Unaudited results for the six months ended 30th June 2017

Strong growth in EBITDA boosted by Nigerian profitability, Pan-African operations increase sales volumes by 12.6% and continue to gain market share across Africa

Lagos, 28th July 2017: Dangote Cement PLC (DANGCEM-NL), Africa's largest cement producer, announces unaudited results for the six months ended 30th June 2017.

Financial highlights

- Group revenue up 41.2% to ₦412.7B
- Group EBITDA up 53.7% to ₦203.7B, 49.4% margin
- Nigeria EBITDA up 50.1% to ₦190.1B, 65.2% margin
- Pan-African EBITDA up 52.0% to ₦19.6B, 15.8% margin
- Earnings per share up 35.2% to ₦8.42
- Net debt of ₦313.8B, up from ₦240.8B at the end of 2016

Operating highlights

- Higher revenue per tonne offsets 11.3% fall in Group cement volumes
- Significant use of own-mined coal in Nigeria, replacing imports and LPFO
- Pan-Africa sales volumes up nearly 12.6%, with strong performance across all regions

Publication of credit ratings

- Moody's: Ba3 Local Currency Corporate Family Rating / AaaNg National Scale Rating
- Global Credit Ratings: Long-term AA+(NG) and Short-term A1+(NG)

Board appointment

- Group Chief Financial Officer Brian Egan appointed to the Board as Executive Director, Finance

Onne van der Weijde, Chief Executive Officer, said:

"Our revenues have continued to grow despite the lower volumes seen in Nigeria, especially because of the recent heavy rains. Our margins have improved significantly, helped by improved efficiencies and a much better fuel mix in Nigeria. We are using much more gas and increasing our use of coal mined in Nigeria, thus reducing our need for foreign currency and supporting Nigerian jobs.

Our Pan-African operations are growing well and increasing market share. We saw the first sales from Sierra Leone in the first quarter and our new plant in the Republic of Congo will be in production at the end of July, further increasing our footprint across Africa and strengthening our position as its leading manufacturer of cement.

Dangote Cement is a high-growth, low-debt, internationally diversified company that has just paid a dividend amounting to nearly 75% of 2016 net profits to shareholders. The recent publication of our credit ratings highlights the financial strength we have achieved through our unwavering focus on the profitable expansion of the business, underpinned by our belief that we must remain prudent in our financial management."

About Dangote Cement

Dangote Cement is Africa's leading cement producer with nearly 46Mta capacity across Africa. A fully integrated quarry-to-customer producer, we have a production capacity of 29.25Mta in our home market, Nigeria. Our Obajana plant in Kogi state, Nigeria, is the largest in Africa with 13.25Mta of capacity across four lines; our Ibese plant in Ogun State has four cement lines with a combined installed capacity of 12Mta and our Gboko plant in Benue state has 4Mta. Through our recent investments, Dangote Cement has eliminated Nigeria's dependence on imported cement and has transformed the nation into a net exporter of cement serving neighbouring countries.

In addition, we have invested almost $3B to build manufacturing plants and import/grinding terminals across Africa. Our operations are in Cameroon (1.5Mta clinker grinding), Congo (1.5Mta), Ghana (1.5Mta import), Ethiopia (2.5Mta), Senegal (1.5Mta), Sierra Leone (0.7Mta import), South Africa (2.8Mta), Tanzania (3.0Mta), Zambia (1.5Mta).

Website: www.dangotecement.com

Twitter: @DangoteCement

Conference call details – REGISTRATION REQUIRED

A conference call for analysts and investors will be held on Friday 28th July 2017 at 15.00 Lagos/UK time.

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DANGOTE CEMENT UNAUDITED RESULTS FOR 6 MONTHS TO 30TH JUNE 2017

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Operating review

Summary

Cement volumes sold	Q1 2017 '000 tonnes	Q2 2017 '000 tonnes	6M 2017 '000 tonnes	6M 2016 '000 tonnes	% change
Nigeria	3,770	3,085	**6,855**	8,766	(21.8%)
Pan-Africa	2,342	2,406	**4,748**	4,218	12.6%
Inter-company sales	(87)	(7)	**(94)**	(14)	
Total cement sold	**6,025**	**5,484**	**11,509**	**12,970**	**(11.3%)**
Regional revenues	**₦m**	**₦m**	**₦m**	**₦m**	**%**
Nigeria	152,355	139,040	291,395	216,617	34.5%
Pan-Africa	58,715	65,732	124,447	76,006	63.7%
Inter-company sales	(2,904)	(262)	(3,166)	(432)	
Total revenues	**208,166**	**204,510**	**412,676**	**292,191**	**41.2%**
EBITDA	**₦m**	**₦m**	**₦m**	**₦m**	**%**
Nigeria	98,679	91,414	190,093	126,645	50.1%
Pan-Africa	7,483	12,149	19,632	12,915	52.0%
Central costs / eliminations	(3,159)	(2,891)	(6,050)	(7,046)	
Total EBITDA	**103,003**	**100,672**	**203,675**	**132,514**	**53.7%**
EBITDA margins*					
Nigeria	64.8%	65.7%	65.2%	58.5%	
Pan-Africa	12.7%	18.5%	15.8%	17.0%	
Group	**49.5%**	**49.2%**	**49.4%**	**45.4%**	
Nigeria per tonne	**₦**	**₦**	**₦**	**₦**	**%**
Revenue*	**40,412**	**45,070**	**42,508**	**24,711**	**72.0%**
EBITDA*	**26,175**	**29,630**	**27,730**	**14,447**	**91.9%**
	₦m	**₦m**	**₦m**	**₦m**	**%**
Group net profit	**70,572**	**73,470**	**144,042**	**103,420**	**39.3%**
	₦	**₦**	**₦**	**₦**	**%**
Earnings per share	**4.25**	**4.17**	**8.42**	**6.23**	**35.2%**

* Excluding central costs / eliminations

Nigerian operations

The Nigerian economy remains under pressure with Q1 2017 GDP growth contracting by 0.52%, year-on-year, representing the fifth successive quarter of contraction. The International Monetary Fund's *Regional Economic Outlook, May 2017* forecasts full-year growth of just 0.8%.

We estimate that Nigeria's total market for cement was 10.2 million tonnes (Mt), 23.2% lower than the estimated 13.3Mt sold in Nigeria in the first half of 2016. Of total market sales in the first half of 2017, just 0.1Mt was imported.

As a result of the slower market, our Nigeria operation sold nearly 6.9Mt of cement, down 21.8% on the 8.8Mt sold in the first half of 2016. We estimate our market share to have been about 64.5% during the first six months of 2017.

Despite nearly 22% lower volumes, Nigeria increased revenues by 34.5% and EBITDA by 50.1% following price increases. EBITDA was also helped by a more favourable fuel mix at Ibese and Obajana, as detailed in the table below, both of which were able to use coal from mines operated by our parent, Dangote Industries Limted. Use of expensive LPFO has almost been eliminated and our reliance on imported coal has ended at Obajana, where we are using own-mined and third-party Nigerian coal, with obvious benefits to both margins and foreign currency demands.

During the first six months, Obajana used approximately 138,000 tonnes of coal, of which 89,000 tonnes was provided by third parties, with 33,000 tonnes supplied from the new DIL mines in Kogi State. In the same period, Ibese used 154,000 tonnes of coal, of which half was imported. Of the rest, 64,000 tonnes was supplied by Dangote Industries.

Fuel mix

Six months to 30th June	**Obajana**		**Ibese**	
	2017	**2016**	**2017**	**2016**
Gas	58%	50%	55%	30%
Coal	38%	14%	43%	44%
LPFO	4%	36%	2%	26%
	100%	**100%**	**100%**	**100%**

Pan-African operations

In the first half of 2017, Pan-African operations increased cement sales by nearly 12.6% to 4.7Mt as our factories continued to consolidate their market shares across Africa. Pan-African operations sold 41.3% of total Group cement volumes, provided 29.9% of Group revenues (before inter-company eliminations) and 9.4% of Group EBITDA (before central costs and eliminations).

Cameroon

The economy of Cameroon remains in good health, with GDP expected to grow by nearly 3.7% in 2017, according to estimates in the *International Monetary Fund Regional Economic Outlook, May 2017*.

The cement market in Cameroon is being driven by individual house building projects, sate housing, small infrastructure and the construction of new football stadia in preparation for the 2019 Africa Cup of nations. Key infrastructure projects driving cement demand include new sports stadia in Yaounde and Douala, the Douala-Yaounde Highway, housing improvements and new commercial building.

Our 1.5Mta clinker grinding facility in Douala sold approximately 627Kt of cement in the first half of 2017, an increase of 16.3% on the 539Kt sold in the same period of 2016. The average price was about $110 per tonne in June.

The increase in sales can be attributed to a number of factors, notably strong brand recognition, improvements in our sales and marketing strategies and processes, new promotions to incentivise distributors, higher visibility through trade shows and advertising, improved relationships with key distributors and better analysis of customer needs.

Efficiency initiatives at the plant included better coordination of clinker supply ships to avoid shortages or oversupply, optimising local logistics for raw material supplies and improvements in the organisation and throughput of lorries collecting cement.

Congo

Our 1.5Mta integrated plant in Mfila, Republic of Congo, will begin operations at the end of July 2017 and did not contribute to the first-half performance of the Group.

The cement industry is small in the Republic of Congo and as at the end of June 2017, four manufacturers (SONOCC, Forspak, Diamond Cement and CIMAF) had a combined total of 1.7Mta. Dangote Cement's new 1.5Mta plant at Mfila will almost double capacity when it begins operations. The increase in total capacity is expected to reduce imports, which contributes circa 80% of cement sales volume, primarily from China and Egypt.

Ethiopia

Ethiopia is one of Sub-Saharan Africa's fastest-growing economies and its second most populous nation. The first decade of the millennium saw Ethiopia's economy achieving double digit growth every year and in 2015, GDP growth reached 10.4%, before declining to an estimated 8% in 2016. The International Monetary Fund estimates GDP growth of 7.5% in 2017.

The Ethiopian government aims to transform the country into a middle-income economy by 2025, focusing on growth in agriculture and exports, industry and services, based on its Growth and Transformation Plan II ("GTP II"), which covers 2015 to 2020. Central to the GTP II is large-scale public investment in infrastructure, principally in the power sector, with the aim of increasing capacity tenfold to 20GW by 2022, including the completion of the 6GW Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam.

The GTP II also aims to extend Ethiopia's road network from 98,000km to 180,000km and improve rail links with 5,000km of new lines.

In the housing sector, Ethiopia has enjoyed a construction boom, with state investment in large housing developments being supported by private investment in these and other real estate projects. The Ministry of Urban Development, Housing and Construction aims to build 2.4 million houses between 2015 and 2020.

We estimate that total market sales were nearly 4.2Mt during the first six months of 2017. Dangote Cement Ethiopia increased sales by 12.6% to 1.1Mt in the first six months of 2017 (H1 2016: 969Kt). We estimate our market share to have been 26% at the end of June 2017, consolidating Dangote Cement as Ethiopia's leading brand after two years in the market.

Our increased sales can be attributed to improvements in productivity, particularly in grinding and packing operations, better marketing, increased market demand, as well as higher sales of bulk cement from our factory at Mugher.

We were able to increase deliveries of cement to the more remote regions of Ethiopia and improvements in our fleet management drove higher fuel efficiency, avoidance of misuse of trucks and quicker turnaround times. In addition, we used our own cement delivery trucks to backhaul coal and other raw materials from Djibouti, thereby saving on logistics costs. These and other efficiencies enabled the Ethiopian operation to generate strong EBITDA margins.

At the end of June, net ex-factory pricing was just under $80 per tonne, slightly higher than at the start of the year.

Ghana

Ghana's economy is expected to accelerate in the next two years, with the International Monetary Fund forecasting GDP growth of 5.8% in 2017 and as much as 9.2% in 2018. The outlook for cement demand is positive driven by the strong GDP growth and investment to support the expanding oil and gas industries, as well as new housing projects, improvements to the Tema-Accra motorway and school renovations across the country.

Dangote Cement Ghana sold approximately 508kt of cement in the first six months of 2017, up nearly 8% on the 471kt cement sold during the same period in 2016.

The improved sales from 2016 to 2017 can be attributed to the increased availability of cement and trucks to import cement from Nigeria, which provided 93Kt of cement for Ghana in the first three months of 2017. Pricing was about $110 per tonne, which is an improvement on the $93 we reported at the first quarter of 2017.

Senegal

Our 1.5Mta plant in Pout sold 738Kt of cement in the first six months of 2017, up 26.5% on the first six months of 2016. This represents almost 100% capacity utilisation at the factory.

We estimate our market share to have improved from about 35% at the end of March 2017 to about 37% in June 2017. Ex-factory pricing stood at $72 at the end of June 2017, higher than the $67 average in the first quarter of 2017. Good cost control enable our Senegal plant to deliver strong EBITDA margins.

The introduction of 32.5R-grade cement to our product line-up, in February 2017, was received well by the market and as well as enabling us to increase local market share because of its high quality, we believe it will stimulate export sales to neighbouring Mali and Guinea-Bissau. In fact, in the second quarter, of total sales of 378Kt, 65Kt were exported.

The introduction of 32.5 drove March and May sales to record levels of more than 140Kt per month. The higher use of extenders in 32.5R means we can make more cement for the same amount of clinker, when compared to 42.5-type cement. However, sales of the stronger 42.5-grade cement continue to perform well, given the strong recognition of its benefits for larger-scale projects. Given the success of our 32.5R product we experienced some competitor actions in the form of price cuts and extended credit terms.

Sierra Leone

Sierra Leone's economy is recovering from the Ebola outbreak of 2014 and building activity is increasing as foreign trade and investment return to the country, augmenting foreign aid. Major initiatives include road building, expansion of ports and expansion of hydro-electric facilities.

Our 0.7Mta import and bagging facility began operations in Freetown in January 2017. The facility sold approximately 23kt of cement in the first three months of 2017 and 30Kt in the second quarter, for a total of 53Kt in its first six months of operation.

Sales activities were supported by marketing visits to all major and some smaller towns, visits to building materials suppliers and small general retailers, as we as radio and TV commercials.

Our new facility has doubled Sierra Leone's capacity for importation of cement, which is necessary because the country has insufficient limestone for manufacturing to be viable.

South Africa

The South African economy remained subdued during 2016 and into 2017. However, the Rand recovered from its lowest point since January 2016 and we have seen an improvement in the mining and agriculture sectors during the year to date. Government commitment to infrastructure development continues, with a focus on energy, transport and telecommunications. The economy is likely to remain under pressure in the wake of the downgrade to the country's sovereign credit rating and fears of increased borrowing.

The economic conditions were reflected in a quiet cement market, which was also depressed by heavy rains in the first two months of the year. Price increases in February and the entry of a new competitor, Mamba Cement, in 2016, also contributed to a 4.9% fall in our sales compared to the first six months of 2016. Industry figures supplied by Econometrix suggest that the total market was about 5.65Mt during the first half of 2017.

During the first half, our South African operation continued to improve efficiencies at both the Aganang and Delmas plants, as well as focusing on improving logistics and sales. We have an incentive strategy in place to increase 42R-grade cement bags sales and a drive to increase volumes in the bulk sector. In addition, we are improving our market analysis and targeting efforts. We increased prices by 5% in February, at the same time increasing our delivery rates.

Tanzania

Tanzania's economy is doing well with IMF estimates of nearly 6.8% GDP growth in 2017 and similar growth forecast for 2018 and beyond. A number of large infrastructure projects are driving construction activity in the country, including the Dar es Salaam-Morogoro Railway, the Kenya-Tanzania Railway, major road and bridge building projects and commercial housing at Dodoma.

Tanzania has 11Mta cement production capacity and our 3.0Mta factory at Mtwara is the largest and most modern. The plant increased volumes by more than 64% to nearly 388Kt in the first half of 2017 and we estimate this to have given us a market share of 17% at the end of the period. The ex-factory price during the period was around $50 in June.

The factory is still reliant on diesel gensets for electrical power, which results in EBITDA losses that weigh on Pan-African margins. However, we expect to have gas turbines installed by September, which will immediately bring the plant into profitability. We are investing $90m in a coal/gas fired power station as there is insufficient grid power available in the area. In addition, as previously announced, we have been allocated land from which we can mine coal to fuel the plant in the coming years.

The plant has taken delivery of a new fleet of trucks that will improve our distribution capabilities.

Zambia

Our 1.5Mta factory in Ndola sold approximately 331Kt of cement in the first six months of 2017, approximately 7% down on H1 2016, in part because of a heavy and prolonged rainy season that affected construction activity. In addition, the retail market was constrained by tighter monetary policy and pressures on disposable income following the drought of 2015/6. We estimate our market share to have been about 41% at the end of June. Cement prices were about $85 in June, slightly higher than in previous months.

We expect to see some recovery in mining-related construction activity as copper prices increase, as well as infrastructure projects due to be launched when the International Monetary Fund releases funding for them to go ahead.

We have begun a programme to assume operational responsibilities at the factory, when Sinoma's O&M contract expires. We believe this will enable considerable cost savings. In addition, we are linking our mines to electrical power to reduce diesel usage and its associated high costs. We have recently introduced a fleet management system that will optimise our truck logistics and enable greater backhaul of coal and gypsum on trucks that have already delivered cement on the outward journey. Approximately 80% of our sales are delivered by our own fleet of trucks.

Financial review

Summary

Six months ended 30th June	2017 '000 tonnes	2016 '000 tonnes
Volume of cement sold		
Nigeria	6,855	8,766
Pan-Africa	4,748	4,218
Inter-company sales	(94)	(14)
Total cement sold	**11,509**	**12,970**
	2017 ₦m	**2016 ₦m**
Revenues		
Nigeria	291,395	216,617
Pan-Africa	124,447	76,006
Inter-company sales	(3,166)	(432)
Total revenues	**412,676**	**292,191**
EBITDA*	**203,675**	**132,514**
EBITDA margin	49.4%	45.4%
Operating profit	163,498	98,042
Net profit	144,044	103,420
Earnings per ordinary share (Naira)	**8.42**	**6.23**
	As at 30/6/2017 ₦m	**As at 31/12/2016 ₦m**
Total assets	1,637,979	1,527,908
Net debt	313,779	240,772

*Earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortisation

Overall Group revenue increased by 41.2% from ₦292.2B in H1 2016 to ₦412.7B in H1 2017, despite an 11.3% fall in Group volumes, to 11.5Mt, as the impact of price increases across the market dampened sales in our main market.

Sales volumes from Nigerian operations fell from 8.8Mt to 6.9Mt, but the new pricing structure more than offset the 21.8% fall in volumes and revenues from Nigeria increased by 34.5% to ₦291.4B.

Across our Pan-African operations, sales volumes increased by 12.6% to 4.7Mt, with a 53kt maiden contribution from Sierra Leone, 1.1Mt of cement sold in Ethiopia, almost 0.7Mt sold in Senegal, 0.6Mt sold in Cameroon, 0.5Mt in Ghana, 0.4Mt in Tanzania and 0.3Mt in Zambia.

Pan-Africa revenue increased by 63.7% to ₦124.4B from ₦76.0B mainly as a result of increased volumes and foreign exchange gains when converting the sales from country local currency into Naira.

Manufacturing and operating costs

Six months ended 30th June 2017	**2017 ₦m**	**2016 ₦m**
Materials consumed	57,686	38,972
Fuel & power consumed	58,863	51,174
Royalties	555	713
Salaries and related staff costs	12,577	8,830
Depreciation & amortisation	28,297	22,204
Plant maintenance costs	12,945	12,091
Other production expenses	9,102	8,120
Increase/(decrease) in finished goods and work in progress	(2,476)	(2,917)
Total manufacturing costs	**177,549**	**139,187**

Manufacturing costs increased by 27.6% as a result of increased production volumes in the Pan-African operations as well as the foreign exchange impact when converting the Pan-African costs from local currencies to Naira. The total increase from the Pan-Africa operations amounted to ₦40.4B.

In Nigeria, manufacturing costs decreased in line with the reduced volumes. This reduction due to lower volumes was partially offset by the increase in the price of gas and the landed cost of coal. The impact on other dollar denominated costs arising from the depreciation of the Naira resulted in a net increase of ₦7.8B in manufacturing costs.

The average exchange rate during H1 2016 was ₦212/$1 as compared to an average of ₦308/$1 during H1 2017.

Administration and selling expenses

Six months ended 30th June 2017	**2017 ₦m**	**2016 ₦m**
Administration and selling costs	72,840	56,310

Total selling and administration expenses rose by 29.4% to ₦72.8b, mostly as a result of increased operations in Pan-Africa and associated administration & distribution costs. Depreciation and haulage costs increased in line with the increase in the Pan-African truck fleet by 1,000 trucks.

In addition, the depreciation of the Naira resulted in increased haulage costs in Nigeria with the diesel costs increasing by ₦3.8B. The average exchange rate during H1 2016 was ₦212/$1 as compared to an average of ₦308/$1 during H1 2017. This also contributed to the overall increase in operating costs for the Pan-Africa operations, as costs incurred in local currency were converted into Naira.

Profitability

Six months ended 30th June 2017	**2017 ₦m**	**2016 ₦m**
EBITDA	203,675	132,514
Depreciation and amortisation	(40,177)	(34,472)
Operating profit	**163,498**	**98,042**
EBTIDA by operating region		
Nigeria	190,093	126,645
Pan-Africa	19,632	12,915
Central administrations costs and inter-company sales	(6,050)	(7,046)
Total EBITDA	**203,675**	**132,514**

As a result of the average higher prices in Nigeria, foreign exchange gains on converting Pan-African sales detailed above, Group earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation (EBITDA) increased by 53.7% to ₦203.7B at a margin of 49.4% (2016: ₦132.5B, 45.4%).

Excluding eliminations and central costs, EBITDA increased by 50.1% in Nigeria, to ₦190.1B at a margin of 65.2% (2016: ₦126.6B, 58.4%). Despite lower volumes of cement being sold, EBITDA rose significantly because of higher pricing introduced in September 2016 and Q1 2017. Pan-African EBITDA rose by 52.0% to ₦19.6B (2016: ₦12.9B), but at a slightly lower margin of 15.8% mainly due to fuel costs in Tanzania and importation costs in Ghana.

Operating profit of ₦163.5B was 66.8% higher last year, with margins increasing from 33.6% to 39.6%.

Interest and similar income/expense

Six months ended 30th June 2017	**2017 ₦m**	**2016 ₦m**
Interest income	5,277	834
Net exchange gain	11,210	42,726
Finance income	**16,487**	**43,560**
Finance costs	(24,404)	(16,712)
Net finance cost	**(7,917)**	**26,848**

During H1 2016 the Naira depreciated from ₦199/US$ to ₦280/US$ resulting in significant exchange gains from assets denominated in USD. During H1 2017, the Naira depreciated from ₦305/US$ to ₦325/US$ resulting in net exchange gains amounting to ₦11.2B. Increased borrowings, coupled with increased finance costs when converting Pan-African interest expenses to Naira, resulted in finance costs increasing by 46.0% to ₦24.4B from ₦16.7B.

Taxation

Six months ended 30th June 2017	**2017 ₦m**	**2016 ₦m**
Tax charge	(11,537)	(21,470)

The effective tax rate for Nigerian operations was 7%, representing a mix of non-taxable profits from cement produced on lines still under Pioneer Tax Exemption and lines out of tax exemptions. The Group's effective tax rate was 7.4%. The Group's profit for the period was ₦144.0B (2016: ₦103.4B). As a result, earnings per share increased by 35.2% to ₦8.42 (2016: ₦6.23).

Financial position

	30th June 2016 ₦m	**31st December 2016 ₦m**
Property, plant and equipment	1,191,628	1,155,711
Other non-current assets	79,625	64,888
Intangible assets	5,318	4,145
Total non-current assets	**1,276,571**	**1,224,744**
Current assets	250,835	187,471
Cash and bank balances	110,573	115,693
Total assets	**1,637,937**	**1,527,908**
Non-current liabilities	84,406	65,841
Current liabilities	306,533	308,257
Debt	424,352	356,465
Total liabilities	**815,291**	**730,563**

The balance sheet remains strong with non-current assets increasing from ₦1,224B at 31st December 2016 to ₦1,277B at 30th June 2017. This was mainly the result of additions to fixed assets amounting to ₦37,5B, exchange gains on retranslating subsidiary assets of ₦40.4B being partially offset by depreciation amounting to ₦40.0B. Additions to property, plant and equipment were ₦37.5B, of which ₦19.7B was spent in Nigeria and ₦17.8B in Pan-Africa.

Current assets increased by ₦63.4B, driven mainly by the increase in prepayments and deposits made to suppliers.

Movement in net debt

	Cash ₦m	**Debt ₦m**	**Net debt ₦m**
As at 1st January 2017	115,693	(356,465)	(240,772)
Cash generated from operations before working capital changes	197,460	-	197,460
Change in working capital	(49,934)	-	(49,934)
Income tax paid	(2,830)	-	(2,830)
Additions to fixed assets	(37,579)	-	(37,579)
Other investing activities	(682)	-	(682)
Change in non-current prepayments and payables	(2,587)	-	(2,587)
Net interest payments	(26,701)	-	(26,701)
Net loans obtained (repaid)	53,013	(53,013)	-
Dividend paid	(144,844)	-	(144,844)
Other cash and non-cash movements	9,564	(14,874)	(5,310)
As at 30th June 2017	**110,573**	**424,352**	**(313,779)**

The Group generated cash of ₦197.5B before changes in working capital. After a ₦49.9B change in working capital and tax payments of ₦2.8B, the net cash flow from operations was ₦144.7B. Financing outflows of ₦123.9B (2016: ₦79.1B) reflected loans taken of ₦257.8B, loans repaid of ₦204.9B, interest paid of ₦32.0B and dividend paid of ₦144.8B

Capital Expenditure by Region

	Nigeria ₦m	**Pan-Africa ₦m**	**Total ₦m**
Nigeria	19,741	-	19,741
Senegal	-	214	214
Cameroon	-	0	0
Congo	-	7,627	7,627
Ghana	-	790	790
Cote d'Ivoire	-	32	32
Sierra Leone	-	102	102
South Africa	-	66	66
Ethiopia	-	1,000	1,000
Tanzania	-	6,952	6,952
Zambia	-	918	918
Other	-	137	137
Total	**19,741**	**17,838**	**37,579**

Capital expenditure was mainly to improve our energy efficiency in Nigeria and expenditure on the plant under construction in Congo.

Publication of credit ratings

On 5th July 2017, Dangote Cement published the following credit ratings:

Moody's Investors Service

Moody's Investors Service, ("Moody's") has assigned a first-time Ba3 Local Currency Corporate Family Rating (CFR), Ba3-PD Probability of Default Rating and Aaa.ng National Scale Rating (NSR) to Dangote Cement Plc (DCP). The outlook on the ratings is stable.

"Dangote Cement Plc's Ba3 local currency corporate family rating, one-notch above the Government of Nigeria's own rating, reflects the company's strong standalone credit profile and track record of demonstrated financial support from a larger and more diversified parent Dangote Industries Limited," says Douglas Rowlings, Assistant Vice President and lead analyst for Dangote Cement at Moody's.

The full rating can be viewed on Moody's website:

https://www.moodys.com/research/Moodys-assigns-first-time-Ba3-and-Aaang-ratings-to-Dangote--PR_368830

Global Credit Ratings

Global Credit Ratings has assigned long term and short term national scale issuer ratings of AA+(NG) and A1+(NG) respectively, to Dangote Cement Plc, with the outlook accorded as Stable. The ratings expire in September 2017.

The full rating can be viewed on Global Credit Ratings' website:

http://globalratings.com.ng/news/article/gcr-accords-an-initial-national-scale-rating-of-aang-to-dangote-cement-plc