

Agbar obtains a 78.4 million euro profit in the first half of 2009

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In the first half of 2009, Agbar obtained a net profit attributable to the parent of 78.4 million euros. With this it practically maintained the recurrent profit of last year (-2.8 %), excluding the extraordinary profit which, in the same period of 2008, were of 66.1 million euros due to the gain obtained on the sale of Agbar's share in Suez, S.A.

Agbar experienced a positive evolution in the first six months of the financial year 2009, as shown by the figures for the main magnitudes of the income statement, bearing in mind the macroeconomic environment. The consolidated operating income amounts to 1,602.7 million euros, 4.7 % more than in the same period of 2008; the profit from operations before impairment, disposal of non-current assets and other results is of 205.8 million euros and rises 0.5 % and, finally, the net profit attributable to the parent amounts to 78.4 million euros.

Water and Environment

The Water and Environment sector achieved operating income of 876.5 million euros, with a 1.6 % increase. The profit from operations before impairment, disposal of non-current assets and other results increases by 1.8 % and amounts to 167.1 million euros.

The increase in the operating income is due to the good organic evolution and to various companies joining the scope of consolidation. In the other direction, leaving this scope were the Agencia de Servicios de Mensajería (-11.4 million euros of contribution to the operating income) and Tribugest (-6.5 million euros of contribution to the operating income), in addition to the depreciation of the Chilean peso (8.4 %) and the pound sterling (13.3 %).

The acquisition of Essal, S.A, in July 2008, by Agbar through Aguas Andinas; the 22.5 % increase in Agbar's share in Jiangsu Water Company Limited, bringing it to the current 71.5 %, and the consolidation of the activity of the company Sistemas de Transferencia de Calor (STC), acquired in December 2008, are the

main additions to the scope of consolidation in the first half of the financial year 2009 in relation to the same period of the previous year.

New contracts

In the national sphere, Agbar was awarded new tenders in the Water and Environment activity. In the retail water activity, Agbar won various contracts to supply 115,125 new inhabitants, such as Martorell (Barcelona), Olot (Girona) and Villanueva de la Serena (Badajoz), among others. In the wholesale water activity, it won contracts which serve 90,313 new inhabitants, among others in Tudela (Navarre) and Amorebieta (Biscay). In wastewater treatment and sewerage it was awarded new contracts which allow, in wastewater treatment, a pollution load equivalent to 692,776 inhabitants to be managed in areas such as Madrid, Majorca and Minorca, and in sewerage, service to be provided to 76,579 new inhabitants, in municipalities such as Coria (Caceres) and Barbadós (Ourense), among others.

Health, almost 3 million insured

Adeslas achieved an operating income of 726.3 million euros, 8.8 % more than in the first half of last year. The profit from operations before impairment, disposal of non-current assets and other results was 38.7 million euros. The number of insured, as of 30 June, was 2,950,102 people and increases by 8 % in relation to the closing of the previous financial year.

The growth in the operating income of Adeslas is a result of the increase in the number of insured and the coming into operation of new dental clinics. The 1.9 million euro decrease in the profit from operations is due to the reduction in margins.

Despite the situation of the international economy, during this first half of 2009 Agbar has continued to demonstrate the recurrence, profitability and soundness of its two businesses.