

**KION GROUP AG**  
**Frankfurt am Main/Germany**

Limited assurance report of the independent  
practitioner regarding the sustainability  
report for the financial year  
from 1 January to 31 December 2021

**TRANSLATION**

– German version prevails –

**LIMITED ASSURANCE REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT PRACTITIONER REGARDING THE SUSTAINABILITY REPORT**

To KION GROUP AG, Frankfurt am Main/Germany

**Our Engagement**

We have performed a limited assurance engagement on the sustainability report 2021 (hereafter referred to as “sustainability report”) of KION GROUP AG, Frankfurt am Main/Germany, (hereafter referred to as “the Company”) for the financial year from 1 January to 31 December 2021 and further disclosures in accordance with GRI Standards criteria.

Our engagement did not cover the contents of any websites referred to in the sustainability report. Furthermore, the disclosures on greenhouse gas emissions for scope 3 categories 3.1, 3.4, 3.6, 3.7, 3.11 and 3.12, and the disclosures under the SASB Accounting Standard Industrial Machinery & Goods (version 2018-10) have not been a subject of our engagement.

**Responsibilities of the Executive Directors**

The executive directors of KION GROUP AG are responsible for the preparation of the sustainability report in accordance with

- Sections 315c in conjunction with 289c to 289e German Commercial Code (HGB),
- Article 8 of REGULATION (EU) 2020/852 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL of 18 June 2020 on the establishment of a framework to facilitate sustainable investment, and amending Regulation (EU) 2019/2088 (hereafter referred to as “EU Taxonomy Regulation”) and the delegated acts adopted thereon, as well as with their own interpretation of the wording and terminology contained in the EU Taxonomy Regulation and the delegated acts adopted thereon, as is presented in section “EU Taxonomy” of the sustainability report, and
- the principles stated under the “Core” option of the Sustainability Reporting Standards of the Global Reporting Initiative (hereafter referred to as “GRI Standards criteria”).

These responsibilities of the executive directors of the Company include the selection and application of appropriate methods regarding the preparation of the sustainability report and the use of assumptions and estimates for individual disclosures which are reasonable under the given circumstances. In addition, the executive directors are responsible for such internal control as they have determined necessary to enable the preparation of a sustainability report that is free from material misstatements due to fraudulent behaviour (manipulation of the sustainability report) or error.

Some of the wording and terminology contained in the EU Taxonomy Regulation and the delegated acts adopted thereon are still subject to considerable interpretation uncertainty and have not yet been officially clarified. Therefore, the executive directors have laid down their own interpretation of the EU Taxonomy Regulation and of the delegated acts adopted thereon in section “EU Taxonomy” of the sustainability report. They are responsible for

the reasonableness of this interpretation. As there is the inherent risk that indefinite legal concepts may allow for various interpretations, the legal conformity of the interpretation is prone to uncertainty.

The preciseness and completeness of the environmental data in the sustainability report is subject to inherent restrictions resulting from the manner in which the data was collected and calculated as well as from assumptions made.

### **Independence and Quality Assurance of the Audit Firm**

We have complied with the German professional requirements on independence and other professional rules of conduct.

Our firm applies the national statutory rules and professional announcements particularly of the “Professional Charter for German Public Auditors and German Sworn Auditors” (BS WP/vBP) and of the IDW Quality Assurance Standard “Quality Assurance Requirements in Audit Practices” (IDW QS 1) promulgated by the Institut der Wirtschaftsprüfer (IDW) and does therefore maintain a comprehensive quality assurance system comprising documented regulations and measures in respect of compliance with professional rules of conduct, professional standards, as well as relevant statutory and other legal requirements.

### **Responsibilities of the Practitioner**

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the sustainability report based on our work performed within our limited assurance engagement.

We conducted our work in accordance with the International Standard on Assurance Engagements (ISAE) 3000 (Revised) “Assurance Engagements Other than Audits or Reviews of Historical Financial Information”, adopted by the IAASB. This standard requires that we plan and perform the assurance engagement so that we can evaluate with limited assurance whether any matters have come to our attention to cause us to believe that – with the exception of the external sources of documentation or expert opinions referenced in the consolidated non-financial statement, the disclosures on greenhouse gas emissions for scope 3 categories 3.1, 3.4, 3.6, 3.7, 3.11 and 3.12 as well as the disclosures under the SASB Accounting Standard Industrial Machinery & Goods (version 2018-10) – the sustainability report has not been prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with Sections 315c in conjunction with 289c to 289e HGB, the EU Taxonomy Regulation and the delegated acts adopted thereon, as well as with the interpretation by the executive directors presented in section “EU Taxonomy” of the sustainability report and the relevant GRI Standards criteria. The procedures performed in a limited assurance engagement are less in extent than in a reasonable assurance engagement; consequently, the level of assurance obtained in a limited assurance engagement is substantially lower than the assurance that would have been obtained had a reasonable assurance engagement been performed. The choice of assurance work is subject to the practitioner’s professional judgement.

Within the scope of our limited assurance engagement, which we performed between October 2021 and April 2022, we notably performed the following work and other activities:

- Obtaining an understanding of the structure of the Group’s sustainability organisation and of the stakeholder engagement,
- On-site visits (remote) as part of an investigation into the processes for collecting, analysing and aggregating selected disclosures at the site in Pallejà (Spain) at the subsidiaries Linde Material Handling Ibérica, S.A. and at the site in Dinklage (Germany) at the subsidiary Linde Eisengießerei Dinklage GmbH,
- Inquiries of the executive directors and relevant employees involved about the process of preparation of the sustainability report, about the arrangements and measures (system) in place for preparing the sustainability report as well as about the disclosures in the sustainability report,
- Evaluation of the process to identify taxonomy-eligible economic activities and the corresponding disclosures in the sustainability report,
- Identification of risks of material misstatement in the sustainability report,
- Analytical evaluation of disclosures in the sustainability report,
- Tests of details to evaluate selected material assertions made in the sustainability report,
- Comparison of the disclosures in the sustainability report with the corresponding data in the consolidated financial statements and the combined management report,
- Evaluation of the presentation of the disclosures on the sustainability performance.

The determination of the disclosures pursuant to Article 8 of the EU Taxonomy Regulation requires the executive directors to make interpretations of indefinite legal concepts. As there is the inherent risk that indefinite legal concepts may allow for various interpretations, the legal conformity of the interpretation, and hence our related examination, is prone to uncertainty.

### **Practitioner’s Conclusion**

Based on the work performed and the evidence obtained, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the sustainability report of KION GROUP AG for the financial year from 1 January to 31 December 2021 has not been prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with Sections 315c in conjunction with 289c to 289e HGB, the EU Taxonomy Regulation and the delegated acts adopted thereon, as well as with the interpretation by the executive directors presented in section “EU Taxonomy” of the sustainability report and the relevant GRI Standards criteria.

We do not express a conclusion on the contents of websites referred to in the sustainability report. We do also not express a conclusion on the disclosures on greenhouse gas emissions for scope 3 categories 3.1, 3.4, 3.6, 3.7, 3.11 and 3.12, and the disclosures under the SASB Accounting Standard Industrial Machinery & Goods (version 2018-10).

## Restriction of Use

We issue this report as stipulated in the engagement letter agreed with KION GROUP AG (including the “General Engagement Terms for Wirtschaftsprüfer and Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaften (German Public Auditors and Public Audit Firms)” as of 1 January 2017 promulgated by the Institut der Wirtschaftsprüfer (IDW)). We draw attention to the fact that the assurance engagement was performed for the purposes of KION GROUP AG and the report is solely designed for informing KION GROUP AG about the findings of the assurance engagement. Therefore, it may not be suitable for another than the aforementioned purpose. Hence, this report should not be used by third parties as a basis for any (asset) decision. We are liable solely to the Company. However, we do not accept or assume liability to third parties. Our conclusion was not modified in this respect.

Frankfurt am Main/Germany, 25 April 2022

## Deloitte GmbH

Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft

Signed:

Stefan Dorissen

Wirtschaftsprüfer

(German Public Auditor)

Signed:

Sebastian Dingel