.

The external auditor meets with the different departments of the Group, at least twice a year to analyze and review the internal control system, submitting a report to the Audit Committee for subsequent discussion with the Board of Directors, namely with the non-executive director.