

Global Federation of Insurance Associations appoints new executives

Brussels – Following its meeting in Amsterdam today, the Global Federation of Insurance Associations (GFIA) has announced the appointment of Governor Dirk Kempthorne as its new chair, for a two-year term. Governor Kempthorne replaces Frank Swedlove, the inaugural chair of the GFIA, who will remain as a member of the executive committee as past chair.

“I’m honoured to be elected as chair of the GFIA and will continue the good work of Frank Swedlove and all those involved with the GFIA in providing a global voice for the insurance industry” said Governor Dirk Kempthorne, president and CEO of the American Council of Life Insurers. “It’s an exciting time for the GFIA and I am committed to delivering on its key priorities.”

Robert Whelan, executive director and CEO of the Insurance Council of Australia, becomes the membership executive, replacing Leigh Ann Pusey. The vice-chair, Recaredo Arias (Association of Mexican Insurance Companies), treasurer, Shizuharu Kubono (Life Insurance Association of Japan) and secretary, Michaela Koller (Insurance Europe) all remain in their posts.

Welcoming the new chair, Frank Swedlove said: “Being the first chair of the GFIA has been a privilege and I’m delighted to see the progress that has been made over the past two years. I look forward to working with Governor Kempthorne and the executive committee to continue to build on that work.”

The GFIA’s Annual Report, which was published yesterday, focuses on what has been achieved during the GFIA’s second year. It also reinforces the GFIA’s commitment to working with policymakers to ensure that they recognise the unique nature of the insurance industry in regulation, to allow insurers to continue to deliver on their promises to policyholders while remaining a major force for long-term growth and stability in the world economy.

BACKGROUND

The GFIA was founded in Washington, DC on 9 October 2012 by 32 life and health, property and casualty, and reinsurance associations. It now represents 38 associations, which account for 87% of world insurance premiums or more than \$4.0 trillion of total insurance premiums worldwide.

NOTES FOR EDITORS

1. The 2013-2014 Annual Report can be found on the GFIA website [here](#).
2. For further information please contact Sally Robinson, press contact for the GFIA secretariat, tel: +32 2 894 30 82, robinson2@GFIAinsurance.org. In Australia, please contact Campbell Fuller, General Manager Communications and Media Relations, Insurance Council of Australia: Tel: +61 2 9253 5146 Mobile: 0407 170 500 Email: cfuller@insurancecouncil.com.au
3. A full list of GFIA member associations and copies of all press releases are available on the GFIA website www.GFIAinsurance.org
4. Through its 38 member associations, the Global Federation of Insurance Associations (GFIA) represents the interests of insurers and reinsurers in 58 countries. These companies account for around 87% of total insurance premiums worldwide. The GFIA is incorporated in Switzerland and its secretariat is based in Brussels.