

**UBS Saudi Arabia** 

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### **UBS Saudi Arabia**

(A Closed Joint Stock Company)

# Board of Directors' Annual Report

As of 31 December 2022

UBS Saudi Arabia is a Saudi closed joint stock company incorporated in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia with a paid capital of 110,000,000 Saudi Riyals under commercial register number 1010257812 having its registered office at Tatweer Towers, P.O. Box 75724, Riyadh 11588, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. UBS Saudi Arabia is authorised and regulated by the Capital Market Authority to conduct securities business under licence number 08113-37.



## Board of Directors' Annual Report As of 31 December 2022

#### 1. Activities

UBS Saudi Arabia, (the "Company" or "UBS SA") is a closed joint stock company registered with the Capital Market Authority (CMA) under license number 08113-37 dated 4 Rajab 1429H (corresponding to 7 July 2008). The Company is licensed in dealing as agent (except in the Saudi Arabia stock market), dealing as underwriting, managing client portfolios, arranging, advising, and in custody of securities.

The Company is owned 100% by UBS AG.

#### 2. Status

#### 2022 Summary:

UBS Saudi Arabia continues to develop its business in Saudi Arabia with primary focus on Global Wealth Management. 2022 saw UBS Saudi Arabia:

- ❖ Allocate better resources in the Wealth Management (WM) team
- Continue to work on refining the Wealth Management product shelf and exploring opportunities to develop wealth management activities in Saudi Arabia;
- Continue on having hybrid work system where UBS Staff can work from home and from the office;
- Increase the UBS Saudi Arabia profile through more unique Wealth Management client events that took place throughout 2022;
- Seamlessly incorporate the regulatory developments issued by the CMA and other regulators; and,
- Successfully manage several infrastructure projects for Information Technology and Group Corporate Services without interruption of day to day business activities.
- Internal Audit was conducted between 7 March and 2 May 2022 with a Satisfactory rating.

Financially, UBS SA continued to rely on transfer pricing methodologies as its main source of revenue for 2022.

#### 2023 Wealth Management initiatives:

- ❖ Business focus will continue to be on the High Net Worth Segment.
- Focus to expand client base and introduce more Global Wealth Management products and services in the Saudi Market.

#### 2023 Investment Bank initiatives:

- Continue to develop a strong pipeline of Investment Banking transactions that includes possible Mergers & Acquisitions, Privatization and Strategic Equities Solutions mandates.
- Business focus for Investment Banking continues to be on companies who will seek to enhance shareholder value by undertaking significant strategic transactions.

#### 3. Board of Directors Members

Mr. Michel Adjadj resigned and left the board of directors on 28 February 2022. The CMA approved the appointment of Mr. Schady Saeb as a Non Executive Board Member on 18 July 2022.

#### Structure of the Board of Directors:



Ramzi Abukhadra	Chairman – Independent Director
Ali Janoudi	Vice Chairman – Non Executive Director
Mark Petheram	Board Member - Non Executive Director Chairman of the Audit Committee, and of the Nomination and Remuneration Committee
Michel Adjadj (Until 28 February 2022)	Board Member - Non Executive Director  Member of the Audit Committee, and of the Nomination and Remuneration Committee
Wahdan Alkadi	Board Member - Independent Director Member of the Audit Committee, and of the Nomination and Remuneration Committee - Independent Director
Ghassan Soufi	Board Member – Executive Director (CEO)
Schady Saeb (as of 18 July 2022)	Board Member - Non Executive Director  Member of the Audit Committee, and of the Nomination and Remuneration Committee

#### **Board meetings and attendance:**

Four Board meetings were held in 2022 on 15 February, 27 April, 22 August, and 24 November. The attendance was as follows:

	Attended	√	Die	Not Att	tend x
Name	Position	Dates of r		meeting	S
		15 February	27 April	22 August	24 November
Ramzi Abukhadra	Chairman - Independent Director	٧	٧	٧	٧
Ali Janoudi	Vice Chairman – Non Executive Director	Х	٧	٧	Χ
Michel Adjadj (until 28 February 2022)	Member – Non Executive Director	٧	N/A	N/A	N/A
Mark Petheram	Member – Non Executive Director	٧	٧	٧	٧
Wahdan Alkadi	Member – Independent Director	٧	٧	٧	٧
Ghassan Soufi (as of 20 March 2021)	Member – Executive Director (CEO)	٧	٧	٧	٧
Schady Saeb (From 18 July 2022)	Member – Non Executive Director	N/A	N/A	٧	٧

#### Companies where UBS SA's Board members are also members of their boards:

Director's Name	Inside KSA	Outside of KSA
Ramzi Abukhadra	Abdulmohsin Al-Hokair Group for Tourism & Development Al-Hokair Holding Golden Brown cookies company	N/A



Director's Name	Inside KSA	Outside of KSA
Ali Janoudi	N/A	Chairman of UBS Qatar Children Action, Geneva, Switzerland Coseco AG, Zürich, Switzerland UBS Global Visionaries, Switzerland
Ghassan Soufi	Swiss Business Network Saudi Arabia	N/A
Mark Petheram	N/A	N/A
Michel Adjadj (until 28 February 2022)	N/A	Coseco AG, Zürich, Switzerland RESTOM/QUATROM Trust Divisional Vice Chairman, Wealth Management, UBS Switzerland AG, Switzerland
Wahdan Alkadi	Chubb Arabia Cooperative Insurance Company Saudi Tennis Federation	N/A
Schady Saeb (from 18 July 2022)	N/A	N/A

#### 4. Subsidiaries of UBS Saudi Arabia

UBS Saudi Arabia does not own any subsidiary.

#### 5. Governance at UBS Saudi Arabia

Governance at UBS SA is enabled through its Board, the Audit Committee, the Nomination and Remuneration Committee, and the Risk Forum. The Board establishes other committees and forums as required. A brief on each body is described hereafter:

#### **The Audit Committee**

The Audit Committee (the "AC") is "concerned with activities that might involve a conflict of interest, such as ensuring the integrity of the financial and non-financial reports". It manages the relationship with the external auditors and UBS AG's Group Internal Audit. The Audit Committee is comprised of the following members:

Mark Petheram	Chairman of the Committee	Board Member – Non Executive
Michel Adjadj (until 28 February 2022)	Committee Member	Board Member – Non Executive
Wahdan AlKadi	Committee Member	Board Member – Independent
Schady Saeb (from 18 July 2022)	Committee Member	Board Member – Non Executive
Fady Fakhoury	Secretary	Corporate Administrator and Secretary of the Board.

The AC met twice in 2022 as follows:



Name	Position		
		4 July	10 November
Mark Petheram	Chairman of the Committee	٧	٧
Michel Adjadj (until 28 February 2022)	Member – Non Executive Director	х	Х
Wahdan AlKadi	Member – Independent Director	٧	٧
Schady Saeb (from 18 July 2022)	Member – Non Executive Director	٧*	٧

<sup>\*</sup> Mr. Saeb attended the 4 of July meeting as a guest.

#### **The Nomination and Remuneration Committee (NRC)**

The Nomination and Remuneration Committee is concerned with the "nomination to membership of the Board and committees, appointment of executive directors, and determination of their remuneration.

The Nomination and Remuneration Committee is comprised of the following members:

Mark Petheram	Chairman of the Committee	Board Member – Non Executive
Michel Adjadj (until 28 February 2022)	Committee Member	Board Member – Non Executive
Wahdan AlKadi	Committee Member	Board Member – Independent
Schady Saeb (from 18 July 2022)	Committee Member	Board Member – Non Executive
Fady Fakhoury	Secretary	Corporate Administrator and Secretary of the Board.

The NRC met on 4 of July. Attendance to the meeting was as follows:

	Attended √	Did Not Attend x
Name	Position	Date of Meeting
		4 July
Mark Petheram	Chairman of the Committee	V
Michel Adjadj (until 28 February 2022)	Member – Non Executive Director	X
Wahdan AlKadi	Member – Independent Director	V
Schady Saeb (from 18 July 2022)	Member – Non Executive Director	√*

<sup>\*</sup>Please note that Mr. Saeb attended the 4 of July meeting as a guest.

#### **Risk Forum**

The Forum ensures that the risk appetite of UBS Saudi Arabia is properly defined through policies and procedures and is consistent with its strategy, as well as with applicable regulatory requirements. It is responsible for the effectiveness of risk management and control. Furthermore, it is responsible for initiating and monitoring actions to prevent, control, mitigate and / or eliminate any identified deficiencies.

The Risk Forum is comprised of the following members:



	Name of Members
Michel Adjadj (until 28 February 2022)	UBS SA Non Executive Board Member - (Chair)
Schady Saeb (from 18 July 2022)	UBS SA Non Executive Board Member - (Chair)
Ghassan Soufi	CEO, UBS Saudi Arabia
Fady Fakhoury	UBS SA Business Risk Organization (Secretary)
Ghada Alghoraibi	UBS SA C&ORC and MLRO (until 21 August 2022)
Hussain Al-Huraiz	UBS SA C&ORC and MLRO (from 27 November 2022)
Imran Ali (from 11 April 2022)	UBS SA Finance Manager
Jae-Min Kan	MEA Business Risk Partner
Abdullah Najia	WM Lead Market Head Saudi Arabia
Zi Udezue	Group Operating Head MENA
Thomas Birrer	Head, Quality Desk CH

The Risk Control Committee met four times in 2022 on 8 February, 12 May, 10 August, 7 November, and 3 November as follows:

Attended √ Did Not Attend x					
Name	Position	Date of Meetings			gs
		8 February	12 May	10 August	7 November
Michel Adjadj (until 28 February 22)	UBS SA Non Executive Board Member - (Chair)	٧	N/A	N/A	N/A
Schady Saeb (from 18 July 2022)	UBS SA Non Executive Board Member - (Chair)		N/A	٧	٧
Ghassan Soufi	UBS SA CEO	٧	Х	٧	Х
Abdullah Najia	WM Lead Market Head Saudi Arabia	٧	٧*	Х	Х
Fady Fakhoury	UBS SA Business Risk Organization (Secretary)	٧	٧	٧	٧
Ghada Alghoraibi	UBS SA C&ORC and MLRO (until 21 August)	٧	Х	X	N/A
Hussain Al Huraiz	UBS SA C&ORC and MLRO (from 27 Nov)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Sander Tietema	MENA C&ORC (CORC Representative)	N/A	N/A	٧**	N/A
Imran Ali	UBS SA Finance Manager	N/A	٧	Χ	٧
Jae-Min Kan MEA Business Risk Partner		٧	٧	٧	٧
Zi Udezue	Group Operating Head MENA	٧	٧	Χ	٧
Thomas Birrer	Head, Quality Desk CH	٧	٧	Χ	X

<sup>\*</sup> Mr. Najia chaired the 12 May meeting. \*\*Mr. Tietema represented the compliance function on 10 August.

#### 6. The Expected Risks



Risk Type	Level of Risk
Credit risk	Credit risk is the risk of loss resulting from failure by a counterparty (including issuers) to meet its contractual obligations with UBS SA. The business model of the Company is such that it does not grant funding to third parties. The small amount of credit risk exposure that arises in the Company is mainly as a result of bank deposits and receivables. Any credit exposure arising in the Company is subject to the general policies and controls for the recognition of the financial strength of the counterparties involved. The Company is not subject to significant credit risk since most of its receivables are from related parties and the term deposits and bank balances are with a counterparty that has an investment grade credit rating (i.e. where the counterparty is rated at 'BBB' or higher by Standard and Poor's or Moody's).
Market Risk	Market risk is the risk of loss resulting from adverse movements in the level and in the volatility of market prices of assets, liabilities and financial instruments. The business model of UBS SA is such that it is not exposed to risks associated with trading as it does not perform proprietary investments. The business is an agency business whereby there is no intention to hold open positions in the normal course of business.
Operational Risk	Operational risk is the risk resulting from inadequate or failed internal processes, people and systems, or from external causes (deliberate, accidental or natural). An Operational Risk Event may be a direct financial loss (e.g. negative cash flow, asset write down, claim, litigation, fines or other penalties imposed on UBS SA) or indirect in the form of revenue forgone as a result of business suspension. The Company manages its operational risk by ensuring effective segregation of tasks and duties, reinforcing organizational ethics and by conducting periodic risk assessment.
Liquidity risk	Liquidity risk is the risk that UBS SA will not be able to meet efficiently both expected and unexpected current and future cash flows needs without affecting either daily operations or the financial condition of the Company. The nature of the business model translates to low levels of liquidity risk. The Company manages its liquidity risk by ensuring that sufficient cash and cash equivalents are available to meet liabilities as they arise.

#### 7. Financial Results

#### **Statement of Financial Position since year 2018:**

	2022 SR	2021 SR	2020 SR	2019 SR	2018 SR
Right-of-use asset	931,506	1,950,783	3,121,117	4,192,234	0
Property and Equipment	69,109	93,285	98,671	189,752	777,207
Current Assets and Deferred Tax Asset	115,843,903	113,894,315	112,725,953	112,408,744	108,248,289
Total Assets	116,844,518	115,938,383	115,945,741	116,790,730	109,025,496
Non-Current Liabilities	1,400,916	2,340,194	3,476,799	5,269,075	2,714,509
Current Liabilities	2,291,277	2,438,754	2,583,398	3,312,553	2,300,805
Total Liabilities	3,692,193	4,778,948	6,060,197	8,581,628	5,015,314
Share Capital	110,000,000	110,000,000	110,000,000	110,000,000	110,000,000



	2022 SR	2021 SR	2020 SR	2019 SR	2018 SR
Retained Earnings / Statutory	3,152,325	1,159,435	-114,456	-1,790,898	-5,989,818
Reserve					
Total Liabilities and	116,844,518	115,938,383	115,945,741	116,790,730	109,025,496
Shareholder's Equity					

#### **Statement of Comprehensive Income since year 2018:**

	2022 SR	2021 SR	2020 SR	2019 SR	2018 SR
Service and Other Fees	15,608,151	17,010,294	15,313,428	17,235,685	15,350,445
Arranging fees	0	0	0	0	0
Special Commission Income	2,269,086	498,356	1,063,975	2,478,908	1,967,121
Direct Cost	0		0	0	0
General and Administrative Expenses	-14,189,183	-15,452,141	-13,950,439	-15,531,773	-14,503,712
Rent Income			0	0	703,364
Income Tax Charge for the Year	-1,001,743	-440,726	-739,829	-932,114	-777,806
Re-measurement of employees' end-of-service benefits	296,579	-341,892	-10,693	948,214	0
Net Income for the Year	2,982,890	1,273,891	1,676,442	4,198,920	2,739,412

- The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRSs") that are endorsed in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and other standards and pronouncements that are endorsed by the Saudi Organization for Certified Public Accountants ("SOCPA").
- There is no doubt in the Company's ability to continue its operations.
- There are no significant differences in the operating results from the prior year's results or any declared expectations by the Company.
- The audit report doesn't include any qualified opinion on the financial statements.

### 8. The Compensation and the Remuneration for the Members of the Board of Directors and the Senior Executives

Details of remunerations and compensations attributed to the board members for the year 2022 are illustrated in the following table. The remuneration of the Independent Directors will be; (a) SR. 3,000 per meeting for the Independent Director; and (b) SR. 6,000 per meeting for the Independent Chairman. The payment will take place once the shareholders' approval is obtained at the ordinary general assembly that will be conducted before the end of June 2023.

Statement	Executive Board Members	Non- Executive Board Members	Independent Board Members
Allowance for attendance of the board of directors' sessions	N/A	Nil	36,000



Statement	Executive Board Members	Non- Executive Board Members	Independent Board Members
Allowance for attendance of the committees' sessions	N/A	Nil	9,000
Periodic and annual remunerations	1,200,000	Nil	Nil
Incentive plans	2022 Incentive 82,500	Nil	Nil
Any compensations or other in- kind benefits paid monthly or annually	Annual Allowance, 286,875	Nil	Nil
Total:	1,569,375	Nil	45,000

Statement	Five of the senior executives who received the highest remunerations and compensations in addition to the CEO and CFO, if they are not among them
Salaries and wages	3,678,000
Allowances	1,128,875
Periodic and annual remunerations	This is the same as Salary, Allowance and Incentive Amounts in this table.
Incentive plans	201,500
Commissions	None
Any compensations or other in- kind benefits paid monthly or annually	None
Total	5,008,375

### 9. The Conflict of the Interests of Members of the Board of Directors and the Senior Executives

- The Company does not have any contracts or any interest with any of the members of the Board of Directors or with the Chief Executive Officer or the Finance Manager or the other senior executives of the Company or with any person with a relationship with any of them.
- The Company did not offer a cash loan of any kind to the members of the Board or guarantee any loan held by any of them with others.



#### 10. Company's Loan

There are no loans on the company to be reported as of December 31, 2022.

#### 11. Transaction concluded between UBS SA and a connected person

		Amount of transactions	
		2022	2021
Name of related party	Nature of transactions	SR	SR
UBS Switzerland AG	Service fee income (see note (a) & (b))	15,365,550	16,843,380
	Reimbursement of expenses	-225,298	
UBS AG London Branch	Service fee income (see note (a))	242,469	166,914
UBS AG Stamford Branch	Maintenance expenses (IT)	2,605,684	2,800,319
	Reimbursement of expenses		-118,068
Board of Directors ("BOD") Key management personnel	Board fees to independent board member	42,000	66,000
	Salaries and other benefits	1,569,375	1,561,875

	2022	2021
	SR	SR
Due from related parties	789,366	1,055,683
Due to related parties	88,459	104,341

a) The Company has signed service agreements to reflect any support services provided to the booking centers UBS Switzerland AG and UBS AG London Branch. The service fee is charged on the basis of a mark-up on expenses (excluding income tax) incurred by the Company.

Service and arranging fee income are recognized when the related services are performed and are accounted for on an accrual basis.

b) UBS Switzerland AG is the custodian of the Company's client assets and money amounting to SR 306 million as at the reporting date on 31 Dec. 2022 (and SR 399.3 at 31 December 2021). Control functions including reconciliation controls are performed by the custodian.

# 12. The results of the audit report of the system and controls, and the audit committee's opinion on the adequacy of the internal audit system.

Internal Audit was conducted between 7 March and 2 May 2022. The results were as follows: Saudi Arabia has designed adequate (i) governance and supervisory arrangements over its business activities and (ii) controls over



initial and ongoing client due diligence and sanctions lists handling. Further, the substantive testing of client advisors' diligence in complying with ongoing clients' due diligence responsibilities and investor protection requirements did not highlight any concern. Group Internal Audit concluded that controls need to be strengthened over suitability requirements. The Audit Committee unanimously resolved to approve the Internal Audit conducted and its results including the remediation of strengthening the controls over suitability requirements.

At its meeting in November 2022, the audit committee reviewed the assessment of the services of the internal audit functions and systems, and the committee concluded that the internal audit systems are sustainably adequate and recommended to the board to continue with these systems as is.

# 13. Statement of any arrangement or agreement whereby a member of the Board of Directors of the Company or a senior executive waives any remuneration

There are no arrangements or waiver agreement whereby a board member or a senior executive waived any remuneration.

#### 14. Contingent Liabilities and Regulatory Fines

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There were no lawsuits, fines or other obligations against UBS Saudi Arabia during 2022.

**Kind Regards** 

Ramzi Abukhadra

Chairman of the Board