

To the General Meeting of
Hear the World Foundation, Steinhausen

Zurich, 8 May 2024

Report of the statutory auditor on the limited statutory examination

As statutory auditor, we have examined the financial statements (balance sheet, operation statement, statement of changes in capital and notes) of Hear the World Foundation for the financial year ended 31 March 2024.

These financial statements prepared in accordance with Swiss GAAP FER, Swiss law and the deed of foundation are the responsibility of the Board of Trustees. Our responsibility is to perform a limited statutory examination on these financial statements. In accordance with Swiss GAAP FER 21, the information in the performance report is not subject to verification by the statutory auditor. We confirm that we meet the licensing and independence requirements as stipulated by Swiss law.


We conducted our examination in accordance with the Swiss Standard on the limited statutory examination. This standard requires that we plan and perform a limited statutory examination to identify material misstatements in the financial statements. A limited statutory examination consists primarily of inquiries of company personnel and analytical procedures as well as detailed tests of company documents as considered necessary in the circumstances. However, the testing of operational processes and the internal control system, as well as inquiries and further testing procedures to detect fraud or other legal violations, are not within the scope of this examination.

Based on our limited statutory examination, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements do not give a true and fair view of the financial position, the results of operations and the cash flows in accordance with Swiss GAAP FER. Furthermore, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements do not comply with Swiss law and the deed of foundation.

Ernst & Young Ltd



Martin Mattes
(Qualified Signature)
Licensed audit expert
(Auditor in charge)



Pascal Solèr
(Qualified Signature)
Licensed audit expert

Enclosures

- Financial statements (balance sheet, operating statement, statement of changes in capital and notes)

Annual Financial Statement

Balance sheet as of March 31

(in Swiss francs)	2023/2024	2022/2023
Assets		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	819,228	834,794
Total assets	819,228	834,794
Liabilities		
Current liabilities		
Accrued liabilities	9,693	9,693
Fund capital	105,927	0
Capital of the organization		
Paid-in capital	500,000	500,000
Free capital	203,608	325,101
	703,608	825,101
Total liabilities	819,228	834,794

Operation statement April 1 to March 31

(in Swiss francs)	2023/2024	2022/2023
Income		
Income from donations earmarked	202,200	0
Income from donations free	7,090,446	5,183,929
Total income	7,292,646	5,183,929
Expenses		
Technological support for projects abroad	(6,652,782)	(4,789,220)
Financial support for projects abroad	(446,206)	(416,622)
Professional support for projects abroad	(80,926)	(88,814)
Technological support for projects in Switzerland	(87,930)	(56,028)
Financial support for projects in Switzerland	(30,371)	(39,331)
Administrative expenses	(9,693)	(10,193)
Other operating expenses	(304)	(295)
Total expenses	(7,308,212)	(5,400,503)
Result before the change of fund capital	(15,566)	(216,574)
Change fund capital	(105,927)	0
Result for the year before allocation to the capital of the organization	(121,493)	(216,574)

Statement of changes in capital

(in Swiss francs)	Paid-in capital	Free capital	Capital of the organization	Fund capital
As of 31.03./01.04.2022	500,000	541,675	1,041,675	0
Change	0	(216,574)	(216,574)	0
As of 31.03./01.04.2023	500,000	325,101	825,101	0
Change	0	(121,493)	(121,493)	105,927
As of 31.03.2024	500,000	203,608	703,608	105,927

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Notes to the annual financial statements as of March 31, 2024

1 General information about the Foundation

The Hear the World Foundation aims to improve the quality of life of people with hearing loss. To reach its objective, the Foundation supports local aid organizations by providing hearing solutions, financial resources and professional support. In addition, the foundation raises awareness for the importance of good hearing and contributes to the prevention of hearing loss on a global level.

According to the Foundation charter, the initial paid-up capital of CHF 500,000 does not have to be maintained. All capital is available to the Foundation Board for grants.

The annual financial statement was approved by the Foundation Board as of 8 May 2024.

The Foundation Board consists of the following persons:

• **Arnd Kaldowski** • **Christophe Fond** • **Beate Eckhardt** • **Katrin Imhof**

The business operations of the Foundation comply with the articles of association dated December 4, 2006, and the Foundation's rules of procedure dated December 4, 2006.

Ernst & Young AG served as auditor for the fiscal year. Their mandate is based on legal regulations and generally accepted accounting principles.

2 Accounting and reporting principles

The annual financial statements are prepared in accordance with the accounting principles under the Swiss GAAP FER Framework, core FER and Swiss GAAP FER 21 in order to provide as reliable an assessment as possible of the Foundation's financial position, results of operations and cash flows. The preparation of a cash flow statement has been abstained from in accordance with FER 21/16. The financial statements contain comparatives and have also been prepared in accordance with Swiss Law.

There are no employees.

3 Valuation principles governing individual items in the annual financial statements

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in an account held with UBS Switzerland AG in Zurich and are valued at nominal value. Accrued liabilities contain the audit fees and are valued at nominal value.

4 Financial assets and explanations regarding assets and liabilities

The Foundation does not have any fixed assets. Its assets comprise the Foundation's capital, which is deposited in a current account. The capital was deposited with UBS Switzerland AG at an average interest rate of 0.00% and is available on a daily basis.

5 Donations in kind

Various resources required for the governance, management and administration of the Foundation and various of the Foundation's communication activities were provided by Sonova AG and its group companies free of charge and funded by them where necessary. This included, for example, resources in communications and administration amounting to the value of around CHF 1,255,000 (previous year CHF 868,000). To determine the expenses, annual expenses are multiplied by times the annual salaries including social security benefits. Additional resources of Sonova AG were provided in accounting and logistics services. These amounts were not recorded in the operation statement.

6 Transactions with entities of the Sonova Group and related parties

Technological support was provided mostly by Sonova AG. Technological devices are charged to the Foundation at production cost but are reported in the income statement at the list price. The difference between production cost and list price is reported as a donation.

In total, Sonova Group provided non-cash benefits worth CHF 6,497,784 (previous year CHF 4,585,620).

7 Professional support

By training project partners, Sonova Group employees conduct professional support for the Foundation. The service hours are multiplied with the median salary of Sonova Headquarter Staefa and added to the respective travel costs. They are accounted for as donations, as the foundation is not charged for these donations by Sonova Group.

8 Activities of the Foundation during the fiscal year

The Foundation Board determines the resources to be awarded and their allocation during budgeting. These resources were distributed as follows during the financial year:

	2023/2024		2022/2023	
	CHF	in %	CHF	in %
Technological support for projects abroad	6,652,782	91%	4,789,220	89%
Financial support for projects abroad	446,206	6%	416,622	8%
Professional support for projects abroad	80,926	1%	88,814	2%
Technological support for projects in Switzerland	87,930	1%	56,028	1%
Financial support for projects in Switzerland	30,371	1%	39,331	0%
Administrative expenditures	9,693	0%	10,193	0%
Other operating expenditures	304	0%	295	0%
	7,308,212	100%	5,400,503	100%

9 Performance report

The performance report, containing information on the purpose, governing bodies and work of the Foundation, forms part of the Foundation's annual Activity Report. The most recent Activity Report was published in May 2023.