Business Results for the First Quarter of the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2023 (Unaudited)

May 12, 2023

Kuraray Co., Ltd.

Consolidated Earnings Report for the First Quarter of the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2023

Name of listed company: Kuraray Co., Ltd.

Stock code: 3405

Stock exchange listing: Tokyo Stock Exchange, Prime Market

URL: https://www.kuraray.com/

Representative:

Title: Representative Director and President

Name: Hitoshi Kawahara

Contact:

Title: Senior Manager, Corporate Communications Department, Corporate

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Name: Shinichi Takizawa Tel: +81-3-6701-1070

Preparation of supplementary documentation for the quarterly earnings report: Yes Holding of quarterly earnings results briefing: Yes (for securities analysts and institutional investors)

(Millions of yen rounded down unless otherwise stated)

1. Consolidated Financial Results for the First Quarter of the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2023 (January 1, 2023 to March 31, 2023)

(1) Consolidated Operating Results

(Percentage changes displayed for net sales, operating income, ordinary income and net income attributable to owners of the parent are comparisons with the corresponding period of the previous fiscal year.)

(Millions of yen)

	Net Sa	les	Operating Income		Ordinary Income		Net Income Attributable to Owners of the Parent	
		(%)		(%)		(%)		(%)
Fiscal 2023 1Q	184,965	10.4%	21,324	(3.7%)	20,389	(8.5%)	8,152	(35.8%)
Fiscal 2022 1Q	167,558	_	22,145	_	22,295	_	12,701	_

	Net Income per Share (Yen)	Fully Diluted Net Income per Share (Yen)
Fiscal 2023 1Q	24.36	24.34
Fiscal 2022 1Q	37.11	37.08

Note: The Company adopted the "Accounting Standard for Revenue Recognition" (ASBJ Statement No. 29; March 31, 2020) from January 1, 2022. Therefore, year-on-year percent changes from the figures for the first quarter of fiscal 2021, which predates the adoption of the standard, are not presented.

(2) Consolidated Financial Position

(Millions of yen)

	Total Assets	Net Assets	Equity Ratio (%)
As of March 31, 2023	1,217,079	676,416	53.8
As of December 31, 2022	1,221,533	668,534	52.9

[Reference] Equity attributable to owners of the parent:

As of March 31, 2023: ¥654,642 million As of December 31, 2022:¥646,750 million

2. Dividends

(Yen)

					\ - /		
		Cash Dividends per Share					
Record Date	Mar. 31	Jun. 30	Sep. 30	Dec. 31	Annual		
Fiscal 2022	_	21.00	_	23.00	44.00		
Fiscal 2023	_						
Fiscal 2023							
(Forecast)		24.00	_	24.00	48.00		

Note: Revisions to cash dividend forecast during this period: No

3. Forecasts of Consolidated Financial Results for the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2023 (January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023)

(Percentage changes displayed for net sales, operating income, ordinary income and net income attributable to owners of the parent are comparisons with the corresponding period of the previous fiscal year.)

(Millions of yen)

		(ministre et jeri)							
	Net Sales		Opera	ating	Ordir	nary	Net In	come	Net Income
			Income Income		Attributable to Owners		per Share		
							of the Parent		(Yen)
		(%)		(%)		(%)		(%)	
Interim Period	380,000	6.1	36,000	(5.5)	33,000	(12.9)	17,000	(29.8)	50.79
Full Fiscal Year	810,000	7.1	84,000	(3.6)	79,000	(6.0)	47,000	(13.5)	140.43

Note: Revisions to forecasts of consolidated financial results during this period: Yes

[Reference]

(1) Changes in Important Subsidiaries during the Period (Changes in Special Subsidiaries Involving Changes in the Scope of Consolidation)

Added: No companies Excluded: No companies

- (2) Adoption of Special Accounting Practices in the Preparation of Quarterly Consolidated Financial Statements
 No
- (3) Changes in Accounting Principles, Procedures and Presentation Methods in Connection with the Preparation of Quarterly Consolidated Financial Statements
 - 1. Changes following revision of accounting standards: No
 - 2. Changes besides 1. above: No
 - 3. Changes in accounting estimates: No
 - 4. Restatement: No
- (4) Number of Shares Issued and Outstanding (Common Shares)
 - 1. Number of shares issued and outstanding (including treasury stock) as of the period-end:

As of March 31, 2023 354,863,603 shares As of December 31, 2022 354,863,603 shares

2. Number of treasury shares as of the period-end:

As of March 31, 2023 20,171,629 shares As of December 31, 2022 20,171,061 shares 3. Average number of shares for the period (cumulative):
As of March 31, 2023 334,692,204 shares

As of March 31, 2022 342,261,353 shares

Note: It is not required that this type of earnings report be audited.

Cautionary Statement with Respect to Forecasts of Consolidated Business Results

(Cautionary note regarding forward-looking statements)

The results forecasts presented in this document are based upon currently available information and assumptions deemed rational. A variety of factors could cause actual results to differ materially from forecasts. Please refer to "1. Qualitative Information regarding Business Results (3) Basis for the Revision in Forecasts, Including Consolidated Operating Results Forecasts" on page 6 of the Attachment for the assumptions used.

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1. Qualitative Information regarding Business Results

(1) Overview of Consolidated Business Results

In the first quarter of fiscal 2023 (January 1, 2023–March 31, 2023), the world economy showed some signs of improvement due to the Chinese economy returning to normal after the reversal of its zero-COVID policy and other factors. However, the outlook remained unclear and a sense of economic deceleration grew due in part to continued financial tightening in various countries to control inflation and the effects of the Russia-Ukraine situation.

Amid these circumstances, consolidated operating results for the first quarter of fiscal 2023 are as follows: net sales increased ¥17,407 million (10.4%) year on year to ¥184,965 million; operating income decreased ¥820 million (3.7%) year on year to ¥21,324 million; ordinary income decreased ¥1,905 million (8.5%) year on year to ¥20,389 million; and net income attributable to owners of the parent decreased ¥4,548 million (35.8%) year on year to ¥8,152 million.

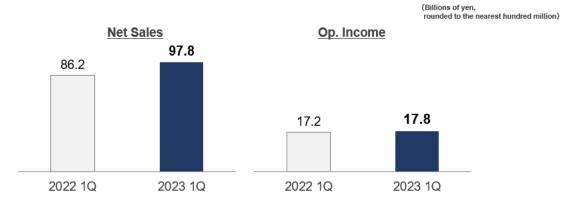
Regarding the civil lawsuits related to the fire that occurred at a U.S. subsidiary in May 2018, we reached settlements with the remaining plaintiffs in April 2023, except for one whose motion to dismiss is expected to be granted soon. The lawsuits have therefore been effectively resolved. Accordingly, in the first quarter, we recorded an extraordinary loss related to the lawsuits of ¥7,151 million as loss on litigation.

	FY2022 1Q		FY2023 1Q		Change	
	Consolid	ated Period	iod Consolidated Period		Ghange	
	Net sales	Operating income	Net sales	Operating income	Net sales	Operating income
Vinyl Acetate	86,154	17,243	97,815	17,820	11,661	577
Isoprene	15,358	2,672	15,780	190	422	(2,481)
Functional Materials	38,026	2,201	45,378	3,495	7,351	1,293
Fibers and Textiles	14,425	1,627	13,533	248	(892)	(1,379)
Trading	13,953	1,316	13,810	1,142	(142)	(173)
Others	10,681	381	11,347	63	666	(318)
Elimination &	(11,041)	(3,297)	(12,700)	(1,635)	(1,658)	1,661
Corporate	, , , ,	(3, 3, 7	, , /	(, , , , , , ,	(, , , , , , ,	,
Total	167,558	22,145	184,965	21,324	17,407	(820)

Results by Business Segment

Vinyl Acetate

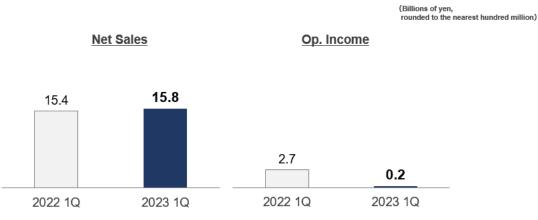
Sales in this segment were ¥97,815 million (up 13.5% year on year), and segment income was ¥17,820 million (up 3.3%).



- (1) The sales volume of PVOH resin decreased due to receding global demand, but we further promoted a shift to high value-added products. Shipments of optical-use poval film decreased due to effects of inventory adjustments for LCD panels ongoing from the latter half of last year. As for Advanced Interlayer Solutions, sales of PVB film remained steady in North America, Asia, and elsewhere. Shipments of water-soluble PVOH film decreased mainly for use in unit dose detergent packets in Europe due to inflation-driven belt tightening and other effects.
- (2) As for EVAL™ ethylene vinyl alcohol copolymer (EVOH resin), sales for food packaging applications remained firm.

Isoprene

Sales in this segment were ¥15,780 million (up 2.8% year on year), and segment income was ¥190 million (down 92.9%).



- (1) The sales volume of isoprene chemicals and elastomer decreased due to the ongoing effects of lower demand, which began in the latter half of the previous year.
- (2) The sales volume of GENESTAR™ heat-resistant polyamide resin decreased due to inventory adjustments for electric and electronic devices

despite signs of recovery in demand for automobile applications.

Functional Materials

Sales in this segment were ¥45,378 million (up 19.3% year on year), and segment income was ¥3,495 million (up 58.8%).

Net Sales

Op. Income

45.4

38.0

2022 1Q

2023 1Q

2023 1Q

2023 1Q

(Billions of yen, rounded to the nearest hundred million)

3.5

2.2

2023 1Q

2023 1Q

2023 1Q

- (1) In the methacrylate business, the sales volume decreased due to the effects of inventory adjustments for electric and electronic devices.
- (2) In the medical business, sales of cosmetic dental materials remained favorable, especially in Europe.
- (3) In the environmental solutions business, demand increased for drinking water applications, and sales of activated carbon remained steady.

Fibers and Textiles

Sales in this segment were ¥13,533 million (down 6.2% year on year), and segment income was ¥248 million (down 84.7%).

- (1) Shipments of CLARINO™ man-made leather decreased due to the effects of lower demand for sports and other applications.
- (2) In fibers and industrial materials, KURALON™ was affected by economic deceleration and a delayed recovery in the production of automobiles, while sales of VECTRAN™ remained stable.
- (3) In consumer goods and materials, demand for KURAFLEX™ in the restaurant industry was weak.

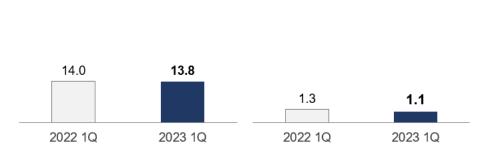
Trading

Net Sales

Sales in this segment were ¥13,810 million (down 1.0% year on year), and segment income was ¥1,142 million (down 13.2%).

Op. Income

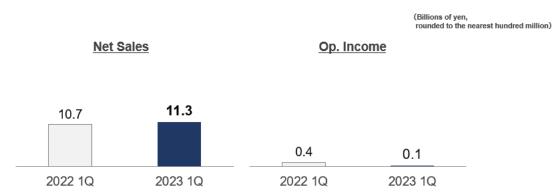
(Billions of yen, rounded to the nearest hundred million)



- (1) In fiber-related businesses, sales expanded, especially for sports wear, including wearable gear.
- (2) Sales of resins and chemicals were affected by economic deceleration.

Others

Sales in this segment were ¥11,347 million (up 6.2% year on year), and segment income was ¥63 million (down 83.4%).



(2) Overview of Financial Position

Total assets decreased ¥4,453 million from the end of the previous fiscal year to ¥1,217,079 million mainly because of a ¥55,951 million decrease in construction in progress and a ¥15,055 million decrease in cash and deposits, which together outweighed a ¥44,797 million increase in machinery, equipment and vehicles, net, an ¥11,851 million increase in buildings and structures, net, and an ¥11,417 million increase in inventories. Total liabilities decreased ¥12,335 million to ¥540,663 million due to factors that included a ¥13,891 million decrease in long-term borrowings and a ¥5,733 million decrease in income taxes payable, which together outweighed a ¥8,536 million increase in other current liabilities that mainly reflected an increase in accounts payable-other.

Net assets rose ¥7,881 million to ¥676,416 million. Equity attributable to owners of the parent amounted to ¥654,642 million, for an equity ratio of 53.8%.

(3) Basis for the Revision in Forecasts, Including Consolidated Operating Results Forecasts

Because of a growing sense of economic deceleration due in part to financial tightening, especially in the Europe and the United States, the performance of some of the Group's products have been impacted. Nevertheless, we expect demand for high value-added products, mainly vinyl acetate, to remain firm in the second quarter. Based on these circumstances and the recording of a loss on litigation in the first quarter of fiscal 2023, the forecasts of consolidated operating results for the second quarter of fiscal 2023 (January 1, 2023 to June 30, 2023) and the full fiscal 2023 (January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023) were revised.

The revised cumulative consolidated operating results forecast for the second quarter of the fiscal year ending December 31, 2023 (January 1, 2023 to June 30, 2023) is as follows.

				(Millions of yen)	(Yen)
	Net Sales	Operating Income	Income	Net Income Attributable to Owners of the Parent	Net Income Per Share
Original Forecast (A)	400,000	36,000	33,000	21,000	62.74
Revised Forecast (B)	380,000	36,000	33,000	17,000	50.79
Amount Adjusted (B - A)	(20,000)		_	(4,000)	
Percent Adjusted	(5.0%)		_	(19.0%)	
(Ref.) FY2022 2Q Results	358,040	38,089	37,896	24,207	71.32

The revised operating results forecast for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2023 (January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023) is as follows.

				(Millions of yen)	(Yen)
	Net Sales	Operating Income	Ordinary Income	Net Income Attributable to Owners of the Parent	Net Income Per Share
Original Forecast (A)	830,000	84,000	79,000	51,000	152.38
Revised Forecast (B)	810,000	84,000	79,000	47,000	140.43
Amount Adjusted (B - A)	(20,000)			(4,000)	
Percent Adjusted	(2.4%)			(7.8%)	
(Ref.) FY2022 Results	756,376	87,139	84,060	54,307	161.13

Note: The above forecasts are based on the best information currently available. Actual operating results may vary significantly due to various factors.

2. Quarterly Consolidated Financial Statements and Notes

(1) Quarterly Consolidated Balance Sheets

	December 31, 2022	March 31, 2023
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash and deposits	123,724	108,669
Notes and accounts receivable–trade, and contract assets	157,016	157,114
Securities	4,852	4,698
Merchandise and finished goods	145,851	153,740
Work in process	19,078	21,878
Raw materials and supplies	60,104	60,832
Other	23,815	21,496
Allowance for doubtful accounts	(510)	(624)
Total current assets	533,933	527,805
Non-current Assets		
Property, plant and equipment		
Buildings and structures, net	94,745	106,597
Machinery, equipment and vehicles, net	219,200	263,998
Land	23,264	23,363
Construction in progress	137,424	81,473
Other, net	37,926	38,055
Total property, plant, and equipment	512,562	513,487
Intangible assets		
Goodwill	56,058	55,430
Customer-related assets	30,432	29,823
Other	34,993	35,298
Total intangible assets	121,484	120,552
Investments and other assets		
Investment securities	23,194	24,356
Long-term loans receivable	97	97
Retirement benefit asset	2,104	2,162
Deferred tax assets	16,718	17,367
Other	11,458	11,266
Allowance for doubtful accounts	(20)	(17)
Total investments and other assets	53,553	55,233
Total non-current assets	687,600	689,273
Total Assets	1,221,533	1,217,079

		(Millions of yen)
	December 31, 2022	March 31, 2023
LIABILITIES		
Current Liabilities		
Notes and accounts payable-trade	52,717	52,455
Short-term borrowings	34,480	34,480
Commercial papers	10,000	10,000
Current portion of bonds payable	10,000	10,000
Current portion of long-term borrowings	30,434	29,071
Accrued expenses	21,075	17,034
Income taxes payable	11,370	5,636
Accrued bonuses	9,132	11,279
Other provisions	111	118
Other	42,008	50,545
Total current liabilities	221,330	220,622
Non-current Liabilities		
Bonds payable	60,000	60,000
Long-term borrowings	179,491	166,962
Deferred tax liabilities	17,279	17,457
Provision for retirement benefits for directors (and other officers)	294	305
Provision for environmental measures	397	397
Retirement benefit liability	25,626	26,409
Asset retirement obligations	5,303	5,428
Other	43,275	43,080
Total non-current liabilities	331,668	320,040
Total Liabilities	552,998	540,663
NET ASSETS		
Shareholders' Equity		
Share capital	88,955	88,955
Capital surplus	87,152	87,152
Retained earnings	399,910	400,371
Treasury shares	(25,735)	(25,736)
Total shareholders' equity	550,282	550,743
Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income		
Valuation difference on available-for-sale securities	5,769	6,522
Deferred gain or losses on hedges	611	213
Foreign currency translation adjustment	90,555	97,551
Remeasurements of defined benefit plans	(468)	(387)
Total accumulated other comprehensive income	96,467	103,899
Share Acquisition Rights	341	341
Non-controlling Interests	21,443	21,432
Total Net Assets	668,534	676,416
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	1,221,533	1,217,079
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(2) Quarterly Consolidated Statements of Income and Quarterly Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income Quarterly Consolidated Statements of Income

Quarterly Consolidated Statements of Income		(Millions of yen)
	Fiscal 2022 1Q (January 1, 2022 – March 31, 2022)	Fiscal 2023 1Q (January 1, 2023 – March 31, 2023)
Net sales	167,558	184,965
Cost of sales	110,821	124,992
Gross profit	56,737	59,973
Selling, general and administrative expenses		
Selling expenses	10,069	10,450
General and administrative expenses	24,522	28,197
Total selling, general and administrative expenses	34,592	38,648
Operating income	22,145	21,324
Non-operating income		
Interest income	53	265
Dividend income	96	59
Share of profit of entities accounted for using equity method	61	47
Other	932	381
Total non-operating income	1,143	753
Non-operating expenses		
Interest expenses	361	577
Other	632	1,111
Total non-operating expenses	993	1,688
Ordinary income	22,295	20,389
Extraordinary income		
Insurance claim income	663	_
Subsidy income	188	_
Total extraordinary income	851	_
Extraordinary losses		
Loss on litigation	974	7,151
Loss on abandonment of non-current assets	45	102
Costs related to the suspension of operations	2,805	_
Loss on tax purpose reduction entry of non- current assets	169	_
Total extraordinary losses	3,995	7,253
Income before income taxes and noncontrolling interests	19,151	13,135
Income taxes—current	7,114	5,436
Income taxes—deferred	(1,142)	(711)
Total income taxes	5,972	4,724
Net income	13,179	8,410
Net income attributable to noncontrolling interests	478	257
Net income attributable to owners of the parent	12,701	8,152

Quarterly Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income

	Fiscal 2022 1Q (January 1, 2022 – March 31, 2022)	Fiscal 2023 1Q (January 1, 2023 – March 31, 2023)
Net income	13,179	8,410
Other comprehensive income		
Valuation difference on available-for-sale securities	135	753
Deferred gains or losses on hedges	556	(420)
Foreign currency translation adjustment	26,018	7,269
Remeasurements of defined benefit plans, net of tax	66	81
Total other comprehensive income	26,778	7,684
Quarterly comprehensive income	39,957	16,094
Comprehensive income attributable to:		
Owners of the parent	38,788	15,584
Noncontrolling interests	1,169	510

(3) Notes regarding Quarterly Consolidated Financial Statements

Notes regarding Going Concern Assumptions

None

Material Changes in Shareholders' Equity

None

Additional Information

Resolution of Lawsuits Related to a Fire at a U.S. Subsidiary

Regarding the civil lawsuits related to the fire that occurred at a U.S. subsidiary in May 2018, we have reached settlements with the remaining plaintiffs in April 2023, except for one whose motion to dismiss is expected to be granted soon.

The lawsuits have therefore been effectively resolved. Accordingly, in the first quarter, we recorded an extraordinary loss related to the lawsuits of ¥7,151 million as loss on litigation.

Segment Information, etc.

- Segment Information
- I. First Quarter of Fiscal 2022 (January 1, 2022 to March 31, 2022)
- 1. Net sales, income and loss by reporting segment

(Millions of yen)

	Reporting Segment						Other Business ¹	Total	Adjustment ²	Consolidated Statements of Income
	Vinyl Acetate	Isoprene	Functional Materials	Fibers and Textiles	Trading	Total				
Net sales Outside customers Intersegment	82,420	12,176	37,074	13,612	13,592	158,876	8,681	167,558	_	167,558
sales and transfers	3,733	3,181	952	813	360	9,041	2,000	11,041	(11,041)	_
Total	86,154	15,358	38,026	14,425	13,953	167,918	10,681	178,599	(11,041)	167,558
Segment income (loss)	17,243	2,672	2,201	1,627	1,316	25,061	381	25,442	(3,297)	22,145

Notes:

- 1. The "Other Business" category incorporates operations not included in business segment reporting, including engineering business.
- 2. Adjustment is as follows: Included within segment loss of ¥3,297 million is the elimination of intersegment transactions of ¥665 million and corporate expenses of ¥3,963 million. Corporate expenses mainly comprise the submitting company's basic research expenses.
- 3. Segment income is adjusted to agree with operating income in the consolidated statements of income.

- II. First Quarter of Fiscal 2023 (January 1, 2023 to March 31, 2023)
- 1. Net sales, income and loss by reporting segment

(Millions of yen)

	Reporting Segment						Other Business ¹	Total	Adjustment ²	Consolidated Statements of Income
	Vinyl Acetate	Isoprene	Functional Materials	Fibers and Textiles	Trading	Total				
Net sales Outside customers Intersegment	93,737	12,382	44,252	12,720	13,408	176,502	8,463	184,965	_	184,965
sales and transfers	4,077	3,398	1,126	812	401	9,816	2,884	12,700	(12,700)	_
Total	97,815	15,780	45,378	13,533	13,810	186,318	11,347	197,666	(12,700)	184,965
Segment income (loss)	17,820	190	3,495	248	1,142	22,897	63	22,960	(1,635)	21,324

Notes:

- 1. The "Other Business" category incorporates operations not included in business segment reporting, including engineering business.
- 2. Adjustment is as follows: Included within segment loss of ¥1,635 million is the elimination of intersegment transactions of ¥1,830 million and corporate expenses of ¥3,466 million. Corporate expenses mainly comprise the submitting company's basic research expenses.
- 3. Segment income is adjusted to agree with operating income in the consolidated statements of income.