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## **Opening statement (speaking points)**



Press event "Implementation of Solvency II"  
**Frankfurt, 10 December 2015**

- ✓ Thank you for having accepted our invitation and coming to EIOPA and also for joining us via teleconference.
- ✓ As of 1 January 2016, the new European Union supervisory framework for insurance – Solvency II – is going to be implemented.
- ✓ The regulatory phase of Solvency II has been completed.
- ✓ Thus one journey comes to an end, but a new journey just starts. It is a journey towards consistent and convergent application of the new risk-based regulatory framework.
- ✓ It will be challenging not only for industry and supervisors.
- ✓ EIOPA will play a key role in the process of achieving the supervisory convergence.
- ✓ Our efforts will be focused on achieving three fundamental objectives:
  1. To ensure consistent application of EU regulation;
  2. To guarantee a level playing field and prevent regulatory arbitrage in the internal market;
  3. To safeguard a similar level of protection to all policyholders and beneficiaries in the EU.
- ✓ We will achieve our goal only if we clearly understand Solvency II principles and also the benefits that the new framework brings to all the parties involved.
- ✓ This common understanding is a crucial step in our new journey towards supervisory convergence.
- ✓ Therefore, today we want to present some elements of the new regulatory framework, which are crucial and which might not yet be fully understood.

- ✓ Before I give the floor to the colleagues, I would like to stress one important point: With Solvency II we make a huge step forward for policy holder protection and for the single European insurance market.
- ✓ Europe was lacking behind the move to risk-based supervision. With Solvency II we close this gap with a modern, robust and proportionate regime.
- ✓ Solvency II will allow for a robust alignment between capital and risk management. More risk, more capital.
- ✓ It will result in a paradigm shift in the companies' risk culture. It will incentivise good governance and good management
- ✓ It will provide supervisors with harmonised and comparable reporting and, thus, allow them to better and clearly assess their national markets and to act timely. This allows for forward looking preventive supervision.
- ✓ It strictly follows the proportionality principle especially in the reporting area and, thus, will not become a burden for smaller companies.
- ✓ Last but not least, Solvency II will guarantee a common level of consumer protection, companies will be in a better position to fulfil their guarantees and keep the promises they made to their clients.