

a.s.b.l.

Confédération Européenne des Associations d'Administrateurs
European Confederation of Directors' Associations

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## ecoDa PRESS RELEASE

## A German voice is added to the European Voice of Directors

The German ,Vereinigung der Aufsichtsräte in Deutschland e.V. (VARD)' joining the 'European Confederation of Directors Associations - ecoDa'

In January 2013 the German Directors Association, Vereinigung der Aufsichtsräte in Deutschland e.V. (VARD) joined the pan-European umbrella organisation, ecoDa, the European Confederation of Directors Associations, as a full member.

"We are delighted to welcome the Vereinigung der Aufsichtsräte in Deutschland e.V. (VARD) as a new member organisation to ecoDa" says Patrick Zurstrassen, Chairman of ecoDa. "Given the importance of the German market in the European economy, the affiliation of VARD represents a major step in our development. We are delighted to count one of the EU's important member states among us; it will strengthen our capacity to voice our opinion on behalf of the professional directors in Europe."

VARD is an initiative of supervisory board directors for the benefit of supervisory board directors and was founded to make sustainable contributions to improve the quality of supervisory board performance. The main goal of VARD is to establish Supervisory Board work in Germany as a profession and to develop working principles for this purpose. VARD also represents the profession in discussions with politicians, the scientific community and the media. Furthermore the association promotes international cooperation in the Corporate Governance area from the Supervisory Board perspective.

"In times of globalization and facing the efforts of the European Union regarding the regulation of the European Corporate Governance framework, Corporate Governance is not only a national matter." says Hans-Joachim Körber, Chairman of the Vereinigung der Aufsichtsräte in Deutschland e.V. (VARD) and former chairman of the Metro AG. "Given the importance of promoting the role of directors, we are pleased to cooperate with ecoDa and its member associations and contribute to the Corporate Governance debate in Brussels. Being a member of ecoDa gives VARD the opportunity to exchange best practices with other member associations and enhance the dialogue between directors in Europe."

To promote the exchange of experience between colleagues and to further the dialogue between supervisory board members in Germany and Europe as well as around the world, VARD is organizing the "3rd German Directors Conference" on June 6 & 7, 2013 at VARD in Düsseldorf.

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## **NOTE TO EDITORS**

Founded in 2005, ecoDa, the European Confederation of Directors Associations is a non-profit organization headquartered in Brussels. With today 14 national professional directors associations from different European countries, ecoDa indirectly represents more than 55.000 non-executive directors from large as well as small companies, public as well as private. By reacting to pending issues in the European pipeline or by pro-actively taking own initiatives to generate the European debate and reflection, ecoDa influences the European decision-making process on Corporate Governance. The confederation's mission is to develop European Governance standards by acting as a standing body where national experiences are shared and discussed in detail.

## **CONTACT DETAILS**



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