

BP PLC
Form 20-F
March 04, 2009

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549**

FORM 20-F

(Mark One)

**REGISTRATION STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(b) or (g)
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
OR**

**ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d)
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

For the fiscal year ended 31 December 2008

OR

**TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES
EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

OR

**SHELL COMPANY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES
EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

Commission file number: 1-6262

BP p.l.c.

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

England and Wales

(Jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

1 St James s Square,

London SW1Y 4PD

United Kingdom

(Address of principal executive offices)

Dr Byron E Grote

BP p.l.c. 1 St James s Square,

London SW1Y 4PD

United Kingdom

Tel +44 (0) 20 7496 4000

Fax +44 (0) 20 7496 4630

(Name, Telephone, E-mail and/or Facsimile number and Address of Company Contact Person)

Title of each class

Ordinary Shares of 25c each

4 7/8% Guaranteed Notes due 2010

Floating Rate Guaranteed Extendible Notes

Floating Rate Guaranteed Notes due 2010

Name of each exchange on which registered

New York Stock Exchange*

New York Stock Exchange

New York Stock Exchange

New York Stock Exchange

New York Stock Exchange

**Substitute Floating Rate Guaranteed Notes due
July 10 2009**

**Substitute Floating Rate Guaranteed Notes due
October 9 2009**

5.25% Guaranteed Notes due 2013

New York Stock Exchange

New York Stock Exchange

*Not for trading, but only in connection with the registration of American Depositary Shares, pursuant to the requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission

Securities registered or to be registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act.

None

Securities for which there is a reporting obligation pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Act.

None

Indicate the number of outstanding shares of each of the issuer's classes of capital or common stock as of the close of the period covered by the annual report.

| | |
|---|-----------------------|
| Ordinary Shares of 25c each | 18,730,307,315 |
| Cumulative First Preference Shares of £1 each | 7,232,838 |
| Cumulative Second Preference Shares of £1 each | 5,473,414 |

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act.

Yes No

If this report is an annual or transition report, indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Yes No

Note Checking the box above will not relieve any registrant required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 from their obligations under those Sections.

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the Registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, or a non-accelerated filer. See definition of accelerated filer and large accelerated filer in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer

Indicate by check mark which basis of accounting the registrant has used to prepare the financial statements included in this filing: International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the

U.S. GAAP

International Accounting Standards

Other

Board

If Other has been checked in response to the previous question, indicate by check mark which financial statement item the registrant has elected to follow.

Item 17 Item 18

If this is an annual report, indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).

Yes No

Cross reference to Form 20-F

| | Page |
|--|---------------------------|
| Item 1. Identity of Directors, Senior Management and Advisors | n/a |
| Item 2. Offer Statistics and Expected Timetable | n/a |
| Item 3. Key Information | |
| A. Selected financial data | 6 |
| B. Capitalization and indebtedness | n/a |
| C. Reasons for the offer and use of proceeds | n/a |
| D. Risk factors | 8-10 |
| Item 4. Information on the Company | |
| A. History and development of the company | 11-12 |
| B. Business overview | 13-45 |
| C. Organizational structure | 45 |
| Appendix A to Item 4D | 7, 16-18, 185-190, 192 |
| D. Property, plants and equipment | 45 |
| Item 4A. Unresolved Staff Comments | None |
| Item 5. Operating and Financial Review and Prospects | |
| A. Operating results | 46-53 |
| B. Liquidity and capital resources | 54 |
| C. Research and development, patent and licenses | 36,130 |
| D. Trend information | 54-55 |
| E. Off-balance sheet arrangements | 55-56 |
| F. Tabular disclosure of contractual commitments | 56 |
| G. Safe harbour | 10 |
| Item 6. Directors, Senior Management and Employees | |
| A. Directors and senior management | 62-64 |
| B. Compensation | 73-83, 170-171 |
| C. Board practices | 61-71, 62, 81, 170-171 |
| D. Employees | 44-45 |
| E. Share ownership | 72, 79-80, 86-87, 166-170 |
| Item 7. Major Shareholders and Related Party Transactions | |
| A. Major shareholders | 87 |
| B. Related party transactions | 88, 138-139 |
| C. Interests of experts and counsel | n/a |
| Item 8. Financial Information | |
| A. Consolidated financial statements and other financial information | 88-89, 99-193 |
| B. Significant changes | None |
| Item 9. The Offer and Listing | |
| A. Offer and listing details | 89-90 |
| B. Plan of distribution | n/a |
| C. Markets | 89-90 |
| D. Selling shareholders | n/a |
| E. Dilution | n/a |
| F. Expenses of the issue | n/a |
| Item 10. Additional Information | |
| A. Share capital | n/a |
| B. Memorandum and articles of association | 91-92 |
| C. Material contracts | None |

Edgar Filing: BP PLC - Form 20-F

| | | |
|-----------|---|------------------|
| | D. Exchange controls | 92 |
| | E. Taxation | 92-94 |
| | F. Dividends and paying agents | n/a |
| | G. Statements by experts | n/a |
| | H. Documents on display | 94 |
| | I. Subsidiary information | n/a |
| Item 11. | Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk | 140-145, 148-153 |
| Item 12. | Description of securities other than equity securities | n/a |
| Item 13. | Defaults, Dividend Arrearages and Delinquencies | None |
| | Material Modifications to the Rights of Security Holders and Use of | |
| Item 14. | Proceeds | 94 |
| Item 15. | Controls and Procedures | 94-95 |
| Item 16A. | Audit Committee Financial Expert | 95 |
| Item 16B. | Code of Ethics | 95 |
| Item 16C. | Principal Accountant Fees and Services | 95 |
| Item 16D. | Exemptions from the Listing Standards for Audit Committees | n/a |
| Item 16E. | Purchases of Equity Securities by the Issuer and Affiliated Purchases | 97 |
| Item 16G. | Corporate governance practices | 95-96 |
| Item 17. | Financial Statements | n/a |
| Item 18. | Financial Statements | 16-18, 99-193 |
| Item 19. | Exhibits | 98 |

2

Contents

| | |
|----|---|
| 5 | Performance review |
| 61 | Board performance and biographies |
| 73 | Directors' remuneration report |
| 85 | Additional information for shareholders |
| 99 | Financial statements |

Certain definitions

Unless the context indicates otherwise, the following terms have the meanings shown below:

Oil and natural gas reserves

Oil and gas reserves

Proved reserves are defined by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) in Rule 410(a) of Regulation S-X, paragraphs (2), (2i), (2ii) and (2iii). Proved oil and gas reserves are the estimated quantities of crude oil, natural gas, and natural gas liquids which geological and engineering data demonstrate with reasonable certainty to be recoverable in future years from known reservoirs under existing economic and operating conditions, i.e., prices and costs as of the date the estimate is made. Prices include consideration of changes in existing prices provided only by contractual arrangements, but not on escalations based upon future conditions.

(i) Reservoirs are considered proved if economic producibility is supported by either actual production or conclusive formation test. The area of a reservoir considered proved includes: (A) that portion delineated by drilling and defined by gas-oil and/or oil-water contacts, if any; and (B) the immediately adjoining portions not yet drilled, but which can be reasonably judged as economically productive on the basis of available geological and engineering data. In the absence of information on fluid contacts, the lowest known structural occurrence of hydrocarbons controls the lower proved limit of the reservoir.

(ii) Reserves which can be produced economically through application of improved recovery techniques (such as fluid injection) are included in the proved classification when successful testing by a pilot project, or the operation of an installed programme in the reservoir, provides support for the engineering analysis on which the project or programme was based.

(iii) Estimates of proved reserves do not include the following:

- (a) oil that may become available from known reservoirs but is classified separately as indicated additional reserves ;
- (b) crude oil, natural gas, and natural gas liquids, the recovery of which is subject to reasonable doubt because of uncertainty as to geology, reservoir characteristics, or economic factors;
- (c) crude oil, natural gas, and natural gas liquids, that may occur in undrilled prospects; and
- (d) crude oil, natural gas, and natural gas liquids, that may be recovered from oil shales, coal, gilsonite and other such sources.

Proved developed reserves

Proved reserves that can be expected to be recovered through existing wells with existing equipment and operating methods. Additional oil and natural gas expected to be obtained through the application of fluid injection or other improved recovery techniques for supplementing the natural forces and mechanisms of primary recovery are included as proved developed reserves only after testing by a pilot project or after the operation of an installed programme has confirmed through production response that increased recovery will be achieved.

Proved undeveloped reserves

Proved reserves that are expected to be recovered from new wells on undrilled acreage, or from existing wells where a relatively major expenditure is required for recompletion. Reserves on undrilled acreage shall be limited to those drilling units offsetting productive units that are reasonably certain of production when drilled. Proved reserves for other undrilled units can be claimed only where it can be demonstrated with certainty that there is continuity of production from the existing productive formation. Under no circumstances are estimates for proved undeveloped reserves attributable to any acreage for which an application of fluid injection or other improved recovery technique is contemplated, unless such techniques have been proved effective by actual tests in the area and in the same reservoir.

Performance review

6 Selected financial and operating information

8 Risk factors

10 Forward-looking statements

10 Statements regarding competitive position

11 Information on the company

13 Exploration and Production

27 Refining and Marketing

33 Other businesses and corporate

36 Research and technology

37 Regulation of the group's business

37 Safety

39 Environment

44 Employees

45 Social and community issues

45 Essential contracts

| | |
|----|-------------------------------------|
| 45 | Property, plants and equipment |
| 45 | Organizational structure |
| 46 | Financial and operating performance |
| 54 | Liquidity and capital resources |
| 57 | Critical accounting policies |

Performance review

Selected financial and operating information

This information, insofar as it relates to 2008, has been extracted or derived from the audited financial statements of the BP group presented on pages 99-184. Note 1 to the Financial statements includes details on the basis of preparation of these financial statements. The selected information should be read in conjunction with the audited financial statements and related Notes elsewhere herein.

BP sold its Innovene operations in December 2005. In the circumstances of discontinued operations, IFRS require that the profits earned by the discontinued operations, in this case the Innovene operations, on sales to the continuing operations be eliminated on consolidation from the discontinued operations and attributed to the continuing operations and vice versa.

| | | \$ million except per share amount | | | |
|--|----------------|------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 | 2005 | 2004 |
| Income statement data | | | | | |
| Total revenues ^a | 365,700 | 288,951 | 270,602 | 243,948 | 194,911 |
| Profit before interest and taxation from continuing operations ^a | 35,239 | 32,352 | 35,658 | 32,182 | 25,744 |
| Profit from continuing operations ^a | 21,666 | 21,169 | 22,626 | 22,133 | 17,888 |
| Profit for the year | 21,666 | 21,169 | 22,601 | 22,317 | 17,266 |
| Profit for the year attributable to BP shareholders | 21,157 | 20,845 | 22,315 | 22,026 | 17,071 |
| Capital expenditure and acquisitions ^b | 30,700 | 20,641 | 17,231 | 14,149 | 16,651 |
| Per ordinary share – cents | | | | | |
| Profit for the year attributable to BP shareholders | | | | | |
| Basic | 112.59 | 108.76 | 111.41 | 104.25 | 78.22 |
| Diluted | 111.56 | 107.84 | 110.56 | 103.05 | 76.82 |
| Profit from continuing operations attributable to BP shareholders ^a | | | | | |
| Basic | 112.59 | 108.76 | 111.54 | 103.38 | 81.02 |
| Diluted | 111.56 | 107.84 | 110.68 | 102.19 | 79.62 |
| Dividends paid per share – cents | 55.05 | 42.30 | 38.40 | 34.85 | 27.75 |
| Expense | 29.387 | 20.995 | 21.104 | 19.152 | 15.251 |
| Ordinary share data^c | | | | | |
| Average number outstanding of 25 cent ordinary shares (shares million undiluted) | 18,790 | 19,163 | 20,028 | 21,126 | 21,821 |
| Average number outstanding of 25 cent ordinary shares (shares million diluted) | 18,963 | 19,327 | 20,195 | 21,411 | 22,291 |
| Balance sheet data | | | | | |
| Total assets | 228,238 | 236,076 | 217,601 | 206,914 | 194,631 |
| Net assets | 92,109 | 94,652 | 85,465 | 80,450 | 78,231 |
| Share capital | 5,176 | 5,237 | 5,385 | 5,185 | 5,401 |
| BP shareholders' equity | 91,303 | 93,690 | 84,624 | 79,661 | 76,891 |
| Finance debt due after more than one year | 17,464 | 15,651 | 11,086 | 10,230 | 12,901 |
| Net debt to net debt plus equity ^d | 21% | 22% | 20% | 17% | 22% |

^aExcludes

Innovene, which was treated as a discontinued operation in accordance with IFRS 5

Non-current Assets Held for Sale and Discontinued Operations in 2004, 2005 and 2006.

^b2008 included capital expenditure of \$2,822 million and an asset exchange of \$1,909 million, both in respect of our transaction with Husky, as well as capital expenditure of \$3,667 million in respect of our transactions with Chesapeake (see page 47). 2007 included \$1,132 million for the acquisition of Chevron's Netherlands manufacturing company. Capital expenditure in 2006 included \$1 billion in respect of our investment in Rosneft. Capital expenditure and acquisitions for 2004 included \$1,354 million for including TNK's interest in Slavneft

within TNK-BP and \$1,355 million for the acquisition of Solvay's interests in BP Solvay Polyethylene Europe and BP Solvay Polyethylene North America. With the exception of the shares issued to Alfa Group and Access Renova (AAR) in connection with TNK-BP (2004-2006), all capital expenditure and acquisitions during the past five years have been financed from cash flow from operations, disposal proceeds and external financing.

^cThe number of ordinary shares shown has been used to calculate per share amounts.

^dNet debt and the ratio of net debt to net debt plus equity ratio are non-GAAP measures. We believe that these measures provide useful information to investors. Net debt enables investors to see the economic effect of gross debt, related hedges and cash

and cash equivalents in total. The net debt ratio enables investors to see how significant net debt is relative to equity from shareholders. Net debt has been redefined to include the fair value of associated derivative financial instruments that are used to hedge foreign exchange and interest rate risks relating to finance debt, for which hedge accounting is claimed. The derivatives are reported on the balance sheet within the headings

Derivative financial instruments . Amounts for comparative periods are presented on a consistent basis.

Revised definition of net debt

| | \$ million | | | |
|---|------------|--------|--------|--------|
| | 2007 | 2006 | 2005 | 2004 |
| As reported | | | | |
| Net debt | 27,483 | 21,420 | 16,202 | 21,732 |
| Equity | 94,652 | 85,465 | 80,450 | 78,235 |
| Ratio of net debt to net debt plus equity | 23% | 20% | 17% | 22% |
| As amended | | | | |
| Net debt | 26,817 | 21,122 | 16,373 | 21,732 |
| Equity | 94,652 | 85,465 | 80,450 | 78,235 |
| Ratio of net debt to net debt plus equity | 22% | 20% | 17% | 22% |

Performance review**Production and net proved oil and natural gas reserves**

The following table shows our production for the past five years and the estimated net proved oil and natural gas reserves at the end of each of those years.

Production and net proved reserves^a

| | 2008^f | 2007 | 2006 | 2005 | 2004 |
|---|-------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Crude oil production for subsidiaries (thousand barrels per day) | 1,263 | 1,304 | 1,351 | 1,423 | 1,442 |
| Crude oil production for equity-accounted entities (thousand barrels per day) | 1,138 | 1,110 | 1,124 | 1,139 | 1,099 |
| Natural gas production for subsidiaries (million cubic feet per day) | 7,277 | 7,222 | 7,412 | 7,512 | 7,600 |
| Natural gas production for equity-accounted entities (million cubic feet per day) | 1,057 | 921 | 1,005 | 912 | 878 |
| Estimated net proved crude oil reserves for subsidiaries (million barrels) ^b | 5,665 | 5,492 | 5,893 | 6,360 | 6,700 |
| Estimated net proved crude oil reserves for equity-accounted entities (million barrels) ^c | 4,688 | 4,581 | 3,888 | 3,205 | 3,100 |
| Estimated net proved natural gas reserves for subsidiaries (billion cubic feet) ^d | 40,005 | 41,130 | 42,168 | 44,448 | 45,600 |
| Estimated net proved natural gas reserves for equity-accounted entities (billion cubic feet) ^e | 5,203 | 3,770 | 3,763 | 3,856 | 2,800 |

^aCrude oil includes natural gas liquids (NGLs) and condensate.

Production and proved reserves exclude royalties due to others, whether payable in cash or in kind, where the royalty owner has a direct interest in the underlying production and the option and ability to make lifting and sales arrangements independently, and include minority interests in consolidated operations.

^bIncludes 21 million barrels (20 million barrels at 31 December 2007 and 23 million

barrels at 31 December 2006) in respect of the 30% minority interest in BP Trinidad and Tobago LLC.

^cIncludes 216 million barrels (210 million barrels at 31 December 2007 and 179 million barrels at 31 December 2006) in respect of the 6.80% minority interest in TNK-BP (6.51% at 31 December 2007 and 6.29% at 31 December 2006).

^dIncludes 3,108 billion cubic feet of natural gas (3,211 billion cubic feet at 31 December 2007 and 3,537 billion cubic feet at 31 December 2006) in respect of the 30% minority interest in BP Trinidad and Tobago LLC.

^eIncludes 131 billion cubic feet (68 billion cubic feet at 31 December 2007 and 99 billion cubic feet at 31 December 2006) in respect of the 5.92% minority interest in TNK-BP (5.88% at 31 December 2007 and 7.77% at 31

December 2006).

BP estimates proved reserves for reporting purposes in accordance with SEC rules and relevant guidance.

As currently required, these proved reserve estimates are based on prices and costs as of the date the estimate is made.

There was a rapid and substantial decline in oil prices in the fourth quarter of 2008 that was not matched by a similar reduction in operating costs by the end of the year. BP does not expect that these economic conditions will continue.

However, our 2008 reserves are calculated on the basis of operating activities that would be undertaken were year-end prices and costs to persist.

During 2008, 1,085 million barrels of oil and natural gas, on an oil equivalent* basis (mmboe), were added to BP's proved reserves for subsidiaries (excluding purchases and sales). After allowing for production, which amounted to 937mmboe, BP's proved reserves for subsidiaries were 12,562mmboe at 31 December 2008. These proved reserves are mainly located in the US (44%), Rest of Americas (17%), Asia Pacific (10%), Africa (11%) and the UK (8%).

For equity-accounted entities, 646mmboe were added to proved reserves (excluding purchases and sales), production was 491mmboe and proved reserves were 5,585mmboe at 31 December 2008.

*Natural gas is converted to oil equivalent at 5.8 billion cubic

feet (bcf) =
1 million barrels.

Performance review

Risk factors

We urge you to consider carefully the risks described below. If any of these risks occur, our business, financial condition and results of operations could suffer and the trading price and liquidity of our securities could decline, in which case you could lose all or part of your investment.

In the current global financial crisis and uncertain economic environment, certain risks may gain more prominence either individually or when taken together. Oil and gas prices and margins are likely to remain lower than in recent times due to reduced demand; the impact of this situation will also depend on the degree to which producers reduce production. At the same time, governments will be facing greater pressure on public finances leading to the risk of increased taxation. These factors may also lead to intensified competition for market share and available margin, with consequential potential adverse effects on volumes. The financial and economic situation may have a negative impact on third parties with whom we do, or may do, business. Any of these factors may affect our results of operations, financial condition and liquidity.

If there is an extended period of constraint in the capital markets, with debt markets in particular experiencing lack of liquidity, at a time when cash flows from our business operations may be under pressure, this may impact our ability to maintain our long-term investment programme with a consequent effect on our growth rate, and may impact shareholder returns, including dividends and share buybacks, or share price. Decreases in the funded levels of our pension plans may also increase our pension funding requirements.

Our system of risk management provides the response to risks of group significance through the establishment of standards and other controls. Inability to identify, assess and respond to risks through this and other controls could lead to an inability to capture opportunities, threats materializing, inefficiency and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

The risks are categorized against the following areas: strategic; compliance and control; and operational.

Strategic risks

Access and renewal

Successful execution of our group plan depends critically on implementing activities to renew and reposition our portfolio. The challenges to renewal of our upstream portfolio are growing due to increasing competition for access to opportunities globally. Lack of material positions in new markets and/or inability to complete disposals could result in an inability to grow or even maintain our production.

Prices and markets

Oil, gas and product prices are subject to international supply and demand. Political developments and the outcome of meetings of OPEC can particularly affect world supply and oil prices. Previous oil price increases have resulted in increased fiscal take, cost inflation and more onerous terms for access to resources. As a result, increased oil prices may not improve margin performance. In addition to the adverse effect on revenues, margins and profitability from any fall in oil and natural gas prices, a prolonged period of low prices or other indicators would lead to further reviews for impairment of the group's oil and natural gas properties. Such reviews would reflect management's view of long-term oil and natural gas prices and could result in a charge for impairment that could have a significant effect on the group's results of operations in the period in which it occurs. Rapid material and/or sustained change in oil, gas and product prices can impact the validity of the assumptions on which strategic decisions are based and, as a result, the ensuing actions derived from those decisions may no longer be appropriate. A prolonged period of low oil prices may impact our ability to maintain our long-term investment programme with a consequent effect on our growth rate and may impact shareholder returns, including dividends and share buybacks, or share price.

Periods of global recession could impact the demand for our products, the prices at which they can be sold and affect the viability of the markets in which we operate.

Refining profitability can be volatile, with both periodic oversupply and supply tightness in various regional markets. Sectors of the chemicals industry are also subject to fluctuations in supply and demand within the petrochemicals market, with a consequent effect on prices and profitability.

Climate change and carbon pricing

Compliance with changes in laws, regulations and obligations relating to climate change could result in substantial capital expenditure, reduced profitability from changes in operating costs, and revenue generation and strategic growth opportunities being impacted.

Socio-political

We have operations in countries where political, economic and social transition is taking place. Some countries have experienced political instability, changes to the regulatory environment, expropriation or nationalization of property, civil strife, strikes, acts of war and insurrections. Any of these conditions occurring could disrupt or terminate our operations, causing our development activities to be curtailed or terminated in these areas or our production to decline and could cause us to incur additional costs. In particular, our investments in Russia could be adversely affected by heightened political and economic environment risks.

We set ourselves high standards of corporate citizenship and aspire to contribute to a better quality of life through the products and services we provide. If it is perceived that we are not respecting or advancing the economic and social progress of the communities in which we operate, our reputation and shareholder value could be damaged.

Competition

The oil, gas and petrochemicals industries are highly competitive. There is strong competition, both within the oil and gas industry and with other industries, in supplying the fuel needs of commerce, industry and the home. Competition puts pressure on product prices, affects oil products marketing and requires continuous management focus on reducing unit costs and improving efficiency. The implementation of group strategy requires continued technological advances and innovation including advances in exploration, production, refining, petrochemicals manufacturing technology and advances in technology related to energy usage. Our performance could be impeded if competitors developed or acquired intellectual property rights to technology that we required or if our innovation lagged the industry.

Investment efficiency

Our organic growth is dependent on creating a portfolio of quality options and investing in the best options. Ineffective investment selection could lead to loss of value and higher capital expenditure.

Reserves replacement

Successful execution of our group strategy depends critically on sustaining long-term reserves replacement. If upstream resources are not progressed to proved reserves in a timely and efficient manner, we will be unable to sustain long-term replacement of reserves.

Performance review

Liquidity, financial capacity and financial exposure

The group has established a financial framework to ensure that it is able to maintain an appropriate level of liquidity and financial capacity and to constrain the level of assessed capital at risk for the purposes of positions taken in financial instruments. Failure to operate within our financial framework could lead to the group becoming financially distressed leading to a loss of shareholder value. Commercial credit risk is measured and controlled to determine the group's total credit risk. Inability to determine adequately our credit exposure could lead to financial loss. A credit crisis affecting banks and other sectors of the economy could impact the ability of counterparties to meet their financial obligations to the group. It could also affect our ability to raise capital to fund growth.

Crude oil prices are generally set in US dollars, while sales of refined products may be in a variety of currencies. Fluctuations in exchange rates can therefore give rise to foreign exchange exposures, with a consequent impact on underlying costs and revenues.

For more information on financial instruments and financial risk factors see Financial statements Note 28 on page 140 and Note 34 on page 148.

Compliance and control risks

Regulatory

The oil industry is subject to regulation and intervention by governments throughout the world in such matters as the award of exploration and production interests, the imposition of specific drilling obligations, environmental and health and safety protection controls, controls over the development and decommissioning of a field (including restrictions on production) and, possibly, nationalization, expropriation, cancellation or non-renewal of contract rights. We buy, sell and trade oil and gas products in certain regulated commodity markets. The oil industry is also subject to the payment of royalties and taxation, which tend to be high compared with those payable in respect of other commercial activities, and operates in certain tax jurisdictions that have a degree of uncertainty relating to the interpretation of, and changes to, tax law. As a result of new laws and regulations or other factors, we could be required to curtail or cease certain operations, or we could incur additional costs.

For more information on environmental regulation, see Environment on page 39.

Ethical misconduct and non-compliance

Our code of conduct, which applies to all employees, defines our commitment to integrity, compliance with all applicable legal requirements, high ethical standards and the behaviours and actions we expect of our businesses and people wherever we operate. Incidents of ethical misconduct or non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations could be damaging to our reputation and shareholder value. Multiple events of non-compliance could call into question the integrity of our operations.

For certain legal proceedings involving the group, see Legal proceedings on page 88.

Liabilities and provisions

Changes in the external environment, such as new laws and regulations, market volatility or other factors, could affect the adequacy of our provisions for pensions, tax, environmental and legal liabilities.

Reporting

External reporting of financial and non-financial data is reliant on the integrity of systems and people. Failure to report data accurately and in compliance with external standards could result in regulatory action, legal liability and damage to our reputation.

Operational risks

Process safety

Inherent in our operations are hazards that require continuous oversight and control. There are risks of technical integrity failure and loss of containment of hydrocarbons and other hazardous material at operating sites or pipelines. Failure to manage these risks could result in injury or loss of life, environmental damage, or loss of production and could result in regulatory action, legal liability and damage to our reputation.

Personal safety

Inability to provide safe environments for our workforce and the public could lead to injuries or loss of life and could result in regulatory action, legal liability and damage to our reputation.

Environmental

If we do not apply our resources to overcome the perceived trade-off between global access to energy and the protection or improvement of the natural environment, we could fail to live up to our aspirations of no or minimal damage to the environment and contributing to human progress.

Security

Security threats require continuous oversight and control. Acts of terrorism against our plants and offices, pipelines, transportation or computer systems could severely disrupt business and operations and could cause harm to people.

Product quality

Supplying customers with on-specification products is critical to maintaining our licence to operate and our reputation in the marketplace. Failure to meet product quality standards throughout the value chain could lead to harm to people and the environment and loss of customers.

Drilling and production

Exploration and production require high levels of investment and are subject to natural hazards and other uncertainties, including those relating to the physical characteristics of an oil or natural gas field. The cost of drilling, completing or operating wells is often uncertain. We may be required to curtail, delay or cancel drilling operations because of a variety of factors, including unexpected drilling conditions, pressure or irregularities in geological formations, equipment failures or accidents, adverse weather conditions and compliance with governmental requirements.

Transportation

All modes of transportation of hydrocarbons contain inherent risks. A loss of containment of hydrocarbons and other hazardous material could occur during transportation by road, rail, sea or pipeline. This is a significant risk due to the potential impact of a release on the environment and people and given the high volumes involved.

Major project delivery

Successful execution of our group plan (*see page 11*) depends critically on implementing the activities to deliver the major projects over the plan period. Poor delivery of any major project that underpins production growth and/or a major programme designed to enhance shareholder value could adversely affect our financial performance.

Digital infrastructure

The reliability and security of our digital infrastructure are critical to maintaining our business applications availability. A breach of our digital security could cause serious damage to business operations and, in some circumstances, could result in injury to people, damage to assets, harm to the environment and breaches of regulations.

Performance review

Business continuity and disaster recovery

Contingency plans are required to continue or recover operations following a disruption or incident. Inability to restore or replace critical capacity to an agreed level within an agreed timeframe would prolong the impact of any disruption and could severely affect business and operations.

Crisis management

Crisis management plans and capability are essential to deal with emergencies at every level of our operations. If we do not respond or are perceived not to respond in an appropriate manner to either an external or internal crisis, our business and operations could be severely disrupted.

People and capability

Employee training, development and successful recruitment of new staff, in particular petroleum engineers and scientists, are key to implementing our plans. Inability to develop the human capacity and capability across the organization could jeopardize performance delivery.

Treasury and trading activities

In the normal course of business, we are subject to operational risk around our treasury and trading activities. Control of these activities is highly dependent on our ability to process, manage and monitor a large number of complex transactions across many markets and currencies. Shortcomings or failures in our systems, risk management methodology, internal control processes or people could lead to disruption of our business, financial loss, regulatory intervention or damage to our reputation.

Forward-looking statements

In order to utilize the Safe Harbor provisions of the United States Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, BP is providing the following cautionary statement. This document contains certain forward-looking statements with respect to the financial condition, results of operations and businesses of BP and certain of the plans and objectives of BP with respect to these items. These statements may generally, but not always, be identified by the use of words such as will, expects, is expected to, aims, should, may, objective, is likely to, intends, believes, plan expressions. In particular, among other statements, (i) certain statements in Performance review (pages 6-56) with regard to strategy, management aims and objectives, future capital expenditure, future hydrocarbon production volume, date(s) or period(s) in which production is scheduled or expected to come onstream or a project or action is scheduled or expected to begin or be completed, capacity of planned plants or facilities and impact of health, safety and environmental regulations; (ii) the statements in Performance review (pages 6-45) with regard to planned expansion, investment or other projects and future regulatory actions; and (iii) the statements in Performance review (pages 46-59) with regard to the plans of the group, the cost of and provision for future remediation programmes, taxation, liquidity and costs for providing pension and other post-retirement benefits; and including under Liquidity and capital resources with regard to oil prices, production, demand for refining products, refining volumes and margins and impact on the petrochemicals sector, refining availability, continuing priority of safe, compliant and reliable operations, and focus on cost efficiency, cost deflation, capital expenditure, expected disposal proceeds, cash flows, shareholder distributions, gearing, working capital, guarantees, expected payments under contractual and commercial commitments and purchase obligations; are all forward-looking in nature.

By their nature, forward-looking statements involve risk and uncertainty because they relate to events and depend on circumstances that will or may occur in the future and are outside the control of BP. Actual results may differ materially from those expressed in such statements, depending on a variety of factors, including the specific factors identified in the discussions accompanying such forward-looking statements; the timing of bringing new fields onstream; future levels of industry product supply, demand and pricing; operational problems; general economic conditions; political stability and economic growth in relevant areas of the world; changes in laws and governmental regulations; exchange rate fluctuations; development and use of new technology; the success or otherwise of partnering; the actions of competitors; natural disasters and adverse weather conditions; changes in public expectations and other changes to business conditions; wars and acts of terrorism or sabotage; and other factors discussed elsewhere in this report including under Risk factors on pages 8-10. In addition to factors set forth

elsewhere in this report, those set out above are important factors, although not exhaustive, that may cause actual results and developments to differ materially from those expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements.

Statements regarding competitive position

Statements referring to BP's competitive position are based on the company's belief and, in some cases, rely on a range of sources, including investment analysts' reports, independent market studies and BP's internal assessments of market share based on publicly available information about the financial results and performance of market participants.

Performance review

Information on the company

General

Unless otherwise indicated, information in this document reflects 100% of the assets and operations of the company and its subsidiaries that were consolidated at the date or for the periods indicated, including minority interests. Also, unless otherwise indicated, figures for total revenues include sales between BP businesses.

The company was incorporated in 1909 in England and Wales and changed its name to BP p.l.c. in 2001.

BP is one of the world's leading oil companies on the basis of market capitalization and proved reserves. Our worldwide headquarters is located at 1 St James's Square, London SW1Y 4PD, UK, tel +44 (0)20 7496 4000. Our agent in the US is BP America Inc., 501 Westlake Park Boulevard, Houston, Texas 77079, tel +1281 366 2000.

Overview of the group

BP is a global group, with interests and activities held or operated through subsidiaries, jointly controlled entities or associates established in, and subject to the laws and regulations of, many different jurisdictions. These interests and activities covered two business segments in 2008: Exploration and Production and Refining and Marketing. With effect from 1 January 2008, the former Gas, Power and Renewables segment ceased to report separately (see Resegmentation in 2008 on page 12).

A separate business, Alternative Energy, reported in Other businesses and corporate, handles BP's low-carbon businesses and future growth options outside oil and gas.

Exploration and Production's activities include oil and natural gas exploration, development and production (upstream activities), together with related pipeline, transportation and processing activities (midstream activities), as well as the marketing and trading of natural gas (including LNG), power and natural gas liquids (NGLs). The activities of Refining and Marketing include the refining, manufacturing, supply and trading, marketing and transportation of crude oil, petroleum and petrochemicals products and related services. The group provides high-quality technological support for all its businesses through its research and engineering activities.

All these activities are supported by a number of other organizational elements comprising group functions and regions. Group functions serve the business segments, aiming to achieve coherence across the group, manage risks effectively and achieve economies of scale. In addition, each regional head provides the required integration and co-ordination of group activities and represents BP to external parties.

Internal control

The group's system of internal control is designed to meet the expectations of internal control of the Combined Code in the UK and of COSO (committee of the sponsoring organizations for the Treadway Commission) in the US. The system of internal control is the complete set of management systems, organizational structures, processes, standards and behaviours that are employed to conduct the business of BP and deliver returns to shareholders. The design of the system of internal control addresses risks and how to respond to them. Each component of the system is in itself a device to respond to a particular type or collection of risks.

Strategy

The group strategy describes the group's strategic objectives and the assumptions made by BP about the future. It describes strategic risks and opportunities that arise from making such assumptions and the actions to be taken to manage or mitigate the risks. The board delegates to the group chief executive responsibility for developing BP's strategy and its implementation through the group plan that determines the setting of priorities and allocation of resources. The group chief executive is obliged to discuss with the board, on the basis of the strategy and group plan, all material matters currently or prospectively affecting BP's performance

During 2008, we continued to pursue our three strategic priorities of Safety, People and Performance, which underpin BP's forward agenda.

Through this, we have taken steps to restore revenues, reduce complexity and manage costs and have made significant progress towards closing the competitive performance gap to our peer group. Looking forward, our strategy is to create value for shareholders by investing to deliver growth in Exploration and Production, together with

high-quality earnings and returns throughout our operations. Our first priority will always be to ensure the safety and integrity of our operations.

We expect Exploration and Production to be our core source of growth. We intend to re-invest competitively in Exploration and Production to secure and grow high-quality oil and gas resources. This investment is intended to be focused on strengthening our position further by securing new access and achieving exploration success. It is also intended to be targeted on a renewed focus on increasing recovery from fields in which we already operate. We expect to make investment across the full life cycle of our assets with an increased emphasis on technology as a source of productivity, access and competitive advantage.

In Refining and Marketing, we expect to continue building our business around advantaged assets in material and significant energy markets. We intend to continue investing in improving the safety and reliability of our operations. Additionally, we intend to drive further operational performance and productivity by investing in the upgrade of manufacturing capabilities within our integrated fuels value chains. We also intend to invest selectively in international businesses, including lubricants and petrochemicals, where we believe there is the potential to deliver strong returns.

In Alternative Energy, we are focusing our investment activity in new energy technology and low-carbon energy businesses that we believe will provide long-term options to meet energy demand and provide BP with significant long-term growth potential. These are wind, solar, biofuels and carbon capture and storage.

We are dependent on our people and technology to deliver on our strategy. We intend to invest in ensuring that we have people with the right capability and experience to meet all of our objectives and the technology to support the delivery of competitive business performance and new business development. BP is committed to delivering its strategy by operating safely, reliably, in compliance with the law and within the discipline of a clear financial framework.

Geographical presence

We have well-established operations in Europe, the US, Canada, Russia, South America, Australasia, Asia and parts of Africa. Currently, around 67% of the group's capital is invested in Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) countries, with around 41% of our fixed assets located in the US and around 20% located in Europe.

We believe that BP has a strong portfolio of assets:

In Exploration and Production, we have upstream interests in 29 countries. Exploration and Production activities are managed through operating units that are accountable for the day-to-day management of the segment's activities. An operating unit is accountable for one or more fields. Our current areas of major development include the deepwater Gulf of Mexico, Azerbaijan, Algeria, Angola, Egypt and Asia Pacific where we believe we have competitive advantage and the foundation for volume growth and improved margins in the future. We also have significant midstream activities to support our upstream interests. Additionally, we undertake natural gas, power and NGLs marketing and trading activity and LNG activity, which are focused on identifying and capturing worldwide opportunities for our upstream natural gas reserves, and we have an NGLs processing business in North America.

Performance review

In Refining and Marketing, we have a strong presence in the US and Europe. In the US, we market under the Amoco and BP brands in the midwest, east and south-east and under the ARCO brand on the west coast, and in Europe, under the BP and Aral brands. We have a long-established supply and trading activity responsible for delivering value across the crude and oil products supply chain. Our Aromatics & Acetyls business maintains a manufacturing position globally, with emphasis on growth in Asia. We also have, or are growing, businesses elsewhere in the world under the BP and Castrol brands, including a strong global lubricants portfolio and other business-to-business marketing businesses (aviation and marine) covering the mobility sectors. We continue to seek opportunities to broaden our activities in growth markets such as China and India.

Through non-US subsidiaries or other non-US entities, during the period covered by this report, BP conducted limited marketing, licensing and trading activities in, or with persons from, certain countries identified by the US Department of State as State Sponsors of Terrorism. BP believes that these activities are immaterial to the group.

BP has interests in, and is the operator of, two fields and a pipeline located outside Iran in which the National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC) and an affiliated entity have interests. In Iran, BP buys small quantities of crude oil. This is primarily for sale to third parties in Europe and a small portion is used by BP in its own refineries in South Africa and Europe. In addition, BP sells small quantities of crude oil into Iran and blends and markets small quantities of lubricants for sale to domestic consumers through a joint venture there, which has a blending facility. However, BP does not seek to obtain from the government of Iran licences or agreements for oil and gas projects in Iran, is not conducting any technical studies in Iran and does not own or operate any refineries or chemicals plants in Iran.

BP sells small quantities of lubricants in Cuba through a 50/50 joint venture there. In Syria, small quantities of lubricants are sold through a distributor and BP obtains small volumes of crude oil supplies for sale to third parties in Europe. In addition, BP sells small quantities of crude oil into Syria. These sales and purchases are insignificant and BP does not provide other goods, technologies or services in these countries.

Market context

Our market is a complex and fast-moving environment. In 2008, volatile energy price movements mirrored unsettled financial markets and wider economic uncertainty (*see Risk factors on page 8*). World oil consumption fell in 2008, with growing demand in fast growing non-OECD countries more than offset by falling consumption in the OECD countries. Gas consumption grew in the major markets. Anxieties around energy security continued, with individual consumer countries facing specific issues related to cost, geography and political relationships with producers. In terms of supply, substantial global reserves of oil and gas are in place but government, energy companies and industry must work together to bring these to market. There is also a clear need for greater energy diversity to address the competing challenges of growing demand and climate change. In terms of human resources, the energy industry also faces a shortage of professionals such as petroleum engineers and scientists.

Acquisitions and disposals

There were no significant acquisitions in 2006, 2007 or 2008.

In 2008, we completed an asset exchange with Husky Energy Inc., and asset purchases from Chesapeake Energy Corporation as described on page 47.

In 2007, BP acquired Chevron's Netherlands manufacturing company, Texaco Raffiniderij Pernis B.V. The acquisition included Chevron's 31% minority shareholding in Nerefco, its 31% shareholding in the 22.5MW wind farm co-located at the refinery as well as a 22.8% shareholding in the TEAM joint venture terminal and shareholdings in two local pipelines linking the TEAM terminal to the refinery. Disposal proceeds were \$4,267 million, which included \$1,903 million from the sale of the Coryton refinery and \$605 million from the sale of our exploration and production gas infrastructure business in the Netherlands.

In 2006, BP purchased 9.6% of the shares issued under Rosneft's IPO for a consideration of \$1 billion (included in capital expenditure). This represented an interest of around 1.4% in Rosneft. Disposal proceeds were \$6,254 million, which included \$2.1 billion on the sale of our interest in the Shenzi discovery and around \$1.3 billion from the sale of our producing properties on the Outer Continental Shelf of the Gulf of Mexico to Apache Corporation.

Resegmentation in 2008

On 11 October 2007, BP announced that it was to simplify its organizational structure by reducing the number of business segments.

From 1 January 2008, BP has two business segments: Exploration and Production and Refining and Marketing. A separate business, Alternative Energy, handles BP's low-carbon businesses and future growth options outside oil and gas and reports under Other businesses and corporate.

As a result, and with effect from 1 January 2008:

The former Gas, Power and Renewables segment ceased to report separately.

The NGLs, LNG and gas and power marketing and trading businesses were transferred from the Gas, Power and Renewables segment to the Exploration and Production segment.

The Alternative Energy business was transferred from the Gas, Power and Renewables segment to Other businesses and corporate.

The Emerging Consumers Marketing Unit was transferred from Refining and Marketing to Alternative Energy (which is reported in Other businesses and corporate).

The Biofuels business was transferred from Refining and Marketing to Alternative Energy (which is reported in Other businesses and corporate).

The Shipping business was transferred from Refining and Marketing to Other businesses and corporate.

Performance review

Exploration and Production

Our Exploration and Production segment includes upstream and midstream activities in 29 countries, including Angola, Azerbaijan, Canada, Egypt, Russia, Trinidad & Tobago (Trinidad), the UK, the US and locations within Asia Pacific, Latin America, North Africa and the Middle East, as well as gas marketing and trading activities, primarily in Canada, Europe, the UK and the US. Upstream activities involve oil and natural gas exploration and field development and production. Our exploration programme is currently focused around Algeria, Angola, Azerbaijan, Canada, Egypt, the deepwater Gulf of Mexico, Libya, the North Sea and onshore US. Major development areas include Algeria, Angola, Asia Pacific, Azerbaijan, Egypt and the deepwater Gulf of Mexico. During 2008, production came from 21 countries. The principal areas of production are Angola, Asia Pacific, Azerbaijan, Egypt, Latin America, the Middle East, Russia, Trinidad, the UK and the US.

Midstream activities involve the ownership and management of crude oil and natural gas pipelines, processing facilities and export terminals, LNG processing facilities and transportation, and our NGL extraction businesses in the US and UK. Our most significant midstream pipeline interests are the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System in the US, the Forties Pipeline System and the Central Area Transmission System pipeline, both in the UK sector of the North Sea, and the Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan pipeline, running through Azerbaijan, Georgia and Turkey. Major LNG activities are located in Trinidad, Indonesia and Australia. BP is also investing in the LNG business in Angola.

Additionally, our activities include the marketing and trading of natural gas, power and natural gas liquids in the US, Canada, UK and Europe. These activities provide routes into liquid markets for BP's gas and power, and generate margins and fees associated with the provision of physical and financial products to third parties and additional income from asset optimization and trading.

Our oil and natural gas production assets are located onshore and offshore and include wells, gathering centres, in-field flow lines, processing facilities, storage facilities, offshore platforms, export systems (e.g. transit lines), pipelines and LNG plant facilities.

Upstream operations in Argentina, Bolivia, Abu Dhabi, Kazakhstan and TNK-BP and some of the Sakhalin operations in Russia, as well as some of our operations in Canada, Indonesia and Venezuela, are conducted through equity-accounted entities.

Our performance in 2008

Profit before interest and tax for 2008 was \$37.9 billion, an increase of 37% compared with 2007. The increase was primarily driven by higher oil and gas realizations. Our financial results are discussed in more detail on pages 48-49.

In 2008, nine major projects came onstream. Production commenced at the Thunder Horse field, with four wells in operation by the end of the year, producing around 200,000boe/d (gross) making us the largest producer in the Gulf of Mexico. We also started oil production on our Deepwater Gunashli platform in the Azerbaijan sector of the Caspian Sea. Other significant successes included the start of oil and gas production at the Saqqara and Taurt fields in Egypt. Production from our established centres including the North Sea, Alaska, North America Gas and Trinidad & Tobago, was on plan. We are also increasing our ability to get more from fields by improving our overall recovery rates through developing and applying new technology.

In terms of the continued renewal of our oil and natural gas resource base, 2008 was one of our best years this decade for new discoveries.

Total capital expenditure including acquisitions in 2008 was \$22.2 billion (2007 \$14.2 billion and 2006 \$13.3 billion). In 2008, there were no significant acquisitions. Capital expenditure included \$2.8 billion relating to the formation of an integrated North American oil sands business with Husky Energy Inc. It also included \$3.7 billion relating to the purchase of all Chesapeake Energy Corporation's interest in the Woodford Shale assets in the Arkoma basin, and the purchase of a 25% interest in Chesapeake's Fayetteville Shale assets, enabling further growth of our North American gas business.

There were no significant acquisitions in 2006 and 2007. Capital expenditure in 2006 included our investment of \$1 billion in Rosneft.

Development expenditure incurred in 2008, excluding midstream activities, was \$11,767 million, compared with \$10,153 million in 2007 and \$9,109 million in 2006.

Looking ahead, our priorities remain the same: safety, people and performance. We will continue to strive to deliver safe, reliable and efficient operations while maintaining our flexibility so we can respond to oil price volatility.

In 2009, oil and gas prices are expected to be significantly lower than 2008. In response we will aim to use the operational momentum generated in 2008 to continue to increase the efficiency of our cost base and to build capability for the future. We intend to retain our rigour around capital investment, in particular pacing our development to take advantage of any cost reductions in a deflationary environment, and supporting our strategy of growing the upstream business. We believe that our portfolio of assets is strong and is well positioned to compete and grow in a range of external conditions.

Comparative information presented in the table on the following page has been restated, where appropriate, to reflect the resegmentation, following transfers of certain businesses between segments, that was effective from 1 January 2008. See page 12 for more details.

Performance review**Key statistics**

| | \$ million | | |
|--|----------------|-----------------------------------|---------|
| | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 |
| Total revenues ^a | 89,902 | 69,376 | 71,868 |
| Profit before interest and tax from continuing operations ^b | 37,915 | 27,729 | 30,953 |
| Total assets | 136,665 | 125,736 | 124,803 |
| Capital expenditure and acquisitions | 22,227 | 14,207 | 13,252 |
| | | million barrels of oil equivalent | |
| Net proved reserves group | 12,562 | 12,583 | 13,163 |
| Net proved reserves equity-accounted entities | 5,585 | 5,231 | 4,537 |
| | | thousand barrels per day | |
| Liquids production group | 1,263 | 1,304 | 1,351 |
| Liquids production equity-accounted entities | 1,138 | 1,110 | 1,124 |
| | | million cubic feet per day | |
| Natural gas production group | 7,277 | 7,222 | 7,412 |
| Natural gas production equity-accounted entities | 1,057 | 921 | 1,005 |
| | | \$ per barrel | |
| Average BP crude oil realizations ^c | 95.43 | 69.98 | 61.91 |
| Average BP NGL realizations ^c | 52.30 | 46.20 | 37.17 |
| Average BP liquids realizations ^{c d} | 90.20 | 67.45 | 59.23 |
| Average West Texas Intermediate oil price | 100.06 | 72.20 | 66.02 |
| Average Brent oil price | 97.26 | 72.39 | 65.14 |
| | | \$ per thousand cubic feet | |
| Average BP natural gas realizations ^c | 6.00 | 4.53 | 4.72 |
| Average BP US natural gas realizations ^c | 6.77 | 5.43 | 5.74 |

| | \$ per million British thermal units | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|-----------------|-------|
| Average Henry Hub gas price ^e | 9.04 | 6.86 | 7.24 |
| | | pence per therm | |
| Average UK National Balancing Point gas price | 58.12 | 29.95 | 42.19 |

^aIncludes sales between businesses.

^bIncludes profit after interest and tax of equity-accounted entities.

^cRealizations are based on sales of consolidated subsidiaries only, which excludes equity-accounted entities.

^dCrude oil and natural gas liquids.

^eHenry Hub First of Month Index.

Total revenues are analysed in more detail below.

| | \$ million | | |
|---|---------------|--------|--------|
| | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 |
| Sales and other operating revenues | 86,170 | 65,740 | 67,950 |
| Earnings from equity-accounted entities (after interest and tax), interest and other revenues | 3,732 | 3,636 | 3,918 |
| | 89,902 | 69,376 | 71,868 |

Upstream activities

Exploration

The group explores for oil and natural gas under a wide range of licensing, joint venture and other contractual agreements. We may do this alone or, more frequently, with partners. BP acts as operator for many of these ventures.

Our exploration and appraisal costs, excluding lease acquisitions, in 2008 were \$2,290 million, compared with \$1,892 million in 2007 and \$1,765 million in 2006. These costs include exploration and appraisal drilling expenditures, which are capitalized within intangible fixed assets, and geological and geophysical exploration costs, which are charged to income as incurred. Approximately 51% of 2008 exploration and appraisal costs were directed towards appraisal activity. In 2008, we participated in 83 gross (34 net) exploration and appraisal wells in 11 countries. The principal areas of activity were Algeria, Angola, Azerbaijan, Canada, Egypt, the deepwater Gulf of Mexico, Libya, the North Sea and onshore US.

Total exploration expense in 2008 of \$882 million (2007 \$756 million and 2006 \$1,045 million) included the write-off of expenses related to unsuccessful drilling activities in Azerbaijan (\$105 million), Faeroes (\$83 million), Egypt (\$64 million), deepwater Gulf of Mexico (\$38 million), and others (\$33 million).

In 2008, we obtained upstream rights in several new tracts, which include the following:

In the Gulf of Mexico, we were awarded 125 blocks through the Outer Continental Shelf Lease Sales 205, 206 and 207.

In the US Lower 48 states, we acquired 225,000 net acres of shale gas assets from Chesapeake Energy Corporation.

In Canada, BP acquired three licences, covering a total of approximately 6,000 square kilometres in the Canadian Beaufort Sea.

In India, BP acquired one block on the East Coast in the New Exploration Licensing Policy seventh round. In 2008, we were involved in a number of discoveries. In most cases, reserves bookings from these fields will depend on the results of ongoing technical and commercial evaluations, including appraisal drilling. Our most significant discoveries in 2008 included the following:

In Angola, we made further discoveries in the ultra deepwater (greater than 1,500 metres) Block 31 (BP 26.7% and operator) with the Portia and Dione wells, bringing the total number of discoveries in Block 31 to 16.

In Algeria, we discovered natural gas in the Tin Zaouatene-1 well in the Bourarhet Sud Blocks 230 and 231 (BP 49% and operator).

In Egypt, we made a discovery with the Satis (BP 50% and operator) well.

In the UK, we made two discoveries with the South West Foinaven (BP 72% and operator) and the Kinnoull (BP 77% and operator) wells.

In the deepwater Gulf of Mexico, we made two discoveries with the Kodiak (BP 63.75% and operator) and Freedom (BP 25% and operator) wells.

Reserves and production

Compliance

IFRS does not provide specific guidance on reserves disclosures.

BP estimates proved reserves in accordance with SEC Rule 4-10 (a) of Regulation S-X and relevant guidance notes and letters issued by the SEC staff. As currently required, these proved reserve estimates are based on prices and costs as of the date the estimate is made.

On 31 December 2008, the SEC published a revised set of rules for the estimation of reserves. These revised rules will be used for the 2009 year-end estimation of reserves, and have not been used in the determination of reserves for year-end 2008.

By their nature, there is always some risk involved in the ultimate development and production of reserves, including, but not limited to, final regulatory approval, the installation of new or additional infrastructure as well as changes in oil and gas prices, changes in operating and development costs and the continued availability of additional development capital.

Performance review

All the group's oil and gas reserves held in consolidated companies have been estimated by the group's petroleum engineers. Of the equity-accounted volumes in 2008, 18% were based on estimates prepared by group petroleum engineers and 82% were based on estimates prepared by independent engineering consultants, although all of the group's oil and gas reserves held in equity-accounted entities are reviewed by the group's petroleum engineers before making the assessment of volumes to be booked by BP.

Our proved reserves are associated with both concessions (tax and royalty arrangements) and agreements where the group is exposed to the upstream risks and rewards of ownership, but where title to the hydrocarbons is not conferred, such as production-sharing agreements (PSAs). In a concession, the consortium of which we are a part is entitled to the reserves that can be produced over the licence period, which may be the life of the field. In a PSA, we are entitled to recover volumes that equate to costs incurred to develop and produce the reserves and an agreed share of the remaining volumes or the economic equivalent. As part of our entitlement is driven by the monetary amount of costs to be recovered, price fluctuations will have an impact on both production volumes and reserves. Sixteen per cent of our proved reserves are associated with PSAs. The main countries in which we operate under PSAs are Algeria, Angola, Azerbaijan, Egypt, Indonesia and Vietnam.

We separately disclose our share of reserves held in equity-accounted entities (jointly controlled entities and associates), although we do not control these entities or the assets held by such entities.

Resource progression

BP manages its hydrocarbon resources in three major categories: prospect inventory, non-proved resources and proved reserves. When a discovery is made, volumes usually transfer from the prospect inventory to the non-proved resource category. The resources move through various non-proved resource sub-categories as their technical and commercial maturity increases through appraisal activity.

Resources in a field will only be categorized as proved reserves when all the criteria for attribution of proved status have been met, including an internally imposed requirement for project sanction or for sanction typically expected within six months and, for additional reserves in existing fields, the requirement that the reserves be included in the business plan and scheduled for development, typically within three years. Where, on occasion, the group decides to book reserves where development is scheduled to commence after three years, these reserves will be booked only where they satisfy the SEC's criteria for attribution of proved status. Internal approval and final investment decision are what we refer to as project sanction.

At the point of sanction, all booked reserves will be categorized as proved undeveloped (PUD). Volumes will subsequently be recategorized from PUD to proved developed (PD) as a consequence of development activity. When part of a well's reserves depends on a later phase of activity, only that portion of reserves associated with existing, available facilities and infrastructure moves to PD. The first PD bookings will occur at the point of first oil or gas production. Major development projects typically take one to four years from the time of initial booking of PUD reserves to the start of production. Changes to reserves bookings may be made due to analysis of new or existing data concerning production, reservoir performance, commercial factors, acquisition and divestment activity and additional reservoir development activity.

Governance

BP's centrally controlled process for proved reserves estimation approval forms part of a holistic and integrated system of internal control. It consists of the following elements:

Accountabilities of certain officers of the group to ensure that there is review and approval of proved reserves bookings independent of the operating business and that there are effective controls in the approval process and verification that the proved reserves estimates and the related financial impacts are reported in a timely manner. Capital allocation processes, whereby delegated authority is exercised to commit to capital projects that are consistent with the delivery of the group's business plan. A formal review process exists to ensure that both technical and commercial criteria are met prior to the commitment of capital to projects.

Internal Audit, whose role includes systematically examining the effectiveness of the group's financial controls designed to assure the reliability of reporting and safeguarding of assets and examining the group's compliance with laws, regulations and internal standards.

Approval hierarchy, whereby proved reserves changes above certain threshold volumes require central authorization and periodic reviews. The frequency of review is determined according to field size and ensures that more than 80% of the BP reserves base undergoes central review every two years and more than 90% is reviewed every four years. For the executive directors and senior management, no specific portion of compensation bonuses is directly related to oil and natural gas reserves targets. Additions to proved reserves is one of several indicators by which the performance of the Exploration and Production segment is assessed by the remuneration committee for the purposes of determining compensation bonuses for the executive directors. Other indicators include a number of financial and operational measures.

BP's variable pay programme for the other senior managers in the Exploration and Production segment is based on individual performance contracts. Individual performance contracts are based on agreed items from the business performance plan, one of which, if chosen, could relate to oil and gas reserves.

Reserve replacement

Total hydrocarbon proved reserves, on an oil equivalent basis and excluding equity-accounted entities, comprised 12,562mmboe at 31 December 2008, a decrease of 0.2% compared with 31 December 2007. Natural gas represents about 55% of these reserves. The decrease includes a net decrease from acquisitions and divestments of 169mmboe, largely comprising a number of assets in Venezuela and the US.

Total hydrocarbon proved reserves, on an oil equivalent basis for equity-accounted entities alone, comprised 5,585mmboe at 31 December 2008, an increase of 6.8% compared with 31 December 2007. Natural gas represents about 16% of these proved reserves. The increase includes a net increase from acquisitions and divestments of 199mmboe, largely comprising a number of assets in Venezuela. The proved reserves replacement ratio (also known as the production replacement ratio) is the extent to which production is replaced by proved reserves additions. This ratio is expressed in oil equivalent terms and includes changes resulting from revisions to previous estimates, improved recovery and extensions and discoveries, and may be expressed as a replacement ratio excluding acquisitions and divestments or as a total replacement ratio including acquisitions and divestments.

BP estimates proved reserves for reporting purposes in accordance with SEC rules and relevant guidance. As currently required, these proved reserve estimates are based on prices and costs as of the date the estimate is made. There was a rapid and substantial decline in oil prices in the fourth quarter of 2008 that was not matched by a similar reduction in operating costs by the end of the year. BP does not expect that these economic conditions will continue. However, our 2008 reserves are calculated on the basis of operating activities that would be undertaken were year-end prices and costs to persist.

Performance review

| | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 |
|--|------------|------|-----------------------------------|
| | | | % |
| | | | |
| Proved reserves replacement ratio, excluding equity-accounted entities | 116 | 44 | 34 |
| Proved reserves replacement ratio, excluding equity-accounted entities, including sales and purchases of reserves-in-place | 98 | 38 | 11 |
| Proved reserves replacement ratio, for equity- accounted entities | 132 | 248 | 272 |
| Proved reserves replacement ratio, for equity- accounted entities, including sales and purchases of reserves-in-place | 172 | 248 | 239 |
| | | | million barrels of oil equivalent |
| Additions to proved developed reserves, excluding equity-accounted entities, including sales and purchases of reserves-in-place ^a | 826 | 929 | 675 |
| Additions to proved developed reserves, for equity-accounted entities, including sales and purchases of reserves-in-place ^a | 751 | 473 | 936 |
| | | | % |
| Proved developed reserves replacement ratio, excluding equity-accounted entities, including sales and purchases of reserves-in-place | 88 | 99 | 70 |
| Proved developed reserves replacement ratio, for equity-accounted entities, including sales and purchases of reserves-in-place | 153 | 101 | 195 |

^aThis includes some reserves that were previously classified as proved undeveloped.

In 2008, net additions to the group's proved reserves (excluding sales and purchases of reserves-in-place and equity-accounted entities) amounted to 1,085mmboe, principally through improved recovery from, and extensions to, existing fields and discoveries of new fields. Of the reserves additions through improved recovery from, and extensions to, existing fields and discoveries of new fields, approximately half are associated with new projects and are proved undeveloped reserves additions. The remainder are in existing developments where they represent a mixture of proved developed and proved undeveloped reserves. The principal reserves additions were in the US (Arkoma, Thunder Horse, Wamsutter), Trinidad (Mango), Asia-Pacific (Tangguh), Angola (Plutão, Saturno, Vênus and Marte, and Angola LNG) and Azerbaijan (ACG).

Production

Our total hydrocarbon production during 2008 averaged 2,517 thousand barrels of oil equivalent per day (mboe/d) for subsidiaries and 1,321mboe/d for equity-accounted entities, a decrease of 1.2% and an increase of 4.0% respectively compared with 2007. For subsidiaries, 36% of our production was in the US and 12% in the UK. For equity-accounted entities, 70% of production was from TNK-BP.

Total production is expected to be somewhat higher in 2009. The actual growth rate will depend on a number of factors, including our pace of capital spending, the efficiency of that spend (in turn depending on industry cost deflation), the oil price and its impact on PSAs as well as OPEC quota restrictions.

The following tables show BP's estimated net proved reserves as at 31 December 2008.

Estimated net proved reserves of liquids at 31 December 2008^{a b c}

| | | | million barrels |
|---------------------------|-----------|-------------|--------------------|
| | Developed | Undeveloped | Total |
| UK | 410 | 119 | 529 |
| Rest of Europe | 81 | 194 | 275 |
| US | 1,717 | 1,273 | 2,990 ^d |
| Rest of Americas | 58 | 56 | 114 ^e |
| Asia Pacific | 77 | 69 | 146 |
| Africa | 464 | 496 | 960 |
| Russia | | | |
| Other | 174 | 477 | 651 |
| Group | 2,981 | 2,684 | 5,665 |
| Equity-accounted entities | 3,125 | 1,563 | 4,688 ^f |

Estimated net proved reserves of natural gas at 31 December 2008^{a b c}

| | | | billion cubic feet |
|---------------------------|-----------|-------------|-----------------------|
| | Developed | Undeveloped | Total |
| UK | 1,822 | 582 | 2,404 |
| Rest of Europe | 61 | 402 | 463 |
| US | 9,059 | 5,473 | 14,532 |
| Rest of Americas | 3,975 | 7,902 | 11,877 ^g |
| Asia Pacific | 2,482 | 4,275 | 6,757 |
| Africa | 1,050 | 1,382 | 2,432 |
| Russia | | | |
| Other | 507 | 1,033 | 1,540 |
| Group | 18,956 | 21,049 | 40,005 |
| Equity-accounted entities | 3,234 | 1,969 | 5,203 ^h |

Net proved reserves on an oil equivalent basis

| | | | mmboe |
|---------------------------|-----------|-------------|--------|
| | Developed | Undeveloped | Total |
| Group | 6,249 | 6,313 | 12,562 |
| Equity-accounted entities | 3,683 | 1,902 | 5,585 |

^aProved reserves exclude royalties due to others, whether payable in cash or in kind, where the royalty owner has a direct interest in the underlying production and the option and ability to make lifting and sales arrangements independently, and include minority interests in consolidated operations. We disclose our share of reserves held in joint ventures and associates that are accounted for by the equity method although we do not control these entities or the assets held by such entities.

^bIn certain deepwater fields, such as fields in the Gulf of Mexico, BP has claimed proved reserves before production flow tests are conducted, in part because of the significant safety, cost and environmental implications of conducting these tests. The industry has made substantial technological

improvements in understanding, measuring and delineating reservoir properties without the need for flow tests. The general method of reserves assessment to determine reasonable certainty of commercial recovery which BP employs relies on the integration of three types of data: (1) well data used to assess the local characteristics and conditions of reservoirs and fluids; (2) field scale seismic data to allow the interpolation and extrapolation of these characteristics outside the immediate area of the local well control; and (3) data from relevant analogous fields. Well data includes appraisal wells or sidetrack holes, full logging suites, core data and fluid samples. BP considers the integration of this data in certain cases to be superior to a flow test in providing a better understanding of the overall

reservoir performance. The collection of data from logs, cores, wireline formation testers, pressures and fluid samples calibrated to each other and to the seismic data can allow reservoir properties to be determined over a greater volume than the localized volume of investigation associated with a short-term flow test. Historically, proved reserves recorded using these methods have been validated by actual production levels. As at the end of 2008, BP had proved reserves in 20 fields in the deepwater Gulf of Mexico that had been initially booked prior to production flow testing. Of these fields, 18 are in production and two, Dorado and Great White, are expected to begin production in 2009. Six other fields are in the early stages of appraisal and development.

^cThe 2008 year-end marker prices used

were Brent
\$36.55/bbl (2007
\$96.02/bbl and
2006 \$58.93/bbl)
and Henry Hub
\$5.63/mmBtu
(2007
\$7.10/mmBtu and
2006
\$5.52/mmBtu).

^dProved reserves in
the Prudhoe Bay
field in Alaska
include an
estimated
54 million barrels
on which a net
profits royalty will
be payable over the
life of the field
under the terms of
the BP Prudhoe
Bay Royalty Trust.

^eIncludes
21 million barrels
of crude oil in
respect of the 30%
minority interest in
BP Trinidad and
Tobago LLC.

^fIncludes
216 million barrels
of crude oil in
respect of the
6.80% minority
interest in
TNK-BP.

^gIncludes
3,108 billion cubic
feet of natural gas
in respect of the
30% minority
interest in BP
Trinidad and
Tobago LLC.

^hIncludes
131 billion cubic
feet of natural gas
in respect of the
5.92% minority
interest in
TNK-BP.

16

Performance review

The following tables show BP's production by major field for 2008, 2007 and 2006.

Liquids

| | Field or Area | Interest | BP net share of production ^a | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------|---|------|------|
| | | | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 |
| | | % | thousand barrels per day | | |
| Alaska | Prudhoe Bay ^b | 26.4 | 72 | 74 | 71 |
| | Kuparuk | Various | 48 | 52 | 57 |
| | Northstar ^b | 98.6 | 22 | 28 | 38 |
| | Milne Point ^b | Various | 27 | 28 | 31 |
| | Other | Various | 28 | 27 | 27 |
| Total Alaska | | | 197 | 209 | 224 |
| Lower 48 onshore ^c | Various | Various | 97 | 108 | 125 |
| Gulf of Mexico deepwater ^c | Na Kika ^b | Various | 29 | 32 | 41 |
| | Thunder Horse ^b | 75.0 | 24 | | |
| | Horn Mountain ^b | 100.0 | 18 | 18 | 23 |
| | King ^b | 100.0 | 23 | 22 | 28 |
| | Mars | 28.5 | 28 | 30 | 19 |
| | Mad Dog ^b | 60.5 | 31 | 25 | 17 |
| | Atlantis ^b | 56.0 | 42 | 2 | |
| | Other | Various | 49 | 67 | 70 |
| Total Gulf of Mexico | | | 244 | 196 | 198 |
| Total US | | | 538 | 513 | 547 |
| UK offshore ^c | ETAP ^d | Various | 27 | 32 | 49 |
| | Foinaven ^b | Various | 26 | 37 | 37 |
| | Magnus ^b | 85.0 | 18 | 16 | 30 |
| | Schiehallion/Loyal ^b | Various | 18 | 20 | 26 |
| | Clair ^b | 28.6 | 13 | 9 | 7 |
| | Harding ^b | 70.0 | 11 | 14 | 17 |
| | Andrew ^b | 62.8 | 7 | 8 | 7 |
| | Other | Various | 37 | 50 | 62 |
| Total UK offshore | | | 157 | 186 | 235 |
| Onshore | Wyth Farm ^b | 67.8 | 16 | 15 | 18 |
| Total UK | | | 173 | 201 | 253 |

Edgar Filing: BP PLC - Form 20-F

| | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------|--------------|----------|-------|
| Netherlands ^c | Various | Various | | | 1 |
| Norway | Valhall ^b | 28.1 | 14 | 17 | 21 |
| | Draugen | 18.4 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| | Ula ^b | 80.0 | 8 | 12 | 14 |
| | Other | Various | 8 | 8 | 10 |
| Total Rest of Europe | | | 43 | 51 | 61 |
| Angola | Dalia | 16.7 | 34 | 31 | |
| | Girassol | 16.7 | 6 | 14 | 17 |
| | Greater Plutonio ^b | 50.0 | 69 | 12 | |
| | Kizomba A | 26.7 | 15 | 36 | 54 |
| | Kizomba B | 26.7 | 16 | 35 | 58 |
| | Other | Various | 62 | 12 | 4 |
| Australia | Various | 15.8 | 29 | 34 | 34 |
| Azerbaijan | Azeri-Chirag-Gunashli ^b | 34.1 | 97 | 200 | 145 |
| | Shah Deniz ^b | 25.5 | 8 | 5 | |
| Canada ^c | Various ^b | Various | 9 | 8 | 8 |
| Colombia | Various ^b | Various | 24 | 28 | 34 |
| Egypt | Various | Various | 57 | 43 | 42 |
| Trinidad & Tobago | Various ^b | 100.0 | 37 | 30 | 40 |
| Venezuela ^c | Various | Various | 4 | 16 | 26 |
| Other ^c | Various | Various | 42 | 35 | 28 |
| Total Rest of World | | | 509 | 539 | 490 |
| Total group ^e | | | 1,263 | 1,304 | 1,351 |
| Equity-accounted entities (BP share) | | | | | |
| Abu Dhabi ^f | Various | Various | 210 | 192 | 163 |
| Argentina Pan American Energy | Various | Various | 70 | 69 | 69 |
| Russia TNK-BP | Various | Various | 826 | 832 | 876 |
| Other ^c | Various | Various | 32 | 17 | 16 |
| Total equity-accounted entities | | | 1,138 | 1,110 | 1,124 |

^aProduction excludes royalties due to others whether payable in cash or in kind where the royalty owner has a direct interest in the underlying production and the option and ability to make lifting and sales arrangements

independently.

^bBP-operated.

^cIn 2008, BP concluded the migration of the Cerro Negro operations to an incorporated joint venture with PDVSA while retaining its equity position and TNK-BP disposed of some non-core interests. In 2007, BP divested its producing properties in the Netherlands and some producing properties in the US Lower 48 and Canada. TNK-BP disposed of its interests in several non-core properties. In 2006, BP divested its producing properties on the Outer Continental Shelf of the Gulf of Mexico and its interest in the Statfjord oil and gas field in the UK. Our interests in the Boqueron, Desarrollo Zulia Occidental (DZO) and Jusepin projects in Venezuela were reduced following a decision by the Venezuelan government. TNK-BP disposed of its non-core

interests in the Udmurtneft assets.

^dVolumes relate to six BP-operated fields within ETAP. BP has no interests in the remaining three ETAP fields, which are operated by Shell.

^eIncludes 19 net mboe/d of NGLs from processing plants in which BP has an interest (2007 54mboe/d and 2006 55mboe/d).

^fThe BP group holds interests, through associates, in onshore and offshore concessions in Abu Dhabi, expiring in 2014 and 2018 respectively. During the second quarter of 2007, we updated our reporting policy in Abu Dhabi to be consistent with general industry practice and as a result have started reporting production and reserves there gross of production taxes.

Performance review**Natural gas**

| | | % | million cubic feet per day | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------|---|-------|-------|
| | | | BP net share of production ^a | | |
| | Field or Area | Interest | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 |
| Lower 48 onshore ^b | San Juan ^c | Various | 682 | 694 | 765 |
| | Arkoma ^c | Various | 240 | 204 | 225 |
| | Hugoton ^c | Various | 91 | 123 | 137 |
| | Tuscaloosa ^c | Various | 65 | 78 | 86 |
| | Wamsutter ^c | 66.6 | 136 | 120 | 113 |
| | Jonah ^c | Various | 221 | 173 | 133 |
| | Other | Various | 451 | 458 | 461 |
| Total Lower 48 onshore | | | 1,886 | 1,850 | 1,920 |
| Gulf of Mexico deepwater ^b | Na Kika ^c | 51.9 | 62 | 50 | 97 |
| | Marlin ^c | 78.2 | 46 | 13 | 16 |
| | Other | Various | 122 | 205 | 210 |
| Gulf of Mexico Shelf ^b | Other | Various | | 1 | 66 |
| Total Gulf of Mexico | | | 230 | 269 | 389 |
| Alaska | Various | Various | 41 | 55 | 67 |
| Total US | | | 2,157 | 2,174 | 2,376 |
| UK offshore ^b | Braes | Various | 75 | 69 | 101 |
| | Bruce ^c | 37.0 | 65 | 72 | 107 |
| | West Sole ^c | 100.0 | 51 | 55 | 56 |
| | Marnock ^c | 62.1 | 24 | 25 | 42 |
| | Britannia | 9.0 | 30 | 37 | 42 |
| | Shearwater | 27.5 | 17 | 19 | 31 |
| | Armada | 18.2 | 16 | 16 | 28 |
| | Other | Various | 481 | 475 | 529 |
| Total UK | | | 759 | 768 | 936 |
| Netherlands ^b | P/18-2 | 48.7 | | | 23 |
| | Other | Various | | 3 | 33 |
| Norway | Various | Various | 23 | 26 | 35 |
| Total Rest of Europe | | | 23 | 29 | 91 |

Edgar Filing: BP PLC - Form 20-F

| | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|---------|--------------|-------|-------|
| Australia | Various | 15.8 | 380 | 376 | 364 |
| Canada ^b | Various ^c | Various | 245 | 255 | 282 |
| China | Yacheng ^c | 34.3 | 91 | 85 | 102 |
| Egypt | Ha'py ^c | 50.0 | 94 | 108 | 99 |
| | Other | Various | 278 | 206 | 172 |
| Indonesia | Sanga-Sanga (direct) ^c | 26.3 | 69 | 75 | 84 |
| | Other ^c | 46.0 | 98 | 81 | 80 |
| Sharjah | Sajaa ^c | 40.0 | 65 | 83 | 111 |
| | Other | 40.0 | 8 | 9 | 9 |
| Azerbaijan | Shah Deniz ^c | 25.5 | 143 | 73 | |
| Trinidad & Tobago | Kapok ^c | 100.0 | 619 | 984 | 946 |
| | Mahogany ^c | 100.0 | 323 | 454 | 321 |
| | Amherstia ^c | 100.0 | 288 | 155 | 176 |
| | Parang ^c | 100.0 | | | 120 |
| | Immortelle ^c | 100.0 | 136 | 153 | 219 |
| | Cassia ^c | 100.0 | 5 | 25 | 30 |
| | Other ^c | 100.0 | 1,075 | 663 | 453 |
| Other ^b | Various | Various | 421 | 466 | 441 |
| Total Rest of World | | | 4,338 | 4,251 | 4,009 |
| Total group ^d | | | 7,277 | 7,222 | 7,412 |
| Equity-accounted entities (BP share) | | | | | |
| Argentina Pan American Energy | Various | Various | 385 | 379 | 362 |
| Russia TNK-BP | Various | Various | 564 | 451 | 544 |
| Other ^b | Various | Various | 108 | 91 | 99 |
| Total equity-accounted entities ^d | | | 1,057 | 921 | 1,005 |

^aProduction excludes royalties due to others whether payable in cash or in kind where the royalty owner has a direct interest in the underlying production and the option and ability to make lifting and sales arrangements independently.

^bIn 2008, BP concluded the migration of the Cerro Negro operations to an incorporated joint venture with PDVSA while retaining its equity position. In 2007, BP divested its producing properties in the Netherlands and some producing properties in the US Lower 48 and Canada. TNK-BP disposed of its interests in several non-core properties. In 2006, BP divested its producing properties on the Outer Continental Shelf of the Gulf of Mexico and its interest in the Statfjord oil and gas field in the UK. Our interests in the Boqueron, Desarrollo Zulia Occidental (DZO) and Jusepin projects in Venezuela were reduced following a decision by the Venezuelan government. TNK-BP disposed of its non-core interests in the Udmurtneft assets.

^cBP-operated.

^dNatural gas production volumes exclude gas consumed in operations within the lease boundaries of the producing field, but the related reserves are included in the group's reserves.

Performance review

United States

2008 liquids production at 538mb/d increased 4.9% from 2007, while natural gas production at 2,157mmcf/d decreased 0.8% compared with 2007.

Crude oil production increased by 32mb/d, an increase of 8% from 2007, primarily driven by major projects in the Gulf of Mexico, partly offset by natural reservoir decline and the impact of hurricanes in the third quarter.

The NGLs component of liquids production decreased by 7mb/d, driven mainly by plant turnarounds and operational issues resulting from the hurricanes in the third quarter. BP operates or has interests in NGL extraction plants with a processing capacity of 6.4bcf/d. These facilities are located in major production areas across North America, including Alberta, Canada, the US Rockies, the San Juan basin and the Gulf of Mexico. We also own or have an interest in fractionation plants (that separate the NGL into its component products) in Canada and the US.

Gas production was 17mmcf/d lower because of natural reservoir decline and the impact of hurricanes, which was partly offset by production from shale acquisitions.

Development expenditure in the US (excluding midstream) during 2008 was \$4,914 million, compared with \$3,861 million in 2007 and \$3,579 million in 2006. The year-on-year increase is the result of various development projects in progress.

Our activities within the US take place in three main areas: deepwater Gulf of Mexico, the Lower 48 states and Alaska. Significant events during 2008 within each of these are indicated below.

Deepwater Gulf of Mexico

Deepwater Gulf of Mexico is our largest area of growth in the US. In 2008, our deepwater Gulf of Mexico liquids production was 244mb/d and gas production was 40mboe/d

Significant events were:

On 14 June 2008, first oil was achieved at Thunder Horse (BP 75% and operator). Thunder Horse is the world's largest semi-submersible production facility, and is located 150 miles south-east of New Orleans. It is designed to process 250,000 barrels of oil per day and 200 million cubic feet per day of natural gas. In 2008 four wells started up with production of around 200,000boe/d (gross) at the year-end, signalling the completion of commissioning. Production started up in the Thunder Horse North field in February 2009.

On 3 April 2008, BP announced an oil discovery at its Kodiak prospect (BP 63.75% and operator). The well, located in Mississippi Canyon block 771, approximately 60 miles south-east of the Louisiana Coast, is in about 1,500 metres of water.

In September 2008, Hurricanes Gustav and Ike resulted in most of the Gulf of Mexico's oil production being shut down. There was minimal damage to most of BP's platforms other than to the drilling derrick on the Mad Dog platform, located approximately 190 miles south of New Orleans. The production impact of both hurricanes was a reduction equivalent to approximately 24mboe/d for the year.

In October 2008, BP announced an oil discovery with its Freedom well (BP 25% and operator). The well, located in Mississippi Canyon Block 948, approximately 70 miles south-east of the Louisiana Coast, is in about 1,860 metres of water. It is believed that Freedom straddles Mississippi Canyon Block 948 and Mississippi Canyon Block 992.

BP owns a 67.75% interest in Block 992.

Lower 48 states

In the Lower 48 states (onshore), our 2008 natural gas production was 325mboe/d, which was up 2% compared with 2007. Liquids production was 97mb/d, down 10% compared with 2007. Total 2008 production, excluding the impacts from the 2008 hurricanes, was broadly flat compared with 2007.

In 2008, we drilled approximately 540 wells as operator and continued to maintain a stable programme of drilling activity throughout the year.

Production is derived from two main areas:

In the western basins (Colorado, New Mexico and Wyoming), our assets produced 224mboe/d in 2008.

In the Gulf Coast and mid-continental basins (Kansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and Texas), our assets produced 198mboe/d in 2008.

Significant events were:

In August 2008, BP acquired all Chesapeake Energy Corporation's interest in approximately 90,000 net acres of leasehold and producing natural gas properties in the Arkoma basin Woodford Shale area for \$1.75 billion. BP took over production operations on 1 November and retained three drilling rigs as part of the deal.

In September 2008, BP acquired a 25% non-operated interest in Chesapeake's Fayetteville Shale assets for \$1.9 billion comprising \$1.1 billion in cash at closing and an \$800 million commitment to fund Chesapeake's 75% share of drilling and completion costs. \$183 million of this commitment was met in 2008, with the balance expected to be paid by the end of 2009. The assets include approximately 135,000 net acres of leasehold.

In September 2008, in anticipation of Hurricane Gustav, operations and activity were shut down in the Pascagoula NGL plant, South Louisiana (Tuscaloosa field) and East Texas Exploration and Production operations. Also in September, Hurricane Ike resulted in every field location across South Louisiana, East Texas and the Permian Basin having production shut in. Four NGL plants, Pascagoula, Block 31, Crane and Midland, were shut down while other plants suffered production impacts due to widespread outages and disruptions in the midstream infrastructure. The impact of both hurricanes on production was a reduction equivalent to approximately 2mboe/d for the year.

In October 2008, BP sanctioned the Wamsutter Full Field Development plan (Phase II). This builds on the operational and technological results of extensive field trials conducted during the past three years.

Alaska

In Alaska, BP net oil production in 2008 was 197mb/d, a decrease of 6% from 2007, due to normal decline in the large mature fields, partially offset by continued strong reservoir and well performance.

BP operates 13 North Slope oil fields (including Prudhoe Bay, Northstar and Milne Point) and four North Slope pipelines and owns a significant interest in six other producing fields

In addition, two key aspects of BP's business strategy in Alaska are commercializing the large undeveloped natural gas resource within our 26.4% interest in Prudhoe Bay and unlocking the large undeveloped heavy oil resources within existing North Slope fields through the application of advanced technology.

Significant events in 2008 were:

In July 2008, BP announced the commencement of development activities for the Liberty oilfield, which is located on federal leases about six miles offshore in the Beaufort Sea, and east of the Prudhoe Bay oilfield. The planned development includes up to six ultra-extended reach wells, including four producers and two injectors. These wells are expected to be the longest horizontal wells ever drilled in the world, extending two miles deep and as far as eight miles horizontally, guided by 3-D seismic imagery. A specialized rig for drilling in the Arctic is being built for the project. Drilling is expected to start in 2010, from an existing satellite pad that is being expanded for

Performance review

the project at the BP-operated Endicott oilfield. BP drilled the Liberty discovery well in 1997, and is the operator and sole owner of the field.

In August 2008, BP successfully tested Cold Heavy Oil Production with Sand (CHOPS) technology for the first time in Alaska, initiating a four-well production test programme during the period from August 2008 until the end of 2009. This first test at Milne Point S Pad brought oil and sand to the surface, where it was processed using temporary field facilities, combined with other light oil production, and shipped down the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System (TAPS). The CHOPS well tests are part of a multi-year programme to determine the technical and commercial feasibility of a large scale heavy oil development project on the North Slope using existing cold and thermal technologies.

During 2008, all four of the Prudhoe Bay Oil Transit Line segments that were targeted for replacement in response to the oil spills in the Prudhoe Bay field in March and August 2006 were completed and placed in service.

United Kingdom

We are the largest producer of oil, the second largest producer of gas and the largest overall producer of hydrocarbons in the UK. In 2008, total liquids production was 173mb/d, a 14% decrease on 2007, and gas production was 759mmcf/d, a 1% decrease on 2007. This decrease in production was driven by natural decline. Key aspects of our activities in the North Sea include a focus on in-field drilling and selected new field developments. Our development expenditure (excluding midstream) in the UK was \$907 million in 2008, compared with \$804 million in 2007 and \$794 million in 2006. BP operates one NGL plant in the UK.

Significant events in 2008 were:

In February 2008, BP and its partner, Marathon Petroleum West of Shetlands Ltd, announced a new oil discovery in UK Continental Shelf Block 204/23 (BP 72%), following drilling on the South West Foinaven prospect. BP, together with its partner, is evaluating the discovery and the potential for a two-well subsea development, tied back to the Foinaven Floating Production Storage and Offloading vessel (FPSO).

In May 2008, BP and its co-venturers made an oil discovery in North Sea Block 16/23s (BP 77.07%), named Kinnoull. The Kinnoull discovery and potential development options, including a subsea development tied back to BP's Andrew field, are being evaluated.

During the third quarter, the first phase of offshore removal activity for the North West Hutton platform decommissioning programme was completed. This is BP's biggest decommissioning project so far in the North Sea and has seen the removal of 22 separate topsides modules, which were then taken away by barges to the Able UK yard on Teesside for recycling and disposal. It is estimated that around 97% of the material recovered will be recycled and/or reused.

In December 2008, BP and BG Group agreed to exchange a package of North Sea assets. This is expected to strengthen BP's position as a major operator in the Southern North Sea and to facilitate development activity and investment in the UK Continental Shelf. BP agreed to acquire BG's 24.2% interest in the BP-operated Amethyst field and all its interests in the Easington Catchment Area (ECA) fields, including a 73.3% interest in the Mercury field, a 79% interest in the Neptune field, a 65% interest in the Minerva, Apollo and Artemis fields and BG's 30.8% interest in the BP-operated Whittle and Wollaston fields. BG Group agreed to acquire BP's interest and operatorship in the Everest (BP 21.1%) and Lomond (BP 22.2%) fields, BP's 18.2% interest in the BG-operated Armada field and 32% of the Chevron-operated Erskine field (BP will retain 18% equity in Erskine). The deal is subject to government, regulatory and partner approvals and completion is expected in the second quarter of 2009.

Rest of Europe

Our activities in the Rest of Europe are now centred on Norway. Until February 2007, we also held exploration and production and gas infrastructure interests in the Netherlands. Development expenditure (excluding midstream) in the Rest of Europe was \$695 million, compared with \$443 million in 2007 and \$214 million in 2006. In 2008, our total production in Norway was 47mboe/d, a 16% decrease on 2007. This decrease in production was driven by natural decline. In Norway, progress continued as planned on the Skarv and Valhall Redevelopment projects.

Rest of World

Development expenditure in Rest of World (excluding midstream) was \$5,251 million in 2008, compared with \$5,045 million in 2007 and \$4,522 million in 2006.

Rest of Americas

Canada

In Canada, our natural gas and liquids production was 51mboe/d in 2008, a decrease of 1% compared with 2007. The year-on-year decrease in production is mainly due to natural field decline.

On 31 March 2008, BP and Husky Energy Inc. (Husky) completed a deal to create an integrated North American oil sands business by means of two separate 50:50 joint ventures, BP-Husky Refinery LLC, operated by BP, and the Sunrise Oil Sands Partnership (SOSP), operated by Husky. BP's capital expenditure in respect of the creation of SOSP amounted to \$2.8 billion.

In June 2008, BP successfully acquired three of five exploration licences on offer in the Canadian section of the Beaufort Sea through a Call for Bids process issued by The Department of Indian and Northern Affairs of Canada. The leases awarded to BP cover about 611,000 hectares of the Beaufort seabed, north of Tuktoyaktuk, Northwest Territories. These are in addition to the 15 significant discovery licences that BP currently holds in the Beaufort Sea, and two exploration licences currently in moratorium. The term for exploration licences issued from this Call for Bids is nine years consisting of two consecutive periods. There is a \$300 million work obligation associated with acquiring these exploration licences.

Trinidad

In Trinidad, natural gas production volumes increased from 420mboe/d in 2007 to 422mboe/d in 2008. The increase was a result of improved operating efficiency on the Atlantic LNG Trains combined with increased demand from the domestic market and full ramp-up of two new fields, Mango and Cashima. Liquids production increased by 7mb/d (23%) to 37mb/d in 2008 from 30mb/d in 2007 as a result of an increase in NGLs associated with higher throughput for the Trains, increased crude and condensate from the two new fields and liquid optimization activities.

In December 2008, a new oil export pipeline was commissioned to transport liquids from offshore fields to onshore delivery points. BP owns 100% of the capacity of the pipeline.

Progress on Savonette, BP's next field development in Trinidad, continued throughout the year and first gas is expected to be delivered in 2009.

In 2008, the Day Away from Work Case injury frequency (per 200,000 work hours) has been reduced from 0.12 in 2003 to zero in 2008 and the recordable injury frequency has more than halved in the same period. This has come about through the development and implementation of a comprehensive multi-year safety plan, focused on coaching safety leaders, workforce communication, standard implementation and continuous learning.

Performance review

Venezuela

In Venezuela, despite the transition since 2006 of BP's interests to incorporated joint venture (IJV) entities with the state oil company *Petróleos de Venezuela, S.A. (PDVSA)*, and OPEC quotas, 2008 liquids production increased by 3mb/d compared with 2007.

In the second quarter of 2008, BP concluded the migration of the Cerro Negro operations to an IJV with PDVSA while retaining the same equity interest.

Colombia

In Colombia, BP's net production averaged 38mboe/d. The reduction of 8mboe/d compared with 2007 is mainly due to natural field decline and lower gas transfers from Recetor (BP 50%) to Santiago de las Atalayas (BP 31%). The main part of the production comes from the Cusiana, Cupiagua and Cupiagua South fields, with increasing new production from the Cupiagua extension into the Recetor Association Contract and the Floreña and Pauto fields in the Piedemonte Association Contract.

On 20 June 2008, the National Hydrocarbon Agency gave its official approval for equalization of RC4 and RC5 Caribbean offshore blocks with partners Ecopetrol and Petrobras, with the main objective of simplifying partner relations and agreements. New equity interests resulting from this approval are BP 40.6%, Ecopetrol 32% and Petrobras 27.4%. Seismic operations for these two blocks were completed successfully. Processing and interpretation of the data to determine potential prospects for offshore field developments and drilling operations is under way and is expected to be completed in 2009.

Argentina, Bolivia and Chile

In Argentina, Bolivia and Chile, activity is conducted through Pan American Energy (PAE), a joint venture company in which BP holds a 60% interest, and which is accounted for by the equity method. In 2008, total PAE gross production of 250mboe/d represented an increase of 3% compared with 2007. Most of this production comes from the Cerro Dragón field in the provinces of Chubut and Santa Cruz. The field is now producing at its highest level since inception of the licence area in 1958. PAE also has other assets producing gas and liquids in the Argentine provinces of Salta, Neuquén and Tierra del Fuego, and in Bolivia, as well as interests in exploration areas, pipelines, electricity generation plants and other midstream infrastructure assets, primarily in Argentina.

In 2007 and early 2008, PAE was granted extensions of the two principal Cerro Dragón licence areas by the provinces of Chubut and Santa Cruz in exchange for material long-term investment commitments in exploration and production, and for long-term commitments to local community and supplier development. The licence expiry dates have been extended from 2017 to 2027, with further extension potential to 2047.

In May 2008, following its decree of 2006 requiring all private owners of shares in Bolivian oil and gas companies to transfer back a majority shareholding to the Bolivian national oil company *Yacimientos Petrolíferos Fiscales Bolivianos (YPFB)*, the Bolivian government issued a second decree requiring this transfer to be made with immediate effect. PAE, as the majority shareholder of *Empresa Petrolera Chaco S.A. (Chaco)*, a company created in the 1990s, was affected by these decrees. PAE was required to sell approximately 1% of the share capital of Chaco to YPFB, such that YPFB would own 50% plus one share of the total. From May 2008 and into January 2009, PAE was in discussions with the government regarding the decrees and options for implementation. However, on 23 January 2009, the president of Bolivia issued a decree nationalizing PAE's shareholding in Chaco. PAE is currently evaluating all options to preserve the value of its shareholding.

On 26 November 2008, the Argentine government issued a decree creating a new regime called *Petróleo PLUS*. This regime is aimed at increasing oil production and reserves. The detailed rules of *Petróleo PLUS* were issued on 4 December 2008. On 15 December 2008, PAE made its first applications under *Petróleo PLUS* for fiscal credit certificates with the Secretary of Energy.

Africa

Algeria

BP, through its joint operatorships of the In Salah Gas (33.15%) and In Amenas (12.5%) projects, supplied 33mboe/d (BP net) to markets in Algeria and southern Europe during 2008. This is a decrease of 15% from 39mboe/d in 2007 as a result of lower gross volumes at In Salah due to planned turnaround maintenance and the impact of lower entitlement in our PSAs driven by higher prices, partly offset by improved operating efficiency at In Amenas. Further, BP, through its joint operatorship of the Rhourde El Baguel field, received 4.4mboe/d (BP net) of oil in 2008.

Sonatrach and BP announced an exploration success with the Tin Zaouatene-1 (TZN-1) discovery in the Bourarhet Sud Blocks 230 and 231. On 24 September 2008, BP moved into the second prospecting period, which lasts for a further two years.

Angola

In Angola, BP net production in 2008 was 202mboe/d, an increase of 45% from 2007 due to the start-up of the Mondo, Saxi and Batuque (Kizomba C, BP 26.67%) fields, and the ramp-up of the Greater Plutonio field (BP 50% and operator), more than offsetting the impact of lower entitlement in our PSAs driven by higher prices in existing fields. We expect to have invested over \$15 billion in our Angolan business by 2010.

In January 2008, the Kizomba C project (BP 26.67%) came onstream with the start-up of the Mondo field, followed by first production from the Saxi and Batuque fields in July 2008. The Kizomba C development is located approximately 140 kilometres off the coast of Angola in water depths of nearly 800 metres.

In June 2008, the Plutão, Saturno, Vênus and Marte (PSVM) project was authorized by Sonangol. The programme is expected to comprise four fields that lie in the north east sector of Block 31 (BP 26.67% and operator), in a water depth of approximately 2,000 metres, some 400 kilometres north west of Luanda. Contracts have been awarded and construction work started during 2008.

During the third quarter of 2008, production was shut down at the Greater Plutonio FPSO located in deepwater Block 18 (BP 50% and operator), offshore Angola, due to operational issues. Production was restarted on 12 October 2008. The adverse impact on full-year production was 14mb/d.

In the ultra deepwater Block 31 (BP 26.67% and operator), there was further exploration success with the Portia and Dione wells, bringing the total successes for Block 31 to 16. The Portia well is located in a water depth of approximately 2,000 metres, some 386 kilometres north-west of Luanda. The Dione well is located in a water depth of approximately 1,700 metres, some 390 kilometres north-west of Luanda.

Performance review

Egypt

In Egypt, BP net production was 121mboe/d, an increase of 25% from 97mboe/d in 2007. This increase was mainly due to the start-up of two new fields, Saqqara and Taurt, and the full-year impact from Denise, which started up at the end of 2007.

In January 2008, BP completed drilling a successful exploration well, Satis-1, in the North El Burg offshore concession (BP 50% and operator). The Satis-1 well was drilled in approximately 90 metres of water, some 50 kilometres offshore, and is in the Oligocene formation.

In January 2008, an oil discovery was announced in the North Shadwan (BP 50% and operator) concession located in the southern part of the Gulf of Suez. The NS394-1A exploration well was drilled in shallow water seven kilometres from the Hilal field. This discovery is the first new oil discovery in the south-eastern area of the Gulf of Suez in more than 10 years and is also the first discovery drilled by BP which has been facilitated by modern, high-quality, ocean-bottom cable (OBC) seismic data.

On 15 May 2008, oil production from the Saqqara field (BP 100%) started. The Saqqara field, operated by the Gulf of Suez Petroleum Company (GUPCO), a joint venture operating company between BP and the Egyptian General Petroleum Corporation (EGPC), is located 13 kilometres offshore in the central Gulf of Suez. Natural gas production commenced on 26 July 2008. The Saqqara development includes a jacket and unmanned topsides, three wells, and a 13-kilometre pipeline to a new dedicated onshore separation and gas processing plant at Ras Shukeir on the Gulf of Suez. Local contractors were used for design, onshore construction and offshore fabrication work.

In July 2008, natural gas production began from the Taurt field (BP 50%). The Taurt field is located between the Ras El Bar Concession (BP 50% and operator) and the Temsah Concession (BP 50%), 70 kilometres offshore to the north-east of Port Said, East Nile Delta. Gross Taurt production ramped up to 230mmcf/d in August. The Taurt development includes a Subsea Production System (SPS), two subsea wells, and a 70-kilometre pipeline and control umbilical back to upgraded facilities at the existing West Harbor processing plant. Taurt is BP's first subsea development in Egypt and also the first of a planned programme of future subsea developments. Local contractors were used for onshore design/modifications and subsea structure construction.

Libya

In Libya, BP and its partner, the Libyan Investment Corporation (LIC) commenced seismic operations on the acreage covered under the exploration and production-sharing agreement ratified in December 2007. In September 2008, the offshore seismic acquisition survey commenced in the Mediterranean waters of Libya's Gulf of Sirt. At the end of 2008, the onshore seismic operations commenced in the northern Ghadames block.

Asia Pacific

Indonesia

BP produces crude oil in, and supplies natural gas to, the island of Java through its holding in the Offshore Northwest Java PSA (BP 46%). In 2008, BP net production was 22mboe/d, an increase of 18% from 18.6mboe/d in 2007 as a result of improved operating efficiencies and increased gas demand in Java.

BP is operator of the Tangguh LNG project (BP 37.2%), which includes offshore platforms, pipelines and an LNG plant with two production trains with a total capacity of 7.6 million tonnes per annum (mtpa). In May 2008, gas was introduced from one of the two offshore platforms into the Onshore Receiving Facility (ORF). First commercial delivery of LNG is expected in the second quarter of 2009.

BP has a 50% interest in Virginia Indonesia Company LLC (Vico), the operator of the Sanga-Sanga PSA (BP 38%) supplying feedgas to Indonesia's largest LNG export facility, the Bontang LNG plant in Kalimantan.

Vietnam

BP participates in one of the country's largest foreign investment projects, the Nam Con Son gas project. This is an integrated resource and infrastructure project, which includes offshore gas production, a pipeline transportation system and a power plant. At midnight on 31 December 2007, the operation of the Nam Con Son Pipeline (BP 32.67%) transferred from BP to PetroVietnam (PVN). In September 2008, capacity of the Nam Con Son Pipeline was increased by 30% to allow for additional current and future expected volumes.

In 2008, BP net natural gas production was 61mmcf/d, a decrease of 26% from 82mmcf/d in 2007, primarily due to lower PSA entitlements. Gas sales from Block 6.1 (BP 35% and operator) are made under a long-term agreement for electricity generation at the Phu My 3 power plant (BP 33.3%).

BP has determined that its licences in Blocks 5.2 (BP 55.9% and operator) and 5.3 (BP 75% and operator) do not fit within its current portfolio and has decided to withdraw from them. BP is currently in active discussions with PVN, the Vietnamese government and joint venture partners to progress this withdrawal.

China

In 2008, natural gas production was 91mmcf/d BP net, an increase of 7% compared with 2007. This increase was mainly due to increased gas demand. A new development project was sanctioned in late 2008 to help meet the expected increase in demand in 2010 and beyond.

The Yacheng offshore gas field (BP 34.3%) supplies Castle Peak Power Company with feedgas for up to 70% of Hong Kong's gas-fired electricity generation. Additional gas is also sold to the Fuel & Chemical Company of Hainan.

In March 2007, the National People's Congress reduced the rate of corporation tax from 33% to 25% with effect from 1 January 2008.

Australia

BP is one of seven partners in the North West Shelf (NWS) venture. Six partners (including BP) hold an equal 16.67% interest in the infrastructure and oil reserves and an equal 15.78% interest in the gas and condensate reserves, with a seventh partner owning the remaining 5.32% of gas and condensate reserves. The NWS venture is currently the principal supplier to the domestic market in Western Australia and one of the largest LNG export projects in Asia with five LNG Trains in operation.

In 2008, BP net gas production was 380mmcf/d, an increase of 1% from 2007 primarily due to increased domestic gas demand in Western Australia and the startup of NWS Train 5 and the Angel platform in the third quarter. BP net liquids production was 29mb/d, a decrease of 15% from 2007 due to natural field decline.

In March 2008, the North Rankin 2 (NR2) project was sanctioned. This links a second platform via a 100-metre bridge to the existing North Rankin A (NRA) platform. On completion, NRA and NR2 platforms are expected to be operated as a single integrated facility and to recover low pressure gas from the North Rankin and Perseus gas fields.

In September 2008, a fifth LNG train was successfully completed and commenced production at the Karratha gas plant. Train 5 increases NWS total annual production capacity from 11.9 to 16.3 million tonnes.

The Angel platform (BP 16.67%) was successfully commissioned and started producing gas during October 2008. Angel has a gross production capacity of 800 million standard cubic feet of raw gas and up to 50,000 barrels of condensate per day.

Performance review

Russia

TNK-BP

TNK-BP, a joint venture between BP (50%) and Alfa Group and Access-Renova (AAR) (50%), is an integrated oil company operating in Russia and the Ukraine. The TNK-BP group's major assets are held in OAO TNK-BP Holding. Other assets include the BP-branded retail sites in Moscow and the Moscow region and interests in OAO Rusia Petroleum and the OAO Slavneft group. The workforce comprises more than 60,000 people.

BP's investment in TNK-BP is held by the Exploration and Production segment and the results of TNK-BP are accounted for under the equity method in this segment.

TNK-BP has proved reserves of 7.1 billion barrels of oil equivalent (including its 49.9% equity share of Slavneft), of which 5 billion are developed. In 2008, TNK-BP's average liquids production was 1.65mmb/d, a decrease of just under 1% compared with 2007. The production base is largely centred in West Siberia (Samotlor, Nyagan and Megion), which contributes about 1.2mmboe/d, together with Volga Urals (Orenburg) contributing some 0.4mmboe/d. About 40% of total oil production is currently exported as crude oil and 20% as refined product.

Downstream, TNK-BP has interests in six refineries in Russia and the Ukraine (including Ryazan and Lisichansk and Slavneft's Yaroslavl refinery), with throughput of approximately 34 million tonnes per year. During 2008, TNK-BP purchased additional retail and other downstream assets in Russia and the Ukraine from a number of small companies. TNK-BP supplies approximately 1,400 branded filling stations in Russia and the Ukraine and, with the additional sites, is expected to have more than 20% market share of the Moscow retail market.

On 9 January 2009, BP reached final agreement on amendments to the shareholder agreement with its Russian partners in TNK-BP. The revised agreement is aimed at improving the balance of interests between the company's 50:50 owners, BP and Alfa Access-Renova (AAR), and focusing the business more explicitly on value growth.

The former evenly-balanced main board structure has been replaced by one with four representatives each from BP and AAR, plus three independent directors. Unanimous board support is required for certain matters including substantial acquisitions, divestments and contracts, and projects outside the business plan, together with approval of key changes to the TNK-BP group's financial framework and of related party transactions. A number of other matters will be decided by approval of a majority of the board, so that the independent directors will have the ability to decide in the event of disagreement between the shareholder representatives on the board. BP will continue to nominate the chief executive, subject to main board approval, and AAR will continue to appoint the chairman. The three independent directors appointed to the restructured main board are Gerhard Schroeder, former chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, James Leng, former chairman of Corus Steel and Alexander Shokhin, president of the Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs. In addition, significant TNK-BP subsidiaries will have directors appointed by BP and AAR on their boards. Our investment in TNK-BP will be reclassified from a jointly controlled entity to an associate with effect from 9 January 2009.

The parties have confirmed their agreement to a potential future sale of up to 20% of a subsidiary of TNK-BP through an initial public offering (IPO) at an appropriate future point, subject to certain conditions and the consent of the Russian authorities.

In 2007, BP and TNK-BP signed heads of terms to create strategic business alliances with OAO Gazprom. Under the terms of this agreement, TNK-BP agreed to sell to Gazprom its stake in OAO Rusia Petroleum, the company that owns the licence for the Kovykta gas condensate field in East Siberia and its interest in East Siberia Gas Company. Discussions to conclude this disposal continue.

Sakhalin

BP and its Russian partner Rosneft agreed two Shareholder and Operating Agreements (SOAs) on 28 April 2008, recognizing BP as a 49% equity interest holder with Rosneft holding the remaining 51% interest in the two newly formed joint venture companies, Vostok Shmidt Neftegaz and Zapad Shmidt Neftegaz. BP also continues to hold a 49% equity interest in its third joint venture company at Sakhalin, Elvary Neftegaz, with Rosneft holding the remaining 51%. During the year, each of the three joint ventures held Geological and Geophysical Studies licences with the Russian Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) to perform exploration seismic and drilling operations in these licence areas off the east coast of Russia. To date, 3D seismic data has been acquired in relation to all three licences. In the Elvary Neftegaz licence additional commitment 2D seismic data was acquired during 2008 in preparation for future drilling commitments. Exploration wells have been drilled in the Zapad-Shmidt Neftegaz and Elvary Neftegaz licences. In 2008, it was agreed by both shareholders to allow the Zapad-Shmidt Neftegaz licence to lapse at the end of its normal term.

Other

Azerbaijan

In Azerbaijan, BP's net production in 2008 was 130mboe/d, a net decrease of 40% from 2007. The primary elements of this were the effects of significantly higher prices resulting in a change in profit oil entitlement in line with the terms of the PSA and reduced cost oil entitlement, partially offset by an increase following the start-up of the Deepwater Gunashli (DWG) platform, the ramping up of three Azeri oil-producing platforms and the Shah Deniz condensate gas platform commencing production in 2007.

The DWG platform complex successfully started oil production on schedule on 20 April 2008. DWG completes the third phase of development of the Azeri-Chirag-Gunashli (ACG) field (BP 34.1% and operator) in the Azerbaijan sector of the Caspian Sea. The DWG complex is located in a water depth of 175 metres on the east side of the Gunashli field. The complex comprises two platforms – a drilling and production platform linked by a bridge to a water injection and gas compression platform.

On 17 September 2008, a subsurface gas release occurred below the Central Azeri platform. As a precautionary measure, all personnel on the platform were safely transferred onshore. The Central Azeri platform was shut down until 19 December 2008, when following comprehensive investigation and recovery work, BP began to resume oil and gas production. Central Azeri processes oil and gas from West Azeri, and West Azeri was also temporarily shut down and then restored to normal operations on 9 October 2008. Operations of the Compressor and Water Injection Platform (CWP), which is linked by a bridge to Central Azeri, and the provision of power and injection water across three Azeri field platforms were re-established on 12 October 2008.

Middle East and South Asia

Production in the Middle East consists principally of the production entitlement of associates in Abu Dhabi, where we have equity interests of 9.5% and 14.7% in onshore and offshore concessions respectively. In 2008, BP's share of production in Abu Dhabi was 210mb/d, up 9% from 2007 as a result of higher overall OPEC demand despite cuts implemented in the fourth quarter of 2008.

In July 2008, BP Sharjah signed a farm-out agreement with RAK Petroleum for the East Sajaa concession. Drilling of the first exploration well is expected in 2009.

In Block 61 in Oman, the challenges posed by the world's largest onshore azimuth 3D seismic survey led the BP Oman team to use a ground-breaking new technique known as Distance Separated Simultaneous Sweeping (DS3). This technique allows the acquisition

Performance review

in a single day of as much seismic data as previously obtained in a week. The invention of DS3 along with some other innovations allowed an efficient and cost effective survey of the Block to be completed within a six-month period. The first appraisal well was spudded in September 2008.

In Pakistan, BP's net oil production in 2008 was 8.2mboe/d, an increase of 30% from 2007, and BP's net gas production was 28.2mboe/d, an increase of 34% from 2007 as a result of the full-year impact of BP increasing its equity in the onshore Badin asset in 2007 to 84%.

In Pakistan, BP received an 18-month extension until January 2010 in Phase 1 of the initial term of Exploration Licences in respect of the offshore Indus PSA.

On 30 December 2008, BP signed completion documents with Orient Petroleum International Inc., to acquire a 51.3% working interest, along with operatorship, in two joint venture blocks, Mirpurkhas and Khipro, located in the southern Sindh province of Pakistan.

On 22 December 2008, BP signed a production-sharing contract with the Indian government for a deepwater exploration block in the Krishna-Godavari Basin, offshore eastern India, which was awarded under the New Exploration Licensing Policy Seventh round. BP is the designated operator with a 30% working interest in the block. Reliance Industries Limited holds the remaining 70% working interest.

Midstream activities

Oil and natural gas transportation

The group has direct or indirect interests in certain crude oil transportation systems, the principal ones being the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System (TAPS) in the US, the Forties Pipelines System (FPS) in the UK sector of the North Sea and the Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan (BTC) oil pipeline.

In addition to these, we also operate the Central Area Transmission System (CATS) for natural gas in the UK sector of the North Sea, the Western Export Route Pipeline between Azerbaijan and the Black Sea coast of Georgia (as operator of AIOC), and, as technical operator, the South Caucasus Pipeline (SCP) (BP 25.5%), which takes gas from Azerbaijan through Georgia to the Turkish border.

BP's onshore US crude oil and product pipelines and related transportation assets are included under Refining and Marketing (*see page 27*).

Assets and activity during 2008 included:

Alaska

BP owns a 46.9% interest in TAPS, with the balance owned by four other companies. Production transported by TAPS from Alaska North Slope fields averaged 700mb/d during 2008.

Work on the strategic reconfiguration project to upgrade and automate four TAPS pump stations continued to progress in 2008. This project is installing electrically-driven pumps at four critical pump stations, along with increased automation and upgraded control systems. Two of the reconfigured pump stations came online during 2007. The remaining two reconfigured pump stations are expected to come online sequentially, one in 2009 and one in 2010.

On 8 April 2008, BP and ConocoPhillips announced the formation of a joint venture company called Denali - The Alaska Gas Pipeline. The joint venture has begun work on an Alaska gas pipeline project consisting of a gas treatment plant on Alaska's North Slope, a large-diameter pipeline that is intended to pass through Alaska into Canada, and should it be required, a large-diameter pipeline from Alberta to the Lower 48 United States. When completed, the pipeline is expected to move approximately 4 billion cubic feet of natural gas per day to market. The joint venture plans to spend up to \$600 million prior to reaching the first major project milestone, an open season,

before the end of 2010. An open season is a process during which the joint venture seeks customers to make firm, long-term transportation commitments to the project. Should the open season be successful, the joint venture will seek certification from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) of the US and the National Energy Board (NEB) of Canada to move forward with project construction. The new joint venture company will manage the project, and will own and operate the pipeline when completed. BP and ConocoPhillips may consider other equity partners, including pipeline companies, who can add value to the project and help manage the risks involved. On 22 May 2008, the office of the Governor of Alaska announced that it would be supporting an alternative gas pipeline project proposed by TransCanada Alaska Company in response to the State of Alaska's request for bids under the Alaska Gas Inducement Act (AGIA) in 2007. BP's commitment to move forward with the Denali project is independent of any decisions made or inducement offered by the State under the AGIA process and BP believes that the Denali project offers the best opportunity for a successful Alaska gas pipeline project.

Alaska state courts issued two noteworthy rulings in 2008, related to challenges filed by in-state refiners against BP and the other TAPS carriers, regarding intrastate tariffs charged for shipping oil through TAPS during the period from 1997 through 2003. These rulings are related to long-standing challenges that were originally filed with the Regulatory Commission of Alaska (RCA). In 2002, the RCA issued Order 151, which determined that TAPS transportation rates charged from the beginning of 1997 were excessive, and that refunds should be paid. BP and the other TAPS carriers appealed the RCA's 2002 ruling in the State of Alaska court system. In the interim, the RCA issued Order 34, which imposed intrastate tariff rates consistent with Order 151, effective from 1 July 2003 forward. On 15 February 2008, the Alaska Supreme Court affirmed the determination in RCA's Order 151, and on 26 February 2008, the Alaska Superior Court affirmed the RCA's Order 34, and imposed the application of Order 151 to intrastate tariff rates charged from 2001 forward. BP and the other TAPS carriers decided not to appeal these matters any further in the courts, and on 25 March 2008, BP Pipelines Alaska paid refunds to intrastate shippers totalling \$71 million covering the period 1997 through 2000. During the third quarter of 2008, BP Pipelines Alaska paid out an additional \$75 million to intrastate shippers covering the period from 2001 through 30 June 2003. In 2008, intrastate transport made up approximately 13.7% of total TAPS throughput.

Tariffs for interstate transportation of oil through TAPS are calculated using the TAPS Tariff Settlement Methodology (TSM), which is defined in an agreement entered into with the State of Alaska in 1985. The TSM was also accepted at that time by the Regulatory Commission of Alaska (RCA) and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). Since then, Anadarko, Tesoro, and the State of Alaska have challenged the interstate tariffs charged by BP and the other TAPS carriers in the years 2005, 2006 and 2007 with the FERC. Anadarko and the State of Alaska have also challenged the 2008 tariffs. In 2006, the FERC consolidated the proceedings related to the years 2005-2006, and determined that the challenges pertaining to 2007 tariff rates would be held in abeyance until a decision was issued in the proceedings on 2005 and 2006 tariff rates. The FERC's hearings on the consolidated proceedings commenced in October 2006 and concluded in January 2007. On 17 May 2007, a FERC Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) issued an initial decision on 2005 and 2006 tariff rates that was adverse to BP and the other TAPS carriers, and established a floor of \$3.01/bbl for the 2005-2006 period, as this was the last uncontested tariff rate. On 20 June 2008, the FERC issued a ruling on the 2005-2006 period, which substantially affirmed the initial ruling by the ALJ, and ordered the TAPS carriers to pay refunds to shippers. On 20 November 2008, the FERC affirmed its 20 June 2008 ruling in response to applications for rehearing filed by BP and the other TAPS carriers. Accordingly, in December 2008 BP as

Performance review

a TAPS carrier paid third party shippers tariff refunds of \$52 million; and BP as a TAPS shipper received tariff refunds from third party carriers of \$27 million. The FERC's 20 November 2008 ruling also concluded that a unified tariff rate should be established for interstate transportation through TAPS, and the TAPS carriers were ordered to implement a revenue pooling methodology in the TAPS Operating Agreement. Some TAPS carriers other than BP have filed legal challenges to this aspect of the FERC's 20 November 2008 ruling, which are still pending. As of the end of 2008, there have been no proceedings in the challenges to BP's and the other TAPS carriers' 2007 and 2008 tariff rates. In 2008, interstate transport made up approximately 86% of total TAPS throughput.

North Sea

FPS (BP 100%) is an integrated oil and NGLs transportation and processing system that handles production from more than 50 fields in the Central North Sea. The system has a capacity of more than one million barrels per day, with average throughput in 2008 of 662mb/d.

BP operates and has a 29.5% interest in CATS, a 400-kilometre natural gas pipeline system in the central UK sector of the North Sea. The pipeline has a transportation capacity of 1,700mmcf/d to a natural gas terminal at Teesside in north-east England. CATS offers natural gas transportation and processing services. In 2008, throughput was 836mmcf/d (gross), 247mmcf/d (net).

BP operates the Dimlington/Easington gas processing terminal (BP 100%) on Humberside and the Sullom Voe oil and gas terminal in Shetland.

Asia (including the former Soviet Union)

BP as operator, manages and holds a 30.1% interest in the BTC oil pipeline. The 1,768-kilometre pipeline transports oil from the BP-operated ACG oil field in the Caspian Sea to the eastern Mediterranean port of Ceyhan. The Turkish section of the pipeline is operated by Botas.

On 6 August 2008, the Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan (BTC) pipeline was shut down for 14 days as a result of a fire that occurred at Block Valve 30, located in the Erzincan province in Eastern Turkey. The pipeline restarted on 20 August 2008. The Azeri-Chirag-Gunashli (ACG) and Shah Deniz (SD) fields reduced offshore production to manage stock levels at the Sangachal Terminal. Some exports were maintained via the Northern Route Export Pipeline (NREP) and by rail through Georgia.

BP is technical operator of, and holds a 25.5% interest in, the 693-kilometre South Caucasus Pipeline (SCP), which takes gas from Azerbaijan through Georgia to the Turkish border. During August 2008, the South Caucasus gas and Western Route oil export pipelines were shut down for a short period as a precautionary measure during a period of military activity in the region.

In February 2008, BP, on behalf of AIOC, handed over operatorship of the Azerbaijani section of the NREP between Azerbaijan and Russia to the State Oil Company of Azerbaijan Republic (SOCAR).

Through the LukArco joint venture, BP holds a 5.75% interest in the Caspian Pipeline Consortium (CPC) pipeline and a 2.3% interest in Tengizchevroil (TCO). CPC is a 1,510-kilometre pipeline from Kazakhstan to the Russian port of Novorossiysk and carries crude oil from a number of Kazakh fields, including Tengiz. In addition to our interest in LukArco, we hold a separate 0.87% interest in CPC through a 49% holding in Kazakhstan Pipeline Ventures (KPV). In 2008, CPC total throughput reached 32.2 million tonnes. During 2008, the majority of shareholders in CPC agreed on the commercial terms for expansion of CPC to 67 million tonnes. These terms strongly favour the upstream, and as BP has no additional volumes of Kazakh crude to ship in an expanded CPC, BP has been unable to support these new commercial terms. In order not to delay the expansion of CPC, BP has obtained the agreement of its KPV joint venture partners and CPC shareholders to dispose of its interest in KPV

and is seeking the agreement of its joint venture partners, CPC shareholders and TCO partners to dispose of its interest in LukArco.

On 25 September 2008, Chevron announced that Tengizchevroil had completed a major expansion at the Tengiz field in Kazakhstan in which BP holds a 2.3% interest through its joint venture with LukArco. The completion of the expansion brings daily crude capacity of the field to 540mb/d.

Liquefied natural gas

Our LNG activities are focused on building competitively advantaged liquefaction projects, establishing diversified market positions to create maximum value for our upstream natural gas resources and capturing third party LNG supply to complement our equity flows.

Assets and activity during 2008 included:

In Trinidad, BP's net share of the capacity of Atlantic LNG Trains 1, 2, 3 and 4 is 6 million tonnes of LNG per year (292 billion cubic feet equivalent re-gasified), with the Atlantic LNG Train 4 (BP 37.8%) designed to produce 5.2 million tonnes (253 billion cubic feet) per year of LNG. All of the LNG from Atlantic Train 1 and most of the LNG from Trains 2 and 3 is sold to third parties in the US and Spain under long-term contracts. All of BP's LNG entitlement from Atlantic LNG Train 4 and some of its LNG entitlement from Trains 2 and 3 is marketed via BP's LNG marketing and trading business to a variety of markets including the US, the Dominican Republic, Spain, the UK and the Far East.

We have a 10% equity shareholding in the Abu Dhabi Gas Liquefaction Company, which in 2008 supplied 5.8 million tonnes (298.746mmcf) of LNG, up 3% from 2007.

BP has a 13.6% share in the Angola LNG project, which is expected to receive approximately one billion cubic feet of associated gas per day from offshore producing blocks and to produce 5.2 million tonnes gross per year of LNG, as well as related gas liquids products. With the completion of the necessary agreements and the approval of the Angolan government, the project investors have authorized Angola LNG Limited to proceed with the construction and implementation of the project.

In Indonesia, BP is involved in two of the three LNG centres in the country. BP participates in Indonesia's LNG exports through its holdings in the Sanga-Sanga PSA (BP 38%). Sanga-Sanga currently delivers around 13% of the total gas feed to Bontang, one of the world's largest LNG plants. The Bontang plant produced 18.4 million tonnes of LNG in 2008.

Also in Indonesia, BP has interests in the Tangguh LNG joint venture (BP 37.2% and operator) and in each of the Wiriagar (BP 38% and operator), Berau (BP 48% and operator) and Muturi (BP 1%) PSAs in north-west Papua that are expected to supply feed gas to the Tangguh LNG plant. During 2008, construction continued on two LNG trains and the offshore facilities, with commercial delivery planned in the second quarter of 2009. Tangguh will be the third LNG centre in Indonesia, with an expected initial capacity of 7.6 million tonnes of LNG (388,000mmcf) per year. Tangguh has signed LNG sales contracts for delivery to China, Korea and North America.

In Australia, we are one of seven partners in the North West Shelf (NWS) venture. The joint venture operation covers offshore production platforms, an FPSO, trunklines, onshore gas and LNG processing plants and LNG carriers. BP's net share of the capacity of NWS LNG Trains 1-5 is 2.7 million tonnes of LNG per year.

BP has a 30% equity stake in the 7 million tonne per annum capacity Guangdong LNG re-gasification and pipeline project in south-east China, making it the only foreign partner in China's LNG import business. In addition to LNG supplied under a long-term contract with Australia's NWS project, the terminal took delivery of an additional eight spot LNG cargoes during 2008, to meet rapidly growing local demand for gas.

Performance review

BP Shipping took delivery of four LNG ships during 2007 and 2008. The Gem class ships can carry 155,000m³ of LNG and are among the first ships in the industry to be powered by low-emission, fuel-efficient, diesel-electric propulsion. BP Shipping provides safe, environmentally responsible marine and shipping solutions in support of BP group activities.

In both the Atlantic and Asian regions, BP is marketing LNG using BP LNG shipping and contractual rights to access import terminal capacity in the liquid markets of the US (via Cove Point and Elba Island) and the UK (via the Isle of Grain), and is supplying Asian customers in Japan, South Korea and Taiwan.

Gas marketing and trading activities

Gas and power marketing and trading activity is undertaken primarily in the US, Canada, the UK and Europe to market both BP production and third-party natural gas and manage market price risk as well as to create incremental trading opportunities through the use of commodity derivative contracts. Additionally, this activity generates fee income and enhanced margins from sources such as the management of price risk on behalf of third-party customers. These markets are large, liquid and volatile.

In connection with the above activities, the group uses a range of commodity derivative contracts and storage and transport contracts. These include commodity derivatives such as futures, swaps and options to manage price risk and forward contracts used to buy and sell gas and power in the marketplace. Using these contracts, in combination with rights to access storage and transportation capacity, allows the group to access advantageous pricing differences between locations, time periods and arbitrage between markets. Natural gas futures and options are traded through exchanges, while over-the-counter (OTC) options and swaps are used for both gas and power transactions through bilateral and/or centrally cleared arrangements. Futures and options are primarily used to trade the key index prices such as Henry Hub, while swaps can be tailored to price with reference to specific delivery locations where gas and power can be bought and sold. OTC forward contracts have evolved in both the US and UK markets, enabling gas and power to be sold forward in a variety of locations and future periods. These contracts are used both to sell production into the wholesale markets and as trading instruments to buy and sell gas and power in future periods. Storage and transportation contracts allow the group to store and transport gas, and transmit power between these locations. The group has developed a risk governance framework to manage and oversee the financial risks associated with this trading activity, which is described in Note 28 to the Financial statements on pages 140-145.

The range of contracts that the group enters into is described below in more detail:

Exchange-traded commodity derivatives

Exchange-traded commodity derivatives include gas and power futures contracts. Though potentially settled physically, these contracts are typically settled financially. Gains and losses, otherwise referred to as variation margins, are settled on a daily basis with the relevant exchange. Realized and unrealized gains and losses on exchange-traded commodity derivatives are included in total revenues for accounting purposes.

OTC contracts

These contracts are typically in the form of forwards, swaps and options. Some of these contracts are traded bilaterally between counterparties; others may be cleared by a central clearing counterparty. These contracts can be used for both trading and risk management activities. Realized and unrealized gains and losses on OTC contracts are included in total revenues for accounting purposes. Highly developed markets exist in North America and the UK where gas and power can be bought and sold for delivery in future periods. These contracts are negotiated between two parties to purchase and sell gas and power at a specified price, with delivery and settlement at a future date. Typically, these contracts specify delivery terms for the underlying commodity. Certain of these transactions are not settled physically. This can be achieved by transacting offsetting sale or purchase contracts for the same location and delivery period that are offset during the scheduling of delivery or dispatch. The contracts contain standard terms such as delivery point, pricing mechanism, settlement terms and specification of the commodity. Typically, volume and price are the main variable terms. Swaps can be contractual obligations to exchange cash flows between two parties. One usually references a floating price and the other a fixed

price, with the net difference of the cash flows being settled. Options give the holder the right, but not the obligation, to buy or sell natural gas products or power at a specified price on or before a specific future date. Amounts under these derivative financial instruments are settled at expiry, typically through netting agreements to limit credit exposure and support liquidity.

Spot and term contracts

Spot contracts are contracts to purchase or sell a commodity at the market price, typically an index price prevailing on the delivery date when title to the inventory passes. Term contracts are contracts to purchase or sell a commodity at regular intervals over an agreed term. Though spot and term contracts may have a standard form, there is no offsetting mechanism in place. These transactions result in physical delivery with operational and price risk. Spot and term contracts relate typically to purchases of third-party gas and sales of the group's gas production to third parties. Spot and term sales are included in total revenues, when title passes. Similarly, spot and term purchases are included in purchases for accounting purposes.

Performance review

Refining and Marketing

Our Refining and Marketing business is responsible for the supply and trading, refining, manufacturing, marketing and transportation of crude oil, petroleum, chemicals products and related services to wholesale and retail customers. BP markets its products in more than 100 countries. We operate primarily in Europe and North America and also manufacture and market our products across Australasia, in China and other parts of Asia, Africa and Central and South America.

In 2008 we restructured the Refining and Marketing organization into two main business groupings: fuels value chains (FVCs) and international businesses (IBs). The FVCs integrate the activities of refining, logistics, marketing, supply and trading, on a regional basis, recognizing that the markets for our main fuels products operate regionally. This shift to a more geographic and integrated model represents a major simplification step and the opportunity to create better value from our physical assets (refineries, terminals, pipelines and retail stations). The IBs include the manufacturing, supply and marketing of lubricants, petrochemicals, liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) and aviation and marine fuels. We believe each of these IBs is competitively advantaged in the markets in which we have chosen to participate. Such advantage is derived from several factors, including location, proximity of manufacturing assets to markets, physical asset quality, operational efficiency, technology advantage and the strength of our brands. Each business has a clear strategy focused on investing in its key assets and market positions in order to deliver value to its customers and outperform its competitors.

During the past five years, our focus has been on process safety, upgrading organizational capability and significant integrity management investment. The construction of new production units at many of our refineries as well as upgrades of existing conversion units at a number of our facilities has positioned our assets to produce the high-quality fuels needed to meet today's heightened product specifications.

Our performance in 2008

The 2008 environment in which the segment operated was very challenging, characterized by high and volatile crude and product prices, which resulted in substantial margin volatility as well as higher energy costs in manufacturing. Crude prices fell significantly in the second half of the year and at the end of the year, prices were around \$50/bbl lower than the start of the year. Refining margins in the US were significantly weaker than 2007 due to weaker gasoline demand. Conversely, in Europe, where diesel accounts for a larger share of regional demand, margins were stronger than a year ago. Demand for fuels has fallen, initially due to high oil prices and subsequently due to the slowing of global economies and the impact of the financial crisis. During the fourth quarter, we saw a dramatic decline in the demand for our petrochemicals products as a consequence of the economic slowdown. The year also saw material swings in foreign exchange rates, particularly in the second half, that affected our results.

Our 2008 performance reflects the benefits of the fundamental improvements we are making across the business, including the measures we have taken to restore the availability of our refining system, reduce costs and simplify the organization. The loss before interest and tax was \$1.9 billion for 2008, compared with a profit before interest and tax of \$6.1 billion in 2007. The decrease was primarily driven by inventory-holding losses. Our financial results are discussed in more detail on pages 50-51.

Safety, both process and personal, remains our top priority. During 2008, we started the migration to the new BP Operating Management System (OMS) with an increased focus on process safety and continuous improvement. The OMS is described in further detail on page 40. At the end of the year, two of our petrochemicals plants in the US and two of our refineries in Europe were operating on OMS. Within our US refineries, we continue to implement the recommendations from the BP US Refineries Independent Safety Review Panel. We have worked closely with the independent expert, L Duane Wilson. The number of major incidents associated with integrity management has decreased by 90% since 2005. We have also reduced the number of oil spills by 60% and the recordable injury rate by more than 57% since 1999. Regrettably, in 2008 there were four workforce fatalities associated with our operations, one of which was a process safety incident.

In 2008, we saw the first substantial benefits of our operational improvements. The Whiting refinery was restored to its full clean fuel capability of 360mb/d in March 2008 following the compressor failure and fire that took

place during 2007. Texas City was also restored to full economic capability by the end of the year. In Europe and Rest of World, we commissioned new upgrading units at the Rotterdam and Kwinana refineries, enhanced processing capability at the Gelsenkirchen refinery, reconfigured the Bayernoil refinery for more efficient and competitive operation, and completed construction of a new coker at the Castellón refinery. During the next five years, we intend to continue the focus on process safety, improve the competitive performance of our refineries and complete the previously announced investment in the Whiting refinery to increase its ability to process Canadian heavy crude.

In total, our 17 refineries worldwide, including those partially owned, achieved throughputs of 2,155mb/d on average, a 5% increase on 2007 after adjusting for the net loss of throughput from previous disposals and acquisitions. The performance of Texas City was impacted by Hurricane Ike in September, which meant we had to shut down the refinery in advance as a precautionary measure, along with other refineries in the area. Operational disruption was minimized as crude processing was restored in seven days and full operations restored within three weeks. This was due to a terrific response from employees and also reflected the improvements we have made to our assets at Texas City over the last few years.

During 2008, we fully integrated our refining, logistics, marketing, supply and trading activities, establishing six refining-to-marketing integrated FVCs focused on refining and selling ground transportation fuels in each region. This has enabled us to simplify internal interfaces, optimize margins, reduce overhead costs and drive continuous improvement. During the year, we continued the implementation of our ampm convenience retail franchise model in the US, which we expect to provide reliable long-term sales growth for our refinery systems, together with reduced costs and lower levels of capital investment. In Europe, where we are one of the largest forecourt convenience retailers, with about 2,500 shops in 10 countries, we are growing our food-on-the-go and fresh grocery services through BP-owned brands and partnerships with leading retailers such as Marks & Spencer.

In relation to our IBs during 2008, in the lubricants business we focused on enhancing our customer relationships and brand distinctiveness, together with simplifying operations and improving efficiency. Although 2008 was a difficult year for the aviation industry, in Air BP, we simplified our footprint by exiting non-core countries resulting in a reduction in working capital and improved returns on operating capital employed. During the year, the environment in which our petrochemicals businesses operate became more challenging as deterioration in the global economic market led to reduced demand for our products.

We are simplifying the structure of our organization, improving the efficiency of our back office and reducing our headcount, including the number of senior management positions.

Performance review

Looking ahead, in 2009 the overall economic environment is expected to be challenging with reduced demand for our products leading to lower volumes and pressure on margins. The impact is expected to be greatest in the petrochemicals sector.

Against this background, we intend to continue actively managing our cost base, simplifying our marketing footprint and developing the market positions where we have competitive advantage based on brand and technology strengths. We also intend to improve the efficiency of our back office, including customer service, accounting services and procurement systems, by centralizing these activities in a few global centres to remove duplication and reduce cost. We intend to focus on cash generation through active management of our working capital and credit exposure.

We intend to limit our capital investment to maintaining and improving our core positions. To continue the progress we have made in recent years, our top priority for spending will remain safety and operational integrity. The other area of focus will be delivering integrated value in our key markets through investment in terminals and pipeline infrastructure. Our largest investment is expected to be at the Whiting refinery, where we have started a major upgrading and modernization programme that will enable the refinery to operate on Canadian heavy crude oil. We also intend to complete the planned projects in petrochemicals (*see page 32*).

Comparative information presented in the table below has been restated, where appropriate, to reflect the resegmentation, following transfers of businesses between segments, that was effective from 1 January 2008. See page 12 for further details.

Key statistics

| | \$ million | | |
|--|----------------|---------|---------------|
| | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 |
| Total revenues ^a | 320,458 | 250,897 | 232,833 |
| Profit before interest and tax from continuing operations ^b | (1,884) | 6,076 | 5,419 |
| Total assets | 75,329 | 95,311 | 80,738 |
| Capital expenditure and acquisitions | 6,634 | 5,495 | 3,127 |
| | | | \$ per barrel |
| Global Indicator Refining Margin ^c | 6.50 | 9.94 | 8.39 |

^a Includes sales between businesses.

^b Includes profit after interest and tax of equity-accounted entities.

^c The Global Indicator Refining Margin

(GIM) is the average of regional industry indicator margins, which we weight for BP's crude refining capacity in each region. Each regional indicator margin is based on a single representative crude with product yields characteristic of the typical level of upgrading complexity. The refining margins are industry-specific rather than BP-specific measures, which we believe are useful to investors in analyzing trends in the industry and their impact on our results. The margins are calculated by BP based on published crude oil and product prices and take account of fuel utilization and catalyst costs. No account is taken of BP's other cash and non-cash costs of refining, such as wages and salaries and plant depreciation. The indicator margin

may not be representative of the margins achieved by BP in any period because of BP's particular refining configurations and crude and product slate.

Total revenues are analysed in more detail below.

| | \$ million | | |
|--|----------------|---------|---------|
| | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 |
| Sale of crude oil through spot and term contracts | 54,901 | 43,004 | 38,577 |
| Marketing, spot and term sales of refined products | 248,561 | 194,979 | 177,995 |
| Other sales and operating revenues | 16,577 | 12,238 | 15,814 |
| Earnings from equity-accounted entities (after interest and tax), interest, and other revenues | 419 | 676 | 447 |
| | 320,458 | 250,897 | 232,833 |

| | thousand barrels per day | | |
|--|--------------------------|-------|-------|
| Sale of crude oil through spot and term contracts | 1,689 | 1,885 | 2,110 |
| Marketing, spot and term sales of refined products | 5,698 | 5,624 | 5,801 |

| | thousand barrels per day | | |
|--|--------------------------|-------|-------|
| | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 |
| Sales of refined products ^a | | | |
| Marketing sales | | | |
| UK ^b | 310 | 339 | 356 |
| Rest of Europe | 1,256 | 1,294 | 1,340 |
| US | 1,460 | 1,533 | 1,595 |
| Rest of World | 685 | 640 | 581 |
| Total marketing sales ^c | 3,711 | 3,806 | 3,872 |
| Trading/supply sales ^d | 1,987 | 1,818 | 1,929 |
| Total refined products | 5,698 | 5,624 | 5,801 |

| | \$ million | | |
|--|----------------|---------|---------|
| Proceeds from sale of refined products | 248,561 | 194,979 | 177,995 |

- ^a Excludes sales to other BP businesses, sales of Aromatics & Acetyls products and Olefins & Derivatives sales through equity-accounted entities.
- ^b UK area includes the UK-based international activities of Refining and Marketing.
- ^c Marketing sales are sales to service stations, end-consumers, bulk buyers and jobbers (i.e. third parties who own networks of a number of service stations and small resellers).
- ^d Trading/supply sales are sales to large unbranded resellers and other oil companies.

The following table sets out marketing sales by major product group.

| Marketing sales by refined product | 2008 | thousand barrels per day | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|-------|
| | | 2007 | 2006 |
| Aviation fuel | 501 | 490 | 488 |
| Gasolines | 1,500 | 1,572 | 1,603 |
| Middle distillates | 1,055 | 1,119 | 1,170 |
| Fuel oil | 460 | 429 | 388 |
| Other products | 195 | 196 | 223 |
| Total marketing sales | 3,711 | 3,806 | 3,872 |

Marketing volumes were 3,711mb/d, slightly lower than last year, reflecting the impacts from the slowing of global economies and reduced industry demand in the US and Europe.

Fuels value chains

Following our reorganization we have six integrated FVCs. They are organized regionally, covering the West Coast and Mid-West regions of the US, the Rhine region, Southern Africa, Australasia (ANZ) and Iberia. Each of these is a material business, optimizing activities across the supply chain from crude delivery to the refineries; manufacture of high-quality fuels to meet market demand; pipeline and terminal infrastructure and the marketing and sales to our customers. The Texas City refinery is operated as a standalone predominantly merchant refining business that also supports our marketing operations on the east and gulf coasts.

Refining

The group's global refining strategy is to own and operate strategically advantaged refineries that benefit from vertical integration with our marketing and trading operations, as well as horizontal integration with other parts of the group's business. Refining's focus is to maintain and improve its competitive position through sustainable, safe, reliable and efficient operations of the refining system and disciplined investment for integrity management, to achieve competitively advantaged configuration and growth.

For BP, the strategic advantage of a refinery relates to its location, scale and configuration to produce fuels from lower-cost feedstocks in line with the demand of the region. Strategic investments in our refineries are focused on securing the safety and reliability of our assets while improving our competitive position. In addition, we continue to invest to develop the capability to produce the cleaner fuels that meet the requirements of our customers and their communities.

Performance review

The following table summarizes the BP group's interests in refineries and crude distillation capacities at 31 December 2008.

| | | thousand barrels per day Crude distillation capacities ^a | | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|--|--------------------------------|-------|-------|
| | | | Group interest ^b | | BP |
| | Refinery | Fuels value chain | % | Total | share |
| Rest of Europe | | | | | |
| Germany | Bayernoil | Rhine | 22.5% | 215 | 48 |
| | Gelsenkirchen* | Rhine | 50.0% | 266 | 133 |
| | Karlsruhe | Rhine | 12.0% | 323 | 39 |
| | Lingen* | Rhine | 100.0% | 93 | 93 |
| | Schwedt | Rhine | 18.8% | 226 | 42 |
| Netherlands | Rotterdam* | Rhine | 100.0% | 386 | 386 |
| Spain | Castellón* | Iberia | 100.0% | 110 | 110 |
| Total Rest of Europe | | | | 1,619 | 851 |
| US | | | | | |
| California | Carson* | US West Coast | 100.0% | 266 | 266 |
| Washington | Cherry Point* | US West Coast | 100.0% | 234 | 234 |
| Indiana | Whiting* | US Mid-West | 100.0% | 405 | 405 |
| Ohio | Toledo* | US Mid-West | 50.0% | 155 | 78 |
| Texas | Texas City* | | 100.0% | 475 | 475 |
| Total US | | | | 1,535 | 1,458 |
| Rest of World | | | | | |
| Australia | Bulwer* | ANZ | 100.0% | 102 | 102 |
| | Kwinana* | ANZ | 100.0% | 137 | 137 |
| New Zealand | Whangerei | ANZ | 23.7% | 102 | 24 |
| Kenya | Mombasa ^c | Southern Africa | 17.1% | 94 | 16 |
| South Africa | Durban | Southern Africa | 50.0% | 180 | 90 |
| Total Rest of World | | | | 615 | 369 |
| Total | | | | 3,769 | 2,678 |

*Indicates refineries operated by BP.

^aCrude distillation capacity is gross rated capacity, which is defined as the maximum achievable utilization of capacity (24-hour assessment) based on standard feed.

^bBP share of equity, which is not necessarily the same as BP share of processing entitlements.

^cOn 15 January 2008, it was announced that Essar Energy Overseas Ltd, a subsidiary of Essar Oil Limited, had entered into an agreement to acquire 50% of Kenya Petroleum Refineries Ltd.

The transaction was initially expected to be finalized in 2008, but has since been delayed in negotiations. The following table outlines by region the volume of crude oil and feedstock processed by BP for its own account and for third parties. Corresponding BP refinery capacity utilization data is summarized.

| Refinery throughputs ^a | thousand barrels per day | | |
|---|--------------------------|-------|-------|
| | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 |
| UK | | 67 | 165 |
| Rest of Europe | 739 | 691 | 648 |
| US | 1,121 | 1,064 | 1,110 |
| Rest of World | 295 | 305 | 275 |
| Total | 2,155 | 2,127 | 2,198 |
| Refinery capacity utilization | | | |
| Crude distillation capacity at 31 December ^b | 2,678 | 2,769 | 2,823 |
| Crude distillation capacity utilization ^c | 78% | 72% | 76% |
| US | 72% | 62% | 70% |
| Europe | 85% | 84% | 87% |
| Rest of World | 83% | 84% | 78% |

^aRefinery throughputs reflect crude and other feedstock volumes.

^bCrude distillation capacity is gross rated capacity, which is defined as the maximum achievable utilization of capacity (24-hour assessment) based on standard feed.

^cCrude distillation capacity utilization is defined as the percentage utilization of capacity per calendar day during the year after making allowances for average annual shutdowns at BP refineries (i.e. net rated capacity).

Performance review

Excluding portfolio impacts, underlying refining throughputs in 2008 increased by 5% relative to 2007, driven principally by improved operational performance in the US. Higher US throughputs were attributable to the recoveries at the Texas City and Whiting refineries, partially offset by the reduced equity interest in the Toledo refinery stemming from the Husky joint venture (see below). The improvement achieved in the US was lower than it would have been as crude runs were reduced as a result of the low-margin environment as well as the disruption at the Texas City refinery in September caused by Hurricane Ike.

The increase in Rest of Europe throughputs in 2008 is primarily related to the purchase of Chevron's 31% interest in the Rotterdam refinery in 2007. The decrease in UK throughputs is due to the sale of the Coryton refinery to Petroplus.

Significant events in Refining were as follows:

On 21 March 2008, the Whiting refinery in the US was restored to its full clean fuel capability of 360mb/d.

BP completed recommissioning the Texas City refinery in the US. With the successful return to service of Ultraformer No. 3 in the fourth quarter, the site's full economic capability was restored.

On 31 March 2008, we completed a deal with Husky Energy Inc. to create an integrated North American oil sands business by means of two separate joint ventures, one of which entailed Husky taking a 50% interest in BP's Toledo refinery. The Toledo refinery is intended to be expanded to process approximately 170mb/d of heavy oil and bitumen by 2015.

In July, a final investment decision was taken to progress the significant upgrade of the Whiting refinery. This project repositions Whiting competitively by increasing its Canadian heavy crude processing capability by 260mb/d and modernizing it with equipment of significant size and scale.

On 17 March 2008, BP and Irving Oil entered into a memorandum of understanding to work together on evaluating the feasibility of the proposed Eider Rock refinery in Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada.

Fuels marketing, supply and logistics

Our fuels marketing strategy focuses on optimizing the integrated value of each fuels value chain that is responsible for the delivery of ground fuels to the market. We do this by co-ordinating our marketing, refining and trading activities to maximize synergies across the whole value chain. Our priorities are to operate an advantaged infrastructure and logistics network (which includes pipelines, storage terminals and road or rail tankers), drive excellence in operating and transactional processes and deliver compelling customer offers in the various markets where we operate. The fuels business markets a comprehensive range of refined oil products primarily focused on the ground fuels sector.

On 29 August 2008, BP announced an agreement with Enbridge Inc. to build and reconfigure a pipeline system to transport Canadian heavy crude oil from Flanagan, Illinois, to Houston and Texas City, Texas. The system is expected to be in service by late 2012 with an initial capacity of 250mb/d. The joint investment of the phased capacity additions is expected to be in the range of \$1-2 billion.

The ground fuels business supplies fuel and related convenience services to retail consumers through company-owned and franchised retail sites as well as other channels including wholesalers and jobbers. It also supplies commercial customers within the road and rail transport sectors.

BP's value creation in ground fuels is obtained through the integration of the value chain from the refinery gates or import hubs across retail and commercial channels to market. Convenience retail offers are focused on delivering appealing convenience offers across the various markets in which we operate, through the BP Connect, ampm and Aral brands.

Our retail network is largely concentrated in Europe and the US, and also has established operations in Australasia and southern and eastern Africa. We are developing networks in China in two separate joint ventures, one with Petrochina

and the other with China Petroleum and Chemical Corporation (Sinopec).

| Retail sites ^{a b} | Number of retail sites operated under a BP brand | | |
|-----------------------------|--|--------|--------|
| | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 |
| UK | 1,200 | 1,200 | 1,300 |
| Rest of Europe | 7,400 | 7,400 | 7,700 |
| US (excluding jobbers) | 2,500 | 2,500 | 2,700 |
| US jobbers | 9,200 | 9,700 | 9,600 |
| Rest of World | 2,300 | 2,500 | 2,600 |
| Total | 22,600 | 23,300 | 23,900 |

^a Changes in the number of retail sites over time are affected by, among other things, dealer/jobber-owned sites that move to or from the BP brand as their fuel supply agreements expire and are renegotiated in the normal course of business.

^b Excludes our interest in equity-accounted entities. Comparative information has been amended to this basis.

At 31 December 2008, BP's worldwide network consisted of some 22,600 locations branded BP, Amoco, ARCO and Aral, around the same as in the previous year. We continue to improve the efficiency of our retail network and increase the consistency of our site offer through a process of regular review. In 2008, we sold 470 company-owned sites to dealers, jobbers and franchisees who continue to operate these sites under the BP brand. We also divested an additional 160 company-owned sites to third parties.

At 31 December 2008, BP's retail network in the US comprised approximately 11,700 sites, of which approximately 9,200 were owned by jobbers and 900 operated under a franchise agreement. In November 2007, BP announced that it would sell all of its company-owned and company-operated convenience sites in the US. Despite the challenges in the global credit market, we expect the sale of these sites to be completed by the end of 2009. At the end of 2008, sales of 293 of sites had been successfully completed. The sites will continue to market BP-branded fuels in the eastern US and ARCO-branded fuels in the western US. The franchise agreement has a term of 20 years and requires sites to be supplied with BP- or ARCO-branded fuels for the term of the contract.

At the end of 2008, our European retail network consisted of approximately 8,600 sites and we had approximately 2,300 sites in the Rest of World.

Our retail convenience operations offer consumers a range of food, drink and other consumables and services on the fuel forecourt in a safe, convenient and innovative manner. With operations in both Europe and the US, using

recognized and distinctive brands, BP is working to maximize the efficiency and effectiveness of its retail network in each of its chosen market areas. By the end of 2008, we completed the roll-out of more than 100 Marks & Spencer Simply Food sites as an integral part of the convenience network in the UK, while a refresh of the Petit Bistro brand in Germany and the Wild Bean Café brand in other European locations has re-energized consumers' convenience shopping choices. In the US, BP has embarked on a roll-out of its successful amp'm brand across all targeted national markets as its single convenience flagship; this programme roll-out is intended to be completed by the end of 2009.

Performance review

Supply and trading

The group has a long-established integrated supply and trading function responsible for delivering value across the overall crude and oil products supply chain. This structure enables BP to maintain a single face to the oil trading markets and to operate with a single set of trading compliance processes, systems and controls. Operating through trading offices located in Europe, the US and Asia, the function is able to maintain a presence in the regionally connected global markets.

The function seeks to identify the best markets and prices for our crude oil, source optimal feedstocks for our refineries and provide competitive supply for our marketing businesses. In addition, where refinery production is surplus to marketing requirements or can be sourced more competitively, it is sold into the market. Wherever possible, the group will look to optimize value across the supply chain. For example, BP will often sell its own crude production into the market and purchase alternative crude for its refineries where this will provide incremental margin.

In addition to the supply activity described above, the function seeks to create incremental trading opportunities. It enters into the full range of exchange-traded commodity derivatives, over-the-counter (OTC) contracts and spot and term contracts that are described in detail below. In order to facilitate the generation of trading margin from arbitrage, blending and storage opportunities, it also both owns and contracts for storage and transport capacity. The group has developed a risk governance framework to manage and oversee the financial risks associated with this trading activity, which is described in the Financial statements Note 28 on pages 140-145.

The range of transactions that the group enters into is described below:

Exchange-traded commodity derivatives

These contracts are typically in the form of futures and options traded on a recognized exchange, such as Nymex, SGX, ICE and Chicago Board of Trade. Such contracts are traded in standard specifications for the main marker crude oils, such as Brent and West Texas Intermediate, and the main product grades, such as gasoline and gasoil. Gains and losses, otherwise referred to as variation margins, are settled on a daily basis with the relevant exchange. These contracts are used for the trading and risk management of both crude oil and refined products. Realized and unrealized gains and losses on exchange-traded commodity derivatives are included in total revenues for accounting purposes.

OTC contracts

These contracts are typically in the form of forwards, swaps and options. Some of these contracts are traded bilaterally between counterparties; others may be cleared by a central clearing counterparty. These contracts can be used both as part of trading and risk management activities. Realized and unrealized gains and losses on OTC contracts are included in total revenues for accounting purposes.

The main grades of crude oil bought and sold forward using standard contracts are West Texas Intermediate and a standard North Sea crude blend (Brent, Forties and Osberg or BFO). Although the contracts specify physical delivery terms for each crude blend, a significant volume are not settled physically. The contracts typically contain standard delivery, pricing and settlement terms. Additionally, the BFO contract specifies a standard volume and tolerance given that the physically settled transactions are delivered by cargo.

Swaps are often contractual obligations to exchange cash flows between two parties: a typical swap transaction usually references a floating price and a fixed price with the net difference of the cash flows being settled. Options give the holder the right, but not the obligation, to buy or sell crude or oil products at a specified price on or before a specific future date. Amounts under these derivative financial instruments are settled at expiry, typically through netting agreements, to limit credit exposure and support liquidity.

Spot and term contracts

Spot contracts are contracts to purchase or sell crude and oil products at the market price prevailing on and around the delivery date when title to the inventory is taken. Term contracts are contracts to purchase or sell a commodity at regular intervals over an agreed term. Though spot and term contracts may have a standard form, there is no offsetting mechanism in place. These transactions result in physical delivery with operational and price risk. Spot and term contracts relate typically to purchases of crude for a refinery, purchases of products for marketing, sales of the group's oil production and sales of the group's oil products. For accounting purposes, spot and term sales are included in total

revenues, when title passes. Similarly, spot and term purchases are included in purchases for accounting purposes.
International businesses

Our IBs provide quality products and offers to customers in more than 100 countries worldwide with a significant focus on Europe, North America and Asia. Our products include aviation and marine fuels, lubricants that meet the needs of various industries and consumers, LPG, and a range of petrochemicals that are sold for use in the manufacture of other products such as fabrics, fibres and various plastics.

Lubricants

We manufacture and market lubricants and related products and services to the automotive, industrial, marine and energy markets across the world. Following a decision to simplify and focus our channels of trade, we now sell products direct to our customers in around 50 countries and use approved local distributors for the remaining locations. Customer focus, distinctive brands, superior technology and relationships remain the cornerstones of our long-term strategy.

BP markets primarily through its major brands of Castrol and BP, plus the Aral brand in some specific markets. Castrol is recognized as one of the most powerful lubricants brands worldwide and we believe it provides us with a significant competitive advantage. In the automotive lubricants sector, we supply lubricants and other related products and services to intermediate customers such as retailers and workshops. These, in turn, serve end-consumers such as car, truck and motorcycle owners in the mature markets of Western Europe and North America as well as the markets of Russia, China, India, the Middle East, South America and Africa, which we believe have the potential for significant long-term growth.

BP's marine lubricants business is a global market leader, supplying many types of vessels from deep-sea fleets to marine leisure-craft from around 1,200 ports across the globe. BP's industrial lubricants business is a leading supplier to those sectors of the market involved in the manufacture of automobiles, trucks, machinery components and steel. BP is also a leading supplier of lubricants for the offshore oil and aviation industries.

Performance review

Petrochemicals

Our petrochemicals operations are comprised of the global Aromatics & Acetyls businesses (A&A) and the Olefins & Derivatives (O&D) businesses, predominantly in Asia. New investments are targeted principally in the higher growth Asian markets.

In A&A, we manufacture and market three main product lines: purified terephthalic acid (PTA), paraxylene (PX) and acetic acid. Our A&A strategy is to leverage our industry-leading technology in selected markets, to grow the business and to deliver industry-leading returns. PTA is a raw material used in the manufacture of polyesters used in fibres, textiles and film, and PET bottles. Acetic acid is a versatile intermediate chemical used in a variety of products such as paints, adhesives and solvents, as well as its use in the production of PTA. We have a strong global market share in the PTA and acetic markets with a major manufacturing presence in Asia, particularly China. PX is a feedstock for PTA production.

In O&D, we manufacture ethylene and propylene from naphtha and also produce a number of downstream derivative products.

Our O&D business has operations in both China and Malaysia. In China, our SECCO joint venture between BP, Sinopec and its subsidiary, Shanghai Petrochemical Company is the largest foreign-invested olefins cracker in China. SECCO is BP's single largest investment in China. This naphtha cracker produces ethylene and propylene plus derivatives acrylonitrile, polyethylene, polypropylene, styrene, polystyrene, and other products. In Malaysia, BP participates in two joint-ventures: Ethylene Malaysia Sdn. Bhd. (EMSB), which produces ethylene from gas feedstock in a joint venture between BP, Petronas and Idemitsu; while Polyethylene Malaysia Sdn. Bhd. (PEMSB) produces polyethylene in a joint venture between BP and Petronas. Each of these ventures has demonstrated a strong track record of project delivery and performance. BP also owns one other naphtha cracker outside Asia, which is integrated with our Gelsenkirchen refinery in Germany.

The following table shows BP's petrochemicals production capacity at 31 December 2008. This production capacity is based on the original design capacity of the plants plus expansions.

BP share of capacity

| Geographic area | thousand tonnes per year | | | | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|-------|-------------|-------|-------|--------|
| | PTA | PX | Acetic acid | Other | O&D | Total |
| US | 2,385 | 2,373 | 546 | 151 | | 5,455 |
| Europe | 1,075 | 622 | 544 | 158 | 1,629 | 4,028 |
| Asia (excluding China) | 2,209 | | 815 | 56 | 257 | 3,337 |
| China | 1,554 | | 215 | 51 | 2,290 | 4,110 |
| | 7,223 | 2,995 | 2,120 | 416 | 4,176 | 16,930 |

During 2008, the environment in which our petrochemicals businesses operate became more challenging as deterioration in the global economic environment has led to a reduced demand for our products.

Significant events in petrochemicals were as follows:

The second PTA plant at the BP Zhuhai Chemical Company Limited site in Guangdong province (China) successfully completed commissioning in the first quarter of 2008. This 900+ ktpa plant is the single largest PTA manufacturing train in the world and employs BP's latest, proprietary technology.

Construction continued on the new 500ktpa acetic acid plant in Jiangsu province (China) by BP YPC Acetyls Company (Nanjing) Limited (BYACO). This is a BP joint venture with Yangzi Petrochemical Co. Ltd (a subsidiary

of Sinopec). Construction is scheduled to be completed in June 2009 with commercial sales expected to begin in the third quarter of 2009.

Commissioning of our expanded Geel (Belgium) PTA facility commenced at the end of 2008. The 350ktepa expansion improves overall operating costs and increases the site's PTA capacity to 1,425ktepa.

In January 2008, BP and Sinopec signed a memorandum of understanding to add a new acetic acid plant at their Yangtze River Acetyls Co. (YARACO) joint venture site in Chongqing (China). This world-scale (650ktepa) acetic acid plant will use BP's leading Cativa technology. The expected plant start-up date, which was originally anticipated to be during 2011, is under review due to the market conditions. When complete, total production at the YARACO site is expected to be well over one million tonnes per annum, making this one of the largest acetic acid production locations in the world.

Aviation and marine fuels

Air BP is one of the world's largest and best known aviation fuels suppliers, serving all the major commercial airlines as well as the general aviation and military sectors. During 2008, which was a tough year for the aviation industry, we simplified our geographical footprint by exiting non-core countries and now supply customers in approximately 70 countries. We have annual marketing sales in excess of 27 billion litres and we have relationships with many of the world's major commercial airlines. Air BP's strategic aim is to grow its position in the core locations of Europe, the US, Australasia and the Middle East, while focusing its portfolio towards airports that offer long-term competitive advantage. BP's marine fuels business focuses on the distribution and sale of refined fuel oils to the shipping industry at locations in more than 100 ports across the world. During 2008, this business performed well, supported by strong growth in the shipping market.

LPG

The LPG business sells bulk, bottled, automotive and wholesale LPG products to a wide range of customers in 13 countries. During the past few years, our LPG business has consolidated its position in established markets, pursued opportunities in new and emerging markets such as China and announced the exit from the Vietnam market in December 2008. LPG product sales in 2008 were approximately 68mbpd.

Performance review

Other businesses and corporate

Other businesses and corporate comprises Treasury (which includes interest income on the group's cash and cash equivalents) and corporate activities worldwide, the group's aluminium asset, the Alternative Energy business and Shipping.

Comparative information presented in the table below has been restated, where appropriate, to reflect the resegmentation, following transfers of businesses between segments, that was effective from 1 January 2008. See page 12 for more details.

Key statistics

| | \$ million | | |
|---|----------------|---------|--------|
| | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 |
| Total revenues ^a | 5,040 | 3,972 | 3,703 |
| Profit (loss) before interest and tax from continuing operations ^b | (1,258) | (1,233) | (779) |
| Total assets | 19,079 | 20,595 | 16,315 |
| Capital expenditure and acquisitions | 1,839 | 939 | 852 |

^aIncludes sales between businesses.

^bIncludes profit after interest and tax of equity-accounted entities.

Treasury

Treasury co-ordinates the management of the group's major financial assets and liabilities. From locations in the UK, the US and the Asia Pacific region, it provides the link between BP and the international financial markets and makes available a range of financial services to the group, including supporting the financing of BP's projects around the world.

Insurance

The group generally restricts its purchase of insurance to situations where this is required for legal or contractual reasons. This is because external insurance is not considered an economic means of financing losses for the group. Losses are therefore borne as they arise, rather than being spread over time through insurance premiums with attendant transaction costs. This position is reviewed periodically.

Aluminium

Our aluminium business is a non-integrated producer and marketer of rolled aluminium products, headquartered in Louisville, Kentucky, US. Production facilities are located in Logan County, Kentucky, and are jointly owned with Novelis. The primary activity of our aluminium business is the supply of aluminium coil to the beverage can business, which it manufactures primarily from recycled aluminium.

Alternative Energy

BP invested \$1.4 billion in our Alternative Energy business during 2008, bringing the total investment in this business to \$2.9 billion since its launch in 2005. We expect to fulfil our original 2005 commitment to invest a total of \$8 billion over 10 years. In 2008, we prioritized four areas with significant long-term growth potential – wind, solar, biofuels and carbon capture and storage (CCS). We have also developed a fifth area – gas-fired power – that offers synergies with other BP operations. We have concentrated our 2008 investment in these areas.

| 2008 | 2007 | 2006 |
|------|------|------|
|------|------|------|

| | | | | |
|-------|--|------------|-----|-----|
| Wind | net rated capacity as at year-end (megawatt ^a) | 432 | 172 | 43 |
| Solar | cell production capacity as at year-end (megawatt ^b) | 213 | 228 | 201 |

^a Net wind capacity is the sum of the rated capacities of the assets/turbines that have entered into commercial operation, including BP's share of equity-accounted entities. The equivalent capacities on a gross-JV basis (which includes 100% of the capacity of equity-accounted entities where BP has partial ownership) were 785MW in 2008, 373MW in 2007 and 43MW in 2006.

^b Solar capacity is the theoretical cell production capacity per annum of in-house manufacturing facilities.

Wind

Since the launch of Alternative Energy we have substantially grown our wind portfolio, increasing from 32 megawatts (MW) in operation to 432MW (785MW gross) at the end of 2008. In total, we have more than 500MW (1,000MW gross) of installed capacity. This increase in capacity was led by the US with installations at Cedar Creek, Silver Star, Sherbino and Edom Hills.

To accelerate our growth in the US wind energy market, we acquired two fully integrated wind power development companies – Greenlight Energy Inc. and Orion Energy LLC, during 2006. To secure the continuing availability of turbines we have signed agreements with Nordex (Germany) and GE (the US) for a combined 900MW to be delivered during the next two years. This is in addition to a five-year wind turbine contract we previously signed with Clipper Windpower Inc. in 2006.

We also operate wind farms in the Netherlands and in Maharashtra, India.

Solar

We continued to implement BP Solar's strategy to invest in lower cost manufacturing and technology to enable energy sourced from our products to compete with conventional electricity. Our global business model spans the entire solar value chain – from the acquisition of silicon as a raw material, the production of wafers and cells to the creation of solar panels that are then sold and distributed as solar systems on the roofs of residential homes, large commercial buildings and on vacant land.

Today, BP Solar's main production facilities are located in Maryland (US), Madrid (Spain), Xi'an (China) and Bangalore (India). During 2008, due to increasingly competitive market conditions, BP Solar announced plans to refocus operations at larger scale plants to achieve lower-cost manufacturing. This resulted in the start of an intensive programme of operational efficiency improvement in the remaining BP Solar plants and plans to close our manufacturing plant in Australia. During 2008, BP Solar signed contracts with a select set of third-party strategic partners in Asia who specialize in the production of low-cost, high-quality wafers, cells and modules.

During 2008, BP Solar achieved sales of 162MW, an increase of 41% from 115MW in 2007. The slight decrease in solar production capacity was due to fire damage in a section of our manufacturing plant in India.

Performance review

More than 70% of our sales volume is through third-party distributors in the residential markets in Europe, the US and Australasia. We have continued to roll out our Certified Installer Programme (CIP), first established in Germany, to ensure the safe, high-quality installation of products by third parties. The CIP has grown rapidly in Germany and this year has been rolled out in Spain and Australia.

In the US, in 2008, we continued to supply large corporations with sustainable energy solutions, completing a second solar system for FedEx Freight in California and a further six installations for Wal-Mart. In Europe, we expanded the relationship with Banco Santander to jointly build and finance a number of solar plants in Spain, with the construction of an 8 megawatts-peak (MWp) solar farm in Toledo and a 6MWp project in Tenerife. In Asia, we completed the installation of a solar power demonstration project (SolarSail) at the Guangdong Science Center; the SolarSail absorbs sunlight to produce power, while providing cool shade for visitors. In Australia, the largest roof-top solar system (100 kilowatt) in New South Wales commenced operation in February 2008, representing the first commercial solar power installation for the Blacktown Solar City Project. The Solar Cities Programme is a government initiative to implement distributed solar and other energy efficient technologies in seven Australian cities.

We are developing a new silicon growth process named Mono²™, which will increase cell efficiency over traditional multicrystalline-based solar cells. We have moved from a prototype to low-volume production and have converted our casting stations in Frederick, Maryland, delivering 1.2MW Mono²™. From the trials, we are seeing significant improvement in power and generated kWh when compared with multicrystalline-based solar cells particularly when modules are used where sunlight is low.

BP Solar has long-term relationships with world-class universities and invests in research programmes with organizations including the University of Delaware, California Institute of Technology (Cal Tech) and the Fraunhofer Institute (Germany). BP Solar was selected for the Solar America Initiative (SAI) award from the US Department of Energy a \$40-million research and development programme aimed at decreasing the cost of solar cells and increasing their efficiency. BP Solar is also a member of the broad consortium led by DuPont in conjunction with the University of Delaware, funded by the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), to develop high-efficiency solar cells.

Biofuels

BP has a key role to play in enabling the transport sector to respond to the dual challenges of energy security and climate change. Our investments are focused on sustainable feedstocks that minimize pressure on food supplies and on research into advanced technologies and practices to make good biofuels even better.

We have embarked on a focused programme of biofuels development based around the most efficient transformation of sustainable and low-cost sugars into a range of fuel molecules. These include bioethanol from Brazilian sugar cane, more efficient fuel molecules like biobutanol and advanced biofuels like lignocellulosic bioethanol produced from non-food energy grasses and for-purpose feedstocks such as miscanthus and energy cane.

BP has announced it has plans to invest in excess of \$1 billion in building our own biofuels business operations, including partnerships with other companies to develop the technologies, feedstocks and processes required to produce advanced biofuels.

These investments include: a 50% stake in Tropical BioEnergia, a joint venture with Santelisa Vale and Maeda Group, to produce bioethanol from sugar cane; and a \$90-million investment and strategic alliance with Verenum Corporation to accelerate the development and commercialization of biofuels produced from lignocellulosic bioethanol. We have been working with DuPont since 2003 to explore new approaches to the development of biofuels. The first product from this collaboration will be an advanced fuel molecule called biobutanol, which has a higher energy content than ethanol. We have partnered with ABF (British Sugar) and DuPont to construct a world-scale biofuels plant in Hull.

Innovation begins with research. In 2006, we announced plans to invest \$500 million over 10 years in the Energy Biosciences Institute (EBI), at which biotechnologists are investigating applications of biotechnology to energy, including advanced fuels. This amount is incremental to the \$1 billion of investments mentioned above. Our partners are the University of California, Berkeley and the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign and the

Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. The EBI is focusing on the integrated development of better crops, better processing technologies and better biofuels, leading to cleaner energy.

Hydrogen power

In May 2007, BP and Rio Tinto announced the formation of a new jointly owned company, Hydrogen Energy International Limited, which will develop decarbonized energy projects around the world. The venture will initially focus on hydrogen-fuelled power generation, using fossil fuels and CCS technology to produce new large-scale supplies of clean electricity.

Hydrogen Energy is working on developing low-carbon power plants with projects in Abu Dhabi and California manufacturing hydrogen for power generation. In both instances, the captured CO₂ will be transported to nearby oil fields for use in enhanced oil recovery, with the CO₂ stored deep underground. General Electric and BP have formed a global alliance to jointly develop and deploy technology for hydrogen power plants that could significantly reduce emissions of the greenhouse gas CO₂ from electricity generation.

Through these initiatives, BP intends to continue to shape the development of the CCS value chain and to seek to minimize the carbon footprint exposure of the BP group as carbon pricing and policy develops globally.

Gas-fired power

Our gas-fired power activities comprise modern combined cycle gas turbine plants, which emit around 50% less CO₂ than a conventional coal plant of the same capacity, and several low-carbon co-generation gas power facilities. We have stakes in eight plants worldwide and this year increased the total power they are capable of producing from 5GW to 6GW and, where possible, we integrate plants with other BP production facilities. The Whiting Clean Energy facility, acquired in July 2008, now provides a reliable source of steam for our Whiting refinery and we are adding a 250MW steam turbine to our existing plant at our Texas City refinery. Our combined cycle plants are providing base-load demand for BP's major upstream gas production developments.

Performance review

Shipping

We transport our products across oceans, around coastlines and along waterways, using a combination of BP-operated, time-chartered and spot-chartered vessels. All vessels conducting BP activities are subject to our health, safety, security and environmental requirements.

International fleet

At the end of 2008, we had an international fleet of 54 vessels (37 medium-size crude and product carriers, four very large crude carriers, one North Sea shuttle tanker, eight LNG carriers and four LPG carriers). All these ships are double-hulled. Of the eight LNG carriers, BP manages one on behalf of a joint venture in which it is a participant and operates seven LNG carriers.

Regional and specialist vessels

In Alaska, during 2008, we redelivered one of our time-chartered vessels back to the owner, leaving a fleet of four double-hulled vessels. In the Lower 48, the two remaining heritage Amoco barges were phased out of BP's service. Outside the US, at the end of 2008, we had 14 specialist vessels (two double-hulled lubricants oil barges and 12 offshore support vessels).

Time-charter vessels

At the end of 2008, BP had 115 hydrocarbon-carrying vessels above 600 deadweight tonnes on time-charter, of which 107 are double-hulled and one is double-bottomed. All these vessels participate in BP's Time Charter Assurance Programme.

Spot-charter vessels

BP spot-charters vessels, typically for single voyages. These vessels are always vetted for safety assurance prior to use.

Other vessels

BP uses various craft such as tugs, crew boats and seismic vessels in support of the group's business. We also use sub-600 deadweight tonne barges to carry hydrocarbons on inland waterways.

Maritime security issues

2008 has seen a significant escalation in piracy activity, specifically off the north coast of Somalia. At a strategic level, BP avoids known areas of pirate attack or armed robbery; where this is not possible for trading reasons and we consider it safe to do so, we will continue to trade vessels through areas of known piracy, subject to the adoption of heightened security measures. BP will continue to route vessels through the Gulf of Aden for as long as it considers it to be safe to do so, having regard to available military and government agency advice. At present, we are following such advice and are participating in protective group transits through the Gulf of Aden Maritime Security Patrol Area transit corridor.

Performance review

Research and technology

Research and technology (R&T) has a critical role to play in addressing the world's energy challenges, from fundamental research through to wide-scale deployment. The full breadth of these R&T activities is carried out by each of the business segments. We also conduct long-term research within the central R&T group.

Inside the segments, research and technology activities are in service of competitive business performance and new business development, through the research, development or acquisition of new technologies. The central R&T group provides leadership for scientific and technological activities throughout the group and, in particular, provides input to the group's long-term strategy. It ensures that the right capability is in place in critical areas and ensures the quality of BP's major technology programmes. It also illuminates the potential of emerging technologies and conducts research and development (R&D) in support of BP's long-term corporate renewal. In addition, a group of eminent industrialists and academics forms the Technology Advisory Council, which advises the board and executive management on the state of research and technology within the group and helps to identify current trends and future developments in technology.

Research and development (R&D) is carried out using a balance of internal and external resources. Involving third parties in the various steps of technology development and application enables a wider range of ideas and technologies to be considered and implemented, improving the impact of research and development activities.

Across the group, expenditure on R&D for 2008 was \$595 million, compared with \$566 million in 2007 and \$395 million in 2006. See Financial statements note 15 on page 130. The 5% increase in 2008 compared with 2007 reflects increased investment in biosciences, conversion and carbon capture and storage technologies.

Beyond R&D, we also invest in technologies to get them to the point of commercial readiness: this includes field trials, support for technology deployment, specialist technical services and central investment in functional excellence and capability development have deepened our current areas of technology leadership.

In our Exploration and Production segment, we have organized leading technologies under 10 flagship programmes, each with the potential to add more than 1 billion boe to reserves through their development and deployment in our assets worldwide. These technologies contributed to exploration and production success in Algeria, Angola, Azerbaijan, Egypt, the North Sea and the Gulf of Mexico deepwater. Our advanced seismic imaging expertise, which is one of these programmes, continues to lead the industry, pioneering new wide-azimuth seismic acquisition and processing in deepwater Angola, Egypt and the Gulf of Mexico. In addition, BP has developed new technologies that have significantly reduced the time needed for land seismic acquisition in Oman, and these are now being deployed in Libya. Our enhanced oil recovery technologies are pushing recovery factors to new limits. For example, recovery factors have already increased from 40% to 60% in Alaska, where BP operates the world's largest miscible gas enhanced oil recovery project. BP also leads the industry in the application of new inter-well polymer treatments aimed at improving waterflood recovery, with more than 25 treatments delivering an increase of around five million barrels. Also in Alaska, BP's first hexalateral well came online in 2008 in the Orion field, which is capable of producing 9,500 barrels of oil per day – the largest producer in BP's operations on the North Slope; while our first well using cold heavy oil production with sand (CHOPS) technology began producing heavy oil at a production rate of 100 barrels of oil per day. Unconventional gas is another area of focus; for example, using new technologies, BP has drilled in 17 unconventional coalbed methane basins around the world, including some of the largest reservoirs in North America. Another flagship programme is our use of digital technologies to optimize production and improve recovery, where BP has established an industry-leading position. In 2008, BP's oil and gas operations, enabled by real-time data and Field-of-the-Future[®] technologies delivered an extra 30,000 to 50,000 boepd gross production. Also in 2008, as part of its Inherently Reliable Facilities flagship, BP completed a field trial of a new fibre-optic system that represents a step-change in onshore pipeline monitoring, and which will now be deployed in Azerbaijan, Canada and Scotland.

In our Refining and Marketing segment, technology advancements are enabling our refineries to understand and process feedstocks of varying quality and optimize our assets in real time, enhancing the flexibility and reliability of our refineries and, in turn, improving the margins of our existing asset base. In 2008, BP began upgrading its Whiting

refinery in Indiana to process heavy crude oil from Canada using one of the industry's most technologically advanced coking operations. In Naperville, US, we opened a new refining R&D centre, installing more than 50 new pilot units at the forefront of experimental technology and modelling. We have installed predictive analytics technology for fault detection and prediction on critical machinery across seven of our refineries reducing losses from machinery failure. BP's leading technologies in fuels and lubricants mean that it can keep ahead of increasingly stringent regulations, balancing greater fuel efficiency and performance and developing superior formulations across its entire product slate. For example, our BP Ultimate fuels deliver performance benefits such as improved fuel economy, lower emissions and a cleaner engine; and we have launched Greendek and Greenfield, a suite of high-performance and environmentally friendly marine and offshore lubricants. Our proprietary processing technologies and operational experience continue to reduce the manufacturing costs and environmental impact of our petrochemicals plants, helping to maintain competitive advantage. For example, our new 900ktepa purified terephthalic acid (PTA) plant in Zhuhai, China was officially opened in 2008, occupying a plot just half the size of its older, neighbouring plant, but with double the production capacity. In the field of conversion technology, our Nikiski Fischer-Tropsch demonstration plant in Alaska operated at levels to prove that we have a working catalyst at industrial scale.

In Alternative Energy, our low-carbon research and technology activity continues apace. In 2008, we filed patents covering biofuels, carbon capture and storage (CCS), and hydrogen membranes. Our solar business produced the first prototype of a cut-cell high voltage module, giving a 5% increase in power over conventional modules. Working as part of the UK's Energy Technologies Institute – a public/private partnership to accelerate low-carbon technology development – BP is proceeding with investments in projects to develop new offshore wind and marine turbines. We also published results of the satellite monitoring programme, verified by well and tracer detection, of the CCS project at the In Salah gas field in Algeria with our partners Sonatrach.

Collaboration plays an important role across the breadth of BP's research and development activities, but particularly in those areas that benefit from fundamental scientific research. BP has 11 significant long-term research programmes with major universities and research institutions around the world, exploring areas from energy bioscience and conversion technology to carbon mitigation and nanotechnology in solar power. In 2008, our Energy Biosciences Institute at Berkeley (*see page 34*) became fully operational, with 49 research projects, all focused on lignocellulosic biofuel production; we announced the renewal of our Carbon Mitigation Initiative at Princeton; and signed the joint venture agreement for the Clean Energy Commercialisation Centre with the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

Performance review

Regulation of the group's business

BP's activities, including its oil and gas exploration and production, pipelines and transportation, refining and marketing, petrochemicals production, trading, alternative energy and shipping activities, are conducted in many different countries and are therefore subject to a broad range of EU, US, international, regional and local legislation and regulations, including legislation that implements international conventions and protocols. These cover virtually all aspects of our activities and include matters such as licence acquisition, production rates, royalties, environmental, health and safety protection, fuel specifications and transportation, trading, pricing, anti-trust, export, taxes and foreign exchange.

The terms and conditions of the leases, licences and contracts under which our oil and gas interests are held vary from country to country. These leases, licences and contracts are generally granted by or entered into with a government entity or state company and are sometimes entered into with private property owners. These arrangements with governmental or state entities usually take the form of licences or production-sharing agreements. Arrangements with private property owners are usually in the form of leases.

Licences (or concessions) give the holder the right to explore for and exploit a commercial discovery. Under a licence, the holder bears the risk of exploration, development and production activities and provides the financing for these operations. In principle, the licence holder is entitled to all production, minus any royalties that are payable in kind. A licence holder is generally required to pay production taxes or royalties, which may be in cash or in kind. Less typically, BP may explore for and exploit hydrocarbons under a service agreement with the host entity in exchange for reimbursement of costs and/or a fee paid in cash rather than production.

PSAs entered into with a government entity or state company generally require BP to provide all the financing and bear the risk of exploration and production activities in exchange for a share of the production remaining after royalties, if any.

In certain countries, separate licences are required for exploration and production activities and, in certain cases, production licences are limited to a portion of the area covered by the exploration licence. Both exploration and production licences are generally for a specified period of time (except for licences in the US, which typically remain in effect until production ceases). The term of BP's licences and the extent to which these licences may be renewed vary by area.

Frequently, BP conducts its exploration and production activities in joint venture with other international oil companies, state companies or private companies.

In general, BP is required to pay income tax on income generated from production activities (whether under a licence or production-sharing agreement). In addition, depending on the area, BP's production activities may be subject to a range of other taxes, levies and assessments, including special petroleum taxes and revenue taxes. The taxes imposed on oil and gas production profits and activities may be substantially higher than those imposed on other activities, particularly in Angola, Norway, the UK, Russia, South America and Trinidad & Tobago.

For a discussion of environmental and certain health and safety regulations and environmental proceedings, see Environment on page 39. See also Legal proceedings on page 88.

Safety

This section reviews BP's safety performance in 2008.

There were five workforce fatalities in 2008, compared with seven in 2007. One resulted from fatal injuries sustained during operations at our Texas City refinery; one was the result of a fall from height at the Tangguh operations in Indonesia; one fatality was on a land farm near Texas City, and two were driving fatalities incidents in Mozambique and South Africa. We deeply regret this loss of life. By learning from these incidents and implementing appropriate improvement actions, we continue to seek to secure the safety of all members of our workforce. Our workforce reported recordable injury frequency, which measures the number of injuries per 200,000 hours worked, was 0.43 in 2008. This was a good improvement on the rate of 0.48 recorded in both 2007 and 2006.

Throughout 2008, senior leadership across the group continued to hold safety as their highest priority. Site visits, in which safety was a focus, were undertaken by the group chief executive (GCE) and members of the

executive team to reinforce the importance of their commitment to safe and reliable operations.

Management systems

We continue to implement our new operating management system (OMS), a framework for operations across BP that is integral to improving safety and operating performance in every site.

When fully implemented, OMS will be the single framework within which we will operate, consolidating BP's requirements relating to process safety, environmental performance, legal compliance in operations, and personal, marine and driving safety. It embraces recommendations made by the BP US Refineries Independent Safety Review Panel (the panel), which reported in January 2007 on safety management at our US refineries and our safety management culture.

The OMS establishes a set of requirements, and provides sites with a systematic way to improve operating performance on a continuous basis. BP businesses implementing OMS must work to integrate group requirements within their local system to meet legal obligations, address local stakeholder needs, reduce risk and improve efficiency and reliability. A number of mandatory operating and engineering technical requirements have been defined within the OMS, to address process safety and related risks.

All operated businesses plan to transition to OMS by the end of 2010. Eight sites completed the transition to OMS in 2008; two petrochemicals plants, Cooper River and Decatur, two refineries, Lingen and Gelsenkirchen and four Exploration and Production sites, North America Gas, the Gulf of Mexico, Colombia and the Endicott field in Alaska. Implementation is continuing across the group and a number of other sites, including all refineries not already operating the OMS, are expected to complete the transition in 2009.

For the sites already involved, implementing OMS has involved detailed planning, including gap assessments supported by external facilitators. A core aspect of OMS implementation is that each site produces its own local OMS, which takes account of relevant risks at the site and details the site's approach to managing those risks. As part of its transition to OMS, a site issues its local OMS handbook, and this summarizes its approach to risk management. Each site also develops a plan to close gaps that is reviewed annually. The transition to OMS, at local and group level, has been handled in a formal and systematic way, to ensure the change is managed safely and comprehensively.

Performance review

Experience so far has supported our expectation that having one integrated and coherent system brings benefits of simplification and clarity, and that the process of change is supporting our renewed commitment to safe operations.

We are on track to meet our target of implementing OMS across the group by the end of 2010.

Capability development

In addition to ongoing training programmes we are undertaking a group wide programme to enhance the capability of our staff from front line to executive level to deliver operational excellence.

Almost 1,000, around a third, of our front-line supervisors have started the Operating Essentials programme, which includes training on leadership, process safety, operating culture, practices and coaching and effective performance conversations.

More than 190, around half, of our operations leaders started the Operations Academy programme in 2008. The academy, which has been established in partnership with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), provides participants with a total of six weeks of operations training, concentrating on the management of change and continuous improvement.

The Executive Operations programme, which seeks to increase insight into manufacturing and operation activities among senior business leaders, has built on its successful launch with the first group, which included the group chief executive and his executive team. By the end of 2008, 99 executives had attended the three-day programme.

In addition, new cadres of projects and engineering staff have progressed through the Project and Engineering Academy at MIT and 13 process safety courses have been delivered for project and project engineering managers at the Project Management College. We have continued to develop training on hazard evaluation and risk assessment techniques for all engineers, operators and HSSE professionals.

Process safety management

We remain fully committed to becoming a recognized industry leader in process safety management and are working to achieve this. We have taken a range of steps, including acting on the recommendations from both the panel and those within the first annual report of the independent expert.

Our actions can be summarized in three principal areas:

We have made progress in reducing process safety risk at our US refineries. For example, we have completed and learned from safety and operations audits, relocated workers to lower-risk accommodation and implemented fatigue reduction programmes.

Executive management has taken a range of actions to demonstrate their leadership and commitment to safety. The group chief executive has consistently emphasized that safety, people, and performance are our top priority, a belief made clear in his 2007 announcement of a forward agenda for simplification and cultural change in BP. Safety performance has been scrutinized by the Group Operations Risk Committee (the GORC), chaired by the group chief executive and tasked with assuring the group chief executive that group operational risks are identified and managed appropriately. We continued to build our team of safety and operations auditors. A team of 45 auditors is now in place, with 36 audits completed in 2008.

Many of the process-safety related improvements recommended by the panel are being implemented across the group through the OMS. The group essentials within the OMS (which cover diverse aspects of operating activity including legal compliance, process and environmental safety and basic operating practices) in some cases go beyond the panel's process safety recommendations, a point noted by the independent expert in his first report. In addition to action in these areas, we have continued to participate in industry-wide forums on process safety and have made efforts to share our learning with other organizations.

The independent expert has been tasked with reporting to the board on BP's progress in implementing the panel's recommendations. We welcome the independent expert's view expressed in his first report (May 2008) that BP appears to be making substantial progress in changing culture and addressing needed process safety improvements. However,

we also acknowledge his observation that a significant amount of work remains to be done on the process safety journey and that successful completion of the task will require the continued support and involvement of the board, executive management, and refinery leadership along with a sustained effort over an extended period of time. The independent expert's second report is expected in the first half of 2009.

Operational integrity

We continue to implement the six-point plan launched in 2006 to address immediate priorities for improving process safety and minimizing risk at our operations worldwide.

We have met our commitment to remove occupied portable buildings (OPBs) from high-risk zones within onshore process plant areas and to remove all blow-down stacks in heavier-than-air, light hydrocarbon service. All major sites and our fuels value chains have completed major accident risk assessments, which identify major accident risks and develop mitigation plans to manage and respond to them.

We continue to implement the Control of Work and Integrity Management standards. We have made progress in ensuring our operations meet the requirements of a group framework designed to ensure we stay in compliance with legal requirements on health and safety. We are continuing to take steps to close out past audit actions. Leadership competency assessments, which involve assessment of the experience of BP management teams responsible for major production sites or manufacturing plant, have been completed in Exploration and Production and in all major Refining and Marketing manufacturing sites.

Implementation of these actions is expected to be largely complete by the end of 2009, with some aspects of implementation being incorporated into the transition to the OMS, expected to be completed by the end of 2010. The GORC regularly monitors progress against the plan.

We monitor and report separately on major incidents such as those covering fatal accidents, significant property damage or significant environmental impact. We also track and analyze high potential incidents those that could have resulted in a major incident. All major incidents and many high-potential incidents are discussed by the GORC and we continue to seek to learn as much as possible from each incident.

A total of 21 major incidents were reported in 2008. Two of the major incidents were related to hurricanes and eight were related to driving incidents.

There were 335 oil spills of one barrel or more in 2008, similar to 2007 performance of 340 oil spills. The volume of oil spilled in 2008 was approximately 3.5 million litres, an increase of 2.5 million litres, compared with 2007. This was largely the result of two incidents, one at Texas City and one at the Whiting refinery, which accounted for two-thirds of the total reported volume of oil spilled, the great majority of which remained contained and the oil recovered.

Performance review

Performance indicators

We have well-developed systems, processes and metrics for reporting personal safety and environmental metrics that support internal performance management as well as public reporting.

We introduced several new metrics in 2008 that aim to enhance our monitoring of process safety performance within BP's operating entities. These include, for example, a process safety incident index, as recommended by the panel, which uses weighted severity scores to record and assess process safety events, and a measure to record any loss of hydrocarbon from primary containment.

Our indicators include industry-aligned lagging process safety metrics that register events that have already occurred, and leading indicators that focus on the strength of our controls to prevent undesired events in future. A suite of indicators is regularly reported to the GORC within the quarterly HSE and Operations Integrity Report and several new metrics have also been piloted. To further enhance the management of health risks across the group, we began the systematic reporting of recordable illness rates within the HSE and Operations Integrity Report. We continue to work with industry bodies such as the Centre for Chemical Process Safety and the American Petroleum Institute on the development of process safety metrics, definitions and guidance.

Continuing to focus on health

In addition to our efforts to improve process safety performance, we strive to protect the personal health and safety of our workforce, recognizing that healthy performance is delivered through healthy people, healthy processes and healthy plant.

In the course of 2008, we defined health group essentials, which specify requirements designed to prevent harm to the health of employees, contractors, visitors and local communities. These were incorporated within the OMS framework. Our health strategy and plan was also refreshed in 2008. Priorities include reducing significant occupational exposure and infectious disease risks, maintaining robust regulatory compliance in product health and safety and addressing the issue of fatigue management raised by the panel by providing training and awareness-raising.

Environment

Regulation and claims

We are subject to extensive international, national, state and local environmental regulations concerning our products, operations and activities. Current and proposed fuel and product specifications, emission controls and climate change programmes under a number of environmental laws will have a significant effect on the production, sale and profitability of many of our products. Environmental laws also require us to remediate the environmental impacts of prior disposal or releases of chemicals or petroleum substances by the group or other parties. Such contingencies may exist for various locations where products are, or have been, produced, processed, stored, distributed, sold or disposed of, such as refineries, chemical plants, natural gas processing plants, oil and natural gas fields, service stations, terminals and waste disposal sites. Some of these obligations relate to prior asset sales or closed facilities. Provisions for environmental restoration and remediation are made when a clean-up is probable and the amount of the obligation can be reliably estimated. Generally this coincides with commitment to a formal plan of action or, if earlier, on divestment or on closure of inactive sites. The provisions made are considered by management to be sufficient to meet known requirements.

The extent and cost of future environmental restoration, remediation and abatement programmes are often inherently difficult to estimate. They often depend on the extent of contamination, and the associated impact and timing of the corrective actions required, technological feasibility and BP's share of liability. Though the costs of future programmes could be significant and may be material to the results of operations in the period in which they are recognized, it is not expected that such costs will be material to the group's overall results of operations or financial position or liquidity. See Financial statements Note 37 on page 156 for the amounts provided in respect of environmental remediation and decommissioning.

We are also subject to environmental and common law claims for personal injury and property damage alleging the release or exposure to hazardous substances. A number of proceedings involving governmental authorities are

pending or known to be contemplated against BP and certain of its subsidiaries under federal, state or local environmental laws, each of which could result in monetary sanctions of \$100,000 or more. No individual proceeding is, nor are the proceedings in aggregate, expected to be material to the group's results of operations or financial position.

We cannot accurately predict the effect of future developments, such as stricter environmental laws or enforcement policies on the group's operations, products or profitability. A risk of increased environmental costs and operational impacts is inherent in grouping our businesses and there can be no assurance that material liabilities and costs will not be incurred in the future. We believe that the group's activities are in material compliance with applicable environmental laws and regulations, or that the group has disclosed such non-compliance and is working with the relevant regulatory authorities to ensure compliance. For a discussion of the group's environmental expenditure see page 53.

BP operates in more than 90 countries worldwide. In each of these areas, BP has, or is developing, processes designed to ensure compliance with applicable regulations. In addition, each employee is required to comply with BP health, safety and environmental policies as embedded in the BP code of conduct. Our partners, suppliers and contractors are also encouraged to adopt them.

This Environment section focuses primarily on the US and the EU, where around 61% of our fixed assets are located, and on issues of a global nature such as our operations and the environment, climate change programmes and maritime oil spills regulations.

Our operations and the environment

During 2008, we continued to use environmental management systems to seek improvements on a wide range of environmental issues. Except at two locations, the operations at our major operating sites are covered

Performance review

by certification to the ISO 14001 international environmental management system standard. The Texas City refinery, after completing planned work to strengthen its environmental management systems, is planning to seek recertification in 2009. Our Angola business is working towards an expansion of its existing ISO 14001 certificate to include its offshore production facilities by the end of 2009. Progressive implementation of the Operating Management System (OMS), including ISO 14001, will also help us strengthen our management of environmental performance.

In support of ongoing risk management, one element of the OMS applies, at least annually, a formal systematic process to identify and assess risks; this process provides to identify emerging issues including those with an environmental impact. To assist us in measuring the effectiveness of our risk mitigation actions we have established environmental metrics, which are available within *BP Sustainability Report 2008*, at www.bp.com/sustainability. The 2008 information is planned to be available in conjunction with the publication of our 2008 Sustainability Report.

After two years of implementation, our Environmental Requirements for New Projects (ERNP) practice has been updated in line with the OMS. We have simplified applicability, clarified the governance process and updated the text to reflect organizational changes. This practice, now called the Environmental Group Defined Practice (GDP) is a full life cycle environmental assessment process. It requires all new major projects and projects in sensitive areas, to undertake screening to determine the potential environmental sensitivities associated with the proposed projects. Requirements and project recommendations now extend to include appropriate considerations for decommissioning of assets. A new project with the highest level of environmental sensitivity requires more rigorous and specific environmental management activities. The board-appointed Safety, Environment and Ethics Assurance Committee reviewed the progress of ERNP during summer 2008. This review included the 12 projects that have been classified as requiring management at the highest level of sensitivity. We are currently integrating social considerations into the Environmental GDP and plan to issue this in 2009 as an integrated set of requirements addressing social and environmental issues.

In 2008, BP used the ERNP to review risks and establish mitigation measures prior to entry in connection with the decision to develop adjacent to a Protected Area at Hamble Oil Terminal in the UK. We intend to make a summary of the risk assessment publicly available at the end of April 2009.

Our focus on asset decommissioning is demonstrated by the North West Hutton offshore platform project in the North Sea. 2008 saw the topsides of the North West Hutton platform safely brought onshore for further dismantling. This decommissioning is expected to result in 20,000 tonnes of recycled steel, in line with our aim to have 97% of the decommissioned materials recycled and/or reused.

We seek to limit the environmental impact of our operations by using resources responsibly and reducing waste and emissions.

Climate change programmes

In response to rising concerns about climate change, governments continue to identify fiscal and regulatory measures at local, national and international levels.

In December 1997, at the Third Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Kyoto, Japan, the participants agreed on a system of differentiated international legally-binding targets for the first commitment period of 2008-2012. In 2005, the Kyoto protocol came into force, committing the 176 participating countries to emissions targets. However, Kyoto was only designed as a first step and policymakers continue to discuss what new agreement might follow it after 2012, most recently at the UNFCCC conference in Poznan, Poland in December 2008.

Many of our larger EU stationary assets are subject to the EU Emissions Trading Scheme (EU ETS), which was extended to Norway by reciprocal agreement. After inclusion of our Norwegian assets, around one-fifth of our reported 2008 global CO₂ emissions are now covered by this scheme.

At the March 2007 European Council, the European Heads of Government decided to adopt their Climate Action and Renewable Energy Package. This legislation was voted through by the European Parliament in

December 2008. The package includes a commitment to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 20% by 2020 (the target being 30% if an international agreement is reached), as well as an improved energy efficiency within the EU Member States of 20% by 2020 and a 20% renewable energy target by 2020.

The Australian government has set a target to reduce GHG emissions by 60% below 2000 levels by 2050. In December 2008, the Australian government released its Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme White Paper, outlining the design of an emissions trading scheme that will go into effect in mid-2010; draft legislation is expected in early 2009. The Australian government proposes to cover 70% of emissions sources and sectors via a combination of direct obligations on facilities with large emissions, and obligations on upstream fuel suppliers for the emissions resulting from the combustion of fuel. In December the government also announced 2020 GHG emission targets that range from a 5 to 15% reduction from 2000 levels. The scheme builds on the existing National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting System, the Australian mandatory reporting system for corporate greenhouse gas emissions and energy production and consumption. The first reporting period commenced on 1 July 2008.

The US congress continues to propose new climate change legislation and regulation. A new bill became law in December 2007, that includes stricter corporate average fuel emissions standards for automobiles sold in the US and biofuel mandates. Other bills currently under consideration propose stricter emissions limits on large GHG sources and/or the introduction of a cap-and-trade programme on CO₂ and other GHG emissions.

An April 2007 US Supreme Court decision will require the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to reconsider its determination that it is not required to regulate GHGs from motor vehicles under the Clean Air Act (CAA). The Supreme Court's ruling is expected to result in the EPA regulating motor vehicle GHG emissions. It is also expected to increase pressure on the EPA to regulate stationary sources of GHGs (e.g. refineries and chemical plants) under other provisions of the CAA.

In response to the US Supreme Court's decision, the EPA issued an Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPR). The ANPR addresses complexities involved in controlling greenhouse gases under the CAA including potential overlap between future legislation and regulation under the existing CAA.

In its Fiscal Year 2008 Consolidated Appropriations Act, US Congress directed the EPA to publish a mandatory GHG reporting rule, issuing a proposed rule within nine months (by September 2008), and a final rule within 18 months (by June 2009). The EPA has developed draft language and the proposed rule could be released early in the new US administration.

Congress will likely develop new legislation for GHG regulation, and new regulation under the CAA will likely proceed as well. Additional GHG regulation may also be issued under other laws, such as the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) and Endangered Species Act (ESA).

In December 2008, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) approved the final Proposed Scoping Plan for implementing Assembly Bill 32, California's law to reduce GHG emissions to 1990 levels by 2020. Implementation measures are due to be developed by 2012. In advance of the Scoping Plan, CARB has taken early actions with the development of mandatory GHG reporting and a Low Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS). The LCFS will require all refiners, producers, blenders and importers to reduce the carbon intensity of transport fuel sold in California by 10% by 2020. CARB released draft LCFS regulations in October 2008, with final regulations expected to be taken up in March 2009.

Performance review

In March 2008, the Canadian federal government updated its April 2007 Framework Report with an Action Plan to address climate change and reduce emissions 20% below 2006 levels by 2020 and by greater than 60% by 2050, through both a sector approach and domestic development and deployment of new technologies and projects. For the conventional oil and gas industry, the intensity based targets as included in the plan of the April 2007 Framework Report remain likely. For the oil sands industry, more stringent requirements are likely to emerge for upcoming projects that may include requirements for significant reductions, including the implementation of large scale carbon capture and sequestration. Since the conclusion of the recent Canadian and US Federal elections there has been increased discussion on the possibility of aligning regulations, including possible inclusion of a North America wide cap-and-trade system.

Since 1997, BP has been actively involved in the policy debate. We also ran a global programme that reduced our operational GHG emissions by 10% between 1998 and 2001. We continue to look at two principal kinds of GHG emissions: operational emissions, which are generated from our operations such as refineries, chemicals plants and production facilities; and product emissions, generated by our customers when they use the fuels and products that we sell. Since 2001, we have been focusing on measuring and improving the carbon intensity of our operations as well as developing sustainable low-carbon technologies and businesses.

After seven years, we estimate that our operations have delivered some 7.5 million tonnes (Mte) of GHG reductions. Our 2008 operational GHG emissions were 61.4Mte of CO₂ equivalent on a direct equity basis, nearly 2.1Mte lower than the reported figure of 63.5Mte in 2007. The primary reason for the lower reported emissions is a reporting protocol change for BP Shipping (1.9Mte) to align us more closely with industry practice.

In 2007, as part of our technology development, two major BP-backed research institutes came into full operation: the Energy Biosciences Institute (EBI) in the US, and the Energy Technologies Institute (ETI) in the UK. The EBI is a strategic partnership between BP, the University of California, Berkeley, the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign to conduct research into the production of new and cleaner energy, initially focusing on advanced biofuels for road transport. The EBI will also pursue bioscience-based research into the conversion of heavy hydrocarbons to clean fuels, improved recovery from existing oil and gas reservoirs and carbon sequestration. In the UK, the ETI has been established as a 50:50 public private partnership, funded equally by member companies, including BP, and the government. The ETI aims to accelerate the development, demonstration and eventual commercial deployment of a focused portfolio of energy technologies, which will increase energy efficiency, reduce GHG emissions and help achieve energy security and climate change goals. The ETI has issued its first invitation for expressions of interest to participate in programmes to develop new technologies for offshore wind and for marine, tidal and wave energy. BP established the Carbon Mitigation Initiative in 2000 at Princeton University in the US to research the fundamental scientific, environmental, and technological issues that will determine how carbon is managed in the future and examine the policy impact of different options. BP's original 10-year commitment initially funded the programme at \$1.5 million per year and later increased it to more than \$2 million per year. In October 2008, BP committed to a five-year renewal of the partnership and to support Princeton to at least its current level of funding for the years 2011 to 2015.

Maritime oil spill regulations

Within the US, the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (OPA 90) imposes oil spill prevention and planning requirements liability for tankers and barges transporting oil and for offshore facilities such as platforms and onshore terminals. To ensure adequate funding for oil spill response and compensation, OPA 90 created the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund that is financed by a tax on imported and domestic oil. In 2006, the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act 2006, increased the size of the fund from the original amount of \$1 billion to \$2.7 billion. In late 2008, as part of the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act, further amendments were made to increase the per-barrel contribution rate of tax and to remove the provision for cessation of the tax when the fund reached \$2.7 billion. There is now no limit on the size of the fund. The same 2008 legislation amended the termination date of this tax from 31 December 2014 to 31 December 2017. The 2006 legislation also increased the OPA limitation amount relating to the liability of

double-hulled tankers from \$1,200 per gross tonne to \$1,900 per gross tonne. In addition to the spill liabilities imposed by OPA 90 on the owners and operators of carrying vessels, some states, including Alaska, Washington, Oregon and California, impose additional liability on the shippers or owners of oil spilled from such vessels. The exposure of BP to such liability is mitigated by the vessels' marine liability insurance, which has a maximum limit of \$1 billion for each accident or occurrence. OPA 90 also provides that all new tank vessels operating in US waters must have double hulls and existing tank vessels without double hulls must be phased out by 2015. At the end of 2008, BP owned four double-hulled tankers built between 2004 and 2006, demise-chartered to and operated by Alaska Tanker Company, L.L.C. (ATC), which transports BP Alaskan crude oil from Valdez.

Outside of US territorial waters, the BP-operated fleet of tankers is subject to international spill response and preparedness regulations that are typically promulgated through the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and implemented by the relevant flag state authorities. The International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (Marpol 73/78) requires vessels to have detailed shipboard emergency and spill prevention plans. The International Convention on Oil Pollution, Preparedness, Response and Co-operation requires vessels to have adequate spill response plans and resources for response anywhere the vessel travels. These conventions and separate Marine Environmental Protection Circulars also stipulate the relevant state authorities around the globe that require engagement in the event of a spill. All these requirements together are addressed by the vessel owners in Shipboard Oil Pollution Emergency Plans. BP Shipping's liabilities for oil pollution damage under the OPA 90 and outside the US under the 1969/1992 International Convention on Civil Liability for Oil Pollution Damage (CLC) are covered by marine liability insurance, having a maximum limit of \$1 billion for each accident or occurrence. This insurance cover is provided by three mutual insurance associations (P&I Clubs): The United Kingdom Steam Ship Assurance Association (Bermuda) Limited; The Britannia Steam Ship Insurance Association Limited; and The Standard Steamship Owners' Protection and Indemnity Association (Bermuda) Limited. With effect from 20 February 2006, two new complementary voluntary oil pollution compensation schemes were introduced by tanker owners, supported by their P&I Clubs, with the agreement of the International Oil Pollution Compensation Fund at the IMO. Pursuant to both these schemes, tanker owners will voluntarily assume a greater liability for oil pollution compensation in the event of a spill of persistent oil than is provided for in CLC. The first scheme, the Small Tanker Owners' Pollution Indemnification Agreement (STOPIA), provides for a minimum liability of 20 million Special Drawing Rights (around \$30 million) for a ship at or below 29,548 gross tonnes, while the second scheme, the Tanker Owners' Pollution Indemnification Agreement (TOPIA), provides for the tanker owner to take a 50% stake in the 2003 Supplementary Fund, that is, an additional liability of up to 273.5 million Special Drawing Rights (around \$405 million). Both STOPIA and TOPIA will only apply to tankers whose owners are party to these agreements and who have entered their ships with P&I Clubs in the International Group of P&I Clubs, so benefiting from those clubs' pooling and reinsurance arrangements. All BP Shipping's managed and time-chartered vessels participate in STOPIA and TOPIA.

For information regarding maritime security issues, see Shipping on page 35.

Performance review

US

The following is a summary of significant US environmental issues and environment and health and safety legislation or regulations affecting BP.

The CAA and its regulations, administered by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) require, among other things: stringent air emission limits and operating permits for chemicals plants, refineries, marine and distribution terminals and exploration and production facilities, strict fuel specifications and sulphur reductions; enhanced monitoring of major sources of specified pollutants; and risk management plans for storage of hazardous substances. This law affects BP facilities producing, storing, refining, manufacturing and distributing oil and products as well as the fuels themselves. Federal and state controls on ozone, particulate matter, carbon monoxide, benzene, sulphur, MTBE, nitrogen dioxide, oxygenates, lead and Reid Vapor Pressure affect BP's activities and products. Under the CAA all gasoline produced by BP is subject to the EPA's stringent low-sulphur standards. By June 2006, at least 80% of the highway diesel fuel produced each year by BP was required to meet a sulphur cap of 15 parts per million (ppm). By June 2007, all non-road locomotive and marine diesel fuel produced each year by BP was required to meet a sulphur cap of 500ppm. Additionally, states have separate laws similar to the CAA.

The Energy Policy Act of 2005 affects the US fuels market by: eliminating the Federal Reformulated Gasoline (RFG) oxygen requirement in May 2006; establishing a renewable fuels mandate (4 billion gallons in 2006, increasing to 7.5 billion in 2012); consolidating the summertime RFG volatile organic compound (VOC) standards for EPA Regions 1 and 2; allowing the Ozone Transport Commission states on the east coast to opt any area into RFG; and allowing states to repeal the 1psi Reid Vapor Pressure waiver for 10% ethanol blends.

The Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 increased the renewable fuel mandate to 9 billion gallons in 2008 and further each year to a maximum of 36 billion gallons in 2022.

In 2001, BP entered into a consent decree with the EPA and several states that settled alleged violations of various CAA requirements related largely to emissions of sulphur dioxide and nitrogen oxides at BP's US refineries. Implementation of the decree's requirements continues.

In 2001, BP's US refineries entered into a civil consent decree with the EPA to resolve alleged violations of the CAA. The decree applies to all the US refineries of BP Products North America Inc. (BP Products). On 19 February 2009, the EPA and US Department of Justice (DOJ) lodged an amendment to the 2001 decree. The amendment applies only to the Texas City refinery and resolves alleged violations of both the 2001 decree and the CAA. The decree requires that BP Products pays a \$12 million civil fine, funds a \$6 million supplemental environmental project and takes steps at the Texas City refinery to enhance compliance with CAA rules. The estimated cost of these compliance measures is approximately \$150 million. The decree amendment is subject to court approval.

The Clean Water Act (CWA) and its regulations, administered by EPA and the US Coast Guard, regulate the discharge of wastewater, stormwater and toxic discharges from BP's onshore and offshore operations to navigable waters. Facilities are required to obtain discharge permits, install control equipment and implement operational controls and preventative measures. Additionally, states have separate laws similar to the CWA.

The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and its regulations, administered by the EPA, regulate the storage, handling, treatment, transportation and disposal of hazardous and non-hazardous wastes and require the investigation and remediation of locations at a facility where such wastes have been managed. Many BP facilities generate and manage wastes regulated by RCRA and several include locations that are subject to investigation and corrective action. Additionally, states have separate laws similar to RCRA.

Under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA or Superfund), persons who arranged to dispose of hazardous substances at a site, persons who currently own or operate a site where such substances have been

disposed and certain other parties are strictly liable for the cost of responding to related hazardous substance contamination. EPA administers CERCLA. Additionally, states have separate laws similar to CERCLA.

BP has been identified as a Potentially Responsible Party (PRP) under CERCLA or otherwise named under similar state statutes at approximately 809 sites. A PRP or named party can incur joint and several liability for site remediation costs under some of these statutes and so BP may be required to assume, among other costs, the share attributed to insolvent, unidentified or other parties. BP has the most significant exposure for remediation costs at 50 of these sites. For the remaining sites, BP is one of many potentially responsible parties, and BP expects its share of remediation costs at these sites to be small in comparison with the major sites. BP has estimated its potential exposure at all sites where it has been identified as a PRP or is otherwise named at a site is approximately \$1.7 billion.

BP is also subject to claims for natural resource damages (NRD) under CERCLA, the OPA 90 and other federal and state laws. NRD claims have been asserted by government trustees against a number of BP operations. Many environmental clean-ups are driven by state and federal groundwater protection standards. Contamination or the threat of contamination of current or potential potable (and occasionally non-potable) water resources can result in stringent clean-up requirements. BP has encouraged risk-based approaches to these issues and seeks to tailor remedies at its facilities to match the level of risk presented by the contamination.

Other legislation that significantly affect BP operations includes: the Toxic Substances Control Act, administered by EPA, which regulates the development, testing, import, export and introduction of new chemical products into commerce; the Occupational Safety and Health Act, administered by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, which imposes workplace safety and health, training and process safety requirements to reduce the risks of physical and chemical hazards and injury to employees; the CAA, which created the US Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board which investigates the causes of chemical accidents and makes non-binding recommendations to industry, government and non-governmental organizations; and the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act, administered by the EPA, which requires emergency planning and hazardous substance release notification as well as public disclosure of chemical usage and emissions. In addition, the US Department of Transportation (DOT) regulates the transportation of the BP's petroleum products such as crude oil, gasoline and chemicals.

BP is subject to the Marine Transportation Security Act (MTSA) and regulations and the DOT Hazardous Materials (HAZMAT) security compliance regulations. These regulations require many of BP's businesses to conduct security vulnerability assessments and prepare security mitigation plans that require upgrades to security measures, the appointment and training of security personnel and the submission of plans for approval and inspection by government agencies.

The US government through the Department of Homeland Security, in an effort to further mitigate the threat of terrorism to critical US infrastructure, has implemented two new security legislation initiatives, that began in 2007 and has continued through 2008:

Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standard (CFATS).

Transportation Workers Identification Credential (TWIC).

CFATS is intended to provide an enhanced security posture for US facilities that manufacture or store Chemicals of Interest, including gasoline. Additionally, in the future, it will cover facilities that have national economic impact to the US, should these facilities be a target for terrorism. A number of BP facilities may be required to conduct a detailed security vulnerability assessment and a detailed security plan for each facility impacted.

TWIC requires all designated personnel with unescorted access to restricted areas of MTSA designated facilities to submit to a background screening programme and to obtain a biometric identification card. All of

Performance review

BP's MTSA-regulated facilities will be impacted and will be required to comply by the end of 2008 or beginning of 2009 in a phased approach.

The BP Americas Response Team consists of approximately 210 trained emergency responders at BP locations throughout North America. In addition, there are five Regional Response Incident Management Teams, a number of HAZMAT Teams and emergency response teams at BP's major facilities. Collectively, these teams are ready to assist in a response to a major incident.

In 2008, BP Products obtained and renewed environmental permits that enabled it to commence construction on the project to upgrade the Whiting refinery. Various environmental groups have challenged these permits in state and federal proceedings.

In November 2007, the EPA began issuing a series of notices of violations, alleging clean air act violations, to the Whiting, Toledo, Carson and Cherry Point refineries. Settlement negotiations continue between BP Products, the EPA and the DOJ in an effort to resolve these matters. In October 2008, the EPA issued an amended notice of violation alleging that BP Products began construction on the Whiting upgrade in 2005 prior to receiving the necessary permits. This allegation has been incorporated into the permit challenges filed by the environmental groups. The subject matter of the notices of violation could be resolved as an amendment to the 2001 EPA consent decree or as a separate matter.

See also Legal proceedings on page 88.

European Union

The following is a summary of significant EU level environmental legislation and UK health and safety legislation affecting BP.

At the March 2007 European Council, the European Heads of Government decided to adopt:
a commitment to reduce GHG emissions by at least 20% by 2020 as compared with 1990 levels and the objective of a 30% reduction by 2020, subject to the conclusion of a comprehensive international climate change agreement; and
a mandatory EU target of 20% renewable energy by 2020 including a 10% biofuels target.

In December 2008, the European Parliament approved the Climate Action and Renewable Energy Package, which:

revises the EU's Emissions Trading System to establish auctioning of emission allowances from 2013;

sets binding national targets for each EU member state; equips power plants to capture and store CO₂ underground;

sets mandatory national targets for each EU member state with the goal of delivering 20% renewable energy target by 2020; and

provides for a revised Fuel Quality Directive requiring fuel suppliers to reduce the life cycle emission of the fuels they provide by up to 10% by 2020.

BP was involved at the highest levels in the preparation of the Climate Action and Renewable Energy Package, as part of our efforts to actively contribute to the formulation of energy security and climate change policy in the EU.

An EC directive for a system of integrated pollution prevention and control (IPPC) was adopted in 1996. This system requires certain listed industrial installations, including most activities and processes undertaken by the oil and petrochemicals industry within the EU, to obtain an IPPC permit, which is designed to address an installation's environmental impacts, air emissions, water discharges and waste in a comprehensive and integrated fashion. The permit requires, among other things, the application of Best Available Techniques (BAT), taking into account the costs and benefits, unless an applicable environmental quality standard requires more stringent restrictions, and an assessment of existing environmental impacts and future site closure obligations. All such plants had to obtain such a permit by 30 October 2007 and permits included an environmental improvement programme where necessary.

In December 2007, the EC issued a proposal for the revision to the IPPC Directive with the aims of streamlining legislation on industrial emissions, improving the implementation of BATs across Europe, and contributing to the achievement of the targets set in the EC's Thematic Strategies on Air, Soil and Waste. The proposal merges and revises several separate directives related to industrial emissions (including the Large Combustion Plant Directive) into one Directive. It proposes tighter minimum standards for emissions from large combustion plant (>50MW), and introduces a mandatory requirement to achieve emission limit values indicated by use of Best Available Techniques (with derogations from this requirement allowed where justified).

The proposal would also extend the scope of IPPC to specifically cover organic chemical manufacture by biological treatment (biofuels) and may open the way for NO_x and SO_x trading by member states.

The EC proposal has triggered considerable debate and the timetable for the completion of the legislative process and the likely outcome are not clear. However, the revision has already triggered a greater focus on the information sharing process that is used to determine and document the BAT for each industry sector, and will raise the profile of the outputs from this process – the BAT Reference Documents (BREFs).

In 2005, the EC published its Thematic Strategy on Air Pollution, which outlines EU-wide targets for health and environmental benefits from improved air quality to be achieved through further controls on emissions of fine particulates (PM 2.5 – particulate matter less than 2.5 microns diameter), sulphur dioxide, oxides of nitrogen, volatile organic compounds and ammonia. Associated with this is the revision to the National Emissions Ceiling Directive (NECD), which would introduce new emissions ceilings for each member state for fine particles and tighten existing ceilings for sulphur dioxide, oxides of nitrogen, volatile organic compounds and ammonia. There is currently uncertainty regarding the costs to industry of implementing possible outcomes from the NECD and IPPC revisions.

The proposed revision of the current EU Fuel Quality Directive is referred to in the Climate Change Programmes section above. In addition to its provisions regarding life cycle GHG emission reductions, it would also facilitate the introduction of biofuels into gasoline and diesel.

Registration, Evaluation and Authorization of Chemicals (REACH) legislation became effective 1 June 2007 across all member states of the EU. All chemical substances manufactured within, or imported into, the EU in quantities above 1 tonne per annum must be registered fully by each manufacturer/importer with the new European Chemical Agency (ECHA). Failure to comply with REACH in respect of such a substance will immediately remove a company's legal right to manufacture or import that substance. Initially all existing manufactured and imported substances had to be pre-registered by 1 December 2008, to qualify for a timed phase-in for full registration during the period 2010-2018, with the exact timing being determined by the volumes of chemicals manufactured/imported, and by the health, safety and environmental hazards the chemical may possess. Failure to pre-register an existing chemical will result in an immediate requirement to register fully the chemical with the ECHA prior to continued manufacture within, or import into, the EU. Time-limited authorizations may be granted for substances of high concern and in some cases restrictions in use may apply. Crude oil and natural gas are exempt from registration requirements, while fuels are exempt from authorization but not registration. In BP, REACH affects our refining, petrochemicals and other chemical manufacturing operations, with many other businesses, such as lubricants, also being impacted in their roles as major importers and downstream users of chemicals. In 2008, BP submitted around 700 pre-registrations, covering approximately 250 individual chemical substances. For almost 60% of these, full registration dossiers must be submitted to ECHA by 1 December 2010, the balance being required in the period 2013-2018. Total REACH registration fees to be incurred by BP's businesses are estimated to be in the region of \$15 million and these contribute to an estimated overall cost of \$60 million during the period 2008-2018 for pre-registration, registration and provision of additional testing requirements.

In the UK, significant health and safety legislation affecting BP includes the Health and Safety at Work Act and regulations made thereunder and the Control of Major Accident Hazards Regulations.

Performance review

Employees

| Number of employees at 31 December | UK | Rest of Europe | US | Rest of World | Total |
|---|---------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 2008 | | | | | |
| Exploration and Production | 3,600 | 700 | 7,700 | 9,400 | 21,400 |
| Refining and Marketing | 9,000 | 18,000 | 19,000 | 15,500 | 61,500 |
| Other businesses and corporate | 3,300 | 700 | 2,600 | 2,500 | 9,100 |
| | 15,900 | 19,400 | 29,300 | 27,400 | 92,000 |
| 2007 | | | | | |
| Exploration and Production | 3,800 | 700 | 7,800 | 9,500 | 21,800 |
| Refining and Marketing | 9,700 | 18,400 | 22,700 | 16,400 | 67,200 |
| Other businesses and corporate ^a | 3,500 | 800 | 2,500 | 2,300 | 9,100 |
| | 17,000 | 19,900 | 33,000 | 28,200 | 98,100 |
| 2006 | | | | | |
| Exploration and Production | 3,600 | 1,000 | 7,600 | 9,200 | 21,400 |
| Refining and Marketing | 10,200 | 18,600 | 23,800 | 15,400 | 68,000 |
| Other businesses and corporate | 3,100 | 600 | 2,300 | 1,600 | 7,600 |
| | 16,900 | 20,200 | 33,700 | 26,200 | 97,000 |

^aA minor amendment has been made to the comparative figure for Rest of the World to correct headcount data. People and their capabilities are fundamental to our sustainability as a business. To build an enduring business in an increasingly complex and competitive industry, we need people with world-class capabilities, ranging from deepwater drilling and operating refineries to negotiating with governments and planning wind farms.

Our 2008 focus has been on reducing complexity and embedding the performance culture throughout the company. We have implemented structured transformational programmes in a number of strategic performance units (SPUs) and the major functions. We have stopped activity that was being repeated at multiple layers, removed layers of management and have established the SPUs as the principal units of delivery.

There is a greater focus on individual performance management. We have simplified the performance management process and can clearly identify and reward top performing businesses and individuals. Our incentive plans provide a direct link between SPU performance, the individual's contribution, and the bonus outcome.

We had approximately 92,000 employees at 31 December 2008, compared with approximately 98,100 at 31 December 2007.

In managing our people, we seek to attract, develop and retain highly talented individuals in order to maintain BP's capability to deliver our strategy and plans. Our three-year graduate development programme currently has 1,200 participants from all over the world.

We are focusing on the need for deep specialist skills. Accordingly, we have increased external hiring in infrastructure and technical areas. The energy industry faces a shortage of professionals such as petroleum engineers. The number of experienced workers retiring is expected to exceed that of new graduate hires. To help address this

issue we are developing more robust resourcing plans supported by initiatives aimed at increasing the numbers of recruits and diversifying the sources from which we recruit. The external hiring initiatives are supported by plans for accelerated discipline development, prioritized deployment and retention schemes.

The continuous improvement we are making to performance management and reward will help ensure that BP meets the expectations of these new recruits who are highly mobile and are more conscious that they have a choice about where to work.

Our policy is to ensure equal opportunity in recruitment, career development, promotion, training and reward for all employees, including those with disabilities. Where existing employees become disabled, our policy is to provide continuing employment and training wherever practicable.

In 2008, a global diversity and inclusion (D&I) council was established. This council, chaired by Tony Hayward, is supported by a North American regional council and segment councils. The aim is to harmonize processes and tools for managing D&I across all Segments and Functions. Responsibility for delivering D&I plans sits at the business/SPU level.

The group people committee, formed in 2007, continues to take overall responsibility for policy decisions relating to employees. In 2008, these ranged from senior level talent review and succession planning, embedding of diversity and inclusion plans in the businesses and the structure of long-term incentive plans.

We continue to increase the number of local leaders and employees in our operations so that they reflect the communities in which we operate. For example, in Colombia, national employees now make up 98% of BP's team, while in Azerbaijan, the equivalent proportion is 83%. By 2020, more than half our operations are expected to be in non-OECD countries and we see this as an opportunity to develop a new generation of experts and skilled employees.

At the end of 2008, 14% of our top 583 leaders were female and 19% came from countries other than the UK and the US. When we started tracking the composition of our group leadership in 2000, these percentages were 9% and 14% respectively. We continue to raise our senior level leaders' awareness of D&I, and further training is planned in 2009.

We aim to develop our leaders internally, although we recruit outside the group when we do not have specialist skills in-house or when exceptional people are available. In 2008, we appointed 73 people to positions in the group leadership population. Of these, 39 were internal candidates.

We provide development opportunities for our employees, including training courses, international assignments, mentoring, team development days, workshops, seminars and online learning. We encourage all employees to take five training days per year.

A leadership, development and learning steering group was set up in 2008. This body of senior executives has responsibility for guiding and advising on leadership and management development. As part of this, the steering group oversees the Managing Essentials programme, which was successfully rolled out in 2007.

Through our award-winning ShareMatch plan, run in more than 70 countries, we match BP shares purchased by employees.

Performance review

Communications with employees include magazines, intranet sites, DVDs, targeted emails and face-to-face communication. Team meetings are the core of our employee consultation, complemented by formal processes through works councils in parts of Europe. These communications, along with training programmes, are designed to contribute to employee development and motivation by raising awareness of financial, economic, social and environmental factors affecting our performance.

The group seeks to maintain constructive relationships with labour unions.

Pulse surveys conducted in 2008 among samples of employees indicated that BP's safety culture is growing but that overall satisfaction levels have fallen. The surveys also revealed that more work needs to be done to ensure all employees fully understand what they need to do to deliver sustainable high performance.

We continue to make significant efforts to communicate the intent and progress of the forward agenda to reduce the potential negative impacts of this change on the business. We have moved quickly, but our management of change practices keep the focus on safety and ensure that the changes are sustainable. These improvements are expected to continue in 2009, but we have already delivered material reductions in activity, cost and headcount.

The code of conduct

We have a code of conduct designed to ensure that all employees comply with legal requirements and our own standards. The code defines what BP expects of its people in key areas such as safety, workplace behaviour, bribery and corruption and financial integrity. Our employee concerns programme, OpenTalk, enables employees to seek guidance on the code of conduct as well as to report suspected breaches of compliance or other concerns. The number of cases raised through OpenTalk in 2008 was 925, compared with 973 in 2007.

In the US, former US district court judge Stanley Sporkin acts as an ombudsperson. Employees and contractors can contact him confidentially to report any suspected breach of compliance, ethics or the code of conduct, including safety concerns.

We take steps to identify and correct areas of non-compliance and take disciplinary action where appropriate. In 2008, 765 dismissals were reported by BP's businesses for non-compliance or unethical behaviour. This number excludes dismissals of staff employed at our retail service station sites, for incidents such as thefts of small amounts of money.

BP continues to apply a policy that the group will not participate directly in party political activity or make any political contributions, whether in cash or in kind. BP specifically made no donations to UK or other EU political parties or organizations in 2008.

Social and community issues

Contributing to communities

We aim to make a difference in the communities where we operate in a manner that brings benefits to BP as well as the local society. Investment in education, for example, promotes sustainable development as well as providing skilled workers for BP and other companies. Support for local enterprise drives economic growth as well as helping local companies qualify as our suppliers.

BP operates in a diverse range of locations with varying levels of economic and national development. We contribute to communities in ways that are relevant to local circumstances, and which offer opportunities for mutual benefit to our business. Given the scale of our business, our impact often reaches beyond the local community to the national and, in some cases, the international level.

We support education because it creates opportunities for communities, while at the same time providing skills that are critical to BP business and the wider industry. Our interventions in education are diverse and wide-ranging. We help fund a range of educational programmes, from early years learning to advanced university research, building skills and capability in communities as well as advancing knowledge on issues such as climate change and effective economic management of natural resource rich countries. In further and higher education, a major driver for our involvement is the need to encourage more people to develop the particular skills needed for the energy industry. In supporting school education, BP looks to develop children's awareness of links between energy and the environment as well as stimulating interest in science and engineering. In addition to its

investment in the formal learning system, BP supports public education on specific pressing social issues when there is a particular need within a local community.

Through training and financing programmes, BP seeks to support the development of local suppliers by building their skills, sharing internal standards and practice and stimulating business development. This enables greater participation in the supply chain by local business and greater competitiveness overall.

We support several initiatives designed to promote the effectiveness of natural resource led national development. Through the support of the Oxford Centre for the Analysis of Resource Rich Economies, we seek to improve the understanding of the development challenges and policy options available to emerging economies that are rich in natural resources such as oil and gas. We remain a member of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI), which supports the creation of a standardized process for transparent reporting of company payments and government revenues from oil, gas and mining.

In the US, amongst various other initiatives in 2008, we provided more than \$17 million to assist with relief and recovery efforts for the wider community following Hurricanes Ike and Gustav in the Gulf of Mexico.

We make direct contributions to communities through community programmes. Our total contribution in 2008 was \$125.6 million. This included \$0.2 million contributed by BP to UK charities. The growing focus of this is on education, the development of local enterprise and providing access to energy in remote locations.

In 2008, we spent \$59.5 million promoting education, with investment in three broad areas: energy and the environment; business leadership skills; and basic education in developing countries where we operate large projects.

Essential contracts

BP has contractual and other arrangements with numerous third parties in support of its business activities. This report does not contain information about any of these third parties as none of our arrangements with them are considered to be essential to the business of BP.

Property, plants and equipment

BP has freehold and leasehold interests in real estate in numerous countries, but no individual property is significant to the group as a whole. See Exploration and Production on page 13 for a description of the group's significant reserves and sources of crude oil and natural gas. Significant plans to construct, expand or improve specific facilities are described under each of the business headings within this section.

Organizational structure

The significant subsidiaries of the group at 31 December 2008 and to the group percentage of ordinary share capital (to the nearest whole number) are set out in Financial statements Note 46 on page 173. See Financial statements Notes 26 and 27 on pages 138 and 139 respectively for information on significant jointly controlled entities and associates of the group.

Performance review

Financial and operating performance

Group operating results

The following summarizes the group's operating results.

| | \$ million except per share amounts | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 |
| Total revenues ^a | 365,700 | 288,951 | 270,602 |
| Profit from continuing operations ^a | 21,666 | 21,169 | 22,626 |
| Profit for the year | 21,666 | 21,169 | 22,601 |
| Profit for the year attributable to BP shareholders | 21,157 | 20,845 | 22,315 |
| Profit attributable to BP shareholders per ordinary share cents | 112.59 | 108.76 | 111.41 |
| Dividends paid per ordinary share cents | 55.05 | 42.30 | 38.40 |

^aExcludes Innovene, which was treated as a discontinued operation in accordance with IFRS 5 Non-current Assets Held for Sale and Discontinued Operations in 2004, 2005 and 2006.

Business environment

Crude oil prices reached new record highs in 2008, in nominal terms. The average dated Brent price for the year rose to \$97.26 per barrel, an increase of 34% over the \$72.39 per barrel average seen in 2007. Daily prices began the year at \$96.02 per barrel, peaked at \$144.22 per barrel on 3 July 2008, and fell to \$36.55 per barrel at year-end. The sharp drop in prices was due to falling demand in the second half of the year, caused by the OECD falling into recession and the lagged effect on demand of high prices in the first half of the year. OPEC had increased production significantly through the first three quarters; and, as a result of falling consumption and rising OPEC production, inventories rose. As prices continued to decline, OPEC responded with successive announcements of production cuts in September, October, and December.

Natural gas prices in the US and the UK increased in 2008. The Henry Hub First of Month Index averaged \$9.04/mmBtu, 32% higher than the 2007 average of \$6.86/mmBtu. Prices peaked at \$13.11/mmBtu in July amid robust demand and falling US gas imports, but fell to \$6.90/mmBtu in December as demand weakened and production remained strong. Average UK gas prices rose to 58.12 pence per therm at the National Balancing Point in 2008, 94% above the 2007 average of 29.95 pence per therm.

Refining margins fell back in 2008, with the BP Global Indicator Margin (GIM) averaging \$6.50 per barrel. The premium for light products above fuel oils remained high, reflecting a continuing shortage of upgrading capacity and the favouring of fully upgraded refineries over less complex sites.

The retail environment continued to be extremely competitive in 2008 with market volatility, high absolute prices, as well as large price shifts in the crude market.

In 2007, the average dated Brent price rose to \$72.39 per barrel, an increase of 11% over the \$65.14 per barrel average seen in 2006. Daily prices began the year at \$58.62 per barrel and rose to \$96.02 per barrel at year-end due to OPEC production cuts in early 2007, sustained consumption growth and a resulting drop in commercial inventories after the summer.

Natural gas prices in the US and the UK declined in 2007. The Henry Hub First of Month Index averaged \$6.86/mmBtu, 5% lower than the 2006 average of \$7.24/mmBtu. Prices were pressured by strong LNG imports in summer, continued domestic production growth and high inventories. Average UK gas prices fell to 29.95 pence per therm at the National Balancing Point in 2007, 29% below the 2006 average of 42.19 pence per therm.

Refining margins had reached a new record high in 2007, with the BP Global Indicator Margin (GIM) averaging \$9.94 per barrel. The premium for light products above fuel oils remained exceptionally high, reflecting a shortage of upgrading capacity and the favouring of fully upgraded refineries over less complex sites.

Hydrocarbon production

Our total hydrocarbon production during 2008 averaged 2,517mboe/d for subsidiaries and 1,321mboe/d for equity accounted-entities, a decrease of 1.2% (a decrease of 3.1% for liquids and an increase of 0.7% for gas) and an increase of 4.0% (an increase of 2.5% for liquids and an increase of 14.8% for gas) respectively compared with 2007. In aggregate, after adjusting for the effect of lower entitlement in our PSAs, production was 5% higher than 2007. This reflected strong performance from our existing assets, the continued ramp-up of production following the startup of major projects in late-2007 and a further nine major project startups in 2008. Our total hydrocarbon production during 2007 averaged 2,549mboe/d for subsidiaries and 1,269mboe/d for equity-accounted entities, a decrease of 3% (3.5% for liquids and 2.6% for gas) and 2% (1.3% for liquids and 8.4% for gas) respectively compared with 2006. In aggregate, the decrease primarily reflected the effect of disposals and net entitlement reductions in our PSAs.

Profit attributable to BP shareholders

Profit attributable to BP shareholders for the year ended 31 December 2008 was \$21,157 million, including inventory holding losses, net of tax, of \$4,436 million and a net charge for non-operating items, after tax, of \$796 million. In addition, fair value accounting effects had a favourable impact, net of tax, of \$146 million relative to management's measure of performance. Inventory holdings gains or losses, net of tax, are described in footnote (a) on the following page. Further information on non-operating items and fair value accounting effects can be found on page 51.

Profit attributable to BP shareholders for the year ended 31 December 2007 was \$20,845 million, including inventory holding gains, net of tax, of \$2,475 million and a net charge for non-operating items, after tax, of \$373 million (*see page 52*). In addition, fair value accounting effects had an unfavourable impact, net of tax, of \$198 million (*see page 52*) relative to management's measure of performance.

Profit attributable to BP shareholders for the year ended 31 December 2006 was \$22,315 million, including inventory holding losses, net of tax, of \$222 million and a net credit for non-operating items, after tax, of \$1,531 million (*see page 52*). In addition, fair value accounting effects had a favourable impact, net of tax, of \$72 million (*see page 52*) relative to management's measure of performance. The profit attributable to BP shareholders for the year ended 31 December 2006 included a loss from Innovene operations of \$25 million.

Performance review

The primary additional factors reflected in profit for 2008, compared with 2007, were higher realizations, a higher contribution from the gas marketing and trading business, improved oil supply and trading performance, improved marketing performance and strong cost management; however, these positive effects were partly offset by weaker refining margins, particularly in the US, higher production taxes, higher depreciation, and adverse foreign exchange impacts.

The primary additional factors reflected in profit for 2007, compared with 2006, were higher liquids realizations, stronger refining and marketing margins and improved NGLs performance; however, these were more than offset by lower gas realizations, lower reported production volumes, higher production taxes in Alaska, higher costs (primarily reflecting the impact of sector-specific inflation and higher integrity spend), the impact of outages and recommissioning costs at the Texas City and Whiting refineries, reduced supply optimization benefits and a lower contribution from the marketing and trading business.

Profits and margins for the group and for individual business segments can vary significantly from period to period as a result of changes in such factors as oil prices, natural gas prices and refining margins. Accordingly, the results for the current and prior periods do not necessarily reflect trends, nor do they provide indicators of results for future periods.

Employee numbers were approximately 92,000 at 31 December 2008, 98,100 at 31 December 2007 and 97,000 at 31 December 2006.

^a Inventory holding gains and losses represent the difference between the cost of sales calculated using the average cost to BP of supplies incurred during the year and the cost of sales calculated on the first-in first-out (FIFO) method including any changes in provisions where the net realizable value of the inventory is lower than its cost. Under the FIFO method, which we use for IFRS reporting, the cost of inventory charged to the income statement is based on the historic cost of acquisition or manufacture rather than the current replacement cost. In volatile energy markets, this can have a significant distorting effect on reported income. The amounts disclosed represent the difference between the charge to the income statement on a FIFO basis (and any related movements in net realizable value provisions) and the charge that would arise using average cost of supplies incurred during the period. For this purpose, average cost of supplies incurred during the period is calculated by dividing the total cost of inventory purchased in the period by the number of barrels acquired. The amounts disclosed are not separately reflected in the financial statements as a gain or loss. No adjustment is made in respect of the cost of inventories held as part of a trading position and certain other temporary inventory positions.

Management believes this information is useful to illustrate to investors the fact that crude oil and product prices can vary significantly from period to period and that the impact on our reported result under IFRS can be significant. Inventory holding gains and losses vary from period to period due principally to changes in oil prices as well as changes to underlying inventory levels. In order for investors to understand the operating performance of the group excluding the impact of oil price changes on the replacement of inventories, and to make comparisons of operating performance between reporting periods, BP's management believes it is helpful to disclose this information.

Capital expenditure and acquisitions

| | \$ million | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|--------|--------|
| | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 |
| Exploration and Production | 22,026 | 13,904 | 13,209 |
| Refining and Marketing | 4,710 | 4,356 | 3,105 |
| Other businesses and corporate | 1,450 | 934 | 596 |

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------|---------|---------|
| Capital expenditure | 28,186 | 19,194 | 16,910 |
| Acquisitions and asset exchanges | 2,514 | 1,447 | 321 |
| | 30,700 | 20,641 | 17,231 |
| Disposals | (929) | (4,267) | (6,254) |
| Net investment | 29,771 | 16,374 | 10,977 |

Capital expenditure and acquisitions in 2008, 2007 and 2006 amounted to \$30,700 million, \$20,641 million and \$17,231 million respectively. In 2008, this included \$4,731 million in respect of our transaction with Husky Energy Inc. and \$3,667 million in respect of our purchase of all Chesapeake Energy Corporation's interest in the Arkoma Basin Woodford Shale assets and the purchase of a 25% interest in Chesapeake's Fayetteville Shale assets.

Acquisitions in 2007 included the remaining 31% of the Rotterdam (Nerefco) refinery from Chevron's Netherlands manufacturing company.

Excluding acquisitions and asset exchanges, capital expenditure for 2008 was \$28,186 million compared with \$19,194 million in 2007 and \$16,910 million in 2006. In 2006, this included \$1 billion in respect of our investment in Rosneft.

Finance costs and net finance income relating to pensions and other post-retirement benefits

Finance costs comprises group interest less amounts capitalized, and interest accretion on provisions and long-term other payables. Finance costs for continuing operations in 2008 were \$1,547 million compared with \$1,393 million in 2007 and \$986 million in 2006. The increase in 2008, when compared with 2007, is largely the outcome of reductions in capitalized interest as capital construction projects concluded. The increase in 2007, when compared with 2006, reflected a higher average gross debt balance and lower capitalized interest as capital construction projects concluded.

Net finance income relating to pensions and other post-retirement benefits in 2008 was \$591 million compared with \$652 million in 2007 and \$470 million in 2006. The expected return on assets has increased year on year as the pension asset base applicable to each year increased, but this has been offset in 2008 by higher interest costs reflecting the increase in discount rates applied to pension plan liabilities.

Taxation

The charge for corporate taxes for continuing operations in 2008 was \$12,617 million, compared with \$10,442 million in 2007 and \$12,516 million in 2006. The effective rate was 37% in 2008, 33% in 2007 and 36% in 2006. The group earns income in many countries and, on average, pays taxes at rates higher than the UK statutory rate of 28% for 2008. The increase in the effective rate in 2008 compared with 2007 primarily reflects the change in the country mix of the group's income, resulting in a higher overall tax burden. The reduction in the effective rate in 2007 compared with 2006 primarily reflects the reduction in the UK tax rate and the fact that a higher proportion of income arose in countries bearing a lower tax rate and other factors.

Business results

Profit before interest and taxation from continuing operations, which is before finance costs, other finance expense, taxation and minority interests, was \$35,239 million in 2008, \$32,352 million in 2007 and \$35,658 million in 2006.

Performance review**Exploration and Production**

For the year ended 31 December

\$ million

| | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 |
|--|---------------|--------|--------|
| Total revenues ^a | 89,902 | 69,376 | 71,868 |
| Profit before interest and tax from continuing operations ^b | 37,915 | 27,729 | 30,953 |
| Results include: | | | |
| Exploration expense | 882 | 756 | 1,045 |
| Of which: Exploration expenditure written off | 385 | 347 | 624 |

\$ per barrel

Key statistics

Average BP crude oil realizations^c

| | | | |
|---------------|--------------|-------|-------|
| UK | 92.09 | 70.36 | 62.45 |
| US | 97.37 | 68.51 | 62.03 |
| Rest of World | 94.74 | 70.86 | 61.11 |
| BP average | 95.43 | 69.98 | 61.91 |

Average BP NGL realizations^c

| | | | |
|---------------|--------------|-------|-------|
| UK | 57.24 | 52.71 | 47.21 |
| US | 52.14 | 44.59 | 36.13 |
| Rest of World | 50.84 | 48.14 | 36.03 |
| BP average | 52.30 | 46.20 | 37.17 |

Average BP liquids realizations^{c d}

| | | | |
|---------------|--------------|-------|-------|
| UK | 89.82 | 69.17 | 61.67 |
| US | 89.22 | 64.18 | 57.25 |
| Rest of World | 91.05 | 69.56 | 59.54 |
| BP average | 90.20 | 67.45 | 59.23 |

\$ per thousand cubic feet

Average BP natural gas realizations^c

| | | | |
|---------------|-------------|------|------|
| UK | 8.41 | 6.40 | 6.33 |
| US | 6.77 | 5.43 | 5.74 |
| Rest of World | 5.19 | 3.71 | 3.70 |
| BP average | 6.00 | 4.53 | 4.72 |

\$ per barrel

| | | | |
|---|---------------|-------|-------|
| Average West Texas Intermediate oil price | 100.06 | 72.20 | 66.02 |
| Alaska North Slope US West Coast | 98.86 | 71.68 | 63.57 |

Edgar Filing: BP PLC - Form 20-F

| | | | |
|---|--------------|--|-------|
| Average Brent oil price | 97.26 | 72.39 | 65.14 |
| | | \$ per million British thermal units | |
| Average Henry Hub gas price ^e | 9.04 | 6.86 | 7.24 |
| | | pence per therm | |
| Average UK National Balancing Point gas price | 58.12 | 29.95 | 42.19 |
| | | thousand barrels per day | |
| Total liquids production for subsidiaries ^{d f} | 1,263 | 1,304 | 1,351 |
| Total liquids production for equity-accounted entities ^{d f} | 1,138 | 1,110 | 1,124 |
| | | million cubic feet per day | |
| Natural gas production for subsidiaries ^f | 7,277 | 7,222 | 7,412 |
| Natural gas production for equity-accounted entities ^f | 1,057 | 921 | 1,005 |
| | | thousand barrels of oil equivalent per day | |
| Total production for subsidiaries ^{f g} | 2,517 | 2,549 | 2,629 |
| Total production for equity-accounted entities ^{f g} | 1,321 | 1,269 | 1,297 |

^aIncludes sales between businesses.

^bIncludes profit after interest and tax of equity-accounted entities.

^cRealizations are based on sales of consolidated subsidiaries only, which excludes equity-accounted entities.

^dCrude oil and natural gas liquids.

^eHenry Hub First of Month Index.

^fNet of royalties.

^gExpressed in thousands of barrels of oil equivalent per day (mboe/d). Natural gas is converted to oil equivalent at 5.8 billion c
48

Performance review

Total revenues are analysed in more detail below.

| | \$ million | | |
|---|---------------|--------|--------|
| | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 |
| Sales and other operating revenues | 86,170 | 65,740 | 67,950 |
| Earnings from equity-accounted entities (after interest and tax), interest and other revenues | 3,732 | 3,636 | 3,918 |
| | 89,902 | 69,376 | 71,868 |

Total revenues for 2008 were \$90 billion, compared with \$69 billion in 2007 and \$72 billion in 2006. The increase in 2008 primarily reflected higher oil and gas realizations. Gas marketing sales also increased primarily as a result of higher prices. The decrease in 2007 compared with 2006 primarily reflected lower volumes of subsidiaries and lower gas marketing sales, partly offset by higher realizations.

Profit before interest and tax for the year ended 31 December 2008 was \$37,915 million. This included inventory holding losses of \$393 million and a net charge for non-operating items of \$990 million (*see page 52*), with the most significant items being net impairment charges (primarily driven by the current low price environment) and net fair value losses on embedded derivatives, partly offset by the reversal of certain provisions. The impairment charge includes a \$517 million write-down of our investment in Rosneft based on its quoted market price at the end of the year. In addition, fair value accounting effects had an unfavourable impact of \$282 million relative to management's measure of performance (*see page 52*).

Profit before interest and tax for the year ended 31 December 2007 was \$27,729 million. This included inventory holding gains of \$127 million and a net credit from non-operating items of \$491 million (*see page 52*), with the most significant items being net gains from the sale of assets (primarily from the disposal of our production and gas infrastructure in the Netherlands, our interests in non-core Permian assets in the US and our interests in the Entrada field in the Gulf of Mexico), partly offset by a restructuring charge and a charge in respect of the reassessment of certain provisions. In addition, fair value accounting effects had a favourable impact of \$48 million relative to management's measure of performance (*see page 52*).

Profit before interest and tax for the year ended 31 December 2006 was \$30,953 million. This included inventory holding losses of \$73 million and a net credit from non-operating items of \$2,563 million (*see page 52*), with the most significant items being net gains from the sale of assets (primarily from the sales of interests in the Shenzi discovery in the Gulf of Mexico in the US and interests in the North Sea partly offset by a loss on the sale of properties in the Gulf of Mexico Shelf) and net fair value gains on embedded derivatives, partly offset by a charge for legal provisions. In addition, fair value accounting effects had an unfavourable impact of \$32 million relative to management's measure of performance (*see page 52*).

The primary additional factor contributing to the 37% increase in profit before interest and tax for the year ended 31 December 2008 compared with the year ended 31 December 2007 was higher realizations. In addition, the result reflected a higher contribution from the gas marketing and trading business but was impacted by higher production taxes and higher depreciation. The impact of inflation within other costs was mitigated by rigorous cost control and a focus on simplification and efficiency.

The primary additional factors reflected in profit before interest and tax for the year ended 31 December 2007 compared with the year ended 31 December 2006 were higher overall realizations (liquids realizations were higher and gas realizations were lower) and a favourable effect from lagged tax reference prices in TNK-BP; however, these factors were more than offset by the impact of lower reported volumes, a lower contribution from the gas marketing

and trading business, higher production taxes in Alaska and higher costs, reflecting the impacts of sector-specific inflation, increased integrity spend and higher depreciation charges. Additionally, the result was lower due to the absence of disposal gains in 2006 in equity-accounted entities.

Reported production for 2008 was 2,517mboe/d for subsidiaries and 1,321mboe/d for equity-accounted entities, compared with 2,549mboe/d and 1,269mboe/d respectively in 2007. In aggregate, after adjusting for the effect of lower entitlement in our PSAs, production was 5% higher than 2007. This reflected strong performance from our existing assets, the continued ramp-up of production following the startup of major projects in late-2007 and the start-up of a further nine major projects in 2008.

Reported production for 2007 was 2,549mboe/d for subsidiaries and 1,269mboe/d for equity-accounted entities, compared with 2,629mboe/d and 1,297mboe/d respectively in 2006. In aggregate, the decrease primarily reflected the effect of disposals and net entitlement reductions in our PSAs.

Performance review**Refining and Marketing**

| | \$ million | | |
|--|----------------|---------|--------------------------|
| | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 |
| Total revenues ^a | 320,458 | 250,897 | 232,833 |
| Profit before interest and tax from continuing operations ^b | (1,884) | 6,076 | 5,419 |
| | | | \$ per barrel |
| Global Indicator Refining Margin (GIM) ^c | | | |
| Northwest Europe | 6.72 | 4.99 | 3.92 |
| US Gulf Coast | 6.78 | 13.48 | 12.00 |
| Midwest | 5.17 | 12.81 | 9.14 |
| US West Coast | 7.42 | 15.05 | 14.84 |
| Singapore | 6.30 | 5.29 | 4.22 |
| BP average | 6.50 | 9.94 | 8.39 |
| | | | % |
| Refining availability ^d | 88.8 | 82.9 | 82.5 |
| | | | thousand barrels per day |
| Refinery throughputs | 2,155 | 2,127 | 2,198 |

^aIncludes sales between businesses.

^bIncludes profit after interest and tax of equity-accounted entities.

^cThe GIM is the average of regional industry indicator margins that we weight for BP's crude refining capacity in each region. Each regional indicator margin is based on a single representative crude with product yields characteristic of the typical level of upgrading complexity. The refining margins are industry-specific rather than BP-specific measures, which we believe are useful to investors in analyzing trends in the industry and their impact on our results. The margins are calculated by BP based on published crude oil and product prices and take account of fuel utilization and catalyst costs. No account is taken of BP's other cash and non-cash costs of refining, such as wages and salaries and plant depreciation. The indicator margin may not be representative of the margins achieved by BP in any period because of BP's particular refining configurations and crude and product slate.

^dRefining availability represents Solomon Associates' operational availability, which is defined as the percentage of the year that a unit is available for processing after subtracting the annualized time lost due to turnaround activity and all planned mechanical, process and regulatory maintenance downtime.

Total revenues are explained in more detail below.

| | \$ million | | |
|--|----------------|---------|--------------------------|
| | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 |
| Sale of crude oil through spot and term contracts | 54,901 | 43,004 | 38,577 |
| Marketing, spot and term sales of refined products | 248,561 | 194,979 | 177,995 |
| Other sales and operating revenues | 16,577 | 12,238 | 15,814 |
| Earnings from equity-accounted entities (after interest and tax), interest, and other revenues | 419 | 676 | 447 |
| | 320,458 | 250,897 | 232,833 |
| | | | thousand barrels per day |
| Sale of crude oil through spot and term contracts | 1,689 | 1,885 | 2,110 |
| Marketing, spot and term sales of refined products | 5,698 | 5,624 | 5,801 |

Total revenues for 2008 were \$320 billion, compared with \$251 billion in 2007 and \$233 billion in 2006. The increase in 2008 compared with 2007 primarily reflected an increase in marketing, spot and term sales of refined products, mainly driven by higher prices. Additionally, sales of crude oil, spot and term contracts increased, as a result of higher prices, partly offset by lower volumes. The increase in 2007 compared with 2006 was principally due to an increase in marketing, spot and term sales of refined products. This was due to higher prices and a positive foreign exchange impact due to a weaker dollar, partially offset by lower volumes. Additionally, sales of crude oil, spot and term contracts increased, primarily reflecting higher prices, and other sales decreased due to lower volumes partially offset by a positive foreign exchange impact.

The loss before interest and tax for the year ended 31 December 2008 was \$1,884 million. This included inventory holding losses of \$6,060 million and a net credit for non-operating items of \$347 million (*see page 52*). The most significant non-operating items were net gains on disposal (primarily in respect of the gain recognized on the contribution of the Toledo refinery into a joint venture with Husky Energy Inc.) partly offset by restructuring charges. In addition, fair value accounting effects had a favourable impact of \$511 million relative to management's measure of performance (*see page 52*).

Profit before interest and tax for the year ended 31 December 2007 was \$6,076 million. This included inventory holding gains of \$3,455 million and a net charge for non-operating items of \$952 million (*see page 52*).

The most significant non-operating items were net disposal gains (primarily related to the sale of BP's Coryton refinery in the UK, its interest in the West Texas pipeline system in the US and its interest in the Samsung Petrochemical Company in South Korea), net impairment charges (primarily related to the sale of the majority of our US Convenience Retail business, a write-down of certain assets at our Hull site and write-down of our retail assets in Mexico) and a charge related to the March 2005 Texas City refinery incident. In addition, fair value accounting effects had an unfavourable impact of \$357 million relative to management's measure of performance (*see page 52*).

Profit before interest and tax for the year ended 31 December 2006 was \$5,419 million. This included inventory holding losses of \$242 million and a net credit for non-operating items of \$113 million (*see page 52*). The most significant non-operating items were net disposal gains (related primarily to the sale of BP's Czech Republic retail business, the disposal of BP's shareholding in Zhenhai Refining and Chemicals Company, the sale of BP's shareholding

in Eiffage, the French-based construction company, and pipelines assets) and a charge related to the March 2005 Texas City refinery incident. In addition, fair

50

Performance review

value accounting effects had a favourable impact of \$211 million relative to management's measure of performance (see page 52).

During 2008, significant performance improvements in both our Fuels Value Chains and International Businesses mitigated cost inflation and, to a large extent, the much weaker environment. The main sources of improvement were from restoring the revenues of our refining operations; improved supply and trading performance; improved marketing performance, particularly from the International Businesses, and reduced costs. The cost reductions have been driven by the simplification of our business structure through the establishment of Fuels Value Chains and a reduction in our geographical footprint, as well as by strong cost management. The most significant environmental factor was the weaker refining environment, particularly due to lower refining margins in the US and the adverse impact in the second half of 2008 of prior-month pricing of domestic pipeline barrels for our US refining system, but there were also adverse foreign exchange effects.

During 2007, the segment continued to focus on the restoration of operations at the Texas City refinery and on investments in integrity management throughout our refining portfolio. We have also focused on the repair and recommissioning of the Whiting refinery following the operational issues in March 2007. In many parts of the refining portfolio and the other market-facing businesses, we delivered high reliability and improved results compared with 2006. However, for the full year, compared with 2006, the impact of the outages and recommissioning costs at the Texas City and Whiting refineries, as well as investments in integrity management and scheduled turnarounds throughout our refining portfolio, cost inflation and lower results from supply optimization decreased our result. These factors more than offset increased margins in both refining and marketing.

The average refining Global Indicator Margin (GIM) in 2008 was lower than in 2007.

Refining throughputs in 2008 were 2,155mb/d, 28mb/d higher than in 2007. Refining availability was 88.8%, six percentage points higher than in 2007, the increase being driven primarily by improvement at the Texas City and Whiting refineries. Marketing volumes at 3,711mb/d were around 2.5% lower than in 2007.

Other businesses and corporate

| | \$ million | | |
|---|----------------|---------|-------|
| | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 |
| Total revenues ^a | 5,040 | 3,972 | 3,703 |
| Profit (loss) before interest and tax from continuing operations ^b | (1,258) | (1,233) | (779) |

^a Includes sales between businesses.

^b Includes profit after interest and tax of equity-accounted entities.

Other businesses and corporate comprises the Alternative Energy business, Shipping, the group's aluminium asset, Treasury (which includes all the group's cash, cash equivalents), and corporate activities worldwide.

The loss before interest and tax for the year ended 31 December 2008 was \$1,258 million and included inventory holding losses of \$35 million and a net charge for non-operating items of \$633 million (see page 52).

The loss before interest and tax for the year ended 31 December 2007 was \$1,233 million and included inventory holding losses of \$24 million and a net charge for non-operating items of \$262 million (see page 52).

The loss before interest and tax for the year ended 31 December 2006 was \$779 million and included inventory holding gains of \$62 million and a net charge for non-operating items of \$72 million (see page 52).

Non-operating items

Non-operating items are charges and credits that BP discloses separately because it considers such disclosures to be meaningful and relevant to investors. The main categories of non-operating items in the periods presented are: impairments; gains or losses on sale of fixed assets and the sale of businesses; environmental remediation; restructuring, integration and rationalization costs; and changes in the fair value of embedded derivatives. These disclosures are provided in order to enable investors better to understand and evaluate the group's financial performance. An analysis of non-operating items is shown on page 52.

Non-GAAP information on fair value accounting effects

BP uses derivative instruments to manage the economic exposure relating to inventories above normal operating requirements of crude oil, natural gas and petroleum products as well as certain contracts to supply physical volumes at future dates. Under IFRS, these inventories and contracts are recorded at historic cost and on an accruals basis respectively. The related derivative instruments, however, are required to be recorded at fair value with gains and losses recognized in income because hedge accounting is either not permitted or not followed, principally due to the impracticality of effectiveness testing requirements. Therefore, measurement differences in relation to recognition of gains and losses occur. Gains and losses on these inventories and contracts are not recognized until the commodity is sold in a subsequent accounting period. Gains and losses on the related derivative commodity contracts are recognized in the income statement from the time the derivative commodity contract is entered into on a fair value basis using forward prices consistent with the contract maturity.

IFRS requires that inventory held for trading be recorded at its fair value using period end spot prices whereas any related derivative commodity instruments are required to be recorded at values based on forward prices consistent with the contract maturity. Depending on market conditions, these forward prices can be either higher or lower than spot prices resulting in measurement differences.

BP enters into contracts for pipelines and storage capacity that, under IFRS, are recorded on an accruals basis. These contracts are risk-managed using a variety of derivative instruments that are fair valued under IFRS. This results in measurement differences in relation to recognition of gains and losses.

The way that BP manages the economic exposures described above, and measures performance internally, differs from the way these activities are measured under IFRS. BP calculates this difference by comparing the IFRS result with management's internal measure of performance, under which the inventory and the supply and capacity contracts in question are valued based on fair value using relevant forward prices prevailing at the end of the period. We believe that disclosing management's estimate of this difference provides useful information for investors because it enables investors to see the economic effect of these activities as a whole. The impacts of fair value accounting effects, relative to management's internal measure of performance, are shown in the table below and on the following page.

Reconciliation of non-GAAP information Exploration and Production

| | \$ million | | |
|---|----------------|--------|--------|
| | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 |
| Profit before interest and tax adjusted for fair value accounting effects | 38,197 | 27,681 | 39,985 |
| Impact of fair value accounting effects | (282) | 48 | (32) |
| Profit before interest and tax | 37,915 | 27,729 | 39,953 |
| Refining and Marketing | | | |
| Profit before interest and tax adjusted for fair value accounting effects | (2,395) | 6,433 | 5,208 |
| Impact of fair value accounting effects | 511 | (357) | 211 |

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|-------|-------|
| Profit before interest and tax | (1,884) | 6,076 | 5,419 |
|--------------------------------|---------|-------|-------|

Performance review**Non-operating items**

| | \$ million | | |
|---|------------|-------|---------|
| | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 |
| Exploration and Production | | | |
| Impairment and gain (loss) on sale of businesses and fixed assets | (1,015) | 857 | 2,410 |
| Environmental and other provisions | (12) | (12) | (17) |
| Restructuring, integration and rationalization costs | (57) | (186) | |
| Fair value gain (loss) on embedded derivatives | (163) | | 603 |
| Other | 257 | (168) | (433) |
| | (990) | 491 | 2,563 |
| Refining and Marketing | | | |
| Impairment and gain (loss) on sale of businesses and fixed assets | 801 | (35) | 726 |
| Environmental and other provisions | (64) | (138) | (33) |
| Restructuring, integration and rationalization costs | (447) | (118) | |
| Fair value gain (loss) on embedded derivatives | 57 | | |
| Other | | (661) | (580) |
| | 347 | (952) | 113 |
| Other businesses and corporate | | | |
| Impairment and gain (loss) on sale of businesses and fixed assets | (166) | (14) | 29 |
| Environmental and other provisions | (117) | (35) | 94 |
| Restructuring, integration and rationalization costs | (254) | (34) | |
| Fair value gain (loss) on embedded derivatives | (5) | (7) | 5 |
| Other | (91) | (172) | (200) |
| | (633) | (262) | (72) |
| Total before taxation for continuing operations | (1,276) | (723) | 2,604 |
| Taxation ^a | 480 | 350 | (1,073) |
| Total after taxation for continuing operations | (796) | (373) | 1,531 |

Fair value accounting effects

| | \$ million | | |
|--|------------|------|------|
| | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 |

Exploration and Production

| | | | |
|--|--------------|-------|-------|
| Unrecognized gains (losses) brought forward from previous period | 107 | 155 | 123 |
| Unrecognized (gains) losses carried forward | (389) | (107) | (155) |

| | | | |
|--|--------------|----|------|
| Favourable (unfavourable) impact relative to management's measure of performance | (282) | 48 | (32) |
|--|--------------|----|------|

Refining and Marketing

| | | | |
|--|------------|-------|------|
| Unrecognized gains (losses) brought forward from previous period | 429 | 72 | 283 |
| Unrecognized (gains) losses carried forward | 82 | (429) | (72) |

| | | | |
|--|------------|-------|-----|
| Favourable (unfavourable) impact relative to management's measure of performance | 511 | (357) | 211 |
|--|------------|-------|-----|

| | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------|-------|
| Taxation ^a | 229 | (309) | 179 |
| | (83) | 111 | (107) |

| | | | |
|--|------------|-------|----|
| | 146 | (198) | 72 |
|--|------------|-------|----|

By region**Exploration and Production**

| | | | |
|----------------|--------------|------|------|
| UK | 45 | 1 | 63 |
| Rest of Europe | | | |
| US | (231) | (77) | (59) |
| Rest of World | (96) | 124 | (36) |
| | (282) | 48 | (32) |

Refining and Marketing

| | | | |
|----------------|------------|-------|------|
| UK | 186 | (52) | 109 |
| Rest of Europe | 54 | (110) | 101 |
| US | 231 | (165) | 13 |
| Rest of World | 40 | (30) | (12) |
| | 511 | (357) | 211 |

^aThe amounts shown for taxation are based upon the effective tax rate on group profit.

Performance review

| | \$ million | | |
|--|------------|-------|-------|
| | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 |
| Environmental expenditure | | | |
| Operating expenditure | 755 | 662 | 596 |
| Clean-ups | 64 | 62 | 59 |
| Capital expenditure | 1,104 | 1,033 | 806 |
| Additions to environmental remediation provision | 270 | 373 | 423 |
| Additions to decommissioning provision | 326 | 1,163 | 2,142 |

Operating and capital expenditure on the prevention, control, abatement or elimination of air, water and solid waste pollution is often not incurred as a separately identifiable transaction. Instead, it forms part of a larger transaction that includes, for example, normal maintenance expenditure. The figures for environmental operating and capital expenditure in the table are therefore estimates, based on the definitions and guidelines of the American Petroleum Institute.

Environmental operating expenditure of \$755 million in 2008 was higher than in 2007 and reflects continuing integrity management activity. There were no individually significant factors driving the increase.

The increase in environmental operating expenditure in 2007 compared with 2006 is primarily due to increased integrity management activity and activity associated with the implementation of the Baker Panel recommendations. Similar levels of operating and capital expenditures are expected in the foreseeable future. In addition to operating and capital expenditures, we also create provisions for future environmental remediation. Expenditure against such provisions is normally in subsequent periods and is not included in environmental operating expenditure reported for such periods. The charge for environmental remediation provisions in 2008 includes \$234 million resulting from a reassessment of existing site obligations and \$36 million in respect of provisions for new sites.

Provisions for environmental remediation are made when a cleanup is probable and the amount of the obligation can be reliably estimated. Generally, this coincides with commitment to a formal plan of action or, if earlier, on divestment or on closure of inactive sites.

The extent and cost of future environment restoration, remediation and abatement programmes are often inherently difficult to estimate. They often depend on the extent of contamination, and the associated impact and timing of the corrective actions required, technological feasibility and BP's share of liability. Though the costs of future programmes could be significant and may be material to the results of operations in the period in which they are recognized, it is not expected that such costs will be material to the group's overall results of operations or financial position.

In addition, we make provisions on installation of our oil- and gas-producing assets and related pipelines to meet the cost of eventual decommissioning. On installation of an oil or natural gas production facility a provision is established that represents the discounted value of the expected future cost of decommissioning the asset. Additionally, we undertake periodic reviews of existing provisions. These reviews take account of revised cost assumptions, changes in decommissioning requirements and any technological developments. The level of increase in the decommissioning provision varies with the number of new fields coming onstream in a particular year and the outcome of the periodic reviews.

Provisions for environmental remediation and decommissioning are usually set up on a discounted basis, as required by IAS 37 Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets.

Further details of decommissioning and environmental provisions appear in Financial statements - Note 37 on page 156. See also Environment on page 39.

Suppliers and contractors

Our processes are designed to enable us to choose suppliers carefully on merit, avoiding conflicts of interest and inappropriate gifts and entertainment. We expect suppliers to comply with legal requirements and we seek to do business with suppliers who act in line with BP's commitments to compliance and ethics, as outlined in the code of conduct. We engage with suppliers in a variety of ways, including performance review meetings to identify mutually advantageous ways to improve performance.

Creditor payment policy and practice

Statutory regulations issued under the UK Companies Act 1985 require companies to make a statement of their policy and practice in respect of the payment of trade creditors. In view of the international nature of the group's operations there is no specific group-wide policy in respect of payments to suppliers. Relationships with suppliers are, however, governed by the group's policy commitment to long-term relationships founded on trust and mutual advantage. Within this overall policy, individual operating companies are responsible for agreeing terms and conditions for their business transactions and ensuring that suppliers are aware of the terms of payment.

Performance review

Liquidity and capital resources

Cash flow

The following table summarizes the group's cash flows.

| | \$ million | | |
|--|-----------------|----------|----------|
| | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | 38,095 | 24,709 | 28,172 |
| Net cash used in investing activities | (22,767) | (14,837) | (9,518) |
| Net cash used in financing activities | (10,509) | (9,035) | (19,071) |
| Currency translation differences relating to cash and cash equivalents | (184) | 135 | 47 |
| Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents | 4,635 | 972 | (370) |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year | 3,562 | 2,590 | 2,960 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of year | 8,197 | 3,562 | 2,590 |

Net cash provided by operating activities for the year ended 31 December 2008 was \$38,095 million compared with \$24,709 million for the equivalent period of 2007 reflecting a decrease in working capital requirements of \$11,250 million, an increase in profit before taxation of \$2,672 million and an increase in dividends from jointly controlled entities and associates of \$1,255 million; these were partly offset by an increase in income taxes paid of \$3,752 million.

Net cash provided by operating activities for the year ended 31 December 2007 was \$24,709 million, compared with \$28,172 million for the equivalent period for 2006 reflecting an increase in working capital requirements of \$6,282 million, a decrease in profit before taxation from continuing operations of \$3,531 million, a decrease in dividends from jointly controlled entities and associates of \$2,022 million; these were partially offset by a decrease in income taxes paid of \$4,661 million, a lower net credit for impairment and gains and losses on sale of businesses and fixed assets of \$2,357 million and higher depreciation, depletion and amortization of \$1,451 million.

Net cash used in investing activities was \$22,767 million in 2008, compared with \$14,837 million and \$9,518 million in 2007 and 2006. The increase in 2008 reflected a reduction in disposal proceeds of \$3,338 million and an increase in capital expenditure of \$5,303 million. The increase in 2007 reflected a reduction in disposal proceeds of \$1,987 million and an increase in capital expenditure of \$2,713 million.

Net cash used in financing activities was \$10,509 million in 2008 compared with \$9,035 million in 2007 and \$19,071 million in 2006. The increase in 2008 reflects a decrease in short-term debt of \$2,809 million and an increase in dividends paid of \$2,434 million; these were partly offset by a \$4,546 million decrease in the net repurchase of shares. The reduction in 2007 compared with 2006 reflects a reduction in net repurchases of shares of \$8,038 million and an increase in proceeds from long-term financing of \$4,278 million; these were partially offset by a net decrease in short-term debt of \$2,379 million.

The group has had significant levels of capital investment for many years. Cash flow in respect of capital investment, excluding acquisitions, was \$23.7 billion in 2008, \$18.4 billion in 2007 and \$15.7 billion in 2006. Sources of funding are completely fungible, but the majority of the group's funding requirements for new investment come from cash generated by existing operations. The group's level of net debt, that is debt less cash and cash equivalents, was \$25.0 billion at the end of 2008, \$26.8 billion at the end of 2007 and was \$21.1 billion at the end of 2006.

During the period 2006 to 2008, our total sources of cash amounted to \$104 billion, whilst our total uses of cash amounted to \$112 billion. The net cash usage of \$8 billion was financed by an increase in finance debt of \$13 billion

Edgar Filing: BP PLC - Form 20-F

over the three-year period, offset by an increase in our balance of cash and cash equivalents of \$5 billion. During this period, the price of Brent has averaged \$78.26 per barrel. The following table summarizes the three-year sources and uses of cash.

| | \$ billion |
|---|------------|
| Sources of cash | |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | 91 |
| Divestments | 13 |
| | 104 |
| Uses of cash | |
| Capital expenditure | 58 |
| Acquisitions | 2 |
| Net repurchase of shares | 25 |
| Dividends to BP shareholders | 26 |
| Dividends to minority interests | 1 |
| | 112 |
| Net use of cash | (8) |
| Financed by | |
| Increase in finance debt | (13) |
| Increase in cash and cash equivalents | 5 |
| | (8) |

Acquisitions made for cash were more than offset by divestments. Net investment during the same period has averaged \$16 billion per year. Dividends to BP shareholders, which grew on average by 16.8% per year in dollar terms, used \$26 billion. Net repurchase of shares was \$25 billion, which includes \$26 billion in respect of our share buyback programme less net proceeds from shares issued in connection with employee share schemes. Finally, cash was used to strengthen the financial condition of certain of our pension plans. In the past three years, \$2 billion has been contributed to funded pension plans. This is reflected in net cash provided by operating activities in the table above.

Trend information

We expect the short-term outlook for oil prices to be impacted by OPEC cuts on the one hand, and the outlook for the world economy and oil demand on the other. We expect continued volatility and our current expectation is that oil prices, relative to 2008, will continue to be low in 2009, and that this could extend into 2010.

In Exploration and Production, total production is expected to be somewhat higher in 2009. The actual growth rate will depend on a number of factors, including our pace of capital spending, the efficiency of that spend (in turn depending on industry cost deflation), the oil price and its impact on PSAs as well as OPEC quota restrictions.

In Refining and Marketing, 2009 is expected to be a challenging environment with reduced demand for our products, leading to lower volumes and pressure on margins. The impact is expected to be greatest in the petrochemicals sector. In 2009, with our US refining system fully operational, we expect our overall refining availability to be higher than in 2008.

Performance review

During 2008, we established momentum in cost control, mitigating the cost inflation that was primarily driven by rising oil prices. In 2009, our highest priority will continue to be achieving safe, compliant and reliable operations and we intend to continue our focus on cost efficiency. We expect cost deflation to be increasingly visible as we move through 2009.

We expect capital expenditure, excluding acquisitions and asset exchanges, to be around \$20-21 billion in 2009. This reflects our intention in Exploration and Production to maintain investment whilst vigorously working to drive down costs and to reduce spending in our Refining and Marketing and Alternative Energy businesses in keeping with the current weak economic environment. We expect disposal proceeds to be between \$2-3 billion in 2009.

On the basis of our current plans, we expect cash inflows and outflows in 2009 would balance at oil prices of around \$60/bbl, taking account of expected disposal proceeds. We would expect that break even point to lower as we realize the benefits of our operational momentum and our action on costs.

Dividends and other distributions to shareholders

The total dividend paid to BP shareholders in 2008 was \$10,342 million, compared with \$8,106 million for 2007. The dividend paid per share was 55.05 cents, an increase of 30% compared with 2007. In sterling terms, the dividend increased 40% due to the strengthening of the dollar relative to sterling. We determine the dividend in US dollars, the economic currency of BP.

During 2008, the company repurchased 269.8 million of its own shares for cancellation at a cost of \$2.9 billion. The repurchased shares had a nominal value of \$67.5 million and represented 1.4% of ordinary shares in issue, net of treasury shares, at the end of 2007. Since the inception of the share repurchase programme in 2000, we have repurchased 4,929 million shares at a cost of \$51.1 billion.

Our aim is to strike the right balance for shareholders, between current returns via the dividend, sustained investment for long-term growth, and maintaining a prudent gearing level. At the beginning of 2008, we rebalanced our distributions away from share buybacks in favour of dividends.

BP intends to continue the operation of the Dividend Reinvestment Plan (DRIP) for shareholders who wish to receive their dividend in the form of shares rather than cash. The BP Direct Access Plan for US and Canadian shareholders also includes a dividend reinvestment feature.

The discussion above and following contains forward-looking statements with regard to oil prices, production, demand for refining products, refining volumes and margins and impact on the petrochemicals sector, refining availability, continuing priority of safe, compliant and reliable operations, and focus on cost efficiency, cost deflation, capital expenditure, expected disposal proceeds, cash flows, shareholder distributions, gearing, working capital, guarantees, expected payments under contractual and commercial commitments and purchase obligations. These forward-looking statements are based on assumptions that management believes to be reasonable in the light of the group's operational and financial experience. However, no assurance can be given that the forward-looking statements will be realized. You are urged to read the cautionary statement under Forward-looking statements on page 10 and Risk factors on pages 8-10, which describe the risks and uncertainties that may cause actual results and developments to differ materially from those expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements. The company provides no commitment to update the forward-looking statements or to publish financial projections for forward-looking statements in the future.

Financing the group's activities

The group's principal commodity, oil, is priced internationally in US dollars. Group policy has been to minimize economic exposure to currency movements by financing operations with US dollar debt wherever possible, otherwise by using currency swaps when funds have been raised in currencies other than US dollars.

The group's finance debt is almost entirely in US dollars and at 31 December 2008 amounted to \$33,204 million (2007 \$31,045 million) of which \$15,740 million (2007 \$15,394 million) was short term.

Net debt was \$25,041 million at the end of 2008, a decrease of \$1,776 million compared with 2007. We believe that a net debt ratio, that is net debt to net debt plus equity, of 20-30% provides an efficient capital structure and the appropriate level of financial flexibility. The net debt ratio was 21% at the end of 2008 and 22% at the end of 2007,

close to the lower end of our target band. Net debt, which BP uses as a measure of financial gearing, includes the fair value of associated derivative financial instruments that are used to hedge foreign exchange and interest rate risks relating to finance debt, for which hedge accounting is claimed.

The maturity profile and fixed/floating rate characteristics of the group's debt are described in Financial statements Note 28 on page 140 and Note 35 on page 153.

We have in place a European Debt Issuance Programme (DIP) under which the group may raise \$20 billion of debt for maturities of one month or longer. At 31 December 2008, the amount drawn down against the DIP was \$10,334 million (2007 \$10,438 million).

In addition, the group has in place a US Shelf Registration under which it may raise \$10 billion of debt with maturities of one month or longer. At 31 December 2008, the amount raised under the US Shelf Registration was \$6,500 million (2007 \$2,500 million).

Commercial paper markets in the US and Europe are a primary source of liquidity for the group. At 31 December 2008, the outstanding commercial paper amounted to \$4,268 million (2007 \$5,881 million).

The group also has access to significant sources of liquidity in the form of committed facilities and other funding through the capital markets. At 31 December 2008, the group had available undrawn committed borrowing facilities of \$4,950 million (2007 \$4,950 million).

Despite current uncertainty in the financial markets, including a lack of liquidity for some borrowers, we have been able to issue \$5 billion of long-term debt in the fourth quarter of 2008. In addition, we have been able to issue short-term commercial paper at competitive rates. In the context of unforeseen market volatility, we have however, increased the cash and cash equivalents held by the group to \$8.2 billion at the end of 2008, compared with \$3.6 billion at the end of 2007.

BP believes that, taking into account the substantial amounts of undrawn borrowing facilities available, the group has sufficient working capital for foreseeable requirements.

Off-balance sheet arrangements

At 31 December 2008, the group's share of third-party finance debt of equity-accounted entities was \$6,675 million (2007 \$6,764 million). These amounts are not reflected in the group's debt on the balance sheet.

The group has issued third-party guarantees under which amounts outstanding at 31 December 2008 are summarized on the following page. Some guarantees outstanding are in respect of borrowings of jointly controlled entities and associates noted above. The analysis by time period indicates the ultimate expiry of the guarantees.

Performance review

| | | | | | | | \$ million |
|---|-------|------|------|------|------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| | | | | | | Guarantees expiring by period | |
| | Total | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 and thereafter |
| Guarantees issued in respect of ^a | | | | | | | |
| Liabilities and borrowings of jointly controlled entities and associates | 223 | 70 | 32 | 25 | 6 | 6 | 84 |
| Liabilities and borrowings of other third parties | 613 | 94 | 19 | 30 | 35 | 34 | 401 |

^aOf the amounts shown in the table, \$215 million of the jointly controlled entities and associates guarantees relate to guarantees of borrowings and for other third party guarantees, \$582 million relates to guarantees of borrowings.

Contractual commitments

The following table summarizes the group's principal contractual obligations at 31 December 2008. Further information on borrowings and finance leases is given in Financial statements Note 35 on page 153 and more information on operating leases is given in Financial statements Note 16 on page 130.

| | | | | | | | \$ million |
|---|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| | | | | | | Payments due by period | |
| | Total | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 and thereafter |
| Expected payments by period under contractual obligations and commercial commitments | | | | | | | |
| Borrowings ^a | 35,192 | 16,554 | 5,817 | 3,303 | 2,577 | 5,014 | 1,927 |
| Finance lease future minimum lease payments | 916 | 116 | 117 | 116 | 70 | 58 | 439 |
| Operating leases ^b | 18,795 | 4,135 | 3,215 | 2,340 | 1,897 | 1,688 | 5,520 |
| Decommissioning liabilities | 12,347 | 348 | 361 | 211 | 157 | 197 | 11,073 |
| Environmental liabilities | 1,797 | 422 | 380 | 204 | 177 | 129 | 485 |
| Pensions and other post-retirement benefits ^c | 26,288 | 1,105 | 1,352 | 1,346 | 1,346 | 1,342 | 19,797 |
| Purchase obligations ^d | 115,642 | 64,479 | 13,317 | 6,559 | 5,100 | 4,531 | 21,656 |
| Total | 210,977 | 87,159 | 24,559 | 14,079 | 11,324 | 12,959 | 60,897 |

^aExpected payments include interest payments on borrowings totalling \$2,607 million (\$907 million in 2009, \$608 million in 2010, \$421 million in 2011, \$318 million in 2012, \$236 million in 2013 and \$117 million thereafter).

^bThe future minimum lease payments are before deducting related rental income from operating sub-leases. Where an operating lease is entered into solely by the group as the operator of a jointly controlled asset, the total cost is included irrespective of any amounts that will be reimbursed by joint venture partners. Where operating lease costs are incurred in relation to the hire of equipment used in connection with a capital project, some or all of the cost may be capitalized as part of the capital cost of the project.

^cRepresents the expected future contributions to funded pension plans and payments by the group for unfunded pension plans and the expected future payments for other post- retirement benefits.

^dRepresents any agreement to purchase goods or services that is enforceable and legally binding and that specifies all significant terms. The amounts shown include arrangements to secure long-term access to supplies of crude oil, natural gas, feedstocks and pipeline systems. In addition, the amounts shown for 2009 include purchase commitments existing at 31 December 2008 entered into principally to meet the group's short-term manufacturing and marketing requirements. The price risk associated with these crude oil, natural gas and power contracts is discussed in Financial statements Note 28 on page 140.

The following table summarizes the nature of the group's unconditional purchase obligations.

| | | | | | | | \$ million |
|--|---------|--------|--------|-------|-------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| | | | | | | Payments due by period | |
| | Total | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 and thereafter |
| Purchase obligations | | | | | | | |
| Crude oil and oil products | 42,261 | 31,308 | 2,972 | 970 | 1,203 | 953 | 4,855 |
| Natural gas | 43,242 | 22,949 | 5,982 | 2,844 | 1,837 | 1,619 | 8,011 |
| Chemicals and other refinery feedstocks | 12,223 | 3,010 | 1,724 | 1,295 | 837 | 847 | 4,510 |
| Power | 6,156 | 4,910 | 1,168 | 60 | 16 | 2 | |
| Utilities | 690 | 111 | 101 | 86 | 83 | 57 | 252 |
| Transportation | 3,820 | 759 | 464 | 416 | 341 | 314 | 1,526 |
| Use of facilities and services | 7,250 | 1,432 | 906 | 888 | 783 | 739 | 2,502 |
| Total | 115,642 | 64,479 | 13,317 | 6,559 | 5,100 | 4,531 | 21,656 |

The group expects its total capital expenditure, excluding acquisitions and asset exchanges to be around \$20-21 billion in 2009. The following table summarizes the group's capital expenditure commitments for property, plant and equipment at 31 December 2008 and the proportion of that expenditure for which contracts have been placed. Capital expenditure is considered to be committed when the project has received the appropriate level of internal management approval. For jointly controlled assets, the net BP share is included in the amounts shown. Where operating lease costs are incurred in connection with a capital project, some or all of the cost may be capitalized as part of the capital cost of the project. Such costs are included in the amounts shown.

| | | | | | | | \$ million |
|--|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------------------------|
| Capital expenditure commitments | Total | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 and thereafter |
| Committed on major projects | 35,845 | 14,936 | 8,154 | 5,175 | 3,136 | 1,580 | 2,864 |
| Amounts for which contracts have been placed | 14,062 | 8,175 | 2,908 | 1,197 | 621 | 402 | 759 |

In addition, at 31 December 2008, the group had committed to capital expenditure relating to investments in equity-accounted entities amounting to \$1.2 billion. Contracts were in place for \$0.8 billion of this total.

56

Performance review

Critical accounting policies

The significant accounting policies of the group are summarized in Financial statements Note 1 on page 106.

Inherent in the application of many of the accounting policies used in preparing the financial statements is the need for BP management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual outcomes could differ from the estimates and assumptions used. The following summary provides more information about the critical accounting policies that could have a significant impact on the results of the group and should be read in conjunction with the Notes on financial statements.

The accounting policies and areas that require the most significant judgements and estimates used in the preparation of the consolidated financial statements are in relation to oil and natural gas accounting, including the estimation of reserves, the recoverability of asset carrying values, taxation, derivative financial instruments, provisions and contingencies, and pensions and other post-retirement benefits.

Oil and natural gas accounting

The group follows the successful efforts method of accounting for its oil and natural gas exploration and production activities.

The acquisition of geological and geophysical seismic information, prior to the discovery of proved reserves, is expensed as incurred.

Exploration licence and leasehold property acquisition costs are capitalized within intangible assets and are reviewed at each reporting date to confirm that there is no indication that the carrying amount exceeds the recoverable amount. This review includes confirming that exploration drilling is still under way or firmly planned or that it has been determined, or work is under way to determine, that the discovery is economically viable based on a range of technical and commercial considerations and sufficient progress is being made on establishing development plans and timing. If no future activity is planned, the remaining balance of the licence and property acquisition costs is written off. Lower value licences are pooled and amortized on a straight-line basis over the estimated period of exploration.

For exploration wells and exploratory-type stratigraphic test wells, costs directly associated with the drilling of wells are initially capitalized within intangible assets, pending determination of whether potentially economic oil and gas reserves have been discovered by the drilling effort. These costs include employee remuneration, materials and fuel used, rig costs, delay rentals and payments made to contractors. The determination is usually made within one year after well completion, but can take longer, depending on the complexity of the geological structure. If the well did not encounter potentially economic oil and gas quantities, the well costs are expensed as a dry hole and are reported in exploration expense. Exploration wells that discover potentially economic quantities of oil and gas and are in areas where major capital expenditure (e.g. offshore platform or a pipeline) would be required before production could begin, and where the economic viability of that major capital expenditure depends on the successful completion of further exploration work in the area, remain capitalized on the balance sheet as long as additional exploration appraisal work is under way or firmly planned.

It is not unusual to have exploration wells and exploratory-type stratigraphic test wells remaining suspended on the balance sheet for several years while additional appraisal drilling and seismic work on the potential oil and gas field is performed or while the optimum development plans and timing are established.

All such carried costs are subject to regular technical, commercial and management review on at least an annual basis to confirm the continued intent to develop, or otherwise extract value from, the discovery. Where this is no longer the case, the costs are immediately expensed.

Once a project is sanctioned for development, the carrying values of exploration licence and leasehold property acquisition costs and costs associated with exploration wells and exploratory-type stratigraphic test wells, are transferred to production assets within property, plant and equipment.

The capitalized exploration and development costs for proved oil and gas properties (which include the costs of drilling unsuccessful wells) are amortized on the basis of oil-equivalent barrels that are produced in a period as a percentage of the estimated proved reserves. Field development costs subject to depreciation are expenditures incurred

to date, together with approved future development expenditure required to develop reserves.

The estimated proved reserves used in these unit-of-production calculations vary with the nature of the capitalized expenditure. The reserves used in the calculation of the unit-of-production amortization are as follows:

Producing wells proved developed reserves.

Licence and property acquisition, field development and future decommissioning costs total proved reserves. The impact of changes in estimated proved reserves is dealt with prospectively by amortizing the remaining carrying value of the asset over the expected future production. If proved reserves estimates are revised downwards, earnings could be affected by higher depreciation expense or an immediate write-down of the property's carrying value (*see discussion of recoverability of asset carrying values on the following page*).

At the end of 2006, BP adopted the SEC rules for estimating reserves instead of the UK accounting rules contained in the UK Statement of Recommended Practice. These changes are explained in Financial statements Note 10 on page 125.

The estimation of oil and natural gas reserves and BP's process to manage reserves bookings is described in Exploration and Production - Reserves and production on page 14. As discussed on the following page, oil and natural gas reserves have a direct impact on the assessment of the recoverability of asset carrying values reported in the financial statements.

The 2008 movements in proved reserves are reflected in the tables showing movements in oil and gas reserves by region in Financial statements Supplementary information on oil and natural gas on pages 185 to 193.

Performance review

Recoverability of asset carrying values

BP assesses its fixed assets, including goodwill, for possible impairment if there are events or changes in circumstances that indicate that carrying values of the assets may not be recoverable and, as a result, charges for impairment are recognized in the group's results from time to time. Such indicators include changes in the group's business plans, changes in commodity prices leading to unprofitable performance, low plant utilization, evidence of physical damage and, for oil and gas properties, significant downward revisions of estimated volumes or increases in estimated future development expenditure. If there are low oil prices, natural gas prices, refining margins or marketing margins during an extended period, the group may need to recognize significant impairment charges.

The assessment for impairment entails comparing the carrying value of the cash-generating unit with its recoverable amount, that is, the higher of fair value less costs to sell and value in use. Value in use is usually determined on the basis of discounted estimated future net cash flows.

Determination as to whether and how much an asset is impaired involves management estimates on highly uncertain matters such as future commodity prices, the effects of inflation on operating expenses, discount rates, production profiles and the outlook for global or regional market supply-and-demand conditions for crude oil, natural gas and refined products.

For oil and natural gas properties, the expected future cash flows are estimated based on the group's plans to continue to develop and produce proved reserves and associated risk-adjusted probable and possible volumes. Expected future cash flows from the sale or production of these volumes are calculated based on the management's best estimate of future oil and gas prices. Prices for oil and natural gas used for future cash flow calculations are based on market prices for the first five years and the group's long-term planning assumptions thereafter. As at 31 December 2008, the group's long-term planning assumptions were \$75 per barrel for Brent and \$7.50/mmBtu for Henry Hub (2007 \$60 per barrel and \$7.50/mmBtu). These long-term planning assumptions are subject to periodic review and modification. The estimated future level of production is based on assumptions about future commodity prices, lifting and development costs, field decline rates, market demand and supply, economic regulatory climates and other factors.

The future cash flows are adjusted for risks specific to the cash-generating unit and are discounted using a pre-tax discount rate. The discount rate is derived from the group's post-tax weighted average cost of capital and is adjusted where applicable to take into account any specific risks relating to the country where the cash-generating unit is located. Typically rates of 11% or 13% are used (2007 11% or 13%). The rate applied in each country is re-assessed each year by analyzing relevant information.

Irrespective of whether there is any indication of impairment, BP is required to test annually for impairment of goodwill acquired in a business combination. The group carries goodwill of approximately \$9.9 billion on its balance sheet, principally relating to the Atlantic Richfield and Burmah Castrol acquisitions. In testing goodwill for impairment, the group uses a similar approach to that described above. If there are low oil prices or natural gas prices or refining margins or marketing margins for an extended period, the group may need to recognize significant goodwill impairment charges.

Taxation

The computation of the group's income tax expense involves the interpretation of applicable tax laws and regulations in many jurisdictions throughout the world. The resolution of tax positions taken by the group, through negotiations with relevant tax authorities or through litigation, can take several years to complete and in some cases it is difficult to predict the ultimate outcome.

In addition, the group has carry-forward tax losses in certain taxing jurisdictions that are available to offset against future taxable profit. However, deferred tax assets are recognized only to the extent that it is probable that taxable profit will be available against which the unused tax losses can be utilized. Management judgement is exercised in assessing whether this is the case.

To the extent that actual outcomes differ from management's estimates, taxation charges or credits may arise in future periods. For more information see Financial statements Note 20 on page 133 and Note 44 on page 172.

Derivative financial instruments

The group uses derivative financial instruments to manage certain exposures to fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates, interest rates and commodity prices as well as for trading purposes. In addition, derivatives embedded within other financial instruments or other host contracts are treated as separate derivatives when their risks and characteristics are not closely related to those of the host contract. All such derivatives are initially recognized at fair value on the date on which a derivative contract is entered into and are subsequently remeasured at fair value. Gains and losses arising from changes in the fair value of derivatives that are not designated as effective hedging instruments are recognized in the income statement.

In some cases the fair values of derivatives are estimated using models and other valuation methods due to the absence of quoted prices or other observable, market-corroborated data. In particular, this applies to the majority of the group's natural gas and LNG embedded derivatives. These are primarily long-term UK gas contracts that use pricing formulae not related to gas prices, for example, oil product and power prices. These contracts are valued using models with inputs that include price curves for each of the different products that are built up from active market pricing data and extrapolated to the expiry of the contracts using the maximum available external pricing information. Additionally, where limited data exists for certain products, prices are interpolated using historic and long-term pricing relationships. Price volatility is also an input for the models. Changes in the key assumptions could have a material impact on the gains and losses on embedded derivatives recognized in the income statement. For more information see Financial statements - Note 34 on page 148. An analysis of the sensitivity of the fair value of the natural gas and LNG derivatives to changes in the key assumptions is provided in Financial statements - Note 28 on page 140.

Performance review

Provisions and contingencies

The group holds provisions for the future decommissioning of oil and natural gas production facilities and pipelines at the end of their economic lives. The largest asset removal obligations facing BP relate to the removal and disposal of oil and natural gas platforms and pipelines around the world. The estimated discounted costs of dismantling and removing these facilities are accrued on the installation of those facilities, reflecting our legal obligations at that time. A corresponding asset of an amount equivalent to the provision is also created within property, plant and equipment. This asset is depreciated over the expected life of the production facility or pipeline. Most of these removal events are many years in the future and the precise requirements that will have to be met when the removal event actually occurs are uncertain. Asset removal technologies and costs are constantly changing, as well as political, environmental, safety and public expectations. Consequently, the timing and amounts of future cash flows are subject to significant uncertainty. Changes in the expected future costs are reflected in both the provision and the asset.

Decommissioning provisions associated with downstream and petrochemicals facilities are generally not provided for, as such potential obligations cannot be measured, given their indeterminate settlement dates. The group performs periodic reviews of its downstream and petrochemicals long-lived assets for any changes in facts and circumstances that might require the recognition of a decommissioning provision.

The timing and amount of future expenditures are reviewed annually, together with the interest rate used in discounting the cash flows. The interest rate used to determine the balance sheet obligation at the end of 2008 was 2%, unchanged from the end of 2007. The interest rate represents the real rate (i.e. adjusted for inflation) on long-dated government bonds.

Other provisions and liabilities are recognized in the period when it becomes probable that there will be a future outflow of funds resulting from past operations or events and the amount of cash outflow can be reliably estimated. The timing of recognition requires the application of judgement to existing facts and circumstances, which can be subject to change. Since the actual cash outflows can take place many years in the future, the carrying amounts of provisions and liabilities are reviewed regularly and adjusted to take account of changing facts and circumstances.

A change in estimate of a recognized provision or liability would result in a charge or credit to net income in the period in which the change occurs (with the exception of decommissioning costs as described above).

Provisions for environmental clean-up and remediation costs are based on current legal and constructive requirements, technology, price levels and expected plans for remediation. Actual costs and cash outflows can differ from estimates because of changes in laws and regulations, public expectations, prices, discovery and analysis of site conditions and changes in clean-up technology.

The provision for environmental liabilities is reviewed at least annually. The interest rate used to determine the balance sheet obligation at 31 December 2008 was 2%, the same rate as at the previous balance sheet date.

As further described in Financial statements Note 44 on page 172, the group is subject to claims and actions. The facts and circumstances relating to particular cases are evaluated regularly in determining whether it is probable that there will be a future outflow of funds and, once established, whether a provision relating to a specific litigation should be adjusted. Accordingly, significant management judgement relating to contingent liabilities is required, since the outcome of litigation is difficult to predict.

Pensions and other post-retirement benefits

Accounting for pensions and other post-retirement benefits involves judgement about uncertain events, including estimated retirement dates, salary levels at retirement, mortality rates, rates of return on plan assets, determination of discount rates for measuring plan obligations, healthcare cost trend rates and rates of utilization of healthcare services by retirees. These assumptions are based on the environment in each country. Determination of the projected benefit obligations for the group's defined benefit pension and post-retirement plans is important to the recorded amounts for such obligations on the balance sheet and to the amount of benefit expense in the income statement. The assumptions used may vary from year to year, which will affect future results of operations. Any differences between these assumptions and the actual outcome also affect future results of operations.

Pension and other post-retirement benefit assumptions are reviewed by management at the end of each year. These assumptions are used to determine the projected benefit obligation at the year-end and hence the surpluses and deficits recorded on the group's balance sheet, and pension and other post-retirement benefit expense for the following year.

The pension and other post-retirement benefit assumptions at 31 December 2008, 2007 and 2006 are provided in Financial statements - Note 38 on page 157.

The assumed rate of investment return, discount rate and the US healthcare cost trend rate have a significant effect on the amounts reported. A sensitivity analysis of the impact of changes in these assumptions on the benefit expense and obligation is provided in Financial statements - Note 38 on page 157.

In addition to the financial assumptions, we regularly review the demographic and mortality assumptions. Mortality assumptions reflect best practice in the countries in which we provide pensions and have been chosen with regard to the latest available published tables adjusted where appropriate to reflect the experience of the group and an extrapolation of past longevity improvements into the future. BP's most substantial pension liabilities are in the UK, US and Germany and the mortality assumptions for these countries are detailed in Financial statements - Note 38 on page 157.

This page intentionally left blank.

Board performance
and biographies

62 Directors and senior management

65 BP board performance report

Directors and senior management

Directors and senior management

The following lists the company's directors and senior management as at 18 February 2009.

| Name | | Initially elected or appointed |
|---------------------|--|--|
| P D Sutherland | Chairman | Chairman since May 1997 Director since July 1995 |
| Sir Ian Prosser | Non-Executive Deputy Chairman | Deputy chairman since February 1999 Director since May 1997 |
| A Burgmans | Non-Executive Director | February 2004 |
| C B Carroll | Non-Executive Director | June 2007 |
| Sir William Castell | Non-Executive Director | July 2006 |
| G David | Non-Executive Director | February 2008 |
| E B Davis, Jr | Non-Executive Director | December 1998 |
| D J Flint | Non-Executive Director | January 2005 |
| Dr D S Julius | Non-Executive Director | November 2001 |
| Sir Tom McKillop | Non-Executive Director | July 2004 |
| Dr A B Hayward | Executive Director (Group Chief Executive) | Group Chief Executive since May 2007 Director since February 2003 |
| I C Conn | Executive Director (Chief Executive, Refining and Marketing) | July 2004 |
| Dr B E Grote | Executive Director (Chief Financial Officer) | August 2000 |
| A G Inglis | Executive Director (Chief Executive, Exploration and Production) | February 2007 |
| R Bondy | Group General Counsel | May 2008 |
| S Bott | Executive Vice President, Human Resources | March 2005 |
| V Cox | Executive Vice President, Alternative Energy | July 2004 |
| H L McKay | Executive Vice President (Chairman and President of BP America Inc.) | June 2008 |
| J Mogford | Executive Vice President (Chief Operating Officer, Refining and US Fuels Value Chains) | October 2007 |
| S Westwell | Executive Vice President (Group Chief of Staff) | January 2008 |

Mr H L McKay, previously executive vice president (special projects), was appointed chairman and president of BP America Inc. on the retirement of Mr R A Malone on 1 February 2009.

Dr D C Allen retired as a director on 31 March 2008 and Dr W E Massey retired as a director on 17 April 2008. Mr G David was appointed a non-executive director on 11 February 2008. At the company's 2008 annual general meeting (AGM), the following directors retired, offered themselves for election/re-election and were duly elected/re-elected: Mr A Burgmans; Mrs C B Carroll; Sir William Castell; Mr I C Conn; Mr G David, Mr E B Davis, Jr; Mr D J Flint; Dr B E Grote; Dr A B Hayward; Mr A G Inglis; Dr D S Julius; Sir Tom McKillop; Sir Ian Prosser and Mr P D Sutherland.

Mr R Dudley has been appointed to the board with effect from 6 April 2009. All of the directors, including Mr Dudley, will offer themselves for election/ re-election at the company's 2009 AGM.

David Jackson (56) was appointed company secretary in 2003. A solicitor, he is a director of BP Pension Trustees Limited and a member of the Listing Authorities Advisory Committee.

62

Directors and senior management

Directors

P D Sutherland, SC, KCMG

Chairman of the chairman s and the nomination committees and attends meetings of the remuneration committee

Peter Sutherland (62) rejoined BP s board in 1995, having been a non-executive director from 1990 to 1993, and was appointed chairman in 1997. He is non-executive chairman of Goldman Sachs International and was a non-executive director of The Royal Bank of Scotland Group PLC from 2001 to 6 February 2009.

Sir Ian Prosser

Member of the chairman s, the nomination and the remuneration committees and chairman of the audit committee

Sir Ian (65) joined BP s board in 1997 and was appointed non-executive deputy chairman in 1999. He is the senior independent director. In 2003, he retired as chairman of InterContinental Hotels Group PLC, a spin-off from the former Bass PLC where he was chief executive.

He is a non-executive director and senior independent director of GlaxoSmithKline plc, a non-executive director of the Sara Lee Corporation and non-executive chairman of The Navy, Army and Air Force Institutes (NAAFI). He was previously on the boards of The Boots Company PLC and Lloyds TSB PLC.

A Burgmans, KBE

Member of the chairman s and the safety, ethics and environment assurance committees

Antony Burgmans (62) joined BP s board in 2004. He was appointed to the board of Unilever in 1991. In 1999, he became chairman of Unilever NV and vice chairman of Unilever PLC. In 2005, he became non-executive chairman of Unilever PLC and Unilever NV, retiring from these appointments in May 2007. He is also a member of the supervisory boards of Akzo Nobel NV and Aegon NV.

C B Carroll

Member of the chairman s and safety, ethics and environment assurance committees

Cynthia Carroll (52) joined BP s board in June 2007. She started her career at Amoco and in 1989 she joined Alcan, where in 2002 she was appointed president and chief executive officer of Alcan s primary metals group and an officer of Alcan, Inc. She was appointed as chief executive of Anglo American plc, the global mining group, in March 2007. She is also a director of De Beers s.a. and Anglo Platinum Ltd.

Sir William Castell, LVO

Member of the chairman s committee and chairman of the safety, ethics and environment assurance committee

Sir William (61) joined BP s board in 2006. From 1990 to 2004, he was chief executive of Amersham plc and subsequently president and chief executive officer of GE Healthcare. He was appointed as a vice chairman of the board of GE in 2004, stepping down from this post in 2006 when he became chairman of the Wellcome Trust. He remains a non-executive director of GE.

G David

Member of the chairman s and the audit committees

George David (66) joined BP s board on 11 February 2008. He has spent his career with United Technologies Corporation (UTC), as its chief executive officer from 1994 to 2008 and chairman since 1997. He joined UTC s Otis elevator subsidiary in 1975.

E B Davis, Jr

Member of the chairman s, the audit and the remuneration committees

Erroll B Davis, Jr (64) joined BP s board in 1998, having previously been a director of Amoco. He was chairman and chief executive officer of Alliant Energy, relinquishing this dual appointment in 2005. He continued as chairman of Alliant Energy until February 2006, leaving to become chancellor of the University System of Georgia. He is a member of the board of General Motors Corporation and Union Pacific Corporation.

D J Flint, CBE

Member of the chairman s and the audit committees

Douglas Flint (53) joined BP s board in 2005. He trained as a chartered accountant and became a partner at KPMG in 1988. In 1995, he was appointed group finance director of HSBC Holdings plc. He was chairman of the Financial

Reporting Council's review of the Turnbull Guidance on Internal Control. Between 2001 and 2004, he served on the Accounting Standards Board and the Standards Advisory Council of the International Accounting Standards Board.

Dr D S Julius, CBE

Member of the chairmans and the nomination committees and chairman of the remuneration committee

DeAnne Julius (59) joined BP's board in 2001. She began her career as a project economist with the World Bank in Washington. From 1986 until 1997, she held a succession of posts, including chief economist at British Airways and Royal Dutch Shell Group. From 1997 to 2001, she was a full time member of the Monetary Policy Committee of the Bank of England. She is chairman of the Royal Institute of International Affairs and a non-executive director of Roche Holdings SA and Jones Lang LaSalle, Inc.

Sir Tom McKillop

Member of the chairmans, the remuneration and the safety, ethics and environment assurance committees

Sir Tom (65) joined BP's board in 2004. Sir Tom was chief executive of AstraZeneca PLC from the merger of Astra AB and Zeneca Group PLC in 1999 until December 2005. He was a non-executive director of Lloyds TSB Group PLC until 2004 and was appointed to the board of The Royal Bank of Scotland Group PLC in 2005, where he was chairman from 2006 to 3 February 2009.

Dr A B Hayward

Tony Hayward (51) joined BP in 1982. He held a series of roles in exploration and production, becoming a director of exploration and production in 1997. In 2000, he was made group treasurer, and an executive vice president in 2002. He was chief executive officer of exploration and production between 2002 and February 2007. He became an executive director of BP in 2003 and was appointed as group chief executive in May 2007. Dr Hayward is a non-executive director and senior independent director of Tata Steel.

I C Conn

Iain Conn (46) joined BP in 1986. Following a variety of roles in oil trading, commercial refining, retail and commercial marketing operations, and exploration and production, in 2000 he became group vice president of BP's refining and marketing business. From 2002 to 2004, he was chief executive of petrochemicals. He was appointed group executive officer with a range of regional and functional responsibilities and an executive director in 2004. He was appointed chief executive of refining and marketing in June 2007. He is a non-executive director and senior independent director of Rolls-Royce Group plc.

Directors and senior management

Dr B E Grote

Byron Grote (60) joined BP in 1987 following the acquisition of The Standard Oil Company of Ohio, where he had worked since 1979. He became group treasurer in 1992 and in 1994 regional chief executive in Latin America. In 1999, he was appointed an executive vice president of exploration and production, and chief executive of chemicals in 2000. He was appointed an executive director of BP in 2000 and chief financial officer in 2002. He is a non-executive director of Unilever NV and Unilever PLC.

A G Inglis

Andy Inglis (49) joined BP in 1980, working on various North Sea projects. Following a series of commercial roles in exploration, in 1996 he became chief of staff, exploration and production. From 1997 until 1999, he was responsible for leading BP's activities in the deepwater Gulf of Mexico. In 1999, he was appointed vice president of BP's US western gas business unit. In 2004, he became executive vice president and deputy chief executive of exploration and production. He was appointed chief executive of BP's exploration and production business and an executive director in February 2007. He is a non-executive director of BAE Systems plc.

Senior management

R Bondy

Rupert Bondy (47) joined BP as group general counsel in May 2008. In 1989 he joined US law firm Morrison & Foerster, working in San Francisco and London. From 1994 to 1995, he worked for UK law firm Lovells in London. In 1995, he joined SmithKline Beecham as senior counsel for mergers and acquisitions and other corporate matters. He subsequently held positions of increasing responsibility and following the merger of SmithKline Beecham and GlaxoWellcome he was appointed senior vice president and general counsel of GlaxoSmithKline in 2001.

S Bott

Sally Bott (59) joined BP in 2005 as an executive vice president responsible for global human resources. Sally joined Citibank in 1970 and, following a variety of roles, was appointed a vice president in human resources in 1979 and subsequently held a series of positions as a human resources director to sectors of Citibank. In 1994, she joined Barclays De Zoete Wedd, an investment bank, as head of human resources and in 1997 became group human resources director of Barclays plc. From 2000 to early 2005, she was managing director of Marsh and McLennan and head of global human resources at Marsh Inc. In 2008, Sally was elected as a non-executive director of UBS AG.

V Cox

Vivienne Cox (49) joined BP in 1981. Following a series of commercial roles, she was appointed chief executive of Air BP in 1998. From 1999 until 2001, she was group vice president of BP Oil, responsible for business-to-business marketing and oil supply and trading. From 2001 to 2004, she was group vice president for integrated supply and trading. In 2004, she was appointed an executive vice president, responsible for gas, power and renewables in addition to the supply and trading businesses. In late 2005, she became responsible for Alternative Energy. She is a non-executive director of Rio Tinto plc and Climate Change Capital Limited.

H L McKay

Lamar McKay (50) was appointed chairman and president of BP America, Inc. from 1 February 2009. He joined Amoco Production Company as a petroleum engineer in 1980 and later served in a variety of operating, commercial and M&A roles. In 1993, he became general manager of Arkoma Basin and in 1997, the business unit leader for the Gulf of Mexico Shelf. During 1998-2000, he worked on the BP-Amoco merger and served as general manager for BP p.l.c. worldwide exploration and production strategy and planning. In 2000, he became business unit leader for the Central North Sea in Aberdeen, and subsequently chief of staff for worldwide exploration and production in London, following which he served as chief of staff for the BP deputy group chief executive. Lamar then worked as group vice president for Russia & Kazakhstan, during which time he was appointed to the board of TNK-BP. He was named executive vice-president of BP America and COO in the USA in May 2007. In early 2008, he became executive vice president of BP p.l.c. special projects, focusing on Russia, subsequently joining the group executive management team in June 2008.

J Mogford

John Mogford (55) joined BP in 1977, spending the early part of his career in a variety of drilling and production roles. In 1999, he became group vice president for health, safety and the environment before being appointed as group vice president for gas, power and renewables in 2002. In 2004, he returned to exploration and production as group vice president (technology and functions). In 2005, he was appointed as senior group vice president of safety and operations before becoming executive vice president, safety and operations in October 2007. He became chief operating officer of refining from 1 March 2008. On 15 January 2009, he moved to chief operating officer for US fuels value chains and head of refining.

S Westwell

Steve Westwell (50) joined BP in the manufacturing and supply division of BP Southern Africa in 1988. Following various retail positions in the UK and the US he was appointed head of retail and a member of the board of BP Southern Africa Pty. In 2003, he became president and chief executive officer of BP solar, and in 2004, group vice president of natural gas liquids, power, solar and renewables. In 2005, he was appointed group vice president of alternative energy. He was appointed group chief of staff on 1 January 2008.

BP board performance report

BP board performance report

Letter from the chairman

I am once again pleased to introduce our board performance report. The report reviews the work of the board and its committees as my tenure as chairman moves to a close. Over the past 12 years, both the calibre of individuals who have served on the board and our system of governance has stood us in good stead. The strong set of principles on which we base our governance framework, which include clarity of roles, separation of powers, independence and appropriate skills, remain valid today.

I have been encouraged from discussions with shareholders over time that our approach to governance and the dialogue which we continue to have with them is welcomed. This is important to us and no more so than during the testing times in which we operate.

Recent events and the current economic climate have inevitably triggered further debate about governance. This I welcome. The framework of governance does need to be kept under review and, where necessary, challenged by investors, regulators and companies themselves to ensure that the system is delivering.

Under such a review I believe that BP's governance approach can show its strength. It requires active engagement on behalf of the company and investors alike. I do not believe that our comply or explain system is broken and it is important for us that the principles-based system continues.

Peter Sutherland

Chairman

24 February 2009

Board governance principles

The board governance principles (principles) are designed to enable the board and the executive management to operate within a clear framework. The principles describe the role of the board, its processes, its relationship with executive management and the main tasks and requirements of the board committees. The principles are available at www.bp.com/corporategovernance.

In carrying out its work, the board focuses on key tasks, which include the active review of the long-term strategy and the annual plan, monitoring the decisions and actions of the group chief executive, the performance of BP, the succession of executive management and the oversight of risk.

The principles outline how the board delegates its authority for executive management of the company to the group chief executive, subject to monitoring by the board and a clearly defined set of limitations. These executive limitations require that any executive action taken in the course of business takes specific issues into consideration, including health, safety and the environment, any reputational impact on BP, risk and the framework for internal control.

Operating the principles

The group chief executive through the annual plan describes to the board how the strategy is to be delivered, together with an assessment of the group's risks. During the year, the board monitors progress and keeps the strategy under review.

The group chief executive is obliged to review and discuss with the board all strategic projects or developments and all material matters currently or prospectively affecting the company and its performance.

The principles are kept under review by the board to ensure they remain relevant and up to date.

Board activities in 2008

As outlined above, the board focuses on key areas in carrying out its work. Forward agendas are set to determine a high level work programme for the board based on its core tasks (including dealing with strategy and monitoring) but additional items are added throughout the year depending on the exigencies of the business as they arise. During the year the board was involved in the following activities:

Strategy and Risk

The board undertook extensive discussions on strategic options for the group, including the future business and competitive environment, technology developments, pricing and demand models and portfolio options. The identification and management of group risks were reviewed by the board, together with how these risks and their mitigation were embedded in the group's annual plan.

Review of capital expenditure and post investment review

While the audit committee reviewed project delivery performance, the board undertook an annual review of the group's project sanctioning process and delegation of authority. The process and criteria for each stage of a project was discussed, together with examples of projects with different lead times and complexities.

Business review

Business reviews were held with both segments (Exploration and Production and Refining and Marketing) and the finance and information technology and services (IT&S) functions.

Global economic environment and energy markets

The board actively monitored developments in the global energy markets and economic environment. Issues considered included the supply/demand balance, the relationship between oil prices, energy consumption and GDP growth and turbulence in the financial markets.

Other areas

Other areas discussed by the board included interactions with BP's partners in TNK-BP, the results of a group-wide employee satisfaction survey and the findings of a report on BP's reputation in the UK and US. The board also received a presentation from the independent expert appointed to provide an objective assessment of BP's progress in implementing the recommendations of the BP US Refineries Independent Safety Review Panel (the Panel).

The board is supported in its tasks by the company secretary, who reports to the chairman and has no executive functions. His remuneration is determined by the remuneration committee.

Board meetings and attendance

The board met nine times during 2008, of which one meeting was a two-day strategy session and another meeting was a one-day strategy session.

| | Board meetings eligible to attend | Board meetings attended |
|---------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| P D Sutherland | 9 | 9 |
| Sir Ian Prosser | 9 | 9 |
| A Burgmans | 9 | 9 |
| C B Carroll | 9 | 9 |
| Sir William Castell | 9 | 9 |
| G David | 7 | 7 |
| E B Davis, Jr | 9 | 8 |
| D J Flint | 9 | 7 |
| Dr D S Julius | 9 | 9 |
| Sir Tom McKillop | 9 | 9 |
| Dr W E Massey | 4 | 4 |
| Dr D C Allen | 3 | 3 |
| I C Conn | 9 | 9 |
| Dr B E Grote | 9 | 9 |
| Dr A B Hayward | 9 | 9 |
| A G Inglis | 9 | 9 |

BP board performance report

The chairman and senior independent director

The principles require that neither the chairman nor deputy chairman be employed as an executive of the group. During 2008, these posts were held by Peter Sutherland and Sir Ian Prosser respectively.

The chairman provides leadership of the board, acts as facilitator for meetings and ensures that the governance framework of the board is maintained and operated. The chairman also leads board performance appraisals. He represents the views of the board to shareholders on key issues, in particular those relating to governance and succession planning and informs the board of shareholder views.

Between board meetings, the chairman has responsibility for ensuring the integrity and effectiveness of the relationship with executive management. This requires his interaction with the group chief executive, as well as his contact with other board members, senior management and stakeholders.

The deputy chairman acts for the chairman in his absence or at his request. The deputy chairman also serves as the board's senior independent director and is available to shareholders where there are issues that cannot be addressed through normal channels.

The chairman and all the non-executive directors meet periodically without the presence of executive management as the chairman's committee. The performance of the chairman is evaluated each year, with the evaluation discussion taking place when the chairman is not present. The principles require that the board develop and maintain a plan for the succession of both the chairman and deputy chairman.

Board composition

The principles require that over half the board, excluding the chairman, comprise independent non-executive directors and that the number of directors do not normally exceed 16. The board is composed of the chairman, nine non-executive and four executive directors.

The board considers that it is of an appropriate size to govern BP, with its directors possessing the relevant backgrounds and mix of experience, knowledge and skills to maximize its effectiveness.

Board renewal and skills

The board remains actively engaged in orderly succession planning for both executive and non-executive directors and is assisted in this task by the nomination committee. The committee keeps under review the composition, skills and diversity of the board to ensure that it remains appropriate to the tasks and work it undertakes. The nomination committee believes a breadth of skills is required for the board to meet the demands of a business with global operations. These skills include deep operational, engineering, safety and financial expertise, experience of leading industrial, capital intensive or long lead time businesses and insight into key emerging markets and technology development.

The board: terms of appointment

The chairman and non-executive directors of BP serve on the basis of letters of appointment. Executive directors of BP have service contracts with the company. Details of all payments to directors are described in the directors remuneration report.

The service contracts of executive directors are expressed to expire at a normal retirement age of 60 (subject to age discrimination), while non-executive directors ordinarily retire at the AGM following their 70th birthday.

In accordance with BP's Articles of Association, directors are granted an indemnity from the company in respect of liabilities incurred as a result of their office, to the extent permitted by law. In respect of those liabilities for which directors may not be indemnified, the company maintained a directors' and officers' liability insurance policy throughout 2008. During the year, a review of the terms and nature of the policy was undertaken and has been renewed for 2009. Although their defence costs may be met, neither the company's indemnity nor insurance provides cover in the event that the director is proved to have acted fraudulently or dishonestly. Following recent changes to company law, the company is also permitted to advance costs to directors for their defence in investigations or legal actions.

Director elections

New board directors are subject to election by shareholders at the first AGM following their appointment. All existing directors stand for re-election each year – a practice the company has followed since 2004. All directors proposed to shareholders for election are accompanied by a biography and a description of the skills and experience that the company feels are relevant.

Voting levels at the 2008 AGM demonstrated continued support for all board directors.

Board independence

Non-executive directors are required by the principles to be independent in character and free from any business or other relationship that could materially interfere with the exercise of their judgement. The board has determined that the non-executive directors who served during 2008 fulfilled this requirement and were independent.

BP believes that tenure of board members should be determined on the basis of contribution and continued evidence of the exercise of independent judgement. As all directors are proposed for annual re-election by shareholders, the board considers that arbitrary term limits on a director's service are not appropriate.

Sir Ian Prosser joined the board in 1997. It is the view of the board that he remains firmly independent. His experience and long-term perspective on BP's business have provided and continue to provide a valuable contribution to the board and the audit committee, which he chairs. As deputy chairman and senior independent director, Sir Ian is leading the board's search for the successor to the current chairman. He has been asked by the board to remain in post until April 2010 in order that he may conclude both the chairman's succession process and the identification and appointment by the new chairman of a senior independent director.

Mr Davis joined the board on the completion of the Amoco merger in December 1998. The board believes Mr Davis continues to demonstrate his independence. He is an active participant at the board and sits on the audit and remuneration committees, and the high level of his independence is demonstrated by his engagement in these forums.

The board has satisfied itself that there is no compromise to the independence of those directors who serve together as directors on the boards of outside entities (or who have other appointments in outside entities).

From 1 October 2008, there has been a requirement that directors must avoid a situation where they have, or can have, a direct or indirect interest that conflicts, or possibly may conflict, with the company's interests. Directors of public companies may authorize conflicts and potential conflicts, where appropriate, if a company's articles of association permit and shareholders have approved appropriate amendments.

Procedures have been put in place for the disclosure by directors of any such conflicts and also for the consideration and authorization of these conflicts by the board. These procedures allow for the imposition of limits or conditions by the board when authorizing any conflict, if they think this is appropriate. These procedures were duly followed to approve appropriate conflicts immediately prior to the enactment of the conflict provisions in October 2008, and are now included as a regular standing item for consideration by the board at its meetings.

BP board performance report

Serving as a director

Induction

The induction of new board members is the responsibility of the chairman, who is assisted by the company secretary in this task. All new directors receive a full induction programme, including a core element covering the principles and the legal and regulatory duties of directors. Non-executive directors receive further induction content devised according to their own interests and needs, together with the requirements of the committees on which they will serve. This would include meetings and briefings on the operations and activities of the group, the strategy and the annual plan and the company's financial performance. The induction programme is targeted for completion within the first nine to 12 months of non-executive directors taking office, while the executive director programme is arranged in the course of their business activities.

Training and site visits

Directors and committee members receive briefings on BP's business, its markets, operating environment and other key issues during their tenure as directors to ensure they have the necessary skill and knowledge to perform their duties effectively. Board members are also kept updated on legal and regulatory developments that may impact their duties and obligations as directors of a listed company.

In the past two years, the board and its committees have sought greater opportunity to meet at BP's operating sites. This has enabled board members to see a selection of BP's businesses e.g. the Texas City refinery, gas production in Colorado, exploration and production activities in Azerbaijan and the alternative energy solar facility in Maryland. These site visits have given directors the opportunity to meet both operational staff and government and community leaders in the parts of the world where BP operates. All non-executive directors are required to participate in at least one site visit per year.

Outside appointments

BP recognizes that executive directors may be invited to become non-executive directors of other companies and that such appointments can broaden their knowledge and experience, to the benefit of the individual and the group. Executive directors are permitted to take up one external board appointment, subject to the agreement of the chairman and reported to the BP board. Fees received for these external appointments may be retained by the executive director and are reported in the directors' remuneration report.

Non-executive directors may serve on a number of outside boards, provided they continue to demonstrate the requisite commitment to discharge their duties to BP effectively. The nomination committee keeps under review the nature of directors' other interests to ensure that the efficacy of the board is not compromised and may make recommendations to the board if it concludes that a director's other commitments are inconsistent with those required by BP.

Board evaluation

The principles stipulate that the performance and effectiveness of the board, including the work of its committees, should be evaluated annually. In 2008, this evaluation was undertaken internally with the use of a questionnaire. The questionnaire focused on areas including the conduct of meetings, activities of the board versus committees, monitoring and information and board support and built on the review of board operations and governance that had taken place in 2007. The main outcome of the evaluation was a requirement for a more systematic approach to ensure that the skills of the directors met the changing demands of the business and the environment in which it operates.

Engagement with shareholders

The board is accountable to shareholders for the performance and activities of the BP group and engages in regular dialogue to understand their views and preferences. However, the board also recognizes that, in conducting its business, BP should be responsive to other relevant constituencies.

During the year, the chairman and deputy chairman met with institutional shareholders to discuss issues relating to the board, governance, strategy and performance. The remuneration committee chairman met with larger shareholders to discuss executive director remuneration.

The group chief executive, other executive directors and senior management, company secretary's office, investor relations and other teams within BP also engage with a range of shareholders on wider issues relating to the group, including in particular its safety, operational and financial performance. Presentations given by the group to the investment community are available to download from the Investors section of BP's website, as are speeches on topics of broad interest to shareholders made by the group chief executive and other senior members of the management team.

AGM

BP's AGM enables shareholders to ask questions and hear the resulting discussion about the company's performance and the directors' stewardship of the company. Votes on all matters (except procedural issues) are taken by a poll at the AGM, meaning that every vote cast -whether by proxy or in person at the meeting - is counted.

The chairman, board committee chairmen and other directors were present during the 2008 AGM and met shareholders on an informal basis after the main business of the meeting. In 2008, voting levels at the AGM increased to 64%, compared with 61% in 2007. Last year was also the first time that the AGM was webcast. This will be repeated for the company's forthcoming meeting. The webcast, speeches and presentations given at the AGM are available to download from the BP website after the event, together with the outcome of voting on the resolutions.

Board committees

The principles allocate the tasks of monitoring executive actions and assessing performance to certain board committees. These tasks prescribe the authority and role of the board committees.

Reports for each of the main board committees follow. In common with the board, each committee has access to independent advice and counsel as required and each is supported by the company secretary's office, which is independent of the executive management of the group. The main tasks and requirements of each of the board's committees are set out in the principles, available at www.bp.com/corporategovernance.

Audit committee report

Membership

The audit committee comprises four independent non-executive directors who have been selected to provide a wide range of financial, international and commercial expertise appropriate to fulfil the committee's duties.

During the year, Sir Ian Prosser (chairman), Douglas Flint and Erroll Davis, Jr were members of the audit committee. Sir William Castell retired from the committee in April 2008 and George David joined in May 2008. The secretary to the committee is David Pearl, deputy company secretary of BP.

The board considers that Douglas Flint possesses the financial and audit committee experience, as defined by the Combined Code guidance and the SEC, and has nominated him as the audit committee's financial expert.

BP board performance report

Attendance

The audit committee met 13 times during 2008.

| | Audit committee meetings eligible to attend | Audit committee meetings attended |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| Sir Ian Prosser (chairman) | 13 | 13 |
| E B Davis, Jr | 13 | 10 |
| D J Flint | 13 | 13 |
| G David | 6 | 6 |
| Sir William Castell (former member) | 7 | 7 |

In addition to the above members, the committee invites the lead partner of the external auditors (Ernst & Young), the group chief financial officer, the general auditor (head of internal audit), the chief accounting officer and the deputy chief financial officer to attend each meeting. Other senior management attend on request to enable the committee to discharge its duties. The committee also holds private sessions during the year without the presence of executive management.

Role and authority of the audit committee

The audit committee assists the board in carrying out its responsibilities in relation to financial risk, internal controls, financial and regulatory reporting requirements and the broader observance of the executive limitations relating to financial matters.

The main tasks and requirements for the audit committee are set out in the principles. The audit committee believes that these meet each of the tasks and activities outlined by the Combined Code as falling within the remit of an audit committee.

Information

The committee receives information and reports from internal and external sources, including a wide cross-section of BP's business and financial control management, with the attendance of additional Ernst & Young staff if appropriate to a particular business or functional review.

The audit committee is able to access independent advice and counsel when needed, on an unrestricted basis. Further support is provided to the committee by the company secretary's office and during 2008 external specialist legal and regulatory advice was provided by Sullivan & Cromwell LLP.

The wider board is kept informed of the activities of the committee, and any issues that have arisen, through the regular update given by the audit committee chair after each meeting.

Training and induction

BP provides an induction programme for new committee members and ongoing training to assist them in carrying out their duties. Elements of the induction programme include familiarization with the tasks and requirements of the audit committee, an overview of the key financial and operational aspects of the businesses and an introduction to the group's system of internal control. During the year, George David participated in the audit committee induction, including private sessions with the lead external audit partner and the general auditor.

In 2008, the training programme for the audit committee included briefings on developments in financial reporting and financial standards, a site visit to BP's UK trading operations and an externally facilitated session on tax risk management.

Committee activities in 2008

The chart at the end of this section shows how the audit committee allocated its agenda time in 2008.

Financial reporting

During the year, the committee reviewed all financial reports, including the Annual Report and Accounts and Annual Report on Form 20-F, before recommending their publication to the board.

Monitoring risk in the business

In 2008, the audit committee reviewed reports on risks, controls and assurance for the BP business segments (Exploration and Production, Refining and Marketing), together with alternative energy, information technology and services, the proposed reorganization of the group finance function and BP's trading function. The committee also reviewed BP's long-term contractual commitments and the provisions made for environmental remediation and decommissioning.

Internal controls

A joint meeting with the safety, ethics and environment assurance committee was held to review the general auditor's report on internal controls and risk management. A further joint meeting was held in early 2009 to assist the board in its assessment of the effectiveness of internal controls and risk management in 2008.

The committee discussed key regulatory issues during the year as part of its standing agenda items, including the quarterly internal audit findings report and a review of the company's evaluation of its internal controls systems as part of the requirement of Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act. The effectiveness of BP's enterprise level controls was examined through the annual assessment undertaken by the internal audit function.

External auditors

The lead audit partner from Ernst & Young attends all meetings of the audit committee at the request of the committee chairman. Other external audit staff are invited to attend meetings where their expertise is relevant to the agenda item, for example during business or technical reviews.

The committee held two private meetings during the year with the external auditors without the presence of BP management, in order to discuss issues or concerns from either the committee or the auditors.

Performance of the external auditors is evaluated by the audit committee each year, with particular scrutiny of their independence, objectivity and viability. Independence is maintained through the limiting of non-audit services to tax and audit-related work that fall within defined categories. This work is pre-approved by the audit committee and all non-audit services are monitored quarterly.

Fees paid to the external auditors for the year (*see Financial statements Note 18 on page 132*) were \$67 million, of which 14% was for non-audit work. The fees and services provided by Ernst & Young for both audit and non-audit work have decreased in comparison to the previous year due to improved audit efficiency, ongoing systems improvements and BP's new business structure.

During the year, a new lead partner from Ernst & Young replaced the existing partner who had completed five years' service on the BP audit in early 2008. Under BP policy and pursuant to external regulation, a new lead audit partner is appointed every five years and other senior audit staff are rotated every seven years. No partners or senior staff from Ernst & Young who are connected with the BP audit may transfer to the group.

The audit committee has considered both the proposed fee structure and the audit engagement terms for 2009 and has recommended to the board that the reappointment of the external auditors be proposed to shareholders at the 2009 AGM.

BP board performance report**Internal audit**

The general auditor attends each committee meeting at the invitation of the audit committee chairman. With the retirement of the general auditor in early 2008, a new general auditor was appointed following an externally facilitated recruitment process.

During the year, the audit committee evaluated the performance of the internal audit function and agreed to the proposed programme of work for the year (being satisfied that it appropriately responded to the key risks facing the company and that the function had adequate staff and resources to complete its work).

In 2008, the committee met once with the general auditor in a private session without the presence of executive management. In addition, the general auditor met with the chairman of the committee from time to time between meetings.

Fraud and employee concerns on financial matters

The audit committee received an annual certification report from the group compliance and ethics function, together with quarterly reports that highlighted financial issues raised through OpenTalk, the group-wide employee concerns programme.

The committee further received quarterly updates from internal audit on instances of actual or potential fraud.

Audit committee activities

Approximate allocation of agenda time in 2008*

Committee performance evaluation

The committee conducts a yearly evaluation of its performance through one-to-one interviews or questionnaires. The results are collated and reported by the committee secretary. Actions taken in 2008 as a result of the end 2007 evaluation included participation in an externally facilitated training session and improved tracking of outstanding issues. In addition, the committee considers performance during its private sessions throughout the year.

The 2008 evaluation was conducted through individual interviews and the outcomes discussed by the committee in January 2009. The forward agenda for the year ahead was set following this review, and consideration was given to building on the training provided to members through site visits.

The audit committee plans to meet 13 times during 2009.

Safety, ethics and environment assurance committee report**Membership**

The committee consists solely of independent non-executive directors who have been selected to provide a wide range of operational and international expertise appropriate to fulfil the committee's duties.

Members of the safety, ethics and environment assurance committee (SEEAC) during 2008 were Antony Burgmans, Sir William Castell and Sir Tom McKillop. Dr Massey retired as chairman of SEEAC in April 2008 and Sir William Castell became the committee chairman from that date. Cynthia Carroll joined the committee in June 2008. Support was provided by the committee secretary, David Pearl (deputy company secretary).

Attendance

SEEAC met eight times during 2008.

| | SEEAC meetings eligible to attend | SEEAC meetings attended |
|--------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| Sir William Castell (chairman) | 8 | 8 |
| A Burgmans | 8 | 8 |
| C B Carroll | 3 | 2 |
| Sir Tom McKillop | 8 | 8 |

Dr W E Massey (former member)

4

4

In addition to the above members, each SEEAC meeting is attended by the lead partner of the external auditors (Ernst & Young) and the BP general auditor (head of internal audit) on the invitation of the committee chairman. The group chief executive also attends committee meetings as the executive liaison with SEEAC: Dr Hayward attended all eight meetings of the committee in 2008. The committee holds private sessions without executive management in attendance at the end of each meeting.

Role and authority of the committee

The main tasks and requirements for SEEAC are set out in the principles and include among others:

Monitoring and obtaining assurance on behalf of the board that the management or mitigation of significant BP risks of a non-financial nature is appropriately addressed by the group chief executive.

Reviewing material to be placed before shareholders that addresses environmental, safety and ethical performance and make recommendations to the board about their adoption and publication.

Reviewing reports on the group's compliance with its code of conduct and on the employee concerns programme (OpenTalk) as it relates to non-financial issues.

Information

The committee receives information and reports from the safety and operations function, internal and external sources, including internal audit and the group compliance and ethics function. Staff from Ernst & Young attend if appropriate to a particular business or activity review.

Like BP's other board committees, SEEAC can access independent advice and counsel if it requires, on an unrestricted basis. The wider board is kept informed of the activities of the committee and any issues that have arisen through the regular update given by the SEEAC chair after each meeting.

Training and induction

Members of the committee receive ongoing training to assist them in carrying out their duties and an induction programme was provided for Mrs Carroll on joining the committee.

To develop a deeper understanding of BP's business and operations, Sir William Castell undertook a number of private briefings and several site visits on becoming SEEAC chairman. These visits included the Texas City refinery, where progress in implementing the recommendations of the Panel was observed and to the North Sea ETAP platforms where safety, operational and environmental management on an offshore production facility were reviewed.

Committee activities in 2008

The chart at the end of this section shows how SEEAC allocated its agenda time in 2008.

BP board performance report

Safety and operations

The group operations risk committee (GORC) was formed at the end of 2006 and is an executive level committee, chaired by the group chief executive. The GORC made regular reports to SEEAC during the year, including progress on the group-wide implementation of the operating management system (OMS) and BP's six-point plan, the development and utilization of the process safety index and statistics relating to the group's safety and operational performance.

L Duane Wilson was appointed by the board in 2007 as an independent expert to provide an objective assessment of BP's progress in implementing the Panel recommendations, aimed at improving process safety performance at BP's five US refineries. Mr Wilson, who was a member of the Panel, reports to the chairman of SEEAC and is independently funded through the company secretary's office.

Mr Wilson attended six meetings of the committee during 2008 and a private meeting with the committee during the year without the presence of executive management. Topics discussed included a presentation on his detailed work plan and progress updates. In May 2008, Mr Wilson published his first annual report where he assessed BP's progress against the 10 Panel recommendations. The report noted that while significant progress had been made, areas for improvement still remained. Further information on the report is available on BP's website.

Regional reviews and site visits

During the year, the committee reviewed reports on Alaska, the BTC pipeline, shipping and TNK-BP. The committee visited BP's refinery operations in Rotterdam, and coal bed methane operations in Durango, Colorado. In addition, some members visited the BP solar manufacturing facilities in Maryland and the group's operations in Azerbaijan.

Other topics

Other topics reviewed by the committee during the year included business continuity and crisis management, environmental requirements for new projects, results from a survey on safety culture in BP's US refineries and a report from the US ombudsman on concerns raised by employees in Alaska. The committee also received and discussed quarterly reports from the general auditor and the group compliance and ethics officer.

SEEAC 2008 Activities

Approximate allocation of agenda time*

Performance evaluation and forward agenda

The committee undertakes an annual review of its performance and process. In 2008, the review involved interviews with each committee member, with the results discussed at the committee's November meeting. Conclusions from the evaluation included noting the helpful insight gained from site visits and the value to the committee of the knowledge and expertise of the independent expert in respect of safety in the US refineries. The committee also reviewed its forward agenda for 2009.

SEEAC plans to meet seven times during 2009.

Remuneration committee report

Membership

The committee consists solely of non-executive directors who are considered by the board to be independent.

Members of the remuneration committee during the year were Dr DeAnne Julius (chairman), Erroll Davis, Jr, Sir Tom McKillop and Sir Ian Prosser. The chairman of the board also attends meetings of the committee.

Attendance

The committee met six times during 2008.

| | |
|---|--|
| Remuneration committee meetings eligible to attend | Remuneration committee meetings attended |
|---|--|

| | | |
|-----------------------|---|---|
| Dr D S Julius (Chair) | 6 | 6 |
| E B Davis, Jr | 6 | 5 |
| Sir Tom McKillop | 6 | 6 |
| Sir Ian Prosser | 6 | 6 |
| P D Sutherland | 6 | 6 |

Role and authority of the committee

The committee determines, on behalf of the board, the terms of engagement and remuneration of the group chief executive, the chairman and executive directors and reports on those to shareholders. The committee is independently advised.

Further details on the committee's role, authority and activities during the year are set out in the directors remuneration report, which is the subject of a vote by shareholders at the 2009 AGM.

The remuneration committee plans to meet five times in 2009.

Chairman's committee report

Membership

The committee consists of the chairman and all non-executive directors.

Attendance

The committee met four times during 2008.

| | Chairman's committee meetings eligible to attend | Chairman's committee meetings attended |
|-------------------------------|--|--|
| P D Sutherland | 4 | 4 |
| Sir Ian Prosser | 4 | 4 |
| A Burgmans | 4 | 4 |
| C B Carroll | 4 | 3 |
| Sir William Castell | 4 | 4 |
| G David | 2 | 2 |
| E B Davis, Jr | 4 | 4 |
| D J Flint | 4 | 4 |
| Dr D S Julius | 4 | 4 |
| Sir Tom McKillop | 4 | 4 |
| Dr W E Massey (former member) | 2 | 2 |

BP board performance report

Role and authority of the committee

The main tasks and requirements for the committee are set out in the principles and are:

Evaluating the performance and effectiveness of the group chief executive;

Reviewing the structure and effectiveness of the business organization of BP;

Reviewing the systems for senior executive development and determining the succession plan for the group chief executive, executive directors and other senior members of executive management;

Determining any other matter that is appropriate to be considered by all of the non-executive directors;

Opining on any matter referred to it by the chairman of any committee comprised solely of non-executive directors.

Committee activities

The chairman's committee considered aspects of a number of strategic issues including the relationship with the company's partners in TNK-BP. The committee has reviewed with Dr Hayward the short- and long-term challenges facing the group. Dr Hayward has kept the committee briefed on the implementation of the forward agenda and its implications for the evolution of the executive team and succession within the leadership cadre. The committee has also reviewed the steps taken by Dr Hayward to refine the corporate culture and the values within BP. There have been active discussions around the tone from the top.

The committee has reviewed the performance of the chairman and Dr Hayward.

The chairman's committee plans to meet four times in 2009.

Nomination committee report

Membership

The committee's members nominally consist of the chairman and the chairs of SEEAC, audit and remuneration committees.

Members of the nomination committee during the year were Peter Sutherland (chairman), Dr DeAnne Julius, Sir Ian Prosser and Dr Walter Massey. Dr Massey remained a member of the nomination committee during the year after his retirement from the board to assist in the search for a successor to BP's chairman. Sir William Castell has now joined the committee.

Attendance

The committee met six times during 2008.

| | Nomination committee meetings eligible to attend | Nomination committee meetings attended |
|---------------------------|--|---|
| P D Sutherland (chairman) | 6 | 6 |
| Dr D S Julius | 6 | 6 |
| Dr W E Massey | 6 | 6 |
| Sir Ian Prosser | 6 | 6 |

Role and authority of the committee

The main tasks and requirements for the committee are set out in the principles and are:

Identifying, evaluating and recommending candidates for appointment or reappointment as directors.

Identifying, evaluating and recommending candidates for appointment as company secretary.

Keeping under review the mix of knowledge, skills and experience of the board to ensure the orderly succession of directors.

Reviewing the outside directorship/commitments of the non-executive directors.

Committee activities

During 2008 the primary work of the committee has been the continuation of the process to select a successor to Mr Sutherland who is to stand down as chairman.

For this purpose, Sir Ian Prosser, as Senior Independent Director, has chaired the committee. The committee has been assisted in this task by Dr Anna Mann of MWM Consulting LLP. The committee has adopted a robust process. Key strategic issues facing BP for the coming years were identified through discussions with individual board members. From these discussions a role description was developed. This formed the basis of a worldwide search from which in excess of 30 candidates emerged. This broad group has been refined and the process is continuing. The board has been regularly briefed on the work of the committee.

As part of the chairman selection process, potential candidates for non-executive directors roles have been revealed. The committee will continue actively to keep the skills of the board under review and pursue its refreshment.

BP board performance report**Directors interests**

| | At 31 Dec 2008 | At 1 Jan 2008 | Change from 31 Dec 2008 to 18 Feb 2009 |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|---|
| Current directors | | | |
| A Burgmans | 10,000 | 10,000 | |
| C B Carroll | | | |
| Sir William Castell | 82,500 | 50,000 | |
| I C Conn | 240,789 ^a | 229,969 ^a | 39,148 |
| G David | 9,000 ^b | ^c | |
| E B Davis, Jr | 73,185 ^b | 70,602 ^b | |
| D J Flint | 15,000 | 15,000 | |
| Dr B E Grote | 1,214,330 ^d | 1,193,137 ^d | 47,334 |
| Dr A B Hayward | 488,459 | 482,398 | 39,148 |
| A G Inglis | 226,175 ^e | 224,006 ^e | 29,249 |
| Dr D S Julius | 15,000 | 15,000 | |
| Sir Tom McKillop | 20,000 | 20,000 | |
| Sir Ian Prosser | 16,301 | 16,301 | |
| P D Sutherland | 30,906 | 30,906 | |
| | At | At 1 Jan | |
| Directors leaving the board in 2008 | resignation/retirement | 2008 | |
| Dr D C Allen (retired 31 March 2008) | 597,568 ^f | 597,568 ^f | |
| Dr W E Massey (retired 17 April 2008) | 49,722 ^b | 49,722 ^b | |

^aIncludes 44,158 shares held as ADSs at 31 December 2008 and 41,692 shares held as ADSs at 1 January 2008.

^bHeld as ADSs.

^cOn appointment at 11 February 2008.

^dHeld as ADSs, except for 94 shares held as ordinary shares.

^eIncludes 34,962 shares held as ADSs.

^fIncludes 25,368 shares held as ADSs.

The above figures indicate and include all the beneficial and non-beneficial interests of each director of the company in shares of the company (or calculated equivalents) that have been disclosed to the company under the Disclosure and Transparency Rules and Companies Acts 1985 or 2006 (as the case may be) as at the applicable dates. The above figures do not include share options granted or interests in performance shares that have yet to vest. Details of these are set out in full in the directors remuneration report on pages 79 and 80.

Executive directors are also deemed to have an interest in such shares of the company held from time to time by the BP Employee Share Ownership Plan (No. 2) to facilitate the operation of the company's option schemes.

No director has any interest in the preference shares or debentures of the company or in the shares or loan stock of any subsidiary company.

72

Directors remuneration
report

74 Part 1 Summary

76 Part 2 Executive directors' remuneration

82 Part 3 Non-executive directors' remuneration



Directors remuneration report

Part 1 Summary

BP executives delivered a strong performance in a turbulent environment during 2008 and restored the group's operations to a high standard after several years of focused effort. We commend them for a job well done.

Key financial targets for the year were exceeded, even after adjusting for the effect of high oil prices during part of the year. Safe and reliable operations remained at the top of the agenda and key safety metrics and milestones were achieved. The year's results were especially strong in Exploration and Production, with the start-up of the Thunder Horse platform and excellent overall reserves replacement. Key targets were also met in Refining and Marketing and both the Texas City and Whiting refineries were safely restored to full capacity by the end of the year. The annual bonus results, set out in the table opposite, reflect this strong performance and determined leadership.

The committee undertook a detailed review of BP's underlying performance against competitors in determining the 2006-2008 share element vesting under the executive directors' incentive plan (EDIP). This review included financial measures such as earnings per share, returns on average capital employed, free cash flow, operating measures for both Exploration and Production and Refining and Marketing, and non-financial measures for safety and reputation. All measures were compared across competitors and showed BP firmly in the pack of the other European oil majors. The comparison of total shareholder return (TSR) was less favourable to BP, partly due to exchange rate movements and turbulence in the financial markets. After careful review, the committee concluded that TSR alone was not a fair reflection of underlying performance over the 2006-2008 period. We concluded that it was appropriate to approve the vesting of 15% of the shares in the plan for the current directors. This too is set out in the table opposite.

Salaries were increased mid-2008 after our normal review. For 2009, we have agreed with the group chief executive's view that salaries should be frozen at their current level. There also will be no change in the target and normal maximum levels of bonus for 2009. The group chief executive's and group chief financial officer's bonuses will be based 70% on group performance against key metrics in the annual plan, 15% on safety performance and 15% on people. The chief executives of Exploration and Production and Refining and Marketing will have 50% of their bonuses determined on the above basis and 50% on the performance of their respective businesses.

The EDIP share element will again provide the long-term component of remuneration for the 2009-2011 period, with some slight modifications. First, reflecting its recent growth, ConocoPhillips will be added to the peer group of comparators (currently ExxonMobil, Shell, Total and Chevron). Second, to provide a more balanced assessment, vesting will be based half on BP's total shareholder return relative to the peer group and half on underlying performance compared with this same peer group. BP's performance will be compared on an interpolated basis relative to the performance of the other five. As in previous years, shares will vest at 100%, 70% and 35% for performance equivalent to first, second and third rank respectively and none for fourth or fifth.

We remain committed to a remuneration policy and practice that aligns with the long-term interests of shareholders and provides an appropriate reward for talented and committed executives. In the current volatile climate, executive leadership is more important than ever. The committee will continue to use careful and rigorous judgement in assessing performance, and to communicate our assessment in a clear way to shareholders.

Dr DeAnne S Julius

Chairman, Remuneration Committee

24 February 2009

Directors remuneration report

Summary of remuneration of executive directors in 2008^a

| | Annual remuneration | | | | | | Long-term remuneration Share element of EDIP ^b | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------|--------------------------|----------------|--|-------------------------|--|----------------|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|---|---------|
| | Salary | | Annual performance bonus | | Non-cash benefits and other emoluments | | 2005-2007 plan (vested in Feb 2008) | | 2006-2008 plan (vested in Feb 2009) | | 2008-2010 plan | | |
| | (thousand) 2007 | 2008 | (thousand) 2007 | 2008 | (thousand) 2007 | 2008 | (thousand) 2007 | 2008 | Actual shares (thousand) | Actual ^c shares vested (thousand) | Actual ^c Value (thousand) | potential maximum performance shares ^e | |
| Dr A B | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hayward | £877 | £998 | £1,262 | £1,496 | £14 | £15 | £2,153 | £2,509 | 0 | 0 | 66,136 | £336 | 845,319 |
| I C Conn | £581 | £670 | £698 | £871 | £45 | £45 | £1,324 | £1,586 | 0 | 0 | 66,136 | £336 | 578,376 |
| Dr B E | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Grote | \$1,175 | \$1,340 | \$1,551 | \$1,742 | \$10 | \$8 | \$2,736 | \$3,090 | 0 | 0 | 80,231 ^f | \$603 | 581,748 |
| A G | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Inglis | £556 | £670 | £800 | £1,173 | £188 | £212^g | £1,544 | £2,055 | 0 | 0 | 54,994 | £279 | 578,376 |
| Directors leaving the board in 2008 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Dr D C | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Allen ^h | £500 | £128 | £539 | £163 | £13 | £3 | £1,052 | £294 | 0 | 0 | 34,518 | £175 | n/a |

Amounts shown are in the currency received by executive directors. Annual bonuses are shown in the year they were earned.

^aThis information has been subject to audit.

^bOr equivalent plans in which the individual participated prior to joining the board.

^cIncludes shares representing reinvested dividends received on the shares that vested at the end of the performance period.

^dBased on market price on vesting date (£5.08 per share/\$45.13 per ADS).

^eMaximum potential shares that could vest at the end of the three-year period depending on performance.

^fDr Grote holds shares in the form of ADSs. The above number reflects calculated equivalent in ordinary shares.

^gThis amount includes costs of London accommodation provided to Mr Inglis. In addition, under a tax equalization arrangement, BP also discharged a US tax liability arising on his participation in the UK pension scheme amounting to \$553,175.

^hDr Allen resigned from the board on 31 March 2008. In addition to the above, he was awarded compensation for loss of office equal to one year's salary (£510,000). He also received £30,000 in respect of statutory rights and retained his company car.

Pensions

All executive directors are part of a final salary pension scheme. Accrued annual pension earned as at 31 December 2008 is £561,000 for Dr Hayward, £264,000 for Mr Conn, \$868,000 for Dr Grote and £326,000 for Mr Inglis.

This graph shows the growth in value of a hypothetical £100 holding in BP p.l.c. ordinary shares over five years, relative to the FTSE 100 Index (of which the company is a constituent). The values of the hypothetical £100 holdings at the end of the five-year period were £144.36 and £115.05 respectively.

Remuneration of non-executive directors in 2008^a

| | £ thousand | |
|-------------------------------------|------------|------------|
| | 2007 | 2008 |
| A Burgmans | 86 | 90 |
| Sir William Castell | 87 | 108 |
| C B Carroll | 43 | 93 |
| G David ^b | n/a | 100 |
| E B Davis, Jr | 107 | 105 |
| D J Flint | 86 | 90 |
| Dr D S Julius | 106 | 110 |
| Sir Tom McKillop | 87 | 95 |
| Sir Ian Prosser | 137 | 170 |
| P D Sutherland | 517 | 600 |
| Directors leaving the board in 2008 | | |
| Dr W E Massey ^c | 133 | 90 |

^aThis information has been subject to audit.

^bAppointed on 11 February 2008.

^cAlso received a superannuation gratuity of £23,000.

In 2008 the board, after a review, determined that in future it would continue to set the remuneration of the non-executive directors. However, in the case of the chairman this would be based on a recommendation from the remuneration committee and, for the non-executive directors, it would be based on a recommendation from the chairman.

This process was adopted in 2008 and recommendations were made. However, the chairman and the non-executive directors informed the board that, in the current economic circumstances, they did not wish to receive any increase in remuneration for 2009. The board accordingly maintained the fees at the 2008 level for 2009 save that no committee membership fee would in future be paid to members of the nomination committee.

Directors remuneration report

Part 2 Executive directors remuneration

2008 remuneration

Salary increases

As part of our normal cycle, salaries were reviewed mid-year and were increased to reflect market competitiveness and personal performance. Dr Hayward's salary was increased 10% to £1,045,000, and the other executive directors by 6% to the following: Mr Conn £690,000, Dr Grote \$1,380,000 and Mr Inglis £690,000.

Annual bonus result

Performance measures and targets were set at the beginning of the year based on the annual plan. The target level bonus of 120% of base salary placed 50% on group financial and operating results including earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA), cash costs, cash flow, return on average capital employed (ROACE) and capital expenditure. The remaining portion was weighted 25% on safety, 25% on people and 20% on individual performance, principally operating results and leadership.

Overall performance for 2008 was very strong and is more fully set out in other parts of this report. Financial results exceeded targets for EBITDA, free cash flow and returns on average capital employed, even after adjusting for the high oil prices for part of the year. Cash costs were managed below target, and capital expenditure within expected levels.

Operationally, the upstream business had an excellent year, replacing a high proportion of proved reserves, exceeding its production target and successfully starting up the important Thunder Horse development in the Gulf of Mexico. The downstream business successfully and safely completed the full re-commissioning of the Texas City and Whiting refineries and improved overall performance. Alternative Energy exceeded its targets for wind and met its solar sales target.

Safe and reliable operations remained at the top of the agenda and performance, both in terms of safety metrics and progress on OMS implementation, was assessed as satisfactory by the safety, ethics and environment assurance committee (SEEAC). On the people front, significant progress was made in reducing complexity and embedding a performance culture throughout the group.

Annual bonus results for 2008 reflect this overall strong performance and committed leadership and are set out in the table on page 75.

2006-2008 share element result

Performance for the share element is assessed relative to the TSR of the company compared with the other oil majors ExxonMobil, Shell, Total and Chevron. Recognizing the inherent imperfections in a TSR ranking, the EDIP rules give the committee power to adjust (upwards or downwards) the vesting level derived from the TSR ranking if it considers that the ranking does not fairly reflect BP's underlying business performance relative to the comparators. This is designed to enable a more comprehensive review of BP's long-term performance, with the aims of tempering anomalies created by relying solely on a formula-based approach.

For the 2006-2008 plan, BP was fifth relative to the other majors in terms of TSR when calculated on a common currency (US dollar) basis as originally anticipated. However, unusually large currency movements at the end of this period were an extraneous influence on this result. On a local currency basis, the TSRs of BP, Shell and Total were tightly bunched together. The committee also reviewed BP's underlying business performance relative to the comparator companies over the full three-year period. This review included financial measures (earning per share growth, ROACE, free cash flow, net income), operating measures (production, reserves replacement and Refining and Marketing profitability), and non-financial measures (health, safety and environmental and reputation). Again, the performance of the European comparators was quite similar: BP led the group on some measures (notably free cash flow and reserves replacement) but lagged on Refining and Marketing profitability.

The committee concluded that the TSR result, by itself, was not a fair reflection of BP's relative underlying performance over the period. After thorough consideration, the committee determined that 15% of the shares under the 2006-08 award should vest this being a fair reflection of the overall results achieved and consistent with its approach to the clustering of results, as anticipated in the EDIP rules approved by shareholders in 2005.

In accordance with its powers under the EDIP rules, the committee also determined that, as there was clear evidence of a progressive turnaround of performance over the final 18 months of the performance period, individual vesting levels should only occur to the extent that eligible individuals contributed to the turnaround. The resulting final vesting for all eligible participants is shown in the table on page 79.

Mr Inglis's award was made prior to his appointment as an executive director under the MTPP (medium term performance plan) that is the comparable plan to the EDIP. Vesting conditions were the same as for the EDIP for Mr Inglis but, unlike the EDIP, the MTPP does not have a three-year retention period.

Lord Browne also held an award under the 2006-08 share element related to long-term leadership measures. These focused on sustaining BP's financial, strategic and organizational health. Performance relative to the award was assessed by the chairman's committee and, based on this assessment, no shares were vested.

Remuneration policy

Our remuneration policy for executive directors aims to ensure there is a clear link between the company's purpose, its business plans and executive reward, with pay varying with performance. In order to achieve this, the policy is based on these key principles:

The majority of executive remuneration will be linked to the achievement of demanding performance targets, independently set to support the creation of long-term shareholder value.

The structure will reflect a fair system of reward for all the participants.

The remuneration committee will determine the overall amount of each component of remuneration, taking into account the success of BP and the competitive environment.

There will be a quantitative and qualitative assessment of performance, with the remuneration committee making an informed judgement within a framework approved by shareholders.

Remuneration policy and practice will be as transparent as possible.

Executives will develop a significant personal shareholding in order to align their interests with those of shareholders.

Pay and employment conditions elsewhere in the group will be taken into account, especially in setting annual salary increases.

The remuneration policy for executive directors will be reviewed regularly, independently of executive management, and will set the tone for the remuneration of other senior executives.

The remuneration committee will actively seek to understand shareholder preferences.

Executive directors' total remuneration consists of salary, annual bonus, long-term incentives, pensions and other benefits. The remuneration committee reviews this structure regularly to ensure it is achieving its aims. In 2008, over three-quarters of executive directors' total potential remuneration was performance related. The same will be true for total potential remuneration in 2009.

Directors remuneration report

Salary

The remuneration committee normally reviews salaries annually, taking into account other large Europe-based global companies and companies in the US oil and gas sector. These groups are each defined and analyzed by the committee's independent remuneration advisers. For 2009, the committee has agreed with the group chief executive's view that salaries should be frozen at their current level.

Annual bonus

All executive directors are eligible to take part in an annual performance-based bonus scheme. The remuneration committee sets bonus targets and levels of eligibility each year.

The target level for 2009 is 120% of base salary. In normal circumstances, the maximum payment for substantially exceeding performance targets will continue to be 150% of base salary.

The group chief executive's and group chief financial officer's bonus will be determined on group results as follows:

70% on group performance compared with key metrics and milestones from the annual plan including:

Cash costs and organic capex.

Underlying replacement cost profit and operating cash flow.

Production and reserves replacement.

Refining availability and earnings/barrel.

Installed wind capacity.

15% on safety performance, including satisfactory and improving key metrics as well as progress on OMS implementation.

15% on people, including behaviour, culture and values.

For the chief executive of Exploration and Production, and the chief executive of Refining and Marketing, 50% of their bonus will be based on the above group results and 50% on the results of their respective businesses as measured by key metrics and milestones set out in the annual plan. For Exploration and Production, these include production costs and reserves replacement as well as safety and new opportunities. For Refining and Marketing, they include refining availability, earnings and cash costs, as well as safety and work simplification.

The remuneration committee will also review carefully the underlying performance of the group in light of company business plans and will look at competitors' results, analysts' reports and the views of the chairmen of other BP board committees when assessing results.

In exceptional circumstances, the remuneration committee can decide to award bonuses moderately above the maximum level. The committee can also decide to reduce bonuses where this is warranted and, in exceptional circumstances, bonuses could be reduced to zero. We have a duty to shareholders to use our discretion in a reasonable and informed manner, acting to promote the success of the company, and also to be accountable and transparent in our decisions. Any significant exercise of discretion will be explained in the subsequent directors' remuneration report.

Long-term incentives

Each executive director participates in the EDIP. It has three elements: shares, share options and cash. The remuneration committee does not intend to use either the share option or cash elements in 2009, nor to grant any retention awards which are also permitted under the EDIP. We intend that executive directors will continue to receive performance shares under the EDIP, barring unforeseen circumstances, until it expires or is renewed in 2010.

Policy for performance share awards

The remuneration committee can award shares to executive directors that will only vest to the extent that demanding performance conditions are satisfied at the end of a three-year period. The maximum number of these performance

shares that can be awarded to an executive director in any year is at the discretion of the remuneration committee, but will not normally exceed 5.5 times base salary.

In exceptional circumstances, the committee also has an overriding discretion to reduce the number of shares that vest or to decide that no shares vest.

The compulsory retention period will also be decided by the committee and will not normally be less than three years. Together with the performance period, this gives executive directors a six-year incentive structure, as shown in the timeline below, which is designed to ensure their interests are aligned with those of shareholders.

Where shares vest, the executive director will receive additional shares representing the value of the reinvested dividends.

The committee's policy continues to be that each executive director build a significant personal shareholding, with a target of shares equivalent in value to five times his or her base salary within a reasonable timeframe from appointment as an executive director. This policy is reflected in the terms of the performance shares under the EDIP, as shares vested will normally only be released at the end of the three-year retention period, described above, if these minimum shareholding guidelines are met.

Performance conditions

Performance conditions for the 2009-11 share element will be somewhat modified from previous years. First, the peer group of oil majors against which we compare will be increased to include ConocoPhillips as well as ExxonMobil, Shell, Total and Chevron as previously. This change reflects ConocoPhillips' significant growth over the last few years, providing it with similar scale and global reach to the other oil majors.

Second, vesting of the shares will be based 50% on total shareholder return (TSR) versus the competitor group and 50% on a balanced scorecard of underlying performance versus the same competitors. The underlying performance will be assessed on three measures reflecting key priorities in BP's strategy in Exploration and Production, hydrocarbon production growth, in Refining and Marketing, improvement in earnings per barrel, and group increase in underlying net income. Both Exploration and Production production growth and Refining and Marketing earnings improvement are key strategic objectives for the group and this inclusion aligns key measures with both executive director priorities as well as key drivers of value for shareholders. Group increase in underlying net income acts as a holistic measure of success reflecting revenues, costs and complexity as well as safe and reliable operations.

Directors remuneration report

All the above measures will be compared with the five other oil majors to determine the overall vesting result. The methodology used will rank each of the five other majors on each of the measures. BP's performance will then be compared on an interpolated basis relative to the performance of the other five. For performance between second and third or first and second, the result will be interpolated based on BP's performance relative to the company ranked directly above and below it. As in previous years, performance shares will vest at 100%, 70% and 35% for performance equivalent to first, second and third rank respectively and none for fourth or fifth place. The three underlying measures will be averaged to form the balanced scorecard component.

The committee considers that this combination of measures provides a good balance of external as well as internal metrics reflecting both shareholder value and operating priorities. As in previous years, the committee will exercise its discretion, in a reasonable and informed manner to adjust vesting levels upwards or downwards if it concludes the above quantitative approach does not reflect the true underlying health and performance of BP's business relative to its peers. It will explain any adjustments in the next directors' remuneration report following the vesting, in line with its commitment to transparency.

Pensions

Executive directors are eligible to participate in the appropriate pension schemes applying in their home countries. Additional details are given in the table below.

UK directors

UK directors are members of the regular BP Pension Scheme. The core benefits under this scheme are non-contributory. They include a pension accrual of 1/60th of basic salary for each year of service, up to a maximum of two-thirds of final basic salary and a dependant's benefit of two-thirds of the member's pension. The scheme pension is not integrated with state pension benefits.

The rules of the BP Pension Scheme were amended in 2006 such that the normal retirement age is 65. Prior to 1 December 2006, scheme members could retire on or after age 60 without reduction. Special early retirement terms apply to pre-1 December 2006 service for members with long service as at 1 December 2006. Pension benefits in excess of the individual lifetime allowance set by legislation are paid via an unapproved, unfunded pension arrangement provided directly by the company.

Although Mr Inglis is, like other UK directors, a member of the BP Pension Scheme, he is currently based in Houston, US. His participation in the BP Pension Scheme gives rise to a US tax liability. During 2008, the committee approved the discharge of this US tax liability under a tax equalization arrangement in respect of the period since Mr Inglis became a director in February 2007, amounting to \$553,175.

US directors

Dr Grote participates in the US BP Retirement Accumulation Plan (US plan), which features a cash balance formula. Pension benefits are provided through a combination of tax-qualified and non-qualified benefit restoration plans, consistent with US tax regulations as applicable.

The Supplemental Executive Retirement Benefit (supplemental plan) is a non-qualified top-up arrangement that became effective on 1 January 2002 for US employees above a specified salary level. The benefit formula is 1.3% of final average earnings, which comprise base salary and bonus in accordance with standard US practice (and as specified under the qualified arrangement), multiplied by years of service. There is an offset for benefits payable under all other BP qualified and non-qualified pension arrangements. This benefit is unfunded and therefore paid from corporate assets.

Dr Grote is eligible to participate under the supplemental plan. His pension accrual for 2008, shown in the table below, includes the total amount that could become payable under all plans.

Other benefits

Executive directors are eligible to participate in regular employee benefit plans and in all-employee share saving schemes and savings plans applying in their home countries. Benefits in kind are not pensionable. Expatriates may receive a resettlement allowance for a limited period.

As Mr Inglis is currently based in Houston, US, BP provides accommodation in London.

Pensions^a

| thousand | | | | | | |
|--|------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| | Service at 31 Dec 2008 | Accrued pension entitlement at 31 Dec 2008 | Additional pension earned during the year ended 31 Dec 2008 ^b | Transfer value of accrued benefit ^c at 31 Dec 2007 (A) | Transfer value of accrued benefit ^c at 31 Dec 2008 (B) | Amount of B-A less contributions made by the director in 2008 |
| Dr A B Hayward (UK) | 27 years | £561 | £72 | £7,986 | £8,045 | £9 |
| I C Conn (UK) | 23 years | £264 | £26 | £3,375 | £3,161 | (£214) |
| Dr B E Grote (US) | 29 years | \$868 | \$45 | \$7,901 | \$11,220 | \$2,860 |
| A G Inglis (UK) | 28 years | £326 | £30 | £4,613 | £4,399 | (£214) |
| Directors leaving the board in 2008 | | | | | | |
| Dr D C Allen (UK) ^d | n/a | £260 | £12 | £4,256 | £5,580 | £1,324 |

^aThis information has been subject to audit.

^bAdditional pension earned during the year includes an inflation increase of 4.0% for UK directors and 5.8% for US directors.

^cTransfer values have been calculated in accordance with version 8.1 of guidance note GN11 issued by the actuarial profession.

^dDr D C Allen retired on 31 March 2008 and commuted part of his pension for a lump sum. The figures above make no allowance for the payment of this lump sum. If allowance is made (in line with the strict requirements of the regulations), and the transfer value at the end of the year is based on the pension in payment at that time, then the transfer value at 31 December 2008 would be £4.55 million and the change in value over the year would be £0.29 million.

Directors remuneration report**Share element of EDIP^a**

| | Performance period | Date of award of performance | Market price of each share at date of award of performance shares £ | Share element interests | | | Interests vested in 2008 and 2009 | | |
|----------------|------------------------|------------------------------|---|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| | | | | Potential maximum performance shares ^b | Number of ordinary shares vested ^c | Market price of each share at vesting £ | | | |
| | | | | At 1 Jan 2008 | Awarded 2008 | At 31 Dec 2008 | Vesting date | | |
| Dr A B Hayward | 2005-2007 | 28 Apr 2005 | 5.33 | 436,623 | | | 0 | n/a | n/a |
| | 2006-2008 | 16 Feb 2006 | 6.54 | 383,200 | | 383,200 | 66,136 | 6 Feb 2009 | 5.08 |
| | 2007-2009 | 06 Mar 2007 | 5.12 | 706,311 | | 706,311 | | | |
| | 2008-2010 | 13 Feb 2008 | 5.61 | | 845,319 | 845,319 | | | |
| I C Conn | 2005-2007 | 28 Apr 2005 | 5.33 | 415,832 | | | 0 | n/a | n/a |
| | 2006-2008 | 16 Feb 2006 | 6.54 | 383,200 | | 383,200 | 66,136 | 6 Feb 2009 | 5.08 |
| | 2007-2009 | 06 Mar 2007 | 5.12 | 456,748 | | 456,748 | | | |
| | 2008-2010 | 13 Feb 2008 | 5.61 | | 578,376 | 578,376 | | | |
| | 2008-2011 ^d | 13 Feb 2008 | 5.61 | | 133,452 | 133,452 | | | |

Edgar Filing: BP PLC - Form 20-F

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|------------------------|-------------------|-------------|----------------|---------|----------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| | | 13 Feb | | | | | | |
| | 2008-2013 _d | 2008 | 5.61 | | 133,452 | 133,452 | | |
| | | 28 Apr | | | | | | |
| Dr B E Grote ^e | 2005-2007 | 2005 | 5.33 | 501,782 | | 0 | n/a | n/a |
| | | 16 Feb | | | | | | |
| | 2006-2008 | 2006 | 6.54 | 470,432 | | 470,432 | 80,231 | 6 Feb 2009 |
| | | 06 Mar | | | | | | |
| | 2007-2009 | 2007 | 5.12 | 491,640 | | 491,640 | | |
| | | 13 Feb | | | | | | |
| | 2008-2010 | 2008 | 5.61 | | 581,748 | 581,748 | | |
| | | 8 Mar | | | | | | |
| A G Inglis | 2005-2007 | 2005 | 5.70 | 209,000 | | 0 | n/a | n/a |
| | | 27 Mar | | | | | | |
| | 2006-2008 | 2006 | 6.59 | 325,750 | | 325,750 | 54,994 | 6 Feb 2009 |
| | | 06 Mar | | | | | | |
| | 2007-2009 | 2007 | 5.12 | 400,243 | | 400,243 | | |
| | | 13 Feb | | | | | | |
| | 2008-2010 | 2008 | 5.61 | | 578,376 | 578,376 | | |
| | | 13 Feb | | | | | | |
| | 2008-2011 _d | 2008 | 5.61 | | 133,452 | 133,452 | | |
| | | 13 Feb | | | | | | |
| | 2008-2013 _d | 2008 | 5.61 | | 133,452 | 133,452 | | |
| Directors leaving the board in 2008 | | | | | | | | |
| | | 28 Apr | | | | | | |
| Dr D C Allen | 2005-2007 | 2005 | 5.33 | 436,623 | | 0 | n/a | n/a |
| | | 16 Feb | | | | | | |
| | 2006-2008 | 2006 | 6.54 | 383,200 | | 383,200 | 34,518 | 6 Feb 2009 |
| | | 06 Mar | | | | | | |
| | 2007-2009 | 2007 | 5.12 | 456,748 | | 456,748 | | |

Former
directors

| | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|------------------|----------------------------|-------------|------------------|------------------|----------|---------------|------------|
| Lord Browne | 2005-2007 | 28 Apr 2005 | 5.33 | 2,006,767 | | 90,232 | 6 Feb 2008 | 5.45 |
| | 2006-2008 | 16 Feb 2006 | 6.54 | 1,761,249 | 1,761,249 | 0 | n/a | n/a |
| J A Manzoni | 2005-2007 | 28 Apr 2005 | 5.33 | 436,623 | | 0 | n/a | n/a |
| | 2006-2008 | 16 Feb 2006 | 6.54 | 383,200 | 383,200 | 0 | n/a | n/a |

^aThis information has been subject to audit. Includes equivalent plans in which the individual participated prior to joining the board.

^bBP's performance is measured against the oil sector. For the 2005-2007 and subsequent awards, the performance condition is TSR measured against ExxonMobil, Shell, Total and Chevron. Each performance period ends on 31 December of the third year.

^cRepresents awards of shares made at the end of the relevant performance period based on performance achieved under rules of the plan and includes reinvested dividends on the shares awarded.

^dRestricted award under share element of EDIP. As reported in the 2007 directors' remuneration report in February 2008, the committee awarded both Mr Inglis and Mr Conn restricted shares, as set out above. These one-off awards will vest on the third and fifth anniversary of the award, dependent on the remuneration committee being satisfied as to their personal performance at the date of vesting. Any unvested tranche will lapse in the event of cessation of employment with the company.

^eDr Grote receives awards in the form of ADSs. The above numbers reflect calculated equivalents in ordinary shares.

Directors remuneration report

Share options^a

| | Option type | At 1 Jan 2008 | Granted | Exercised | At 31 Dec 2008 | Option price | Market price at date of exercise | Date from which first exercisable | Expiry date |
|---------------------------|-------------|---------------|---------|-----------|----------------|--------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| Dr A B Hayward | SAYE | 3,220 | | | 3,220 | £5.00 | | 01 Sep 2011 | 29 Feb 2012 |
| | EXEC | 34,000 | | | 34,000 | £5.99 | | 15 May 2003 | 15 May 2010 |
| | EXEC | 77,400 | | | 77,400 | £5.67 | | 23 Feb 2004 | 23 Feb 2011 |
| | EXEC | 160,000 | | | 160,000 | £5.72 | | 18 Feb 2005 | 18 Feb 2012 |
| | EDIP | 220,000 | | | 220,000 | £3.88 | | 17 Feb 2004 | 17 Feb 2010 |
| | EDIP | 275,000 | | | 275,000 | £4.22 | | 25 Feb 2005 | 25 Feb 2011 |
| I C Conn | SAYE | 1,456 | | 1,456 | | £3.50 | £4.72 ^b | 01 Sep 2008 | 28 Feb 2009 |
| | SAYE | 1,186 | | | 1,186 | £3.86 | | 01 Sep 2009 | 28 Feb 2010 |
| | SAYE | 1,498 | | | 1,498 | £4.41 | | 01 Sep 2010 | 28 Feb 2011 |
| | SAYE | | 617 | | 617 | £4.87 | | 01 Sep 2011 | 01 Feb 2012 |
| | EXEC | 72,250 | | | 72,250 | £5.67 | | 23 Feb 2004 | 23 Feb 2011 |
| | EXEC | 130,000 | | | 130,000 | £5.72 | | 18 Feb 2005 | 18 Feb 2012 |
| Dr B E Grote ^c | BPA | 10,404 | | | 10,404 | \$53.90 | | 15 Mar 2000 | 14 Mar 2009 |
| | BPA | 12,600 | | | 12,600 | \$48.94 | | 28 Mar 2001 | 27 Mar 2010 |
| | EDIP | 40,182 | | 40,182 | | \$49.65 | \$65.58-\$66.50 | 19 Feb 2002 | 19 Feb 2008 |
| | EDIP | 58,173 | | | 58,173 | \$48.82 | | 18 Feb 2003 | 18 Feb 2009 |

Edgar Filing: BP PLC - Form 20-F

| | | | | | | |
|---|------|---------|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | EDIP | 58,173 | 58,173 | \$37.76 | 17 Feb 2004 | 17 Feb 2010 |
| | EDIP | 58,333 | 58,333 | \$48.53 | 25 Feb 2005 | 25 Feb 2011 |
| A G Inglis | SAYE | 4,550 | 4,550 | £3.50 ^d | 01 Sep 2008 | 28 Feb 2009 |
| | EXEC | 72,250 | 72,250 | £5.67 | 23 Feb 2004 | 22 Feb 2011 |
| | EXEC | 119,000 | 119,000 | £5.72 | 18 Feb 2005 | 17 Feb 2012 |
| | EXEC | 119,000 | 119,000 | £3.88 | 17 Feb 2006 | 16 Feb 2013 |
| | EXEC | 100,500 | 100,500 | £4.22 | 25 Feb 2007 | 24 Feb 2014 |
| Directors leaving the board in 2008 | | | | | | |
| | | | | | 15 May 2003 | 15 May 2010 |
| Dr D C Allen | EXEC | 37,000 | 37,000 ^e | £5.99 | 23 Feb 2004 | 23 Feb 2011 |
| | EXEC | 87,950 | 87,950 ^e | £5.67 | 18 Feb 2005 | 18 Feb 2012 |
| | EXEC | 175,000 | 175,000 ^e | £5.72 | 17 Feb 2004 | 17 Feb 2010 |
| | EDIP | 220,000 | 220,000 ^e | £3.88 | 25 Feb 2005 | 25 Feb 2011 |
| | EDIP | 275,000 | 275,000 ^e | £4.22 | | |

The closing market prices of an ordinary share and of an ADS on 31 December 2008 were £5.26 and \$46.74 respectively.

During 2008, the highest market prices were £6.50 and \$76.12 respectively and the lowest market prices were £3.76 and \$39.56 respectively.

BPA = BP Amoco share option plan, which applied to US executive directors prior to the adoption of the EDIP.

EDIP = Executive Directors Incentive Plan adopted by shareholders in April 2005 as described on page 76.

EXEC = Executive Share Option Scheme. These options were granted to the relevant individuals prior to their appointments as directors and are not subject to performance conditions.

SAYE = Save As You Earn employee share scheme.

^aThis information has been subject to audit.

^bClosing market price for information. Shares were retained when exercised.

^cNumbers shown are ADSs under option. One ADS is equivalent to six ordinary shares.

^dOptions exercised on 21 January 2009 and the shares were retained by Mr Inglis. Closing market price for information on that date was £4.86.

^eOn leaving the board on 31 March 2008.

Directors remuneration report

Service contracts

Director

| | Contract date | Salary as at 31 Dec 2008 |
|----------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| Dr A B Hayward | 29 Jan 2003 | £1,045,000 |
| I C Conn | 22 Jul 2004 | £690,000 |
| Dr B E Grote | 7 Aug 2000 | \$1,380,000 |
| A G Inglis | 1 Feb 2007 | £690,000 |

Service contracts have a notice period of one year and may be terminated by the company at any time with immediate effect on payment in lieu of notice equivalent to one year's salary or the amount of salary that would have been paid if the contract had been terminated on the expiry of the remainder of the notice period. The service contracts are expressed to expire at a normal retirement age of 60 (subject to age discrimination).

Dr Grote's contract is with BP Exploration (Alaska) Inc. He is seconded to BP p.l.c. under a secondment agreement of 7 August 2000, which expires on 31 March 2010. The secondment can be terminated by one month's notice by either party and terminates automatically on the termination of Dr Grote's service contract.

There are no other provisions for compensation payable on early termination of the above contracts. In the event of the early termination of any of the contracts by the company, other than for cause (or under a specific termination payment provision), the relevant director's then-current salary and benefits would be taken into account in calculating any liability of the company.

Since January 2003, new service contracts include a provision to allow for severance payments to be phased, when appropriate. The committee will also consider mitigation to reduce compensation to a departing director, when appropriate to do so.

Director leaving the board in 2008

Dr Allen left the company at the end of March 2008. He was entitled to one year's salary (£510,000) as compensation in accordance with his contractual entitlement, as well as a pro rata bonus for 2008 and continued full participation in the 2006-08 and 2007-09 share elements, according to the normal rules of the plan.

Executive directors' external appointments

The board encourages executive directors to broaden their knowledge and experience by taking up appointments outside the company. Each executive director is permitted to accept one non-executive appointment, from which they may retain any fee. External appointments are subject to agreement by the chairman and reported to the board. Any external appointment must not conflict with a director's duties and commitments to BP.

During the year, the fees received by executive directors for external appointments were as follows:

Executive director

| | Appointee company | Additional position held at appointee company | Total fees |
|----------------|-------------------|---|------------|
| Dr A B Hayward | Tata Steel | Senior | £83,000 |

| | | | |
|--------------|----------------|--|--|
| | | Independent Director | |
| I C Conn | Rolls-Royce | Senior Independent Director | £65,000 |
| Dr B E Grote | Unilever | Audit committee member | Unilever PLC £33,500 Unilever NV 48,625 |
| A G Inglis | BAE Systems | Chair of Corporate Responsibility Committee | £86,754 |

Remuneration committee

All the members of the committee are independent non-executive directors. Throughout the year, Dr Julius (chairman), Mr Davis, Sir Tom McKillop and Sir Ian Prosser were members. The group chief executive was consulted on matters relating to the other executive directors who report to him and on matters relating to the performance of the company; neither he nor the chairman were present when matters affecting their own remuneration were discussed.

Tasks

The remuneration committee's tasks are:

To determine, on behalf of the board, the terms of engagement and remuneration of the group chief executive and the executive directors and to report on these to the shareholders.

To determine, on behalf of the board, matters of policy over which the company has authority regarding the establishment or operation of the company's pension scheme of which the executive directors are members.

To nominate, on behalf of the board, any trustees (or directors of corporate trustees) of the scheme.

To review the policies being applied by the group chief executive in remunerating senior executives other than executive directors to ensure alignment and proportionality.

To recommend to the board the quantum and structure of remuneration for the chairman.

Directors remuneration report

Constitution and operation

Each member of the remuneration committee is subject to annual re-election as a director of the company. The board considers all committee members to be independent (*see page 66*).

They have no personal financial interest, other than as shareholders, in the committee's decisions.

The committee met six times in the period under review. Mr Sutherland, as chairman of the board, attended all the committee meetings.

The committee is accountable to shareholders through its annual report on executive directors' remuneration. It will consider the outcome of the vote at the AGM on the directors' remuneration report and take into account the views of shareholders in its future decisions. The committee values its dialogue with major shareholders on remuneration matters.

Advice

Advice is provided to the committee by the company secretary's office, which is independent of executive management and reports to the chairman of the board. Mr Aronson, an independent consultant, is the committee's secretary and independent adviser. Advice was also received from Mr Jackson, the company secretary.

The committee also appoints external advisers to provide specialist advice and services on particular remuneration matters. The independence of the advice is subject to annual review.

In 2008, the committee continued to engage Towers Perrin as its principal external adviser. Towers Perrin also provided limited ad hoc remuneration and benefits advice to parts of the group, principally changes in employee share plans and some market information on pay structures.

Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer LLP provided legal advice on specific matters to the committee, as well as providing some legal advice to the group.

Ernst & Young reviewed the calculations on the financial-based targets that form the basis of the performance-related pay for executive directors, that is, the annual bonus and share element awards described on page 75, to ensure they met an independent, objective standard. They also provided audit, audit-related and taxation services for the group.

Part 3 Non-executive directors' remuneration

Policy

Remuneration of the chairman and the non-executive directors continues to be set by the board. The process by which the board determines that remuneration was reviewed during the year with the result that:

The quantum and structure of the chairman's remuneration would be reviewed by the remuneration committee. The remuneration committee would then make a recommendation to the board but the chairman would not vote on his own remuneration; and

The quantum and structure of non-executive director remuneration would be reviewed by the chairman, with support and analysis provided by the company secretary. The chairman would then make a recommendation to the board but non-executive directors would not vote on their own remuneration.

The above changes came into effect for the 2008 review of remuneration.

The other elements of BP's non-executive director remuneration policy remain unchanged:

Within the limits set by the shareholders from time to time, remuneration should be sufficient to attract, motivate and retain world-class non-executive talent.

Remuneration of non-executive directors is set by the board and should be proportional to their contribution towards the interests of the company.

Remuneration practice should be consistent with recognized best-practice standards for non-executive directors' remuneration.

Remuneration should be in the form of cash fees, payable monthly.

Non-executive directors should not receive share options from the company.

Non-executive directors should be encouraged to establish a holding in BP shares broadly related to one year's base fee, to be held directly or indirectly in a manner compatible with their personal investment activities, and any applicable legal and regulatory requirements.

Fee structure

The table below shows the current fee structure for non-executive directors:

| | £ thousand |
|--|------------|
| | Fee level |
| Chairman ^a | 600 |
| Deputy chairman ^b | 120 |
| Board member | 75 |
| Audit committee and SEEAC chairmanship fees ^c | 30 |
| Remuneration committee chairmanship fee ^c | 20 |
| Transatlantic attendance allowance | 5 |
| Committee membership fee ^d | 5 |

^aThe chairman remains ineligible for committee chairmanship and membership fees or transatlantic attendance allowance, but has the use of a fully maintained office for company business, a chauffeured car and security advice.

^bThe role of deputy chairman is combined with that of senior independent director. The deputy chairman is still eligible for committee chairmanship fees and transatlantic attendance allowance plus any committee membership fees.

^cCommittee chairmen do not receive an additional membership fee for the committee they chair.

^dFor members of the audit, SEEAC and remuneration committees.

Directors remuneration report**Remuneration of non-executive directors in 2008^a**

| | £ thousand | |
|------------------------------------|------------|------|
| | 2007 | 2008 |
| A Burgmans | 86 | 90 |
| Sir William Castell | 87 | 108 |
| C B Carroll | 43 | 93 |
| G David ^b | n/a | 100 |
| E B Davis, Jr | 107 | 105 |
| D J Flint | 86 | 90 |
| Dr D S Julius | 106 | 110 |
| Sir Tom McKillop | 87 | 95 |
| Sir Ian Prosser | 137 | 170 |
| P D Sutherland | 517 | 600 |
| Director leaving the board in 2008 | | |
| Dr W E Massey ^c | 133 | 90 |

^aThis information has been subject to audit.

^bAppointed on 11 February 2008.

^cAlso received a superannuation gratuity of £23,000.

No share or share option awards were made to any non-executive director in respect of service on the board during 2008.

Non-executive directors have letters of appointment, which recognize that, subject to the Articles of Association, their service is at the discretion of shareholders. All directors stand for re-election at each AGM.

Review of chairman and non-executive director remuneration

The new process for the determination of non-executive remuneration, as described earlier, was operated during the year and recommendations were made. However, the chairman and the non-executive directors informed the board that, in the current economic circumstances, they did not wish to receive any increase in remuneration for the coming year 2009.

The board, therefore, decided after review to maintain fees for 2009 at the 2008 level set out in the fee structure table, save that the committee membership fee would no longer be paid to members of the nomination committee.

Superannuation gratuities

Until 2002, BP maintained a long-standing practice whereby non-executive directors who retired from the board after at least six years' service were eligible for consideration for a superannuation gratuity. The board was, and continues to be, authorized to make such payments under the company's Articles of Association and the amount of the payment is determined at the board's discretion, having regard to the director's period of service as a director and other relevant factors.

In 2002, the board revised its policy with respect to superannuation gratuities so that:

Non-executive directors appointed to the board after 1 July 2002 would not be eligible for consideration for such a payment.

While non-executive directors in service at 1 July 2002 would remain eligible for consideration for a payment, service after that date would not be taken into account by the board in considering the amount of any such payment. The board made a superannuation gratuity of £23,000 during the year to Dr Walter Massey, who retired in April 2008. This payment was in line with the policy arrangements agreed in 2002 and outlined above.

Non-executive directors of Amoco Corporation

Non-executive directors who were formerly non-executive directors of Amoco Corporation have residual entitlements under the Amoco Non-Employee Directors Restricted Stock Plan. Directors were allocated restricted stock in remuneration for their service on the board of Amoco Corporation prior to its merger with BP in 1998. On merger, interests in Amoco shares in the plan were converted into interests in BP ADSs. The restricted stock will vest on the retirement of the non-executive director at the age of 70 (or earlier at the discretion of the board). Since the merger, no further entitlements have accrued to any director under the plan. The residual interests, as interests in a long-term incentive scheme, are set out in the table below, in accordance with the Directors Remuneration Report Regulations 2002.

| | Interest in BP ADSs at 1 Jan 2008 and 31 Dec 2008 ^a | Date on which director reaches age 70 ^b |
|------------------------------------|---|--|
| E B Davis, Jr | 4,490 | 5 Aug 2014 |
| Director leaving the board in 2008 | | |
| Dr W E Massey ^c | 3,346 | 5 April 2008 |

^aNo awards were granted and no awards lapsed during the year. The awards were granted over Amoco stock prior to the merger but their notional weighted average market value at the date of grant (applying the subsequent merger ratio of 0.66167 of a BP ADS for every Amoco share) was \$27.87 per BP ADS.

^bFor the purposes of the regulations, the date on which the director retires from the board at or after the age of 70 is the end of the qualifying period. If the director retires prior to this date, the board may waive the restrictions.

^cDr Massey retired from the board on 17 April 2008. He had received awards of Amoco shares under the plan between 22 June 1993 and 28 April 1998 prior to the merger. These interests had been converted into BP ADSs at the time of the merger. In accordance with the terms of the plan, the board exercised its discretion over this award on 16 May 2008 and the shares vested on that date (when the BP ADS market price was \$74.57) without payment by him.

Past directors

Mr Miles (who was a non-executive director of BP until April 2006) was appointed as a director and non-executive chairman of BP Pension Trustees Limited in October 2006 for a term of three years. During 2008, he received £150,000 for this role.

Dr Walter Massey (who retired as a non-executive director of BP in April 2008) remained a member of the nomination committee during the year to assist in the search for a successor to BP's chairman. Dr Massey received a total fee of £15,000 for this role in 2008. Dr Massey was also appointed to the BP America board in April 2008 for a

term of two years. During 2008, he received US\$93,500 for this role.

This directors remuneration report was approved by the board and signed on its behalf by David J Jackson, company secretary, on 24 February 2009.

This page intentionally left blank.

Additional information
for shareholders

| | |
|----|--|
| 86 | Share ownership |
| 87 | Major shareholders and related party transactions |
| 88 | Dividends |
| 88 | Legal proceedings |
| 89 | The offer and listing |
| 91 | Memorandum and Articles of Association |
| 92 | Exchange controls |
| 92 | Taxation |
| 94 | Documents on display |
| 94 | Material modifications to the rights of security holders and use of proceeds |
| 94 | Controls and procedures |
| 95 | Audit committee financial expert |
| 95 | Code of ethics |
| 95 | Principal accountants fees and services |
| 95 | Corporate governance practices |

| | |
|----|--|
| 97 | Purchases of equity securities by the issuer and affiliated purchasers |
| 98 | Called-up share capital |
| 98 | Annual general meeting |
| 98 | Exhibits |
| 98 | Administration |

Additional information for shareholders

Share ownership

Directors and senior management

As at 18 February 2009, the following directors of BP p.l.c. held interests in BP ordinary shares of 25 cents each or their calculated equivalent as set out below:

| | | | |
|---------------------|-----------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| I C Conn | 279,937 | 1,815,940 ^a | 266,904 ^c |
| Dr B E Grote | 1,261,664 | 2,066,316 ^a | |
| Dr A B Hayward | 527,607 | 2,734,170 ^a | |
| A G Inglis | 255,424 | 1,759,435 ^{a b} | 266,904 ^c |
| A Burgmans | 10,000 | | |
| C B Carroll | | | |
| Sir William Castell | 82,500 | | |
| G David | 9,000 | | |
| E B Davis, Jr | 73,185 | | |
| D J Flint | 15,000 | | |
| Dr D S Julius | 15,000 | | |
| Sir Tom McKillop | 20,000 | | |
| Sir Ian Prosser | 16,301 | | |
| P D Sutherland | 30,906 | | |

^aPerformance shares awarded under the BP Executive Directors Incentive Plan. These figures represent the maximum possible vesting levels. The actual number of shares/ADSs that vest will depend on the extent to which performance conditions have been satisfied over a three-year period.

^bAlso includes 325,750 performance shares awarded under the BP Medium Term Performance Plan, which represents the maximum possible vesting level. The actual number of shares that vest will depend on the extent to which performance conditions have been satisfied over a three-year period.

^cRestricted share award under the BP Executive Directors Incentive Plan. These shares will vest in two equal tranches after three and five years, subject to the directors' continued service and satisfactory performance.

As at 18 February 2009, the following directors of BP p.l.c. held options under the BP group share option schemes for ordinary shares or their calculated equivalent as set out below:

| | |
|----------------|-----------|
| I C Conn | 205,551 |
| Dr B E Grote | 1,186,098 |
| Dr A B Hayward | 769,620 |
| A G Inglis | 410,750 |

There are no directors or members of senior management who own more than 1% of the ordinary shares outstanding. At 18 February 2009, all directors and senior management as a group held interests in 4,308,712 ordinary shares or their calculated equivalent, 11,163,994 performance shares or their calculated equivalent and 3,281,964 options for ordinary shares or their calculated equivalent under the BP group share options schemes.

Additional details regarding the options granted and performance shares awarded can be found in the directors remuneration report on pages 79 and 80.

Employee share plans

The following table shows employee share options granted.

| | options thousands | | |
|---|-------------------|-------|--------|
| | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 |
| Employee share options granted during the year ^a | 8,063 | 6,004 | 53,977 |

^aFor the options outstanding at 31 December 2008, the exercise price ranges and weighted average remaining contractual lives are shown in Financial statements Note 41 on page 166.

BP offers most of its employees the opportunity to acquire a shareholding in the company through savings-related and/or matching share plan arrangements. BP also uses long-term performance plans (*see Financial statements Note 41 on page 166*) and the granting of share options as elements of remuneration for executive directors and senior employees.

Shares acquired through the company's employee share plans rank pari passu with shares in issue and have no special rights, save as described below. For legal and practical reasons, the rules of these plans set out the consequences of a change of control of the company, and generally provide for options and conditional awards to vest on an accelerated basis.

Savings and matching plans

BP ShareSave Plan

This is a savings-related share option plan, under which employees save on a monthly basis over a three-year or five-year period towards the purchase of shares at a fixed price determined when the option is granted. This price is usually set at a 20% discount to the market price at the time of grant. The option must be exercised within six months of maturity of the savings contract otherwise it lapses. The plan is run in the UK and options are granted annually, usually in June. Participants leaving for a qualifying reason will have six months in which to use their savings to exercise their options on a pro rated basis.

Additional information for shareholders

BP ShareMatch plans

These are matching share plans, under which BP matches employees' own contributions of shares up to a predetermined limit. The plans are run in the UK and in more than 70 other countries. The UK plan is run on a monthly basis with shares being held in trust for five years before they can be released free of any income tax and national insurance liability. In other countries, the plan is run on an annual basis, with shares being held in trust for three years. The plan is operated on a cash basis in those countries where there are regulatory restrictions preventing the holding of BP shares. When the employee leaves BP, all shares must be removed from trust and units under the plan operated on a cash basis must be encashed.

Once shares have been awarded to an employee under the plan, the employee may instruct the trustee how to vote their shares.

Local plans

In some countries, BP provides local scheme benefits, the rules and qualifications for which vary according to local circumstances.

The above share plans are indicated as being equity-settled. In certain countries, however, it is not possible to award shares to employees owing to local legislation. In these instances, the award will be settled in cash, calculated as the cash equivalent of the value to the employee of an equity-settled plan.

Cash plans

Cash-settled share-based payments/Stock Appreciation Rights (SARs)

These are cash-settled share-based payments available to certain employees that require the group to pay the intrinsic value of the cash option/SAR/restricted shares to the employee at the date of exercise/maturity.

Employee share ownership plans (ESOPs)

ESOPs have been established to acquire BP shares to satisfy any awards made to participants under the Executive Directors' Incentive Plan, the Medium-Term Performance Plan, the Long-Term Performance Plan, the Deferred Annual Bonus Plan and the BP ShareMatch plans. The ESOPs have waived their rights to dividends on shares held for future awards and are funded by the group. Pending vesting, the ESOPs have independent trustees that have the discretion in relation to the voting of such shares. Until such time as the company's own shares held by the ESOP trusts vest unconditionally in employees, the amount paid for those shares is deducted in arriving at shareholders equity (see *Financial statements - Note 40 on page 164*). Assets and liabilities of the ESOPs are recognized as assets and liabilities of the group.

At 31 December 2008, the ESOPs held 29,051,082 shares (2007 6,448,838 shares and 2006 12,795,887 shares) for potential future awards, which had a market value of \$220 million (2007 \$79 million and 2006 \$142 million).

Pursuant to the various BP group share option schemes, the following options for ordinary shares of the company were outstanding at 18 February 2009:

| Options outstanding (shares) | Expiry dates of options | Exercise price per share |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 323,378,846 | 2009-2016 | 5.7050-11.9210 |

More details on share options appear in *Financial statements - Note 41 on page 166*.

Major shareholders and related party transactions

Register of members holding BP ordinary shares as at 31 December 2008

| Number of | Percentage of | Percentage of |
|-----------|------------------|------------------|
|-----------|------------------|------------------|

Edgar Filing: BP PLC - Form 20-F

| Range of holdings | ordinary shareholders | total ordinary shareholders | total ordinary share capital |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1-200 | 57,617 | 18.22 | 0.01 |
| 201-1,000 | 120,017 | 37.94 | 0.31 |
| 1,001-10,000 | 124,970 | 39.51 | 1.83 |
| 10,001-100,000 | 11,837 | 3.74 | 1.17 |
| 100,001-1,000,000 | 1,089 | 0.34 | 1.95 |
| Over 1,000,000 ^a | 790 | 0.25 | 94.73 |
| Totals | 316,320 | 100.00 | 100.00 |

^aIncludes JP Morgan Chase Bank holding 27.48% of the total ordinary issued share capital (excluding shares held in treasury) as the approved depository for ADSs, a breakdown of which is shown in the table below.

Register of holders of American depository shares (ADSs) as at 31 December 2008^a

| Range of holdings | Number of ADS holders | Percentage of total ADS holders | Percentage of total ADSs |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| 1-200 | 73,569 | 53.88 | 0.50 |
| 201-1,000 | 38,781 | 28.40 | 2.16 |
| 1,001-10,000 | 22,656 | 16.59 | 7.12 |
| 10,001-100,000 | 1,505 | 1.10 | 3.04 |
| 100,001-1,000,000 | 23 | 0.02 | 0.47 |
| Over 1,000,000 ^b | 2 | 0.01 | 86.71 |
| Totals | 136,536 | 100.00 | 100.00 |

^aOne ADS represents six 25 cent ordinary shares.

^bOne of the holders of ADSs represents some 818,000 underlying shareholders.

As at 31 December 2008, there were also 1,622 preference shareholders. Preference shareholders represented 0.44% and ordinary shareholders represented 99.56% of the total issued nominal share capital of the company as at that date.

Substantial shareholdings

As at the date of this report, the company had been notified that JPMorgan Chase Bank, as depository for American depository shares (ADSs) holds interests through its nominee, Guaranty Nominees Limited, in 5,184,252,501 ordinary shares (27.51% of the company's ordinary share capital excluding shares held in Treasury). Legal & General Group plc hold interests in 813,276,072 ordinary shares (4.32% of the company's ordinary share capital excluding shares held in treasury).

At the date of this report the company has also been notified of the following interests in preference shares: The National Farmers Union Mutual Insurance Society Limited holds interests in 945,000 8% cumulative first preference shares (13.07% of that class) and 987,000 9% cumulative second preference shares (18.03% of that class). M & G Investment Management Ltd. holds interests in 528,150 8% cumulative first preference shares (7.30% of that class)

and 644,450 9% cumulative second preference shares (11.77% of that class). Aviva Investors Global Services Limited holds interests in 475,000 8% cumulative first preference shares (6.57% of that class). Lazard Asset Management Ltd. (U.K.) holds interests in 463,000 8% cumulative first preference shares (6.40% of that class). Duncan Lawrie Ltd. holds interests in 451,376 8% cumulative first preference shares (6.24% of that class). Co-operative Insurance Society Ltd. holds interests in 444,538 8% cumulative first preference shares (6.15% of that class) and 1,450,000 9% cumulative

Additional information for shareholders

second preference shares (26.49% of that class). Ruffer LLP holds interests in 671,500 9% cumulative second preference shares (12.27% of that class).

The total preference shares in issue comprise only 0.44% of the company's total issued nominal share capital, the rest being ordinary shares.

Related-party transactions

Transactions between the group and its significant jointly controlled entities and associates are summarized in Financial statements Note 26 on page 138 and Financial statements Note 27 on page 139. In the ordinary course of its business, the group enters into transactions with various organizations with which certain of its directors or executive officers are associated. Except as described in this report, the group did not have material transactions or transactions of an unusual nature with, and did not make loans to, related parties in the period commencing 1 January 2008 to 18 February 2009.

Dividends

BP has paid dividends on its ordinary shares in each year since 1917. In 2000 and thereafter, dividends were, and are expected to continue to be,

paid quarterly in March, June, September and December. Former Amoco Corporation and Atlantic Richfield Company shareholders will not be able to receive dividends, or proxy material, until they send in their Amoco Corporation or Atlantic Richfield Company common shares for exchange.

BP currently announces dividends for ordinary shares in US dollars and states an equivalent pounds sterling dividend. Dividends on BP ordinary shares will be paid in pounds sterling and on BP ADSs in US dollars. The rate of exchange used to determine the sterling amount equivalent is the average of the forward exchange rate in London over the five business days prior to the announcement date. The directors may choose to declare dividends in any currency provided that a sterling equivalent is announced, but it is not the company's intention to change its current policy of announcing dividends on ordinary shares in US dollars.

The following table shows dividends announced and paid by the company per ADS for each of the past five years. In the case of dividends paid before 1 May 2004, the dividends shown are before the deemed credit allowed to shareholders resident in the US under the former income tax convention between the US and the UK and the associated withholding tax in respect thereof equal to the amount of such credit. (This deemed credit and associated withholding tax do not apply to dividends paid after 30 April 2004 to shareholders resident in the US.)

| | | March | June | September | December | Total |
|--|-------------------|-------|------|-----------|----------|-------|
| Dividends per American depository share | | | | | | |
| 2004 | UK pence | 22.0 | 22.8 | 23.2 | 23.5 | 91.5 |
| | US cents | 40.5 | 40.5 | 42.6 | 42.6 | 166.2 |
| | Canadian cents | 53.7 | 54.8 | 56.7 | 52.2 | 217.4 |
| 2005 | UK pence | 27.1 | 26.7 | 30.7 | 30.4 | 114.9 |
| | US cents | 51.0 | 51.0 | 53.55 | 53.55 | 209.1 |

Edgar Filing: BP PLC - Form 20-F

| | | | | | | |
|------|-----------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | Canadian cents | 64.0 | 63.2 | 65.3 | 63.7 | 256.2 |
| 2006 | UK pence | 31.7 | 31.5 | 31.9 | 31.4 | 126.5 |
| | US cents | 56.25 | 56.25 | 58.95 | 58.95 | 230.40 |
| | Canadian cents | 64.5 | 64.1 | 67.4 | 66.5 | 262.5 |
| 2007 | UK pence | 31.5 | 30.9 | 31.7 | 31.8 | 125.9 |
| | US cents | 61.95 | 61.95 | 64.95 | 64.95 | 253.8 |
| | Canadian cents | 73.3 | 69.5 | 67.8 | 63.6 | 274.2 |
| 2008 | UK pence | 40.9 | 41.0 | 42.2 | 52.2 | 176.3 |
| | US cents | 81.15 | 81.15 | 84.00 | 84.00 | 330.3 |
| | Canadian cents | 80.8 | 82.5 | 85.8 | 108.6 | 357.7 |

A dividend reinvestment plan is in place whereby holders of BP ordinary shares can elect to reinvest the net cash dividend in shares purchased on the London Stock Exchange. This plan is not available to any person resident in the US or Canada or in any jurisdiction outside the UK where such an offer requires compliance by the company with any governmental or regulatory procedures or any similar formalities. A dividend reinvestment plan is, however, available for holders of ADSs through JPMorgan Chase Bank.

Future dividends will be dependent on future earnings, the financial condition of the group, the Risk factors set out on pages 8-10 and other matters that may affect the business of the group set out in Financial and operating performance on page 46 and in Liquidity and capital resources on page 54.

Legal proceedings

Save as disclosed in the following paragraphs, no member of the group is a party to, and no property of a member of the group is subject to, any pending legal proceedings that are significant to the group.

BP America Inc. (BP America) continues to be subject to oversight by an independent monitor, who has authority to investigate and report alleged violations of the US Commodity Exchange Act or US Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) regulations and to recommend corrective action. The appointment of the independent monitor was a condition of the deferred prosecution agreement (DPA) entered into with the US Department of Justice (DOJ) on 25 October 2007 relating to allegations that BP America manipulated the price of February 2004 TET physical propane and attempted to manipulate the price of TET propane in April 2003 and the companion consent order with the CFTC, entered the same day, resolving all criminal and civil enforcement matters pending at that time concerning propane trading by BP Products North America Inc. (BP Products). The DPA requires BP America's and certain of its affiliates' continued co-operation with the US government investigations of the trades in question, as well as other trading matters that may arise. The DPA has a term of three years but can be extended by two additional one-year periods, and contemplates dismissal of all charges at the end of the term following the DOJ's determination that BP America has complied with the terms of the DPA. Investigations into BP's trading activities continue to be conducted from time to time.

Private complaints, including class actions, have also been filed against BP Products alleging propane price manipulation. The complaints contain allegations similar to those in the CFTC action as well as of violations of federal and state antitrust and unfair competition laws and state consumer protection statutes and unjust enrichment.

The

88

Additional information for shareholders

complaints seek actual and punitive damages and injunctive relief. Settlement with one group of the class actions has received preliminary approval from the court and final approval is expected in 2009.

On 23 March 2005, an explosion and fire occurred in the isomerization unit of BP Products Texas City refinery as the unit was coming out of planned maintenance. Fifteen workers died in the incident and many others were injured. BP Products has resolved all civil claims arising from the incident, except for a small number of claims that remain on appeal following dismissal in the trial court.

In March 2007, the US Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (CSB) issued its final report on the incident. The report contained recommendations to the Texas City refinery and to the board of the company. In May 2007, BP responded to the CSB's recommendations. BP and the CSB continue to discuss BP's responses with the objective of the CSB agreeing to close-out its recommendations.

On 25 October 2007, the DOJ announced that it had entered into a criminal plea agreement with BP Products related to the March 2005 explosion and fire. Following BP Products' guilty plea on 4 February 2008, pursuant to the plea agreement, to one felony violation of the risk management planning regulations promulgated under the US federal Clean Air Act, a series of appeals were taken by victims of the incident, who alleged that the plea agreement did not fully take into account the victims' injuries. On 7 October 2008, after resolution of those appeals, BP Products returned to court to argue for acceptance of the guilty plea. At the plea hearing, the court advised that it would take the matter under review and decide whether to accept or reject the plea. If the court accepts the agreement, BP Products will pay a \$50 million criminal fine and serve three years' probation. Compliance with a 2005 OSHA settlement agreement and an agreed order entered into by BP Products with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) are conditions of probation. The TCEQ and the DOJ continue to investigate certain matters arising from the March 2005 explosion and fire.

On 29 November 2007, BP Exploration (Alaska) Inc. (BPXA) entered into a criminal plea agreement with the DOJ relating to leaks of crude oil in March and August 2006. BPXA's guilty plea, to a misdemeanour violation of the US Federal Water Pollution Control Act, included a term of three years' probation. BPXA is eligible to petition the court for termination of the probation term if it meets certain benchmarks relating to replacement of the transit lines, upgrades to its leak detection system and improvements to its integrity management programme. BPXA continues to co-operate with a parallel State of Alaska civil investigation into the March and August 2006 spills, including three separate subpoenas issued to BPXA by the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation. BPXA is also engaged in discussions with the DOJ, the EPA and the US Department of Transportation concerning a civil enforcement action relating to the 2006 Prudhoe Bay oil transit line incidents.

Shareholder derivative lawsuits alleging breach of fiduciary duty that were filed in US federal and state courts against the directors of the company and others, nominally the company and certain US subsidiaries, following the events relating to, inter alia, Prudhoe Bay, Texas City and the trading cases, have been settled (following court approval of the settlement terms) and the claims have been dismissed.

Approximately 200 lawsuits were filed in state and federal courts in Alaska seeking compensatory and punitive damages arising out of the Exxon Valdez oil spill in Prince William Sound in March 1989. Most of those suits named Exxon (now ExxonMobil), Alyeska Pipeline Service Company (Alyeska), which operates the oil terminal at Valdez, and the other oil companies that own Alyeska. Alyeska initially responded to the spill until the response was taken over by Exxon. BP owns a 46.9% interest (reduced during 2001 from 50% by a sale of 3.1% to Phillips) in Alyeska through a subsidiary of BP America Inc. and briefly indirectly owned a further 20% interest in Alyeska following BP's combination with Atlantic Richfield. Alyeska and its owners have settled all the claims against them under these lawsuits. Exxon has indicated that it may file a claim for contribution against Alyeska for a portion of the costs and damages that it has incurred. If any claims are asserted by Exxon that affect Alyeska and its owners, BP will defend the claims vigorously.

Since 1987, Atlantic Richfield, a subsidiary of BP, has been named as a co-defendant in numerous lawsuits brought in the US alleging injury to persons and property caused by lead pigment in paint. The majority of the lawsuits have been abandoned or dismissed against Atlantic Richfield. Atlantic Richfield is named in these lawsuits as

alleged successor to International Smelting and Refining and another company that manufactured lead pigment during the period 1920-1946. Plaintiffs include individuals and governmental entities. Several of the lawsuits purport to be class actions. The lawsuits seek various remedies including compensation to lead-poisoned children, cost to find and remove lead paint from buildings, medical monitoring and screening programmes, public warning and education of lead hazards, reimbursement of government healthcare costs and special education for lead-poisoned citizens and punitive damages. No lawsuit against Atlantic Richfield has been settled nor has Atlantic Richfield been subject to a final adverse judgment in any proceeding. The amounts claimed and, if such suits were successful, the costs of implementing the remedies sought in the various cases could be substantial. While it is not possible to predict the outcome of these legal actions, Atlantic Richfield believes that it has valid defences and it intends to defend such actions vigorously and that the incurrence of liability is remote. Consequently, BP believes that the impact of these lawsuits on the group's results of operations, financial position or liquidity will not be material.

In January 2009, the TNK-BP shareholders resolved, or agreed a process for resolving, all outstanding claims between them, including those relating to Russian back taxes. The suit filed in Russia by a minority shareholder in TNK-BP Holding, alleging that an agreement by BP specialists to provide services to the TNK-BP group is invalid and demanding repayment of sums paid to BP for such services, has been withdrawn.

For certain information regarding environmental proceedings, see Environment US regional review on page 42. The offer and listing

Markets and market prices

The primary market for BP's ordinary shares is the London Stock Exchange (LSE). BP's ordinary shares are a constituent element of the Financial Times Stock Exchange 100 Index. BP's ordinary shares are also traded on stock exchanges in France and Germany.

Trading of BP's shares on the LSE is primarily through the use of the Stock Exchange Electronic Trading Service (SETS), introduced in 1997 for the largest companies in terms of market capitalization whose primary listing is the LSE. Under SETS, buy and sell orders at specific prices may be sent to the exchange electronically by any firm that is a member of the LSE, on behalf of a client or on behalf of itself acting as a principal. The orders are then anonymously displayed in the order book. When there is a match on a buy and a sell order, the trade is executed and automatically reported to the LSE. Trading is continuous from 8.00 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. UK time but, in the event of a 20% movement in the share price either way, the LSE may impose a temporary halt in the trading of that company's shares in the order book to allow the market to re-establish equilibrium. Dealings in ordinary shares may also take place between an investor and a market-maker, via a member firm, outside the electronic order book.

In the US, the company's securities are traded in the form of ADSs, for which JPMorgan Chase Bank is the depositary (the Depositary) and transfer agent. The Depositary's principal office is 4 New York Plaza, Floor 13, New York, NY 10004, US. Each ADS represents six ordinary shares. ADSs are listed on the New York Stock Exchange. ADSs are evidenced by American depositary receipts (ADRs), which may be issued in either certificated or book entry form.

The following table sets forth for the periods indicated the highest

Additional information for shareholders

and lowest middle market quotations for BP's ordinary shares for the periods shown. These are derived from the Daily Official List of the LSE

and the highest and lowest sales prices of ADSs as reported on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) composite tape.

| | Pence | | Dollars | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|---|--------------|
| | Ordinary shares | | American depository shares ^a | |
| | High | Low | High | Low |
| Year ended 31 December | | | | |
| 2004 | 561.00 | 407.75 | 62.10 | 46.65 |
| 2005 | 686.00 | 499.00 | 72.75 | 56.60 |
| 2006 | 723.00 | 558.50 | 76.85 | 63.52 |
| 2007 | 640.00 | 504.50 | 79.77 | 58.62 |
| 2008 | 657.25 | 370.00 | 77.69 | 37.57 |
| Year ended 31 December | | | | |
| 2007: First quarter | 574.50 | 504.50 | 67.27 | 58.62 |
| Second quarter | 606.50 | 542.50 | 72.49 | 64.42 |
| Third quarter | 617.00 | 516.00 | 75.25 | 61.10 |
| Fourth quarter | 640.00 | 548.00 | 79.77 | 67.24 |
| 2008: First quarter | 648.00 | 495.00 | 75.87 | 57.87 |
| Second quarter | 657.25 | 501.34 | 77.69 | 60.25 |
| Third quarter | 583.00 | 446.00 | 69.10 | 48.35 |
| Fourth quarter | 541.25 | 370.00 | 51.49 | 37.57 |
| 2009: First quarter (to 18 February) | 566.50 | 461.50 | 49.83 | 39.45 |
| Month of | | | | |
| September 2008 | 536.00 | 446.00 | 58.13 | 48.35 |
| October 2008 | 518.75 | 370.00 | 50.96 | 37.57 |
| November 2008 | 540.00 | 450.25 | 51.49 | 39.45 |
| December 2008 | 541.25 | 476.00 | 50.10 | 41.55 |
| January 2009 | 566.50 | 470.50 | 49.83 | 39.45 |
| February 2009 (to 18 February) | 518.00 | 461.50 | 46.07 | 39.91 |

^aAn ADS is equivalent to six 25 cent ordinary shares.

Market prices for the ordinary shares on the LSE and in after-hours trading off the LSE, in each case while the NYSE is open, and the market prices for ADSs on the NYSE are closely related due to arbitrage among the various markets,

although differences may exist from time to time due to various factors, including UK stamp duty reserve tax.

On 18 February 2009, 864,042,084 ADSs (equivalent to 5,184,252,501 ordinary shares or some 27.51% of the total issued share capital, excluding treasury shares) were outstanding and were held by approximately 136,213 ADS holders. Of these, about 134,710 had registered addresses in the US at that date. One of the registered holders of ADSs represents some 818,000 underlying holders.

On 18 February 2009, there were approximately 317,409 holders of record of ordinary shares. Of these holders, around 1,504 had registered addresses in the US and held a total of some 4,236,569 ordinary shares.

Since certain of the ordinary shares and ADSs were held by brokers and other nominees, the number of holders of record in the US may not be representative of the number of beneficial holders or of their country of residence.

Additional information for shareholders

Memorandum and Articles of Association

The following summarizes certain provisions of the company's Memorandum and Articles of Association and applicable English law. This summary is qualified in its entirety by reference to the UK Companies Act and the company's Memorandum and Articles of Association. Information on where investors can obtain copies of the Memorandum and Articles of Association is described under the heading "Documents on display" on page 94.

On 24 April 2003, the shareholders of BP voted at the AGM to adopt new Articles of Association to consolidate amendments that had been necessary to implement legislative changes since the previous Articles of Association were adopted in 1983.

At the AGM held on 15 April 2004, shareholders approved an amendment to the Articles of Association such that, at each AGM held after 31 December 2004, all directors shall retire from office and may offer themselves for re-election.

At the AGM held on 17 April 2008, shareholders voted to adopt new Articles of Association, largely to take account of changes in UK company law brought about by the Companies Act 2006. Further amendments to the Articles of Association are likely to be required at our AGM in 2010, to reflect the full implementation of the Companies Act 2006.

Objects and purposes

BP is incorporated under the name BP p.l.c. and is registered in England and Wales with registered number 102498. Clause 4 of BP's Memorandum of Association provides that its objects include the acquisition of petroleum-bearing lands; the carrying on of refining and dealing businesses in the petroleum, manufacturing, metallurgical or chemicals businesses; the purchase and operation of ships and all other vehicles and other conveyances; and the carrying on of any other businesses calculated to benefit BP. The memorandum grants BP a range of corporate capabilities to effect these objects.

Directors

The business and affairs of BP shall be managed by the directors.

The Articles of Association place a general prohibition on a director voting in respect of any contract or arrangement in which he has a material interest other than by virtue of his interest in shares in the company. However, in the absence of some other material interest not indicated below, a director is entitled to vote and to be counted in a quorum for the purpose of any vote relating to a resolution concerning the following matters:

The giving of security or indemnity with respect to any money lent or obligation taken by the director at the request or benefit of the company.

Any proposal in which he is interested concerning the underwriting of company securities or debentures.

Any proposal concerning any other company in which he is interested, directly or indirectly (whether as an officer or shareholder or otherwise) provided that he and persons connected with him are not the holder or holders of 1% or more of the voting interest in the shares of such company.

Proposals concerning the modification of certain retirement benefits schemes under which he may benefit and that have been approved by either the UK Board of Inland Revenue or by the shareholders.

Any proposal concerning the purchase or maintenance of any insurance policy under which he may benefit. The UK Companies Act requires a director of a company who is in any way interested in a contract or proposed contract with the company to declare the nature of his interest at a meeting of the directors of the company. The definition of "interest" includes the interests of spouses, children, companies and trusts. The UK Companies Act also requires that a director must avoid a situation where a director has, or could have, a direct or indirect interest that conflicts, or possibly may conflict, with the company's interests. The Act allows directors of public companies to authorize such conflicts where appropriate, if a company's Articles of Association so permit. BP's Articles of

Association permit the authorization of such conflicts. The directors may exercise all the powers of the company to borrow money, except that the amount remaining undischarged of all moneys borrowed by the company shall not, without approval of the shareholders, exceed the amount paid up on the share capital plus the aggregate of the amount of the capital and revenue reserves of the company. Variation of the borrowing power of the board may only be effected by amending the Articles of Association.

Remuneration of non-executive directors shall be determined in the aggregate by resolution of the shareholders. Remuneration of executive directors is determined by the remuneration committee. This committee is made up of non-executive directors only. There is no requirement of share ownership for a director's qualification.

Dividend rights; other rights to share in company profits; capital calls

If recommended by the directors of BP, BP shareholders may, by resolution, declare dividends but no such dividend may be declared in excess of the amount recommended by the directors. The directors may also pay interim dividends without obtaining shareholder approval. No dividend may be paid other than out of profits available for distribution, as determined under IFRS and the UK Companies Act. Dividends on ordinary shares are payable only after payment of dividends on BP preference shares. Any dividend unclaimed after a period of 12 years from the date of declaration of such dividend shall be forfeited and reverts to BP.

The directors have the power to declare and pay dividends in any currency provided that a sterling equivalent is announced. It is not the company's intention to change its current policy of paying dividends in US dollars.

Apart from shareholders' rights to share in BP's profits by dividend (if any is declared), the Articles of Association provide that the directors may set aside:

A special reserve fund out of the balance of profits each year to make up any deficit of cumulative dividend on the BP preference shares.

A general reserve out of the balance of profits each year, which shall be applicable for any purpose to which the profits of the company may properly be applied. This may include capitalization of such sum, pursuant to an ordinary shareholders' resolution, and distribution to shareholders as if it were distributed by way of a dividend on the ordinary shares or in paying up in full unissued ordinary shares for allotment and distribution as bonus shares. Any such sums so deposited may be distributed in accordance with the manner of distribution of dividends as described above.

Holders of shares are not subject to calls on capital by the company, provided that the amounts required to be paid on issue have been paid off. All shares are fully paid.

Additional information for shareholders

Voting rights

The Articles of Association of the company provide that voting on resolutions at a shareholders' meeting will be decided on a poll other than resolutions of a procedural nature, which may be decided on a show of hands. If voting is on a poll, every shareholder who is present in person or by proxy has one vote for every ordinary share held and two votes for every £5 in nominal amount of BP preference shares held. If voting is on a show of hands, each shareholder who is present at the meeting in person or whose duly appointed proxy is present in person will have one vote, regardless of the number of shares held, unless a poll is requested. Shareholders do not have cumulative voting rights.

Holders of record of ordinary shares may appoint a proxy, including a beneficial owner of those shares, to attend, speak and vote on their behalf at any shareholders' meeting.

Record holders of BP ADSs are also entitled to attend, speak and vote at any shareholders' meeting of BP by the appointment by the approved depository, JPMorgan Chase Bank, of them as proxies in respect of the ordinary shares represented by their ADSs. Each such proxy may also appoint a proxy. Alternatively, holders of BP ADSs are entitled to vote by supplying their voting instructions to the depository, who will vote the ordinary shares represented by their ADSs in accordance with their instructions.

Proxies may be delivered electronically.

Matters are transacted at shareholders' meetings by the proposing and passing of resolutions, of which there are three types: ordinary, special or extraordinary. An annual general meeting must be held once in every year and all other general meetings will be called extraordinary general meetings.

An ordinary resolution requires the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes of those persons voting at a meeting at which there is a quorum. Special and extraordinary resolutions require the affirmative vote of not less than three-fourths of the persons voting at a meeting at which there is a quorum. Any AGM requires 21 days' notice. The notice period for an extraordinary general meeting is 14 days. With the implementation of the EU Shareholder Rights Directive into UK law expected later this year, reliance on this notice period of 14 days will require annual shareholder approval, failing which, a 21-day notice period will apply.

Liquidation rights; redemption provisions

In the event of a liquidation of BP, after payment of all liabilities and applicable deductions under UK laws and subject to the payment of secured creditors, the holders of BP preference shares would be entitled to the sum of (i) the capital paid up on such shares plus, (ii) accrued and unpaid dividends and (iii) a premium equal to the higher of (a) 10% of the capital paid up on the BP preference shares and (b) the excess of the average market price over par value of such shares on the LSE during the previous six months. The remaining assets (if any) would be divided pro rata among the holders of ordinary shares.

Without prejudice to any special rights previously conferred on the holders of any class of shares, BP may issue any share with such preferred, deferred or other special rights, or subject to such restrictions as the shareholders by resolution determine (or, in the absence of any such resolutions, by determination of the directors), and may issue shares that are to be or may be redeemed.

Variation of rights

The rights attached to any class of shares may be varied with the consent in writing of holders of 75% of the shares of that class or on the adoption of an extraordinary resolution passed at a separate meeting of the holders of the shares of that class. At every such separate meeting, all of the provisions of the Articles of Association relating to proceedings at a general meeting apply, except that the quorum with respect to a meeting to change the rights attached to the preference shares is 10% or more of the shares of that class, and the quorum to change the rights attached to the ordinary shares is one-third or more of the shares of that class.

Shareholders' meetings and notices

Shareholders must provide BP with a postal or electronic address in the UK in order to be entitled to receive notice of shareholders' meetings. In certain circumstances, BP may give notices to shareholders by advertisement in UK newspapers. Holders of BP ADSs are entitled to receive notices under the terms of the deposit agreement relating to BP ADSs. The substance and timing of notices is described above under the heading Voting Rights.

Under the Articles of Association, the AGM of shareholders will be held within the six-month period from the first day of BP's accounting period. All general meetings shall be held at a time and place determined by the directors within the UK. If any shareholders' meeting is adjourned for lack of quorum, notice of the time and place of the meeting may be given in any lawful manner, including electronically. Powers exist for action to be taken either before or at the meeting by authorized officers to ensure its orderly conduct and safety of those attending.

Limitations on voting and shareholding

There are no limitations imposed by English law or the company's Memorandum or Articles of Association on the right of non-residents or foreign persons to hold or vote the company's ordinary shares or ADSs, other than limitations that would generally apply to all of the shareholders.

Disclosure of interests in shares

The UK Companies Act permits a public company, on written notice, to require any person whom the company believes to be or, at any time during the previous three years prior to the issue of the notice, to have been interested in its voting shares, to disclose certain information with respect to those interests. Failure to supply the information required may lead to disenfranchisement of the relevant shares and a prohibition on their transfer and receipt of dividends and other payments in respect of those shares. In this context the term "interest" is widely defined and will generally include an interest of any kind whatsoever in voting shares, including any interest of a holder of BP ADSs.

Exchange controls

There are currently no UK foreign exchange controls or restrictions on remittances of dividends on the ordinary shares or on the conduct of the company's operations.

There are no limitations, either under the laws of the UK or under the company's Articles of Association, restricting the right of non-resident or foreign owners to hold or vote BP ordinary or preference shares in the company.

Taxation

This section describes the material US federal income tax and UK taxation consequences of owning ordinary shares or ADSs to a US holder who holds the ordinary shares or ADSs as capital assets for tax purposes. It does not apply, however, to members of special classes of holders subject to special rules and holders that, directly or indirectly, hold 10% or more of the company's voting stock.

A US holder is any beneficial owner of ordinary shares or ADSs that is for US federal income tax purposes (i) a citizen or resident of the US, (ii) a US domestic corporation, (iii) an estate whose income is subject to US federal income taxation regardless of its source, or (iv) a trust if a US court can exercise primary supervision over the trust's administration and one or more US persons are authorized to control all substantial decisions of the trust.

This section is based on the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, its legislative history, existing and proposed regulations thereunder, published rulings and court decisions, and the taxation laws of the UK, all as currently in effect, as well as the income tax convention

Additional information for shareholders

between the US and the UK that entered into force on 31 March 2003 (the Treaty). These laws are subject to change, possibly on a retroactive basis. This section is further based in part on the representations of the Depositary and assumes that each obligation in the Deposit Agreement and any related agreement will be performed in accordance with its terms.

For purposes of the Treaty and the estate and gift tax Convention (the Estate Tax Convention), and for US federal income tax and UK taxation purposes, a holder of ADRs evidencing ADSs will be treated as the owner of the company's ordinary shares represented by those ADRs. Exchanges of ordinary shares for ADRs and ADRs for ordinary shares generally will not be subject to US federal income tax or to UK taxation other than stamp duty or stamp duty reserve tax, as described below.

Investors should consult their own tax adviser regarding the US federal, state and local, the UK and other tax consequences of owning and disposing of ordinary shares and ADSs in their particular circumstances, and in particular whether they are eligible for the benefits of the Treaty.

Taxation of dividends

UK taxation

Under current UK taxation law, no withholding tax will be deducted from dividends paid by the company, including dividends paid to US holders. A shareholder that is a company resident for tax purposes in the UK or trading in the UK through a permanent establishment generally will not be taxable in the UK on a dividend it receives from the company. A shareholder who is an individual resident for tax purposes in the UK is subject to UK tax but entitled to a tax credit on cash dividends paid on ordinary shares or ADSs of the company equal to one-ninth of the cash dividend.

US federal income taxation

A US holder is subject to US federal income taxation on the gross amount of any dividend paid by the company out of its current or accumulated earnings and profits (as determined for US federal income tax purposes). Dividends paid to a non-corporate US holder in taxable years beginning before 1 January 2011 that constitute qualified dividend income will be taxable to the holder at a maximum tax rate of 15%, provided that the holder has a holding period in the ordinary shares or ADSs of more than 60 days during the 121-day period beginning 60 days before the ex-dividend date and meets other holding period requirements. Dividends paid by the company with respect to the shares or ADSs will generally be qualified dividend income.

As noted above in UK taxation, a US holder will not be subject to UK withholding tax. A US holder will include in gross income for US federal income tax purposes the amount of the dividend actually received from the company and the receipt of a dividend will not entitle the US holder to a foreign tax credit.

For US federal income tax purposes, a dividend must be included in income when the US holder, in the case of ordinary shares, or the Depositary, in the case of ADSs, actually or constructively receives the dividend, and will not be eligible for the dividends-received deduction generally allowed to US corporations in respect of dividends received from other US corporations. Dividends will be income from sources outside the US, and generally will be passive category income or, in the case of certain US holders, general category income, each of which is treated separately for purposes of computing the allowable foreign tax credit.

The amount of the dividend distribution on the ordinary shares or ADSs that is paid in pounds sterling will be the US dollar value of the pounds sterling payments made, determined at the spot pounds sterling/US dollar rate on the date the dividend distribution is includible in income, regardless of whether the payment is in fact converted into US dollars. Generally, any gain or loss resulting from currency exchange fluctuations during the period from the date the pounds sterling dividend payment is includible in income to the date the payment is converted into US dollars will be treated as ordinary income or loss and will not be eligible for the 15% tax rate on qualified dividend income. The gain or loss generally will be income or loss from sources within the US for foreign tax credit limitation purposes.

Distributions in excess of the company's earnings and profits, as determined for US federal income tax purposes, will be treated as a return of capital to the extent of the US holder's basis in the ordinary shares or ADSs and thereafter as capital gain, subject to taxation as described in Taxation of capital gains US federal income taxation.

Taxation of capital gains

UK taxation

A US holder may be liable for both UK and US tax in respect of a gain on the disposal of ordinary shares or ADSs if the US holder is (i) a citizen of the US resident or ordinarily resident in the UK, (ii) a US domestic corporation resident in the UK by reason of its business being managed or controlled in the UK or (iii) a citizen of the US or a corporation that carries on a trade or profession or vocation in the UK through a branch or agency or, in respect of corporations for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2003, through a permanent establishment, and that have used, held, or acquired the ordinary shares or ADSs for the purposes of such trade, profession or vocation of such branch, agency or permanent establishment. However, such persons may be entitled to a tax credit against their US federal income tax liability for the amount of UK capital gains tax or UK corporation tax on chargeable gains (as the case may be) that is paid in respect of such gain.

Under the Treaty, capital gains on dispositions of ordinary shares or ADSs generally will be subject to tax only in the jurisdiction of residence of the relevant holder as determined under both the laws of the UK and the US and as required by the terms of the Treaty.

Under the Treaty, individuals who are residents of either the UK or the US and who have been residents of the other jurisdiction (the US or the UK, as the case may be) at any time during the six years immediately preceding the relevant disposal of ordinary shares or ADSs may be subject to tax with respect to capital gains arising from a disposition of ordinary shares or ADSs of the company not only in the jurisdiction of which the holder is resident at the time of the disposition but also in the other jurisdiction.

US federal income taxation

A US holder that sells or otherwise disposes of ordinary shares or ADSs will recognize a capital gain or loss for US federal income tax purposes equal to the difference between the US dollar value of the amount realized and the holder's tax basis, determined in US dollars, in the ordinary shares or ADSs. Capital gain of a non-corporate US holder that is recognized in taxable years beginning before 1 January 2011 is generally taxed at a maximum rate of 15% if the holder's holding period for such ordinary shares or ADSs exceeds one year. The gain or loss will generally be income or loss from sources within the US for foreign tax credit limitation purposes. The deductibility of capital losses is subject to limitations.

We do not believe that ordinary shares or ADSs will be treated as stock of a passive foreign investment company, or PFIC, for US federal income tax purposes, but this conclusion is a factual determination that is made annually and thus is subject to change. If we are treated as a PFIC, unless a US holder elects to be taxed annually on a mark-to-market basis with respect to ordinary shares or ADSs, gain realized on the sale or other disposition of ordinary shares or ADSs would in general not be treated as capital gain. Instead a US holder would be treated as if he or she had realized such gain and certain excess distributions ratably over the holding period for ordinary shares or ADSs and would be taxed at the highest tax rate in effect for each such year to which the gain was allocated, in addition to which an interest charge in respect of the tax attributable to each such year would apply.

Additional information for shareholders

Additional tax considerations

UK inheritance tax

The Estate Tax Convention applies to inheritance tax. ADSs held by an individual who is domiciled for the purposes of the Estate Tax Convention in the US and is not for the purposes of the Estate Tax Convention a national of the UK will not be subject to UK inheritance tax on the individual's death or on transfer during the individual's lifetime unless, among other things, the ADSs are part of the business property of a permanent establishment situated in the UK used for the performance of independent personal services. In the exceptional case where ADSs are subject both to inheritance tax and to US federal gift or estate tax, the Estate Tax Convention generally provides for tax payable in the US to be credited against tax payable in the UK or for tax paid in the UK to be credited against tax payable in the US, based on priority rules set forth in the Estate Tax Convention.

UK stamp duty and stamp duty reserve tax

The statements below relate to what is understood to be the current practice of HM Revenue & Customs in the UK under existing law.

Provided that any instrument of transfer is not executed in the UK and remains at all times outside the UK and the transfer does not relate to any matter or thing done or to be done in the UK, no UK stamp duty is payable on the acquisition or transfer of ADSs. Neither will an agreement to transfer ADSs in the form of ADRs give rise to a liability to stamp duty reserve tax.

Purchases of ordinary shares, as opposed to ADSs, through the CREST system of paperless share transfers will be subject to stamp duty reserve tax at 0.5%. The charge will arise as soon as there is an agreement for the transfer of the shares (or, in the case of a conditional agreement, when the condition is fulfilled). The stamp duty reserve tax will apply to agreements to transfer ordinary shares even if the agreement is made outside the UK between two non-residents. Purchases of ordinary shares outside the CREST system are subject either to stamp duty at a rate of £5 per £1,000 (or part, unless the stamp duty is less than £5, when no stamp duty is charged), or stamp duty reserve tax at 0.5%. Stamp duty and stamp duty reserve tax are generally the liability of the purchaser.

A subsequent transfer of ordinary shares to the Depository's nominee will give rise to further stamp duty at the rate of £1.50 per £100 (or part) or stamp duty reserve tax at the rate of 1.5% of the value of the ordinary shares at the time of the transfer.

An ADR holder electing to receive ADSs instead of a cash dividend will be responsible for the stamp duty reserve tax due on issue of shares to the Depository's nominee and calculated at the rate of 1.5% on the issue price of the shares. It is understood that HM Revenue & Customs practice is to calculate the issue price by reference to the total cash receipt to which a US holder would have been entitled had the election to receive ADSs instead of a cash dividend not been made. ADR holders electing to receive ADSs instead of the cash dividend authorize the Depository to sell sufficient shares to cover this liability.

Documents on display

BP's Annual Report and Accounts is also available online at www.bp.com/annualreport. Shareholders may obtain a hard copy of BP's complete audited financial statements, free of charge, by contacting BP Distribution Services at +44 (0)870 241 3269 or through an email request addressed to bpdistributionsservices@bp.com, or BP's US Shareholder Services office in Warrenville, Illinois at +1 800 638 5672 or through an email request addressed to shareholderus@bp.com.

The company is subject to the information requirements of the US Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the Exchange Act) applicable to foreign private issuers. In accordance with these requirements, the company files its Annual Report on Form 20-F and other related documents with the SEC. It is possible to read and copy documents that have been filed with the SEC at the SEC's public reference room located at 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549, US. You may also call the SEC at +1 800-SEC-0330 or log on to www.sec.gov. In addition, BP's SEC filings are available to the public at the SEC's website www.sec.gov. BP discloses on its website at www.bp.com/NYSEcorporategovernancerules, and in its Annual Report on Form 20-F (Item 16G) significant ways (if any) in which its corporate governance practices differ

from those mandated for US companies under NYSE listing standards.

Material modifications to the rights of security holders and use of proceeds

During 2008, the Depository and transfer agent for BP's ADSs changed its contact address to PO Box 64504, St. Paul, MN 55164-0504.

Controls and procedures

Evaluation of disclosure controls and procedures

The company maintains disclosure controls and procedures as such term is defined in Exchange Act Rule 13a-15(e), that are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in reports the company files or submits under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the Securities and Exchange Commission rules and forms, and that such information is accumulated and communicated to management, including the company's group chief executive and chief financial officer, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

In designing and evaluating our disclosure controls and procedures, our management, including the group chief executive and chief financial officer, recognize that any controls and procedures, no matter how well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable, not absolute, assurance that the objectives of the disclosure controls and procedures are met. Because of the inherent limitations in all control systems, no evaluation of controls can provide absolute assurance that all control issues and instances of fraud, if any, within the company have been detected. Further, in the design and evaluation of our disclosure controls and procedures our management necessarily was required to apply its judgment in evaluating the cost-benefit relationship of possible controls and procedures. Also, we have investments in certain unconsolidated entities. As we do not control these entities, our disclosure controls and procedures with respect to such entities are necessarily substantially more limited than those we maintain with respect to our consolidated subsidiaries. Because of the inherent limitations in a cost-effective control system, mis-statements due to error or fraud may occur and not be detected. The company's disclosure controls and procedures have been designed to meet, and management believe that they meet, reasonable assurance standards.

The company's management, with the participation of the company's group chief executive and chief financial officer, has evaluated the effectiveness of the company's disclosure controls and procedures pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 13a-15(b) as of the end of the period covered by this annual report. Based on that evaluation, the group chief executive and chief financial officer have concluded that the company's disclosure controls and procedures were effective at a reasonable assurance level.

Changes in internal controls over financial reporting

There were no changes in the Group's internal controls over financial reporting that occurred during the period covered by the Form 20-F that have materially affected or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal controls over financial reporting.

During 2008, as part of an ongoing process, improvements were made in the design and operation of the Group's internal control over financial reporting including those relating to the valuation of inventory

Additional information for shareholders

and the elimination of unrealised profit arising on transfers of inventory between business segments. These improvements included clarifying roles and accountabilities, implementing additional preventative and detective controls and providing additional staff training.

Management's report on internal control over financial reporting

Management of BP is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting. BP's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed under the supervision of the principal executive and principal financial officers to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of BP's financial statements for external reporting purposes in accordance with IFRS.

As of the end of the 2008 fiscal year, management conducted an assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting in accordance with the Internal Control Revised Guidance for Directors on the Combined Code (Turnbull). Based on this assessment, management has determined that BP's internal control over financial reporting as of 31 December 2008 was effective.

The company's internal control over financial reporting includes policies and procedures that pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect transactions and dispositions of assets; provide reasonable assurances that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with IFRS and that receipts and expenditures are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and the directors of BP; and provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use or disposition of BP's assets that could have a material effect on our financial statements.

BP's internal control over financial reporting as of 31 December 2008 has been audited by Ernst & Young LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their report appearing on page 100.

Audit committee financial expert

The board determined that Douglas Flint is the audit committee member with recent and relevant financial experience as defined by the Combined Code guidance.

The board also determined that Douglas Flint meets the independence criteria provisions of Rule 10A-3 of the Exchange Act and that Mr Flint may be regarded as an audit committee financial expert as defined in Item 16A of Form 20-F. Mr Flint is group finance director of HSBC Holdings plc and a former member of the Accounting Standards Board and the Standards Advisory Council of the International Accounting Standards Board.

Code of ethics

The company has adopted a code of ethics for its group chief executive, chief financial officer, general auditor, group chief accounting officer and deputy chief financial officer (previously titled group controller) as required by the provisions of Section 406 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and the rules issued by the SEC. There have been no amendments to, or waivers from, the code of ethics relating to any of those officers. The code of ethics has been filed as an exhibit to our Annual Report on Form 20-F.

In June 2005, BP published a code of conduct, which is applicable to all employees.

Principal accountants fees and services

The audit committee has established policies and procedures for the engagement of the independent registered public accounting firm, Ernst & Young LLP, to render audit and certain assurance and tax services. The policies provide for pre-approval by the audit committee of specifically

defined audit, audit-related, tax and other services that are not prohibited by regulatory or other professional requirements. Ernst & Young is engaged for these services when its expertise and experience of BP are important. Most of this work is of an audit nature. Tax services were awarded either through a full competitive tender process or following an assessment of the expertise of Ernst & Young relative to that of other potential service providers. These services are for a fixed term.

Under the policy, pre-approval is given for specific services within the following categories: advice on accounting, auditing and financial reporting matters; internal accounting and risk management control reviews (excluding any services relating to information systems design and implementation); non-statutory audit; project assurance and advice on business and accounting process improvement (excluding any services relating to information

systems design and implementation relating to BP's financial statements or accounting records); due diligence in connection with acquisitions, disposals and joint ventures (excluding valuation or involvement in prospective financial information); income tax and indirect tax compliance and advisory services; and employee tax services (excluding tax services that could impair independence); provision of, or access to, Ernst & Young publications, workshops, seminars and other training materials; provision of reports from data gathered on non-financial policies and information; and assistance with understanding non-financial regulatory requirements. Additionally, any proposed service not included in the pre-approved services, must be approved in advance prior to commencement of the engagement. The audit committee has delegated to the chairman of the audit committee authority to approve permitted services provided that the chairman reports any decisions to the committee at its next scheduled meeting.

The audit committee evaluates the performance of the auditors each year. The audit fees payable to Ernst & Young are reviewed by the committee in the context of other global companies for cost effectiveness. The committee keeps under review the scope and results of audit work and the independence and objectivity of the auditors. External regulation and BP policy requires the auditors to rotate their lead audit partner every five years.

(See Financial statements Notes 18 and 48 on pages 132 and 178 for details of audit fees.)

Corporate governance practices

In the US, BP ADSs are listed on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE). The significant differences between BP's corporate governance practices and those required by NYSE listing standards for US companies are listed as follows:

Independence

BP has adopted a robust set of board governance principles, which reflect the UK's prevailing principles-based approach to corporate governance. As such, the way in which BP makes determinations of directors' independence differs from the NYSE rules. Rule 303A.02 under NYSE's Listed Company Manual sets out five bright line tests for director independence. In addition to these five tests, the NYSE also requires that the board of directors affirmatively determines that the director has no material relationship with the company (either directly or as a partner, shareholder or officer of an organization that has a relationship with the company).

BP's board governance principles require that all non-executive directors be determined by the board to be independent in character and judgement and free from any business or other relationship which could materially interfere with the exercise of their judgement.

The BP board has determined that, in its judgement, all of the non-executive directors are independent. In doing so, however, the board did not explicitly take into consideration the NYSE's five bright line tests.

Additional information for shareholders

Committees

BP has a number of board committees which are broadly comparable in purpose and composition to those required by NYSE rules for domestic US companies. For instance, BP has a chairman's (rather than executive) committee, nomination (rather than nominating/corporate governance) committee and remuneration (rather than compensation) committee. BP also has an audit committee, which NYSE rules require for both US companies and foreign private issuers. These committees are composed solely of non-executive directors whom the board has determined to be independent, in the manner described above.

The BP board governance principles prescribe the composition, main tasks and requirements of each of the committees (see The Board Committees on page 67). BP has not, therefore, adopted separate charters for each committee.

One of the NYSE's additional requirements for the audit committee states that at least one member of the audit committee is to have accounting or related financial management expertise. For 2008, the board determined that Douglas Flint possessed such expertise and also possesses the financial and audit committee experiences set forth in both the Combined Code and SEC rules (See Audit Committee Financial Expert on page 95).

Shareholder approval of equity compensation plans

The NYSE rules for US companies require that shareholders must be given the opportunity to vote on all equity-compensation plans and material revisions to those plans. BP complies with UK requirements which are similar to the NYSE rules. The board, however, does not explicitly take into consideration the NYSE's detailed definition of what are considered material revisions.

Code of ethics

The NYSE rules require that US companies adopt and disclose a code of business conduct and ethics for directors, officers and employees. BP has adopted a code of conduct, which applies to all employees, and has board governance principles which address the conduct of directors. In addition BP has adopted a code of ethics for senior financial officers as required by the SEC. BP considers that these codes and policies address the matters specified in the NYSE rules for US companies.

Additional information for shareholders

Purchases of equity securities by the issuer and affiliated purchasers

The following table provides details of ordinary shares repurchased.

| | Total number of shares purchased ^{a b} | \$ Average price paid per share | Total number of shares purchased as part of publicly announced programmes | Maximum number of shares that may yet be purchased under the programme ^c |
|---------------------------|--|---|---|--|
| 2008 | | | | |
| January | 41,187,000 | 11.26 | 41,187,000 | |
| February | 24,314,706 | 10.90 | 24,314,706 | |
| March | 25,494,193 | 10.60 | 25,494,193 | |
| April | 28,537,196 | 11.02 | 28,537,196 | |
| May | 27,570,000 | 12.34 | 27,570,000 | |
| June | 29,793,000 | 11.58 | 29,793,000 | |
| July | 32,285,000 | 10.67 | 32,285,000 | |
| August | 33,006,764 | 9.86 | 33,006,764 | |
| September | 27,569,329 | 8.92 | 27,569,329 | |
| October | | | | |
| November | | | | |
| December | | | | |
| 2009 | | | | |
| January | | | | |
| February (to 18 February) | | | | |

^aAll share purchases were open market transactions.

^bAll shares were repurchased for cancellation.

^cAt the AGM on 17 April 2008, authorization was given to repurchase up to 1.9 billion ordinary shares in the period to the next AGM in 2009 or 16 July 2009, the latest date by which an AGM must be held. This authorization is renewed annually at the AGM.

The following table provides details of share purchases made by ESOP trusts.

| | Total number of | \$ Average price | Total number of shares purchased as part of publicly announced | Maximum number of shares that may yet be purchased under |
|--|--------------------|------------------------|---|---|
|--|--------------------|------------------------|---|---|

Edgar Filing: BP PLC - Form 20-F

| | shares purchased | paid per share | programmes ^a | the programme ^a |
|---------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 2008 | | | | |
| January | | | | |
| February | | | | |
| March | 30,000,000 | 11.41 | | |
| April | 680 | 11.53 | | |
| May | | | | |
| June | | | | |
| July | 63 | 11.08 | | |
| August | 1,500,000 | 9.49 | | |
| September | 81,694 | 8.73 | | |
| October | 1,000,772 | 7.39 | | |
| November | 166 | 10.09 | | |
| December | 59,049 | 8.09 | | |
| 2009 | | | | |
| January | | | | |
| February (to 18 February) | 126 | 7.65 | | |

^aNo shares were repurchased pursuant to a publicly announced plan. Transactions represent the purchase of ordinary shares by ESOP trusts to satisfy future requirements of employee share schemes.

Additional information for shareholders

Called-up share capital

Details of the allotted, called up and fully paid share capital at 31 December 2008 are set out in Financial statements Note 39 on page 163.

At the AGM on 17 April 2008, authorization was given to the directors to allot shares up to an aggregate nominal amount equal to \$1,586 million. Authority was also given to the directors to allot shares for cash and to dispose of treasury shares, other than by way of rights issue, up to a maximum of \$238 million, without having to offer such shares to existing shareholders. These authorities are given for the period until the next AGM in 2009 or 16 July 2009, whichever is the earlier. These authorities are renewed annually at the AGM.

Annual general meeting

The 2009 AGM will be held on Thursday 16 April 2009 at 11.30 a.m. at ExCeL London, One Western Gateway, Royal Victoria Dock, London E16 1XL. A separate notice convening the meeting is distributed to shareholders, which includes an explanation of the items of business to be considered at the meeting.

All resolutions of which notice has been given will be decided on a poll.

Ernst & Young LLP have expressed their willingness to continue in office as auditors and a resolution for their reappointment is included in *Notice of BP Annual General Meeting 2009*.

By order of the board

David J Jackson

Secretary

24 February 2009

Exhibits

The following documents are filed as part of this annual report:

| | |
|-------------|---|
| Exhibit 4.1 | The BP Executive Directors Incentive Plan** |
| Exhibit 4.2 | Medium Term Performance Plan |
| Exhibit 4.3 | Deferred Annual Bonus Plan |
| Exhibit 4.4 | Performance Share Plan |
| Exhibit 7. | Computation of Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges (Unaudited) |
| Exhibit 8. | Subsidiaries |
| Exhibit 11. | Code of Ethics*** |
| Exhibit 12. | Rule 13a 14(a) Certifications |
| Exhibit 13. | Rule 13a 14(b) Certifications# |

*Incorporated by reference to the company's Report on Form 6-K filed on 22 May 2008.

**Incorporated by reference to the company's Annual Report on Form 20-F for the year ended 31 December 2004.

***Incorporated by reference to the company's Annual Report on Form 20-F for the year ended 31 December 2003.

#Furnished only.

Included only in the annual report filed in the Securities and Exchange Commission EDGAR system.

The total amount of long-term securities of the Registrant and its subsidiaries authorized under any one instrument does not exceed 10% of the total assets of BP p.l.c. and its subsidiaries on a consolidated basis. The company agrees to furnish copies of any or all such instruments to the Securities and Exchange Commission upon request.

Administration

If you have any queries about the administration of shareholdings, such as change of address, change of ownership, dividend payments, the dividend reinvestment plan or the ADS direct access plan, or to change the way you receive

your company documents (such as the Annual Report and Accounts, Annual Review and Notice of Meeting) please contact the BP Registrar or ADS Depositary.

UK Registrar's Office

The BP Registrar, Equiniti

Aspect House, Spencer Road, Lancing, West Sussex BN99 6DA

Freephone in UK 0800 701107; Tel +44 (0)121 415 7005

Textphone 0871 384 2255; Fax +44 (0)871 384 2100

Please note that any numbers quoted with the prefix 0871 will be charged at 8p per minute from a BT landline. Other network providers' costs may vary.

US ADS Depositary

JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.

PO Box 64504, St. Paul, MN 55164-0504

Toll-free in US and Canada +1 877 638 5672; Tel +1 651 306 4383

For the hearing impaired +1 651 453 2133

Financial statements

| | |
|---|-----|
| 100 Consolidated financial statements of the BP group | |
| Report of independent registered public accounting firm | 100 |
| Consent of independent registered public accounting firm | 101 |
| Group income statement | 102 |
| Group balance sheet | 103 |
| Group cash flow statement | 104 |
| Group statement of recognized income and expense | 105 |
| | |
| 106 Notes on financial statements | |
| 1. Significant accounting policies | 106 |
| 2. Resegmentation | 114 |
| 3. Acquisitions | 115 |
| 4. Non-current assets held for sale and discontinued operations | 115 |
| 5. Disposals | 116 |
| 6. Segmental analysis | 118 |
| 7. Interest and other revenues | 124 |
| 8. Gains on sale of businesses and fixed assets | 124 |
| 9. Production and similar taxes | 125 |
| 10. Depreciation, depletion and amortization | 125 |
| 11. Impairment and losses on sale of businesses and fixed assets | 126 |
| 12. Impairment review of goodwill | 127 |
| 13. Distribution and administration expenses | 130 |
| 14. Currency exchange gains and losses | 130 |
| 15. Research and development | 130 |
| 16. Operating leases | 130 |
| 17. Exploration for and evaluation of oil and natural gas resources | 131 |
| 18. Auditor s remuneration | 132 |
| 19. Finance costs | 132 |
| 20. Taxation | 133 |
| 21. Dividends | 134 |
| 22. Earnings per ordinary share | 135 |
| 23. Property, plant and equipment | 136 |
| 24. Goodwill | 137 |
| | |
| 25. Intangible assets | 137 |
| 26. Investments in jointly controlled entities | 138 |
| 27. Investments in associates | 139 |
| 28. Financial instruments and financial risk factors | 140 |
| 29. Other investments | 146 |
| 30. Inventories | 146 |
| 31. Trade and other receivables | 146 |
| 32. Cash and cash equivalents | 147 |
| 33. Trade and other payables | 147 |

| | |
|--|-----|
| 34. Derivative financial instruments | 148 |
| 35. Finance debt | 153 |
| 36. Capital disclosures and analysis of changes in net debt | 155 |
| 37. Provisions | 156 |
| 38. Pensions and other post-retirement benefits | 157 |
| 39. Called-up share capital | 163 |
| 40. Capital and reserves | 164 |
| 41. Share-based payments | 166 |
| 42. Employee costs and numbers | 170 |
| 43. Remuneration of directors and senior management | 171 |
| 44. Contingent liabilities | 172 |
| 45. Capital commitments | 172 |
| 46. Subsidiaries, jointly controlled entities and associates | 173 |
| 47. Oil and natural gas exploration and production activities | 175 |
| | |
| 178 Additional information for US reporting | |
| 48. Auditor s remuneration for US reporting | 178 |
| 49. Valuation and qualifying accounts | 179 |
| 50. Computation of ratio of earnings to fixed charges (unaudited) | 179 |
| 51. Condensed consolidating information on certain US subsidiaries | 179 |
| | |
| 185 Supplementary information on oil and natural gas (unaudited) | |

Consolidated financial statements of the BP group

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

The Board of Directors and Shareholders of BP p.l.c.

We have audited the accompanying group balance sheets of BP p.l.c. as of 31 December 2008 and 2007, and the related group statements of income, cash flows, and recognized income and expense, for each of the three years in the period ended 31 December 2008. These financial statements are the responsibility of the company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the group financial position of BP p.l.c. at 31 December 2008 and 2007, and the group results of operations and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended 31 December 2008, in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the European Union and International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the effectiveness of BP p.l.c.'s internal control over financial reporting as of 31 December 2008, based on criteria established in the Internal Control Revised Guidance for Directors on the Combined Code (Turnbull) as issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (the Turnbull criteria) and our report dated 24 February 2009 expressed an unqualified opinion thereon.

/s/ERNST & YOUNG LLP

Ernst & Young LLP

London, England

24 February 2009

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

The Board of Directors and Shareholders of BP p.l.c.

We have audited BP p.l.c.'s internal control over financial reporting as of 31 December 2008, based on criteria established in Internal Control-Revised Guidance for Directors on the Combined Code (Turnbull) as issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (the Turnbull criteria). BP p.l.c.'s management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting, and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting included in the accompanying Management's report on internal control over financial reporting on page 95. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the company's internal control over financial reporting based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audit included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk, and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

A company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (2) provide reasonable

assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

In our opinion, BP p.l.c. maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of 31 December 2008, based on the Turnbull criteria.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the group balance sheets of BP p.l.c. as of 31 December 2008 and 2007, and the related group statements of income, cash flows and recognized income and expense, for each of the three years in the period ended 31 December 2008, and our report dated 24 February 2009 expressed an unqualified opinion thereon.

/s/ERNST & YOUNG LLP

Ernst & Young LLP

London, England

24 February 2009

100

Consolidated financial statements of the BP group

Consent of independent registered public accounting firm

We consent to the incorporation by reference of our reports dated 24 February 2009 with respect to the group financial statements of BP p.l.c., and the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting of BP p.l.c., included in this Annual Report (Form 20-F) for the year ended 31 December 2008 in the following registration statements:

Registration Statement on Form F-3 (File No. 333-155798) of BP p.l.c.;

Registration Statement on Form F-3 (File No. 333-110203) of BP Canada Finance Company, BP Capital Markets p.l.c., BP Capital Markets America Inc, and BP p.l.c.; and

Registration Statements on Form S-8 (File Nos. 333-149778, 333-79399, 333-67206, 333-102583, 333-103923, 333-103924, 333-119934, 333-123482, 333-123483, 333-132619, 333-131584, 333-131583, 333-146868, 333-146870 and 333-146873) of BP p.l.c.

/s/ERNST & YOUNG LLP

Ernst & Young LLP

London, England

4 March 2009

Consolidated financial statements of the BP group

Group income statement

| | | | \$ million | | |
|--|------|----------------|------------|---------|--|
| For the year ended 31 December | Note | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 | |
| Sales and other operating revenues | | 361,143 | 284,365 | 265,906 | |
| Earnings from jointly controlled entities after interest and tax | | 3,023 | 3,135 | 3,553 | |
| Earnings from associates after interest and tax | | 798 | 697 | 442 | |
| Interest and other revenues | 7 | 736 | 754 | 701 | |
| Total revenues | 6 | 365,700 | 288,951 | 270,602 | |
| Gains on sale of businesses and fixed assets | 8 | 1,353 | 2,487 | 3,714 | |
| Total revenues and other income | | 367,053 | 291,438 | 274,316 | |
| Purchases | | 266,982 | 200,766 | 187,183 | |
| Production and manufacturing expenses | | 29,183 | 25,915 | 23,293 | |
| Production and similar taxes | 9 | 6,526 | 4,013 | 3,621 | |
| Depreciation, depletion and amortization | 10 | 10,985 | 10,579 | 9,128 | |
| Impairment and losses on sale of businesses and fixed assets | 11 | 1,733 | 1,679 | 549 | |
| Exploration expense | 17 | 882 | 756 | 1,045 | |
| Distribution and administration expenses | 13 | 15,412 | 15,371 | 14,447 | |
| Fair value (gain) loss on embedded derivatives | 34 | 111 | 7 | (608) | |
| Profit before interest and taxation from continuing operations | | 35,239 | 32,352 | 35,658 | |
| Finance costs | 19 | 1,547 | 1,393 | 986 | |
| Net finance income relating to pensions and other post-retirement benefits | 38 | (591) | (652) | (470) | |
| Profit before taxation from continuing operations | | 34,283 | 31,611 | 35,142 | |
| Taxation | 20 | 12,617 | 10,442 | 12,516 | |
| Profit from continuing operations | | 21,666 | 21,169 | 22,626 | |
| Loss from Innovene operations | 4 | | | (25) | |
| Profit for the year | | 21,666 | 21,169 | 22,601 | |
| Attributable to | | | | | |
| BP shareholders | | 21,157 | 20,845 | 22,315 | |
| Minority interest | | 509 | 324 | 286 | |
| | | 21,666 | 21,169 | 22,601 | |

Earnings per share cents

Profit for the year attributable to BP shareholders

| | | | | |
|---------|----|---------------|--------|--------|
| Basic | 22 | 112.59 | 108.76 | 111.41 |
| Diluted | 22 | 111.56 | 107.84 | 110.56 |

Profit from continuing operations attributable to BP shareholders

| | | | | |
|---------|--|---------------|--------|--------|
| Basic | | 112.59 | 108.76 | 111.54 |
| Diluted | | 111.56 | 107.84 | 110.68 |

102

Consolidated financial statements of the BP group

Group balance sheet

| At 31 December | | \$ million |
|--|------|------------------------|
| | Note | 2008 2007 |
| Non-current assets | | |
| Property, plant and equipment | 23 | 103,200 97,989 |
| Goodwill | 24 | 9,878 11,006 |
| Intangible assets | 25 | 10,260 6,652 |
| Investments in jointly controlled entities | 26 | 23,826 18,113 |
| Investments in associates | 27 | 4,000 4,579 |
| Other investments | 29 | 855 1,830 |
| | | 152,019 140,169 |
| Fixed assets | | 152,019 140,169 |
| Loans | | 995 999 |
| Other receivables | 31 | 710 968 |
| Derivative financial instruments | 34 | 5,054 3,741 |
| Prepayments | | 1,338 1,083 |
| Defined benefit pension plan surpluses | 38 | 1,738 8,914 |
| | | 161,854 155,874 |
| Current assets | | |
| Loans | | 168 165 |
| Inventories | 30 | 16,821 26,554 |
| Trade and other receivables | 31 | 29,261 38,020 |
| Derivative financial instruments | 34 | 8,510 6,321 |
| Prepayments | | 3,050 3,589 |
| Current tax receivable | | 377 705 |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 32 | 8,197 3,562 |
| | | 66,384 78,916 |
| Assets classified as held for sale | 4 | 1,286 |
| | | 66,384 80,202 |
| Total assets | | 228,238 236,076 |
| Current liabilities | | |
| Trade and other payables | 33 | 33,644 43,152 |
| Derivative financial instruments | 34 | 8,977 6,405 |
| Accruals | | 6,743 6,640 |
| Finance debt | 35 | 15,740 15,394 |
| Current tax payable | | 3,144 3,282 |
| Provisions | 37 | 1,545 2,195 |

| | | | |
|--|----|----------------|---------------|
| Liabilities directly associated with the assets classified as held for sale | 4 | 69,793 | 77,068 163 |
| | | 69,793 | 77,231 |
| Non-current liabilities | | | |
| Other payables | 33 | 3,080 | 1,251 |
| Derivative financial instruments | 34 | 6,271 | 5,002 |
| Accruals | | 784 | 959 |
| Finance debt | 35 | 17,464 | 15,651 |
| Deferred tax liabilities | 20 | 16,198 | 19,215 |
| Provisions | 37 | 12,108 | 12,900 |
| Defined benefit pension plan and other post-retirement benefit plan deficits | 38 | 10,431 | 9,215 |
| | | 66,336 | 64,193 |
| Total liabilities | | 136,129 | 141,424 |
| Net assets | | 92,109 | 94,652 |
| Equity | | | |
| Share capital | 39 | 5,176 | 5,237 |
| Reserves | | 86,127 | 88,453 |
| BP shareholders' equity | 40 | 91,303 | 93,690 |
| Minority interest | 40 | 806 | 962 |
| Total equity | 40 | 92,109 | 94,652 |

P D Sutherland Chairman

Dr A B Hayward Group Chief Executive

Consolidated financial statements of the BP group

Group cash flow statement

| For the year ended 31 December | | | | \$ million |
|--|------|-----------------|----------|------------|
| | Note | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 |
| Operating activities | | | | |
| Profit before taxation | | 34,283 | 31,611 | 35,142 |
| Adjustments to reconcile profit before taxation to net cash provided by operating activities | | | | |
| Exploration expenditure written off | 17 | 385 | 347 | 624 |
| Depreciation, depletion and amortization | 10 | 10,985 | 10,579 | 9,128 |
| Impairment and (gain) loss on sale of businesses and fixed assets | 8,11 | 380 | (808) | (3,165) |
| Earnings from jointly controlled entities and associates | | (3,821) | (3,832) | (3,995) |
| Dividends received from jointly controlled entities and associates | | 3,728 | 2,473 | 4,495 |
| Interest receivable | | (407) | (489) | (473) |
| Interest received | | 385 | 500 | 500 |
| Finance costs | 19 | 1,547 | 1,393 | 986 |
| Interest paid | | (1,291) | (1,363) | (1,242) |
| Net finance income relating to pensions and other post-retirement benefits | 38 | (591) | (652) | (470) |
| Share-based payments | | 459 | 420 | 416 |
| Net operating charge for pensions and other post-retirement benefits, less contributions and benefit payments for unfunded plans | | (173) | (404) | (261) |
| Net charge for provisions, less payments | | (298) | (92) | (160) |
| (Increase) decrease in inventories | | 9,010 | (7,255) | 995 |
| (Increase) decrease in other current and non-current assets | | 2,439 | 5,210 | 3,596 |
| Increase (decrease) in other current and non-current liabilities | | (6,101) | (3,857) | (4,211) |
| Income taxes paid | | (12,824) | (9,072) | (13,733) |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | | 38,095 | 24,709 | 28,172 |
| Investing activities | | | | |
| Capital expenditure | | (22,658) | (17,830) | (15,125) |
| Acquisitions, net of cash acquired | | (395) | (1,225) | (229) |
| Investment in jointly controlled entities | | (1,009) | (428) | (37) |
| Investment in associates | | (81) | (187) | (570) |
| Proceeds from disposal of fixed assets | 5 | 918 | 1,749 | 5,963 |
| Proceeds from disposal of businesses, net of cash disposed | 5 | 11 | 2,518 | 291 |
| Proceeds from loan repayments | | 647 | 192 | 189 |
| Other | | (200) | 374 | |

| | | | | |
|--|----|-----------------|----------|----------|
| Net cash used in investing activities | | (22,767) | (14,837) | (9,518) |
| Financing activities | | | | |
| Net repurchase of shares | | (2,567) | (7,113) | (15,151) |
| Proceeds from long-term financing | | 7,961 | 8,109 | 3,831 |
| Repayments of long-term financing | | (3,821) | (3,192) | (3,655) |
| Net increase (decrease) in short-term debt | | (1,315) | 1,494 | 3,873 |
| Dividends paid | | | | |
| BP shareholders | 21 | (10,342) | (8,106) | (7,686) |
| Minority interest | | (425) | (227) | (283) |
| Net cash used in financing activities | | (10,509) | (9,035) | (19,071) |
| Currency translation differences relating to cash and cash equivalents | | | | |
| | | (184) | 135 | 47 |
| Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents | | 4,635 | 972 | (370) |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year | | 3,562 | 2,590 | 2,960 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of year | | 8,197 | 3,562 | 2,590 |

Consolidated financial statements of the BP group

Group statement of recognized income and expense

| For the year ended 31 December | \$ million | | |
|---|----------------|-------|-------|
| | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 |
| Currency translation differences | (4,362) | 1,887 | 2,025 |
| Exchange gain on translation of foreign operations transferred to gain or loss on sale of businesses and fixed assets | | (147) | |
| Actuarial (loss) gain relating to pensions and other post-retirement benefits | (8,430) | 1,717 | 2,615 |
| Available-for-sale investments marked to market | (994) | 200 | 561 |
| Available-for-sale investments recycled to the income statement | 526 | (91) | (695) |
| Cash flow hedges marked to market | (1,173) | 155 | 413 |
| Cash flow hedges recycled to the income statement | 45 | (74) | (93) |
| Cash flow hedges recycled to the balance sheet | (38) | (40) | (6) |
| Tax on currency translation differences | 100 | 139 | (201) |
| Tax on actuarial (loss) gain relating to pensions and other post-retirement benefits | 2,602 | (427) | (820) |
| Tax on available-for-sale investments | 50 | &nbs | |