

# Independent Auditors' Report to the Shareholders of United Gulf Bank B.S.C.

We have audited the accompanying consolidated financial statements of United Gulf Bank B.S.C. [the Bank] and its subsidiaries [together the Group] which comprise the consolidated balance sheet as at 31 December 2007 and the consolidated statements of income, changes in equity and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes.

## Board of Directors' Responsibility for the Consolidated Financial Statements

The Board of Directors is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these consolidated financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards. This responsibility includes: designing, implementing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

## Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the consolidated financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditors' judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal controls relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the consolidated financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate for the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal controls. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Board of Directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

## Opinion

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Group as of 31 December 2007 and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards.

## Other Regulatory Matters

We confirm that, in our opinion, proper accounting records have been kept by the Bank and the consolidated financial statements, and the contents of the report of the Board of Directors relating to these consolidated financial statements, are in agreement therewith. We further report, to the best of our knowledge and belief, that no violations of the Bahrain Commercial Companies Law, nor of the Central Bank of Bahrain and Financial Institutions Law, nor of the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Bank, have occurred during the year ended 31 December 2007 that might have had a material adverse effect on the business of the Bank or on its financial position and that the Bank has complied with the terms of its banking licence.

The logo for Ernst & Young, featuring the company name in a stylized, handwritten blue font.

16 February 2008  
Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain