

FORM 10-Q

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE  
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the quarterly period ended September 30, 1997

OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE  
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Commission File No. 001-02217

The Coca-Cola Company

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its Charter)

Delaware 58-0628465  
(State or other jurisdiction of (IRS Employer  
incorporation or organization) Identification No.)

One Coca-Cola Plaza 30313  
Atlanta, Georgia (Zip Code)  
(Address of principal executive offices)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code (404) 676-2121

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant (1) has filed all reports  
required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of  
1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the  
Registrant was required to file such reports) and (2) has been subject to such  
filing requirements for the past 90 days.

Yes X No  
-----

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the Registrant's classes  
of Common Stock as of the latest practicable date.

Class of Common Stock	Outstanding at October 24, 1997
----- \$.25 Par Value	----- 2,473,225,116 Shares

THE COCA-COLA COMPANY AND SUBSIDIARIES

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## Part I. Financial Information

## Item 1. Financial Statements (Unaudited)

## THE COCA-COLA COMPANY AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS  
(UNAUDITED)  
(In millions except share data)

## ASSETS

<TABLE>  
<CAPTION>

	September 30, 1997	December 31, 1996
	-----	-----
<S>	<C>	<C>
CURRENT		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,110	\$ 1,433
Marketable securities	93	225
	-----	-----
	2,203	1,658
Trade accounts receivable, less allowances of \$23 at September 30 and \$30 at December 31	1,758	1,641
Inventories	1,056	952
Prepaid expenses and other assets	1,662	1,659
	-----	-----
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	6,679	5,910
	-----	-----
INVESTMENTS AND OTHER ASSETS		
Equity method investments		
Coca-Cola Enterprises Inc.	205	547
Coca-Cola Amatil Limited	1,308	881
Other, principally bottling companies	2,379	2,004
Cost method investments, principally bottling companies	691	737
Marketable securities and other assets	1,670	1,779
	-----	-----
	6,253	5,948
	-----	-----
PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		
Land	191	204
Buildings and improvements	1,554	1,528
Machinery and equipment	3,884	3,649
Containers	183	200
	-----	-----
	5,812	5,581
Less allowances for depreciation	2,048	2,031
	-----	-----
	3,764	3,550
	-----	-----
GOODWILL AND OTHER INTANGIBLE ASSETS	706	753
	-----	-----
	\$ 17,402	\$ 16,161
	=====	=====

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## THE COCA-COLA COMPANY AND SUBSIDIARIES

## LIABILITIES AND SHARE-OWNERS' EQUITY

<TABLE>  
<CAPTION>

	September 30, 1997	December 31, 1996
<S>	<C>	<C>
CURRENT		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 3,565	\$ 2,972
Loans and notes payable	1,950	3,388
Current maturities of long-term debt	149	9
Accrued income taxes	1,667	1,037
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	7,331	7,406
LONG-TERM DEBT	947	1,116
OTHER LIABILITIES	1,429	1,182
DEFERRED INCOME TAXES	414	301
SHARE-OWNERS' EQUITY		
Common stock, \$.25 par value		
Authorized: 5,600,000,000 shares		
Issued: 3,441,134,537 shares at September 30; 3,432,956,518 shares at December 31	860	858
Capital surplus	1,211	1,058
Reinvested earnings	17,396	15,127
Unearned compensation related to outstanding restricted stock	(51)	(61)
Foreign currency translation adjustment	(1,037)	(662)
Unrealized gain on securities available for sale	179	156
	18,558	16,476
Less treasury stock, at cost (967,712,685 shares at September 30; 951,963,574 shares at December 31)	11,277	10,320
	7,281	6,156
	\$ 17,402	\$ 16,161

<FN>  
See Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

</TABLE>

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THE COCA-COLA COMPANY AND SUBSIDIARIES  
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME  
(UNAUDITED)  
(In millions except per share data)

<TABLE>  
<CAPTION>

	Three Months Ended September 30, Nine Months Ended September 30,			
	1997	1996	1997	1996
<S>	<C>	<C>	<C>	<C>
NET OPERATING REVENUES	\$ 4,954	\$ 4,687	\$ 14,167	\$ 14,197
Cost of goods sold	1,659	1,814	4,563	5,250
GROSS PROFIT	3,295	2,873	9,604	8,947
Selling, administrative and general expenses	2,052	2,419	5,776	6,078
OPERATING INCOME	1,243	454	3,828	2,869
Interest income	50	49	150	173

Interest expense	58	67	188	210
Equity income	46	56	152	143
Gains on issuances of stock by equity investees	-	413	363	431
Other income - net	224	32	566	86
	-----	-----	-----	-----
INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAXES	1,505	937	4,871	3,492
Income tax expense (benefit)	494	(30)	1,559	762
	-----	-----	-----	-----
NET INCOME	\$ 1,011	\$ 967	\$ 3,312	\$ 2,730
	=====	=====	=====	=====
NET INCOME PER SHARE	\$ .41	\$ .39	\$ 1.34	\$ 1.09
	=====	=====	=====	=====
DIVIDENDS PER SHARE	\$ .14	\$ .125	\$ .42	\$ .375
	=====	=====	=====	=====
AVERAGE SHARES OUTSTANDING	2,478	2,492	2,479	2,497
	=====	=====	=====	=====

<FN>  
See Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

</TABLE>

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THE COCA-COLA COMPANY AND SUBSIDIARIES  
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS  
(UNAUDITED)  
(In millions)

<TABLE>  
<CAPTION>

	Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	1997	1996
	-----	-----
<S>	<C>	<C>
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Net income	\$ 3,312	\$ 2,730
Depreciation and amortization	450	474
Deferred income taxes	(57)	128
Equity income, net of dividends	(103)	(69)
Gains on issuances of stock by equity investees	(363)	(431)
Foreign currency adjustments	63	(58)
Other items	(588)	288
Net change in operating assets and liabilities	730	(215)
	-----	-----
Net cash provided by operating activities	3,444	2,847
	-----	-----
INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Acquisitions and investments, principally bottling companies	(789)	(577)
Purchases of investments and other assets	(268)	(270)
Proceeds from disposals of investments and other assets	1,958	1,070
Purchases of property, plant and equipment	(776)	(682)
Proceeds from disposals of property, plant and equipment	54	44
Other investing activities	84	(155)
	-----	-----
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	263	(570)
	-----	-----
Net cash provided by operations after reinvestment	3,707	2,277
	-----	-----
FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Issuances of debt	101	862

Payments of debt	(1,493)	(576)
Issuances of stock	109	74
Purchases of stock for treasury	(957)	(952)
Dividends	(695)	(624)
	-----	-----
Net cash used in financing activities	(2,935)	(1,216)
	-----	-----
EFFECT OF EXCHANGE RATE CHANGES ON CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	(95)	(62)
	-----	-----
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		
Net increase during the period	677	999
Balance at beginning of period	1,433	1,167
	-----	-----
Balance at end of period	\$ 2,110	\$ 2,166
	=====	=====
INTEREST PAID	\$ 192	\$ 244
	=====	=====
INCOME TAXES PAID	\$ 868	\$ 952
	=====	=====

<FN>  
See Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

</TABLE>

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THE COCA-COLA COMPANY AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
(UNAUDITED)

NOTE A - BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles for interim financial information and with the instructions to Form 10-Q and Rule 10-01 of Regulation S-X. They do not include all information and notes required by generally accepted accounting principles for complete financial statements. However, except as disclosed herein, there has been no material change in the information disclosed in the notes to consolidated financial statements included in the Annual Report on Form 10-K of The Coca-Cola Company (the Company) for the year ended December 31, 1996. In the opinion of Management, all adjustments (consisting of normal recurring accruals) considered necessary for a fair presentation have been included. Operating results for the nine month period ended September 30, 1997, are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the year ending December 31, 1997.

Certain amounts in the prior period financial statements have been reclassified to conform to the current period presentation.

NOTE B - SEASONAL NATURE OF BUSINESS

Unit sales of the Company's soft drink and noncarbonated beverage products are generally greater in the second and third quarters due to seasonal factors.

NOTE C - TREASURY STOCK

The Company purchased approximately 9 million shares of its common stock in the third quarter and approximately 16 million shares for the nine months ended September 30, 1997.

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NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

NOTE D - BOTTLING TRANSACTIONS

In February 1997, the Company sold its 49 percent interest in Coca-Cola & Schweppes Beverages Ltd. to Coca-Cola Enterprises. This transaction resulted in gross proceeds of approximately \$1 billion and a one-time after-tax gain of approximately \$.08 per share.

In August 1997, the Company sold its 48 percent interest in Coca-Cola Beverages, Ltd. of Canada and its 49 percent ownership of The Coca-Cola Bottling Company of New York, Inc. to Coca-Cola Enterprises in exchange for aggregate net consideration valued at approximately \$456 million in cash. This transaction resulted in a one-time after-tax gain of approximately \$.04 per share.

In July 1996, the Company sold its interest in the French and Belgian bottling and canning operations to Coca-Cola Enterprises in return for cash consideration of approximately \$936 million.

#### NOTE E - GAINS ON ISSUANCES OF STOCK BY EQUITY INVESTEES

In June 1997, the Company and San Miguel Corporation ("San Miguel") agreed to sell their interests in Coca-Cola Bottlers Philippines, Inc. to Coca-Cola Amatil Limited ("Coca-Cola Amatil") in exchange for approximately 293 million shares in Coca-Cola Amatil. In connection with this transaction, Coca-Cola Amatil issued approximately 210 million shares to San Miguel valued at \$2,429 million. The issuance to San Miguel resulted in a one-time noncash pretax gain for the Company of approximately \$343 million. The Company has provided deferred taxes of approximately \$141.5 million related to this gain. This transaction resulted in the Company's 36 percent interest in Coca-Cola Amatil being diluted to 33 percent.

In May 1997, the Company and The Cisneros Group of Companies ("The Cisneros Group") agreed to sell their interests in Coca-Cola y Hit de Venezuela to Panamerican Beverages, Inc. ("Panamco") in exchange for approximately 30.6 million shares in Panamco. In connection with this transaction, Panamco issued approximately 13.6 million shares to The Cisneros Group valued at approximately \$402 million. The issuance to The Cisneros Group resulted in a one-time noncash pretax gain for the Company of approximately \$20 million. The Company has provided deferred taxes of approximately \$7.2 million related to this gain. At the completion of this transaction, the Company's ownership in Panamco was approximately 23 percent.

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#### NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

#### NOTE E - GAINS ON ISSUANCES OF STOCK BY EQUITY INVESTEES (CONTINUED)

In September 1996, the Company's previously wholly owned subsidiary, Coca-Cola Erfrischungsgetraenke G.m.b.H. ("CCEG") issued approximately 24.4 million shares of common stock as part of a merger with three independent German bottlers of the Company's products. The shares were valued at approximately \$925 million, based upon the fair values of the assets of the three independent bottling companies. In connection with CCEG's issuance of shares, a new corporation was established, Coca-Cola Erfrischungsgetraenke AG ("CCEAG"), and the Company's ownership was reduced to 45 percent in the resulting corporation. As a result, the Company began accounting for its related investment by the equity method of accounting prospectively from the date of the transaction. The transaction resulted in a noncash pretax gain of approximately \$283 million for the Company. The Company's German subsidiary has provided deferred income taxes of approximately \$171 million related to this gain.

In July 1996, Coca-Cola Amatil issued approximately 46 million shares in exchange for approximately \$522 million. The issuance reduced the Company's ownership percentage in Coca-Cola Amatil from approximately 39 percent to approximately 36 percent. This transaction resulted in a noncash pretax gain of approximately \$130 million to the Company. The Company has provided deferred income taxes of approximately \$47 million related to this gain.

In 1996, Coca-Cola FEMSA de Buenos Aires, S.A. ("FEMSA Buenos Aires") issued approximately 19 million shares to Coca-Cola FEMSA, S.A. de C.V. This issuance reduced the Company's ownership in FEMSA Buenos Aires from 49 percent to approximately 32 percent. The Company recognized a noncash pretax gain of approximately \$18 million as a result of this transaction. In subsequent transactions, the Company disposed of its remaining interest in FEMSA Buenos Aires.

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NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

NOTE F - ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS

In February, 1997, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 128, "Earnings Per Share," which is required to be adopted on December 31, 1997. In addition to the Company's current presentation of net income per share, this Statement will require the Company to present diluted net income per share, which includes the dilutive effect of stock options. However, the Company does not believe the additional disclosure of diluted net income per share will materially impact the financial statements.

NOTE G - NONRECURRING ITEMS

In the second quarter of 1997, the Company recorded a nonrecurring charge of approximately \$60 million in selling, administrative and general expenses related to enhancing the Company's manufacturing efficiencies.

In September 1996, the Company and the U.S. Internal Revenue Service reached an agreement in principle settling certain U.S.-related income tax matters, including issues in litigation related to its Puerto Rico operations, dating back to the 1981 tax year and extending through 1995. This agreement had the effect of increasing net income by \$320 million as a result of a reversal of previously accrued income tax liabilities.

In the third quarter of 1996, provisions of approximately \$276 million were recorded in selling, administrative and general expenses related to the Company's plans for strengthening the Company's worldwide system. Of this \$276 million, approximately \$130 million related to the streamlining of operations, primarily in Greater Europe and Latin America. Management has taken actions to consolidate certain manufacturing operations and, as a result, recorded charges to recognize the impairment of certain manufacturing assets and to recognize the estimated losses on the disposal of other assets. The remainder of this \$276 million provision related to actions taken by The Minute Maid Company. During the third quarter of 1996, The Minute Maid Company entered into two significant agreements with independent parties: (i) a strategic supply alliance with Sucocitrico Cutrale Ltda., the world's largest grower and processor of oranges, and (ii) a joint venture agreement with Groupe Danone to produce, distribute and sell premium refrigerated juices outside of the United States and Canada. With these agreements, the Company is increasing The Minute Maid Company's focus on

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NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

NOTE G - NONRECURRING ITEMS (CONTINUED)

managing its brands while seeking arrangements to lower overall manufacturing costs. In connection with these actions, management recorded \$146 million in third quarter 1996 provisions, comprised primarily of impairment charges to certain production facilities and reserves for losses on the disposal of other production facilities.

Also in the third quarter of 1996, the Company launched a strategic initiative, Project Infinity, to redesign and enhance its information systems and communications capabilities. In connection with this initiative, the Company recorded an \$80 million impairment charge in selling, administrative and general expenses to recognize Project Infinity's impact on existing information systems.

Also in the third quarter of 1996, the Company recorded a charge in selling, administrative and general expenses for its contribution of \$28.5 million to the corpus of The Coca-Cola Foundation, a not-for-profit charitable organization.

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## RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

### VOLUME

BEVERAGES (UNIT CASE VOLUME EXCLUDES THE MINUTE MAID COMPANY): Worldwide unit case volume increased 11 percent and gallon shipments of concentrates and syrups grew 14 percent in the third quarter of 1997 when compared to the third quarter of 1996. Unit case volume increased 9 percent and gallon shipments grew 10 percent for the first nine months of 1997 versus the comparable period in 1996.

Unit case volume in the Company's North America Group increased 7 percent in the third quarter, including an increase of 6 percent, on a comparable days basis, in the United States. Unit case volume in North America grew 6 percent for the first nine months of 1997, including 6 percent growth in the United States. The continuing strong unit case volume gains in the United States resulted primarily from increases in the Company's core brands and the introduction of new products such as Surge and Citra. North American gallon shipments of concentrates and syrups grew 8 percent for the third quarter and 5 percent for the first nine months of 1997. In particular, gallon shipments grew 8 percent in the United States for the third quarter and 5 percent for the first nine months of 1997 versus the comparable periods in 1996.

In the Latin America Group, unit case volume increased 14 percent in the third quarter of 1997. The volume increase included gains of 12 percent in Chile, 13 percent in Argentina, 14 percent in Mexico, and 19 percent in the Central America and Caribbean Division. The growth in the Latin America Group was affected by a 3 percent increase in unit cases in Brazil due to the continued impact of reduced consumer purchasing power. The unit case volume gains in Latin America resulted from aggressive system investment in volume and share-building activities. Gallon shipments in the Latin America Group grew 12 percent in the third quarter of 1997. For the first nine months of 1997, unit case volume has increased 11 percent and gallon shipments have grown 9 percent over the comparable prior year period in the Latin America Group.

In the Africa Group, unit case volume increased 13 percent in the third quarter of 1997 and gallon shipments grew 24 percent. Third quarter unit case volume increased 11 percent in the Southern Africa Division and 16 percent in the Northern Africa Division. For the first nine months of 1997, unit case volume has risen 10 percent and gallon shipments have grown 22 percent in the Africa Group as compared to the first nine months of 1996.

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## RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (CONTINUED)

Unit case volume in the Middle and Far East Group grew 10 percent in the third quarter of 1997, as compared to the third quarter of 1996, including gains of 36 percent in China and 19 percent in India. Unit case volume in Japan was even in third quarter 1997, as compared to the same period in 1996, due to disruptions in distribution in many regions of the country caused by severe weather conditions. Gallon shipments in the Middle and Far East Group grew 25 percent in the third quarter. For the first nine months of 1997 versus the comparable period in 1996, unit case volume has increased 10 percent and gallon shipments have grown 16 percent in the Middle and Far East Group.

In the Greater Europe Group, third quarter 1997 unit case volume increased 16 percent. Unit case volume grew 34 percent in the Nordic and North Eurasia Division, 18 percent in the East Central European Division, and 13 percent in Italy. Unit case volume in Germany increased 10 percent, although the difficult economic environment continues. Gallon shipments in the Greater Europe Group grew 12 percent in the third quarter. For the first nine months of 1997, unit case volume and gallon shipments in the Greater Europe Group increased 11 and 12 percent, respectively, versus the comparable period in 1996.

THE MINUTE MAID COMPANY: At The Minute Maid Company, unit volume continued to be impacted, as expected, by the strategy to exit the not-from-concentrate juice category during 1996. In the third quarter of 1997, unit volume declined 8 percent compared to the third quarter of 1996. For the first nine months of 1997, unit volume for The Minute Maid Company has declined 7 percent, versus the comparable period in 1996.

## NET OPERATING REVENUES AND GROSS MARGIN

Net operating revenues increased 6 percent for the three-month and were even for the nine-month periods ended September 30, 1997, respectively, as compared to the same periods of the prior year. The 1997 results were primarily impacted by increased gallon shipments and price increases in certain markets



offset by the sale of previously consolidated bottling operations in France, Belgium and eastern Germany and a stronger U.S. dollar.

In the third quarter of 1997, the Company's gross margin increased to 66.5 percent from 61.3 percent in the third quarter of 1996. The increase in gross margin for the third quarter of 1997 was due primarily to the sale in 1996 of previously consolidated bottling operations, shifting proportionately more revenues to the higher margin concentrate business.

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#### RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (CONTINUED)

##### SELLING, ADMINISTRATIVE AND GENERAL EXPENSES

Selling expenses were \$1,682 million in the third quarter of 1997, compared to \$1,634 million in the third quarter of 1996. For the first nine months of the year, selling expenses were \$4,639 million, compared to \$4,531 million in the comparable period in 1996. The increase in selling expenses is primarily due to higher marketing investments in support of the Company's volume growth, offset by decreased sales and service costs as a result of the sale in 1996 of previously consolidated bottling operations in France, Belgium and eastern Germany.

Administrative and general expenses were \$370 million in the third quarter of 1997, compared to \$785 million in the third quarter of 1996. Administrative and general expenses were \$1,137 million and \$1,547 million for the first nine months of 1997 and 1996, respectively. In the second quarter of 1997, the Company recorded a nonrecurring charge of approximately \$60 million related to enhancing manufacturing efficiencies. The decrease in the third quarter and the first nine months of 1997 is primarily a result of nonrecurring charges totaling \$384.5 million recorded in the third quarter of 1996. These 1996 nonrecurring charges, as previously disclosed, are comprised of the following:

- - Approximately \$276 million related to the Company's adoption of management's plans for strengthening the worldwide system.
- - An \$80 million impairment charge related to Project Infinity's impact on existing information systems.
- - A \$28.5 million charge for the contribution to the corpus of The Coca-Cola Foundation, a not-for-profit charitable organization.

##### OPERATING INCOME AND OPERATING MARGIN

Operating income for the third quarter of 1997 increased to \$1,243 million from \$454 million in the third quarter of 1996. The increase was due primarily to increased gallon shipments coupled with an increase in gross profit margins, and the recording of several nonrecurring provisions in the third quarter of 1996 as discussed above. In addition, the decision to curtail concentrate shipments to bottlers decreased operating income by an estimated \$290 million in the third quarter of 1996. For the first nine months of 1997, operating income increased 33 percent, compared to the first nine months of 1996. The operating margin for the first nine months of 1997 increased to 27 percent compared to 20 percent in the comparable period in 1996.

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#### RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (CONTINUED)

##### INTEREST INCOME AND INTEREST EXPENSE

Interest income increased \$1 million in the third quarter of 1997 and decreased \$23 million in the nine months ended September 30, 1997, relative to the comparable periods in 1996, due primarily to decreases in international interest rates. Interest expense decreased \$9 million in the third quarter and \$22 million for the nine months ended September 30, 1997, relative to the comparable periods in 1996, due to lower average commercial paper borrowings.

##### EQUITY INCOME

Equity income for the third quarter of 1997 totaled \$46 million, compared to \$56 million in the third quarter of 1996. For the first nine months of 1997, equity income totaled \$152 million, compared to \$143 million for the same period in 1996. The decrease in the third quarter was due primarily to the significant amount of structural change in the global bottling system which was partially offset by solid results at key equity bottlers.

##### OTHER INCOME - NET

Other income - net was \$224 million for the third quarter of 1997 compared

to \$32 million for the third quarter of 1996. For the first nine months of 1997, other income - net was \$566 million, compared to \$86 million in the comparable period of the prior year. The increase for the first nine months of 1997 as compared to the same period in 1996 was due to gains on the sales of the Company's interests in Coca-Cola & Schweppes Beverages Ltd., Coca-Cola Beverages, Ltd., of Canada, The Coca-Cola Bottling Company of New York, Inc., Coca-Cola Rhein-Ruhr and Coca-Cola FEMSA de Buenos Aires, S.A. ("FEMSA Buenos Aires").

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#### RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (CONTINUED)

##### GAINS ON ISSUANCES OF STOCK BY EQUITY INVESTEES

In June 1997, the Company and San Miguel Corporation ("San Miguel") agreed to sell their interests in Coca-Cola Bottlers Philippines, Inc. to Coca-Cola Amatil Limited ("Coca-Cola Amatil") in exchange for approximately 293 million shares in Coca-Cola Amatil. In connection with this transaction, Coca-Cola Amatil issued approximately 210 million shares to San Miguel valued at \$2,429 million. The issuance to San Miguel resulted in a one-time noncash pretax gain for the Company of approximately \$343 million. This transaction resulted in the Company's 36 percent interest in Coca-Cola Amatil being diluted to 33 percent.

In May 1997, the Company and The Cisneros Group of Companies ("The Cisneros Group") agreed to sell their interests in Coca-Cola y Hit de Venezuela to Panamerican Beverages, Inc. ("Panamco") in exchange for approximately 30.6 million shares in Panamco. In connection with this transaction, Panamco issued approximately 13.6 million shares to The Cisneros Group valued at approximately \$402 million. The issuance to The Cisneros Group resulted in a one-time noncash pretax gain for the Company of approximately \$20 million. At the completion of this transaction, the Company's ownership in Panamco was approximately 23 percent.

In 1996, FEMSA Buenos Aires issued approximately 19 million shares to Coca-Cola FEMSA, S.A. de C.V. This issuance reduced the Company's ownership in FEMSA Buenos Aires from 49 percent to approximately 32 percent. The Company recognized a noncash pretax gain of approximately \$18 million as a result of this transaction. In subsequent transactions, the Company disposed of its remaining interest in FEMSA Buenos Aires.

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#### RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (CONTINUED)

In September 1996, our previously wholly owned subsidiary, CCEG, issued approximately 24.4 million shares of common stock as part of a merger with three independent German bottlers of the Company's products. The shares were valued at approximately \$925 million, based upon the fair values of the assets of the three independent bottling companies. In connection with CCEG's issuance of shares, a new corporation was established, Coca-Cola Erfrischungsgetraenke AG ("CCEAG"), and the Company's ownership was reduced to 45 percent in the resulting corporation. As a result, the Company began accounting for its related investment by the equity method of accounting prospectively from the date of the transaction. The transaction resulted in a noncash pretax gain of approximately \$283 million for the Company.

In July 1996, Coca-Cola Amatil issued approximately 46 million shares in exchange for approximately \$522 million. The issuance reduced the Company's ownership percentage in Coca-Cola Amatil from approximately 39 percent to approximately 36 percent. This transaction resulted in a noncash pretax gain of approximately \$130 million for the Company.

##### INCOME TAXES

The Company's effective tax rate during the third quarter of 1997 was 32.8 percent. The 32.8 percent effective tax rate reflects tax benefits derived from significant operations outside the United States which are taxed at rates lower than the U.S. statutory rate of 35 percent, partially offset by the tax impact of gains recognized from previously discussed bottling transactions. These transactions are generally taxed at rates higher than the Company's effective rate on operations.

In the third quarter of 1996, the Company reported an income tax benefit due primarily to a settlement agreement in principle between the Company and the U.S. Internal Revenue Service. The agreement included issues in litigation involving Company operations in Puerto Rico. Some of the issues dated back to the 1981 tax year and extended through 1995. This agreement had the effect of increasing net income by \$320 million in the third quarter of 1996 as a result of a reversal of previously accrued tax liabilities. The Company's tax rate for the third quarter and first nine months of 1996 would have been 31 percent, excluding the favorable impact of the IRS settlement.

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#### RESULTS OF OPERATIONS (CONTINUED)

The Company's effective tax rate for the nine months ended September 30, 1997 was 32.0 percent compared to 21.8 percent for the comparable period in 1996, which reflects the favorable settlement with the IRS in 1996.

#### NET INCOME

Net income per share for the third quarter and the first nine months of 1997 increased at a higher rate than net income due to the Company's share repurchase program.

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#### FINANCIAL CONDITION

#### NET CASH FLOW PROVIDED BY OPERATIONS AFTER REINVESTMENT

In the first nine months of 1997, net cash flow after reinvestment totaled \$3,707 million, an increase of \$1,430 million over the comparable period in 1996. Net cash provided by operating activities increased \$597 million in the first nine months of 1997 due to higher net income and an increase in accrued income taxes, included in the changes in operating assets and liabilities, of \$630 million partially offset by a decrease in other items, primarily as a result of gains on structural change transactions. As previously discussed, the Company recorded a gain on the sale of its bottling interest in Coca-Cola & Schweppes Beverages Ltd. in the first quarter of 1997, and gains on the sale of its interest in Coca-Cola Beverages, Ltd. of Canada and The Coca-Cola Bottling Company of New York, Inc.

Net cash provided by investing activities increased \$833 million in the first nine months of 1997 as compared to the first nine months of 1996. This net change included a \$888 million increase in proceeds from disposals of investments and other assets, primarily as a result of the cash proceeds received from the sale of certain of the Company's bottling interests as discussed above and increased investments in property, plant and equipment. The decrease in the Company's investment in Coca-Cola Enterprises in the first nine months of 1997 is primarily the result of deferred gains related to the sale of the Company's interest in Coca-Cola & Schweppes Beverages Ltd., Coca-Cola Beverages, Ltd. of Canada, and The Coca-Cola Bottling Company of New York, Inc. The deferred gains result from the Company's ownership in Coca-Cola Enterprises. The value of the Company's investment in Coca-Cola Amatil increased during the nine months ended September 30, 1997 primarily as a result of Coca-Cola Amatil issuing shares to San Miguel Corporation at a value per share greater than the carrying value per share of the Company's interest in Coca-Cola Amatil.

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#### FINANCIAL CONDITION (CONTINUED)

#### FINANCING

Financing activities primarily represent the Company's net borrowing activities, dividend payments and share repurchases. Net cash used in financing activities totaled \$2,935 million and \$1,216 million for the first

nine months of 1997 and 1996, respectively. For the first nine months of 1997, the Company had net repayments of borrowings of \$1,392 million, versus net borrowings of \$286 million for the comparable period of 1996. This reduction in net borrowings in 1997 was funded by proceeds received from the sale of certain of the Company's bottling interests, as discussed above. The Company has earned long-term credit ratings of "AA-" from Standard & Poor's and "Aa3" from Moody's, and the highest credit ratings available for its commercial paper program.

Cash used for share repurchases was \$957 million for the first nine months of 1997, compared to \$952 million for the first nine months of 1996.

#### EXCHANGE

International operations are subject to certain opportunities and risks, including currency fluctuations and governmental actions. The Company closely monitors its methods of operating in each country and adopts appropriate strategies responsive to each environment. On a weighted average basis, the U.S. dollar was approximately 11 percent stronger during the third quarter of 1997 versus key currencies for the comparable period of the prior year. However, the Company's foreign currency management program mitigates over time the impact of exchange on net income and earnings per share.

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#### Part II. Other Information

##### Item 1. Legal Proceedings

As reported in the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 1997, on January 30, 1997, the Brazilian Federal Revenue Service issued Notices of Assessment to Recofarma Industrias do Amazonas Ltda. ("Recofarma"), an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of the Company, for the period from January 1, 1992 to February 28, 1994. The assessments allege that Recofarma should have paid a Brazilian excise tax on intra-company transfers of product manufactured at its Manaus plant to its warehouse in Rio de Janeiro. Assessments of tax, interest and penalties total approximately \$530 million as of the assessment date and accrue interest from such date. The transfer of product from the plant to the warehouse, which was discontinued in February 1994, was the subject of a favorable advance ruling issued by the Federal Revenue Service on September 24, 1990. In the Company's opinion, the ruling has continuing effect and Recofarma's operations conformed with the ruling. On March 3, 1997, Recofarma filed appeals with the Brazilian Federal Revenue Service contesting the assessments.

On September 30, 1997, the Rio de Janeiro Branch of the Brazilian Federal Revenue Service dismissed the assessments against Recofarma. This determination is subject to an automatic ex officio appeal ("recurso ex-officio") on the Federal Revenue Service's behalf to the Taxpayers Council in Brazilia. Although there can be no assurance of this, it is expected that the Taxpayers Council will review the dismissal of the assessments within the next six months.

The Company is involved in various other legal proceedings. The Company believes that any liability to the Company which may arise as a result of these proceedings, including the proceedings specifically discussed above and in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1996, will not have a material adverse effect on the financial condition of the Company and its subsidiaries taken as a whole.

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#### Part II. Other Information

##### Item 6. Exhibits and Reports on Form 8-K

###### (a) Exhibits:

- 12 - Computation of Ratios of Earnings to Fixed Charges
- 27.1 - Restated Financial Data Schedule for the nine months ended September 30, 1996, submitted to the Securities and Exchange Commission in electronic format
- 27.2 - Financial Data Schedule for the nine months ended September 30, 1997, submitted to the Securities and Exchange Commission in electronic format

(b) Reports on Form 8-K:

No report on Form 8-K has been filed during the quarter for which this report is filed.

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SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

THE COCA-COLA COMPANY  
(REGISTRANT)

Date: November 13, 1997

By: /s/ Gary P. Fayard

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Gary P. Fayard  
Vice President and Controller  
(On behalf of the Registrant and  
as Chief Accounting Officer)

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EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit Number and Description

- 12 - Computation of Ratios of Earnings to Fixed Charges
- 27.1 - Restated Financial Data Schedule for the nine months ended September 30, 1996, submitted to the Securities and Exchange Commission in electronic format
- 27.2 - Financial Data Schedule for the nine months ended September 30, 1997, submitted to the Securities and Exchange Commission in electronic format

THE COCA-COLA COMPANY AND SUBSIDIARIES  
 COMPUTATION OF RATIOS OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES  
 (In millions except ratios)

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	Nine Months Ended September 30,	Year Ended December 31,				
	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993	1992
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<b>EARNINGS:</b>						
Income before income taxes and changes in accounting principles	\$4,871	\$ 4,596	\$ 4,328	\$ 3,728	\$ 3,185	\$ 2,746
Fixed charges	224	324	318	236	213	207
Adjustments:						
Capitalized interest, net	(12)	(7)	(9)	(5)	(16)	(10)
Equity income, net of dividends	(103)	(89)	(25)	(4)	(35)	(30)
Adjusted earnings	\$4,980	\$ 4,824	\$ 4,612	\$ 3,955	\$ 3,347	\$ 2,913
<b>FIXED CHARGES:</b>						
Gross interest incurred	\$ 200	\$ 293	\$ 281	\$ 204	\$ 184	\$ 181
Interest portion of rent expense	24	31	37	32	29	26
Total fixed charges	\$ 224	\$ 324	\$ 318	\$ 236	\$ 213	\$ 207
Ratios of earnings to fixed charges	22.2	14.9	14.5	16.8	15.7	14.1

<FN>

At September 30, 1997, the Company is contingently liable for guarantees of indebtedness owed by third parties in the amount of \$360 million. Fixed charges for these contingent liabilities have not been included in the computations of the above ratios as the amounts are immaterial and, in the opinion of Management, it is not probable that the Company will be required to satisfy the guarantees.

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THIS RESTATED FINANCIAL DATA SCHEDULE CONTAINS SUMMARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION EXTRACTED FROM THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE COCA-COLA COMPANY FOR THE QUARTER ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 1996, AS SET FORTH IN ITS FORM 10-Q FOR SUCH QUARTER AND FOR THE QUARTER ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 1997, AND IS QUALIFIED IN ITS ENTIRETY BY REFERENCE TO SUCH FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.

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<F1> RESTATEMENT REFLECTED HEREIN IS THE RESULT OF RECLASSIFICATION TO PRIOR PERIOD'S FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO CONFORM TO THE CURRENT PERIOD PRESENTATION.

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THIS SCHEDULE CONTAINS SUMMARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION EXTRACTED FROM THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE COCA-COLA COMPANY FOR THE QUARTER ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 1997, AS SET FORTH IN ITS FORM 10-Q FOR SUCH QUARTER, AND IS QUALIFIED IN ITS ENTIRETY BY REFERENCE TO SUCH FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.

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