Dividends Paid

The following table shows a summary of dividends paid per share of PLDT's common stock stated in both Philippine peso and U.S. dollars:

	In Philippine Peso	In U.S. Dollars
2019	72.00	1.38
Regular Dividend – April 23, 2019	36.00	0.69
Regular Dividend – September 10, 2019	36.00	0.69
2020	77.00	1.55
Regular Dividend – April 3, 2020	39.00	0.77
Regular Dividend – September 4, 2020	38.00	0.78
2021	82.00	1.66
Regular Dividend – April 6, 2021	40.00	0.82
Regular Dividend – September 3, 2021	42.00	0.84
2022	117.00	2.14
Regular Dividend – April 4, 2022	42.00	0.82
Regular Dividend – September 5, 2022	47.00	0.83
Special Dividend – September 5, 2022	28.00	0.49
2023	108.00	1.94
Regular Dividend – April 24, 2023	45.00	0.81
Regular Dividend – September 4, 2023	49.00	0.88
Special Dividend – April 24, 2023	14.00	0.25

Dividends on PLDT’s common stock were declared and paid in Philippine pesos. For the convenience of the reader, the Philippine peso dividends have been converted into U.S. dollars based on exchange rates quoted through the BAP for 2019 to 2023 dividend payments. See *Note 19 – Equity* to the accompanying audited consolidated financial statements in Item 18. “Financial Statements” for further information on our dividend payments.

Capitalization and Indebtedness

Not applicable.

Reasons for the Offer and Use of Proceeds

Not applicable.

RISK FACTORS

You should carefully consider all of the information in this annual report, including the risks and uncertainties described below. If any of the following risks actually occurs, it could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations and the trading price of our ADSs could decline and you could lose all or part of your investment.

Risks Relating to Us

Increased competition in the telecommunications sector may diminish our market share and profitability, while changes in the competitive and regulatory landscape could further exacerbate adverse effects on our business.

Increasing competition among telecommunications services providers, including from new operators, could significantly impact our business and prospects by, among other factors, necessitating tariff reduction, hindering growth of customer base and reducing service usage of our services. Competition is intense in both mobile and fixed-line services,with factors such as network coverage, service quality, product offerings, and price as considerations for subscriber preference, potentially requiring increased capital expenditures for capacity and coverage expansion.

The mobile telecommunications industry has experienced intense price competition as operators have attempted to expand market share, especially in light of a maturing voice and SMS market. Competition has now pivoted to data services, prioritizing customer experience over pricing, while, our competitors, Globe, and Converge ICT Solutions, Inc. (Converge), a pure fixed line broadband provider, are heavily investing in the fiber home broadband space. The third major mobile player, DITO Telecommunity Corporation (DITO) is aggressively expanding its footprint.

Developments in law, regulations and/or Government initiatives may increase competition and cause us to lose customers. In 2022, the amendment to the Public Service Act was approved which effectively removed the 40% foreign ownership restriction on telecommunication companies which will result in increased competition. Prior to this, as part of its push to encourage competition within the telecommunications industry, the Philippine Government introduced various measures to facilitate and enable the operations of new players, including a tower sharing policy, MNP, and removal of mobile interconnect charges. We cannot guarantee you that in the future, there will not be similar changes in law, regulations or Government initiatives that may adversely affect our competitiveness.

Our ability to compete depends on factors like network coverage, service quality, pricing, product innovation, sales channels, and financial resources. To uphold our competitive stance, our success hinges on our ability to anticipate and respond to industry shifts, including technological advancements, evolving consumer preferences, and economic trends. Failure to meet these challenges could adversely impact our business. In addressing the intense competition, we may need to adjust our pricing strategies and allocate resources to network upgrades, which could lead to lower revenues and higher costs. Moreover, the potential entry of new competitors and customer churn may require increasing marketing and capital expenditures, thereby impacting our overall profitability. We cannot assure you that the number of providers of telecommunications services will not increase in the future or that competition for customers will not result in the loss of customers, including due to our mobile and fixed line subscribers switching to other operators. Any of the foregoing events would result in a reduction in our profitability.

The rapid advancement of disruptive innovations by new and emerging technologies may outpace our ability to compete and/or manage the risk appropriately, resulting in a possible decline in demand for our services, significant changes to our business model and a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations, financial condition and prospects.

The growing use of mobile data in the Philippines, coupled with the prevalence of over-the-top (OTT) services and video conferencing applications, have negatively impacted our traditional revenue sources such as SMS and domestic calling services in recent years. We are also facing growing competition from providers offering services using alternative wireless technologies and IP-based networks, including efforts by the Philippine Government to roll-out its free WiFi services to selected areas within various municipalities in the country. Moreover, net settlement payments between PLDT and other foreign telecommunications carriers for origination and termination of international call traffic between the Philippines and other countries, which have been our predominant source of foreign currency revenues, have been declining in recent years and have diminishing contribution to our total service revenues.

While the trend of increasing mobile data usage has resulted in, and is expected to continue to have, a positive impact on our data revenues, there is no guarantee that such increase will fully compensate for the decline in revenue from our traditional businesses. We may not be able to maintain and attract customers more effectively than our competitors. We will also need to invest in additional capacity, new infrastructure, systems and personnel to provide high quality services that accommodate increasing mobile data usage. As a result, our capital costs could increase as we phase out outdated and unprofitable technologies and invest in new ones.

We may not be able to accurately predict further technological trends or successfully adopt or implement new technologies in our business. Some of our competitors may be more successful than us in the development and implementation of new technologies, including services and platforms based on artificial intelligence, to address customer demand or improve operations. If we are unable to adequately advance our capabilities in these areas, or do so at a slower pace than others in our industry, we may be at a competitive disadvantage. In addition, there could be legal or regulatory restraints on our introduction of new services. If our services fail to gain acceptance in the marketplace, or if costs associated with implementation and completion of the introduction of these services materially increase, our ability to retain and attract customers could be adversely affected.

Developments in Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies, and its governing legal and regulatory frameworks, are rapidly evolving, and could significantly disrupt the telecommunications industry and subject us to increased competition, legal and regulatory risks and compliance costs, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations. The full extent of risks related thereto is difficult to predict. We are in the process of adopting AI technology to our platform, such as deploying a smart voice AI solution to handle payment collections. Data in models that AI technologies utilize may contain a degree of inaccuracy and error, which could reduce the effectiveness of the technology and adversely impact us and our operations to the extent we rely on such technologies. Further, we may not have full control over how third party AI technologies that we choose to use are developed or maintained, or how data we input is used or disclosed, even where we have sought contractual protections with respect to these matters. The misuse or misappropriation of our data could adversely impact our reputation and subject us to legal and regulatory investigations and/or actions. Regulations relating to AI technologies may also impose on us certain obligations and costs related to monitoring and compliance. There is uncertainty around the regulation of AI technologies as the Philippines government is in the process of defining its own laws and policies amidst the creation of new AI-related laws in other jurisdictions. The Department of Trade and Industry has developed the National AI Strategy for the Philippines. A bill has been filed in Congress (HB No. 7396) proposing the creation of an Artificial Intelligence Development Authority and is pending with the Committee on Information and Communications Technology.

The success of our business depends on our ability to maintain and enhance our brands.

We believe that our reputation and brands in the industry are crucial to the success of our business. To maintain and enhance our reputation and brands, we must continue providing relevant products and services, combined with the best customer experience, such that we not only maintain our current customer base but also attract new subscribers as well. If we are unsuccessful in maintaining and improving our brands, our business, financial position and results of operations may be negatively affected.

Our reliance on arrangements with technology vendors, other partnerships and/or joint ventures, and any disruptions to such arrangements may result in disruption to our business operations and adversely affect our supply of equipment and results of operations, financial condition, reputation and business prospects.

As part of our extensive capital expenditures program to overhaul our fixed and wireless networks infrastructure and our IT systems, we have entered into agreements with certain vendors, to upgrade and modernize a significant portion of our IT infrastructure. We cannot guarantee that we will be able to accomplish this transformation in a timely fashion, or at all, or in the manner intended. Furthermore, we cannot guarantee that such transformation will not result in service disruptions, network outages or encounter other issues that may detrimentally affect consumer experience. This may adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Due to our reliance on third party vendors, our business operations may be negatively impacted by global geopolitical and public health developments (such as COVID-19), which could cause supply chain disruptions and result in delays in the building of our networks, and consequently the delivery of our services. Any adverse changes in import policies, including increases in import duties and tariffs, or any embargo on imports from countries from which our vendors supply or from countries which supply our vendors, may also adversely impact our business, prospects, results of operations and cash flows. In particular, trade tensions between the United States and major trading partners continue to escalate following the introduction of a series of tariff measures by the United States and/or its trading partners. Economic and trade sanctions have been threatened and/or imposed by the U.S. government on a number of People’s Republic of China (PRC)-based technology companies, including Huawei Technologies Co., Ltd. (Huawei), which is one of our major vendors for telecommunications equipment and software licenses, and with whom we have partnered with to develop and offer outcome-based cloud solutions. The United States has also in certain circumstances imposed and threatened to impose further sanctions, trade embargoes and other heightened regulatory requirements on the PRC and PRC-based technology companies. The United States government has brought enforcement actions against Huawei and companies who engaged in unauthorized transactions with Huawei. While our partnership with Huawei is not currently subject to such sanctions or trade embargoes, there is no assurance that the United States or other jurisdictions will not impose similar or more expansive restrictions that may materially and adversely affect or restrict our relationships or collaborations with our vendors, including Huawei and its designated entities, thereby adversely affecting our reputation, competitiveness and business operations.

Some of our third party vendors may encounter financial difficulties or consolidate with other vendors. This may result in a shrinking of the already limited pool of qualified vendors which may in turn, materially impact the third party vendors’ ability to fulfill their obligations and thereby impact our operations. The limited number of available vendors may also result in our dependence on a single vendor to provide critical services.

Our ability to generate revenues could be disrupted if our suppliers are no longer able or willing to supply us. In the event that any of our suppliers cannot or will not provide us with the required products, we may be forced to find alternative suppliers. There is no guarantee that we will be able to obtain our products or products of a similar quality from alternate suppliers, in part or at all. Failure to find alternative suppliers will disrupt our operations and hinder our ability to generate revenues.

The mobile telecommunications industry in the Philippines may not continue to grow.

The majority of our total revenues are currently derived from the provision of mobile services to customers in the Philippines. As a result, we depend on the continued development and growth of the mobile telecommunications industry in the Philippines. We believe the mobile penetration rate in the country, however, reached approximately 114% as at December 31, 2023, based on the number of SIM cards issued, and the industry may well be considered mature insofar as services such as SMS and domestic voice are concerned.

Data has emerged as the key driver for revenues. While data traffic on our network has increased, further growth of the market depends on many factors beyond our control, including the continued introduction of new and enhanced mobile devices, the price levels of mobile handsets, consumer tastes and preferences, alternative means of access, and the amount of disposable income of existing and potential subscribers. Any economic, technological or other developments resulting in a reduction in demand for mobile services or otherwise causing the Philippine mobile telecommunications industry to stop growing or slow down its growth, could materially harm our business, results of operations, financial condition and prospects.

The franchises, licenses and regulatory approvals, upon which PLDT relies, may be subject to revocation or delay, which could result in the suspension of our services or abandonment of any planned expansions and could thereby have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations, financial condition and prospects.

Amendment to the Public Service Act

In February 2022, the Philippine Congress approved the proposed amendments to the Public Service Act, which no longer considers telecommunication companies as “public utilities” but as “public service with critical infrastructure”. Under the amendments, telecommunication companies are no longer subject to the 40% foreign ownership restriction under the Constitution, subject to certain reciprocity rules and with provisions limiting/disallowing state-owned enterprises to invest in telecommunication companies. While the amendment increases our access to foreign capital, it may also allow foreign nationals to make significant investments in other telecommunications companies/operators that can compete with us. Republic Act No. 11659 or "An Act Amending Commonwealth Act No. 146, otherwise known as the Public Service Act, as amended" (Amendment to the Public Service Act), was signed into law by the President on March 21, 2022. The Amendment to the Public Service Act was published in the Official Gazette on March 28, 2022 and took effect on April 12, 2022. On March 20, 2023, the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) released its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR). The IRR took effect on April 4, 2023.

While we believe that PLDT is still in compliance with the requirements of the Constitution as at the date of this report, we cannot assure you that any subsequent changes in the law will not result in a different conclusion.

Failure to renew franchise and CPCNs

We operate our businesses under separate franchises, each of which has a fixed term and is subject to amendment, termination or repeal by the Philippine Congress.

We also hold various provisional authorities and CPCNs, which have been granted by the NTC and will expire between now and 2028. Some of our CPCNs and provisional authorities have already expired, but applications for the renewal of these CPCNs and provisional authorities were filed prior to their expiry. Under Executive Order No. 292, otherwise known as the Philippine Revised Administrative Code of 1987 (Administrative Code), and Republic Act No. 11032, otherwise known as the Ease of Doing Business and Efficient Government Service Delivery Act of 2018 (Ease of Doing Business Act), CPCNs and provisional authorities for which renewal applications have been filed prior to expiry are deemed effective until the applications for renewal are finally decided upon by the regulator. Although we have filed applications for the extension of these CPCNs and provisional authorities, we cannot assure you that the NTC will grant the applications for renewal.

Failure to renew CPCNs can materially and adversely affect our ability to conduct the essential functions of our business, and therefore adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations. See Item 4. "Information on the Company – Franchises, Licenses and Regulations" for more information.

Failure to comply with public ownership requirements under Republic Act No. 7925 or the Public Telecommunications Policy Act of the Philippines

In order to diversify the ownership base of public utilities, Republic Act No. 7925, otherwise known as the "Public Telecommunications Policy of the Philippines" (R.A. 7925), requires a telecommunications entity with regulated types of services to make a *bona fide* public offering through the stock exchange of its shares representing at least 30% of its aggregate common shares within five years from: (a) the date the law became effective; or (b) the entity's commencement of commercial operations, whichever date is later.

Republic Act No. 10926 provides an exemption from the public listing requirement if the grantee is wholly-owned by a company that has publicly listed at least 30% of its authorized capital stock.

PLDT and PCEV are publicly listed companies and therefore in compliance with this requirement. Meanwhile, Smart, as a wholly-owned subsidiary of PLDT, a publicly listed company, is not required to offer any of its shares to the public.

Meanwhile, DMPI takes the position that it has satisfied the public offering requirement under R.A. 7925 and Republic Act No. 9180 (R.A. 9180), or the legislative franchise of DMPI (DMPI's Franchise), by virtue of the fact that PLDT, a publicly listed company, holds a 99.6% equity interest in DMPI's parent company, Digitel Telecommunications Philippines, Inc. (DTPI), which in turn, holds a 100% equity interest in DMPI. However, there can be no assurance that the Philippine Congress will agree with this position. If DMPI is found to be in violation of the public offering requirement under R.A. 7925 and R.A.9180, DMPI's Franchise could be revoked by Congress, or a *quo warranto* case may be filed against it by the Office of the Solicitor General of the Philippines.

We cannot assure you that there will be no adverse changes in applicable public ownership requirements or interpretations or that none of our franchises, permits or licenses will be revoked in the future nor that any such changes or revocations would not have a material adverse effect on our business, financial conditions or prospects.

Our business is subject to extensive laws and regulations, including regulations in respect of our service rates, taxes and antitrust laws.

Our business is subject to extensive laws and regulations, including regulations in respect of our service rates, taxes and antitrust laws. Any adverse changes in applicable laws and regulations can have an adverse impact on our business, results of operations, financial condition and prospects.

The NTC regulates the rates we are permitted to charge for services that have not been deregulated, such as local exchange services, and is responsible for granting a long-term license called a CPCN. PLDT has obtained CPCNs for its international gateway facility, local exchange carrier, and interexchange carrier services. While CPCNs are typically co-terminus with the term of a public utility's franchise, the NTC may amend certain terms of a CPCN, or revoke a CPCN for cause, subject to due process procedures. The exercise of regulatory power by regulators, including monetary regulators, may be subject to review by the courts upon the filing of appropriate actions by the affected parties.

We cannot assure you that the NTC will not impose additional obligations on us that could lead to the revocation of our licenses if not adhered to and/or to the reduction of our total revenues or profitability. The NTC could amend applicable regulations or implement additional guidelines governing our interconnection with other telecommunications companies or the rates and terms upon which we provide services to our customers. In addition, any future expansions in our services, particularly in our mobile services, could subject us to additional conditions in the granting of our provisional authorities by the NTC and to increased regulatory scrutiny, which could have a material adverse effect on our growth and prospects. The occurrence of any of the foregoing could impose substantial costs on us, cause interruptions or considerable delays in the provision, development or expansion of our services, or materially reduce our revenues and profitability. There is no assurance that the regulatory environment will support increases in our business and financial activity.

We are subject to a number of national and local taxes, and regulatory fees imposed by LGUs through their respective ordinances. We cannot assure you that we will not be subject to new, increased and/or additional taxes or that we would be able to pass on such additional expenses to our customers. See *Note 26 – Provisions and Contingencies* to the accompanying audited consolidated financial statements in Item 18. "Financial Statements" for further discussion.

Moreover, we are subject to antitrust laws and regulations. Republic Act No. 10667, otherwise known as the Philippine Competition Act (Philippine Competition Act), came into effect on August 8, 2015, and prohibits practices that restrict market competition through anti-competitive agreements or the abuse of dominant position. The Philippine Competition Act also requires parties to provide notification and obtain clearance for certain mergers and acquisitions. Violators may be subject to administrative and criminal penalties. While our business practices have not in the past been found to have violated any antitrust laws and regulations, we cannot assure you that any new or existing governmental regulators will not, in the future, take the position that our current or past business practices have an anti-competitive effect on the Philippine telecommunications industry.

Smart received a *subpoena duces tecum* dated December 7, 2022, from the PCC Competition Enforcement Office in relation to an ongoing full administrative investigation involving the telecommunications industry. In compliance with the subpoena, Smart submitted its corporate documents, documents and information pertaining to its operations as a PTE and its relationship with other PTCs, and documents and information on ISR to the PCC. As of the date of this report, Smart has not received any other notices from the PCC with regard to this investigation. See *Note 26 – Provisions and Contingencies* to the accompanying audited consolidated financial statements in Item 18. "Financial Statements" for further discussion.

In 2022, the amendment to the Public Service Act was approved, effectively removing the 40% foreign ownership restriction on telecommunication companies and thereby increasing competition, including from foreign investors and telecommunications companies.

In 2023, Congress passed House Bill 9021, otherwise known as the Refund for Internet and Telecommunications Services Outages and Disruptions Act which requires public telecommunications entities (PTEs), including internet service providers (ISPs), to issue a refund or adjust a customer's bill if they experience a cumulative internet service outage or interruption lasting twenty-four (24) hours or more within a month. However, the bill provides exemptions in the case of scheduled maintenances (with a 48-hour advance notice and not exceeding 48 hours per month), fortuitous events, or acts of third parties or subscribers. The implementation of House Bill 9021 would require PLDT Group to rigorously monitor service quality on a per-customer basis. This may necessitate substantial adjustments to the operations, processes, and network infrastructure of the PLDT Group, which could require us to incur significant costs. We may not be able to effectively implement such adjustments within the transition period provided by the relevant government agencies, or may incur additional costs in ensuring compliance within the set timeframe.

Regulators have been increasingly focused on online and mobile payment services, and regulatory and other developments could reduce the convenience or utility of our payment services for users. Governmental regulation of certain aspects of mobile payment systems under which PLDT operates could result in obligations or restrictions with respect to the types of products that we may offer to consumers, the payment card systems that link to our mobile payments systems, the jurisdictions in which our payment services or apps may be used, and higher costs, such as fees charged by banks to process funds through our mobile payments systems. Such obligations and restrictions could be further increased as more jurisdictions regulate payment systems. Moreover, if this regulation is used to provide resources or preferential treatment or protection to selected payments and processing providers, we could be displaced, prevented or substantially restricted from participating in particular geographies.

Changes in regulations or user concerns regarding the privacy and protection of user data, or any failure to comply with such laws, could adversely affect our business.

Legislations such as Republic Act No. 10173, otherwise known as the Data Privacy Act of 2012 (the "Data Privacy Act"), and its IRR regulate data privacy matters and impose penalties for any violations of the Data Privacy Act. The rules apply to the processing of personal data in the public and private sectors, as well as within or outside the Philippines. Pursuant to Republic Act No. 11934, otherwise known as the SIM Registration Act (the "SIM Registration Act"), we are required to maintain a SIM register of all of our end users, exposing us to heightened risks of data breaches and cybersecurity attacks. Any failure, or perceived failure, by us to comply with any privacy, data-retention or data-protection-related laws, regulations, orders or industry self-regulatory principles, including the Data Privacy Act, could result in proceedings or actions against us by governmental entities or affected parties, loss of user confidence, damage to the PLDT brands, or the loss of users or advertising partners, any of which could potentially have a material adverse effect on our business. Amendments to the Data Privacy Act have been filed with the Philippine Congress and is focused on a review of the penalties for criminal offenses, as well as the authority of the NPC to levy fines for administrative offenses. Any adverse amendments to the Data Privacy Act could increase our compliance costs and there is no assurance that we will be able to comply with any additional requirements imposed on us.

In addition, various foreign legislative or regulatory bodies continue to enact new or additional laws and regulations concerning privacy, data retention and data protection issues, including laws or regulations mandating disclosure to domestic or international law enforcement bodies, which could adversely impact our results of operations, businesses, brand or reputation with users.

Transfers of personal data across jurisdictions may subject us to regulation by foreign authorities, which may require us to incur additional costs in complying with such regulations. The interpretation and application of privacy, data protection and data retention laws and regulations in each jurisdiction may be subject to change and such laws and regulations may be interpreted and applied inconsistently from country to country and inconsistently with our current policies and practices, complicating long-term business planning decisions. If privacy, data protection or data retention laws are interpreted and applied in a manner that is inconsistent with our current policies and practices, we may be fined or ordered to change our business practices in a manner that adversely impacts our operating results. Complying with these varying international requirements could cause us to incur substantial costs or require us to change our business practices or operating platforms in a manner adverse to our business. While the PLDT Group periodically conducts compliance audits and regularly holds privacy and information security training and awareness campaigns, it cannot guarantee that personal data breaches resulting from failure of our personnel to comply with PLDT policies will not occur. Such breaches could result in litigation and/or regulatory actions and penalties against us, and adversely impact on our business operations and financial conditions.

Limitations in the amount of frequency spectrum or facilities made available to us could negatively affect our ability to maintain and improve our service quality and level of customer satisfaction, increase our costs and reduce our competitiveness.

The available radio frequency spectrum is one of the principal limitations on a wireless network's capacity, and there are limitations in the spectrum and facilities available to us to provide our services. The NTC grants provisional authority to mobile network operators (MNO), which specify the period, service area and essential frequencies for delivering the telecommunications service assigned to the MNO, and charges spectrum users' fees for use of the allocated spectrum Our future wireless growth will increasingly depend on our ability to offer relevant content and data services and a wireless network that has sufficient spectrum and capacity to support such services. Improvements in our service depend on many factors, including continued access to and deployment of adequate spectrum.

Our competitiveness may decline if we cannot obtain the necessary or optimal allocation of spectrum from the Philippine Government. If the Philippine Government does not fairly allocate spectrums to wireless providers in general, revokes the spectrum previously granted to us, or if we fail to acquire the necessary amount of spectrum or deploy the services that customers desire on a timely basis without burdensome conditions or at adequate cost while maintaining network quality levels, then our ability to attract and retain customers, and therefore maintain and improve our operating margins, could be materially and adversely affected.

We may not be successful in our acquisitions of, and investments in, other companies and businesses, and may therefore be unable to fully implement our business strategy.

As growth slows or reverses in our traditional fixed line and mobile businesses, and as part of our strategy to grow other business segments, we may make acquisitions and investments in companies or businesses to enter new businesses or defend our existing markets. The success of our acquisitions and investments depends on a number of factors, such as:

- our ability to identify suitable opportunities for investment or acquisition;
- our ability to reach an acquisition or investment agreement on terms that are satisfactory to us or at all;
- the extent to which we are able to influence or exercise control over the acquired or investee company;

- the compatibility of the economic, business or other strategic objectives and goals of the acquired or investee company with those of the PLDT Group, as well as the ability to execute the identified strategies in order to generate fair returns on the investment; and
- our ability to successfully integrate the acquired company or business with our existing businesses.

Any of our contemplated acquisitions and investments may not be consummated due to reasons or factors beyond our control. Even if any contemplated acquisitions and investments are consummated, we may not be able to realize any or all of the anticipated benefits of such acquisitions and investments and we cannot assure you that the consummation of such acquisitions and investments will not result in losses for a prolonged period of time. Moreover, if we are unsuccessful in our contemplated acquisitions and investments, we may not be able to fully implement our business strategy to maintain or grow certain of our businesses and our results of operations and financial position could be materially and adversely affected.

We are exposed to the fluctuations in the market values of our investments.

Given the nature of our business and our foray into the digital business, we have made investments in various start-up companies. For example, we hold an investment in MIH, an important player in the financial technology space and an integral part of our digital payments ecosystem. In accordance with IAS 28, *Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures*, we account for our investment in MIH using the equity method, whereby we recognize our proportionate share of MIH's losses, which amounted to Php2,277 million and Php3,032 million for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively. Credit ratings and the value of this investment and similar investments can be negatively impacted by liquidity, credit deterioration or losses, financial results, foreign exchange rates, or other factors. As a result, our investments could decline and result in a material impairment, which could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and operating results.

If we are unable to install and maintain telecommunications facilities and equipment in a timely manner, we may not be able to maintain our current market share and the quality of our services, which could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and financial condition.

Our business requires the regular installation of new telecommunications facilities and equipment, and the regular maintenance of such facilities and equipment, which are continually being undertaken. The installation and maintenance of these facilities and equipment are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties, such as:

- shortages of equipment, materials and labor;
- delays in the issuance of national and local government building permits;
- theft of telecommunication cables and equipment;
- work stoppages and labor disputes;
- interruptions resulting from man-made events (e.g., sabotage), outbreak of epidemics, pandemics or other public health crises, inclement weather and other natural disasters;
- rapid technological obsolescence;
- inability of vendors and/or suppliers to deliver on commitments;
- unforeseen engineering, environmental/climate-related and geological problems; and
- unanticipated cost increases.

Any of these factors could give rise to delays or cost overruns in the installation of new facilities or equipment or prevent us from deploying our networks and properly maintaining the equipment used in our networks, and hence affect our ability to maintain existing services and roll-out new services, for example, which could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and financial condition.

Our business relies on secure network infrastructure and computer systems, and any successful cyber attacks against them, or the perception of such attacks, may materially adversely affect our operations, financial condition, results of operations and reputation.

We need to constantly upgrade our cybersecurity capabilities to support our business needs. We depend on information and digital services to run our business and deliver value. Our Company faces the following challenges in an era of connectivity, digital identity, decentralized decisions, information monetization, transparency, and variable trust:

- An increase in the variety of products and services that we provide to our customers (e.g. customer premise equipment, systems, devices, IoT, data and their dynamic relationships) exposes relevance issues, as well as scalability issues in our existing security control solutions;

- Our existing deterrence measures against cybersecurity breaches may become less effective. For instance, defensible gates and impermeable walls that are designed to secure our service and information infrastructure may have become less effective. While such tools and measures make it difficult to breach our system, these tools may not stop breaches altogether;
- The infrastructure underpinning the digitalization of consumer and enterprise services has become more complex;
- The consequences of a cybersecurity breach could be severe. Breaches resulting in leakage of our Company's and/or our customers' confidential commercial and/or personal information may result in irreparable damage to our reputation and brand. Moreover, leakage of sensitive personal customer information could, in some cases, result in a threat to personal safety, as well as legal and/or regulatory liability;
- Perpetrators are adopting more sophisticated technologies in their attempts to breach our defensive security measures; and
- While encrypted internet traffic protects private information, it inadvertently hampers cyber protection efforts. Perpetrators could abuse encrypted communication tools and use them in their efforts to breach into our systems, with less risk of such efforts being discovered by cyber security measures.

Our Cyber Security Operations Group (CSOG) is responsible for managing cyber threats and attacks. While the Company has been able to contain the effects of past cybersecurity attacks on its network and system performance, and such cybersecurity attacks did not have any material financial, legal, reputational or regulatory repercussions for the Company, there is no assurance that we will be able to successfully safeguard our systems against all cyber attacks, particularly as cyber attacks have become more sophisticated and prevalent. Any successful attack on our infrastructure could result in legal and/or regulatory liabilities, disruptions to our business operations, damage to our reputation, and financial losses. See Item 16K. "Cyber Security" for a detailed discussion of our cybersecurity measures.

Climate change could increase the impact of natural disasters and environmental legislation and regulations on our operations.

Climate change poses a number of potential risks for telecommunications operators like us, from both a physical and regulatory perspective. The ongoing global climate change may exacerbate the severity and frequency of natural disasters. The rising intensity and frequency of storms, heatwaves and earthquakes could increase the likelihood of damages to our infrastructure and failures of our wired and wireless networks caused by such natural disasters. Should severe natural disasters occur in quick succession, we may not have sufficient resources to repair and restore our infrastructure in a timely and cost-effective manner. Furthermore, climate change and severe weather conditions could also affect and disrupt our supply chain, resulting in delays in the delivery of our supplies. The increase in the likelihood of damages to our infrastructure and disruptions in our supply chain as a result of natural disasters could have a material adverse impact on our operations.

Climate change and the consequent impact to communities resulting from more severe and frequent natural disasters may affect the ability of our customers to afford our services.

In light of heightened awareness on climate change globally, the Philippine Government could introduce new and more stringent environmental legislation and regulations. If such legislation or regulations are enacted, we could incur increased energy, environmental and other costs and capital expenditures to comply. We cannot guarantee that we will at all times be in compliance with any new environmental legislation and regulations. The failure to comply with new environmental legislation and regulations could have a material adverse impact on our operations and financial conditions.

Our businesses require substantial capital investment, which we may not be able to finance.

Our projects under development and the continued maintenance and improvement of our networks and services, including Smart's projects, networks, platforms and services, require substantial ongoing capital investment. Our consolidated capital expenditures, net of additions subject to sale and leaseback from tower companies, totaled Php85,083 million, Php96,810 million and Php88,983 million for the years ended December 31, 2023, 2022 and 2021, respectively. In 2024, we will prioritize projects that support the growing demand from our customers, enhance our ability to deliver superior customer experience, and enable our corporate customers to grow their businesses.

Adverse changes in global financial markets could limit our ability to access capital or increase the cost of capital needed to fund our business operations. We have obtained and may seek external financing for a portion of our future capital expenditures. There can be no assurance that financing for new projects will be available on terms acceptable to us, or at all. If we cannot complete our development programs or other capital projects on time due to our failure to obtain the required financing, our growth, results of operations, financial condition and prospects could be materially and adversely affected. Furthermore, if we are unable to monetize our investments and generate the expected revenues, our cash flows and gearing may be negatively impacted.

If we face difficulties in funding our capital expenditures or if our capital expenditure commitments exceed our budget, we may opt to postpone our projects which may limit our ability to serve our customers or engage in negotiations with our vendors. Any cancellations or amendments of agreements with vendors may cause us to incur penalties and adversely affect our business, reputation and share prices. See Item 5. “Operating and Financial Review and Prospects".

Our results of operations and our financial position could be materially and adversely affected if the Philippine peso significantly fluctuates against the U.S. dollar.

A substantial portion of our capital expenditures, a portion of our indebtedness and related interest expense and a portion of our operating expenses are denominated in U.S. dollars and other foreign currencies, whereas most of our revenues are denominated in Philippine pesos, with 8% of revenues denominated in U. S. dollars. Of our total consolidated debts, approximately 16% was denominated in U.S. dollars as at December 31, 2023.

A depreciation of the Philippine peso against the U.S. dollar would increase the amount of our U.S. dollar-denominated debt obligations, capital expenditures, and operating and interest expenses in Philippine peso terms. In the event that the Philippine peso depreciates against the U.S. dollar, we may be unable to generate enough funds through operations and other means to offset the resulting increase in our obligations in Philippine peso terms. Moreover, a depreciation of the Philippine peso against the U.S. dollar may result in our recognition of significant foreign exchange losses, which could materially and adversely affect our results of operations. A depreciation of the Philippine peso could also cause us not to be in compliance with the financial covenants imposed on us by our lenders under certain loan agreements and other indebtedness. Further, fluctuations in the Philippine peso value and of interest rates impact the mark-to-market gains/losses of certain of our financial debt instruments, which were designated as non-hedged items. While we have entered into hedging arrangements to hedge our exposure to foreign exchange fluctuations, such arrangements may not adequately protect us against a peso depreciation.

The Philippine peso may be subject to fluctuations due to a range of factors, including:

- political and economic developments affecting the Philippines, including the level of remittances from overseas Filipino workers;
- global economic and financial trends;
- the volatility of emerging market currencies;
- any interest rate increases by the Federal Reserve Bank of the United States and/or the BSP; and
- higher demand for U.S. dollars by both banks and domestic businesses to service their maturing U.S. dollar obligations or foreign exchange traders including banks covering their short U.S. dollar positions, among others.

Our debt instruments contain restrictive covenants which require us to maintain certain financial tests and our indebtedness could impair our ability to fulfill our financial obligations and service our other debt.

Our existing debt instruments contain covenants which, among other things, require PLDT to maintain certain financial ratios and other financial tests, calculated on the basis of IFRS at relevant measurement dates, principally at the end of each quarter period. In addition, PLDT’s bonds contain covenants that limit our ability to take certain actions.

Our indebtedness and the requirements and limitations imposed by our debt covenants could have important consequences. For example, we may be required to dedicate a substantial portion of our cash flow to payments on our indebtedness, which could reduce the availability of our cash flow to fund working capital, capital expenditures and other general corporate requirements.

The principal factors that could negatively affect our ability to comply with these financial ratio covenants and other financial tests are the poor operating performance of PLDT and its subsidiaries, the depreciation of the Philippine peso relative to the U.S. dollar, the impairment or similar charges in respect of investments or other long-lived assets that may be recognized by PLDT and its subsidiaries, and increases in our interest expense. Interest expense may increase as a result of various factors including the issuance of new debt, the refinancing of lower cost indebtedness by higher cost indebtedness, the depreciation of the Philippine peso relative to the U.S. dollar, the lowering of PLDT’s credit ratings or the credit ratings of the Philippines, the increase in reference interest rates, and general market conditions.

If we are unable to meet our debt service obligations or comply with our debt covenants, we may need to restructure or refinance our indebtedness, seek additional equity capital or sell assets. An inability to implement these measures successfully could result in a declaration of default and an acceleration of maturities of some or all of our indebtedness, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

Our subsidiaries could be limited in their ability to pay dividends to us due to internal cash requirements and their creditors having superior claims over their assets and cash flows, which could materially and adversely affect our financial condition.

A significant part of our total revenues and cash flows from operating activities are derived from our subsidiaries, particularly Smart. Smart has significant internal cash requirements for debt service, capital expenditures and operating expenses and as a result, may be financially unable to pay any dividends to PLDT. Although Smart has been making dividend payments to PLDT regularly since December 2002, there can be no assurance that PLDT will continue to receive these dividends or other distributions, or otherwise be able to derive liquidity from Smart or any other subsidiary or investee in the future.

Creditors of our subsidiaries generally have priority claims over our subsidiaries' assets and cash flows. We and our creditors will effectively be subordinated to the existing and future indebtedness and other liabilities, including trade payables, of our subsidiaries, except that we may be recognized as a creditor with respect to loans we have made to subsidiaries. If we are recognized as a creditor of a subsidiary, our claim will still be subordinated to any indebtedness secured by assets of the subsidiary and any indebtedness of the subsidiary otherwise deemed superior to the indebtedness we hold.

We may have difficulty meeting our debt payment obligations if we do not continue to receive cash dividends from our subsidiaries and our financial condition could be materially and adversely affected as a result.

A significant number of shares of PLDT's voting stock are held by four shareholders, which may not act in the interests of other shareholders or stakeholders in PLDT.

As at January 31, 2024, the First Pacific and its Philippine affiliates (together, the "FP Parties"), NTT Communications and NTT DOCOMO and the JG Summit Group, collectively, beneficially own 57.20% in PLDT's outstanding common stock (representing 33.80% of our overall voting stock).

Additionally, all of PLDT's shares of voting preferred stock, which represent 40.98% of PLDT's total outstanding shares of voting stock as at January 31, 2024, are owned by a single stockholder, BTF Holdings, Inc. (BTFHI).

The FP Parties, NTT Communications, NTT DOCOMO, JG Summit Group and/or BTFHI may exercise their respective voting rights over certain decisions and transactions in a manner that could be contrary to the interests of other shareholders or stakeholders in PLDT. See *Note 3 – Key Information* to the accompanying audited consolidated financial statements in Item 18. "Financial Statements" for further discussion.

We are unionized and are vulnerable to work stoppages, slowdowns or increased labor costs.

As at December 31, 2023, PLDT has three employee unions, representing in the aggregate 8,137 employees, or 52%, of the employees of the PLDT Group. This unionized workforce could result in demands that may increase our operating expenses and adversely affect our profitability. For instance, PLDT experienced significant charges from its manpower rightsizing program in 2021, 2022 and 2023, mainly incurred in the fixed-line business. Each of our different employee groups require separate collective bargaining agreements. If PLDT and any of its unions are unable to reach an agreement on the terms of their collective bargaining agreement or if PLDT were to experience widespread employee dissatisfaction, PLDT could be subject to collective bargaining deadlocks, strikes, work slowdowns or stoppages. Any of these events would be disruptive to our operations and could have a material adverse effect on our business.

Additionally, on July 3, 2017, PLDT received a Compliance Order from the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), in connection with the non-payment of statutorily required monetary benefits, including the 13th month pay by certain PLDT contractors to their employees, as well as the regularization of 7,344 contractor employees. On July 31, 2018, the CA promulgated a decision granting PLDT's request for an injunction against the Compliance Order and remanded the case back to the DOLE for further proceedings regarding the computation of the monetary awards, which amounted to Php51.8 million according to the regularization orders, and the determination of employees engaged in installation, repair and maintenance work who must be regularized. On April 5, 2019, PLDT filed a petition for review with the Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court resolved the consolidated Petitions in a Decision promulgated on February 14, 2024. The Decision affirmed the Court of Appeals in setting aside the Secretary of Labor's orders for PLDT to regularize the 7,344 workers of its contractors, except those workers performing "installation, repair and maintenance" services, whose regularization is subject to a remand of proceedings before the Regional Director of the DOLE. In setting aside the Secretary of Labor's orders, the Supreme Court ruled that the exercise of the Secretary's visitorial and enforcement powers is subject to the "basic tenets of appreciating evidence," and that it was improper to rely on the anecdotal evidence that was used as basis in the Secretary's orders because such evidence is "malleable and may be tailored to suit any narrative or conclusion." The remand will require the Regional Director of DOLE to determine the appropriateness of regularization of employees of contractors engaged in installation, repair, and maintenance, by undertaking the following: (a) to review and properly determine the effects of the regularization of the workers performing installation, repair, and maintenance services; (b) to review, compute, and properly determine, the monetary award on the labor standards violation, to which PLDT, and the concerned contractors are solidarily liable; and (c) to conduct further appropriate proceedings, consistent with this Decision. Motions for Reconsideration may be filed by the parties, subject to their receipt of the

Supreme Court decision by official service. See Item 8. “Financial Information – Legal Proceedings” and *Note 26 – Provisions and Contingencies* to the accompanying audited consolidated financial statements in Item 18. “Financial Statements” for further discussion.
We cannot guarantee that PLDT or its subsidiaries will not be subject to similar proceedings or other labor-related regulatory activities, the results of which may have an adverse reputational and/or financial impact. While we believe that PLDT has a strong legal position in its pending labor cases, we note that labor tribunals are mandated to resolve cases in favor of employees in the case of any doubt.

The loss of key personnel or the failure to attract and retain highly qualified personnel could compromise our ability to effectively manage our business and pursue our growth strategy.

Our future performance depends on our ability to attract and retain highly qualified key technical, marketing, sales, and management personnel. The loss of key employees could result in significant disruptions to our business, and the integration of replacement personnel could be costly and time consuming, could cause additional disruptions to our business and could be unsuccessful. We cannot guarantee the continued employment of any of the members of our senior leadership team, who may depart our Company for any number of reasons, such as other business opportunities, differing views on our strategic direction or other personal reasons. Any inability to attract, retain or motivate our personnel could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and prospects.

Adverse results of any pending or future litigation, internal or external investigations and/or disputes may impact PLDT’s cash flows, results of operations and financial condition.

We are currently involved in various legal proceedings. Our estimate of the probable costs for the resolution of these claims have been developed in consultation with our counsel and is based upon our analysis of potential results. See Item 8. “Financial Information – Legal Proceedings” and *Note 26 – Provisions and Contingencies* to the accompanying audited consolidated financial statements in Item 18. “Financial Statements” for further discussion. While PLDT believes that the positions it has taken in these cases have strong legal bases, the final outcome of these cases may prove to be different from its expectations. In addition, we cannot assure you that PLDT will not be involved in future litigation or other disputes, the results of which may materially and adversely impact its business and financial conditions. We may incur significant expenses defending such suits or government charges and may be required to pay amounts or otherwise change our operations in ways that could materially adversely affect our operations or financial results.

Our financial condition and operating results will be impaired if we experience high fraud rates related to device financing, credit cards, dealers, or subscriptions.

Our operating costs could increase substantially as a result of fraud, including device financing, customer credit card, subscription or dealer fraud. If our fraud detection strategies and processes are not successful in detecting and controlling fraud, whether directly or by way of the systems, processes, and operations of third parties such as customers, national retailers, dealers, and others, the resulting loss of revenue or increased expenses could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and operating results.

RISKS RELATING TO THE PHILIPPINES

Political and social instability in the Philippines may have a negative effect on the general economic conditions in the Philippines which could have a material adverse impact on our results of operations and financial condition.

The Philippines has, from time to time, experienced political and military instability, including acts of political violence. In the last two decades, there has been political instability in the Philippines, including extra-judicial killings, alleged electoral fraud, impeachment proceedings against two former presidents and the chief justice of the Supreme Court of the Philippines, nullification of the appointment of another chief justice, hearings on graft and corruption issues against various government officials and public and military protests arising from alleged misconduct by the previous and current administrations. There can be no assurance that acts of election-related or other political violence will not occur in the future, and any such events could negatively impact the Philippine economy.

In addition, we may be affected by political and social developments in the Philippines and changes in the political leadership and/or government policies in the Philippines. Any major deviation from the policies of the previous administration or fundamental change of direction, including a change in the form of government, may lead to an increase in political or social uncertainty and instability. Such political or regulatory changes may include (but are not limited to) the introduction of new laws and regulations that could impact our business.

We cannot assure you that the political environment in the Philippines will be stable or that the current or future administration will adopt economic policies that are conducive to sustained economic growth or which do not materially and adversely impact the current regulatory environment for the telecommunications and other companies. An unstable political or social environment in the Philippines could negatively affect the general economic conditions and business environment in the Philippines which, in turn, could have a material and adverse impact on our business, financial position and financial performance.

Natural disasters, terrorist acts or acts of war could cause damage to our infrastructure and/or result in significant disruptions to our operations and financial condition.

Our business operations are subject to interruption by natural disasters, such as flooding, typhoons, hurricanes, pandemics and epidemics, terrorist or other hostile acts, and other events beyond our control. The Philippines is particularly susceptible to natural hazards, including tropical cyclones, earthquakes and volcanic risks. Any of the aforementioned events could cause significant damage to our infrastructure upon which our business operations rely, resulting in degradation or disruption of service to our customers. While we maintain insurance coverage for some of these events, the potential impact of damage or loss of assets to our financial condition as well as liabilities associated with these events could exceed the insurance coverage we maintain. Our system redundancy may be ineffective or inadequate, and our disaster recovery planning may be insufficient for all eventualities. These events could also damage the infrastructure of the suppliers that provide us with the equipment and services that we need to operate our business and provide products to our customers. A natural disaster or other event causing significant physical damage could cause us to experience substantial losses resulting in significant recovery time and additional expenditures to resume operations. In addition, these occurrences could result in lost revenues from business interruption as well as damage to our reputation.

The Philippines has been subject to a number of terrorist attacks in the past several years. The Philippine army has been in conflict with the Abu Sayyaf organization which has been identified as being responsible for kidnapping and terrorist activities in the Philippines, and is also alleged to have ties to the Al-Qaeda terrorist network and, along with certain other organizations, has been identified as being responsible for certain kidnapping incidents and other terrorist activities particularly in the southern part of the Philippines. Furthermore, the Government and the Armed Forces of the Philippines (the AFP) have been in conflict with members of several separatist groups seeking greater autonomy, including the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (the MILF), the MNLF and the New People’s Army (the NPA). There have been numerous bombing incidents in Mindanao and elsewhere in the Philippines, which have resulted in death and injury to the civilian population as well as military and security personnel. An increase in the frequency, severity or geographic reach of these terrorist acts, violent crimes, bombings and similar events could have a material adverse effect on investment and confidence in, and the performance of, the Philippine economy. Any such destabilization could cause interruption to our business and materially and adversely affect our business, financial condition, and results of operations. These continued conflicts between the Government and separatist groups could lead to further injuries or deaths by civilians and members of the AFP, which could destabilize parts of the Philippines and adversely affect the Philippine economy. There can be no assurance that the Philippines will not be subject to further acts of terrorism or violent crimes in the future, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

Territorial disputes with China and a number of Southeast Asian countries may disrupt the Philippine economy and business environment.

The Philippines, China and several Southeast Asian nations have been engaged in a series of longstanding territorial disputes over certain islands in the West Philippine Sea, also known as the South China Sea. The Philippines maintains that its claim over the disputed territories is supported by recognized principles of international law consistent with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). Despite efforts to reach a compromise, a dispute arose between the Philippines and China over a group of small islands and reefs known as the Scarborough Shoal. Actions taken by both sides have threatened to disrupt trade and other ties between the two countries, including a temporary ban by China on Philippine banana imports, a temporary suspension of tours to the Philippines by Chinese travel agencies and the rejection by China of the Philippines’ request for arbitral proceedings administered in accordance with the UNCLOS to resolve the disputes.

Should territorial disputes between the Philippines and other countries in the region continue or escalate further, the Philippines and its economy may be disrupted and our operations could be adversely affected as a result. Such conflicts may impact the supply and prices of energy, food and other critical commodities, possibly resulting in delays in the delivery of supplies from our vendors, as well as the capital and financial markets, foreign currencies exchange, investments, and governmental or regulatory orders, which in turn, may impact our business. In particular, further disputes between the Philippines and China may lead both countries to impose trade restrictions on the other’s imports.

There is no guarantee that tensions will not escalate further or that the territorial disputes among the Philippines and its neighboring countries, especially China, will cease. In an event of escalation, the Philippine economy may be disrupted and our business and financial standing may be adversely affected. Any such impact from these disputes could adversely affect the Philippine economy, and materially and adversely affect our business, financial condition, and results of operations.

If foreign exchange controls were to be imposed, our ability to meet our foreign currency payment obligations could be adversely affected.

In general, Philippine residents may freely dispose of their foreign exchange receipts and foreign exchange may be freely sold and purchased outside the Philippine banking system. However, the Monetary Board of the BSP has statutory authority, with the approval of the President of the Philippines, during a foreign exchange crisis or in times of national emergency, to:

- suspend temporarily or restrict sales of foreign exchange;
- require licensing of foreign exchange transactions; or
- require the delivery of foreign exchange to the BSP or its designee banks for the issuance and guarantee of foreign currency-denominated borrowings.

The Philippine Government has, in the past, instituted restrictions on the conversion of the Philippine peso into foreign currencies and the use of foreign exchange received by Philippine companies to pay foreign currency-denominated obligations. We cannot assure you that foreign exchange controls will not be imposed in the future. If imposed, these restrictions could materially and adversely affect our ability to obtain foreign currency to service our foreign currency obligations.

The credit ratings of the Philippines may restrict the access to capital of Philippine companies, including PLDT.

Historically, the Philippines' sovereign debt has been rated non-investment grade by international credit rating agencies. Since 2013, Moody's, S&P Global, and Fitch have maintained credit ratings for the Philippines of Baa2, BBB+ and BBB, respectively.

The Philippine Government's credit ratings directly affect companies domiciled in the Philippines as international credit rating agencies issue credit ratings by reference to that of the sovereign. No assurance can be given that Fitch, Moody's, S&P Global, or any other international credit rating agency will not downgrade the credit ratings of the Philippine Government in the future and, therefore, Philippine companies, including PLDT. Any such downgrade could have a material adverse impact on the liquidity in the Philippine financial markets, on the ability of the Philippine Government and Philippine companies, including PLDT, to raise additional financing, and on the interest rates and other commercial terms at which such additional financing is available.

Developments outside of the Philippines, including U.S. policies related to global trade and tariffs could adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations.

The current international political environment, including existing and potential changes to U.S. policies related to global trade and tariffs, have resulted in uncertainty surrounding the future state of the global economy. Since 2018, the U.S. began to increase or impose tariffs on many products, particularly from China, including, but not limited to, solar panels, steel and aluminum products, consumer electronics, and industrial chemicals. In response, the European Union, China and other affected jurisdictions have introduced tariffs on U.S. goods. An escalating trade war may have material adverse effects on the power industry and our business may be impacted by these tariffs. Any further expansion in the types or levels of tariffs implemented has the potential to negatively impact our business, financial condition and results of operations. Additionally, there is a risk that the U.S. tariffs on imports are met with tariffs on U.S. produced exports and that a broader trade conflict could ensue, which has the potential to significantly impact global trade and economic conditions. Potential costs and any attendant impact on pricing arising from these tariffs and any further expansion in the types or levels of tariffs implemented could adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations. While there are ongoing discussions between the U.S. and China to reduce tariffs in phases, there is no certainty as to the timing and scale of the reduction in tariffs, and overall impact on global markets. Thus, economic disruption in other countries, even in countries in which we do not currently conduct business or have operations, could also adversely affect our businesses and results.

Item 3A. [Reserved]

Item 4. Information on the Company

OVERVIEW

We are one of the leading telecommunications and digital services providers in the Philippines, serving the fixed line, wireless and broadband markets. Through our three principal business segments, Wireless, Fixed Line and Others, we offer a wide range of telecommunications and digital services across our extensive fiber optic backbone and wireless and fixed line networks.

As at December 31, 2023, we served 65.3 million users through the provision of mobile, fixed line and data services.

Our common shares are listed and traded on the PSE and our ADSs are listed and traded on the NYSE in the United States.

Our three business units are as follows: