

## Short Report

of the General Meeting of Shareholders of Wolters Kluwer N.V., held on Wednesday April 24, 2013 at 11.00 a.m. in Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

Chairman: Mr. P.N. Wakkie

Secretary: Mr. M.C. Thompson

According to the attendance record, 564 shareholders are present or represented, who could jointly cast 201,462,299 votes, representing 67.95% of the issued share capital.

Furthermore, all members of the Supervisory Board and the Executive Board are present.

The meeting is also attended by a number of guests and representatives of the press.

#### 1. OPENING

The <u>Chairman</u> opens the meeting and welcomes those present, including the external auditor and the notary.

The <u>Chairman</u> observes that all stipulations of the Articles of Association as regards convening the meeting have been complied with, as a notice has been published on the corporate website of the company on March 13, 2013, which has been made public by means of a press release. Shareholders recorded in the shareholders register have been called to attend the meeting by letter. As the requirements of the Articles of Association have been fulfilled, the present meeting can pass legally valid resolutions.

Thereafter the <u>Chairman</u> reflects on the passing away of Mr. A Baan, Chairman of the Supervisory Board, and a moment of silence is observed.

#### 2. 2012 ANNUAL REPORT

- a. Report of the Executive Board for 2012
- b. Report of the Supervisory Board for 2012

## 3. 2012 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND DIVIDEND

- a. Policy on dividend
- b. Proposal to adopt the financial statements for 2012 as included in the annual report for 2012
- c. Proposal to distribute a dividend of € 0.69 per ordinary share

Agenda points 2 and 3 are addressed jointly.

Ms. <u>McKinstry</u>, Chairman of the Executive Board, gives an introduction. The summary of this introduction is distributed at the meeting.

Thereafter, the <u>Chairman</u> gives those present the opportunity to ask questions and offer comments on the Report of the Executive Board, the Report of the Supervisory Board, the financial statements for 2012 and the dividend policy.



Mr. <u>Yetsenga</u> (representing Syntrus Achmea, and speaking on behalf of Robeco, Pension Fund for the Printing Industry, and the customers of ING Fund Management B.V.) starts with expressing his appreciation for the moment of silence taken to reflect on the passing away of Mr. Baan and condoles the Supervisory Board on the loss of its chairman. Subsequently Mr. <u>Yetsenga</u> refers to the spearheads letter of Eumedion and asks whether the company is prepared to disclose in its annual report the individual percentage of attendance of the members of the Supervisory Board in their meetings.

The <u>Chairman</u> indicates that no member of the Supervisory Board has been frequently absent (that is, more than once) and thus the company did not see any added value in reporting attendance rates of individual Supervisory Board members, however there is no objection to provide more details on this matter in the next annual report.

Mr. <u>Yetsenga</u> (representing Syntrus Achmea, and speaking on behalf of Robeco, Pension Fund for the Printing Industry, and the customers of ING Fund Management B.V.) refers again to the spearheads letter of Eumedion with regards to the management letter, and asks in relation thereto whether the company is prepared to provide either a summary of the management letter in its annual report or a statement that the auditor did not include any material issues in the management letter.

The <u>Chairman</u> indicates that the management letter is an internal document provided by auditors to the Executive and Supervisory Board with some items that require additional attention. If there are matters of material importance according to the auditor, this will become clear in the auditor's opinion.

Mr. <u>Forman</u> adds that there were no material issues, either with regard to the financials or the underlying estimates. Much of the discussion had to do with technology issues, as the company has, in the last several years, moved radically to change its infrastructure. In that context there were no major issues to be concerned about.

Mr. <u>Van der Voorst</u> (representing VBDO) condoles the company on behalf of VBDO with the death of the chairman, Mr. Baan. Then Mr. <u>Van der Voorst</u> compliments the company on the fact that it has again paid attention to a number of sustainability themes and that the company has been included in the Dow Jones Sustainability Index for the 6<sup>th</sup> time in a row. He noted that Wolters Kluwer does no longer participate in the Carbon Disclosure project and the Transparency Benchmark and that the sustainability report has not been externally audited. Mr. <u>Van der Voorst</u> asks whether Wolters Kluwer wants to reconsider participating in the Carbon Disclosure project and the Transparency Benchmark, and whether Wolters Kluwer wants to externally audit the sustainability report.

Ms. <u>McKinstry</u> replies that Wolters Kluwer does participate in the Carbon Disclosure project and the transparency initiative, and thus that Wolters Kluwer has been participating and will continue to participate in both projects. With respect to the external audit, Ms. <u>McKinstry</u> notes that KPMG verifies the remuneration target linked to the electronic revenues as percentage of total revenues. A third party further helps with the data analysis. Wolters Kluwer does not have the intention to externally audit the sustainability report, as it does not see much added value in having the whole report audited. In 2012 Wolters Kluwer has linked the collection of data for the sustainability report to its financial reporting.



Mr. <u>Van der Voorst</u> (representing VBDO) has observed that consumption of responsible paper increased considerably, and asks whether it is a goal of Wolters Kluwer to increase the percentage of paper with FSC quality mark.

Ms. <u>McKinstry</u> illustrates that the consumption of responsible paper increased from 32% to over 52%, which the company sees as very encouraging. In the sustainability report a number of different classifications to calculate responsible paper are used and each of the categories is acceptable. Wolters Kluwer is quite pleased that its customers are using more digital products, the company's overall consumption of paper is going down, and the use of responsible paper is going up. These are major goals of the company in 2013.

Mr. <u>Van der Voorst</u> (representing VBDO) proposes, in addition to the sustainable goal on revenue from electronic products, to implement other sustainable goals in the remuneration policy. In addition, Mr. <u>Van der Voorst</u> would like to know how many audits have been carried out, and what percentage of the suppliers is being audited.

Ms. <u>McKinstry</u> replies that revenues from electronic products as a percentage of the total revenues is a great proxy for overall use of paper and energy and that one target with a higher percentage is more meaningful than trying to split that in multiple targets that are relatively small percentages. Wolters Kluwer has not yet audited its suppliers, but in 2012 Wolters Kluwer has introduced a supplier policy. With project Springboard, the company has narrowed the number of suppliers. All suppliers need to adhere to the policy, particularly with respect to labor and human rights. Wolters Kluwer anticipates that in 2013 a policy around audits will be established, and as soon as this policy has been drawn up and the company begins to conduct those audits, this will be reported in the sustainability report.

Mr. <u>Smit</u> (representing VEB and via VEB 96 shareholders) joins the condolences for the passing away of Mr. Baan. First, Mr. <u>Smit</u> asks what the end point is with respect to the change to digital, since paper will always exist. He also asks about the margin developments of the company. In addition he asks about the growth possibilities in the information market in which Wolters Kluwer is active. Furthermore, Mr. <u>Smit</u> asks how real the expansion possibilities are in Asia and the rest of the World, outside of Europe and the United States, as he is under the impression that the information markets in a number of those countries, such as China, India and Russia, are not open. He enquires after Wolters Kluwer's position towards Reed Elsevier and other competitors. Finally, Mr. <u>Smit</u> asks about Wolters Kluwer's strategy regarding acquisitions: is the company looking for one big acquisition, or will it stay with the strategy of several smaller acquisitions?

Ms. <u>McKinstry</u> answers that print will continue to decline, but the company does not foresee it disappearing entirely. Many Wolters Kluwer customers, who buy the print products, also buy the equivalent content in online products, because customers want to use the products in different media. From a shareholder perspective, historically the biggest drain on the organic growth was the decline of print. Today, with print only representing 25% of the company's overall revenues, it is no longer that material, and as it continues to decline, it will become even less and less of an issue. Further, print is still profitable to the company today. On the future of the information business, Ms. <u>McKinstry</u> states that the company is investing to turn its information products into solution products. Customers want quick answers. In addition, the company is also adding value to its customers by keeping them up to date on regulatory changes and compliance changes, which you see in every market segment. In terms of future growth opportunities, in 2012 Wolters Kluwer had 1% organic growth, which was better than



Thomson Reuters and Pearson. Reed Elsevier was the only core competitor having a higher percentage of organic growth than Wolters Kluwer, mainly due to business lines that Wolters Kluwer is not engaged in.

Even though the company recognizes that 1% growth can be further improved, it is satisfied about the relative performance, and it is Wolters Kluwer's ambition to accelerate that growth. In terms of capital allocations, the company will focus on the market areas Clinical Solutions, Tax & Accounting Software, Corporate Legal Services, Financial Services and Audit Risk & Compliance. Regarding the possibilities in Asia, Ms. <u>McKinstry</u> explains that every country is different, and the company has a distinct strategy in each of these countries. Wolters Kluwer has been in China since 1985, and although the information side of the business is highly regulated, and the company works in partnership with state-owned companies, there are interesting developments in the software sector, because the software part of the business is not highly regulated and there are a lot of growth opportunities. Wolters Kluwer is a large increase in the number of doctors, lawyers, and accountants. Wolters Kluwer is well positioned in China and the growth of the company is significant. Wolters Kluwer will continue to invest in upcoming countries such as China, India and Brazil.

Mr. <u>Beerkens</u> explains that the margin growth is related to the transformation of the portfolio from paper to digital products. With digital products the company can provide additional value, for example by digitally combining different sources, or by providing information on a tablet or smart phone. Wolters Kluwer continues to invest in the development of innovative products and Mr. <u>Beerkens</u> expects that the margin development of Wolters Kluwer will benefit from that.

Mr. <u>Vreeken</u> is positive about the good financials and management by the Executive Board and Supervisory Board. He also believes that Wolters Kluwer can contribute to sustainable growth in the Netherlands. Mr. <u>Vreeken</u> further thinks that there are a lot of profit opportunities for Wolters Kluwer in China, India and Brazil. In addition he suggests that an acquisition in the segment of technology and IT can be interesting for the company. Mr. <u>Vreeken</u> is curious to know how Wolters Kluwer deals with cybercrimes and whether it is resistant against cybercrimes. Finally, Mr. <u>Vreeken</u> suggests that the offices of Wolters Kluwer, both in the Netherlands and globally, be provided with solar panels.

The Chairman thanks Mr. Vreeken for his suggestions and recommendations.

Mr. <u>Beerkens</u> adds that several years ago Wolters Kluwer has outsourced the data centers to professional parties. This does not guarantee that cyber crimes are prevented, but the company is constantly working to improve its infrastructure. This is a priority on the agenda of the Executive Board and Wolters Kluwer tries to stay ahead of the developments.

Mr. <u>Anink</u> is of the opinion that the new tagline is too complicated and a good Dutch translation is missing. Further, Mr. <u>Anink</u> suggests to give new names to the divisions. He asks whether there are possibilities for the company to invest in educational activities. Finally, Mr. <u>Anink</u> compliments the company on the fact that Wolters Kluwer has been approved for the investment universe of the ASN Sustainable Equity Fund.

The <u>Chairman</u> clarifies that the tagline "When you have to be right" exactly indicates the added value of Wolters Kluwer in the complex market of information provision. Professionals need to have information, prepared by experts, available at the right point in time, so they can advise their customers in the right way. The divisions are composed of a bundle of different activities. The <u>Chairman</u> admits that the names are



not very special, but the company prefers to invest the time and effort that would be required to implement new names, in promising markets. Finally, the <u>Chairman</u> states that it is not probable that Wolters Kluwer will return to the education sector.

Ms. <u>McKinstry</u> adds that Wolters Kluwer does offer education to its customers in the sectors Legal, Tax, Health and Financial Services. This relates to permanent education that professionals need to keep their knowledge up to date. Wolters Kluwer will however not return to primary and secondary education, as it does not see any growth in those fields.

Mr. <u>Anink</u> appreciates that the company continues its progressive dividend policy, and hopes that this will be continued going forward. Further, he asks how goodwill is being estimated and valued. With regards to the cost reduction due to the decrease of the number of data centers, Mr. <u>Anink</u> enquires about the status of this process, when it will be completed and how much the cost reduction will be. Subsequently, Mr. <u>Anink</u> asks whether the company has the intention to broaden its focus by setting up a fifth division. Then, referring to the staff increase, he asks whether the company is anticipating future developments, or whether the increase is caused by the growth of the company. Finally Mr. <u>Anink</u> enquires after the strategy behind calling the perpetual bonds.

Mr. Beerkens confirms that Wolters Kluwer indeed has a progressive dividend policy and adds that the dividend policy is directly related to the underlying financial results management anticipates realizing in the coming years. The transformation towards a more digital company, the added value and the expected preservation of the good margin are sufficient elements for the company to currently maintain the progressive dividend policy. The dividend policy is not a policy that should frequently be amended. The shareholders should be able to rely on that policy. As regards the question on the goodwill, Mr. Beerkens explains that in principle, there will be no write down on goodwill, except in the event of, for example, a sale or impairment. Wolters Kluwer periodically performs impairment tests on its underlying assets, whereby it is being evaluated, based on a number of presumptions and multi-year plans, whether the company is of the opinion that the market value of the cash flows is still sufficient to cover the balance sheet values. The external auditor verifies whether the presumptions are justified. Even some sensitivities are hereby pointed out, for example the situation in Southern Europe. Further, Wolters Kluwer's internal policy is to keep the goodwill as low as possible in case of acquisitions, and to have as many depreciating publishing rights as possible, and to have as little goodwill as possible on the balance sheet. Finally regarding the cost reductions for the decrease of datacenters, Mr. Beerkens indicates that Wolters Kluwer wants to continue with this, although diversity will have to be maintained as well. He adds that the cost reductions will be more in the tens of millions than hundreds of millions. Regarding the staff increase, he explains that the organic staff increase is relatively low, and that the enlargement mainly regards sales & marketing departments. The largest part of the increase is due to acquisitions, which are being integrated in existing activities. In relation to the perpetual bond, the loan against 6% was relatively expensive; the current market interest is so low that the company could place a 10-year bond for € 700 million against an interest rate of 2.9%. Hence, it was a good moment for Wolters Kluwer to call the perpetual bond.

Ms. <u>McKinstry</u> adds that the largest part of the cost savings due to the reduction of the number of datacenters has already been achieved under the Springboard project. Wolters Kluwer does not anticipate to expand to other segments, as there are enough options in de core markets of the four segments in which the company operates.



Mr. <u>Swinkels</u> enquires after Wolters Kluwer's position regarding the introduction of loyalty dividend.

The <u>Chairman</u> answers that the progressive dividend policy already provides certain stability. In practice it is complicated to implement a loyalty dividend. Many shares are being held by intermediaries, and it may cause problems in relation to the principle of equality of shareholders.

Mr. <u>Swinkels</u> responds that Wolters Kluwer could do pioneer work by introducing loyalty dividend.

There are no further questions.

The <u>Chairman</u> proposes that the report of the Executive Board for 2012 and the report of the Supervisory Board for 2012 as described in the annual report be taken as read, and that item 3b, proposal to adopt the financial statements for 2012 as included in the annual report for 2012, be put to the vote.

There are 201,440,725 votes in favor of the proposal and 51 votes against the proposal. There are 21,340 abstentions.

The <u>Chairman</u> establishes that the financial statements for 2012 have been adopted.

The <u>Chairman</u> expresses, on behalf of the Supervisory Board, his appreciation towards the Executive Board members and other employees for the policy conducted and activities performed in 2012.

Subsequently, item 3c is put to the vote. It is proposed to distribute a cash dividend of  $\notin 0.69$  per ordinary share. This is in line with the existing progressive dividend policy.

There are 201,440,213 votes in favor of the proposal and 704 votes against the proposal. There are 21,224 abstentions.

The <u>Chairman</u> establishes that the proposal to distribute a cash dividend of  $\notin$  0.69 per ordinary share has been adopted by the meeting.

# 4. PROPOSAL TO RELEASE THE MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD AND THE SUPERVISORY BOARD FROM LIABILITY FOR THE EXERCISE OF THEIR RESPECTIVE DUTIES

4a. Proposal to release the members of the Executive Board from liability for the exercise of their duties, as stipulated in Article 28 of the Articles of Association

The <u>Chairman</u> raises the subject of the release of members of the Executive Board from liability. Based on article 28 of the Articles of Association, it is proposed that the members of the Executive Board are released from liability for their duties, insofar as the exercise of such duties is reflected in the financial statements or information otherwise disclosed to the General Meeting of Shareholders prior to the adoption of the financial statements. The scope of a release from liability will be subject to limitations by virtue of the law.

There are no questions. The <u>Chairman</u> puts agenda item 4a to the vote.

There are 194,664,724 votes in favor of the proposal and 3,841,961 votes against the proposal. There are 2,955,431 abstentions.



The <u>Chairman</u> establishes that the proposal has been adopted and that the meeting has released the members of the Executive Board from liability for their duties.

4b. Proposal to release the members of the Supervisory Board from liability for the exercise of their duties, as stipulated in Article 28 of the Articles of Association The <u>Chairman</u> raises the subject of the release of members of the Supervisory Board from liability. Based on article 28 of the Articles of Association, it is proposed that the members of the Supervisory Board are released from liability for their duties, insofar as the exercise of such duties is reflected in the financial statements or information otherwise disclosed to the General Meeting of Shareholders prior to the adoption of the financial statements. The scope of a release from liability will be subject to limitations by virtue of the law.

There are no questions. The <u>Chairman</u> puts agenda item 4b to the vote.

There are 194,659,645 votes in favor of the proposal and 3,847,039 votes against the proposal. There are 2,955,431 abstentions.

The <u>Chairman</u> establishes that the proposal has been adopted and that the meeting has released the members of the Supervisory Board from liability for their duties.

#### 5. COMPOSITION SUPERVISORY BOARD 5a. Proposal to reappoint Mr. P.N. Wakkie as member of the Supervisory Board

As this agenda item regards the reappointment of the Chairman himself, he hands the floor over to Mr. Forman.

Mr. <u>Forman</u> remarks that Mr. Wakkie is due to retire by rotation and is available for reappointment. Mr. Wakkie was appointed as member of the Supervisory Board in 2005 and he has been reappointed in 2009. The Supervisory Board, after careful consideration, makes a recommendation to reappoint Mr. Wakkie as member of the Supervisory Board, in view of his experience in the fields of Dutch and international legal matters, corporate governance and regulations, his knowledge of and experience with many of the products of Wolters Kluwer, and his contribution to the Supervisory Board.

There are no questions. Mr. Forman puts agenda item 5a to the vote.

There are 198,323,291 votes in favor of the proposal and 535,390 votes against the proposal. There are 2,603,386 abstentions.

The <u>notary</u> establishes that the proposal has been adopted and that the meeting has reappointed Mr. Wakkie as member of the Supervisory Board.

## 5b. Proposal to reappoint Ms. B.M. Dalibard as member of the Supervisory Board

The <u>Chairman</u> notes that Ms. Dalibard is due to retire by rotation and is available for reappointment. Ms. Dalibard was appointed as member of the Supervisory Board in 2009. The Supervisory Board, after careful consideration, makes a recommendation to reappoint Ms. Dalibard as member of the Supervisory Board, in view of her broad general management experience, her knowledge of ICT infrastructure and applications in the markets in which Wolters Kluwer is active and her contribution to the Supervisory Board.



There are no questions. The <u>Chairman</u> puts agenda item 5b to the vote.

There are 198,357,891 votes in favor of the proposal and 500,748 votes against the proposal. There are 2,603,434 abstentions.

The <u>Chairman</u> establishes that the proposal has been adopted and that the meeting has reappointed Ms. Dalibard as member of the Supervisory Board.

#### 5c. Proposal to reappoint Mr. L.P. Forman as member of the Supervisory Board

The <u>Chairman</u> remarks that Mr. Forman is due to retire by rotation and is available for reappointment. Mr. Forman was appointed as member of the Supervisory Board in 2005 and he has been reappointed in 2009. The Supervisory Board, after careful consideration, makes a recommendation to reappoint Mr. Forman as member of the Supervisory Board, in view of his broad general management experience, his knowledge of the publishing business and information technology, his financial/ economic expertise and his contribution to the Supervisory Board.

There are no questions. The <u>Chairman</u> puts agenda item 5c to the vote.

There are 198,135,478 votes in favor of the proposal and 540,097 votes against the proposal. There are 2,603,385 abstentions.

The <u>Chairman</u> establishes that the proposal has been adopted and that the meeting has reappointed Mr. Forman as member of the Supervisory Board.

## 6 PROPOSAL TO APPOINT MR. K.B. ENTRICKEN AS MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

The <u>Chairman</u> observes that Mr. Beerkens, member of the Executive Board and Chief Financial Officer, will resign as member of the Executive Board per May 2013. To fill the vacancy that will arise due to his resignation, the Supervisory Board makes a recommendation to appoint Mr. K.B. Entricken as member of the Executive Board, for a period until the day on which the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders will be held in 2017. Mr. Entricken will succeed Mr. Beerkens as Chief Financial Officer. Mr. Entricken was born in 1965 and has the American nationality. He has held various positions within the Wolters Kluwer group since 2003 and has been Chief Financial Officer of the Wolters Kluwer Health division since 2010. A curriculum vitae of Mr. Entricken is included in the explanatory notes to the agenda and has been distributed at the beginning of the meeting.

Mr. Entricken addresses the meeting by way of introduction.

Mr. <u>Smit</u> (representing VEB and via VEB 96 shareholders) observes that he assumes that there is no sign-on pay, since Mr. Entricken is coming from within Wolters Kluwer. Further, Mr. <u>Smit</u> enquires after the severance remuneration and change of control bonus.

The <u>Chairman</u> confirms that there is no sign-on pay and that the severance remuneration is one year's fixed salary, in accordance with the Dutch Corporate Governance Code. Regarding the change of control, the Chairman explains that, as indicated in the various annual reports, the rights on conditional shares awarded in LTIP will vest in the event of a change of control.



Mr. Anink enquires after the arrangements of Mr. Entricken's stay in the Netherlands.

The Chairman illustrates that Mr. Entricken moved to the Netherlands with his family.

Mr. <u>Swinkels</u> remarks that the company becomes less Dutch, and asks how many Dutch nationals reside in the Executive Board and Supervisory Board, and whether the Dutch nationality is a criterion in the selection of new board members.

The <u>Chairman</u> replies that Wolters Kluwer has a Dutch origin, but nowadays the global activities have to be considered. The company does not have a policy on nationality. The Executive Board currently consists of two individuals that both have the American nationality, but live and work in the Netherlands. The Supervisory Board is currently composed of two Dutch nationals, previously three, and four non-Dutch members. The quality of (future) Board members is crucial in the selection and not the nationality.

There are no further questions. The Chairman puts agenda item 6 to the vote.

There are 198,667,517 votes in favor of the proposal and 7,792 votes against the proposal. There are 2,786,427 abstentions.

The <u>Chairman</u> establishes that the proposal has been adopted and that the meeting has appointed Mr. Entricken as member of the Executive Board.

## 7 PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

The <u>Chairman</u> provides an explanation on the proposal to amend the Articles of Association. The proposal also includes granting an authorization to every member of the Executive Board, the Secretary of the Executive Board, and every (deputy) civil-law notary, paralegal and notarial assistant at Allen & Overy LLP, Attorneys at Law, Civil-Law Notaries and Tax Consultants, in Amsterdam to have the deed of Amendment of the Articles of Association executed.

Mr. Yetsenga (representing Syntrus Achmea, and speaking on behalf of Robeco, Pension Fund for the Printing Industry, and the customers of ING Fund Management B.V.) refers to the Best Practice clause IV 3.9 in the Corporate Governance Code which provides that material amendments need to be put on the agenda separately. In this context Mr. Yetsenga refers to the proposed amendments with regards to the right of shareholders to request items be put on the agenda and the decrease of the minimum number of statutory directors. In relation to the right to request items be put on the agenda, Mr. Yetsenga enquires after the percentage of 0.5% of the issued capital, and whether this may possibly be increased to 3%. He also asks why the absolute amount of  $\in$  50 million will be removed. Further, he asks whether the company intends to appoint a third Executive Board member, or whether it prefers to have a CEO/CFO-model, or perhaps may move to a one-tier model.

The <u>Chairman</u> responds that the amendments are not material, and hence not put on the agenda separately. Wolters Kluwer does not have a policy to have two or three Executive Board members. The Supervisory Board will evaluate if and when extension of the Executive Board is necessary. The change of the minimum number of directors is to prevent that the company acts in violation of its Articles of Association and is forced to appoint a third Executive Board member. This does not entail that the policy is to have a CEO-CFO model and certainly not that the company has the intention to move



to a one-tier model. On the point raised with regards to the threshold to put items on the agenda, Wolters Kluwer's intention is to maintain the percentage of 0.5% and to align the Articles of Association with the law, which prescribes only a percentage, and not a fixed amount. In addition, the <u>Chairman</u> explains that  $\in$  50 million currently represents a percentage higher than 0.5% of the issued capital.

Mr. <u>Yetsenga</u> (representing Syntrus Achmea, and speaking on behalf of Robeco, Pension Fund for the Printing Industry, and the customers of ING Fund Management B.V.) states that in the period 1998-2000, 0.5% of the issued capital did represent an amount of approximately  $\leq$  50 million, and hence also the absolute boundary is important.

There are no further questions. The Chairman puts agenda item 7 to the vote.

There are 193,496,955 votes in favor of the proposal and 7,873,344 votes against the proposal. There are 91,766 abstentions.

The <u>Chairman</u> establishes that the proposal to amend the Articles of Association has been adopted and the requested authorization has been granted.

#### 8 PROPOSAL TO EXTEND THE AUTHORITY OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD 8a. To issue shares and/or grant rights to subscribe for shares

The <u>Chairman</u> explains that it is proposed to extend the authority of the Executive Board for a period of 18 months starting April 24, 2013, subject to the approval of the Supervisory Board, to issue shares and/or grant rights to subscribe for shares, up to a maximum of 10% of the issued capital on April 24, 2013, to be increased by an additional 10% of the issued capital on April 24, 2013, in case the issuance of shares takes place in connection with or on the occasion of a merger or acquisition.

There are no questions. The <u>Chairman</u> puts agenda item 8a, the authorization to issue shares and/or grant rights to subscribe for shares, to the vote.

There are 138,054,215 votes in favor of the proposal and 63,386,510 votes against the proposal. There are 21,348 abstentions.

The <u>Chairman</u> establishes that the authority to issue shares and/or grant rights to subscribe for shares as requested in agenda item 8a is granted as proposed.

## 8b. To restrict or exclude pre-emptive rights

The <u>Chairman</u> explains that it is proposed to extend the authority of the Executive Board for a period of 18 months, starting April 24, 2013, subject to the approval of the Supervisory Board, to restrict or exclude the pre-emptive rights of holders of ordinary shares when ordinary shares are issued and/or rights to subscribe for ordinary shares are granted based on the authority requested in agenda item 8a, up to a maximum of 10% of the issued capital on April 24, 2013, to be increased by an additional 10% of the issued capital on April 24, 2013, in case the issuance of shares takes place in connection with or on the occasion of a merger or acquisition. The authority of the Executive Board to restrict or exclude statutory pre-emptive rights is related to the fact that due to some foreign legal systems shareholders outside of the Netherlands are not eligible in some cases to exercise statutory pre-emptive rights. In the event of an issue of shares, the Executive Board may decide in conformity with market practice to grant existing shareholders non-statutory pre-emptive rights.



There are no questions. The <u>Chairman</u> puts agenda item 8b, the restriction or exclusion of pre-emptive rights, to the vote.

There are 116,676,577 votes in favor of the proposal and 84,580,979 votes against the proposal. There are 21,347 abstentions.

Since more than half the issued capital is represented at the meeting, this proposal requires an ordinary majority of the votes cast. The voting results show that this is the case.

The <u>Chairman</u> establishes that the authority to restrict or exclude the pre-emptive rights, as requested in agenda item 8b, has been granted as proposed.

### 9. PROPOSAL TO AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE BOARD TO ACQUIRE OWN SHARES

The <u>Chairman</u> explains that it is proposed to authorize the Executive Board for a period of 18 months, starting April 24, 2013, to acquire for a consideration on the stock exchange or otherwise the company's own paid-up shares, up to a maximum of 10% of the issued capital on April 24, 2013, in the case of ordinary shares at a price between the nominal stock value of the shares and 110% of the closing price of the ordinary shares on the stock exchange of Euronext Amsterdam on the day preceding the day of purchase as reported in the Official Price List of Euronext Amsterdam, and in the case of preference shares at their nominal value. The authority of the Executive Board to acquire own shares may be withdrawn by the General Meeting of Shareholders with the approval of the Supervisory Board. The proposed authorization will replace the authorization granted to the Executive Board on April 25, 2012.

There are no questions. The <u>Chairman</u> puts agenda item 9, proposal to authorize the Executive Board to acquire own shares, to the vote.

There are 200,902,385 votes in favor of the proposal and 296,166 votes against the proposal. There are 80,078 abstentions.

The <u>Chairman</u> establishes that the proposal to authorize the Executive Board to acquire own shares, as requested in agenda item 9, is granted as proposed.

### 10. PROPOSAL TO APPOINT THE EXTERNAL AUDITOR

The Chairman illustrates that under agenda item 10, it is proposed to instruct KPMG Accountants N.V. to examine the financial statements and Annual Report drawn up by the Executive Board and report thereon to the Supervisory Board and the Executive Board and make a statement on the subject, as stipulated in Article 27(3) of the Articles of Association, for the fiscal years 2013 up to and including 2015. This proposal is based on the outcome of the thorough assessment of the external auditor that has been carried out in 2012. The assessment included a performance evaluation by KPMG that was based on interviews with various Wolters Kluwer employees. Wolters Kluwer carries out such an assessment every four years, after which a proposal to appoint the external auditor is made to the General Meeting of Shareholders. In addition to this thorough assessment, the Executive Board and the Audit Committee report their dealings with the external auditor to the Supervisory Board on an annual basis. In the past, the company generally appointed its external auditor for a period of four years. Due to new legislation, listed companies are required to rotate their external auditor firm every eight years, starting January 1, 2016, hence the current proposal of appointment for a period of three years. The Supervisory Board reserves the right to



submit the appointment of the external auditor to the General Meeting of Shareholders before the lapse of the three-year period if this is deemed necessary by the Supervisory Board or if new legislation so requires.

Mr. <u>Smit</u> (representing VEB and via VEB 96 shareholders) enquires how the company will handle the rotation of the auditor and whether the procedure is public.

Mr. <u>Forman</u> answers that in the next 12 to 18 months the company will assess the situation and decide which audit firm will be proposed to the General Meeting.

There are no further questions. The <u>Chairman</u> puts agenda item 10, proposal to appoint the external auditor, to the vote.

There are 192,156,148 votes in favor of the proposal and 9,282,309 votes against the proposal. There are 23,279 abstentions.

The <u>Chairman</u> establishes that the proposal has been adopted and that the meeting has appointed KPMG as external auditor.

### 11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. <u>Van Zeijl</u> (representing the SNS, Reaal and Zwitserleven funds) proposes to have the remuneration payments of the Executive Board approved by the shareholders.

The <u>Chairman</u> states that the remuneration policy has been presented to and approved by the meeting, and that any changes to the policy are also presented to the meeting, but that the compensations coming from the policy, in accordance with Dutch law, are not to be presented to the meeting. The latter is a resolution of the Supervisory Board and the external auditor needs to verify the outcome.

#### 12. CLOSING

Before closing the meeting, the <u>Chairman</u> addresses Mr. Beerkens and he thanks Mr. Beerkens on behalf of the Supervisory Board for his expertise, efforts and good cooperation.

The <u>Chairman</u> offers the attendees an e-book, that Wolters Kluwer has published together with the John Adams Institute, and the possibility to attend lectures of the John Adams Institute.

Then the <u>Chairman</u> thanks those present for their attendance and contributions and closes the meeting.

\*\*\*