

An electronic registration has been issued in the name of the depositary with respect to the ADSs and is maintained by the custodian on behalf of the depositary. Pursuant to the registration, the custodian and the depositary are able to convert dividends and other distributions with respect to the common shares represented by ADSs into foreign currency and remit the proceeds outside Brazil. If a holder of ADSs exchanges such ADSs for common shares, such holder will be entitled to continue to rely on the depositary's registration for five business days after such exchange, following which such holder must seek to obtain its own electronic registration with the Central Bank, constituting a Brazilian financial institution as their representative for such purposes. Thereafter, any holder of common shares may not be able to convert into foreign currency and remit outside Brazil the proceeds from the disposition of, or distributions with respect to, such common shares, unless such holder is a duly qualified investor under Resolution No. 4,373 and obtains its own electronic registration.

If the holder does not qualify under Resolution No. 4,373 by registering with the CVM and the Central Bank and appoints a representative in Brazil to act directly in the Brazilian market to acquire common shares, the holder will be subject to a less favorable Brazilian tax treatment than a holder of ADSs. Regardless of registration under Resolution No. 4,373, residents of tax havens are subject to less favorable tax treatment than other foreign investors. See “—E. Taxation—Brazilian Tax Considerations.”

Under current Brazilian legislation, CMN may delegate to the Central Bank the monopoly of all foreign exchange transactions, with the possibility of imposing temporary restrictions on remittances of foreign capital abroad in the event of a serious imbalance or an anticipated serious imbalance of Brazil's balance of payments. For approximately six months in 1989 and early 1990, the federal government froze all dividend and capital repatriations held by the Central Bank that were owed to foreign equity investors, to conserve Brazil's foreign currency reserves. These amounts were subsequently released in accordance with federal government directives. There can be no assurance that the federal government will not impose similar restrictions on foreign repatriations in the future.

E. Taxation

The following discussion contains a description of the material Brazilian and U.S. federal income tax consequences arising from the acquisition, ownership and disposition of common shares or ADSs by certain holders or beneficial owners, as described below. This summary is based upon the tax laws and regulations of Brazil and the United States as of the date of this annual report, which are subject to change, possibly with retroactive effect, and to differing interpretations. You should consult your own tax advisers as to the Brazilian, U.S. federal or other tax consequences of the acquisition, ownership and disposition of common shares or ADSs, including, in particular, the effect of any state, local or non-U.S., non-Brazilian tax laws.

Although there is presently no income tax treaty entered into between Brazil and the United States, the tax authorities of the two countries have had discussions that may culminate in such a treaty. No assurance can be given, however, as to whether or when a treaty will enter into force or how it will affect the U.S. holders of common shares or ADSs. Brazil and the United States have, however, entered into a Tax Treaty Information Exchange Agreement, in order to establish an effective exchange of tax-related information between the two countries.

Brazilian Tax Considerations

The following discussion summarizes the main Brazilian tax consequences applicable to the purchase, ownership and disposal of common shares or ADSs by a holder that is not domiciled in Brazil for purposes of Brazilian taxation, or a Non-Resident Holder, but it does not purport to be a comprehensive description of all the tax considerations that may be relevant to these matters based upon the particular circumstances of a holder. Each Non-Resident Holder should consult his or her own tax adviser concerning the Brazilian tax consequences of an investment in common shares or ADSs. This summary is based upon federal tax laws of Brazil in effect as of the date hereof, which are subject to change and differing interpretations.

Although there is presently no income tax treaty between Brazil and the United States, the tax authorities of the two countries have had discussions that may culminate in such a treaty. No assurance can be given, however, as to whether or when a tax treaty will enter into force or how such a treaty would affect a U.S. holder of common shares or ADSs. The tax considerations described below do not take into account tax treaties entered into by Brazil and other countries.

Taxation of Dividends

Dividends paid by a Brazilian corporation, such as the Company, to an ADS Holder that is a Non-Resident Holder are currently not subject to withholding income tax, or WHT, in Brazil to the extent that such amounts are related to profits generated on or after January 1, 1996. Dividends paid from profits generated before January 1, 1996 may be subject to WHT at variable rates, according to the tax legislation applicable to each corresponding year.

Law No. 11,638/2007, or Law No. 11,638, significantly changed the Brazilian Corporate Law in order to align Brazilian generally accepted accounting principles with IFRS Accounting Standards as issued by the IASB, or IFRS Accounting Standards. Nonetheless, Law No. 11,941/2009 introduced the Transitory Tax Regime, or RTT, in order to render neutral, from a tax perspective, all the changes provided by Law No. 11,638. Under the RTT, for tax purposes, legal entities should observe the accounting methods and criteria that were effective on December 31, 2007.

Profits determined pursuant to Law No. 11,638, or IFRS Accounting Standards Profits, may differ from the profits calculated pursuant to the accounting methods and criteria as effective on December 31, 2007, or 2007 Profits.

While it was the general market practice to distribute exempted dividends with reference to the IFRS Accounting Standards Profits, Rule No. 1,397, issued by the Brazilian tax authorities on September 16, 2013, established that legal entities should observe the 2007 Profits in order to determine the amount of profits that could be distributed as exempted income to their beneficiaries.

Any profits paid in excess of said 2007 Profits, or Excess Dividends, should, in the tax authorities' view and in the specific case of non-resident beneficiaries, be subject to the following rules of taxation: (1) 15.0% WHT, in case of beneficiaries domiciled abroad, but not in a Low or Nil Tax Jurisdiction, and (2) 25.0% WHT, in the case of beneficiaries domiciled in a Low or Nil Tax Jurisdiction.

In order to mitigate potential disputes on the subject, Law No. 12,973, dated May 13, 2014, or Law No. 12, 973, in addition to revoking the RTT, introduced a new set of tax rules (the "New Brazilian Tax Regime"), including new provisions with respect to Excess Dividends. Under these new provisions: (1) Excess Dividends related to profits assessed from 2008 to 2013 are exempt; (2) potential disputes remain concerning the Excess Dividends related to 2014 profits, since Law No. 12,973 has not expressly excluded those amounts from taxation and Rule No. 1,492, issued by the Brazilian tax authorities on September 17, 2014, established they are subject to taxation when distributed by companies which have not elected to apply the New Brazilian Tax Regime in 2014; and (3) as of 2015, as the New Brazilian Tax Regime is mandatory and has completely replaced the RTT, dividends calculated based on IFRS Accounting Standards Profits should be considered fully exempt.

Finally, there is currently legislation pending before the Brazilian Congress discussing the taxation of dividends. It is not possible to predict if the taxation of dividends will be effectively approved by the Brazilian Congress and how such taxation would be implemented.

Distribution of Interest on Shareholders' Equity

Law No. 9,249, dated December 26, 1995, as amended, allows a Brazilian corporation, such as the Company, to make payments to shareholders of interest on shareholders' equity as an alternative to carrying out dividend distributions and treat those payments as a deductible expense for the purposes of calculating Brazilian corporate income tax and social contribution on net income.

For tax purposes, this interest is limited to the daily variation of the pro rata variation of the TJLP, as determined by the Central Bank from time to time applied to certain equity accounts, and the amount of the distribution may not exceed the greater of:

- 50% of net income (after the deduction of the social contribution on net income and before taking into account the provision for corporate income tax and the amounts attributable to shareholders as interest on shareholders' equity) for the period in respect of which the payment is made; or
- 50% of the sum of retained profits and profits reserves for the year prior to the year in respect of which the payment is made.

Payments of interest on shareholders' equity to a Non-Resident Holder are subject to WHT at the rate of 15.0%, or 25.0% if the Non-Resident Holder is domiciled in a Low or Nil Tax Jurisdiction.

These payments may be included, at their net value, as part of any mandatory dividend. To the extent that such payments are accounted for as part of the mandatory dividend, under current Brazilian law, we are obliged to distribute to shareholders an additional amount sufficient to ensure that the net amount received by the shareholders, after payment by us of applicable WHT, plus the amount of declared dividends, is at least equal to the mandatory dividend. The distribution of interest on shareholders' equity must be proposed by our board of directors and is subject to subsequent ratification by the shareholders at the shareholders' meeting.

As of January 2024, some of the rules regarding interest on shareholders' equity foreseen by Law No. 9,249 were altered by Law No. 14,789/2023, or Law No. 14,789. Alterations are mainly aimed at how the interest on shareholders' equity payable by legal entities has to be calculated. There were no alterations regarding shareholder taxation.

Capital Gains

Sale of ADSs

According to Law No. 10,833, capital gains earned on the disposal of assets located in Brazil by a Non-Resident Holder, whether to another non-Brazilian resident or to a Brazilian resident are subject to taxation in Brazil.

Our understanding is that ADSs do not qualify as assets located in Brazil for the purposes of Law No. 10,833 because they represent securities issued and renegotiated in an offshore exchange market and, therefore, should not be subject to the Brazilian WHT. However, considering the lack of any judicial court ruling in respect thereto, we cannot assure you of how tax authorities and Brazilian courts would interpret the definition of assets located in Brazil in connection with the taxation of gains realized by a Non-Resident Holder on the disposal of ADSs to another non-Brazilian resident. If the ADSs are deemed to be assets located in Brazil, gains recognized by a Non-Resident Holder from the sale or other disposition to either a non-resident or a resident in Brazil may be subject to income tax in Brazil as further described below.

Conversion of ADSs into Common Shares

Although there is no clear regulatory guidance, the exchange of ADSs for common shares should not be subject to Brazilian tax. Non-Resident Holders may exchange ADSs for the underlying common shares, sell the common shares on a Brazilian stock exchange and remit abroad the proceeds of the sale, according to the regulations of the Central Bank.

Upon receipt of the underlying common shares in exchange for ADSs, Non-Resident Holders may also elect to register with the Central Bank the U.S. dollar value of such common shares as a foreign portfolio investment under Resolution No. 4,373, which will entitle them to the tax treatment described above.

Alternatively, a Non-Resident Holder is also entitled to register with the Central Bank the U.S. dollar value of such common shares as a foreign direct investment under Law No. 4,131/62, in which case the respective sale would be subject to the tax treatment applicable to transactions carried out of by a Non-Resident Holder that is not registered before the Central Bank and the CVM in accordance with Resolution No. 4,373.

Sale of Common Shares

Capital gains assessed on a Non-Resident Holder on the disposition of common shares carried out on a Brazilian stock exchange (which may include transactions carried out on the organized over-the-counter market, or OTC) are:

- exempt from income tax when realized by a Non-Resident Holder that (1) has registered its investment in Brazil with the Central Bank under the rules of CMN Resolution No. 4,373, or a 4,373 Holder, and (2) is not resident or domiciled in a Low or Nil Tax Jurisdiction;
- subject to income tax at a rate of 15.0% in the case of gains realized by (1) a Non-Resident Holder that (A) is not a 4,373 Holder and (B) is not resident or domiciled in a Low or Nil Tax Jurisdiction; or (2) a Non-Resident Holder that (A) is a 4,373 Holder, and (B) is resident or domiciled in a Low or Nil Tax Jurisdiction. In this case, a withholding income tax of 0.005% of the sale value shall be applicable and withheld by the intermediary institution (i.e., a broker) that receives the order directly from the Non-Resident Holder, which can be later offset against any income tax due on the capital gain earned by the Non-Resident Holder; or
- subject to income tax at a rate of up to 25.0% in the case of gains realized by a Non-Resident Holder that (1) is not a 4,373 holder, and (2) is resident or domiciled in a Low or Nil Tax Jurisdiction. In this case, a withholding income tax of 0.005% of the sale value shall be applicable and withheld by the intermediary institution (i.e., a broker) that receives the order directly from the Non-Resident Holder, which can be later offset against any income tax due on the capital gain earned by the Non-Resident Holder.

Any other gains assessed on a sale or disposition of common shares that is not carried out on a Brazilian stock exchange are subject to (1) income tax at a rate ranging from 15.0% up to 22.5% when realized by a Non-Resident Holder that is not resident or domiciled in a Low Tax Jurisdiction; and (2) income tax at a rate of 25.0% when realized by a Non-Resident Holder that is domiciled or resident in a Low Tax Jurisdiction. If these gains are related to transactions conducted on the Brazilian non-organized over-the-counter market with intermediation, a WHT of 0.005% on the sale value will also apply and can be used to offset the income tax due on the capital gain.

Any exercise of preemptive rights relating to common shares or ADSs will not be subject to Brazilian withholding income tax. Any gain on the sale or assignment of preemptive rights relating to common shares by the depositary on behalf of holders of ADSs will be subject to Brazilian income taxation according to the same rules applicable to the sale or disposal of common shares.

In the case of a redemption of common shares or a capital reduction by a Brazilian corporation, such as the Company, the positive difference between the amount received by a Non-Resident Holder and the acquisition cost of the common shares redeemed, including these underlying ADSs, is treated as a capital gain derived from the sale or exchange of shares not carried out on a Brazilian stock exchange market, and is therefore subject to income tax at the progressive rate from 15% to 22.5%, and 25% for residents in a Low or Nil Taxation Jurisdiction.

As a general rule, the gains realized as a result of the disposal of common shares, including these underlying ADSs, is the positive difference between the amount realized on the sale or exchange of the common shares and their acquisition cost.

There is no assurance that the current preferential treatment for a Non-Resident Holder of ADSs and a 4,373 Holder of common shares will continue or that it will not change in the future.

Gains on the exchange of common shares for ADSs

The deposit of common shares in exchange for ADSs may be subject to Brazilian income tax on capital gains if the amount previously registered with the Central Bank as a foreign investment in common shares or, in the case of other market investors under Resolution No. 4,373, the acquisition cost of the common shares, as the case may be, is lower than:

- the average price per common share on the Brazilian stock exchange on which the greatest number of such common shares were sold on the day of deposit; or
- if no common shares were sold on that day, the average price on the Brazilian stock exchange on which the greatest number of common shares were sold during the 15 preceding trading sessions.

The difference between the amount previously registered, or the acquisition cost, as the case may be, and the average price of the common shares, calculated as set forth above, is considered a capital gain.

Discussion on Low or Nil Taxation Jurisdictions

On June 4, 2010, the Brazilian tax authorities enacted Normative Ruling No. 1,037 listing (1) the countries and jurisdictions considered as Low or Nil Taxation Jurisdictions or where the local legislation does not allow access to information related to the shareholding composition of legal entities, to their ownership or to the identity of the effective beneficiary of the income attributed to non-residents, and (2) the privileged tax regimes, which definition is provided by Law No. 11,727, of June 23, 2008, or Law No. 11,727.

A Low or Nil Taxation Jurisdiction is a country or location that (1) does not impose taxation on income, (2) imposes income tax at a maximum rate lower than 20.0%, or (3) imposes restrictions on the disclosure of shareholding composition or the ownership of the investment. A regulation issued by the Brazilian tax authorities on November 28, 2014 (Ordinance No. 488, of 2014) decreased, from 20.0% to 17.0%, the minimum threshold for certain specific cases. The reduced 17.0% threshold applies only to countries and regimes aligned with international standards of fiscal transparency in accordance with rules to be established by the Brazilian tax authorities. Although Ordinance No. 488 has lowered the threshold rate, Normative Ruling No. 1,037, which identifies the countries considered to be Low or Nil Tax Jurisdictions and the locations considered as privileged tax regimes, has not been amended yet to reflect such threshold modification.

Law No. 11,727 created the concept of “privileged tax regimes,” which encompasses the countries and jurisdictions that (1) do not tax income or tax it at a maximum rate lower than 20.0%; (2) grant tax advantages to a non-resident entity or individual (a) without the need to carry out a substantial economic activity in the country or jurisdiction, or (b) conditioned to the non-exercise of a substantial economic activity in the country or jurisdiction; (3) do not tax or tax proceeds generated abroad at a maximum rate lower than 20.0%; or (4) restrict the ownership disclosure of assets and ownership right or restrict disclosure about economic transactions carried out. Although we believe that the best interpretation of the current tax legislation is that the above mentioned “privileged tax regime” concept should apply solely for purposes of Brazilian transfer pricing and thin capitalization rules, among other rules that make express reference to the concepts, we can provide no assurance that tax authorities will not interpret the rules as applicable also to a Non-Resident Holder on payments of interest on shareholders’ equity.

Currently, the understanding of the Brazilian tax authorities is that the rate of 15.0% of WHT applies to payments made to beneficiaries resident in privileged tax regimes (Answer to Advance Tax Ruling Request COSIT No. 575, of December 20, 2017). In any case, if Brazilian tax authorities determine that payments made to a Non-Resident Holder under a privileged tax regime are subject to the same rules applicable to payments made to Non-Resident Holders located in a Low or Nil Tax Jurisdictions, the withholding income tax applicable to such payments could be assessed at a rate up to 25.0%.

We recommend investors to consult their own tax advisors from time to time to verify any possible tax consequence arising from Normative Ruling No. 1,037 and Law No. 11,727. If the Brazilian tax authorities determine that payments made to a Non-Resident Holder are considered to be made under a “privileged tax regime,” the WHT applicable to such payments could be assessed at a rate of up to 25.0%.

Other Brazilian Taxes

There are no Brazilian federal inheritance, gift or succession taxes applicable to the ownership, transfer or disposal of common shares or ADSs by a Non-Resident Holder. Gift and inheritance taxes, however, may be levied by some states on gifts made to or inheritances bestowed by the Non-Resident Holder on individuals or entities resident or domiciled within such states in Brazil. There is no Brazilian stamp, issue, registration or similar taxes or duties payable by a Non-Resident Holder of common shares or ADSs.

Taxation of Foreign Exchange Transactions (IOF/Exchange)

Pursuant to Decree No. 6,306/07, the conversion into foreign currency or the conversion into Brazilian currency of the proceeds received or remitted by a Brazilian entity from a foreign investment in the Brazilian securities market, including those in connection with the investment by a Non-Resident Holder in the common shares and ADSs, may be subject to the Tax on Foreign Exchange Transactions, or IOF/Exchange. Currently, the applicable rate for almost all foreign currency exchange transactions is 0.38%. Currently, foreign currency exchange transactions carried out for the inflow of funds in Brazil for investment in the Brazilian financial and capital market made by a foreign investor (including a Non-Resident Holder, as applicable) are subject to IOF/Exchange at a 0% rate. The IOF/Exchange rate will also be 0% for the outflow of resources from Brazil related to these types of investments, including payments of dividends and interest on shareholders’ equity and the repatriation of funds invested in the Brazilian market. Furthermore, the IOF/Exchange is currently levied at a 0% rate for the conversion of ADSs into common shares held by foreign investors under the 4,373 Holders regime. In any case, the Brazilian government is permitted to increase the rate to a maximum of 25% at any time, with respect to future transactions. Any increase in the rate would not apply retroactively.

Tax on Bonds and Securities Transactions (IOF/Bonds)

Pursuant to Decree 6,306/07, the Tax on Bonds and Securities Transactions, or IOF/Bonds, may be imposed on any transaction involving bonds and securities even if the transactions are performed on a Brazilian stock exchange. The rate of this tax for transactions involving common shares is currently 0%, but the Brazilian government may increase such rate up to 1.5% per day, with respect to future transactions. Currently, the issuance of depositary receipts traded outside of Brazil which underlying shares are issued by a Brazilian company and listed on a Brazilian stock exchange are also subject to IOF/Bonds at the 0% rate. Any increase in the rate would not apply retroactively.

U.S. Federal Income Tax Considerations

The following are the material U.S. federal income tax consequences to U.S. Holders (as defined below) of owning and disposing of common shares or ADSs, but this is not a comprehensive description of all of the tax considerations that may be relevant to a particular person’s decision to hold such securities. The discussion applies only to U.S. Holders that hold common shares or ADSs as capital assets for U.S. federal income tax purposes, and it does not describe all of the tax consequences that may be relevant in light of a U.S. Holder’s particular circumstances, including alternative minimum tax consequences, the potential application of the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or the Code, known as the Medicare contribution tax, the effects of any state, local or non-U.S. tax laws and tax consequences applicable to U.S. Holders subject to special rules, such as:

- certain financial institutions;
- dealers or traders in securities who use a mark-to-market method of tax accounting;
- persons holding common shares or ADSs as part of a hedge, “straddle,” integrated transaction or similar transaction;

- persons whose functional currency for U.S. federal income tax purposes is not the U.S. dollar;
- entities classified as partnerships or other pass-through entities for U.S. federal income tax purposes;
- tax-exempt organizations;
- regulated investment companies;
- real estate investment trusts;
- insurance companies;
- persons that own or are deemed to own 10% or more of our stock by vote or value;
- persons required for U.S. federal income tax purposes to conform the timing of income accruals to their financial statements under Section 451 of the Code;
- persons who acquired our common shares or ADSs pursuant to the exercise of any employee stock option or otherwise as compensation; or
- persons holding common shares or ADSs in connection with a trade or business conducted outside of the United States.

If an entity that is classified as a partnership for U.S. federal income tax purposes holds common shares or ADSs, the U.S. federal income tax treatment of a partner will generally depend on the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. Partnerships holding common shares or ADSs and partners in such partnerships should consult their tax advisers as to the particular U.S. federal income tax consequences of holding and disposing of the common shares or ADSs.

This discussion is based on the Code, administrative pronouncements, judicial decisions and final, temporary and proposed U.S. Treasury regulations, all as of the date hereof. These laws are subject to change, possibly on a retroactive basis. This discussion is also based in part on representations by the depository and assumes that each obligation under the Deposit Agreement and any related agreement will be performed in accordance with its terms.

You are a “U.S. Holder” if, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, you are a beneficial owner of common shares or ADSs and you are:

- an individual citizen or resident of the United States;
- a corporation, or other entity taxable as a corporation, created or organized in or under the laws of the United States, any state therein or the District of Columbia; or
- an estate or trust the income of which is subject to U.S. federal income taxation regardless of its source.

THE SUMMARY OF U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES SET OUT BELOW IS INTENDED FOR GENERAL INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY. U.S. HOLDERS OF COMMON SHARES OR ADSs ARE URGED TO CONSULT WITH THEIR OWN TAX ADVISERS WITH RESPECT TO THE PARTICULAR TAX CONSEQUENCES TO THEM OF OWNING OR DISPOSING OF COMMON SHARES OR ADSs, INCLUDING THE APPLICABILITY AND EFFECT OF STATE, LOCAL, NON-U.S. AND OTHER TAX LAWS AND POSSIBLE CHANGES IN TAX LAWS.

In general, if you own ADSs, you will be treated as the owner of the underlying shares represented by those ADSs for U.S. federal income tax purposes. Accordingly, no gain or loss will be recognized if you exchange ADSs for the underlying shares represented by those ADSs.

This discussion assumes that we are not, and will not become, a passive foreign investment company, as described below.

Taxation of Distributions

Distributions paid on common shares or ADSs (including distributions to shareholders that are treated as interest on shareholders' equity for Brazilian tax purposes) will generally be treated as dividends to the extent paid out of current or accumulated earnings and profits (as determined under U.S. federal income tax principles). Because we do not maintain calculations of our earnings and profits under U.S. federal income tax principles, it is expected that distributions generally will be reported to U.S. Holders as dividends. Subject to applicable limitations that may vary depending upon your circumstances, dividends paid by "qualified foreign corporations" to certain non-corporate U.S. Holders are taxable at the rates applicable to long-term capital gains. A foreign corporation is treated as a "qualified foreign corporation" with respect to dividends paid on stock that is readily tradable on a securities market in the United States, such as the NYSE, where our ADSs are traded. You should consult your tax adviser regarding the availability of the reduced tax rate on dividends in your particular circumstances.

The amount of a dividend will include any amounts withheld in respect of Brazilian taxes. The amount of the dividend will be treated as foreign-source dividend income to you and will not be eligible for the dividends-received deduction generally allowed to U.S. corporations under the Code. Dividends will be included in your income on the date of your, or in the case of ADSs, the depository's, receipt of the dividend. The amount of any dividend income paid in reais will be a U.S. dollar amount calculated by reference to the exchange rate in effect on the date of such receipt, regardless of whether the payment is in fact converted into U.S. dollars. If the dividend is converted into U.S. dollars on the date of receipt, you should not be required to recognize foreign currency gain or loss in respect of the dividend income. If the dividend is not converted into U.S. dollars on the date of receipt, you will have a basis in reais equal to the U.S. dollar value on the date of receipt. You may have foreign currency gain or loss if the dividend is converted into U.S. dollars after the date of receipt.

Subject to applicable limitations that may vary depending upon your circumstances, Brazilian income taxes withheld from dividends on common shares or ADSs might be creditable against your U.S. federal income tax liability. The rules governing foreign tax credits are complex, and, therefore, you should consult your tax adviser regarding the availability of foreign tax credits in your particular circumstances. In particular, you may use foreign tax credits to offset only the portion of your U.S. tax liability that is attributable to foreign-source income. This limitation on foreign taxes eligible for credit is calculated separately with regard to specific classes of income. In addition, you must satisfy minimum holding period requirements in order to be eligible to claim a foreign tax credit for foreign taxes withheld on dividends. Treasury regulations, which apply to foreign taxes paid or accrued in taxable years beginning on or after December 28, 2021 (the "Final Treasury Regulations"), impose significant additional requirements on the foreign taxes (including withholding taxes) for which a foreign tax credit can be claimed. However, the IRS recently released guidance in the form of notices which provide temporary relief from the requirements of the Final Treasury Regulations for taxable years, ending before the date that a notice or other guidance withdrawing or modifying the temporary relief is issued (or any later date specified in such notice or other guidance). We have not determined whether the new requirements of the Final Treasury Regulations have been met with respect to any withholding tax imposed on dividends on common shares or ADSs and, therefore, you should consult your tax advisers regarding the availability of foreign tax credits for any amounts withheld with respect to dividends on common shares or ADSs to which the Final Treasury Regulations may apply.

Instead of claiming a credit, you may, at your election, deduct such Brazilian taxes in computing your taxable income, subject to generally applicable limitations under U.S. law. An election to deduct foreign taxes instead of claiming foreign tax credits applies to all taxes paid or accrued in the taxable year to foreign countries and possessions of the United States.

Sale or Other Disposition of Common Shares or ADSs

For U.S. federal income tax purposes, gain or loss you realize on the sale or other disposition of common shares or ADSs will generally be capital gain or loss, and will generally be long-term capital gain or loss if you held the common shares or ADSs for more than one year. The amount of your gain or loss will equal the difference between your tax basis in the common shares or ADSs disposed of and the amount realized on the disposition, in each case, as determined in U.S. dollars. If a Brazilian tax on gains is withheld on the sale or disposition of common shares or ADSs, a U.S. Holder's amount realized will include the gross amount of the proceeds of such sale or disposition before deduction of the Brazilian tax. See "—Brazilian Tax Considerations—Capital Gains" for a description of when a disposition may be subject to taxation by Brazil. Such gain or loss will generally be U.S.-source gain or loss for foreign tax credit purposes. The limitations of the Final Treasury Regulations may generally preclude you from claiming a credit for all or a portion of any Brazilian taxes imposed on any such gains. In addition, for any foreign taxes paid or accrued in taxable year beginning on or after December 28, 2021, the Final Treasury Regulations generally would preclude you from claiming a foreign tax credit with respect to any tax imposed on gains from the disposition of shares by a jurisdiction, such as Brazil, that does not have an applicable income tax treaty with the United States, although such taxes may be applied to reduce the amount realized by you on the disposition. However, recently issued guidance provides temporary relief from certain of the new requirements of the Final Treasury Regulations, as discussed above. You may also, at your election, deduct such Brazilian income taxes in computing taxable income, subject to generally applicable limitations under U.S. law. An election to deduct foreign taxes instead of claiming foreign tax credits applies to all foreign taxes paid or accrued in the taxable year. You should consult your tax adviser as to whether the Brazilian tax on gains may be creditable against your U.S. federal income tax on foreign-source income from other sources.

Other Brazilian Taxes

You should note that any Brazilian IOF/Exchange tax (as discussed above under "—Brazilian Tax Considerations") will not be a creditable foreign tax for U.S. federal income tax purposes, although you may be entitled to deduct such tax, subject to applicable limitations under U.S. law. You should consult your tax adviser regarding the U.S. federal income tax consequences of the payment of Brazilian IOF/Exchange tax, including whether you may claim a deduction for such tax or should instead include the amount of tax paid in your initial basis in the common shares or ADSs.

Passive Foreign Investment Company Rules

We believe that we were not a "passive foreign investment company," or a PFIC, for U.S. federal income tax purposes for our 2023 taxable year. However, because PFIC status depends on the composition of a company's income and assets and the market value of its assets from time to time, there can be no assurance that we will not be a PFIC for any taxable year. If we were a PFIC for any taxable year during which a U.S. Holder held common shares or ADSs, gain recognized by such U.S. Holder on a sale or other disposition (including certain pledges) of the common shares or ADSs would be allocated ratably over the U.S. Holder's holding period for the common shares or ADSs. The amounts allocated to the taxable year of the sale or other disposition and to any year before we became a PFIC would be taxed as ordinary income. The amount allocated to each other taxable year would be subject to tax at the highest rate in effect for individuals or corporations, as appropriate, for such taxable year, and an interest charge would be imposed on the resulting tax liability. Further, to the extent that any distribution received by a U.S. Holder on its common shares or ADSs exceeded 125% of the average of the annual distributions on common shares or ADSs received by the U.S. Holder during the preceding three years or the U.S. Holder's holding period, whichever is shorter, that distribution would be subject to taxation in the same manner. Certain elections may be available that would result in alternative treatments (such as mark-to-market treatment) of the common shares or ADSs. U.S. Holders should consult their tax advisers to determine whether any of these elections would be available and, if so, what the consequences of the alternative treatments would be in their particular circumstances. If we are a PFIC for any taxable year during which a U.S. Holder owns our common shares or ADSs, the U.S. Holder will generally be required to file Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") Form 8621 with its annual U.S. federal income tax return, subject to certain exceptions.

Information Reporting and Backup Withholding

Payments of dividends and sales proceeds that are made within the United States or through certain U.S.-related financial intermediaries generally are subject to information reporting and may be subject to backup withholding, unless (i) you are a U.S. corporation or other exempt recipient or (ii) in the case of backup withholding, you provide a correct taxpayer identification number and certify that you are not subject to backup withholding. The amount of any backup withholding from a payment to you will be allowed as a credit against your U.S. federal income tax liability and may entitle you to a refund, provided that the required information is timely furnished to the IRS.

Certain U.S. Holders who are individuals or closely-held entities may be required to report information on IRS Form 8938 relating to their ownership of securities of a non-U.S. person, subject to certain exceptions (including an exception for securities held in certain accounts maintained by financial institutions, in which case the accounts may be reportable if maintained by a non-U.S. financial institution). U.S. Holders are urged to consult their tax advisers regarding the effect, if any, of these rules on their ownership and disposition of common shares or ADSs.

U.S. HOLDERS OF OUR COMMON SHARES OR ADSs SHOULD CONSULT THEIR OWN TAX ADVISERS AS TO THE BRAZILIAN, U.S. FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL AND OTHER TAX CONSEQUENCES OF THE OWNERSHIP AND DISPOSITION OF OUR COMMON SHARES OR ADSs BASED UPON THEIR PARTICULAR CIRCUMSTANCES.

F. Dividends and Paying Agents

Not applicable.

G. Statement of Experts

Not applicable.

H. Documents on Display

We are subject to the information requirements of the Exchange Act, except that as a foreign issuer, we are not subject to the proxy rules or the short-swing profit disclosure rules of the Exchange Act. In accordance with these statutory requirements, we file or furnish reports and other information with the SEC. Reports and other information filed or furnished by us with the SEC may be inspected and copied at the public reference facilities maintained by the SEC at 100 F Street NE, Washington, D.C. 20549. Copies of such material may be obtained by mail from the Public Reference Section of the SEC, 100 F Street NE, Washington, D.C. 20549, at prescribed rates. You may also inspect these reports and other information at the offices of the NYSE, 11 Wall Street, New York, New York 10005, on which our ADSs are listed.

In addition, the SEC maintains a website that contains information filed electronically, which can be accessed over the Internet at <http://www.sec.gov>.

We also file financial statements and other periodic reports with the CVM. Copies of our annual report on Form 20-F and documents referred to in this annual report and our bylaws will be available for inspection upon request at our offices at Avenida Engenheiro Luis Carlos Berrini, 1376 - 32nd floor, 04571-936, São Paulo, SP, Brasil.

I. Subsidiary Information

Not applicable.

J. Annual Report to Security Holders

Not applicable.