



**Gulf Insurance Group announces KD 13.3 million (US\$ 44 million)
in net profit for 2019 with 12% year-on-year growth**

EPS at 73.65 fils

Gross written premiums up 8% to KD 394 million

BOD recommends 38% cash dividend

Kuwait City, 23 Feb 2019: Mr. Farqad Abdullah Al-Sane, Chairman of Gulf Insurance Group (gig), announced today that the Group achieved a net profit of KD 13.3 million (US\$ 44 million), or 73.65 fils per share for the financial year ended December 31, 2019. This represents an increase of 12 per cent over the KD 11.9 million (US\$ 39.2 million) made in 2018. Total revenues reached KD 205 million (US\$ 677 million) with an increase of 10 per cent compared to KD 186 million (US\$ 613 million) in 2018. Net Underwriting Income came to KD 21.64 million (US\$ 71 million), an increase of 38 per cent or KD 6 (US\$ 20 million) compared to the same period last year. This increase is due to the improvement of Group's underwriting results and Group's share of results from its subsidiaries.

The Board of Directors has recommended the distribution of 38% cash dividend (38 fils per share) for the financial year ended December 31, 2019, subject to the approval of gig's General Assembly and other concerned regulatory authorities.

gig's book value per share reached 584 fils as at December 31, 2019, compared to 498 fils at the end of 2018, with an increase of 17 per cent.

gig's shareholder equity increased in 2019 by KD 20 million (US\$ 65 million) to reach KD 109 million (US\$ 359 million), representing a 22 per cent increase from the KD 89 million (US\$ 294 million) at 2018-end.

The Group's gross written premiums grew 8 per cent compared to 2018, with an increase of KD 29 million (US\$ 97 million) to reach KD 394 million (US\$ 1.3 billion).

Net investment income for gig reached KD 10.5 million (US\$ 34.5 million) at the closing of 2019, with an increase of KD 0.3 (US\$ 1 million), or 3 per cent, compared to 2018.

gig's net technical reserves came to KD 161 million (US\$ 531 million) as at December 31, 2019, with an increase of KD 11 million (US\$ 36 million), or 7 per cent, compared to the KD 150 million (US\$ 495 million) registered on December 31, 2018.

Total assets increased by KD 196 million (US\$ 646 million) to reach KD 763 million (US\$ 2.5 billion) at year-end, a growth of 35 percent compared to the same period in 2018.

Commenting on the results, Mr. Al-Sane said:

“Our results for the year 2019 reflect the strength of gig as a group, its ability to take risks through diversifying revenue sources and our ability to preserve stakeholders' benefits and protect their rights. This is also in line with our constant endeavor to provide the best insurance services to our valued customers in all markets we operate in, by adopting the necessary strategies to digitally transform our operations in digital distribution of products, digital claims services and other supporting functions.”

He added:

“We thank our clients for these achievements, as well as the unlimited support from our shareholders, especially KIPCO – Kuwait Projects Company (Holding) – and Fairfax Middle East Ltd. I would also like to express my sincere appreciation to our dedicated employees for their efforts and all the concerned regulatory authorities in Kuwait.”

- Ends -

Notes to Editors:

Gulf Insurance Group is the largest insurance Group in Kuwait in terms of written and retained premiums, with operations in life and non-life as well as Takaful insurance. Gulf Insurance has become one of the largest insurance networks in the Middle East and North Africa with companies in Kuwait, Jordan, Bahrain, Egypt, Turkey, Algeria, Syria, Iraq, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia and Emirates. Its reported consolidated assets stand at US\$ 2.5 billion as at 31 December 2019.

KIPCO – Kuwait Projects Company – is Gulf Insurance Group's largest shareholder, followed by the Canadian-based Fairfax Financial Holding Ltd.

Gulf Insurance Group enjoys the privilege of being the first triple-rated insurance group in Kuwait. The group holds a Financial Strength Rating of 'A' (Excellent) and issuer credit rating of 'a' with negative outlook from A.M. Best Europe – Rating Services Limited, a Financial Strength Rating of A- with stable outlook from Standard & Poor's and an Insurance Financial Strength Rating (IFSR) of 'A3' from Moody's Investors Service carrying a stable outlook.

The conversion rate applied is KD 0.3033 per US\$1

For Further information:

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