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# **TRADING STATEMENT, 2019**

Matosinhos, 29<sup>th</sup> January 2020

# The highest growth in more than 10 years

driven by standout commercial performance, steady expansion and a strategic acquisition

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# **Highlights**

- Turnover for the full-year 2019 reached €4,702m, up by +9.2% on a total basis and +3.0% on a same-store comparison
- All formats and key categories delivered positive like-for-like sales with volume growth in the period, leading to an overall increase in market share
- Store expansion remained dynamic in 2019, with the opening of +91 new company operated units representing an additional +36k sqm.

## Message from the CEO | Luís Moutinho

"We are very pleased with our trading performance in 2019, with outstanding total and like-for-like sales growth figures, and a robust fourth-quarter closing the year.

Our strategy was exemplarily executed throughout the full-year, and we continued to make important progress across all aspects of the shopping experience, endorsed by an attractive proposition and record top of mind awareness.

Now, we look forward to 2020 with a clear focus and solid foundations on which to continue to grow and exceed consumers' expectations, confident in our ability to navigate with success the challenges ahead."





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#### **Turnover Performance**

TURNOVER (€m)	Full-year				4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter			
	2018	2019	Δ y.o.y.	ΔLFL	2018	2019	Δ y.o.y.	Δ LFL
Total Sonae MC	4,308	4,702	9.2%	3.0%	1,180	1,275	8.1%	2.2%
Hypermarkets	1,622	1,653	1.9%	1.9%	459	466	1.5%	1.1%
Supermarkets	2,076	2,239	7.9%	3.1%	558	600	7.4%	2.1%
New Growth Businesses & Others	609	810	32.9%	8.2%	162	209	29.3%	7.8%

- Sonae MC's trading accelerated in 2019 leading up to record sales growth with increased volumes, amid an environment of low inflation and persistently challenging competition. The Company outpaced the market, growing sales by +9.2% in total and +3.0% in like-for-like, to a yearly amount of €4,702m, enhancing its leadership position.
- The fourth quarter steady performance contributed to the full-year momentum, resulting in +8.1% total growth and +2.2% like-for-like sales increase, despite a demanding comparable base.
- All segments performed well in the year, with every format registering a positive like-for-like sales
  evolution. Hypermarkets delivered a solid growth, remaining a successful case study. Supermarkets
  reported a buoyant performance on the back of unique proximity attributes that are critical to
  consumers. New Growth Businesses kept an accelerated development pace, with emphasis on the
  internationalization of Health & Wellness through Arenal acquisition.
- Key food categories outperformed the market, with a strong volume growth led by groceries and fresh produce. The augmented healthy nutrition offer, increasingly valued by shoppers, further boosted growth. Own-brand performance was also very positive, underpinned by continuous product innovations and assortment improvements.
- On the expansion side, in 2019 Sonae MC opened +91 new company operated stores, of which +13 proximity supermarkets, including a new ultra-convenience concept. At year-end, the Company store network consisted of 1,228 units (including franchises) corresponding to 911k sqm. In addition, Sonae MC continued to fine-tune its portfolio and improve customer experience through sales area optimization, new in-store concepts, and the roll-out of innovative technologies (including a digital shopping assistant, a revamped loyalty app and a mobile payment service).

#### Safe Harbour

This document may contain forward-looking information and statements based on management's current expectations or beliefs. Forward-looking statements are statements that should not be regarded as historical facts.

These forward-looking statements are subject to a number of factors and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those described in the forward-looking statements, including, but not limited to, changes in the regulation, industry and economic conditions; and the effects of competition. Forward-looking statements may be identified by words such as "believes," "expects," "anticipates," "projects," "intends," "should," "seeks," "estimates," "future" or similar expressions.

Although these statements reflect our current expectations, which we believe are reasonable, investors and analysts, and generally all recipients of this document, are cautioned that forward-looking information and statements are subject to various risks and uncertainties, many of which are difficult to predict and generally beyond our control, that could cause actual results and developments to differ materially from those expressed in, or implied or projected by, the forward-looking information and statements. You are cautioned not to put undue reliance on any forward-looking information or statements. We do not undertake any obligation to update any forward-looking information or statements.