

**Annual Shareholders' Meeting of BASF SE on April 25, 2024 – Item 6 b):
Election to the Supervisory Board, Dr. Kurt Bock**

Dear Sir/Madam,

The election of the Supervisory Board is one of the agenda items at the upcoming Annual Shareholders' Meeting of BASF SE. After four years, I am standing for re-election with the unanimous recommendation of the Supervisory Board that I should be re-elected as Chairman if elected.

Proxy Advisors have concerns about this continuity in the chairmanship of the Supervisory Board and recommend voting against my election. The reason given is that, as a former Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors, I am not considered independent, even though I had complied with the two-year cooling-off period provided for under the German Stock Corporation Act and the German Corporate Governance Code when I was first elected in 2020. However, I would not have complied with the five-year cooling-off period that is now recommended. It is obvious that I cannot meet this blanket requirement retrospectively. Moreover, this requirement is purely formal and makes no reference to my specific work as Chairman of the Supervisory Board over the past four years. As of the forthcoming re-election, it will be six years since I left the Board of Executive Directors of BASF SE in May 2018. Therefore, in the opinion of the Supervisory Board of BASF SE, I am considered independent.

It is also important to me to convey how the Supervisory Board meets the expectations of the shareholders of BASF SE. This includes ensuring that its members are highly qualified, that the Supervisory Board is sufficiently independent, and that each individual member is available in terms of time. Prior to and since my election in June 2020, I have resigned from three Supervisory Boards in order to have sufficient time to perform my duties on the Supervisory Board of BASF SE with due diligence. I continue to be a member of the Supervisory Board of BMW AG. In view of the current challenges specifically facing the chemical industry and also BASF, this gives me sufficient time to carry out my duties effectively. In my opinion, the past four years have shown that my many years of experience in the industry and knowledge of the BASF Group help to provide the Board of Executive Directors with sound and effective control and advice.

Overall, the Supervisory Board of BASF SE has been further strengthened under my chairmanship in terms of external perspectives and independence. As a result, the Supervisory Board has become more international and diverse. With the elections of Liming Chen in 2020 and Dr. Stefan Asenkerschbaumer in 2022, the competencies and the expertise related to the chemical industry and its customer industries were also strengthened. Knowledge in the field of sustainability and financial reporting has also been and will continue to be further developed with the upcoming first election of Tamara Weinert. With Alessandra Genco, we have an extraordinarily qualified successor for the Chair of the Audit Committee, since Dame Alison Carnwath is not standing for re-election. In the opinion of the Supervisory Board, all shareholder representatives proposed for election are independent.



We create chemistry

The Supervisory Board also takes into account suggestions from investors to further strengthen its independence. We will therefore increase the number of members of the Personnel Committee from four to six. In addition, Dr. Stefan Asenkerschbaumer has agreed to take over the chairmanship of the Personnel Committee if he is re-elected, as our shareholders increasingly expect that this committee is not chaired by the Chairman of the Supervisory Board.

The Chairman of the Supervisory Board bears special responsibility for the effective work of the Supervisory Board as a whole as well as for the critical and constructive dialogue with the Board of Executive Directors. He meets the Board of Executive Directors on an equal footing and knows the company, its strengths and weaknesses. This is particularly important in view of the personnel changes on the Board of Executive Directors of BASF SE and the upcoming strategic decisions. Based on my many years of international experience in the chemical sector, I am of the opinion that I should be given the opportunity to constructively accompany the work of the Board of Executive Directors on the further path of transforming the BASF Group, together with the other members of the Supervisory Board standing for election. I am convinced that this is in the best interest of the shareholders of BASF SE.

Sincerely yours,

Kurt Bock