# Media release



Zurich, 16 August 2017

# Swiss Life increases net profit by 5% to CHF 524 million in the first half of 2017

- In the first six months of 2017, Swiss Life improved its results again and increased its adjusted profit from operations by 5% to CHF 763 million against the prior year period. Net profit increased by 5% to CHF 524 million.
- Fee income rose by 6% in local currency to CHF 681 million and the fee result improved by 16% to CHF 222 million.
- Premiums came to CHF 10.0 billion (minus 1% in local currency).
- Swiss Life generated direct investment income of CHF 2.2 billion (previous year: CHF 2.2 billion). The non-annualised direct investment yield was stable at 1.5%; the net investment yield on a non-annualised basis was 1.4% (previous year: 1.6%).
- Swiss Life Asset Managers posted net new assets of CHF 3.3 billion in its third-party business. As a result, it had CHF 54.3 billion in assets under management for third parties at the end of June 2017 (10% more than at the end of 2016).
- Swiss Life increased its new business margin from 1.5% to 2.6%; the value of new business thus rose by 56% to CHF 177 million (previous year: CHF 113 million).
- Shareholders' equity rose against year-end 2016 by 2% to CHF 13.9 billion. Swiss Life achieved an adjusted return on equity of 10.5%, against 11.1% for the corresponding period in the previous year.

Patrick Frost, CEO of the Swiss Life Group: "In the first half of 2017, we managed to further strengthen our earnings power and, in particular, to expand our fee business. We are ahead of schedule in implementing our Group-wide programme 'Swiss Life 2018' and the sustained and consistent orientation of our business towards profitability and capital efficiency enabled us to again improve our profit sources. Swiss Life is therefore in a very good position to achieve its financial goals for 2017."

## Improved profitability in all market units

In the first half of 2017, the Swiss Life Group improved its adjusted profit from operations by 5% to CHF 763 million. The resulting net profit also rose by 5% to CHF 524 million. Swiss Life achieved an increase of 16% in its fee result to CHF 222 million.

Swiss Life generated direct investment income of CHF 2.2 billion (previous year: CHF 2.2 billion). That corresponds to a stable non-annualised direct investment yield of 1.5% (previous year: 1.5%). The net investment yield on a non-annualised basis fell to 1.4% due to lower net realised gains (previous year: 1.6%).

All the market units improved their segment result in the first half of 2017: Swiss Life **Switzerland** achieved a segment result of CHF 425 million (plus 1%). **France** posted an increase of 7% to EUR 134 million. **Germany** generated EUR 65 million, 15% over the previous year. Swiss Life **International** grew its segment result by 2% to EUR 23 million.

**Swiss Life Asset Managers** also improved its contribution to the result: the segment result was up 7% at CHF 123 million; third-party asset management contributed CHF 36 million (32% over the corresponding period in the previous year).

#### Growth in fee business - focus on profitability of premium income

Swiss Life expanded its fee business: fee income increased Group-wide by CHF 681 million, corresponding to a 6% increase in local currency. Premium income in local currency fell in the first half of 2017 against the prior year period by 1% to CHF 10.0 billion, as the focus remained on profitability and capital efficiency.

In the home market of **Switzerland**, Swiss Life posted premium volume of CHF 5.9 billion, a 10% decrease from first-half 2016. Fee income came to CHF 115 million (previous year: CHF 117 million). In **France**, Swiss Life generated an encouraging 10% of premium growth in a declining market to EUR 2.2 billion. In fee business, income was up by a full 22% at EUR 130 million. Swiss Life in **Germany** generated premiums of EUR 577 million (previous year: EUR 576 million). Fee income, meanwhile, rose by 2% to EUR 169 million. Premiums at Swiss Life **International** amounted to EUR 977 million in the first six months of 2017 (previous year: EUR 651 million). Fee income also increased, by 6% to EUR 104 million.

Swiss Life Asset Managers generated CHF 3.3 billion net new assets for its third-party business in the first half of 2017, which brought total assets under management for third parties to CHF 54.3 billion (plus 10% relative to the end of 2016). Together with insurance mandates (CHF 155 billion; end of 2016: CHF 155 billion), total assets under management at Swiss Life Asset Managers stood at CHF 210 billion as at 30 June 2017 (3% more than at the end

of 2016). Fee income generated by Swiss Life Asset Managers increased by 6% to CHF 295 million (previous year: CHF 279 million), whereby the share of third-party business was up 7% to CHF 153 million (previous year: CHF 144 million).

#### Strong new business margin – solid solvency

Swiss Life increased its new business margin to 2.6% in the first half of 2017 (previous year: 1.5%). The value of new business rose against the prior year period from CHF 113 million to CHF 177 million. All the business units contributed to this very strong result; the main driver behind this extremely positive development was Swiss Life Switzerland. Swiss Life again improved the product mix in its new business. The average technical interest rate dropped mainly due to reserve strengthening to 1.38% (against 1.41% as of 1 January 2017). Shareholders' equity rose by 2% to CHF 13.9 billion. In the first half of 2017, Swiss Life posted an adjusted return on equity of 10.5%, which was 0.6 percentage points lower than in the corresponding period for the previous year, due to the markedly higher average equity. Swiss Life estimates its SST ratio almost at 170% as of 30 June 2017 (based on the internal model approved with conditions).

## Telephone conference for investors and analysts

Patrick Frost, Group CEO, and Thomas Buess, Group CFO, will hold a telephone conference in English for financial analysts and investors today at 9 a.m. (CET).

Dial-in numbers: Europe: +41 (0) 58 310 50 00 UK: +44 (0) 203 059 58 62 USA: +1 (1) 631 570 56 13

# Telephone conference for media representatives

Patrick Frost, Group CEO, and Thomas Buess, Group CFO, will hold a telephone conference in German for media representatives today at 11 a.m. (CET).

Dial-in number: Europe: +41 (0) 58 310 50 00

An audio webcast of both conferences will be made available on the <u>www.swisslife.com</u> website. Please dial in ten minutes before the start of the conference.

# Information

Media Relations Phone +41 43 284 77 77 media.relations@swisslife.ch

#### **Investor Relations**

Phone +41 43 284 52 76 investor.relations@swisslife.ch

#### www.swisslife.com

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#### Swiss Life

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Swiss Life Holding Ltd, registered in Zurich, was founded in 1857 as Schweizerische Rentenanstalt. The shares of Swiss Life Holding Ltd are listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange (SLHN). The subsidiaries Livit, Corpus Sireo and Mayfair Capital are also part of the Swiss Life Group. The Group employs a workforce of around 7800 and approximately 4800 certified financial advisors.



A journey through Swiss Life Group



What matters in life

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