## Karnov Group Interim Report Q1

Pontus Bodelsson, CEO Leif Mårtensson, Interim CFO 9 May 2023





## Q1 highlights and operational outlook Pontus Bodelsson

# Financial highlights Q1

### European growth and strong operating cashflow





# Group highlights

### Satisfactory results – preparing for future European growth



#### Key comments

- > Satisfactory growth with stable earnings
  - > High customer satisfaction and low churn
- > Macro trends support and expand the market demand
  - > Increasing regulations and legislation
  - > Legislation increasingly complex
  - > Practical tools to assist the lawyer
- > An ambitious M&A pipeline
  - > European expansion
  - > Growth opportunities in EHS and T&A
  - > Tech bolt-ons for additional customer value

# Solid start to the year in Region North

### Growing sales and new possibilities



#### Key comments

- > Strong organic growth with stable earning capabilities
- > Alexandra Åquist appointed CEO of Region North
- > Continue to enhance customer value
  - > Tools for improved accessability and improved workflow are important assets of ours
- Municipality solution an important tool for civil servants to make correct decisions, fast
  - > Growing in all markets

# Great opportunities in Region South

### Synergies plan in place



#### Key comments

- Stable net sales and adjusted EBITA margin development in line with expectations
- > Guillaume Deroubaix appointed CEO of Region South
- > Cross-selling in Spain
  - New whistleblower tool launched in Spain which is to be sold across organisations in Aranzadi LA LEY
  - > First cross-organisational sales in Q1
- > Project for a common tech platform ongoing
  - > Progress in line with time-plan
- > E-learning growing in Lamy Liaisons

# Practical Al applications to the benefit of customers

### Enhanced customer value and internal efficiency



#### Key comments

- Trust what you find, find it quick and make better decision, faster
  - Karnov's deep content and industry knowledge enable us to develop tools to assist lawyers
  - Region South has workflow tools based on AI in the product suite while Region North is currently working with AI applications on an explanatory level
    - Opportunities for cross-border knowledge sharing
    - Karnov development is made to benefit the customers in all markets
- > We see potential internal efficiency gains through AI
  - > Opportunity to automate repetitive tasks such as data entry and free up staff to focus on higher level tasks

# New composition of Group Management

Right foundation for future growth and keeping focus on regional businesses



#### Key comments

- Karnov is on a growth journey
  - Focus on European growth and strategic priorities such as content and AI
  - > Our ambition is to become the number one choice in legal knowledge in Europe
  - > Keeping eyes open for additional M&A activities in Europe
- > Local leadership close to customers
  - CEOs appointed for both Region North and Region South to continue developing our strong regional businesses close to our customers



## Financial development Leif Mårtensson

# **European growth**

### Scandinavian expansion and stable performance in Region South



\*Comparing figures include proforma numbers for Region South. These have not been audited by the company's auditor.

#### Key comments

- Strong net sales development
  - Organic growth of 5.8% supported by acquired growth of 132.3% and positive currency effects of 2.6%
- Scandinavian expansion in Region North
  - Organic growth driven by strong new sales in the public sector and enhanced offering within our legal core
  - > Solid performance by our EHS businesses and DIBkunnskap
- > Region South has a stable development
  - Net sales increased by SEK 20 m compared to Q1 2022 driven by currency effect. Underlying performance is stable.

### IIIKARNOV GROUP

GROUP

# Continued strong earnings capabilities

New base margin in 2023 due to the acquisition of Region South





\*Comparing figures include proforma numbers for Region South. These have not been audited by the company's auditor.

# Key comments Adjusted EBITA amounted to SEK 140 m (proforma 135) Group margin decreased by -0.7 pp compared to proforma Q1 2022. The decrease is mainly due to filled vacancies in Region North Group function costs have increased due to the new size and complexity of the Group Focus onwards is to harvest synergies in Region South and improve the adjusted EBITA margin



# Online sales continue to grow

Higher portion of offline sales in Region South

Sales split online/offline, MSEK, Region North Q1 2022 Q1 2023 ■ Online ■ Offline



#### Sales split online/offline, MSEK, Region South

# High portion of subscriptions paid in advance

Similar subscription-based sales in both segments

400 350 300 35 250 37 200 150 243 218 100 50 0 Q1 2022 Q1 2023 Subscription Non-subscription

Sales split sub/non-sub, MSEK, Region North

## 400 350 300 53 250 282 100 282 100 282 0 Q1 2023 • Subscription • Non-subscription

#### Sales split sub/non-sub, MSEK, Region South

# Strong growth trajectory in Region North

Solid organic growth and high-level margin

#### **REGION NORTH**





43%

120

#### Key comments

- Organic growth at the satisfying level of 5.8%. Currency effects had a positive impact of 2.6%
- Organic growth driven by online sales
  - We have enhanced customer value within legal core and > been successful in new sales in the public sector
  - New product ROA is appreciated among customers
- Adjusted EBITA margin was 43.4%
  - Increased cost base due to filled vacancies for future customer value
  - Increased D&A of SEK 3 m from capitalised development

# Stability in Region South

### Mature businesses with innovative solutions

#### **REGION SOUTH**





11%

38

Q1 2023

#### Key comments

- Net sales increased by 6%
  - > The significant increase in net sales compared to proforma is explained by currency effects of 6.7%
  - Underlying performance is stable. We have good traction within the e-learning segment in both markets
- Adjusted EBITA margin was 11.2%
  - > The improved margin is mainly the result of lower personnel expenses as well as currency effects
  - > Focus onwards is to harvest synergies

\*Comparing figures include proforma numbers for Region South. These have not been audited by the company's auditor.

# **Group functions**

### Increased costs due to European expansion

#### **GROUP FUNCTIONS**

Adjusted EBITA, SEKm and margin, %



#### Key comments

- The Group Function consists of the functions which takes responsibility for Group wide tasks, e.g. Group management, Investor Relations and Group Finance functions
  - Increase of SEK 7 m compared to Q1 2022 as we have strengthened corporate functions, in line with earlier announcements

## Improved leverage

### Invoicing season completed with strong operating cash flow

#### GROUP



#### Key comments

- > Adjusted operating cash flow amounted to SEK 210 m
  - Both segments generated cash due to invoicing seasons
  - Region South has a slightly later seasonal dynamic with a more widely spread of invoicing

> Leverage of 3.4x

- Our focus is to improve leverage below the financial target of 3.0x and invest further in Region South to harvest synergies
- > We keep our eyes open for future European growth opportunities.

# Summary of Q1

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#### Solid financial performance

- Organic growth 6%
- New Group profitability level

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#### European growth

- Growth in EHS, public sector and T&A Keeping our eyes open for European growth

### Enhance customer value with AI

 Opportunities for both new customer value and raised productivity within Karnov Group
 Our premium deep content is a great asset





## Better decisions, faster

Find what you need, trust what you find and do it quickly.

For more information visit www.karnovgroup.com



# Appendix





COMPANY PRESENTATION

# Company video





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