This document is a translation of the Swedish original. In the event of discrepancies, the Swedish original shall prevail.

### **SVENSKA HANDELSBANKEN AB**

## The proposals of the Board for the 2020 annual general meeting (AGM)

#### Item 9. Resolution on the allocation of the Bank's profits in accordance with the adopted balance sheet and also concerning the record day

The Board proposes a dividend of SEK 5.50 per share, and that the remaining profits be carried forward to next year. In addition, the Board proposes that Friday, 27 March 2020 be the record day for receiving dividends. If the meeting resolves in accordance with the proposal, Euroclear Sweden AB expects to distribute the dividend on Wednesday, 1 April 2020.

With reference to Chapter 18, Section 4 of the Swedish Companies Act, the following statement from the Board is noted:

The Board's assessment is that the amount of the proposed dividend, totalling SEK 10,890 million, is justifiable in view of the nature of operations, their scope, consolidation requirement, risks, liquidity, and the general situation in both the parent company and the rest of the Group. Unrealised changes in assets and liabilities at fair value have had a net impact on equity of SEK 10,963 million. The total capitalisation of the parent company and the consolidated situation at year-end, minus the proposed dividend based on completed conversions and other material changes since the year-end, exceeded the statutory minimum requirement pursuant to EU Regulation 575/2013 and Directive 2013/36/EU and other relevant requirements established for the Bank by public authorities.

### Item 11. The Board's proposal for authorisation for the Board to resolve on acquisition and divestment of shares in the Bank

The earning capacity of the Bank remains good, and a stable capital situation can be foreseen. Depending on the continuing growth in volumes, a strengthened capital situation may arise. In such a situation, it could be appropriate to adjust the Bank's capital structure, which may, among other things, be carried out by repurchasing the Bank's own shares. A new authorisation by the meeting for the Board to resolve on the repurchase of the Bank's own shares is therefore justified. The Board also notes that if the Bank were to acquire a company or operations, such a transaction could be facilitated if its own repurchased shares were available to finance an acquisition.

Thus the Board proposes that the meeting shall authorise the Board to resolve on the purchase of Handelsbanken's own class A and/or B shares until the AGM in 2021 on the following conditions:

- The purchases shall be made on Nasdaq Stockholm AB.
- The Bank may purchase a total of no more than 120,000,000 class A and/or B shares or a higher number which comprises a percentage adjustment for an increase in the number of shares in Handelsbanken due to conversion of convertibles, a stock split or reverse stock split, a new share issue, or a reduction of share capital by means of cancellation or redemption.
- When they are purchased, the shares shall be paid for at a price within the registered price range at any time, or at a price in compliance with Nasdaq Stockholm AB's rules regarding volume-weighted average prices.
- The aggregated holding of the Bank's own shares, including shares in the trading book, shall not at any time exceed one-tenth of the total number of shares in the Bank.
- Acquisitions may be made within the framework of a repurchase programme in accordance with the Regulation (EU) No 596/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council, and the Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2016/1052.

The Board also proposes that the AGM authorise the Board a) to resolve on divestment of the Bank's own shares, deviating from the shareholders' preferential rights, as payment in connection with an acquisition of a company or business, and b) to resolve on divestment of the Bank's own shares on Nasdaq Stockholm AB at a price within the registered price range at any time, or in some other way than through Nasdaq Stockholm AB, in order to finance the acquisition of a company or business, with or without preferential rights for the shareholders, and with or without provisions on payment in kind or through a set-off. In this case, if the divestment deviates from the shareholders' preferential rights, the remuneration for shares sold must correspond to an estimated market value and can be payable in forms other than cash. In other respects, the following terms shall apply:

- The authorisations can be utilised on one or more occasions until the next AGM.
- The authorisation on divestment covers all class A or B shares in Handelsbanken held by the Bank at the time of the Board's resolution.

With reference to Chapter 19, Section 22 of the Swedish Companies Act, the Board has made the following statement: In the Board's assessment, the proposed authorisation on acquisition of the Bank's own shares is justifiable, in view of the requirements made by the operations in terms of their nature, scope, consolidation requirements, risk-taking, liquidity and situation in other respects, in both the parent company and the Group. Unrealised changes in assets and liabilities at fair value have had a net impact on equity of SEK 10,963 million. The total capitalisation of the parent company and the consolidated situation at year-end, minus the proposed dividend based on completed conversions and other material changes since the year-end, exceeded the statutory minimum requirement pursuant to EU Regulation 575/2013 and Directive 2013/36/EU and other relevant requirements established for the Bank by public authorities.

# Item 12. The Board's proposal for acquisition of shares in the Bank for the Bank's trading book pursuant to Chapter 7, Section 6 of the Swedish Securities Market Act

The Board proposes that the meeting make the following resolution:

In order to facilitate its securities operations, and until the next AGM, the Bank shall have the right to acquire its own ordinary class A and/or B shares for the Bank's trading book pursuant to Chapter 7, Section 6 of the Swedish Securities Market Act (2007:528), on condition that the Bank's own shares in the trading book at no time exceed two per cent of all shares in the Bank. The shares shall be acquired at the market price applicable at the time of purchase.

Pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 19, Section 22 of the Swedish Companies Act, the Board refers to the statement made under item 11 above.

### Item 13. The Board's proposal regarding authorisation for the Board to resolve on issuance of convertible tier 1 capital instruments

Pursuant to prevailing capital adequacy regulations, certain debt instruments can be included as additional tier 1 capital. One requirement to qualify for this is that the instruments must be able to absorb losses, for example if it is mandatory that they be converted to shares if a predefined trigger event occurs, e.g. if the Bank's common equity tier 1 ratio falls below a predefined minimum level. Thus it is the intention that the instruments – in the event that they are converted – will strengthen the Bank's common equity tier 1 ratio. If debt instruments with this conversion opportunity are issued, the provisions of the Swedish Companies Act regarding issuance of convertibles must be taken into account. Since these convertibles may comprise a fit-for-purpose capital instrument for the Bank, the Board proposes that the meeting authorise the Board to issue such convertibles.

The purpose of the authorisation is to permit a flexible, effective adaptation of Handelsbanken's capital structure. The reasons for being able to issue the convertibles with deviation from the shareholders' preferential rights are that the authorisation would allow the Board to rapidly perform issues of convertible debt instruments, which is considered appropriate in view of the fact that it is intended that these debt instruments will mainly be issued to debt investors on the international capital markets, and it is therefore important to be able to issue them at an appropriate point in time. Moreover, the instruments would only lead to mandatory conversion to shares in certain circumstances, but would not entail the right of conversion for the holders of the instruments themselves.

In light of the above, the Board is proposing that the meeting resolve to authorise the Board to issue convertibles during the period until the AGM in 2021, in accordance with the following conditions:

- The authorisation can be utilised on one or more occasions until the 2021 AGM.
- An issue may be made with or without deviation from shareholders' preferential rights.
- The convertibles will not include the right of conversion for the holders, but will lead to mandatory conversion to shares in accordance with the terms and conditions, in the case of one or more pre-defined events.
- It must be possible to convert to class A or class B shares in Handelsbanken.
- The loan amount and conversion conditions will be determined so that the aggregate number of shares which may be issued when converting convertibles issued under this authorisation, with application of the conversion price determined at the time of issue, amounts to a maximum of as many shares as result from the fact that the amount by which the share capital can increase if the convertible bonds are fully utilised corresponds to a maximum of ten per cent of the Bank's share capital, this being the equivalent of issuing 198,002,849 new shares, calculated according to the current number of shares issued by the Bank. For convertibles issued under the authorisation, market-based terms for debt instruments which may be included as additional tier 1 capital instruments shall apply.
- The Board proposes that it be authorised to resolve on all other conditions for issue under this authorisation.

The Group Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chairman of the Board, is authorised to make the minor amendments to the above resolution that may be required in conjunction with the registration of the authorisation.

### Item 20. The Board's proposal concerning guidelines for remuneration to executive officers of Svenska Handelsbanken AB

These guidelines shall be applied to remuneration to the Group Chief Executive, members of executive management, the Deputy Chief Executives, and the Heads of Group Risk Control and Group Compliance (below referred to as "executive officers").

The guidelines shall be applied to new agreements, and shall not affect remuneration previously decided for executive officers. The guidelines are not applicable to remuneration that is decided upon by the annual general meeting.

Handelsbanken's goal is to have higher profitability than the average of peer banks in its home markets. This goal is mainly to be achieved by the Bank having more satisfied customers and lower costs than its competitors.

Handelsbanken's business strategy is presented in the Annual Report.

To contribute to the Bank's goal, remuneration must reflect a long-term view of employment at the Bank, and also be in keeping with the Bank's generally low risk tolerance.

#### Principles for remuneration to employees of Handelsbanken

Handelsbanken's principles for remuneration to employees are long-established. In the policy for remuneration in the Handelsbanken Group, the Board has established that the Bank's remuneration system must be consistent with the Bank's business objectives and business culture, which are based on sound, sustainable operations.

In addition, the remuneration policy states that fixed remuneration is fit-for-purpose for sound, sustainable operations, and is therefore applied as a basic principle. Variable remuneration is applied with great caution. Remuneration for work performed is set individually for each employee, and is paid in the form of a fixed cash salary, pension allocation and customary salary benefits (which can take the form of a car allowance, housing associated with the position, disability insurance, household assistance services, etc.). Salaries are based on factors known in advance, such as those set out in the remuneration policy.

Taking into account the above approach, an employee's total remuneration must be on market terms, enabling Handelsbanken to attract, retain and develop skilled employees, and ensuring good management succession.

#### Remuneration to executive officers

In the preparation of the Board's proposals for these guidelines, Handelsbanken's remuneration policy and the above principles for remuneration to employees have been taken into account; this contributes to the Bank's business strategy, long-term interests and sustainability.

• The aggregated total remuneration shall be on market terms.

- Remuneration is paid in the form of a fixed cash salary, pension provision and customary benefits.
- The executive officers in question are included in the Oktogonen profit-sharing system on the same terms as all employees of the Bank.
- The retirement age is normally 65. Pension benefits are defined contribution, may correspond to a maximum of 35 per cent of the annual fixed cash salary, and may be payable in addition to pension plans under collective agreements. Other benefits may per year in total correspond to a maximum of 35 per cent of the annual fixed cash salary.
- The period of notice on the part of an executive officer is six months, and on the part of Handelsbanken a maximum of twelve months. If the Bank terminates the employment contract later than five years after the person becomes one of the Bank's executive officers, the period of notice is a maximum of twenty-four months. No other termination benefits are paid. Other time periods may apply due to collective agreements or labour legislation.

Concerning employment conditions that are subject to non-Swedish regulations: with regard to pension benefits and other benefits, the relevant adjustments may be made to comply with such mandatory regulations or fixed local practice. In doing this, the overall aims of these guidelines shall be fulfilled as far as possible.

#### **Decision process**

The Board has set up a remuneration committee. The committee's tasks include preparing the Board's proposals concerning guidelines for remuneration to executive officers. When the need for material changes arises – and at least every four years – the Board shall draw up a proposal for new guidelines and present it for a resolution at the annual general meeting. The guidelines shall apply until new guidelines have been adopted by the annual general meeting. The remuneration committee must also monitor and evaluate the application of the guidelines for remuneration for executive officers, as well as the prevailing structures and levels of remuneration at the Bank. All members of the remuneration committee are independent of the Bank and its management. The Group Chief Executive also attends the committee's meetings, although not when the committee is discussing and deciding upon remuneration-related matters that concern the Group Chief Executive herself.

### Deviation from the guidelines

The Board may decide, temporarily, to deviate partly or wholly from the guidelines, if there are particular reasons for this in an individual case, and a deviation is necessary to satisfy the Bank's long-term interests and sustainability, or to ensure the Bank's financial viability. As stated above, preparing the Board's decisions in matters of remuneration is part of the remuneration committee's tasks, and this includes decisions regarding deviations from the guidelines.

### Item 21. The Board's proposal concerning the appointment of auditors in foundations without own management

The Board proposes that the registered public accounting firm Ernst & Young AB be appointed as auditing company to the following foundations associated with Svenska Handelsbanken AB:

• The Birgitta and Göran Karlsson Foundation Birgitta och Göran Karlssons Stiftelse

•	The Gösta and Vajlet Wennerot Foundation Gösta och Vajlet Wennerots Stiftelse