

This document has been translated for purposes of information only. While every effort has been made to ensure that the English version is a faithful and accurate translation of the French text, only the latter is a legally valid document.

Dear Shareholder,

You are invited as a registered shareholder of Solvay S.A. ("Solvay" as the "Company"), to attend the Annual Solvay Shareholders' Meeting (the "Meeting") to be held on Tuesday, May 11, 2010, at 2.30 p.m., at 44 rue du Prince Albert, Ixelles-Brussels, Belgium. Please find enclosed the agenda for the Meeting.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Please find enclosed the Solvay Financial statements for the 2009 fiscal year.

IF IT IS NOT YOUR INTENTION TO ATTEND THE MEETINGS OR VOTE BY PROXY

There is no procedure to be completed.

PROCEDURES NECESSARY FOR ATTENDING OR VOTING BY PROXY AT THE SHAREHOLDERS' MEETING ON MAY 11, 2010

1) Holders of registered shares

Under Article 37 of Solvay's By-laws, you must notify the Company in writing of your intention to attend the Meeting, your notice must specify the number of Solvay shares which you intend to vote.

If you intend to vote in person at the Meeting, you need only sign, date and mail the enclosed NOTICE OF ATTENDANCE, ensuring that it reaches the Company at the above address by Wednesday, May 5, 2010 at the latest.

If it is not your intention to attend the Meeting, a **PROXY** form is enclosed which you may forward to us, duly completed and signed. This **PROXY** must also reach us by Wednesday, May 5, 2010 at the latest.

2) Holders of dematerialized shares

If you intend to take part in the Meeting, you are invited to make them blocked temporarily into accounts by your finance company which will have to advise us for Wednesday May 5, 2010 at the latest.

As long as this procedure is duly completed, we shall consider any Proxy lodged at the Company's Corporate Headquarters in keeping with Article 38 of the Articles valid for registered shares, bearer shares and dematerialized shares.

3) Holders of bearer shares

In order to attend the Meeting and vote any bearer shares which you may hold, you must temporarily deposit those shares for blocking purposes, by Wednesday, May 5, 2010 at the latest, either at the Company's Corporate Headquarters or at one of the following institutions which will have to advise us for Wednesday May 5, 2010 at the latest.

:

- In Belgium
 - BNP Paribas Fortis
 - ING Belgium
 - KBC Bank
- In Luxemburg :
 - Fortis Banque Luxembourg
- In Switzerland :
 - Crédit Suisse

As long as this procedure is duly completed, we shall consider any Proxy lodged at the Company's Corporate Headquarters in keeping with Article 38 of the Articles valid for registered shares, dematerialized shares and bearer shares.

We draw your attention to the fact that this year we decided to accelerate the implementation of the new bill concerning certain shareholders rights in listed companies, allowing you to participate electronically in the voting on proposed resolutions, rather than by show of hands as it used to be done in the past. Proxy votes will be counted in advance and incorporated systematically in each count.

We ask you to return to us EITHER the notice of participation, EITHER the proxy. If you return both documents because you are not sure in advance to be present at the meeting, we will register the votes from your proxy. You could therefore be able to attend the meeting but without voting since your votes would already have been counted.

Please note that in the interest of an orderly procedure, the attendance list will be open for signing on May 11, 2010 from 1.30 p.m. on We ask you to make arrangements to be present sufficiently in advance before the beginning of the meeting, given that in addition to signing the attendance list, you will receive an electronic voting device and a smart card containing the number of votes you personally represent for this particular meeting. We remind you in this respect that one share gives right to one vote.

We also draw your attention to the fact that in the case you are also a SOLVAC shareholder, you will sign both attendance lists of SOLVAY and SOLVAC at the same time. You will receive ONE voting device and ONE card for both meetings, containing the number of votes for each of the meetings. This, of course, has been done in order to simplify procedures and for your convenience.

Yours sincerely,

A. Michielsen
Chairman
of the Board of Directors

Enclosures