

**Annual report 2023** 



#### Report on operations

## **Administration report**

#### The operation in general

Save the Children is the world's largest independent child rights organisation and has been operating for more than 100 years. Save the Children can be found in half the countries of the world, working in emergency situations and on long-term projects. In Sweden, Save the Children is a membership movement organised into local associations and districts, where many of the activities take place. Direct action for children is combined with expert knowledge and advocacy. We often work in partnership with others.

#### Purpose and objectives

Save the Children is an idea-driven, non-profit volunteer organisation, which works for child rights in Sweden and around the world. Our mission is to work with children for child rights, to inspire fundamental improvements in how children live and are treated, and to achieve immediate and lasting positive changes in their lives. We work with other organisations with similar values and guiding principles.

To achieve our mission, we place great emphasis on collaboration and dialogue at all levels in the organisation, as One Save the Children.

The positive changes Save the Children wants to help bring about are summed up in the international Save the Children movement's Global Strategy 2022–2024, which contains four strategic goals to which Save the Children Sweden also contributes. Save the Children in Sweden also contributes to the international operation with funds from Swedish partners, the EU and UN, and with knowledge and method development. We also make efforts to lobby governments and other decision-makers.

#### Save the Children's strategic goals

- A healthy start in life: to help ensure that more than 130 million children have fair access to and use basic healthcare.
- Return to school: to help ensure that more than 41 million children participate in high-quality education and achieve knowledge targets.
- Freedom from violence: to help ensure that more than 25 million children affected by conflict or gender-based violence do not suffer abuse.
- Safety net and resilience: To lift more children out of poverty.

#### Interim goals in Sweden

- Increase in the number of children up to age 12 participating in our activities from 5,000 to 10,000.
- Greater capacity of local associations to act locally for children's rights. Increase in collaboration between employees and the membership movement.
- Increase in children's participation and influence in Save the Children Sweden's activities.
- Development of digitalised operations, where we reach more children in their arenas.

#### Organisation and members

The voluntary organisation Save the Children Sweden's national association (registered no. 802002-8638) is domiciled in Stockholm County. The headquarters are in Alvik strand in Stockholm and the organisation has a further 11 offices in Borlänge, Gävle, Gothenburg, Karlstad, Luleå, Malmö, Norrköping, Östersund, Umeå, Vänersborg and Växjö.

- Number of employees 2023: 434 (406).
- Number of members 2023: 53.271 (56.531).
- Number of local associations 2023: 119 (123) distributed across 25 districts.

#### Save the Children operates through limited companies

#### Rädda Barnens ServiceAktiebolag

The company runs a consultancy business regarding child rights and sustainability issues within supply chains. The company has two subsidiaries operating in China: one in Beijing (formed 2010) and one in Hong Kong (formed 2015). Operations are run under the shared name The Centre for Child Rights and Business and focus on companies across Asia, including Bangladesh, China, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Vietnam.

#### Rädda Barnen Välfärd AB

Save the Children Välfärd AB strengthens children and important adults through efforts in welfare. Activities are conducted and developed in the three areas: health & social care, education & leisure, and education & skills development. Three mental health clinics, commissioned by Region Stockholm, provide support to children aged 0–5 and their parents, as well as to parents-to-be. On behalf of the City of Stockholm, three youth centres are also run in Järva for young people between the ages of 13 and 18. Important adults, such as teachers and staff at Semi-Independent Living homes, are trained in Trauma-Informed Care and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

#### General Assembly and the Board

The General Assembly is the organisation's highest decision-making body and convenes every other year, most recently in September 2022. The representatives at the General Assembly are elected by districts. The General Assembly decides on Save the Children Sweden's overall operational focus, statutes and submitted motions, and elects the Board of Trustees.

The Board of Trustees is the executive body between General Assemblies. In 2023, the Board held six minuted meetings. The Board of Trustees consists of a Chair, a Deputy Chair and other members. The Save the Children Sweden Youth Council appoints one member and a personal deputy. The unions appoint two co-opted members, who have rights of attendance and expression.

The Board of Trustees' responsibilities include ensuring that all decisions taken are in line with Save the Children's Child Safeguarding Policy, and that the framework and policy are implemented and maintained in the membership movement. The person in charge on the Board of Trustees is Josephine Bladh.

Five committees support the Board of Trustees' work:

- Executive Committee (EC).
- Audit Committee (AC).
- Asset Management Committee (AMC).
- International Committee (IC).
- Organisation and Statute Committee (OSC).

The Secretary General's monthly salary: Åsa Regnér SEK 99,650/month (from 20 August 2023).

Chair fee: According to a 2022 General Assembly decision: SEK 24,150/month. Deputy Chair: SEK 7,245/month. The fees are increased annually according to the price base amount.

#### **Policy documents**

Save the Children Sweden draws up strategies, process descriptions and plans for its operation. They set out the roadmap for how the organisation should act to achieve particular results, and they contain goals. The policies, guidelines and procedures have descriptions of how Save the Children Sweden should respond in certain situations. They talk about the operation's shared values and set limits on our conduct.

#### Internal control and audits

Internal control is part of ongoing financial and operational management. It is undertaken by the Board of Trustees, management and other staff so as to provide reasonable assurance as to whether goals, reporting, and compliance with laws and regulations have been achieved. The Board of Trustees' Audit Committee monitors that internal control of the national association is carried out in a satisfactory manner. An internal audit function supports the committee and reviews the operation in accordance with an annual plan.

Operations carried out by Swedish partners and those implemented through Save the Children International are subject to their own annual external audits. Save the Children Sweden applies the quality code developed by the Swedish Fundraising Association.

#### Ownership management

During the year, work began to formalise the governance of Save the Children Sweden's limited companies. This means, among other things, that in March 2023 the Board of Trustees adopted a ownership management policy, and later in the year a template for ownership directives as well as specific ownership directives for Rädda Barnen Välfärd AB and Rädda Barnens ServiceAktiebolag. A representative of the Board of Trustees, Deputy Chair Anders Ferbe, is on the subsidiaries' boards.

# Significant events and external factors during the financial year

In 2023, the global Save the Children organisation reached 81 million people (of whom 47 million were children), through direct efforts. 39% of these were reached through humanitarian efforts to which Save the Children Sweden contributes through its global organisation. The efforts comprised:

- Efforts in health and nutrition.
- Education initiatives
- · Efforts for security and protection.
- Fighting poverty.

In the Swedish operation, Save the Children reached 64,821 (57,929) people, of whom 28,993 were children and young people. The efforts comprised:

- Support and education for parents and other important adults who work with children.
- Direct support for children, young people and parents.
- Operations for child migrants.
- Socioeconomic activities.
- Activities related to violence towards children.
- Idea-driven welfare activities through R\u00e4dda Barnen V\u00e4lf\u00e4rd AB.

#### **Enhanced performance measurement**

In 2023, Save the Children has initiated efforts to more clearly measure results. During the year, new tools have been created and tested to be able to follow up and gauge Save the Children's efforts.

The new impact section has also worked to make lessons learned from international efforts relevant and useful in the Swedish operation. Therefore, measurement tools and methods from the international follow-up system have been adapted to and used in operations in Sweden during the year.

Save the Children Sweden supports the global organisation's research agenda; for the first time during this strategy period there is an individual learning agenda against which all country and regional offices have mapped their learning agendas. Global teams drive strategic issues with the aim of making Save the Children International a globally leading think tank and expert in different key areas.

#### **External crises impacted operations**

- The Israel/Gaza crisis has led to serious violations of children's rights on a level not seen for a long time; thousands of children have been killed and maimed, and humanitarian aid has been blocked. Save the Children has called for a ceasefire to protect children and allow access to humanitarian aid.
- The earthquakes in Turkey and Syria at the beginning of the year led to major humanitarian efforts.
- At the beginning of 2023, women aid workers were banned in Afghanistan, and this jeopardised aid efforts for thousands of girls and women. Save the Children emphasised the importance of female workers, and at the end of the year the female employees could return to work.

#### Progress that strengthens child rights globally

• The UN Committee on the Rights of the Child recognised children's right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment. This means that governments around the world must take environmental considerations into account to protect and fulfil children's rights, and must also support and protect child activists. This is a significant victory for the child activists who receive support from Save the Children.

 The UN Secretary-General has adopted guiding principles on integrating childrights and meaningful participation in the UN's administration, programmes and activities. Since 2021, Save the Children has pushed for the creation of these guidelines and has also contributed to their content.

#### Key Board decisions during the year

- Recruitment of Åsa Regnér as Secretary General of Save the Children Sweden.
- Purpose for a new child rights policy programme (decision at the 2024 General Assembly).
- Action plan for equality in the membership movement.
- Governance policy for Save the Children Sweden's subsidiaries.

#### Significant events after the financial year

The Government's reform agenda for development aid, which was presented on 14 December, is the overall steering document for Swedish development assistance in the years to come.

One important result is that the new framework contains some strong formulations about children's rights: that children are a particularly vulnerable group, that they are encompassed by all human rights but also have their own specific rights, rights which development assistance must protect. The framework also states that support through civil society organisations should increase (although this is not visible in the letter of appropriation to Sida for 2024).

At the same time, it is a concern that the government so closely links development assistance to Sweden's economic interests, trade and migration policy, which is also confirmed in the appropriation letter to Sida.

Sida announced on 15 March that the agency is terminating all CSO agreements with strategic partner organisations, including Save the Children, until the end of December 2024. The CSO agreement includes support for civil society development in recipient countries. Save the Children, in turn, needs to terminate many agreements with local partner organisations in 40 countries. This sudden termination creates uncertainty, and means that the efforts Save the Children's partners are making for child rights will not be able to be carried out with Swedish support.

#### Future development

#### Digitalisation and AI

Digitalisation and AI are giving more and more people access to information, knowledge, automation, the opportunity of medical diagnosis, and empowerment over means of payment. Save the Children is an active part of this development, and in partnership with private players and local organisations will have an increased focus on children's digital rights. This is in order to ensure ethical management and child rights in the digital world.

#### Stronger membership movement

Save the Children Sweden is a local movement, with members nationwide. During the current strategy period of 2022–2024, the goal is for the membership movement to be stronger, along with Save the Children Sweden's ability to cooperate and co-create solutions with others in local operations.

#### Focus on local partners

In Save the Children Sweden's international operation, the priorities of local partners in civil society will be the governing principles.

#### Greater knowledge

During the strategy period of 2022–2024, Save the Children Sweden has evolved its efforts to test new kinds of partnerships and financing. Efforts to strengthen access to concrete data about and from children themselves about their lives continue, as do efforts to develop knowledge about the challenges children face and solutions to these, through extended and deeper collaboration with the research sphere.

More and better data is needed to increase knowledge and learning so that we can be assured with greater certainty than at present which methods and efforts work best, and can show even more clearly the impact the activities have for children. This is key in engaging more people and being a relevant partner. And this in turn serves to boost the impact even further.

#### **Risks**

#### **Funding**

Funding continues to play a key part in risk management, and we are monitoring the impact of a deteriorating global economy on our operations, both in terms of income and costs. In 2023 inflation has increased and affected the economy, forcing us to prepare for weaker financing in the years ahead. The development aid policy debate in Sweden may also affect which activities Sida continues to finance and on what terms.

We are continuing our strategic development of new funding and business models in order to broaden our funding. By working with digitalisation and data and by involving the target groups in impact measurement, we aim to boost our relevance as a partner and secure even more stable long-term funding for the operation.

#### Reduced democratic space and an altered view of children

One overall trend that has been going on for several years is that liberal democracy is on the decline, and a more authoritarian approach is becoming more common globally. The gap between Save the Children's values and the values of the wider world increases when the child rights perspective and child rights are challenged in Sweden and globally, for instance through various legislative proposals.

#### IT and information security

Save the Children Sweden is continuing to secure its information systems and is working actively on knowledge, awareness and digital solutions to ensure stable, secure IT environments.

#### Security - war and violence

We can see, both in Sweden and internationally, that the security situation is being challenged through war, violence and shootings, all of which are increasing. This is a risk for our target groups, and increases the burden on our operations and advocacy to act both proactively and reactively. It also places demands on our safety work to secure the environments in our operations, for children, members and employees alike.

#### Save the Children's risk management

Save the Children Sweden conducts active risk management within its internal control systems to ensure that we achieve our goals and make well-informed choices. The Board of Trustees has overall responsibility for risk management, and there is a risk management policy in place.

- The global Save the Children movement's shared view of acceptable levels of risk taking provides overall frameworks and helps us to jointly take responsibility for the operation, brand, results, and the impact for children.
- We conduct annual overall risk analyses based on our goals, internal circumstances and market intelligence. In the analysis, we identify the most significant risks we need to focus on during the year.
- Local risk analyses are conducted when new agreements are signed and new operations are starting up. This could entail analysing partners, areas, operating form, funding and donor requirements. The analyses are continuously followed up in the operation.
- Close dialogue takes place between financiers, partners, management and the Board to ensure transparency and a common approach to risk management.

#### Other information

#### Foundations managed

There are seven foundations managed by Save the Children Sweden, and their restricted reserves amounted to MSEK 58.8 (29.9) in book value at year-end. Six of these foundations are co-managed while one is managed separately. The foundation capital is invested in accordance with each foundation's legal documents, which entails mirroring the national association's investments in its long-term asset management to the greatest possible extent. The carrying amount of all of the foundations' assets totalled MSEK 61.3 (32.5), while the market value amounted to MSEK 63.0 (56.9). Both restricted foundation capital and the book value of assets have increased from the reallocation of securities holdings that took place during the year.

#### Information on sustainability

Save the Children submits a sustainability report as part of its annual report.

#### **Financial instruments**

In accordance with the steering guidelines issued by the Swedish Fundraising Association (Giva Sverige), Save the Children Sweden has built up a contingency fund for unforeseen events so that it can guarantee long-term efforts to help children, also in times of crisis. The asset management policy has strict requirements on ethics, low risk and cost-effective management. The policy, which is available on our website, is prepared by the Asset Management Committee and adopted by the Board of Trustees.

Where possible, the equities portfolio is managed in index funds with passive management and a distribution between equities, interest-bearing instruments and alternative investments. The companies in the funds in which Save the Children Sweden invests must operate in accordance with the international conventions signed by Sweden. The holdings in each fund are screened by the manager to ensure there are no unsuitable companies in the funds used. Save the Children Sweden's holdings shall be characterised by consideration for the environment, reasonable social conditions and good governance.

#### Results and financial position

Save the Children Sweden is a non-profit association whose operations does not aim to make a profit. As much of the income as possible should go to strengthening children's rights. We therefore always strive to keep our finances in balance. In 2022, a surplus was recorded from the funds raised linked to Ukraine. For 2023, a deficit is reported as the funds from 2022 were used. The deficit is also due to strategic investments in areas such as data and digitalisation.

Save the Children Sweden's report on operations encompasses the accounts of both the national association and the Group. The Group accounts also include the subsidiaries owned by the national association. Financial comments below refer to the national association unless otherwise stated. In addition, operations are also conducted in Save the Children Sweden's local associations and districts, with funds raised that are not included in this report.

#### Operating income

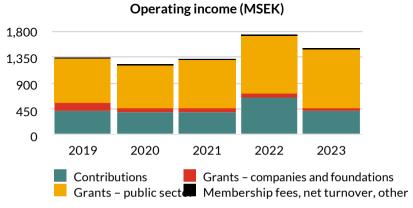
MSEK 1,493.6 (1,728.4), 13.6%

Save the Children Sweden's operations are made possible thanks to funding from members, private donors, public institutions and companies. Its operating income comprises membership fees, contributions, grants and other income. Sometimes donors set particular requirements on results, the content of the operation or the distribution of costs, and if these conditions are not met the funding has to be repaid. In these cases, the grant is recognised as income as costs arise for which the grant is being used.

Funds received without a repayment requirement from the donor are classified as contributions, and are recognised as income when the sum is received. Thanks to the contributions we receive, Save the Children Sweden can act very quickly in the event of war or disaster, and bring about long-term sustainable changes for children. Contributions and grants are used for initiatives to help children both in Sweden and worldwide

Operating income in 2023 amounted to MSEK 1,493.6 (1,728.4), a decrease of MSEK 234.8 on 2022, primarily relating to contributions from private individuals and companies and foundations, which declined by MSEK 228.0, and grants which decreased by MSEK 5.1. This is primarily due to major contributions associated with Ukraine that were received in 2022, without the same level of contributions in 2023. Grants from the UN have decreased, while those from Sida have increased.

Income from membership fees has decreased by MSEK 0.6 compared with the previous year.



Income by source 2023 and development over past five years. Also see income statement and Note 4.

Distribution of operating income in 2023, total MSEK 1,494

> PUBLIC SECTOR GRANTS: MSEK 1,011

#### **OTHER: MSEK 19**

Membership fees, net turnover, other income

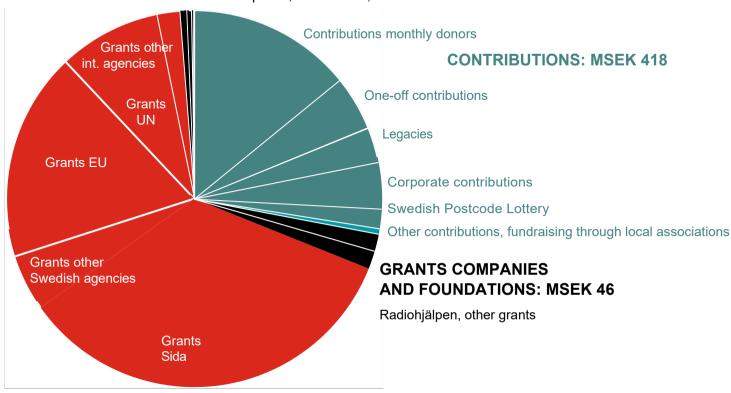


Photo credits: left John Owens; centre Emily Garthwaite/Save the Children; right Patou Dombi/Save the Children.



#### Operating costs

Operating costs are recognised as programme costs, fundraising costs and administrative costs. Costs for the various operations consist of direct costs and joint costs for the Board and management, communication and HR, financial administration, IT, internal service and customer services. The joint costs are distributed in line with an allocation system and added to the direct programme costs, fundraising costs and administrative costs.

#### **Programme costs**

MSEK 1,416.1 (1,493.0), 5.1%

Programme costs are Save the Children Sweden's costs for carrying out its remit in accordance with the statutes and achieving concrete results for children.

A distinction is made between costs for programme activities and for the membership operation (support for the membership movement).

The programme costs for the programme activities have decreased by MSEK 78.3 to MSEK 1,392.8 (1,471.1) compared with the previous year. The primary reason for the decrease is the fact that costs for efforts in Ukraine and its neighbouring countries in 2022 were higher than in 2023. However, costs linked to Ukraine continued to be incurred in 2023 with contributions received in 2022. Also see descriptions of efforts carried out in other parts of the annual report.

The programme costs for the membership operation, MSEK 23.3 (21.9), refer to the portion of the membership fees that go to local associations and districts, which was 45% of the membership income. Save the Children Sweden Youth Council received MSEK 1.3.

The rest of the membership fees, MSEK 3.5 (5.1) plus a further MSEK 14.6 (11.3), relate to costs for the Board of Trustees, the General Assembly and the conference, as well as part-financing for positions such as the secretary general, part of the general secretariat, board and member coordinators and member communicators, costs to support the membership movement's association work, costs to develop local operations in various ways, and costs for various projects.

The costs have increased in line with efforts relating to the membership operation, including greater support from the secretariat.

#### Fundraising and administrative costs

MSEK 140.0 (138.5), 1.1%

#### Fundraising costs:

Costs for the staff and activities required to raise contributions from private individuals and companies.

#### Administrative costs:

Costs for administration of Save the Children Sweden, such as costs for Board meetings, audits, and a percentage of the costs for premises, administrative systems and staff costs.

In line with Swedish Fundraising Association guidelines, fundraising and administrative costs amount to 9.4% of operating income, which is an increase percentage-wise on the previous year, when they were 8.0%, primarily due to higher income in 2022.

In absolute terms, the costs have increased by MSEK 1.5 to MSEK 140.0 (138.5).

# 1,350 900 450 Objectives: programmes Objectives: Members Fundraising Administration

Distribution of costs 2023 and development over past five years.

#### Earnings from financial investments

MSEK 3.4 (0.6), +426%

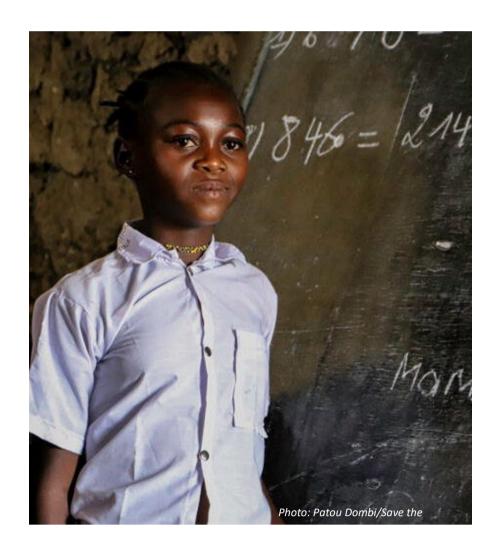
The majority of Save the Children Sweden's long-term capital is invested in selected unit trusts and fixed-income funds. The applied investment model entails a growth in value that is not evident in the accounts until funds are withdrawn or reallocated. Performance has been good in recent years, with fluctuations between years. In 2023, the portfolio increased in value due to the general upturn on the stock markets. During the year, reallocation of fixed-income funds took place, which led to a capital loss of MSEK 5.1 (3.0) being recognised. Shares in subsidiaries have been written down by MSEK 1.5 as the company reports a loss in the start-up phase. Shares in other holdings have been written down by MSEK 4.0 for the same reason.

After the yield from unit trusts and fixed-income funds, write-downs, as well as interest on bank balances and administration costs, earnings from financial investments amount to MSEK 3.4 (0.6).

#### Results

#### MSEK 59.1 (97.6)

The result for the year amounts to MSEK -59.1 (97.6); this is primarily attributable to large contributions linked to Ukraine, which were taken up as income in 2022 and used for their intended purpose in 2023. Use of the funds is also reported under 'Capital for projects' in equity, which has therefore decreased. This item also includes other project contributions which have been recognised as income during the year where the related cost has not yet arisen. During the year, strategic investments in areas such as data and digitalisation continued, which has also affected costs.



Statement		Parent association		Group	
	NI.4.	2222	2222	0000	
In SEK thousand	Note	2023	2022	2023	2022
Operating income	0	0.707	0.054	0.707	0.054
Membership fees	3	8,727	9,351	8,727	9,351
Contributions	4	417,898	645,917	417,898	645,917
Grants	4	1,057,023	1,062,078	1,057,023	1,062,078
Net turnover		6,071	8,277	81,342	67,542
Other income		3,920	2,822	4,027	3,033
Total operating income		1,493,639	1,728,445	1,569,018	1,787,920
Operating costs					
Project costs					
Programme costs	5.6	-1,392,800	-1,471,121	-1,457,653	-1,516,879
Membership costs	5.6	-23,320	-21,865	-23,320	-21,865
		-1,416,120	-1,492,986	-1,480,973	-1,538,744
Fundraising and administrative costs					
Fundraising costs	5.6	-98,889	-98,005	-104,090	-102,425
Administrative costs	5.6	-41,141	-40,483	-50,305	-46,496
		-140,030	-138,488	-154,396	-148,921
Total operating costs		-1,556,150	-1,631,473	-1,635,368	-1,687,665
Net operating result		-62,511	96,972	-66,351	100,255
Earnings from financial investments					
Earnings from shares in Group companies	10	-1,500	-	-	-
Earnings from other securities and receivables that are non-current assets	7	-7,053	-1,020	-7,053	-1,020
Earnings from securities and receivables that are current assets	7	12,532	2,122	12,624	2,142
Management costs		-568	-453	-568	-453
Total earnings from financial investments		3,411	649	5,004	669
Tax on result for the year		-	-	57	57
Result for the year		-59,100	97,62	-61,290	100,980
		•	· ,	•	,

#### Balance sheet

Balarice Sricet	Parent association			Group		
In SEK thousand (31 December)	Note	2023	2022	2023	2022	
ASSETS						
Non-current assets						
Intangible assets						
Software	8	26	49	26	49	
		26	49	26	49	
Tangible assets						
Equipment, fixtures and fittings	9	2,280	3,729	2,486	3,858	
		2,280	3,729	2,486	3,858	
Financial assets						
Shares in Group companies	10	15,608	12,108	-	-	
Ownership interests in other companies	11	700	4,733	700	4,733	
Other securities held as non-current assets	12	342,634	345,856	342,634	345,856	
Other long-term receivables	13	24,628	22,136	24,628	22,136	
		383,570	384,833	367,961	372,724	
Total non-current assets		385,875	388,610	370,474	376,631	
Current assets						
Current receivables						
Accounts receivable		14,360	8,957	20,970	20,553	
Receivables from Group companies		993	107	-	-	
Other receivables	14	75,479	96,659	78,338	98,086	
Prepaid expenses and accrued income	15	66,442	73,840	66,820	75,321	
		157,274	179,562	166,127	193,960	
Property etc. intended for sale		2,570	1,196	2,570	1,196	
Investments in securities etc.	16	2	473	2	473	
Cash and bank balances		383,493	479,419	416,269	509,900	
Total current assets		543,338	660,650	584,967	705,529	
TOTAL ASSETS		929,214	1,049,260	955,441	1,082,160	

#### Balance sheet contd.

		Parent as	sociation	Group	)
In SEK thousand (31 December)	Note	2023	2022	2023	2022
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES					
Equity					
Managed funds		16,980	16,975	16,980	16,975
Rädda Barnen fund		250,000	150,000	250,000	150,000
Value adjustment fund		-	41,005	-	41,005
Capital for projects		94,793	167,633	94,793	167,633
Result brought forward		247,504	136,043	254,075	139,608
Translation differences		-	-	60	15
Result for the year		-59,100	97,621	-61,290	100,980
		550,178	609,277	554,617	616,216
Provisions					
Deferred tax liability		-	-	-	59
		-	-	-	59
Current liabilities					
Accounts payable		21,219	35,788	22,610	36,371
Liabilities, received unutilised grants	17	308,948	356,995	308,948	356,995
Other liabilities		12,733	14,148	29,668	35,505
Accrued expenses and deferred income	18	36,136	33,052	39,598	37,013
		379,036	439,983	400,824	465,884
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		929,214	1,049,260	955,441	1,082,160

# Statement of changes in equity

Parent association Equity	Managed funds	Rädda Barnen fund	Value adjustment fund	Capital for projects	Result brought forward incl. result for the year	Total equity
In SEK thousand						
Opening balance 1 Jan 2023	16,975	150,000	41,005	167,633	233,664	609,277
Result for the year					-59,100	-59,100
Projects determined by the donor	5			41,034	-41,039	-
Projects determined by the Board – dissolution				-37,589	37,589	-
Provision/dissolution		100,000	-41,005		-58,995	-
Utilisation of appropriated funds from previous years				-76,284	76,284	-
Closing balance 31 Dec 2023	16,980	250,000	-	94,793	188,404	550,178

Specification of capital for projects	Opening balance 1 Jan 2023	Utilisation of previous year's provisions	Provisions for the year	Dissolution	Closing balance 31 Dec 2023
Projects determined by the donor					
Thematic	16,133	-15,897	22,462	-	22,697
Region and country	91,339	-49,685	2,533	-	44,186
Special projects	18,826	-6,955	16,039	-	27,910
Total projects determined by the donor	126,297	-72,538	41,034	-	94,793
Projects determined by the Board					
Strategic initiatives	18,153	-2,112	0	-16,041	-
Digitalisation initiatives	6,381	-132	0	-6,248	-
Currency hedge reserve	13,738	0	0	-13,738	-
Other (global and internal support systems)	3,064	-1,502	0	-1,562	-
Total projects determined by the Board	41,336	-3,746	0	-37,589	-
Total capital for projects	167,633	-76,284	41,034	-37,589	94,793

Group Equity	Managed funds	Rädda Barnen fund	Value adjustment fund	Capital for projects	Result brought forward incl. result for the year	Translation difference	Total equity
Opening balance 1 Jan 2023	16,975	150,000	41,005	167,633	240,588	15	616,216
Result for the year					-61,290		-61,290
Projects determined by the donor	5			41,034	-41,039	-	-
Projects determined by the							
Board – dissolution				-37,589	37,589	-	-
Provision/dissolution		100,000	-41,005		-58,995	-	-
Utilisation of appropriated funds							
from previous years				-76,284	76,284	-	-
Translation difference					-353	46	-309
Closing balance 31 Dec 2023	16,980	250,000	0	94,793	192,785	60	554,617

Specification of capital for projects Projects determined by the donor	Opening balance 1 Jan 2023	Utilisation of previous year's provisions	Provisions for the year	Dissolution	Closing balance 31 Dec 2023
Thematic	16,133	-15,897	22,462	_	22,697
Region and country	91,339	-49,685	2,533	-	44,186
Special projects	18,826	-6,955	16,039	-	27,910
Total projects determined by the donor	126,297	-72,538	41,034	-	94,793
Projects determined by the Board					
Strategic initiatives	18,153	-2,112	-	-16,041	-
Digitalisation initiatives	6,381	-132	-	-6,248	-
Currency hedge reserve	13,738	-	-	-13,738	-
Other (global and internal support systems)	3,064	-1,502	-	-1,562	-
Total projects determined by the Board	41,336	-3,746	-	-37,589	-
Total capital for projects	167,633	-76,284	41,034	-1,562	94,793

#### Cash flow statement

	Parent association		Group	
In SEK thousand	2023	2022	2023	2022
Operating activities				
Payments from donors and members etc.	1,477,710	1,734,109	1,613,228	1,789,303
Payments to partners, employees and suppliers etc.	-1,575,794	-1,621,662	-1,713,939	-1,671,446
Cash flow from operating activities before interest and income tax	-98,084	112,447	-100,711	117,857
Interest received	13,093	2,738	13,185	2,758
Dividends received	1,687	1,445	1,687	1,445
Income tax paid	-	-	-2	48
Cash flow from operating activities	-83,304	116,630	-85,841	122,108
Investing activities				
Investments in intangible assets	-	-67	-	-67
Investments in tangible assets	-622	-1,666	-790	-1,756
Investments in financial assets	-73,897	-59,039	-68,897	-54,039
Sale of financial assets	64,480	44,504	64,480	44,505
Change in current financial investments	480	507	480	507
Cash flow from investing activities	-9,559	-15,761	-4,727	-10,850
Cash flow for the year	-92,863	100,869	-90,568	111,258
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	479,419	373,178	509,900	393,270
Exchange rate differences in cash and cash equivalents	-3,063	5,372	-3,063	5,372
Cash and cash equivalents at year-end	383,493	479,419	416,269	509,900

#### NOTES TO THE INCOME STATEMENT AND BALANCE SHEET

#### Note 1 Accounting policies and valuation methods

Save the Children Sweden's accounting policies and valuation methods comply with the Swedish Annual Accounts Act, BFNAR 2012:1 (K3) and the Swedish Fundraising Association's guidelines for annual reports. The policies and methods are unchanged compared with the previous financial year.

#### **Operating income**

Only the inflow of financial benefits that Save the Children has received or will receive on its own account is recognised as income. Unless stated otherwise below, income is measured at the fair value of what has been received or is to be received.

#### Membership fees

Membership fees refer to receipts for membership of Save the Children Sweden. They are reported when they are received and recognised as income over the time period they refer to.

#### **Contributions and grants**

A transaction where Save the Children Sweden is given an asset or service that has a value without returning the equivalent value in exchange is a contribution or grant received. If the asset or service is received because Save the Children Sweden has met or will meet certain conditions and has an obligation to repay the counterparty if the conditions are not met, it is a grant received. If not, it is a contribution.

#### Contributions

Contributions are generally recognised as income when they are received. As a general rule they are measured at fair value. Contributions in the form of equipment and supplies that are forwarded on are not recognised as income but are reported in Note 4.

#### Grants

Grants are recognised as income once the conditions for receiving the grant have been met. Grants received are recognised as liabilities until the conditions for receiving the grant have been met. They are valued at the fair value that Save the Children Sweden has received or is to receive

#### Net turnover

Net turnover refers to the sale of goods and services. It is usually recognised at the time of the sale

#### Other income

Other income usually refers to rental income, which is recognised as income over the time period to which it refers. Other income also includes income not classed as ordinary income for Save the Children Sweden.

#### **Operating costs**

Save the Children Sweden's operating costs are recognised in accordance with the Swedish Fundraising Association's guidelines as programme costs, fundraising costs and administrative costs.

Costs for programmes are divided into programme and membership costs. Costs for the various operations not only consist of direct costs but also of joint costs for the Board and management, communication and HR, financial administration, IT, internal service and customer services. Joint costs are distributed in line with an allocation system and added to the direct programme costs, fundraising costs and administrative costs.

#### **Programme costs**

Refers to Save the Children Sweden's costs for carrying out its remit in accordance with the statutes. A distinction is made between costs for programme activities and for the membership operation. Advocacy is included under programme activities.

#### **Fundraising costs**

Refers to costs incurred when generating contributions from private individuals and companies in the form of fundraising materials, printing costs, advertisements, staff costs and other costs related to fundraising activities.

#### Administrative costs

The costs required for Save the Children Sweden's administration such as costs for Board meetings, audits, and a percentage of the costs for premises, administrative systems and staff costs.

#### Assets, liabilities and provisions

Assets, liabilities and provisions are measured at cost unless otherwise stated below. Receivables and liabilities in foreign currencies are measured at the closing day rate.

#### Intangible and tangible assets

Intangible and tangible assets are measured at cost less any amortisation/depreciation according to plan. Amortisation/depreciation is linear across the asset's estimated useful life. The following amortisation/depreciation periods are used:

- Software and system development costs 3 years.
- Computer inventory 3 years.
- Other inventory 5 years.

An asset is removed from the balance sheet when it is sold or scrapped.

#### **Financial assets**

Securities that are part of Save the Children Sweden's long-term asset management are classified as non-current assets, while those that are part of the short-term financial management are classified as current assets. Non-current assets are written down if the market value for the whole portfolio is less than its cost and the decrease in value is judged to be long term. Securities that are classified as current assets are measured at the lowest of fair value and cost on the balance sheet date.

Ownership interest includes holdings of shares in another company that are intended to benefit the operation by establishing a lasting bond with the other company. The holdings are held long-term. Assets in the item are initially recognised at cost. In subsequent reporting, the shares are measured at cost with an assessment as to whether impairment is needed.

#### **Donated assets**

Property and tenant-owner housing donated to Save the Children Sweden are measured at their market value on the date they are received. They are recognised as current assets because the intention is to sell as soon as possible. Securities are recognised under Investments in securities etc. Listed securities are reported at their market value on the date they are registered for Save the Children Sweden.

#### Liabilities for received unutilised grants

Where Save the Children Sweden has received grants but has not yet utilised the funds, they are recognised as a liability.

#### **Equity**

Refers to the funds made available to Save the Children Sweden so that it can fulfil its aims and which have not been utilised on the balance sheet date. Funds appropriated by donors in permanent donation funds or for special purposes are reported separately.

Rädda Barnen fund is Save the Children Sweden's underlying capital, which is strengthened in some years by funds transferred from result brought forward.

The value adjustment fund previously consisted of provisions to create a buffer for changes in value of investment assets and the equalisation amount regarding legacies. Contributions that have not yet been utilised and other appropriated funds are recognised under 'Capital for projects'. See also the statement of changes in equity. The appropriated funds are normally used the following financial year. The translation difference in the Group refers to the effects of translating subsidiaries' accounts in foreign currencies into Swedish kronor. Result brought forward comprises funds transferred to Save the Children Sweden without restriction. The result for the year according to the income statement is the difference between costs and funds taken up as income.

#### **Contingent liabilities**

If Save the Children Sweden has a possible obligation whose existence will only be confirmed by one or more uncertain future events that are not wholly under Save the Children Sweden's control, Save the Children Sweden recognises this as a contingent liability. A contingent liability is also recognised when an existing obligation is not recognised as a liability or provision because it is not

probable that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation or because the size of the obligation cannot be calculated with sufficient reliability.

#### Cash flow statement

The cash flow statement has been prepared using the direct method

#### The national association, districts and local associations

Districts and local associations produce their own accounts which are not consolidated into the national association's financial reporting as there is no parent company/subsidiary relationship with them.

#### Consolidated accounts

The consolidated accounts include subsidiaries in which the parent association directly or indirectly owns more than 50% of the votes, or has a controlling influence in some other way. The consolidated balance sheet is prepared according to the acquisition method, which means that the subsidiaries' equity on the acquisition date – i.e. the difference between the fair values of the assets and liabilities – is eliminated in its entirety. Group equity therefore only includes the portion of the subsidiaries' equity added after the acquisition.

Foreign subsidiaries are classified as independent subsidiaries, which is why the current rate method is applied to translate their accounts. This means that foreign subsidiaries' assets and liabilities are translated at the closing day rate. All items in the income statements are translated at the average exchange rate for the year. The translation difference is entered directly under Group equity.

#### Note 2 Accounting estimates

In order to prepare the annual report, Save the Children Sweden has made assessments and estimates that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, income and expenses. Actual outcomes may deviate from these assessments and estimates, but are not deemed to have a significant effect on the reported amounts.

	Parent assoc	iation	C	Group
Note 3				
Membership fees	2023	2022	2023	2022
Membership fees	8,727	9,351	8,727	9,351

Membership fees range from SEK 75 for an individual to SEK 300 for a household. In line with a decision by the General Assembly, 30% of the membership fees are paid to Save the Children Sweden's local associations. SEK 2,739,000 of the membership income reported here was paid to local associations in line with the number of members on the voting list on 31 December 2023.



#### **Note 4 Contributions and grants**

Contributions recognised in the income statement	Parent association		Group	
Contributions	2023	2022	2023	2022
General public	280,942	323,445	280,942	323,445
Raised via Save the Children Sweden's local associations	787	2,403	787	2,403
Legacies	45,095	35,733	45,095	35,733
Companies	59,137	130,113	59,137	130,113
Swedish Postcode Lottery	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
Erling-Perssons Stiftelse	-	125,000	-	125,000
Other	6,937	4,224	6,937	4,224
Total contributions recognised in the income statement	417,898	645,917	417,898	645,917
Contributions not recognised in the income statement  Funds raised – estimated amounts				
Contributions that are forwarded on	5,677	15,006	5,677	15,006
Total contributions not recognised in the income statement	5,677	15,006	5,677	15,006

In addition to the above, contributions have been received for which no value in SEK has been established. These relate to pro bono services, such as access to consulting services and expertise, and media space.

#### Grants recognised as income

Grants according to private law				
IKEA Foundation	-	24,914	-	24,914
Radiohjälpen	22,114	13,080	22,114	13,080
Swedish Postcode Lottery	9,039	5,257	9,039	5,257
Other companies	2,973	2,554	2,973	2,554
Other foundations	1,559	4,254	1,559	4,254
Others	10,160	16,180	10,160	16,180
Total funds raised (grants according to private law)	45,845	66,239	45,845	66,239

Public sector grants				
Sida	509,839	467,708	509,839	467,708
Other Swedish agencies	72,653	73,040	72,653	73,040
EU	267,914	266,777	267,914	266,777
UN	131,394	152,595	131,394	152,595
Other foreign/international agencies	29,378	35,719	29,378	35,719
Total public sector grants	1,011,178	995,839	1,011,178	995,839
Total grants	1,057,023	1,062,078	1,057,023	1,062,078
Total funds raised comprise the following:				
Contributions recognised in the income statement	417,898	645,917	417,898	645,917
Contributions not recognised in the income statement	5,677	15,006	5,677	15,006
Grants according to private law recognised as income	45,845	66,239	45,845	66,239
Total funds raised	469,420	727,163	469,420	727,163
Transferred contributions				
Contributions received	1,451	2,778	1,451	2,778
Contributions for own use	-623	-1,597	-623	-1,597
Total transferred contributions	828	1,181	828	1,181

#### Note 5 Average number of employees, staff costs and Board fees

	2023	2022	2023	2022
Average number of employees, parent association	Number of employees		Of whom men	Of whom men
Employees in Sweden	434	404	101	99
Non-Swedish employees	-	2	-	2
Total number of employees, parent association	434	406	101	101
Average number of employees, Group				
Employees in Sweden	492	440	113	108
Non-Swedish employees	22	22	4	2
Total number of employees, Group	514	462	117	110

Gender balance of Board members and senior officers for parent association and Group				
association and Group	2023	2022	2023	2022
Numbe	er: on balance sheet	on balance	Of whom men	Of whom
	date	sheet date		men
Board members	12	12	5	6
Senior Management Team	8	8	3	4
	Parent		Group	
	associati			
Salaries, other remuneration and payroll overheads	2023	2022	2023	2022
Board	420	410	420	410
Secretary General	1,589	1,455	1,589	1,455
Other employees	227,298	204,062	264,777	233,357
Total salaries and remuneration	229,307	205,927	266,786	235,222
Payroll overheads	96,886	86,280	110,844	96,262
(of which pension costs excluding payroll tax)	(17,956)	(17,869)	(21,210)	(20,509)
Total for Sweden	326,193	292,207		
Contract employees posted abroad (incl. payroll overheads, accompanying family members and additional costs)	624	2,955	624	2,955
Total	326,817	295,162	378,254	334,439

See the Administration Report for information on Board fees and the Secretary General's employment terms.

#### Note 6 Leases

Save the Children Sweden mainly leases office premises, computers and office equipment. Lease fees entered as costs amount to SEK 23,103,000 (19,544,000) for the parent association and SEK 24,564,000 (20,191,000) for the Group.

	Parent association		Group	
Future lease fees are due as follows:	2023	2022	2023	2022
Within 1 year	19,653	19,667	20,705	20,243
2–5 years	23,022	28,181	24,132	29,020
Later than 5 years	-	1,288	-	1,288
Total	42,675	49,136	44,837	50,551

#### Note 7 Earnings from other securities and receivables that are non-current assets

	Parent association		Group	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
Dividends	1,687	1,445	1,687	1,445
Interest	440	585	440	585
Capital gains from sales	-5,147	-3,050	-5,147	-3,050
Write-downs	-4,033	-	-4,033	-
Total	-7,053	-1,020	-7,053	-1,020

#### Earnings from securities and receivables that are current assets

	Parent association		Group	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
Interest	12,524	2,108	12,616	2,128
Capital gains from sales	8	14	8	14
Total	12,532	2,122	12,624	2,142

	Parent association		Group	
Note 8 Software	2023	2022	2023	2022
Opening cost	8,380	8,982	8,380	9,021
Capitalised expenses for the year	-	67	-	67
Sales and disposals	-	-669	-	-708
Closing accumulated cost	8,380	8,380	8,380	8,380
Opening depreciation	-8,331	-8,402	-8,331	-8,441
Depreciation for the year	-23	-598	-23	-598
Sales and disposals	-	669	-	708
Closing accumulated depreciation	-8,354	-8,331	-8,354	-8,331
Closing residual value according to plan	26	49	26	49

Note 9 Equipment, fixtures and fittings	Parent association	Parent association		
	2023	2022	2023	2022
Opening cost	19,149	17,967	19,621	18,473
Purchases for the year	622	1,666	790	1,755
Sales and disposals	-	-484	-183	-607
Closing accumulated cost	19,771	19,149	20,228	19,621
Opening depreciation	-15,420	-13,470	-15,763	-13,863
Depreciation for the year	-2,071	-2,434	-2,143	-2,500
Sales and disposals	-	484	164	600
Closing accumulated depreciation	-17,491	-15,42 0	-17,742	-15,763
Closing residual value according to plan	2,280	3,729	2,486	3,858

Note 10 Shares in Group companies	Parent association			
·	2023	2022		
Opening cost	22,508	17,508		
Acquisition	5,000	5,000		
Closing cost	27,508	22,508		
Opening accumulated write-downs	-10,400	-10,400		
Write-downs for the year	-1,500	-		
Closing accumulated write-downs	-11,900	-10,400		
Closing carrying amount	15,608	12,108		
	04.5	04 D 0000		
Specification of the organisation's shares in Group companies	31 Dec 2023	31 Dec 2022		
Companies	Carrying amount	• •	-	ticipations In %
Dädda Barnana Carviga Aktishalar FEGEEN 0642	2,008	2,008	100	100%
Rädda Barnens ServiceAktiebolag 556559-9643	13,600	10,100	100	100%
Rädda Barnen Välfärd AB 559174-1862				
Note 11 Ownership interests in other companies	Parent as	ssociation	Group	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
Opening cost Acquisition	4,733	-	4,733	-
	-	4,733	-	4,733
Closing cost	4,733	4,733	4,733	4,733
Opening accumulated write-downs	-	-	-	-
Write-downs for the year	-4,033	-	-	-
Closing accumulated write-downs	-4,033	-	-4,033	-
Closing carrying amount	700	4,733	700	4,733

Note 12 Other securities held as non-current assets	Parent association			Group		
	31 Dec 2023	31 Dec 2022	31 Dec 2023	31 Dec 2022		
Opening cost Acquisition	345,856	346,831	345,856	346,831		
Sales	66,405	46,579	66,405	46,579		
	-69,627	-47,554	-69,627	-47,554		
Closing cost	342,634	345,856	342,634	345,856		
	Parent as	sociation	Parent as	ssociation		
	31 Dec 2023	31 Dec 2023		31 Dec 2022		
	Book value	Market value		<b>Book value</b>		
Storebrand Emerging Market Plus A	22,405	26,888		22,349		
Storebrand Global Plus A	128,901	195,822		128,604		
Storebrand Sverige Plus A	43,813	59,022		43,749		
Total unit trusts	195,119	281,732		194,702		
SPP Företagsobligationsfond Hållbar	49,617	50,801		49,482		
SEB Obligationsfond	-	-		69,197		
Nordea Inst Interest	64,684	67,797				
Total interest-bearing securities	114,301	118,598		118,679		
UB Skog	23,214	26,658		22,475		
Thule Real Estate	10,000	13,708		10,000		
Total alternative investments	33,214	40,366		<i>32,475</i>		
Total **)	342,634	440,696		345,856		

<sup>\*\*)</sup> The total market value amounted to SEK 388,993,000 on 31 December 2022.

Note 13 Other long-term receivables Parent association		ociation	Gr	Group	
	2023	2022	2023	2022	
Opening cost	22,136	19,409	22,136	19,409	
Additional receivables	2,492	2,727	2,492	2,727	
Closing carrying amount	24,628	22,136	24,628	22,136	
Note 14 Other receivables	Parent asso	ociation	Gr	oup	
	2023	2022	2023	2022	
Partners, local associations and members of Save the Children International	9,364	4,659	9,364	4,659	
Save the Children International	43,035	90,292	43,035	90,292	
Other receivables	23,080	1,708	25,939	3,135	
Total	75,479	96,659	78,338	98,086	
Note 15 Prepaid expenses and accrued income	Parent asso	Parent association		oup	
	2023	2022	2023	2022	
Accrued grants	54,877	62,545	54,877	62,545	
Other accrued income	1,000	1,006	1,000	2,311	
Prepaid expenses	10,565	10,289	10,943	10,465	
Total	66,442	73,840	66,820	75,321	
Note 16 Investments in securities etc.	Parent as		Group		
2023	2023	2022	2023	2022	
Book value	Market value	Book value	Book value	Book value	
Shares and funds 2	10	401	2	401	
Interest-bearing -	-	72	-	72	
Total 2	10	473	2	473	

Note 17 Liabilities, received unutilised grants	Parent association		Group 2023	
	2023	2022		2022
Swedish agencies	138,125	189,397	138,125	189,397
EU, UN and other foreign agencies	133,342	111,302	133,342	111,302
Foundations, companies and organisations	37,481	56,296	37,481	56,296
Total	308,948	356,995	308,948	356,995

The liability mainly comprises prepaid grants for multi-year operations where the donor often pays in advance. The operations were implemented in 2024 or later in accordance with individual agreements. The amount includes SEK 10,494,000 (3,716,000) which is being repaid to the donor. This relates to a completed operation where the cost is less than the grant received.

Note 18 Accrued expenses and prepaid income	Parent association		Group	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
Accrued salaries and social security contributions	25,512	22,505	25,512	22,505
Membership fees for next year	5,644	6,481	7,381	6,481
Other	4,980	4,066	6,704	8,027
Total	36,136	33,052	39,597	37,013
Note 19 Contingent liabilities and contingent assets	Parent association		Group	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
Settlement guarantee, Save the Children International	14,446	15,732	14,446	15,732

#### Note 20 Significant events after the financial year

Sida announced on 15 March that the agency is terminating all CSO agreements with strategic partner organisations, including Save the Children, until the end of December 2024. The CSO agreement includes support for civil society development in recipient countries. Save the Children, in turn, needs to terminate many agreements with local partner organisations in 40 countries. This sudden termination creates uncertainty, and means that the efforts Save the Children's partners are making for child rights will not be able to be carried out with Swedish support.

### Signatures of the report on operations

Stockholm, the date shown by our electronic signatures

Maria Schillaci, Chair, Lars Heikensten,

Anders Ferbe, Deputy Chair, Terje Johansson,

Henrik Alffram, Sabil Khan.

Negin Amirekhtiar, Sofia Myrevik,

Josephine Bladh, Åsa Regnér, Secretary General

Monica Burman, Ingela Schmidt,

Selma Gustavsson Bagambe, Monica Selin.

Our auditor's report was submitted on the date shown by our electronic signature

Erik Albenius Gay Ljungberg

**Authorised Public Accountant**