

## Media information

# Annual General Meeting elects two new members of the Board of Directors

**Basel, 29 April 2016. At today's Annual General Meeting, the shareholders of Baloise Holding Ltd voted in favour of all the proposals on the agenda put forward by the Board of Directors, thus approving an attractive and unchanged dividend of CHF 5.00 per share. Marie-Noëlle Venturi - Zen-Ruffinen and Hugo Lasat were elected as new members of the Board of Directors. Eveline Saupper departed from the Board of Directors after not standing for re-election. It was also the last Annual General Meeting of the former Group CEO Martin Strobel.**

The Baloise Annual General Meeting approved the Company's 2015 annual report and separate and consolidated annual financial statements, and formally approved the actions of the members of the Board of Directors and management team.

Two new members of the Board of Directors were elected: Professor Marie-Noëlle Venturi-Zen-Ruffinen and Hugo Lasat. Eveline Saupper did not stand for re-election. All other members of the Board of Directors were re-elected for a term of one year, and Andreas Burckhardt was confirmed as Chairman of the Board of Directors for a term of one year.

The Annual General Meeting elected the following people to the Remuneration Committee: Georges-Antoine de Bocard, Karin Keller-Sutter, Thomas Pleines and Marie-Noëlle Venturi - Zen-Ruffinen. It also re-elected Christophe Sarasin as independent proxy. Ernst & Young AG, Basel, was elected as the new statutory auditor.

Andreas Burckhardt, Chairman of the Board of Directors, looked back on a financial year that was eventful but successful from a business perspective. The healthy profit for the period of CHF 512.1 million was slightly higher than expected. Reporting its second-best combined ratio of 93.3 per cent net, the non-life business achieved another year-on-year improvement in profitability and increased its business volume by 3.3 per cent in local currency terms. The share buy-back programme announced last year is on course, with more than 50 per cent of the announced volume of up to one million shares having already been repurchased. The announcement last May that Martin Strobel was stepping down as Group CEO heralded the end of an era. Andreas Burckhardt praised the work of the departing Group CEO: "He always fully identified with Baloise. His track record is undisputed and his achievements have provided us with strong foundations for tackling the challenges of the future." The Belgian Gert De Winter succeeded him on 1 January 2016. He has been with the Company for more than ten years and was previously CEO of Baloise Insurance in Belgium. "Gert De Winter is the ideal person with whom to start a new chapter in Baloise's success," said

Andreas Burckhardt.

The full speech in German by Andreas Burckhardt, Chairman of the Board of Directors, can be downloaded from [www.baloise.com](http://www.baloise.com) and can be watched as a video stream from 2 May 2016 at <https://www.youtube.com/BaloiseGroup>.

## Further information

[Media information at www.baloise.com](http://www.baloise.com)

[Media kit for the Annual General Meeting at www.baloise.com](http://www.baloise.com)

## Important dates

- **Tuesday, 3 May 2016:** Ex-dividend date
- **Friday, 6 May 2016:** Dividend payment date
- **Tuesday, 30 August 2016:** 2016 half-year financial results
- **Wednesday, 26 October 2016:** Investor Day 2016
- **Tuesday, 15 November 2016:** Q3 2016 interim statement

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Headquartered in Basel, Switzerland, the Baloise Group is a European provider of insurance and pension solutions and has positioned itself as a market player that offers an intelligent 'Safety World' prevention strategy. In Switzerland the Company operates as a focused financial services provider, offering a combination of insurance and banking services. It also has a market presence in Belgium, Germany and Luxembourg. Its distribution network includes its own sales organisation as well as brokers and other partners. The Company uses its competence centre in Luxembourg to run its business in innovative pension products for private customers throughout Europe. Baloise Holding Ltd shares are listed in the main segment of the SIX Swiss Exchange. The Baloise Group employs some 7,400 people.

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