

## **EIOPA Occupational Pensions Stakeholder Group**



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Pensions is for me first and foremost about people. The issues we are discussing are often complex, but they are almost always impacting the lives of individual people. This is something that we in the pensions industry should be aware of. It is in the end not the model, not the number, not the supervisory framework that is most important. It is how individual people are affected. Actuaries are experts in all sorts of long-term issues. Other people are generally not. But these other people are impacted by the results of our models and frameworks. This is what puts a great responsibility on the shoulders of us actuaries. For me this means that helping protect the interests of individual people and the society as a whole is key.

As member of the OPSG I see it as an important part of my role to help understand the impact of European directives, mathematical models, supervisory frameworks and how it would affect the different groups of stakeholders: individual citizens, companies, member states, etc. I would be happy to share any knowledge and expertise I have on actuarial models and approaches. At the same time, I would be the first to point at the fact that such models and approaches are there to serve society and are not a goal in itself.

Having started my professional work in 1982, I have been working as a consulting actuary in a truly international environment since 1990. For 10 years I have been member of the European management team of Towers Perrin (now Willis Towers Watson). Since 2012 I work as an independent actuary. I serve on some supervisory boards of Dutch pension funds, I am an independent member of the board of United Pensions OFF, a Belgian based pan-European pension fund and I am expert member of the Committee of Appeal of the Dutch Financial Complaints Tribunal. I have been active in the Actuarial Association of Europe (AAE) since 1999. Currently I serve as the Chairperson of the AAE.