ASSOCIAÇÃO DIREITOS HUMANOS EM REDE - CONECTAS

Independent auditor's report

Financial statements As of December 31, 2023

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

To the Shareholders and Management of Associação Direitos Humanos Em Rede - CONECTAS São Paulo - SP

Opinion

We have audit the accompanying financial statements of Associação Direitos Humanos Em Rede - CONECTAS ("Entity"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2023 and the statements of surplus, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year ended and corresponding explanatory notes, including material accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In our opinion, the above-mentioned financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Associação Direitos Humanos Em Rede - CONECTAS as at December 31, 2023, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year than ended, in accordance with accounting practices adopted in Brazil for small and medium-sized entities - CPC Technical Pronouncement PME (R1) - Accounting for Small and Medium-sized Entities, including the provisions in Technical Interpretation ITG 2002 (R1) - "Non profit Entities"

Basis for opinion

Our audit was conducted in accordance with Brazilian and international auditing standards. Our responsibilities, in accordance with such standards, are described in the section entitled "Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements". We are independent in relation -of the Entity, in accordance with the relevant ethical principles provided for in the Professional Accountant's Code of Ethics (CEPC) and the professional standards issued by the Federal Accounting Council (CFC), and we comply with the other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these standards. We believe that the audit evidence obtained is sufficient and appropriate to substantiate our opinion.

Other matters

Audit of the amounts corresponding to the previous year

The examination of the financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2022, the values of which are being presented in these financial statements in a comparative manner, was conducted under the responsibility of other independent auditors, who issued an audit report, dated April 5, 2023, without modification.

Responsibilities of Management and those charged with governance for the financial statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and proper presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the accounting practices adopted in Brazil and for the internal controls that it has determined as necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements free from material misstatement, regardless of whether caused by fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, Management is responsible for assessing the Entity's ability to continue operating, disclosing, when applicable, matters related to its operational continuity and the use of this accounting basis in the preparation of the financial statements, unless Management intends to liquidate the Entity or cease its operations, or has no realistic alternative to avoid the termination of operations.

BDD RCS Auditores Independentes SS Ltda., an audit partnership organized according to Brazilian law, is a member of BDO International Limited, a UK company limited by guarantee, and forms part of the international BDO network of independent member firms. BDO is the brand name for the BDO network and for each of the BDO Member Firms.



Those responsible for the Entity's governance are those with responsibility for supervising the process of preparing the financial statements.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Brazilian and International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Brazilian standards and ISAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due
 to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit
 evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not
 detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error,
 as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override
 of internal controls;
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control;⁽⁸⁾
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by Management;
- Conclude on the appropriateness of Management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the "Entity" ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to continue as a going concern;
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal controls that we identify during our audit.

São Paulo, April 5, 2024.

BDO RCS Auditores Independentes SS Ltda. CRC 2 SP 013846/0-1

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Accountant CRC 1 SP 132091/O

Balance sheet December 31st, 2023 and 2022 (In Brazilian reals)



Assets	Note	2023	2022	Liabilities and net equity	Note	2023	2022
Current	Note	2023	2022	Current	Note	2023	2022
Cash and cash equivalents	3	51,488,710	43,261,561	Accounts payable		22,232	8,263
Other receivables accounts	4	47,051		Social charges	7	759,298	662,411
Prepaid expenses	5	43,253		Advance donations	8	35,830,133	32,805,693
		51,579,014	43,336,253			36,611,663	33,476,369
Non-current				Non-current			
Court deposits	13	461,338	220,828	Tax liabilities	13	488,131	248,539
Fixed Assets	6	272,953	318,055			488,131	248,539
Intangible assets	6	18,993	30,100	Net equity			
C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C		753,284	568,983	Net equity	9	15,232,504	10,180,328
Total assets		52,332,298	43,905,236	Total liabilities and net equity		52,332,298	43,905,236

All accompanying notes are integral part of these financial statements.

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Statement of surplus End of financial year; December 31st, 2023 and 2022 (All currency are in Brazilian reals)

	Note	2023	2022
Revenue from donations			
Domestic donations		2,514,570	660,517
Foreign donations		11,952,466	11,792,967
Revenue from volunteers	10 (b)	29,453	2,677
	. ,	14,496,489	12,456,161
Expenses with activities			
Ongoing expenses	10 (a)	(3,656,016)	(3,878,336)
Volunteering	10 (b)	(29,453)	(2,677)
Tax expenses	10 (c)	(263,407)	(221,139)
Recovery of expenses	10 (d)	228,497	177,839
Cost of theme areas	10 (e)	(11,481,264)	(9,400,427)
		(15,201,643)	(13,324,740)
Surplus (Deficit) before financial income		(705,154)	(868,579)
Income from financial investments		5,759,278	4,348,740
Other financial income		-	1,221
Bank expenses		(1,948)	(6,507)
Other financial costs		-	-
Financial income	11	5,757,329	4,343,454
Surplus for the year		5,052,176	3,474,875

All accompanying notes are integral part of these financial statements.

Statement of comprehensive income Years ended on December 31st, 2022 and 2023 (In Brazilian reals)



	Note	2023	2022
Surplus for the year Comprehensive income flow and adjustments		5,052,176	3,474,875
Comprehensive income total		5,052,176	3,474,875

* All accompanying notes are integral part of these financial statements.

Statement of changes in equity (In Brazilian reals)



		Accumulated	
	Equity	Surplus	Total
As at December 31st, 2021	6,705,453	-	6,705,453
Net Surplus Destination of the surplus	3,474,875	3,474,875 (3,474,875)	3,474,875
As at December 31st, 2022	10,180,328		10,180,328
Net Surplus Destination of the surplus	5,052,176	5,052,176 (5,052,176)	5,052,176
As at December 31st, 2023	15,232,504		15,232,504

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Statement of cash flows Years ended on December 31st, 2022 and 2023 (In Brazilian reals)

	2023	2022
Cash flows from operating activities Surplus for the year	5,052,176	3,474,875
Depreciation and amortization	102,969	103,762
Fixed Assets adjustments	0	18
Surplus adjustment of the year	5,155,145	3,578,655
(Increase)/decrease in assets		
Other receivables accounts	(15,612)	(4,087)
Court deposits	(240,511)	(92,049)
Increase (decrease) in liabilities		7.044
Accounts payable	13,969	7,941
Social charges	96,886	133,966
Tax liabilities Advance donations	239,592 3,024,440	118,691 15,567,163
	5,024,440	15,507,105
Net cash from operating activities	8,273,909	19,310,280
Cash flows from investing activities		
Acquisition of fixed assets	(52,907)	(99,266)
Fixed assets write- offs	6,147	13,541
Net cash from investing activities	(46,760)	(85,725)
Increase in cash and cash equivalents	8,227,149	19,224,555
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	51,488,710	43,261,561
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	43,261,561	24,037,006
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	8,227,149	19,224,555

All accompanying notes are integral part of these financial statements.

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Notes to the financial statements At December 31st, 2023 and 2022 (In Brazilian reals)

1. Operations

Associação Direitos Humanos em Rede ("Conectas" or "Organization") is an international non-profit and non-governmental organization established in September 2001 in São Paulo, Brazil. Its mission is to promote the enforcement of human rights and the democratic rule of law in the Global South -Africa, Latin America and Asia.

Since January 2006, it has had consultative status with the United Nations (UN) and, since May of 2009, observer status with the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights. Its vision is for a fairer world, with a true global, diverse and effective human rights movement, in which national institutions and the international order are more transparent, effective and democratic.

1.1 Effects of the pandemic caused by COVID-19

Since the beginning of the pandemic, Conectas created a pandemic management plan, with measures to prevent and mitigate its effects, in line with the guidelines established by national and international health authorities.

Against this backdrop, Conectas has been monitoring the effects of its activities and assessing the main estimates and critical accounting judgments, as well as other balances with the potential to generate uncertainties that impact the financial statements.

2. Presentation of the financial statements and description of the main accounting practices

The financial statements were prepared and are being presented in accordance with Brazilian accounting practices applicable to non-profit organizations both for small and medium enterprises – Technical Accounting Pronouncement SME "Accounting for small and medium enterprises" – and in accordance with ITG 2002 – Non-profit organizations approved by Resolution 1,409/12 of the CFC (Federal Accounting Council).

The fair value of voluntary and donated services is presented in Note 11.

Financial reporting requires the use of estimates to account for certain assets, liabilities and other transactions, including the determination of useful lives of fixed assets, the valuation of financial assets at fair value, necessary provisions for liabilities and other evaluations. The actual results may differ from these estimates. Conectas reviews these estimates and assumptions at least upon the preparation of the financial statements.

These financial statements were authorized by the Management on 1 April 2024.

Functional and reporting currency

The financial statements are presented in Brazilian reais, which is the functional currency of Conectas and also its reporting currency.



Notes to the financial statements At December 31st, 2023 and 2022 (In Brazilian reals)

Summary of accounting practices

2.1 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include funds in domestic currency and financial investments with daily liquidity, insignificant risk of change in fair value and which are used by Conectas to meet its short-term commitments.

2.2 Financial assets

Management classifies its financial assets in the following categories: (a) measured at fair value through profit or loss; (b) loans and receivables. The classification depends on the purpose for which the financial assets were acquired. Management classifies its financial assets upon initial recognition.

Financial investments are classified as measured at net value. Their measurement is detailed in item (a) below.

(a) Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss (surplus/deficit)

Financial assets measured at fair value through profit or loss are financial assets held for active and frequent trading. The assets in this category are classified as current assets. Gains or losses arising from the changes in the fair value of financial assets measured at fair value through profit or loss are recorded in the statement of surplus as "Financial income" in the period they occur, unless they are contracted in connection with another transaction. In this case, changes are recorded in the same line of the statement of surplus affected by the other transaction.

(b) Recorded at Amortized Cost

The entity records its financial assets at amortized cost for assets held within a business model aimed at achieving contractual cash flows representing only principal and interest payments. This category encompasses cash and cash equivalents, along with other accounts. The entity categorizes its financial assets and liabilities as amortized cost or fair value through profit or loss. These determinations are guided by the business model chosen by management and the nature of contractual cash flows. Examples within this category include payable accounts.

2.3 Fixed assets

Fixed assets are stated at historical acquisition cost. Items received through donation are recognized at the amount declared by the donor or the token amount of one Brazilian real (R\$1), with a corresponding entry to income from donations. Depreciation is calculated at the straight-line method at rates that take into account the useful lives of the assets, as stated in Note 6.

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Notes to the financial statements At December 31st, 2023 and 2022 (In Brazilian reals)

(a) Impairment of non-financial assets

Non-financial assets are assessed periodically to determine their recoverable value. Where there is any indication that an asset may be impaired, the carrying value of the asset is tested for impairment.

An impairment loss is recognized for the excess of the carrying value of the asset over its recoverable amount. This amount is the higher of fair value less sales costs and value in use.

(b) Intangible assets

Intangibles are software that has been purchased and are needed for use on the organization's computers (mostly Windows and Office operating systems).

2.4 Payable Accounts

Accounts payable are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of the organization's activities, being recognized at the value of the corresponding invoice or contract amount. These payables are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

2.5 Taxes on operations

Conectas is a non-profit organization, exempted from the payment of Income Tax and Social Contribution Tax (Note 11). The status of other taxes on operating activities is as follows: (a) Social Integration Program (PIS) - contribution of 1% levied on the payroll; (b) Social Security Contribution (INSS) - full payment of the employer's and employees' contributions; (c) Withholding Income Tax (IRRF) on revenues from financial investments - carried out regularly by the financial institutions; (d) Federal Severance Pay Fund (FGTS) - contribution of 8% levied on the payroll.

2.6 Other current assets and liabilities

The assets are stated at their acquisition cost, including, when applicable, the income and foreign currency variations incurred, net of the provision for adjustment to the realizable amount, when applicable. Liabilities recorded are stated at known or estimated amounts including, when applicable, the corresponding charges and monetary variations incurred up to the balance sheet date.

2.7 Non-current liabilities

Non-current liabilities consist of contingencies due to lawsuits described in Note 13.

2.8 Equity

Equity includes the initial donation of the founders and donations received from third parties, increased or decreased by the surplus or deficit computed each year.

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Notes to the financial statements At December 31st, 2023 and 2022 (In Brazilian reals)

2.9. Income statement

Income from donations and contributions is recorded upon receipt. Other revenues and expenses are recorded on the accrual basis.

At the end of the year, the funds that were not used and that are committed to projects are classified in liabilities as "Advance donations" and they are recorded in income when these funds are used.

3. Cash and cash equivalents

	2023	2022
Checking accounts	3,561,970	929
Financial investments (*) (**)	47,926,740	43,260,632
	51,488,710	43,261,561

(*) Represented by Bank Deposit Certificates (CDBs), remunerated at fixed rates of around 100% per year (2022 – 100%) of the Interbank Deposit Certificate (CDI) rate.

(**) Part of these funds refer to advance donations of financing under our responsibility (see Note 8).

4. Other receivable accounts

As at December 31st, 2023, the other receivable accounts consist of advance payments made to employees and suppliers (communication services - capitalization or leveraging

5. Prepaid expenses

As at December 31st, 2023, the prepaid expenses originated from the advance payment of rent and D&O liability and property insurance.

6. Fixed and intangible assets

		2022		2021	
	Cost	Annual depreciation / amortization	Net	Net	Annual depreciation / amortization rates (%)
Movables					
Drone	5,500	(4,274)	1,226	2,326	20
Furniture and fixtures	178,429	(140,409)	38,020	40,361	10
IT equipment	452,352	(292,412)	159,940	187,895	20
Telecommunications equipment	101,930	(32,134)	69,796	77,638	10
Electronic devices	29,914	(25,943)	3,971	9,835	20
-	768,125	(495,172)	272,953	318,055	_
Intangible assets					
Software	101,275	(82,282)	18,993	30,100	20
-	869,400	(577,454)	291,946	348,155	

Notes to the financial statements At December 31st, 2023 and 2022 (In Brazilian reals)

The changes in fixed and intangible assets were as follows:

	2023	2022
At beginning of year	348,155	366,210
Acquisition of assets	52,907	99,266
Write-off of assets	(24,231)	(47,389)
Assets adjustments	-	(18)
Write-off of donated asset	18,084	33,848
Depreciation	(91,862)	(88,490)
Amortization	(11,107)	(15,272)
End of year balance	291,946	348,155

7 Payable Accounts

Refer mainly to charges related to the provision for vacation pay.

8. Advance donations

The Organization has received donations with the purpose of maintaining and implementing the social projects it runs.

Of the total funds available in 2023, part was spent in the same year and part will be spent in 2024 to continue the contracted projects as shown below:

	2023	2022
Total revenues received	50,326,622	45,261,855
Amount Spent in 2023	(14,496,489)	(12,456,161)
Advances to 2024	35,830,133	32,805,693
About the advances to the next year:	25 200 270	20.070.001
Unrestricted support	35,200,379	30,978,001
Restricted support (specific projects)	629,754	2,263,451

9. Equity

Equity is presented in updated amounts and comprises the initial capital, increased by the amounts of the surpluses and reduced by any deficits that occurred. The incorporation of the result for 2022 was carried out in 2023, together with the surplus for the year computed in the same year.

In the event of the dissolution of Conectas, its equity must necessarily be transferred to a non-profit organization or organizations with similar purposes certified under the terms of Law No. 9,790/99.

In the event that Conectas loses the certification established in Law No. 9,790/99, all remaining assets acquired with public funds during the time when the certification was in effect shall be transferred to another organization certified under the terms of Law No. 9,790/99, preferably one that has the same purpose.





Notes to the financial statements At December 31st, 2023 and 2022 (In Brazilian reals)

10. Expenses with activities

	2023	2022
Personnel expenses (a)	(1,620,913)	(2,024,112)
Services provided by companies (a)	(1,621,135)	(1,342,996)
Services provided by individuals (a)	(31,791)	(31,839)
Depreciation and amortization (a)	(102,969)	(103,761)
Other general expenses (a)	(278,718)	(362,068)
Other operating expenses (a)	(490)	(13,560)
Volunteering (b)	(29,453)	(2,677)
Tax expenses (c)	(263,407)	(221,139)
Recovery of expenses (d)	228,497	177,839
Costs with theme areas/initiatives (e)	(11,481,264)	(9,400,427)
Total	(15,201,643)	(13,324,740)

(a) Ongoing expenses

They are expenses related to the basic areas of the organization, namely: administrative and financial, fundraising, communication and institutional development; these areas support the programs (thematic areas) of Conectas and handle general institutional matters (governance, people management, relationship with grantees, institutional communication, etc.).

(c) Fair value of voluntary and donated services

Voluntary work identified by management, as well as its fair value, may be described as follows:

	2023	2022
Volunteers		
Theme areas	29,453	2,677
Total	29,453	2,677

These amounts were recognized in the statement of surplus as "Revenue from volunteers", with a corresponding entry in "Expenses with activities".

The fair value of the volunteer work described above is presented in accordance with Interpretation ITG-2002 (R1 - 2015) resulting from CFC Resolution No. 1409/12. The fair value was determined from the amount that Conectas would be willing to pay a third party to perform the same service provided by the volunteers. Accordingly, management made its best fair value estimate based on the information provided by the service provider, since, in general, they also provide the same service to other organizations, but for remuneration, and/or based on market information - especially in the case of services for which there is an active and established market, in which information on the service cost is widely disclosed or easily obtained, always considering the size and complexity of the operations of Conectas.

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Notes to the financial statements At December 31st, 2023 and 2022 (In Brazilian reals)

(c) Tax expenses

Tax expenses are basically comprised of income tax on financial investments, from automatic redemptions at the end of the investment period of Bank Deposit Certificates (CDBs) or withdrawals to cover cash flow, as well as IOF financial transaction tax on forex operations for the receipt of funds and COFINS social security tax on financial investments (see Note 13).

(d) Recovery of expenses

Conectas and Instituto Pro Bono (CNPJ No. 04.613.118/0001-46) have a Memorandum of Understanding in which Conectas supports Instituto Pro Bono by sharing the space and receives a reimbursement of part of the monthly operating expenses.

(e) Theme areas

		2023*	2022
	titutional Violence	(2,283,150)	(1,784,800)
Strategic Litiga		(1,722,291)	(1,403,357)
a b	Democratic Space	(2,288,445)	(3,062,520)
Tax	and Socioon vironmental Dights	(1.423,996)	- (2 140 751)
Total	and Socioenvironmental Rights	(3,763,382) (11,481,264)	(3,149,751) (9,400,427)
lotal		(11,401,204)	(9,400,427)
(*) Represented b	y:		
Theme areas	Initiative		2023
	People Deprived of Liberty		698,159
Combating	Oversight of Law Enforcement and Use of Force		789,392
Institutional	Drug Policy		389,621
Violence	Gun Control		405,978
	Subtotal		2,283,150
Strategic Litigation	Strategic Litigation		1,722,291
0 0	Subtotal		1,722,291
	In Defense of Civil Society		607,371
	Migration and Asylum		368,273
Strengthening	Religious Mobilizations and the Rights Agenda		359,277
Democratic Space	In Defense of Racial Affirmative Action		438,790
	Sur Journal		514,734
	Subtotal		2,288,445
Incidence	Incidence		1,423,996
Incluence	Subtotal		1,423,996
	Financing for Development		813,407
Defense of	Impacts of the Extractive Industry		1,182,760
Socioenvironment	Combating Contemporary Slavery and Precarious Work		603,608
al Rights	Climate Justice		1,163,607
	Subtotal		3,763,382
	Total		11,481,264



Notes to the financial statements At December 31st, 2023 and 2022 (In Brazilian reals)

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAMS (unaudited descriptive information)

COMBATING INSTITUTIONAL VIOLENCE

People Deprived of Liberty

Brazil has the fourth highest number of incarcerated people in the world, and this situation has been like this for a long time. Conectas has long been involved in pushing for changes in the country's prison system. Through national and international strategic litigation actions, research, regular inspections of prisons and political and judicial incidences, Conectas seeks to hold violating public agents accountable, in addition to demanding improvements in control and transparency mechanisms in deprivation units and also their freedom.

In April, alongside IBCCRIM (Brazilian Institute of Criminal Sciences), Conectas filed a <u>complaint with</u> <u>the UN</u>, warning about the "serious humanitarian violation" to which prisoners in the prison system of Rio Grande do Norte are subjected. The document showed reports of systematic torture and punishments such as use of electric shocks on the feet as a means of punishment leaving skin injuries on several people in Alcaçuz penitentiary.

In June at the 53rd session of the UN Human Rights Council, Conectas once again drew the attention of the international community to the <u>deaths that occurred in Brazilian prisons</u> and the violation of the rights of memory of the deceased as well as justice and truth of the victims' families of violence in the country.

The São Paulo Public Defender's Office and Conectas also filed another complaint in July, <u>this time with</u> <u>the UN Committee Against Torture (CAT)</u>. The accusation, which was admitted in September, was made against Brazil, on torture and other human rights violations committed by police officers from the Rapid Intervention Group (GIR) against people arrested in Presidente Prudente; a neighborhood in São Paulo. This is the first Brazilian case admitted by the CAT.

In September as well, the STF recognized the unconstitutional state of affairs in the Brazilian prison system and ordered the federal government to draw up an action plan to resolve the situation of wide-spread violations of fundamental rights in prisons across the country.

The organization was also part of the Mission of the National Mechanism to Prevent and Combat Torture, carried out in the state of São Paulo.



Notes to the financial statements At December 31st, 2023 and 2022 (In Brazilian reals)

In February, the TJ-SP (São Paulo Court of Justice) once again analyzed a public civil action, proposed by Conectas in 2014, which called for the condemnation of <u>moral damages from carrying out a vexa-tious strip</u> search on family members of people arrested during visits to the Provisional Detention Centers I and II of Guarulhos in the State of Sao paulo, between 2011 and 2013. The Court recognized the practice as illegal and dehumanizing, thereby ordering the action to be tried as the first instance.

In November, Conectas and Amparar (Association of Family and Friends of Prisoners and Inmates of home foundation) launched the "<u>Invisible Bars</u>" booklet, reinforcing the criminal nature of State violence against family members and visitors of prisoners in Brazil.

Oversight of Law Enforcement and Use of Force

Conectas advocates for a profound change in the security system and also condemned abuses committed by security agents and seeks to hold the State responsible for any omission or any iota of violence collusion practices committed by its armed wing against its citizens. Conectas also relies on international standards to produce studies and make proposals for institutional change, encouraging good practices related to external control mechanisms of public security forces.

In conjunction with the Independent Mothers of May Movement and the Center for Anthropology and Forensic Archeology at the Federal University of São Paulo (CAAF/UNIFESP), Conectas launched a project, which received support from the United Nations Democracy Fund (UNDEF), to strengthen the fight for justice and memory of victims of state violence in Brazil.

Mothers across the states in Brazil who fight against lethal state violence were in Brasília, the federal capital, in a delegation that brought together different movements and organizations, where they meet with federal representatives and other authorities in June on the same cause. They demanded, among other things, actions to reduce violence in peripheral territories and against the black population and also policies in support of victims, including the family members of lethal violence.

In February, the STF once again analyzed whether Armed Forces agents who commit crimes against civilians in public security activities should be tried by the Common Court. The action, within the scope of ADI 5032 (Direct Action of Unconstitutionality), presented in 2013 by the PGR (Attorney General's Office), asks the Supreme Court to consider unconstitutional sections of legislation (Complementary Law No. 136/2010) that increases the competence of Military Justice, allowing military personnel themselves to judge colleagues who commit crimes against civilian lives. Conectas, as well as Grupo Tortura Nunca Mais, the Federal Public Defender's Office and the Brazilian Institute of Criminal Sciences, were admitted as amicus curie in the action.



Notes to the financial statements At December 31st, 2023 and 2022 (In Brazilian reals)

In September, Conectas and the Mães de Maio Movement <u>presented a complaint to the UN Human</u> <u>Rights Council</u> on the violations that occurred during an operation called; Operation scudo, in Baixada Santista, Sao Paulo.

The action was launched in response to the death of a military police officer, that left a minimum of 28 people dead in 40 days. In September, the Public Defender's Office of São Paulo and Conectas <u>filed a</u> <u>public civil case</u> asking the courts to force the Government of São Paulo to put body cameras on police officers working in operation section.

Although research shows that cameras play a major role in preserving the lives of agents and the population, the <u>TJSP decided in December</u> that military police officers are not mandated to use cameras.

In partnership with researchers who are mostly blacks, civil society and the German Consulate, Conectas developed a series of studies on the use of cameras by State agents, highlighting on one hand, the importance of public policy for preserving life and, on the other, several <u>gaps in control and security in</u> <u>the use of technology</u>.

Drug Policy

Over the years, Conectas has been condemning the limitations and impacts of the 2006 Drug Law, especially in criminal justice. In conjunction with a wide network of civil society organizations, the entity carries out research and legislative advocacy to avoid further setbacks, that proposes advances towards decriminalizing the use or regulating the production, trade and consumption of certain substances, as well as its usage of international mechanisms to lodge complaints and instigates constant public debates in different sectors of society.

Conectas <u>sent a note</u> of warning to the international community on the criminalization of people who use alcohol and other drugs abusers and the dismantling of public services aimed at people in the State of São Paulo specifically. The speech was presented at the 53rd session of the UN Human Rights Council.

In March, ISHR (International Human Rights Service), Cels and Conectas Human Rights <u>organized a vir-</u> <u>tual event</u> that deliberated on "The elimination of structural racism against Afro-descendants and Africans in drug policies". The event took place in parallel with the session of the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs. The objective was to discuss the relationships between the "war on drugs", racism and policies based on human rights in addition to the debate on the role of UN agencies dedicated to drugs in reviewing legal frameworks and policies that result in discriminatory tools.

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Gun Control

On his first day in office, President Lula <u>abolished policies that made gun ownership more flexible</u>. Data from the latest Security Yearbook of the Brazilian Public Security Forum recorded that, under the Bolsonaro government, there was a 473% increase in the number of people with firearms licenses.

In July, thirty civil society organizations, including Conectas, celebrated the publication of a decree establishing new regulations for arms and ammunition control. Among the new rules are the reduction in the limit of weapons per person, the restriction of access to larger caliber weapons and the return of State control over these private arsenals.

STRATEGIC LITIGATION

As is clear from the examples of activities in the programmatic areas, Strategic Litigation is a tool used by all programs that acts proactively and reactively, in collaboration with other organizations in the field and in an agile manner.

In 2023, Conectas experienced significant advances in strategic litigation, a key area of our efforts to protect human rights. A key development was the willingness of the Supreme Court to engage in discussions on critical issues which brought about change to the forefront debates on highly sensitive and impactful topics, such as the decriminalization of drugs and abortion, and racial profiling. Recognizing the critical nature of these discussions, Conectas participated in them actively and assertively. Our involvement was an integral part of our strategic litigation efforts aimed at challenging and dismantling practices that violate human rights.

Throughout the year, Conectas worked on a total of 40 cases, with 16 new cases added to our docket. These cases spanned multiple programs and jurisdictions, reflecting our commitment to addressing a wide range of human rights issues. The diversity of these cases highlights our approach to strategic litigation as a multifaceted tool to promote and protect human rights in Brazil.

STRENGTHENING THE DEMOCRATIC SPACE

In Defense of Civil Society

Conectas works to condemn and reverse attempts to criminalize and limit the existence and activities of organizations, movements and human rights defenders, especially actions that are developed through restrictive legislation and policies. A strong presence in Brazil is accompanied by solidarity actions with partners in countries that suffer similar threats in this field.



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In March, six Brazilian NGOs, including Conectas, <u>asked the UN Human Rights Council to question</u> Brazil on bills that seek to expand the definition of terrorism. An example is PL 3283/2021, approved in May by the Federal Senate and sent to the Chamber of Deputies. According to the entities, this expansion can be used to criminalize legitimate protest actions and peaceful demonstrations. A document was also <u>sent to parliamentarians</u>, stating that "the excessive scope of the expression 'civil disturbances' [in the project] contradicts international human rights standards and necessarily implies the relaxation of constitutional rights and guarantees".

In April, civil society organizations, including Conectas, released a document titled "<u>The regulation of digital platforms in Brazil: positioning of civil society organizations and academic entities</u>", which support the need to implement a new regulatory framework for digital platforms in Brazil. The creation of a new independent and autonomous regulatory body is part of the points presented by the entities. Furthermore, in June, SAD (Articulation Room against Disinformation), an initiative that brings together organizations such as Conectas, launched <u>a new consensus document regarding the Fake News PL</u> (PL 2630/2020). In the text, the group considers that responsibility for driven content, transparency and the establishment of a regulatory body must be preserved in the proposal to obtain more appropriate regulation of digital platforms in Brazil.

In recent years, the world has witnessed a significant increase in the number of far-right authoritarian and anti-rights movements. These groups promote nationalist, xenophobic and discriminatory measures, often using social media to spread their message and gain followers. This phenomenon constitutes a growing threat to human rights, democracy and global transnational solidarity.

In response to this challenge, we organized a two-day strategic meeting to bring together representatives of human rights organizations, foundations and academics from different regions. The objective of this event was to discuss the challenges posed by growing global anti-rights movements and farright groups, as well as the impacts on human rights, democracy and transnational solidarity actions. The event sought to bring people together to share experiences, analyze challenges and identify strategies to counter these negative trends.

The event was strictly by invitation and the target audience include people who are actively involved in promoting human rights, democracy and transnational solidarity and those who have the knowledge and experience to contribute to discussions and formulate strategies to combat the global rise of the authoritarian far right, anti-rights movements and groups.

Migration and asylum

In 2023, Conectas continued its efforts to protect the rights of migrants and asylum in Brazil. This was mainly through the protection of the already established Migration Law and barring government actions that violated the rights of these groups.



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In January, Brazil officially announced its reintegration into the <u>Global Compact for Migration</u>. The country had withdrawn from the agreement at the beginning of the Bolsonaro government, claiming that it represented a threat to national sovereignty. The decision was widely criticized by Conectas at the time.

In June, the conclusions of the unprecedented survey "<u>Opinions on Migrations</u>", carried out by Datafolha together with Conectas, were published. According to the survey, 61% of Brazilians think that the national government should have more policies and actions for migrants in vulnerable situations. Among other data, the majority of Brazilians believe that migrants are well received in Brazil, but the quality of reception depends above all on the color, race or ethnicity of the migrants.

In September, 38 organizations, including Conectas, signed a petition expressing their concern about a new government rule, Interministerial Ordinance MJSP/MRE No. 42, which limits the right to migrate and seek international protection. The new rule goes against important measures taken by the government on this issue, especially in relation to the difficult situation in Afghanistan.

Religious Mobilization and Rights Agenda

Conectas in 2023 works to defend the secular State, freedom and religious plurality and also carry out several activities within its Initiative for Religious Mobilization and Rights Agenda.

In January, the Ministry of Health revoked six ordinances signed by the Jair Bolsonaro government that, according to the ministry, contradicted SUS (Unified Health System) guidelines. Among the revoked ordinances is the one that provided (Ordinance No. 2,561) the need for the medical team to notify the police authority in the case of abortion due to rape. Furthermore, the Brazilian government has withdrawn from the Geneva Consensus Declaration on Women's Health and Family Strengthening", an ultra-conservative alliance, which defends a restrictive concept of family and is against the right to abortion, even in legal cases.

In September, before his retirement, Minister Rosa Weber included the action calling for the <u>decrimi-nalization of abortion in Brazil</u> on the virtual trial agenda. The action, filed in 2017 by the Socialism and Freedom Party (PSOL), with technical support from Anis – Institute of Bioethics, calls for abortion carried out at the will of the pregnant person to cease being a crime until the 12th week of pregnancy. Weber voted for decriminalization, and her vote remains valid even after retirement. The current president of the STF (Supreme Federal Court), Luís Roberto Barroso, stated, however, that <u>he has no plan</u> to resume the trial. During the 54th session of the UN Human Rights Council, five civil society organizations, Conectas inclusive, gave a <u>speech in favor of the approval of the ADPF</u>.



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However, Brazil <u>rejected recommendations</u> made by other UN member states in the 4th cycle of the Universal Periodic Review, in a session held at the UN Human Rights Council in March. The recommendations limited the definition of family and discrimination against LGBTQIA+. "Brazil's national public policies are aimed at all forms of families, with no discrimination", explained ambassador Tovar da Silva Nunes. Conectas is also among the participant of the 4th Cycle of the UPR and sent thematic reports on the situation of human rights in the country. The organization is also part of the RPU Collective, a coalition of civil society entities that monitors and influences this review mechanism.

In Defense of Racial Affirmative Action

Conectas is actively involved in the Defense of Racial Affirmative Actions.

After over 10 years that The Quota Law was made, a revision was done and received the sanction of President Lula. Conectas <u>listed some of the changes</u> that came into force with the review, such as the inclusion of Quilombola people in the policy through the reservation of vacancies. Furthermore, students who opt for quotas and are in a socially vulnerable situation will have priority to receive student aid. Another change foresees the expansion of affirmative action policies by federal universities for postgraduate studies. The review also establishes that reevaluation of the quota program of responsible ministries must be decennial.

Sur Journal

The objective of <u>SUR – International Journal of Human Rights</u> is to influence the global human rights agenda, producing, promoting and disseminating innovative research and ideas, mainly from the Global South, in the practice of human rights.

"Possible futures: Is there a new normal?" was the theme of the edition of Sur – International Journal of Human Rights, edited by Conectas and launched in February. The 32nd edition of the publication brought together reflections on the human rights movement in a scenario of global political, economic and health crisis. In April, Conectas <u>promoted a conversation</u> with authors from the Sur Journal, on the topics covered in the Sur Journal.

INTERNATIONAL INCIDENCE

Conectas' international work is based on monitoring Brazilian Foreign Policy, building international solidarity, activating international mechanisms and expressing the voice of the Global South in international forums.



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In October, eight months after the Brazilian government presented its candidacy to become a member of the UN Human Rights Council again, <u>the country was elected for a three-year term</u>. Conectas, which has a long tradition of monitoring the electoral process, participated in the hearing. Highlighting that unsafe abortions are one of the main causes of maternal mortality in Brazil and the main victims are black women and girls, the organization wanted to know how the Brazilian government intends to guarantee compliance with the recommendations of the UN Committee against torture, which suggests the removal of decriminalization of voluntary termination of pregnancy. The delegation responded that the State already has three possibilities for legal abortion, and the issue is of utmost importance for Brazil, admitting that black women are more affected by structural inequalities.

In June, Conectas promoted, at the UN headquarters in Geneva (Switzerland), <u>a parallel event</u> together with the entity; Terra de Direit, to dialogue with Clément Voule, United Nations special rapporteur on the rights to freedom of assembly and association. The organizations discussed the report that Voule prepared on Brazil, based on a visit carried out in 2022, the recommendations presented to the State and other points to be considered for the protection of civil society.

In April, Conectas became <u>an organization registered with the OAS</u> (Organization of American States) which enable them take the position of Brazilian civil society to meetings of the Permanent Council and the Inter-American Council for Integral Development, in addition to contributing to resolutions that influence regional human rights policies during the General Assembly of the body.

DEFENSE OF SOCIOENVIRONMENTAL RIGHTS

Financing for Development

Conectas carries out monitoring and promotes advocacy actions aimed at increasing the accountability of financial institutions development and promoting reforms in the institutional and regulatory framework that governs the activities of these intermediaries.

The groundbreaking lawsuit filed by Conectas against BNDESPar in June 2022 was a milestone in climate litigation. This initiative aimed to force the bank to publish a plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in line with the goals of the Paris Agreement and the National Climate Change Policy. Although judicial advances have not been significant in 2023, the extrajudicial negotiations and the international impact of the case have been notable. The action had global repercussions, being cited in <u>reports from</u> <u>the UN</u> and the London School of Economics and contributed to significant changes in BNDES policy, making it more transparent and responsible.

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Impacts of the Extractive Industry

Conectas understands the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights as an important instrument to protect human rights and promote corporate responsibility. We work to raise awareness about the principles and pressure the Brazilian government to implement them, presenting the country's situation in international forums.

In 2023, Conectas took proactive measures to guarantee the safety of indigenous populations, especially on high-risk trips. This included hiring specialized consultants and developing detailed safety protocols demonstrating a commitment to protecting these communities. These measures were taken during the trip with the Uru-Eu-Wau-Wau and Guarani Kaiowá, where previous experiences and preparations, including the careful choice of airports, demonstrated the effectiveness of the protocols implemented.

Unfortunately, despite these efforts, the organization faced tragedy in the <u>death of Timbek</u>, an indigenous leader, after a mission in Geneva. The cause of death is still under investigation. Upon receiving the news, Conectas has been working with partners such as Instituto Maíra and APIB to demand that the authorities conduct a thorough investigation and provide support and security measures for the Arara community. Conectas also used the protocol to deal with the situation, offering the necessary support to the indigenous population. In addition, Conectas suggests that the Brazil Fund promote exchanges on partner policies and security protocols. This collaboration can help optimize action strategies and ensure the safety of those involved in the various initiatives.

In August, the country was surprised by the brutal murder of the Yalorixá Bernadete Pacifico; leader of Quilombo Pitanga dos Palmares (BA) and the National Coordination of Quilombo Articulation (Co-naq). Together with Conaq, Conectas demanded immediate investigation from the authorities and account-ability of the people involved in the case. The death of the religious leaders points both to a constant violence against black women and quilombola leaders, and to religious racism, a reflection of structural racism and the still hegemony of Christianity in the country. The topic is discussed in an <u>e-book</u> launched by Criola, Conectas and Portal Catarinas, with the support of Synergia.

Combating Contemporary Slavery and Precarious Work

In the fight against contemporary slavery, Conectas works in partnerships with local workers' organizations to monitor Brazilian policies and works locally and internationally to stop setbacks.



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At the beginning of the year, <u>the rescue of 207 men in a situation similar to slavery</u>, in a winery in Rio Grande do Sul, shed more light on racism and the precariousness of work in Brazil. In March, during the 52nd session of the UN Human Rights Council, Conectas, Adere-MG (Articulation of Rural Employees of the State of Minas Gerais), Business Human Rights Resource Center and Oxfam Brasil <u>asked the international body to reject the production originating from analogous work to slavery in the country</u>, presenting data from the document <u>"Dismantlements and setbacks in the system to combat slave labor in Brazil</u>", prepared by the entities, in 2022 to back up their point.

Climate Justice

Conectas seeks to adapt political, economic and social processes to commitments on greenhouse gas emissions and the fight against climate racism.

In May, in a joint effort by these Organizations; Construindo Poder Popular, the Landless Rural Workers Movement, the Terramar Institute, Conectas and the Articulação Povos de Luta (ARPOLU), brings together coastal communities in Ceará, <u>condemned the violation of laws by part of the State</u>, in the first public hearing on the construction of offshore wind energy projects — which foresee plants built on the high seas, disrespecting the concept of a fair energy transition. During the hearing, leaders and civil society organizations denounced violations involving disrespect for environmental licensing procedures, lack of consultation and free, prior and informed consent and dynamics of environmental racism.

In August, the Amazon Summit took place in Belém, Pará, an event that preceded COP28. On the occasion, President Lula gave a preview of the tone adopted by Brazil and other forest dense countries in tropical zones climate negotiations. "We are going to COP28 with the aim of telling the rich world that if they want to effectively preserve the existing forest, they need to invest money not only to take care of the forest canopy, but to take care of the people who live below," the agent said.

COP28, in turn, took place in December, in the United Arab Emirates where Conectas and other Brazilian civil society organizations participated. Among the demands presented is the realization of <u>a</u> <u>fair energy transition</u>, which respects human and socio-environmental rights.

Conectas was also admitted as an observer organization to the <u>UNFCCC (Framework Convention on</u> <u>Climate Change)</u>. With this, international advocacy work on climate negotiations can continue, including the support for other organizations.



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11. Financial income

	2023	2022
Income from financial investments	5,759,277	4,348,740
Other financial income	-	1,221
Bank expenses	(1,948)	(6,507)
Other financial expenses	-	-
	5,757,329	4,343,454

12. Income tax immunity and exemption from social security and social contributions

Non-profit organizations are entities that do not present a surplus in their accounts or, if they do present a surplus in a given year, they allocate it fully to the maintenance and development of their social objectives, provided all other legal conditions are met.

Conectas meets the legal requirements and is therefore exempt from Income Tax (based on article 150 of the Brazilian Constitution), as well as the CSLL social contribution tax on any surplus and the COFINS social security tax on revenue in accordance with Provisional Measure (MP) No. 2,158-35, article 14, item X, which establishes, for taxable events as from 1 February 1999 that revenues referring to the activities of cultural institutions, as defined in article 15 of Law No. 9,532/97, are exempt from the COFINS tax. In accordance with the disclosures required by NBC ITG - 2002 - "Non-Profit Organizations", if the organization is not exempt, the rates in effect would be 9% (CSLL), 7.6% (COFINS), 1.65% (PIS on Billings) and 15% (Income Tax). Conectas is certified as a Public Interest Civil Society Organization (OSCIP), through an order by the National Justice Secretary published in the Official Federal Gazette on 7th November 2003.

13. Legal claims resulting from tax liabilities

Decree No. 8,451/2015, which came into force on 1st July 2015, levies PIS and COFINS taxes on financial revenues obtained by organizations subject to the PIS and COFINS non-cumulative system at the rates of 0.65% and 4%, respectively.

Law No 10,637/02, in article 8, and Law No. 10,833/03, in article 10, meanwhile, establish that tax-exempt organizations are subject to the PIS and COFINS cumulative system. (Under the non-cumulative system, PIS and COFINS taxes are levied at a higher rate but can be offset with tax credits. Under the cumulative system, a lower rate is charged, but there are no tax credits.)

Therefore, since they do not have any specific tax treatment, tax-exempt organizations like Conectas are subject to the non-cumulative system and should therefore have their financial revenues taxed according to Decree No. 8,426/2015, at the rates of 0.65% (PIS) and 4% (COFINS). Considering that, according to article 13 of Provisional Measure No. 2,158-35/01, tax-exempt organizations calculate PIS/PASEP only on payroll, Conectas only has to calculate the COFINS tax on its financial revenues.



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Conectas decided to legally challenge the tax, based on the advice of its lawyers, through a preventive injunction, claiming:

- The unconstitutionality of the tax;
- Tax exemption, supported by article 195, paragraph 7, of the Brazilian Constitution, and article 3 of Law No. 8,742/93 (Organic Social Services Law - LOAS).

Nevertheless, Conectas made a provision of R\$488,131 (in 2022 - R\$248,539), on the balance sheet under non-current liabilities - "Court Deposits", while it awaits the outcome of the legal challenge.

On June 6, 2019, the proceedings were stayed by the Vice-Presidency of the TRF-3 until the final judgment of Extraordinary Appeal 1.043.313/RS at the Supreme Federal Court (STF). This Extraordinary Appeal was ruled on by the full STF on December 10, 2020, during which the § 2 of Article 27 of Law No. 10.865/04 was found constitutional, which allows the Executive Branch to reduce and restore the PIS and COFINS tax rates on financial revenues earned by legal entities subject to the non-cumulative regime, acknowledging the development of an extra-fiscal role.

On October 13, 2021, the final judgment of RE 1.043.313/RS occurred, establishing the following thesis contrary to the one we raised in the Writ of Mandamus. The thesis became Theme 939 STF: "The flexibilization of tax legality contained in § 2 of art. 27 of Law No. 10.865/04 is constitutional, which allowed the Executive Branch, under specified conditions and setting ceilings, to reduce and restore the PIS and COFINS tax rates on financial revenues earned by legal entities subject to the non-cumulative regime, with the development of an extra-fiscal function being present."

Thus – with the understanding set by the Supreme Federal Court being contrary to the line of argument used in the Special Appeal and Extraordinary Appeal – on November 17, 2022, two decisions were issued by the Vice-Presidency of the TRF-3, which denied furtherance to both the Special Appeal and the Extraordinary Appeal.

We will maintain prudence and, as long as the Union does not issue the order to collect the tax, we will keep the entry as it is and deposited in court until March 2024, proceeding to collect it normally through DARF issued by the Federal Revenue starting from April 2024.

14. Other information

- (a) In the years ending on 31st of December 2022 and 2021, Conectas did not utilize derivative financial instruments;
- (b) Conectas does not maintain pension plans or any other retirement or benefit plans for the employees and officers after their termination or a bonus or profit sharing plan for officers and employees;



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- (c) Conectas has had D&O liability insurance since 26 February 2016, which covers payment of losses and damages owed to third parties as a result of alleged wrongful acts for which it is responsible, and for which it receives a claim or is notified during the term of the policy or, when contractually agreed, on an earlier date within the retroactive period of the policy, provided that the policyholder had informed the insurer during the term of the policy and that the third party had filed their claim during the term of the policy or during the complementary or supplementary period if this was purchased by the policyholder. The scope of the coverage is global, with the following additional coverage:
 - Coverage for legal, administrative or arbitration proceedings, including but not limited to civil, consumer, social security or criminal liability;
 - Costs of investigation conducted by a governmental body;
 - Claims related to tax liability;
 - Employment Practices Liability (EPL);
 - Errors and omissions in the provision of professional services and product failure;
 - Defense costs in the event of fines and penalties;
 - Prosecution costs;
 - Blocked or frozen assets;
 - Claims by an insured person;
 - Claims by the insured or outside organizations;
 - Costs incurred in extradition proceedings;
 - Claims for material and bodily damages;
 - Claims for moral damages;
 - Automatic coverage for new subsidiaries;
 - Coverage for existing proceedings against the company that are refiled, during the term of the policy, against the managers on account of the piercing of the corporate veil;
 - Defense costs for claims related to the granting of personal guarantees (sureties and trustees);
 - Emergency costs;
 - Protection of personal reputation (advertising expenses);
 - Coverage for disqualification;
 - Extraordinary events with regulators;
 - Crisis management.

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15. Subsequent events

We did not observe any subsequent event between the closing date and the issue of this document that was worth mentioning.

Camila Lissa Isano FB34A080A4BF404... Camila Lissa Asano Executive Director

DocuSigned by: Kelvin Nobre Oliveira 0967A62587D048B...

Kelvin Nobre Oliveira Accountant CRC: 1SP314009-O/0 - SP CPF: 379.715.758-40