

Interim Report 3rd quarter 2004 Nordea Bank Norge Group

Result summary

Nordea Bank Norge's net profit for the first nine months of the year amounted to NOK 1,729m (300), corresponding to a return on equity of 12.8% (2.3). Total income has decreased by 1% to NOK 5,326m (5,396), while total expenses have decreased by 5% to NOK 2,971m. Loan losses have decreased by NOK 1,877m compared to the corresponding period last year and amounted to NOK –27m by the end of September.

Nordea Bank Norge's net profit for the third quarter amounted to NOK 534m (215), corresponding to a return on equity of 11.5% (5.0).

Net interest income

Net interest income in the third quarter amounted to NOK 1,220m (1,370), which was an increase of NOK 82m compared to the previous quarter. Per the end of September there has been a reduction in net interest income of 6% to NOK 3,690m (3,922). The decrease in net interest income is mainly due to lower interest income from other products than loans and deposits.

Lending to customers was on average 1.8% higher than in the third quarter the previous year. The growth in lending has mainly been in Retail. Average deposits from customers were 7.0% higher than in the corresponding quarter the previous year.

Net interest income in percent of average total assets was 1.91% (2.10) in the third quarter on an annualised basis. The difference between the average deposit rate of interest and lending rate of interest amounted to 2.38 percentage points in the third quarter (2.55). This is somewhat lower than in the second quarter and the average level of 2003 that was 2.51%.

Net commission income

Net commission income was NOK 365m (341). Net commission income for the nine first months of the year amounted to NOK 1,006m (816), which is an increase of NOK 190m compared to the corresponding period of 2003. The increase is mainly related to

income from sale of foreign exchange and derivative products on behalf of Nordea Bank Finland after reorganisation of this business in June 2003. Further the increase is related to commission from issues and brokerage of equities following the reorganisation of Nordea Securities AB. From April 2004 Nordea Securities business in Norway was included in Nordea Bank Norge ASA.

Net change in value and profit on securities, foreign exchange and financial derivatives

Net change in value and profit (loss) on securities was NOK 12m (16) in the third quarter, divided between NOK 0m (0) on equities and NOK 12m (16) on certificates and bonds. Net change in value and profit (loss) on foreign exchange and financial derivatives was NOK 48m (51).

Other income

Other non-interest income amounted to NOK 15m (95). The gain on the transfer of the business in the subsidiary Inkassosentralen was included in the third quarter of 2003. Per the end of September other income was NOK 358m, whereof approximately NOK 300m was gain from the sale of real estate in the second quarter.

Expenses

Total non-interest expenses were NOK 930m (1,005), which represents a decrease of 7.5% compared to the corresponding quarter the previous year.

Personnel expenses decreased in the third quarter by NOK 101m to NOK 548m (649). The decrease is due to high provisions for restructuring in the third quarter of 2003 and lower payroll expenses in 2004 following the reduction of full time equivalent positions. The number of full time equivalent positions was 3,288 (3,752) at the end of the quarter.

Relative to the average total assets, the costs represented 1.46% (1.54) on an annualised basis. The cost/income ratio amounted to 55.7% (53.1) in the third quarter and 55.8% (58.0) in the first nine months of the year.

Throughout this report, "Nordea Bank Norge" and "the Group" refer to the parent company Nordea Bank Norge ASA, corp. reg. no 911 044 110, with its subsidiaries. The registered office of the company is in Oslo. Nordea Bank Norge ASA (NBN) is a wholly owned subsidiary of Nordea Bank AB (publ) which is the listed parent company of the whole Nordea Group. The business operations of the Nordea Group have been organised in three business areas, all of which operate across national boundaries: Retail Banking, Corporate and Institutional Banking (CIB) and Asset Management & Life. The consolidated interim report of Nordea Bank AB (publ) embraces all the activities of the Nordea Group and provides the most complete and fair view. This statutory interim report covers the operations of the legal entity Nordea Bank Norge ASA with its subsidiaries, comprising Nordea's retail and corporate banking operations in Norway.

Loan losses

In the third quarter the net provision for losses on loans and guarantees were NOK -4m (584). The net provision for losses on loans and guarantees in the first nine months of the year amounted to NOK -27m (1,850).

Gross non-performing and doubtful loans decreased from NOK 6.0bn to NOK 5.6bn the last quarter. Net non-performing and doubtful loans, which represent the booked value of these loans, were NOK 4.1bn, which is unchanged from the previous quarter.

Taxes

Profit before taxes in the third quarter amounted to NOK 745m (304), while the tax expense was NOK 211m (89). Profit before taxes for the first nine months was NOK 2,382m (416), while the tax expense was NOK 653m, corresponding to a tax rate of 27%.

Balance sheet

Total assets of Nordea Bank Norge group amounted to NOK 256bn, which is an increase of NOK 4bn compared to the corresponding quarter in 2003. Net loans to customers increased by NOK 13bn, equivalent to 6.6%. Securities increased by NOK 5bn to NOK 21bn mainly due to higher volumes of bonds and certificates in the Banking portfolio, but also higher volumes of equities in the trading portfolio due to the reorganisation of Nordea Securities AB in the second quarter of 2004. Other assets and real estate decreased compared to the same period in 2003. This was mainly due to high volumes of unsettled certificates and bonds in the end of the third quarter in 2003 and sale of real estate in the second quarter of 2004.

Deposits from customers increased by 9.9%, to NOK 118bn and amounted to 56% of net loans to customers at the end of the third quarter (54).

Capital adequacy

The risk-weighted asset base of the Group was NOK 206.6bn by the end of September 2004 (197.4), which is an increase of NOK 3.1bn in the last quarter

Under current legislation, the capital ratio is required to be at least 8% at all times. The Group's total capital amounted to NOK 19,736m, which represents a capital ratio of 9.6%. Tier 1 capital ratio amounted to 8.0%. In the Parent Bank the capital ratio was 10.0% and the Tier 1 capital ratio 8.4%. Profit for the period

has not been taken into account in the calculations. If the profit of the period had been included, the capital ratio for the Group would increase by 0.8 percentage points.

IFRS implementering

The introduction of IFRS principles for publicly traded companies in 2005 will affect Nordea Bank Norge mainly in the following areas:

Nordea Bank Norge expects minor changes in the accounts related to IAS 17 Leases and IAS 19 Employee Benefits. Net actuarial effect, not recorded in the result at the implementation date, will be adjusted against the equity. The consolidation principles will be changed, which can affect the consolidation of some non-fully-consolidated holdings.

The recommendation regarding valuation of financial instruments (IAS 39) has not yet been endorsed by the EU. There is continued uncertainty attached to the scope of the recommendations. The latest draft recommendations may lead to increased accounting volatility, but they are not expected to have a material impact on the reported earnings going forward.

Certain general reserves regarding the loan portfolio will not be upheld under IAS 39, and are expected to be dissolved. This will lead to a positive one-off effect on equity.

Amortised cost calculations on non-performing loans will increase the net interest income as well as the loan loss amount on a recurring basis.

The implementation of the IFRS principles is not expected to have any major net negative impact on Nordeas's reported earnings or financial position. Nordea's preparations for the implementation are proceeding according to plan.

Outlook 2004

The continued increase in volumes is expected to somehow compensate for the pressure on margins. No major changes are expected in the total income the next quarter. The sharp attention on cost management will be maintained. Based on the progress in cost management in recent quarters, costs for the full year 2004 are expected to remain below costs in 2003.

Based on the overall quality of the credit portfolio, and the present economic outlook, the loan loss ratio is expected to be substantially lower than the level experienced in 2003.

Statement of income

		The Group					The Parent Bank				
		Full								Full	
		3rd qu	arter	9 mo	nths	year	3rd quarter		9 mo	nths	year
NOK million	Note	2004	2003	2004	2003	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2003
Interest income		2,519	3,349	7,669	11,003	13,834	2,248	2,973	6,771	9,793	12,309
Interest expenses		1,299	1,979	3,979	7,081	8,619	1,125	1,767	3,441	6,383	7,703
Net interest income		1,220	1,370	3,690	3,922	5,215	1,123	1,206	3,330	3,410	4,606
Dividends and profit from group companies and associated companies		11	20	50	58	76	51	155	229	395	458
Commissions and fees		477	424	1,307	1,076	1,490	476	423	1,306	1,074	1,489
Commission expenses		-112	-83	-301	-260	-350	-112	-83	-300	-259	-350
Net change in value and profit (loss) on securities		12	16	90	134	219	12	16	90	134	219
Net change in value and profit (loss) on foreign exchange and financial derivatives		48	51	132	303	325	48	51	132	303	325
Other non-interest income		15	95	358	163	220	17	18	362	61	115
Total non-interest income		451	523	1,636	1,474	1,980	492	580	1,819	1,708	2,256
		540	(40	1 715	1.026	2 (00	522	(16	1 (41	1 0 4 1	2 404
Personnel expenses		548 220	649 205	1,715 796	1,936 735	2,609 988	523 216	616 198	1,641 779	1,841 711	2,494 958
Administrative expenses		38	65	150	200	966 267	35	62	145	191	253
Ordinary depreciation and write-downs		124	86	310	258	387	120	82	301	247	378
Other non-interest expenses Total non-interest expenses		930	1,005	2,971	3.129	4,251	894	958	2,866	2,990	4,083
Total non-interest expenses		750	1,003	2,771	3,127	4,231	074	730	2,000	2,770	4,005
Operating profit before loan losses and profit on long-term securities		741	888	2,355	2,267	2,944	721	828	2,283	2,128	2,779
	•	4	504	27	1.050	2 271	0	5.7.7	2.5	1.025	2 250
Provision for losses on loans and guarantees	2, 3	-4	584	-27	1,850	2,371	-9	577	-35	1,835	2,350
Profit (losses/write-downs) on long-term securities		0	0	0	-1	-2	0	0	0	-1	-2
Operating profit		745	304	2,382	416	571	730	251	2,318	292	427
Income taxes	4	211	89	653	116	59	196	36	589	-8	-85
Net profit		534	215	1,729	300	512	534	215	1,729	300	512
Earnings per share, fully diluted (NOK)		0.07	0.20	2.14	0.54	0.02					
(per quarter/9 months/year)		0.97	0.39	3.14	0.54	0.93					

Interim results

NOK million	1st quarter 2003	2nd quarter 2003	3rd quarter 2003	4th quarter 2003	1st quarter 2004	2nd quarter 2004	3rd quarter 2004
Interest income	3,961	3,693	3,349	2,831	2,732	2,418	2,519
Interest expenses	2,714	2,388	1,979	1,538	1,400	1,280	1,299
Net interest income	1,247	1,305	1,370	1,293	1,332	1,138	1,220
Divided J 64 6 i.4- J i	13	25	20	18	13	26	11
Dividends and profit from associated companies	335	317	424	414	403	427	477
Commissions and fees	-89	-88	-83	-90	-90	-99	-112
Commission expenses Net change in value and profit (loss) on	-09	-00	-03	-90	-90	-99	-112
Securities	50	68	16	85	75	3	12
Net change in value and profit (loss) on foreign exchange and financial derivatives	181	71	51	22	32	52	48
Other non-interest income	34	34	95	57	13	330	15
Total non-interest income	524	427	523	506	446	739	451
Personnel expenses	579	708	649	673	580	587	548
Administrative expenses	286	244	205	253	322	254	220
Ordinary depreciation and write-downs	67	68	65	67	57	55	38
Other non-interest expenses	100	72	86	129	93	93	124
Total non-interest expenses	1,032	1,092	1,005	1,122	1,052	989	930
Operating profit before loan losses and profit on long-term securities	739	640	888	677	726	888	741
Provision for losses on loans and guarantees	637	629	584	521	31	-54	-4
Provision for losses on loans and guarantees Profit (losses/write-downs) on long-term	037	029	304	321	31	-54	-4
Securities	0	-1	0	-1	0	0	0
Operating profit	102	10	304	155	695	942	745
Income taxes	27	0	89	-57	179	263	211
Net profit	75	10	215	212	516	679	534
Average total assets	223,440	253,268	261,314	268,659	264,777	267,437	255,337

Balance sheet

			The Group		The P	The Parent Bank			
NOK million	Note	30.09.04	30.09.03	31.12.03	30.09.04	30.09.03	31.12.03		
Assets									
Cash and deposits with central banks		2,554	4,269	3,498	2,554	4,269	3,498		
Deposits with and loans to credit institutions		7,530	9,020	22,805	14,966	16,170	27,554		
Total cash and claims on credit institutions		10,084	13,289	26,303	17,520	20,439	31,052		
Loans to customers	6	215,671	203,857	202,757	189,744	177,591	176,662		
Specific allowance	3, 6	-1,551	-2,821	-2,292	-1,460	-2,738	-2,202		
General allowance for loan losses	6	-1,638	-1,638	-1,638	-1,525	-1,525	-1,52		
Net loans to customers		212,482	199,398	198,827	186,759	173,328	172,93		
Repossessed assets		74	32	14	72	29	10		
Certificates and bonds	5	21,294	16,303	17,111	21,119	16,220	17,01		
Equities and investments	5	511	315	313	511	101	11.		
Total securities		21,805	16,618	17,424	21,630	16,321	17,12		
			,	,	,	,	,		
Associated companies		638	636	652	638	636	652		
Equities and investments in group companio	es	-	-	-	3,392	5,066	3,44		
Deferred tax asset, goodwill and other		693	780	812	631	718	769		
intangible assets Real estate and machinery		518	2,330	1,228	502	2,270	1,213		
Other assets		7,887	15,165	7,473	7,907	14,799	7,68		
Prepaid expenses and accrued income		1,780	3,376	3,973	1,572	3,123	3,790		
Total assets		255,961	251,624	256,706	240,623	236,729	238,670		
Total assets		233,701	231,024	230,700	240,023	250,727	250,07		
Liabilities and equity									
Deposits from credit institutions		63,882	56,191	65,285	54,935	50,986	57,300		
Deposits from customers		118,166	107,515	111,322	118,251	108,358	111,033		
Total deposits		182,048	163,706	176,607	173,186	159,344	168,33		
Certificates and bond loans		38,909	45,645	44,044	33,077	36,010	35,100		
Other liabilities		9,176	14,374	10,030	9,013	14,104	9,788		
Accrued expenses and prepaid receivables		2,730	6,170	4,200	2,274	5,590	3,668		
Allowances for liabilities		1,252	1,246	1,179	1,228	1,200	1,13		
Total other liabilities		52,067	67,435	59,453	45,592	56,904	49,69		
Subordinated loan capital		2,937	3,012	3,464	2,936	3,010	3,462		
Chamanaital		2 0/0	2 060	2 060	2 0/0	2 060	2 06		
Share capital		3,860	3,860	3,860	3,860	3,860	3,860		
Reserves		13,320	13,311	13,322	13,320	13,311	13,322		
Profit for the period		1,729	300	17 100	1,729	300	15 10		
Total equity	7	18,909	17,471	17,182	18,909	17,471	17,182		
Total liabilities and equity		255,961	251,624	256,706	240,623	236,729	238,670		

Nordea Bank Norge ASA Oslo, 3 November 2004

Lars G Nordström	Markku Pohjola	Liv Irene Haug	Carl Erik Krefting
Chairman of the Board	Deputy Chairman of the Board		
Arne Liljedahl	Hege Marie Norheim	Tom Ruud	Baard Syrrist
			Managing director

Key figures

NOK million	31.03.03	30.06.03	30.09.03	31.12.03	31.03.04	30.06.04	30.09.04
Total assets	249,787	256,025	251,624	256,706	259,971	254,009	255,961
Net loans to customers	193,645	197,297	199,398	198,827	205,672	211,586	212,482
Net loans to customers as percentage of total assets	77.5	77.1	79.2	77.5	79.1	83.3	83.0
Deposits from customers	109,422	107,271	107,515	111,322	114,526	118,618	118,166
Deposits from customers as percentage of total assets	43.8	41.9	42.7	43.4	44.1	46.7	46.2
Deposit ratio (customer deposits to net loans to customers)	56.5	54.4	53.9	56.0	55.7	56.1	55.6
Total non-performing commitments	2,937	3,747	3,353	2,728	2,451	1,881	1,890
Net non-performing commitments	1,423	1,855	1,751	1,552	1,391	1,042	1,084
Risk-weighted assets	200,900	198,500	197,400	197,200	202,100	203,500	206,600
Book equity per share (NOK) *	31.28	31.30	31.69	31.16	32.10	33.33	34.29
Earnings per share (per quarter) (NOK)	0.14	0.02	0.39	0.38	0.94	1.23	0.97
Cost/income ratio (excluding net change in value and profit (loss) on securities per quarter)	58.3	63.0	53.1	62.4	59.2	52.7	55.7
Numbers of employees (full-time positions)	3,979	3,919	3,752	3,586	3,339	3,288	3,288

^{*} Excluding allocations of dividend, not yet paid at the time, NOK 0.91 as at 4Q03.

Notes to the statement of income and the balance sheet

Note 1 General principles and composition of the Group

The quarterly accounts have been set out in accordance with the same principles as the 2003 annual accounts. See note 1 in the annual report for 2003 regarding a further description of the Group's accounting principles. Unless stated otherwise, the notes show Group figures.

Note 2 Provision for losses on loans and guarantees

Loan loss provision by industry		
	3rd quarter	9 months
	2004	2004

	Loan Loss NOK mill.	Total Loan NOK mill.	Percentage of total loans *)	Loan Loss NOK mill.	Total Loan NOK mill.	Percentage of total loans
Retail market	1	91,978	0.0	19	91,978	0.0
Primary industries (agricul-						
ture/fisheries)	2	9,959	0.1	-90	9,959	-1.2
Mining, oil extraction and drilling	0	3,057	0.0	0	3,057	0.0
Manufacturing industry	1	12,803	0.0	17	12,803	0.2
Power and water supply, building						
and construction	0	4,985	0.0	17	4,985	0.5
Wholesale and retail trade	1	6,507	0.1	-2	6,507	-0.1
Hotels and restaurants	0	1,814	0.0	4	1,814	0.3
Shipping and aviation	3	19,877	0.1	14	19,877	0.1
Real estate	10	37,081	0.1	-2	37,081	0.0
Commercial services	-20	24,701	-0.3	-2	24,701	0.0
Other	-2	2,909	-0.3	-2	2,909	-0.1
Total	-4	215,671	_	-27	215,671	-
Change in general allowance	-			-		
Net loan loss provision	-4	215,671	-	-27	215,671	_

^{*)} Annualised

Note 3 Charge-offs and changes in allowances

NOK million	3rd quarter 2004	9 months 2004
Specific allowance, beginning of period	1,875	2,292
New loan loss provisions	24	131
Purchased commitments	-	-
Sold commitments	-	-
Change in previous allowances	-300	-398
Charge-offs	-44	-475
Exchange rate differences	-4	1
Specific allowance, end of period	1,551	1,551
Of which specific allowance on guarantees	-	<u>-</u>
Specific allowance on loans, end of period	1,551	1,551
Net losses on loans and guarantees during the period		
New specific loan loss provisions	24	131
Charge-offs that affect the result	-2	-11
Change in previous allowances	-300	-398
Net loss (profit) on repossessed assets etc.	279	291
Recoveries on commitments previously written off	-5	-40
Change in general allowance	-	<u>-</u>
Provision for losses on loans and guarantees	-4	-27

Note 4 Taxes

The tax charge for the period includes payable taxes and changes in deferred taxes. The calculated taxes for the first nine months are NOK 653 million corresponding to 27 per cent of profit before taxes.

"Ligningsnemda "handed down a ruling on 25 February 2002, which caused a change in the tax assessment of Nordea Finans Norge AS regarding the income year 1999. Due to this ruling NOK 96 million in increased taxes were expensed in the first quarter of 2002. The case concerns the right to carry forward losses after a merger with a subsidiary. In December 2002 "Overligningsnemda" reached the same conclusion, but on a different basis. The case was served with a summons to Oslo City Court (Oslo Tingrett) on 23 May 2003.

On 9 October 2002 Central Taxation Office for Large-Sized Enterprises handed down a ruling which caused a change in the tax assessment of Christiania Forsikring AS regarding the income year 2001. Due to this ruling NOK 11 million in increased taxes were expensed in the fourth quarter of 2002. The case concerns the sale of Christiania Forsikring AS subsidiary, K-Fondsforsikring AS, to Nordea Liv Holding AS. On February 11th "Ligningsnemda" decided to be persistent to the Central Taxation Office for Large-Sized Enterprises ruling. The company lodged an appeal, and "Overlignigsnemda" has, on June 9th handed down a ruling, which decreases the taxable income from the sale by NOK 2 million. The company can file a lawsuit by December 9th 2004.

	30.0	09.04	30.09	.03	31.12.03		
Trading portfolio	Cost	Book value/ market value	Cost	Book value/ market value	Cost	Book value/ market value	
Certificates and bonds	7,166	7,255	6,477	6,528	5,705	5,750	
Equities and investments	379	394	3	3	-		
Total trading portfolio	7,545	7,649	6,480	6,531	5,705	5,750	
Short positions *)							
Certificates and bonds	1,203	1,203	1,236	1,231	1,291	1,293	
Equities and investments	21	29	-	-	-	-	
Other current and fixed assets		Book value		Book value		Book value	
Certificates and bonds		14,039		9,775		11,361	
Equities and investments		116		312		313	
Total other current and fixed assets		14,155		10,087		11,674	
Unrealised gains on other current and f	ixed assets						
Certificates and bonds		122		192		197	
Equities and investments **)		-		-		-	

The increase in the trading portfolio of equities and investments is due to the fact that Nordea Bank Norge ASA on 30 April 2004 bought back Nordea Securities. Nordea Securities, which was a department of Nordea Bank Norge ASA, was on 1 April 2002 sold to a Norwegian branch of Nordea Securities AB.

The decrease in equities and investments classified as other current and fixed assets is due to the fact that the paid in capital in Nordea Norge Pensjonskasse has been reclassified to Other assets.

Equities and investments classified as other current and fixed assets include only non-listed equities and investments.

Note 6 Analysis of the loan portfolio

	Tot	al		Allowances				Net		
	NOK million		NOK million		%		NOK million			
	30.09.04	30.06.04	30.09.04	30.06.04	30.09.04	30.06.04	30.09.04	30.06.04		
Non-performing commitments	1,890	1,881	806	839	43	45	1,084	1,042		
Doubtful commitments	3,735	4,105	745	1,036	20	25	2,990	3,069		
Total	5,625	5,986	1,551	1,875	28	31	4,074	4,111		
Of which guarantees etc.	-764	-747	-	-	-	-	-764	-747		
Other loans	210,810	209,860	1,638	1,638	0.8	0.8	209,172	208,222		
Total	215,671	215,099	3,189	3,513	1	2	212,482	211,586		

Non-performing commitments were distributed as follows

	Total non-	performing		Allowances				Net non-performing		
	NOK n	NOK million		NOK million		0/0		NOK million		
	30.09.04	30.06.04	30.09.04	30.06.04	30.09.04	30.06.04	30.09.04	30.06.04		
Corporate commitments	1,308	1,308	594	632	45	48	714	676		
Retail commitments	582	573	212	207	36	36	370	366		
Total	1,890	1,881	806	839	43	45	1,084	1,042		

^{*)} Included in Other liabilities **) Unrealised gains on unquoted stocks not included

Note 7 Equity

NOK million	2004	2003
Equity as at 1 January	17,182	17,152
Profit for the period	1,729	85
Difference between provision and actual group contribution to companies outside NBN group	-	20
Exchange rate differences	- 2	<u>-</u>
Equity as at 30 September	18,909	17,257

Note 8 Capital ratio

	NOK billion	
isk-weighted assets as at 30.0	30.09.04	30.09.03
Total assets	177.9	174.5
Total off-balance sheet items	23.1	19.8
Total market and foreign exchange risk	5.6	3.1
Risk-weighted assets	206.6	197.4

	NOK million		%	
Capital ratio as at	30.09.04	30.09.03	30.09.04	30.09.03
Core capital	16,460	16,366	8.0	8.3
Supplementary capital	3,290	3,370	1.6	1.7
Deductions	-14	-13	0.0	0.0
Total capital	19,736	19,723	9.6	10.0

The capital ratio requirement is 8 per cent.