

Swiss Re appoints Ann Godbehere as Chief Financial Officer

19 Dec 2002 CET

Swiss Re today announced that its Board of Directors has appointed Ann Godbehere, Chief Financial Officer of Swiss Re, effective 1 April 2003. On her appointment, she will become a member of the Executive Board and the Executive Board Committee.

Ms Godbehere is currently Chief Financial Officer of Swiss Re's Property & Casualty Business Group. She will succeed John H. Fitzpatrick who, as announced in November, will become Head of Swiss Re's Life & Health Business Group replacing John Coomber who succeeds as Chief Executive Officer of Swiss Re on 1 January 2003.

Peter Forstmoser, Chairman of Swiss Re's Board of Directors commented, "Ann Godbehere has an excellent track record in financial management at Swiss Re. Her prior experience as Chief Financial Officer of both Swiss Re's Life & Health and Property & Casualty Business Groups, makes her ideally placed to now steer the efficient management of capital and the generation of attractive returns for shareholders."

Commenting on her new position Ann Godbehere said, "I am pleased to be taking up this new role and I look forward to the challenge of continuing to build Swiss Re's financial strength, earnings and franchise value for all our stakeholders."

Ann Godbehere becomes Chief Financial Officer on 1 April 2003. As Chief Financial Officer of Property & Casualty Business Group, since its establishment in 2001, she has overseen the creation of its global finance function and been active in implementing its organisational structure. During this time, the development of strong financial targets and focus on a performance driven culture, has contributed to the combined ratio improvements, which are now emerging.

Prior to this, in her time as Chief Financial Officer at Life & Health Business Group, operating revenues grew from CHF 6.3 billion to CHF 10.9 billion. Much of the positive development in life and health was due to an acquisition strategy in which she was closely involved. She was also instrumental in introducing embedded values across the life and health business, a measure that is now an established part of Swiss Re's annual corporate disclosure.

Notes to editors

Ann F. Godbehere

Born in 1955, Ann Godbehere is Canadian. She started her career in 1976 with Sun Life of Canada, joining Mercantile & General Reinsurance Group in 1981. She held a number of management roles at M&G, rising to Senior Vice President and Controller for life and health and property/casualty businesses in North America in 1995. Swiss Re bought M&G in 1996 and Ann Godbehere, became Chief Financial Officer of Swiss Re Life & Health, North America. In 1997 she was made Chief Executive Officer of Swiss Re Life & Health, Canada. She moved to London as Chief Financial Officer of Swiss Re Life & Health Division in 1998 and joined Property & Casualty Business Group, based out of Zurich, as Chief Financial Officer on its establishment in 2001.

Ann Godbehere qualified as a Certified General Accountant in Canada in 1983.

Swiss Re

Swiss Re is one of the world's leading reinsurers with over 70 offices in more than 30 countries. For 2001, Swiss Re reported a net loss of CHF 165 million, largely due to the 11 September event. Gross premiums in 2001 were CHF 28.5 billion. At the end of June 2002, Swiss Re's shareholders' equity amounted to CHF 18.3 billion and the total balance sheet stood at CHF 168 billion. Swiss Re is rated "AA+" by Standard & Poor's, "Aa1" by Moody's and "A++" by A.M. Best.

Cautionary note on forward-looking statements

Certain statements contained herein are forward-looking. These statements provide current expectations of future events based on certain assumptions and include any statement that does not directly relate to a historical fact or current fact. Forward-looking statements typically are identified by words or phrases such as "anticipate," "assume," "believe," "continue," "estimate", "expect", "foresee", "intend," "may increase" and "may fluctuate" and similar expressions or by future or conditional verbs such as "will," "should," "would" and "could." These forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors, which may cause our actual results, performance, achievements or prospects to be materially different from any future results, performance, achievements or prospects expressed or implied by such statements. Such factors include, among others:

· risks and uncertainties relating to our estimates of the losses arising from the 11 September 2001 terrorist attack in the United States, and the possibility of future terrorist attacks;

- changes in general economic conditions, particularly in our core markets;
- uncertainties in estimating reserves;
- the performance of financial markets;
- the frequency, severity and development of insured claim events;
- mortality and morbidity experience;
- policy renewal and lapse rates;
- changes in levels of interest rates;
- changes in currency exchange rates;
- changes in laws and regulations, including changes in accounting standards and taxation requirements; and
- increases in competitive pressures.

These factors are not exhaustive. We operate in a continually changing environment and new risks emerge continually. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on our forward-looking statements. We undertake no obligation to publicly revise or update any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

Download the news release:

 [English](#)

 [German](#)

 [French](#)

Download the CV:

 [English](#)

 [German](#)

 [French](#)



Download picture
[29.28 KB](#)



Download picture
[21.87 KB](#)

[Top of page](#)