

## **THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' STATEMENT PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 18, SECTION 4 OF THE SWEDISH COMPANIES ACT**

The Board of Directors has proposed that the Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2009 resolves on an appropriation of profit with a dividend of SEK 3,00 per share to the shareholders. Accordingly, the dividend amounts to a total of SEK 104,415,396. Due to the Board of Directors' proposed dividend, the Board of Directors hereby makes the following statement pursuant to Chapter 18, Section 4 of the Swedish Companies Act (2005:551).

The group's profits carried forward from the previous year amount to MSEK 1,927 and the profit for the financial year 2008 to MSEK 394, of which MSEK 0 is attributable to minority shares. For the parent company, profits carried forward are MSEK 407, and the profit for the financial year 2008 is MSEK 268. Assuming the AGM 2009 approves the Board of Directors' proposed appropriation of profits, SEK 571,017,858 will be carried forward. The company's restricted shareholders' equity is fully covered after the proposed dividend.

The Board of Directors considers that after the proposed dividend, the group's and the company's shareholders' equity will be sufficient in relation to the nature, scope and risks of the business of the group and the company. In this context, the Board of Directors has considered factors such as the group's profit level, future outlook, cash flow and investment requirements.

The Board of Directors has considered the group's and the company's position and the group's and the company's prospects of fulfilling their commitments in the short and long term. At year-end, the proposed dividend amounts to 4 % of the consolidated shareholders' equity and 7 % of the company's adjusted shareholders' equity. The company's shareholders' equity would have been MSEK 0,6 lower if the assets and liabilities valued at fair value pursuant to Chapter 4, Section 14 a of the Swedish Annual Accounts Act, instead had been valued on the basis of acquisition value or according to the lower of cost or market value principle (*Sw. lägsta värdets princip*).

After the distribution of the dividend, the group's and the company's equity/asset ratios are 31 % and 41 %, respectively. Accordingly, the group's and the company's equity/asset ratios are satisfactory. The Board of Directors considers that the group and the company will be able to assume future business risks and to withstand potential losses. The dividend will not have a detrimental impact on the group's or the company's capacity to make further investments pursuant to the plans of the Board of Directors.

The proposed dividend will not have a detrimental impact on the group's or the company's capacity to fulfil their payment commitments. The group and the company have ready access to short and long-term credits that can be drawn down at short notice. Accordingly, the Board of Directors considers that the group and the company are well prepared to respond to changes in regard to liquidity as well as unexpected events.

In addition to the above, the Board of Directors has considered other known circumstances that may be significant to the group's and the company's financial position. In this context, no circumstances have arisen implying that the proposed dividends would not appear justifiable.