

ARACRUZ CELLULOSE S A

Form 20-F

March 31, 2008

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**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

**FORM 20-F**

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 December 31, 2007

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

Date of event requiring this shell company report.

Commission File No. 1-11005

**ARACRUZ CELULOSE S.A.**

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

**Aracruz Cellulose**

(Translation of Registrant's name into English)

**Federative Republic of Brazil**

(Jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

**Av. Brigadeiro Faria Lima, 2277, 4th floor  
01452-000 São Paulo, SP, Brazil**

(Address of principal executive offices)

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

**Title of each class:**

American Depositary Shares (as evidenced by American Depositary Receipts),  
each representing ten shares of  
Class B Stock

**Name of each exchange on which registered:**

New York Stock Exchange

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

None

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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.

**455,390,699 Shares of Common Stock**

**27,958,116 Shares of Class A Stock**

**549,205,305 Shares of Class B Stock**

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, indicated by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Yes  No

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.

Large accelerated filer  Accelerated filer  Non-accelerated  
filer

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

Please send copies of notices and communications from the Securities and Exchange Commission to:

Ross Kaufman  
Greenberg Traurig LLP  
Met Life Building  
200 Park Avenue  
New York, NY 10166

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## INTRODUCTION

Unless otherwise specified, all references in this annual report to:

- U.S. dollars, \$ or US\$ are to United States dollars;
- *reais*, *real* or R\$ are to ~~Brazilian~~ the official currency of Brazil;
- Brazilian government are to the federal government of the Federative Republic of Brazil;
- consolidated financial statements are to the Consolidated Financial Statements of Aracruz Celulose S.A. as of December 31, 2006 and 2007 and, for the three years in the period ended December 31, 2007, the corresponding Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm;
- the Company, Aracruz, we, us and our are to Aracruz Celulose S.A. and its consolidated subsidiaries (unless the context otherwise requires);
- our preferred shares and our common shares are to our authorized and outstanding preferred stock and common stock, respectively;
- Class A Stock and Class B Stock are to our non-voting preferred stock class A (*ações preferenciais classe A*) and non-voting preferred stock class B (*ações preferenciais classe B*), respectively, which together are referred to as the Preferred Shares; and
- tons are to metric tons of 1,000 kilograms each.
- "Taxa de Juros de Longo Prazo" is the Long-term Interest Rate or "TJLP".

As used in this annual report, one hectare equals approximately 2.471 acres, one kilogram equals approximately 2.2 pounds and one kilometer equals approximately 0.621 miles.

Unless otherwise indicated,

- all references in this annual report to percentages, tons and U.S. dollar or *real* amounts of pulp are to market pulp ; and
- amounts in *reais* stated at a particular date and followed by U.S. dollar equivalents have been converted using the *reais* to U.S. dollars commercial selling rate in effect on such date.

## FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This annual report contains statements which constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Certain such forward-looking statements can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as believe, expect, may, are expected to, expect, will allow, will continue, will likely result, should, would be, seek, approach, project, estimate or anticipate, or similar expressions or the negative thereof or other variations thereof of comparable terminology, or by discussions of strategy, plans or intentions. In addition, all information included herein with respect to future operations, financial condition, financial performance or other financial or statistical matters constitute forward-looking statements. Those forward-looking statements are

necessarily dependent on assumptions, data or methods that may be incorrect or imprecise and that may not be realized. Such statements appear in a number of places in this annual report, including, without limitation, the information set forth under the headings Item 3D. Risk Factors , Item 4B. Business Overview and Item 5. Operating and Financial Review and Prospects , and include statements regarding our intent, belief or current expectations or those of our directors or our executive officers with respect to:

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- general economic, political and business conditions, both in Brazil and in our principal export markets,
- the declaration or payment of dividends,
- our direction and future operation,
- the implementation of our principal operating strategies, including our potential participation in acquisition or joint venture transactions or other investment opportunities,
- the implementation of our financing strategy and capital expenditure plans, or
- the factors or trends affecting the pulp and paper market (including its cyclical nature and our financial condition or results of operations).

Investors are cautioned that any such forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and involve risks and uncertainties, and that actual results may differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements, as a result of various factors. We do not undertake, and specifically disclaim, any obligation to update any forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date hereof.

We make statements in this annual report about our competitive position and market share in, and the market size of, the pulp industry. We have made these statements on the basis of statistics and other information from third-party sources that we believe are reliable. We derive this third-party information principally from reports published by the International Pulp Statistical Committee, which includes the American Forest Paper Association, the Canadian Pulp & Paper Association, the Finnish Forest Industry Federation and the Brazilian Pulp and Paper Association, or Bracelpa, and reports published by Hawkins Wright Ltd., or Hawkins Wright. Although we have no reason to believe that any of this information or these reports is inaccurate in any material respect, we have not independently verified the competitive position, market share, market size or market growth data provided by third parties or by industry or general publications.

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## **PART I**

### **ITEM 1. IDENTITY OF DIRECTORS, SENIOR MANAGEMENT AND ADVISERS**

Not applicable.

### **ITEM 2. OFFER STATISTICS AND EXPECTED TIMETABLE**

Not applicable.

### **ITEM 3. KEY INFORMATION**

#### **A. Selected Financial Data**

Our consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, or U.S. GAAP. Because we exported substantially all of our production, and due to the fact that we operate in an industry that uses the U.S. dollar as its currency of reference and this is the currency in which cash is primarily generated and expended, representing the economic environment in which the Company conducts its operations, our management believes that the U.S. dollar is the Company's functional currency and the most appropriate currency in which to present our consolidated financial statements. Accordingly, we have been presenting our primary U.S. GAAP consolidated financial statements in U.S. dollars since 1994. For this purpose, amounts in Brazilian currency for all periods presented have been remeasured into U.S. dollars in accordance with the methodology set forth in Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 52, or SFAS 52.

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Pursuant to SFAS 52 as it applies to us, non-monetary assets, including inventories, property, plant and equipment, accumulated depreciation and stockholders' equity are remeasured at historical rates of exchange. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in reais are remeasured at period-end rates. Export sales invoiced in currencies other than the U.S. dollar are remeasured at the applicable exchange rate on the date of sale. Cost of sales, depreciation and other expenses relating to assets remeasured at historical exchange rates are calculated based on the U.S. dollar values of such assets, and other statement of operations accounts are remeasured at the rate prevailing on the date of the charge or credit to income.

For certain purposes, such as providing reports to our Brazilian shareholders, filing financial statements with the Comissão de Valores Mobiliários, or CVM, the Brazilian securities commission, and determining dividend payments and other distributions and tax liabilities in Brazil, we have prepared and will continue to be required to prepare financial statements in accordance with the accounting practices adopted in Brazil. Our financial statements prepared in accordance with the Brazilian Corporate Law are not adjusted to account for the effects of inflation.

The following table presents our selected financial data as of the dates and for each of the periods indicated. Our U.S. GAAP consolidated financial statements as of December 31, 2006 and 2007 appear elsewhere herein, together with the reports of our Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Auditores Independentes. The selected financial information at December 31, 2003, 2004 and 2005 have been derived from our U.S. GAAP consolidated financial statements, not included in this annual report. The selected financial data should be read in conjunction with Item 5. Operating and Financial Review and Prospects.

|  | For the year ended December 31,   |             |              |              |              |
|--|---|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
|  | 2003  | 2004        | 2005         | 2006         | 2007         |
|  | <i>(thousands of U.S. dollars, except number of shares and per share amounts)</i> |             |              |              |              |
| <b>Statement of Operations Data</b>  |   |             |              |              |              |
| <b>Operating Revenues</b>  |   |             |              |              |              |
| Domestic   | \$42,401  | \$66,083    | \$ 62,019    | \$ 77,431    | \$ 137,086   |
| Export   | 1,056,498   | 1,256,648   | 1,469,646    | 1,845,026    | 2,007,017    |
| Gross operating revenues   | \$ 1,098,899  | \$1,322,731 | \$ 1,531,665 | \$ 1,922,457 | \$ 2,144,103 |
| Sales taxes and other deductions   | (95,829)  | (155,618)   | (186,432)    | (241,624)    | (260,328)    |
| Net operating revenues   | \$1,003,070   | \$1,167,113 | \$ 1,345,233 | \$ 1,680,833 | \$ 1,883,775 |
| <b>Operating costs and expenses</b>  |   |             |              |              |              |
| 6  |   |             |              |              |              |
| Cost of sales  | \$592,555   | \$700,333   | \$783,578    | \$1,037,896  | \$1,190,957  |
| Selling  | 38,617  | 53,850      | 64,430       | 74,005       | 78,832       |
| Administrative   | 22,762  | 31,072      | 33,820       | 57,020       | 58,708       |
| Other, net   | 41,962  | 25,208      | 16,313       | 12,514       | (38,624)     |
| Total operating costs and expenses   | \$695,896   | \$810,463   | \$898,141    | \$1,181,435  | \$1,289,873  |
| <b>Operating income</b>  | \$307,174   | \$356,650   | \$447,092    | \$499,398    | \$593,902    |
| <b>Non-operating (income) expenses</b>   |   |             |              |              |              |
| Financial income   | (43,037)  | (56,123)    | (125,439)    | (181,733)    | (168,037)    |
| Financing expense  | 108,209   | 119,976     | 137,276      | 149,719      | 100,864      |
| Gain on currency remeasurement, net  | (41,955)  | (16,197)    | (21,386)     | (7,641)      | (908)        |
| Other, net   | (129)   | (76)        | (778)        | (7)          | (61)         |
| Total Non-operating (income) expenses  | \$23,088  | \$47,580    | \$(10,327)   | \$(39,662)   | \$(68,142)   |
| <b>Income before income taxes, minority interest and equity in results of affiliated companies</b> | \$284,086   | \$309,070   | 457,419      | \$539,060    | \$662,044    |
| <b>Income tax expense</b>  |   |             |              |              |              |
| Current  | \$106,549   | \$42,746    | \$71,086     | \$30,754     | \$41,343     |
| Deferred   | 22,567  | 27,510      | 1,142        | 38,740       | 155,969      |
| Total income tax expense   | \$129,116   | \$70,256    | \$72,228     | \$69,494     | \$197,312    |
| Minority interest  | \$(37)  | \$(9)       | \$(31)       | \$(544)      | \$(10,522)   |

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|  |           |                         |                         |                         |                          |
|--|-----------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Equity in results of affiliated companies                                  | \$(6,844) | \$(11,568)              | \$(44,062)              | \$(13,705)              | \$(32,141)               |
| <b>Net income</b>  | \$148,089 | \$227,237               | \$341,098               | \$455,317               | \$422,069                |
| <b>Basic and diluted earnings per share(1)</b>                             |           |                         |                         |                         |                          |
| Common Stock   | 0.14      | 0.21                    | 0.31                    | 0.42                    | 0.39                     |
| Class A Preferred Stock  | \$0.15    | \$0.23                  | \$0.34                  | \$0.46                  | \$0.43                   |
| Class B Preferred Stock  | 0.15      | 0.23                    | 0.34                    | 0.46                    | 0.43                     |
| <b>Dividends and interest on stockholders' equity per share</b>            |           |                         |                         |                         |                          |
| Common Stock   | 0.10(2)   | 0.11(3),<br>0.08(4)     | 0.05(5),<br>0.12(6)     | 0.06(7),<br>0.13(8)     | 0.08(9),<br>0.14(10)     |
| Class A Preferred Stock  | \$0.11(2) | \$0.12(3),<br>\$0.09(4) | \$0.06(5),<br>\$0.13(6) | \$0.07(7),<br>\$0.15(8) | \$0.08(9),<br>\$0.16(10) |
| Class B Preferred Stock  | 0.11(2)   | 0.12(3),<br>0.09(4)     | 0.06(5),<br>0.13(6)     | 0.07(7),<br>0.15(8)     | 0.08(9),<br>0.16(10)     |
| <b>Weighted-average number of shares outstanding (thousands of shares)</b> |           |                         |                         |                         |                          |
| Common Stock   | 454,908   | 454,908                 | 454,908                 | 454,908                 | 454,908                  |
| Class A Preferred Stock  | 39,819    | 38,074                  | 38,022                  | 38,015                  | 36,933                   |
| Class B Preferred Stock  | 535,969   | 537,711                 | 537,739                 | 537,665                 | 538,747                  |
| Total  | 1,030,696 | 1,030,693               | 1,030,669               | 1,030,588               | 1,030,588                |

(1) Holders of Class B Preferred Stock have no dividend preference. Holders of Class A Preferred Stock are entitled to an annual preferential dividend.

(2) Including the dividend declared on April 29, 2003. (3)Including the dividend declared on April 29, 2004.

(4)Including the interest on stockholders' equity declared on October 19, 2004 and November 16, 2004, respectively. The interest on stockholders equity was attributed to the Compulsory Dividend relating to the year 2004, which were declared on April 29, 2005. (5)Including the dividend declared on April 29, 2005.

(6)Including the interest on stockholders' equity declared on April 19, 2005, May 19, 2005, June 20, 2005 and December 20, 2005, respectively. The interest on stockholders equity was attributed to the Compulsory Dividend relating to the year 2005, which was declared on April 28, 2006.

(7)Including the dividend declared on April 28, 2006.

(8)Including the interest on stockholders' equity declared on March 23, 2006, June 20, 2006, September 19, 2006 and December 22, 2006, respectively. The interest on stockholders equity was attributed to the Compulsory Dividend relating to the year 2006, which was declared on April 24, 2007.

(9)Including the dividend declared on April 24, 2007.

(10)Including the interest on stockholders' equity declared on March 21, 2007, June 19, 2007, September 18, 2007 and December 21, 2007, respectively. The interest on stockholders equity was attributed to the Compulsory Dividend relating to the year 2007, which is to be declared by April 30, 2008.

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|                                    | At December 31,             |           |           |           |           |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|                                    | 2003                        | 2004      | 2005      | 2006      | 2007      |
|                                    | (thousands of U.S. dollars) |           |           |           |           |
| <b>Balance Sheet Data</b>          |                             |           |           |           |           |
| Cash and cash equivalents          | \$66,284                    | \$36,474  | \$34,114  | \$48,414  | \$53,321  |
| Short-term investments             | 285,991                     | 412,110   | 521,613   | 531,229   | 439,940   |
| Accounts receivables, net          | 223,048                     | 208,336   | 253,306   | 285,795   | 361,603   |
| Inventories                        | 131,486                     | 126,220   | 173,873   | 202,704   | 225,023   |
| Other current assets               | 35,925                      | 49,973    | 111,899   | 132,782   | 171,513   |
| Property, plant and equipment, net | 2,270,369                   | 2,133,896 | 2,068,547 | 2,151,212 | 2,518,700 |

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|   |                    |                    |                    |                    |                    |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Investment in affiliated company                  | 382,318            | 480,940            | 505,975            | 516,771            | 607,429            |
| Other non-current assets                          | 59,012             | 81,709             | 94,678             | 127,021            | 247,334            |
| <b>Total assets</b>                               | <b>\$3,454,433</b> | <b>\$3,529,658</b> | <b>\$3,764,005</b> | <b>\$3,995,928</b> | <b>\$4,624,863</b> |
| Short-term debt                                   | 392,088            | 152,934            | 292,018            | 89,787             | 96,768             |
| Other current liabilities                         | 121,591            | 121,872            | 193,147            | 197,032            | 230,951            |
| Long-term debt                                    | 979,435            | 1,222,728          | 1,010,285          | 1,155,050          | 1,312,351          |
| Other long-term liabilities                       | 160,358            | 217,837            | 304,132            | 351,636            | 597,675            |
| Share capital                                     | 909,473            | 909,473            | 909,122            | 909,122            | 1,410,490          |
| Other stockholders' equity accounts               | 891,488            | 904,814            | 1,055,301          | 1,293,301          | 976,628            |
| <b>Total liabilities and stockholders' equity</b> | <b>3,454,433</b>   | <b>3,529,658</b>   | <b>3,764,005</b>   | <b>3,995,928</b>   | <b>4,624,863</b>   |

**Exchange Rates**

The purchase and sale of foreign currency in Brazil is subject to governmental control. As of March 4th, 2005, the two then existing foreign exchange markets - the free rate foreign exchange market, also known as the commercial market; and the "floating" rate foreign exchange market - were unified to become one single foreign exchange market (the "Foreign Exchange Market"). Transactions in the Foreign Exchange Market are required to comply with the provisions set forth in the Resolution 3,265 and the regulations established by the Central Bank of Brazil.

The Foreign Exchange Market includes purchase and sale transactions of foreign currency and gold-based foreign exchange trades carried out by institutions authorized to operate on the Foreign Exchange Market by the Central Bank of Brazil. From March 1995 through January 1999, the Central Bank allowed the gradual devaluation of the *real* against the U.S. dollar, pursuant to an exchange rate policy that established a band within which the *real*/U.S. dollar exchange rate could fluctuate.

Responding to pressure on the *real*, on January 13, 1999, the Central Bank widened the foreign exchange rate band. Because the pressure on the *real* did not cease, on January 15, 1999, the Central Bank allowed the *real* to float freely. On December 31, 2007, the commercial selling rate was R\$ 1.7713 per US\$1.00. Since January, 1999 the real exchange rate has been having an erratic trend, where the exchange rate is determined by demand and supply currency flows.

The following table shows the commercial selling rate for U.S. dollars for the periods and dates indicated.

| <b>Year ended December 31,</b> | <b>Exchange Rate of R\$ per US\$</b> |             |                   | <b>Year - End</b> |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|                                | <b>Low</b>                           | <b>High</b> | <b>Average(1)</b> |                   |
| 1999                           | 1.2078                               | 2.1647      | 1.8158            | 1.7890            |
| 2000                           | 1.7234                               | 1.9847      | 1.8295            | 1.9554            |
| 2001                           | 1.9357                               | 2.8007      | 2.3420            | 2.3204            |
| 2002                           | 2.2709                               | 3.9552      | 2.9309            | 3.5333            |
| 2003                           | 2.8219                               | 3.6623      | 3.0715            | 2.8892            |
| 2004                           | 2.6544                               | 3.2051      | 2.8639            | 2.6544            |
| 2005                           | 2.1633                               | 2.7621      | 2.4125            | 2.3407            |
| 2006                           | 2.0586                               | 2.3711      | 2.1771            | 2.1380            |
| 2007                           | 1.7325                               | 2.1556      | 1.9483            | 1.7713            |

Source: Central Bank, PTAX. PTAX is the average of the exchange rates negotiated in the commercial rate market on a given day.

(1) Represents the average of the daily exchange rates (PTAX) during the relevant period.

**Exchange Rate of R\$ per US\$**

**Low**

**High**

| <b>Month Ended</b> |        |        |
|--------------------|--------|--------|
| January 31, 2008   | 1,7414 | 1,8301 |
| February 29, 2008  | 1,6715 | 1,7681 |
| March 28, 2008     | 1,6700 | 1,7456 |

Source: Central Bank, PTAX. PTAX is the average of the exchange rates negotiated in the commercial rate market on a given day.

We usually pay cash dividends and make other cash distributions with respect to the Class B Stock in *reais*. Accordingly, exchange rate fluctuations may affect the U.S. dollar amounts received by holders of ADSs on conversion by the depository of our ADSs, or the Depository, of such distributions into U.S. dollars for payment to holders of ADSs. Since November 2006 Brazilian exporters are authorized, pursuant to the terms of Law 11,371, to keep a certain amount of their export revenues in foreign financial institutions and use such revenues to make investments and pay obligations of the exporter. The Company may, from time to time and at its convenience, use revenues kept abroad pursuant to Law 11,371 to pay dividends and any other cash distributions. For additional information, see Item 10D. Exchange Controls. For information on dividends, see Item 8A. Consolidated Statements and Other Financial Information Dividend Policy and Dividends.

#### **B. Capitalization and Indebtedness**

Not applicable.

#### **C. Reasons for the Offer and Use of Proceeds**

Not applicable.

#### **D. Risk Factors**

##### **Risk Factors Relating to Brazil**

*Brazilian political and economic conditions have a direct impact on our business and the market price of our preferred shares and ADSs.*

The Brazilian economy has been characterized by volatile economic cycles. In addition, the Brazilian government frequently, and occasionally drastically, intervenes in the Brazilian economy. The Brazilian government has often changed monetary, taxation, credit, tariff and other policies to influence the course of Brazil's economy. For example, the Brazilian government has the authority, when a serious imbalance in Brazil's balance of payments occurs, to impose restrictions on the remittance to foreign investors of the proceeds of their investments in Brazil, and on the conversion of Brazilian currency into foreign currencies. The Company's business, financial condition and results of operations may be adversely affected by changes in policy including tariffs, exchange controls and other matters, as well as factors such as:

- currency fluctuations,
- inflation,
- price instability,
- interest rates,
- tax policy, and
- other political, diplomatic, social and economic developments in or affecting Brazil.

Rapid changes in Brazilian political and economic conditions that have already occurred and that might continue will require the Company's continued emphasis on assessing the risks associated with its activities and adjusting its business and operating strategy. Future developments in Brazilian government policies or in the

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Brazilian economy, over which the Company has no control, may reduce demand for the Company's products in Brazil, and adversely affect the Company's business, financial condition and results of operations.

*Exchange rate instability may adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations and the market price of our preferred shares and ADSs.*



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Because a portion of our expenses and a significant portion of our assets and liabilities are denominated in *reais* and we have U.S. dollar-denominated revenues, debt and other liabilities, we may be adversely affected by foreign exchange rate volatility. See Selected Financial Data Exchange Rates.

Our operating cash expenses are substantially denominated in *reais* and will generally decrease, as expressed in U.S. dollars, as a result of any devaluation of the *real*. If the rate of Brazilian inflation increases more rapidly than the rate of appreciation of the U.S. dollar against the *real*, then, as expressed in U.S. dollars, our operating expenses may increase and (assuming constant U.S. dollar sales prices), our profit margins decrease. In addition, any significant devaluation of the *real* may produce exchange gains on unhedged debt denominated in *reais*.

In 2003, Brazil started a new cycle of Real appreciation relative to the U.S. dollar and the rate in that year was 18.2%. In 2004 the appreciation of the Real relative to the U.S. dollar was 8.1%, in 2005 the Real appreciated 11.8% and in 2006 the Real appreciated approximately 9.0%. In 2007 the appreciation of the Real relative to the U.S. dollar was 17.2%, representing an accumulated appreciation of 49.7% since the beginning of 2003.

***Inflation and certain governmental measures to control inflation may contribute significantly to economic uncertainty in Brazil and to heightened volatility in the Brazilian securities markets.***

Brazil has historically experienced extremely high rates of inflation. Inflation itself, as well as certain governmental measures to combat inflation and public speculation about possible future measures, has had significant negative effects on the Brazilian economy in the past. The Company's cash operating expenses are substantially denominated in *reais* and tend to increase with Brazilian inflation because its suppliers and providers generally increase prices to reflect the depreciation of the value of the currency. As expressed in U.S. dollars, however, these increases are typically offset at least in part by the effect of the appreciation of the U.S. dollar against the *real*. If the rate of Brazilian inflation increases more rapidly than the rate of appreciation of the U.S. dollar, then, as expressed in U.S. dollars, operating expenses may increase and (assuming constant U.S. dollar sales prices) profit margins decrease. In addition, high inflation generally leads to higher domestic interest rates, and as a result the Company's costs of *real*-denominated debt may increase. See Item 5. Operating and Financial Review and Prospects Brazilian Economic Environment.

***We may be impacted by governmental actions affecting the Brazilian markets and economy.***

The Brazilian government has exercised and continues to exercise substantial influence over many aspects of the private sector. The Brazilian government, for example, could impose some restrictions for the export market, by creating export duties for any product, including our main source of revenues (market pulp), affecting the margins and the profitability of the exporting companies. In addition, the Brazilian government owns or controls many companies, including some of the largest in Brazil. For example, Banco Nacional de Desenvolvimento Econômico e Social BNDES, which is owned by the Brazilian government, indirectly owned approximately 12.5% of our common stock as of December 31, 2007 and has advanced approximately 30% of our total consolidated indebtedness as of such date. See Item 7B. Related Party Transactions.

***Developments in other emerging markets may adversely affect the market price of our preferred shares and ADSs***

The Brazilian securities markets are, to varying degrees, influenced by economic and market conditions in other emerging market countries, especially those in Latin America. Although economic conditions are different in each country, investors' reaction to developments in one country can have an effect on the securities of issuers in other countries, including Brazil. Developments or conditions in other emerging market countries have, at times, significantly affected the availability of credit in the Brazilian economy and resulted in considerable outflows of funds and declines in the amount of foreign currency invested in Brazil.

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Similar developments in the international financial markets, in the future, especially in Latin America, may adversely affect the Company's financial condition and its ability to raise capital when needed. There can be no assurance that the Brazilian securities markets will not continue to be affected negatively by events elsewhere, especially in emerging markets, or that such events will not adversely affect the value of the Company's preferred shares or ADSs.

### **Risks Relating to our Preferred Shares and ADSs**

***Exchange controls and restrictions on remittances abroad may adversely affect holders of ADSs.***

You may be adversely affected by the imposition of restrictions on the remittance to foreign investors of the proceeds of their investments in Brazil and the conversion of *reais* into foreign currencies. The Brazilian government imposed remittance restrictions for a number of months in 1989 and early 1990. These restrictions would hinder or prevent the conversion of dividends, distributions or the proceeds from any sale of our preferred shares into U.S. dollars and remitting the U.S. dollars abroad. We cannot ensure that the Brazilian government will not take similar measures in the future. See Item 10D. Exchange Controls. Holders of the ADSs could be adversely affected by delays in, or a refusal to grant, any required Brazilian governmental approval for conversion of *real* payments and remittances abroad in respect of the shares of Class B Stock underlying the ADSs. In such case, the Depositary will hold the *reais* it cannot convert for the account of the ADS holders who have not been paid.

***Exchanging ADSs for the underlying Class B Stock may have unfavorable consequences.***

The Brazilian custodian for our Class B Stock, or the Custodian, must obtain an electronic certificate of registration from the Central Bank to remit U.S. dollars abroad for payments of dividends, any other cash distributions, or upon the disposition of the shares and sales proceeds related thereto. If you decide to exchange your ADSs for the underlying Class B Stock, you will be entitled to continue to rely for five business days from the date of the exchange on the ADS Depositary's electronic certificate of registration. Thereafter, you may not be able to obtain and remit U.S. dollars abroad upon the disposition of the Class B Stock, or distributions relating to the Class B Stock, unless you obtain your own electronic certificate of registration pursuant to Resolution No. 2,689, of January 26, 2000, of the National Monetary Council, known as Resolution 2,689, which entitles foreign investors to buy and sell on the São Paulo stock exchange. If you do not obtain a certificate of registration under Resolution 2,689, you may not be able to obtain and remit abroad U.S. dollars or other foreign currencies upon the disposition of Class B Stock or distributions with respect thereto, and you will generally be subject to less favorable tax treatment on gains with respect to the Class B Stock. If you attempt to obtain your own electronic certificate of registration, you may incur expenses or suffer significant delays in the application process. Obtaining an electronic certificate of registration involves generating significant documentation, including completing and filing various electronic forms with the Central Bank and the *Comissão de Valores Mobiliários*, or the CVM. These expenses or delays could adversely impact your ability to remit dividends or distributions relating to the Class B Stock or the return of your capital outside of Brazil in a timely manner. If you decide to exchange your Class B Stock back into ADSs once you have registered your investment in the Class B Stock, you may deposit your Class B Stock with the Custodian and rely on the Depositary's certificate of registration, subject to certain conditions. See Item 10D. Exchange Controls. We cannot assure you that the Depositary's certificate of registration or any certificate of foreign capital registration obtained by you may not be affected by future legislative or other regulatory changes, or that additional Brazilian restrictions applicable to you, the disposition of the underlying Class B Stock or the repatriation of the proceeds from disposition could not be imposed in the future.

Since November 2006 Brazilian exporters are authorized, pursuant to the terms of Law 11,371, to keep a certain amount of their export revenues in foreign financial institutions and use such revenues to make investments and pay obligations of the exporter. The Company may, from time to time and at its convenience, use revenues kept abroad pursuant to Law 11,371 to pay dividends and any other cash distributions, thus avoiding procedures to remit U.S. dollars abroad.

***The relative volatility and illiquidity of the Brazilian securities markets may adversely affect holders of ADSs.***

Investments in securities, such as the Class B Stock or the ADSs, of issuers from emerging market countries including Brazil involve a higher degree of risk than investing in securities of issuers from more developed countries.

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The Brazilian securities market is substantially smaller, less liquid, more concentrated and more volatile than major securities markets in the United States. These features may substantially limit holders' ability to sell the preferred shares underlying the ADSs at a price and time at which holders wish to do so. The companies trading at the São Paulo Stock Exchange (*Bolsa de Valores de São Paulo*), or BOVESPA, the main Brazilian stock exchange, had a market capitalization of approximately US\$ 1.399 billion as of December 31, 2007, and an average daily trading volume of approximately US\$ 2.555 billion in 2007. In comparison, the companies trading at NYSE had a market capitalization of US\$ 27.1 trillion as of December 31, 2007, and an average daily trading volume of approximately US\$ 119.2 billion for 2007.

There is also significantly greater concentration in the Brazilian securities market than in major securities markets in the United States. The ten largest companies in terms of market capitalization represented approximately 51% of the aggregate market capitalization of BOVESPA as of December 31, 2007. The top ten stocks in terms of trading volume accounted for approximately 50% of all shares traded on BOVESPA.

*Because we are subject to specific rules and regulations as a Brazilian Company, holders of our ADSs have fewer and less well defined shareholders rights than investors in U.S. companies.*

Our corporate affairs are governed by our by-laws and the Brazilian corporate law, which differ from the legal principles that would apply if we were incorporated in a jurisdiction in the United States, such as Delaware or New York, or in certain other jurisdictions outside Brazil. In addition, your rights or the rights of holders of the preferred shares under the Brazilian corporate law, to protect your, or their, interests relative to actions taken by our board of directors or by the holders of common shares may be fewer and less well defined than under the laws of other jurisdictions outside Brazil.

Although Brazilian law imposes restrictions on insider trading and price manipulation, the Brazilian securities markets are not as highly regulated and supervised as the securities markets in the United States or certain other jurisdictions. For example, certain provisions of the U.S. Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 that apply to U.S. companies do not apply to us. In addition, rules and policies against self-dealing and regarding the preservation of shareholder interests may be less well developed and enforced in Brazil than in the United States, potentially disadvantaging holders of our preferred shares and ADSs. When compared to Delaware general corporation law, the Brazilian corporate law and practice have less detailed and less well established rules and judicial precedents relating to the review of management decisions under duty of care and duty of loyalty standards in the context of corporate restructurings, transactions with related parties and sale-of-business transactions. In addition, shareholders must hold 5% of the outstanding share capital of a corporation to have the necessary standing to bring shareholders derivative suits. Shareholders ordinarily do not have standing to bring a class action.

Also, in accordance with Brazilian corporate law and our by-laws, holders of our preferred shares, and therefore of our ADSs, are not entitled to vote at meetings of our shareholders except in limited circumstances. See Item 10B. Memorandum and Articles of Association.

***You may not be able to exercise preemptive rights.***

You may not be able to exercise the preemptive rights relating to the Class B Stock underlying the ADSs unless a registration statement under the Securities Act is effective with respect to those rights or an exemption from the registration requirements of the Securities Act is available. We are not obligated to file a registration statement with respect to the shares relating to these preemptive rights, and we cannot assure investors that we will file any such registration statement. Unless we file a registration statement or an exemption from registration applies, investors may receive only the net proceeds from the sale of their preemptive rights by the Depository, or if the preemptive rights cannot be sold, they will be allowed to lapse.

We are incorporated under the laws of Brazil. All of our directors and executive officers, and the experts named in this annual report, reside outside the U.S. substantially all of our assets, and our directors' and officers' assets and such experts' assets are located outside the U.S.. As a result, it may not be possible for investors to effect service of process within the U.S. upon us or our directors, executive officers or such experts, or to enforce against them or us, judgments obtained in U.S. courts based upon the civil liability provisions of the federal securities laws of the U.S.. In addition, we have been advised by our Brazilian counsel, that there is doubt that the courts of Brazil will enforce against us, our officers, directors and experts named herein, judgments obtained in the U.S. based upon the civil liability provisions of the federal securities laws of the U.S.

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or will enter judgments in original actions brought in Brazilian courts based upon the federal securities laws of the U.S.

**Risk Factors Relating to Aracruz and the Pulp Industry**

***The market prices for our products are cyclical.***

The prices we are able to obtain for our pulp depend on prevailing world prices for market pulp. Worldwide pulp prices have historically been cyclical, subject to significant fluctuations over short periods of time, due to a number of factors, including:

- worldwide demand for pulp products,
- worldwide production capacity,
- the strategies adopted by major pulp producers, and
- the availability of substitutes for our products.

All of these factors are beyond our control. In 2004, the average list price for BEKP (North America delivered) was US\$ 563/t. In 2005 the international environment was favorable, marked by continued Chinese economic growth and improved economic performance of the United

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States, Europe and Japan. World demand for BEKP registered a growth of 9.5% in 2005. The price of most commodities increased, including pulp. The average list price for BEKP delivered to North America in 2005 was US\$ 625/t, 11% above the 2004 level.

Price level analysis concluded that the highest prices (North America delivered US\$ 625) of 2005 added approximately US\$115 million in net revenue for that year compared to 2004, which average list price for BEKP (North America delivered) was US\$ 563/t.

Due to its quality characteristic, eucalyptus is the fiber of choice for different paper & tissue producers thus explaining the growth of its demand in the last several years above average market growth. The average level of demand growth for eucalyptus has increased significantly since 2001, to 11% per year, from 7% previously. BEKP market pulp consumption growth is expected to have reached around 17% or 1,9 million tons, in 2007, comparing to a decline of 8% in northern hardwood and of 0,4% of southern hardwood in the same year. This strong demand permitted price increase implementation for BEKP throughout the whole year 2007 achieving an average of US\$ 744/t (North America delivered), that is being the highest level since 1995. The average list price for BEKP delivered to North America in 2007 was 9% above the previous year.

Discounts from list prices are frequently granted by sellers to significant purchasers. The Company has long term supply contracts with various customers and no assurance can be given that the prices for pulp or paper will stabilize or not decline further in the future, or that demand for the Company's products will not decline in the future. As a result, no assurance can be given that the Company will be able to operate its production facilities in a profitable manner in the future. The Company's results of operations would be materially adversely affected if the price of its product were to decline significantly. See also Item 4B. Business Overview Market Overview.

***We face significant competition, which may adversely affect our market share.***

The pulp industry is highly competitive. In the international pulp markets we compete with larger competitors that have greater financial strength, higher production capacities and access to cheaper sources of capital.

In addition, most markets are served by several suppliers, often from different countries. Many factors influence our competitive position, including plant efficiencies and operating rates in relation to our competitors, and the availability, quality and cost of wood, energy, chemicals and labor. To the extent that pulp from other hardwoods can be substituted for the more expensive BEKP, we also compete with producers in the broader segment of the pulp market. Some of our competitors in this market have greater financial, marketing and other resources, larger customer bases and greater breadth of product offerings than we do. If we are unable

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to remain competitive with these producers in the future, our market share may be adversely affected. See Item 4B. Business Overview Competition.

***We may be adversely affected by the imposition and enforcement of more stringent environmental regulations that would require us to spend additional funds.***

The Company is subject to stringent environmental laws and regulations in Brazil on the federal, state and local levels. Changes in environmental laws and regulations or changes in the policy of enforcement of existing environmental laws and regulations could adversely affect the Company. The Company's operations are supervised by governmental agencies that are responsible for the implementation of pollution control laws and policies. These agencies can take actions against the Company if it fails to comply with applicable environmental regulations. These actions can include the imposition of fines and revocation of licenses and concessions.

Although changes in laws and regulations apply only prospectively under Brazilian law, it is possible that the relevant legislatures and/or governmental agencies will impose additional regulations or seek a more stringent interpretation of existing laws and regulations that would require the Company to spend additional funds on environmental matters or limit the Company's ability to operate as it currently does. In addition, such actions by such governmental bodies could impose additional costs to be borne by the Company when it renews existing licenses or applies for new ones.

***Actions by federal or state legislature or public prosecution offices may adversely affect our operations.***

In September 2001, the legislature of the State of Espírito Santo, where we owned, on December 31, 2007, 171,441 hectares of forest and other land, passed a law temporarily restricting the plantation of eucalyptus forests for purposes of pulp production within the State. In June 2002, this law was declared to be unconstitutional by a provisional decision of the Brazilian Federal Supreme Court, and injunctive relief was

granted in response to suits brought by the National Confederation of Industry and by the National Brazilian Confederation of Agriculture and Cattle Raising. The Company believes that such provisional decision will be upheld by the court's definitive decision on the merits. However, there can be no assurance that such definitive decision will be favorable to the Company or that similar laws will not be enacted that would impose a limitation or restriction on plantation of eucalyptus or that would affect our licenses or permits.

On March 13, 2002, the Espírito Santo legislative assembly created an investigating commission (*Comissão Parlamentar de Inquérito*) to investigate the legality of our permits and the acquisition of our properties, since we began our operations in Espírito Santo. As the procedures in the investigation were not concluded within the prescribed time period for such a type of investigation, the commission was terminated without issuing a final report. The Company is confident that all its permits and acquisition documents are strictly in accordance with all laws and regulations. However, we cannot be certain that a governmental entity will not initiate similar or other investigations in the future that would cause us to incur significant expense and divert management's attention.

In May 2003 the Human Rights Commission of the Brazilian House of Representatives (*Câmara dos Deputados*) created a Working Group to discuss the alleged violation of economic, social, cultural and environmental rights in the eucalyptus plantations in the State of Espírito Santo. Among other issues, several complaints involving the Company were discussed. Representatives of the Company participated in a Public Hearing and presented to the Commission extensive reports, information, evidence, technical studies and governmental and judicial decisions that demonstrate that the complaints were unjustified. The Working Group was terminated without issuing a final report. However, the Company cannot be certain that a governmental entity will not initiate similar or other investigations in the future that would cause the Company to incur significant expense and divert management's attention.

In the second quarter of 2007 a number of Non-Governmental Organizations (NOGs) and the Federal Public Prosecution Office in the State Rio Grande do Sul brought two Civil Public Suits (*Ações Cíveis Públicas*) questioning the validity of the procedures adopted by Fundação Estadual de Proteção Ambiental - FEPAM in issuing environmental licenses for eucalyptus plantations in that State. A provisional measure was initially granted, to determine that FEPAM ceases to issue environmental licenses for eucalyptus plantations, being the competence therefore transferred to Instituto Brasileiro de Meio Ambiente - IBAMA (Brazilian Environmental Institute). The provisional measure was suspended by the Federal Court of the 4th Region at the request of the

Government of the State Rio Grande do Sul. The Company believes that such suspension will be confirmed by the court's definitive decision on the merits. However, there can be no assurance that such definitive decision will be favorable to the Company or that similar suits will not be brought in the future that would impose a limitation or restriction on plantation of eucalyptus or that would affect our licenses or permits.

***If we are unable to manage potential problems and risks related to acquisitions and alliances, our business and growth prospects may suffer. Some of our competitors may be better positioned to acquire other pulp and paper businesses.***

The Company, as part of its business strategy, made a major acquisition by purchasing Riocell and may acquire other businesses in Brazil or elsewhere. In addition, the Company has made a significant joint venture investment in Veracel and may enter into other similar arrangements or alliances with third parties. Our management is unable to predict whether or when any prospective acquisitions or alliances will occur, or the likelihood of a material transaction being completed on favorable terms and conditions. Our ability to continue to expand successfully through acquisitions or alliances depends on many factors, including the availability to identify acquisitions and negotiate, finance and close transactions. Acquisitions and similar joint ventures or other arrangements have significant risks:

- we could fail to successfully integrate the operations, services and products of any acquired company;
- we could fail to select the best partners or fail to effectively plan and manage any alliance strategy;
- the acquisitions could increase our costs;
- our management's attention could be diverted from other business concerns; and
- we could lose key employees of the acquired company.

Our failure to integrate any new businesses or manage our investment in Veracel or any new alliances successfully could adversely affect our business and financial performance. Furthermore, the world pulp industry is undergoing consolidation, and many companies compete for acquisition and alliance opportunities in our industry. Some of our competitors have greater financial and other resources than we do. This may reduce the likelihood that we will be successful in completing acquisitions and alliances necessary for the expansion of our business or cause such acquisition or alliances to be possible only on less favorable terms. In addition, any major acquisition we consider may be subject to regulatory approval. We may not be successful in obtaining required regulatory approvals on a timely basis or at all.

***Any downgrade in our credit ratings could adversely affect the availability of new financing and increase our cost of capital.***

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In 2005 and during 2006, the risk rating agencies Moody's Investor Service (Moody's), Standard & Poor's and Fitch Ratings (Fitch) both assigned an indicative rating to the Company's foreign currency debt under foreign law. After the rating agencies' confirmation, Aracruz became one of the few companies in Brazil confirmed as investment grade in foreign currency debt from three of the most important rating agencies in the world - Moody's, Standard & Poor's and Fitch Ratings -, thus reducing the Company's average cost of capital.

During 2007 our rating improved, with Moody's raising theirs an additional notch, to Baa2, which is equivalent to the ratings assigned by Standard & Poor's and Fitch (BBB). However, if the ratings were to be downgraded by the rating agencies, our cost of capital would increase. Any downgrade could also negatively affect our business and the availability of future financing.

*We are controlled by a few shareholders, what can cause impasse on certain decisions.*

Approximately 96.5% of our voting stock is owned by four principal shareholders, who have the ability to control the election of our board of directors and our direction and future operations, including decisions regarding acquisitions and other business opportunities, the declaration of dividends in excess of the requirements under our by-laws and Brazilian corporate law, and the issuance of additional shares and other securities. See Item 7A. Major Shareholders.

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### *Dependence on Few Customers and the Loss of any of them can Cause a Significant Impact over our Operations*

The Company's marketing strategy is to develop long-term relationships with customers that will purchase the Company's production year after year. In 2007, the Company's three largest customers accounted for approximately 57% of its sales (by volume). See "Market Overview Markets and Customers". The Company believes that the loss of any of these customers would have a material adverse effect on the Company's results of operations.

## **ITEM 4. INFORMATION ON ARACRUZ**

### **A. History and Development of Aracruz**

We conduct our operations under our legal and commercial name, Aracruz Celulose S.A.. We are a corporation (*sociedade anônima*), with unlimited duration, organized under the laws of the Federative Republic of Brazil. As a Brazilian corporation, we operate under the provisions of the Brazilian corporate law. Our headquarters and main operating unit are located at Rodovia Aracruz - Barra do Riacho, Kilometer 25, Municipality of Aracruz, State of Espírito Santo, Brazil, and its telephone number is 55-27-3270-2122. Our principal office is located at Av. Brigadeiro Faria Lima, 2277, 4th floor, 01452-000 São Paulo, State of São Paulo, Brazil, and our telephone number is 55-11-3301-4111. Our agent for service of process in the United States is Greenberg Traurig, LLP, 200 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10166. We maintain an Internet website at [www.aracruz.com.br](http://www.aracruz.com.br). Information contained on our website is not part of, or incorporated by reference into, this annual report.

#### *Barra do Riacho Unit*

Aracruz Florestal S.A., or AFSA, our predecessor, was incorporated in 1967, for an unlimited duration, to plant eucalyptus forests. AFSA became a subsidiary of Aracruz in 1972 when Aracruz was incorporated, and on July 20, 1993, AFSA was merged into Aracruz.

We commenced pulp production operations in September 1978, using a single production line ("*Fiberline A*") with a nominal production capacity (i.e., the production capacity for which the mill was designed) of approximately 400,000 tons of pulp per year. In early 1991, we completed an expansion plan, known as the 1991 Expansion Project, which added a second production line ("*Fiberline B*"). This increased the nominal capacity of the Barra do Riacho Unit to approximately 1,025,000 tons per year. In 1994, we increased our effective production capacity to 1,070,000 tons through system upgrades and productivity gains. From October 1995 to December 1998, we implemented the Modernization Project, which increased the Barra do Riacho Unit nominal capacity to 1,240,000 tons per year, as well as our production efficiency.

We own 51% of Portocel Terminal Especializado de Barra do Riacho S.A., the company that operates the port terminal of Barra do Riacho, since January 1985. The remaining 49% of Portocel is owned by Celulose Nipo-Brasileira S.A - CENIBRA, another pulp manufacturer and one of our competitors. From the privatization of the port terminal in 1985 until 2007 Portocel increased its storage capacity from 45,000 to 217,000 tons.

In 1998 we acquired all ownership interests of Gutchess International Inc. in Tecflor Industrial S.A. (currently known as Aracruz Produtos de Madeira S.A., or APM), a joint venture between Gutchess International Inc. and Aracruz created in 1997 for the production of solid wood products. In October 2004 we sold two thirds of our shares in APM to Weyerhaeuser do Brasil Participações Ltda., a subsidiary of

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Weyerhaeuser Corporation. APM's domestic sales policy remained unaltered and its overseas sales continued to be Weyerhaeuser's responsibility. We currently own one third of the shares of APM. See Business Overview Aracruz Produtos de Madeira.

In June 2000, our board of directors approved another expansion of the nominal production capacity of the Barra do Riacho Unit by 700,000 tons per year, known as the Fiberline C Expansion Project. The Fiberline C Expansion Project involved the addition of a new pulp line and certain other modifications to existing equipment at the Unit in order to further improve our cost-effectiveness. Construction began in the second semester of 2000, and the plant began operations at the end of May 2002, reaching full capacity in 2003. See Business Overview Fiberline C Expansion Project. The production volume resulting from the Fiberline C Expansion Project required an increase in the Company's forest base of approximately 65,200 hectares of eucalyptus plantations. To meet this demand, in June 2000, the Company acquired Terra Plana Agropecuária

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Ltda., with assets comprised of 19,000 hectares of land appropriate for planting eucalyptus trees. From July 2000 through December 31, 2001, the Company acquired approximately 44,000 additional hectares of land in a number of separate transactions. Additionally, in September 2002, Bahia Sul (currently denominated Suzano Papel e Celulose) and the Company signed, jointly with Companhia Vale do Rio Doce (now called Vale) and its wholly owned subsidiary, Florestas Rio Doce S/A, a contract for the acquisition of equal stakes by Bahia Sul and the Company of forest assets comprising approximately 40,000 hectares of lands and eucalyptus-planted forests. The Company also entered into a three-year wood supply contract with Veracel to provide a total of up to 3.85 million cubic meters of wood for the Fiberline C Expansion Project until the new plantations reach maturity for harvesting. This contract terminated in the first half of 2004. During 2004, we were able to meet approximately 62% of our wood fiber requirements from our own eucalyptus forests. In 2005, 2006 and 2007 we met approximately 90%, 91% and 86%, respectively, of our wood requirements from our own eucalyptus forests. In 2008 we expect to meet approximately 77% of our wood requirements from our own eucalyptus forests, due to the increase of wood coming from the Forestry Partners Program, according to our long term wood supply planning. See Business Overview Eucalyptus Forests .

Our board of directors approved in December 2005 another investment at the Barra do Riacho Unit known as Barra do Riacho Unit Optimization. The project was intended to improve the technology and performance in the pulp production process, introducing flexibility to adapt the pulp to different market requirements. These improvements are being made by modifying and/or replacing equipment at Fiberlines A, B and C, leading to a sustainable increase in nominal capacity of 200,000 tons/year. The plant investment was estimated at US\$ 239 million, with US\$ 199 million already spent up to 2007 and US\$ 40 million expected for 2008, with 80% of the items produced domestically and 20% imported. The additional capacity of 200,000 tons/year should be attained until 2009.

### *Veracel*

On October 10, 2000, we acquired a 45% stake in Veracel, a joint venture to grow eucalyptus trees on plantations and to build a pulp mill. On January 31, 2003, the Company acquired an additional 5% stake in Veracel, bringing its total stake to 50%. The remaining 50% interest in Veracel is owned by Stora Enso OYJ ("*Stora Enso*"). Veracel grows eucalyptus on plantations in the State of Bahia, which has diversified the sources of the Company's supply of wood for the Barra do Riacho Unit. This equity investment in Veracel achieved two objectives: (i) a guaranteed supply of wood for the Fiberline C Expansion Project during the first three years of the new production unit's operation and (ii) the opportunity to expand the Company's business in the future from an operational base in Bahia that can potentially replicate its accomplishments in the State of Espírito Santo. In May 2003, the Company and its joint venture partner decided to invest an additional US\$940 million in Veracel to build a 900,000-ton capacity mill (the "*Veracel Mill*") for the production of BEKP in the State of Bahia. Construction of the Veracel Mill was started at the beginning of the second half of 2003, and the mill start up was in May 2005. A total of US\$1.30 billion was budgeted to the project.

The Veracel pulp mill, from the cornerstone to the start-up at the beginning of May 2005, took 22 months to be completed. On November 6, 2005, the Veracel pulp mill officially attained its design capacity. The so called learning curve phase was considered completed after the mill had produced for 30 consecutive days at an average output of 2,543 tons per day. This was achieved 174 days after the mill's start-up. The quality curve had already been achieved in June 2005, when a level of over 97% of prime grade product had been continuously recorded for a period of 30 days. Both accomplishments represent world records for a greenfield pulp mill and are two major achievements in the successful development of the Veracel project. The year 2006 was the first full year of operation, with pulp production at a total of 975,150 metric tons, 8% above the annual nominal capacity of 900,000 metric tons, with 468,348 tons being purchased by the Company as its share. In 2007, Veracel pulp production achieved 1,051,376 metric tons, 8% above 2006 production and 16% above annual nominal capacity. The output of the new plant has been sold basically to the controlling shareholders, in the same proportion as their shareholdings (50% each).

The Veracel mill has the world's lowest production cost for bleached eucalyptus market pulp, due to its modern equipment, low average forestry operations radius (50 Km) and high forest productivity, and is one of the largest single-line pulp production facilities of its type in the world. The project makes use of modern equipment, control systems and processes to preserve the quality of the environment.

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Because of its location - distant from large urban centers - Veracel's mill contributed to the creation of jobs and income in a region where there are currently few job opportunities.

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### *Guaíba Unit*

On May 30, 2003, the Company acquired all of the capital stock of Riocell S.A. ("**Riocell**"), a major producer of BEKP, from Klabin S.A. for a purchase price of US\$567 million. Riocell owned and operated a BEKP pulp mill (the "**Riocell Mill**") with a capacity of approximately 400,000 tons per year and owned approximately 40,000 hectares of eucalyptus plantations in the State of Rio Grande do Sul. On January 7, 2004, Riocell was merged into the Company and the Riocell Mill and related forestry assets are now operated as the Company's Guaíba Unit. On September 15, 2004 the Company announced the Guaíba Unit Optimization. The systems involved in the modernization of the Guaíba Unit went into operation in November 2005. The optimization project allowed additional production of 30,000 tons in 2006, bringing the Guaíba Unit's nominal capacity to 430,000 tons/year. In June 2006, the Company announced that preliminary studies have been completed regarding the feasibility of the future expansion of the production capacity at its Guaíba Unit by 1.3 million tons/year, which would raise the mill's total capacity to approximately 1.8 million tons/year some time between 2010 and 2015. In June 2007, the environmental impacts study was completed and in March 2008 the preliminary environmental license concerning the expansion of the production capacity of the Guaíba Unit to 1.8 million tons/year was issued. See "Business - Guaíba Unit".

### **Capital Expenditures**

The Company's capital expenditures for 2005, 2006 and 2007 were US\$ 147.9, US\$ 301.0 million and US\$589.7 million, respectively.

The table below sets forth a breakdown of our most significant capital expenditures for the periods indicated:

|   | <b>For the years ended December 31,</b> |                         |                         |
|---|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|
|   | <b><u>2005</u></b>                      | <b><u>2006</u></b>      | <b><u>2007</u></b>      |
|   | <b>(in US\$ millions)</b>               |                         |                         |
| Silviculture (Forest) and other forestry investments (includes land purchase) | US\$71.4                                | US\$219.1               | US\$317.8               |
| Improvements/industrial investments   | 66.8                                    | 67.3                    | 212.8                   |
| Other   | 9.7                                     | 14.6                    | 59.1                    |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b><u>US\$147.9</u></b>                 | <b><u>US\$301.0</u></b> | <b><u>US\$589.7</u></b> |

During the year 2005, we invested approximately US\$147.9 million, of which US\$65.2 million was devoted to forest, US\$2.4 million to land purchases, US\$3.8 million to other forestry investments, US\$40.1 million to ongoing industrial investments, US\$26.7 million to Guaíba Unit Optimization and US\$9.7 million to other projects.

During the year 2006, we invested approximately US\$301.0 million, of which US\$113.1 million was devoted to forest, US\$80.5 million to land purchases, US\$25.5 million to other forestry investments, US\$23.4 million to ongoing industrial investments, US\$43.9 million to Barra do Riacho and Guaíba Unit Optimization and US\$14.6 million to other projects.

During the year 2007, we invested approximately US\$589.7 million, of which US\$146.5 million was devoted to forest, US\$140.4 million to land purchases, US\$30.9 million to other forestry investments, US\$51.6 million to ongoing industrial investments, US\$161.2 million to Barra do Riacho and Guaíba Unit Optimization and US\$59.1 million to other projects.

During 2008, the Company expects to invest approximately US\$578 million related to industrial, forestry and other investments. Approximately 70% of the funding for these investments will derive from Company's own cash generation.

### **B. Business Overview**

#### **General**

We are the world's largest producer of bleached hardwood kraft market pulp. We produce eucalyptus pulp, which is a high-quality variety of hardwood pulp used by paper manufacturers to produce a wide range of



products, including premium tissue, printing and writing papers, liquid packaging board and specialty papers. Eucalyptus pulp's distinguishing characteristics are its softness, opacity, porosity, and suitability for printing. Market pulp is the pulp sold to producers of paper products, as opposed to pulp produced by an integrated paper producer, for use in paper production facilities. Kraft pulp is pulp produced in a chemical process using sulphate.

During 2007, we produced approximately 2,569,000 tons of BEKP (3,095,000 tons including 50% of Veracel's pulp production), representing an estimated 12% of the total worldwide production capacity of hardwood market pulp and 23% of the worldwide production capacity of BEKP for 2007. In 2007, eucalyptus accounted for an estimate of approximately 53% of the total worldwide production capacity of BHKP. In 2007 and 2006, sales to customers located outside Brazil, especially in North America, Western Europe and Asia, accounted for approximately 98% of our sales volume. See "Market Overview - Markets and Customers" and "Competition".

In 2007 Aracruz's sales volume totaled 2,581,000 tons of eucalyptus pulp (3,104,000 tons including 50% of Veracel) compared to 2,547,000 tons in 2006 (3,021,000 tons including 50% of Veracel).

In 2007, we had net operating revenue of US\$1,808.0 million of eucalyptus pulp compared to US\$1,632.2 million in 2006 and US\$1,300.2 million in 2005.

From 1979 to 2007 our pulp production volume had a compound annual growth rate of 10% per annum and it is expected to reach a total pulp production volume of 3,300,000 tons (including 50% of Veracel's pulp production) in 2008.

In December 1999, we moved our headquarters from Rio de Janeiro to the Municipality of Aracruz, in the Brazilian coastal State of Espírito Santo, where part of the Company's production facilities is located. In 2005 we moved our executive offices from Rio de Janeiro to São Paulo, where we maintain our financing, administrative and trading activities. Our production facilities consist of the Barra do Riacho Unit in Espírito Santo State, which has three production units each with two bleaching, drying and baling lines, the Guaíba Unit, located in the municipality of Guaíba, State of Rio Grande do Sul, and Veracel, located in the municipality of Eunapolis, State of Bahia, where we have a 50% stake. Our production facilities are equipped with advanced environmental protection resources.

The Barra do Riacho Unit's area totaled 360,000 hectares at the end of 2007, of which 211,000 ha were plantations and 129,000 ha were native reserves and 20,000 were for other uses. At the Guaíba Unit, there were approximately 126,000 ha of total forestry area, of which 75,000 ha were plantations and 41,000 ha were native reserves and 9,900 were for other uses. All told, Aracruz maintains a ratio of 1 hectare of native reserves for each 1.7 ha of plantations. Despite the condition of self sufficiency in wood requirements, the Company managed to have other sources of wood supply from the Forestry Partners Program, which celebrated its 16th anniversary in 2007. Last year, the total turnover of the program was almost US\$27 million and we entered into almost 3,800 contracts with small, medium and large farms, covering nearly 87,000 hectares of private farm property. The program contributes to the generation of rural jobs, encourages the utilization of otherwise idle land, boosts and diversifies farm income, and at the same time ensures the Company an alternative source of wood supplies. The program helps reduce the pressure exerted by certain sectors of society, to cut down native forests in order to obtain lumber for other purposes, such as charcoal and firewood.

The Barra do Riacho Unit is located approximately 1.5 kilometers from the port facilities at Barra do Riacho (Portocel), of which we own 51%.

We believe that we are one of the lowest-cost producers of bleached kraft market pulp in the world. Our low production costs relative to some of our competitors are due to a number of factors, including:

- economies of scale,
- advanced forestry techniques in managing the processes of planting,
- growing and harvesting of our trees,
- a comparatively short harvest cycle of our trees, and
- lower energy and chemical costs.

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During 2007, we were able to meet 86% of our wood fiber requirements from our own eucalyptus forests. Climate and soil conditions in Brazil enable us to harvest our eucalyptus trees in only seven years after plantation, while harvest cycles for other types of hardwood trees in the southern United States, Canada and Scandinavia can range from 25 to 70 years. Harvest cycles for our principal non-Brazilian competitors in the eucalyptus pulp market, which are located in Spain, Portugal and Chile, are approximately eight to ten years. See "Raw Materials - Wood" and "Competition". We internally produce approximately 96% and 69%, in Barra do Riacho and Guaíba Units, respectively, of our electrical energy requirements, mainly from by-products of our pulp production process, and recycle the greater part of the chemicals used at the Units. See "Raw Materials - Energy".

### **Business Strategy**

By the end of 2006 Aracruz updated its mission, vision and business principles as follows:

#### *Mission:*

- ü To offer products obtained in a sustainable way from planted forests, generating economic, social and environmental benefits and, in this way, contributing to people's well-being and quality of life.

#### *Vision:*

- ü To be acknowledged as leader in the global pulp market.

#### *Business Principles*

Our decisions and actions are based on ethical values and observe the following business principles, which also guide our Code of Ethics:

#### ü Integrity

We have a commitment to integrity:

- acting with fairness and honesty;
- respecting human rights;
- complying with legislation, internal rules, agreements and commitments;
- continuously seeking the best corporate governance practices;
- rejecting any form of corruption or illegality.

#### ü Commitment to shareholders

We create value for all shareholders, focusing on operational excellence:

- investing in continuous improvement and innovation throughout our operations;
- seeking to maximize return on investments;
- increasing the scale of our business;
- managing risks and pursuing a continuous reduction in the cost of capital.

#### ü Customer focus

We value long-term relationships:

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- offering products that satisfy customer needs;
- guaranteeing the safety of our products and the reliability of their supply;
- investing in product development.

ü Valuing our employees

We value our employees:

- fostering a safe, healthy and motivating work environment and rejecting discrimination of any kind;
- respecting freedom of association;
- offering opportunities for professional and personal development;
- fostering professional growth based on merit;
- encouraging active citizenship;
- seeking to constantly improve quality of life.

ü Valuing our stakeholders

We cultivate relationships of mutual trust with our stakeholders:

- seeking engagement and cooperation;
- being sensitive to their aspirations and concerns;
- using dialogue as the first priority to resolve conflicts;
- respecting diversity and freedom of opinion and expression;
- being transparent in our actions and communications.

ü Harmony with the environment

We act in harmony with the environment and we contribute to its protection:

- using natural resources in a sustainable manner;
- adopting modern technologies and practices to make our operations more efficient and minimize their impacts;
- contributing to the preservation of biodiversity.

ü Social responsibility

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We take our corporate social responsibility seriously:

- disseminating knowledge and fostering the sustainable development of communities;
- establishing partnerships, investing in projects and nurture networks with the private sector, civil society organizations and the public sector;
- contributing to the improvement of public governance;

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- supporting and strengthening the partners in our supply chain.

We encourage our business partners to adopt these principles, as we strive for the sustainability of our supply chain.

Moreover, following up actions that were initiated in 2005, during 2006 and 2007 additional measures were adopted to enhance the Code of Ethics effectiveness and to assure the more structured performance of our various management bodies, with the following highlights:

- The approval of Internal Regulations for the Executive Officers, the Board of Directors and each one of the committees that support the Board of Directors, in a manner that increases their effectiveness.
- The setting up of a Disclosure Committee whose main objective is to establish guidelines for the disclosure of results and financial, accounting and audit reports.
- The restructuring of the Sustainability Committee, which now is composed of representatives of the shareholders and independent members.
- The approval of a proposal to improve the structure of the Company's regulations, seeking to more clearly establish hierarchies and levels of approval of the documents that orient our operations.
- Revision of the Code of Ethics to better align it to the mission, vision and business principles of the Company.

Also, in 2007 the Company made progress in the implementation of its strategy of combining sustainable growth with continuous efforts to improve operational excellence. Our strategic goal is to supply 25% of world demand for hardwood market pulp - amounting around 7 million tons - by 2015, and to continue to be one of the lowest cost producers in the sector, adding value for shareholders and other stakeholders. The studies to implement these additional capacities are not yet completed and still depend upon Aracruz Board's approval.

Listed below, can be seen some of the projects that contributed to implement our business strategy:

- *Economies of scale resulting from new capacity increases.* Following the modernization of Fiberlines A and B, and the Excellence Project, both carried out in 1998, which improved Aracruz's operational efficiency and enabled the Company to reduce costs, and the Fiberline C Expansion Project, which in the middle of 2002 increased our nominal production capacity to over 2,000,000 tons per year, Aracruz continued to deliver growth through the acquisition from Klabin S. A. , in 2003, of Riocell, with its updated nominal production capacity of approximately 430,000 tons of bleached eucalyptus market pulp and 50,000 tons of printing and writing paper, and through the Veracel project, a pulp mill for the production of bleached eucalyptus kraft market pulp in Eunápolis, in the State of Bahia, with a nominal capacity of 900,000 tons per year, which started up in May 2005. In mid 2004, Aracruz's Board of Directors approved the Guaíba Unit optimization project, which improved operational efficiency and enabled the Unit to increase its nominal capacity from 400,000 to 430,000 tons per year. Those Projects rely on our technology advances and benefit from our existing overhead and management structure, which has absorbed the new activity without significant additional fixed costs. These enhancements will enable us to reduce pulp costs and improve quality levels in the new production unit. Following the same value drive, the Company approved in 2005 the Barra do Riacho Unit Optimization Project that will increase the nominal capacity of the three existing Fiberlines by 200,000 tons. This project was concluded in the last quarter of 2007 and will be fully operational in 2008.
- *Improvements in forestry technology using advanced genetic techniques, which will result in an increase in the forest yield.* Regarding forest technology, as a result of the traditional genetic improvement program, we recommended eleven new eucalyptus hybrid clones for operational planting, which display greater pulp productivity per hectare, in the different Company sites, as well as wood

quality in accordance with the requirements of our products. Worthy of note is the unprecedented recommendation of hybrid clones of *E. urophylla* x *E. dunni* to Guaíba unit plantations, at Rio Grande do Sul State. Contributions to the commercial applications of new clonal propagation technologies have also been provided, as well as sustainable silvicultural practices that ensure the high performance of plantations. In Barra do Riacho Unit, soil monitoring conducted in last twenty years revealed that fertility has been improving for most of the areas, due to application of changes in nutritional management, especially from late 90's. In Guaíba Unit an important study involving soil mapping of the expansion areas was accomplished. Concerning climate studies, the results so far have demonstrate that the consumption of water by the Aracruz' eucalyptus plantations is similar to the consumption of native forests located on the Company's reserves. Aracruz biodiversity studies, started 15 years ago both in eucalypt plantations and native reserves, show that more than 11 thousand birds, of 556 different species, were registered until the end of 2007, suggesting that the silvicultural model adopted by Aracruz has allowed the maintenance of bird communities at the studied locations.

- *Optimization of transportation logistics.* Transportation of wood to the mills comprises a large portion of the cost of our pulp production. Improvements in transportation logistics and costs are a priority for the Company. At the end of 2002, we improved the logistics of our rail transportation. We also launched our Multimodal Transportation Systems Maritime and Rail , the main objective of which is to enhance logistics and further integrate our Mill-Port-Forest system. In 2005, coastal shipping delivered 17% of the total wood consumed at the Barra do Riacho Unit. With the entry into service in October, 2005 of another tug and barge, the annual shipping capacity is expected to reach 2.7 million tons in the following years, representing 36% of total wood transportation. As part of the complete system learning curve process it has already reached about 1.9 million tons in 2006, representing some 24% of the wood consumed at Barra do Riacho. In 2007, the system delivered 1.6 million tons. Each barge has a wood-carrying capacity of approximately 5,000 tons. As well as optimizing transport costs, their use eliminated some 60,000 truck journeys along the BR 101 highway in 2007, reducing traffic on the road and cutting emissions of greenhouse gases as a result of lower fossil fuel consumption.
- *Improve business process management with state-of-the-art information technology in order to improve efficiency and reduce costs.* We use mySAP. com(R) platform supplied by SAP to control, simplify and integrate our business process within all our sites and also to implement connectivity with our customers and suppliers. All our information systems are in compliance with Sarbanes-Oxley requirements. During 2007 we had implemented the new version of ERP mySAP. com (ECC6.0) . In parallel, all business processes were evaluated in order to optimize them and make use of the new functions available.
- *Increase competitiveness.*The competitiveness of our business operations, combined with our significant cash generation capabilities, has led us to evaluate from time to time various future strategic alternatives, including further increase of current pulp operations either through acquisitions or expansion of existing capacity, and/or further acquisitions of additional forests.
- *Enterprise risk management (ERM).*The Company is developing its Sustainability Plan, which comprises ERM, a wide and structured framework of the main corporate risks of the Company. Following the best practices of Corporate Governance, the Company seeks to have full control of its main corporate risks that may cause financial, operational or intangible impacts. The methodology used by the Company considers an evaluation of impact and probability under a conservative but realistic approach, being that such system has been building up through technical workshops involving the main areas of the Company.
- *Investment grade.*The Company obtained an investment grade rating in foreign currency from Moody s (Baa3, raised to an additional notch, Baa2, during 2007) and Fitch (BBB) in the early part of 2006, to add to that received from Standard & Poor s at the end of 2005 (BBB-, raised to an additional notch, BBB, during 2007). This achievement positioned Aracruz among a select group of companies in Brazil, which improved the Company s risk perception, what could result in an important reduction of Aracruz cost of capital and, consequently, value added to the shareholders.

### Acquisition of Veracel

On October 10, 2000, we entered into two stock purchase and sale agreements pursuant to which we acquired a 45% stake in Veracel, a joint venture between Stora Enso OYJ and Odebrecht to grow and manage eucalyptus plantations and to build a pulp mill. One agreement, for the amount of approximately US\$72 million, was entered between the Company and Odebrecht for the acquisition of 40% of the total outstanding capital stock of Veracel. The other agreement, for the amount of approximately US\$9 million, was entered between the Company and Stora Enso Treasury Amsterdam B.V. for the acquisition of an additional 5% of the total outstanding capital stock of Veracel. On January 31, 2003, Odebrecht sold its 10% stake in Veracel to Stora Enso OYJ and us. We acquired shares representing 5% of the total outstanding capital stock of Veracel for US\$9.7 million, resulting in 50% stake for each shareholder. This equity investment in Veracel achieved two objectives: (i) a guaranteed supply of wood for the Fiberline C Expansion Project during the first three years of the new production unit s operation and (ii) the opportunity to grow our business in the future from an operational base in Bahia that can potentially replicate our accomplishments in the State of Espírito Santo.

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In May 2003, Stora Enso and we approved the construction of Veracel's pulp mill for the production of BEKP in Eunápolis, in the State of Bahia ( **Veracel Project** ). The mill was projected to have a nominal capacity of 900,000 tons per year and the overall investment was budgeted at US\$1.30 billion. Veracel operations started in May, 2005 and reached full capacity 174 days thereafter, in the beginning of November 2005, setting a new world record for learning curve achievement. During 2006 Veracel produced 975,150 tons of pulp. In 2007 the production achieved 1,051,376 metric tons, 8% above 2006 production and 16% above annual nominal capacity, figuring among the largest and most advanced single-line pulp mills in the world.

The Veracel Project has obtained long-term direct funding from development banks in the amount of approximately US\$650 million, being US\$500 million from BNDES and US\$150 million from the European Investment Bank (EIB) and the Nordic Investment Bank (NIB). The funding of the Veracel Project consisted of 5% internal cash generation, 42% equity and 53% loans from Brazilian and international development agencies. NIB and EIB debt was fully pre-paid in 2007. The Company is a several guarantor of 50% of the indebtedness incurred by Veracel, including indebtedness in connection with the financing of the Veracel Project. Stora Enso is a several guarantor of the other 50% of such indebtedness. At December 31, 2007 the outstanding amount of such indebtedness guaranteed by the Company was approximately US\$321.5 million.

The construction of the mill was started at the beginning of the second half of 2003, and the operational start-up was in May 2005. The project was carried out under an EPC (Engineering, Procurement and Construction) concept and required the prior implementation of a qualification program to enable the local workforce to take part in the construction of the pulp mill. The equipment and services necessary for the project have been contracted mostly from Brazilian suppliers. The implementation of the Veracel project was also successfully concluded, establishing two other global marks: the installation of the project in 22 months and the effective construction of the mill, concluded in 17 months.

In connection with the acquisition of the 45% equity participation in Veracel, on October 10, 2000, we, Stora Enso and Odebrecht, together known as the Veracel Shareholders, and Veracel entered into a shareholders' agreement, or the Veracel Shareholders' Agreement, which set forth, among other things, certain agreements among the parties with respect to the management and operation of Veracel and the transfer of the common shares of Veracel. In connection with the further acquisition by us and by Stora Enso, on equal basis, of the stake then held by Odebrecht in Veracel on January 31, 2003 and as a consequence of the Implementation Decision adopted by the remaining shareholders, the Veracel Shareholders' Agreement was amended. The amended Veracel Shareholders' Agreement has a term of 20 years from its date and can be automatically extended for successive 20-year terms thereafter unless notice to the contrary is given by any party to the Veracel Shareholders' Agreement. The Veracel Shareholders' Agreement will terminate automatically if the ownership by any of the Veracel Shareholders of common shares of Veracel exceeds 50%. The Veracel Shareholders' Agreement provides that Veracel will at all times during its term have a board of directors comprised of 6 (six) members, of which (i) 3 (three) will be elected from individuals appointed by Stora Enso and, (ii) 3 (three) will be elected from individuals appointed by us. The directors elected by us (acting jointly) and the directors elected by Stora Enso (acting jointly) will each have the right, without any action by any other directors, to request the removal of any incumbent officer of Veracel. The Veracel Shareholders' Agreement also provides that neither we nor Stora Enso may transfer (which includes the creation of liens) any of their respective common shares of Veracel to non-affiliated entities other than after the second anniversary of the start-up of Veracel's pulp mill. Either of the Veracel Shareholders may transfer its common shares of Veracel to an affiliate, subject to certain limitations. The Veracel Shareholders' Agreement also requires that each person

or entity who acquires shares of Veracel pursuant to the provisions thereof become a party to such agreement. The Veracel Shareholders' Agreement provides that, under certain circumstances, the Veracel Shareholders may be required to make capital contributions to Veracel, on a *pro rata* basis. The Veracel Shareholders' Agreement also provides that we, so long as either we or any of our subsidiaries is a shareholder of Veracel, shall not acquire (or caused to be acquired) any interest in real property in the core area of Veracel. The same covenant applies to Veracel with respect to real property in our core area.

The Veracel Shareholders' Agreement provides further that if any of the shareholders, known as the Defaulting Shareholder, fails to comply with any of its obligations regarding Veracel's funding needs in connection with the business plan, the Investment Plan and Capital Contributions, the other shareholder (the Calling Shareholder) shall have the right to require the Defaulting Shareholder to transfer all (but not less than all) of its shares to the Calling Shareholder at a discounted market value calculated according to the provisions of the Veracel Shareholders' Agreement.

### **Guaíba Unit**

On June 30, 2003 the Company announced that it had acquired Riocell S.A. ("*Riocell*") from Klabin S.A., which operated the Riocell Mill situated in the Municipality of Guaíba, State of Rio Grande do Sul, in the south of Brazil, for a purchase price of US\$567 million. As a consequence, Riocell was included in the financial information of the Company at and for the year ended December 31, 2003. On January 7,

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2004, Riocell was merged into the Company and is now operated as the Guaíba Unit of the Company.

The nominal production capacity of the Guaíba Unit is approximately 430,000 tons of BEKP and 55,000 tons of printing and writing paper, equipped with advanced environmental protection resources. The Guaíba Unit has approximately 126,374 hectares of forest and other land and 18,300 hectares of plantations are kept in association with third parties. The average distance of the wood supply to the mill is approximately 117 kilometers.

The Guaíba unit is fully integrated into Aracruz: human resources, information technology, systems and processes. Several synergies were obtained mainly in logistics, sales and operations.

In November 2005 we started up the project to upgrade the Guaíba Unit's industrial facilities, improving production capacity from 400,000 tons to 430,000 tons of BEKP. The overall investment amounted to US\$29.7 millions and the results are better than expected, as demonstrated in 2006 and 2007 when production reached around 436,000 tons. In June 2006, the Company announced that preliminary studies have been completed regarding the feasibility of the future expansion of the production capacity at Guaíba Unit by 1.3 million tons/year, which would raise the mill's total capacity to approximately 1.7 million tons/year some time between 2010 and 2015. In June 2007, the environmental impacts studies were completed and in March 2008 the preliminary environmental license concerning the expansion of the production capacity of the Guaíba Unit to 1.8 million tons/year was issued.

### Aracruz Produtos de Madeira

As part of our earlier strategy of diversification into other forest product businesses, we established a joint venture with the Gutchess International group of the United States in 1997 to create a new company, Tecflor Industrial S.A., for the production of solid wood products. In 1998, we acquired all ownership interests of Gutchess International Inc. in Tecflor Industrial S.A., now called Aracruz Produtos de Madeira S.A., ( *APM* ), which then became our wholly owned subsidiary. APM's high-tech hardwood lumber sawmill, which is located in the State of Bahia, was commissioned in the first quarter of 1999 and sales of its products began during the third quarter of 1999. APM manufactures and markets Lyptus®, a new concept renewable, high-grade hardwood lumber produced using eucalyptus trees, computer-optimized sawing technology and advanced drying and finishing processes. The sawmill has a nominal production capacity of 44,000 cubic meters per year. As of December 31, 2007, APM had nominated 10 sales representatives in major furniture markets in Brazil and was supplying a customer base of over 400 customers including manufacturers and resale yards.

Having consolidated the production process and trained its workforce during the preceding two years, in 2001 APM sought to expand the presence of its Lyptus® brand of high-quality sawn wood in domestic and international markets while ensuring that its quality standards were maintained. In 2001, APM established a commercial partnership with the U.S.-based Weyerhaeuser Co., or Weyco, one of the largest forestry companies in the world, for the exclusive distribution of Lyptus® in the North American markets. This new partnership

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arrangement gave APM access to over 70 Weyco points of sale in the U.S. and Canada, increasing the presence of Lyptus® in one of the largest markets in the world for high-quality hardwood. The first shipments to Weyco took place in the months of May and August 2001. We have expanded the 2001 agreement with Weyco to extend sales of Lyptus® to the European and Asian markets, thus assuring the presence of the product in over 100 points of distribution in those regions.

In 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2007, 30%, 40%, 50%, and 34% respectively, of APM's total production was exported. In 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2007 export sales accounted for 61%, 65%, 71%, and 55% respectively, of the revenues of APM.

Consistent with the strategies set forth above, in October 2004 we sold two thirds of our shares in APM to Weyerhaeuser do Brasil Participações Ltda., a subsidiary of Weyco, for a total purchase price of US\$18.6 million. We currently own one third of the shares of APM and have certain voting rights as set forth in the APM Shareholders' Agreement.

The Board of Directors of APM approved in February 2004 a five year business plan, which comprises the expansion of the sawmill nominal production capacity to 95,000 cubic meters per year and investments in the amount of up to US\$10.3 million, of which US\$1.35 million have been invested in 2005. In 2006 it were invested US\$ 72 thousand and in 2007 US\$1.35 million.

### Barra do Riacho Unit Optimization Project

Barra do Riacho Unit began its operations in 1978 with a nominal capacity of 400,000 tons in Fiberline A. In 1991 through the duplication of capacity, the Fiberline B started operations with an additional of 525,000 tons. In 2002 our third line, Fiberline C, was started with a nominal

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capacity of 700,000 tons. During the last 27 years, through many debottlenecking and modernization projects, Barra do Riacho Unit achieved a total production capacity of 2,130,000 tons per year.

The Barra do Riacho Unit Optimization Project, approved by our Board of Directors in December, 2005, will improve the technology and performance in the pulp production process, introducing flexibility to adapt the pulp to different market requirements. These improvements will be made by modifying and/or replacing equipments at Fiberlines A, B and C leading to a sustainable increase in nominal capacity of 200,000 tons per year.

The plant investment is estimated at US\$230 million, or US\$1.150 /ton, with 80% of the items produced domestically and 20% imported. The appreciation of the real against the U.S. dollar is the main reason for the increase compared to the approved Budget of US\$ 192 million. There are still some disbursements to happen in 2008 related to equipment already operational. Land purchase will not be needed. The incremental wood volume will be provided basically by (1) reduction in average age of current forestry base and (2) forestry productivity increase through forestry management implemented in 1999.

Implementation commenced in the first half of 2006 and was concluded in the 4th quarter of 2007 (around 19 months since purchases), with full capacity of 2.3 million tons/year to be operational in 2008. There are still some minor items pending, to be operational in 2008, such as the gas system which is under construction and will be in place by April 2008. This item does not affect production for 2008.

### Market Overview

#### *General*

Wood pulp is the principal raw material used in manufacturing paper and paperboard. Whether or not a specific type of wood pulp is suitable for a particular end-use, depends on the type of wood used to make the pulp, as well as the process used to transform the wood into pulp. Hardwood pulp is produced using hardwood trees, such as oak, eucalyptus, aspen, birch and acacia trees. Hardwood pulp has short fibers and is generally better suited for manufacturing coated and uncoated printing and writing papers, tissue and specialty papers. Softwood pulp is produced using softwood trees, such as pines. It has long fibers and is generally used to add strength to the paper. We do not produce softwood pulp.

The pulp manufacturing process also can determine a pulp's suitability for particular end-uses. Chemical pulp refers to pulp made using chemical processes to dissolve the lignin and other organic materials

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holding the wood fibers together. Among the various chemical processes, the most common is the kraft process, which is used by us to produce our pulp. The kraft process helps to maintain the inherent strength of the wood fibers and thus produces a pulp especially well suited for manufacturing printing and writing papers, specialty papers and tissue papers. Pulp producers may sell their pulp in the worldwide market or use it internally to manufacture various types of papers.

Bleached pulp is used for a variety of purposes, including printing and writing papers, specialty papers and tissues. Unbleached pulp, which is brown in color, is used in the production of wrapping papers, corrugated containers and other paper and cardboard transportation materials.

As a result of the variety of wood types and processes used to produce pulp, which have evolved significantly over time, the pulp market has become increasingly specialized in terms of technical characteristics. Many of the physical and chemical properties most valued by printing and writing paper manufacturers and other bleached pulp consumers, such as opacity and brightness, are exhibited by hardwood and, particularly, eucalyptus pulp. In addition, the increasing specialization of paper manufacturers has resulted in many such manufacturers developing their own customized mix of pulp inputs (known as furnish), for use in their paper manufacturing. Furthermore, as more paper manufacturers have come to appreciate the technical characteristics of hardwood pulp and to rely on a significant hardwood pulp component in their furnish, the market for hardwood pulp has grown more rapidly than the market for softwood pulp.

Within the hardwood segment, bleached eucalyptus kraft market pulp has demonstrated the highest annual rate of growth in demand from 1997 to 2007. Over this ten-year period, the annual rate of growth in demand for bleached eucalyptus pulp was estimated at 8,5%, while the annual rate of growth in demand for hardwood pulp during the same period was estimated at 4,7% and the market for softwood pulp for the same period was estimated at a 2,5% annual rate.



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Eucalyptus is only one of many types of hardwood used to make pulp. Eucalyptus trees generally grow straight and have few branches. This allows for dense growth, easy harvesting and less need for pruning. Since 1980, eucalyptus kraft market pulp has steadily increased as a percentage of the total worldwide production of bleached hardwood kraft market pulp (from 29% in 1980 to approximately 53% in 2007) primarily due to its high quality, and because of properties, such as its softness, opacity and printability.

### *International Markets*

From 1997 to 2007, the worldwide production capacity of bleached hardwood kraft market pulp is estimated to have grown an average of approximately 4,5% per year, from 16,7 million tons to 25,8 million tons. The start-up of new or expanded production facilities has increased the total worldwide capacity for bleached hardwood kraft market pulp by approximately 9,1 million tons from 2000 to 2007. Worldwide demand for bleached hardwood kraft market pulp is strongly influenced by the demand for paper and board products, which correlates to world GDP growth. Demand for bleached hardwood kraft market pulp has grown in recent years, increasing from 15.1 million tons in 1997 to 24 million tons in 2007. Consumption of market pulp is concentrated mainly in Europe, North America and Asia.

The charts below show the estimated demand for bleached hardwood by region:

| <b>Total Bleached Hardwood Demand By Region</b> |            |     |            |     |            |     |            |     |            |     |
|---|------------|-----|------------|-----|------------|-----|------------|-----|------------|-----|
|   | 2003       |     | 2004       |     | 2005       |     | 2006       |     | 2007       |     |
|   | tons       | %   | tons       | %   | tons       | %   | tons       | %   | tons       | %   |
| <b>NORTH</b>                                    |            |     |            |     |            |     |            |     |            |     |
| AMERICA   | 2.725.000  | 14% | 2.740.000  | 13% | 2.915.000  | 14% | 3.095.000  | 14% | 3.345.000  | 14% |
| EUROPE  | 8.515.000  | 43% | 8.965.000  | 43% | 9.080.000  | 43% | 9.570.000  | 43% | 9.980.000  | 42% |
| ASIA  | 7.530.000  | 39% | 8.195.000  | 40% | 8.235.000  | 39% | 8.850.000  | 39% | 9.100.000  | 39% |
| <b>LATIN</b>                                    |            |     |            |     |            |     |            |     |            |     |
| AMERICA   | 805.000    | 4%  | 865.000    | 4%  | 835.000    | 4%  | 880.000    | 4%  | 1.080.000  | 5%  |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                    |            |     |            |     |            |     |            |     |            |     |
| WORLD   | 19.575.000 |     | 20.765.000 |     | 21.065.000 |     | 22.395.000 |     | 23.505.000 |     |

Source: PPC - Oct, 2007.

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| <b>Aracruz Sales and Market Share By Region</b> |                |        |                |        |                |        |               |        |                |        |
|---|----------------|--------|----------------|--------|----------------|--------|---------------|--------|----------------|--------|
|   | 2003           |        | 2004           |        | 2005           |        | 2006          |        | 2007           |        |
|   | tons           | %Share | tons           | %Share | tons           | %Share | tons          | %Share | Tons           | %Share |
| <b>NORTH</b>                                    |                |        |                |        |                |        |               |        |                |        |
| AMERICA   | 767.800        | 25%    | 831.300        | 30%    | 909.300        | 31%    | 1.016.400     | 33%    | 1.050.800      | 31%    |
| EUROPE  | 813.700        | 9%     | 1.014.400      | 12%    | 1.122.300      | 11%    | 1.175.000     | 12%    | 1.266.100      | 13%    |
| ASIA  | 509.000        | 6%     | 533.100        | 7%     | 510.800        | 6%     | 757.400       | 9%     | 710.500        | 8%     |
| <b>LATIN</b>                                    |                |        |                |        |                |        |               |        |                |        |
| AMERICA   | 58.500         | 7%     | 71.200         | 8%     | 48.100         | 6%     | 63.300        | 7%     | 73.000         | 7%     |
| <b>Total</b>                                    | <b>2,149,0</b> |        | <b>2,450,0</b> |        | <b>2,590,6</b> |        | <b>3012,1</b> |        | <b>3,100,3</b> |        |

The market pulp industry is highly competitive and is also sensitive to changes in industry capacity, producer inventories and cyclical changes in the world's economies, all of which may significantly affect pulp prices and thereby our profitability. The price of pulp generally increases as economies expand around the world. Strong demand during most of the 1980s caused the market price per ton of bleached eucalyptus kraft market pulp delivered in the United States by us to peak in 1989 at US\$775 per ton. A global recessionary environment and a substantial increase in worldwide pulp supply during the early 1990s led to a sharp decline in the prices of market pulp, reaching US\$410 per ton in December 1993, the lowest price level since 1983.

In the beginning of 2004 prices were depressed, but with the pick up of paper demand and adequate inventories, prices were able to reach its peak by June and July at US\$595 (North America delivered). In the middle of third quarter the absence of the Chinese buyers in the market once more depressed prices which ended 2004 at US\$555 (North America delivered).

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The increase in demand in 2005, combined with pulp mill closures permitted the implementation of price increase in the year which reached list price of US\$635 per ton (North America delivered) in April and sustained itself throughout the year. In 2006 the same scenario allowed an US\$ 80 per ton price increase over the year, reaching US\$ 715 per ton in December.

The trend of mill closures and strong demand for hardwood pulp observed in 2005 and 2006 continued throughout the year of 2007. This combination resulted in a tight supply and demand ratio allowing price increase implementation. Regarding BEKP, prices evolved from US\$715 per ton in January to US\$805 per ton (North America delivered) in December 2007.

The following chart shows, for the periods indicated, average annual prices for BEKP produced by us as compared to northern hardwood (NBHK) and southern hardwood (SBHK) prices:

### **BEKP -NBHK - SBHK List Prices North America Delivered (US\$/ton)**

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(Note: prices are expressed as simple arithmetic average for the year)

Sources: For all eucalyptus pulp prices and for 2000 southern and northern hardwood pulp prices, the Company's databank; for 2001 northern and southern hardwood pulp prices, Hawkins Wright 2001; for 1988-99 southern and northern hardwood pulp prices, Hawkins Wright, November 2000. For 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2006 eucalyptus prices, the Company's databank, and for southern and northern hardwood pulp prices, Hawkins Wright, December 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2006.

The market pulp industry has demonstrated a seasonality pattern along the years, which is strongly correlated with paper production. World paper production normally increases by the end of vacation in the Northern Hemisphere as well as during the period involving the Christmas and New Year celebrations. However, due to specific factors such as: pulp and paper machine closures, start up of new capacities, changes in the cost structure of the industry, and the increase of worldwide pulp demand, the seasonality trends observed in the pulp industry in the past can present some changes in the future.

### ***Domestic Market***

In 2006 total domestic market demand for bleached hardwood kraft reached 605.016 tons, resulting in an increase of 7% over 2005. In 2007 demand for bleached hardwood kraft market pulp in Brazil achieved 870,000, an annual growth of 43% over 2006. However, this growth was mainly due to a "definitional change" -changes in ownership of pulp and paper facilities in Brazil resulted in the reclassification of previously affiliated pulp to market pulp. In 2007, we supplied approximately 69,000 tons of the aggregated domestic demand for bleached eucalyptus kraft market pulp, compared to 53,000 tons in 2006 and 40,000 tons in 2005.

The six largest Brazilian producers of bleached hardwood kraft market pulp are:

- Aracruz Celulose S.A.,
- Celulose Nipo-Brasileira S.A., or CENIBRA,
- Votorantim Celulose e Papel S.A,
- Suzano Papel e Celulose S.A.,
- Jarí Celulose S.A., and
- Lwarcel Celulose e Papel

Together the six largest Brazilian producers accounted for 84% of total domestic sales in 2007, with Aracruz accounting for 8% of total domestic sales. Our domestic sales volume of bleached hardwood kraft market pulp was 2% of Aracruz total sales volume in 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2007 as compared to 3% in

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2001, as a result of our increase in sales in international markets and other producers increasing their own share of the Brazilian market. See Competition. Although domestic pulp prices are affected to a certain degree by general economic conditions in Brazil, domestic pulp prices have been, and are expected to continue to be correlated with international pulp prices.

### **Eucalyptus Forests**

On December 31, 2007, we owned approximately 486,197 hectares of forest and other land (not including Veracel Celulose S/A) in the Brazilian States of Espírito Santo, Bahia, Minas Gerais and Rio Grande do Sul, of which 286,099 hectares are planted with eucalyptus forests. The average distance from our forest areas currently in use to the mills at Barra do Riacho Unit is 204 kilometers, while this distance at Guaíba Unit is 117 kilometers. Because of the cost of transportation, the average distance from the forest to the mill has an important effect on our cost structure, and we have sought to reduce the distance in various ways, including by accelerating the substitution of cloned trees with higher productivity near the mills, as discussed in Raw Materials Wood. We are always evaluating opportunities for acquiring land with forest closer to the mills in order to reduce the distance, and the associated costs of hauling wood, between the forest and the mills as well as any system of logistics that could reduce the cost of transportation, such as transportation by barges using our port facility in the state of Bahia. See Business Strategy. Of the 486,197 hectares owned by us, approximately 286,099 hectares are currently used for the planting of trees to supply pulp production and solid wood production, approximately 170,191 hectares are reserved for preservation, approximately 19,931 hectares have been used in the construction of roads and the remainder is used for other activities. Brazilian law requires that 20% of our lands, at any given time, are reserved for preservation of native ecosystems (either remaining fragments or restored areas by plantation of indigenous species).

Throughout 2007, one of our main objectives was to increase the Forestry Partners Program, for the establishment of new plantations to ensure the future supply of wood for our mills. During 2007 we established approximately 12,500 additional hectares of eucalyptus plantation through this program.

At Barra do Riacho Unit we have a tree nursery capable of producing approximately 40 million seedlings per year and a research facility is located nearby as well. At Guaíba Unit, there was an expansion of capacity in 2007, and the production went from 21 million in 2006 up to 30 million in 2007.

In 2007, we supplied 9.5 million cubic meter of wood to our pulp mills, of which 8.2 million cubic meters came from our own eucalyptus forests and 1.3 million cubic meters of wood were purchased from the market, including approximately 1.0 million cubic meters purchased through the Forestry Partners Program.

The Company pioneered the use of cloned seedlings from rooted cuttings, a method also known as vegetative propagation, to carry out large-scale planting of eucalyptus trees. This method of cloning results in trees whose fibers are extremely homogeneous, which the Company believes results in a more streamlined industrial process and higher quality pulp. Today, approximately 89% of the Company's eucalyptus forests are grown from this type of seedling. Rather than growing from seeds, clones are the "offspring" of asexual propagation. By means of this type of generation, the descendant receives the entire genetic code of the original tree. Accordingly, the risk of disease and pests can be lessened by choosing parent trees better adapted to the region. Other benefits of vegetative propagation include significantly lower bark per cubic meter of wood and "self-pruning" trees with fewer branches.

### **Raw Materials**

#### **Wood**

We rely exclusively on eucalyptus trees to meet our pulp wood requirements. Eucalyptus is a short-fibered hardwood that grows back from the stump after being cut, with each tree capable of regenerating twice. Eucalyptus trees are among the fastest growing trees in the world. Climate and soil conditions in Brazil allow for approximately six to seven-year eucalyptus tree harvest rotations as compared to eight to ten-year harvest rotations in Spain, Portugal and Chile. As part of our growth strategy, we have sought to eliminate the need for external sources of wood and to maximize both the yield and quality of fiber grown on our own plantations and in the Forestry Partners Program, through advanced forestry and tree-cloning techniques.

Through the development of cloned trees selected on the basis of certain characteristics, we were able to reduce our wood consumption per ton of pulp produced from 3.9 solid cubic meters under bark in 1985 to 3.5 solid cubic meters in 2007. The optimal age to harvest our trees is 5.5 to 6.5 years, from the time of planting.

#### **Energy**

Reducing our need for outside sources of energy and chemicals is an important component of our low-cost production strategy. At the Barra do Riacho Unit approximately 96% of our electrical energy needs in 2007 were met by burning by-products generated from pulp production compared with 98% in each of the years 2005 and 2006 and with 79% in 1999. The result of 2007 is due to periodic overhaul of one of the steam turbines. In 2007, at the Guaíba Unit, 68,8% of our electrical energy was generated internally using methods similar to the ones used in Barra do Riacho Unit and generation from coal. As in Barra do Riacho, the result of 2007 is due to the maintenance in the bigger steam turbine. The remainder of our energy needs was met through purchases of electricity, fuel oil and natural gas from third sources.

### **Chemicals**

We use several chemicals in the pulp bleaching process. The Company has significant dependence on certain chemicals and therefore adopts strong measures to mitigate it. Until December 1999, we maintained and operated an electrochemical plant on the same site as the mill at Barra do Riacho Unit to produce some of the chemicals used in the pulp bleaching process, specifically chlorine, caustic soda and sodium chlorate.

On December 16, 1999, we entered into a series of transactions with Canadianoxy Chemicals Ltd. for the transfer of our electrochemical plant to a subsidiary of Nexen Inc., or Nexen, a Canadian company formerly known as Canadian Occidental Petroleum, for approximately US\$61 million. Nexen, with head offices in Calgary, Canada, is a major producer of sodium chlorate. Its principal shareholder is Occidental Petroleum Corporation, which owns approximately 80% of its share capital. The transfer closed on December 17, 1999. The sale of the electrochemical plant, located adjacent to the mill in Barra do Riacho Unit, is part of our strategy to concentrate on our core business, transferring the production of chemicals to a specialized producer. We built the plant during the construction of the pulp mill in 1979 and subsequently expanded the plant in 1991. At the time of the sale, the electrochemical plant had the capacity to produce approximately 36,000 tons per year of sodium chlorate, 36,000 tons per year of caustic soda and 32,000 tons per year of chlorine. The plant also produces hydrochloric acid and sodium hypochlorite (liquid bleach).

As part of the sale of the electrochemical plant, we and two subsidiaries of Nexen entered into a successively renewable contract for the reciprocal supply of raw materials, services and products over a 25-year period. The agreement obligates us to provide a continuous supply of raw materials, primarily water and steam, to the electrochemical plant, and the plant to provide bleaching chemicals to us, at competitive prices. The agreement includes clauses of performance incentives, such as sharing of productivity gains, preference prices and take-or-pay obligations pursuant to which we are committed to purchase from the electrochemical plant a volume of chemical products projected for six years from the date of the agreement. If, in a given year, we purchase volumes of chemical products in excess of the minimum agreed to volume, our obligations to purchase may be reduced in subsequent years. For the take-or-pay quantities, we will pay unit prices which equal cost plus a margin as determined in the contract. The agreement also may not be assigned by a party without the consent of the other party and includes provisions relating to: (i) the extension of the agreement for an additional 10-year period upon the agreement of both parties not less than two years prior to the expiration of the initial 25-year term, (ii) the suspension of service by each party, (iii) the termination of service and (iv) the termination of the agreement by a party upon 18 months' notice that such party intends to permanently cease operation at its facility. In the event of termination of the agreement or a proposed sale by Nexen, the agreement provides that we have the right of first negotiation for the acquisition of the electrochemical plant. As a result of the sale, we no longer have responsibility for the electrochemical plant and, accordingly, any interruption of the operations of the electrochemical plant could require us to seek alternative sources in the market for certain chemicals essential to our production of pulp.

The chemicals used in the pulp bleaching process in the Guaíba Unit, especially caustic soda, sodium chlorate, hydrochloric acid and chlorine dioxide, are also produced in an electrochemical plant located on site. The nominal capacities of such electrochemical plant are, respectively, 23,605 ton/year of caustic soda, 20,949 ton/year of chlorine, 9,900 ton/year of sodium chlorate, 9,000 ton/year of hydrochloric acid and 5,760 ton/year of chlorine dioxide.

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### **Water**

Water is required in the pulp production process and in the cultivation of seedlings. Water is primarily provided by several rivers, which feed into a 35 million cubic meter reservoir on the mill site in Barra do Riacho Unit. In the Guaíba Unit the water is provided by the Guaíba Lake, beside the mill. The reservoir in the Barra do Riacho Unit holds enough water to supply the mill's needs for a five-year period in the event of a drought (based on statistical information regarding periods of very low rainfall). In the Barra do Riacho Unit wastewater undergoes a two-stage purification treatment process before it flows into the ocean, and in Guaíba Unit we have a four stage purification process before it flows into the Guaíba Lake.

Beginning in the latter half of 1998, the State of Espírito Santo experienced a severe drought which reduced our water supply and caused us to pursue alternative long-term sources of water to meet our current operating needs as well as any foreseeable expansion plans. As a result, in May 1999, we, together with the municipal governments of Aracruz and Linhares, a neighboring city, began a project of public interest to obtain water from the Rio Doce river through an existing system of canals and rivers. The project was completed in June 1999 and now provides water

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for the local communities and for the industrial and chemical districts of the Municipality of Aracruz as well as for irrigation of agricultural activities in the northern region of the State of Espírito Santo. During 2000 and the beginning of 2001, we made the necessary adjustments in the mill to receive the water supply from Rio Doce. The project was approved by federal, state and local authorities. In 2004 due to high average rainfall, we decided to temporarily close our Rio Doce river access. During 2005 and 2006 the mill sometimes needed to use the water from Rio Doce due to maintenance of the river access. In 2007 the mill did not use the water from Rio Doce.

### The Units

Our principal pulp mill, located in the State of Espírito Santo, is the largest bleached hardwood kraft market pulp production facility in the world.

In 1994, we increased our effective production capacity from 1,025,000 tons to 1,070,000 tons per year through system upgrades and productivity gains. From 1995 to 1999, we invested in the Modernization Project in Barra do Riacho Unit, successfully increasing the nominal production capacity of that mill to 1,240,000 tons of pulp per year. After the Fiberline C Expansion Project, 2002, which resulted in the construction of the mill's third production unit, the nominal capacity increased to 2,000,000 tons, in 2007 the Optimization Project increased the nominal capacity of the Barra do Riacho Unit to 2,330,000 tons. The total production of that mill was 2,031,000 tons in 2003; 2,093,000 tons in 2004; 2,134,000 tons in 2005; 2,180,000 tons in 2006 and 2,132,000 tons in 2007, due to the learning curve of the Optimization Project, representing approximately 8% of the total worldwide bleached hardwood kraft market pulp production capacity.

We also have a pulp mill in our Guaíba Unit which production capacity is of approximately 430,000 tons of BEKP per year, after full implementation of the project to upgrade the Guaíba Unit's industrial facilities. - See "B - Business Overview - Guaíba Unit".

The Company's total production in 2007 was 2,569,000 (comprising the Barra do Riacho Unit and the Guaíba Unit) and 3,095,000 tons including 50% of Veracel's pulp production (versus 2,616,000 tons in 2006), representing approximately 12% of the total worldwide bleached hardwood kraft market pulp production capacity.

The production facilities in the State of Espírito Santo and Rio Grande do Sul consist of large receiving yards for the logs, debarking, chipping and digesting equipment, packaging, warehousing facilities and a fully computerized control system that continuously monitors the entire production process. The Barra do Riacho Unit and the Guaíba Unit mills' pulp systems have, respectively, six steam turbines and three steam turbines, and generators that provide a continuous power supply for that system. Fuel for the generation of steam is mainly provided by waste products from the pulp production process. External backup power supplies are also available on sites. The Barra do Riacho Unit electrochemical plant, which was transferred in December 1999 to Nexen and that provides most of the chemicals used in the pulp bleaching process, is located within the boundaries of the production facility. The Guaíba Unit also has an electrochemical plant located within its boundaries. For a discussion of the sale of our electrochemical plant to Nexen, see Raw Materials Chemicals.

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### Pulp Production

When operating at full capacity, the Barra do Riacho Unit mill can process over 23,000 solid cubic meters of timber each day and the Guaíba Unit mill can process 6,700 solid cubic meters of timber each day. The logs are either debarked in the forest or debarked at the mills using tumbling drums and then cut into chips, which are transferred by conveyors system to the digesters where they are mixed with chemicals and heated under pressure. During this chemical cooking process, the lignin and cellulose are separated. Once removed, the lignin is used as fuel to produce steam and electrical energy for the milling process. The used chemicals are removed at various stages of the production process and recycled within the plant. The cellulose fibers are then washed, bleached using bleaching chemicals (which are produced on site), filtered, pressed and dried. The dried pulp is then cut into sheets, packed into bales and transported by truck to domestic destinations, for exportation. Barra do Riacho Unit is served by a private port which is administered by Portocel (of which we own 51% of the shares) located approximately 1.5 kilometers from the mill, for shipments abroad. At Guaíba Unit a barge terminal is located in the Guaíba Lake, beside the mill, and the pulp is transported by barges to Rio Grande Port for shipment abroad. See Transportation.

Since 2006 we only produce one type of pulp, which is ECF Pulp.

Standard Pulp is pulp bleached with regular levels of chlorine. Standard Pulp is in high demand in North America and Asia. During 2007 and 2006, we did not produce Standard Pulp. In 2005, 2004 and 2003 we produced 2,500 tons, 36,792 tons and 79,536 tons, respectively, of Standard Pulp. ECF Pulp, or Elemental Chlorine Free Pulp, is pulp bleached with lower levels of chlorine. ECF Pulp is in high demand in Europe, where our customers have preferred pulp that is bleached with little or no chlorine due to the environmental concerns relating to the pulp production process, particularly the bleaching process (although recently we have detected a shift in environmental concerns away from the bleaching process to forestry management and efficient control). We first produced ECF Pulp in November 1990. During the period from 1991 to 1994, we equipped the Barra do Riacho Unit mill so that it would have the capacity to produce enough ECF Pulp to meet the growing demand

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for ECF Pulp. From 1993 to 1997, we produced 75% ECF pulp. Commencing in 1998, with the completion of the Modernization Project, we were to produce 100% ECF pulp. See The Units. During 2007, 100% of Barra do Riacho Unit production, or 2,132,000 tons, was comprised of ECF Pulp as compared to 2,180,002 tons during 2006 and 2,132,018 tons during 2005. During 2007 the production of ECF in Guaíba Unit was approximately 436,000 tons, similar to the production in 2006.

### Transportation

Wood from the forest areas is transported by trucks, railroads and sea barges (owned by independent contractors) to the mills for processing into pulp. The average distance from our forest areas to the mills at Barra do Riacho Unit is 204 kilometers, while this distance at Guaíba Unit is 117 kilometers.

The pulp produced for export at Barra do Riacho mill is transported by truck from the mill to the port of Barra do Riacho (Portocel), which is located approximately 3.25 kilometers from the mill site. This port is used to store pulp and load ocean vessels providing us convenient access to the Atlantic Ocean. The port is a modern facility that currently has the capacity to handle approximately 10 million tons of pulp and wood per year, moving up to 5.5 million tons of pulp overseas. Warehouse facilities at the port are capable of storing approximately 217,000 tons of pulp (static storage).

We own 51% of Portocel, the company that operates the port of Barra do Riacho. The remaining 49% of Portocel is owned by CENIBRA, another pulp manufacturer and one of our competitors. We do not own any ships for transportation of our pulp.

Our integrated, coastal wood shipment project was completed in December 2002. It involves an integrated tug and barge system and two port terminals. This sea transportation system links the extreme South of Bahia to the North of Espírito Santo. The port complex of Portocel, adjacent to the mill at Barra do Riacho Unit, receives wood from plantations in southern Bahia via an alternative transportation system that is more efficient and less pollutant than truck-based highway shipments. In 2007 the operation between Caravelas and Portocel was able to transport 1.6 million cubic meters of wood.

Another improvement to our wood transportation operations was the construction and start-up of a nearly 4 Km-long rail spur used for unloading wood shipments directly at the mill's yard in 2003. This

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improvement done in 2003 was important to optimize the receiving process of the wood that comes from North of Minas Gerais and other areas within the state of Espírito Santo.

At the Guaíba mill, the pulp is exported through the port of Rio Grande. The pulp is loaded in barges at a terminal facility integrated to the mill and then transported by barges along the Lagoa dos Patos. The distance from the terminal at the mill to the port in Rio Grande is 160 nautical miles.

### Markets and Customers

Our main markets are in North America, Europe, Asia and Brazil. Our export sales are performed through our foreign subsidiary in Hungary. See - "Organizational Structure - Significant Subsidiaries". The Company does not have any special sales method, such as installment sales. The relative geographic distribution of our sales by volume and percentages of total production were as set forth below:

|                      | 2003           |             | 2004           |             | 2005           |             | 2006           |             | 2007           |             |
|----------------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|
|                      | Tons           | % of total  | Tons           | % of total  | Tons           | % of total  | Tons           | % of total  | Tons           | % of total  |
| Europe               | 813,7          | 38%         | 1,014,4        | 41%         | 1,122,3        | 43%         | 1,175,0        | 39%         | 1,266,1        | 41%         |
| North America        | 767,8          | 36%         | 831,3          | 34%         | 909,3          | 35%         | 1,016,4        | 34%         | 1,050,8        | 34%         |
| Asia                 | 509,0          | 23%         | 533,1          | 22%         | 510,8          | 20%         | 757,4          | 25%         | 710,5          | 23%         |
| Latin America        | 21,4           | 1%          | 21,6           | 1%          | 8,4            | 1%          | 10             | 0%          | 4              | 0%          |
| <b>Total Exports</b> | <b>2,119,9</b> | <b>98%</b>  | <b>2,400,4</b> | <b>98%</b>  | <b>2,550,8</b> | <b>98%</b>  | <b>2,958,8</b> | <b>98%</b>  | <b>3,031,4</b> | <b>98%</b>  |
| Brazil               | 37,1           | 2%          | 49,6           | 2%          | 39,7           | 2%          | 53,3           | 2%          | 69             | 2%          |
| <b>Total</b>         | <b>2,149,0</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>2,450,0</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>2,590,6</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>3012,1</b>  | <b>100%</b> | <b>3,100,3</b> | <b>100%</b> |

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Our average net prices per ton of eucalyptus pulp for 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2007 were US\$453, US\$458, US\$502, US\$542, US\$583, respectively.

In 2005, 2006 and 2007 approximately 2% of our sales volume was sold in the domestic market. One of our marketing strategies is to develop long-term relationships with customers that will purchase our production year after year. Stable long-term relationships permit us to reduce our marketing expenses, to better understand our customers' needs, and to take advantage of our competitive strengths, including the consistency of our pulp and our efficient logistic and technical support to our clients. In 2007 and 2006, our ten largest customers accounted for approximately 83% and 80% of our sales, by volume, respectively, and for those years our three largest customers accounted for approximately 57% and 55% of our sales, by volume, respectively. These customers include leading North American tissue manufacturers and leading global manufacturers of printing and writing paper. We believe that the loss of any of these customers could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations.

In 2005, 2006 and 2007, demand for our pulp has been in line with our production capacity; however, we cannot guarantee that such balance between demand and production capacity will be maintained in the future. We have long-term sales contracts with some of our customers, including several of our largest customers. These contracts generally provide for sales of specified amounts of pulp at prices announced from time to time by us, which are in line with the prevailing market prices for pulp sold to customers in the geographic area of the purchaser under the contract. Early termination is provided for in the contracts in the event of a material breach, the insolvency of one of the parties or force majeure events of extended duration. Certain sales contracts include provisions that permit us to reduce the quantities to be shipped if sales to the purchaser and our affiliates would exceed a specified percentage of our annual production capacity.

We have sought to diversify our sales among different market segments, such as consumer products (for example, tissue paper), specialty papers and high quality printing and writing papers. Producers of these products, as opposed to producers of commodity papers, value the consistency of our pulp as well as the reliability of our service.

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The following table shows the breakdown by end uses of our pulp production in 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2007.

|                             | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 |
|-----------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Tissue                      | 55%  | 55%  | 57%  | 57%  | 58%  |
| Printing, and Writing Paper | 26%  | 22%  | 22%  | 21%  | 23%  |
| Specialty Papers(1)         | 18%  | 22%  | 21%  | 22%  | 19%  |
| Cartonboard                 | 1    | 1    | -    | -    | -    |
|                             | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% | 100% |

(1) Includes liquid packaging board, carbonless paper, base paper for laminated paper and coated wood-free specialties.

### Competition

While we compete with other producers of bleached hardwood kraft market pulp, our most direct competitors are other producers of eucalyptus pulp due to the special characteristics of this fiber. To a lesser degree, all producers of hardwood pulp compete with producers of softwood pulp and with other raw materials, such as recycled paper.

Competition is based primarily on quality (particularly consistency of product), service, price and reliability. We and other Brazilian eucalyptus pulp producers have significant cost advantages over producers in other regions. See Raw Materials Wood. We, however, do not generally compete on the basis of price alone. Instead, we emphasize quality, reliability and stable long-term relationships with customers.

If demand for recycled paper increases in the future, demand for pulp could be adversely affected. While no assurance can be given, we believe that increases in demand for recycled paper would not materially affect our results of operations, at least in the near future, because (i) it is more costly to produce recycled paper using current technology due to the high costs of sorting out wastes and de-inking the recycled fiber, and (ii) customers are predominantly manufacturers of higher-quality paper products such as premium tissue paper, coated papers and specialty papers, which are less likely to use recycled fibers for their products.

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### ***Bleached Eucalyptus Kraft Market Pulp (BEKP)***

We are the largest producer and exporter of bleached eucalyptus kraft market pulp in the world. Our main competitors in this market are located in Brazil, Portugal, Chile and Spain and are listed by country (without any priority as to order) in the following table:

| <b>Producer</b>  | <b>Country</b>    |
|--|-------------------|
| Celulose Nipo-Brasileira S.A - CENIBRA Suzano Papel e Celulose S.A                                   | Brazil Brazil     |
| Jari Celulose S.A.   | Brazil            |
| Votorantim Celulose e Papel S.A.   | Brazil            |
| Empresa de Celulose e Papel de Portugal SGPS, S.A. (Portucel) Celulose Beira Industrial S.A.         | Portugal Portugal |
| CMPC Papeles S.A.  | Chile             |
| Celulosa Arauco y Constitución SA. Empresa Nacional de Celulosas S.A. Grupo Rottneros (Miranda mill) | Chile Spain Spain |

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Management estimates that the five major producers of bleached eucalyptus kraft market pulp in the world (i.e., Aracruz, CENIBRA, Empresa Nacional de Celulosas S.A., CMPC, and Votorantim Celulose e Papel S.A) currently account for 55% of the total world production capacity of bleached eucalyptus kraft market pulp. Management estimates that in 2007, we accounted for 23% of the world production capacity of bleached eucalyptus kraft market pulp, 6% of the world production capacity of chemical market pulp and 12% of the world production capacity of bleached hardwood kraft market pulp.

### ***Bleached Hardwood Kraft Market Pulp***

To the extent that pulp from other hardwoods can be substituted for the slightly more expensive bleached eucalyptus kraft pulp, we also compete with producers of pulp from other hardwoods. Such competition is based more on cost and less on quality or suitability of the pulp for use in higher quality paper products. Although bleached hardwood kraft market pulp is produced in most regions of the world, the dominant producers are located in North America, Latin America, Western Europe, which in 2007 are expected to have accounted for 72% in the aggregate, and 15%, 38% and 18% respectively, of the world's total bleached hardwood kraft market pulp production capacity. Producers in the United States sold approximately 2,156,000 tons during 2005, 2,082,000 tons in 2006 and 2,032,000 in 2007 while Brazilian producers sold approximately 5,237,000, 5,774,000 and 6,700,000 tons respectively, in such periods. Several of our competitors in this market are larger than we are and may have greater economic and other resources than we do.

Worldwide production capacity for bleached hardwood kraft market pulp grew approximately 4,5% per year from 1997 to 2007, totaling 25.8 million tons, and is expected to grow at an annual rate of 8,2% during the period of 2007 to 2010 (or approximately 6,8 million tons in total during this period). Approximately 72% of this growth in capacity is expected to occur in Latin America, where bleached eucalyptus kraft market pulp capacity is expected to grow from approximately 13,7 million tons in 2007 to approximately 19,5 million tons in 2010. Worldwide demand for bleached hardwood kraft market pulp is expected to grow by 5,5% from 2007 through 2010, adding 4,2 million tons to the current demand.

### ***Environmental and Other Regulatory Matters***

Our mill and forestry operations are subject to federal, state and local laws, regulations and permit requirements relating to the protection of the environment. Federal Law No. 6,938, dated August 31, 1981 established strict liability for environmental damage, mechanisms for enforcement of environmental standards and licensing requirements for activities that are effectively or potentially damaging to the environment. Environmental laws and regulations also govern the conduct of forest operations and the protection of Brazilian fauna and flora. A violation of environmental laws and regulations may result in fines and penalties which may be material. Federal Law No. 9,605, dated February 12, 1998 provides that individuals or entities whose conduct or activities cause harm to the environment are subject to criminal and administrative sanctions and are liable for any costs to repair the damages resulting from such harm. Criminal sanctions for individuals and entities that commit environmental crimes range from fines to imprisonment (individuals) or dissolution (legal entities). In addition, Federal Law No. 9,605 also establishes that the corporate structure of a company may be disregarded if the shareholding structure impedes the recovery for harm caused to the environment. We are not aware of any successful assertion of claims against shareholders under this provision of Federal Law No. 9,605.



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The States of Espírito Santo and Rio Grande do Sul have state legislation that requires local manufacturing concerns to obtain various permits including operating permits for manufacturing facilities. Pursuant to those respective state laws, state authorities are empowered to regulate a company's operations by prescribing company-specific environmental standards in such company's operating permit. The operating permits require that we maintain certain emissions, effluent and waste disposal standards.

On February 10, 1998, the State of Espírito Santo issued to us a two-year operating permit for Fiberlines A and B at Barra do Riacho Unit, which was renewed for an additional five years commencing on February 10, 2000. On July 1, 2002 the State of Espírito Santo issued to us a four-year operating permit for Fiberline C at Barra do Riacho Unit, valid until July 2006. Nevertheless, on May 6, 2005, reviewed in July, 2007, the State of Espírito Santo issued to us a unified four-year operating permit for Barra do Riacho Unit (Fiberlines A, B and C), which is valid until May 2009. During 2002, supplemental environmental licenses were obtained for Fiberline C Expansion Project relating to our industrial installations.

On June 20, 2005 the State of Rio Grande do Sul issued to us an operating permit for Guaíba Unit, valid until June 2009.

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Beginning in March 1997, we became subject to an environmental audit every three years in the State Espírito Santo. The audit is conducted by subcontracted auditors, approved by the Environmental Secretary of the State of Espírito Santo, or SEAMA. The audit was not carried out in 2000, since SEAMA has not published the result of the 1997 audit. The 2000 audit was conducted in June 2001. The most recent audit was conducted in November 2004. In the State of Rio Grande do Sul we became subject to an environmental audit every year, since the year 2002. The audit is conducted by subcontracted auditors, approved by the Brazilian Environmental Institute, or IBAMA. The audit has been regularly carried since 2002. The last audit was conducted in December 2006. In 2007 we had problems to schedule the audit. We are replanning it for first quarter of 2008.

Our forestry activities are regulated by the Brazilian federal government and the governments of the States of Espírito Santo, Minas Gerais, Bahia and Rio Grande do Sul. Our operating permit for our forest operations in Espírito Santo was renewed for a six-year period commencing on October 4, 2004. Presently the Company has obtained from the environmental state agencies from the states Espírito Santo, Minas Gerais and Bahia 21 implementation and operational permits for implanting 327 projects accounting for 67,893 hectares of eucalyptus plantations. In Rio Grande do Sul State, although the licensing process is not yet fully defined by the environmental agency, in 2007 there were 50 planting permits legally issued to Aracruz Celulose.

We also entered into contracts with farmers in the State of Espírito Santo, Minas Gerais, Bahia, Rio Grande do Sul and Rio de Janeiro according to which the farmers have agreed to grow trees for sale to us. See "Eucalyptus Forests". Regarding our operating permit for the Forestry Partners Program, the licensing process for renewing it is still under negotiation and we expect to conclude it during 2008.

Plantings may be undertaken only according to a plan presented to and approved by the appropriate governmental authorities. In accordance with federal law, at least 20% of our landholdings, at any given time, must be preserved as native ecosystems (uncultivated or restored with indigenous species). We currently exceed this requirement, since such land accounts for approximately 35% of our total landholdings.

We believe that we are in compliance in all material respects with all applicable environmental regulations. In addition, environmental considerations are fundamental to our development of new technologies. Our integrated pest management relies on biological control of pests and diseases. Soil and plant nutrients are continuously monitored to guarantee an adequate balance. At the Units, methods for the evaluation of environmental effects of effluents on receiving detriments have been developed and used. The origins of pulp and effluent toxicity have been studied, considering all possible sources, from the raw material (wood) to bleaching effluents. In addition, environmental quality is considered in the development of new technologies and products. Pulp products are continuously evaluated in terms of their possible effects on the quality of effluents in our customers' paper machines as well.

In 1996, the State of Bahia granted us a permit for the location of APM, the sawmill company of which we currently hold 1/3 (one third) of the shares. In 1998, the State of Bahia granted an operating permit for APM, valid until August 2003. In June 2003, the State of Bahia renewed APM's operating permit, valid until June 2007. See Business Strategy.

As part of the licensing process in connection with the Fiberline C Expansion Project, we contracted independent consultants to prepare the required environmental impact assessment reports. Those reports were discussed in public hearings (two in Bahia and one in Espírito Santo) in 2000 as well as during six public meetings with communities in both states. There was ample discussion at each meeting of the environmental and social questions involved. The results of the discussions were taken into consideration by the government regulatory agencies in their technical analyses and their subsequent approval of the permits.

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Also for the Fiberline C Expansion Project we obtained 327 project permits for forest plantations, of which 74 were incorporated in operating licenses issued by the Espírito Santo Agriculture, Cattle-Raising and Forest Protection Institute (IDAF), 235 were projects incorporated in installation licenses issued by the Bahia Environmental Resources Center (CRA-BA) and 18 projects approved for operating licenses by the Minas Gerais State Forestry Institute (IEF-MG).

Aracruz' forest management is certified by the Bureau Veritas Quality International ( BVQI ) in the standard NBR 14789 - Principles, Criteria and Indicators for Plantation Forests of the Brazilian System of Forest Certification (CERFLOR/PEFC System), regulated by the National Institute of Metrology (INMETRO), the federal official agency for metrology affairs. The certification process for each defined scope includes

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certification audits, public meetings with local stakeholders participation, public reports publication and annual monitoring audits for the maintenance of the CERFLOR certificate.

In October 2003, BVQI approved CERFLOR certification covering all of the Company's own plantations in the State of Bahia. The certificate emitted by INMETRO was received in March 2004. We initiated this certification process in August 2003, including pre-audit, initial audit and a certification audits. The certification audit was publicized through local radio stations and newspapers as well as the sending out of letters to more than 600 persons or entities. Five public meetings were held in respect of the Certification, with the presence of more than 300 persons. In October 2004 the first annual monitoring audit for the maintenance of CERFLOR certification in Bahia took place. The certification was maintained and a new public report was made available to the general public on the internet.

The CERFLOR Certification for plantations in Espírito Santo State was approved by BVQI in June 2005. The certification process was initiated in November 2004 with the realization of six public meetings and an initial audit. The certification audit was held in January 2005. The audit report was made available for the public on the internet for 90 days. The certificate emitted by INMETRO was received in June 2005.

In October 2005, we had the second annual monitoring audit for the maintenance of CERFLOR certification in Bahia and the first annual monitoring audit for the maintenance of CERFLOR certification in Espírito Santo State. In August 2005, we started the CERFLOR Certification for plantations in Rio Grande do Sul. Four public meetings were held in respect of this Certification, with the presence of more than 60 persons. The certificate emitted by INMETRO was received in May 2006. In September 2005, we started the CERFLOR Certification for plantations in Minas Gerais State. Two public meetings were held in respect of this Certification, with the presence of more than 100 persons. The certificate emitted by INMETRO was also received in May 2006.

In 2006 "BVQI" granted to the Company the chain of custody certification for both Barra do Riacho and Guaíba Units. The chain of custody was certified by the "BVQI" in the standard NBR 14790 of the CERFLOR/PEFC System. This certification assures that at least 70% of the final product (pulp) comes from certified forests.

In 2007, the annual monitoring audits for the maintenance of CERFLOR certification in all States (Bahia, Espírito Santo, Minas Gerais and Rio Grande do Sul) were integrated, and ended up with the maintenance of all of the certificates. Today, the total amount of certified area is 357,585 ha (210,610 ha of plantations) in Barra do Riacho Unit and 100,764 ha (61,115 ha of plantations) in Guaíba Unit.

The Company presents, in the table below, its areas certified by CERFLOR as well as the base period of such certifications:

| State | Municipalities  | Certified area (ha)   |  |  |  |  |  |
|-------|---|---|--|--|--|--|--|
|       |   | Original<br>certified area:<br>Total area<br>(plantations)<br>(base period) | 2004<br>Total area<br>(plantations)<br>(base period) | 2005<br>Total area<br>(plantations)<br>(base period) | 2006<br>Total area<br>(plantations)<br>(base period) | 2007<br>Total area<br>(plantations)<br>(base period) | 2008<br>Total area<br>(plantations)<br>(base period) |
|       | Mucuri, Nova Viçosa,<br>Prado, Alcobaça,  | 166.089   | 166.089  | 166.685  | 170.922  | 172.348  | 172.588  |
| Bahia | Caravelas, Ibirapuã,<br>Teixeira de Freitas<br>and Vereda<br>Aracruz, Santa Teresa, | (95.322)<br>(12/09/2003)  | (95.322)<br>(12/09/2003)                             | (95.753)<br>(31/07/2004)                             | (98.104)<br>(31/07/2005)                             | (98.874)<br>(31/10/2006)                             | (98.697)<br>(31/10/2007)                             |

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|                |  |          |              |              |              |              |              |
|----------------|--|----------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
|                | Santa Leopoldina,<br>Fundão, Serra,<br>Sooretama, Vila<br>Valério, Mucurici,   | 147.537  |              | 147.537      | 168.531      | 170.228      | 170.914      |
| Espírito Santo | Conceição da Barra,<br>Linhares, Montanha,<br>Pinheiros, São<br>Mateus, Rio Bananal,<br>Jaguaré and Pedro<br>Canário | (93.778) | (31/12/2004) | (93.778)     | (107.218)    | (106.837)    | (105.247)    |
|                |  |          |              | (31/12/2004) | (31/07/2005) | (31/10/2006) | (31/10/2007) |
|                |  |          |              | -            |              |              |              |

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|              |   |               |   |               |   |               |               |
|--------------|---|---------------|---|---------------|---|---------------|---------------|
| Minas Gerais | Nanuque and Carlos<br>Chagas  | 13.617(6.410) |   | 13.617(6.410) |   | 14.083(6.629) | 14.083(6.665) |
|              |   | (31/07/2005)  |   | (31/07/2005)  |   | (31/10/2006)  | (31/10/2007)  |
|              |   |               |   | -             | - |               |               |
|              | Guaíba, Barra do<br>Ribeiro, Butiá, Arroio<br>dos Ratos, Mariana<br>Pimentel, Eldorado do<br>Sul, Minas do Leão,<br>Pantano Grande, São<br>Jerônimo, Tapes,<br>Charqueadas, Dom<br>Feliciano, Barão do<br>Triunfo, General<br>Câmara, Triunfo,<br>Sentinela do Sul,<br>Cerro Grande do Sul,<br>Cachoeirado Sul,<br>Sertão Santana, Rio<br>Pardo, Encruzilhada<br>do Sul, Camaquã,<br>Viamão and Porto<br>Alegre | 68.744        |   | 68.744        |   | 89.598        | 100.764       |
|              |   | (44.192)      | - | (44.192)      |   | (57.430)      | (61.115)      |
|              |   | (31/10/2005)  |   | (31/10/2005)  |   | (31/10/2006)  | (31/10/2007)  |

In October 2005 CERFLOR Certification has gained international endorsement through the Program for the Endorsement of Forest Certification Schemes - PEFC Council, the global assessment organization for forest certification systems. Such endorsement attests that CERFLOR certification is an independent proof that the Company's certified plantations are subject to sustainable forest management preserving the ecological, social and economical functions of forests.

### Insurance

We believe that our insurance coverage of our production facilities and forests is in line with Brazilian market and international pulp industry standards.

Our forests are fully covered by insurance. The insurance limit was set at US\$10 million for our forest areas based on the historically low rates of loss and the large spread of the risk.

In 2003, the Company received the Highly Protected Risk (HPR) seal of approval from FM Global. The certification, which is renowned worldwide in the field of insurance, attests to the Company's low risk of interruption of its operations as result of an industrial accident. The

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Company is the first Brazilian company to earn the certificate from FM Global, the world's largest property risk insurance company and leader in the field of risk management and loss prevention.

In 2005, following the same pattern and principals of the Company's risk management practices, Veracel was also granted the HPR seal of approval from FM Global, confirming the low levels of risk in its operations.

### C. Organizational Structure

#### Significant Subsidiaries

Our operations are conducted by Aracruz Celulose S.A., as the controlling and principal operating Company. The following table sets forth the significant subsidiaries owned directly or indirectly by us and our ownership interest in each of them as of December 31, 2007:

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|  | <u>As of December 31, 2007</u>           |                                   |
|--|--|-----------------------------------|
|  | <u>Total Capital</u><br>(in percentages) | <u>Voting</u><br>(in percentages) |
| Portocel Terminal Especializado de Barra do Riacho S.A.(1)                       | 51%                                      | 51%                               |
| Mucuri Agroflorestal S.A.(1)   | 100%                                     | 100%                              |
| Aracruz Produtos de Madeira S.A. (formerly named Tecflor Industrial S.A.)(1) (8) | 33,33%                                   | 33,33%                            |
| Veracel Celulose S.A.(1) (8)   | 50%                                      | 50%                               |
| Aracruz Trading S.A.(2)  | 100%                                     | 100%                              |
| Aracruz Celulose (USA), Inc.(3)  | 100%                                     | 100%                              |
| Aracruz (Europe) S.A.(4)   | 100%                                     | 100%                              |
| Aracruz Trading International Ltd.(5)  | 100%                                     | 100%                              |
| Riocell Trade (6)  | 100%                                     | 100%                              |
| Ara Pulp - Com. de Importação e Exportação, Unipessoal Ltda(7)                   | 100%                                     | 100%                              |
| Arcel Finance Limited(9)   | SPE                                      | SPE                               |
| Aracruz International Finance Company(10)  | 100%                                     | 100%                              |

(1) Incorporated in Brazil.

(2) Incorporated in the Republic of Panama.

(3) Incorporated in the United States under the laws of the State of Delaware.

(4) Incorporated in Switzerland.

(5) Incorporated in Hungary

(6) Incorporated in England

(7) Incorporated in Portugal

(8) Accounted as per the equity method.

(9) Dissolved in November, 2007. See notes 1 (b) to the consolidated financial statements.

(10) Incorporated in the Cayman Islands.

### D. Property, Plant and Equipment

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In December 1999, we moved our headquarters from Rio de Janeiro to the Municipality of Aracruz in the Brazilian coastal State of Espírito Santo, where our main production unit is located. We maintain offices in São Paulo for our financing, administrative and trading activities.

Our principal production facilities consist of a eucalyptus pulp mill located in Aracruz, State of Espírito Santo, which has three production units, each with three production lines. When operating at full capacity, this mill can process over 23,000 solid cubic meters of timber each day. We also have one mill in Guaíba, State of Rio Grande do Sul that has one production unit, with one production line. When operating at full capacity, this mill can process over 6,700 solid cubic meters of timber each day.

As of December 31, 2007, we had an aggregate principal amount outstanding of approximately US\$426,4 million under certain loans granted to us by BNDES, which loans are secured by liens on our industrial site in the Municipality of Aracruz. See Item 7B. Related Party Transactions.

As of December 31, 2007, we owned approximately 486,197 hectares of forest and other land in the Brazilian States of Espírito Santo, Bahia, Minas Gerais and Rio Grande do Sul, of which approximately 286,099 hectares are planted with eucalyptus forests. See Business Overview Eucalyptus Forests. The pulp mill in Barra do Riacho Unit is located approximately 1.5 kilometers from the port facilities at Barra do Riacho (Portocel), of which 51% are owned by us. We have a terminal facility integrated to the Guaíba Unit mill that is used to load the barges that transport the pulp to Rio Grande port.

See **Environmental and Other Regulatory Matters** for the environmental rules and regulations affecting our operations.

### ITEM 5. OPERATING AND FINANCIAL REVIEW AND PROSPECTS

The following discussion and analysis should be read in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements, including the respective notes thereto, included elsewhere in this annual report, and in conjunction with the discussion of the method of presentation of financial information under Item 3.

#### Overview

We are the world's largest producer of bleached hardwood kraft market pulp. During 2007, we produced approximately 2,569,000 tons of BEKP (3,095,000 tons including 50% of Veracel's pulp production),

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an 0,3% decrease from 2006, when we had produced approximately 2,616,000 tons of BEKP (3,104,000 tons including 50% of Veracel's pulp production), an 11% increase from 2005, when we had produced approximately 2,552,000 tons of BEKP (2,786,000 tons including 50% of Veracel's pulp production), a 12% increase from 2004, when we had produced approximately 2,497,000 tons of BEKP. Pulp sales for 2007 were approximately 3,104,000 tons, a 3% increase as compared to 3,021,000 tons in 2006, a 16% increase as compared to 2,605,000 tons in 2005, which had represented a 6% increase when compared to 2004 pulp sales of 2,450,000 tons. Export pulp sales in 2007, 2006 and 2005 were approximately 98% of total sales.

In 2007, the Company sold US\$ 1,808.0 million of eucalyptus pulp compared to US\$ 1,632.28 million in 2006 and US\$ 1,300.2 million in 2005.

The Company's volume and price of pulp sales during 2007 were higher than in 2006. The Company's average list price increased by approximately 10% in 2007 compared with the average in 2006.

The primary factors affecting our results of operations are:

- prevailing world market prices for pulp;
- the amount of pulp produced and sold by us, and
- our costs of production, which primarily consist of the costs of materials (primarily wood and chemicals) and depreciation.

The prices that we are able to obtain for our pulp depend upon prevailing world market prices, which historically have been cyclical, with prices subject to significant fluctuations over relatively short periods of time. See Item 4B. Business Overview Market Overview International Markets.

We believe that we are one of the lowest cost producers of bleached kraft market pulp in the world. Our relatively low production costs are due to economies of scale, advanced forestry techniques, a comparatively short regional harvest rotation and low energy and chemical costs. See Item 4B. Business Overview - General.

#### Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements under U.S. GAAP

In September 2006, the FASB issued SFAS No. 157 - Fair value measurements, which defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value, and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. This Statement applies under other accounting pronouncements that require or permit fair value measurements, the Board having previously concluded in those accounting pronouncements that fair value is the relevant measurement attribute. Accordingly, this Statement does not require any new fair value measurements.

This Statement is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007 and interim periods within those fiscal years. The adoption of such pronouncement will not generate a material impact on the Company's financial position.

In February 2007, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ( FASB ) issued SFAS No. 159, The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities - Including an amendment of SFAS No. 115 ( SFAS 159 ). SFAS 159 permits companies to choose to measure many financial instruments and certain other items at fair value in order to mitigate volatility in reported earnings caused by measuring related assets and liabilities differently without having to apply complex hedge accounting provisions. This Statement shall be effective as of the beginning of each reporting entity's first fiscal year that begins after November 15, 2007. The adoption of such pronouncement will not generate a material impact on the Company's financial position.

In December 2007, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ( FASB ) issued SFAS No. 141 (revised 2007), Business Combination, which replaces FASB Statement No. 141, Business Combinations. This Statement retains the fundamental requirements in Statement 141 that the acquisition method of accounting (which Statement 141 called the purchase method) be used for all business combinations and for an acquirer to be identified for each business combination. This Statement defines the acquirer as the entity that obtains control of one or more businesses in the business combination and establishes the acquisition date as the date that the acquirer achieves control. Statement 141 did not define the acquirer, although it included guidance on

identifying the acquirer, as does this Statement. This Statement's scope is broader than that of Statement 141, which applied only to business combinations in which control was obtained by transferring consideration. The result of applying Statement 141's guidance on recognizing and measuring assets and liabilities in a step acquisition was to measure them at a blend of historical costs and fair values, a practice that provided less relevant, representationally faithful, and comparable information than will result from applying this Statement. In addition, this Statement's requirement to measure the noncontrolling interest in the acquiree at fair value will result in recognizing the goodwill attributable to the noncontrolling interest in addition to that attributable to the acquirer, which improves the completeness of the resulting information and makes it more comparable across entities. By applying the same method of accounting, the acquisition method to all transactions and other events in which one entity obtains control over one or more other businesses, this Statement improves the comparability of the information about business combinations provided in financial reports. This Statement applies prospectively to business combinations for which the acquisition date is on or after the beginning of the first annual reporting period beginning on or after December 15, 2008. An entity may not apply it before that date. The effective date of this Statement is the same as that of the related FASB Statement No. 160, Noncontrolling Interests in Consolidated Financial Statements. The Company will apply such pronouncement on a prospective basis for each new business combination.

In December 2007, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ( FASB ) issued SFAS No. 160, Noncontrolling Interests in Consolidated Financial Statements - an amendment of ARB No. 51, which clarifies that a noncontrolling interest in a subsidiary is an ownership interest in the consolidated entity that should be reported as equity in the consolidated financial statements. This Statement is effective for fiscal years, and interim periods within those fiscal years, beginning on or after December 15, 2008 (that is, January 1, 2009, for entities with calendar year-ends). Earlier adoption is prohibited. The effective date of this Statement is the same as that of the related Statement 141(R). This Statement shall be applied prospectively as of the beginning of the fiscal year in which this Statement is initially applied, except for the presentation and disclosure requirements. The presentation and disclosure requirements shall be applied retrospectively for all periods presented. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of such new pronouncement in its consolidated financial statements.

#### Discussion of Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

In connection with the preparation of the financial statements included in this annual report, we have relied on estimates and assumptions derived from historical experience and various other factors that we deemed reasonable and relevant. We are required to make estimates and

assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenue and expenses during the reporting periods and require the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities as of the date of the financial statements. The Company's consolidated financial statements therefore include estimates concerning such matters as the selection of useful lives of property, plant and equipment, provisions necessary for asset impairments, contingent liabilities, employee postretirement benefits and other similar evaluations. Although we review these estimates and assumptions in the ordinary course of business, the portrayal of our financial condition and results of operation often requires our management to make judgments regarding the effects of matters that are inherently uncertain on the carrying value of our assets and liabilities. Actual results may differ from those estimated under different variables, assumptions or conditions. Note 1 to the Consolidated Financial Statements includes a summary of the significant accounting policies and methods used in the preparation of the Consolidated Financial Statements. In order to provide an understanding about how management forms its judgments about future events, including the variables and assumptions underlying the estimates, and the sensitivity of those judgments to different variables and conditions, we have included below a brief discussion of the more significant accounting policies and methods used by us.

### ***Legal Contingencies***

We are currently involved in certain legal proceedings. As discussed in note 14 to our financial statements, we have accrued our estimate of the probable costs for the resolution of these claims. This estimate is based upon an analysis of potential results, assuming a combination of litigation and settlement strategies. We do not believe these proceedings will have a material adverse effect on our financial position. It is possible, however, that future results of operations could be materially affected by changes in our assumptions and the effectiveness of our strategies with respect to these proceedings.

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### ***Fair Value of Financial Instruments***

With respect to financial instruments, we must make assumptions as to future foreign exchange and interest rates. For a discussion of the possible impact of fluctuations in the foreign exchange and interest rates on our principal financial instruments and positions, see Item 11. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk.

### ***Impairment testing of goodwill***

The Company annually evaluates the carrying value of goodwill during and between annual evaluations if events occur or circumstances change that would more likely than not reduce the fair value of the reporting unit below its carrying amount. Such circumstances could include, but are not limited to: (1) a significant adverse change in legal factors or in business climate, (2) unanticipated competition, or (3) an adverse action or assessment by a regulator. When evaluating whether goodwill is impaired, the Company compares the fair value of the reporting unit to which the goodwill is assigned to the reporting unit's carrying amount, including goodwill. The fair value of the reporting unit is estimated using a discounted cash flows approach. If the carrying amount of the reporting unit exceeds its fair value, then the amount of the impairment loss must be measured. The impairment loss would be calculated by comparing the implied fair value of reporting unit goodwill to its carrying amount. In calculating the implied fair value of reporting unit goodwill, the fair value of the reporting unit is allocated to all of the other assets and liabilities of that unit based on their fair values. The excess of the fair value of a reporting unit over the amount assigned to its other assets and liabilities is the implied fair value of goodwill. An impairment loss would be recognized when the carrying amount of goodwill exceeds its implied fair value. The Company's evaluation of goodwill completed during the year resulted in no impairment losses. The Goodwill registered in the Company's financial statements mainly refers to the acquisition of Riocell S.A.

### ***Recoverability of long-lived assets***

Management reviews long-lived assets to be held and used in the Company's business activities, for the purpose of determining and measuring impairment on a recurring basis or when events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value of an asset or group of assets may not be recoverable. Write-down of the carrying value of assets or groups of assets is made if and when appropriate in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards N° 144, Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets, or SFAS 144. SFAS 144 addresses financial accounting and reporting for the impairment or disposal of long-lived assets. In accordance with SFAS 144, the carrying value of long-lived assets is considered impaired when the anticipated undiscounted cash flow from such asset is separately identifiable and is less than its carrying value. In that event, a loss is recognized based on the amount by which the carrying value exceeds the fair value of the assets. Fair value is determined primarily by using a discounted cash flow analysis. During 2007, as a consequence of the devaluation of the US dollar against Brazilian *reais*, we have performed the anticipated undiscounted cash flow test and we have concluded that the carrying amount of our assets is still recoverable.

### ***Useful lives of property, plant and equipment***

Adopted depreciation rates are based on estimated useful lives of the underlying assets, derived from historical information available to the Company, as well as known industry trends. The Company describes the depreciation rates it applies to its property, plant and equipment in Note 1(h) to its consolidated financial statements. The sensitivity of an impact in changes in the useful lives of property, plant and equipment was

assessed by applying a hypothetical 10% increase in depreciation rate existing on December 31, 2007. This hypothetical change would result in an incremental increase in the annual depreciation expense of US\$25 million in the year of the change.

### **Brazilian Economic Environment**

The Brazilian economy has been characterized by volatile economic cycles. Since the introduction of the real as a Brazilian currency in July 1994, the Central Bank adopted tight monetary policy as a necessary measure to ensure the country continues to control inflation. Therefore, a more stable economic environment is clearly being observed. After January 1999, when the Central Bank adopted the free flotation of the Dollar exchange rates, the internal interest rates started to be the main tool for inflation control, and the Central Bank started to act preventively and most of the time was successful in bringing inflation back in line or little bit higher with targets.

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The Brazilian economy has also been characterized by frequent and occasionally drastic intervention by the Brazilian government. The Brazilian government has often changed monetary, taxation, credit, tariff and other policies to influence the course of Brazil's economy. For example, the Brazilian government has the authority, when a serious imbalance in Brazil's balance of payment occurs, to impose restrictions on the remittance to foreign investors of the proceeds of their investments in Brazil, and on the conversion of Brazilian currency into foreign currencies. Changes in monetary, taxation, credit, tariff and other policies could adversely affect our business, as could inflation, currency and interest rate fluctuations, social instability and other political, economic or diplomatic developments, as well as the Brazilian government's response to such developments.

Rapid changes in Brazilian political and economic conditions can continue and will require continued emphasis on assessing the risks associated with our activities and adjusting our business and operating strategy. Future developments in Brazilian government policies, including changes in the current policy and incentives adopted for financing the export of Brazilian goods, or in the Brazilian economy, over which we have no control, may materially adversely affect our business. Brazilian economic conditions may be affected negatively by events elsewhere, especially in emerging markets. See Item 3D. Risk Factors Risk Factors Relating to Brazil.

The tax reform approved a few years ago by the Brazilian government resulted in Law No. 10,833/03, extending to Brazil's Social Security Financing Contribution (*Contribuição para o Financiamento da Seguridade Social* - COFINS) the non-cumulative regime already mandatory since 2002 for contributions made to Social Integration Program (*Programa de Integração Social e de Formação do Patrimônio do Servidor Público* - PIS/PASEP), as per Law No. 10,637/02. Law No. 10,833/03 also provided an increase in the tax rate for COFINS now at 7.6% on revenues of Brazilian companies in general (the rate was formerly 3%). Although the tax (PIS/COFINS) is not assessed on export transactions, the Company as a result of the non-cumulative regime, presented a PIS and COFINS credit position, lowering the tax burden for the fiscal year ended in 2004, notwithstanding the increase in tax rates. In June 2005, the Brazilian government edited a Provisional Measure known as "*MP do Bem*", meaning that the proposal contained some good measures for the economy, such as suspending the collection of PIS and COFINS in the acquisition of new machines and equipment (allocated to the Company's fixed assets) by preponderantly exporting companies and granting various types of tax incentives for technological innovation. This Provisional Measure has been converted into Law No. 11,196 in November 2005. According to the definition in Law No. 11,196, the Company is a preponderantly exporting company and as such may reduce the tax burden on future investments in new machines and equipment acquired as fixed assets, benefiting from the suspension in the collection of PIS and COFINS.

As from August 2, 2004, PIS and COFINS rates were reduced to zero in relation to financial revenues obtained by legal entities subject to the non-cumulative regime (essentially large companies), exception made for financial revenues deriving from interest on net equity and hedge transactions. As from April 1, 2005, financial revenues from hedge transactions were included within such zero percent rates.

Up to December 2007, financial operations were subject to Provisional Contribution over Financial Operations (CPMF) at 0.38% tax rate. Due to the rejection by the Brazilian Senate of the proposal of extension of such tax, as from January 2008 said operations will no longer be charged.

Nevertheless, in order to compensate the loss in the tax revenues as a result of the CPMF's extinction, as of January 2008, credit, exchange and insurance operations will be subject to an additional rate of 0.38% of Tax on Financial Transactions (IOF), same rate of the extinguished CPMF. The Company believes that this change will not cause a relevant impact over it.

### **Effects of Inflation and Currency Exchange Fluctuations**

Until July 1994, Brazil had for many years experienced high and generally unpredictable rates of inflation and steady devaluation of its currency relative to the U.S. dollar. The following table sets forth Brazilian inflation as measured by the *Índice Geral de Preço-Mercado*, the



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General Market Price Index or IGP-M, and the devaluation of Brazilian currency against the U.S. dollar for the periods shown:

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|  | 2003    | 2004   | 2005    | 2006   | 2007    |
|--|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|
| Inflation (General Market Price Index)   | 8.7%    | 12.4%  | 1.21%   | 3.9%   | 7.8%    |
| Devaluation/(appreciation) (R\$ v. US\$) | (18.2)% | (8.1)% | (11.8)% | (8.7)% | (17.2)% |

**A. Operating Results**

**Results of Operations for the Year Ended December 31, 2007 Compared with the Year Ended December 31, 2006**

The table below shows the Company's income statements for the years 2005, 2006 and 2007:

| Statement of Operations Data                 | US\$ thousands  |                 |                 |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|  | 2005            | 2006            | 2007            |
| <b>Operating revenues</b>                    |                 |                 |                 |
| Domestic                                     | 62,019          | 77,431          | 137,086         |
| Export                                       | 1,469,646       | 1,845,026       | 2,007,017       |
| <b>Gross operating revenues</b>              | 1,531,665       | 1,922,457       | 2,144,103       |
| Sales taxes and other deductions             | (186,432)       | (241,624)       | (260,328)       |
| Net operating revenues                       | 1,345,233       | 1,680,833       | 1,883,775       |
| <b>Operating Costs and expenses</b>          |                 |                 |                 |
| Cost of sales                                | 783,578         | 1,037,896       | 1,190,957       |
| Selling                                      | 64,430          | 74,005          | 78,832          |
| Administrative                               | 33,820          | 57,020          | 58,708          |
| Other, net                                   | 16,313          | 12,514          | (38,624)        |
| <b>Total operating Costs and expenses</b>    | 898,141         | 1,181,435       | 1,289,873       |
| <b>Operating income</b>                      | <b>447,092</b>  | <b>499,398</b>  | <b>593,902</b>  |
| <b>Non-operating (income) expenses</b>       |                 |                 |                 |
| Financial income                             | (125,439)       | (181,733)       | (168,037)       |
| Financial expenses                           | 137,276         | 149,719         | 100,864         |
| Gain on currency remeasurement, net          | (21,386)        | (7,641)         | (908)           |
| Other, net                                   | (778)           | (7)             | (61)            |
| <b>Total non-operating (income) expenses</b> | <b>(10,327)</b> | <b>(39,662)</b> | <b>(68,142)</b> |

Inflation and exchange rate variations have had, and may continue to have, substantial effects on our financial condition and results of operations.

Inflation and exchange rate variations affect our monetary assets and liabilities denominated in *reais*. The value of such assets and liabilities as expressed in U.S. dollars declines when the *real* devalues against the U.S. dollar and increases when the *real* appreciates. In addition, many financial instruments denominated in *reais* are indexed for inflation. In periods of devaluation of the *real*, we report (a) a remeasurement loss on *real*-denominated monetary assets, which are offset, at least in part, by monetary indexation of *real*-denominated financial instruments and (b) a remeasurement gain on *real*-denominated monetary liabilities, which is offset, at least in part, by the monetary indexation of *real*-denominated financial instruments.

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At December 31, 2007, approximately 96% of our cash and cash equivalents and short-term investments were invested in *real* denominated deposits and financial assets. See Liquidity and Capital Resources Financial Strategy.

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|   |                |                |                |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Income before income taxes, minority interest and equity in results of affiliated companies | 457,419        | 539,060        | 662,044        |
| Income tax expense  | 72,228         | 69,494         | 197,312        |
| Minority interest   | (31)           | (544)          | (10,522)       |
| Equity in results of affiliated companies   | (44,062)       | (13,705)       | (32,141)       |
| <b>Net income</b>   | <b>341,098</b> | <b>455,317</b> | <b>422,069</b> |

The Company exports approximately 98% of its pulp sales volumes and its revenues are dollar-denominated. Net revenues reached a record of US\$1,883.8 million, 12% higher than the amount obtained in 2006, due to an 8% increase in the average net pulp prices, representing US\$127.9 million, and 3% of higher pulp sales volume, totaling US\$47.9 million. The remaining US\$27.2 million are related to other sales.

The cost of products sold (pulp), measured in US\$/ton, was US\$369/t, which represented an expansion of 11% over 2006, mainly due to US\$19/t of the effect of the appreciation of the *real* against the dollar on the items of the cost structure correlated to the local currency (*real* - R\$), higher pulp volume purchased from Veracel (US\$8.8/t) and some raw materials, such as wood purchases from third parties, oil prices, chemicals and energy sources.

Selling (distribution and sales) expenses rose 6.5% in nominal values, reflecting the 3% increase in sales volume over the previous year and higher terminal expenses, partially offset by the effect of the appreciation of the *real* against the dollar over the period.

In 2007, general and administrative expenses were equivalent to 3.1% of total net revenues, compared to 3.4% in the previous year, mainly due to reductions in institutional advertising.

The result for other net operating expenses was a credit of US\$38.6 million in 2007, US\$51.1 million better than in the previous year, mainly due to the partial reversal of the provision for losses on ICMS tax credits, which are expected to be recovered in the short-term, considering the history of such transactions. During the year 2007, the Company sold approximately US\$ 50 million in ICMS tax credits and it has the perspective of successfully closing other sales transactions.

Financial income also was favored by a gain of US\$96 million on foreign exchange derivative operations for cash flow protection. In compliance with the Aracruz' financial policy as approved by the Board of Directors. This policy establishes that the Company is allowed to hedge its cash flow, utilizing a range of financial instruments (including derivatives and others), limited to a total of US\$50 million in notional value per party and for a maximum period of 1 (one) year on NDF operations, as well as being restricted to banks based in G-7 countries and with a rating of "A-" or better. At the end of the year, the cash flow currency protection strategy, taking a short position in dollars totaling US\$150 million, represented approximately 3 months of cash flow exposure to the local currency (*real* - R\$).

The financial expenses in 2007 were 33% lower than in 2006, mainly due to the expenses linked to the pre-payment of the securitization program in 2006, and lower interest on loans and financing.

Currency re-measurement represented a gain of R\$0.9 million, caused by the 17.1% devaluation of the dollar over the period, compared to gain of US\$7.6 million in 2006, when the dollar devalued by 8.7% .

| (US\$ million)        | 2007  | 2006  |
|-----------------------|-------|-------|
| Financial Expenses    | 100.9 | 149.7 |
| Interest on financing | 86.0  | 91.4  |

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|   |         |         |
|---|---------|---------|
| Expenses involving early redemption of part of the debt | -       | 21.1    |
| Taxes (PIS/COFINS and CPMF)                             | 6.8     | 5.8     |
| Interest on fiscal contingency provisions               | 16.9    | 21.6    |
| Other   | (8.8)   | 9.8     |
| Financial Income  | (168.0) | (181.7) |
| Currency remeasurement                                  | (0.9)   | (7.6)   |

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Income taxes in Brazil comprise federal income tax and social contribution (which is an additional federal income tax). The statutory rates applicable for federal income tax and social contribution for the years ended December 31, 2005, 2006 and 2007 are presented as follows:

|                         |       |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Federal income tax rate | 25.0% |
| Social contribution (*) | 9.0%  |
| Composite tax rate      | 34.0% |

Income tax and social contribution amounted to expense of \$197.3 million in 2007, against \$69.5 million in the previous year, an increase of 184%. Tax charges are calculated based on the Brazilian GAAP results, and consequently influenced by the exchange rate variation's effect on monetary assets and liabilities denominated in US dollars. Breaking down the income tax expense in 2007, the total expense of \$197 million (\$70 million in 2006) comprises \$41 million of current tax (\$31 million in 2006) and \$156 million of deferred tax (\$39 million in 2006). The reason for the increase in the deferred tax amount in comparison with 2006 is the impact of the Brazilian currency's appreciation against the dollar on Brazilian GAAP numbers, which are the basis for calculating the Brazilian taxes. Since 2005, the Company has opted to make cash settlement of income tax and social contribution liabilities, arising from currency variations, in the period that the underlying assets/liabilities are settled, and not in the period that such tax liabilities arise. In 2007, the income tax expense was equivalent to 31% of the pre-tax profit (in 2006 it was 13%).

The amounts reported as income tax expense in the consolidated statements of income are reconciled to the statutory rates - See Note 3.1 to our 2007 Consolidated Financial Statements.

As a result, net earnings totaled US\$422.1 million, 7.3% lower than net earnings of US\$455.3 million in 2006.

**Results of Operations for the Year Ended December 31, 2006 Compared with the Year Ended December 31, 2005**

The table below shows the Company's income statements for the years 2004, 2005 and 2006:

| Statement of Operations Data              | US\$ thousands |           |           |
|---|----------------|-----------|-----------|
|   | 2004           | 2005      | 2006      |
| <b>Operating revenues</b>                 |                |           |           |
| Domestic                                  | 66,083         | 62,019    | 77,431    |
| Export                                    | 1,256,648      | 1,469,646 | 1,845,026 |
| <b>Gross operating revenues</b>           | 1,322,731      | 1,531,665 | 1,922,457 |
| Sales taxes and other deductions          | (155,618)      | (186,432) | (241,624) |
| Net operating revenues                    | 1,167,113      | 1,345,233 | 1,680,833 |
| <b>Operating Costs and expenses</b>       |                |           |           |
| Cost of sales                             | 700,333        | 783,578   | 1,037,896 |
| Selling                                   | 53,850         | 64,430    | 74,005    |
| Administrative                            | 31,072         | 33,820    | 57,020    |
| Other, net                                | 25,208         | 16,313    | 12,514    |
| <b>Total operating Costs and expenses</b> | 810,463        | 898,141   | 1,181,435 |

|   |                |                 |                 |
|---|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>Operating income</b>   | <b>356,650</b> | <b>447,092</b>  | <b>499,398</b>  |
| <b>Non-operating (income) expenses</b>  |                |                 |                 |
| Financial income  | (56,123)       | (125,439)       | (181,733)       |
| Financial expenses  | 119,976        | 137,276         | 149,719         |
| Gain on currency remeasurement, net   | (16,197)       | (21,386)        | (7,641)         |
| Other, net  | (76)           | (778)           | (7)             |
| <b>Total non-operating (income) expenses</b>  | <b>47,580</b>  | <b>(10,327)</b> | <b>(39,662)</b> |
| Income before income taxes, minority interest and equity in results of affiliated companies | 309,070        | 457,419         | 539,060         |
| Income tax expense  | 70,256         | 72,228          | 69,494          |
| Minority interest   | (9)            | (31)            | (544)           |
| Equity in results of affiliated companies   | (11,568)       | (44,062)        | (13,705)        |
| <b>Net income</b>   | <b>227,237</b> | <b>341,098</b>  | <b>455,317</b>  |

The Company exports approximately 98% of its pulp sales volumes and its revenues are dollar-denominated. Net revenues reached a record of US\$1,680.8 million, 25% higher than the amount obtained in 2005, due to an 8% increase in pulp average net prices, representing US\$120.0 million and US\$212.0 million higher sales volume, an increase of 16%. The remaining US\$3.6 million are related to an increased performance in paper sales.

The cost of products sold (pulp), measured in US\$/ton, was US\$333/t, which represented an expansion of 15% over 2005, mainly due to the effect of the appreciation of the real against the dollar on the cost items correlated to the local currency (real - R\$), higher pulp volume purchased from Veracel (US\$34.0/t), ocean freight tariffs basically due to the higher price of oil and some inputs, such as chemicals, fuels and energy sources.

Distribution and sales expenses rose 14.9% in nominal values, reflecting the 16% increase in sales volume over the previous year, partially offset by the effect of the appreciation of the real against the dollar over the period.

In 2006, general and administrative expenses were equivalent to 3.4% of total net revenues, compared to 2.5% in the previous year, due to institutional advertising (US\$10.9 million), an adjustment in the provision for employee variable compensation resulting from the favorable results of 2006 (US\$0.9 million) and election campaign donations (US\$3.2 million). Advertising expenses should decline in 2007, due to reductions in the scope of this program.

Other net operating expenses declined 23.3% compared to the previous year, mainly due to lower tax and labor contingencies and higher wood sale revenues.

Financial revenues also were at record-breaking levels, favored by US\$86 million in foreign exchange derivative operations for cash flow protection. As a measure to protect its cash flow exposure and in compliance with the Aracruz' financial policy as approved by the Board of Directors, the Company used derivative instruments to protect the effects of the appreciation of the real. At the end of 2006, the average position sold in dollars on the BM&F was equivalent to US\$289 million, or approximately 5 months of cash flow exposure.

Despite a reduction of interest on loans and financing, financial expenses were 9% higher than during 2005, mainly due to expenses involving early redemption of part of the debt, in the amount of US\$21.1 million.

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Currency re-measurement represented a gain of R\$7.6 million, caused by the 8.7% devaluation of the dollar over the period, compared to gain of US\$21.4 million in 2005, when the dollar devalued by 11.8% .

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| (US\$ million)  | 2006    | 2005    |
|---|---------|---------|
| Financial Expenses                                      | 149.7   | 137.3   |
| Interest on financing                                   | 91.4    | 99.3    |
| Expenses involving early redemption of part of the debt | 21.1    | -       |
| Taxes (PIS/COFINS and CPMF)                             | 5.8     | 4.1     |
| Interest on fiscal contingency provisions               | 21.6    | 31.0    |
| Other   | 9.8     | 2.9     |
| Financial Income  | (181.7) | (125.4) |
| Currency remeasurement                                  | (7.6)   | (21.4)  |

Income taxes in Brazil comprise federal income tax and social contribution (which is an additional federal income tax). The statutory rates applicable for federal income tax and social contribution for the years ended December 31, 2004, 2005 and 2006 are presented as follows:

|                         |       |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Federal income tax rate | 25.0% |
| Social contribution (*) | 9.0%  |
| Composite tax rate      | 34.0% |

Income tax and social contribution amounted to an expense of \$69.5 million in 2006, against \$72.2 million in the previous year, a decline of 3.8%. Tax charges are calculated based on the Brazilian GAAP results, and consequently influenced by the exchange rate variation's effect on monetary assets and liabilities denominated in US dollars. The positive impact of the exchange rate variation during 2006 on the Brazilian GAAP results was lower than in the previous year, in a total amount of US\$22.8 million, partially offset by higher consolidated results before income tax, minority interest and equity in results of affiliated companies (US\$27.8 million). The taxes were also reduced in 2006 as a result of payments of Interest on Shareholders' Equity, which are deductible for tax purposes.

The amounts reported as income tax expense in the consolidated statements of income are reconciled to the statutory rates - See Note 3.1 to our 2006 Consolidated Financial Statements.

As a result, net earnings totaled US\$455.3 million, 33.5% higher than net earnings of US\$341,1 million in 2005.

### B. Liquidity and Capital Resources

#### *Liquidity*

The Company's primary sources of liquidity have historically been cash flows from operating and financing activities. The Company's management believes these sources will continue to be the principal ways in which it will meet its anticipated cash flow needs.

The Company's material cash requirements include the following:

- operating expenses;
- the servicing of its indebtedness; and
- capital expenditures.

At December 31, 2007, we had cash, cash equivalents and short-term investments of US\$493.2 million, a decrease of US\$86.4 million from US\$579.6 million at December 31, 2006. The equivalent of US\$441.7 million was invested in local currency instruments and US\$51.5 million was invested abroad, mostly in U.S. dollar time deposits with leading financial institutions.

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**Cash Flows***Operating Activities*

Cash flow provided by operating activities was US\$641.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2007, as compared to US\$634.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2006 and US\$445.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2005. This increase in operating cash flow is mainly due to the increase in the volume and sales price of products sold.

*Investing Activities*

Cash flow used in investment activities amounted to US\$522.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2007, US\$277.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2006, and US\$214.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2005. The 2007 investment activities of US\$522.0 million are composed mainly by a US\$161.2 million of Barra do Riacho and Guaíba Units optimization, US\$146.5 million of silviculture, US\$140.4 million of land purchases and US\$141.6 million of other investments, reduced by US\$189.9 million of short-terms investments. All those years included equity contributions to the Veracel project that has started up in May 2005, in the amounts of US\$67.0 million, US\$24.5 million and US\$122.8 million, in 2005, 2006 and 2007 respectively.

*Financing Activities*

Cash flow used in financing activities was US\$120.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2007, US\$341.4 million for the year ended December 31, 2006 and US\$233.2 million for the year ended December 31, 2005 mainly due to dividend and interest on stockholders' equity paid.

The Company paid dividends and interest attributed to shareholders' equity in the amount of US\$ 233 million, US\$252 million and, US\$139 million, in 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively.

The Company's working capital is sufficient to support the normal course of the operating cycle of the Company, which comprises all the activities relating to its forestry, production and sales.

**Indebtedness**

At December 31, 2007, the Company had total debt outstanding of US\$1,409.1 million, an increase of 13.2% over total debt outstanding at December 31, 2006 of US\$1,244.8 million. Such increase was due to the local currency appreciation against the U.S. dollar, the release of another portion on the BNDES-TJLP financial agreement, and the contract of new Pre-Export Notes agreements.

The breakdown of the Company's total debt outstanding at December 31, 2006 and December 31, 2007 is set forth in the table below:

|                                   | <b>At December 31,</b>            |                    |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
|                                   | <b><u>2006</u></b>                | <b><u>2007</u></b> |
|                                   | <i>(millions of U.S. dollars)</i> |                    |
| <b>SHORT-TERM DEBT</b>            |                                   |                    |
| Current portion of long-term debt |                                   |                    |
| Local currency                    | 57.0                              | 73.0               |
| Foreign currency                  | 10.2                              | 9.0                |
| Short-term debt instruments       |                                   |                    |
| Local currency                    | 4.7                               | 5.6                |
| Foreign currency (ACC/ACE)        | 0                                 | 0                  |
| Accrued finance charges           |                                   |                    |
| Local currency                    | 2.0                               | (0.9)              |
| Foreign currency                  | 15.9                              | 10.0               |
| Subtotal                          | 89.8                              | 96.7               |
| <b>LONG-TERM DEBT</b>             |                                   |                    |
| Local currency                    | 250.0                             | 367.5              |

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|                   |                |                |
|-------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Foreign currency  | 905.0          | 944.9          |
| Subtotal          | 1,155.0        | 1,312.4        |
| <b>TOTAL DEBT</b> | <b>1,244.8</b> | <b>1,409.1</b> |

At December 31, 2007, the Company's outstanding debt in local currency totaled US\$445.2 million and was comprised primarily of loan agreements with Banco Nacional de Desenvolvimento Econômico e Social - BNDES and Credit Export Note. BNDES is one of the major shareholders of the Company.

At December 31, 2007, our outstanding debt exclusive of accrued interest was approximately US\$5.6 million based on fixed interest rates, US\$ 59.0 million based on CDI, US\$ 909.0 million based on LIBOR, US\$44.9 million based on a currency basket and US\$381.5 million based on TJLP.

We do not have any significant financial covenant under our debt instruments that may substantially affect our operations or financial condition.

At December 31, 2007, our long-term debt maturities were as follows:

|   | Maturing in |      |      |      |         | 2013 and<br>beyond | Total |
|---|-------------|------|------|------|---------|--------------------|-------|
|   | 2009        | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013    |                    |       |
| Long-term debt<br>(in millions of US\$) | 57.8        | 29.8 | 30.6 | 89.8 | 1,104.4 | 1,312.4            |       |

As of December 31, 2007, our short-term debt consists of rural credit financing with outstanding principal amount of US\$ 5.6 million at an average annual interest rate of 6.8% .

Our long-term debt consists primarily of U.S. dollar-denominated debt in the amount of US\$909.0 million at December 31, 2007 (as compared to US\$ 874.0 million at December 31, 2006), loans from BNDES, one of our principal shareholders, denominated in Reais and in foreign currencies and Credit Export Note agreement. At December 31, 2007, the Company had loans from BNDES with an aggregate principal amount outstanding of R\$755.2 million (US\$426.4 million) (as compared to R\$636.3 million (US\$297.6 million) at December 31, 2006), which represented approximately 30% of our total indebtedness at such date. At December 31, 2007, of the total aggregate principal amount of the BNDES debt, US\$381.5 million was denominated in Reais and adjusted by the TJLP, and US\$44.9 million was adjusted by a currency basket. The Credit Export Note is denominated reais, with an aggregate principal amount outstanding of R\$104.6 million (US\$59.0 million).

### *Financing Agreements*

In order to extend the maturity of the debt, in 2007 the Company paid in advance US\$250 million of its Export Prepayment agreement and entered into other Export Prepayment agreements in the amount of US\$285 million. As of December 31, 2007 the aggregate amount of these agreements was US\$909 million, with interest rates between 5.73% and 6.34% per year. The payment of the installments shall be made semiannually and the final maturity date of the agreements shall occur between March, 2012 and June, 2016.

### **Financial Strategy**

In the past, a major element of our cash management strategy was to take advantage of the interest rate differential available in Brazil only to exporting companies. Funds obtained through lower cost trade financing were invested, together with cash flow from operations, in Brazilian financial instruments at a generally higher yield. Our ability to generate profits from this arbitraging activity has been reduced as a result of the declining interest rates in Brazil as well as from the change in its financial strategy in 1997.

Brazilian companies have limited sources of long-term debt financing denominated in Reais, and we do not intend to incur short-term debt denominated in Reais due to the higher associated costs. At December 31, 2007, 68% of the total indebtedness was denominated in foreign currencies, as compared to 79% at the end of 2006. Although our access to debt financing denominated in foreign currencies, beyond pre-export and receivables financing, may also be limited, we believe that we have access to a sufficient number of financing sources to meet our needs without resorting to expensive short-term Real-denominated financing.

Because we operate internationally, we are exposed to market risks from changes in foreign exchange and interest rates. To protect against these market risks, from time to time we enter into forward foreign exchange contracts and interest-rate swap agreements. We may be exposed to counterparty credit risk in the event of nonperformance by the counterparties to the forward exchange-rate contracts and the interest-rate-swap agreements. We believe that an event of nonperformance by our counterparties is unlikely to occur due to our credit risk policies.

The Company is subject to some limits on its access to international capital markets due to the non-investment grade sovereign risk rating of the Republic of Brazil. Also, Brazilian companies have as a structural condition limited sources of long-term debt financing denominated in *reais* beyond the credit lines provided by BNDES. To fund its investments and to manage liquidity risk the Company's strategy has been to develop international long term funding sources and structures and to manage its debt profile in order to maintain adequate financial ratios established in the Financial Policy, approved by the Board, including maintaining an adequate average maturity of its debt. The Company believes that it already has access to sufficient financing sources to meet its needs, especially after being confirmed as Investment Grade in foreign currency debt by Standard & Poor's, Moody's and Fitch, meaning that the Company's credit risk is considered largely uncorrelated to the country's risk.

The guidelines for the Company's financial investments policies are:

- investments in fixed income obligations of the Brazilian federal government are subject to the following requirements:
  - ◆ for external debt (Bradies and Globes) the maximum term shall be 60 months;
  - ◆ for local debt (NTN, LFT, NTN-C) the maximum term shall be 24 months;
- investments in fixed income obligations of the foreign governments and multilateral agencies are limited to 50% of the total of cash investments;
- investments in corporate debt instruments are subject to the following requirements:
  - ◆ the corporation must have a minimum rating of A- or equivalent from the top rating agencies; and the maximum investment is limited to the lesser of (i) 20% of the total cash holdings, and (ii) 10% of the debt instrument per issue amount and (iii) US\$ 20 million;
  - ◆ The duration of the total balance of financial investments in corporate debt cannot exceed 24 months;
- investments in bank instruments are subject to the following requirements:
  - ◆ the bank must have a minimum rating of BBB+ or equivalent from the top rating agencies; and for that rating, the maximum investment per bank is limited to the lesser of (i) 10% of the total cash holdings, and (ii) 5% of the bank's net worth and (iii) US\$ 50 million;
  - ◆ for banks with a rating above "BBB+", the maximum investment per bank is limited to the lesser of (i) 20% of the total cash holdings, and (ii) 10% of the bank's net worth.

In the year of 2007, derivative financial instruments results (dollar and interest rate future contracts registered in BM&F and swap transaction) showed a gain of US\$95.6 million, reducing part of the negative impact that the Real appreciation caused in the Company's results. The financial policy defined prudent limits for these operations, based on best corporate governance practices.

## Dividends

The Company's by-laws guarantee a minimum annual dividend equal to 25% of the adjusted net income for the year, as required by the Brazilian Corporate Law. In accordance with the Company's by-law and the Brazilian Corporate Law, adjusted net income is represented by the net income for the year less appropriation of the above mentioned legal reserve.

Brazilian law permits the payment of cash dividends only from retained earnings. As of January 1, 1996, Brazilian corporations are allowed to attribute interest on stockholders' equity. The calculation is based on the stockholders' equity amounts as stated in the statutory accounting records and the interest rate applied may not exceed the long-term interest rate ( TJLP ) determined by the Brazilian Central Bank (approximately 9.75%, 7.78% and 6.32% for years 2005, 2006 and 2007, respectively). Also, such interest may not exceed the greater of 50% of net income for the year or 50% of retained earnings plus income reserves (including those mentioned above), determined in each case on the basis of the statutory financial statements. The amount of interest attributed to stockholders is deductible for corporate income tax purposes.



**Capital Expenditures**

The Company's capital expenditures for 2007, 2006 and 2005 were US\$589.7 million, US\$301.0 million and US\$147.9 million, respectively.

The table below sets forth a breakdown of our most significant capital expenditures for the periods indicated:

|   | For the years ended December 31, |              |              |
|---|----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
|   | 2005                             | 2006         | 2007         |
|   | (in US\$ millions)               |              |              |
| Silviculture (Forest) and other forestry investments (includes land purchase) | 71.4                             | 219.1        | 317.8        |
| Improvements/industrial investments   | 66.8                             | 67.3         | 212.8        |
| Other   | 9.7                              | 14.6         | 59.1         |
| Total   | <u>147.9</u>                     | <u>301.0</u> | <u>589.7</u> |

During the year 2005, we invested approximately US\$147.9 million, of which US\$65.2 million was devoted to forest, US\$2.4 million to land purchases, US\$3.8 million to other forestry investments, US\$40.1 million to ongoing industrial investments, US\$26.7 million to Guaíba Unit optimization and US\$9.7 million to other projects.

During the year 2006, we invested approximately US\$301.0 million, of which US\$113.1 million was devoted to forest, US\$80.5 million to land purchases, US\$25.5 million to other forestry investments, US\$23.4 million to ongoing industrial investments, US\$43.9 million to Barra do Riacho and Guaíba Unit optimization and US\$14.6 million to other projects.

During the year 2007, we invested approximately US\$589.7 million, of which US\$146.5 million was devoted to forest, US\$140.4 million to land purchases, US\$30.9 million to other forestry investments, US\$51.6 million to ongoing industrial investments, US\$161.2 million to Barra do Riacho and Guaíba Unit optimization and US\$59.1 million to other projects.

During 2008, the Company expects to invest approximately US\$578 million related to industrial, forestry and other investments. Funding for these investments will derive mostly from the Company's own cash generation.

**C. Research and Development, Patents and Licenses, Etc.**

During 2005, 2006 and 2007 our research and development expenditures totaled approximately US\$ 5.8 million, US\$ 8.6 million and US\$ 10.0 million, respectively. The increasing expenditures in R&D, especially in 2007, are consistent with the Company's growth and its ongoing effort to maintain its competitiveness. This strategy has been enabling Aracruz to develop high quality sustainable forests, with

productivity gains, lower costs and minimum environmental impact, supplying the market with improved products and reinforcing the Company's long-term relationships with key customers.

The main objective of the Aracruz Research and Technology Center is to add value to the overall business. The research projects involve activities ranging from the nurseries to the final products.

In 2007, as a result of the forest genetic improvement program, we recommended eleven new eucalyptus hybrid clones for operational planting, which display greater pulp productivity per hectare, in the different Company sites, as well as wood quality in accordance with the requirements of our products. Worthy of note was also the unprecedented recommendation of hybrid clones of *E. urophylla* x *E. dunnii* to Guaíba unit plantations, at Rio Grande do Sul State.

Studies involving alternative biofuels production based on agricultural crops interspersed with the eucalyptus plants were increased. Several grain crops are under analysis and testing. We also kept a significant level of investment in the biotechnology(\*) program, involving national and international partnerships, with the aim of obtaining additional knowledge, tools and genes related to growth, disease resistance and wood

quality. Development of advanced tissue culture techniques was also continued along 2007. Contributions to the commercial applications of new clonal propagation technologies have been provided.

Sustainable silvicultural practices that ensure the high performance of plantations continue to be one of the Company's priorities. In Barra do Riacho Unit, soil monitoring conducted in last twenty years revealed that fertility has been improving for most of the areas, due to application of changes in nutritional management, especially from late 90's. In Guaíba Unit an important study involving soil mapping of the expansion areas was accomplished. Relevant studies regarding soil erosion monitoring and harvester's impacts have also been done leading to a better understanding of the potential erosion process and its control.

Concerning climate studies, three new automatic weather stations were installed at Guaíba Unit, increasing the monitoring site coverage capacity. Superficial and underground water quantity and quality monitoring conducted in 17 representative watersheds continues pointing out that there are no changes in parameters that might be associated with eucalypt plantations. Up to now, the results of the studies have demonstrated that the consumption of water by the Aracruz' eucalyptus plantations is similar to the consumption of native forests located on the Company's reserves. At Guaíba Unit two new watersheds will be monitored to understand the various components of the water balance also in that region.

Aracruz biodiversity studies started 15 years ago, both in eucalypt plantations and native reserves. More than 11 thousand birds, of 556 different species, were registered until the end of 2007, suggesting that the silvicultural model adopted by Aracruz has allowed the maintenance of bird communities at the studied locations.

Among all projects for process and products development, the differentiation of fiber properties has received top priority. In 2007, Aracruz increased its investments in different routes for fiber modification, through specifically designed processes, in order to obtain pulp with special characteristics for tissue, printing & writing and specialty papers, with very significant results.

Important contributions were also noted through many sustainability related projects, in special the increased recycle of industrial solid residues. Nowadays, approximately 80% of the residues generated are used back in the forests. During 2007, all the mud and ashes generated were applied as fertilizer.

In terms of new and promising technologies Aracruz has started to research production and application of nanoproducts like nanofibers produced from eucalyptus pulp in partnership with well renamed R&D centers around the world. The biorefinery concept was also deeply studied in 2007.

#### **D. Trend Information**

The trends that influence our sales, production, selling price and inventory levels are primarily the patterns of pulp purchases by paper producers in the United States, Europe and Asia and the level of pulp inventory held by pulp producers worldwide.

PPPC's (Pulp and Paper Products Council) estimates for chemical market pulp demand a growth of 2.7% for 2008, equivalent to 1.3 million tons. There will be four main drivers for this growth: the continuous

increase in China's demand for market pulp, continued growth in global tissue and sanitary paper production, restructuring of the printing and writing sector and the restocking of consumers since their inventories have reached historical low levels in 2007. The mature printing and writing markets of North America and Japan will contribute very little in the way of extra market pulp demand. Growth in demand is forecasted to start picking up in 2009 and 2010 as a consequence of a rebound in the world economy.

PPPC's revised estimates show that world capacity will grow by 6.5%, or 3.5 million tons in 2008. Over 82% of the growth will be in hardwood. In 2009, market pulp supply is expected to rise by 3.5%, and by a further 4.6% in 2010. This implies an overall increase of 8.2 million tons over the period 2007-2010, equivalent to 4.9% per year. Bleached hardwood capacity will account for close to 84% of this growth, as hardwood capacity is projected to increase by 6.9 million tons, or 8.2% per year, reaching 32.7 million tons in 2010. In contrast, bleached softwood capacity will grow by only 1.4 million tons over the period, or 1.9% per year. Nearly 15% of the growth in capacity will be in Latin America. By 2010, total softwood capacity is expected to reach 25.1 million tons. This is surprisingly low but it only includes the projects that are currently deemed highly probable to go ahead. In all likelihood, more projects will gain approval in the future thus increasing this growth rate.

There are obvious risks to the forecast. The economic outlook is positive but largely dependent on two economies – the United States and China. Any significant slowdown, particularly in the U.S., would have an immediate impact on advertising spending and paper demand, at a

time when the cycle is already maturing.

#### E. Off-balance Sheet Arrangements

In addition to the debt that is reflected on our balance sheet, we are contingently liable for the debt or other obligations of Veracel whose accounts are not consolidated in our financial statements. The Company is a guarantor of 50% of the indebtedness incurred by Veracel in connection with the financing of the Veracel Project. Stora Enso is a guarantor of the other 50% of such indebtedness. On December 31, 2007 the outstanding amount of such indebtedness guaranteed by the Company was approximately US\$334.0 million. As of December 31, 2007, the Company had no other off-balance sheet arrangements that have, or are reasonably likely to have, a material effect on its financial condition, revenues, expenses, results of operations, liquidity, capital expenditures or capital resources.

The following table summarizes the obligations which we have guaranteed or for which we are contingently liable and which are not reflected in the liabilities in our consolidated financial statements:

#### CONTINGENT LIABILITY WITH RESPECT TO NON-CONSOLIDATED ENTITIES AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2007

|                            | Aggregate<br>Amount | <i>In millions of US\$</i> |             |           |           |
|----------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|
|                            |                     | Total                      | Less than 1 |           | Maturity  |
|                            |                     |                            | year        | 1-3 years | 3-5 years |
| <b>Guarantees of Debt:</b> |                     |                            |             |           |           |
| Veracel Celulose S.A.      | 321.5               | 62.9                       | 117.9       | 121.6     | 31.6      |

#### F. Tabular Disclosure of Contractual Obligations

The following table represents our contractual obligations as of December 31, 2007<sup>1</sup>:

| Contractual obligations                                       | <b>Payment due by period</b> |                     |           |           |                      |
|---|------------------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|
|   | <i>In millions of US\$</i>   |                     |           |           |                      |
|   | Total                        | Less than 1<br>year | 1-3 years | 3-5 years | More than 5<br>years |
| Short-term debt   | 96.8                         | 96.8                | -         | -         | -                    |
| Long-term debt  | 1,312.4                      | -                   | 87.6      | 120.3     | 1,104.5              |
| Accrued finance charges                                       | 533.0                        | 89.4                | 159.2     | 149.4     | 135.0                |
| Purchases: (raw materials,<br>maintenance and utilities/fuel) | 120.0                        | 120.0               | -         | -         | -                    |
| Take-or-pay contract  | 2.6                          | 2.6                 | -         | -         | -                    |
| Special program of tax collection                             | 31.8                         | 0.3                 | 0.6       | 0.6       | 30.3                 |

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|              |                |              |              |              |                |
|--------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| called PAES  |                |              |              |              |                |
| Leasing      | 2.1            | 2.1          | -            | -            | -              |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>2,098.7</b> | <b>311.2</b> | <b>247.4</b> | <b>270.3</b> | <b>1,269.8</b> |

<sup>1</sup> Liabilities associated with unrecognized tax benefits were not included in the table because the company can not make reasonably reliable estimates about the period of cash settlement of such liabilities.

#### ITEM 6. DIRECTORS, SENIOR MANAGEMENT AND EMPLOYEES

**A. Directors and Senior Management**

We are managed by our Conselho de Administração, or board of directors, and our Diretoria, or board of executive officers.

Set forth below are the names and positions on March 30, 2008 and brief biographical descriptions of our directors and officers:

**Board of Directors**

| <b>Name</b>                  | <b>Age</b> | <b>Position</b> |
|------------------------------|------------|-----------------|
| Carlos Alberto Vieira        | 73         | Chairman        |
| Ernane Galvêas               | 85         | Member          |
| João Carlos Chede            | 60         | Member          |
| Luiz Aranha Corrêa do Lago   | 57         | Member          |
| Eliezer Batista da Silva     | 83         | Member          |
| Haakon Lorentzen             | 53         | Member          |
| Raul Calfat                  | 55         | Member          |
| Álvaro Luís Veloso           | 43         | Member          |
| Alexandre D´Ambrosio         | 45         | Member          |
| Jorge Eduardo Martins Moraes | 51         | Member          |

**Executive Officers**

| <b>Name</b>                | <b>Age</b> | <b>Position</b> |
|----------------------------|------------|-----------------|
| Carlos Augusto Lira Aguiar | 62         | CEO             |
| João Felipe Carsalade      | 53         | Officer         |
| Walter Lídio Nunes         | 59         | Officer         |
| Isac Roffé Zagury          | 56         | Officer         |

**Biographical Information**

**Carlos Alberto Vieira.** Since April 29, 2004 Mr. Vieira has been the Chairman of the Company's Board of Directors, of which he had been a member since April 15, 1988. He has been President of Banco Safra S.A. since 1973, and he is also Chairman of Pastoral Agropecuária Couto Magalhães S.A. He is also a member of the board of the Brazilian Banks Federation (Febraban) and of ITT-Sheraton Brasil. He has been Honorary Consul of Haiti in Rio de Janeiro since 1979. Graduated in Economic Sciences and Accountancy by Pontifical Catholic University of Campinas, with a post graduation in Business Administration by Fundação Getúlio Vargas.

**Ernane Galvêas.** Mr. Galvêas is a member of the Company's Board of Directors since April 29, 1994. He was Director of the External Trade Agency of Banco do Brasil from 1966 to 1967 and President of the Central Bank of Brazil from 1968 to 1974 and in 1979. He was also Brazilian Minister of Finance from 1980 to 1985. He was Financial Officer and later Executive Vice-President (CEO) of the Company from 1974 to 1979. Currently, he is also member of the Board of Directors of Lorentzen Empreendimentos S.A., of Getulio Vargas Foundation and of Jacob Safra Bank, in Switzerland. Moreover, at present he is an Economic Consultant of the National Confederation of Commerce of Brazil and President of APEC Association for Economic Research. He is an accountant, lawyer, economist and has a Master in Economics degree by Yale University.

**João Carlos Chede.** Mr. Chede was an alternate member of the Company's Board of Directors from April 2003 to April 2004. In April 29, 2005 he was elected a member of the board. He has been an Executive Officer of Banco Safra S.A since 1990. He is also an Officer of the Safra Comércio e Serviços Ltda; Banco Safra de Investimentos S.A.; Canárias Corretora de Seguros S.A; Sodepa Sociedade de Empreendimentos Publicidade e Participações Ltda; and Cedral Companhia de Comércio Exterior S.A. He is a chemical engineer graduated by Universidade Federal do Paraná and has a Master in Industrial Engineering degree by Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro.

**Haakon Lorentzen.** Mr. Lorentzen has been a Director of the Company since April 29, 1991 and is the son of Mr. Erling Lorentzen, formerly the Company's Chairman. He is the President of Lorentzen Empreendimentos S.A., as well as Chairman of Companhia de Navegação Norsul. He is also a Member of the Board of Ação Comunitária do Brasil, Harvard Business School Latin American Research Center, WWF Brasil as well as Ideiasnet S.A.. He is graduated in Economics by Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro and attended the Program for

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Management Development at Harvard Business School, USA.

**Luiz Aranha Corrêa do Lago.** Mr. Corrêa do Lago was an alternate member of the Company's Board of Directors from April 1988 to April 2004, when he was elected member of the board. He has been a Director of companies in the Lorentzen Group since 1988. He also held office as Capital Markets Director of the Central Bank of Brazil from 1987 to 1988 and has been a professor of the Department of Economics of the Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro (PUC) since 1979. PhD in Economics by Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

**Eliezer Batista da Silva.** Mr. Batista da Silva has been a Director of the Company since June 28, 1996. He was also Chairman of Rio Doce Internacional. In 1992, he served as the Brazilian Government's Secretary for Strategic Affairs. From 1979 to 1986, he was President and also the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Companhia Vale do Rio Doce. His first term as President of Companhia Vale do Rio Doce was from 1961 to 1962. He was the President of Minerações Brasileiras Reunidas S.A. (Caemi Group) from 1964 to 1968, and Minister of Mines and Energy from 1962 to 1964. He is graduated in Engineering by Universidade Federal do Paraná.

**Raul Calfat.** Mr. Calfat has been a Director of the Company since July 16, 2004. He has been executive Managing Director of Votorantim Investimentos Industriais S.A. since January of 2004 and Managing Director of all industrial business at Votorantim as from January 2006. Mr. Calfat was the President of the Pulp and Paper Association of São Paulo from 1993 to 1995 and Vice-President of the Brazilian Pulp and Paper Association from 1996 to 2004. He is graduated in Business by Fundação Getúlio Vargas (FGV/ESSP).

**Álvaro Luís Veloso.** Mr. Veloso has been a Director of the Company since April 1st, 2005. He became Corporate Planning and Merger & Acquisitions Officer of Votorantim Investimentos Industriais S.A. in March, 2005. From June 2004 until February 2005 he was the head of a Peruvian zinc smelter. Prior to that he was Chief Finance Officer of Votorantim Metais from May 2002 to June 2004. He is graduated in Economics by Pontifical Catholic University of Minas Gerais (PUC/MG).

**Alexandre D'Ambrosio.** Mr. D'Ambrosio was an alternate member of the Company's Board of Directors from April 2004 to April 2007, when he was elected member of the board. He is General Counsel and Managing Director of Votorantim Industrial, the holding company of the Votorantim Group of companies. From 1986 to 1996 he practiced law as associate and partner in major law firms in Washington, DC and New York City. Since 1996, he has acted as in-house counsel to large companies in Brazil, in various sectors of economic activity. Mr. D'Ambrosio is a licensed attorney in São Paulo, Washington, DC, and before the Court of International Trade, New York. He has been at Votorantim since 2003. Mr. D'Ambrosio is a graduate of the University of São Paulo (LL.B), the Harvard Law School (LL.M) and the National Law Center of George Washington University (MCL).

**Jorge Eduardo Martins Moraes.** Mr. Moraes was an alternate member of the Company's Board of Directors from April 2006 to April 2007, when he was elected member of the board. He is also manager for Equity Research, Capital Market/Portfolio Follow-up and Management Department of BNDES (Brazilian Development Bank), where he was admitted in 1982. Previously, from 1979 to 1982, he worked as Engineer at Carvalho Hosken S/A Engenharia e Construções. From January 2004 until May 2005 he served as Economic Advisor to the Planning, Budget and Administration Ministry. He is also member of the Board of Aços Villares S/A and Iochpe Maxion S/A. He is graduated in Civil Engineering by University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ) and Master in Business Administration by COPPEAD/UFRJ.

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**Carlos Augusto Lira Aguiar.** Mr. Aguiar became President of the Company on April 17, 1998. He has been an Officer since October 25, 1985 and he was a Vice President from April 1993 to April 17, 1998. Due to the resignation of Mr. Armando da Silva Figueira as President, effective at February 11, 1993, Mr. Aguiar was also the Acting President from such date until November 16, 1993. Since 1981, Mr. Aguiar has held various managerial positions with our operations department.

**João Felipe Carsalade.** Mr. Carsalade has been an Officer of the Company since September 6, 1993. Since 1976, Mr. Carsalade has held various managerial positions with our commercial department.

**Walter Lídio Nunes.** Mr. Nunes has been an Officer of the Company since May 27, 1998. Since 1977, Mr. Nunes has held various managerial positions with our industrial department.

**Isac Roffé Zagury.** Mr. Zagury was elected a member of the Company's board of executive officers on June 6, 2003. Prior to that, he worked for 26 years at BNDES in various positions, including as an officer.

**Fiscal Committee**

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Although we are not required under the Brazilian corporate law to maintain a permanent fiscal committee (*Conselho fiscal*), our by-laws were amended in April 2004 to establish that such corporate body shall be maintained on a regular basis. Under the Brazilian corporate law, the *Conselho Fiscal*, or fiscal committee, is a corporate body independent of management. A *Conselho Fiscal* is not equivalent to, or comparable with, a U.S. audit committee. Our fiscal committee is composed of three members, as required by the Brazilian corporate law, and three alternates. Two members of the fiscal committee represent the controlling shareholders, and one represents the minority shareholders' interests. The members of the fiscal committee are elected for one-year terms, but can be reelected. The primary responsibility of the fiscal committee is to review management's activities and the financial statements, and to report its findings to the shareholders. Under the Brazilian corporate law, the fiscal committee may not contain members that (i) are on the board of directors, (ii) are on the board of executive officers, (iii) are employed by us or a controlled company, and (iv) are spouses or relatives of our management, up to the third degree. In addition, the Brazilian corporate law requires that the fiscal committee members receive as remuneration at least 10% of the average amount paid to each executive officer. The Brazilian corporate law requires a fiscal committee to have a minimum of three and a maximum of five members.

At the annual shareholders' meeting held on April 24, 2007, our shareholders decided to appoint, for the fiscal year ending on December 31, 2007, the members of our fiscal committee and their respective alternates as set forth below. These members shall serve until the annual shareholders' meeting to be held by April 30, 2008 at the latest:

| <u>Name</u>                    | <u>Position</u> |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| Wagner Braz                    | Member          |
| Sheila Periard Henrique Silva  | Alternate       |
| Fernando Octávio Martins Alves | Member          |
| Jorge Juliano de Oliveira      | Alternate       |
| José Gilberto Jaloretto        | Member          |
| Mauro José Periotto            | Alternate       |

### **Audit Committee**

NYSE rules require that listed companies have an audit committee that (i) is composed of a minimum of three independent directors who are all financially literate, (ii) meets the SEC rules regarding audit committees for listed companies, (iii) has at least one member who has accounting or financial management expertise and (iv) is governed by a written charter addressing the committee's required purpose and detailing its required responsibilities. Our audit committee, which is equivalent to a U.S. audit committee, was installed at the meeting of our Board of Directors held on June 3, 2005. It complies with all of such requirements and provides assistance to our board of directors in matters involving our accounting, internal controls, financial reporting and compliance. The audit committee will recommend the appointment of our independent auditors to our board of directors and review the compensation of, and coordinate with, our independent auditors. The audit committee also will evaluate the effectiveness of our internal financial and legal compliance controls. The audit committee is comprised of up to three members elected by the board of directors for a term of office coincident with that of the board of directors. The current members of our audit committee are Isaac Selim Sutton, Álvaro

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Luís Veloso and Mauro Agonilha. All members of the audit committee satisfy the audit committee membership independence requirements established under rules of the SEC. The board of directors has determined that Álvaro Luís Veloso is an audit committee financial expert within the meaning of the rules adopted by the SEC relating to the disclosure of financial experts on audit committees in periodic filings pursuant to the U.S. Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

### *Bibliographical Information*

**Isaac Selim Sutton.** He has been a member of the Board of Directors of the Company for several years and the chairman of the Audit Committee since 1997. Currently he is also an alternate member to the Chairman of the Board. Mr. Sutton is a non-executive Superintendent of Safra Corretora de Valores Cambiais Ltda., Safra Leasing S/A - Arrendamento Mercantil and Banco Safra S.A.. He is also a member of the Board of Directors of TIM Participações S.A. and Bardella S.A. Indústrias Mecânicas. He was a member of the Board of Directors of Telenorte Celular S.A., Gevisa S.A. and Celma S.A. and a member of the Fiscal Committee of TIM Sul S.A., Têxtil Renaux S.A. and TIM Nordeste S.A.. He also held executive positions in Grupo UNIGEL, Cosmoquímica and Dow Química.

**Álvaro Luís Veloso.** Mr. Veloso has been a Director of the Company since April 1st, 2005. He became Corporate Planning and Merger & Acquisitions Officer of Votorantim Investimentos Industriais S.A. on March 2005. From June 2004 until February 2005 he was the head of a Peruvian zinc smelter. Prior to that he was Chief Finance Officer of Votorantim Metais from May 2002 to June 2004. He is graduated in

Economics by Pontifical Catholic University of Minas Gerais (PUC MG).

**Mauro Agonilha** is an alternate member of Aracruz Board of Directors and member of the Audit Committee since October 20, 2005. Mr. Agonilha is also Officer of the following companies: Brasil Warrant Administração de Bens e Empresas Ltda., Caminho Editorial Ltda., Cambuhy Agrícola Ltda., Consórcio Unibanco - BW, Imopar Participações Imobiliárias Ltda., Itaparica S.A. - Empreendimentos Turísticos, Marília Investimentos Ltd., Rosefield Finance Ltd., Santana Investimentos Ltda., São Teófilo Representação e Participações S/A., Unicorp Administração de Bens e Empresas Ltda., Unicorp International Finance Corporation. He is Master in Business Administration by the University of Chicago USA.

### **B. Compensation**

For the year ended December 31, 2007, the aggregate compensation of all of our directors and officers was approximately US\$ 5.4 million, which includes bonuses in the aggregate amount of US\$ 1.9 million. In addition, for 2007, we paid an aggregate of approximately US\$0.1 million into our pension plan on behalf of our directors and officers. For the year ended December 31, 2006, the aggregate compensation of all of our directors and officers was approximately US\$ 6.0 million, which includes bonuses in the aggregate amount of US\$ 2.9 million. In addition, for 2006, we paid an aggregate of approximately US\$0.09 million into our pension plan on behalf of our directors and officers. For the year ended December 31, 2005, the aggregate compensation of all of our directors and officers was approximately US\$3.3 million, which includes bonuses in the aggregate amount of US\$0.7 million. In addition, for 2005, we paid an aggregate of approximately US\$0.08 million into our pension plan on behalf of our directors and officers.

### **C. Board Practices**

Our board of directors (i.e., *Conselho de Administração*), which may consist of no fewer than nine and no more than twelve members (each, a director), is responsible for, among other things, establishing our general business policies. Our board of directors is currently comprised of ten members and ten alternates. Ten of our current board members and eight of our current alternates were elected for a term of three years by the shareholders at the annual shareholders' meeting held on April 24, 2007. On June 19 and on August 2, 2007 two of our alternate board members resigned, being that one of them was replaced by decision of the Board of Director, pursuant to Law 6.404/76 and the Company's by-laws, and the other position is still vacant until further decision of the Board of Directors or the general shareholders' meeting. The term of office of the current board of directors will end on the date of the ordinary shareholders' meeting to take place by April 30, 2010. Our by-laws provide that, in the absence of a director, an alternate director may attend board meetings. We have no service contracts with our directors providing for benefits upon termination of employment.

Our board of executive officers (i.e., *Diretoria*), which may consist of no fewer than two and no more than eight officers (each, an officer), is responsible for our day-to-day management. The executive officers are

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elected by the board of directors for a term of three years. The term of office of each officer will end on the date of the first meeting of the Board of Directors following the ordinary shareholders' meeting to take place by April 30, 2009.

#### *Compensation Committee*

We have an *ad hoc* compensation committee, formed by three members, the purpose of which is to decide on various matters regarding the compensation of our officers and directors. The current members of the compensation committee are Luiz Aranha Correa do Lago, Isaac Selim Sutton and Gilberto Lara Nogueira. The members of the compensation committee do not receive compensation.

### **Board Practices**

Under Brazilian corporate law, the members of the board of directors must be shareholders of the Company. There is no requirement as to the number of shares an individual must own in order to act as a member of the board of directors.

According to Brazilian corporate law, the Company's Corporate Governance Policy and the Code of Ethics of the Company, officers and directors of a company are prohibited from voting on or acting in matters in which their interests conflict with those of the company.

Our by-laws provide that the shareholders are responsible for determining the global annual remuneration of the members of our board of directors and board of officers. Our board of directors is responsible for dividing such remuneration among its members and the members of the board of officers. There are no specific provisions regarding a directors' power to vote its compensation in the absence of an independent quorum.

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With respect to the borrowing powers of the board of directors, the approval of the board of directors is necessary to issue commercial paper, but any other financing arrangements may be entered into by us upon the joint signatures of:

- two officers;
- one officer and one attorney-in-fact; and
- two attorneys-in fact, subject to certain limitations.

There are no age limit requirements for retirement of the members of our board of directors. There are no provisions in our by-laws regarding reelection of directors in staggered intervals. Our Corporate Governance Policy (available at [www.aracruz.com.br](http://www.aracruz.com.br)) sets forth that the standing members of our board of directors shall not sit as standing members of board of directors of more than five public companies in Brazil or abroad, including Aracruz Celulose.

### D. Employees

In 2007, the Company sustained 12,010 direct jobs, of which 2,495 represented its own employees and 9,515 permanent outsourced professionals.

The Company itself employed a total of 2,495 people until December 31, 2007, compared to 2,361 people employed until December 31, 2006. For the year ended December 31, 2007 and 2006, 75% of our workforce was directly involved in the production process, 3% were engaged in research and development and 22% were administrative employees. As of December 31, 2007, 52% of our employees were employed at the Barra do Riacho Unit, 20% were employed at the Guaíba Unit, 2% were employed at the offices in the city of São Paulo, 25% were employed at the forest sites in Conceição da Barra (Espírito Santo State) and Posto da Mata (Bahia State) and 1% at our offices outside Brazil. For the year ended December 31, 2006, 53% of our employees were employed at the Barra do Riacho Unit, 22% were employed at the Guaíba Unit, 2% were employed at the offices in the city of São Paulo, 22% were employed at the forest sites in Conceição da Barra (Espírito Santo State) and Posto da Mata (Bahia State) and 1% at our offices outside Brazil.

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As of December 31, 2007 our employees' average age was 37 years of age and 91% of them were educated at least to the high school level, 88% were male and 12% were female. From the total of our employees at that date, 78% were born in the States Espírito Santo, Rio Grande do Sul and Bahia, areas where our industrial plants and forestry production are located. All of our employees are subject to collective bargaining agreements with eight unions. Each collective bargaining agreement is renegotiated annually between October and November. The agreements currently in effect will expire in September and October 2008.

In December 1994, the Executive Branch of the Brazilian government issued a provisional measure, which was converted into Law No. 10,101 of December 19, 2000 giving employees the right to receive a bonus based on certain operating results of their employer, as such right is contemplated in the Brazilian Constitution. The law provides that each company and its employees shall agree on the details of such bonus, including the calculation of the amount of the bonus and the applicable payment periods. Pursuant to such legislation, since 1995 the Company and its employees' labor unions have negotiated the terms of two different bonus plans on an annual basis, one for the Company's management and another for non-management employees, which plans meet the requirements of the provisional measure. Any bonus to be paid under either of the plans is based on the Company reaching certain operating targets and financial results. The total amount paid by the Company under these bonus plans in 2007, referring to year 2006, amounted to US\$ 10,7 million. We provide certain social benefits to our employees, including funds to operate a school and programs on opportunities for young professionals, voluntary work in communities and improvement on overall quality of life. We contribute, jointly with the employees, to an employee pension fund, most of the trustees of which are also our officers.

### E. Share Ownership

As of December 31, 2007, the members of our board of directors and our officers, on an individual basis and as a group, beneficially owned less than one percent of any class of our stock. None of the members of our board of directors or our officers holds any options to purchase our common shares or preferred shares. See Item 7A. Major Shareholders.

The following table lists the amount of shares held directly by each individual member of our board of directors or executive officer and their representative percentage relative to the total outstanding shares as of December 31, 2007:

| <b>Number of<br/>Common<br/>Shares</b> | <b>Number of<br/>Preferred<br/>Shares</b> | <b>Total</b> | <b>% of the total<br/>shares<br/>outstanding</b> |
|--|---|--------------|--|
|--|---|--------------|--|



| <b>Board of Directors</b>  |              |               |               |             |
|----------------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|
| Carlos Alberto Vieira      | 1,000        | -             | 1,000         | 0.00        |
| Ernane Galvêas             | 91           | 2,900         | 2,991         | 0.00        |
| João Carlos Chede          | 659          | -             | 659           | 0.00        |
| Luiz Aranha Corrêa do Lago | 7            | -             | 7             | 0.00        |
| Eliezer Batista da Silva   | 13           | -             | 13            | 0.00        |
| Haakon Lorentzen           | 10           | -             | 10            | 0.00        |
| Raul Calfat                | -            | 501           | 501           | 0.00        |
| Álvaro Luiz Veloso         | -            | 1,801         | 1,801         | 0.00        |
| Alexandre Silva D'Ambrósio | -            | 1             | 1             | 0.00        |
| Jorge Eduardo M. Moares    | -            | 1             | 1             | 0.00        |
| <b>Executive Officers</b>  |              |               |               |             |
| Carlos Augusto Lira Aguiar | -            | 10,599        | 10,599        | 0.00        |
| João Felipe Carsalade      | -            | -             | -             | 0.00        |
| Walter Lídio Nunes         | -            | -             | -             | 0.00        |
| Isac Roffé Zagury          | -            | -             | -             | 0.00        |
| <b>Total</b>               | <b>1,780</b> | <b>15,803</b> | <b>17,583</b> | <b>0.00</b> |

## ITEM 7. MAJOR SHAREHOLDERS AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

### A. Major Shareholders

Of the two species - common and preferred (those divided into two classes) - of our capital stock outstanding, only our common stock, without par value, has voting rights. Approximately 96.5% of our common stock is owned by the following principal shareholders, or the Principal Shareholders: Arapar S.A. (a company

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associated with Erling Sven Lorentzen, the Chairman of our board of directors until April 2004), Arainvest Participações S/A, Treasure Hold Investments (companies controlled by Joseph Yacoub Safra and Moise Yacoub Safra, and affiliates of Banco Safra S.A.), Newark Financial Inc. (a British Virgin Islands company wholly owned by VCP) and BNDES Participações S.A. BNDESPAR (an affiliate of our principal lender bank, Banco Nacional de Desenvolvimento Econômico e Social BNDES, a development bank wholly owned by the Brazilian government). The Principal Shareholders have the ability to control the election of the members of our board of directors and the direction and future of our operations, including decisions regarding acquisitions and other business opportunities, the declaration of dividends in excess of the required amounts as set forth under our by-laws and Brazilian corporate law, and the issuance of securities. See Shareholders Agreement.

On October 3, 2001, we were informed that, on that date, Mondi Brazil Limited, or Mondi, a subsidiary of Anglo American Corporation of South Africa Limited entered into a share purchase and sale agreement with VCP, one of our competitors. See Item 4B. Business Overview Competition. Under the share purchase and sale agreement, VCP agreed, through a wholly owned subsidiary incorporated in the British Virgin Islands, to acquire from Mondi 127,506,457 shares of our common stock, representing 28% of our voting capital and 12.4% of the total capital stock, excluding treasury stock, for US\$370 million. The transfer of the shares occurred on November 1, 2001, on which date the VCP subsidiary agreed to be bound by the existing Shareholders Agreement, which expires on May 11, 2008. Mondi had purchased its participation from a former shareholder, Souza Cruz S.A., on June 13, 1996.

The following table sets forth the amount and percentage ownership at December 31, 2007 of each shareholder known to us to own more than 5% of each class of our capital stock and our officers and directors as a group:

|                        | <b>Share Ownership at December 31, 2007</b>        |          |                         |          |                      |          |
|------------------------|--|----------|-------------------------|----------|----------------------|----------|
|                        | <b>Common Stock</b>                                |          | <b>Class A Stock(1)</b> |          | <b>Class B Stock</b> |          |
|                        | <b>Shares</b>                                      | <b>%</b> | <b>Shares</b>           | <b>%</b> | <b>Shares</b>        | <b>%</b> |
|                        | <i>(in millions of shares, except percentages)</i> |          |                         |          |                      |          |
| Newark Finance Inc.(2) | 127.5  | 28.0     |                         | 0.0      |                      | 0.0      |

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|                                 |        |       |      |       |       |          |
|---------------------------------|--------|-------|------|-------|-------|----------|
| Arapar S.A.(3)                  | 127.5  | 28.0  |      | 0.0   |       | 0.0      |
| Arainvest Participações S/A (4) | 127.5  | 28.0  | 27.7 | 99.2  | —     | 0.0      |
| Treasure Hold Investments       | —      | 0.0   | —    | 0.0   | 57.9  | 10.6     |
| BNDES Participações S.A.(5)     | 56.9   | 12.5  | -    | --    | 0.0   | - -- 0.0 |
| Others                          | 15.5   | 3.5   | 0.22 | 0.8   | 489.8 | 89.4     |
| Total                           | 454.91 | 100.0 | 27.9 | 100.0 | 547.7 | 100.0    |

Source: Banco Itaú S.A.

(1) Each share of class A preferred shares of the Company ("Class A Stock") may be converted into one share of class B preferred share of the Company ("Class B Stock") at any time at the holder's option. Shares of Class B Stock are not convertible into shares of Class A Stock.

(2) Newark Finance Inc. purchased its Common Stock from Mondi Brazil Limited on November 1, 2001.

(3) Lorentzen Empreendimentos S.A. owns indirectly approximately 44.7% of Arapar S.A. Lorentzen Empreendimentos S.A. is indirectly controlled by Erling Sven Lorentzen, former Chairman of the Company's board of directors. Haakon Lorentzen, also a member of the Company's board of directors, owns indirectly 2.6% of the stock of Lorentzen Empreendimentos S.A.

(4) On April 22, 2004 127,506,457 shares of Common Stock held by Sociedade de Empreendimentos, Publicidade e Participação S.A -SODEPA were transferred to its affiliate Arainvest Participações S.A.

(5) A wholly owned subsidiary of BNDES.

The Company's major shareholders do not have different voting rights.

### Shareholders Agreement

The Principal Shareholders are parties to a Shareholders Agreement, dated January 22, 1988, as amended on June 30, 1989, or the Original Shareholders Agreement. While we are a signatory to the Original Shareholders Agreement, our sole obligation under the agreement is to administer compliance by the Principal Shareholders in accordance with the terms of the Original Shareholders Agreement. The Original Shareholders Agreement relates only to our common stock. The Original Shareholders Agreement provides that the Principal Shareholders will be entitled to elect directors of our board of directors in proportion to their respective interests in our voting stock, except that each Principal Shareholder is ensured the right to elect at least one director so long as such Principal Shareholder retains 5% or more of our voting stock. Such right is not transferable without

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the unanimous consent of the other parties to the Original Shareholders Agreement. In addition, the Original Shareholders Agreement provides that the maximum number of shares of common stock to be held by any Principal Shareholder may not exceed 28% of the total outstanding shares of common stock. Furthermore, the Original Shareholders Agreement provides that the Principal Shareholders may sell, encumber or otherwise transfer their rights in our voting stock to any third party as long as the beneficial ownership of 51% or more of such stock is retained by Brazilian nationals. Brazilian nationals are defined as (a) individual residents who are domiciled in Brazil, (b) corporate instrumentalities of the Brazilian government or subdivisions thereof or (c) corporate entities whose headquarters are in, and are incorporated in, Brazil and which, directly or indirectly, are controlled by persons referred to in (a) or (b) above. The Original Shareholders Agreement also requires that each person or entity who acquires shares of common stock from any of the Principal Shareholders become a party to such agreement. The Original Shareholders Agreement will expire on May 11, 2008.

On February 5, 2003, a shareholders agreement was signed by and between, on one side, Arapar S/A and Lorentzen Empreendimentos S/A, collectively Grupo Lorentzen, and, on the other side, SODEPA (the "**New Shareholders' Agreement**"). The Company's shares owned by SODEPA were transferred to its affiliate Arainvest Participações S.A. on April 22, 2004 - See "Major Shareholders". Each of the Parties holds approximately 28% of Aracruz voting shares.

Notwithstanding the Original Shareholders Agreement dated January 22, 1988, which will be in force and effect until May 11, 2008, the New Shareholders Agreement executed in February 2003, which will be in force for 16 years from the date of its execution, governs the exercise of Grupo Lorentzen and Arainvest's (as a successor of SODEPA) ownership rights, establishing rules related to (i) the sale of its shares (in force during the term of the Original Shareholders' Agreement), (ii) the preferential rights to purchase such shares, and (iii) the right to a tag along sale. As such agreement exclusively rules ownership rights of the parties thereto, it does not contemplate the exercise of voting rights, which

remain ruled by the Original Shareholders' Agreement.

## **B. Related Party Transactions**

### **BNDES Loan Agreements**

BNDES is one of our main lenders. As of December 31, 2007, we had outstanding loans with BNDES with an aggregate principal amount outstanding of approximately R\$755.2 million (equivalent to US\$426.4 million) (the "**BNDES Debt**"), which represented approximately 30% of our total indebtedness. The interest payable by us on the *real*-denominated debt is equal to the TJLP, plus 1.8% to 4.5% per annum. The TJLP is determined based on a mix of the long-term local and foreign debt instruments issued by the government. The rate is reset quarterly. The debt that is denominated in, or indexed to, foreign currencies is corrected by changes in the exchange rate, plus interest of 7.86% to 9.76% per annum.

The BNDES debt is secured by liens on our industrial site at the Municipality of Aracruz. We believe that the BNDES debt is on terms comparable to those offered by BNDES to unaffiliated third parties in similar financings. Because BNDES was organized by the Brazilian government in large part to support development of businesses within Brazil, loans made by BNDES, including the BNDES debt, are typically on terms more favorable to the borrower than would be available from non-governmental lending institutions. See Note 10 of the consolidated financial statements.

### **Veracel**

As of December 31, 2007, the Company is contingently liable as a several guarantor with respect to 50% of indebtedness of Veracel Celulose S.A., an entity under joint control with another company. Such company is the several guarantor of the additional 50% of indebtedness of Veracel Celulose S.A.. The total amount guaranteed by the Company is US\$ 321.5 million. The expiration of the guarantees range from 2008 to 2014. At any time through those dates, the Company will be obligated to perform under the guarantees by primarily making the required payments, including late fees and penalties, limited to its proportion of the guarantees, if and whenever Veracel shall default in the payment of any of the guaranteed obligations, after the date of communication of default by the creditor pursuant to the terms and conditions of the relevant agreements. The fair value of such guarantee is immaterial.

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### **Other Matters**

On December 19, 2000, Companhia de Navegação Norsul, or Norsul, a company then indirectly controlled by Mr. Erling Sven Lorentzen, the former chairman of our board of directors and a shareholder of Arapar S.A., one of the Principal Shareholders, entered into an agreement with us which established the terms and conditions to implement the investments and operations of a project to ship wood logs from the port of Caravelas, in the south of the State of Bahia, to the Portocel Barra do Riacho Specialized Terminal. According to this agreement, we will reimburse Norsul for the costs incurred on the acquisition and the operation of ships and other direct costs, as well as pay to Norsul a monthly administration fee. This agreement has a term of 20 years, starting on the issuance date of the first shipment's notice of readiness.

On March 31, 2005 we entered into a Pulp Supply and Purchase Agreement with Veracel pursuant to which we have undertaken to buy from Veracel fifty percent (50%) of the annual output of pulp from the Veracel pulp mill. This agreement entered into force on the operational start-up of Veracel, which occurred in May 2005, and shall be in effect for as long as the Veracel Shareholders' Agreement is valid.

### **C. Interests of Experts and Counsel**

Not applicable.

## **ITEM 8. FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

### **A. Consolidated Statements and Other Financial Information**

See Item 3A. Selected Financial Data and Item 19. Exhibits.

### **Export Sales**

During 2007, we produced approximately 2,569,000 tons of BEKP (3,095,000 tons, including 50% of Veracel's pulp production). Pulp sales in 2007 were approximately 3,104,000 tons. During 2006, we produced approximately 2,616,000 tons of BEKP (3,104,000 tons, including 50% of Veracel's pulp production). Pulp sales in 2006 were approximately 3,021,000 tons. During 2005, we produced approximately 2,786,000 tons,

including Veracel, of bleached eucalyptus pulp. Pulp sales in 2005 were approximately 2,605,000 tons. During 2004, we produced approximately 2,497,000 tons of bleached eucalyptus pulp. Pulp sales in 2004 were approximately 2,450,000 tons. Sales to customers outside Brazil, especially in North America, Western Europe and Asia, accounted for approximately 98% of our total sales volume in each of the years 2007, 2006, 2005 and 2004. See Item 4B. Business Overview General.

### Legal Proceedings

We are party to a number of legal actions arising from our normal business activities. Although the amount of any liability that could arise with respect to these actions cannot be accurately predicted, in our opinion, except as described below, such actions, if decided adversely, would not, individually or in the aggregate, have a material adverse effect on our financial condition.

As a part of our ongoing operations, we are a party to approximately 1,598 other legal actions relating primarily to labor claims by former employees. Such claims consist principally of those related to the effect of variation in the inflation indexes (economic plans) on the 40% penalty applicable to the Mandatory Fund for Unemployment Benefit (FGTS), and also of additional amounts allegedly owed to certain employees that perform hazardous activities. At December 31, 2007, the Company had a total provision recorded for labor proceedings of US\$ 20.4 million (US\$ 14.1 million on December 31, 2006) and a corresponding deposit in a judicial escrow account of US\$ 7.5 million (US\$ 5.8 million on December 31, 2006).

In September 2001, a class action was brought against us aiming to cancel the environmental licensing process of the Forestry Partners Program. An injunction was granted and subsequently reverted by a Court decision that accepted the reasons presented in our appeal. This suit is still pending. Based on the advice of external legal counsel, the Company's management believes that the final decision will confirm that the environmental licensing process has been regularly conducted.

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In January 1997, the National Indian Foundation, or FUNAI, the Brazilian government agency responsible for Indian affairs, instituted an administrative proceeding to force us to relinquish 13,000 hectares of our property to enlarge neighboring Indian reservations encompassing the Indian communities of Pau Brasil, Caieiras Velhas and Comboios. In January 1997, we filed a response and related documents with FUNAI stating that we are a good-faith owner since we had legally acquired such land from the former owners based on proper documentation. In March 1998, the Ministry of Justice issued Administrative Edicts Nos. 193, 194 and 195, which provided solely for the enlargement of the Indian reservation by 2,571 hectares of land belonging to us. In April and June 1998, we signed two Terms of Settlement with the Indian communities of Pau Brasil, Caieiras Velhas and Comboios that settled the administrative proceeding and in which: (i) the Indians recognized the legitimacy of Administrative Edicts Nos. 193, 194 and 195 and (ii) we committed to a financial aid program for social, agricultural, educational, shelter and health projects, in an amount of approximately R\$13.5 million (equivalent to US\$ 7.6 million at December 31, 2007), over a 20-year period. Despite the fact that the Terms of Settlement were in force, on May 17, 2005, Indians from the state of Espirito Santo invaded areas owned by the Company and in October 2005 they invaded the industrial premises of the Company, where they stayed during almost 24 (twenty four) hours. In view of the invasion of its property, the Company notified the National Indian Foundation (FUNAI), the Indian communities' representatives and the Federal Public Prosecutor (*Ministério Público*), declaring the invasion to be a violation of the Terms of Settlement and thus the Company suspended compliance with its obligations thereunder. As of December 31, 2007, while the Terms of Settlement were being complied with, the Company had donated to the Indian Associations approximately R\$9.6 million (equivalent to US\$5.4 million (R\$9.8 million equivalent to US\$4.4 million up to December 31, 2006) under the Terms of Settlement. On February 17, 2006 FUNAI published Dispatches No. 11 and 12 in the Official Federal Gazette, approving the conclusion of the working group set up by FUNAI Administrative Edict No. 1.299/05, which recommends the extension of Indian reservations by approximately 11,000.00 hectares, comprised almost entirely of lands whose title and possession belong to Aracruz. These areas were identified by the working group as being land traditionally occupied by Indians. Confident in the robustness of its rights, the Company presented its challenge of those Dispatches on June 19, 2006. Beginning in September 2006, in order to pressure the Ministry of Justice's decision, Indians and representatives of social movements (such as the Landless Workers Movement) have caused a series of invasions and setting from criminal fires on our lands, with some 200 hectares of plantations being destroyed, roads being interrupted and employees of the Company being threat. On December 12 and 13, 2006 Indian demonstrators supported by the Landless Workers Movement invaded Portocel premises, interrupting the activities and threatening 150 employees. Portocel activities were reinitiated after two thousand people (among Company's employees and sympathizers) supported by four unions made a demonstration asking the invaders to leave the area and respect their right to work. Besides the damage caused by the stoppage, losses in the amount of approximately US\$ 2 million in infrastructure and pulp were reported. In early 2007 the Ministry of Justice, who should ultimately decide the matter, returned the administrative procedure to FUNAI, determining that it widen the studies "with a view towards preparing an appropriate recommendation the assuages the interest of both parties". On August 27, 2007, the Ministry of Justice based on the conclusions of the working group set up by FUNAI Edict No. 1.299/05, issued Edicts nr. 1.463 and 1.464 determining the enlargement of the Indian reservation by 11,000 hectares, 98% of which (i.e., approximately 10,700 hectares) are lands owned or legally possessed by the Company. The net book value of such lands is immaterial. The land dispute among Aracruz and the Indian Communities in the State Espirito Santo was resolved in 2007. On December 3, 2007, in the Ministry of Justice in Brasilia, a Conduct Adjustment Agreement (TAC) that considers the rights and obligations of the Company, the Indians and the National Indian Foundation-FUNAI in transferring approximately 11,000 hectares of land to the indigenous communities

was signed. The TAC also sets forth that all the eucalyptus wood planted in the area (approximately 6,800 hectares of forest) shall be harvested by the Company as a compensation for improvements derived from Company's good-faith occupation of such lands. The enlargement of the Indian reservations must still be approved by decree from the President of Brazil, with the subsequent demarcation of the lands in question, when the transfer of title to the lands shall be effective. The signature of the TAC was accompanied by all authorities that took part in the negotiation, including the Federal Public Prosecution Office and FUNAI - which will be responsible for hiring a company to do the physical demarcation of the lands - and sets forth that both parties will abandon any current of future claims against each other in relation to the matter. The agreement was ratified in March 2008 by the Federal Court of Linhares, State of Espírito Santo. Before the signing of the settlement, the terms of the TAC were submitted to the indigenous communities and approved at an assembly on October 16, and subsequently ratified by them on November 28, as recommended by Convention 169 of the International Labor Organization (ILO) regarding indigenous and tribal peoples, to which Brazil is a signatory. The Company considers the agreement a sustainable solution that enables the balance among the interests of all parties involved, since it satisfied the demands of the Indians for an enlargement in their lands, while at the same time providing the Company with the legal assurances that these lands will not be expanded again. In March 1997, we received assessment notices from the Brazilian Social Security Institute (*Instituto Nacional de Seguridade*

*Social INSS*) demanding payment of social contributions over housing allowances paid to certain employees over a period of several years. INSS considered that the reduced amount of housing allowances to the employees represented a fringe benefit and, consequently, the corresponding social charge was underpaid. We brought several lawsuits before local federal courts contesting such assessment notices and, at December 31, 2007, we have placed approximately US\$2.0 million in an escrow account to guarantee the payment of such social contributions in the event we lose these lawsuits. The Brazilian Superior Court of Justice granted a decision in favor of the Company on examination of the first judicial claim related to the matter. Based on the opinion of its legal advisors, which evaluated the probability of loss in such case as remote, no provision has been recognized.

We are contesting in local federal courts changes in the rates and rules for the calculation of certain social contributions (*Programa de Integração Social PIS and Contribuição para Financiamento da Seguridade Social COFINS*) determined by Law No. 9,718/98. In November 2001 the Company was granted a favorable judgment. After analyzing certain unfavorable legal decisions on similar legal actions of other companies and their implications for Aracruz's case at that time, the Company decided to cancel, on August 29, 2003, part of the legal action, regarding the rate increase and the basis of calculation modifications (except for foreign exchange variation), and decided to pay the accrued amount in installments according to a special tax collection called PAES program, enacted by Law 10.684/2003. Notwithstanding, due to a judgment issued by the Brazilian Supreme Court in a similar legal action, which considered the modification in the rules for the calculation of PIS and COFINS to be unconstitutional, the Company requested and was granted a provisional remedy allowing it not to pay the PAES installments related to such modification. Taking into account decisions of the Brazilian Supreme Court in regard to the unconstitutionality of such taxes that have been followed by other administrative and judicial courts, meaning that the jurisprudence on the matter is consolidated, the Company is convinced that it is very unlikely that an unfavorable decision will be issued. Notwithstanding, the Company recognizes a provision with respect to such legal actions which equaled approximately US\$94.3 million as of December 31, 2007. We believe this provision is sufficient to cover any possible losses in connection with this action.

On September 10, 2003, the Company obtained a preliminary Court Order giving it the right not to pay Social Contribution on profits generated by export sales from January 2002 as well as the right to recognize the amounts of tax credits previously compensated in this regard. Pending final determination, the Company has accrued a provision of US\$ 79.0 million as of December 31, 2007 (US\$ 89.6 million to December 2006). We believe this provision is sufficient to cover any probable losses in connection with this action.

The Company's operations are located within the geographic area of the *Agência de Desenvolvimento do Nordeste* (Northeast Development Agency, or ADENE) and the pulp and paper sector is considered by the Brazilian Federal Government as a priority for the development of such geographic area. Accordingly, during 2002, the Company applied for and was awarded the right to a reduction in income taxes payable on its operating profits. The tax benefit was authorized by ADENE and subsequently confirmed by the Federal Revenue Service in December 2002. On January 9, 2004, the Company was notified by ADENE of its decision to cancel the assessments (*laudos constitutivos*) that supported the fiscal benefits to which the Company had been entitled. Such decision resulted from a reexamination by the legal department of the Regional Integration Ministry, which concluded that the geographical area where the Company is located would not be within the geographical area of the fiscal incentive and, therefore, the Company would no longer be entitled to such fiscal incentive. During 2004 and 2005, ADENE issued several acts with the objective of annulling the tax benefit used by the Company. Such acts were always challenged by the Company and no final decision on the merits has been issued as of March 30, 2008. Nevertheless, in December 2005 the Company was notified by the Federal Revenue Service ("SRF") to pay the amount corresponding to the tax incentive it had recorded, plus interest, in the total amount of US\$ 97 million. The Company presented its defense in January 2006 but its arguments have not been accepted by Federal Revenue Service. The Company appealed to the Federal Taxpayers Council and is currently awaiting a decision. The Company's management, based on the advice of external legal counsels, believes that the cancellation of the tax incentive is mistaken and shall not prevail, both with respect to the amounts already recorded and with respect to the remaining period. In respect of the tax incentive recorded until 2004 (US\$66.8 million on December 31, 2004), it is the management's understanding, based on advice of external legal counsels, that tax assessment shall be overruled, since the tax incentive was

recorded pursuant to strict legal requirements and acts of SRF and ADENE. The Company's management also believes, based on external legal counsels' opinion, that the cancellation of the tax incentive regarding future years (up to 2012 for Fiberlines A and B and 2013 to Fiberline C) is illegal due to the fact that the incentive was granted upon compliance of predetermined conditions (implantation, expansion and modernization of industrial plants). Therefore, the Company has vested right to use the tax incentive until the date set forth in the Law and

in the acts issued by ADENE. Notwithstanding the confidence in the robustness of its right, the Company, considering the facts occurred during the years 2004 and 2005, which indicate ADENE's and SRF's intention to cancel the tax incentive, decided to be conservative and ceased to recognize the incentive in the calculation of income tax payable from 2005 on and until a final Court decision has been granted. Based on the opinion of its legal advisors, Company's management believes that the ultimate resolution of this matter may be in favor of the Company's arguments, both with respect to the tax incentive recorded up to 2004 and with respect to those to be recorded from 2005 on. Thus, no provisions for loss were booked for the amounts of the benefits already recognized. However, there is no assurance that the tax benefit will be updated or made available in the future.

On June 29, 2005, the Company received a tax assessment notice relating to the deductibility of the social contribution in the calculation basis of income tax for 2000 and 2001. The existing provision was increased by US\$1.5 million, resulting in a final provision of US\$16.2 million. In July 2005, the Company reviewed the base of calculation of the income tax for the periods covered in the assessment and decided to partially pay US\$10.1 million of the requested amount. The Company challenged the balance of the tax assessment via an administrative appeal and therefore the ability of the authorities to charge the tax debt is currently suspended. The Company has also initiated a judicial proceeding with the purpose of assuring its right to deduct the social contribution in the calculation basis of income tax.

Also on June 29, 2005, the Company received a tax assessment relating to the offsetting of tax losses against taxable income for 2000 and 2001. The Company also received a tax assessment relating to 2000, regarding tax losses generated during the period in which the Company took advantage of the BEFIEEX tax benefit program. In July 2006 a Court decision did not recognize the Company's right to offset tax losses against taxable income. The Company challenged such decision. Notwithstanding, with the purpose of avoiding penalty charges the Company paid the amount of US\$23.1 million. The existing accrual at December 31, 2007 for the period in which the Company took advantage of the BEFIEEX tax benefit program is US\$37.8 million.

In April and October, 2006 the Brazilian Institute for Colonization and Land Reform, or INCRA, published Public Notes (*Editais*) informing that Technical Identification Reports issued by Commissions set up by INCRA concluded that approximately 22,570 hectares of land located in the Municipalities of Conceição da Barra and São Mateus, state of Espírito Santo, are considered the territory of the *Comunidades Quilombolas de Linharinho* and *de São Jorge* (black communities of Linharinho and São Jorge), comprising areas of 9,500 hectares and 13,070 hectares, respectively. From that total area, approximately 17,130 hectares are the legitimate property and possession of the Company and of its subsidiary Mucuri Agroflorestal S.A., being 8,500 hectares located in the area considered the territory of the Linharinho community and 8,630 hectares located in the area considered the territory of the São Jorge community. The Company timely presented its defenses, challenging both Public Notes and is confident in the strength of its rights.

In October 2006, the Company received thirty-two notifications related to tax assessments, issued by the government of the State of Espírito Santo, in the total amount of US\$41.2 million, related to the alleged non compliance of formal ancillary obligations and supposedly inappropriate ICMS credits from fixed assets and other goods acquired for utilization in the process of pulp production. The company has paid a part of that value, corresponding to fifteen notifications and has been contesting other 17 notifications, in the amount of US\$40.1 million. Based on the opinion of its legal advisors, who evaluate the chances of success in the judicial environment are between possible and probable, no provision has been recognized.

### **General**

Under Brazilian corporate law, we are required to hold an annual shareholders' meeting by April 30 of each year. At that meeting, our financial statements for the previous year and the proposal for distribution of dividends are submitted for shareholder's approval. Accordingly, dividends for each fiscal year ending December 31 may be declared by April 30 of the subsequent year. Dividends are to be paid within 60 days from the date declared, unless otherwise resolved at the annual shareholders' meeting at which they were declared. In any event, declared dividends must be paid before the following December 31. Dividends relating to prior years in excess of those required to be paid by law may be declared and paid at any time by decision of the board of directors. The board of directors may also elect to pay interim dividends either:

- based on our net income for any period within our fiscal year; or
- from our retained earnings or certain other revenue reserves established in prior years.

Holders of Class A Stock are entitled to an annual preferential dividend equal to a minimum of 6% of the capital attributable to the Class A Stock to be paid from annual adjusted net income. In the event dividends in excess of those paid to the holders of Class A Stock are distributed, holders of common stock and Class B Stock share ratably in such excess up to an amount equal to the Class A Stock preferential dividend. Any dividends thereafter remaining for distribution are shared ratably by all holders of Class A Stock, Class B Stock and common stock, but Classes A and B Stock holders are entitled to receive dividends at least ten percent higher than the amount per share paid to holders of common stock. See Dividend Preferences.

#### ***Interest on Shareholders' Equity***

Brazilian legislation also allows the Company to distribute corporate dividends in the form of Interest on Shareholders Equity. Such Interest is considered financial expenses for tax purposes and may be deducted from the corporate income tax base. Declaration and payment of Interest on Shareholders' Equity may be decided at a shareholders meeting or by the board of directors, in which case it shall be subject to ratification by the shareholders meeting. The rights and preferences attributed to shareholders in the declaration and payment of Interest on Shareholders' Equity are equal to those applicable to the distribution of dividends. For example, Classes A and B Stock holders are entitled to receive Interest on Shareholders' Equity at least ten percent higher than the amount per share paid to holders of common stock. Interest on Shareholders' Equity is subject to income tax withholding. See "Taxation - Brazilian Tax Considerations - Taxation on Distributions".

The Interest on Shareholders' Equity may be attributed to the Mandatory Dividend related to the fiscal year in which such interest are paid/declared, and are limited to (a) the amount equivalent to 50% of the greater among (i) the profit of the relevant year or (ii) accumulated profits plus profit reserves; (b) the amount of the minimum compulsory dividend; and (c) the amount of the capital reserves comprising (i) premium reserve, (ii) the product of the sale of founders shares and subscription bonuses, (iii) premium received in the issue of debentures and (iv) donations and subventions for investments.

#### ***Calculation of Adjusted Net Income***

Brazilian corporate law requires that 5% of a company's annual net income be appropriated to a legal reserve fund, until the amount of such fund reaches an amount equal to 20% of the capital stock of such company, as recorded in its statutory accounting records. For purposes of calculating such amount, Brazilian corporate law provides that the capital of a company is equal to the aggregate paid-in capital upon the subscription of such company's capital stock, plus the amount of annual increases to such amount due to monetary corrections for inflation. The amount of our legal reserve as of December 31, 2007 was approximately R\$389.5 million (equivalent to US\$219.9 million), or 13.5% of our capital.

Brazilian corporate law allows for three additional appropriations of net income, each of which must be approved by the holders of common stock. First, a portion of net income may be appropriated to a reserve for anticipated losses which are deemed probable in future years. Conversely, any amount so reserved in prior years must be returned to net income in the fiscal year in which the reason for such reserve ceases to exist or in which the loss takes place. Second, net income may be appropriated to an unrealized income reserve for future income to be realized from:

- increases in the net worth of affiliated companies; and
- income from term sales to be received in subsequent fiscal years.

Third, net income may be appropriated for discretionary purposes, ratified by the shareholders for business expansion and other capital projects, the amount of which is based on an approved capital budget presented by management. After completion of the projects, a company may elect to retain the appropriations until the stockholders vote to transfer all or a portion of the reserve to capital or to retained earnings, from which retained earnings a cash dividend may then be paid.

Brazilian legislation requires that the calculation of the amount of a company's net income available for dividend distributions to its shareholders be determined on the basis of financial statements prepared in accordance with Brazilian GAAP using the corporate law method. Such net income of a company may not be the same as that determined by the currency of constant purchasing power method. Through 1995 our net income was the same under both Brazilian methods, but differed from that determined in accordance with U.S. GAAP. For all financial statements prepared for any period ended after January 1, 1996, Law No. 9,249/95 has

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abolished the requirement that companies apply monetary correction to their financial statements. Although the actual amount of dividends as remeasured into U.S. dollars is contained in the consolidated financial statements, investors will be unable to use U.S. GAAP financial information made available by us to calculate such dividends.

### ***Payment of Dividends***

Under Brazilian corporate law and in accordance with our by-laws, we are required to allocate at least 25% of our adjusted net income for each fiscal year to the payment of dividends, or the Mandatory Dividend. However, Brazilian corporate law provides that a public company is not required to pay the Mandatory Dividend in any year if the management of such company communicates to its shareholders at its annual shareholders meeting that the payment of such dividend would be detrimental to the company based on its financial situation and if, within five days of the annual shareholders meeting, the company forwards to the CVM an explanation for the nonpayment of the dividend. Adjusted net income that is not so distributed and is not absorbed by losses in subsequent years must be paid in dividends as soon as the financial condition of the company permits.

Proposals to declare and pay dividends in excess of the statutory minimum are generally made at the recommendation of the board of directors and require approval by the vote of holders of common stock. Our board of directors has adopted a policy pursuant to which any such proposal will be dependent upon our results of operations, financial condition, cash requirements for our business, future prospects and other factors deemed relevant by the board of directors. There can be no assurance that there will be any adjusted net income or that dividends in excess of the statutory minimum will be paid nor is there any legal or other requirement to such effect. In the event that the board of directors elects to pay interim dividends or interest on shareholders equity in any year, such interim dividends or interests will count toward the calculation of the Mandatory Dividend for such year. Generally, dividends are payable to persons who are shareholders of record on the date on which dividends are declared. We are not required by law to monetarily correct dividends for inflation occurring during the period from the date such dividends are declared to the date they are paid.

As a general requirement, shareholders who are not residents of Brazil must be registered with the Central Bank in order to have dividends, sales proceeds or other amounts with respect to their shares remitted outside of Brazil. The shares of Class B Stock underlying the ADSs will be held in Brazil by the Custodian, as agent for the Depositary, which will be the registered owner of such shares on the records of the Transfer Agent. Payments of cash dividends and distributions, if any, will be generally made in *reais* to the Custodian on behalf of the Depositary, which will exchange the *reais* for U.S. dollars and will deliver the U.S. dollars to the Depositary for distribution to the ADR holders. In the event that the Custodian is unable to immediately convert the *reais* received as dividends into U.S. dollars, the amount of U.S. dollars payable to holders of ADRs may be adversely affected if the *real* devalues against the U.S. dollar before such dividends are converted and remitted. Since November 2006 Brazilian exporters are authorized, pursuant to the terms of Law 11,371, to keep a certain amount of their export revenues in foreign financial institutions and use such revenues to make investments and pay obligations of the exporter. The Company may, from time to time and at its convenience, use revenues kept abroad pursuant to Law 11,371 to pay dividends and any other cash distributions, thus avoiding procedures to remit U.S. dollars abroad. Devaluation of the *real* will reduce the value in U.S. dollars of distributions and dividends on the Class B Stock and may reduce the value of the Class B Stock and the ADSs. There can be no assurance that the *real* will not devalue relative to the U.S. dollar, as in the past, that the *real* will not fluctuate significantly relative to the U.S. dollar or that any such depreciation or fluctuations will not adversely affect the value of the Class B Stock or ADSs or any distributions and dividends thereon. Dividends in respect of shares of our Class B Stock paid to holders who are not Brazilian residents, including holders of ADSs, are not subject to Brazilian withholding tax. Interest on Shareholders Equity is subject to income tax withholding. See Item 10E. Taxation Brazilian Tax Considerations.

### ***History of Dividend Payments***

The following table sets forth the dividends paid by us to holders of our capital stock since 2003. The exchange rates used to convert dividends in *reais* into U.S. dollars were the rates in effect on the related payment dates.

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| <u>Year</u> | <u>Common Stock</u> | <u>Class A Stock</u>        | <u>Class B Stock</u> |
|-------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
|             |                     | (in U.S. dollars per share) |                      |
| 2003 (1)    | 0.10                | 0.11                        | 0.11                 |
| 2004 (2)    | 0.11                | 0.12                        | 0.12                 |
| 2004 (3)    | 0.08                | 0.09                        | 0.09                 |
| 2005 (4)    | 0.05                | 0.06                        | 0.06                 |
| 2005 (5)    | 0.12                | 0.13                        | 0.13                 |
| 2006 (6)    | 0.06                | 0.07                        | 0.07                 |
| 2006 (7)    | 0.13                | 0.15                        | 0.15                 |



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|      |     |      |      |      |
|------|-----|------|------|------|
| 2007 | (8) | 0.08 | 0.08 | 0.08 |
| 2007 | (9) | 0.14 | 0.16 | 0.16 |

(1) Including dividend declared on April 29, 2003 and paid on May 15, 2003. (2) Including dividend declared on April 29, 2004 and paid on May 14, 2004.

(3) Including the interest on stockholders' equity declared on October 19, 2004 and November 16, 2004 and paid on November 11, 2004 and December 10, 2004, respectively. The interest on stockholders equity were attributed to the Compulsory Dividend relating to the year 2004, which are to be declared by April 27, 2007

(4) Including the dividend declared on April 29, 2005 and paid on May 09, 2005.

(5) Including the interest on stockholders' equity declared on April 19, 2005, May 19, 2005, June 20, 2005 and December 20, 2005 and paid on May 13, 2005, June 13, 2005, July 13, 2005 and January 13, 2006, respectively. The interest on stockholders equity were attributed to the Compulsory Dividend relating to the year 2005, which were declared on April 28, 2006 and paid on May 13, 2006.

(6) Including the dividend declared on April 28, 2006 and paid on May 11, 2006.

(7) Including the interest on stockholders' equity declared on March 23, 2006, June 20, 2006, September 19, 2006 and December 22, 2006, and paid on April 13, 2006; July 13, 2006, October 10, 2006 and January 11, 2007, respectively. The interest on stockholders equity were attributed to the Compulsory Dividend relating to the year 2006, which are to be declared by April 27, 2007

(8) Including the dividend declared on April 24, 2007 and paid on May 16, 2007.

(9) Including the interest on stockholders' equity declared on March 21, 2007, June 19, 2007, September 18, 2007 and December 21, 2007, and paid on April 24, 2007; July 18, 2007, October 17, 2007 and January 16, 2008, respectively. The interest on stockholders equity were attributed to the Compulsory Dividend relating to the year 2007, which is to be declared by April , 2008.

### **Dividend Preferences**

Depending on the amount of our annual adjusted net income, holders of our Class A Stock are entitled to an annual minimum preferential dividend equal to 6% of the capital attributable to its class of shares. In the event dividends are not paid for three consecutive years, holders of all classes of preferred shares, including Class A and Class B Stock, will be entitled to voting rights.

In the event that dividends in excess of those paid to the holders of Class A Stock are distributed, holders of common stock and Class B Stock share ratably in such excess up to an amount equal to the Class A minimum preferential dividend. Any dividends thereafter remaining for distribution are shared ratably by all holders of Class A Stock, Class B Stock and common stock. Payment of the Mandatory Dividend is subject to the Class A Stock minimum preferential dividend.

On June 5, 1997, the Brazilian Congress enacted Law No. 9,457 of May 5, 1997, amending the Brazilian corporate law, to grant holders of preferred stock that do not carry a right to a fixed or minimum dividend a statutory right to receive dividends in an amount per share of at least ten percent higher than the amount per share paid to holders of common stock. The Class A Stock and Class B Stock, including those underlying the ADSs, are entitled to such higher dividend distributions.

### **Significant rights, privileges and conversion features of the Common Stock, Class A and Class B Preferred Stock of the Company**

The Company presents below the significant rights, privileges and conversion features of its shares.

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|                      | Common Stock | Class A Stock  | Class B Stock  |
|----------------------|--------------|--|--|
| <b>Voting Rights</b> | Yes          | No, except in the event that dividends are not paid for 3 consecutive years. Voting rights will then be granted until the dividends in arrears for those 3 years are paid. | No, except in the event that dividends are not paid for 3 consecutive years. Voting rights will then be granted until the dividends in arrears for those 3 years are paid. |
| <b>Privileges</b>    | None         | Priority in the return of  | Priority in the return of  |

|                            |      |   |   |
|----------------------------|------|---|---|
|                            |      | capital in the liquidation of the Company;  | capital in the liquidation of the Company;  |
|                            |      | Right to receive cash dividends in an amount 10% higher than dividends attributable to each common stock.                                     | Right to receive cash dividends in an amount 10% higher than dividends attributable to each common stock. |
|                            |      | Priority in the distribution of a minimum annual cash dividend equivalent to 6% of the capital attributable to it.                            |   |
| <b>Conversion Features</b> | None | Can be converted into Class B Stock, but not into Common Stocks, at any time, at the option and cost of the stockholder. Conversion rate 1:1. | <b>Cannot</b> be converted into Class A Stock nor to Common Stocks at any time.                           |

## B. Significant Changes

No significant change has occurred since the date of the annual financial statements included in this Annual Report.

## ITEM 9. THE OFFER AND LISTING

### A. Offer and Listing Details

The principal non-United States market for our Class B Stock, as well as our Class A an Common Stocks, is the *Bolsa de Valores de São Paulo*, or the São Paulo Stock Exchange. In the United States, the Class B Stock trades in the form of ADSs, which are evidenced by American Depositary Receipts, or ADRs, issued by Citibank N.A., our Depositary, each currently representing ten shares of Class B Stock. The ADSs are listed on the New York Stock Exchange, or the NYSE, under the symbol ARA. In December 1999, we established a non-sponsored depositary receipt program, representing our Class B Stock, to list and trade such stock on the Latin-American Securities Market, or Latibex, managed jointly by the Madrid Stock Exchange of Spain. The program depositary is *Servicio de Compensación y Liquidación, S.A.*, in Spain, and the custodian is *Companhia Brasileira de Liquidação e Custódia*. Trading of the depositary receipts on the Latibex started on December 1, 1999.

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### Market Price Information

The table below sets forth for the periods indicated the high and low closing sales prices for (i) the Class B Stock on the São Paulo Stock Exchange and (ii) the ADSs on the NYSE. Prices on the São Paulo Stock Exchange are determined independently on each exchange and need not have occurred on the same date. See Item 10D. Exchange Controls for information with respect to exchange rates applicable during the periods set forth below.

|        | Nominal reais per        |         | U.S. dollars per ADS (1) |           |
|--------|--------------------------|---------|--------------------------|-----------|
|        | Share of Class B Stock   |         | NYSE                     |           |
|        | São Paulo Stock Exchange |         |                          |           |
|        | High                     | Low     | High                     | Low       |
| 2003   |                          |         |                          |           |
| Annual | R\$10.42                 | R\$5.43 | US\$35.89                | US\$18.30 |

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|   |   |           |          |            |           |
|---|---|-----------|----------|------------|-----------|
| 2004  | : |           |          |            |           |
| Annual                                      |   | R\$11,444 | R\$8,75  | US\$39,61  | US\$28,36 |
| 2005  | : |           |          |            |           |
| First Quarter                               |   | R\$11.00  | R\$8.90  | US\$40.81  | US\$32.75 |
| Second Quarter                              |   | R\$9.80   | R\$7.32  | US\$36.60  | US\$29.60 |
| Third Quarter                               |   | R\$9.38   | R\$7.83  | US\$40.95  | US\$33.05 |
| Fourth Quarter                              |   | R\$9.57   | R\$7.90  | US\$41.23  | US\$35.60 |
| Annual                                      |   | R\$11.00  | R\$7.32  | US\$41.23  | US\$29.60 |
| 2006  | : |           |          |            |           |
| First Quarter                               |   | R\$11.67  | R\$8.90  | US\$53.20  | US\$38,81 |
| Second Quarter                              |   | R\$12,78  | R\$7.32  | US\$62.00  | US\$44,89 |
| Third Quarter                               |   | R\$12.16  | R\$7.83  | US\$57,.05 | US\$47.07 |
| Fourth Quarter                              |   | R\$14.19  | R\$7.90  | US\$62.69  | US\$49.76 |
| Annual                                      |   | R\$14.19  | R\$8.47  | US\$62.69  | US\$38.81 |
| 2007  | : |           |          |            |           |
| First Quarter                               |   | R\$13.72  | R\$10.25 | US\$63.27  | US\$50.35 |
| Second Quarter                              |   | R\$13.30  | R\$10.58 | US\$69.47  | US\$51.80 |
| Third Quarter                               |   | R\$13.56  | R\$10.31 | US\$74.04  | US\$49.01 |
| Fourth Quarter                              |   | R\$14.15  | R\$11.45 | US\$80.24  | US\$63.85 |
| Annual                                      |   | R\$14.15  | R\$10.25 | US\$80,24  | US\$49,01 |
| Share price for the most recent six months: |   |           |          |            |           |
| September, 2007                             |   | R\$13.56  | R\$11.65 | US\$74.04  | US\$59.11 |
| October, 2007                               |   | R\$14.00  | R\$12.50 | US\$78.19  | US\$70.75 |
| November, 2007                              |   | R\$13.98  | R\$11.45 | US\$78.66  | US\$63,85 |
| December, 2007                              |   | R\$14.15  | R\$12.10 | US\$80.24  | US\$66.67 |
| January, 2008                               |   | R\$13.20  | R\$10.52 | US\$74.98  | US\$56.78 |
| February, 2008                              |   | R\$12.90  | R\$11.70 | US\$77.69  | US\$66.39 |

(1).All information on a per ADS basis for the indicated period has been adjusted to reflect the ADS Ratio Change, pursuant to which each ADS represents ten shares of Class B Stock. Source: Bloomberg

The closing sales price for the Class B Stock on the São Paulo Stock Exchange as of the close of business on December 28, 2007 was R\$ 12.91 per share, which was equivalent to US\$72,88 per ADS (each ADR represents 10 Class B Stock), translated at a rate of R\$1.7713 per US\$1.00, the commercial market selling rate for such day. The closing sales price for the ADSs on the NYSE as of the close of business on December 31, 2007 was US\$74,35 per ADS.

As of December 31, 2007, an aggregate of 355,365,532 shares of Class B Stock, or an aggregate of approximately 64.9% of the outstanding Class B Stock, was held in the form of ADSs. As of December 31, 2007, there were approximately 56 U.S. beneficial owners of the ADSs (based on the Depositary's books only).

To take advantage of the market price of our stock, we engaged in a stock buy-back program in 2000, in 2002 and in 2003 which was subject to the limitations set forth in the Brazilian corporate law and CVM

regulations. The total number of shares of Class B Stock bought back by us under those programs was 17,095,000 shares, 1,374,000 shares and 4,000 shares, respectively, for a total cost of approximately US\$22.7 million, US\$2.2 million and US\$ 3 thousand, respectively. We did not buy back any shares during 2004. In June 2005 we engaged in another stock buy-back program, valid until June 2006, under which we are authorized to trade up to 15,000,000 preferred Class "B" shares, subject to the limitations set forth in the Brazilian corporate law and CVM regulations. The purpose of the transaction is to maintain the shares in treasury, until their subsequent sale and/or cancellation. Under the latest program, the

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Company bought back 105,200 shares of Class B Stock, for a total cost of US\$351 thousand, bringing the total number of Class B shares in Treasury to 1,483,200.

### **Dow Jones Sustainability Index - DJSI World**

For the third consecutive year, Aracruz has been included in the Dow Jones Global Sustainability Index, and again was the only forestry company selected, out of 13 forestry companies worldwide that were up for consideration for 2008 index. The index highlights the best corporate sustainability practices around the world.

The DJSI has become an important benchmark for foreign currency fund management companies. These institutions base their investment decisions on the DJSI performance criteria and offer diversified products to their customers, based on shares of companies, committed to social, environmental and cultural sustainability.

### **B. Plan of Distribution**

Not applicable.

### **C. Markets**

#### **Trading on the Brazilian Stock Exchanges**

On January 27, 2000, a protocol was signed in order to merge the nine Brazilian stock exchanges. According to the protocol, private equity and debt will be traded only on the São Paulo Stock Exchange, which is the only remaining Brazilian stock exchange at present. Brazilian federal, state and municipal public debt are only traded on the Rio de Janeiro Stock Exchange. The protocol became effective on May 31, 2000.

Trading on the São Paulo Stock Exchange by nonresidents of Brazil is subject to limitations under Brazilian foreign investment and tax legislation and limited to member brokerage firms and a limited number of authorized non members. The CVM and the São Paulo Stock Exchange have discretionary authority to suspend trading in shares of any issuer. Securities listed on the São Paulo Stock Exchange may be traded on the over-the-counter market under limited circumstances.

Trading on the São Paulo Stock Exchange settles three business days after the trade date. Delivery of and payment for securities is made through separate clearinghouses for each exchange, which maintains accounts for member brokerage firms. The seller is ordinarily required to deliver the securities to the exchange on the second business day following the trade date. The clearinghouse for the São Paulo Stock Exchange is the

*CBLC Companhia Brasileira de Liquidação e Custódia.*

In order to better control volatility, the São Paulo Stock Exchange has adopted a circuit breaker system pursuant to which trading sessions may be suspended for a period of 30 minutes to one hour whenever our indices fall below the limit of 10% as compared to the index registered in the previous trading session.

As of December 31, 2007, the São Paulo Stock Exchange had an aggregate market capitalization of approximately US\$1.399 billion and an average daily trading volume of approximately US\$2.555 million for the year 2007. In comparison, the NYSE had a market capitalization of approximately US\$27.1 trillion as of December 31, 2007. Although any of the outstanding shares of a listed company may be traded on the São Paulo Stock Exchange, in most cases less than half of the listed shares are actually available for trading by the public, the remainder being held by small groups of controlling persons, by governmental entities or by one principal shareholder. As of December 28, 2007, we accounted for approximately 0.55% of the market capitalization of all listed companies on the São Paulo Stock Exchange.

There is a significantly large concentration in the Brazilian securities markets. As of December 31, 2007, the five most actively traded shares represented approximately 37.6% of the total volume of shares traded on the São Paulo Stock Exchange.

### **Regulation of Brazilian Securities Markets**

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Brazilian securities markets are regulated by the CVM, which has regulatory authority over stock exchanges and the securities markets in Brazil and by the Central Bank, which has, among other powers, licensing authority over brokerage firms and regulates foreign investment and foreign exchange transactions.

Under Brazilian corporate law, a corporation is either public (*companhia aberta*), such as us, or closely held (*companhia fechada*). All public companies, including us, are registered with the CVM and are subject to reporting requirements. Our stock trades on the São Paulo Stock Exchange, but may be traded privately, subject to limitations.

We have the option to request that trading of our securities on the São Paulo Stock Exchange be suspended in anticipation of a material announcement. Trading may also be suspended by the São Paulo Stock Exchange or the CVM, among other reasons, based on or due to a belief that a company has provided inadequate information regarding a material event or has provided inadequate responses to the inquiries of the CVM or the São Paulo Stock Exchange.

Brazilian securities law and Brazilian corporate law provide for, among other things, disclosure requirements, restrictions on insider trading and price manipulation and protection of minority shareholders. However, the Brazilian securities markets are not as highly regulated and supervised as the U.S. securities markets or securities markets in other jurisdictions.

The Custodian for the Class B Stock and the Depositary for the ADRs must obtain an electronic certificate of registration from the Central Bank to remit U.S. dollars abroad for payments of dividends, any other cash distributions, or upon the disposition of the shares and sales proceeds thereto. In the event that a holder of ADRs exchanges ADRs for Class B Stock, the holder will be entitled to continue to rely on the Depositary's electronic certificate of registration for five business days after the exchange. Thereafter, the holder may not be able to obtain and remit U.S. dollars abroad upon the disposition of the Class B Stock, or distributions relating to the Class B Stock, unless the holder obtains a new certificate of registration with the Central Bank.

### **D. Selling Shareholders**

Not applicable.

### **E. Dilution**

Not applicable.

### **F. Expenses of the Issue**

Not applicable.

## **ITEM 10. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

### **A. Share Capital**

Not applicable.

### **B. Memorandum and Articles of Association**

The information required for this item was included in the Annual Report on Form 20-F filed on June 30, 2005 (Commission file number 1-11005) (File N°. 5928007) and is incorporated herein by reference.

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### **C. Material Contracts**

In connection with the sale of its electrochemical plant to Canexus Química Brasil Ltda. (Canexus) in 1999, the Company and Canexus entered into a long-term contract for chemical products supply, amended in 2002 to include additional volumes. According to the "take-or-pay"

clause, the Company is committed to acquire from Canexus a volume of chemical products conservatively projected. Volumes purchased by the Company in addition to the minimum agreed (take-or-pay) for a given year may be compensated with lower volumes acquired in subsequent years. For the take-or-pay quantities, the Company will pay in accordance with the terms of the contract. There are remaining take-or-pay committed volumes until 2008, regarding the 2002 contractual amendment.

#### **D. Exchange Controls**

There are no restrictions on ownership of our common stock or Class B Stock by individuals or legal entities domiciled outside Brazil. However, the right to convert dividend payments and proceeds from the sale of common stock or Class B Stock into foreign currency and to remit such amounts outside Brazil is subject to exchange control restrictions and foreign investment legislation which generally requires, among other things, obtaining an electronic registration at the Central Bank.

According to Resolution No. 2,689 of January 26, 2000 of the National Monetary Council, foreign investors may invest in almost all financial assets and engage in almost all transactions available in the Brazilian financial and capital markets, provided that some requirements are fulfilled. Resolution No. 2,689 defines a foreign investor as any individual, legal entity, mutual fund or other collective investment entity, domiciled or headquartered abroad.

Pursuant to Resolution No. 2,689, foreign investors must:

- appoint at least one representative in Brazil with powers to perform actions relating to the foreign investment;
- complete the appropriate foreign investor registration form;
- register as a foreign investor with the CVM; and
- register the foreign investment with the Central Bank.

Securities and other financial assets held by foreign investors pursuant to Resolution No. 2,689 must be registered or maintained in deposit accounts or under the custody of an entity duly licensed by the Central Bank or the CVM. In addition, securities trading is restricted to transactions carried out in the stock exchanges or organized over-the-counter markets licensed by the CVM.

Investors under Resolution No. 2,689 who are not resident in a tax haven (i.e., a country that does not impose income tax or where the maximum income tax rate is lower than 20%) are entitled to favorable tax treatment. See [Brazilian Tax Considerations](#).

Resolution No. 1,927 of the National Monetary Council, which is the restated and amended Annex V to Resolution No. 1,289 of the National Monetary Council, or the Annex V Regulations, provides for the issuance of depositary receipts in foreign markets in respect of shares of Brazilian issuers. An application was filed to have the ADSs approved under Annex V Regulations by the Central Bank and the CVM, and final approval was received before the offering of the Preferred Shares underlying the ADSs.

#### **E. Taxation**

The following summary contains a description of the principal Brazilian and U.S. federal income tax consequences of the purchase, ownership and disposition of Class B Stock or ADSs, but it does not purport to be a comprehensive description of all the tax considerations that may be relevant to a decision to purchase Class B Stock or ADSs. Prospective purchasers of Class B Stock or ADSs should consult their own tax advisors as to the tax consequences of the purchase, ownership and disposition of Class B Stock or ADSs, including, in particular, the effect of any state, local or other national tax laws.

The summary is based upon the tax laws of Brazil and the United States and regulations thereunder as in effect on the date hereof, which are subject to change (possibly with retroactive effect). This summary is also based upon the representations of the Depositary and on the assumption that each obligation in the Deposit Agreement and any documents relating to the ADRs will be performed in accordance with its terms.

Although there is at present no income tax treaty between Brazil and the United States, the tax authorities of the two countries have had discussions that may culminate in such a treaty. No assurance can be given, however, as to whether or when a treaty will enter into force or how it will affect the U.S. Holders of Class B Stock or ADSs. Prospective purchasers of Class B Stock or ADSs should consult their own tax advisors as to the tax consequences of the acquisition, ownership and disposition of the Class B Stock or ADSs in their particular circumstances.

#### **Brazilian Tax Considerations**

The following discussion summarizes the principal Brazilian tax consequences of the acquisition, ownership and disposition of Class B Stock or ADSs by a holder that is not domiciled in Brazil for Brazilian taxation purposes and, in the case of a holder of Class B Stock, who has an investment in foreign currency registered at the Central Bank (a Foreign Holder). This summary does not specifically address all of the Brazilian tax considerations applicable to any particular Foreign Holder. Each Foreign Holder should consult his own tax adviser concerning the Brazilian tax consequences of an investment in Class B Stock or ADSs. Any change in such law may change the consequences described below.

### **Registered Capital**

The amount of an investment in Class B Stock must be registered by the Foreign Holder of such Class B Stock (or by the Custodian in the case of Class B Stock held by the Depository) with the Brazilian Central Bank as Registered Capital in order to allow remittances outside Brazil of foreign currency acquired with the proceeds of distributions on, and amounts obtained from dispositions of, such Class B Stock. The Registered Capital for each share of Class B Stock issued to the Depository will be equal to its issue price in U.S. dollars. The Registered Capital for a share of Class B Stock that is withdrawn upon surrender of an ADS will be the U.S. dollar equivalent of (i) the average price of a share of Class B Stock on the São Paulo Stock Exchange on the day of withdrawal or (ii) if no such shares were traded on that day, their average price on the São Paulo Stock Exchange in the 15 trading sessions immediately preceding such withdrawal. The U.S. dollar value of the Class B Stock is determined on the basis of the average price of the Commercial Market rate for U.S. dollars in effect on the date the Class B Stock is withdrawn or, at the Foreign Holder's option, the sale rate quoted for U.S. dollars by the Central Bank Information System on such date (or, if the average price of the Class B Stock is determined under clause (ii) of the preceding sentence, the average of such quoted sale rates on the same 15 dates used to determine the average price of the Class B Stock).

### **Taxation on Distributions**

*Withholding Income Tax (Imposto de Renda na Fonte).* Dividends paid with respect to income earned since January 1996 are not subject to Brazilian withholding income tax under Brazilian tax law. Interest on Shareholders Equity are subject to Income Tax Withheld, at the rate of 15%. Shareholders domiciled in countries that do not tax income, or tax income at a maximum rate of less than twenty percent, are subject to Income Tax Withheld, at a rate of 25%, under the prevailing legislation.

### **Taxation on Gains**

*Gains on the Disposition of ADSs.* Gains obtained outside Brazil by a Foreign Holder on the disposition to another Foreign Holder of ADSs representing Class B Stock are not subject to Brazilian tax.

*Deposits and Withdrawals of Class B Stock in Exchange for ADSs.* A Foreign Holder may deposit or withdraw Class B Stock in exchange for ADSs without incurring Brazilian tax. On receipt of the underlying Class B Stock, the Foreign Holder will be entitled to register the U.S. dollar value of such shares with the Brazilian Central Bank as described above in Registered Capital and will be subject to the rules on Taxation on Distributions and Taxation of Gains applicable to the Class B Stock, discussed herein. Such rules generally are less favorable to Foreign Holders than the rules applicable to ADSs. In addition, such Foreign Holder may experience delays in effecting such registration, which may delay remittances abroad. Such delay may adversely affect the amount in U.S. dollars received by the Foreign Holder. See Item 3D. Risk Factors Risks Relating to

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our Preferred Shares and ADSs Exchanging ADSs for the underlying Class B Stock may have unfavorable consequences.

*Gains on the Disposition of Class B Stock.* Foreign Holders have been subject to Withholding Income Tax (i) at a rate of 15% on gains obtained on sales or exchanges to, or with, a resident in Brazil and (ii) at a rate of 20% on gains obtained on sales or exchanges that occur in Brazil (e.g., on a Brazilian stock exchange). According to Law No 10,833, dated December 2003, as of February 2004, Foreign Holders are subject to withholding income tax in Brazil on capital gains obtained on sales of Class B shares, regardless of where and to whom such sales take place. The gain obtained as a result of a transaction on a Brazilian stock exchange is the difference between the amount in Brazilian currency obtained on the sale or exchange and the acquisition cost, without any correction for inflation, of the Class B Stock sold. The gain obtained as a result of a transaction outside of a Brazilian stock exchange will be calculated based on the Registered Capital for the Class B Stock sold. Reductions in the rate of Withholding Income Tax provided for in tax treaties do not apply to the Withholding Income Tax on such gains. The tax on gains is collected out of the proceeds of a sale or exchange by the stock exchange in the case of sales effected through a Brazilian stock exchange and, in other cases, by the purchaser.

### **Taxation on Income Obtained Abroad**

Prior to January 1, 1996, Brazilian tax laws taxed earnings related to the activities performed within Brazil by Brazilian companies, branches of foreign companies and nonresidents in general. Since January 1, 1996, profits, capital gains and other income obtained abroad by a Brazilian company, or by its foreign branches or subsidiaries or by foreign companies controlled by or affiliated with such company, must be added in the

determination of such Brazilian company's profits and, therefore, taxed in Brazil when distributed or otherwise made available to the Brazilian shareholders. Provisionary Measure No. 2,158 enacted in July 27, 2001 determined that profits obtained abroad by a foreign branch or subsidiary of a Brazilian company must be taxed in Brazil at the same time of the yearly generation of such profits. Therefore, accumulated profits accounted until December 31, 2001 will be taxed at the end of the following fiscal period. After January 2002, such profits will be taxed at the end of each fiscal period.

#### ***Stamp and Excise Taxes***

There are no stamp, transfer, estate, gift or other similar taxes in Brazil applicable to the Class B Stock or to the ADSs.

#### **United States Tax Considerations**

##### **US Federal Income Tax Considerations**

The following discussion summarizes the principal U.S. federal income tax considerations relating to the purchase, ownership and disposition of Preferred Shares or Preferred ADSs by a U.S. holder (as defined below) holding such shares or ADSs as capital assets (generally, property held for investment). This summary is based on the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), Treasury regulations, administrative pronouncements of the U.S. Internal Revenue Service (the "IRS") and judicial decisions, all as in effect on the date hereof, and all of which are subject to change (possibly with retroactive effect) and to differing interpretations. This summary does not describe any state, local or non-U.S. tax law considerations, or any aspect of U.S. federal tax law other than income taxation; U.S. holders are urged to consult their own tax advisors regarding such matters.

This summary does not purport to address all material federal income tax consequences that may be relevant to a U.S. holder of a Preferred Share or Preferred ADS, and does not take into account the specific circumstances of any particular investors, some of which (such as tax-exempt entities, banks or other financial institutions, insurance companies, broker-dealers, traders in securities that elect to use a mark-to-market method of accounting for their securities holdings, regulated investment companies, real estate investment trusts, U.S. expatriates, investors liable for the alternative minimum tax, partnerships and other pass-through entities, investors that own or are treated as owning 10% or more of the Company's voting stock, investors that hold the Preferred Shares or Preferred ADSs as part of a straddle, hedge, conversion or constructive sale transaction or other integrated transaction, and U.S. holders whose functional currency is not the U.S. dollar) may be subject to special tax rules.

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As used below, a "U.S. holder" is a beneficial owner of a Preferred Share or Preferred ADS that is, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, (i) a citizen or resident alien individual of the United States, (ii) a corporation (or an entity taxable as a corporation) created or organized under the law of the United States, any State thereof or the District of Columbia, (iii) an estate, the income of which is subject to U.S. federal income tax without regard to its source, or (iv) a trust if (1) a court within the United States is able to exercise primary supervision over the administration of the trust, and one or more U.S. persons have the authority to control all substantial decisions of the trust, or (2) the trust has a valid election in effect under applicable U.S. Treasury Regulations to be treated as a U.S. person. For purposes of this discussion, a "non-US holder" is a beneficial owner of a Preferred Share or Preferred ADS that is (i) a nonresident alien individual, (ii) a corporation (or an entity taxable as a corporation) created or organized in or under the law of a country other than the United States or a political subdivision thereof or (iii) an estate or trust that is not a U.S. holder. If a partnership (including for this purpose any entity treated as a partnership for U.S. federal tax purposes) is a beneficial owner of a Preferred Share or Preferred ADS, the U.S. federal tax treatment of a partner in the partnership generally will depend on the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. A holder of a Preferred Share or Preferred ADS that is a partnership and partners in that partnership are urged to consult their own tax advisers regarding the U.S. federal income tax consequences of purchasing, holding and disposing of Preferred Shares or Preferred ADSs.

#### **Nature of Preferred ADSs for U.S. Federal Income Tax Purposes**

In general, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, a holder of a Preferred ADS will be treated as the owner of the underlying Preferred Shares. Accordingly, except as specifically noted below, the tax consequences discussed below with respect to Preferred ADSs will be the same for Preferred Shares in the Company, and exchanges of Preferred Shares for Preferred ADSs, and Preferred ADSs for Preferred Shares, generally will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax.

#### **Taxation of Distributions**

U.S. holders: In general, subject to the passive foreign investment company rules discussed below, a distribution on a Preferred ADS (which for these purposes likely would include a distribution of interest on shareholders' equity) will constitute a dividend for U.S. federal income tax purposes to the extent that it is made from the Company's current or accumulated earnings and profits as determined under U.S. federal income



tax principles. If a distribution exceeds the amount of the Company's current and accumulated earnings and profits, it will be treated as a non-taxable reduction of basis to the extent of the U.S. holder's tax basis in the Preferred ADS on which it is paid, and to the extent it exceeds that basis it will be treated as a capital gain. For purposes of this discussion, the term "dividend" means a distribution that constitutes a dividend for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

The gross amount of any dividend on a Preferred ADS (which will include the amount of any Brazilian taxes withheld) generally will be subject to U.S. federal income tax as foreign source dividend income and will not be eligible for the corporate dividends received deduction. The amount of a dividend paid in Brazilian currency will be its value in U.S. dollars based on the prevailing spot market exchange rate in effect on the day that the U.S. holder receives the dividend or, in the case of a dividend received in respect of a Preferred ADS, on the date the Depository receives it, whether or not the dividend is converted into U.S. dollars. A U.S. holder will have a tax basis in any distributed Brazilian currency equal to its U.S. dollar amount on the date of receipt, and any gain or loss realized on a subsequent conversion or other disposition of the Brazilian currency generally will be treated as U.S. source ordinary income or loss. If dividends paid in Brazilian currency are converted into U.S. dollars on the date they are received by a U.S. holder or the Depository or its agent, as the case may be, the U.S. holder generally should not be required to recognize foreign currency gain or loss in respect of the dividend income. U.S. holders are urged to consult their own tax advisers regarding the treatment of any foreign currency gain or loss if any Brazilian currency received by the U.S. holder or the Depository or its agent is not converted into U.S. dollars on the date of receipt.

Subject to certain exceptions for short-term and hedged positions, any dividend that an individual receives on a Preferred ADS in a taxable year beginning before January 1, 2011 will be subject to a maximum tax rate of 15% if the dividend is a qualified dividend. A dividend on a Preferred ADS will be a qualified dividend if (i) the Preferred ADSs are readily tradable on an established securities market in the United States, and (ii) the Company was not, in the year prior to the year the dividend was paid, and is not, in the year the dividend is paid, a passive foreign investment company ("PFIC"). The Preferred ADSs are listed on the New York Stock Exchange and will qualify as readily tradable on an established securities market in the United

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States so long as they are so listed. Based on existing guidance, it is not entirely clear whether a dividend on a Preferred Share will be treated as a qualified dividend, because the Preferred Shares themselves are not listed on a U.S. exchange. Based on the Company's audited financial statements and relevant market and shareholder data, the Company does not believe that it was a PFIC for U.S. federal income tax purposes for its 2006 or 2007 taxable year, nor does it anticipate being classified as a PFIC in its current or future taxable years. Given that the determination of PFIC status involves the application of complex tax rules, and that its is based on the nature of the Company's income and assets from time to time, no assurances can be provided that the Company will not be considered a PFIC for the current (or any past or future) taxable year.

The U.S. Treasury has announced its intention to promulgate rules pursuant to which holders of stock of non-U.S. corporations, and intermediaries through whom the stock is held, will be permitted to rely on certifications from issuers to establish that dividends are treated as qualified dividends. Because those procedures have not yet been issued, it is not clear whether the Company will be able to comply with them. Special limitations on foreign tax credits apply to dividends subject to the reduced rate of tax. Holders of Preferred ADSs are urged to consult their own tax advisers regarding the availability of the reduced dividend tax rate in the light of their own particular circumstances.

Any Brazilian withholding tax will be treated as a foreign income tax eligible for credit against a U.S. holder's U.S. federal income tax liability, subject to generally applicable limitations under U.S. federal income tax law. For purposes of computing those limitations separately for specific categories of income, a dividend generally will constitute foreign source "passive category income", or in the case of certain holders, "general category income" for purposes of taxable years ending after December 31, 2006. (For taxable years beginning before January 1, 2007, a dividend generally would have constituted foreign source "passive income", or in the case of certain holders, "financial services income.") A U.S. holder will be denied a foreign tax credit with respect to Brazilian income tax withheld from dividends received with respect to the underlying Preferred Shares represented by the Preferred ADSs to the extent the U.S. holder has not held the Preferred ADSs for at least 16 days of the 30-day period beginning on the date which is 15 days before the ex-dividend date or to the extent the U.S. holder is under an obligation to make related payments with respect to substantially similar or related property. Any days during which a U.S. holder has substantially diminished its risk of loss on the Preferred ADSs are not counted toward meeting the 16-day holding period required by the statute. The rules relating to the determination of the foreign tax credit are complex, and U.S. holders are urged to consult with their own tax advisers to determine whether and to what extent they will be entitled to foreign tax credits as well as with respect to the determination of the foreign tax credit limitation (including changes in the rules for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2006). Alternatively, any Brazilian withholding tax may be taken as a deduction against taxable income, provided the U.S. holder takes a deduction and not a credit for all foreign income taxes paid or accrued in the same taxable year. In general, special rules will apply to the calculation of foreign tax credits in respect of dividend income that is subject to preferential rates of U.S. federal income tax. U.S. holders should be aware that the IRS has expressed concern that parties to whom ADSs are released may be taking actions that are inconsistent with the claiming of foreign tax credits by U.S. holders of ADSs. Accordingly, the discussion above regarding the credibility of Brazilian withholding taxes could be affected by future actions that may be taken by the IRS.

**Non-U.S. holders:** A dividend paid to a non-U.S. holder on a Preferred ADS will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax unless the dividend is effectively connected with the conduct of trade or business by the non-U.S. holder within the United States (and is attributable to a permanent establishment or fixed base the non-U.S. holder maintains in the United States if an applicable income tax treaty so requires as a condition for the non-U.S. holder to be subject to U.S. taxation on a net income basis on income from the Preferred ADS). A non-U.S. holder generally will be subject to tax on an effectively connected dividend in the same manner as a U.S. holder. A corporate non-U.S. holder may also be subject under certain circumstances to an additional branch profits tax, the rate of which may be reduced pursuant to an applicable income tax treaty.

### **Taxation of Capital Gains**

**U.S. holders.** Subject to the passive foreign investment company rules discussed below, on a sale or other taxable disposition of a Preferred ADS, a U.S. holder will recognize capital gain or loss in an amount equal to the difference between the U.S. holder's adjusted basis in the Preferred ADS and the amount realized on the sale or other disposition, each determined in U.S. dollars. Such capital gain or loss will be long-term capital gain or loss if at the time of the sale or other taxable disposition the Preferred ADS has been held for more than one year. In general, any adjusted net capital gain of an individual in a taxable year beginning before January 1,

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2011 is subject to a maximum tax rate of 15%. In subsequent years, the maximum tax rate on the net capital gain of an individual will be 20%. The deductibility of capital losses is subject to limitations.

Any gain a U.S. holder recognizes generally will be U.S. source income for U.S. foreign tax credit purposes, and, subject to certain exceptions, any loss will generally be a U.S. source loss. If a Brazilian tax is withheld on a sale or other disposition of a Preferred Share, the amount realized will include the gross amount of the proceeds of that sale or disposition before deduction of the Brazilian tax. The generally applicable limitations under U.S. federal income tax law on crediting foreign income taxes may preclude a U.S. holder from obtaining a foreign tax credit for any Brazilian tax withheld on a sale of a Preferred Share. The rules relating to the determination of the foreign tax credit are complex, and U.S. holders are urged to consult with their own tax advisers regarding the application of such rules. Alternatively, any Brazilian withholding tax may be taken as a deduction against taxable income, provided the U.S. holder takes a deduction and not a credit for all foreign income taxes paid or accrued in the same taxable year.

**Non-U.S. holders.** A non-U.S. holder will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax on a gain recognized on a sale or other disposition of a Preferred ADS unless (i) the gain is effectively connected with the conduct of trade or business by the non-U.S. holder within the United States (and is attributable to a permanent establishment or fixed base that the non-U.S. holder maintains in the United States if an applicable income tax treaty so requires as a condition for the non-U.S. holder to be subject to U.S. taxation on a net income basis on income from the Preferred ADS), or (ii) in the case of a non-U.S. holder who is an individual, the holder is present in the United States for 183 or more days in the taxable year of the sale or other disposition and certain other conditions apply. Any effectively connected gain of a corporate non-U.S. holder may also be subject under certain circumstances to an additional branch profits tax, the rate of which may be reduced pursuant to an applicable income tax treaty.

### **Passive Foreign Investment Company Rules**

A special set of U.S. federal income tax rules applies to a foreign corporation that is a PFIC for U.S. federal income tax purposes. As noted above, based on the Company's audited financial statements and relevant market and shareholder data, as well as the Company's current and projected income, assets and activities, the Company believes it was not a PFIC for U.S. federal income tax purposes for its 2006 or 2007 taxable year, nor does it anticipate being classified as a PFIC in its current or future taxable years. However, because the determination of whether the Company is a PFIC is based upon the composition of its income and assets from time to time, and because there are uncertainties in the application of the relevant rules, it is possible that the Company will become a PFIC in a future taxable year (and no assurances can be provided that the Company will not be considered a PFIC for its current (or any past) taxable year). If the Preferred ADSs were shares of a PFIC for any taxable year, U.S. holders (including certain indirect U.S. holders) may be subject to adverse tax consequences, including the possible imposition of ordinary income treatment for gains that would otherwise be taxed as capital gains, along with an interest charge on gains or excess distributions allocable to prior years in the U.S. holder's holding period during which the Company was determined to be a PFIC. If the Company is deemed to be a PFIC for a taxable year, dividends on a Preferred ADS would not constitute qualified dividends subject to preferential rates of U.S. federal income taxation. U.S. holders are urged to consult their own tax advisers regarding the application of the PFIC rules.

### **Information Reporting and Backup Withholding**

Dividends paid on, and proceeds from the sale or other disposition of, a Preferred ADS to a U.S. holder, generally may be subject to information reporting requirements and may be subject to backup withholding (currently at the rate of 28%) unless the U.S. holder provides an accurate taxpayer identification number or otherwise demonstrates that they are exempt. The amount of any backup withholding collected from a

payment to a U.S. holder will be allowed as a credit against the U.S. holder's U.S. federal income tax liability and may entitle the U.S. holder to a refund, provided that certain required information is submitted to the Internal Revenue Service. A non-U.S. holder generally will be exempt from these information reporting requirements and backup withholding tax but may be required to comply with certain certification and identification procedures in order to establish its eligibility for exemption.

**F. Dividends and Paying Agents**

Not applicable.

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**G. Statements by Experts**

Not applicable.

**H. Documents on Display**

We are subject to the informational requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, pursuant to which we file reports and other information with the Commission. These materials, including this annual report and the accompanying exhibits, may be inspected and copied at the Commission's Public Reference Room at 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549. Copies of the materials may be obtained from the Public Reference Room of the Commission at 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549 at prescribed rates. The public may obtain information on the operation of the Commission's Public Reference Room by calling the Commission in the United States at 1-800-SEC-0330. In addition, material we filed can be inspected at the offices of the New York Stock Exchange at 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005, on which our ADSs are listed.

We also file electronically financial statements and other periodic reports with the CVM. The CVM website is [www.cvm.gov.br](http://www.cvm.gov.br).

Copies of our annual reports on Form 20-F and documents referred to in this annual report and our bylaws will be available for inspection upon request at our principal office at Av. Brigadeiro Faria Lima 2.277, 4<sup>th</sup> floor, 01452-000 São Paulo, State of São Paulo, Brazil, or at our website: [www.aracruz.com.br](http://www.aracruz.com.br). Information contained in our website is not part of this annual report.

The Company has, in compliance with New York Stock Exchange Corporate Governance Rule 303A.11, provided on its website a summary of how corporate governance practices differ from those followed by U.S. domestic companies under the New York Stock Exchange listing standards, at [www.aracruz.com.br](http://www.aracruz.com.br).

**I. Subsidiary Information**

Not required.

**ITEM 11. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK**

As an exporter, we consider the U.S. dollar as our functional currency. We are exposed to various market risks, particularly the variation of the U.S. dollar against the *real* and interest rate variation (fixed, floating and U.S. dollar-indexed).

Financial strategy meetings are held as frequently as necessary, by management and Board representatives, where macroeconomic factors and trends and their implications on the Company's cash investments and financial decisions are discussed. During such meetings financial matters are decided in accordance with the directives set by the board of directors and with corporate policies.

We have guaranteed debt with BNDES loans at the end of 2006. See Item 5. Liquidity and Capital Resources and Item 7B. Related Party Transactions BNDES Loan Agreements.

**Exchange Rate Sensitivity**

In accordance with the financial policies, balance sheet currency exposure to exchange rate fluctuations was substantially protected at the end of 2007 according to U.S. GAAP rules.

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The table below sets forth the assets and liabilities for the year 2007 in terms of currency denomination:

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Expressed in thousands of US dollars  
Total Year Ended in December, 31

| Description                        | 2007             |                  |                  |                  |
|------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
|                                    | 2006             | Total            | Denominated in   |                  |
|                                    |                  |                  | Real             | U.S. dollar      |
| <b>ASSETS</b>                      | <b>3.995.928</b> | <b>4.624.863</b> | <b>797.059</b>   | <b>3.827.804</b> |
| Current assets                     | 1.200.924        | 1.251.400        | 651.820          | 599.580          |
| Long-term assets                   | 127.021          | 247.334          | 145.239          | 102.095          |
| Property, plant and equipment, net | 2.151.212        | 2.518.700        | -                | 2.518.700        |
| Investment in affiliated company   | 324.736          | 415.394          | -                | 415.394          |
| Goodwill                           | 192.035          | 192.035          | -                | 192.035          |
| <b>LIABILITIES</b>                 | <b>3.995.928</b> | <b>4.624.863</b> | <b>1.143.116</b> | <b>3.481.747</b> |
| Current liabilities                | 286.819          | 327.719          | 257.740          | 69.979           |
| Long-term liabilities              | 1.505.811        | 1.898.629        | 885.376          | 1.013.253        |
| Minority interest                  | 875              | 11.397           | -                | 11.397           |
| Stockholders' equity               | 2.202.423        | 2.387.118        | -                | 2.387.118        |

The Company's foreign currency risk management strategy may use derivative instruments to protect against foreign exchange rate volatility.

During 2007 the Company has recognized, as financial income, gains of US\$57.3 million (2006 -US\$88.8 million) related to derivative instruments registered in BM&F - Brazilian Mercantile & Futures Exchange. These operations are marked to market on a daily basis and as of December 31, 2007 outstanding contracts amounted US\$0.6 million (as of December 31, 2006 outstanding contracts amounted US\$1.4 million)

It also has recognized gains of US\$ 38.3 on swap transactions (TJLP or interest long-term rate against Dollar). There were no such kind of derivative instruments in 2006. These operations are marked to market, and at December 31, 2007, the notional amount of these swaps totaled US\$ 334.1 million with maturity in April 2010. The outstanding amount of these contracts were reported as an asset of US\$ 38.3 million.

As a result of our exposure to exchange rate fluctuation, the gain and loss on currency remeasurement at the end of 2007 (after the local currency devaluation) was a net gain of US\$0.9 million.

Having our revenues substantially dollar-denominated and our costs and expenses mostly local currency denominated, our costs are being increased due to the local currency appreciation during 2007 on an ongoing basis, negatively impacting our margins.

The Company is engaged in the exportation of market pulp to various markets throughout the world. Management considers the Company's functional currency to be the U.S. dollar and, as of December 31, 2007, approximately 28% of our total indebtedness was *real*-denominated, which consisted of loans bearing interest at variable and fixed rates. The principal amounts of such loans are also indexed to inflation. In times of high inflation, the TJLP is generally higher, *i.e.*, the nominal rates include an inflation factor. 2007, the TJLP ranged from 6.25% to 6.5% . In 2006, the TJLP ranged from 6.85 to 9% and in 2005, it was 9.75% . The interest payable by us on the *real*-denominated debt is equal to the TJLP, plus 1.8% to 4.5% per annum. See Item 5B. Liquidity and Capital Resources and Item 7B. Related Party Transactions BNDES Loan Agreements.

Set forth in the table below are our currency and interest rate exposures, on financial debt outstanding for the years 2008 through 2016.

| Denomination | Interest rate | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011-<br>2016 | Total |
|--------------|---------------|------|------|------|---------------|-------|
|--------------|---------------|------|------|------|---------------|-------|

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|                  |                             |      |      |      |       |       |
|------------------|-----------------------------|------|------|------|-------|-------|
| Local currency   | TJLP (1)                    | 69.3 | 42.2 | 17.6 | 254.5 | 383.6 |
|                  | CDI                         | 2.7  | 9.4  | 9.9  | 33.7  | 55.7  |
|                  | Fixed                       | 5.8  | 0    | 0    | 0     | 5.8   |
|                  | Foreign currency basket (2) | 9.5  | 6.2  | 2.3  | 27.5  | 45.5  |
| Foreign currency | LIBOR                       | 9.5  | 0    | 0    | 909   | 918.5 |

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| Denomination   | Interest rate | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011-<br>2016 | Total   |
|----------------|---------------|------|------|------|---------------|---------|
| Total per year |               | 96.8 | 57.8 | 29.8 | 1,224.7       | 1,409.1 |

(1) Long-Term Interest Rate.

(2) Basket of foreign currencies, including U.S. dollars, Japanese yen and European currencies.

These activities expose the Company to credit, currency and interest rate risks. The responsibilities of our internal Treasury Department include the proposal of risk management strategy and its implementation, and the evaluation of the effectiveness of the Company's overall risk management strategy. The Treasury reports to the Chief Financial Officer.

The Company may use derivative and non-derivative instruments to implement risk management strategy. However, by using derivative instruments, the Company exposes itself to credit and market risk. Credit risk is the failure of a counterparty to perform under the terms of the derivative contract. Market risk is the adverse effect on the value of a financial instrument that results from a change in interest rates, currency exchange rates, or commodity prices. The Company addresses credit risk by restricting the counterparties to such derivative financial instruments to major financial institutions. Market risk is managed by the Treasury. The Company's foreign currency risk management strategy may use derivative instruments to protect against foreign exchange rate volatility, which may impair the value of certain of the Company's assets.

#### Interest rate sensitivity

The Company's strategy for interest rate management has been to maintain a balanced portfolio of fixed and floating interest rates in order to optimize cost and volatility. The Company's interest rate risk management strategy may use derivative instruments to reduce earnings fluctuations attributable to interest rate volatility.

During 2007 and 2006 the Company recognized under financial income, losses of US\$ 36.4 million and US\$ 2.8 million on interest rate derivative instruments registered in BM&F - Brazilian Mercantile & Futures Exchange for the 2007 and 2006, respectively. These operations are marked to market on a daily basis, and at December 31, 2007 the fair value of these contracts were reported as an asset of US\$ 0.6 million.

It also has recognized gains of US\$ 38.3 on swap transactions (TJLP or interest long-term rate against Dollar). There were no such kind of derivative instruments in 2006. These operations are marked to market, and at December 31, 2007, the notional amount of these swaps totaled US\$ 334.1 million with maturity in April 2010. The outstanding amount of these contracts were reported as an asset of US\$ 38.3 million.

#### Commodity Price Sensitivity

The Company is exposed to commodity price risks through the fluctuation of pulp prices. The Company currently does not utilize derivative financial instruments to manage its exposure to fluctuations in commodity prices, but may utilize them in the future.

#### ITEM 12. DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES OTHER THAN EQUITY SECURITIES

Not applicable.

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**ITEM 13. DEFAULTS, DIVIDEND ARREARAGES AND DELINQUENCIES**

None.

**ITEM 14. MATERIAL MODIFICATIONS TO THE RIGHTS OF SECURITY HOLDERS AND USE OF PROCEEDS**

None.

**ITEM 15. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES**

Our Chief Executive Officer and our Chief Financial Officer, after evaluating the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in the U.S. Securities Exchange Act of 1934 under Rule 13a-15(e)) have concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective to ensure that material information relating to us was made known to them by others within our company, particularly during the period in which this annual report and accounts were being prepared. Based on that evaluation, the Company's Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that the design and operation of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures are effective to ensure that information required to be disclosed in the reports that the Company files and submits under the Exchange Act is (i) recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in Securities and Exchange Commission rules and forms, and (ii) accumulated and communicated to management, including the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure as of the end of the Company's most recent fiscal year.

**B. Management's annual report on internal control over financial reporting**

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting for the Company. In order to evaluate the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, as required by Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, management has conducted an assessment, including testing, using the criteria in Internal Control Integrated Framework, issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). The Company's system of internal control over financial reporting is 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. 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.

Based on its assessment, management has concluded that the Company maintained effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2007, based on criteria in Internal Control Integrated Framework, issued by the COSO. Management's assessment of the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2007, has been audited by Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Auditores Independientes, an independent registered public accounting firm, as stated in their report which is included below.

There were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting that occurred during 2007 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

**"MANAGEMENT'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING**

The management of Aracruz Celulose S.A. and subsidiaries (the Company) is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting.

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The Company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed by, or under the supervision of, the Company's Audit Committee, principal executive and principal financial officers, and effected by the Company's board of directors, management, and other personnel to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. The 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 accounting principles generally accepted in the United States, 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 consolidated financial statements.

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Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect material misstatements on a timely basis. Therefore even those systems determined to be effective can provide only reasonable assurance with respect to financial statement preparation and presentation. 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.

Management assessed the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2007, based on the criteria established in Internal Control - Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations (COSO) of the Treadway Commission. Based on that assessment management has concluded that as of December 31, 2007 the Company's internal control over financial reporting is effective.

Management's assessment of the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2007 has been audited by Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Auditores Independentes, the Company's independent registered public accounting firm, which opinion is stated in their report, dated January 10, 2008, included herein.

/s/ Carlos Augusto Lira Aguiar

Carlos Augusto Lira Aguiar

Chief Executive Officer

January 10, 2008

/s/ Isac Roffé Zagury

Isac Roffé Zagury

Chief Financial Officer

January 10, 2008

### **C. Attestation report of the registered public accounting firm**

To the Board of Directors and Stockholders of

Aracruz Celulose S.A.

We have audited the internal control over financial reporting of Aracruz Celulose S.A. and subsidiaries (the "Company") as of December 31, 2007, based on criteria established in Internal Control - Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. The Company'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. 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

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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 by, or under the supervision of, the company's principal executive and principal financial officers, or persons performing similar functions, and effected by the company's board of directors, management, and other personnel 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 the inherent limitations of internal control over financial reporting, including the possibility of collusion or improper management override of controls, material misstatements due to error or fraud may not be prevented or detected on a timely basis. Also, projections of any evaluation of the effectiveness of the internal control over financial reporting to future periods are subject to the risk that the 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, the Company maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2007, based on the criteria established in Internal Control – Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission.

We have also audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the consolidated financial statements as of and for the year ended December 31, 2007 of the Company and our report dated January 10, 2008 expressed an unqualified opinion on those consolidated financial statements.

/s/ Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Auditores Independentes

Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Auditores Independentes

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

January 10, 2008

**D. Changes in internal control over financial reporting**

There were no changes in our internal controls or in other factors that could significantly affect these controls and procedures subsequent to the date our chief executive officer and our chief financial officer completed their evaluation, nor were there any significant deficiencies or material weaknesses in our internal controls and procedures requiring corrective actions.

**ITEM 16. RESERVED**

**Item 16A. Audit committee financial expert**

The Board of Directors of the Company has determined that Mr. Álvaro Luis Veloso, a member of its Board of Directors and of its Audit Committee, is an audit committee financial expert within the meaning of the Sarbanes-Oxley and related regulations.

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**Item 16**

**B. Code of Ethics**

Our Code of Ethics (called "Código de Conduta") applies to all of the Company's employees, including our principal executive officer, principal financial officer, principal accounting officer or controller.

The English version of the Code, last updated in December 2007, can be downloaded at our website ([www.aracruz.com.br](http://www.aracruz.com.br)). Additionally, any person, upon request, can ask for a hard copy or electronic file of such Code. If we make any substantive amendment to the Code of Ethics or grant any waivers, including any implicit waiver, from a provision of the Code of Ethics, we will disclose the nature of such amendment or waiver on our website. During the year ended December 31, 2007, no waiver granted.

**Item 16**

**C. Principal Accountant Fees and Services**

Audit and Non-Audit Fees



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The following table sets forth the fees billed to us by our Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Auditores Independentes, during the fiscal years ended December 31, 2005, 2006 and 2007, respectively:

|                                | 2005 (in US\$) | 2006 (in US\$) | 2007 (in US\$) |
|--------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Audit services fees            | 300,768        | 701,292        | 683,486        |
| Other accounting services fees | 32,999         | 21,980         | 23,244         |
| Non-audit services fees        | -              | -              | -              |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>333,767</b> | <b>723,272</b> | <b>706,730</b> |

Audit fees in the above table are the aggregate fees billed Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Auditores Independentes in connection with the integrated audit of our annual financial statements and review of the Company's quarterly financial information.

### *Audit Committee Pre-Approval Policies and Procedures*

The Company's Board of Directors has established pre-approval and procedures for the engagement of its Registered Public Accounting Firm for audit and non-audit services.

The Board of Directors reviews the scope of the services to be provided, before their commencement, in order to ensure that there are no independence issues and the services are not prohibited services as defined by Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

### **Item 16**

#### **D. Exemptions from the listing Standards for Audit Committees**

Not applicable.

### **Item 16**

#### **E. Purchases of Equity Securities by the Issuer and Affiliated Purchasers**

The Company shows below the purchases of equity securities by it and its affiliates, as of December 31, 2007:

| Year | Total number of Class B Stock | Total Cost        |
|------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| 2002 | 1,374,000                     | US\$ 2.2 million  |
| 2003 | 4,000                         | US\$ 3 thousand   |
| 2004 | -                             | ---               |
| 2005 | 105,200                       | US\$ 351 thousand |
| 2006 | -                             | ---               |
| 2007 | -                             | ---               |

## **PART III**

### **ITEM 17. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

We have responded to Item 18 in lieu of responding to this item.

### **ITEM 18. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The following financial statements are filed as part of this annual report, together with the report of the independent registered public accounting firm.

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**ITEM 19. EXHIBITS**

- 1.1 English translation of the Company's by-laws (*estatuto social*). Incorporated by reference to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F (Commission File No. 1-11005) (File N°. 5928007) filed on June 30, 2005.
- 2.1 Amended and Restated Deposit Agreement dated as of July 23, 2007, among the Company, Citibank N.A. as Depositary and all Holders and Beneficial Owners from time to time of American Depositary Receipts issued thereunder. Incorporated by reference to the Company's Registration Statement on Form F-6 (File No. 333-143927), filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.
- 2.2 The total amount of long-term debt of the Company authorized under any instrument does not exceed 10% of the total assets of the Company and its subsidiaries, on a consolidated basis.
- The Company undertakes to furnish to the SEC all other instruments relating to long-term debt of the Company and its subsidiaries upon request by the SEC.
- 4.1 Term of Adhesion to the Company's Shareholders' Agreement by Mondi Brazil Limited, Inc., dated June 13, 1996 (free translation into English). Incorporated by reference to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F (Commission File No. 1-11005) filed on April 16, 2002.
- 4.2 Term of Adhesion to the Company's Shareholders' Agreement by Newark Financial, Inc., dated November 1, 2001 (free translation into English). Incorporated by reference to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F (Commission File No. 1-11005) filed on April 16, 2002.
- 4.3 Amended Shareholders' Agreement, dated February 5, 2003, entered into among Arapar S.A. and Lorentzen Empreendimentos S.A. and Sodepa - Sociedade de Empreendimentos, Publicidade e Participações S.A. (a predecessor of Arainvest S.A.) (free translation into English). Incorporated by reference to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F (Commission File No. 1-11005) filed on June 30, 2004.
- 6.1 See Note 1(s) to the Company's financial statements for information explaining how earnings per share information was calculated.
- 8.1 See Item 4B of this annual report for information regarding the Company's subsidiaries.

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- 12.1 Certifications by Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer required by Item 15.
- 13.1 Certifications by Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

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**SIGNATURES**

The registrant hereby certifies that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form 20-F and that it has duly caused and authorized the undersigned to sign this annual report on its behalf.

ARACRUZ CELULOSE S.A.

By: /s/ Carlos Augusto Lira Aguiar

Name: Carlos Augusto Lira Aguiar  
Title: Chief Executive Officer

By: /s/ Isac Roffé Zagury

Name: Isac Roffé Zagury  
Title: Chief Financial Officer

Date: March 31, 2008

**CERTIFICATION**

I, Carlos Augusto Lira Aguiar, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this annual report on Form 20-F of Aracruz Celulose S. A. ;

2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;

3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the company as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;

4. The company's other certifying officer(s) and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules

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13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) for the company and have:

- (a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the company, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
- (b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, 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;
- (c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the company's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
- (d) Disclosed in this report any change in the company's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the period covered by the annual report that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect the company's internal control over financial reporting; and

5. The company's other certifying officer(s) and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the company's auditors and the audit committee of the company's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):

- (a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the company's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
- (b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the company's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: March 31, 2008

/s/ Carlos Augusto Lira Aguiar  
Carlos Augusto Lira Aguiar  
Chief Executive Officer

A signed original of this written statement required by Section 302 has been provided to Aracruz Celulose S.A. and will be retained by Aracruz Celulose S.A. and furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission or its staff upon request.

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### **CERTIFICATION**

I, Isac Roffé Zagury, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this annual report on Form 20-F of Aracruz Celulose S. A. ;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the company as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The company's other certifying officer(s) and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) for the company and have:

(a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the company, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those

entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;

(b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, 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;

(c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the company's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and

(d) Disclosed in this report any change in the company's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the period covered by the annual report that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect the company's internal control over financial reporting; and

5. The company's other certifying officer(s) and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the company's auditors and the audit committee of the company's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):

(a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the company's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and

(b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the company's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: March 31, 2008.

/s/ Isac Roffé Zagury  
Isac Roffé Zagury  
Chief Financial Officer

A signed original of this written statement required by Section 302 has been provided to Aracruz Celulose S.A. and will be retained by Aracruz Celulose S.A. and furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission or its staff upon request.

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**EXHIBIT 12.1**

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350, AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO**

**SECTION 906 OF THE U.S. SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

In connection with the Annual Report of ARACRUZ CELULOSE S.A. (the Company) on Form 20-F for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2007, as filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the Report), I, Carlos Augusto Lira Aguiar, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the U.S. Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that to the best of my knowledge:

- (i) the Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the U.S. Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and
- (ii) the information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

/s/ Carlos Augusto Lira Aguiar  
Name: Carlos Augusto Lira Aguiar

March 31, 2008.

1. A signed original of this written statement required by Section 906, or other document authenticating, acknowledging, or otherwise adopting the signature that appears in typed form within the electronic version of this written statement required by Section 906, has been provided to the Company and will be retained by the Company and furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission or its staff upon request.

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**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350, AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO  
SECTION 906 OF THE U.S. SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

In connection with the Annual Report of ARACRUZ CELULOSE S.A. (the Company) on Form 20-F for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2007, as filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the Report), I, Isac Roffé Zagury, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the U.S. Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that to the best of my knowledge:

- (i) the Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the U.S. Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and
- (ii) the information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

/s/ Isac Roffé Zagury

Name: Isac Roffé Zagury

March 31, 2008.

A signed original of this written statement required by Section 906, or other document authenticating, acknowledging, or otherwise adopting the signature that appears in typed form within the electronic version of this written statement required by Section 906, has been provided to the Company and will be retained by the Company and furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission or its staff upon request.

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## **Aracruz Celulose S.A.**

### **Consolidated Financial Statements For the Years ended December 31, 2007, 2006 and 2005 and Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

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#### **Consolidated Financial Statements**

Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm,

Consolidated Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2006 and 2007.

Consolidated Statements of Operations for the years ended December 31, 2005, 2006 and 2007.

Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the years ended December 31, 2005, 2006 and 2007.

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Consolidated Statements of Changes in Stockholders Equity for the years ended December 31, 2005, 2006 and 2007.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for the years ended December 31, 2005, 2006 and 2007.

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### MANAGEMENT'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING

The management of Aracruz Celulose S.A. and subsidiaries (the Company) is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting.

The Company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed by, or under the supervision of, the Company's Audit Committee, principal executive and principal financial officers, and effected by the Company's board of directors, management, and other personnel to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. The 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 accounting principles generally accepted in the United States, 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 consolidated financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect material misstatements on a timely basis. Therefore even those systems determined to be effective can provide only reasonable assurance with respect to financial statement preparation and presentation. 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.

Management assessed the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2007, based on the criteria established in Internal Control - Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations (COSO) of the Treadway Commission. Based on that assessment management has concluded that as of December 31, 2007 the Company's internal control over financial reporting is effective.

Management's assessment of the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2007 has been audited by Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Auditores Independentes, the Company's independent registered public accounting firm, which opinion is stated in their report, dated January 10, 2008, included herein.

/s/ Carlos Augusto Lira Aguiar

Carlos Augusto Lira Aguiar  
Chief Executive Officer  
January 10, 2008

/s/ Isac Roffé Zagury

Isac Roffé Zagury  
Chief Financial Officer  
January 10, 2008

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### REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM, ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING

To the Board of Directors and Stockholders of

Aracruz Celulose S.A.

We have audited the internal control over financial reporting of Aracruz Celulose S.A. and subsidiaries (the "Company") as of December 31, 2007, based on criteria established in Internal Control - Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. The Company'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

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Control Over Financial Reporting. 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 by, or under the supervision of, the company's principal executive and principal financial officers, or persons performing similar functions, and effected by the company's board of directors, management, and other personnel 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 the inherent limitations of internal control over financial reporting, including the possibility of collusion or improper management override of controls, material misstatements due to error or fraud may not be prevented or detected on a timely basis. Also, projections of any evaluation of the effectiveness of the internal control over financial reporting to future periods are subject to the risk that the 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, the Company maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2007, based on the criteria established in Internal Control – Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission.

We have also audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the consolidated financial statements as of and for the year ended December 31, 2007 of the Company and our report dated January 10, 2008 expressed an unqualified opinion on those consolidated financial statements.

/s/Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Auditores Independentes

Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Auditores Independentes

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

January 10, 2008

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### REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Board of Directors and Stockholders of  
Aracruz Celulose S.A.

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Aracruz Celulose S.A. and subsidiaries ( the Company ) as of December 31, 2007 and 2006, and the related consolidated statements of operations, changes in stockholders' equity and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2007. These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the consolidated 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 consolidated financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit also includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements, 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.



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In our opinion, such consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of the Company as of December 31, 2007 and 2006, and the consolidated results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2007, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

We have also audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2007, based on the criteria established in Internal Control - Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission and our report dated January 10, 2008 expressed an unqualified opinion on the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

/s/Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Auditores Independentes

Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Auditores Independentes

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

January 10, 2008

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## Aracruz Celulose S.A. Consolidated Balance Sheets

Expressed in thousands of United States dollars

(Except number of shares)

| Assets                                    | December 31, |           | Liabilities and stockholders' equity                         |
|---|--------------|-----------|--|
|   | 2006         | 2007      |  |
| <b>Current assets</b>                     |              |           | <b>Current liabilities</b>                                   |
| Cash and cash equivalents                 | 48,414       | 53,321    | Suppliers  |
| Short-term investments                    | 531,229      | 439,940   | Payroll and related charges                                  |
| Accounts receivable, net                  | 285,795      | 361,603   | Income and other taxes                                       |
| Inventories                               | 202,704      | 225,023   | Short-term borrowings  |
| Deferred income tax                       | 15,375       | 12,280    | Current portion of long-term debt                            |
| Recoverable taxes                         | 109,165      | 140,390   | Related party  |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets | 8,242        | 18,843    | Other  |
|   |              |           | Accrued finance charges                                      |
| Total current assets                      | 1,200,924    | 1,251,400 | Accrued dividends - interest payable on stockholders' equity |
|   |              |           | Other accruals   |
| Property, plant and equipment, net        | 2,151,212    | 2,518,700 | Total current liabilities                                    |
| Investment in affiliated company          | 324,736      | 415,394   |  |
| Goodwill                                  | 192,035      | 192,035   | Long-term liabilities  |
|   |              |           | Long-term debt   |
|   |              |           | Related party  |
|   |              |           | Other  |
|   |              |           | Tax assessments and litigation contingencies                 |
|   |              |           | Liabilities associated with unrecognized tax benefits        |
|   |              |           | Interest and penalties on liabilities associated with        |
| Other assets                              |              |           | Deferred income tax, net                                     |
| Long-term investments                     | 2,669        | 33,149    | Other  |
| Advances to suppliers                     | 81,485       | 100,922   |  |
| Accounts receivable                       |              | 24,671    | Total long-term liabilities                                  |
| Deposits for tax assessments              | 26,778       | 22,520    |  |
| Recoverable taxes                         | 15,093       | 64,899    | Commitments and contingencies (Note 3 and 14)                |
| Other                                     | 996          | 1,173     |  |
| Total other assets                        | 127,021      | 247,334   | Minority interest  |

## Aracruz Celulose S.A.

### Consolidated Balance Sheets

Expressed in thousands of United States dollars

(Except number of shares)

|   | December 31, |           | December 31,                               |           |           |
|---|--------------|-----------|--|-----------|-----------|
|   | 2006         | 2007      | 2006                                       | 2007      |           |
| Stockholders' equity                                      |              |           |  |           |           |
| Share capital - no-par-value shares authorized and issued |              |           |  |           |           |
| Common stock - 2006 and 2007 - 455,390,699 shares         |              |           | 297,265                                    | 518,385   |           |
| Preferred stock   |              |           |  |           |           |
| Class A - 2006 37,962,555 shares 2007                     |              |           |  |           |           |
| 27,958,116 shares   |              |           | 31,056                                     | 41,305    |           |
| Class B - 2006 - 539,200,866 shares; 2007 -               |              |           |  |           |           |
| 549,205,305 shares;                                       |              |           | 583,440                                    | 853,439   |           |
| Treasury stock  |              |           |  |           |           |
| Class B preferred stock 2006 and 2007 -                   |              |           |  |           |           |
| 1,483,200 shares;   |              |           |  |           |           |
| Common stock 2006 and 2007 -                              |              |           |  |           |           |
| 483,114 shares  |              |           | (2,639)                                    | (2,639)   |           |
| Total share capital                                       |              |           | 909,122                                    | 1,410,490 |           |
| Appropriated retained earnings                            |              |           | 1,419,079                                  | 1,434,228 |           |
| Unappropriated retained earnings (deficit)                |              |           | (125,778)                                  | (457,600) |           |
| Total stockholders' equity                                |              |           | 2,202,423                                  | 2,387,118 |           |
| Total assets  | 3,995,928    | 4,624,863 | Total liabilities and stockholders' equity | 3,995,928 | 4,624,863 |

## Aracruz Celulose S.A.

### Consolidated Statements of Operations

Expressed in thousands of United States dollars

(Except number of shares and per-share amounts)

|                                     | Year ended December 31, |           |           |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|
|                                     | 2005                    | 2006      | 2007      |
| <b>Operating revenues</b>           |                         |           |           |
| Domestic                            | 62,019                  | 77,431    | 137,086   |
| Export                              | 1,469,646               | 1,845,026 | 2,007,017 |
| <b>Gross operating revenues</b>     | 1,531,665               | 1,922,457 | 2,144,103 |
| Sales taxes and other deductions    | (186,432)               | (241,624) | (260,328) |
| Net operating revenues              | 1,345,233               | 1,680,833 | 1,883,775 |
| <b>Operating costs and expenses</b> |                         |           |           |
| Cost of sales                       | 783,578                 | 1,037,896 | 1,190,957 |

|  |                 |                  |                  |
|--|-----------------|------------------|------------------|
| Selling  | 64,430          | 74,005           | 78,832           |
| Administrative   | 33,820          | 57,020           | 58,708           |
| Other, net   | 16,313          | 12,514           | (38,624)         |
| <b>Total operating costs and expenses</b>  | <b>898,141</b>  | <b>1,181,435</b> | <b>1,289,873</b> |
| <b>Operating income</b>  | <b>447,092</b>  | <b>499,398</b>   | <b>593,902</b>   |
| <b>Non-operating (income) expenses, net</b>  |                 |                  |                  |
| Financial income   | (125,439)       | (181,733)        | (168,037)        |
| Financial expenses   | 137,276         | 149,719          | 100,864          |
| Gain on currency remeasurement, net  | (21,386)        | (7,641)          | (908)            |
| Other, net   | (778)           | (7)              | (61)             |
| <b>Total non-operating (income) expenses, net</b>  | <b>(10,327)</b> | <b>(39,662)</b>  | <b>(68,142)</b>  |
| <b>Income before income taxes, minority interest and equity in results of affiliated companies</b> | <b>457,419</b>  | <b>539,060</b>   | <b>662,044</b>   |
| <b>Income tax expense</b>  |                 |                  |                  |
| Current  | 71,086          | 30,754           | 41,343           |
| Deferred   | 1,142           | 38,740           | 155,969          |
| <b>Total income tax expense</b>  | <b>72,228</b>   | <b>69,494</b>    | <b>197,312</b>   |
| <b>Minority interest</b>   | <b>(31)</b>     | <b>(544)</b>     | <b>(10,522)</b>  |
| <b>Equity in results of affiliated companies</b>   | <b>(44,062)</b> | <b>(13,705)</b>  | <b>(32,141)</b>  |
| <b>Net income</b>  | <b>341,098</b>  | <b>455,317</b>   | <b>422,069</b>   |

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## Aracruz Celulose S.A. Consolidated Statements of Operations

Expressed in thousands of United States dollars  
(Except number of shares and per-share amounts)

|  | (Continued)                    |         |         |
|--|--------------------------------|---------|---------|
|  | Year ended <u>December 31,</u> |         |         |
|  | 2005                           | 2006    | 2007    |
| <b>Basic and diluted earnings per share</b>  |                                |         |         |
| Common stock   | 0.31                           | 0.42    | 0.39    |
| Class A preferred stock  | 0.34                           | 0.46    | 0.43    |
| Class B preferred stock  | 0.34                           | 0.46    | 0.43    |
| <b>Weighted-average number of shares outstanding (thousands) - basic and diluted</b> |                                |         |         |
| Common stock   | 454,908                        | 454,908 | 454,908 |
| Class A preferred stock  | 38,022                         | 38,015  | 36,933  |
| Class B preferred stock  | 537,739                        | 537,665 | 538,747 |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

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## Aracruz Celulose S.A. Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows

Expressed in thousands of United States dollars

Year ended December 31,

|   | 2005      | 2006           | 2007      |
|---|-----------|----------------|-----------|
| <b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>                                       |           |                |           |
| Net income  | 341,098   | 455,317        | 422,069   |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities: |           |                |           |
| Depreciation and depletion  | 211,615   | 217,842        | 217,641   |
| Equity in results of affiliated companies   | 44,062    | 13,705         | 32,141    |
| Deferred income tax   | 1,142     | 38,740         | 155,969   |
| Gain on currency remeasurement, net   | (21,386)  | (7,641)        | (908)     |
| Loss (gain) on sale of equipment  | 1,005     | (46)           | 1,967     |
| Decrease (increase) in assets   |           |                |           |
| Accounts receivable, net  | (58,514)  | (47,366)       | (110,469) |
| Inventories, net  | (47,653)  | (28,831)       | (22,319)  |
| Interest receivable on short-term investments                                     | (45,206)  | (6,281)        | (33,244)  |
| Recoverable taxes   | (45,170)  | (22,093)       | (59,549)  |
| Other   | (3,609)   | (1,902)        | 72        |
| Increase (decrease) in liabilities  |           |                |           |
| Suppliers   | 26,825    | (614)          | 13,237    |
| Payroll and related charges   | 3,782     | 4,606          | 5,941     |
| Income and other tax assessments and litigation contingencies                     | 38,953    | 5,725          | 16,194    |
| Accrued finance charges   | (811)     | 10,697         | (9,049)   |
| Other   | (391)     | 3,010          | 12,011    |
| Net cash provided by operating activities   | 445,742   | <u>634,868</u> | 641,704   |
| <b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>                                       |           |                |           |
| Short-term investments:   |           |                |           |
| Applications  | (141,736) | (175,913)      | (108,398) |
| Redemptions   | 143,750   | 223,331        | 298,304   |
| Proceeds from sale of equipment   | 724       | 565            | 531       |
| Investments in affiliate  | (69,097)  | (24,500)       | (122,800) |
| Additions to property, plant and equipment  | (147,884) | (301,009)      | (589,677) |
| Net cash used in investing activities   | (214,243) | (277,526)      | (522,040) |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

## Aracruz Celulose S.A.

### Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows

Expressed in thousands of United States dollars

(Continued)

|   | 2005   | 2006     | 2007    |
|---|--------|----------|---------|
| <b>Cash flows from financing activities</b> |        |          |         |
| Short-term debt, net                        | 86,962 | (73,649) | 12,264  |
| Long-term debt                              |        |          |         |
| Issuances                                   |        |          |         |
| Related parties                             | 60,205 | 72,776   | 138,151 |
| Other                                       | 25,000 | 809,000  | 285,000 |
| Repayments                                  |        |          |         |

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|  |               |               |               |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Related parties  | (56,245)      | (63,693)      | (71,276)      |
| Other  | (209,319)     | (834,042)     | (251,854)     |
| Treasury stock acquired  | (351)         |               |               |
| Dividends and interest on stockholders' equity paid              | (139,420)     | (251,758)     | (232,740)     |
| Net cash used in financing activities                            | (233,168)     | (341,366)     | (120,455)     |
| Effect of changes in exchange rates on cash and cash equivalents | (691)         | (1,676)       | 5,698         |
| Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents                 | (2,360)       | 14,300        | 4,907         |
| <b>Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year</b>              | <b>36,474</b> | <b>34,114</b> | <b>48,414</b> |
| <b>Cash and cash equivalents, end of year</b>                    | <b>34,114</b> | <b>48,414</b> | <b>53,321</b> |
| <b>Supplementary cash flow information</b>                       |               |               |               |
| Interest paid  | 80,919        | 76,030        | 91,304        |
| Income taxes paid  | 95,359        | 41,450        | 51,500        |
| Non-cash transaction:  |               |               |               |
| Capital increase with balances from investment reserves          |               |               | 501,368       |
| Unpaid accrued dividends and interest on stockholders' equity    | 65,947        | 36,545        | 45,495        |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

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## Aracruz Celulose S.A. Consolidated Statements of Changes in Stockholders' Equity

Expressed in thousands of United States dollars  
(except number of shares and per-share amounts)

|   | 2005        |         | 2006        |         | Year ended December 31, 2007 |         |
|---|-------------|---------|-------------|---------|------------------------------|---------|
|   | Shares      | US\$    | Shares      | US\$    | Shares                       | US\$    |
| <b>Share Capital</b>                              |             |         |             |         |                              |         |
| Common stock                                      |             |         |             |         |                              |         |
| Balance, January 1                                | 455,390,699 | 297,265 | 455,390,699 | 297,265 | 455,390,699                  | 297,265 |
| Capital increase                                  |             |         |             |         |                              | 221,120 |
| Balance, December 31                              | 455,390,699 | 297,265 | 455,390,699 | 297,265 | 455,390,699                  | 518,385 |
| Preferred stock - Class A                         |             |         |             |         |                              |         |
| Balance, January 1                                | 38,022,178  | 31,105  | 38,022,178  | 31,105  | 37,962,555                   | 31,056  |
| Capital increase                                  |             |         |             |         |                              | 18,433  |
| Conversion to Class B stock                       |             |         | (59,623)    | (49)    | (10,004,439)                 | (8,184) |
| Balance, December 31                              | 38,022,178  | 31,105  | 37,962,555  | 31,056  | 27,958,116                   | 41,305  |
| Preferred stock - Class B                         |             |         |             |         |                              |         |
| Balance, January 1                                | 539,141,243 | 583,391 | 539,141,243 | 583,391 | 539,200,866                  | 583,440 |
| Capital increase                                  |             |         |             |         |                              | 261,815 |
| Conversion from Class A stock                     |             |         | 59,623      | 49      | 10,004,439                   | 8,184   |
| Balance, December 31                              | 539,141,243 | 583,391 | 539,200,866 | 583,440 | 549,205,305                  | 853,439 |
| Treasury stock                                    |             |         |             |         |                              |         |
| Balance, January 1 - Preferred and common stock   | (1,861,114) | (2,288) | (1,966,314) | (2,639) | (1,966,314)                  | (2,639) |
| Treasury stock acquired - Class B Preferred stock | (105,200)   | (351)   |             |         |                              |         |

|                      |               |         |               |         |               |           |
|----------------------|---------------|---------|---------------|---------|---------------|-----------|
| Balance, December 31 | (1,966,314)   | (2,639) | (1,966,314)   | (2,639) | (1,966,314)   | (2,639)   |
| Total share capital  | 1,030,587,806 | 909,122 | 1,030,587,806 | 909,122 | 1,030,587,806 | 1,410,490 |

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## Aracruz Celulose S.A.

### Consolidated Statements of Changes in Stockholders Equity

Expressed in thousands of United States dollars  
(except number of shares and per-share amounts)

|  | (Continued)             |           |               |           |               |           |
|--|-------------------------|-----------|---------------|-----------|---------------|-----------|
|  | Year ended December 31, |           |               |           |               |           |
|  | 2005                    |           | 2006          |           | 2007          |           |
|  | Shares                  | US\$      | Shares        | US\$      | Shares        | US\$      |
| Balance brought forward - total share capital  | 1,030,587,806           | 909,122   | 1,030,587,806 | 909,122   | 1,030,587,806 | 1,410,490 |
| Appropriated Retained Earnings                 |                         |           |               |           |               |           |
| Fiscal-incentive reserve                       |                         |           |               |           |               |           |
| Balance, January 1                             |                         | 53,819    |               | 69,300    |               | 75,870    |
| Transfer from unappropriated retained earnings |                         | 15,481    |               | 6,570     |               | 15,706    |
| Balance, December 31                           |                         | 69,300    |               | 75,870    |               | 91,576    |
| Investments reserve                            |                         |           |               |           |               |           |
| Balance, January 1                             |                         | 482,013   |               | 823,434   |               | 1,184,905 |
| Transfer to share capital - capital            |                         |           |               |           |               | (501,368) |
| Dividends cancelled                            |                         |           |               |           |               | 1,126     |
| Transfer from unappropriated retained earnings |                         | 341,421   |               | 361,471   |               | 438,102   |
| Balance, December 31                           |                         | 823,434   |               | 1,184,905 |               | 1,122,765 |
| Legal reserve                                  |                         |           |               |           |               |           |
| Balance, January 1                             |                         | 83,695    |               | 120,065   |               | 158,304   |
| Transfer from unappropriated retained earnings |                         | 36,370    |               | 38,239    |               | 61,583    |
| Balance, December 31                           |                         | 120,065   |               | 158,304   |               | 219,887   |
| Total appropriated retained earnings           |                         | 1,012,799 |               | 1,419,079 |               |           |
| Balance carried forward                        | 1,030,587,806           | 1,921,921 | 1,030,587,806 | 2,328,201 | 1,030,587,806 | 2,844,718 |

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## Aracruz Celulose S.A.

### Consolidated Statements of Changes in Stockholders equity

Expressed in thousands of United States dollars  
(except number of shares and per-share amounts)

|                                  | (Continued)             |           |               |           |               |           |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------|---------------|-----------|---------------|-----------|
|                                  | Year ended December 31, |           |               |           |               |           |
|                                  | 2005                    |           | 2006          |           | 2007          |           |
|                                  | Shares                  | US\$      | Shares        | US\$      | Shares        | US\$      |
| Balance brought forward          | 1,030,587,806           | 1,921,921 | 1,030,587,806 | 2,328,201 | 1,030,587,806 | 2,844,718 |
| Unappropriated retained earnings |                         |           |               |           |               |           |
| Balance, January 1               |                         | 285,287   |               | 42,502    |               | (125,778) |
| Net income                       |                         | 341,098   |               | 455,317   |               | 422,069   |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |               |           |               |           |               |         |         |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|---------------|-----------|---------------|-----------|---------------|---------|---------|
| Cash dividends (per share: 2005 - US\$ 0.06 to Class A preferred stock and US\$ 0.05 to both Class B preferred and common stock; 2006 - US\$ 0.07 to Class A preferred stock and US\$ 0.06 to both Class B preferred and common stock; 2007 - US\$ 0.08 to both Class A preferred and Class B preferred stock and US\$ 0.08 to common stock) |  |  |  |  |  | (59,484)      | (70,969)  |               |           |               |         |         |
| Interest on Stockholders' Equity (per share: 2005 - US\$ 0.13 to both Class A and B preferred stock and US\$ 0.12 to common stock; 2006 - US\$ 0.15 to both Class A and B preferred stock and US\$ 0.13 to common stock; 2007 - US\$ 0.16 to both Class A and B preferred stock and US\$ 0.14 to common stock)                               |  |  |  |  |  | (131,127)     | (146,348) |               |           |               |         |         |
| Transfer to reserves   |  |  |  |  |  | (393,272)     | (406,280) |               |           |               |         |         |
| Balance, December 31   |  |  |  |  |  | 42,502        | (125,778) |               |           |               |         |         |
| <b>Total stockholders' equity</b>  |  |  |  |  |  | 1,030,587,806 | 1,964,423 | 1,030,587,806 | 2,202,423 | 1,030,587,806 |         |         |
| <b>Comprehensive income is comprised as follows:</b>   |  |  |  |  |  |               |           |               |           |               |         |         |
| Net income   |  |  |  |  |  |               |           |               |           |               | 341,098 | 455,317 |
| Total comprehensive income   |  |  |  |  |  |               |           |               |           |               | 341,098 | 455,317 |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these consolidated financial statements.

## Aracruz Celulose S.A.

### Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

Expressed in thousands of United States dollars  
(unless otherwise stated)

#### 1. Operations and summary of significant accounting policies

##### 1.1. Operations

Aracruz Celulose S.A. and its subsidiaries (the "Company") produces eucalyptus pulp, which is a high-quality variety of hardwood pulp used by paper manufacturers to produce a wide range of products, including premium tissue, printing and writing papers, liquid packaging board and specialty papers. Eucalyptus pulp's distinguishing characteristics are its softness, opacity, porosity, and suitability for printing. Market pulp is the pulp sold to producers of paper products, as opposed to pulp produced by an integrated paper producer, for use in paper production facilities.

##### 1.2. Summary of significant accounting policies

The consolidated financial statements of Aracruz Celulose S.A. and its subsidiaries (the Company) have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ( US GAAP ), which require management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenue and expenses during the reporting periods and require the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities as of the date of the financial statements. The Company's consolidated financial statements therefore include estimates concerning such matters as the selection of useful lives of property, plant and equipment, provisions necessary for asset impairments, contingent liabilities, employee postretirement benefits and other similar evaluations; actual results may vary from estimates.

**(a) Basis of presentation**

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with US GAAP, which differ in certain respects from the Brazilian accounting principles applied by the Company in its statutory financial statements prepared in accordance with Brazilian corporate legislation.

The Company has reported its financial statements in U.S. dollars since 1994 when the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission permitted foreign registrants to report in U.S. dollars rather than in the currency of the country in which they are incorporated. The U.S. Dollar is used as the Company's functional currency as this has been, and remains, in the opinion of the Company's Board of Directors and Management, the currency in which it principally operates as well as being the Company's primary unit of economic measure. The U.S. dollar amounts have been remeasured from Brazilian Reais (R\$) in accordance with the criteria set forth in Statement of Financial Accounting Standards N° 52 - "Foreign Currency Translation" ( SFAS 52 ). Remeasurement gains and losses are recognized in the income statement and non-monetary assets and liabilities (such as inventory and fixed assets) are converted at the historical exchange rate rather than at the end of period exchange rate.

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## **Aracruz Celulose S.A.**

### **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

**Expressed in thousands of United States dollars**

**(unless otherwise stated)**

The impact of the exchange variation of the Brazilian Real in relation to the U.S. dollar on the Company's monetary assets and liabilities denominated in Brazilian Reais in 2007 was a net gain of US\$ 1 million (US\$ 8 million in 2006 and US\$ 21 million in 2005). The exchange rates at December 31, 2007, 2006 and 2005 were, respectively: US\$ 1: R\$ 1.7713, R\$ 2.1380 and R\$ 2.3407.

Stockholders' equity included in the consolidated financial statements presented herein differs from that included in the Company's statutory accounting records as a result of the variations in the U.S. dollar exchange rate, the indexation mandated over the years up to December 31, 1995 for statutory financial statements and adjustments made to reflect the requirements of US GAAP (note 11).

**(b) Basis of consolidation**

The financial statements of all majority-owned subsidiaries, Private Investment Fund, have been consolidated, and all significant intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated. Accordingly, the following companies were consolidated: Aracruz Trading S.A., Aracruz Celulose (USA) Inc., Portocel Terminal Especializado de Barra do Riacho S.A., Mucuri Agroflorestral S.A., Riocell Limited, Ara Pulp - Com. de Importação e Exportação, Unipessoal Ltda. and Aracruz Trading International Commercial and Servicing Limited Liability Company ("Aracruz Trading International Ltd."), the Private Investments Funds Pulp and Lyptus and the Arcel Finance Limited (dissolved in November 27, 2007).

**(c) Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents represent cash, bank accounts and short-term financial investments with a ready market and original maturities when purchased of 90 days or less, and are stated at cost plus accrued interest, which approximates market value due to the short-term nature of the investments.

**(d) Concentration of risk**



Financial instruments which potentially subject the Company to concentrations of credit and performance risk are cash and cash equivalents, short-term investments and trade accounts receivable. The Company limits its credit and performance risk associated with cash and cash equivalents and short-term investments by placing its investments with highly-rated financial institutions. An allowance for doubtful accounts is established to the extent the Company's trade receivables are estimated not to be fully collectible.

The Company's pulp sales are made substantially to the paper industry; consequently, its performance is dependent upon that industry's worldwide demand for pulp and the related supply, as well as fluctuations in the market price for pulp which can be significant.

## **Aracruz Celulose S.A.**

### **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

Expressed in thousands of United States dollars  
(unless otherwise stated)

#### **(e) Inventories**

Inventories are stated at the lower of the average cost of purchase or production, and replacement or market values. Cost is determined principally on the average-cost method. Cost is adjusted for slow-moving or obsolete inventories when considered appropriate.

#### **(f) Investments in affiliated companies and other investments**

The Company uses the equity method of accounting for its long-term investment (Veracel Celulose S.A.) in which it owns 50% of the investee's voting stock and has the ability to exercise significant influence over operating and financial policies of the investee and for its long-term investment in Aracruz Produtos de Madeira S.A. ("APM") in which it owns 33.3% of the investee's voting stock and also has the ability to exercise significant influence over operating and financial policies. The equity method requires periodic adjustments to the investment account to recognize the Company's proportionate share in the investee's results, reduced by receipt of investee dividends and, up to January 1, 2002, amortization of goodwill.

The Company accounts for its investment securities having a quoted market price (other than those accounted for under the equity method) in accordance with SFAS No. 115 Accounting for Certain Investments in Debt and Equity Securities (SFAS 115).

#### **(g) Impairment testing of goodwill**

The Company annually evaluates the carrying value of goodwill during and between annual evaluations if events occur or circumstances change that would more likely than not reduce the fair value of the reporting unit below its carrying amount. Such circumstances could include, but are not limited to: (1) a significant adverse change in legal factors or in business climate, (2) unanticipated competition, or (3) an adverse action or assessment by a regulator. When evaluating whether goodwill is impaired, the Company compares the fair value of the reporting unit to which the goodwill is assigned to the reporting unit's carrying amount, including goodwill. The fair value of the reporting unit is estimated using a discounted cash flows approach. If the carrying amount of the reporting unit exceeds its fair value, then the amount of the impairment loss must be measured. The impairment loss would be calculated by comparing the implied fair value of reporting unit goodwill to its carrying amount. In calculating the implied fair value of reporting unit goodwill, the fair value of the reporting unit is allocated to all of the other assets and liabilities

of that unit based on their fair values. The excess of the fair value of a reporting unit over the amount assigned to its other assets and liabilities is the implied fair value of goodwill. An impairment loss would be recognized when the carrying amount of goodwill exceeds its implied fair value. The Company's evaluation of goodwill completed during the year resulted in no impairment losses. The Goodwill registered in the Company's financial statements mainly refers to the acquisition of Riocell S.A.

## **Aracruz Celulose S.A.**

### **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

Expressed in thousands of United States dollars  
(unless otherwise stated)

#### **(h) Property, plant and equipment**

Timber resources are stated at cost, less accumulated depletion. Forest development and maintenance cost including costs related to site preparation, planting, fertilization, herbicide application and thinning, together with related taxes, are capitalized as timber resources. Depletion is determined on stand by stand basis, excluding from the amount to be depleted the portion of development costs that benefit future harvests; such costs remain capitalized and are included in the future depletion cost of those harvests.

Other property, plant and equipment are recorded at cost, including interest incurred on financing during the construction period of major new facilities. Interest on borrowings are capitalized exclusive of the foreign currency translation effects .

Depreciation is computed on the straight-line basis at rates, which take into consideration the useful lives of the assets, principally an average of 25 years for buildings, 10 years for improvements and installations, and 4 to 25 years for machinery and equipment and other assets.

The costs of logging roads and related facilities included in property, plant and equipment, under the heading Buildings, improvements and installations are depreciated over their useful lives.

Maintenance expenses, including those related to programmed maintenance of the Company's facilities, are charged to the cost of production as incurred.

#### **(i) Environmental costs**

Expenditures relating to ongoing programs for compliance with environmental regulations are generally expensed but may be capitalized under certain circumstances. Capitalization is considered appropriate when the expenditures relate to the acquisition and installation of pollution control equipment. These ongoing programs are designed to minimize the environmental impact of the Company's pulp-producing activities.

#### **(j) Research and development**

Expenditures for research and development were US\$ 10.0 million, US\$ 8.6 million and US\$ 6.3 million for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2006 and 2005, respectively. All such costs are expensed as incurred.

## **Aracruz Celulose S.A.**

### **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

Expressed in thousands of United States dollars  
(unless otherwise stated)

#### **(k) Recoverability of long-lived assets**

Management reviews long-lived assets to be held and used in the Company's business activities, for the purpose of determining and measuring impairment on a recurring basis or when events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value of an asset or group of assets may not be recoverable. Write-down of the carrying value of assets or groups of assets is made if and when appropriate in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards N° 144, Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets, or SFAS 144. SFAS 144 addresses financial accounting and reporting for the impairment or disposal of long-lived assets. In accordance with SFAS 144, the carrying value of long-lived asset is considered impaired when the anticipated undiscounted cash flow from such asset is separately identifiable and is less than its carrying value. In that event, a loss is recognized based on the amount by which the carrying value exceeds the fair value of the assets. Fair value is determined primarily by using a discounted cash flow analysis. During 2007, as a consequence of the devaluation of the US dollar against Brazilian Reais, we have performed the anticipated undiscounted cash flow test and we have concluded that the carrying amount of our assets is still recoverable.

#### **(l) Advances to suppliers**

Advances to suppliers represent amounts advanced (either in cash, seeds, technical assistance or other assets that will be used to grow eucalyptus plants) to small private producers in the states of Espírito Santo, Bahia, Minas Gerais and Rio Grande do Sul, as part of a program called Programa Produtor Florestal. In exchange, the Company receives wood produced by these small private producers. The allocation between current and non-current asset is calculated based on the estimated timing of future harvest.

#### **(m) Employee retirement and post-employment benefits**

The cost of the employee retirement benefits is accrued currently. Employee postretirement and post-employment benefits as defined by SFAS 106 - Employers Accounting for Postretirement Benefits other than Pensions and SFAS 112 - Employers Accounting for Post-employment Benefits, respectively, are not significant. The Company is required by law to provide severance benefits to employees terminated without just cause.

#### **(n) Compensated absences**

The liability for employees' future vacation compensation is accrued as vacation vests during the year.

## **Aracruz Celulose S.A.**

### **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

Expressed in thousands of United States dollars  
(unless otherwise stated)

#### **(o) Revenues and expenses**

Revenues arise from annual and long-term sales contracts and from spot sales and are recognized on an accrual basis when the products have been delivered or shipped to the customer and the risk of ownership has passed to the customer. The Company's selling prices are fixed or determinable and collectibility is reasonably assured. Expenses and costs are accrued as incurred.

The Company reflects rebates, discounts and value-added taxes as a reduction of gross operating revenues.

**(p) Shipping and handling fees**

Amounts billed to customers in a sale transaction related to shipping and handling are classified as revenue. The related costs incurred for related to shipping and handling are classified as costs of sale.

**(q) Accounting for derivatives and hedging activities**

The Company accounts for derivative financial instruments pursuant to SFAS No. 133, Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities, as amended. This standard requires that all derivative instruments be recognized in the financial statements and measured at fair value regardless of the purpose or intent for holding them. Changes in the fair value of derivative instruments are recognized periodically in income as the Company accounts for all derivative financial instruments as non-hedge transactions. Gain and losses are classified as financial income and expense in the statements of operations.

**(r) Income taxes**

The Company recognizes deferred income tax assets and liabilities for the expected future tax consequences of temporary differences between the tax bases and financial reporting bases of assets and liabilities, as well as on tax losses carryforward. A valuation allowance is provided to reduce deferred income tax assets when management considers that realization is not more likely than not.

The Company adopted the provisions of FASB Interpretation No. 48 (FIN 48), Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes, on January 1, 2007. Beginning January 1, 2007, the Company records the financial statement effects of an income tax position when it is more likely than not, based on the technical merits, that it will be sustained upon examination. A tax position that meets the more-likely-than-not recognition threshold is measured and recorded as the largest amount of tax benefit that is greater than 50 percent likely of being realized upon ultimate settlement with a taxing authority. Previously recognized tax positions are derecognized in the

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## **Aracruz Celulose S.A.**

### **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

**Expressed in thousands of United States dollars**  
**(unless otherwise stated)**

first period in which it is no longer more likely than not that the tax position will be sustained. The benefit associated with previously unrecognized tax positions are generally recognized in the first period in which the more-likely-than-not threshold is met at the reporting date, the tax matter is ultimately settled through negotiation or litigation or when the related statute of limitations for the relevant taxing authority to examine and challenge the tax position has expired. The recognition, derecognition and measurement of tax positions are based on management's best judgment given the facts, circumstance and information available at the reporting date.

Differences between a tax position taken or expected to be taken in the Company's tax returns and the amount of benefit recognized and measured in the financial statements result in unrecognized tax benefits, which are recorded in the balance sheet as either a liability for unrecognized tax benefits or reductions to recorded tax assets, as applicable. The liability for unrecognized tax benefits expected to be realized within one year are classified as current in the balance sheet.

Interest and penalties are accrued with respect to unrecognized tax benefits in accordance with the legislation of the respective taxing jurisdictions.

The adoption of FIN 48 did not have a material impact in the Company's statements of operations and financial position and did not result in a cumulative adjustment to retained earnings at adoption.

**(s) Basic and diluted earnings per share**

Basic and diluted earnings per share are computed by dividing net income by the weighted average number of all classes of shares outstanding during the year, net of treasury stock, after taking into consideration the dividend preferences applicable to the Company's Class A and Class B preferred stocks, assuming that all earnings for the year are fully distributed. There were no dilutive securities outstanding in 2005, 2006 and 2007 (see Note 11).

**(t) Segment information**

SFAS No. 131 Disclosures about Segments of Enterprise and Related Information ( SFAS 131 ) requires that a business enterprise supplementally disclose certain financial information among its various and distinct operating activities. Such information is to be presented from the point of view of how operating and financial decisions are made for each business sector. See presentation of exports by geographic information in note 18.

## **Aracruz Celulose S.A.**

### **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

Expressed in thousands of United States dollars  
(unless otherwise stated)

**(u) Guarantees**

The Company has disclosed its guarantees to third parties in accordance with FASB Interpretation No. 45 Guarantor's Accounting and Disclosure Requirements for Guarantees, Including Indirect Guarantees of Indebtedness of Others ( FIN 45 ) in Note 15. FIN 45 requires certain disclosures to be made by a guarantor in its interim and annual financial statements about its obligations under certain guarantees that it has issued. FIN 45 also requires a guarantor to recognize, at the inception of a guarantee, a liability for the fair value of the obligation undertaken in issuing the guarantee. The initial recognition and measurement requirements of FIN 45 are effective for guarantees issued or modified after December 31, 2002.

#### **2 Recently issued accounting pronouncements**

In September 2006, the FASB issued SFAS No. 157 Fair value measurements , which defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value, and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. This Statement applies under other accounting pronouncements that require or permit fair value measurements, the Board having previously concluded in those accounting pronouncements that fair value is the relevant measurement attribute. Accordingly, this Statement does not require any new fair value measurements.

This Statement is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007 and interim periods within those fiscal years. The adoption of such pronouncement will not generate a material impact on the Company's financial position.

In February 2007, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ( FASB ) issued SFAS No. 159, The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities Including an amendment of SFAS No. 115 ( SFAS 159 ). SFAS 159 permits companies to choose to measure many financial instruments and certain other items at fair value in order to mitigate volatility in reported earnings caused by measuring related assets and liabilities differently without having to apply complex hedge accounting provisions. This Statement shall be effective as of the beginning of each reporting entity's first fiscal year that begins after November 15, 2007. The adoption of such pronouncement will not generate a material impact on the Company's financial position.

In December 2007, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ( FASB ) issued SFAS No. 141 (revised 2007), Business Combination , which replaces FASB Statement No. 141, Business Combinations. This Statement retains the fundamental requirements in Statement 141 that the acquisition method of accounting (which Statement 141 called the purchase method) be used for all business combinations and for an acquirer to be identified for each business combination. This Statement defines the acquirer as the entity that obtains control of one or more businesses in the business combination and establishes the acquisition date as the date that the acquirer achieves control. Statement 141 did not define the acquirer, although it included guidance on

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## Aracruz Celulose S.A.

### Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

**Expressed in thousands of United States dollars  
(unless otherwise stated)**

identifying the acquirer, as does this Statement. This Statement's scope is broader than that of Statement 141, which applied only to business combinations in which control was obtained by transferring consideration. The result of applying Statement 141's guidance on recognizing and measuring assets and liabilities in a step acquisition was to measure them at a blend of historical costs and fair values, a practice that provided less relevant, representationally faithful, and comparable information than will result from applying this Statement. In addition, this Statement's requirement to measure the noncontrolling interest in the acquiree at fair value will result in recognizing the goodwill attributable to the noncontrolling interest in addition to that attributable to the acquirer, which improves the completeness of the resulting information and makes it more comparable across entities. By applying the same method of accounting, the acquisition method to all transactions and other events in which one entity obtains control over one or more other businesses, this Statement improves the comparability of the information about business combinations provided in financial reports. This Statement applies prospectively to business combinations for which the acquisition date is on or after the beginning of the first annual reporting period beginning on or after December 15, 2008. An entity may not apply it before that date. The effective date of this Statement is the same as that of the related FASB Statement No. 160, Noncontrolling Interests in Consolidated Financial Statements. The Company will apply such pronouncement on a prospective basis for each new business combination.

In December 2007, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ( FASB ) issued SFAS No. 160, Noncontrolling Interests in Consolidated Financial Statements an amendment of ARB No. 51 , which clarifies that a noncontrolling interest in a subsidiary is an ownership interest in the consolidated entity that should be reported as equity in the consolidated financial statements. This Statement is effective for fiscal years, and interim periods within those fiscal years, beginning on or after December 15, 2008 (that is, January 1, 2009, for entities with calendar year-ends). Earlier adoption is prohibited. The effective date of this Statement is the same as that of the related Statement 141(R). This Statement shall be applied prospectively as of the beginning of the fiscal year in which this Statement is initially

applied, except for the presentation and disclosure requirements. The presentation and disclosure requirements shall be applied retrospectively for all periods presented. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of such new pronouncement in its consolidated financial statements..

### 3 Taxes

#### 3.1 Income taxes

Income taxes in Brazil comprise federal income tax and social contribution. The deferred income tax balances at each period are computed at the rates to be in force in the subsequent years and the current tax balances at each period include taxes to be paid currently. The statutorily enacted rates applicable for federal income tax and social contribution were 25% and 9%, respectively, which represented an aggregate rate of 34%, for 2007, 2006 and 2005.

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## Aracruz Celulose S.A. Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

Expressed in thousands of United States dollars  
(unless otherwise stated)

The amounts reported as income tax expense in the consolidated statements of income are reconciled to the statutory rates as follows:

|   | Year ended December 31, |           |          |
|---|-------------------------|-----------|----------|
|   | 2005                    | 2006      | 2007     |
| Income before income taxes, minority interest<br>and equity in results of affiliated companies  | 457,419                 | 539,060   | 662,044  |
| Federal income tax and social<br>contribution at statutory rates  | 155,522                 | 183,280   | 225,095  |
| Adjustments to derive effective tax rate:   |                         |           |          |
| Effects of differences in remeasurement<br>from reais to U.S. dollars, using<br>historical exchange rates and indexing<br>for tax purposes: | 59,976                  | 35,295    | 80,546   |
| Fiscal incentive income tax (a)   | (8,708)                 |           |          |
| Fiscal incentive - Technological innovation   |                         |           | (4,714)  |
| Results in subsidiaries with different tax rates  | (90,574)                | (101,644) | (36,030) |
| Interest on stockholders' equity  | (46,584)                | (50,570)  | (57,374) |
| Other   | 2,596                   | 3,133     | (10,211) |
| Income tax expense reported in the consolidated<br>Statements of income   | 72,228                  | 69,494    | 197,312  |

#### (a) Fiscal incentives

As a result of the Barra do Riacho operations being located within the geographic area of ADENE (Agency for the Development of the Northeast) and since Decree No. 4213, of April 16, 2002, which recognizes the pulp and paper sector as a priority in the development of the region, Aracruz requested and was granted by the Federal Revenue

Service in December 2002 the right to benefit from reductions in corporate income tax.

On January 9, 2004, the Company was notified by the Liquidator of the former Superintendência de Desenvolvimento do Nordeste (SUDENE) of its decision to revoke the fiscal benefits previously granted to the Company based on an opinion of the Legal Counsel to the National Integration Ministry on the definition of the geographical area eligible for the recognition of such benefit.

## **Aracruz Celulose S.A.**

### **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

**Expressed in thousands of United States dollars**  
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During 2004 and 2005, ADENE issued several acts with the objective of annulling the tax benefit used by the Company. Such acts were always challenged by the Company and no final decision on the merits was issued at this point. Nevertheless, in December 2005 the Company was notified by the Federal Revenue Service (SRF) to pay the amount corresponding to the tax incentive it had recorded, plus interest, in the total amount of US\$ 97 million.

The Company presented its defense in January 2006 but its arguments have not been accepted by Federal Revenue Service. The Company appealed to the Federal Taxpayers Council and is currently awaiting a decision.

The Company's management, based on the advice of external legal counsel, believes that the cancellation of the tax incentive is mistaken and shall not prevail, both with respect to the amounts already recorded and with respect to the remaining period. In respect of the tax incentive recorded until 2004 (US\$66.8 million on December 31, 2004), it is the management's understanding, based on advice of external legal counsel, that tax assessment shall be overruled, since the tax incentive was recorded pursuant to strict legal requirements and acts of SRF and ADENE. The Company's management also believes, based on external legal counsel's opinion, that the cancellation of the tax incentive regarding future years (up to 2012 for Fiberlines A and B and 2013 to Fiberline C) is illegal due to the fact that the incentive was granted upon compliance of predetermined conditions (implantation, expansion and modernization of industrial plants). Therefore, the Company has vested right to use the tax incentive until the date set forth in the Law and in the acts issued by ADENE.

Notwithstanding the confidence in the robustness of its right, the Company, considering the facts occurred during the years 2004 and 2005, which indicate ADENE's and SRF's intention to cancel the tax incentive, decided to be conservative and ceased to recognize the incentive in the calculation of income tax payable from 2005 on and until a final Court decision has been granted.

Based on the opinion of its legal advisors, Company's management believes that the ultimate resolution of this matter may be in favor of the Company's arguments, both with respect to the tax incentive recorded up to 2004 and with respect to those to be recorded from 2005 on. Thus, no provisions for loss were booked for the amounts of the benefits already recognized.

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### **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**



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The major components of the deferred income tax accounts in the consolidated balance sheets are as follows:

|   | 2006     | December 31,<br>2007 |
|---|----------|----------------------|
| Deferred Tax Asset - Current Assets                                 |          |                      |
| Unrealized profits on intercompany inventory transactions           | 15,375   | 12,280               |
| Net Deferred Tax Liability - Long-Term                              |          |                      |
| Taxation of foreign exchange variation payable on cash basis        | 71,607   | 189,224              |
| Difference in basis of accounting for Property, plant and equipment | 67,963   | 59,171               |
| Tax loss carryforwards from operations                              | (11,512) | (13,918)             |
| Deductible temporary differences - other provisions                 | (32,023) | 14,402               |
| Net deferred tax liability - long-term                              | 96,035   | 248,879              |

Although realization of net deferred tax assets is not assured, management believes that such realization is more likely than not to occur and, therefore, has not recognized any valuation allowances.

### 3.2 Liabilities associated with unrecognized tax benefits

As discussed in note 1.2 (r), the adoption of FIN 48 did not have a material impact in the Company's statements of operations and financial position and did not result in a cumulative adjustment to retained earnings at adoption.

As a consequence of adoption, on January 1, 2007 the Company did reclassify certain recorded liabilities related to unrecognized tax benefits of US\$ 71,727, previously recorded as part of litigations, contingencies and commitments line in the consolidated balance sheet at December 31, 2006. At December 31, 2007, the Company's recorded liability for unrecognized tax benefits was US\$ 92,449, reflecting increases resulting from current year tax positions and the effects of currency remeasurement. These unrecognized tax benefits primarily refer to tax positions taken by the Company related to the deductibility of social contribution taxes in the determination of federal income taxes on profits generated by export sales and related to the timing of utilization of historical tax loss carryforwards used to offset income tax and social contribution payable. Included in the balance at December 31, 2007 are approximately US\$13 million of tax positions for which there is uncertainty as to the timing of such benefits. As a result of deferred tax

## Aracruz Celulose S.A.

### Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

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accounting, the disallowance of a shorter benefit period would not affect the annual effective tax rate but could accelerate the payment of cash to the taxing authority to an earlier period.

The Company or its subsidiaries file income tax returns in Brazil and other foreign federal and state jurisdictions. Generally, the tax years 2002 through 2007 remain open and subject to examination by the relevant tax authorities.

A reconciliation of the beginning and ending amount of unrecognized tax benefits is as follows:

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| Balance at January 1, 2007                                   | 71,727 |
| Additions based on tax positions related to the current year | 6,536  |
| Additions for tax positions of prior years                   | -      |
| Reductions for tax positions of prior years                  | -      |
| Settlements  | -      |
| Effects of translation from Brazilian R\$ into US dollar     | 14,186 |
| Balance at December 31, 2007                                 | 92,449 |

The Company recognizes interest and penalties accrued on unrecognized tax benefits as a component of interest expense and other non-operating expenses, respectively. The Company has recorded US\$ 69,046 of accrued interest and penalties associated with unrecognized tax benefits at December 31, 2007, recorded as a component of long-term liabilities. As a consequence of adopting FIN 48 and consistent with the Company's classification of interest and penalties, the corresponding interest and penalties of US\$ 47,996 accrued at December 31, 2006 with respect to the previously recorded liabilities associated with unrecognized tax benefits have also been reclassified from the litigations, contingencies and commitments line to the line of interest and penalties on liabilities associated with unrecognized tax benefits, in the long-term liabilities. The Company recognized approximately US\$ 10,192 in accrued interest for the year ended December 31, 2007, respectively US\$ 11,677 for the year ended December 31, 2006, respectively).

**(i) Social Contribution on profits generated by export sales**

On September 10, 2003, the Company obtained a Court Order giving it the right not to pay Social Contribution on profits generated by export sales from January 2002 as well as the right to recognize the amounts of tax credits previously compensated in this regard. Pending final

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## **Aracruz Celulose S.A.**

### **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

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determination, the Company has accrued a provision of US\$ 79.0 million as of December 31, 2007 (US\$ 89.6 million to December 2006).

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### **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

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### (ii) Income Tax - Deductibility of Social Contribution on the net profit

On June 29, 2005, the Company received a tax assessment notice relating to the deductibility of social contribution in the calculation basis of income tax for 2000 and 2001. The existing provision was increased by US\$ 1.5 million, resulting in a final provision of US\$ 16.2 million.

In July 2005, the Company reviewed the base of calculation of the income tax for the periods covered in the assessment and decided to partially pay US\$ 10.1 million of the requested amount. The Company challenged the balance of the tax assessment via an administrative appeal and therefore the ability of the authorities to charge the tax debt is currently suspended. The Company has also initiated a judicial proceeding with the purpose of assuring its right to deduct the social contribution in the calculation basis of income tax.

### (iii) Income tax and social contribution - offsetting of tax losses

On June 29, 2005, the Company received a tax assessment notice relating to the offsetting of tax losses against taxable income of 2000 and 2001. The Company also received a tax assessment notice relating to 2000, regarding tax losses generated during the period in which the Company took advantage of the BEFIEEX tax benefit program.

In July 2006 a Court decision did not recognize the Company's right to offset tax losses against taxable income. The Company challenged such decision. Notwithstanding, with the purpose of avoiding penalty charges the Company paid the amount of US\$ 23.1 million

The existing accrual at December 31, 2007 for the period in which the Company took advantage of the BEFIEEX tax benefit program is US\$ 37.8 million.

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## Aracruz Celulose S.A.

### Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

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(unless otherwise stated)

#### 3.3 Recoverable taxes

|   | 2006      | December 31,<br>2007 |
|---|-----------|----------------------|
| Recoverable taxes                                   |           |                      |
| Prepaid income tax and social contribution          | 76,533    | 91,829               |
| Withholding income tax on financial investments     | 20,021    | 20,792               |
| Value-Added Tax Credit - ICMS (*)                   | 145,264   | 154,854              |
| Valuation allowance on Value-Added Tax Credit       | (140,204) | (109,993)            |
| Pis and COFINS contribution on acquisition of goods | 21,720    | 46,721               |
| Other   | 924       | 1,086                |
| Total recoverable taxes                             | 124,258   | 205,289              |
| Current   | 109,165   | 140,390              |
| Long-term   | 15,093    | 64,899               |
| Total   | 124,258   | 205,289              |

(\*) Since the promulgation of the Federal Law no. 87 on September 13, 1996, the Company has been accumulating ICMS (state sales tax) credits resulting from ICMS paid on purchases, credited to its books and not compensated against ICMS on sales because export sales are exempt from ICMS. The Company has the legal right, not contested by the state authorities, to claim those credits against the state of Esp rito Santo, and has been able to recover part of these credits by selling them to third parties, pursuant to the provisions of current legislation. Considering the history of such transactions during the year 2007, when the Company sold approximately US\$ 50 million (R\$ 95 million) in ICMS tax credits and the perspective of successfully closing other sales transactions, the Company believes it will be able to recover part of the ICMS credits recorded in its books against the state of Esp rito Santo. Therefore, it has decided to revert on December 31, 2007 approximately US\$ 40,100 of the provision previously accrued, so that the balance of this provision is US\$ 110,000.

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## Aracruz Celulose S.A.

### Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

Expressed in thousands of United States dollars

(unless otherwise stated)

#### 4 Cash and cash equivalents

|                           | December 31, |               |
|---------------------------|--------------|---------------|
|                           | 2006         | 2007          |
| Brazilian reais           | 816          | 34,647        |
| United States dollars     | 47,103       | 17,995        |
| Other European currencies | 495          | 679           |
|                           | 48,414       | <u>53,321</u> |

Cash equivalents denominated in Brazilian Reais and in United States dollars represent principally investments in certificates of deposit placed with major financial institutions and with original maturities of 90 days or less.

#### 5 Short-term investments

Short-term investments represent principally investments included in one private investment fund which is entirely owned by the Company. The investments are represented principally by certificates of deposits and debt securities issued by the Brazilian government with final maturities ranging from January 2008 to April 2011. Those debt securities are classified as available for sale. The securities included in the portfolio of the private investment funds have daily liquidity with interest recognized in the Company's results of operations. The interest is linked to the daily interbank rate. The marked to market adjustments relating to these debt securities were immaterial for all periods presented.

These private investment funds do not have significant financial obligations. Any financial obligations are limited to service fees to the asset management company employed to execute investment transactions, audit fees and other similar expenses. There are no consolidated assets of the Company that are collateral for these obligations and the creditors of the funds do not have recourse against the Company.

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## Aracruz Celulose S.A.

### Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

Expressed in thousands of United States dollars

(unless otherwise stated)

**6 Accounts receivable, net**

|  | <b>December 31,</b> |             |
|--|---------------------|-------------|
|  | <b>2006</b>         | <b>2007</b> |
| Customers - pulp sales                                     |                     |             |
| Domestic   | 8,540               | 18,161      |
| Export   | 261,608             | 319,220     |
| Advances to suppliers                                      | 2,048               | 2,919       |
| Other  | 18,233              | 25,621      |
|  | 290,429             | 365,921     |
| Allowance for doubtful accounts                            | (4,634)             | (4,318)     |
| Total, net   | 285,795             | 361,603     |
| Changes in allowance for doubtful accounts are as follows: |                     |             |
|  | <b>2006</b>         | <b>2007</b> |
| Balance as of January 1                                    | (4,067)             | (4,634)     |
| Provision for doubtful accounts                            | (592)               | (117)       |
| Write-offs   | 25                  | 433         |
| Balance as of December 31                                  | (4,634)             | (4,318)     |

At December 31, 2007, two customers accounted for 31% and 13%, respectively (at December 31, 2006, two customers accounted for 38% and 11%, respectively), of total customer receivables and no other accounted for more than 10%.

Export receivables are denominated in the following currencies:

|                                 | <b>December 31,</b> |                |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|----------------|
|                                 | <b>2006</b>         | <b>2007</b>    |
| United States dollars           | 259,112             | 315,531        |
| European currency units    EURO | 2,496               | 3,689          |
|                                 | 261,608             | <u>319,220</u> |

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**Aracruz Celulose S.A.****Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

Expressed in thousands of United States dollars

(unless otherwise stated)

**7 Inventories**

|                                | <b>December 31,</b> |             |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|-------------|
|                                | <b>2006</b>         | <b>2007</b> |
| Finished products              | 130,192             | 141,240     |
| Raw materials                  | 27,027              | 34,404      |
| Maintenance supplies and other | 45,485              | 49,379      |
|                                | 202,704             | 225,023     |

**8 Property, plant and equipment**

|  | <b>December 31, 2006</b> |  |
|--|--------------------------|--|
|  | <b>Cost</b>              | <b>(Accumulated depreciation and depletion )</b> |
|  |                          | <b>Net</b>                                       |

|   |           |             |           |
|---|-----------|-------------|-----------|
| Land                                      | 375,673   |             | 375,673   |
| Timber resources                          | 398,860   | (51,860)    | 347,000   |
| Buildings, improvements and installations | 583,590   | (364,787)   | 218,803   |
| Equipment                                 | 2,556,694 | (1,470,088) | 1,086,606 |
| Information technology equipment          | 55,565    | (48,356)    | 7,209     |
| Other                                     | 138,845   | (104,638)   | 34,207    |
|   | 4,109,227 | (2,039,729) | 2,069,498 |
| Construction in progress                  | 81,714    |             | 81,714    |
| Total                                     | 4,190,941 | (2,039,729) | 2,151,212 |

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## Aracruz Celulose S.A.

### Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

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|   |           | December 31, 2007                               |           |
|---|-----------|---|-----------|
|   | Cost      | (Accumulated<br>depreciation )<br>and depletion | Net       |
| Land                                      | 508,335   |   | 508,335   |
| Timber resources                          | 501,785   | (53,281)  | 448,504   |
| Buildings, improvements and installations | 617,314   | (383,960)                                       | 233,354   |
| Equipment                                 | 2,750,358 | (1,602,407)                                     | 1,147,951 |
| Information technology equipment          | 57,449    | (50,799)  | 6,650     |
| Other                                     | 141,876   | (111,215)                                       | 30,661    |
|   | 4,577,117 | (2,201,662)                                     | 2,375,455 |
| Construction in progress                  | 143,245   |   | 143,245   |
| Total                                     | 4,720,362 | (2,201,662)                                     | 2,518,700 |

As of December 31, 2007 and 2006 the entire Company mill in the amount of US\$ 1,506,790 and US\$ 1,365,842 , respectively was securing financial obligations with BNDES (Note 10) .

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## Aracruz Celulose S.A.

### Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

Expressed in thousands of United States dollars  
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#### 9 Investment in affiliated company

**Veracel Celulose S.A.**

The Company accounts for its investment in Veracel using the equity method of accounting. At December 31, 2007 the Company's investment in Veracel amounted to US\$ 404,451. Included in investment is an unamortized goodwill of US\$ 15,015. In 2007, the Company recognized an equity loss of US\$ 31,572 (2006 - loss of US\$ 13,349; 2005 - loss of US\$ 42,674).

The summarized financial information of Veracel as of December 31, 2007 and 2006 and for the three years then ended is as follows:

|                         | <b>As of December 31,</b>              |             |             |
|-------------------------|--|-------------|-------------|
|                         | <b>2006</b>                            | <b>2007</b> |             |
| Current assets          | 132,011                                | 132,336     |             |
| Non-current assets      | 1,340,591                              | 1,363,164   |             |
| Current liabilities     | 160,956                                | 161,103     |             |
| Non-current liabilities | 1,311,646                              | 1,334,397   |             |
|                         | <b>For the year ended December 31,</b> |             |             |
|                         | <b>2005</b>                            | <b>2006</b> | <b>2007</b> |
| Gross revenues (*)      | 130,422                                | 356,336     | 410,850     |
| Gross profit            | 21,860                                 | 113,665     | 128,150     |
| Net loss                | (85,348)                               | (26,698)    | (63,144)    |

(\*) Includes sales to the Company in the amounts of US\$ 62,436, US\$ 167,459 and US\$ 205,481, during 2005, 2006 and 2007, respectively.

**Aracruz Produtos de Madeira S.A. (APM)**

At December 31, 2007, the Company's investment in APM amounted US\$ 10,943 (US\$ 11,513 in 2006). In 2007, the Company recognized an equity loss of US\$ 570 ( US\$ 355 in 2006).

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**Aracruz Celulose S.A.****Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

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**10 Short-term borrowings and long-term debt (a) Short-term borrowings**

At December 31, 2007, the balance of short-term debt consisted of rural credit denominated in reais, in the amount of US\$ 5,646 (US\$ 4,677 as of December 31, 2006) with interest rate of 6.75% .

**(b) Long-term debt**

|   | <b>December 31,</b> |             |
|---|---------------------|-------------|
|   | <b>2006</b>         | <b>2007</b> |
| Denominated in Brazilian currency:                    |                     |             |
| BNDES term loans with varying interest rates;         |                     |             |
| principally the "Long-term interest Rate" (TJLP) plus |                     |             |

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|   |                  |                         |
|---|------------------|-------------------------|
| 7.8% to 10.5% (2006 - 7.8% to 10.5%) due 2008 to 2016   | 258,193          | 381,477                 |
| Credit Export Note 100% CDI, due 2008 to 2013   | 48,859           | 58,974                  |
| BNDES Term loans 7.86% to 9.76% (2006<br>7.45% to 9.35%), due 2008 to 2016 and indexed<br>to BNDES basket of currencies | 39,358           | 44,879                  |
|   | 346,410          | 485,330                 |
| Denominated in US Dollars:  |                  |                         |
| Import financing - 2006 5.55% to 6.20%  | 1,854            |                         |
| Pre-export financing 5.73% to 6.34% (2006 -<br>5.75% to 6.48%) due 2012 to 2016   | 874,000          | 909,000                 |
|   | 875,854          | 909,000                 |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>1,222,264</b> | <b>1,394,330</b>        |
| Less current maturities   | (67,214)         | (81,979)                |
| <b>Total long-term debt</b>   | <b>1,155,050</b> | <b><u>1,312,351</u></b> |

In December 2006, the Company signed a financing agreement with Banco Nacional Desenvolvimento Econômico e Social - BNDES, in the total amount of US\$ 273,334 to amortized from 2009 to 2016, which US\$ 210,929 has already been released, with annual interest rates ranging from 7.86% to 8.86%

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## Aracruz Celulose S.A.

### Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

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#### c) Long-term portion payment schedule

The long-term portion of the Company's debt at December 31, 2007 falls due in the following years:

|                     |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|
| 2009                | 57,822           |
| 2010                | 29,795           |
| 2011                | 30,503           |
| 2012                | 89,795           |
| 2013 and thereafter | 1,104,436        |
| <b>Total</b>        | <b>1,312,351</b> |

#### 11 Stockholders' equity

At December 31, 2007, the Company's principal common stockholders and their common stock ownership interests, either direct or indirect are as follows: Arapar S.A. (an affiliate Group Lorentzen), Arainvest Participações S.A. (an affiliate of Banco Safra S.A.), and Newark Financial Inc (an affiliate of Votorantim Celulose e Papel (VCP)) with 28% each; Banco Nacional de Desenvolvimento Econômico e Social - BNDES with 12.5% .

At December 31, 2007, Arainvest, Treasure Hold Investments Corp (an affiliate of Banco Safra S.A) and the Banco Nacional de Desenvolvimento Econômico e Social - BNDES also owned preferred stocks which in total amounted to



14.9% and 7.7%, respectively, of the total preferred stocks.

During 2007, the Company has increased its capital by US\$ 501,368 using balances from the investment reserve, as required by the Brazilian Corporate Law. Such capital increase was approved by the General Shareholders Meeting held in April 24, 2007.

Brazilian law permits the payment of cash dividends only from retained earnings and certain reserves registered in the Company's statutory accounting records. At December 31, 2007, after considering appropriated retained earnings which can be transferred to unappropriated retained earnings, the earnings and reserves available for distribution as dividends, upon approval by the Company's stockholders, amounted to the equivalent of US\$ 1,118 million.

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## **Aracruz Celulose S.A.**

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Appropriated retained earnings is composed by the following reserves:

- a) Fiscal-incentive reserve - Consists of the appropriations from retained earnings equivalent to the cumulative amounts by which income tax rates have been reduced each year as a result of the Barra do Riacho operations of the Company being located in a development area. The fiscal-incentive reserve may be used to increase capital and absorb losses, but is not available as cash dividends.
- b) Investment reserve - the investments reserve represents discretionary appropriations, ratified by the stockholders, for plant expansion and other capital projects, the amount of which is based on an approved capital budget presented by management. After completion of the projects, the Company may elect to retain the appropriations until the stockholders vote to transfer all or a portion of the reserve to capital or to retained earnings, from which a cash dividend may then be paid.
- c) Legal reserve - legal reserve results from appropriations from retained earnings of 5% of annual net income recorded in the statutory accounting records. Such appropriations are required until the balance reaches 20% of the balance of capital stock, based on the statutory accounting records. The legal reserve may be used to increase capital and to absorb losses, but is not available for distribution as cash dividends.

**Dividends and interest on stockholders' equity**

The Company's by-laws guarantee a minimum annual dividend equal to 25% of the adjusted net income for the year, as required by the Brazilian Corporate Law. In accordance with the Company's by-law and the Brazilian Corporate Law, adjusted net income is represented by the net income for the year less appropriation of the above mentioned legal reserve.

Brazilian law permits the payment of cash dividends only from retained earnings. As of January 1, 1996, Brazilian corporations are allowed to attribute interest on stockholders' equity. The calculation is based on the stockholders' equity amounts as stated in the statutory accounting records and the interest rate applied may not exceed the long-term interest rate ( TJLP ) determined by the Brazilian Central Bank (approximately 9.75%, 7.78% and 6.32.% for the years 2005, 2006 and 2007, respectively). Also, such interest may not exceed the greater of 50% of net income for the year or 50% of retained earnings plus income reserves (including those mentioned above), determined in each case on the

basis of the statutory financial statements. The amount of interest attributed to stockholders is deductible for corporate income tax purposes.

The Company paid US\$ 233 million of dividends and interest on stockholders' equity during the year ended December 31, 2007 and accrued US\$ 44 million of interest on stockholders' equity for payment in 2008 (US\$ 252 million and US\$ 37 million, respectively, during 2006).

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## Aracruz Celulose S.A.

### Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

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#### Basic and diluted earnings per share

Basic and diluted earnings per share ("EPS") as of December 31, 2007, 2006 and 2005, as presented in the Company's statements of operations, have been calculated on the following basis taking into consideration the Dividend Allocation between Class A and Class B preferred stock and common stock as discussed in the following summary of significant rights, terms, privileges and conversion features of the Company's stock:

|                            | Common Stock | Class A Stock   | Class B Stock   |
|----------------------------|--------------|---|---|
| <b>Voting Rights</b>       | Yes          | No, except in the event that dividends are not paid for 3 consecutive years. Voting rights will then be granted until the dividends in arrears for those 3 years are paid.  | No, except in the event that dividends are not paid for 3 consecutive years. Voting rights will then be granted until the dividends in arrears for those 3 years are paid.            |
| <b>Privileges</b>          | None         | Priority in the return of capital in the liquidation of the Company;<br><br>Right to receive cash dividends in an amount 10% higher than dividends attributable to each common stock.<br><br>Priority in the distribution of a minimum annual cash dividend equivalent to 6% of the capital attributable to it. | Priority in the return of capital in the liquidation of the Company;<br><br>Right to receive cash dividends in an amount 10% higher than dividends attributable to each common stock. |
| <b>Conversion Features</b> | None         | Can be converted into Class B Stock at any time, at the option and cost of the stockholder.<br>Conversion rate 1:1.   | Cannot be converted into Class A Stock nor to Common Stocks at any time.  |

Earnings, if any, in excess of the Class A preferred share minimum dividend will be distributed as dividends to Class B preferred stock and common stock, up to the equivalent on a per-share basis of those paid to Class A preferred

stock. Any earnings remaining for distribution thereafter are shared ratably among Class A preferred, Class B preferred and common shares.

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## Aracruz Celulose S.A.

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The following presents the earnings per share calculations:

|                                      | <b>2005</b>                       |                |               | <b>Total</b> |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|
|                                      | <b>Preferred stock</b>            |                | <b>Common</b> |              |
|                                      | <b>Class A</b>                    | <b>Class B</b> | <b>Stock</b>  |              |
| Dividends and interest on capital    | 7,326                             | 103,60         | 79,679        | 190,611      |
| Undistributed earnings               | 5,783                             | 81,7           | 62,907        | 150,487      |
| Net income for the year              | 13,109                            | 185,40         | 142,586       | 341,098      |
| Weighted average number of shares    | 38,022                            | 537,73         | 454,908       |              |
| Basic and diluted earnings per share | 0.34                              | 0.34           | 0.31          |              |
|                                      |                                   |                |               | <b>2006</b>  |
|                                      | <b>Preferred stock</b>            |                | <b>Common</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|                                      | <b>Class A</b>                    | <b>Class B</b> | <b>Stock</b>  |              |
|                                      | Dividends and interest on capital | 8,390          | 118,65        |              |
| Undistributed earnings               | 9,107                             | 128,81         | 99,079        | 237,000      |
| Net income for the year              | 17,497                            | 247,47         | 190,347       | 455,317      |
| Weighted average number of shares    | 38,015                            | 537,66         | 454,908       |              |
| Basic and diluted earnings per share | 0.46                              | 0.46           | 0.42          |              |
|                                      |                                   |                |               | <b>2007</b>  |
|                                      | <b>Preferred stock</b>            |                | <b>Common</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|                                      | <b>Class A</b>                    | <b>Class B</b> | <b>Stock</b>  |              |
|                                      | Dividends and interest on capital | 8,904          | 129,89        |              |
| Undistributed earnings               | 6,854                             | 99,9           | 76,741        | 183,569      |
| Net income for the year              | 15,758                            | 229,86         | 176,447       | 422,069      |
| Weighted average number of shares    | 36,933                            | 538,74         | 454,908       |              |
| Basic and diluted earnings per share | 0.43                              | 0.43           | 0.39          |              |

There were no dilutive securities outstanding in 2005, 2006 and 2007.

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#### 12 Pension plan

The Company sponsors a defined contribution pension plan, ARUS Fundação Aracruz de Seguridade Social, which covers substantially all of its employees. The principal objective of the pension plan is to supplement the social

security pension benefits of the employees of the Company ( Sponsors ).

The Sponsors and eligible employees make monthly contributions under the plan to ARUS, which manages (or places with a trustee) its investments and other assets, which comprised, principally, of bank certificates of deposit, investments funds and marketable equity securities.

Contributions made by the Company to the plan amounted to US\$ 2,449, US\$ 3,125 and US\$ 3,689 in 2005, 2006 and 2007, respectively, and represented the annual pension expense of the Company for the plan.

### **13 Employee benefits**

Certain severance payments are due on dismissal of employees, principally notice of one month's salary and a severance payment calculated at 40% of the accumulated contributions made to the government severance indemnity plan on behalf of the employee. Based on current operating plans management does not expect that amounts of future severance indemnities will be material.

### **14 Contingencies and Commitments**

#### **(a) Contingencies**

##### **(i) Labor proceedings**

At December 31 2007, the Company had a total provision recorded for labor proceedings of US\$ 20.4 million (US\$ 14.1 million on December 31 2006) and a corresponding deposit in an escrow account of US\$ 7.5 million (US\$ 5.8 million on December 31, 2006).

Labor proceedings consist principally of those related to the effect of variation in the inflation indexes (economic plans) on the 40% penalty applicable to the Mandatory Fund for Unemployment Benefit (FGTS), and also of additional amounts allegedly owed to certain employees that perform hazardous activities.

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### **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

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#### **(ii) Social charges proceedings**

In March 1997, the Company received notification from the INSS (the Brazilian Social Security System) relating basically to the value of housing allowances paid to certain employees over a period of several years. INSS considered that the reduced amount of housing allowances to the employees represented a fringe benefit and, consequently, the corresponding social charge was underpaid. The Company has been contesting this notification in the amount of US\$ 1.7 million in Court aiming to its annulment and, at December 31, 2007, has placed approximately US\$ 2.0 million in an escrow account to cover this claim. The Brazilian Superior Court of Justice granted a decision in favor of the Company on examination of the first judicial claim related to the matter. Based on the opinion of its legal advisors, which evaluated the probability of loss in such case as remote, no provision has been recognized.

#### **(iii) PIS and COFINS contributions**

At December 31, 2007, the provision for contingencies included US\$ 94.3 million (US\$ 74.3 at December 31, 2006) for PIS (Social Integration Program) and COFINS (Social Fund) payable on exchange gains on U.S. dollar denominated debt resulting from the appreciation of the Real against the U.S. dollar, principally in the period from early 1999 until September 2002. .

The Company is taking action in court against certain changes in the rates and rules for the calculation of the PIS and COFINS contributions determined by Law 9.718/98, the basis of calculation of which includes financial income and exchange and monetary variations. In November 2001 the Company was granted a favorable judgment.

After analyzing certain unfavorable legal decisions on similar legal actions of other companies and their implications for Aracruz's case at that time, the Company decided to cancel, on August 29, 2003, part of the legal action, regarding the rate increase and the basis of calculation modifications (except for foreign exchange variation), and decided to pay the accrued amount in installments according to a special tax collection called PAES program, enacted by Law 10.684/2003. Notwithstanding, due to a judgment issued by the Brazilian Supreme Court in a similar legal action, which considered the modification in the rules for the calculation of PIS and COFINS to be unconstitutional, the Company requested and was granted a provisional remedy allowing it not to pay the PAES installments related to such modification. In September 2007, based on the opinion of its legal advisors, the Company decided to reverse approximately US\$ 37.3 million of this provision related to the imposition of those taxes on revenues resulting from exchange gains, pursuant to article 150, § 4° of the National Tax Code.

Taking into account decisions of the Brazilian Supreme Court in regard to the unconstitutionality of such taxes that have been followed by other administrative and judicial courts, meaning that the jurisprudence on the matter is consolidated, the Company is convinced that it is very unlikely that an unfavorable decision will be issued. Notwithstanding, considering a recently issued pronouncement of Ibracon (Brazilian Independent Auditors Institute), the Company, on a conservative approach, decided to rebuilt the reverted amount of the provision.

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#### **(iv) Value-Added Tax Credit**

In October 2006, the Company received tax assessments, issued by the government of the State of Espírito Santo, in the total amount of US\$ 41.2 million, related to the alleged non compliance of formal obligations and supposedly inappropriate ICMS credits from fixed assets and other goods acquired for utilization in the process of pulp production. The company has paid a minor part of that value and has been contesting another 17 notifications, in the amount of US\$ 40.1 million. The Company has already been granted favorable decisions in tax notifications amounting to US\$ 6.3. Based on the opinion of its legal advisors, who evaluate the probability of loss in the courts as no more than possible, no provision has been recognized.

#### **(v) Environmental Regulations**

The Company's forestry and manufacturing operations are subject to both Federal and State government environmental regulations. The Company's management believes that it is in compliance, in all material respects, with all applicable environmental regulations.

**(vi) Others**

The Company has, based on an analysis of the disputes involved and consultation with its legal counsel, recorded additional provisions in the amount of US\$ 16.2 million relating to several other legal disputes and has also made deposits in the amount of US\$ 13.0 million in escrow accounts as of December 31, 2007.

**(b) Commitments**

**(i) Indian Communities - Terms of settlement**

In the first semester of 1998, the Indian communities and the Company entered into Terms of Settlement in which both parties recognized the legitimacy of the Ministry of Justice Edicts 193, 194 and 195, dated March 6, 1998, that determined the enlargement of the Indian reservation by 2,571 hectares of land belonging to the Company. The Company committed itself to a financial aid program to be implemented through social, agricultural, educational, shelter and health projects, up to an amount of approximately R\$ 13.5 million (equivalent to US\$ 7.6 million at December 31, 2007), monetarily restated by one of the official inflation indexes, to be disbursed within a twenty-year period, conditioned to the accomplishment of certain obligations by the Indian communities.

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Despite the fact that the Terms of Settlement were in force, in 2005 some members of the Indian communities invaded some forestry areas and the industrial premises of the Company. . Since the invasion represented the breach of the Terms of Settlement by the Indian communities, the Company - after having notified the communities themselves, the National Indian Foundation -FUNAI and the Federal Public Prosecutor (Ministério Público Federal) in 2005 suspended all its commitments towards the Indian communities under the Terms of Settlement. During the period in which the Terms of Settlement were being complied with, the Company had donated to the Indian Associations the amount of approximately R\$ 9.6 million, equivalent to US\$ 5.4 million.

On February 17, 2006 FUNAI published Dispatches No. 11 and 12 in the Official Federal Gazette, approving the conclusion of the working group set up by FUNAI Edict No. 1.299/05, which recommends the extension of Indian reserves by approximately 11,000 hectares, comprised almost entirely of lands whose title and possession belong to Aracruz. These areas were identified by the working group as being land traditionally occupied by Indians. Confident in the robustness of its rights, the Company presented its challenge of those Dispatches on June 19, 2006. In early 2007 the Ministry of Justice, who should ultimately decide the matter, returned the administrative procedure to FUNAI, determining that it widened the studies "with a view towards preparing an appropriate recommendation that assuages the interest of both parties".

On August 27, 2007, the Ministry of Justice based on the conclusions of the working group set up by FUNAI Edict No. 1.299/05, issued Edicts nr. 1.463 and 1.464 determining the enlargement of the Indian reservation by 11,000 hectares, 98% of which (i.e., approximately 10,700 hectares) are lands owned or legally possessed by the Company. The net book values of such lands is immaterial.

The land dispute among Aracruz and the Indian Communities in the State Espírito Santo was resolved in 2007. On December 3, 2007, in the Ministry of Justice in Brasilia, a Conduct Adjustment Agreement (TAC) that considers the

rights and obligations of the Company, the Indians and the National Indian Foundation-FUNAI in transferring approximately 11,000 hectares of land to the indigenous communities was signed. The TAC also sets forth that all the eucalyptus wood planted in the area (approximately 6,800 hectares of forest) shall be harvested by the Company as a compensation for improvements. The enlargement of the Indian reservations must still be approved by decree from the President of Brazil, with the subsequent demarcation of the lands in question, when the transfer of title to the lands shall be effective. The signature of the TAC was accompanied by all authorities that took part in the negotiation, including the Federal Attorney General and FUNAI - which will be responsible for hiring a company to do the physical demarcation of the lands - and sets forth that both parties will abandon any current or future claims against each other in relation to the matter. The agreement shall be homologated by the Federal Court of Linhares - ES.

Before the signing of the settlement, the terms of the TAC were submitted to the indigenous communities and approved at an assembly on October 16, and subsequently ratified by them on

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November 28, as recommended by Convention 169 of the International Labor Organization (ILO) regarding indigenous and tribal peoples, to which Brazil is a signatory.

Aracruz considers the agreement a sustainable solution that enables the balance among the interests of all parties involved, since it satisfied the demands of the Indians for an enlargement in their lands, while at the same time providing Aracruz with the legal assurances that these lands will not be expanded again.

#### **(ii) Take-or-Pay contract**

In connection with the sale of its electrochemical plant to Canexus Química Brasil Ltda (Canexus) in 1999, the Company and Canexus entered into a long-term contract for chemical products supply, amended in 2002 to include additional volumes. According to the "take-or-pay" clause, the company is committed to acquire from Canexus a volume of chemical products conservatively projected. Volumes purchased by the Company in addition to the minimum agreed (take-or-pay) for a given year may be compensated with lower volumes acquired in subsequent years. For the take-or-pay quantities, the Company will pay in accordance with the terms of the contract. There are remaining take-or-pay committed volumes until 2008, regarding the 2002 contractual amendment.

#### **(iii) Wood supply**

The Company signed a contract with Suzano Papel e Celulose S.A. with a view to a loan of 1,700 thousand m<sup>3</sup> of eucalyptus wood, which were received through September of 2005. The remaining balance as of December 31, 2007 is 1,075 thousand m<sup>3</sup> of eucalyptus wood and, based on its present forest formation costs, the Company has booked the amount of US\$ 5,007 under liabilities. The contract calls for return of an equivalent volume on similar operating conditions during 2008.

#### **(iv) Compliance with regulations**

The Company's forestry and manufacturing operations are subject to both Federal and State government environmental regulations. The Company's management believes that it is in compliance, in all material respects, with all applicable

environmental regulations.

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### **Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

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#### **15 Guarantees of Veracel third-party debt**

As of December 31, 2007, the Company is contingently liable as a several guarantor with respect to 50% of indebtedness of Veracel Celulose S.A., an entity under joint control with another company. Such company is the several guarantor of the additional 50% of indebtedness of Veracel Celulose S.A.. The total amount guaranteed by the Company is US\$ 321.5 million. The expiration of the guarantees range from 2008 to 2014. At any time through those dates, the Company will be obligated to perform under the guarantees by primarily making the required payments, including late fees and penalties, limited to its proportion of the guarantees, if and whenever Veracel shall default in the payment of any of the guaranteed obligations, after the date of communication of default by the creditor pursuant to the terms and conditions of the relevant agreements. The fair value of such guarantee is immaterial.

#### **16 Derivative instruments and risk management activities**

The Company's foreign currency risk and interest rate management strategy may use derivative instruments to protect against foreign exchange and interest rate volatility.

##### **(a) Enterprise Risk Management - ERM**

The Company is developing its Sustainability Plan, which comprises the ERM, a wide and structured long term approach of the main corporate risks of the company.

Following the best practices of Corporate Governance, the Company seeks to have full control of its main financial and intangible corporate risks. The methodology used by the Company, considers an evolution of impact and probability, regarding financial and intangibles corporate risks.

##### **(b) Foreign currency risk management**

The Company's foreign currency risk management strategy may use derivative instruments to protect against foreign exchange rate volatility

During 2007 the Company has recognized, as financial income, gains of US\$ 93.7 million (2006 - US\$ 88.8 million) related to derivative instruments registered in BM&F - Brazilian Mercantile & Futures Exchange with notional amount of US\$ 150.0 million and with maturity in February 2008. These operations are marked to market on a daily basis and as of December 31, 2007 the fair value of these contracts were reported as a liability of US\$ 1.2 million (as of December 31, 2006 were reported as an asset of US\$1.4 million).

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### (c) Interest rate risk management

The Company's strategy for interest rate management has been to maintain a balanced portfolio of fixed and floating interest rates in order to optimize cost and volatility. The Company's interest rate risk management strategy may use derivative instruments to reduce earnings fluctuations attributable to interest rate volatility.

During 2007 and 2006 the Company recognized under financial income, losses of US\$ 36.4 million and US\$ 2.8 million on interest rate derivative instruments registered in BM&F -Brazilian Mercantile & Futures Exchange for the 2007 and 2006, respectively. These operations are marked to market on a daily basis, and at December 31, 2007 the fair value of these contracts were reported as an asset of US\$ 0.6 million.

It also has recognized gains of US\$ 38.3 on swap transactions (TJLP or interest long-term rate against Dollar). There were no such kind of derivative instruments in 2006. These operations are marked to market, and at December 31, 2007, the notional amount of these swaps totaled US\$ 334.1 million with maturity in April 2010. The outstanding amount of these contracts were reported as an asset of US\$ 38.3 million.

### (d) Commodity price risk management

The Company is exposed to commodity price risks through the fluctuation of pulp prices. The Company currently does not utilize derivative financial instruments to manage its exposure to fluctuations in commodity prices, but may utilize them in the future.

### 17 Nonderivative financial instruments

Fair value - the Company considers that the carrying amount of its financial instruments generally approximates fair market value. Fair value has been determined as follows:

Cash - the carrying amount of cash is a reasonable estimate of its fair value.

Cash equivalents and short-term investments and bank deposits - cash equivalents are represented, principally, by short-term investments. Their fair value and that of other bank deposits not meeting the definition of cash equivalents were estimated using the rates currently offered for deposits of similar remaining maturities and approximates its carrying value.

## Aracruz Celulose S.A.

### Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

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Short-term debt and long-term debt - interest rates that are currently available to the Company for issuance of debt with similar terms and remaining maturities are used to estimate fair value, which approximates the carrying value at December 31, 2007 and 2006. The Company's financial structure does not require any substitution of such financing or the contracting of similar fundings.

The estimated fair value amounts have been determined by the Company using available market information and appropriate valuation methodologies. However, considerable judgment is necessarily required in interpreting market data to develop the estimates of fair value.

### 18 Segment information

The Company has adopted SFAS No. 131 Disclosures about Segments of an Enterprise and Related Information ( SFAS 131 ) with respect to the information it presents about its operating segments and geographical information. SFAS 131 introduces a management approach concept for reporting segment information, whereby financial information is required to be reported on the same basis that the top decision-maker uses such information internally for evaluating segment performance and deciding how to allocate resources to segments.

The Company has determined that its operation has only one segment - pulp. Sales by geographic area are determined based on the location of the customers.

The Company's exports from Brazil, classified by geographic destination, are as follows:

|               | Year ended December 31, |           |           |
|---------------|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|
|               | 2005                    | 2006      | 2007      |
| North America | 544,499                 | 661,177   | 709,285   |
| Europe        | 640,614                 | 721,074   | 844,393   |
| Asia          | 267,612                 | 443,904   | 450,002   |
| Other         | 16,921                  | 18,871    | 3,337     |
| Total         | 1,469,646               | 1,845,026 | 2,007,017 |

Sales to two unaffiliated customers represented 29% and 15% of net sales in 2007. Two unaffiliated customers represented 31% and 13% in 2006, and 31% and 17% in 2005. No other individual customers represented more than 10% of net sales.

## Aracruz Celulose S.A.

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### 19 Related parties

Transactions with related parties resulted in the following balance sheet and income statement balances:

|                           | 2006   |             | December 31,<br>2007 |             |
|---------------------------|--------|-------------|----------------------|-------------|
|                           | Assets | Liabilities | Assets               | Liabilities |
| <b>Balance sheet</b>      |        |             |                      |             |
| Current assets            |        |             |                      |             |
| Cash and cash equivalents |        |             |                      |             |
| Bank Safra S.A.           | 68,191 |             | 59,881               |             |
| Banco Votorantin S.A      | 43,591 |             |                      |             |

|  |             |         |             |                                |
|--|-------------|---------|-------------|--------------------------------|
| Aracruz Produtos de Madeira S.A.   | 541         |         | 495         |                                |
| Veracel Celulose S.A.  |             | 19,431  |             | 21,663                         |
| Long-term debt (including<br>current portion and accrued<br>finance charges) |             |         |             |                                |
| BNDES Banco Nacional<br>de Desenvolvimento<br>Econômico e Social             |             | 299,677 |             | 429,026                        |
|  | 112,323     | 319,108 | 60,376      | <u>450,689</u>                 |
|  |             |         |             | <b>Year ended December 31,</b> |
|  | <b>2005</b> |         | <b>2006</b> | <b>2007</b>                    |
|  | Expense     |         | Expense     | Expense                        |
| <b>Income statement</b>  |             |         |             |                                |
| Financial income   |             |         |             |                                |
| Banco Safra S.A.   | (34,510)    |         | (8,891)     | (10,273)                       |
| Banco Votorantin S.A.  | (13,085)    |         | (7,308)     | (2,276)                        |
| Wood Sales   |             |         |             |                                |
| Aracruz Produtos de Madeira S.A.   | (1,246)     |         | (3,049)     | (3,464)                        |
| Pulp   |             |         |             |                                |
| Veracel Celulose S.A.  | 62,436      |         | 167,459     | 205,481                        |
| Financial expenses   |             |         |             |                                |
| BNDES Banco Nacional de<br>Desenvolvimento Econômico e Social                | 50,126      |         | 48,121      | 89,955                         |
|  | 63,721      |         | 196,332     | 279,423                        |

## Aracruz Celulose S.A.

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#### 20 Subsequent event

Due to the rejection by the Senate of the proposal of extension of the Provisional Contribution over Financial Operations (CPMF), such tax will no longer be charged.

Nevertheless, in order to compensate the loss in the tax revenues as a result of the CPMF's extinction, as of January 2008, credit, exchange and insurance operations will be subject to an additional rate of 0,38% of the Tax on Financial Transactions (IOF), same rate of the extinguished CPMF.

\* \* \*