Consolidated Financial Results for the Nine Months Ended November 30, 2023 [Japanese GAAP]

January 10, 2024

Company name: PAL GROUP Holdings CO., LTD. Stock exchange listing: Tokyo Stock Exchange

Code number: 2726

URL: http://www.palgroup.holdings/

Representative: Ryuta Inoue, President and Representative Director

Contact: Yasuyuki Konishi, Executive Officer and General Manager of Finance and Accounting Division

Phone: +81-6-6227-0308

Scheduled date of filing quarterly securities report: January 15, 2024

Scheduled date of commencing dividend payments: —

Availability of supplementary briefing material on quarterly financial results: Not available

Schedule of quarterly financial results briefing session: Not scheduled

(Amounts of less than one million yen are rounded down.)

1. Consolidated Financial Results for the Nine Months Ended November 30, 2023 (March 1, 2023 to November 30, 2023)

(1) Consolidated Operating Results

(% indicates changes from the previous corresponding period.)

| | Net sales | | Operating p | orofit | Ordinary p | rofit | Profit attribut owners of p | |
|--|-------------|------|-------------|--------|-------------|-------|--------------------------------|-------|
| | million yen | % | million yen | % | million yen | % | million yen | % |
| Nine months ended November 30, 2023 | 142,545 | 18.1 | 15,548 | 25.5 | 15,761 | 25.1 | 10,353 | 29.5 |
| Nine months ended November 30, 2022 | 120,672 | _ | 12,387 | 119.9 | 12,596 | 120.2 | 7,993 | 117.2 |

(Note) Comprehensive income: Nine months ended November 30, 2023: ¥10,360 million [29.9%]

Nine months ended November 30, 2022: \(\frac{1}{2}\),973 million [116.2%]

| | Basic earnings per | Diluted earnings per |
|--|--------------------|----------------------|
| | share | share |
| | yen | yen |
| Nine months ended November 30, 2023 | 118.55 | _ |
| Nine months ended November 30, 2022 | 90.99 | |

(Note) The Company has applied the "Accounting Standard for Revenue Recognition" (ASBJ Statement No. 29, March 31, 2020) and other standards from the beginning of the three months ended May 31, 2022. Therefore, the change in net sales for the nine months ended November 30, 2022 from the previous corresponding period is not presented.

(Note) The Company conducted a stock split on September 1, 2023 at a ratio of two shares for one share of common stock. Accordingly, basic earnings per share are calculated assuming that the stock split took place at the beginning of the fiscal year ended February 28, 2023.

(2) Consolidated Financial Position

| (2) Consortance 1 maneral 1 ostron | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|--|--|--|--|
| | Total assets | Net assets | Equity ratio | | | | |
| | million yen | million yen | % | | | | |
| As of November 30, 2023 | 128,926 | 60,760 | 47.1 | | | | |
| As of February 28, 2023 | 112,510 | 55,191 | 49.0 | | | | |

(Reference) Equity: As of November 30, 2023: ¥60,760 million As of February 28, 2023: ¥55,182 million

2. Dividends

| | | Annual dividends | | | | | | | |
|---|---|------------------|-----|-------|-------|--|--|--|--|
| | 1st quarter-end 2nd quarter-end 3rd quarter-end Year-end To | | | | | | | | |
| | yen | yen | yen | yen | yen | | | | |
| Fiscal year ended February 28, 2023 | _ | 0.00 | _ | 75.00 | 75.00 | | | | |
| Fiscal year ending February 29, 2024 | _ | 0.00 | _ | | | | | | |
| Fiscal year ending February 29, 2024 (Forecast) | | | | 50.00 | 50.00 | | | | |

(Note) Revision of dividend forecast: Yes

(Note) The Company conducted a stock split on September 1, 2023 at a ratio of two shares for one share of common stock. The actual dividend amount before the stock split is stated for the fiscal year ended February 28, 2023. The year-end dividend forecast for the fiscal year ending February 29, 2024 reflects the stock split.

3. Consolidated Financial Results Forecast for the Fiscal Year Ending February 29, 2024 (March 1, 2023 to February 29, 2024)

(% indicates changes from the previous corresponding period.)

| | Net sales | | Operating profit | | Ordinary profit | | Profit attributable to owners of parent | | Basic earnings per share | |
|-----------|------------------------|-----------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------------------|-----------|---|-----------|--------------------------|-----|
| Full year | million yen 184,270 | % 12.0 | million yen 18,970 | % 19.9 | million yen 19,140 | % 19.2 | million yen 12,450 | % 25.1 | 142.76 | yen |

(Note) Revision of consolidated financial results forecast: No

(Note) The Company conducted a stock split on September 1, 2023 at a ratio of two shares for one share of common stock. Accordingly, the forecast of basic earnings per share for the fiscal year ending February 29, 2024 is stated taking into account the impact of the stock split.

* Notes

- (1) Changes in significant subsidiaries during the period under review: No
- (2) Adoption of special accounting methods for preparing quarterly consolidated financial statement: No
- (3) Changes in accounting policies, changes in accounting estimates and corrections of errors
 - 1) Changes in accounting policies due to the revision of accounting standards: No
 - 2) Any changes other than 1) above: No
 - 3) Changes in accounting estimates: No
 - 4) Corrections of errors: No
- (4) Total number of issued shares (common shares)
 - 1) Total number of issued shares at the end of the period (including treasury shares):

| As of November 30, 2023 | 92,544,000 shares |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| As of February 28, 2023 | 92,544,000 shares |

2) Total number of treasury shares at the end of the period:

| J | 1 |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| As of November 30, 2023 | 5,720,704 shares |
| As of February 28, 2023 | 4,693,828 shares |

3) Average number of shares during the period:

| Nine months ended November 30, 2023 | 87,336,658 shares |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Nine months ended November 30, 2022 | 87,850,951 shares |

- (Note) The Company conducted a stock split on September 1, 2023 at a ratio of two shares for one share of common stock. Accordingly, "total number of issued shares at the end of the period," "total number of treasury shares at the end of the period," and "average number of shares during the period" are calculated assuming that the stock split took place at the beginning of the fiscal year ended February 28, 2023.
- * These quarterly consolidated financial results are not covered by the quarterly review conducted by certified public accountants or audit corporations.

* Explanation of the proper use of financial results forecast and other notes

The statements regarding financial results forecast in this report are based on the information that is available, as well as estimates, assumptions and projections that are believed to be reasonable at the time of publication, and do not guarantee the achievement of the projections. Therefore, there might be cases in which actual results differ from forecast values.

Appendix

| 1. Qualitative Information on Consolidated Financial Results for the Period under Review | 2 |
|--|---|
| (1) Explanation of Operating Results | 2 |
| (2) Explanation of Financial Position | 3 |
| (3) Explanation of Consolidated Financial Results Forecast and Other Future Projections | 3 |
| 2. Consolidated Financial Statements | 4 |
| (1) Consolidated Balance Sheets | 4 |
| (2) Consolidated Statements of Income and Comprehensive Income | 6 |
| 3. Additional Information | 8 |
| (1) Sales Results by Segment (Consolidated) | 8 |
| (2) Status of Stores (Consolidated) | 8 |

1. Qualitative Information on Consolidated Financial Results for the Period under Review

(1) Explanation of Operating Results

During the nine months ended November 30, 2023 (March 1, 2023 to November 30, 2023), the Japanese economy showed a gradual pickup as there were signs of recovery in areas such as personal consumption and the employment situation due to the relaxation of various regulations including the reclassification of COVID-19 from Class 2 to Class 5 under the Infectious Diseases Control Law. However, the impact of soaring utility costs and raw material prices caused by prolonged Russia's invasion of Ukraine and higher prices due to the depreciation of the Japanese yen is still continuing. In addition, the rising temperatures have resulted in a shorter autumn, causing the apparel industry to miss opportunities to sell autumn and winter gear. Furthermore, wage costs and delivery costs are rising resulting from labor shortages, creating a difficult operating environment for retailers that operate stores.

Under such a business environment, the Company has continued its efforts to strengthen EC sales and online promotions ever since COVID-19 began spreading. We focus on providing services as well as creating points of contact and strengthening connections with customers by employing tools such as the official app, social networking services (SNS), and e-mail newsletters, aiming for long-term interchangeable utilization of online and offline channels. The number of our official app members has exceeded 9.1 million, with 10 million in sight. As influencers, employees of the Company proactively approach target customers through SNS, attracting more customers to the Company's EC sites and stores. The number of followers of individual staff accounts of SNS has surpassed 13.4 million. The flexible utilization of EC, making full use of not only the Company's own EC platform PAL CLOSET, but also ZOZOTOWN, has contributed to boosting sales.

Both the number of customers visiting and sales at physical stores are rising, as the easing of self-restraint regulations led to an increase in foot traffic and a turnaround in commercial facilities attracting customers. We have accelerated new store openings and expanded the size of existing stores with a focus on 3COINS, which will celebrate the 30th anniversary in April 2024.

In addition, we continued to implement our priority measures that have been in place, including optimizing inventory and improving gross profit margins through the enforcement of the 4-week merchandizing, and optimizing personnel costs and streamlining store operations through efficient shift scheduling.

Through these measures, net sales in the Apparel Business increased by \(\pm\)10,802 million year on year to \(\pm\)88,496 million and net sales in the Miscellaneous Goods/Accessories Business increased by \(\pm\)11,026 million year on year to \(\pm\)53,904 million.

As a result of the above, net sales for the nine months ended November 30, 2023 increased by \$21,872 million year on year to \$142,545 million. In terms of profit, operating profit increased by \$3,161 million year on year to \$15,548 million, ordinary profit increased by \$3,164 million year on year to \$15,761 million, and profit attributable to owners of parent increased by \$2,360 million year on year to \$10.353 million.

Since our establishment in October 1973, we have correctly grasped the trends toward sophistication of fashion sensibility and toward the accompanying diversification and differentiation in fashion market. As a result of our repeated proposals in response to such trends, we have established an unshakable position in the fashion industry as a company that meets consumer needs with the ability to offer multiple concepts, and the year 2023 marked our 50th anniversary. We will continue to make further proposals to a new fashion life and contribute to society through the development of clothing culture.

(2) Explanation of Financial Position

(Assets)

Current assets increased by ¥14,076 million compared with the end of the previous fiscal year, due mainly to increases in cash and deposits by ¥324 million, notes and accounts receivable - trade by ¥4,687 million, and merchandise and finished goods by ¥6,989 million.

Non-current assets increased by \$2,338 million compared with the end of the previous fiscal year, due primarily to increases in buildings and structures by \$1,708 million, other property, plant and equipment by \$154 million, and guarantee deposits by \$221 million.

(Liabilities)

Current liabilities increased by ¥7,530 million compared with the end of the previous fiscal year, due mainly to increases in notes and accounts payable - trade by ¥10,016 million and other current liabilities by ¥3,553 million, despite decreases in income taxes payable by ¥2,210 million and provision for bonuses by ¥792 million.

Non-current liabilities increased by ¥3,316 million compared with the end of the previous fiscal year, due primarily to increases in long-term borrowings by ¥2,844 million and asset retirement obligations by ¥493 million.

(Net assets)

Net assets increased by ¥5,568 million compared with the end of the previous fiscal year, due mainly to an increase in retained earnings by ¥7,059 million, offset by ¥1,497 million purchase of treasury shares.

(3) Explanation of Consolidated Financial Results Forecast and Other Future Projections

Given the financial results for the period under review, the Company has revised its earlier dividend forecast announced on October 11, 2023 in the "Consolidated Financial Results for the Six Months Ended August 31, 2023." For details, please refer to the "Notice Concerning Revision of Dividend Forecast (available in the original Japanese version only)" released today.

2. Consolidated Financial Statements

(1) Consolidated Balance Sheets

(Millions of yen)

| | As of February 28, 2023 | As of November 30, 2023 |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Assets | | |
| Current assets | | |
| Cash and deposits | 63,845 | 64,169 |
| Notes and accounts receivable - trade | 8,554 | 13,241 |
| Merchandise and finished goods | 12,518 | 19,508 |
| Other | 577 | 2,653 |
| Total current assets | 85,496 | 99,573 |
| Non-current assets | | |
| Property, plant and equipment | | |
| Buildings and structures, net | 6,940 | 8,649 |
| Other, net | 2,179 | 2,333 |
| Total property, plant and equipment | 9,120 | 10,983 |
| Intangible assets | 333 | 346 |
| Investments and other assets | | |
| Guarantee deposits | 11,774 | 11,996 |
| Other | 5,840 | 6,081 |
| Allowance for doubtful accounts | (54) | (54) |
| Total investments and other assets | 17,560 | 18,023 |
| Total non-current assets | 27,014 | 29,353 |
| Total assets | 112,510 | 128,926 |
| Liabilities | | - /- |
| Current liabilities | | |
| Notes and accounts payable - trade | 24,335 | 34,351 |
| Short-term borrowings | 250 | 250 |
| Current portion of long-term borrowings | 3,064 | _ |
| Income taxes payable | 4,828 | 2,618 |
| Provision for bonuses | 2,602 | 1,809 |
| Provision for point card certificates | 178 | 211 |
| Provisions | 546 | 540 |
| Other | 7,431 | 10,985 |
| Total current liabilities | 43,237 | 50,767 |
| Non-current liabilities | | - |
| Long-term borrowings | 8,118 | 10,962 |
| Retirement benefit liability | 1,337 | 1,415 |
| Provisions | 135 | 137 |
| Asset retirement obligations | 3,402 | 3,896 |
| Other | 1,088 | 987 |
| Total non-current liabilities | 14,082 | 17,399 |
| Total liabilities | 57,319 | 68,166 |

| | As of February 28, 2023 | As of November 30, 2023 |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Net assets | | |
| Shareholders' equity | | |
| Share capital | 3,181 | 3,181 |
| Capital surplus | 4,478 | 4,478 |
| Retained earnings | 49,703 | 56,762 |
| Treasury shares | (2,174) | (3,672) |
| Total shareholders' equity | 55,187 | 60,749 |
| Accumulated other comprehensive income | | |
| Valuation difference on available-for-sale securities | 1 | 3 |
| Foreign currency translation adjustment | (13) | 0 |
| Remeasurements of defined benefit plans | 6 | 7 |
| Total accumulated other comprehensive income | (5) | 10 |
| Non-controlling interests | 8 | _ |
| Total net assets | 55,191 | 60,760 |
| Total liabilities and net assets | 112,510 | 128,926 |

(2) Consolidated Statements of Income and Comprehensive Income Consolidated Statements of Income

| | | (Millions of yen) |
|---|--|--|
| | Nine months ended November 30, 2022 | Nine months ended November 30, 2023 |
| Net sales | 120,672 | 142,545 |
| Cost of sales | 53,065 | 62,818 |
| Gross profit | 67,606 | 79,726 |
| Selling, general and administrative expenses | 55,219 | 64,177 |
| Operating profit | 12,387 | 15,548 |
| Non-operating income | | |
| Interest income | 1 | 0 |
| Share of profit of entities accounted for using equity method | 138 | 264 |
| Royalty income | 12 | 8 |
| Foreign exchange gains | _ | 3 |
| Subsidy income related to COVID | 45 | _ |
| Other | 91 | 65 |
| Total non-operating income | 289 | 342 |
| Non-operating expenses | | |
| Interest expenses | 62 | 64 |
| Commission for purchase of treasury shares | _ | 30 |
| Other | 17 | 35 |
| Total non-operating expenses | 79 | 129 |
| Ordinary profit | 12,596 | 15,761 |
| Extraordinary losses | | |
| Loss on retirement of non-current assets | 28 | 118 |
| Impairment losses | 480 | 239 |
| Total extraordinary losses | 509 | 358 |
| Profit before income taxes | 12,087 | 15,403 |
| Income taxes - current | 4,225 | 4,962 |
| Income taxes - deferred | (90) | 95 |
| Total income taxes | 4,134 | 5,058 |
| Profit | 7,952 | 10,344 |
| Loss attributable to non-controlling interests | (41) | (8) |
| Profit attributable to owners of parent | 7,993 | 10,353 |

(Millions of yen)

| | Nine months ended November 30, 2022 | Nine months ended November 30, 2023 |
|---|--|--|
| Profit | 7,952 | 10,344 |
| Other comprehensive income | | |
| Valuation difference on available-for-sale securities | 0 | 1 |
| Foreign currency translation adjustment | 8 | 13 |
| Remeasurements of defined benefit plans, net of tax | 9 | (0) |
| Share of other comprehensive income of entities accounted for using equity method | 3 | 1 |
| Total other comprehensive income | 21 | 16 |
| Comprehensive income | 7,973 | 10,360 |
| Comprehensive income attributable to | | |
| Comprehensive income attributable to owners of parent | 8,014 | 10,369 |
| Comprehensive income attributable to non- controlling interests | (41) | (8) |

3. Additional Information

(1) Sales Results by Segment (Consolidated)

| | ` ' | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| | Nine months ended | Nine months ended | Percent change |
| | November 30, 2022 | November 30, 2023 | year-on-year |
| | million yen | million yen | % |
| Apparel Business | 77,694 | 88,496 | 113.9 |
| Miscellaneous Goods/ | 42,877 | 53,904 | 125.7 |
| Accessories Business | 42,877 | 33,904 | 123.7 |
| Other | 100 | 144 | 143.3 |
| Total | 120,672 | 142,545 | 118.1 |

(2) Status of Stores (Consolidated)

| | Nine months ended November 30, 2023 |
|--|--|
| Number of stores as of February 28, 2023 | 927 stores |
| Number of new stores | 75 stores |
| Number of closed stores | 36 stores |
| Number of stores as of November 30, 2023 | 966 stores |