

Annexure I

Status of compliance with the conditions imposed by the Commission's Notification No.BSEC/CMRRCD/2006-158/207/ Admin/80, dated 3 June 2018 issued under section 2CC of the Securities and Exchange Ordinance, 1969:

Condition No.	Title	Compliance Status ("√" has been put in the appropriate column)		Remarks (If any)
		Complied	Not Complied	
1	Board of Directors (BoD)			
1(1)	Board's Size (number of Board members – minimum 5 and maximum 20)	√		Grameenphone Board is comprised of 10 (Ten) Directors
1(2)	Independent Directors			
1(2)(a)	At least one-fifth (1/5) of the total number of directors shall be independent directors; any fraction shall be considered to the next integer or whole number for calculating number of independent director(s)	√		There are 2 (Two) Independent Directors (ID) out of total 10 (Ten) Directors
1(2)(b)	Independent Director means a Director:			
1(2)(b)(i)	who either does not hold any share in the Company or holds less than one percent (1%) shares of the total paid-up shares of the Company	√		The IDs have submitted declarations about their compliances
1(2)(b)(ii)	who is not a sponsor of the Company or is not connected with the Company's any sponsor or director or nominated director or shareholder of the Company or any of its associates, sister concerns, subsidiaries and parents or holding entities who holds one percent (1%) or more shares of the total paid-up shares of the Company on the basis of family relationship and his or her family members also shall not hold above mentioned shares in the Company	√		-do-
1(2)(b)(iii)	who has not been an executive of the Company in the immediately preceding 2 (two) financial years	√		-do-
1(2)(b)(iv)	who does not have any other relationship, whether pecuniary or otherwise, with the Company or its subsidiary or associated companies	√		-do-
1(2)(b)(v)	who is not a member or TREC (Trading Right Entitlement Certificate) holder, director or officer of any stock exchange	√		-do-
1(2)(b)(vi)	who is not a shareholder, director excepting independent director or officer of any member or TREC holder of stock exchange or an intermediary of the capital market	√		-do-
1(2)(b)(vii)	who is not a partner or an executive or was not a partner or an executive during the preceding 3 (three) years of the concerned company's statutory audit firm or audit firm engaged in internal audit services or audit firm conducting special audit or professional certifying compliance of this Code	√		-do-
1(2)(b)(viii)	who is not independent director in more than 5 (five) listed companies	√		-do-
1(2)(b)(ix)	who has not been convicted by a court of competent jurisdiction as a defaulter in payment of any loan or any advance to a bank or a Non-Bank Financial Institution (NBFI)	√		-do-
1(2)(b)(x)	who has not been convicted for a criminal offence involving moral turpitude	√		-do-

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		Complied	Not Complied	
1(2)(c)	The independent director(s) shall be appointed by the Board and approved by the shareholders in the Annual General Meeting (AGM)	√		The appointment of IDs are duly approved at AGM
1(2)(d)	The post of independent director(s) cannot remain vacant for more than 90 (ninety) days; and	√		No such case in the reporting year
1(2)(e)	The tenure of office of an independent director shall be for a period of 3 (three) years, which may be extended for 1 (one) tenure only	√		The IDs are in their regular term of office
1(3)	Qualification of Independent Director			
1(3)(a)	Independent director shall be a knowledgeable individual with integrity who is able to ensure compliance with financial laws, regulatory requirements and corporate laws and can make meaningful contribution to the business	√		The qualification and background of IDs justify their abilities as such
1(3)(b)	Independent director shall have following qualifications:			
1(3)(b)(i)	Business Leader who is or was a promoter or director of an unlisted company having minimum paid-up capital of BDT 100 million or any listed company or a member of any national or international chamber of commerce or business association; or	Not applicable		
1(3)(b)(ii)	Corporate Leader who is or was a top level executive not lower than Chief Executive Officer or Managing Director or Deputy Managing Director or Chief Financial Officer or Head of Finance or Accounts or Company Secretary or Head of Internal Audit and Compliance or Head of Legal Service or a candidate with equivalent position of an unlisted company having minimum paid-up capital of BDT 100 million or of a listed company; or	Not applicable		
1(3)(b)(iii)	Former official of government or statutory or autonomous or regulatory body in the position not below 5th Grade of the national pay scale, who has at least educational background of Bachelor degree in economics or commerce or business or law	√		
1(3)(b)(iv)	University Teacher who has educational background in Economics or Commerce or Business Studies or Law	√		
1(3)(b)(v)	Professional who is or was an advocate practicing at least in the High Court Division of Bangladesh Supreme Court or a Chartered Accountant or Cost and Management Accountant or Chartered Financial Analyst or Chartered Certified Accountant or Certified Public Accountant or Chartered Management Accountant or Chartered Secretary or equivalent qualification	Not applicable		
1(3)(c)	The independent director shall have at least 10 (ten) years' experiences in any field mentioned in clause (b)	√		
1(3)(d)	In special cases, the above qualifications or experiences may be relaxed subject to prior approval of the Commission	None		No such case in the reporting year



Condition No.	Title	Compliance Status ("√" has been put in the appropriate column)		Remarks (If any)
		Complied	Not Complied	
1(4)	Duality of Chair of the Board of Directors and Chief Executive Officer			
1(4)(a)	The positions of the Chair of the Board and the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Company shall be filled by different individuals	√		The Chair and the CEO are different individuals with clearly defined roles and responsibilities
1(4)(b)	The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of a listed company shall not hold the same position in another listed company	√		The CEO does not hold the same position in any other listed company
1(4)(c)	The Chair of the Board shall be elected from among the non-executive directors of the company	√		All Board members are non-executive director. The Chair of the Board is non-executive director
1(4)(d)	The Board shall clearly define respective roles and responsibilities of the Chair and the Chief Executive Officer	√		The Board clearly defined roles and responsibilities of the Chair and the CEO
1(4)(e)	In the absence of the Chair of the Board, the remaining members may elect one of themselves from non-executive directors as Chair for that particular Board's meeting; the reason of absence of the regular Chair shall be duly recorded in the minutes	None		No such case in the reporting year
1(5)	The Directors' Report shall include the following additional statements			
1(5)(i)	Industry outlook and possible future developments in the industry	√		Included in the Directors' report on Page 73 of the Annual Report
1(5)(ii)	Segment-wise or product-wise performance	√		Included in the Directors' report on Page 73 of the Annual Report
1(5)(iii)	Risks and concerns including internal and external risk factors, threat to sustainability and negative impact on environment, if any	√		Included in the Directors' report on Page 75 of the Annual Report
1(5)(iv)	Discussion on Cost of Goods sold, Gross Profit Margin and Net Profit Margin, where applicable	√		Included in the Directors' report on Page 74 of the Annual Report
1(5)(v)	Discussion on continuity of any extraordinary activities and their implications (gain or loss)	√		Included in the Directors' report on Page 75 of the Annual Report
1(5)(vi)	Detailed discussion on related party transactions along with a statement showing amount, nature of related party, nature of transactions and basis of transactions of all related party transactions	√		Included in the Directors' report on Page 75 of the Annual Report
1(5)(vii)	Statement of utilisation of proceeds raised through public issues, rights issues and/or any other instruments	√		Included in the Directors' report on Page 75 of the Annual Report
1(5)(viii)	Explanation if the financial results deteriorate after the company goes for Initial Public Offering (IPO), Repeat Public Offering (RPO), Rights Share Offer, Direct Listing, etc.	√		Included in the Directors' report on Page 75 of the Annual Report
1(5)(ix)	Explanation on any significant variance that occurs between Quarterly Financial performances and Annual Financial Statements	√		Included in the Directors' report on Page 75 of the Annual Report
1(5)(x)	Statement of remuneration paid to the directors including independent directors	√		Included in the Directors' report on Page 75 of the Annual Report
1(5)(xi)	Statement that the financial statements prepared by the management of the issuer company present fairly its state of affairs, the result of its operations, cash flows and changes in equity	√		Included in the Directors' report on Page 75 of the Annual Report
1(5)(xii)	Proper books of account of the issuer company have been maintained	√		Included in the Directors' report on Page 75 of the Annual Report
1(5)(xiii)	Appropriate accounting policies have been consistently applied in preparation of the financial statements and that the accounting estimates are based on reasonable and prudent judgement	√		Included in the Directors' report on Page 75 of the Annual Report

Condition No.	Title	Compliance Status ("√" has been put in the appropriate column)		Remarks (If any)
		Complied	Not Complied	
1(5)(xiv)	International Accounting Standards (IAS) or International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), as applicable in Bangladesh, have been followed in preparation of the financial statements and any departure there from has been adequately disclosed	√		Included in the Directors' report on Page 75 of the Annual Report
1(5)(xv)	The system of internal control is sound in design and has been effectively implemented and monitored	√		Included in the Directors' report on Page 75 of the Annual Report
1(5)(xvi)	A statement that minority shareholders have been protected from abusive actions by, or in the interest of, controlling shareholders acting either directly or indirectly and have effective means of redress	√		Included in the Directors' report on Page 76 of the Annual Report
1(5)(xvii)	There is no significant doubt upon the issuer company's ability to continue as a going concern, if the issuer company is not considered to be a going concern, the fact along with reasons there of shall be disclosed	√		Included in the Directors' report on Page 75 of the Annual Report
1(5)(xviii)	Explanation that significant deviations from the last year's operating results of the issuer company shall be highlighted and the reasons thereof shall be explained	√		Included in the Directors' report on Page 75 of the Annual Report
1(5)(xix)	Key operating and financial data of at least preceding five (5) years shall be summarised	√		Given on Page 64 of the Annual Report
1(5)(xx)	An explanation on the reasons if the issuer company has not declared dividend (cash or stock) for the year	Not applicable		No such case in the reporting year
1(5)(xxi)	Board's statement to the effect that no bonus share or stock dividend has been or shall be declared as interim dividend	√		Stated in the Directors' report on Page 76 of the Annual Report
1(5)(xxii)	The total number of Board meetings held during the year and attendance by each director	√		Included in the Directors' report on Page 91 of the Annual Report
1(5)(xxiii)	Pattern of shareholding and name wise details (disclosing aggregate number of shares):			
1(5)(xxiii)(a)	Parent or Subsidiary or Associated Companies and other related parties	√		Included in the Directors' report on Page 91 of the Annual Report
1(5)(xxiii)(b)	Directors, Chief Executive Officer, Company Secretary, Chief Financial Officer, Head of Internal Audit and Compliance and their spouses and minor children	√		Included in the Directors' report on Page 91 of the Annual Report
1(5)(xxiii)(c)	Executives	√		Included in the Directors' report on Page 91 of the Annual Report
1(5)(xxiii)(d)	Shareholders holding ten percent (10%) or more voting interest in the Company	√		Included in the Directors' report on Page 91 of the Annual Report
1(5)(xxiv)	In case of the appointment/re-appointment of a director, disclose:			
1(5)(xxiv)(a)	a brief resume of the director	√		Given on Page 31 of the Annual Report
1(5)(xxiv)(b)	nature of his/her expertise in specific functional areas	√		Given on Page 31 of the Annual Report
1(5)(xxiv)(c)	names of Companies in which the person also holds the Directorship and the membership of committees of the Board	√		Given on Page 34 of the Annual Report



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1(5)(xxv)	Management's Discussion and Analysis signed by CEO presenting detailed analysis of the company's position and operations along with a brief discussion of changes in the financial statements, among others, focusing on:			
1(5)(xxv)(a)	Accounting policies and estimation for preparation of financial statements	√		Stated as Annexure -V (Management's Discussion and Analysis) of the Directors' Report on Page 95 of the Annual Report
1(5)(xxv)(b)	Changes in accounting policies and estimation, if any, clearly describing the effect on financial performance or results and financial position as well as cash flows in absolute figure for such changes	√		-do-
1(5)(xxv)(c)	Comparative analysis (including effects of inflation) of financial performance or results and financial position as well as cash flows for current financial year with immediate preceding five years explaining reasons thereof	√		-do-
1(5)(xxv)(d)	Compare such financial performance or results and financial position as well as cash flows with the peer industry scenario	√		Stated as Annexure -V (Management's Discussion and Analysis) of the Directors' Report on Page 97 of the Annual Report
1(5)(xxv)(e)	Briefly explain the financial and economic scenario of the country and the globe	√		-do-
1(5)(xxv)(f)	Risks and concerns issues related to the financial statements, explaining such risk and concerns mitigation plan of the company; and	√		-do-
1(5)(xxv)(g)	Future plan or projection or forecast for company's operation, performance and financial position, with justification thereof, i.e., actual position shall be explained to the shareholders in the next AGM	√		-do-
1(5)(xxvi)	Declaration or certification by the CEO and the CFO to the Board as required under condition No. 3(3)	√		Stated as Annexure -IV of the Directors' Report on Page 92 of the Annual Report
1(5)(xxvii)	The report as well as certificate regarding compliance of conditions of this Code as required under condition No. 9 shall be disclosed	√		The Certificate regarding compliance of the conditions is disclosed on page 99 of the Annual Report
1(6)	Meetings of the Board of Directors			
1(6)	The Company shall conduct its Board meetings and record the minutes of the meetings as well as keep required books and records in line with the provisions of the relevant Bangladesh Secretarial Standards (BSS) as adopted by the Institute of Chartered Secretaries of Bangladesh (ICSB), in so far as those standards are not inconsistent with any condition of this Code	√		Company conducts its Board meetings and record the minutes of the meetings as well as keep required books and records as per provisions of Bangladesh Secretarial Standards (BSS) as adopted by ICSB
1(7)	Code of Conduct for the Chair, other Board members and Chief Executive Officer			
1(7)(a)	The Board shall lay down a code of conduct, based on the recommendation of the Nomination and Remuneration Committee (NRC) at condition No. 6, for the Chair of the Board, other board members and Chief Executive Officer of the Company	√		There is a written Code of Conduct for the Chair of the Board, other board members and CEO of the Company, which was recommended by the NRC and approved by the Board
1(7)(b)	The code of conduct as determined by the NRC shall be posted on the website of the Company including, among others, prudent conduct and behaviour; confidentiality; conflict of interest; compliance with laws, rules and regulations; prohibition of insider trading; relationship with environment, employees, customers and suppliers; and independency	√		The Code of Conduct as recommended by the NRC and approved by the Board is available on the website of the Company

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		Complied	Not Complied	
2	Governance of Board of Directors of Subsidiary Company			
2(a)	Provisions relating to the composition of the Board of the holding company shall be made applicable to the composition of the Board of the subsidiary company	Not applicable		Grameenphone does not have any subsidiary Company as on reporting date
2(b)	At least 1 (one) independent director on the Board of the holding company shall be a director on the Board of the subsidiary company	Not applicable		-do-
2(c)	The minutes of the Board meeting of the subsidiary company shall be placed for review at the following Board meeting of the holding company	Not applicable		-do-
2(d)	The minutes of the respective Board meeting of the holding company shall state that they have reviewed the affairs of the subsidiary company also	Not applicable		-do-
2(e)	The Audit Committee of the holding company shall also review the financial statements, in particular the investments made by the subsidiary company	Not applicable		-do-
3	Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Chief Financial Officer (CFO), Head of Internal Audit and Compliance (HIAC) and Company Secretary (CS)			
3(1)	Appointment			
3(1)(a)	The Board shall appoint a Chief Executive Officer (CEO), a Company Secretary (CS), a Chief Financial Officer (CFO) and a Head of Internal Audit and Compliance (HIAC)	√		The CEO, CFO, CS, Head of Internal Audit and Head of Ethics & Compliance have been appointed by the Board
3(1)(b)	The positions of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Company Secretary (CS), Chief Financial Officer (CFO) and Head of Internal Audit and Compliance (HIAC) shall be filled by different individuals	√		The CEO, CFO, CS, Head of Internal Audit and Head of Ethics & Compliance are different individuals and their roles and responsibilities are separately defined
3(1)(c)	The CEO, CS, CFO and HIAC of a listed company shall not hold any executive position in any other Company at the same time	√		The CEO, CFO, CS, Head of Internal Audit and Head of Ethics & Compliance do not hold any executive position in any other Company
3(1)(d)	The Board shall clearly define respective roles, responsibilities and duties of the CFO, the HIAC and the CS	√		The roles and responsibilities are separately defined
3(1)(e)	The CEO, CS, CFO and HIAC shall not be removed from their position without approval of the Board as well as immediate dissemination to the Commission and stock exchange(s)	√		In practice
3(2)	Requirement to attend Board of Directors' Meetings			
	The CEO, CS, CFO and HIAC of the company shall attend the meetings of the Board	√		The CEO, CFO, CS, Head of Internal Audit and Head of Ethics & Compliance attended in the Board Meetings
3(3)	Duties of Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Chief Financial Officer (CFO)			
3(3)(a)	The CEO and CFO shall certify to the Board that they have reviewed financial statements for the year and that to the best of their knowledge and belief	√		The CEO and CFO have duly certified to the Board and the declaration is disclosed as Annexure-IV on page 92 of the Annual Report
3(3)(a)(i)	these statements do not contain any materially untrue statement or omit any material fact or contain statements that might be misleading	√		-do-



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		Complied	Not Complied	
3(3)(a)(ii)	these statements together present a true and fair view of the company's affairs and are in compliance with existing accounting standards and applicable laws	√		-do-
3(3)(b)	The CEO and CFO shall also certify that there are, to the best of their knowledge and belief, no transactions entered into by the company during the year which are fraudulent, illegal or in violation of the code of conduct for the company's Board or its members	√		-do-
3(3)(c)	The certification of the CEO and CFO shall be disclosed in the Annual Report	√		The declaration by the CEO and CFO is disclosed on page 92 of the Annual Report
4	Board of Directors' Committee			
	For ensuring good governance in the Company, the Board shall have at least following sub-committees:			
4(i)	Audit Committee	√		The Board formed the Audit Committee on 10 November 2008
4(ii)	Nomination and Remuneration Committee	√		The Board formed the NRC on 11 December 2018
5	Audit Committee			
5(1)	Responsibility to the Board of Directors			
5(1)(a)	The Company shall have an Audit Committee as a subcommittee of the Board	√		Audit Committee is established as per BSEC guidelines
5(1)(b)	The Audit Committee shall assist the Board in ensuring that the financial statements reflect true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and in ensuring a good monitoring system within the business	√		The Audit Committee discharges as per BSEC guidelines
5(1)(c)	The Audit Committee shall be responsible to the Board; the duties of the Audit Committee shall be clearly set forth in writing	√		The duties of the Audit Committee are clearly defined in the Board approved Audit Committee Charter as per BSEC guidelines
5(2)	Constitution of the Audit Committee			
5(2)(a)	The Audit Committee shall be composed of at least 3 (three) members	√		Audit Committee comprises of 3 (three) members
5(2)(b)	The Board shall appoint members of the Audit Committee who shall be non-executive directors of the company excepting Chair of the Board and shall include at least 1 (one) independent director	√		All members of the Audit Committee are non executive directors, out of which one member is ID. All the members are appointed by the Board. The Chair of the Board is not the member of the Audit Committee
5(2)(c)	All members of the audit committee should be "financially literate" and at least one (1) member shall have accounting or related financial management background and ten (10) years of such experience	√		Based on the academic qualifications and professional experience, which provided on page 31 of the Annual Report demonstrate that all the existing members of the Audit Committee are "financially literate" and they have "related financial management" experience as per BSEC notification

Condition No.	Title	Compliance Status ("√" has been put in the appropriate column)		Remarks (If any)
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5(2)(d)	When the term of service of any Committee member expires or there is any circumstance causing any Committee member to be unable to hold office before expiration of the term of service, thus making the number of the Committee members to be lower than the prescribed number of three (3) persons, the Board shall appoint new Committee member to fill up the vacancy immediately or not later than one (1) month from the date of vacancy in the Committee to ensure continuity of the performance of work of the Audit Committee	None		No such case in the reporting year
5(2)(e)	The Company Secretary shall act as the secretary of the Committee	√		In practice
5(2)(f)	The quorum of the Audit Committee meeting shall not constitute without at least one (1) independent director	√		In practice
5(3)	Chair of the Audit Committee			
5(3)(a)	The Board shall select 1 (one) member of the Audit Committee to be Chairperson of the Audit Committee, who shall be an independent director	√		The Chair of the Audit Committee is an Independent Director
5(3)(b)	In the absence of the Chairperson of the Audit Committee, the remaining members may elect one of themselves as Chairperson for that particular meeting, in that case there shall be no problem of constituting a quorum as required under condition No. 5(4)(b) and the reason of absence of the regular Chairperson shall be duly recorded in the minutes	√		The reason for the absence of the Audit Committee Chair was duly recorded in the Minutes
5(3)(c)	Chair of the Audit Committee shall remain present in the Annual General Meeting (AGM)	√		Due to unavoidable circumstance the Chair of the Audit Committee was unable to attend in the 22 nd AGM held on 23 April 2019 and the reason was duly recorded in the 22 nd AGM
5(4)	Meeting of the Audit Committee			
5(4)(a)	The Audit Committee shall conduct at least four (4) meetings in a financial year	√		There were nine (9) meetings held during the reporting period
5(4)(b)	The quorum of the meeting of the Audit Committee shall be constituted in presence of either two members or two third of the members of the Audit Committee, whichever is higher, where presence of an independent director is a must	√		In practice
5(5)	Meeting of the Audit Committee			
5(5)(a)	Oversee the financial reporting process	√		The Audit Committee performs as per BSEC's guidelines
5(5)(b)	Monitor choice of accounting policies and principles	√		-do-
5(5)(c)	Monitor Internal Audit and Compliance process to ensure that it is adequately resourced, including approval of the Internal Audit and Compliance Plan and review of the Internal Audit and Compliance Report	√		-do-
5(5)(d)	Oversee hiring and performance of external auditors	√		-do-
5(5)(e)	Hold meeting with the external or statutory auditors for review of the annual financial statements before submission to the Board for approval or adoption	√		-do-



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5(5)(f)	Review along with the management, the annual financial statements before submission to the Board for approval	√		-do-
5(5)(g)	Review along with the management, the quarterly and half yearly financial statements before submission to the Board for approval	√		-do-
5(5)(h)	Review the adequacy of internal audit function	√		-do-
5(5)(i)	Review the Management's Discussion and Analysis before disclosing in the Annual Report	√		-do-
5(5)(j)	Review statement of all related party transactions submitted by the management	√		-do-
5(5)(k)	Review Management Letters or Letter of Internal Control weakness issued by statutory auditors	√		-do-
5(5)(l)	Oversee the determination of audit fees based on scope and magnitude, level of expertise deployed and time required for effective audit and evaluate the performance of external auditors	√		-do-
5(5)(m)	Oversee whether the proceeds raised through Initial Public Offering (IPO) or Repeat Public Offering (RPO) or Rights Share Offer have been utilised as per the purposes stated in relevant offer document or prospectus approved by the Commission	None		No IPO was made in the year 2019
5(6)	Reporting of the Audit Committee			
5(6)(a)(i)	The Audit Committee shall report on its activities to the Board	√		
5(6)(a)(ii)(a)	Report on conflicts of interests	None		No such event in the reporting year
5(6)(a)(ii)(b)	Suspected or presumed fraud or irregularity or material defect identified in the internal audit and compliance process or in the financial statements	None		No such event in the reporting year
5(6)(a)(ii)(c)	Suspected infringement of laws, regulatory compliances including securities related laws, rules and regulations; and	None		No such event in the reporting year
5(6)(a)(ii)(d)	Any other matter which the Audit Committee deems necessary shall be disclosed to the Board immediately	None		No such event in the reporting year
5(6)(b)	Reporting to BSEC (if any, which has material impact on the financial condition and results of operation, unreasonably ignored by the management)	None		No such event in the reporting year
5(7)	Reporting to the Shareholders and General Investors of Audit Committee Activities, which shall be signed by the Chair of the Audit Committee and disclosed in the Annual Report	√		Activities of the Audit Committee are reported on page 59 of the Annual Report
6	Nomination and Remuneration Committee (NRC)			
6(1)	Responsibility to the Board of Directors			
6(1)(a)	The company shall have a Nomination and Remuneration Committee (NRC) as a sub-committee of the Board	√		NRC is established as per BSEC guidelines

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6(1)(b)	The NRC shall assist the Board in formulation of the nomination criteria or policy for determining qualifications, positive attributes, experiences and independence of directors and top level executive as well as a policy for formal process of considering remuneration of directors, top level executive	√		The NRC discharges as per given guidelines
6(1)(c)	The Terms of Reference (ToR) of the NRC shall be clearly set forth in writing covering the areas stated at the condition No. 6(5)(b)	√		The duties of the NRC are clearly defined in the Board approved NRC Charter as per BSEC's guidelines
6(2)	Constitution of the NRC			
6(2)(a)	The Committee shall comprise of at least three (3) members including an independent director	√		NRC comprises of three (3) members, which includes one ID
6(2)(b)	All members of the Committee shall be non-executive directors	√		All members of NRC are non-executive directors
6(2)(c)	Members of the Committee shall be nominated and appointed by the Board	√		All members of the NRC are appointed by the Board
6(2)(d)	The Board shall have authority to remove and appoint any member of the Committee	√		In practice
6(2)(e)	In case of death, resignation, disqualification, or removal of any member of the Committee or in any other cases of vacancies, the board shall fill the vacancy within one hundred eighty (180) days of such vacancy occurring in the Committee	None		No such case in the reporting year
6(2)(f)	The Chairperson of the Committee may appoint or coopt any external expert and/or member(s) of staff to the Committee as advisor who shall be non-voting member, if the Chairperson feels that advice or suggestion from such external expert and/or member(s) of staff shall be required or is valuable for the Committee	None		No such case in the reporting year
6(2)(g)	The Company Secretary shall act as the secretary of the Committee	√		
6(2)(h)	The quorum of the NRC meeting shall not constitute without attendance of at least an Independent Director	√		No such case in the reporting year
6(2)(i)	No member of the NRC shall receive, either directly or indirectly, any remuneration for any advisory or consultancy role or otherwise, other than Director's fees or honourarium from the company	√		No such case in the reporting year
6(3)	Chair of the NRC			
6(3)(a)	The Board shall select 1 (one) member of the NRC to be Chair of the Committee, who shall be an independent director	√		The Chair of the NRC is an Independent Director
6(3)(b)	In the absence of the Chair of the NRC, the remaining members may elect one of themselves as Chairperson for that particular meeting, the reason of absence of the regular Chairperson shall be duly recorded in the minutes	None		No such case in the reporting year
6(3)(c)	The Chairperson of the NRC shall attend the annual general meeting (AGM) to answer the queries of the shareholders	√		The Chair of the NRC attended in the 22 nd AGM held on 23 April 2019



Condition No.	Title	Compliance Status ("√" has been put in the appropriate column)		Remarks (If any)
		Complied	Not Complied	
6(4)	Meeting of the NRC			
6(4)(a)	The NRC shall conduct at least one meeting in a financial year	√		There were six (6) meetings held during the reporting period
6(4)(b)	The Chair of the NRC may convene any emergency meeting upon request by any member of the NRC	None		No such case in the reporting year
6(4)(c)	The quorum of the meeting of the NRC shall be constituted in presence of either two members or two third of the members of the Committee, whichever is higher, where presence of an Independent Director is must as required under condition No. 6(2)(h)	√		In practice
6(4)(d)	The proceedings of each meeting of the NRC shall duly be recorded in the minutes and such minutes shall be confirmed in the next meeting of the NRC	√		In practice
6(5)	Role of the NRC			
6(5)(a)	NRC shall be independent and responsible or accountable to the Board and to the shareholders	√		The NRC performs as per BSEC's guidelines
6(5)(b)(i)(a)	The level and composition of remuneration is reasonable and sufficient to attract, retain and motivate suitable directors to run the company successfully	√		-do-
6(5)(b)(i)(b)	The relationship of remuneration to performance is clear and meets appropriate performance benchmarks; and	√		-do-
6(5)(b)(i)(c)	Remuneration to directors, top level executive involves a balance between fixed and incentive pay reflecting short and long-term performance objectives appropriate to the working of the company and its goals	√		-do-
6(5)(b)(ii)	Devising a policy on Board's diversity taking into consideration age, gender, experience, ethnicity, educational background and nationality	√		-do-
6(5)(b)(iii)	Identifying persons who are qualified to become directors and who may be appointed in top level executive position in accordance with the criteria laid down, and recommend their appointment and removal to the Board	√		-do-
6(5)(b)(iv)	Formulating the criteria for evaluation of performance of independent directors and the Board	√		-do-
6(5)(b)(v)	Identifying the company's needs for employees at different levels and determine their selection, transfer or replacement and promotion criteria	√		-do-
6(5)(b)(vi)	Developing, recommending and reviewing annually the company's human resources and training policies	√		-do-
6(5)(c)	The Company shall disclose the nomination and remuneration policy and the evaluation criteria and activities of NRC during the year at a glance in its annual report	√		The policy, criteria and activities of NRC are given on Page 61 of the Annual Report



Condition No.	Title	Compliance Status ("√" has been put in the appropriate column)		Remarks (If any)
		Complied	Not Complied	
7	External or Statutory Auditors			
7(1)(i)	Appraisal or valuation services or fairness opinions	√		As declared by the Auditors
7(1)(ii)	Financial information systems design and implementation	√		-do-
7(1)(iii)	Book-keeping or other services related to the accounting records or financial statements	√		-do-
7(1)(iv)	Broker-dealer services	√		-do-
7(1)(v)	Actuarial services	√		-do-
7(1)(vi)	Internal audit services or special audit services	√		-do-
7(1)(vii)	Any service that the Audit Committee determines	√		-do-
7(1)(viii)	Audit or certification services on compliance of corporate governance as required under condition No. 9(1) ; and	√		-do-
7(1)(ix)	Any other service that creates conflict of interest	√		-do-
7(2)	No partner or employees of the external audit firms shall possess any share of the company they audit at least during the tenure of their audit assignment of that company; his or her family members also shall not hold any shares in the said company	√		-do-
7(3)	Representative of external or statutory auditors shall remain present in the Shareholders Meeting (Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting) to answer the queries of the shareholders	√		The representative of external auditors attended in the 22nd AGM held on 23 April 2019
8	Maintaining a website by the Company			
8(1)	The Company shall have an official website linked with the website of the stock exchange	√		In practice
8(2)	The Company shall keep the website functional from the date of listing	√		In practice
8(3)	The Company shall make available the detailed disclosures on its website as required under the listing regulations of the concerned stock exchange(s)	√		In practice
9	Reporting and Compliance of Corporate Governance			
9(1)	Obtaining a certificate from a practicing Professional Accountant or Secretary (Chartered Accountant or Cost and Management Accountant or Chartered Secretary) other than its statutory auditors or audit firm on yearly basis regarding compliance of conditions of Corporate Governance Code of the Commission and such certificate shall be disclosed in the Annual Report.	√		The company obtained the certificate from ACNABIN, Chartered Accountants regarding compliance of conditions of Corporate Governance Code 2018 and such certificate is disclosed on page 99 of the Annual Report.
9(2)	The professional who will provide the certificate on compliance of this Corporate Governance Code shall be appointed by the shareholders in the annual general meeting.	√		The Board appointed the Compliance Auditor and their appointment was approved by the Shareholders
9(3)	Directors statement in the directors' report whether the Company has complied with these conditions or not	√		Detailed status of compliance is given on page 79 of the Annual Report in the compliance schedule as published with the Directors' Report



Annexure II

Board Meeting and attendance during the year ended 31 December 2019

Name of Directors	Board Member Since	Number of meetings attended during 2019
Mr. M Shahjahan	26 June 2006	13/13
Mr. Md. Ashrafur Hassan*	20 January 2010	11/13
Mr. Haakon Bruaset Kjoel	14 September 2011	13/13
Ms. Parveen Mahmud*	17 October 2012	11/13
Mr. Oivind Burdal	18 May 2016	13/13
Prof. (Dr.) Jamilur Reza Choudhury*	15 June 2016	09/13
Mr. Petter Boerre Furberg	26 May 2017	13/13
Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed	12 December 2018	13/13
Mr. Irfan Wahab Khan	14 July 2019	06/06
Mr. Lars Erik Tellmann*	11 December 2019	00/01
Mr. Witold Sitek*	30 January 2018	07/08
Mr. Gunnar Johan Bertelsen*	11 June 2018	11/13

* Mr. Witold Sitek retired from the Board on 14 July 2019

* Mr. Gunnar Johan Bertelsen retired from the Board on 11 December 2019

*In compliance with the law, the Board granted leave of absence to the members who were unable to attend Board meetings.

Annexure-III

The Pattern of Shareholding as on 31 December 2019

Name of Shareholders	Status	Shares Held	Percentage
i) Parent/Subsidiary/Associate Companies			
Telenor Mobile Communications AS	-	753,408,154	55.80%
Grameen Telecom	-	461,766,409	34.20%
ii) Directors, Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer, Company Secretary, Head of Internal Audit and their spouses and minor children			
Mr. Petter Boerre Furberg	Chair	-	-
Mr. Haakon Bruaset Kjoel	Board Member	-	-
Mr. Oivind Burdal	Board Member	-	-
Mr. Irfan Wahab Khan	Board Member	-	-
Mr. Lars Erik Tellmann	Board Member	-	-
Mr. M Shahjahan	Board Member	-	-
Mr. Md. Ashrafur Hassan	Board Member	-	-
Ms. Parveen Mahmud	Board Member	-	-
Prof. (Dr.) Jamilur Reza Choudhury	Board Member	-	-
Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed	Board Member	-	-
Mr. Michael Patrick Foley	Chief Executive Officer	-	-
Mr. Jens Becker	Chief Financial Officer	-	-
Mr. S M Imdadul Haque	Company Secretary	-	-
Mr. Hasan Faisal	Head of Internal Audit	195	0.00%
iii) Executives (as explained in the BSEC's Notification No. SEC/CMRRCD/2006-158/134/Admin/44 dated 07 August 2012)			
Mr. Yasir Azman	Deputy CEO & Chief Marketing Officer	39,783	0.00%
Mr. Rade Kovacevic	Chief Technology Officer		
Mr. Mahmud Hossain	Chief Business Officer		
Mr. Syed Tanvir Husain	Chief Human Resources Officer		
Mr. Ole Bjorn Sjulstad	Chief Corporate Affairs Officer		
iv) Shareholders holding ten percent or more voting interest			
Telenor Mobile Communications AS	-	753,408,154	55.80%
Grameen Telecom	-	461,766,409	34.20%

Declaration by the CEO and the CFO

[As per condition No. 1(5)(xxvi) of Corporate Governance Code 2018]

The Board of Directors

Grameenphone Ltd.

Subject: Declaration on Financial Statements for the year ended on 31 December 2019.

Dear Sirs,

Pursuant to the condition No. 1(5)(xxvi) imposed vide the Commission's Notification No. BSEC/CMRRCD/2006-158/207 Admin/80 dated 03 June 2018 under section 2CC of the Securities and Exchange Ordinance, 1969, we do hereby declare that:

1. The Financial Statements of Grameenphone Ltd. for the year ended on 31 December 2019 have been prepared in compliance with International Accounting Standards (IAS) or International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), as applicable in the Bangladesh and any departure there from has been adequately disclosed;
2. The estimates and judgements related to the financial statements were made on a prudent and reasonable basis, in order for the financial statements to reveal a true and fair view;
3. The form and substance of transactions and the Company's state of affairs have been reasonably and fairly presented in its financial statements;
4. To ensure above, the Company has taken proper and adequate care in installing a system of internal control and maintenance of accounting records;
5. Our internal auditors have conducted periodic audits to provide reasonable assurance that the established policies and procedures of the Company were consistently followed; and
6. The management's use of the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements is appropriate and there exists no material uncertainty related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern.

In this regard, we also certify that: -

- i) We have reviewed the financial statements for the year ended on 31 December 2019 and that to the best of our knowledge and belief;
- ii) these statements do not contain any materially untrue statement or omit any material fact or contain statements that might be misleading;
- iii) these statements collectively present true and fair view of the Company's affairs and are in compliance with existing accounting standards and applicable laws; and
- iv) There are, to the best of our knowledge and belief, no transactions entered into by the Company during the year which are fraudulent, illegal or in violation of the code of conduct for the company's Board of Directors or its members.

Sincerely yours,



(Michael Patrick Foley)
Chief Executive Officer (CEO)



(Jens Becker)
Chief Financial Officer (CFO)

27 January 2020

Annexure –V

Management's Discussion and Analysis

As per condition no. 1 (5) (xxv) of the Corporate Governance Code 2018 issued by Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission, the Management's Discussion & Analysis are as follows:

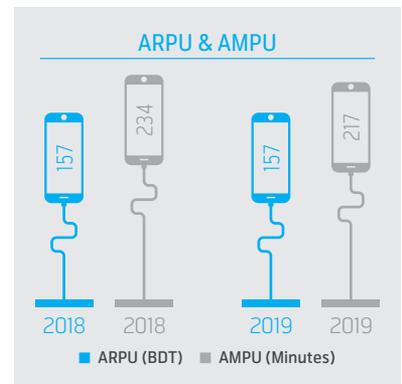
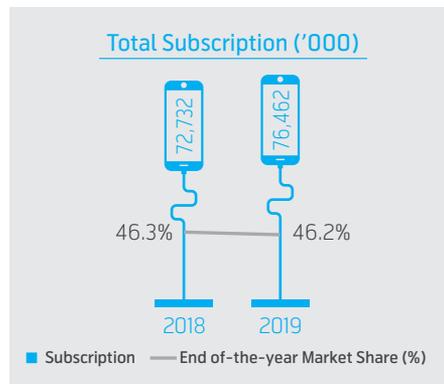
2019 Key Highlights

Grameenphone generated total revenue of BDT 143.7 billion (2018: BDT 132.8 billion), with a growth of 8.1% in year 2019 compared to the previous year. Net profit after tax for 2019 stood at BDT 34.5 billion (2018: BDT 33.4 billion, restated). Grameenphone added 3.7 million subscriptions in 2019 taking the year-end subscription base to 76.5 million, despite doubling of SIM tax from the middle of the year. Total number of Internet users stood at 40.6 million at the end of 2019 registering a strong 9.5% growth. 53.1% of subscribers of Grameenphone were active internet users at the end of 2019, including 11.9 million 4G internet users. Number of 4G sites of Grameenphone reached more than 10,000 by the end of year, while investment on data capacity enhancement & coverage expansion continued in 2019. This has resulted into 99.6% population coverage for Grameenphone including 95.4% coverage with 3G network. Strong revenue growth, along with structural operational efficiency initiatives, resulted into a 17.4% growth in operating profit in the year 2019.

Despite facing significant challenges from increase in supplementary duty, doubling of SIM tax and imposition of NOC restrictions by regulatory bodies, Grameenphone continued its growth momentum, while maintaining its superior positioning as data & digital service provider.

Customers and Average Revenue/Minutes per User (ARPU & AMPU)

The subscription base of Grameenphone stood at 76.5 million at the end of 2019 with a growth of 5.1%. Increased SIM price, as a result of BDT 100 increase in SIM tax, had a negative impact in subscription growth in the second half of the year. Grameenphone's subscription market share stood at 46.2% at the year-end.

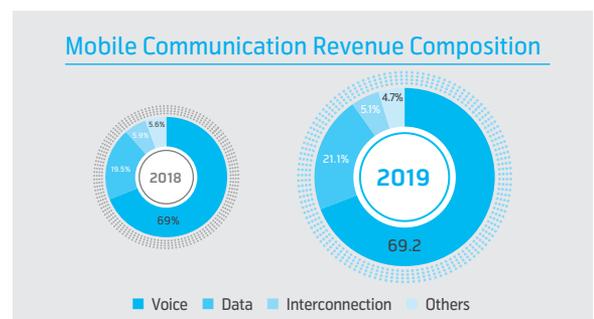
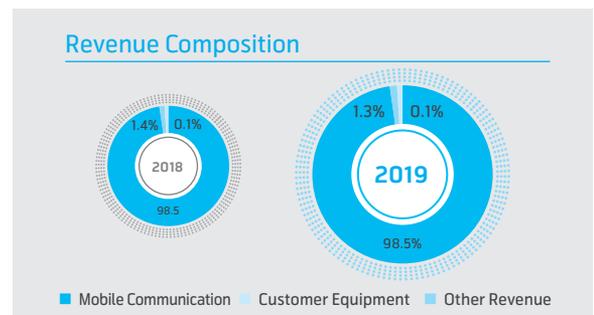


ARPU of Grameenphone remained flat at BDT 157 in year 2019 (2018: BDT 157), as higher contribution from voice & data services were offset by lower contribution of interconnect & other revenue segments. In 2019, AMPU was 217 minutes (2018: 234 minutes) with decrease of 7.1%, mainly owing to usage adjustment by subscribers from the two major events: unified tariff implementation (introduced in August 2018) and 5% additional supplementary duty (introduced in June 2019).

Revenue Performance

Grameenphone reported total revenue of BDT 143.7 billion for the year 2019 (2018: BDT 132.8 billion), with 8.1% growth. The growth in total revenue mainly came from growth in mobile communication revenue, which was driven by voice and data services partly offset by lower revenue from interconnection.

Revenue from voice service had a strong growth of 8.5%, enabled by 5.1% growth in subscription base along with no dilution in voice ARPU in year 2019.



- Overview
- Sustainability
- Business Performance
- Governance
- Financial Analysis
- Additional Information

Data revenue increased by 17.0%, driven by 9.5% growth in active internet user base and 2.0% growth in data ARPU in 2019. BDT 29.8 billion Data revenue in 2019 accounts for 21.1% (2018: 19.5%) of mobile communication revenue for Grameenphone. Roll-out of 5,013 new 4G sites (total 4G sites by the end of 2019: 10,000+), focused investment in data capacity enhancement and coverage expansion, along with competitive, relevant and exciting product offers in the market enabled the aforesaid growth in data revenue in 2019.

Interconnection revenue decreased by 14.3% in 2019 which is a continuation of declining trend in interconnection revenue for the last 5 years; this can be attributed to increasing proliferation of OTT services (e.g. Whatsapp, Viber, IMO, Facebook Messenger, etc.). Additionally, the new domestic interconnection call termination rate introduced by BTRC in the latter part of 2018 had eight (8) months impact in 2019 and led to only 0.8% growth in domestic interconnection revenue.

Cost and Margin Review

Total operating expense of Grameenphone stood at BDT 77.0 billion (2018: BDT 76.1 billion, restated) with 1.2% increase compared to last year. The growth in operating expense mainly came from cost of material and traffic charges, commissions, revenue sharing and depreciation, which was mostly offset by robust control over other operating expenses. BDT 10.8 billion growth in total revenue and BDT 0.9 billion growth in operating expense resulted into a strong growth of BDT 9.9 billion (+17.4%) in operating profit for Grameenphone in 2019. Operating profit margin of Grameenphone improved to 46.4% in 2019 from 42.7% (restated) in 2018.

In 2019, Grameenphone transitioned from IAS17 to IFRS16, and thereby recognised right-of-use assets and lease liabilities for the lease contracts. This favourably impacted operating profit as BDT 1.1 billion was recognised as Finance cost under IFRS16.

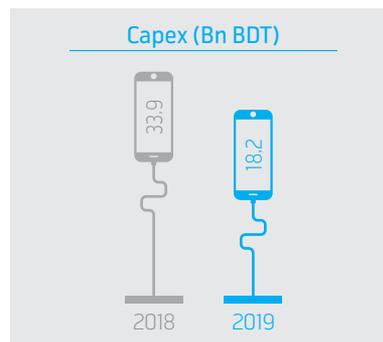
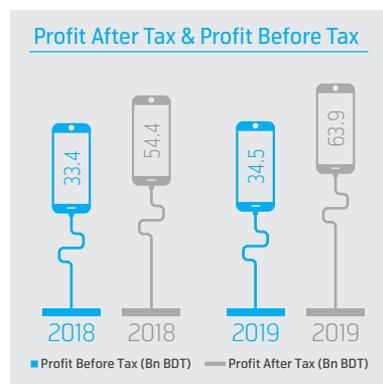
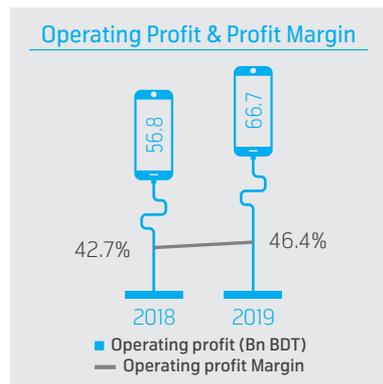
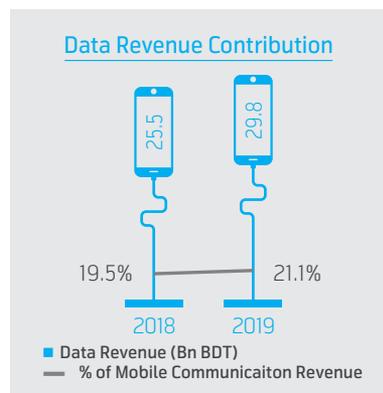
If compared using the same accounting standard of IAS17, Grameenphone's EBITDA in 2019 increased by 10.0% with a margin of 61.1% (2018: 60.0%, restated), including 1.1pp margin improvement from last year.

Profit after Tax

Net profit after tax for 2019 was BDT 34.5 billion (2018: 33.4 billion, restated) with a margin of 24.0%. BDT 1.2 billion growth in net profit after tax came from BDT 9.1 billion growth in profit before tax, which was partly offset by higher tax expense of BDT 7.9 billion, mainly due to higher profit before tax, tax provision for non-deductible expenses and adjustments during the year.

Capital Expenditure (Capex) and Network Updates

In 2019, Grameenphone reported BDT 18.2 billion as capital expenditure (2018: BDT 34.0 billion, including acquisition of 4G license, additional 5 MHz spectrum and 2G technology neutrality) with a 'total capex to sales' ratio of 12.7%. Majority of the investment in 2019 was related to rolling out of 4G sites, capacity increase for data traffic and coverage expansion - all in order to provide superior voice and data experience for customers. Grameenphone rolled-out 5,013 new 4G sites taking the total number of 4G sites to 10,022 in 2019. Also, Grameenphone rolled-out 1,023 new 3G sites in 2019 increasing the 3G population coverage to 95.4% (2018: 95.2%). With 16,506 sites across the country, Grameenphone currently provides telecommunication services covering 99.6% of the total population of the country.



Balance Sheet

Total asset base increased to BDT 148.7 billion (2018: BDT 138.7 billion) mainly for the increase in Right-of-use assets for implementation of IFRS 16 and increase in current assets from cash and cash equivalents.

Total liabilities increased during 2019, mainly for the increase in lease liability for implementation of IFRS 16 partly offset by payments of 8th and 9th installment of long-term loan from IFC.

Total equity increased to BDT 38.3 billion (2018: BDT 36.8 billion) due to increased profit. The net profit generated from operations during the year 2019 was BDT 34.5 billion (2018: BDT 33.4 billion). The equity is reduced by payment of final dividend for the year 2018 and interim dividend for the year 2019. There was also an adjustment in the opening balance of retained earnings for the year 2018 for correction of errors of BDT 3.7 billion.

This correction of errors relates to some erroneous omissions with regards to sales, marketing and commission payments and associated costs relating to non-deductible expenses for prior periods. Consequently, its sales, marketing and commission expenses and associated non-deductible costs were understated. The errors were identified during 2019 and Grameenphone proactively corrected those by restating each of the affected financial statements line items. A detailed disclosure regarding the correction of errors is given in note 3.18 of the Financial Statements.

Other Disclosure/Statements Pursuant to the Provisions of the BSEC's Corporate Governance Code 2018

Accounting policies and estimation for preparation of financial statements

The financial statements of Grameenphone have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), the Companies Act 1994, the Securities and Exchange Rules 1987, relevant guidelines issued by the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission, Financial Reporting Act, 2015 and other applicable laws in Bangladesh. Detail of the accounting policies and estimation used for preparation of the financial statements of the Company are disclosed in the notes 2 to 3 of the financial statements.

Changes in accounting policies and estimation

The accounting policies applied are consistent with those applied in the previous financial year, except for the implementation of new accounting standard as described in the note 3.17 of the Financial Statements.

Comparative analysis of financial performance, financial position and cash flows

Major areas of financial performance, financial position as well as cash flows (including effects of inflation) with immediate preceding five years are as follows:

Reported numbers	2019	2018 Restated	2017 Adjusted	2016 Adjusted	2015 Adjusted	2014 Adjusted
Financial Performance (in million BDT)						
Revenue	143,656	132,832	128,436	114,862	104,754	102,663
Operating Profit	66,652	56,777	49,340	40,950	36,538	36,445
Profit before tax	63,899	54,848	46,419	37,127	34,091	33,864
Net Profit after tax	34,517	33,363	26,146	21,721	19,046	18,813
Financial Position (in million BDT)						
Paid-up Capital	13,503	13,503	13,503	13,503	13,503	13,503
Shareholders' equity	38,347	36,836	31,388	31,116	28,974	30,374
Total assets	148,734	138,713	130,220	130,500	132,450	130,673
Total liabilities	110,387	101,877	98,832	99,384	103,476	100,299
Current assets	20,999	13,369	20,658	10,941	11,928	14,865
Current liabilities	90,426	82,963	78,274	70,536	69,276	62,393
Non current assets	127,735	125,345	109,562	119,558	120,522	115,808
Non current liabilities	19,961	18,914	20,558	28,848	34,199	37,906
Cash Flows (in million BDT)						
Net cash generated from operating activities	57,393	60,413	57,771	46,152	38,791	31,255
Net cash used in investing activities	(14,263)	(30,200)	(12,944)	(19,839)	(19,907)	(20,069)
Net cash used in financing activities	(35,308)	(36,699)	(35,336)	(27,553)	(19,491)	(10,972)

Reported numbers	2019	2018 Restated	2017 Adjusted	2016 Adjusted	2015 Adjusted	2014 Adjusted
Financial Ratios						
Current Asset to Current Liability	0.23	0.16	0.26	0.16	0.17	0.24
Debt to Equity	0.62	0.50	0.63	0.87	1.19	1.12
Operating Profit Margin	46%	43%	38%	36%	35%	35%
Net Profit Margin	24%	25%	20%	19%	18%	18%
Return on Equity	92%	98%	84%	72%	64%	61%
Return on Total Assets	24%	25%	20%	17%	14%	14%
Ordinary Shares Information						
Ordinary Shares outstanding (in million)	1,350	1,350	1,350	1,350	1,350	1,350
Face Value per share	10	10	10	10	10	10
Cash Dividend on paid up capital ¹	130%	280%	205%	175%	140%	160%
Dividend payout ¹	50.86%	113%	106%	109%	99%	115%
NAV per Share ²	28.40	27.28	23.25	23.04	21.46	22.49
Net Operating Cash Flow per Share ³	42.50	44.74	42.78	34.18	28.73	23.15
Earnings Per Share ³	25.56	24.71	19.36	16.09	14.11	13.93

*Gain/loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment has been included in operating profit

¹Including proposed dividend

²Based on BDT 10 equivalent ordinary share outstanding at 31 December

³Based on weighted average number of shares of BDT 10 each

*During 2019, Grameenphone discovered some erroneous omissions with regards to sales, marketing and commission payments and associated costs relating to non-deductible expenses which affected reported numbers till 2014. To give the accurate reflection of the correction, we have adjusted the above-mentioned numbers accordingly

Inflation Adjusted numbers	2019	2018 Restated	2017 Adjusted	2016 Adjusted	2015 Adjusted	2014 Adjusted
Financial Performance (in million BDT)						Base Year
Revenue	108,339	105,666	108,074	101,910	98,444	102,663
Operating Profit	50,266	45,165	41,518	36,333	34,337	36,445
Profit before tax	48,190	43,631	39,060	32,940	32,038	33,864
Net Profit after tax	26,031	26,539	22,001	19,272	17,899	18,813
Financial Position (in million BDT)						
Paid-up Capital	13,503	13,503	13,503	13,503	13,503	13,503
Shareholders' equity	28,920	29,303	26,412	27,607	27,229	30,374
Total assets	112,169	110,344	109,575	115,784	124,471	130,673
Total liabilities	83,249	81,041	83,163	88,177	97,242	100,299
Current assets	15,837	10,635	17,383	9,707	11,209	14,865
Current liabilities	68,195	65,996	65,865	62,582	65,103	62,393
Non current assets	96,332	99,709	92,192	106,077	113,262	115,808
Non current liabilities	15,054	15,045	17,299	25,595	32,139	37,906
Cash Flows (in million BDT)						
Net cash generated from operating activities	43,283	48,057	48,612	40,947	36,454	31,255
Net cash used in investing activities	(10,757)	(24,023)	(10,892)	(17,602)	(18,708)	(20,069)
Net cash used in financing activities	(26,628)	(29,193)	(29,734)	(24,446)	(18,316)	(10,972)
Inflation Rate	5.48%	5.78%	5.44%	5.92%	6.41%	

*Inflation Rate Source: Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics

*Since inflation rates are only available for fiscal years, they have been applied for the financial years

*During 2019, Grameenphone discovered some erroneous omissions with regards to sales, marketing and commission payments and associated costs relating to non-deductible expenses which affected reported numbers till 2014. To give the accurate reflection of the correction, we have adjusted the above-mentioned numbers accordingly



Comparison of financial performance, financial position and cash flows with the peer industry scenario

Grameenphone is the only listed entity in the telecommunication industry of Bangladesh. Information about financial performance, financial position and cash flows of other major operators in the industry are not publicly available. Hence, comparative analysis with the peer industry could not be presented.

Financial and economic scenario of Bangladesh and the globe

Bangladesh continues to be a country with strong macroeconomic fundamentals reflected in GDP growth in excess of 8.13% in 2018-19¹, higher than the growth of 7.86 percent in the preceding fiscal year. This places it among the five fastest growing economies in the world². The per capita national income reached USD 1,909 in FY2018-19 from USD 1,751 a year earlier. The average inflation rate stood at 5.44 percent with moderate food inflation. High growth of the remittance flow reduced the deficit in the current account balance. During this period there has been a moderate depreciation in exchange rate of Taka against the US dollar. Foreign exchange reserve remained steady at USD 31.72 billion as of 30 November 2019³.

Strong private consumption buoyed by a recovery in remittances and public investment contributed to robust GDP growth, reflecting substantial progress in implementing large infrastructure projects, notably the Padma Bridge and Dhaka's metro rail project. Going forward, the economy is likely to slow, partly due to weak global trade. In addition, downside risks include threats from a banking system under strain from a high number of non-performing loans.

From a regional perspective Bangladesh has posted the highest growth not only in South-East Asia, but also in South Asia, outperforming both India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka as well as economies such as Vietnam and China⁴. Neighbouring India will continue to be a fast-growing big economy which is expected to positively impact regional growth. While growth in the South Asia region has softened to 5.7% in 2019 and is expected to decline further, Bangladesh will continue to perform above-average during this period.

Globally, 2019 was characterised as a tug-of-war between political conflict and macroeconomic policy. Geopolitical tensions weighed on business sentiment and prompted support from policymakers. There are growing worries about the state of the world economy especially related to the trade war between US and China. Looking ahead to 2020, global growth is still slowing, but the case for a rebound is building⁵.

Risks and Concerns related to the financial statements

Grameenphone has a structured process to identify Financial Statement risks and implement mitigating controls to ensure Financial Statement gives true and fair view of the events and transactions occurred during the period.

Grameenphone has an integrated process to review the risks arising from transaction, process, people, external and regulatory environment. Every year, Financial Statement risks are reviewed involving control and process owners to identify risks effectively so that Financial Statement assertions are met. Grameenphone follows a risk based approach where both standard and local risks are addressed. Standard Risk are those risks common to all Telenor Business Units and Local risk are Grameenphone specific risks that arises due to business process, people and the regulatory environment we operate in. Each risk is evaluated through probability and impact matrix and categorised into a four point rating scale (Very High, High, Medium and Low).

Appropriate controls are designed and embedded in the process to mitigate the identified risks to an acceptable level. 'Risk coverage' is performed every year to update the control description and enhance the control capabilities to ensure effectiveness and efficiency of risk management. Risk mitigation status is monitored through two control testing methods i.e. self-assessment and direct testing, twice a year (Interim and Year-end). Details of ICFR activity is described in the Internal Control over Financial Reporting (ICFR) section of the Annual report on page 56.

Future Plan of Grameenphone 2020

We believe that connectivity can empower societies while driving economic growth and reducing inequalities, driving the national vision of a Digital Bangladesh. Grameenphone's future plan is designed to drive us to outgrow the market with a modern, full coverage data network and personalised offers for our 75.5 million strong customer base, leveraging our strong brand built on technology leadership offering key data and digital service differentiation. We have identified the following four key priorities for 2020:

- (1) Drive revenue growth leading with voice, 4G data and digital experience, driven by 4G conversion, while scaling in B2B and ICT
- (2) EBITDA growth through structural initiatives, modernisation of distribution and scaled digital distribution

¹Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics provisional forecast

²World Bank Report 'The Bangladesh Development Update April 2019: Towards Regulatory Predictability', published April 2019, as quoted in The Daily Star

³Bangladesh Economic Review 2018-19 as published by the Ministry of Finance

⁴Regional GDP Outlook, Asian Development Bank

⁵Economist Intelligence Unit and J.P Morgan forecast

- (3) Getting the workforce future ready by up-skilling as well as re-skilling; setting key trends as one of the top employers in the market by driving a lean and responsive organisation structure
- (4) Focus on long- and short-term advocacy as well as reputation and awareness building platforms to responsibly and proactively manage the business environment

Grameenphone is well positioned and has the ability to continue contributing growth for the Bangladesh economy and our shareholders, despite challenging business environment and strong competition. We aim to deliver on our plans and ambitions with continued focus on excellence as well as smart investments.



Michael Patrick Foley
Chief Executive Officer

27 January 2020



Report to the Shareholders of Grameenphone Ltd.

(As required under the BSEC Corporate Governance Guidelines)

We have examined the compliance status to the Corporate Governance Code by Grameenphone Ltd. for the year ended on 31 December 2019. This Code relates to the Notification No,BSEC/CMRRCD/2006-158/207/Admin/80 dated 3 June 2018 of the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission.

Such compliance with the Corporate Governance Code is the responsibility of the Company. Our examination was limited to the procedures and implementation thereof as adopted by the Management in ensuring compliance to the conditions of the Corporate Governance Code.

This is a scrutiny and verification and an independent audit on compliance of the conditions of the Corporate Governance Code as well as the provisions of relevant Bangladesh Secretarial Standards (BSS) as adopted by the Institute of Chartered Secretaries of Bangladesh (ICSB) in so far as those standards are not inconsistent with any condition of this Corporate Governance Code.

We state that we have obtained all the information and explanations, which we have required, and after due scrutiny and verification thereof, we report that, in our opinion:

- The Company has complied with the conditions of the Corporate Governance Code as stipulated in the above mentioned Corporate Governance Code issued by the Commission;
- The Company has complied with the provisions of the relevant Bangladesh Secretarial Standards (BSS) as adopted by the Institute of Chartered Secretaries of Bangladesh (ICSB) as required by this Code;
- Proper books and records have been kept by the Company as required under the Companies Act, 1994, the securities laws and other relevant laws; and
- The Governance of the Company is satisfactory.

This is also no endorsement about quality of contents in the Annual Report of the Company for 2019.

Abu Sayeed Mohammad Nayeem, FCA

Partner
ACNABIN
Chartered Accountants

27 January 2020

