

Joint press release

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**'Women on Board': first appointment to the Board of a listed company'**

At its Ordinary General Assembly of 22 April 2011, the shareholders of Atenor Group voted for the appointment of **Nadine Lemaître(\*)** as an independent Director of the company, for a term of three years.

Through this appointment, **Atenor Group** is demonstrating its determination to feminise its Board while strengthening its skills and the diversity of experience. "Women on Board has supplied us with the opportunity to materialise our plan and to enlarge our board with a talented woman," Stéphan Sonnevile, Managing Director of the company, announced with delight. "In Nadine Lemaître we find perfect complementarity and great professionalism, especially in the management of human resources at the strategic level."

Since June 1999, **Nadine Lemaître** has held the position of Chairman of GDF Suez University in Paris. She is also Professor of Human Resources at the Solvay Brussels School of Economics and Management. Since September 2010, she has been a member of the non-profit organisation (asbl) "**Women on Board**". Concerning the presence of women in high-level posts, Nadine Lemaître is profoundly convinced that women, in addition to their own skills, can contribute a different vision and a different sensitivity in the business world, and that hence they should participate to a larger extent in the strategic decision-making process.

Cécile Coune, co-founder of the association **Women on Board**, is delighted with this first appointment of one of the 52 members of Women on Board to the Board of Directors of a listed Belgian company. "A little more than a year ago, we launched this association in order to give more visibility to women whose profile could contribute to the strategic management of private or public undertakings. This appointment is a success for Women on Board and strengthens us in our initiative. Taking into account the recent recommendation of the Corporate Governance Commission and possible legislative developments, there is no doubt that things are moving. This 'first' will be followed by many others."

*(\*) Acting on behalf of a limited company (SPRL), for which she is the permanent representative.*

**Atenor Group**

ATENOR GROUP is a real estate property promotion company quoted on NYSE Euronext Brussels. Through our urban planning and architectural approach, we aim to provide appropriate responses to the new requirements being imposed by developments in urban and professional life. Within this framework, ATENOR GROUP is investing in large-scale property projects which meet strict criteria in terms of location, economic efficiency and respect for the environment.

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## Women on Board

The non-profit organisation (asbl) "**Women on Board**" ([www.womenonboard.be](http://www.womenonboard.be)) was formed at the end of 2009 on the initiative of five women who met in the business world: *Emmanuèle Attout* (partner at PricewaterhouseCoopers), *Cécile Coune* (partner in the law firm of Liedekerke Wolters Waelbroeck Kirkpatrick), *Marie Evrard* (partner in the law firm of Field Fisher Waterhouse LLP), *Françoise Roels* (General Secretary at Cofinimmo) and *Sonja Rottiers* (CFO of Axa Belgium).

The initial objective of the association was to build up a 'pool' of women capable of becoming directors of companies. Currently this pool already consists of 52 women coming from a variety of horizons and meeting all the pre-defined criteria and objectives to become members of Boards of Directors. All of them have solid experience in 'general management', in financial, legal, industrial or scientific management. They have reached a stage in their career where they would like to share this accumulated experience, especially as a company Board Member.

In 2011, the association is continuing its momentum, and in addition to the growth of the pool, it is active in raising the awareness of the business world, in the development of a pilot programme for mentoring with Guberna, and in the continuous training of its members.

## Nadine Lemaître

**Nadine Lemaître** is a Commercial Engineer (Ecole de Commerce Solvay - 1974) by training; she also holds a Doctorate in Applied Economics (ULB – 1981).

Throughout her career, diversity has been a real leitmotiv; after fifteen years dedicated to teaching and the academic life at the Solvay Business School, **Nadine Lemaître** reoriented her work to the business world, motivated by the desire to put into practice what she was teaching to her students. This is how she became, in 1989, Director of Human Resources of **Bull s.a.** (and member of the Management Committee for the Belgium-Luxembourg subsidiary). In 1995, she was appointed General Manager in charge of Human Resources and Social Affairs of the **Groupe Générale de Banque**. And it was as the Corporate Director of Human Resources of **Fortis Group** that she officiated during the first half of 1999. For ten years she has been the Chairman of GDF Suez University in Paris. She is also a Professor of Human Resources at the Solvay Brussels School of Economics and Management.

Through the operational responsibilities that she has taken on in the industrial, IT, banking and energy sectors, **Nadine Lemaître** has always seen to contributing to applying strategy in practice, to making the managerial vision a concrete reality. She has advanced in companies that have been subjected to profound changes which (primarily where human resources are concerned) needed to be helped and guided from a managerial point of view.

Nadine Lemaître has also been proposed as a new Member of the Board of Directors of Mobistar (General Assembly of 4 May 2011).

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