



Ernst & Young Ltd  
Maagplatz 1  
P.O. Box  
CH-8010 Zurich

Phone: +41 58 286 31 11  
www.ey.com/en\_ch

To the General Meeting of  
**Hear the World Foundation, Steinhausen**

Zurich, 8 May 2025

### 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 2025.

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

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

**EY** Nicole Meister  
(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)	2024/2025	2023/2024
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Current assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	843,180	819,228
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>843,180</b>	<b>819,228</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Accrued liabilities	0	9,693
<b>Fund capital</b>	<b>36,043</b>	<b>105,927</b>
<b>Capital of the organization</b>		
Paid-in capital	500,000	500,000
Free capital	307,137	203,608
	807,137	703,608
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>843,180</b>	<b>819,228</b>

## Operation statement April 1 to March 31

(in Swiss francs)	2024/2025	2023/2024
<b>Income</b>		
Income from donations earmarked	227,839	202,200
Income from donations free	10,018,998	7,090,446
<b>Total income</b>	<b>10,246,837</b>	<b>7,292,646</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Technological support for projects abroad	(9,372,246)	(6,652,782)
Financial support for projects abroad	(711,049)	(446,206)
Professional support for projects abroad	(119,763)	(80,926)
Technological support for projects in Switzerland	0	(87,930)
Financial support for projects in Switzerland	0	(30,371)
Administrative expenses	(9,765)	(9,693)
Other operating expenses	(369)	(304)
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>(10,213,192)</b>	<b>(7,308,212)</b>
Result before the change of fund capital	33,645	(15,566)
Change fund capital	69,884	(105,927)
<b>Result for the year before allocation to the capital of the organization</b>	<b>103,529</b>	<b>(121,493)</b>

## Statement of changes in capital

(in Swiss francs)	Paid-in capital	Free capital	Capital of the organization	Fund capital
As of 31.03./01.04.2023	500,000	325,101	825,101	0
Change	0	(121,493)	(121,493)	105,927
As of 31.03./01.04.2024	500,000	203,608	703,608	105,927
Change	0	103,529	103,529	(69,884)
<b>As of 31.03.2025</b>	<b>500,000</b>	<b>307,137</b>	<b>807,137</b>	<b>36,043</b>

Hear the World Foundation, Turmstrasse 26, CH-6312 Steinhausen, Tel: +41 58 928 01 01, info@hear-the-world.com, hear-the-world.com

# Notes to the annual financial statements as of March 31, 2025



## 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 2025.

The Foundation Board consists of the following persons:

• **Arnd Kaldowski** • **Katya Kruglova** • **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.

## 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 1,165,000 (previous year CHF 1,255,000). 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 9,102,270 (previous year CHF 6,497,784).

## 7 Professional support

Sonova Group employees conduct professional support for the Foundation by training project partners. 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. The Foundation also provides professional support to its project partners through training delivered by third-party organizations.

## 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:

	2024/2025		2023/2024	
	CHF	in %	CHF	in %
Technological support for projects abroad	9,372,246	92%	6,652,782	91%
Financial support for projects abroad	711,049	7%	446,206	6%
Professional support for projects abroad	119,763	1%	80,926	1%
Technological support for projects in Switzerland	0	0%	87,930	1%
Financial support for projects in Switzerland	0	0%	30,371	1%
Administrative expenditures	9,765	0%	9,693	0%
Other operating expenditures	369	0%	304	0%
	<b>10,213,192</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>7,308,212</b>	<b>100%</b>

## 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 2024.