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Confédération Européenne des Associations d'Administrateurs

European Confederation of Directors' Associations

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# ecoDa PRESS RELEASE

### New chair of ecoDa

The European Confederation of Directors' Associations (ecoDa) is proud to announce the election of Lars-Erik Forsgårdh as its new chairman from April 29<sup>th</sup> 2014. Dr Forsgårdh has been the chairman of the Swedish Academy of Board Directors since 2008. An important fact is that Dr Forsgårdh has been actively involved in the development of the Corporate Governance codes in Sweden since 1993. He has been a distinguished member of the Swedish Corporate Governance Board from its start and a member of the Code Commission of the Swedish Government.

"I am confident that Dr Forsgårdh will contribute to the future success of our Confederation. Having been involved in the Swedish Shareholders' Association as the CEO and in Euroshareholders as vice chairman, he is extremely well placed to strengthen better dialogue among shareholders and board members. His knowledge will be a valuable input at a time when the new draft directive on shareholders' rights is on the European agenda", expressed Patrick Zurstrassen, the outgoing chairman of ecoDa.

In addition, Lars-Erik Forsgårdh will be engaged in celebrating the 10th anniversary of ecoDa in April 2015. The national events leading up to the Brussels event will promote a more effective and professional way of working in Boards of Directors as a key to European global competitiveness. "Included in this is not only what boards can do themselves, such as good governance, but also what other stakeholders must do, e.g. the recruitment process. The EU institutions play an important role in this as they set the legal framework within which the boards must operate. As the new chair of ecoDa, I will make sure that we are engaged in all these different aspects as we have already developed in our manifesto for the new European Commissioners and the new European Parliament", stated Lars-Erik Forsgardh.

It is the Board of Directors of ecoDa that has elected Lars-Erik Forsgårdh of Sweden as chairman. It is the common understanding of the board that following Lars-Erik Forsgårdh, Turid Elisabeth Solvang of Norway will succeed as chairwoman. Efforts will continue to be made to rotate the chairmanship among the different member countries of ecoDa.

The outgoing ecoDa chairman, Patrick Zurstrassen has shown exemplary leadership over the past three years and made outstanding contributions to the development of ecoDa. The board unanimously thanked him for the great strength and hard work as ecoDa's chairman.

Turid Elisabeth Solvang is the Managing Director of the Norwegian Institute of Directors.

### For more information:

Lars-Erik Forsgardh's bio, please click here

ecoDa's Manifesto to the new European Commissioners and the European Parliament, click <u>here</u> ecoDa's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary, click <u>here</u>

#### **CONTACT DETAILS**

# About ecoDa - The European Confederation of Directors' Associations

www.ecoDa.org

ecoDa's objective is to promote board members' skills, professionalism and impact on society. By contributing to a professional framework for both current and future board members, ecoDa hopes to help them to develop and add value to their organisations, both in the commercial and non-commercial sectors. ecoDa proposes solutions to the key corporate governance questions facing Europe today, including the challenge of helping board members to operate effectively across all the European Union Member States. ecoDa aims to be an active partner of the European Union and of its institutions – especially the European Parliament and European Commission.

ecoDa's members: IoD, GUBERNA, IFA, ILA, IC-A, Hallitusammattilaiset ry, the Slovenian association of supervisory board members, the Croatian Association of certified supervisory board members, the Polski Instytut Dyrektorow, the Norwegian institute of directors (Styreinstitutt), the Danish Board Network, the Swedish StyrelseAkademien, the German VARD and the Dutch NCD.

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