

St. Gallen, 19 April 2013

Media release

Shareholders' Meeting a success at Helvetia Holding AG

At the 17th Ordinary Shareholders' Meeting of Helvetia Holding AG the shareholders were informed of a solid year-end result for 2012. The Shareholders' Meeting voted in favour of all the applications of the Board of Directors. The directors Prof. Dr. Christoph Lechner, Herbert J. Scheidt and Erich Walser (Chairman) were confirmed in office for a further period.

The Helvetia Group once again presented the 1591 shareholders who were present with voting rights (representing 65.54 per cent of the share capital) and a solid year-end result. Helvetia boosted its profit by 18.0 per cent to CHF 342.2 million in 2012. The business volume of CHF 6,978.5 million remained unchanged year-on-year. While its Swiss home market was as strong as usual, foreign markets posted vastly improved results. The Shareholders' Meeting acknowledged these results and approved the Annual Report, the Financial Statements and the Consolidated Financial Statements 2012.

Thanks to the strong balance sheet and favourable business development, the Shareholders' Meeting approved a 6.25 per cent higher dividend of CHF 17.00 per share. Helvetia will make the upcoming dividend payout by using almost all of the remaining capital contributions of CHF 122.1 million (CHF 14.00 per share), which are tax-exempt for individuals in Switzerland. The Group is maintaining its attractive dividend policy with a payout ratio of 44 per cent.

Prof. Dr. Christoph Lechner, Herbert J. Scheidt and Erich Walser, Chairman of the Board of Directors at Helvetia since 2003, duly stood for re-election to the Board of Directors for a further period in office. The Shareholders' Meeting confirmed all three directors in their office with a large majority.

This media release is also available on the home page www.helvetia.com/media.

An infokit on the Shareholders' Meeting is available at www.helvetia.com/gvinfokit.

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About Helvetia Group

In over 150 years, Helvetia Group has grown from a number of Swiss and foreign insurance companies into a successful insurance group that does business everywhere in Europe. Today, Helvetia has branch offices in Switzerland, Germany, Austria, Spain, Italy and France, and routes some of its investment and financing activities through subsidiaries and fund companies in Luxembourg and Jersey. The Group is headquartered in St. Gallen in Switzerland. Helvetia is active in the life, property and casualty and reinsurance business, and almost 5,200 employees provide services to more than 2.7 million customers. With a business volume of CHF 7.0 billion, Helvetia posted a net profit of CHF 342.2 million in the 2012 financial year. The Helvetia Holding registered share is traded on the SIX Swiss Exchange under the symbol HELN.

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