

## **Investor Relations Release**

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## NEW EXECUTIVE BOARD TEAM of Hypo Group Alpe Adria

Gottwald Kranebitter succeeds Franz Pinkl as Chairman of the Executive Board of Hypo Alpe-Adria-Bank International AG. The Executive Board will be reduced in size, from 5 members down to 4. Wolfgang Edelmüller has been recruited as Vice Chairman of the Executive Board and Chief Risk Officer. Johannes Proksch will in future be responsible for the group's finances. The Chief Operating Officer position will be filled at a later point.

Hypo Group Alpe Adria is putting into effect the changes that were signalled at top management level. The Supervisory Board of Hypo Group Alpe Adria, at its meeting on 24 March 2010, appointed Gottwald Kranebitter as Chairman of the Executive Board of Hypo Alpe-Adria-Bank International AG with effect from 1 April 2010. Kranebitter is currently a partner and Managing Director of the Austrian company in the international auditing and accounting firm KPMG. He succeeds Franz Pinkl, who leaves the group by mutual consent on 31 March 2010. At the same time Wolfgang Edelmüller and Johannes Proksch are newly appointed as members of the Executive Board. Anton Knett, Wolfgang Peter, Andreas Dörhöfer and Božidar Špan are resigning from their positions on the Board.

Kranebitter studied Business Studies & Information Technology at the Technical University of Vienna and also completed his doctorate there shortly after in 1987. The 46-year-old from Tyrol has worked in the tax advice and auditing divisions of KMPG Wirtschaftsprüfungs- und Steuerberatungsgesellschaft since 1986, during which time he has amassed the relevant professional qualifications. From 1991 to 1995 he set up the KPMG operation in Bratislava, which served as his base as senior manager for the Central and Eastern European region. Kranebitter is also licensed as a government commissioner with responsibility for banks. He has acted as consultant in the areas of mergers & acquisitions, due diligence, valuations, financing and restructuring for many Austrian banks and industrial groups. He thus has wide-ranging experience of banking operations and has been acting as a consultant to Hypo Alpe-Adria-Bank International AG since December 2009. He was most recently able to lend his expertise to the preparations and negotiations for the nationalisation of the Hypo Group Alpe Adria in December 2009. When Kranebitter takes up his appointment as Chairman of the Executive Board he will resign all functions at KPMG and relinguish his shares in the partnership. The Chairman of the Supervisory Board Johannes Ditz said: "We are delighted to have recruited such an experienced and acknowledged specialist for this challenging task. We are convinced that Mr. Kranebitter can steer Hypo Group Alpe Adria to a stable future."

Pinkl, the outgoing Chairman of the Executive Board, took up his position on 1 June 2009. At the time, the principal owner of Hypo Alpe-Adria-Bank International AG was BayernLB, based in Munich. The Supervisory Board chairman Ditz thanked Pinkl for the work he has done. "In difficult times Mr. Pinkl demonstrated huge personal commitment and steered the bank through a period of great turbulence and into safer waters. It is in great part down to him that there is now clarity with regard to the bank's position and that the right steps have been taken towards

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restructuring the bank, and we thank him for this. We regret Mr. Pinkl's departure. The bank is indebted to him."

Wolfgang Edelmüller (58) assumes as Vice Chairman of the Executive Board the position of Chief Risk Officer. The economics graduate began his career at the former Österreichische Länderbank / Bank Austria and within a short time was made Head of Investment Credit. Over the course of his career he has amassed great experience and held important positions, for example as Special Projects or Investment Credit Manager, later assuming responsibility for credit risk management for Austrian and then for group operations as well as for "Credi Options". Most recently he has been the Divisional Director for Corporate Risk.

Johannes Proksch (40) has extensive banking experience and, prior to his appointment, was Executive Director of Morgan Stanley in London. In the area of Investment Banking he was responsible for servicing Austrian and German Financial Institutions. 1997, after studying business administration in Vienna, he joined Ernst & Young and then moved to UBS Warburg in London in 1999. As Associate Director he worked in the areas of corporate finance and financial institutions for this organisation as well. Three years later he moved to ABN Amro as Vice President responsible for the analysis of strategic options in private and investment banking. In 2004 he joined Citigroup and was instrumental in the acquisition of several banks.

The Chairman of the Supervisory Board Johannes Ditz and the Deputy Chairman Rudolf Scholten are in agreement: "We have great faith in the new team. With these appointments, and in the wake of the takeover by the Republic, we have also made the necessary new start in terms of personnel. The bank has put a further, and important, stepping stone in place for the future."

Please feel free to contact us for further information; alternatively you will also find more information on the Investor Relation pages of our website (<u>www.hypo-alpe-adria.com</u>).

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