

EMIRA

PROPERTY FUND

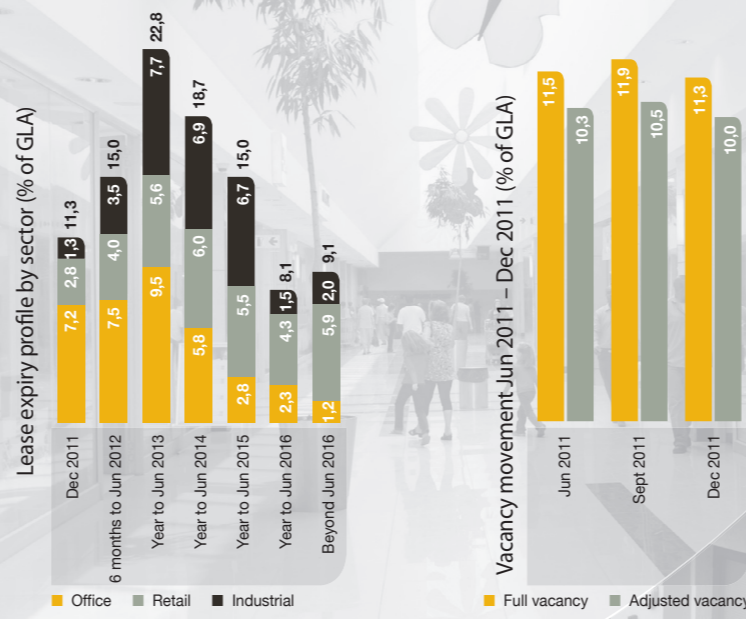
(A property fund created under the Emira Property Scheme, registered in terms of the Collective Investment Schemes Control Act)
Share code EMI | ISIN: ZA0000050712 (Emira or 'the Fund')

Unaudited financial results for the six months ended 31 December 2011 and income distribution declaration

R272,5 million
distributable income

53,81 cents
distribution per PI

1 127 cents
net asset value per PI



Condensed consolidated statement of comprehensive income

	Unaudited Six months ended 31 Dec 2011	Unaudited Six months ended 31 Dec 2010	Audited Year ended 30 Jun 2011
Revenue	637 051	610 125	1 223 960
Operating lease rental income and tenant recoveries	640 640	611 484	1 232 911
Allowance for future rental escalations	(3 589)	(1 359)	(8 951)
Income from listed property investment	15 969	10 050	22 373
Property expenses	(254 400)	(229 669)	(444 230)
Management expenses	—	(8 418)	(8 418)
Cancellation payment in respect of amendment to existing service charge arrangement	(68 250)	(129 150)	(129 150)
Administration expenses	(32 357)	(27 230)	(57 013)
Depreciation	(5 211)	(3 884)	(9 805)
Operating profit	292 802	221 824	597 717
Net fair value adjustments	39 803	151 694	125 165
Net fair value (deficit)/gain on investment properties	(12 873)	127 272	89 551
Change in fair value as a result of straight-lining lease rentals	3 589	1 359	8 951
Change in fair value as a result of amortising upfront lease costs	(790)	2 306	3 117
Change in fair value as a result of property (depreciation)/appreciation in value	(15 672)	123 607	77 483
Unrealised gain on fair valuation of listed property investment	52 676	24 422	35 614
Profit before finance costs	332 605	373 518	722 882
Net finance costs	(174 981)	(114 358)	(162 892)
Finance income	2 654	7 458	10 205
Interest received	2 654	3 351	6 098
Claw-back of distribution in respect of participatory interests issued cum distribution	—	4 107	4 107
Finance costs	(177 635)	(121 816)	(173 097)
Interest paid and amortised borrowing costs	(99 546)	(81 260)	(168 106)
Interest capitalised to the cost of developments	11 925	1 808	4 115
Preference share dividends paid	(5 776)	(6 183)	(11 895)
Unrealised (deficit)/surplus on interest-rate swaps	(84 238)	(36 181)	2 789
Profit before income tax charge	157 634	259 160	559 990
Income tax charge	(248)	(7 810)	(18 269)
SA normal taxation	(8 861)	—	(322)
Deferred taxation	9 191	(7 192)	(16 758)
— Revaluation of investment properties	12 613	(6 977)	(12 100)
— Other timing differences including allowance for future rental escalations	(3 422)	(215)	(4 658)
STC on preference share dividends paid	(578)	(618)	(1 189)
Profit for the period attributable to equity holders	157 376	251 350	541 721
Total comprehensive income attributable to equity holders	157 376	251 350	541 721

Reconciliation between earnings and headline earnings and distribution

	Unaudited Six months ended 31 Dec 2011	Unaudited Six months ended 31 Dec 2010	Audited Year ended 30 Jun 2011
Profit for the period attributable to equity holders	157 376	251 350	541 721
Adjusted for:			
Net fair value deficit/(gain) on revaluation of investment properties	12 873	(127 272)	(89 551)
Deferred taxation on revaluation of investment properties	(12 613)	6 977	12 100
Headline earnings	157 636	131 055	464 270
Adjusted for:			
Allowance for future rental escalations	3 589	1 359	8 951
Amortised upfront lease costs	(790)	2 306	3 117
Unrealised deficit/(surplus) on interest-rate swaps	84 238	36 181	(2 789)
Unrealised gain on listed property investment	(52 676)	(24 422)	(35 614)
Pre-acquisition income on GOZ units acquired in 2010	—	4 628	4 628
Cancellation payment in respect of amendment to existing service charge arrangement	68 250	129 150	129 150
SA normal taxation	8 861	—	322
Deferred taxation – other timing differences	3 422	215	4 658
Distribution payable to participatory interest holders	272 530	280 472	576 693
Distribution per participatory interest	53,81	55,21	55,21
Interim (cents)	—	—	58,31
Final (cents)	53,81	55,21	113,52
Number of participatory interests in issue at the end of the period	506 466 288	508 010 229	508 010 229
Weighted average number of participatory interests in issue	507 828 350	500 661 139	504 305 482
Earnings per participatory interest (cents)	30,99	50,20	107,42
Headline earnings per participatory interest (cents)	31,04	26,18	92,06

The calculation of earnings per participatory interest is based on net profit for the period of R157,4 million (2010: R251,4 million), divided by the weighted average number of participatory interests in issue during the period of 507 828 350 (2010: 500 661 139).

The calculation of headline earnings per participatory interest is based on net profit for the period, adjusted for non-trading items, of R157,6 million (2010: R131,1 million), divided by the weighted average number of participatory interests in issue during the period of 507 828 350 (2010: 500 661 139).

Commentary

The Board of directors of Strategic Real Estate Managers (Proprietary) Limited ('STREM') hereby announces a distribution of 53,81 cents per Emira participatory interest (PI) for the six months to 31 December 2011. This is a reduction of 25% on the previous comparable period, which is in line with the prospects statement in the Fund's June 2011 results announcement released in August 2011, and represents an income return for the six months of 4,4%, being distributions actually paid out during the period under review. Emira is the 6th most traded listed property fund on the JSE by value with R1,3 billion traded in the six month period.

The highlight of the financial year-to-date has been a restructuring of a significant portion of the Fund's debt together with the raising of new facilities, totalling R1,2 billion. On 12 August 2011, Emira raised funding of R500 million, by way of a four-year secured AA-rated corporate bond, at three month JIBAR plus an all in margin of 163 basis points. The funds were used to repay the R500 million that was raised through the Freestone Finance Series 1 commercial mortgage backed securitisation (CMBS) in 2006. Although the margin payable on the corporate bond is higher than that paid on the CMBS, the facility is for two years, resulting in Emira's debt facilities now being staggered between 2013 and 2019, reducing risk to Emira PI holders. A new R500 million facility was also raised with Rand Merchant Bank, which will be used for the capital requirements of the Fund as outlined below. Furthermore, the R400 million Nedbank redeemable preference share facility was repaid on 2 February 2012, by way of a new three-year term loan received from Nedbank, which bears interest at three month JIBAR plus a margin of 155 basis points.

In November 2011 the Board approved the implementation of a PI repurchase programme and at the annual general meeting of the Fund this programme also received the necessary support of Emira PI holders. In terms of the programme, the proceeds from the sale of properties will be used to repurchase PIs in the open market, which is expected to be earnings enhancing to the Fund. By 31 December 2011 Emira had repurchased 1 543 941 PIs in the open market at a cost of R181,1 million, an average of R117,3 per PI. The PIs were cancelled in January 2012, resulting in a small net benefit to the Fund in the period to December 2011.

During the period, a significant amount of effort has gone into improving the quality of the Emira portfolio. Not only has there been a greater focus on reducing vacancies, retaining tenants and improving the quality of the existing buildings, but the asset management team has been expanded to improve the skills within the Fund. Moreover, in line with the long-term strategy of the Fund, the quality of the Emira portfolio continues to be improved through (i) the disposal of those properties deemed to be non-core (ii) the acquisition of new properties and (iii) the refurbishment of existing assets.

Disposals

The strategy to dispose of non-core buildings was met with some good success during the period, with 11 buildings being transferred out of the Fund or sold unconditionally for a total of R266,3 million – Crocker Road Industrial Park, Flexitainer, Ciro House, Umhlanga Centre, Dresdner House, Hurlingham Office Park, Linkview and a unit at Georgian Place were all transferred for a total of R210,6 million, while three further properties have been sold unconditionally but not yet transferred – Century Gate, Starksy House and Gift Acres – for a total of R55,7 million. A further 15 non-core properties, worth approximately R63,1 million remain on the disposal list.

The disposal of these properties will significantly improve the quality of the portfolio, reduce vacancies and also allow management to focus on larger buildings, with better income growth prospects. The proceeds from the disposals are expected to be utilised for the Fund's significant capital expenditure project pipeline mentioned below, acquisitions or, in the event that the returns are sufficiently rewarding, PI repurchases.

Acquisitions

As was reported previously, in January 2011 the Board approved the acquisition of a new 138 720m² A grade office building being developed by Eris Property Group, on the corner of Coroboy Avenue and Aramist Avenue, in Menlyn Pretoria, for R306,9 million. The development of the building, which is 70% pre-let to KV3 Engineers for 10 years and has a one-year gross rental warranty on the balance of the vacant space from completion from the developer, is well advanced and is expected to be completed by 30 June 2012 and to yield 9,1% per annum. Emira has also agreed to acquire two high quality, well located A grade office buildings for a total of R254 million, although these transactions are still conditional on the conclusion of certain supervisory conditions.

These acquisitions are in line with the Fund's policy of reducing its exposure to B-grade office space and increasing the quality of its portfolio by buying large, high quality properties.

Refurbishments and extensions underway

Several other projects worth approximately R300,6 million are underway, the most significant of which include (i) the redevelopment of Podium at Boskruijn Shopping Centre for approximately R10 million and (ii) the reconfiguration of tenants at Lynnridge Mall for approximately R95 million. In July 2011 Emira invested a further R61 million in Growthpoint Properties Australia (GOZ), an Australian property trust listed on the Australian Stock Exchange, by acquiring 4,4 million stapled securities at a price of AUD\$1,90 per stapled security, through its participation in the AUD\$102,7 million rights issue by GOZ, to facilitate its acquisition of Rabinov Property Trust and to reduce its level of gearing. This took Emira's current holding in GOZ to 23,8 million stapled securities, or 6,3% of the GOZ securities in issue. This was valued at R82 million at 31 December 2011 compared to the cost to the Fund of R296 million.

Refurbishments and extensions approved

The following projects have been approved by the Board and should commence shortly: (i) the expansion of the Woolworths Food store at Boskruijn Shopping Centre for approximately R10 million and (ii) the reconfiguration of tenants at Lynnridge Mall for approximately R95 million. In July 2011 Emira invested a further R61 million in Growthpoint Properties Australia (GOZ), an Australian property trust listed on the Australian Stock Exchange, by acquiring 4,4 million stapled securities at a price of AUD\$1,90 per stapled security, through its participation in the AUD\$102,7 million rights issue by GOZ, to facilitate its acquisition of Rabinov Property Trust and to reduce its level of gearing. This took Emira's current holding in GOZ to 23,8 million stapled securities, or 6,3% of the GOZ securities in issue. This was valued at R82 million at 31 December 2011 compared to the cost to the Fund of R296 million.

Results

As expected, conditions in the period under review remained tough, with tenants, particularly in the office sector, unwilling to commit to new space due to the uncertainty surrounding global and local economic growth. Rentals continued to be under pressure and landlords needed to be competitive when trying to attract or retain tenants, particularly in the office sector. In contrast, the industrial sector continued to perform well, with vacancies declining notably.

Although income from the listed property investment rose and management expenses declined as a result of the amendments to the Trust Deed approved by PI holders in September 2010, distributions payable declined fractionally due to muted net property income growth and rising finance costs following the increased level of debt in the fund due to on-going capital expenditure and acquisitions.

Vacancies decreased from 11,5% in June 2011 to 11,3% by December 2011 as a result of a pleasing decline in vacancies within the industrial portfolio, as well as the sale and transfer of non-core buildings during the period. On an adjusted basis (excluding properties under refurbishment or redevelopment), vacancies declined from 10,3% to 10,0%.

Condensed consolidated statement of financial position

	Unaudited 31 Dec 2011	Unaudited 31 Dec 2010	Audited 30 Jun 2011
R000			
Assets			
Non-current assets	7 886 284	7 521 751	7 622 477
Investment properties	7 327 848	7 067 340	7 174 508
Allowance for future rental escalations	142 254	161 479	147 089
Unamortised upfront lease costs	34 087	36 713	32 557
Fair value of investment properties	7 504 189	7 265 532	7 354 154
Listed property investment	382 007	256 219	268 235
Deferred taxation	88	—	88
Current assets	154 696	165 708	190 433
Accounts receivable	115 612	83 347	95 921
Cash and cash equivalents	39 084	82 361	94 512
Non-current assets held for sale	636 092	832 369	823 054
Total assets	8 677 072	8 519 828	8 635 964
Equity and liabilities			
Participatory interest holders' capital and reserves	5 706 586	5 745 621	5 839 850
Non-current liabilities	2 078 561	1 680 190	1 508 621
Redeemable preference shares	—	200 000	—
Interest-bearing debt	1 929 879	1 231 014	1 350 748
Deferred taxation	148 682	249 176	157 873
Current liabilities	891 925	1 094 017	1 287 493
Short-term portion of interest-bearing debt	200 000	499 298	700 000
Accounts payable	280 945	221 065	237 060
Derivative financial instruments	138 450	93 182	54 212
Distributions payable to participatory interest holders	272 530	280 472	296 221
Total equity and liabilities	8 677 072	8 519 828	8 635 964

Condensed consolidated statement of cash flows

	Unaudited Six months ended 31 Dec 2011	Unaudited Six months ended 31 Dec 2010	Audited Year ended 30 Jun 2011
R000			
Cash generated from operations	387 590	347 714	738 268
Finance income	2 654	7 458	10 205
Interest paid	(99 546)	(81 260)	(168 106)
Preference share dividends paid	(5 776)	(6 183)	(11 895)
Taxation paid	(3 774)	(652)	(1 270)
Cancellation payment in respect of amendment to existing service charge arrangement	(68 250)	(129 150)	(129 150)
Pre-acquisition income on GOZ units acquired in 2010	—	4 628	4 628
Distribution to participatory interest holders	(296 221)	(274 354)	(554 826)
Net cash utilised in operating activities	(83 323)	(131 799)	(112 146)
Acquisition of and additions to, investment properties and fixtures and fittings	(182 675)	(148 540)	(297 785)
Proceeds on disposal of investment properties and fixtures and fittings	210 645	55 100	75 300
Acquisition of investment in listed property fund	(61 096)	(116 758)	(117 582)
Net cash utilised in investing activities	(33 126)	(210 198)	(340 067)
Participatory interests (repurchased)/issued	(18 110)	244 442	244 442
Increase in interest-bearing debt	79 131	138 649	259 085
Cash balance from subsidiary acquired	—	—	586
Net cash generated from financing activities	61 021	383 677	506 044
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents	(55 428)	41 680	53 831
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period	94 512	40 681	40 681
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period	39 084	82 361	94 512

Basis of preparation and accounting policies

The condensed consolidated interim financial statements have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) including IAS 34, and are in compliance with the Listings Requirements of the JSE Limited. The accounting policies used in the preparation of these financial statements are consistent with those used in the annual financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2011.

As a result of the amendment to the service charge arrangements, in terms of IFRS, the risk and rewards of the manager of Emira, Strategic Real Estate Managers (Proprietary) Limited (STREM) are deemed to be attributable to Emira. The financial statements of STREM have therefore been consolidated with those of Emira, even though Emira has no direct or indirect shareholding in STREM. This report was compiled under the supervision of Peter Thurling, the Chief Financial Officer.

Results (continued)

Excluding the straight-line adjustments from future rental escalations, revenue rose by 4,8% over the comparable period. This was the result of organic growth in income from the existing portfolio, the conclusion of several capital projects in the previous financial year which contributed for the full period under review, increased recoveries of municipal expenses, offset slightly by the disposal of several properties listed below. Excluding municipal escalations, revenue growth would have been 2%.

Contractual cost recoveries were well managed, however growth in net property income was impacted by sharply rising municipal charges, a substantial increase in building maintenance, higher leasing charges on the comparable period and significantly higher refurbishment costs. The net effect is that property expenses rose by 12,2% and net income from properties was 0,3% higher. Excluding the increase in municipal charges, maintenance, leasing charges and refurbishments, property expenses rose by 5,7%, in line with inflation.

The income from the listed investment of R160,6 million, representing the Fund's holding in Growthpoint Australia (GOZ), represents the distributions from GOZ for the period to 31 December 2011 and shows an increase of 8,8% year-on-year. The like-on-like increase from this investment – excluding the additional distribution included in December 2010 income and also the income from the GOZ rights offer that took place in July 2011 – amounted to 6,5%, illustrating the benefits of diversification for Emira PI holders of this investment.

Asset management expenses declined by 32,7% on the comparable period, following the amendment to the service charge payable to STREM in September 2010. Net interest costs excluding unrealised gains or losses on interest-rate swaps as well as capitalised interest rose by 15,9% as a result of increased levels of gearing in the Fund.

Net asset value declined by 2,0% in the six months from 1 150 cents (1 181 cents excluding the deferred tax provision) at 30 June 2011 to 1 127 cents (1 156 cents), largely as a result of the payment of the balance owing to STREM in respect of the amendment to the service charge arrangement, the repurchase of PIs during the period and the deficits on interest rate swaps and investment property revaluations.

Distribution statement

	Six months ended 31 Dec 2011	Six months ended 31 Dec 2010	% change	Year ended 30 Jun 2011
R000				
Operating lease rental income and tenant recoveries	640 640	611 484	4,8	1 232 911
Allowance for future rental escalations	(255 190)	(227 363)	12,2	(441 113)
Property expenses excluding amortised upfront lease costs	385 450	384 121	0,3	791 798
Net property income	15 969	14 678	8,8	27 001
Income from listed investment	15 969	10 050	58,9	22 373
Pre-statement of comprehensive income	—	4 628	(100,0)	4 628
Management expenses	(8 746)	(12 992)	(32,7)	(20 085)
Pre-statement of comprehensive income	—	(8 418)	(100,0)	(8 418)
Reimbursement to STREM in respect of management expenses	(8 746)	(4 574)	91,2	(11 667)
Administration expenses	(23 572)	(22 605)	4,3	(45 244)
Pre-statement of comprehensive income	(32 357)	(27 230)	18,8	(57 013)
Management expenses incurred by STREM included in the above	8 785	4 625	89,9	11 769
Depreciation	(5 211)	(3 884)	34,2	(9 805)
Net finance costs	(91 360)	(78 846)	15,9	(166 972)
Finance costs	(93 975)	(86 253)	9,0	(177 075)
Interest paid and amortised borrowing costs	(99 546)	(81 260)	22,5	(168 106)
Interest capitalised to the cost of developments	11 925	1 808	4,1	11 515
Preference share dividends paid	(5 776)</			