

DERIVATIVES

AEGON uses common derivative financial instruments such as swaps, options, futures and cross-currency derivatives to hedge its exposures related to investments, liabilities and borrowings. In general, under Dutch accounting principles the accounting treatment of derivatives mirrors the accounting treatment of the underlying financial instrument. In the balance sheet, the book values of the derivatives are recognized under the captions of the related underlying financial instrument. Foreign currency amounts are converted at the year-end exchange rates. Realized and unrealized results on derivative financial instruments are recognized in the same period and likewise as the results of the related investments, liabilities and debt.

US GAAP requires that all derivatives, including embedded derivatives, be recognized as either assets or liabilities in the balance sheet and be measured at fair value. Derivatives that do not qualify for hedge accounting treatment under US GAAP must be adjusted to fair value through income. If the derivative is a hedge, depending on the nature of the hedge, changes in the fair value of derivatives will either be offset against the change in fair value of the hedged assets, liabilities, or firm commitments through income or recognized in other comprehensive income and amortized to income when the hedged transaction impacts income. Any portion of a derivative's change in fair value determined to be ineffective at offsetting the hedged risk will be immediately recognized in income.

An EUR 5 million loss on the total return swaps with Vereniging AEGON was included in 2003 net income in the line derivatives.

DEFERRED TAXATION

Under Dutch accounting principles deferred taxation is calculated on the basis of the difference between book value and valuation for tax purposes of the appropriate assets and liabilities. The provision is equal to the discounted value of the future tax amounts. In the calculation discounted tax rates ranging from 0% to nominal rates are used, taking into account the estimated term to maturity of the related differences.

US GAAP requires an asset and liability approach for financial accounting and reporting for income taxes. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured using those enacted tax rates expected to apply to taxable income in the periods in which the deferred tax asset or liability is expected to be realized or settled and such tax rates are not discounted. Deferred tax assets are reduced, if necessary, by a valuation allowance to reflect the fact that (part of) the assets are not expected to be realized.

BALANCE OF OTHER ITEMS

Certain items are recorded differently or in different periods on the two bases of accounting.

Comprehensive income is the change in shareholders' equity during the year from transactions and other events and circumstances from non-owner sources. It includes all changes in shareholders' equity during the year except those resulting from investments by owners and distributions to owners.