

Brussels, 27 October 2011, at 10:00 a.m. (Brussels time)

APPOINTMENT OF THE FUTURE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF SOLVAY

The Board of Directors of Solvay S.A. announced today the following appointment for 2012 as chairman of the Board of Directors of Solvay.

Alois Michielsen, who will reach the age of 70 in January 2012, leaves the Board of Directors of Solvay S.A. and the chairmanship, on 8 May 2012, at the occasion of the annual shareholders' meeting, after 44 years at Solvay, of which 4 years as COO, 6 years as CEO and 6 years as Chairman of the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors has unanimously decided to nominate Nicolas Boël as Chairman of the Board of Directors, as of 9 May 2012, after the annual shareholders meeting.

Member of Solvay's Board of Directors for over 13 years, Nicolas Boël is 49 years old (born in 1962), is a member of the Solvay family and benefits from a strong international and industrial background and experience. He started his career at Belgian steel producer Usines Gustave Boël and occupied different managing functions at the steel and aluminium producer Corus in the USA, Belgium (Duffel) and France (Maubeuge). In 2004, he was promoted to the position of General Manager at Myriad, a reference in the world of coated products industry. Since 2006, he is board member and member of the nomination and remuneration committee of Belgian financial company Sofina, listed on NYSE Euronext, and board member of various other family companies.

He is Bachelor in Economics of Louvain University and holds an MBA from the College of William and Mary (Virginia USA).

SOLVAY is an international chemical Group committed to sustainable development with a clear focus on innovation and operational excellence. Its recent acquisition of specialty chemicals company **Rhodia** created a much larger player which is realizing over 90% of its sales in markets where it is among the top 3 global leaders. Solvay offers a broad range of products that contribute to improving quality of life and its customers' performance in markets such as consumer goods, construction, automotive, energy, water and environment, and electronics. The Group is headquartered in Brussels, employs about 30,000 people in 55 countries and generated EUR 12 billion in sales (pro forma) in 2010. Solvay SA is listed on NYSE Euronext ([SOLB.BE](#) - Bloomberg: [SOLB.BB](#) - Reuters: [SOLBt.BR](#)).

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Ce communiqué de presse est également disponible en français - Dit persbericht is ook in het Nederlands beschikbaar