

Press release

Patrik Gisel takes over operational management of the Raiffeisen Group as of 1 October 2015

St. Gallen, 6 March 2015. As a result of the nomination of Pierin Vincenz as Chairman of the Board of Directors of Helvetia Holding AG, Patrik Gisel will be taking over the operational management of the Raiffeisen Group as of 1 October 2015, not as originally planned in March 2016. Patrik Gisel will also be proposed by the Board of Directors of Helvetia Holding AG as the new representative of the Raiffeisen Group on the Board.

The Board of Directors of Helvetia Holding AG will move for the election of Pierin Vincenz as Chairman of the Board of Directors at the Annual General Meeting on 24 April 2015. Vincenz has been a member of the Board of Directors of the Helvetia Group since 2000 and has consequently been involved in deciding the strategic alignment of the Group over the past 15 years.

"The handover of leadership can be achieved earlier with no difficulty because with Patrik Gisel we have chosen a successor who, as a long-serving member of the executive and deputy CEO, can seamlessly take over the operational management of the Group and guarantee continuity," says Johannes Rüegg-Stürm, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Raiffeisen Switzerland. "On behalf of the Board of Directors I would like to congratulate Pierin Vincenz most sincerely on his nomination and I wish him every success as he faces this new professional challenge."

At the Annual General Meeting on 24 April 2015 the Board of Directors of Helvetia Holding will also move to elect Patrik Gisel as the representative of the Raiffeisen Group, one of the three largest shareholders and a member of the shareholder pool of the Helvetia Group, to be a member of the Board of Directors as of 1 October 2015, replacing Mr Vincenz in this position.

Raiffeisen: leading retail bank and third largest banking group in Switzerland

The Raiffeisen Group is the leading Swiss retail bank. The third largest bank in the Swiss banking sector has 3.7 million clients, over 1.8 million of whom are cooperative members and therefore co-owners of their Raiffeisen bank. The Raiffeisen Group includes 305 Raiffeisen banks with a cooperative structure and 1,015 branches. The legally autonomous Raiffeisen banks are amalgamated into Raiffeisen Switzerland Cooperative. Which is responsible for the strategic management of the entire Raiffeisen Group, including all subsidiaries. At the end of 2014, the Raiffeisen Group had CHF 197 billion in assets under management and CHF 159 billion in loans to clients. The market share is over 16.6% in the mortgage business and 18.7% of the savings market. The balance sheet total is CHF 189 billion.

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