## Alumina Limited - ABN 85 004 820 419

### Six Months ended 30 June 2003 ("Current Period")

#### Results for announcement to the market

			% cnange "	\$A million
1.4	Revenues from ordinary activities	Down	99.9% *	0.8
1.23	Profit from ordinary activities after tax attributable to members	Down	24.2% *	117.9
1.11	Profit from extraordinary items after tax attributable to members		-	-
1.14	NET PROFIT FOR THE PERIOD ATTRIBUTABLE TO MEMBERS OF ALUMINA LIMITED	Down	24.2% *	117.9

#### **Dividends**

		Current Period Six months ended 30 June 2003	Previous Corresponding Period Six months ended 30 June 2002
15.4	Interim dividend per share	10¢	5¢
15.5	Franked amount per share	10¢	5¢
15.2	Record date for determining entitlements to the dividend is 5 August 2003.		

<sup>\*</sup> The comparative period is for the six months to 30 June 2002. (The 1st half of 2002 includes the results for the Nickel, Copper/Uranium and Fertiliser assets held by WMC Limited during that period).

Alumina Limited was created on 11 December 2002 when WMC Limited's alumina assets were demerged from the nickel, copper and fertilizer businesses. Refer to "Comments by directors" for further details.

This half yearly report is to be read in conjunction with the most recent annual financial report.

## Condensed consolidated statement of financial performance

		Conti	nuing	Discontinuing		
			ations million	Operations \$A million	To \$A m	
		Six months to	Six months to	Six months to	Six months to	Six months to
		30 June 2003	30 June 2002	30 June 2002	30 June 2003	30 June 2002
1.1	Revenues from operating activities (item 1.25)	-	-	1,194.9	-	1,194.9
1.2	Interest revenue (including item 1.26)	0.8	0.6	94.4	0.8	95.0
1.3	Other revenue (including items 1.27, 1.28 and 1.29)	-	-	153.7	-	153.7
1.4	Revenue from ordinary activities (item 1.30)	0.8	0.6	1,443.0	0.8	1,443.6
1.5	Expenses from ordinary activities (item 1.36)	(5.6)	(2.6)	(1,304.8)	(5.6)	(1,307.4)
1.6	Borrowing costs ( net borrowing costs were \$3.6m for 30 June 2003 and \$16.3m credit for 30 June 2002)	(4.4)	-	(78.7)	(4.4)	(78.7)
1.7	Share of net profit of associates accounted for using the equity method (item 17.2)	127.2	110.7	-	127.2	110.7
1.8	Profit from ordinary activities before tax	118.0	108.7	59.5	118.0	168.2
1.9	Income tax on ordinary activities	(0.1)	(0.5)	(12.9)	(0.1)	(13.4)
1.10	Profit from ordinary activities after tax	117.9	108.2	46.6	117.9	154.8
1.11	Profit from extraordinary items after tax		-	-	-	-
1.12	Net profit	117.9	108.2	46.6	117.9	154.8
1.13	Net loss attributable to outside equity interests		-	0.7	-	0.7
1.14	Net profit for the period attributable to members of Alumina Limited	117.9	108.2	47.3	117.9	155.5
Nor	n-owner transaction chang	es in equity				
1.15	Net exchange differences recognised in				25.1	(18.5)
1.16	Equity share movements in reserves of	, ,			-	-
1.17	Total transactions and adjustments reco		quity (item 1.15 and 1	1.16)	25.1	(18.5)
1.18	Total changes in equity other than from the owners	-	· -	•	143.0	137.0
Ear	nings per share (EPS)			•		

## Earnings per share (EPS)

		Six months ended 30 June 2003	Six months ended 30 June 2002
1.19	Basic EPS	10.4¢	14.0¢
1.20	Diluted EPS	10.4¢	14.0¢



## Notes to the condensed consolidated statement of financial performance

		Six months to 30 June 2003 \$A million	Six months to 30 June 2002 \$A million
Prof	it from ordinary activities attributable to members		
1.21	Profit from ordinary activities after tax (item 1.10)	117.9	154.8
1.22	Add/(Less) outside equity interests (item 1.13)	-	0.7
1.23	Profit from ordinary activities after tax, attributable to members of Alumina Limited	117.9	155.5
Rev	enue and expenses from ordinary activities		
Reve	nue from ordinary activities		
1.24	Sale of goods	-	1,194.9
1.25	Revenue from operating activities	-	1,194.9
1.26	Interest received/receivable	0.8	95.0
1.27	Proceeds from disposal of non-current assets	-	81.7
1.28	Insurance proceeds received/receivable	-	62.0
1.29	Other income	-	10.0
1.30	Revenue from ordinary activities	0.8	1,443.6
Expe	nses from ordinary activities		
1.31	Cost of goods sold (including depreciation and amortisation – item 1.37)	-	874.1
1.32	Selling and distribution	-	82.1
1.33	General and administrative	5.6	164.3
1.34	Exploration and evaluation	-	17.4
1.35	Other expenses from ordinary activities		169.5 <sup>1</sup>
1.36	Expenses from ordinary activities	5.6	1,307.4
1.37	Depreciation and amortisation excluding amortisation of intangibles (item 1.31)	-	254.6
<sup>1</sup> Inclu	des carrying value of non-current assets sold of \$40.4 million.		
Сар	italised outlays		
1.38	There were no capitalised interest costs or other capitalised outlays for the period.		
Con	solidated retained profits		
	•	Six months to 30 June 2003 \$A million	Six months to 30 June 2002 \$A million
1.39	Retained profits at the beginning of the financial period	729.4	1,451.7
1.40	Net profit attributable to members of Alumina Limited (item 1.14)	117.9	155.5
1.41	Net transfers from reserves	101.3	-
1.42	Dividends and other equity distributions provided for or paid	(146.6)	(0.5)
1.43	Retained profits at the end of financial period	802.0	1,606.7

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## Significant items

The following non-recurring items are included in profit from ordinary activities for discontinued operations and disclosed on a pre-tax basis as significant items due to their size or nature.

		A\$ million
There	were no significant items for the six months to 30 June 2003	
Signi	ficant items for the six months to 30 June 2002	
1.44	Demerger costs – advisor fees and other costs	(8.7)
1.45	Income tax benefit	2.6 (6.1)
		(0.1)
1.46	Proceeds from sale of Central Norseman Gold Corporation Limited (sold January 2002)	33.5
1.47	Book value of assets disposed and costs associated with the sale	(8.4)
1.48	Profit on sale	25.1
1.49	Income tax expense	-
		25.1
1.50	Proceeds from the sale of right to gold royalty received from the sale of St Ives and Agnew	
1.51	gold operations  Book value of gold royalty and costs associated with the sale	45.0 (29.6)
1.52	Profit on sale	15.4
1.53		13.4
1.33	Income tax expense	15.4
1.54	Insurance proceeds (material damage and business interruption) recognised in relation to	
1 55	the fire at the Olympic Dam solvent extraction plant in October 2001	62.0 (18.6)
1.55	Income tax expense	43.4
1.56	Costs associated with lost production due to fire at Olympic Dam solvent extraction plant	(56.9)
1.57	Income tax benefit	17.1
1.37	income tax benefit	(39.8)
	<del>-</del>	(4112)
1.58	Proceeds received from early termination of interest rate swaps	75.9
1.59	Income tax expense	(22.8)
	_	53.1
1.60	Total significant items after tax for the six months ended 30 June 2002	91.1

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## Intangible and extraordinary items

	Consolidated-Six months to 30 June 2003	Before tax \$A million	Related tax \$A million	Related outside equity interests \$A million	Amount (after tax) attributable to members \$A million
2.1	Amortisation of goodwill: (equity associates)	8.9	-	-	8.9
2.2	Amortisation of other intangibles	-	-	-	-
2.3	Total amortisation of intangibles	8.9	-	-	8.9
2.4	Extraordinary items	There were no ex	traordinary items		
	Consolidated-Six months to 30 June 2002	Before tax \$A million	Related tax \$A million	Related outside equity interests \$A million	Amount (after tax) attributable to members \$A million
2.1	Amortisation of goodwill: (equity associates)	8.9	-	-	8.9
2.2	Amortisation of other intangibles	7.5	(2.2)	<u>-</u>	5.3
2.3	Total amortisation of intangibles	16.4	(2.2)	-	14.2
2.4	Extraordinary items	There were no ex	traordinary items		

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## **Income Tax**

		Six months to 30 June 2003 \$A million	Six months to 30 June 2002 \$A million
(a)	Profit from ordinary activities before tax (item 1.8)	118.0	168.2
	Add: excess of dividends received/receivable over equity share of profits	2.3	16.8
		120.3	185.0
	Prima facie tax expense for the period at the rate of 30%	(36.1)	(55.5)
	The following items caused the total charge for income tax to vary from the above:		
	Rebateable and exempt dividends	129.5	127.5
	Additional claim for research and development expenditure	-	2.6
	Exempt income	-	5.0
	Non-assessable capital gains	-	31.5
	Additional depreciation and amortisation	-	0.6
	Non-deductible expenses	(4.5)	(2.8)
	Attributable foreign source income		(3.0)
	Net movement	125.0	161.4
	Tax effect of the above adjustments at 30%	37.5	48.4
	Variance between Australian and foreign tax rates	-	(0.8)
	Future income tax benefits not brought to account	(1.4)	(12.2)
	Recognition of future income tax benefits not previously brought to account	-	7.2
	Withholding tax	(0.1)	(0.4)
	Over provision of tax in prior years	-	(0.1)
	Consequent reduction in charge for income tax	36.0	42.1
	Income tax expense for the period (item 1.9)	(0.1)	(13.4)

## Condensed consolidated statement of financial position

		30 June 2003 \$A million	31 Dec 2002 \$A million	30 June 2002 \$A million
Curre	nt Assets			
4.1	Cash	81.2	23.2	113.7
4.2	Receivables - trade debtors	-	-	267.1
4.3	Receivables – other	0.9	2.3	271.2
4.4	Inventories	-	-	481.9
4.5	Other financial assets	-	-	17.0
4.6	Deferred hedging losses (net)	-	-	82.3
4.7	Other (includes capitalised borrowing costs)	0.6	0.9	99.3
4.8	Total current assets	82.7	26.4	1,332.5
Non-	current Assets			
4.9	Receivables	-	-	358.6
4.10	Investments in associates	1,605.8	1,668.7	1,605.8
4.11	Other financial assets	-	-	21.4
4.12	Inventories	-	-	83.1
4.13	Exploration and evaluation (item 5.8)	-	-	62.3
4.14	Mine properties under development (item 6.6)	-	-	0.7
4.15	Other property, plant and equipment (net)	0.2	-	4,629.7
4.16	Deferred hedging losses (net)	-	-	716.1
4.17	Deferred tax assets	-	-	284.7
4.18	Other	-	-	27.4
4.19	Total non-current assets	1,606.0	1,668.7	7,789.8
4.20	Total assets	1,688.7	1,695.1	9,122.3
Curre	nt Liabilities			
4.21	Payables	2.1	2.6	453.4
4.22	Interest bearing liabilities	526.9	534.8	467.6
4.23	Current tax liabilities	0.1	1.7	3.2
4.24	Provisions (excluding current tax liabilities)	0.3	0.1	71.3
4.25	Other	3.4	-	20.3
4.26	Total current liabilities	532.8	539.2	1,015.8
Non-	current Liabilities			
4.27	Payables	-	-	914.2
4.28	Interest bearing liabilities	-	-	1,633.4
4.29	Deferred tax liabilities	0.5	2.2	444.1
4.30	Provisions (excluding deferred tax liabilities)	-	0.2	97.8
4.31	Other		-	2.8
4.32	Total non-current liabilities	0.5	2.4	3,092.3
4.33	Total liabilities	533.3	541.6	4,108.1
4.34	Net assets	1,155.4	1,153.5	5,014.2

## Condensed consolidated statement of financial position (continued)

		30 June 2003 \$A million	31 Dec 2002 \$A million	30 June 2002 \$A million
Equit	у			
4.35	Contributed equity	225.7	220.2	3,223.4
	Reserves:			
4.36	- Group	127.7	102.6	111.4
4.37	- Associates	-	101.3	71.9
	Retained profits:			
4.38	- Group	355.6	382.9	1,213.2
4.39	- Associates	446.4	346.5	393.5
4.40	Equity attributable to members of the parent entity	1,155.4	1,153.5	5,013.4
4.41	Outside equity interests in controlled entities		-	0.8
4.42	Total equity	1,155.4	1,153.5	5,014.2

There is no preference capital.



## Notes to the condensed consolidated statement of financial position

## **Exploration and Evaluation Expenditure Capitalised**

		Six months to 30 June 2003 \$A million	Year ended 31 Dec 2002 \$A million	Six months to 30 June 2002 \$A million
5.1	Opening balance	-	64.5	64.5
	Expenditure incurred during current period:			
5.2	- Grassroots expenditure	-	17.1	7.3
5.3	- Additional, supporting existing operations	-	3.4	1.7
5.4	- Evaluation expenditure	-	14.9	9.0
5.5	Expenditure written off during current period	-	(34.2)	(17.4)
5.6	Acquisitions, disposals, capitalised depreciation, etc	-	(65.7)	(2.8)
5.7	Expenditure transferred to development properties	-	-	
5.8	Closing balance as shown in the condensed consolidated statement of financial position (Item 4.13)	-	-	62.3

## **Mine Properties Under Development**

		Six months to 30 June 2003 \$A million	Year ended 31 Dec 2002 \$A million	Six months to 30 June 2002 \$A million
6.1	Opening balance	-	0.5	0.5
6.2	Expenditure incurred during current period	-	0.7	0.2
6.3	Expenditure transferred from exploration and evaluation	-	-	-
6.4	Acquisitions, disposals, reclassifications, etc	-	(1.2)	-
6.5	Expenditure transferred to mine properties	-	-	-
6.6	Closing balance as shown in the condensed consolidated statement of financial position (Item 4.14)	-	-	0.7

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## Condensed consolidated statement of cash flows

			ng Operations million	Discontinuing Operations \$A million		otal nillion
		Six months to	Six months to	Six months to	Six months to	Six months to
		30 June 2003	30 June 2002	30 June 2002	30 June 2003	30 June 2002
		\$A million	\$A million	\$A million	\$A million	\$A million
Cash	Flows Related to Operating Activities					
7.1	Receipts from customers	-	-	1,136.0	-	1,136.0
7.2	Proceeds from interest rate swap close out	-	-	71.2	-	71.2
7.3	Payments to suppliers and employees	(3.6)	(2.6)	(1,094.8)	(3.6)	(1,097.4)
7.4	Proceeds from guarantees	2.4	-	-	2.4	-
7.5	Dividends received from associates	129.5	127.5	-	129.5	127.5
7.6	Interest received	8.0	-	17.9	8.0	17.9
7.7	Borrowing costs paid	(4.3)	-	(75.4)	(4.3)	(75.4)
7.8	Income taxes paid	(4.1)	-	(2.8)	(4.1)	(2.8)
7.9	Proceeds from insurance claims	-	-	22.9	-	22.9
	Cash expenditure on exploration:					
7.10	- Grassroots	-	-	(7.3)	-	(7.3)
7.11	- Additional, supporting existing operations	-	-	(1.7)	-	(1.7)
7.12	Net operating cash flows	120.7	124.9	66.0	120.7	190.9
	5. 5					
	Flows Related to Investing Activities	(0.0)		(407.1)	(0.0)	(407.4)
7.13	Payments for property, plant and equipment	(0.2)	-	(137.6)	(0.2)	(137.6)
7.14	Proceeds from sale of non-current assets	-	-	3.3	-	3.3
7.15	Proceeds from the sale of Central Norseman Gold Corporation Limited, net of cash					
	divested	-	-	25.7	-	25.7
7.16	Proceeds from short term investments	-	-	3.1	-	3.1
7.17	Payments for closed out gold hedges	-	-	(24.7)	-	(24.7)
7.18	Payments for evaluation expenditure	-	-	(3.3)	-	(3.3)
7.19	Payments for research and development	-	-	(0.4)	-	(0.4)
7.20	Net investing cash flows	(0.2)	-	(133.9)	(0.2)	(133.9)
	Flows Related to Financing Activities					
7.21	Proceeds from issues of shares	5.5	32.5	-	5.5	32.5
7.22	Proceeds from borrowings	79.2	-	651.0	79.2	651.0
7.23	Repayment of borrowings	-	-	(687.6)	-	(687.6)
7.24	Dividends paid	(146.6)	(144.6)	-	(146.6)	(144.6)
7.25	Net financing cash flows	(61.9)	(112.1)	(36.6)	(61.9)	(148.7)
Net (I	Decrease)/Increase in Cash Held	58.6	12.8	(104.5)	58.6	(91.7)
7.26	"Cash" at beginning of period	23.2	46.8	167.4	23.2	214.2
7.27	Exchange rate adjustments to Item 7.26					
	above	(0.6)	<u>-</u> 	(8.8)	(0.6)	(8.8)
7.28	"Cash" at end of period	81.2	59.6	54.1	81.2	113.7



### **Reconciliation of Cash**

		Six months to 30 June 2003 \$A million	Six months to 30 June 2002 \$A million
	Reconciliation of cash at the end of the period (as shown in the condensed consolidated statement of cash flows) to the related items in the accounts is as follows:		
8.1	Cash on hand and at bank	31.1	52.7
8.2	Money market deposits (with maturity on investment three months or less)	50.1	61.0
8.3	Cash assets (Item 4.1)	81.2	113.7
8.4	Bank overdraft		-
8.5	Total cash at end of period (Item 7.28)	81.2	113.7

### Other notes to the condensed financial statements

#### **Ratios**

		Six months to 30 June 2003 %	Six months to 30 June 2002 %
Profi	t before tax/revenue		
9.1	Consolidated profit from ordinary activities before tax (Items 1.8) as a percentage of revenue (Item 1.4)	Not Applicable	11.7
Profi	t after tax/equity interests (annualised)		
9.2	Consolidated net profit from ordinary activities after tax attributable to members (Item 1.14) as a percentage of members' equity at the end of the period (Item 4.42)	20.4	6.2

## **Earnings per share (EPS)**

		Six months to 30 June 2003	Six months to 30 June 2002
	Calculation of basic and fully diluted EPS in accordance with AASB 1027: Earnings per Share		
	Equity accounted earnings in cents per ordinary share		
10.1	Basic EPS	10.4	14.0
10.2	Diluted EPS	10.4	14.0
Net	tangible asset backing per security		

## Net tangible asset backing per security

Net tangible asset backing per ordinary security \$0.86 \$3.55 11.1

## Loss of control of entities having material effect

14.1 There was no loss of controlled entities for the six months ended 30 June 2003.

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### **Dividends**

15.5

15.6

Total

- 15.1 An interim dividend has been declared payable on 10th September 2003
- 15.2 Record date to determine entitlements to the dividend is 5th August 2003

Dividend to be paid on ordinary shares

## **Amount per share**

		Six months to 30 June 2003 (cents)	Six months to 30 June 2002 (cents)
	Interim dividend per share		
15.3	Amount per share	10¢	5¢
15.4	Franked amount per share at 30% tax rate	10¢	5¢
Inte	rim dividend on all shares		
		Six months to 30 June 2003 \$A million	Six months to 30 June 2002 \$A million

112.9

112.9

55.6

55.6

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## Details of aggregate share of results of associates

		Six months to 30 June 2003 \$A million	Six months to 30 June 2002 \$A million
Alumir	na's share of associates:		
16.1	Profit from ordinary activities before income tax and goodwill amortisation	186.3	181.5
16.2	Amortisation of equity goodwill	(8.9)	(8.9)
16.3	Profit from ordinary activities before tax	177.4	172.6
16.4	Income tax on ordinary activities	(50.2)	(61.9)
16.5	Profit from ordinary activities after income tax	127.2	110.7
16.6	Extraordinary items net of tax	-	-
16.7	Net profit	127.2	110.7
16.8	Outside equity interests	-	-
16.9	Net profit attributable to members of Alumina Limited	127.2	110.7
16.10	Dividends received/receivable by Alumina Limited	(129.5)	(127.5)
16.11	Surplus/(Shortfall) of equity share of profits over dividends received	(2.3)	(16.8)

### Material interests in entities which are not controlled entities

The economic entity has an interest (that is material to it) in the following entities:

			Percentage of ownership interest held at end of period or date of disposal		Contributio	n to net profit	
			Six months to 30 June 2003	Six months to 30 June 2002	Six months to 30 June 2003 \$A million	Six months to 30 June 2002 \$A million	
17.1		Equity accounted associates and joint venture entities					
	(i)	AWAC (including Alcoa of Australia Ltd)(a)	40%	40%	136.1	111.6	
		<sup>(a)</sup> Alcoa of Australia Ltd	39.25%	39.25%			
		Amortisation of goodwill	n/a	n/a	(8.9)	(0.9)	
17.2		Total			127.2	110.7	
17.3		Other material interests			Nil	Nil	

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## Issued and quoted securities at end of current period

	Category of Securities	Number issued	Numb quote		price are (\$)
18.1	Ordinary shares	4 400 057 0 47	4 400 075 0		
	Fully paid	1,129,057,247	1,129,075,2		
	Partly paid	Nil	Nil		
18.2	Ordinary Shares -				
	Changes during current period:				
	Increase in fully paid shares following:				
	(i) exercise of options	723,500	723,50	00 V	arious
18.3	Unquoted employee options to acquire	Number	Number	Exercise	Expiry
	fully paid ordinary shares	issued	Quoted	Price	Date
		806,520	Nil	\$2.62	21 December 2003
		375,000	Nil	\$2.88	21 December 2003
		3,579,800	Nil Nil	\$4.52 \$4.04	20 December 2004 18 December 2005
		5,399,900 9,584,400	Nil	\$4.04 \$5.02	30 November 2006
		600,000	Nil	\$5.02 \$5.02	30 November 2006
		20,345,620			
18.4	Issued during the current period	Nil			
18.5	Exercised during the current period	96,400	Nil	\$2.62	21 December 2003
		60,700	Nil	\$4.52	20 December 2004
		524,700	Nil	\$4.04	18 December 2005
		41,700 723,500	Nil	\$5.02	30 November 2006
		123,000			
18.6	Expired/lapsed during the current period	-	Nil	\$2.62	21 December 2003
		111,600	Nil	\$4.52	20 December 2004
		12,100	Nil	\$4.04	18 December 2005
		355,800 479,500	Nil	\$5.02	30 December 2006
-		,,500			



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### **Segment Information**

### **Business Segment**

#### Six months ended 30 June 2003

As a result of the demerger, Alumina Limited's primary assets are its 40% interest in the series of operating entities forming AWAC (39.25% in the case of Alcoa of Australia Ltd). The company predominately operates in the Alumina/aluminium business through its equity interests in AWAC. Refer to Comments by directors.

#### Six months ended 30 June 2002

			\$ million		
Consolidated	Copper/ uranium	Alumina/ aluminium	Nickel	Fertilizers	Consolidated
Revenue Segment revenues¹ Unallocated revenue² Less insurance proceeds Less proceeds from sale of non-current assets Operating revenues	380.9	-	598.5	269.7	1,249.1 89.5 (62.0) (81.7) 1,194.9
Result Segment result Share of net profit or loss/result of equity accounted investments Unallocated profit³ Unallocated corporate expenses: New business Regional exploration Corporate Finance and other costs Net borrowing costs⁴ Profit from ordinary activities before income tax Income tax expense on ordinary activities	14.8	(0.6) 110.7	80.1	(16.3)	78.0 110.7 41.7 (21.1) (9.7) (37.1) (10.6) 16.3 168.2 (13.4)
Net profit (item 1.12)					154.8

#### **Description of each business segment**

Alumina/aluminium Share of net profit or loss/result of equity accounted investment in Alcoa World Alumina and Chemicals (AWAC),

and Alumina business unit costs.

**Copper/uranium** Exploration, development, mining and refining of copper, uranium, silver and gold in South Australia.

**Nickel** Exploration, development, mining, smelting and refining of nickel in Western Australia.

Fertilizers Production of fertilizer products in Phosphate Hill, Queensland and distribution of fertilizer products via Hi-Fert.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Segment revenues include intermediate product sales.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Unallocated revenue includes \$33.5m from sale of CNGC and \$45.0m from sale of the right to a gold royalty.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Unallocated profit includes \$25.1m from sale of CNGC and \$15.4m from sale of the right to a gold royalty.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Includes gain of \$75.9 million from termination of interest rate swaps.

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#### **Comments by Directors**

Comments are for the six months ended 30 June 2003 with comparatives for the continuing operations for the six months ended 30 June 2002 shown in parentheses. Discontinuing operations include the assets and liabilities of WMC Resources Ltd and those entities sold to WMC Resources Ltd which Alumina Limited subsequently distributed to its shareholders in December 2002.

References to "the Forecast" relate to the forecast provided for Alumina Limited in the WMC Demerger Scheme Booklet.

#### **Background**

The demerger of WMC Limited into two separate ASX listed entities, Alumina Limited and WMC Resources Ltd, was implemented in December 2002. As a result Alumina Limited retained the alumina assets (the 40% interest in the Alcoa World Alumina and Chemicals (AWAC) joint venture) and changed its name from WMC Limited to 'Alumina Limited'. WMC Resources Ltd now holds all of the non-alumina assets (i.e. WMC Limited's nickel, copper/uranium and fertilizer businesses, and its exploration and development interests, including the finance companies holding assets and liabilities relating to those operations). To effect the demerger, Alumina Limited, effective 2 December 2002, distributed to its shareholders all of its interest in WMC Resources Ltd through a Scheme of Arrangement and capital reduction and dividend.

Prior to effecting the demerger, through a series of transactions internal to the Alumina Limited Group, Alumina Limited sold to WMC Resources Ltd, its share in the legal entities which held the copper/uranium and fertilizer businesses, WMC Finance Limited, WMC Finance (USA) Ltd as well as Alumina Limited's exploration and development interests other than those relating to AWAC. These sales were made at fair value in return for shares in WMC Resources Ltd. To consummate the demerger, Alumina Limited effected a capital reduction and dividend to its shareholders in an amount equivalent to the value of WMC Resources Ltd after the internal transfers were completed. The entitlement of Alumina Limited's shareholders to the capital reduction (\$3,133 million) and special dividend (\$823 million) was ultimately satisfied in the demerger through the distribution to Alumina Limited's shareholders of shares in WMC Resources Ltd on a one-for-one basis.

#### **Presentation of financial statements**

As a consequence of the demerger, Alumina Limited's primary assets are its 40% interest in the series of operating entities forming AWAC (39.25% in the case of Alcoa of Australia Ltd). The financial statements as presented reflect the results of the AWAC and associated corporate activities for the six months to 30 June 2003 and six months to 30 June 2002 as continuing operations. The results of the activities of WMC Resources Ltd, and the entities sold to WMC Resources Ltd as part of the demerger for the period to 30 June 2002 have been shown as discontinuing operations.

#### Basis of financial report preparation

This half-yearly general purpose financial report is for the interim six months ended 30 June 2003 and has been prepared in accordance with the Australian Stock Exchange Listing Rules as they relate to Appendix 4D and in accordance with Accounting Standards other mandatory professional reporting requirements (Urgent Issues Group Consensus Views) and the Corporations Act 2001.

This interim financial report does not include all of the notes of the type normally included in an annual financial report. Accordingly, this report is to be read in conjunction with the Annual Report for the financial year ended 31 December 2002 and any public announcements made by Alumina Limited and its controlled entities during the reporting period in accordance with the continuous disclosure requirements of the Corporations Act 2001.

The accounting policies adopted are consistent with those of the previous financial year and corresponding interim reporting period. Comparative information is reclassified where appropriate to enhance comparability.

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#### **Review of Operations**

The financial results for Alumina Limited include the six months results of AWAC and associated corporate activities.

The Group's net profit from continuing operations attributable to Alumina Limited increased 9% to \$117.9 million (\$108.2 million). The Company continues to believe that the Forecast, if adjusted for sensitivities to the aluminium price and AUD/USD exchange rate included with the Forecast provides a reasonable basis for forming a view on the full year results.

Directors have declared an interim dividend of 10 cents a share (5 cents).

Net interest expensed was \$3.6 million (\$0.6 million income) and corporate costs totalled \$5.6 million (\$2.6 million), reflecting increased costs following the separate listing of Alumina Limited.

It is expected the full year interest expense will be significantly below the Forecast, as US dollar interest rates remain at levels below those assumed in the Forecast. Corporate costs are expected to be approximately in line with the Forecast.

Depreciation and amortization totalled \$8.9 million (\$8.9 million) and capital expenditure totalled \$0.2 million (\$nil).

#### **Production**

The Group's beneficial interest in alumina production increased by 7.7% to 2.538 million tonnes (2.356 million tonnes) as additional capacity at the Point Comfort refinery was restarted to meet market demand. The full year production is expected to marginally exceed the Forecast production of 12.9 million tonnes. Aluminium production increased by 4% to 75 thousand tonnes with full year production expected to be in line with the Forecast.

#### **Costs**

AWAC's total costs of sales increased by 15% to US\$1,156.5 million (US\$1,007.1 million) due, in part, to higher sales volumes, but also to higher energy prices, a weakening US dollar, increased raw material costs and the earlier than planned restart at Point Comfort. As a result, the 1% real unit cost reduction assumed in the Forecast will not be achieved.

#### **Markets**

Aluminium prices improved marginally in the first six months, averaging 63 cents a pound (62 cents) compared with the Forecast of 67 cents. Demand for alumina was robust, with spot prices significantly above historical averages. While the vast majority of AWAC's alumina production is sold under long term contracts, revenue from sales into the spot market offset the impact of higher energy prices, raw material costs and costs incurred for the early start-up of capacity at the Point Comfort refinery.

#### **Currency Exchange Rate Movements**

The AUD/USD exchange rate averaged 0.6163 for the first half, compared with the Forecast assumption of 0.58.

The exchange rate moved from 0.5666 at 31 December 2002, to 0.6661 at 30 June 2003. A consequence of this is a charge to profit of \$12 million after tax, principally for the revaluation of USD accounts receivable in Alcoa of Australia. This amount was not included in the exchange rate sensitivities provided in the Forecast. It was offset during the period by an adjustment of \$13 million in tax expense following a change to Australian tax legislation.



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Alumina Limited has no currency or commodity hedging in place. AWAC has approximately half of the Australian dollar costs estimated for Alcoa of Australia in the second half hedged at an average rate of AUD/USD 0.535.

#### **Dividend Franking Credits**

The interim dividend declared of 10 cents (5 cents) a share will be paid on 10 September 2003 and be fully franked at the 30 per cent tax rate. The amount and timing of this dividend takes into account the receipt of a fully franked dividend of \$58.9 million in the second quarter and a further dividend of \$58.9 million to be received in the third quarter. In the first half, AWAC returned 95 per cent of its profits as dividends to the partners.

As at 30 June 2003, there were \$31.8 million franking credits available. The potential to frank future dividends will depend upon the amount of the dividend and the available franking credits.

#### **Asset Sales**

In January 2003, AWAC announced that it had conducted a portfolio review of its businesses and the markets they serve and decided to divest its specialty chemicals business. The assets are expected to be sold at an amount which would likely result in no significant losses for the group. There would be no material impact on future earnings of the group as a result of the sale. The financial effect of this event has not yet been recognised in the accounts.

#### **Debt**

Alumina Limited began the year with \$534 million of debt, comprising US\$303 in borrowings. A further US\$48 million was drawn in March to bring total debt to the level assumed in the Forecast. The Australian dollar strengthened from 0.5666 at the beginning of the year to 0.6661 at 30 June 2003. The increase in the value of the Australian dollar has lowered the A\$ debt balance to \$526.9 million.

#### **Contingent Liabilities**

#### **Guarantees**

Alumina Limited provided a guarantee in 1998 for foreign exchange transactions and in 2000 for gold derivative transactions undertaken by its wholly owned subsidiary at that time, WMC Finance Limited ("WMCF"). WMCF was sold to WMC Resources Ltd as part of the demerger and is no longer a subsidiary of Alumina Limited. That guarantee continues to be applicable for foreign exchange and gold derivative transactions entered into by WMCF and Union Bank of Switzerland which have maturity dates from 2003 to 2008 and a negative mark to market value of \$50.3 million at 30 June 2003. Alumina Limited has rights to obtain additional credit support if WMC Resources Ltd's credit rating is lower than BBB (and it would not cause a breach of WMC Resources Ltd's debt obligations). Alumina Limited is also indemnified by WMC Resources Ltd in relation to this guarantee.

S FOSTER	24 July 2003 
COMPANY SECRETARY	DATE

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### **Directors' Report**

The Directors of Alumina Limited present their report on the consolidated entity consisting of Alumina Limited and the entities it controlled at the end of, or during, the half-year-ended 30 June 2003.

#### **Directors**

The following persons were Directors of Alumina Limited during the half-year and up to the date of this report.

**D M Morley** 

J Marlay

P A F Hay

**R J McNeilly** 

M R Rayner (Alternate R D J Davies)

### **Review of Operations and Results**

A review of operations and the results of those operations of the consolidated entity during the half-year ended 30 June 2003 is set out under "Review of Operations" on pages 17 to 18.

### **Rounding of Amounts**

The Company is of a kind referred to in Class Order 98/0100, issued by the Australian Securities & Investments Commission. Amounts shown in this Directors' Report and the financial report have been rounded off to the nearest hundred thousand dollars, or as otherwise indicated.

J Marlay

Director

Melbourne

24 July 2003

#### **Directors' Declaration**

The directors declare that the financial statements and notes set out on pages 1 to 15:

- a) comply with Accounting Standards, the Corporations Regulations 2001 and other mandatory professional reporting requirements; and
- b) give a true and fair view of the consolidated entity's financial position as at 30 June 2003 and of its performance, as represented by the results of its operations and its cash flows, for the half-year ended on that date.

In the directors' opinion:

- a) the financial statements and notes are in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001: and
- b) there are reasonable grounds to believe that Alumina Limited will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the directors.

J Marlay

Director

Melbourne

24 July 2003

### Independent review report to the members of Alumina Limited

### Matters relating to the electronic presentation of the reviewed financial report

This review report relates to the financial report of Alumina Limited (the Company) for the half-year ended 30 June 2003 included on Alumina Limited's web site. The Company's directors are responsible for the integrity of the Alumina Limited web site. We have not been engaged to report on the integrity of this web site. The review report refers only to the financial report identified below. It does not provide any assurance on any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from the financial report. If users of this report are concerned with the inherent risks arising from electronic data communications they are advised to refer to the hard copy of the reviewed financial report to confirm the information included in the reviewed financial report presented on this web site.

#### **Statement**

Based on our review, which is not an audit, we have not become aware of any matter that makes us believe that the financial report of Alumina Limited:

- does not give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Alumina Limited Group (defined below) as at 30 June 2003 and of its performance for the half-year ended on that date, and
- is not presented in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, Accounting Standard AASB 1029: Interim Financial Reporting and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia.

This statement must be read in conjunction with the rest of our review report.

#### Scope

#### The financial report and directors' responsibility

The financial report comprises the statement of financial performance, statement of financial position, statement of cash flows, accompanying notes to the financial statements, and the directors' declaration for the Alumina Limited Group (the consolidation entity), for the half-year ended 30 June 2003. The consolidated entity comprises both Alumina Limited (the company) and the entities it controlled during the half-year.

The directors of the company are responsible for the preparation and true and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*. This includes responsibility for the maintenance of adequate accounting records and internal controls that are designed to prevent and detect fraud and error, and for the accounting policies and accounting estimates inherent in the financial report.

#### **Review approach**

We conducted an independent review in order for the company to lodge the financial report with the Australian Securities and Investments Commission. Our review was conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards applicable to review engagements.

We performed procedures in order to state whether, on the basis of the procedures described, anything has come to our attention that would indicate that the financial report does not present fairly, in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, Accounting Standard AASB 1029: Interim Financial Reporting and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia, a view which is consistent with our understanding of the consolidated entity's financial position, and its performance as represented by the results of its operations and cash flows.

#### **Review approach (continued)**

We formed our statement on the basis of the review procedures performed, which included:

- inquiries of company personnel, and
- analytical procedures applied to financial data.

These procedures do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, thus the level of assurance provided is less than that given in an audit. We have not performed an audit, and accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion.

While we considered the effectiveness of management's internal controls over financial reporting when determining the nature and extent of our procedures, our review was not designed to provide assurance on internal controls.

Our review did not involve an analysis of the prudence of business decisions made by the directors or management.

#### Independence

In conducting our review, we followed applicable independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements and the *Corporations Act 2001*.

**PricewaterhouseCoopers** 

Tim Goldmill

Priewaleshoundoopes

Tim Goldsmith

Partner 24 July 2003

Melbourne