

**Additional information with regard to item 5 of the agenda**

**Election of the independent auditor of the annual and consolidated financial statements for the 2023 financial year and the auditor for a possible audit review of the abridged financial statements and interim management report in the 2023 financial year and the auditor for a possible audit review of additional information during the year**

The independent auditor for the annual financial statements and consolidated financial statements is elected by the shareholders at the annual general meeting in accordance with applicable statutory provisions.

In line with a corresponding recommendation made by the Finance and Audit Committee, the Supervisory Board proposes that the following resolution be adopted:

The PricewaterhouseCoopers GmbH Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft, with registered offices in Osnabrück, Germany, is appointed to act as independent auditor of the annual and consolidated financial statements for the 2023 financial year and the auditor for a possible audit review of the abridged financial statements and interim management report pursuant to Section 115 (5) and Section 117 No. 2 of the German Securities Trading Act (Wertpapierhandelsgesetz) in the 2023 financial year and the auditor for a possible audit review of additional financial information during the year pursuant to Sections 115 (7) and 117 No. 2 of the German Securities Trading Act in financial year 2023, and in 2024 until the next annual general meeting.

In accordance with Article 16 (2) Subparagraph 3 of Regulation (EU) No. 537/2014, the Finance and Audit Committee declared that its recommendation is free from any undue influence by third parties and that no contractual clause limiting the choices of the annual general meeting has been imposed upon it within the meaning of Article 16 (6) of the Regulation (EU) No. 537/2014.

PricewaterhouseCoopers GmbH Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft has declared in writing to the Finance and Audit Committee that there are no business, financial or personal relationships and no other relationships or circumstances that may give rise to doubts as to its independence. In each case, this declaration relates to the relationships of PricewaterhouseCoopers GmbH Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft itself, as well as to an extended group of individuals according to the applicable provisions of European and German legislation and professional standards. These include, but are not limited to, audit partners and members of top levels of management and executives that perform the audit as well as the firms affiliated with PricewaterhouseCoopers GmbH Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft or linked to it within its network, the legal representatives of PricewaterhouseCoopers GmbH Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft, the members of the supervisory board of PricewaterhouseCoopers GmbH Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft with regard to their professional relationships as defined in Sec. 319 (3) Sentence 1 No. 2 German Commercial Code (HGB), individuals acting on behalf of PricewaterhouseCoopers GmbH Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft who are able to influence the outcome of the audit or, where applicable, also the spouses, domestic partners or direct relatives or other members of these individuals' families who have been living in the same household with them for at least one year.

The PricewaterhouseCoopers GmbH Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft has been the financial statements auditor and the consolidated financial statements auditor of Berentzen-Gruppe Aktiengesellschaft since financial year 2021. The key audit partners for the annual and consolidated financial statements of Berentzen-Gruppe Aktiengesellschaft are Prof. Dr. Gregor Solfrian (also the German Public Auditor responsible for the engagement, since the 2021 financial year) and Mr Stefan Geers (since the 2021 financial year).

Haselünne, March 2023

**Berentzen-Gruppe Aktiengesellschaft**

The Executive Board