

Risk Factors

Risks Related to Our Company

Risks related to our relationship with our major shareholders

Our business depends on our relationship with The Coca-Cola Company, and changes in this relationship may adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Substantially all of our sales are derived from sales of Coca-Cola trademark beverages. We produce, market, sell and distribute Coca-Cola trademark beverages through standard bottler agreements in the territories where we operate, which we refer to as “our territories.” See “Item 4. Information on the Company—The Company—Our Territories.” We are required to purchase concentrate for all Coca-Cola trademark beverages from affiliates of The Coca-Cola Company, which price is determined from time to time by The Coca-Cola Company in all such territories. We are also required to purchase sweeteners and other raw materials only from companies authorized by The Coca-Cola Company. Increases in the cost, disruption of supply or shortage of ingredients for concentrate could have an adverse effect on our business.

In addition, under our bottler agreements, we are prohibited from bottling or distributing any other beverages without The Coca-Cola Company’s authorization or consent, and we may not transfer control of the bottler rights of any of our territories without prior consent from The Coca-Cola Company.

The Coca-Cola Company makes significant contributions to our marketing expenses, although it is not required to contribute a particular amount. Accordingly, The Coca-Cola Company may discontinue or reduce such contributions at any time.

We depend on The Coca-Cola Company to continue with our bottler agreements. Our bottler agreements are automatically renewable for ten-year terms, subject to the right of either party to give prior notice that it does not wish to renew the applicable agreement. In addition, these agreements generally may be terminated in the case of material breach. See “Item 4. Information on the Company—Bottler Agreements.” Termination of any such bottler agreement would prevent us from selling Coca-Cola trademark beverages in the affected territory. The foregoing and any other adverse changes in our relationship with The Coca-Cola Company would have an adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

The Coca-Cola Company and FEMSA have substantial influence on the conduct of our business, which may result in us taking actions contrary to the interests of our shareholders other than The Coca-Cola Company and FEMSA.

The Coca-Cola Company has substantial influence on the conduct of our business and Fomento Económico Mexicano, S.A.B. de C.V., which we refer to as FEMSA, has control over our company. As of the date of this report, The Coca-Cola Company indirectly owned 27.8% of our outstanding capital stock, representing 32.9% of our capital stock with full voting rights. The Coca-Cola Company is entitled to appoint up to five of our maximum of 21 directors and the vote of at least two of them is required to approve certain actions by our board of directors. As of the date of this report, FEMSA indirectly owned 47.2% of our outstanding capital stock, representing 56.0% of our capital stock with full voting rights. FEMSA is entitled to appoint up to 13 of our maximum of 21 directors and all of our executive officers. The Coca-Cola Company and FEMSA together, or only FEMSA in certain circumstances, have the power to determine the outcome of all actions requiring approval by our board of directors, and FEMSA and The Coca-Cola Company together, or only FEMSA in certain circumstances, have the power to determine the outcome of all actions requiring approval of our shareholders. See “Item 7. Major Shareholders and Related Party Transactions—Major Shareholders—The Shareholders Agreement.” The interests of The Coca-Cola Company and FEMSA may be different from the interests of our other shareholders, which may result in us taking actions contrary to the interests of such other shareholders.

The reputation of Coca-Cola trademarks and our trademarks and trademark infringement could adversely affect our business.

Substantially all of our sales are derived from sales of Coca-Cola trademark beverages owned by The Coca-Cola Company. Maintenance of the reputation and intellectual property rights of these trademarks and other trademarks that we own is essential to our ability to attract and retain retailers and consumers and is a key driver for our success. We cannot provide any assurances that the legal steps we are taking in our territories are sufficient to protect these intellectual property rights or that, notwithstanding legal protection, others do not or will not infringe or misappropriate these intellectual property rights. Failure to maintain the reputation of the Coca-Cola trademarks and other trademarks that we own or to effectively protect such trademarks could cause customer confusion and have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Risks related to consumer preferences, competition and product safety and quality.

Changes in consumer preferences and public concern about health-related and environmental issues could reduce demand for some of our products.