

## Media information

# Baloise AGM: further dividend increase approved and new member of the Board of Directors elected

**Basel, 27 April 2018. At the 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 CHF 0.40 increase in the dividend to CHF 5.60 per share. Professor Hans-Jörg Schmidt-Trenz was newly elected to the Board of Directors.**

### **Further dividend increase approved**

The Baloise Annual General Meeting approved the Company's 2017 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. The Annual General Meeting voted in favour of all proposals by the Board of Directors. The dividend was raised again, by CHF 0.40 to CHF 5.60 per share, thanks to the good results achieved in the 2017 financial year. This increase confirms Baloise's status as an attractive long-term investment for its shareholders.

### **Professor Hans-Jörg Schmidt-Trenz newly elected to the Board of Directors**

The newest member of the Baloise Board of Directors, Hans-Jörg Schmidt-Trenz, is a professor of economics at Saarland University and the University of Hamburg and President of the HSBA Hamburg School of Business Administration. Werner Kummer did not stand for re-election. He had been a member of the Board of Directors since 2000 and served as its Vice-Chairman since 2014. "During his many years on the Board of Directors, Werner Kummer has helped to shape Baloise and its success, demonstrating great prudence and a wealth of expertise. I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for his unwavering dedication," said Andreas Burckhardt, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Baloise Holding Ltd. All the other members of the Board of Directors were re-elected for a term of one year and Andreas Burckhardt was confirmed as Chairman for a term of one year. The Annual General Meeting re-elected the following people to the Remuneration Committee: Georges-Antoine de Boccard, Karin Keller-Sutter and Thomas Pleines. It also elected Hans-Jörg Schmidt Trenz to the committee for the first time. Christophe Sarasin was re-elected as an independent proxy. Ernst & Young AG, Basel, was elected as the statutory auditor for a further year.

### **On the right strategic path – Baloise's innovation pipeline is full**

In the autumn of 2016, Baloise formulated three targets for its new Simply Safe strategy. By 2021, it aims to generate CHF 2 billion of cash for capital spending and for the shareholders of the holding company, to attract an additional one million customers, and to become one of the most attractive employers in its industry. The strategy is being implemented by means of a broad range of initiatives, projects and investments in start-ups, all of which are helping Baloise to tackle its challenges, including with regard to

digital transformation. Andreas Burckhardt, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Baloise Holding Ltd, explains the approach: “The strategy is helping us to set ourselves apart, as its implementation is focused on enhancing the corporate culture.” Baloise is well on track to achieve its strategic objectives. The holding company has already received CHF 415 million, 118,000 new customers have been signed up, and Baloise is among the top 25 per cent of the most attractive employers in its sector in Europe. “Not least thanks to its traditionally strong corporate culture, Baloise has the strength to achieve its targets and thus successfully implement its plan,” continues Andreas Burckhardt.

The full speech in German by Andreas Burckhardt can be downloaded from [www.baloise.com](http://www.baloise.com) and can be watched as a video stream from 30 April 2018 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

- **Wednesday, 2 May 2018:** Ex-dividend date
- **Friday, 4 May 2018:** Dividend payment date
- **Tuesday, 28 August 2018:** 2018 half-year financial results
- **Wednesday, 14 November 2018:** Q3 2018 interim statement

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The Baloise Group is more than just a traditional insurance company. The changing security, safety and service needs of society in the digital age lie at the heart of its business activities. The 7,300 or so employees of Baloise therefore focus on the wishes of their customers. The best possible customer service, combined with innovative products and services, makes Baloise the first choice for people who want to feel ‘simply safe’. Located at the heart of Europe, with its head office in Basel, the Baloise Group is a provider of prevention, pension, assistance and insurance solutions. Its core markets are Switzerland, Germany, Belgium and Luxembourg. In Switzerland, with Baloise Bank SoBa, the Group also operates as a specialised financial services provider, offering a combination of insurance and banking services. The Group offers innovative pension products to retail customers throughout Europe from its competence centre in Luxembourg. Baloise Holding Ltd shares are listed in the main segment of the SIX Swiss Exchange.

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