SCOR SE

A confusing Succession, symptomatic of a broken governance model

2021 Annual General Meeting



June 2021

CIAM - Confidential



About CIAM	3
Context: an eventful succession	5
Denis Kessler: a (future) Chairman without real checks and balances	11
CIAM's votes at the 2021 AGM	20
Appendixes	22
Contacts	29
Disclaimer	30

ABOUT CIAM



A Paris and London-based asset manager founded in 2010 that uses equity-based investment strategies to generate returns from its global approach to corporate events, and using activism as one of several tools to unlock shareholder value, where appropriate. CIAM's portfolio is quite concentrated with an average holding period of 1,8 years.

CIAM donates 25% of its annual performance fees to charities dedicated to improving children's health and education across the world.

Investment Philosophy

- CIAM's objective is to provide lowly uncorrelated returns, through building positions around corporate events.
- Poor Corporate Governance as catalyst for investment and engagement.
- Engagement (ideally through constructive private dialogue) to extract value.

Team



Catherine Berjal Partner, CEO

Ms. Berjal has 27 years of experience in financial markets, including 24 years as a portfolio manager of event driven strategies.



Anne-Sophie d'Andlau Partner, deputy CEO

Ms. D'Andlau has 26 years of experience in corporate finance and the event driven sphere.



Veronique Bresson Head of Governance

Ms. Bresson has 20 years of experience in finance and governance. She is also a member of the Corporate Governance Committee of the French Asset Mgmt Assoc.

CONTEXT: AN EVENTFUL SUCCESSION

Denis Kessler's succession: a failure of the Nomination Committee that was to be feared



26% of shareholders support CIAM's request to remove Denis Kessler from the Chairmanship by removing his seat as a director

Under pressure, SCOR commits to announcing its succession plan in September 2020

<u>Serious warning</u> from the ACPR (The French Prudential Supervision and Resolution Authority) requesting the separation of the roles

After a **3-month delay**, the succession plan is finally announced but will take **another 18 months to materialize** (at the 2022 AGM)

Surprise announcement from SCOR: Denis Kessler asks to step down as CEO, Benoît Ribadeau-Dumas is **forced to leave**

Early separation of powers: Denis Kessler would remain Chairman, Laurent Rousseau would become CEO instead of Benoît Ribadeau-Dumas

A disrupted succession plan...

- The Compensation and Nomination Committee only implemented the succession planning **under growing and longstanding pressure from shareholders and regulatory bodies.**
- The future CEO selected by the Board (Benoît Ribadeau-Dumas, polytechnician who held many executive positions) has no experience in the insurance sector, thus allowing Denis Kessler to delay his appointment:
 - The ACPR can reject the appointment of a new officer if they are not considered sufficiently experienced and skilled
 - Why wasn't this risk properly assessed by the Compensation and Nomination Committee?
 - His appointment as CEO is planned for almost 18 months after his arrival at SCOR!
- Denis Kessler eventually decided to step down as CEO in a hurry and without explanation:
 - Forces the departure of Benoît Ribadeau-Dumas and the appointment of a replacement, Laurent Rousseau, who was trained by Denis Kessler
 - Is this surprise decision a way for Denis Kessler to keep the Chairmanship- his position coming up for renewal- by appointing a CEO right away?

... leading to serious concerns about the Compensation and Nomination Committee's qualification and the grip of Denis Kessler on a lenient Board

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AGM

2019

July

2020

Dec.

2020

May

2021

AGM

2021



In March 2021, we wrote to the Board to share our concerns about the risk of failure of the announced succession

> The future CEO was invisible and without responsibility:

- Why was Benoît Ribadeau-Dumas not a corporate officer?
- Why didn't he have clear responsibilities?
- Why was he **never put forward** in SCOR's communication?
- Why did the separation of powers have to take so long?

> Denis Kessler holds full powers:

- No real checks and balances mechanism within the Board to counterbalance Denis Kessler's influence
- Reflected in his opaque, excessive and performance-disconnected remuneration
- Not justified given SCOR's chronic poor performance

Eventually, Benoît Ribadeau-Dumas was compelled to leave just 6 months after his arrival, following an unexplained and unilateral decision of Denis Kessler

So we were right to be concerned...

Another failure for the Compensation and Nomination Committee adding to the long list of failed successions at SCOR



Extract from the letter to the Board of Directors:

"These acts of commitment and good governance seem to us to be necessary after the *numerous failures of previous transition attempts*, and the departures of various COOs, Deputy CEOs and other successors announced in recent years"



On paper, we should welcome this turnaround

- The separation of roles is effective a year earlier than expected
- Laurent Rousseau has an excellent reputation in the sector

However, it raises-inconsistencies and suspicions

- Is this a way for Denis Kessler to stay in control by appointing a man who has done his training at SCOR?
- Why is there such a lack of clarity about the reasons that disrupted the succession?
- If Denis Kessler is in fact forced to give up his post as CEO in a hurry, **how can he still be Chairman?**

And reveals structural flaws in SCOR's governance

- Because ... Denis Kessler will keep a grip on SCOR's Board in the absence of serious checks and balances and consequently on the general management
- **However** ... Laurent Rousseau does not have to be controlled by Denis Kessler: his long experience in the sector and at SCOR does not require a transitional period and to keep Denis Kessler as Chairman.
- While ... A new start is necessary, with an independent Chairman, in view of the chronic underperformance of SCOR while Denis Kessler is in charge.

We have therefore written again to the Board of Directors to express our concerns

16 décembre 2020 - N° 26

Le conseil d'administration choisit Benoît Ribadeau-Dumas pour succéder à Denis Kessler au poste de directeur général de SCOR



Scor chamboule la succession de Denis Kessler

SCOR : coup de théâtre dans la succession de Denis Kessler

17 mai 2021 - 18h30 Laurent Rousseau succède à Denis Kessler au poste de DG





We wrote to the Board in May 2021 to share our concerns and make the following requests:

> The formal commitment that Denis Kessler will be Chairman for a transitional period only (until the 2022 AGM)

If the planned succession had to be disrupted for personal reasons, those same reasons should prevent him from keeping the Chairmanship

> The search for an independent Chairman

- For a better balance of powers, in line with best governance practices
- Keeping Denis Kessler as Chairman is no longer justified: neither by SCOR's performance (constantly below its peers), nor by the need to train his successor (Laurent Rousseau is fully familiar with SCOR and the reinsurance sector)

Clarifications about the remuneration policy in the context of the succession

The Board of Directors asks SCOR shareholders to approve a new remuneration policy following the separation of roles... While these crucial information required for voting will only be communicated after the AGM!

In view of the Board's silence, we will oppose certain resolutions and encourage you to do the same



Denis Kessler en piste pour rester chez SCOR jusqu'en 2024

Les actionnaires sont appelés à approuver le renouvellement de son mandat d'administrateur pour trois ans. Le patron actuel de SCOR doit rester président du groupe sachant qu'il sera touché l'an prochain par la limite d'âge de 70 ans définie pour cette fonction dans les statuts.



Par **Solenn Poullennec, Laurence Boisseau** Publié le 23 mai 2021 à 11:31 | Mis à jour le 24 mai 2021 à 13:59

Aux manettes de SCOR depuis près de vingt ans, **Denis Kessler n'est pas encore près de faire ses adieux au groupe.** L'actuel PDG du réassureur français coté est en piste pour y rester en tant qu'administrateur jusqu'en 2024, sous réserve de l'approbation des actionnaires lors de l'assemblée générale du 30 juin prochain, selon des documents publiés vendredi par la société.

Cette dernière **a déjà fait savoir que Denis Kessler resterait président mais n'a pas précisé combien de temps** sachant, qu'en l'état, les statuts ne lui permettent pas de rester au-delà de l'année prochaine.



Recent events illustrate the failure of the selection process initiated in 2019, and call into question the functioning and efficiency of the Board of Directors



Denis Kessler: no to a non-independent Chairman

- Denis Kessler is the first person responsible for this disruption in the succession by suddenly announcing, without any valid reason, his departure as CEO, which suggests a strategy to keep the Chairmanship in a context where the share price does not justify a continuation
- The succession is underway and the future CEO is very experienced: Denis Kessler can no longer threaten shareholders with his departure, Laurent Rousseau doesn't need a transition period.
 - We will vote against the re-election of Denis Kessler.

Compensation and Nomination Committee: responsible for the poor management of the succession



- Did the Committee really **take into account the ACPR's requirements** in the selection process?
- What was the reason for taking **such a risk** by initially proposing a brilliant candidate (Benoît Ribadeau-Dumas) but with little experience?
- The Committee does not provide a satisfactory answer to the significant and repeated opposition from shareholders on the issue of remuneration

We will vote against the re-election of Claude Tendil and Bruno Pfister, members of the Compensation and Nomination Committee

Board of Directors: the final choice of the succession is a collective decision



- The efficiency of the Board of Directors is fully questioned because the CEO (Laurent Rousseau) was not initially supported by the Board
- The Board refuses to commit to appoint an independent Chairman
- « One can really wonder if SCOR's Board of Directors has the necessary distance and independence of vision? »: letter from Gouvernance en Action of June 1rst 2021

We will vote against the re-election of Denis Kessler, Claude Tendil and Bruno Pfister, as directors having participated in the decisions relating to the succession

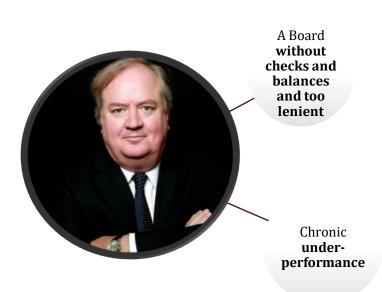
DENIS KESSLER: A CHAIRMAN WITHOUT REAL COUNTERPOWERS



Despite our demands, SCOR refuses to specify for how long Denis Kessler would remain Chairman

- If he is unable to maintain his role as CEO, how can he remain as Chairman in the long term?
- Without any valid explanation of the reasons of his resignation, how can we be sure that it is not a **personal maneuver** to remain Chairman as long as possible?
- The succession is now underway, and the future CEO has a long experience of SCOR and the reinsurance sector: **Denis Kessler's departure will no longer put SCOR at risk and will, on the contrary, be beneficial for SCOR's performance**

Denis Kessler's prolonged stay as Chairman would be problematic due to the structural dysfunctions in SCOR's governance, and is not justified given the poor performance achieved by SCOR under Denis Kessler's last mandate period, and the experience of the future CEO

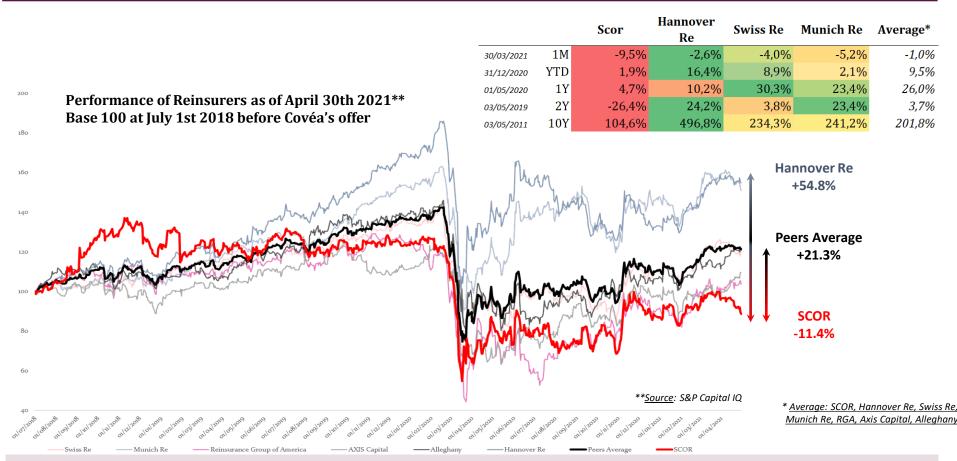


- •Denis Kessler has the longest tenure (c. **19-year tenure**, vs. an average tenure of 3.9 years for other board members)
- •Questionable independence of most board members
- •Close historic ties between the Lead Director Augustin de Romanet and Denis Kessler
- •Board leniency reflected in generous pay practices
- •Worst stock performance among its peers (between March 2019-2021: -16.4%, vs. +35.0% for Munich Re and +30.8% for Hannover Re*)
- •There is a **Kessler's discount** on the share price of SCOR
- •Therefore, it does not justify keeping Denis Kessler as Chairman, especially since the appointment of an experienced CEO

DEMAND: The Board must appoint an independent Chairman

SCOR's Performance is still Below Direct Peers: the "Kessler's discount" effect





Insufficient Performance:

- Underperformance is evident relative to peers
- Compensation is not aligned with share price performance

Denis Kessler has already been offered a grace period in the past, with the statutory age limit extended to 70 years old. However, this extra time in power came with **unsatisfactory performance**.

Denis Kessler: when a self-promoting podcast highlights his disdain towards minority shareholders



Denis Kessler was interviewed in April 2021 and **talked almost immediately and lengthily about CIAM**: See from 4.06' to 12' of the TV Interview (Link).

His point is **inconsistent** and simply-**dishonest**:

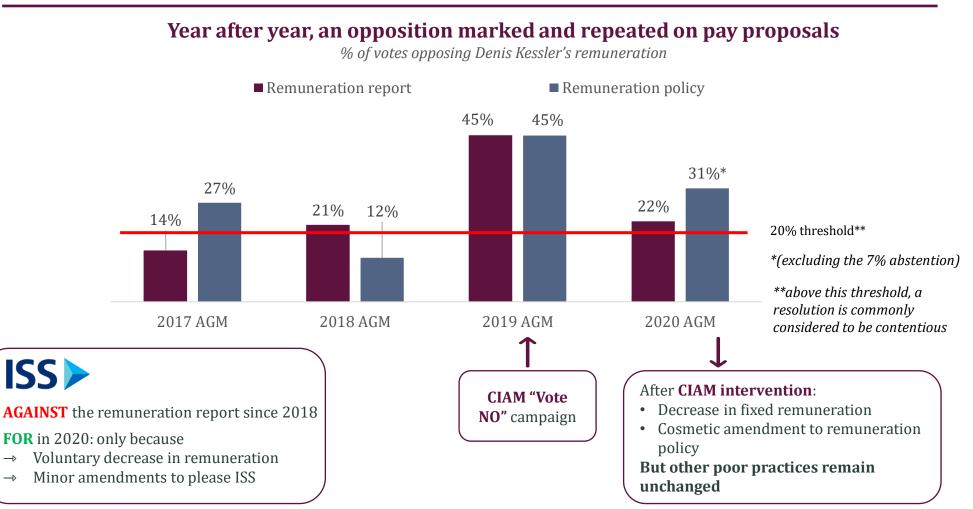
- * "CIAM does not have an alternative strategy", CIAM is a "negative activist" and CIAM "only wants [Denis Kessler] to be removed" to "open the gate to COVEA"
- CIAM wants safeguard mechanisms in place to ensure a proper balance of powers and to guarantee that the succession will take place. Denis Kessler did not say a word about M. Ribadeau-Dumas during the whole interview (and with good reason) but instead referred to his successors as "people" which will "run around the world like rabbits". Was it already intended that Benoit Ribadeau-Dumas would be replaced ?





- CIAM has absolutely no links with COVEA
- CIAM has **rightfully highlighted since 2019 strong governance deficiencies and repeated problematic practices**, apparently shared by many shareholders considering **the constant level of dissent** at SCOR's AGMs. This already led to some improvements made to pay practices and forced SCOR to announce the separation of powers
- CIAM does not want to disrupt the company's strategy but instead advocates for better corporate governance standards





Despite ISS support, 2020 **opposition remains high.** Shareholders are **not fooled by superficial changes** made to the pay

Remuneration Report (item 5): A Poor Performance compensated by discretionary qualitative criteria



	Criteria	Ponderation	% achievement	SCOR Board's assessment	Shareho	lders'experience		
50% FINANCIAL CRITERIA	Profitability	50%	0% achieved		55% underperformance of the ROE compared to the target	-30% in the FY20 Share Price 2020 Net income Divided by Two vs. 2019		
50% NON FINANCIAL CRITERIA	Achievement of the Quantum Leap Strategic Plan	15%	75% achieved	Highlighted the "positive growth both in life and non-life reinsurance"	1.4%growthinlifereinsurancevs.a3-6%targeted range2.4%annualgrowthinlife vs.a4-8%targetedrange	Estimated impact of the COVID-19 crisis: 314 million in life reinsurance 284 million in non life		
	Fight against Climate Change	10%	150% achieved	Publication of SCOR's first climate report	Downgrade in CDP's rating from C to D			
				SCOR's ranking in the "Insuring Our Future" report	The same report highlighted that " significant loopholes remain in the fossil fuel policies adopted by SCOR"	TOPOTO SCIENCE SED DIVING AMERICAS COMPOSATE CLAMER ACTOR		
	CSR / Human Capital management	15%	150% achieved	Good results in terms of internal mobility or coverage by the Leadership & Organization Review	Lower results than last year (where the same criteria was only partially met)	SCOR has not yet introduced annual surveys or commitment scores. The example to follow is that of Swiss Re, which uses an external service provider for this purpose.		
				Refer to a "talent management" objective	Benoît Ribadeau-Dumas was recruited externally	An eventful succession		

The 2020 bonus of Denis Kessler is disconnected from SCOR's performance A quantum allocated mainly by an opaque assessment of non-financial criteria A winning result even with 0% financial criteria met



*STI: Short Term Incentive

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The remuneration policy:

- Is structurally deficient (see appendix 3)
- Is not suitable at all for corporate officers in the context of a succession

SCOR Decisions of the Compensation and Nomination Committee *

COMPENSATION OF SCOR'S CHAIRMAN AND CEO IN LINE WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF SCOR'S COMPENSATION POLICY AND WITH PEERS

SCOR's Chairman and CEO compensation is set by the Compensation and Nomination Committee in accordance with the principles of SCOR's compensation policy. SCOR is committed to granting a compensation aligned with its peers. In 2019, SCOR's Chairman and CEO:

- ✓ had a total compensation which was equal to 91% of the median of the peer group.
- ✓ was ranked 36th in the top 50 of the highest-paid P&C (re)insurance executives (vs 27th in 2018), while SCOR is the 4th reinsurer in the world

FIXED COMPENSATION • EUR 1,200,000 – unchanged since January 1st, 2008

EQUITY-BASED COMPENSATION

Subject to similar performance conditions as for other members of the Executive Committee, strongly aligned with the objectives
of the Group and prorated:

- 13,875 performance shares, i.e., 11.1% of previous years (125,000 performance shares, unchanged since January 1st, 2009)
- 8,300 stock-options, i.e., 8.3% of previous years (100,000 stock-options, unchanged since January 1st, 2013²)

CIAM Our analysis

A manipulated benchmark

SCOR compares Denis Kessler's remuneration to all insurers and reinsurers (including in the United States)... But conveniently excludes the insurance sector when evaluating his performance!

No pro-rata?

Contrary to Laurent Rousseau, it is not explained that Denis Kessler's fixed salary as Chairman-CEO will be pro-rated to his time passed as Chairman-CEO in 2021

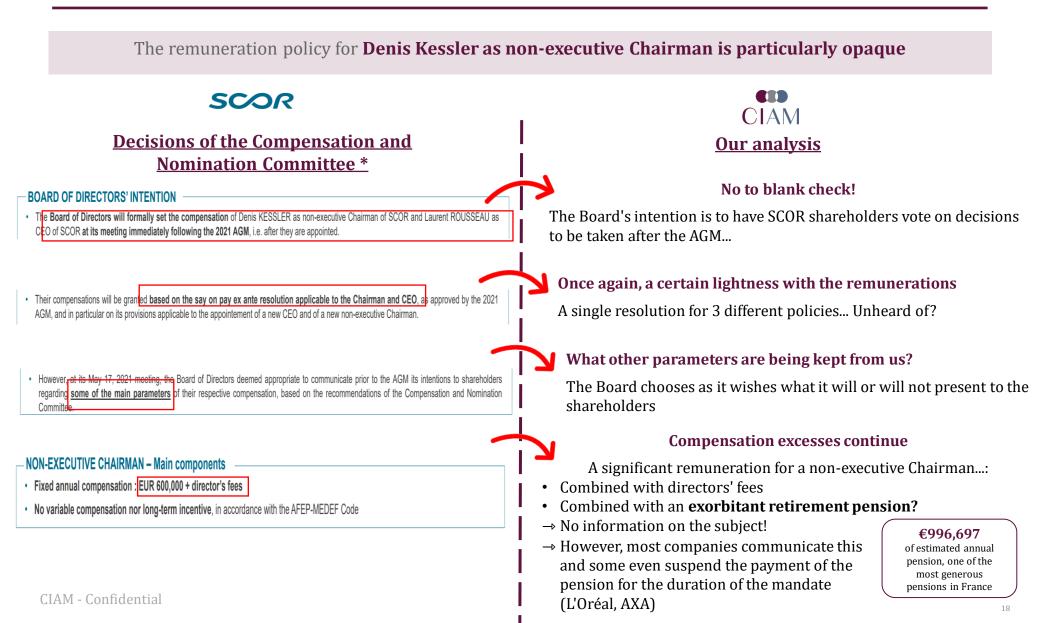
LTIP

Even prorated, an award in the year of departure is contrary to good practices

What about LTIP in 2020? Denis Kessler received more than 3 million euros in shares and stock options in April 2020 (share price approximately 25% lower than a share price taken at the normal allocation period - see appendix 6)

These depend on performance conditions assessed over the period 2020-2022... Yet Denis Kessler will no longer be in power as of mid 2021! Will the final amount of this award be reduced accordingly?







The remuneration policy for Laurent Rousseau as CEO: the proof that Denis Kessler was overpaid during all these years...

SCOR Decisions of the Compensation and Nomination Committee * CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER – Main components

EQUITY-BASED COMPENSATION	 70,000 performance shares¹⁾ 60,000 stock options²⁾ 		7
VARIABLE ANNUAL COMPENSATION	 Target at EUR 800,000³⁾ 	ιi	
FIXED ANNUAL COMPENSATION	 EUR 800,000³⁾ 	T	-

- Two-year severance package (same as current CEO)
- Change of control clause (same as current CEO)
- All-cause death insurance equal to 3 years' base salary + bonus (same as current CEO)
- No attendance fees for directorships (including SCOR SE)
- No non-compete clause
- Work contract terminated or suspended

<u>*Compensation Committee's proposal for the 2021 compensation of SCOR's CEO and SCOR's chairman</u>



A much inferior package than Denis Kessler's one

-42% compared to Denis Kessler (125,000 shares of performance, 100,000 stock options per year)

-33.33% compared to Denis Kessler (EUR 1,200,000 of fixed remuneration and target annual bonus) Furthermore, what about the maximum bonus limit?

No director's fees

While Denis Kessler received an average of 70,000 euros in fees per year (and will continue to receive them)

Proof that the Board knows how to show moderation... except for Denis Kessler!

CIAM VOTES AT THE 2021 AGM

Our votes at the 2021 AGM





APPENDIXES

Appendix 1 – Our reading of SCOR's Board of Directors



Directorss (as voted on the 2021 AGM)	Independent as per SCOR	Independent as per CIAM	Non Independence rationale	Tenure	Audit Committee	Compensation and Nomination Committee	Risks Committee	CSR Committee	Strategic Committee	Crisis Management Committee
Denis Kessler	No	No	Ex- CEO/Chairman	19	PAR	PAR			С	Μ
Laurent Rousseau			CEO							
Augustin de Romanet – Lead Independent Director	Yes	No	Historic Relationship Dexia, BPI	5		С		Μ	М	С
Natacha Vallat	Yes	Oui		<1	М				М	
Fabrice Brégier	Yes	Oui		<1			М		Μ	
Vanessa Marquette	Yes	Oui		5	М	М	М	М	М	
Bruno Pfister	Yes	Oui		4	М	М	С	М	М	М
Adrien Couret (Macif)	Yes	No	Shareholder chosen by DK	<1					М	
Thomas Saunier (Malakoff Mederic)	Yes	No	Shareholder chosen by DK	3					М	
Kory Sorenson	Yes	Yes		7	С		М		М	М
Claude Tendil	No	No	Seniority	17		М	М	М	Μ	
Zhen Wang	Yes	Yes		2			М		М	
Fields Wicker-Miurin	Νο	No	Relationship BNP P	7	М	М	М	С	М	М
Patricia Lacoste	Yes	Yes		0						
Fiona CAMARA	No	No	Employee rep	1				М		
Lauren BURNS CARRAUD	No	No	Employee rep	<1		М			Chairman Member P	AR: Participant

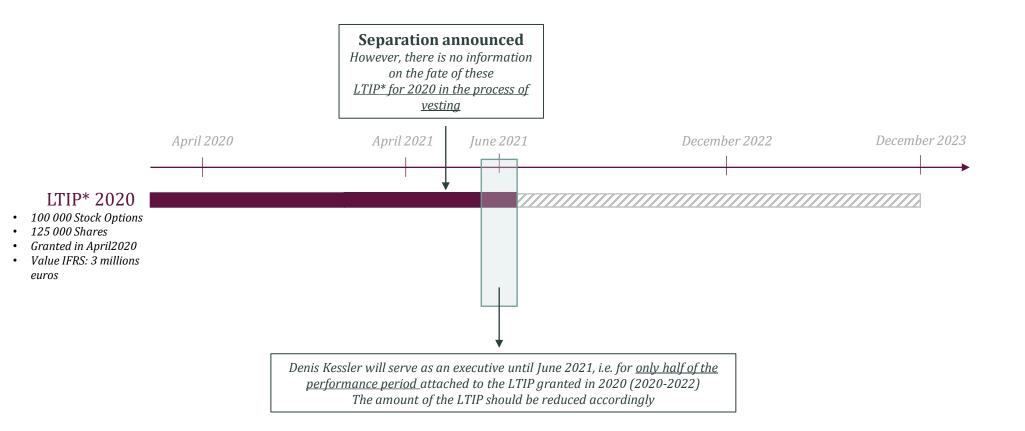


	2017	2018	2019	2020
DEPARTURE	Guillaume Sarkozy	Michele Aronvald Thierry Derez		Marguerite Berard Vincent Foucart Jean-Marc Raby
ARRIVALS	Thomas Saunier	Vincent Foucart Zhen Wang	Fabrice Bregier Fiona Derhan	Lauren Burns Carraud Adrien Couret Natacha Valla
A GROWING DEPARTURE RAT	8% E	17%		21.5%

Appendix 3 - Persistent Problematic Practices at SCOR: Overview



- Repeated shareholder dissent on pay-related items over the past 4 years with no proper Board response
- Denis Kessler's pay package remains out-of-sync with peers and disregards the pay-forperformance principle
- Inappropriate Peer Group: SCOR compares itself with North-American peers and insurance companies to justify the quantum offered
- Superficial changes to the pay policy to comply with Proxy Advisors guidelines
- Multiple **poor pay practices** remain, including (but not limited to):
 - ✓ Possible exceptional bonus
 - ✓ Weak Bonus Plan: too few quantifiable criteria
 - ✓A poorly structured LTIP: SCOR uses ROE and Solvency ratios as performance measures for equity awards → "double-dipping"
 - ✓ Lack of Stretching Performance Targets → the 2017 LTIP vested at 75% of its maximum, while the ROE criterion was 35% below its target level. No disclosure yet for the 2018 LTIP whose performance ended in 2020. We are curious to find out if and how the covid-19 crisis impacted its achievement level.
 - ✓ Lack of equity award value limit
 - ✓ High pension...





LTIP* Performance Period – The CEO serves as an executive

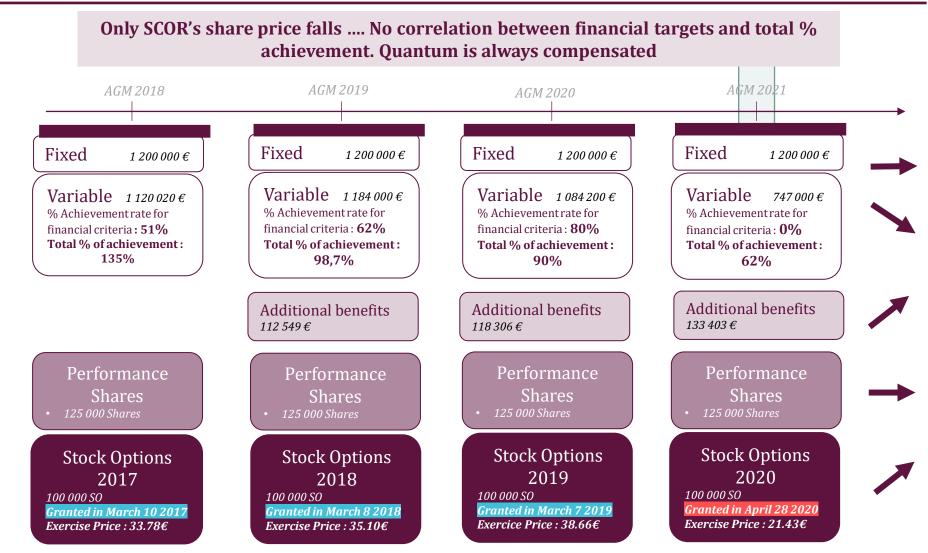
ITIP* Performance Period – full vesting of unvested shares in case of retirement of the CEO

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*LTIP: Long Term Incentive Plan

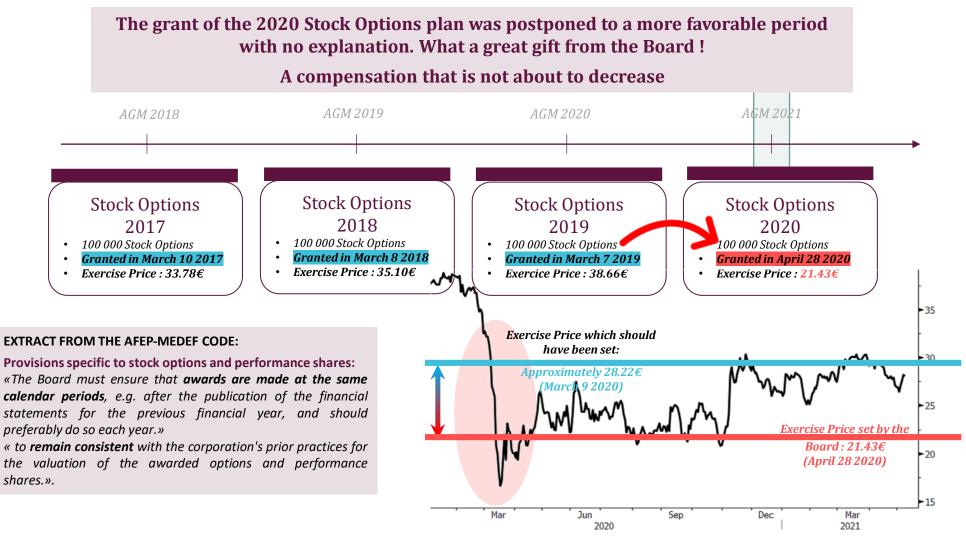
26





Exercise Price which should have been set around 28.22€





A cheaper price makes stock options easier to exercise!

28



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