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Zug, 25 April 2025

# **Media Release**

## Increased efficiency secures operating result

Zug, 25th April 2025 – Following the successful implementation of the restructuring measures, Precious Woods achieved net revenues of EUR 47.7 million in the 2024 fiscal year (previous year: EUR 56.4 million). EBITDA improved to EUR 2.1 million (previous year: EUR -5.1 million). EBIT totaled EUR -3.8 million (previous year: EUR -9.4 million) and the net result was EUR -4.9 million (previous year: EUR -12.7 million). After the capital increase, equity amounted to EUR 73.9 million and CHF 99.3 million for the Holding AG.

At the beginning of the 2024 fiscal year, the effects of the 2023 crisis persisted, requiring an adjustment of business activities to lower production volumes. The focus also shifted to the targeted reduction of produced inventories and the release of liquidity. In the second half of the year, the Group's manufacturing companies began generating positive operating results, driven by targeted restructuring measures. To strengthen the Group's financial stability, a capital increase was carried out in December 2024, with the shareholders approving the conversion of loans into equity totaling CHF 43.5 million, thereby strengthening the balance sheet in the long term.

## Price and product mix weigh on sales

In 2024, the company as a whole achieved net revenues of EUR 47.7 million, a decrease of 15.3 % from the previous year (EUR 56.4 million). Overall, sales were impacted by a 2 % decline in volumes and a negative 8 % effect from the price and product mix. The two largest business segments, PW Gabon and PW Amazon, generated revenues of EUR 33.3 million and EUR 10.2 million respectively (previous year: EUR 34.5 million and EUR 14.5 million).

## Robust cost structure

Thanks to improved efficiency, production costs were reduced disproportionately, amounting to 49 % of sales compared to 64 % in the previous year. Personnel costs across all operational and administrative areas fell by a further 20 % to EUR 16.9 million (previous year: EUR 21.1 million).

### Return to positive EBITDA

Earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA) amounted to EUR 2.1 million, an increase of EUR 7.2 million over the previous year's figure of EUR -5.1 million. This corresponds to an EBITDA margin of 4.4 % (previous year: -9.1 %).

PW Amazon recorded an EBITDA margin of 40.3 % (previous year: -19.5 %). The first half of the year was marked by losses due to the reduction of high-cost inventories produced in 2023. The appreciation of biomass in Brazil amounted to EUR 2.5 million (previous year: EUR -2.5 million). PW Gabon achieved an EBITDA margin of 4.5 % (previous year: -0.6 %), with weak export sales largely offset by an increase in local log sales.

Consolidated depreciation and amortization amounted to EUR 5.9 million (previous year: EUR 4.2 million). The year-on-year increase is primarily attributable to additional amortization related to the harvest zones in Brazil. EBIT at Group level totaled EUR -3.8 million (previous year: EUR -9.4 million).



#### Improved financial result

At EUR 0.1 million, the financial result was above the previous year's figure of EUR -3.7 million, primarily due to the reduction in interest expenses resulting from the debt restructuring. Net debt stood at EUR 8.3 million at year-end, approximately EUR 40 million lower than the previous year (EUR 48.9 million). The net result amounted to EUR -4.9 million (previous year: EUR -12.7 million).

#### Stable cashflow

Cash flow from operating activities amounted to EUR -0.6 million. Investments in tangible fixed assets amounted to EUR 1.7 million, consisting mainly of replacement investments. Cash flow from financing activities totaled EUR 3.3 million, including the securing of new credit lines from the Brazilian development bank for the financing of forestry machinery.

#### **Balance Sheet**

Total assets amounted to EUR 116.8 million (previous year: EUR 132.7 million). Within current assets, inventories decreased by approximately EUR 3 million, while trade receivables totaled EUR 8.2 million (previous year: EUR 10.3 million). After the debt restructuring, Equity amounted to EUR 73.3 million (previous year: EUR 41.1 million). The equity ratio at year-end was 62.8 % (previous year: 31.0 %).

#### Outlook for 2025

Precious Woods does not yet anticipate a robust recovery in the timber and construction industry in the 2025 fiscal year. However, the stable volume of incoming orders in recent months will allow us to increase production. Operationally, our goal remains to consolidate our newly regained profitability in what continues to be a challenging environment and, with the improved balance sheet structure, to make the best use of a future upswing.

#### General Meeting on 21 May 2025

This year's ordinary Annual General Meeting will take place on 21 May 2025 in the Volkshaus Zurich. The invitation to the General Meeting will be published in the Swiss Official Gazette of Commerce (SOGC) and on the Precious Woods website on 25 April 2025, together with the complete agenda and the proposals by the Board of Directors.

The complete Annual Report 2024 is now available for download at www.preciouswoods.com as well as an online version.

## Information:

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Precious Woods is an international company active in the sustainable management and use of tropical forests. The company's core activities include sustainable management of tropical forests, timber processing and the trading of FSC-certified timber products. The generation of emission rights and electricity from wood waste represent further integral elements of the company's business. Additional information about Precious Woods can be found at www.preciouswoods.com.

This document includes forward-looking statements that reflect the Company's intentions, beliefs or current expectations and projections about the Company's future results of operations, financial condition, liquidity, performance, prospects, strategies, opportunities and the industry in which it operates. Forward-looking statements involve all matters that are not historical fact. Such statements are made on the basis of assumptions and expectations which, although the Company believes them to be reasonable at this time, may prove to be erroneous.



# in thousand EUR

| INCOME STATEMENT              |         | 2024   |         | 2023   |
|-------------------------------|---------|--------|---------|--------|
| Net sales                     | 47'746  | 100.0% | 56'401  | 100.0% |
| Production cost               | -23'595 | -49.4% | -36'176 | -64.1% |
| Operational contribution      | 24'151  | 50.6%  | 20'225  | 35.9%  |
| Labour cost                   | -16'862 | -35.3% | -21'105 | -37.4% |
| Other operating cost          | -3'450  | -7.2%  | -3'997  | -7.1%  |
| Share on associates           | -1'749  | -3.7%  | -266    | -0.5%  |
| EBITDA                        | 2'090   | 4.4%   | -5'143  | -9.1%  |
| Depreciation and amortization | -5'933  | -12.4% | -4'247  | -7.5%  |
| EBIT                          | -3'843  | -8.0%  | -9'390  | -16.6% |
| Financial result              | 86      | 0.2%   | -3'740  | -6.6%  |
| ЕВТ                           | -3'758  | -7.9%  | -13'130 | -23.3% |
| Income taxes                  | -1'115  | -2.3%  | 413     | 0.7%   |
| Net result                    | -4'873  | -10.2% | -12'717 | -22.5% |

# in thousand EUR

| BALANCE                 |         | 31.12.2024 | 31.12.2023 |        |
|-------------------------|---------|------------|------------|--------|
| Current assets          | 25'790  | 22.1%      | 31'438     | 23.7%  |
| Non-current assets      | 91'055  | 77.9%      | 101'246    | 76.3%  |
| TOTAL ASSETS            | 116'845 | 100.0%     | 132'684    | 100.0% |
| Current liabilities     | 26'495  | 22.7%      | 50'263     | 37.9%  |
| Non-current liabilities | 17'019  | 14.6%      | 41'306     | 31.1%  |
| Equity                  | 73'331  | 62.7%      | 41'115     | 31.0%  |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES       | 116'845 | 100.0%     | 132'684    | 100.0% |