



## SABB SHOWS ANOTHER ANNUAL INCREASE IN NET INCOME.



**David Hodgkinson**  
Managing Director SABB

The 24th Annual Report & Accounts for the last financial year is now available from the Saudi British Bank. Whilst many will study the figures contained therein, some of us look forward to the method and style of presentation. This years volume has some remarkable pictures of Turkmen jewelry a few of which are reproduced here. The full report is available from the Public Relations department at the Bank.

*Extracted from the Directors report, this summary of the banks activity during the year up to 31st December 2001 will give readers an insight to the banks performance during the year.*

The bank increased its net profits for the year to SR830 million. An increase of 11.7% when compared with SR743 million as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2000

The year 2001 saw substantial enhancement to the provision of banking services to the personal sector, with the internet banking service SABBNET, and telephone banking both being well received. Islamic banking services offered by SABB have been developed and a number of products have been introduced under the brand name, Al-Amanah. These include Al-Amanah Home Ownership, the first of its kind in the Kingdom, providing a unique opportunity to Saudi nationals to lease a home of their choice with the added benefit of being able to buy the property from the bank at a later date.

Investment banking services have also been developed during the year. Clear indications of the banks success in attracting customers to these services have been the growth in the number of investors over the twelve months, to more than 10,000 for the first time, and the increase in the level of funds under management to approximately SR 4.5 billion.

At the year end the number of SABB branches was 80 including 12 dedicated Ladies' branches and one in London. ATM machines increased to 176, including 107 sited away from bank branches and 3 fitted with Braille facilities, and POS terminal numbers had increased to 2,563. To serve customers further, one Superbranch has been constructed on First Street Dammam and another is under construction on Tahlia Street in Jeddah. A number of other branches are being constructed and others renovated during the coming year.

In fulfilling its role as an integral element of the Saudi community, the Bank sought during the year to participate, whenever possible, in selected social events of national interest. In addition the Bank also continued its charitable activities in support of the community whilst at the same time being directly involved in donation campaigns led by public departments as part



of an on-going commitment to the development of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

By way of supporting the government's aim of attracting domestic tourism, SABB supported the Abha Festival for the second time with support of similar events which seek to develop and diversify the national economy and enhance employment opportunities for Saudis, being an integral part of the Banks role in the community. SABB also supported a number of conferences largely aimed at attracting local & international investment in the Kingdom.



As a result of the Bank's enhancement of human resources' and Saudisation programmes, the number of Saudi staff increased to 75% or 1,563 out of a total complement of 2078 at the year end. The number of lady staff, all of whom are Saudis, also increased, to 220 or 11% of the total staff complement.

1994	42% Non Saudi	58% Saudi
1995	40%	60%
1996	35%	65%
1997	33%	67%
1998	30%	70%
1999	29%	71%
2000	26%	74%
2001	25%	75%

**Saudisation Progress at SABB**

In order to ensure the Bank's primary focus will be on customers in the future, and to maintain SABB's presence at the forefront of banking in Saudi Arabia, a new three-year strategic plan, for implementation over the period between the beginning of 2002 and the end of 2004, was recently implemented under the title "Putting Customers First".

In the light of the progress made, the Board of Directors is recommending a final net dividend for the year of SAR 9 per share, making a total net dividend of SAR 14 per share for 2001. Payment of the final net dividend of SAR 9 will be made once it has been approved by the Annual General Meeting. The total net dividend will be payable on the Bank's enlarged capital, which was increased by 25% in 2001 following the issue of 1 bonus share for every four shares held. As a result the total gross dividend for 2001 will be 34% higher than for the previous year.