ING GROEP NV Form 20-F April 20, 2007

### UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549 FORM 20-F

(Mark One)

## • REGISTRATION STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(b) OR (g) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

#### OR

## bANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES<br/>EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

### For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2006

### OR

### • TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

#### OR

### • SHELL COMPANY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

### Commission file number 1-14642

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter) The Netherlands

(Jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

### **ING Groep N.V.**

### Amstelveenseweg 500

#### 1081 KL Amsterdam

### P.O. Box 810, 1000 AV Amsterdam

The Netherlands

### (Address of principal executive offices)

### Securities registered or to be registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

### Title of each class

American Depositary Shares, each representing one Ordinary share
Ordinary shares, nominal value EUR 0.24 per Ordinary share and
Bearer Depositary receipts in respect of Ordinary shares\*
7.05% ING Perpetual Debt Securities
7.20% ING Perpetual Debt Securities
6.20% ING Perpetual Debt Securities
6.125% ING Perpetual Debt Securities
5.775% ING Perpetual Debt Securities

\* Listed, not for trading or quotation Name of each exchange on which registered New York Stock Exchange New York Stock Exchange

New York Stock Exchange New York Stock Exchange New York Stock Exchange New York Stock Exchange New York stock Exchange purposes, but only in connection with the registration of American Depositary Shares pursuant to the requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission

Securities registered or to be registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act:

None

Securities for which there is a reporting obligation pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Act:

None

Indicate the number of outstanding shares of each of the issuer s classes of capital or common stock as of the close of the period covered by the annual report.

Ordinary shares, nominal value EUR 0.24 per Ordinary share2,205,092,650Bearer Depositary receipts in respect of Ordinary shares2,204,400,319Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the<br/>Securities Act

Yes þ o No

If this report is an annual or transition report, indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Yes o b No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

Yes þ o No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, or a non-accelerated filer. See definition of accelerated filer and large accelerated filer in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act (Check one):

Large accelerated filer b Accelerated filer o Non-accelerated filer o Indicate by check mark which financial statement item the registrant has elected to follow: o Item 17 Item 18 b

If this is an annual report, indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).

Yes o b No

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### **PRESENTATION OF INFORMATION**

In this Annual Report, references to ING Groep N.V., we and us refer to the ING holding company, incorporated under the laws of the Netherlands, and references to ING, ING Group, the Company and the Group, refer to ING Groep N.V. and its consolidated subsidiaries. ING Groep N.V. s primary insurance and banking subsidiaries are ING Verzekeringen N.V. (together with its consolidated subsidiaries, ING Insurance) and ING Bank N.V. (together with its consolidated subsidiaries, ING Insurance) and ING Bank N.V. (together with its consolidated subsidiaries).

ING presents its consolidated financial statements in euros, the currency of the European Economic and Monetary Union. Unless otherwise specified or the context otherwise requires, references to US\$ and Dollars are to the United States dollars and references to EUR are to euros.

Solely for the convenience of the reader, this Annual Report contains translations of certain euro amounts into U.S. dollars at specified rates. These translations should not be construed as representations that the translated amounts actually represent such dollar or euro amounts, as the case may be, or could be converted into U.S. dollars or euros, as the case may be, at the rates indicated or at any other rate. Therefore, unless otherwise stated, the translations of euros into U.S. dollars have been made at the rate of euro 1.00 = \$ 1.3108, the noon buying rate in New York City for cable transfers in euros as certified for customs purposes by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York (the Noon Buying Rate ) on March 6, 2007.

Except as otherwise noted, financial statement amounts set forth in this Annual Report are presented in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the European Union (EU). In this document the term

IFRS-EU is used to refer to International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the EU including the decisions ING Group made with regard to the options available under International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the EU. Refer to Note 2.1 of the consolidated financial statements for further discussion of the basis of presentation. IFRS-EU differs in certain significant respects from U.S. GAAP. Reference is made to Note 2.4 of Notes to the consolidated financial statements for a description of the significant differences between IFRS-EU and U.S. GAAP and a reconciliation of certain income statement and balance sheet items to U.S. GAAP.

Unless otherwise indicated, gross premiums, gross premiums written and gross written premiums as referred to in this Annual Report include premiums (whether or not earned) for insurance policies written during a specified period, without deduction for premiums ceded, and net premiums, net premiums written and net written premiums include premiums (whether or not earned) for insurance policies written during a specified period, after deduction for premiums ceded. Certain amounts set forth herein may not sum due to rounding.

As part of its continuous review activities on filings of companies listed in the US, the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) has reviewed ING Group s 2005 Form 20-F, which includes ING Group s 2005 Annual Accounts. ING is fully cooperating with this review. As of the date of this Annual Report, the review is not yet finalized.

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### CAUTIONARY STATEMENT WITH RESPECT TO FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

Certain of the statements contained in this Annual Report that are not historical facts, including, without limitation, certain statements made in the sections hereof entitled Information on the Company, Dividends, Operating and Financial Review and Prospects, Selected Statistical Information on Banking Operations and Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosure of Market Risk are statements of future expectations and other forward-looking statements that are based on management s current views and assumptions and involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results, performance or events to differ materially from those expressed or implied in such statements. Actual results, performance or events may differ materially from those in such statements due to, without limitation,

changes in general economic conditions, including in particular economic conditions in ING s core markets,

changes in performance of financial markets, including emerging markets,

the frequency and severity of insured loss events,

changes affecting mortality and morbidity levels and trends,

changes affecting persistency levels,

changes affecting interest rate levels,

changes affecting currency exchange rates, including the euro/U.S. dollar exchange rate,

increasing levels of competition in the Netherlands, Belgium, the Rest of Europe (Europe and Russia, excluding the Netherlands and Belgium), the United States and other markets in which we do business, including emerging markets,

changes in laws and regulations,

regulatory changes relating to the banking or insurance industries,

changes in the policies of central banks and/or foreign governments,

general competitive factors, in each case on a global, regional and/or national basis. ING is under no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information or for any other reason. See Item 3. Key Information-Risk factors and Item 5. Operating and Financial Review and Prospects Factors affecting results of operations.

### PART I

### **Item 1. Identity Of Directors, Senior Management And Advisors** Not Applicable.

Item 2. Offer Statistics And Expected Timetable

Not Applicable.

### Item 3. Key Information

The selected consolidated financial information data set forth below is derived from the consolidated financial statements of ING Group. ING Group adopted IFRS as adopted by the EU as of 2005. The 2004 figures have been restated to comply with IFRS-EU. However, as permitted under IFRS 1, First-time adoption of International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS 1), the 2004 comparatives exclude the impact of IAS 32, Financial Instruments; Disclosure and Presentation (IAS 32), IAS 39, Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement (IAS 39) and IFRS 4, Insurance Contracts (IFRS 4), which were implemented starting from January 1, 2005.

IFRS-EU differs in certain significant respects from U.S. GAAP. Refer to Note 2.4.to the consolidated financial statements for a description of the significant differences between IFRS-EU and U.S. GAAP and a reconciliation of certain income statement and balance sheet items to U.S. GAAP.

The following information should be read in conjunction with, and is qualified by reference to the Group s consolidated financial statements and other financial information included elsewhere herein.

	2006 USD <sup>(2</sup>	Year ended I 2006 <sup>(3</sup> EUR (in millions, ex per share a	2005 <sup>(3</sup> EUR	2004 <sup>(3</sup> EUR
IFRS-EU Consolidated Income Statement		<b>F</b>		
Data <sup>(1</sup>				
Income from insurance operations:				
Gross premiums written: Life	53,089	40,501	39,144	36,975
Non-life	8,301	6,333	6,614	6,642
	0,001	0,000	0,011	0,012
Total	61,390	46,834	45,758	43,617
Commission income	2,144	1,636	1,346	1,198
Investment and & Other income	14,645	11,172	10,299	10,787
Total in come from income connetions	79 170	50 642	57 402	55 (0)
Total income from insurance operations Income from banking operations:	78,179	59,642	57,403	55,602
Interest income	77,681	59,262	48,342	25,471
Interest expense	65,444	49,927	39,180	16,772
	,			,
Net interest result	12,237	9,335	9,162	8,699
Investment income	633	483	937	363
Commission	3,514	2,681	2,401	2,581
Other income	2,223	1,696	1,348	1,035
Total income from banking operations	18,607	14,195	13,848	12,678
Total income <sup>(4</sup>	96,502	73,621	71,120	68,159
	,	,	,	,
Expenditure from insurance operations:	(2.072	40.700	17 156	44.000
Life Non-life	63,873	48,728	47,156	44,988
Non-life	7,837	5,979	6,269	6,292
Total expenditure from insurance operations	71,710	54,707	53,425	51,280
Total expenditure from banking operations	12,046	9,190	8,932	9,260
Total expenditure <sup>(4,5</sup>	83,473	63,681	62,226	60,419
Profit before tax from insurance operations:				
Life	4,504	3,436	2,666	2,647
Non-life	1,965	1,499	1,312	1,675
	<i>y</i>	,	<i>,</i>	,
Total	6,469	4,935	3,978	4,322
Profit before tax from banking operations	6,561	5,005	4,916	3,418
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Profit before tax	13,030	9,940	8,894	7,440

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Taxation Third-party interests	2,500 447	1,907 341	1,379 305	1,709 276
Net profit	10,083	7,692	7,210	5,755
Dividend on Ordinary shares Addition to shareholders equity Net profit attributable to equity holders of the	3,755 6,327	2,865 4,827	2,588 4,622	2,359 3,396
Company Ordinary share attributable to equity holders of the Company <sup>(6</sup>	10,083 4.68	7,692 3.57	7,210 3.32	5,755 2.71
Distributable net profit per Ordinary share <sup>(6)</sup> Net profit per Ordinary share and Ordinary share	4.68	3.57	3.32	2.71
equivalent (fully diluted) <sup>(6</sup> Dividend per Ordinary share <sup>(6</sup> Interim Dividend	4.64 1.73 0.77	3.54 1.32 0.59	3.32 1.18 0.54	2.71 1.07 0.49
Final Dividend Number of Ordinary shares outstanding (in	0.96	0.73	0.64	0.58
millions) Dividend pay-out ratio <sup>(7</sup>	2,205.1 37.0% 6	2,205.1 37.0%	2,204.9 35.5%	2,204.7 39.5%

		2006 USD		2005 (EU	2004 UR millio	2003 ns)	2002
U.S. GAAP Consolidated Incon Total income	ne Statement Data	62,378	47,588	47,960	49,733	48,025	49,316
Net profit U.S. GAAP, excluding Cumulative effects of changes in		8,949 es	6,827	6,976	6,688 (91)	4,512	3,476 (13,103)
Net profit U.S. GAAP, including Net profit per Ordinary share and		<sup>,9</sup> 8,949	6,827	6,976	6,597	4,512	(9,627)
equivalent <sup>(5</sup>		4.16	3.17	3.21	3.10	2.23	(5.00)
			Y	lear ended	l Decemb	er 31,	
			2006	2006(3		05(3	2004(3
		τ	$JSD^{(2)}$	EUR		EUR	EUR
			(ii	n billions,	-		
IFRS-EU Consolidated Balance	Shoot Datal)			per share	e and rati	<b>OS</b> )	
Total assets	Sheet Data <sup>2</sup>	1	507.4	1,226.3	11	58.6	876.4
Investments:		1,	007.1	1,220.5	1,1	0.0	070.1
Insurance			184.2	140.5	1	44.5	112.1
Banking			224.3	171.1	1	80.1	164.2
Total			408.5	311.6	3	24.6	276.3
Loans and advances to customers			521.8	474.4		39.2	330.5
Insurance and investment contrac	ts:						
Life			311.8	237.9		32.1	205.5
Non-life			13.2	10.1		12.8	11.4
Investment contracts			27.1	20.7		18.6	
Total Customer deposits and other fund	ls on deposit:		352.1	268.7	2	63.5	216.9
Savings accounts of the banking of	-		371.1	283.1	2	69.4	219.4
Other deposits and bank funds			280.0	213.6	1	96.3	129.8
Total			651.1	496.7	4	65.7	349.2
Amounts due to banks			158.3	120.8		22.2	95.9
Share capital (in millions)		2,	292.1	2,292.1	2,2	92.0	2,291.8
Shareholders equity			50.2	38.3		36.7	24.1
Shareholders equity per Ordinar	•		23.31	17.78	1	6.96	12.95
Shareholders equity per Ordinar share equivalent <sup>(6</sup>	y share and Ordinar	•	23.31	17.78	1	6.96	12.95
	2006	2006	2005	20	04	2003	2002
	USD			(EUR milli	ions)		
U.S. GAAP Consolidated							
Balance Sheet Data Total assets	1,610.2	1 228 4	1,159.3	920	1	818.8	762.5
10121 255515	1,010.2	1,228.4	1,139.3	920	v. <del>-1</del>	010.0	102.5

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	Lagarining			•		
Shareholders equity Shareholders equity per Ordinary share and Ordinary	53.2	40.6	41.6	35.1	28.0	25.1
share equivalent <sup>(5</sup>	24.75	18.88	19.21	16.00	13.27	12.61
(1 Selected historical financial data is based on financial statements prepared in accordance with IFRS-EU and accordingly is shown for the three years subsequent to the date of transition to IFRS						
(2 Euro amounts have been translated into U.S. dollars at the exchange rate of \$ 1.3108 to EUR 1.00, the noon buying rate in New York City on March 6, 2007 for cable transfers in euros as certified for customs purposes by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.						
<ul><li>(3 For the impact of divestments in 2006, 2005 and 2004 refer to Item 5.</li><li>Operating and Financial Review and</li></ul>						

Prospects .

(4 After elimination of certain intercompany transactions between the insurance operations and the banking operations. See Note 2.1. to the consolidated financial statements.

(5 Includes all non-interest expenses, including additions to the provision for loan losses. See Item 5, Operating and Financial Review and Prospects Liquidity and capital resources .

(6 Net profit per

share amounts have been calculated based on the weighted average number of Ordinary shares outstanding and equity per share amounts have been calculated based on the number of Ordinary shares outstanding at the end of the respective periods. For purposes of this calculation ING Groep N.V. shares held by Group companies are deducted from the total number of Ordinary shares in issue. The computation is based on daily averages, and in

case of exercised warrants, the day of exercise is taken into consideration. (7 The dividend pay-out ratio is based on net profit attributed to equity holders of the Company. (8 As of January 2002, SFAS 142 under U.S. GAAP requires that goodwill is tested for impairment annually. This change resulted in a non-cash transitional impairment loss in 2002, related to the carrying value of goodwill as of December 31, 2001 of EUR 13,103 million, which was required to be recognized under U.S. GAAP net profit in 2002 as the cumulative effect of changes in accounting principles.

(9 Upon adoption of SOP 03-1, Accounting and Reporting by Insurance Enterprises for certain Nontraditional long-duration contracts and for separate Accounts, and the related Technical Practice Aid (TPA) effective January 1, 2004, ING Group recognized a cumulative effect of change in accounting principle of EUR 91 million. See note 2.4.8(g) of the consolidated financial statements for further information on this change.

### **EXCHANGE RATES**

Fluctuations in the exchange rate between the euro and the U.S. dollar will affect the U.S. dollar amounts received by owners of shares or ADSs on conversion of dividends, if any, paid in euros on the shares and will affect the U.S. dollar price of the ADSs on the New York Stock Exchange.

The following table sets forth, for the periods and dates indicated, certain information concerning the exchange rate for U.S. dollars into euros based on the Noon Buying Rate.

	U.S. dollars per euro			
	Average			
	Period			
Calendar Period	End <sup>(1</sup>	Rate <sup>(2</sup>	High	Low
2002	1.0485	0.9495	1.0485	0.8594
2003	1.2597	1.2074	1.2597	1.0361
2004	1.3538	1.2478	1.3625	1.1801
2005	1.1842	1.2397	1.3476	1.1670
2006	1.3197	1.2661	1.3327	1.1860
2007 (through March 6, 2007) <sup>(2</sup>	1.3108	1.3112	1.3286	1.2904

(1 The Noon

Buying Rate at such dates differ from the rates used in the preparation of ING s consolidated financial statements as of such date. See Note 2.1 Foreign currency translation to the consolidated financial statements.

(2 The average of the Noon Buying Rates on the last business day of each full calendar month during the period.

The table below shows the high and low exchange rate of U.S. dollars per euro for the last six months

	High	Low
September 2006	1.2833	1.2648
October 2006	1.2773	1.2502
November 2006	1.3261	1.2705
December 2006	1.3327	1.3073
January 2007	1.3286	1.2904
February 2007	1.3164	1.2933
March 2007 (through March 6, 2007)	1.3182	1.3094
The Noon Buying Rate for euros on December 31, 2006 was EUR $1.00 = $ \$ 1.31	197 and the Noon Buyin	ng Rate for
euros on March 6, 2007 was EUR 1.00 = \$ 1.3108.		

### **RISK FACTORS**

### **Risks Related to the Financial Services Industry**

### Because we are an integrated financial services company conducting business on a global basis, our revenues and earnings are affected by the volatility and strength of the economic, business and capital markets environments specific to the geographic regions in which we conduct business and changes in such factors may adversely affect the profitability of our insurance, banking and asset management business.

Factors such as interest rates, exchange rates, consumer spending, business investment, real estate market, government spending, the volatility and strength of the capital markets, and terrorism all impact the business and economic environment and, ultimately, the amount and profitability of business we conduct in a specific geographic region. For example, in an economic downturn characterized by higher unemployment, lower family income, lower corporate earnings, higher corporate and private debt defaults, lower business investment and consumer spending, the demand for banking and insurance products would be adversely affected and our reserves and provisions would likely increase, resulting in lower earnings. Similarly, a downturn in the equity markets could cause a reduction in commission income we earn from managing portfolios for third parties, as well as income generated and capital base from our own proprietary portfolios, each of which is generally tied to the performance and value of such portfolios. We also offer a number of insurance and financial products that expose us to risks associated with fluctuations in interest rates, securities prices, corporate and private default rates, the value of real estate assets, exchange rates and credit spreads. In addition, a mismatch of interest-earning assets and interest-bearing liabilities in any given period may, in the event of changes in interest rates, have a material effect on the financial condition or result from operations of our banking and insurance businesses.

### Because our life and non-life insurance and reinsurance businesses are subject to losses from unforeseeable and/or catastrophic events, which are inherently unpredictable, our actual claims amount may exceed our established reserves or we may experience an abrupt interruption of activities, each of which could result in lower net profits and have an adverse effect on our results of operations.

In our life and non-life insurance and reinsurance businesses, we are subject to losses from natural and man-made catastrophic events. Such events include, without limitation, weather and other natural catastrophes such as hurricanes, floods and earthquakes, epidemics, as well as terrorist attacks. The frequency and severity of such events, and the losses associated with them, are inherently unpredictable and can not always be adequately reserved. In accordance with industry practices, modeling of natural catastrophes are performed and risk mitigation measures are made. In case claims occur, reserves are established based on estimates using actuarial projection techniques. The process of estimating is based on information available at the time the reserves are originally established and includes updates when more information becomes available. Although we continually review the adequacy of the established claim reserves, and based on current information, we believe our claim reserves are sufficient in total, there can be no assurances that our actual claims experience will not exceed our estimated claim reserves. If actual claim amounts exceed the estimated claim reserves, our earnings may be reduced and our net profits may be adversely affected. In addition, because unforeseeable and/or catastrophic events can lead to abrupt interruption of activities, our banking and insurance operations may be subject to losses resulting from such disruptions. Losses can relate to property, financial assets, trading positions, insurance and pension benefits to employees and also to key personnel. If our business continuity plans are not able to be put into action or do not take such events into account, losses may further increase.

# Because we operate in highly regulated industries, laws, regulations and regulatory policies or the enforcement thereof that govern activities in our various business lines could have an effect on our reputation, operations and net profits.

We are subject to detailed banking, insurance, asset management and other financial services laws and government regulation in each of the jurisdictions in which we conduct business. Regulatory agencies have broad administrative power over many aspects of the financial services business, which may include liquidity, capital adequacy and permitted investments, ethical issues, money laundering, privacy, record keeping, and marketing and selling practices. Banking, insurance and other financial services laws, regulations and policies currently governing us and our subsidiaries may also change at any time in ways which have an adverse effect

on our business, and it is difficult to predict the timing or form of any future regulatory or enforcement initiatives in respect thereof. Also, bank regulators and other supervisory authorities in the EU, the US and elsewhere continue to scrutinize payment processing and other transactions under regulations governing such matters as money-laundering, prohibited transactions with countries subject to sanctions, and bribery or other anti-corruption measures. Regulation is becoming increasingly more extensive and complex and regulators are focusing increased scrutiny on the industries in which we operate, often requiring additional Company resources. These regulations can serve to limit our activities, including through our net capital, customer protection and market conduct requirements, and restrictions on businesses in which we can operate or invest. If we fail to address, or appear to fail to address, appropriately any of these matters, our reputation could be harmed and we could be subject to additional legal risk, which could, in turn, increase the size and number of claims and damages asserted against us or subject us to enforcement actions, fines and penalties. Despite our efforts to maintain effective compliance procedures and to comply with applicable laws and regulations, there are a number of risks in areas where applicable regulations may be unclear, subject to multiple interpretation or conflict with one another, where regulators revise their previous guidance or courts overturn previous rulings, or we fail to meet applicable standards. Regulators and other authorities have the power to bring administrative or judicial proceedings against us, which could result, amongst other things, in suspension or revocation of our licenses, cease and desist orders, fines, civil penalties, criminal penalties or other disciplinary action which could materially harm our results of operations and financial condition.

### **RISKS RELATED TO THE COMPANY**

Because we operate in highly competitive markets, including in our home market, we may not be able to further increase, or even maintain, our market share, which may have an adverse effect on our results of operations.

There is substantial competition in the Netherlands and the other countries in which we do business for the types of insurance, commercial banking, investment banking, asset management and other products and services we provide. Customer loyalty and retention can be influenced by a number of factors, including relative service levels, the prices and attributes of products and services, and actions taken by competitors. If we are not able to match or compete with the products and services offered by our competitors, it could adversely impact our ability to maintain or further increase our market share, which would adversely affect our results of operations. Such competition is most pronounced in our more mature markets of the Netherlands, Belgium, the Rest of Europe, the United States, Canada and Australia. In recent years, however, competition in emerging markets, such as Latin America, Asia and Central and Eastern Europe, has also increased as large insurance and banking industry participants from more developed countries have sought to establish themselves in markets which are perceived to offer higher growth potential, and as local institutions have become more sophisticated and competitive and have sought alliances, mergers or strategic relationships with our competitors. We derived approximately 34% of our profit before tax in 2006 from the Netherlands. Based on geographic division of our operating profit, the Netherlands is our largest market for both our banking and insurance operations. Our main competitors in the banking sector in the Netherlands are ABN Amro Bank and Rabobank. Our main competitors in the insurance sector in the Netherlands are Achmea, Fortis and Aegon. We derived approximately 19% of our profit before tax in 2006 from the United States. Our main competitors in the United States are insurance companies such as Lincoln National, Hartford, Aegon Americas, Met Life, Prudential, Nationwide and Principal Financial. Increasing competition in these or any of our other markets may significantly impact our results if we are unable to match the products and services offered by our competitors. Because we have many counterparties that we do business with, the inability of these counterparties to meet their financial obligations could have an adverse effect on our results of operations.

### General

Third-parties that owe us money, securities or other assets may not pay or perform under their obligations. These parties include the issuers whose securities we hold, borrowers under loans originated, customers, trading counterparties, counterparties under swaps, credit default and other derivative contracts, clearing agents, exchanges, clearing house and other financial intermediaries. These parties may default on their obligations to us due to bankruptcy, lack of liquidity, downturns in the economy or real estate values, operational failure or other reasons.

### Reinsurers

Our insurance operations have bought protection for risks that exceed certain risk tolerance levels set for both our life and non-life business. This protection is bought through reinsurance arrangements in order to reduce possible losses. Because in most cases we must pay the policyholders first, and then collect from the reinsurer, we are subject to credit risk with respect to each reinsurer for all such amounts. As a percentage of our (potential) reinsurance receivables as of December 31, 2006, the greatest exposure after collateral to an individual reinsurer was approximately 33%, approximately 18% related to four other reinsurers and the remainder of the reinsurance receivables balance related to various other reinsurers. The inability of any one of these reinsurers to meet its financial obligations to us could have a material adverse effect on our net profits and our financial results.

# Because we use assumptions about factors to determine the insurance provisions, deferred acquisition costs (DAC) and value of business added (VOBA), the use of different assumptions about these factors may have an adverse impact on our results of operations.

The establishment of insurance provisions, including the impact of minimum guarantees which are contained within certain variable annuity products, the adequacy test performed on the provisions for life policies and the establishment of DAC and VOBA are inherently uncertain processes involving assumptions about factors such as court decisions, changes in laws, social, economic and demographic trends, inflation, investment returns, policyholder behaviour (e.g. lapses, persistency, etc.) and other factors, and, in the life insurance business, assumptions concerning mortality and morbidity trends.

The use of different assumptions about these factors could have a material effect on insurance provisions and underwriting expense. Changes in assumptions may lead to changes in the insurance provisions over time. Furthermore, some of these assumptions can be volatile.

For example, in Taiwan, the adequacy of provisions for life policies are highly sensitive to interest rates and other assumptions and can only be reliably estimated within broad ranges which may vary significantly from period to period. If the interest rates as at December 31, 2006 had been 1% lower, these Taiwan provisions would have been inadequate at the 50% confidence interval and, consequently, an amount of approximately EUR 1.5 billion (after tax) would have been included as a charge in the profit and loss account, reflecting the amount necessary to bring reserves to a best estimate level.

### Because we use assumptions to model client behaviour for the purpose of our market risk calculations, the difference between the realization and the assumptions may have an adverse impact on the risk figures.

We use assumptions in order to model client behaviour for the risk calculations in our banking and insurance books. Assumptions are used to determine insurance liabilities, the price sensitivity of savings and current accounts and to estimate the embedded optionality risk in the mortgage and investment portfolios. The realization or use of different assumptions to determine the client behaviour could have material adverse effect on the calculated risk figures and ultimately future results.

# Because we also operate in markets with less developed judiciary and dispute resolution systems, in the event of disputes in these markets, the quality and the effectiveness of such systems could have an adverse effect on our operations and net results.

In the less developed markets in which we operate, judiciary and dispute resolution systems may be less developed. As a result in case of a breach of contract we may have difficulties in making and enforcing claims against contractual counterparties and, if claims are made against us, we might encounter difficulties in mounting a defense against such allegations. If we become party to legal proceedings in a market with an insufficiently developed judiciary system, it could have an adverse effect on our operations and net result.

### Because we are a financial services company and we are continually developing new financial products, we might be faced with claims that could have an adverse effect on our operations and net result if clients expectations are not met.

When new financial products are brought to the market, communication and marketing aims to present a balance view of the product (however there is a focus on potential advantages for the customers). Whilst we engage in a due diligence process when we develop products, if the products do not generate the expected profit, or result in a loss, or otherwise do not meet expectations, customers may file claims against us. Such claims could have an adverse effect

on our operations and net result.

### Our business may be negatively affected by adverse publicity, regulatory actions or litigation with respect to the Company, other well-known companies and the financial services industry generally.

Adverse publicity and damage to ING s reputation arising from its failure or perceived failure to comply with legal and regulatory requirements, financial reporting irregularities involving other large and well known companies, increasing regulatory and law enforcement scrutiny of know your customer anti-money laundering, prohibited transactions with countries subject to sanctions, and bribery or other anti-corruption measures and anti-terrorist-financing procedures and their effectiveness, regulatory investigations of the mutual fund, banking and insurance industries, and litigation that arises from the failure or perceived failure by ING to comply with legal, regulatory and compliance requirements, could result in adverse publicity and reputational harm, lead to increased regulatory supervision, affect our ability to attract and retain customers, maintain access to the capital markets, result in cease and desist orders, suits, enforcement actions, fines and civil and criminal penalties, other disciplinary action or have other material adverse effects on us in ways that are not predictable.

# Because we are a Dutch company and because the Stichting ING Aandelen holds more than 99% of our Ordinary shares, the rights of our shareholders may differ from the rights of shareholders in other jurisdictions, which could affect your rights as a shareholder.

While holders of our bearer receipts are entitled to attend and speak at the General Meetings of Shareholders, voting rights are not attached to the bearer depositary receipts. Stichting ING Aandelen ( the Trust ) holds more than 99% of our Ordinary shares, and exercises the voting rights attached to the Ordinary shares (for which bearer receipts have been issued). Holders of bearer receipts who attend in person or by proxy the General Meeting of Shareholders must obtain voting rights by proxy from the Trust. Holders of bearer receipts and holders of the ADSs (American Depositary Shares) representing the bearer receipts, who do not attend the General Meeting of Shareholders, may give binding voting instructions to the Trust. See Item 7. Major Shareholders and Related Party Transactions Voting of the Ordinary shares underlying bearer receipts by the Trust . The Trust is entitled to vote any Ordinary shares underlying the bearer depositary receipts for which the Trust has not granted voting proxies, or voting instructions have not been given to the Trust. In exercising its voting discretion, the Trust is required to make use of the voting rights attached to the Ordinary shares in the interest of the holders of bearer receipts, while taking into account our interests;

the interests of our affiliates; and

the interests of our other stakeholders.

in such a way that all interests are balanced and safeguarded as effectively as possible. The Trust may, but has no obligation to, consult with the holders of bearer receipts or ADSs in exercising its voting rights in respect of any Ordinary shares for which it is entitled to vote. These arrangements differ from practices in other jurisdictions, and accordingly may affect the rights of the holders of bearer receipts or ADSs and their power to effect the Company s business and operations.

### The share price of our bearer receipts and ADSs has been, and may continue to be, volatile which may impact the value of our bearer receipts or ADSs you hold.

The share price of our bearer receipts and our ADSs has been volatile in the past due, in part, to the high volatility in the securities markets generally and more particular in shares of financial institutions. Other factors, besides our financial results, that may impact our share price include, but are not limited to:

market expectations of the performance and capital adequacy of financial institutions in general;

investor perception of the success and impact of our strategies;

a downgrade or review of our credit ratings;

potential litigation or regulatory action involving ING Group or sectors we have exposure to through our insurance and banking activities;

announcements concerning financial problems or any investigations into the accounting practices of other financial institutions; and general market circumstances.

## Because we are incorporated under the laws of the Netherlands and most of the members of our Supervisory and Executive Board and many of our officers reside outside of the United States, it may be difficult for you to enforce judgments against us or the members of our Supervisory and Executive Boards or our officers.

Most of our Supervisory and Executive Board members, and some of the experts named in this Annual Report, as well as many of our officers are persons who are not residents of the United States, and most of our and their assets, are located outside the United States. As a result, you may not be able to serve process on those persons within the United States or to enforce in the United States judgments obtained in U.S. courts against us or those persons based on the civil liability provisions of the U.S. securities laws. You also may not be able to enforce judgments of U.S. courts under the U.S. federal securities laws in courts outside the United States, including the Netherlands. The United States and the Netherlands do not currently have a treaty providing for the reciprocal recognition and enforcement of judgments (other than arbitration awards) in civil and commercial matters. Therefore, you will not be able to enforce in the Netherlands a final judgment for the payment of money rendered by any U.S. federal or state court based on civil liability, even if the judgment is not based only on the U.S. federal securities laws, unless a competent court in the Netherlands gives binding effect to the judgment.

### Item 4. Information on the Company GENERAL

ING was established as a Naamloze Vennootschap (public limited liability company) on March 4, 1991 through the merger of Nationale-Nederlanden, which was the largest insurer in the Netherlands, and NMB Postbank Group, which was one of the largest banks in the Netherlands. ING Groep N.V. is incorporated under the laws of the Netherlands.

The official address of ING Group is:	Our principal U.S. office is:
ING Groep N.V.	ING Financial Holdings Corporation
Amstelveenseweg 500	1325 Avenue of the Americas
1081 KL Amsterdam	New York, NY 10019
P.O. Box 810, 1000 AV Amsterdam	United States of America
The Netherlands	Telephone +1 646 424 6000
Telephone +31 20 541 5411	-

### Mission

We want to deliver our financial products and services in the way our customers want them delivered: with exemplary service, maximum convenience and at competitive prices. This is reflected in our mission statement: to set the standard in helping our customers manage their financial future.

### Profile

ING provides a broad range of insurance, banking and asset management services and is a top-15 global financial institution (based on market capitalisation). We serve more than 60 million customers in Europe, the United States, Canada, Latin America, Asia and Australia. We draw on our experience and expertise, our commitment to excellent service, and our global scale to meet the needs of a broad customer base, comprising individuals, small businesses, large corporations, institutions and governments.

### Strategy

ING s overall ambition is to create value for its shareholders: to give them a higher total return than the average of that of our peers over the longer term. To achieve that, we steer our business towards value creation through growth and return and aim to keep improving the execution of our business fundamentals. We want to excel at what we do and focus on delivering outstanding service to our costumers and on firmly managing costs, risks and reputation. We invest in growth, and to this end ensure we are in businesses and markets with good long-term growth potential. Retirement services, ING Direct, and our life insurance activities in developing markets are all good examples of this. In many cases we are also able to outgrow the competition in mature markets by focusing on selective product and client segments.

### Stakeholders

ING conducts business on the basis of clearly defined business principles. In all our activities, we carefully weigh the interests of our various stakeholders: customers, shareholders, employees, business partners and society at large. ING strives to be a good corporate citizen.

### Corporate responsibility

ING wants to pursue profit on the basis of sound business ethics and respect for its stakeholders. Corporate responsibility is therefore a fundamental part of ING s strategy: ethical, social and environmental factors play an integral role in our business decisions.

### CHANGES IN PRINCIPLES OF VALUATION AND DETERMINATION OF RESULTS

Reference is made to Note 2.1. Changes in accounting principles.

### CHANGES IN THE COMPOSITION OF THE GROUP

In June 2006, ING sold its U.K. brokerage unit Williams de Broë Plc for EUR 22 million. The sale is part of ING Group s strategy to focus on core businesses. The result on the sale is subject to closing adjustments. The net loss recognised in 2006 was EUR 9 million.

In September 2006, ING sold its 87.5% stake in Deutsche Hypothekenbank AG, a publicly listed mortgage bank in Germany, as part of ING s strategy to focus on its core business. The sale resulted in a net loss of EUR 83 million. In October 2006, ING acquired 100% of ABN AMRO Asset Management (Taiwan) Ltd, a registered Securities Investment Trust Enterprise, for EUR 65 million. The purchase will strengthen ING s existing position in asset management activities in Taiwan.

In October 2006, ING acquired 58% of Summit Real Estate Investment Trust (Summit REIT) for an amount of EUR 2,132 million. Summit REIT owns a portfolio of high-quality light industrial properties in major markets across Canada.

In December 2006, ING sold its stake in Degussa Bank, a unit of ING-DiBa specializing in worksite banking for private customers. The sale results in a net loss of approximately EUR 23 million.

For the year 2005 reference is made to Note 2.1, note 28, Principal Subsidiaries and Companies acquired/ disposed of notes to the consolidated financial statements.

### **RECENT DEVELOPMENTS**

For recent changes in the Executive Board and Supervisory Board we refer to Item 6. Directors, Senior Management and Employees .

### **GROUP STRATEGY**

### Consistent implementation of strategy is paying off

- Solid increase in Total Shareholder Return
- Diversification enables active capital allocation across businesses to generate high growth and return
- Profitable growth across businesses
- Improving execution of business fundamentals

In 2006, ING created value by focusing on profitable growth and excellence in execution, which are the cornerstones of our strategy. The consistent implementation of our strategy has led to good financial results and a substantially higher total shareholder return than the average of that of our peers over the past three years.

To create shareholder value, ING focuses on increasing economic profit and we aim to manage our business in such a way that we generate returns higher than the cost of capital. To achieve this, we implemented a Managing for Value framework company-wide. This means that we keep investing in the skills of our managers at all levels in the company to identify and improve those drivers that have the biggest impact on value creation. We believe our financial position thanks to focused portfolio management over the past three years enables us to allocate our capital across businesses and client segments in such a way that it optimizes the highest growth and return.

We believe that our strong and diversified earnings capacity and returns at satisfying level in all business lines show that the consistent implementation of our strategy is paying off. ING continues to offer a solid increase in Total Shareholder Return (TSR). Amongst the peer group of 20 global financial organisations, ING ranks second with a TSR of 109% over a three-year period since 2004. This exceeds our financial objective to offer our shareholders a higher total return than the average of that of our peers over the longer term.

### Benefits of a balanced business portfolio

We believe that ING is well-positioned in the financial sector with banking, insurance and asset management activities. All these activities are strong and successful in their own right. In addition, we leverage value from the combination of these activities in two ways. First, there is an increasing convergence between the banking, insurance and asset management industries in terms of saving and pension products. ING aims to capitalise on this convergence through product development and diverse sales expertise, thereby focusing on customer needs and offering them the products they need to manage their financial futures.

Second, the Group offers risk diversification as we manage risk at the global level across banking and insurance. Increased risk diversification brings capital benefits because a lower requirement for risk-based solvency capital translates into a higher return on equity. On top of that ING centralised its capital management in 2006 in order to better balance the requirements of shareholders, rating agencies and regulators. We believe centralised risk management and centralised capital management is essential for allocating capital across the Group on the basis of economic profit criteria. This allows for greater strategic flexibility and provides the freedom to invest capital in places where it generates the highest return.

### Profitable growth across businesses

We believe ING s financial results demonstrate that our underlying performance in all business lines remains strong. We were able to build on the momentum of profitable growth in 2006, both in mature and in developing markets. Examples of good performance in mature markets are our retail banking businesses in the Netherlands, with healthy growth in savings and mortgages. Also the Wholesale Banking businesses performed well in areas such as Structured Finance and lease, and ING Real Estate experienced another year of strong growth, both in profits and assets under management.

We believe that ING is well-positioned to capitalise on three fundamental trends that are globally reshaping financial services and the competition to be leaders in our industry, namely ageing, technological development and a shift of economic power from West to East. We are using these trends to drive our three growth engines: retirement services, ING Direct, and our life insurance operations in developing markets.

The 2006 results show that our growth engines continued to be on solid footing. Our retirement services business in the US had a good year which is also reflected in our market rankings. US Retirement Services maintained its number one position in the K-12 market as measured by sales and participants. It also maintained its number two position in the small corporate market.

ING Direct was able to increase profits in a very challenging interest rate environment. Our residential mortgage portfolio reached EUR 69 billion, and in terms of profit, mortgage business achieved break-even in 2006. Although there is increased competition in some markets, ING Direct continues to attract many new customers. ING Direct now accounts for 7% of ING s total underlying profit, compared with 3% in 2003. Our life insurance business in Asia/Pacific posted a 13.2% rise in the value of new business. For some years now, this business line contributes around 50% of the Group s total value of new business a clear reflection of how economic growth is shifting from West to East. In Central Europe, VNB was up 13.8%.

For long-term growth, we do not only expand existing businesses, we also invest in future organic growth opportunities, such as retail banking and insurance operations in India and Romania in 2005 and life insurance activities in Bulgaria and Russia in 2006.

On top of the above, increased returns and profitable growth are also very much related to the proper execution of business fundamentals. This means we continue to focus on offering exemplary customer service, as well as focusing on managing costs, risks and reputation, and on instilling a performance culture within ING.

### Offering exemplary customer service

Growth can be achieved in any market as long as we put our customers first, know exactly what their preferences are and how we can best serve them. What differentiates companies is their ability to do their basic business with excellence. Satisfied customers provide a good platform to further expand product offerings and attract new customers. Over the past two years, ING has launched a number of initiatives, especially in its mature markets, to improve customer centricity. To check our progress, we continually monitor customer satisfaction. All ING businesses, for example, are required to measure customer satisfaction within their markets.

In 2006, increasing brand awareness was a key priority. After thorough research and based on a sound business case, ING signed a three-year sponsorship agreement with Renault Formula One. We have chosen Renault for its track record as a top, high-performing team. We believe that teaming up with them fosters our objectives of instilling a performance culture, encouraging teamwork and achieving permanent progress. This sponsorship and the first-ever global marketing campaign is expected to increase ING s visibility and thus to raise our brand awareness.

We want to position ourselves as a company that sets the standard in helping our customers manage their financial future. When customers consider doing business with ING, they should know exactly what they will get. They should know that ING is easy to deal with, that we treat our customers fairly, and that we deliver on our promises.

### **Managing costs**

Cost control, particularly in mature markets, is an important means of maintaining a competitive position over the long run. In 2006, we improved the cost/income ratio of our banking operations and maintained the solid efficiency ratios of our life insurance business. Our efficiency programme in the Netherlands and Belgium is on track: three major agreements to outsource part of our Operations and IT organisation were finalised.

### **Managing risks**

Important progress has been made in 2006 in improving risk modelling and measurement techniques. At Group level, we are developing risk metrics that capture bank and insurance risk into a single view. We significantly improved the quantification and our understanding of the credit risk in our banking book in line with Basel II, and on the insurance side, we have introduced a market consistent framework which enables more accurate pricing of complex products. ING strengthened the risk management organisation and centralised the risk function by means of creating the position of (deputy) Chief Risk Officer (CRO) who is responsible for managing and controlling risk on a consolidated level. These improvements further enhance the full integration of risk management in our daily business activities and strategic planning (a number of other changes are explained in 2.2 Risk Management of notes to the consolidated financial statements).

### Managing reputation

Reputation and integrity are two important assets for financial services providers. Over the past few years, the amount of regulation has increased and enforcement has become more vigorous. Regulators and other supervisory authorities in the EU, the US and elsewhere continue to scrutinize payment processing and other transactions under regulations governing such matters as money-laundering, prohibited transactions with countries subject to sanctions, and bribery or other anti-corruption measures. Regulators and other authorities have the power to bring administrative or judicial proceedings against us, which could result, amongst other things, in suspension or revocation of our licenses, cease and desist orders, fines, civil penalties, criminal penalties or other disciplinary action which could materially harm our results of operations and financial condition. More generally, the cost of being in the financial services industry continues to grow. At ING we have strengthened our compliance organisation accordingly. A Group-wide compliance policy has been adopted that allows us to approach compliance in a uniform and consistent way throughout the Group. Regulatory compliance is essential for ING, not just from a regulator s point of view, but also because ING s relationships with its clients depend on integrity and fairness. Compliance is more than just adhering to a set of rules. It also reflects the way we want to treat our clients and our shareholders fairly and with excellent performance.

### **Embedding a performance culture**

However great a strategy may be, it cannot be implemented without the right attitude and the right people at the company. At ING, investing in people to develop a high performance workforce with a common vision is very important. In 2006, we continued to put a lot of effort into embedding a performance culture at all business levels. We have rolled out a number of global projects to actively engage people to drive operational excellence from the top down as well as from the work floor up.

### **Conclusions and ambitions**

ING is satisfied with the progress made with the strategic direction we embarked on in 2004. By keeping a constant and persistent course, we have created value for our shareholders. We have seen good steps forward on all fronts in 2006. We have been able to achieve further profitable growth in our existing businesses, to continue to invest in new growth opportunities and to further improve the execution of our business fundamentals. We believe one of ING s distinguishing features is our ability to reallocate the capital

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that we generate in our mature businesses to the most value-adding areas within the company, including our growth engines.

We intend to continue with our strategic course in 2007. Our first priority is to build on the momentum of profitable growth. We expect to continue to analyse where we are creating value and where we need to deploy resources for improved growth and return. In those businesses where returns have stabilised at satisfying levels, we intend to put more emphasis on growing our activities. On top of that, we plan to continue to invest in promising new business opportunities, thus planting the seeds for future growth.

Growth can be achieved in any market as long as we succeed in further enhancing the execution of our business fundamentals. We want to do so by improving customer satisfaction, including tightening up compliance at all levels. We plan on keeping tight control over costs, and ensure risks are properly measured, managed and priced. Execution is an ongoing process. By improving every day, we want to drive our performance to the next level.

As such, ING keeps on focusing on creating value for its shareholders in order to be able to reward them with a better total return on investment than the average of that of our peers in the financial sector over the long term.

### CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

### New legislation

During 2006, ING worked on new provisions arising from legislative changes, which will give investors a greater opportunity to participate in shareholders meetings. Under the new legislation, it will now be possible to set the record date for shareholders meetings thirty days (rather than seven days as used to be the case) before the meeting. This enables companies to be better prepared for the meeting and clarifies for shareholders at an earlier date the number of shares they can vote. ING intends to apply the new ruling for the 2007 General Meeting of Shareholders. In addition, new legislation will enable shareholders to participate in meetings via videoconferencing. Under the new legislation shareholders meetings will become more accessible, particularly for institutional investors abroad, who can access videoconferencing facilities. Companies will also be able to notify shareholders of meetings via their website or by e-mail instead of by newspaper advertisements. Both of these changes are subject to amendment of the articles of association. Such an amendment of the articles of association is being proposed to the 2007 General Meeting of Shareholders.

### **Dialogue with shareholders**

And finally, ING Group will create the opportunity for investors to ask questions on matters on the agenda for the 2007 General Meeting of Shareholders. Shareholders and holders of depositary receipts can visit the website of ING Group (www.ing.com) to submit their questions as of March 20, 2007. Questions pertaining to the Shareholders meeting will be answered on that same website before the meeting or during the meeting itself.

### **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE CODES**

### In compliance with the Dutch Corporate Governance Code

In its corporate governance structure and its corporate governance practices, ING Group uses the Dutch Corporate Governance Code (Tabaksblat Code) as reference. The ING Group corporate governance structure described in the document, entitled The Dutch Corporate Governance Code ING s implementation of the Tabaksblat Code for good corporate governance was approved by the General Meeting of Shareholders on April 26, 2005. As a result, ING Group is considered to be in full compliance with the Tabaksblat Code, although it does not apply all best-practice provisions of the Code in full. The document is available on the website of ING Group (www.ing.com) and now includes an update of ING s implementation of the Tabaksblat Code since 2005.

The following deviations from the Tabaksblat Code are to be reported for 2006: not in the 2005 annual report, but for the first time in the 2006 annual report, ING will report in accordance with SOX 404 for the internal risk-management and control systems related to financial reporting; for other risks a description will be made of the risk management and control systems and any material shortcomings that were discovered, including the improvements made, or scheduled to be made (best-

practice provision II.1.4);

the two Executive Board members appointed before January 1, 2004 remain appointed for an indefinite period of time and retain their agreed exit arrangements, which exceed one year s salary (best-practice provisions II.1.1. and II.2.7), as existing contractual arrangements cannot be changed unilaterally;

existing rights for severance payments with respect to Executive Board members who are already employed by ING prior to their appointment to the Executive Board, are taken into account. As a result thereof, their exit arrangement as Executive Board member may exceed the maximum of the Tabaksblat Code (best-practice provision II.2.7);

Executive Board members may sell shares awarded to them without financial consideration within the five-years retention period in order to cover the wage tax which is to be withheld over the vested award (best-practice provision II.2.3), in order to avoid that the total wage tax to be withheld in the month of vesting exceeds the gross salary payment of that month;

performance criteria for variable remuneration are being disclosed only to the extent this information is not stock-price sensitive or competition sensitive (best-practice provisions II.2.3, II.2.10 and II.2.11);

Executive Board members may obtain banking and insurance services from ING Group subsidiaries in the ordinary course of their business and on terms that apply to all employees. These may include services in which the granting of credit is of a subordinate nature, e.g. credit cards and overdrafts in current accounts (best-practice provisions II.2.8, II.3.2. and II.3.3). These exceptions are based on a lack of materiality;

if a Supervisory Board member would not meet the independence criteria of the Tabaksblat Code, the Supervisory Board can make a reasoned decision that such member is still considered to be independent in order to take into account specific circumstances, such as the differences in duration, intensity and geographical distance in family and employment relations (best- practice provision III.2.2), in order to allow for situations of non-independency that are not material;

the legally required second candidate on a binding nomination for appointment to the Supervisory Board does not need to meet the independence criteria of the Tabaksblat Code nor the requirements of the Supervisory Board profile (best-practice provisions III.2.2. and II.3.1), in view of the contemplated abolition of this legal requirement;

Jan Hommen, who was appointed in the 2005 General Meeting of Shareholders as a Supervisory Board member, has more than five positions as a supervisory board member with other Dutch-listed companies (best-practice provision III.3.4). He will meet the Tabaksblat requirement as of May 2007, when he will retire from the Supervisory Board of Ahold N.V.;

under special circumstances the Supervisory Board may deviate from the general rule that a member of the Supervisory Board cannot be re-appointed for more than 2 subsequent 4-years terms (best-practice provision III.3.5);

ING Group installed a combined Remuneration and Nomination Committee instead of a separate remuneration committee and a nomination committee (best-practice provision III.5.1);

the Remuneration and Nomination Committee is being chaired by the Chairman of the Supervisory Board (best-practice provision III.5.11), so that he can be involved in this important subject directly and in an early stage;

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in case of a transaction with a family member that entails a conflict of interests according to the Tabaksblat Code, the Supervisory Board may decide that no conflict of interests exists, if the relationship is based on marriage, especially if that marriage ended in conflict (best-practice provision III.6.1), in order to allow for situations in which the family relationship is not material (anymore);

transactions with Supervisory Board members or persons holding at least 10% of the shares of ING Group in which there are significant conflicting interests, will be published in the annual report, unless (i) this conflicts with the law, (ii) the confidential, stock-price sensitive or competition-sensitive character of the transaction prevents this and/or (iii) the information is so competition-sensitive that the publication could damage the competitive position of ING Group (best-practice provision III.6.3 and 6.4);

Supervisory Board members may obtain banking and insurance services from ING Group subsidiaries in the ordinary course of their business and on terms that are customary in the sector. These may include services in which the granting of credit is of a subordinate nature, e.g. credit cards and overdrafts in current accounts (best-practice provisions III.7.4) These exceptions are based on a lack of materiality;

the voting rights of the Preference A shares are based on their nominal value (best-practice provision IV.1.2), as these voting rights cannot be changed unilaterally;

if a notarial report is drawn up of the General Meeting of Shareholders, shareholders will not have the opportunity to react to the minutes of the meeting (best-practice provision IV.3.8), as this would be in conflict with the laws applicable to such notarial report.

### **Corporate Governance Differences**

Under the New York Stock Exchange s ( NYSE ) listing standards, ING Group as a foreign private issuer must disclose any significant ways in which its corporate-governance practices differ from those followed by US domestic companies under the NYSE listing standards. An overview of what we believe to be the significant differences between our corporate-governance practices and NYSE corporate-governance rules applicable to US companies is available on the website of ING Group (www.ing.com).

### CORPORATE ORGANIZATION

ING Group N.V. has a Supervisory Board and an Executive Board. The Executive Board is responsible for the day-to-day management of the Group and its business lines (Insurance Europe, Insurance Americas, Insurance Asia/Pacific, Wholesale Banking, Retail Banking and ING Direct). For more information about the Supervisory and Executive Boards, see Item 6. Directors, Senior Management and Employees .

### **Business Lines**

Each business line formulates the strategic, commercial and financial policies in conformity with the group strategy and performance targets set by the Executive Board. Each business line is also responsible for the preparation of its annual budget, which is then approved and monitored by the Executive Board. In addition, each business line approves the strategy, commercial policy and the annual budgets of the business units in its business line and monitors the realization of the policies and budgets of that business line and its business units.

The following chart shows the breakdown by business line of ING s total income and total profit before tax for the year 2006. Please see Item 5. Operating and financial review and prospects , Segment Reporting for the total income and profit before tax by business line for the years ended 2006, 2005 and 2004.

### **INSURANCE EUROPE**

ING Insurance Europe operates in The Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg, Spain, Greece, Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Romania, Bulgaria and Russia. The operating companies in these countries have tailored their insurance products, investment and asset management services and pension fund services for certain target markets and distribution channels. ING Insurance Europe has three key priorities. First, continued profitable growth and efficient allocation of capital across business units in the region. Second, to concentrate on wealth management and retirement services to meet the needs of the increased elderly population. Third, to continue improving efficiency and risk management.

In the Netherlands, ING offers basic retail insurance products via direct marketing (Postbank), while independent intermediaries (Nationale-Nederlanden), tied agents (RVS) and bank branches (ING Bank) are more suitable for selling complex products requiring more personal service and specialized advice. In the countries in Central Europe, tied agents are the main distribution channel. In this region too, ING continues to strive towards a multi-distribution approach with banks, brokers and direct marketing as additional channels. ING considers the degree of personal service and specialized advice as an important factor in determining how to distribute its products and services within Europe.

ING Investment Management Europe ( ING IM Europe ) is the principal asset manager for ING Insurance Europe. ING IM Europe also manages equity, fixed income and structured investments for institutional investors and the private label investment funds sold by various ING companies, including ING Bank, ING Belgium, Postbank, Nationale-Nederlanden and third party distributors. In addition, ING IM Europe is responsible for managing the treasury activities of ING Insurance.

ING s life insurance products in Europe consist of a broad range of participating (with profit) and non-participating (without profit) policies written for both individual and group customers. Individual life products include a variety of endowment, term, whole life and unit linked insurance policies. In some countries, Group policies are designed to fund private pension benefits offered by a wide range of businesses and institutions as a supplement to government provided benefits. ING is also a prominent provider of mandatory and voluntary pension funds in several countries in Central Europe.

ING s non-life products include coverage for both individual and commercial/group clients for fire, automobile, disability, health-care, transport and aviation insurance, third party liability insurance and indirect premiums (incoming reinsurance premiums). In the Netherlands, the government is decreasing its role in the field of disability insurance and sick pay, possibly creating new opportunities for insurance companies to provide private-sector coverage for benefits previously provided by the Dutch government. ING offers a broad range of disability insurance products and complementary services for employers and individual professionals (such as dentists and lawyers). **INSURANCE AMERICAS** 

ING Insurance Americas (ING Americas) operates in four main geographic areas: Canada, the United States, Mexico, and Latin America. ING Americas offers various types of insurance, retirement services, (largely defined contribution plans) annuities, mutual funds, broker-dealer services and institutional products, including group reinsurance and principal protection products, as well as retail and institutional asset management.

In 2006, ING Americas operated in the United States through three business segments: Worksite and Institutional Businesses (which included retirement services), the Retail Businesses (which included Life and Annuities), and Asset Management. The US life market remains segmented and subject to intense competition as the overall market is growing at mid to high single digit rates. In 2007, to continue our maximization of the growth opportunities in the market and to aggressively manage the differing risks in each product line, we intend to reorganize the US businesses in the following three divisions: Wealth Management, Asset Management, and the Insurance businesses. Through these three divisions, we intend to continue to provide a wide variety of financial products and services to individuals both on a retail basis and through employers and directly to institutional customers. Distribution channels include independent producers, broker dealers and financial institutions as well as consultants, affiliate distribution channels and financial intermediaries. Career agents, ING Direct and an institutional sales force for asset management products.

The US Wealth Management business includes Retirement Services (which includes Defined Contribution Pensions and Rollover/Payout business) and Annuities, which between them provide the substantial majority of earnings and value creation for the US, and the ING Advisors Network, a distribution channel of wholly owned broker-dealers with independent contractor registered representatives. In the institutional market, Retirement Services sells 401(k), 403(b) and 457 defined contribution plans and targets the higher growth segments of small (under 500 employees) corporate 401(k) and teachers and staff (kindergarten through 12th grade, the K-12 segment). The primary retail customer target market for Annuities is the mass affluent segment. Besides providing access to financial services products, ING Advisors Network offers such services as financial planning, investment advisory services, pension plan administrative services and trust services through its approximately 8,700 affiliated and licensed financial professionals.

The Asset Management organization includes ING Investment Management Americas ( ING IM Americas ), Mutual Funds and Institutional Markets. ING IM manages proprietary and third party assets in the US, Canada and Latin America. ING IM Americas manages proprietary assets for ING Americas insurance entities, investing in a diverse mix of public fixed income, private placements, commercial mortgages and alternative assets. Third party business units (mainly in the US) include mutual fund sub-advisory, institutional assets, alternative assets and managed accounts and its products are distributed through proprietary, affiliated and outside distribution channels. Assets are managed in a wide range of investment styles and portfolios including: domestic and international equity funds of various value, blend and growth styles and of small, mid- and large capitalization, domestic fixed income portfolios across the major bond market sectors, balanced portfolios, hedge funds and private equity. Principal protections products are provided through Institutional Markets.

The Insurance Businesses focuses on both individual and institutional clients and provide a wide range of insurance and investment products, including variable universal life, universal life, and term insurance. Individual retail markets include both the mass affluent and the middle market. Institutional customers are served by both the Employee Benefits unit, which provides both group and voluntary insurance products, and through ING Re, which provides group reinsurance.

ING Canada focuses on risk management expertise delivered through strong manufacturing and distribution capabilities. ING Canada s principal insurance products are automobile and property and liability insurance, which are marketed to individuals and businesses. ING Canada offers commercial specialty lines products. In addition to insurance operations, ING Canada also has a registered mutual fund dealer, ING Wealth Management, which focuses on delivering financial solutions to ING clients through a number of distribution partners. Following an initial public offering in 2004, ING Group s ownership share in ING Canada was reduced to 70%. ING Canada uses independent brokers as its primary distribution channel, accounting for approximately 90% of direct premiums written. ING Canada also sells products directly to customers through the internet and by telephone through call centers in Quebec and Ontario.

ING Americas sells life insurance, health insurance, auto, property and casualty insurance, and pension and financial services products through subsidiaries and joint venture affiliates in selected Latin American markets. Activities are concentrated on the Mexican and Chilean markets and ING Americas also has a joint venture presence in Peru and Brazil. Distribution channels in Mexico and Latin America include brokers and tied agents.

### **INSURANCE ASIA/PACIFIC**

Insurance Asia/Pacific ( IAP ) is a line of business comprising ING Group s Asian, Australian and New Zealand insurance and asset management operations. In total, IAP has 24 wholly-owned or joint-venture businesses operating across 13 countries, including Australia, China, Hong Kong, India, Japan, Macau, Malaysia, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan and Thailand. The principal business unit operations are located in Australia, Japan, South Korea and Taiwan. In 2005 and 2006, these principal business unit operations represented 94% and 93% of IAP s total premium income, respectively.

An IAP regional office in Hong Kong leads, controls and supports all IAP business units in the region, ensures implementation of strategy and standards, encourages synergy both regionally and globally, and produces regional management reports to headquarters in Amsterdam.

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IAP s business units offer various types of life insurance, wealth management, retail and institutional asset management products (including annuity, endowment, disability/ morbidity insurance, unit linked/ universal life, whole life, participating life, group life, accident and health, term life and employee benefits) and services.

In Hong Kong and Malaysia, non-life insurance products (including employees compensation, medical, motor, fire, marine, personal accident and general liability) are also offered. Each business unit is subject to regulation by its respective insurance or investment regulatory commission, which generally requires a separate operating license and product approvals. IAP s distribution channels include tied or career agents, independent agents, financial planners, bancassurance, telemarketing and e-business channels.

Based on an analysis of public disclosures by regulators and competitors and data provided by independent publications, IAP estimates that its combined insurance operations rank second among regional foreign life insurers by annualized premium equivalent (annualized premium equivalent represents the aggregate of new regular premium sales and 10 percent of new single premium sales of life insurance products) and its combined investment management operations in Asia, excluding Australia and Japan, rank second in terms of total assets under management (AUM) and rank first in terms of retail AUM.

#### WHOLESALE BANKING

ING Wholesale Banking offers a full range of products to corporates and institutions in the Benelux countries. Elsewhere we operate a more selective and focused client and product approach with a strong presence in over 40 countries worldwide. To continue to improve our market position, Wholesale Banking has three key priorities: client-focus, cross-selling and cost control. Through delivering a truly relationship-driven business model we have clearly defined and targeted our core market and product strengths in an increasingly competitive market. These foundations underpin the implementation of a single global brand for Wholesale Banking.

We believe that ING Wholesale Banking did well in 2006 despite a challenging business climate by focusing on clients interests, capitalising on cross-selling opportunities and managing for greater value. While working to bring down overall costs, the organisation continued to invest selectively to ensure future growth through expansion of its existing capabilities in higher value-added products in key areas such as Financial Markets, Payments and Cash Management and Leasing and Structured Finance. Wholesale Banking was able to focus on its core businesses by optimising the allocation of capital and through the sale of Williams de Broë and Deutsche Hypothekenbank. In 2006 there were further developments in the relationship-driven business model, launched over two years ago. Client coverage was further improved and simplified after a number of top corporate clients were identified as priority clients and then allocated additional resources. A global event finance team comprised of highly experienced bankers was also established to advise clients and coordinate transformational transactions. Mid-sized companies remain very important and strong relationships are being maintained with the networks built up across the Netherlands and Belgium, as well as in Romania and Poland.

Our client portfolio was evaluated to ensure a stronger focus on core clients to whom we can sell more high-margin and value-creating products in accordance with our strategic alignment program called the Target Operating Model. The model focuses on cost control as well as growth, capital optimisation and improved operational efficiency. In 2005 these operations were completed in Asia, the Americas, and the UK. The implementation phase of the program was completed in the Benelux over 2006 and will be fully executed in 2007.

A number of new initiatives were introduced in 2006 to better position our most value-creating businesses. This included grouping all of our activities in documentary payments, credit, collections and trade facilities under one global organisation, Trade Financial Services. A secondary loan trading activity was also launched focusing on trading and making markets in transactions ING helped bring to the market, either through the syndications market or via another senior capacity. Lease and Commercial Finance activities were launched in several central and eastern European countries while two Lease acquisitions Appleyard (UK) and Autoplan (France) were made to boost our European presence and attain a top five ranking in the manufacturer-independent vehicle leasing companies. Investments in Payments and Cash Management have also continued ahead of the January 1, 2008 launch of the Single Euro Payments Area in order to remain a major player in the European funds market. Furthermore, ING was once again voted Best Cash Management Bank in Eastern Europe by Treasury Management International in 2006.

To help build and sustain its business, ING Wholesale Banking continued to make strides towards looking and acting as a single brand differentiated by its core brand attributes of leading with knowledge, acting as a trusted advisor and flawless execution. The roll-out of a single ING brand globally is another important means by which to build and maintain strong client relationships.

Looking ahead, in 2007 we plan to further refine our client coverage model with a continued emphasis on our cross-sell strategy. The approach to mid corporate clients will also be further aligned at a global level. We plan to remain vigilant in keeping costs under control, which will be strongly assisted by the full implementation of the Managing for Value initiative across the Benelux, while striving to find new ways to maximise value creation.

### **ING Real Estate**

ING Real Estate is a global and diversified real estate company active in real estate investment management, development and finance. With in-house local research and global coverage thanks to its teams in Europe, America, Asia and Australia, ING Real Estate provides its clients with innovative and tailor-made real estate based solutions. ING Real Estate is a research-driven and performance-led investment manager offering over 60 funds, both listed and unlisted to institutional and private investors. The Finance division provides flexible, tailored solutions on the back of broad real estate expertise and cutting edge financial know-how to private and institutional investors, developers and specific other client groups. The Development division has a strong track record stretching back more than 40 years in applying research-based expertise to develop residential, retail, office and mixed-use projects across Europe. ING Real Estate saw another year of strong growth, driven mainly by the unremitting appetite for property funds among investors. The successful takeover of Summit Real Estate Investment Trust, Canada s largest listed owner of industrial assets, added EUR 2.3 billion to assets under management. Several new funds for the institutional market were launched in Europe as well as the ING Real Estate China Opportunity Fund. ING Real Estate Investment Management and ING Wholesale Banking have also formed a joint venture called ING Real Estate Capital Advisors to capitalize on the growing demand for specialized real estate investment banking services.

The Finance Division made substantial progress in its international diversification strategy, while maintaining market leadership in its home market of the Netherlands. The division made a strong debut in the securitisation market and increased its activity in the syndication market, in association with ING Wholesale Banking. The Finance Division also closed its first lending transactions in Asia.

The Development Division returned to profit on the back of a string of project sales. Several shopping centres in Spain, Germany and the UK were completed. The division received several prestigious industry awards, including European Retail Developer of the Year .

### **RETAIL BANKING**

The retail banking business focuses on retail banking services to individuals, and to small- and medium-sized businesses and on private banking. These businesses are supported by a multi-product, multi-channel distribution approach. We serve two types of retail markets, each reflecting our different market positions and therefore each requiring a slightly different approach with regard to the retail strategy. In the mature markets of the Netherlands and Belgium, our strategy is to assist our clients in areas such as wealth accumulation, savings and mortgages. We seek to distribute these different products through an efficient mix of channels appropriate to the client segments and products. In a number of selected developing markets (India, Poland, Romania) with the right demographics, economic growth potential and stable institutional environment, our strategy is to become a prominent player in the local retail banking markets, providing our clients with simple but quality products. In the mature markets, achieving operational excellence and cost leadership, combined with the right level of customer satisfaction, will be important for continuing profit growth. ING considers developing economies as opportunities for structural growth due to their strong demographics, rapid income growth, emerging middle classes and relatively low penetration of the financial services sector.

### The Netherlands

Postbank is ING s direct bank in the Netherlands. Postbank reaches its individual customers through home banking, telephone, call centers, internet banking, mailings and post offices. Using direct marketing methods, Postbank leverages its position as a leading provider of current account services and payments systems to provide other financial services such as savings accounts, mortgage loans, consumer loans,

credit card services, investment and insurance products. Mortgages are offered through a tied agents sale force and direct and intermediary channels.

ING Bank Netherlands operates through a branch network of 250 branches. It offers a full range of commercial banking activities and life and non-life insurance products. It also sells mortgages through the intermediary channel. *Belgium* 

Besides insurance (life, non-life, employee benefits) and asset management, ING Belgium provides banking products and services to meet the needs of individuals, families, companies and institutions through a network of local head offices, 820 traditional branches and direct banking channels (fully automated branches, home banking services and call centers). ING Belgium also operates a second network, Record Bank, which provides a full range of banking products through independent banking agents and credit products through a multitude of channels (agents, brokers, vendors).

### Central Europe

In Poland, ING Bank Slaski provides a full range of banking services to business and individual customers through a network of 330 branches, supported by ATMs and telephone, internet and electronic banking. Since 2004 we have opened 110 fully automated outlets in Romania that provide selected banking products to individual clients. *Asia* 

In India, ING Vysya Bank has a network of 370 branches supported by a sales force of tied agents, who provide a full range of banking services to business and individual clients. In China, ING acquired a 19.9% participation in Bank of Beijing in 2005.

### **Private Banking**

Private Banking provides wealth management services to high net worth individuals throughout the world. We have continued to raise the visibility of the Private Banking activities in the Benelux to penetrate ING s existing client base in these markets. In new international markets (Asia, Central Europe, Latin America), we continue to seek to attract new assets to the group, serving them in part out of our branch in Switzerland.

#### **ING DIRECT**

ING Direct consists of a direct banking business and a stand-alone credit card operation (ING Card). The direct bank is an important part of ING Group s international retail strategy. The strategy of ING Direct is to be a low-cost provider of financial services in large, mature markets by offering clients good value for money and excellent service via call-centers, direct mail and the internet. The main products offered by ING Direct are saving accounts and mortgages. ING Direct also sells a focused range of financial products such as mutual funds, e-brokerage, pensions and life insurance.

ING Direct s direct banking business is active in nine countries, including Canada, Spain, Australia, France, the United States, Italy, Germany, Austria and United Kingdom and as of the end of 2006, provides services to 17.5 million customers. Each country forms a separate business unit, with the exception of Austria which is managed by the German business unit.

ING Direct s overall growth in funds entrusted was driven mainly by the business units in Germany, the United States, France, Australia and Italy reflecting the continued momentum of the ING Direct brand. At year-end 2006 total funds entrusted to ING Direct worldwide amounted to EUR 196 billon and total own originated mortgages were EUR 58 billion. Growth in mortgages was primarily attributable to Germany, Australia, Canada and the United States. The percentage of mortgage versus savings funds continues to increase. The locked in margins of the mortgages continues to contribute stability to the overall business.

ING Card aims at leveraging the extensive retail customer databases within ING Group. ING Card manages the credit card portfolios in the Netherlands and in Belgium. At year-end the portfolio size amounted to 1.7 million cards. Crucial to its strategy is to focus on marketing, business intelligence and credit risk management. Other ING business units will be supported with this knowledge and expertise.

#### PRINCIPAL GROUP COMPANIES

Reference is made to Exhibit 8 List of subsidiaries of ING Groep N.V.

### **REGULATION AND SUPERVISION**

The insurance, banking, asset management and broker dealer business of ING are subject to detailed comprehensive supervision in all the jurisdictions in which ING conducts business. This supervision is based in a large part on European Union (EU) directives, discussed more fully below.

The Dutch regulatory system for financial supervision consists of prudential supervision monitoring the soundness of financial institutions and the financial sector, and conduct-of-business supervision regulating institutions conduct in the markets. Prudential supervision is exercised by *De Nederlandsche Bank* (DNB), while conduct-of-business supervision is performed by the Netherlands Authority for the Financial Markets, *Autoriteit Financiële Markten* (AFM). On January 1, 2007, the new Dutch Financial Supervision Act has come into force. This law replaces the numerous existing laws and regulations in the area of supervision, and represents a significant adjustment in the legislation in the Netherlands to reflect market conditions.

In 2006, the EU directive on the supplementary supervision of credit institutions, insurance undertakings and investment firms in a financial conglomerate, adopted in 2002, was implemented in the new Dutch Financial Supervision Act; it has also come into force on January 1 2007. For ING, this Directive is not expected to have a material impact on its business, on its capital requirements nor on its solvency position, as ING already complies with comparable national legislation for financial conglomerates.

In October 2006, the Dutch Act on the disclosure of Major Holdings and Capital Interests in Securities-Issuing Institutions came into force in the Netherlands, amending the Disclosure of Major Holdings Act and implementing parts of the EU Transparency Directive. The Act aims to increase the transparency of interests held in companies admitted to trading on a regulated market and to simplify the procedure for notifying such interests. It is incorporated in the new Dutch Financial Supervision Act.

The Markets in Financial Instruments Directive (MiFID) aims to establish a comprehensive regulatory regime for the organised execution of investor transactions by stock markets, other trading systems and investment firms. In so doing, it will create a single passport for investment firms which will enable them to do business anywhere in the EU on the basis of home-country authorisation. The Directive also enables investment firms to process client orders outside regulated markets. The Directive will have to be transposed into national law by April 2007. Investment firms will be required to comply with it as of November 2007.

DNB and other of our supervisory authorities have in recent periods increased their scrutiny of such matters as payment processing and other transactions under regulations governing money-laundering, prohibited transactions with countries subject to sanctions, and bribery or other anti-corruption measures.

Like many other large international financial institutions, we engage and in the past have engaged in a limited amount of business with counterparties, including government or government-related counterparties, in countries such as Cuba, Iran and Syria, countries which have been identified as state sponsors of terrorism by the US State Department and subject to sanctions by various government agencies. We do not believe that our revenues in such countries are or have been material to our overall business. In light of increased scrutiny of transactions involving such countries on the part of US and non-US regulatory authorities, investors and the media, as well as initiatives on the part of various institutions to adopt or enforce laws or regulations prohibiting transactions with or requiring divestment from entities doing business with such countries, however, we are continuing to significantly strengthen our compliance function generally, as we have done in 2006. ING Bank N.V. has been in discussions with its Dutch bank regulator De Nederlandsche Bank (DNB) related to transactions involving persons in countries subject to sanctions by the EU, the United States and other authorities. These discussions prompted ING Bank N.V. to engage in a review regarding transactions involving sanctioned parties. In connection with this review, which is ongoing, ING Bank N.V. has been reporting to DNB and it is not possible to predict at this time the outcome thereof. On July 28, 2006, The Office of Foreign Asset Controls ( OFAC ) of the U.S. Department of Treasury added the Netherlands Caribbean Bank ( NCB ), a bank chartered in the Netherlands Antilles that is jointly owned by ING and by two entities that are Cuban nationals, to its list of Specially Designated Nationals as a Cuban national. Such

designation prohibits U.S. persons and non-U.S. subsidiaries of U.S. companies from dealing with NCB. As discussed under Item 3 Risk Factors and Note 2.2 Risk Management of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements, as a large multinational financial institution we are subject to reputational and other risks in connection with regulatory and compliance matters involving such countries, and we have incurred significant costs in connection with the strengthening of our compliance-related functions.

### INSURANCE

#### Europe

Insurance companies in the EU are subject to supervision by insurance supervisory authorities in their home country. This principle of home country control was established in a series of directives adopted by the EU, which we refer to as the 1992 Insurance Directives . In The Netherlands, DNB monitors compliance with applicable regulations, the capital base of the insurer and its actuarial reserves, as well as the assets of the insurer, which support such reserves. Pursuant to the 1992 EU Directives, ING may also conduct business directly, or through foreign branches, in all the other jurisdictions of the EU, without being subject to licensing requirements under the laws of the other EU member-states.

In Belgium, ING s insurance operations are supervised by the Banking, Finance and Insurance Commission (CBFA), created as a result of the integration of the Insurance Supervisory Authority (ISA) and the Banking and Finance Commission. Since January 1, 2004, it is the single supervisory authority for the Belgian financial sector. In other European Union countries ING s insurance operations are subject to supervision by similar supervisory authorities. ING Insurance s life and non-life subsidiaries in the EU are required to file detailed audited annual reports with their home country insurance supervisory authority. These reports are audited by ING Insurance s independent auditors and include balance sheets, profit and loss statements, actuarial statements and other financial information. The authorizations granted by the insurance supervisory authorities stipulate the classes of business that an insurer may write an insurance for, and is required for every proposed new class of business. In addition, the home country insurance supervisory authority may require an insurer to submit any other information it requests and may conduct an audit at any time.

On the basis of the EU directives, European life insurance companies are required to maintain at least a shareholders equity level of generally 4% of insurance reserves (1% of separate account reserves), plus 0.3% of the amount at risk under insurance policies. The required shareholders equity level for Dutch non-life insurers is the greater of two calculations: one based on premiums and the other on claims. The former is based on 16% of gross premiums written for the year, the latter is based on 23% of a three-year average of gross claims.

The European Commission, jointly with Member States, is carrying out a fundamental review of the regulatory capital regime of the insurance industry (the Solvency 2 project). Its objective is to establish a solvency system that is better matched to the true risks of insurers enabling supervisors to protect policyholders interests as effectively as possible and in accordance with common principles across the EU. The Commission has produced a Framework for Consultation setting out the policy principles and guidelines that will act as a framework for the development of the Solvency 2 regime. Work on the Solvency 2 Framework Directive is still in progress, and adoption is expected not before 2008.

## Americas

#### United States

ING Group s United States insurance subsidiaries are subject to comprehensive and detailed regulation of their activities under U.S. state and federal laws. Supervisory agencies in various states have broad powers to grant or revoke licenses to conduct business, regulate trade practices, license agents, approve policy forms and certain premium rates, set standards of capital base and reserve requirements, determine the form and content of required financial reports, examine insurance companies and prescribe the type and amount of investments permitted. Insurance companies are subject to a mandatory annual audit of their statutory basis financial statements by an independent certified public accountant, and in addition are subject to an insurance department examination approximately every three to five years.

ING Insurance s U.S. operations are subject to the Risk Based Capital (RBC) guidelines which provide a method to measure the adjusted capital (statutory capital and surplus plus other adjustments) that insurance companies should

maintain for supervisory purposes, taking into account the risk characteristics of the company s investments and products. The RBC guidelines are intended to be a supervisory tool only, and are not intended as a means to rank insurers generally. Each of the companies comprising ING Insurance s U.S. operations was above its target and statutory minimum RBC ratios, at year end 2006.

Insurance holding company statutes and regulations of each insurer s state of domicile require periodic disclosure concerning the ultimate controlling person (i.e., the corporation or individual that controls the domiciled insurer in each state). Such statutes also impose various limitations on investments in affiliates and may require prior approval of the payment of certain dividends by the registered insurer to ING or several of its affiliates. ING is subject, by virtue of its ownership of insurance companies, to certain of these statutes and regulations.

Although the federal government generally does not directly regulate the insurance business, many federal laws affect the insurance business in a variety of ways, including the Federal Fair Credit Reporting Act relating to the privacy of information used in consumer reports and the USA PATRIOT Act of 2001 relating to, among other things, the establishment of anti-money laundering programs. In addition, a number of the products issued by ING Insurance companies are regulated as securities under state and federal law.

### Canada

Our insurance businesses in Canada are subject to the various provincial and territorial laws and regulations. Regulators ensure that insurance companies have adequate capital, regulate related party transactions, approve acquisitions and changes of control, verify the risk management programs of companies under their jurisdiction and enact rules to ensure sound market conduct and suitability and professionalism of management. Automobile insurance is highly regulated and insurers must file their rates and are subject to certain rate constraints in certain provinces. Certain provinces like Ontario and Quebec also provide for accountability on the part of the insurers for the acts of the distributors in certain circumstances.

### Asia/Pacific

### Japan

ING Group s life insurance subsidiary in Japan is subject to the supervision of the Financial Services Agency (FSA), the chief regulator in Japan, the rules and regulations as stipulated by the Commercial Code, Insurance Business Law and ordinances of the Cabinet Office. The affairs handled by the FSA include, among others, planning and policymaking concerning financial systems and the inspection and supervision of private sector financial institutions including banks, securities companies, insurance companies and market participants including securities exchanges. New products, revision of existing products etc. require approval by the FSA. The Cabinet Office ordinances stipulate the types and proportions of assets in which an insurance company can invest The Insurance Business Law further requires that an insurance company set aside a liability reserve to provide for the fulfillment of the level of expected mortality and other assumptions that are applied in calculating liability reserves for long-term contracts. In addition to the required audit by external auditors, insurance companies are required to appoint a corporate actuary and have such corporate actuary be involved in the method of calculating premiums and other actuarial, accounting and compliance matters.

#### South Korea

ING Group s South Korean insurance subsidiaries are subject to supervision by the Financial Supervisory Commission (FSC) and its executive arm, the Financial Supervisory Service (FSS). A second body, the Korean Insurance Development Institute (KIDI) advises the FSC, FSS and the Ministry of Finance and Economy on policies and systems related to life insurance and may calculate net insurance premium rates that insurance companies can apply and report such premium rates to the FSC. The KIDI must approve all new products and revisions of existing. In May 2003, the Insurance Business Act was revised to deregulate the insurance industry and to increase competition. In 2004, the FSS announced a plan to strengthen and change its supervisory policies based on the Risk Assessment and Application System (RAAS) from 2006 onwards.

#### Australia

The financial services activities of life insurance, investments, superannuation, general insurance and banking are currently governed by separate legislation under Australian law. The two main financial services regulators are the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA) and the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC). APRA is responsible for the prudential regulation of banks and other deposit taking institutions, life and general insurance companies, superannuation funds and Retirement Savings Account Providers. APRA s responsibilities include regulating capital and liquidity requirements and monitoring the management functions of product providers. APRA also requires superannuation trustees

to be licensed under the Registrable Superannuation Entity Licensing regime. All relevant entities obtained their licenses in January 2006. ASIC is responsible for consumer protection and market integrity across the financial systems, including the areas of insurance, banking and superannuation. From March 2004 the Corporations Act 2001, required all relevant business entities to be licensed under the Australian Financial Services Licensing regime, administered by ASIC.

#### Taiwan

The Financial Supervisory Commission (FSC) was established on July 1, 2004 and supervises insurance companies, banks and securities houses in Taiwan. On July 9, 2003, new solvency requirements were issued, stipulating that the paid-in capital held by Taiwanese life insurance companies must be at least 200% of their risk based capital (RBC). This applies to both local and foreign insurance companies in Taiwan; should the paid-in capital to risk capital ratio fall below 200%, the life insurance company is required to raise new funds to achieve the target. ING Group s operations in Taiwan are regulated by the Financial Supervisory Commission (FSC). In accordance with the *Directions Governing Review of life Insurance Products*, dated December 29, 2004 of the FSC, all insurance products are filed, reviewed and approved in three ways by the Insurance Bureau of the FSC before they are marketed. **BANKING** 

#### Wholesale Banking, Retail Banking and ING Direct

#### Basel II Standards

In June 2004, the Basel Committee issued the Revised Framework (Basel II) to replace the 1988 capital accord (Basel I) with a new capital accord. The purpose of Basel II is to lay down capital requirements that are more risk-sensitive. There is greater emphasis on internal methods of risk measurement by banks. For example, the Accord further refines the system of risk weightings and permits capital requirements to be calculated based upon internal ratings or the ratings issued by recognized rating agencies. It also includes capital requirements for operational risk in addition to those laid down for credit risk and market risk.

The European Union has drawn up a directive, the Capital Requirement Directive (CRD), which applies to all European banks and investment firms. Through this European directive, Basel II has been incorporated into EU legislation. The CRD was approved by the European Parliament on September 28, 2005. The European Finance ministers adopted the Directive on October 11, 2005. As per the end of 2006, all EU Member States have incorporated or are in the process of incorporating the Directive into national law and regulations. In the Netherlands, the Directive has been incorporated into the Dutch Financial Supervision Act. Subject to approval of the Dutch Central Bank (DNB), ING will implement the most sophisticated approaches for solvency reporting under the Financial Supervision Act, the Advanced IRB Approach for credit risk and the Advanced Measurement Approach for operational risk, as per January 1, 2008. During 2007 ING Bank will still be subject to Basel I regulatory reporting, although with the implementation of the Dutch Financial Supervision Act per January 1, 2007 ING Bank will report securitization positions as per the standardized Basel II approach. During 2008 and 2009 a Basel I regulatory floor of 90% and 80%, respectively, will still apply.

## European Union Standards as currently applied by ING Bank

The European Community has adopted capital adequacy supervision for credit institutions in all its member states based on the Basel guidelines. In 1989, the EC adopted the Council Directive of April 17, 1989 on the own funds of credit institutions (the Own Funds Directive ), defining qualifying capital (own funds), and the Council Directive of December 18, 1989 on a capital base ratio for credit institutions (the Capital base Ratio Directive). These two directives (the EC Directives ) set forth the required ratio of own funds to risk-adjusted assets and off-balance sheet items. The EC Directives required the EU member states to transform the provisions of the Capital base Ratio Directive and the provisions of the Own Funds Directive into national law which shall be directly binding on banks operating in the member states. The EC Directives permit EU member states, when transforming the EC Directives into national law, to establish more stringent requirements, but do not permit more lenient requirements. The EC Directives are aimed at harmonizing banking regulations and supervision throughout the EU by laying down certain minimum standards in key areas, such as capital requirements, and requiring member states to give mutual recognition to each other s standards of regulation. The concept of mutual recognition has also been extended to create the passport concept: the freedom to establish branches

in, and to provide cross-border services into, other EU member states once a bank has been licensed in its home state. The Capital Adequacy Directive (CAD), was implemented in the Netherlands with effect from January 1, 1996. The EC Directives require a bank to have a capital base ratio of own funds to risk-adjusted assets and certain off-balance sheet items of at least 8%. At least one-half of the own funds in the numerator of the ratio must be original own funds , or Tier 1 capital. The rest may be additional own funds , or Tier 2 capital. As of January 1, 1997, Tier 1 capital consists solely of paid-up share capital plus Tier 1 capital instruments, share premium accounts and certain other reserves, less a deduction for goodwill. Tier 2 capital includes revaluation reserves, value adjustments of certain assets and certain categories of long-term subordinated debt and cumulative preferred shares. The aggregate of a bank s Tier 2 capital may not exceed 50% of the bank s Tier 1 capital.

ING Bank files consolidated quarterly and annual reports of its financial position and results with DNB in the Netherlands. ING Bank s independent auditors audit these reports on an annual basis.

Our banking operations in Belgium are supervised by the CBFA Commission. Banking supervision in Germany is carried out by the German Federal Financial Supervisory Agency (BAFIN), working in co-operation with the German Central Bank ( Deutsche Bundesbank ). Similar authorities supervise ING s banking operations in other European Union countries, such as, the Financial Services Authority in the United Kingdom.

An EU member state credit institution is not permitted to start operations through a branch in another EU member state until it has received confirmation from its home country banking supervisory authority that the information required by the Second Directive on the Coordination of Legislation to the Taking Up and Pursuit of the Business of Credit Institutions (the Second Banking Coordination EC Directive ) has been submitted to that supervisor and until, following this confirmation, a period of two months has elapsed or until, before the expiry of this period, it has received confirming information by that home country banking supervisory authority.

#### Americas

#### United States

ING Bank has a limited direct presence in the United States through the facility of the ING Bank Representative Office in New York. Although the office s activities are strictly limited to essentially that of a marketing agent of bank products and services and a facilitator (i.e., the office may not take deposits or execute any transactions), the office is subject to the jurisdiction of the State of New York Banking Department and the Federal Reserve.

A major part of our banking activities in the United States, ING Direct USA, is regulated by the Office of Thrift Supervision, a division of the United States Department of the Treasury and, to a lesser extent, by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, an independent agency of the Federal government that operates under the auspices of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act, a US federal law.

#### Anti-Money Laundering Initiatives and countries subject to sanctions

A major focus of governmental policy on financial institutions in recent years has been aimed at combating money laundering and terrorist financing. The USA PATRIOT Act of 2001 (the USA PATRIOT Act ) substantially broadened the scope of U.S. anti-money laundering laws and regulations by imposing significant new compliance and due diligence obligations, creating new crimes and penalties and expanding the extra-territorial jurisdiction of the United States. The U.S. Treasury Department has issued a number of implementing regulations which apply various requirements of the USA PATRIOT Act to financial institutions such as our bank, insurance, broker-dealer and investment adviser subsidiaries and mutual funds advised or sponsored by our subsidiaries. Those regulations impose obligations on financial institutions to maintain appropriate policies, procedures and controls to detect, prevent and report money laundering and terrorist financing and to verify the identity of their customers. In addition, the bank regulatory agencies are imposing heightened standards, and law enforcement authorities have been taking a more active role. Failure of a financial institution to maintain and implement adequate programs to combat money laundering and terrorist financing could have serious legal and reputational consequences for the institution. Like many other large international financial institutions, we engage and in the past have engaged in a limited amount of business with counterparties, including government or government-related counterparties, in

countries such as Cuba, Iran and Syria, countries which have been identified as state sponsors of terrorism by the US State Department and subject to sanctions by various government agencies. We do not believe that our revenues in such countries are or have been material to our overall business. In light of increased scrutiny of transactions involving such countries on the part of US and non-US regulatory authorities, investors and the media, as well as initiatives on the part of various institutions to adopt or enforce laws or regulations prohibiting transactions with or requiring divestment from entities doing business with such countries, we are continuing to significantly strengthen our compliance function generally, as we have done in 2006.

ING Bank N.V. has been in discussions with its Dutch bank regulator De Nederlandsche Bank (DNB) related to transactions involving persons in countries subject to sanctions by the EU, the United States and other authorities. These discussions prompted ING Bank N.V. to engage in a review regarding transactions involving sanctioned parties. In connection with this review, which is ongoing, ING Bank N.V. has been reporting to DNB and it is not possible to predict at this time the outcome thereof.

On July 28, 2006, The Office of Foreign Asset Controls (OFAC) of the U.S. Department of Treasury added the Netherlands Caribbean Bank (NCB), a bank chartered in the Netherlands Antilles that is jointly owned by ING and by two entities that are Cuban nationals, to its list of Specially Designated Nationals as a Cuban national. Such designation prohibits U.S. persons and non-U.S. subsidiaries of U.S. companies from dealing with NCB. *Canada* 

ING Bank of Canada ( ING BOC ) is a federally regulated financial institution that is subject to the supervision of the Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions ( OSFI ), which is the primary supervisor of federally chartered financial institutions (including banks and insurance companies) and federally administered pension plans. ING BOC operates a wholly-owned mutual fund dealer subsidiary, ING Direct Mutual Funds Limited that is subject to provincial regulation in the provinces in which it operates. ING Direct Mutual Funds Limited s home province supervisor is the Ontario Securities Commission, which regulates the sale of mutual funds and equities in Ontario. ING Direct Mutual Funds Limited is also a member of the Mutual Funds Dealer s Association, a mandatory self-regulatory body, which governs and oversees the conduct of mutual fund dealers in Canada.

### Asia/Pacific

Australia

The Australian Prudential Regulation Authority is responsible for the prudential regulation of banks and other deposit taking institutions, life and general insurance companies, superannuation funds and Retirement Savings Account Providers. See also supervision insurance on page 27.

#### **BROKER-DEALER AND INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES**

ING s broker-dealer entities in the United States are regulated by the Securities and Exchange Commission, the states in which they operate, and the self-regulatory organizations (e.g., the NASD and the NYSE) of which they individually are members. The primary governing statutes for such entities are the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and state statutes and regulations, as applicable. These and other laws, and the regulations promulgated there under, impose requirements (among others) regarding minimum net capital requirements, safeguarding of customer assets, protection and use of material, non-public (inside) information, record-keeping requirements, supervision of employee activities, credit to customers, suitability determinations in the context of recommending transactions to customers, clearance and settlement procedures and anti-money laundering standards and procedures. The rules of the self-regulatory organizations in some respects duplicate the above mentioned legal requirements, but also impose requirements relating to activities by market-makers in the over-the-counter market in equity securities and the NYSE imposes requirements regarding transactions effected in its listed securities market.

Certain ING entities in the United States (including certain of its broker-dealers) also act in the capacity of a federally registered investment advisor (i.e. providing transactional advice to customers for a fee), and

are governed in such activities by the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended. Moreover, certain ING entities manage investment funds (such as mutual funds); the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, regulates the governance and activities of those funds. These laws impose record-keeping and disclosure requirements on ING in the context of such activities. Moreover, the laws impose restrictions on transactions or require disclosure of transactions involving advisory clients and the advisor or the advisors affiliates, as well as transactions between advisory clients. In addition, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended, imposes certain obligations on investment advisors managing employee plan assets as defined in this act.

The failure of ING to comply with these various requirements could result in civil and criminal sanctions and administrative penalties imposed by the Securities and Exchange Commission, the states, or self-regulatory organizations on these entities of ING which have committed the violations. Moreover, employees who are found to have participated in the violations, and the managers of these employees, also may be subject to penalties by governmental and self-regulatory agencies.

### COMPETITION

There is substantial competition in the Netherlands and in the other countries in which ING undertakes business in insurance, retail and wholesale banking, and other products and services provided. Competition is more pronounced in the mature markets of the Netherlands, the Rest of Europe, the United States, Canada and Australia than in the developing markets. In recent years, however, competition in developing markets has increased as financial institutions from mature markets have sought to establish themselves in markets perceived to offer higher growth potential. ING and all its competitors have sought to form alliances, mergers or strategic relationships with local institutions, which have become more sophisticated and competitive.

Competition with respect to the products and services provided by the Group in both mature and developing markets is based on many factors, including brand recognition, scope of distribution systems, customer service, products offered, financial strength, price and, in the case of investment-linked insurance products and asset management services, investment performance. Management believes its major competitors are the larger Dutch, other European, United States and Japanese commercial banks, insurance companies, asset management and other financial-services companies.

### RATINGS

ING Groep N.V. s long-term senior debt is rated AA- (with a stable outlook) by Standard & Poor s Ratings Service (Standard & Poor s), a division of the McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. ING Groep N.V. s long-term senior debt is rated

Aa3 (with stable outlook) by Moody s Investors Service (Moody s) at December 2006, and Aa2 as of March 2007. ING Verzekeringen, N.V. s long-term senior debt is rated AA- (with a stable outlook) by Standard & Poor s and Aa3 (with a stable outlook) by Moody s.

ING Bank N.V. s long-term senior debt held a AA (with a stable outlook) rating by Standard & Poor s as of December 31, 2006. At the same date, Moody s rated ING Bank N.V. s long-term senior debt at Aa2 (with a stable outlook), and Aa1 as of March 2007. Finally, ING Bank N.V. s long-term senior debt was rated AA by Fitch Ratings, Ltd. as of December 31, 2006.

ING Verzekeringen N.V. s short-term senior debt is rated A-1+ by Standard & Poor s and Prime-1(P-1) by Moody s as of December 31, 2006

ING Bank N.V. s short-term senior debt held a rating of A-1+ by Standard & Poor s and Prime-1 (P-1) by Moody s as of December 31, 2006.

### **DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY**

In the Netherlands, ING owns a significant part of the land and buildings used in the normal course of its business. Outside the Netherlands, ING predominantly leases all of the land and buildings used in the normal course of its business. As of December 31, 2006, ING had more than 1,500 branch, representative and similar offices worldwide of which approximately 500 offices, principally branch offices, were located in the Netherlands. In addition, ING has part of its investment portfolio invested in land and buildings. Management believes that ING s facilities are adequate for its present needs in all material respects.

### Item 5. Operating and financial review and prospects

The following review and prospects should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and the related Notes thereto included elsewhere herein. The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with IFRS-EU, which differs in certain significant respects from U.S. GAAP. Reference is made to Note 2.4 of Notes to the consolidated financial statements for a description of the significant differences between IFRS-EU and U.S. GAAP and a reconciliation of shareholders equity and net profit to U.S. GAAP. Unless otherwise indicated, financial information for ING Group included herein is presented on a consolidated basis under IFRS-EU.

# FACTORS AFFECTING RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

ING Group s results of operations are affected by demographics (particularly with respect to life insurance) and by a variety of market conditions, including economic cycles, insurance industry cycles (particularly with respect to non-life insurance), banking industry cycles and fluctuations in stock markets, interest and foreign exchange rates.

### **General market conditions**

Demographic studies suggest that over the next decade there will be growth in the number of individuals who enter the age group that management believes is most likely to purchase retirement-oriented life insurance products in ING s principal life insurance markets in the Netherlands, the Rest of Europe, the United States, Asia and Australia. In addition, in a number of its European markets, including the Netherlands, retirement, medical and other social benefits previously provided by the government have been, or in the coming years are expected to be, curtailed. Management believes this will increase opportunities for private sector providers of life insurance, health, pension and other social benefits-related insurance products. Management believes that ING Insurance s distribution networks, the quality and diversity of its products and its investment management expertise in each of these markets, positions ING Insurance to benefit from these developments. In addition, the emerging markets in Central and Eastern Europe, Asia and Latin America, in which ING Insurance has insurance operations, generally have lower gross domestic products per capita and gross insurance premiums per capita than the countries in Western Europe and North America in which ING Insurance has insurance operations. Management believes that insurance operations in these emerging markets provide ING Insurance with the market presence which will allow it to take advantage of anticipated growth in these regions. In addition, conditions in the non-life insurance markets in which ING Insurance operates are cyclical, and characterized by periods of price competition, fluctuations in underwriting results, and the occurrence of unpredictable weather-related and other losses.

### **Fluctuations in equity markets**

Our insurance and asset management operations are exposed to fluctuations in equity markets. Our overall investment return and fee income from equity-linked products are influenced by equity markets. The fees we charge for managing portfolios are often based on performance and value of the portfolio. In addition, fluctuations in equity markets may affect sales of life and pension products, unit-linked products, including variable business and may increase the amount of withdrawals which will reduce related management fees. Our banking operations are exposed to fluctuations in equity markets. ING Bank maintains an internationally diversified and mainly client-related trading portfolio. Accordingly market downturns are likely to lead to declines in securities trading and brokerage activities which we execute for customers and therefore to a decline in related commissions.

### **Fluctuations in interest rates**

Our insurance operations are exposed to fluctuations in interest rates through impacts on sales and surrenders of life insurance and annuity products. Declining interest rates may increase sales, but may impact profitability as a result of a reduced spread between the guaranteed interest rates to policyholders and the investment returns on fixed interest investments. Declining interest rates may also affect the results of our reserve adequacy testing which may in turn result in reserve strengthening. Rising interest rates may increase the surrender of policies which may require liquidation of fixed interest investments at unfavorable market prices. This could result in realized investment losses. Our banking operations are exposed to fluctuations in interest rates. Our management of interest rate sensitivity affects the results of our banking operations. Interest rate sensitivity refers to the relationship between changes in market interest rates and changes in net interest income. Both the composition of our banking assets and liabilities and the fact that interest rate changes may affect client behavior in a different way than assumed in our internal models

result in a mismatch which causes the banking operations net interest income to be affected by changes in interest rates

#### **Fluctuations in exchange rates**

We publish our consolidated financial statements in euros. Because a substantial portion of our income and expenses are denominated in currencies other than euros, fluctuations in the exchange rates used to translate foreign currencies, particularly the U.S. dollar, the Australian dollar, the Canadian dollar, the Japanese yen, the Korean won, the Pound sterling and the Polish zloty into euros will impact our reported results of operations and cash flows from year to year. Fluctuations in exchange rates will also impact the value (denominated in euro) of our investments in our non-Euro reporting subsidiaries. The impact of these fluctuations in exchange rates is mitigated to some extent by the fact that income and related expenses, as well as assets and liabilities, of each of our non-euro reporting subsidiaries are generally denominated in the same currencies. For the main foreign currencies, in which ING s income and expenses are denominated namely the U.S.dollar, Pound sterling, Canadian dollar, Australian dollar and Polish zloty, the translation risk is managed taking into account the effect of translation results on the Tier-1 ratio. For all other currencies the translation risk is managed within a VaR limit.

The strengthening of most currencies against the euro during 2006 had a positive impact of EUR 20 million on net profit. In 2005 exchange rates positively influenced net profit by EUR 81 million. In 2004 exchange rates negatively influenced net profit by EUR 86 million, which was offset by a gain of EUR 188 million on ING s US dollar hedge. For the years 2006, 2005 and 2004, the year-end exchange rates (which are the rates ING uses in the preparation of the consolidated financial statements for balance sheet items not denominated in euros) and the average annual exchange rates (which are the rates ING uses in the preparation of the consolidated financial statements for income statement items and cash flows not denominated in euros) were as follows for the currencies specified below:

	Average				
	2006	2005	2004		
U.S. dollar	1.2568	1.2481	1.2472		
Australian dollar	1.6639	1.6363	1.6912		
Canadian dollar	1.4220	1.5104	1.6164		
Pound sterling	0.6823	0.6849	0.6816		
Japanese yen	146.1882	137.1460	133.9170		
South Korean won	1,199.3280	1,276.3890	1,423.184		
Polish zloty	3.8974	4.0288	4.5326		

	Year-end				
	2006		2004		
U.S. dollar	1.3183	1.1822	1.3645		
Australian dollar	1.6688	1.6130	1.7485		
Canadian dollar	1.5281	1.3750	1.6427		
Pound sterling	0.6715	0.6868	0.7053		
Japanese yen	156.7861	138.9972	139.7674		
South Korean won	1,225.9710	1,186.9300	1,412.4690		
Polish zloty	3.8322	3.8612	4.0899		

#### **Critical Accounting Policies**

Reference is made to Note 2.1. Basis of presentation, of the consolidated financial statements.

#### CONSOLIDATED RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The following information should be read in conjunction with, and is qualified by reference to the Group s consolidated financial statements and other financial information included elsewhere herein. ING Group evaluates the results of its insurance operations and banking operations, including Insurance Europe, Insurance Americas, Insurance Asia/Pacific, Wholesale Banking, Retail Banking and ING Direct, using the financial performance measure of underlying profit before tax. Underlying profit before tax is defined as profit before tax and, excluding, as applicable for each respective segment, either all or some of the following items: profit from divested units, realized gains/losses on divestitures, certain restructuring charges and other non-operating income/(expense).

While these excluded items are significant components in understanding and assessing the Group s consolidated financial performance, ING Group believes that the presentation of underlying profit before tax enhances the understanding and comparability of its segment performance by highlighting profit before tax attributable to ongoing operations and the underlying profitability of the segment businesses. For example, we believe that trends in the underlying profitability of our segments can be more clearly identified without the effects of the realized gains/losses on divestitures as the timing is largely subject to the Company s discretion, influenced by market opportunities and ING Group does not believe that they are indicative of future results. Underlying profit before tax is not a substitute for profit before tax as determined in accordance with IFRS-EU. ING Group s definition of underlying profit before tax as well as the reconciliation of our segment underlying profit before tax to our profit before taxation see Segment Reporting and Note 2.1, note 50, to our consolidated financial statements.

The following table sets forth the consolidated results of the operations of ING Group and its insurance and banking operations for the years ended December 31, 2006 and 2005:

	Insurance		<b>Banking Eliminations</b>					Total
	2006	2005	2006	2005 (EUR mill	2006	2005	2006	2005
Premium income Interest result banking	46,834	45,758		X	,		46,834	45,758
operations			9,335	9,162	143	95	9,192	9,067
Commission income Investment and Other	1,636	1,346	2,681	2,401			4,317	3,747
income	11,172	10,299	2,179	2,285	73	36	13,278	12,548
Total income	59,642	57,403	14,195	13,848	216	131	73,621	71,120
Underwriting								
expenditure	48,188	47,120					48,188	47,120
Other interest expenses	1,233	1,100			216	131	1,017	969
Operating expenses Impairments/additions to the provision for	5,275	5,194	9,087	8,844			14,362	14,038
loan losses	11	11	103	88			114	99
Total expenditure	54,707	53,425	9,190	8,932	216	131	63,681	62,226
Profit before tax	4,935	3,978	5,005	4,916			9,940	8,894
Taxation	702	455	1,205	924			1,907	1,379
Profit before third-party interests	4,233	3,523	3,800	3,992			8,033	7,515
timu-party interests	4,233	3,523	3,000	3,992			0,033	/,313

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Third-party interests	281	255	60	50	341	305
Net profit (attributable to shareholders)	3,952	3,268	3,740	3,942	7,692	7,210
<b>Profit before tax</b> Gains/losses on	4,935	3,978	5,005	4,916	9,940	8,894
divestments <sup>1)</sup> Profit divested units Special items	(49)	13 (16)	112 (45)	(379) 17	63 (45)	(366) 1
Underlying profit before tax	4,886	3,975	<b>5,072</b> 35	4,554	9,958	8,529
			55			

Divestments 1) Insurance: unwinding Piraeus (EUR 34 million. 2006), sale of Australia non-life (EUR 15 million, 2006); sale of Freeler (EUR 10 million, 2005), gain from IPO Canada (EUR 19 million, 2005), sale of Life of Georgia (EUR (89) million, 2005), sale of ING Re (EUR 20 million, 2005), sale of Austbrokers (EUR 27 million, 2005). Divestments Banking :sale of Willams de Broë (EUR (9) million, 2006), sale of Deutsche Hypothekenbank (EUR (80) million, 2006), sale of Degussa Bank (EUR (23) million, 2006); sale of **Baring Asset** Management (EUR 240 million, 2005), sale of 12.8% ING Bank Slaski shares (EUR 92 million, 2005),

restructuring of NMB-Heller (EUR 47 million, 2005).

The following table sets forth the consolidated results of the operations of ING Group and its insurance and banking operations for the years ended December 31, 2005 and 2004:

		nsurance Banking Elimination						
	2005	2004	2005	2004 (EUR mill	2005 lions)	2004	20051)	2004
Premium income Interest result banking	45,758	43,617			/		45,758	43,617
operations			9,162	8,699	95	(42)	9,067	8,741
Commission income Investment and Other	1,346	1,198	2,401	2,581			3,747	3,779
income	10,299	10,787	2,285	1,398	36	163	12,548	12,022
Total income	57,403	55,602	13,848	12,678	131	121	71,120	68,159
Underwriting								
expenditure	47,120	45,384					47,120	45,384
Other interest expenses	1,100	1,140			131	121	969	1,019
Operating expenses Impairments/additions to the provision for	5,194	4,746	8,844	8,795			14,038	13,541
loan losses	11	10	88	465			99	475
10411 105505	11	10	00	405			))	775
Total expenditure	53,425	51,280	8,932	9,260	131	121	62,226	60,419
Profit before tax	3,978	4,322	4,916	3,418			8,894	7,740
Taxation	455	850	924	859			1,379	1,709
Profit before								
third-party interests	3,523	3,472	3,992	2,559			7,515	6,031
Third-party interests	255	123	50	153			305	276
Net profit (attributable to								
shareholders)	3,268	3,349	3,942	2,406			7,210	5,755
<b>Profit before tax</b> Gains/losses on	3,978	4,322	4,916	3,418			8,894	7,740
divestments <sup>2)</sup>	13	(221)	(379)	166			(366)	(55)
Profit divested units	(16)	(151)	17	(102)			1	(253)
Special items		(386)		44				(342)
Underlying profit								
before tax	3,975	3,564	4,554	3,526			8,529	7,090

The application of IAS 32, 39 and IFRS 4 from 1 January 2005 had a positive impact on ING Group s results in 2005. In total, IAS 32, 39 and IFRS 4 had a positive impact of approximately EUR 455 million on total profit before tax of ING Group, or EUR 392 million after tax. The impact on the insurance operations was approximately EUR 238 million before tax, mainly due to realised gains on the sale of bonds and the revaluation of embedded derivatives, which were offset by the absence of amortised income from gains on fixed interest securities, and negative valuation changes on fixed-income investment derivatives. The impact on the

banking operations was approximately EUR 217 million before tax, mainly due to valuation adjustments on non-trading derivatives and prepayment penalties. Divestments Insurance: sale of Freeler (EUR 10 million, 2005), gain from IPO Canada (EUR 19 million, 2005 and EUR 249 million, 2004), sale of Life of Georgia (EUR (89) million, 2005 and EUR (28) million, 2004), sale of ING Re (EUR 20 million, 2005 and EUR (219) million, 2004), sale of Austbrokers (EUR 27 million, 2005) and sale of Australia non-life (EUR 219 million, 2004). Divestments Banking: sale of **Baring Asset** Management (EUR 240 million, 2005), sale of

2)

12.8% in ING Bank Slaski shares (EUR 92 million, 2005), restructuring of NMB-Heller (EUR 47 million, 2005), sale of BHF-Bank (EUR (169) million, 2004), sale Asian cash equity business (EUR (84) million, 2004) and sale of CenE Bankiers (EUR 87 million, 2004).

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### **GROUP OVERVIEW**

## Year ended December 31, 2006 compared to year ended December 31, 2005

Total profit before tax increased by EUR 1,046 million, or 11.8% from EUR 8,894 million in 2005 to EUR 9,940 million in 2006 and total underlying profit before tax increased by EUR 1,429 million or 16.8% from EUR 8,529 million in 2005 to EUR 9,958 million in 2006. The increase in profit before tax was driven by strong growth at ING Direct as well as good results from the insurance business lines due to strong equity markets which helped to drive growth in sales and assets at ING s life insurance business, while the non-life business continued to benefit from favorable underwriting experience in most markets. The increase in total profit before tax is also impacted by divestments which resulted in a loss of EUR 18 million and a gain of EUR 365 million for 2006 and 2005, respectively.

Net profit rose by EUR 482 million, or 6.7% from EUR 7,210 million in 2005 to EUR 7,692 million in 2006. This lower growth compared with the increase in profit before tax was due to a higher effective tax rate in 2006. The effective tax rate increased to 19.2% in 2006 from 15.5% in 2005 due to lower releases from tax provisions in 2006 compared to 2005.

Earnings per share attributable to equity holders of the Company increased to EUR 3.57 in 2006 from EUR 3.32 in 2005.

### Currency impact

Currency rate differences had a positive impact of EUR 20 million on net profit and EUR 48 million on profit before tax, mainly due to strengthening of the Canadian dollar, Polish zloty and South Korea won, which was partially offset by a weakening of the U.S. dollar. In 2005 currency rate differences had a positive impact of EUR 81 million on net profit and EUR 116 million on profit before tax.

### **Capital Ratios**

ING calculates certain capital ratios on the basis of adjusted capital (see page 74), which differs from total equity attributable to equity holders of the Company in that it excludes unrealized gains and losses on debt securities and the cash flow hedge reserve and includes hybrid capital. On this basis, the debt/equity ratio of ING Group improved to 9.0% in 2006 compared with 9.4% in 2005 supported by growth in equity. The capital coverage ratio of ING Verzekeringen N.V. increased to 274% of E.U. regulatory requirements at the end of December 2006, compared with 255% at the end of December 2005. The Tier-1 ratio of ING Bank N.V. stood at 7.63% at the end of 2006, up from 7.32% at the end of 2005, as growth in capital was partially offset by growth in risk-weighted assets. Total risk-weighted assets of the banking operations increased by EUR 18.2 billion, or 5.7%, to EUR 337.9 billion as of December 31, 2006 from EUR 319.7 billion as of December 31, 2005, driven by growth in Retail Banking and ING Direct.

### Return on Shareholders equity

The net return on shareholders equity decreased to 23.5% in 2006 from 26.6% in 2005. The insurance operations reflected a 20.9% net return on equity in 2006, down from 21.1% in 2005. The banking operations reflected a decrease to 19.4% in 2006 from 24.2% in 2005 due to lower net profit and increased shareholders equity. **INSURANCE OPERATIONS** 

## Income

Total premium income increased 2.4%, or EUR 1,076 million from EUR 45,758 million in 2005 to EUR 46,834 million in 2006. Life premiums increased 2.1%, or EUR 844 million to EUR 40,501 million in 2006 from EUR 39,657 million in 2005, primarily due to growth in Central and Rest of Europe, the United States, South Korea and Australia, which was partially offset by a decline in premium income in the Netherlands, Belgium and Japan. Non-life premiums increased 3.8%, or EUR 232 million, from EUR 6,101 million in 2005 to EUR 6,333 million in 2006, due to growth in the portfolio in Canada which was partially offset by a decline of 2.1% in the Netherlands. Investment and Other income increased 8.5%, or EUR 873 million to EUR 11,172 million in 2006 from EUR 10,299 million in 2005, reflecting higher dividend income, capital gains on equities, revaluation of real estate and private equity, higher fixed margins and favorable DAC unlocking offset by investment related losses resulting from the rising interest rate environment in the United States. Commission income increased

21.5%, or EUR 290 million to EUR 1,636 million in 2006 from EUR 1,346 million in 2005, mainly driven by higher assets under management.

### Underwriting Expenditure

Underwriting expenditure increased by EUR 1,068 million, or 2.3% from EUR 47,120 million in 2005 to EUR 48,188 million in 2006. The underwriting expenditure of the life insurance operations increased by EUR 1,027 million, or 2.4%, primarily due to an increase in profit sharing and rebates and an increase in technical provisions. The underwriting expenditure of the non-life insurance operations increased by EUR 41 million, or 0.9%, resulting in an overall lower non-life claims ratio of 58.7% in 2006 compared with 62.7% in 2005, primarily attributable to the improvement in the claims ratios from Loss of Income/Accident.

### Expenses

Operating expenses from the insurance operations increased 1.6%, or EUR 81 million to EUR 5,275 million in 2006, from EUR 5,194 million in 2005, mainly due to a release of employee benefit provisions in the Netherlands in the fourth quarter of 2005 as well as expenses made in 2006 to support our growth in Central and Rest of Europe and Asia. The efficiency ratios for the life insurance operations improved mainly reflecting the growth of assets under management. Expenses as a percentage of assets under management for investment products improved to 0.75% in 2006 compared with 0.82% in 2005. Expenses as a percentage of premiums for life products improved to 13.26% in 2006 from 13.28% in 2005. The cost ratio for the non-life operations remained stable at 31.8% in 2006 compared to 31.9% in 2005.

## Profit before tax and net profit

Total profit before tax from insurance increased 24.1%, or EUR 957 million, to EUR 4,935 million in 2006 from EUR 3,978 million in 2005. This increase was impacted by divestments which resulted in a profit of EUR 49 million in 2006 and a loss of EUR 13 million in 2005. Divested units contributed EUR 16 million profit before tax in 2005 and did not contribute to profit before tax in 2006. Net profit from insurance increased by 20.9%, or EUR 684 million to EUR 3,952 million in 2006 from EUR 3,268 million in 2005 due to an increase in third-party interests to EUR 281 million in 2006 from EUR 255 million in 2005, and an increase of the effective tax rate from 11.4% in 2005 to 14.2% in 2006 due to lower releases from tax provisions.

### Underlying profit before tax

Underlying profit before tax from the insurance operations increased by 22.9%, or EUR 911 million to EUR 4,886 million in 2006 from EUR 3,975 million in 2005, mainly due to strong growth in retirement services and life insurance in developing markets, higher investment results and a favorable claims environment for the non-life business. Underlying profit before tax from life insurance increased 23.0%, or EUR 637 million from EUR 2,768 million in 2005 to EUR 3,405 million in 2006, driven by increased sales, growth in assets under management and investment gains. The non-life operations increased by 22.7%, or EUR 274 million from EUR 1,207 million in 2005 to EUR 1,481 million in 2006. Lower results in Canada, due to less favourable developments in prior-year reserves and lower investment-related gains, were offset by higher results in all regions benefiting from a favorable underwriting cycle.

#### Embedded value

The embedded value of ING s life insurance operations increased 7.7%, or EUR 2,128 million to EUR 29,714 million in 2006 from EUR 27,586 million in 2005, before net dividends of EUR 1,995 million paid to the Group in 2006. The embedded value after net dividends amounted EUR 27,718 million. The figures are calculated in accordance with European Embedded Value principles issued by the CFO Forum, a group representing the chief financial officers of major European insurers. In addition to the value attributable to new business and the unwinding of the discount rate, significant contributions to the increase in embedded value came from favourable financial performance variances and the investment return on free surplus. These positive factors were partially offset by currency movements, changes in discount rates and economic assumptions, particularly in Taiwan, due to reduction of ultimate risk free rates from 5.75% to 3.93%. Value of New Business remained stable at EUR 807 million compared to EUR 805 million in 2005, but Asia/ Pacific, Central and Rest of Europe and US Wealth Management continue to show strong growth. **BANKING OPERATIONS** 

Income

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Total income from banking increased 2.5%, or EUR 347 million to EUR 14,195 million in 2006 from EUR 13,848 million in 2005, as a sharp decline in investment income, primarily attributable to gains/losses on divestments, was more than offset by increases in commission income, net trading income and interest income.

The net interest result increased by EUR 173 million, or 1.9%, to EUR 9,335 million in 2006 from EUR 9,162 million in 2005, driven by higher interest results in Retail Banking and ING Direct, which were partially offset by lower interest results in Wholesale Banking. The total net interest margin in 2006 was 1.1%, a decrease from 1.2% in 2005, due to the flattening of yield curves, pressure on client margins and the ongoing growth of ING Direct with a lower interest margin.

Investment income decreased by EUR 454 million, or 48.5%, to EUR 483 million in 2006 from EUR 937 million in 2005. The decrease was primarily due to EUR 379 million in gains recognized on divestments in 2005 and a loss of EUR 112 million on divestments in 2006.

Commission income increased 11.7%, or EUR 280 million to EUR 2,681 million in 2006 from EUR 2,401 million in 2005. The increase in commission income was primarily due to the strong growth of management fees primarily at ING Real Estate and higher fees from securities business, brokerage & advisory and insurance banking. The increase in commission income from insurance is largely attributable to ING Belgium, primarily resulting from a changed sales agreement with Insurance Belgium.

Other income increased by EUR 348 million, or 25.8%, to EUR 1,696 million in 2006 from EUR 1,348 million in 2005. The increase is primarily due to a EUR 479 million increase in net trading income, partly offset by EUR 89 million lower valuation results from non-trading derivatives and a decrease of EUR 85 million of other revenue. The share of profit from associates increased by EUR 43 million from EUR 140 million in 2005 to EUR 183 million in 2006, mainly due to associates at ING Real Estate.

### Expenses

Total operating expenses increased by EUR 243 million, or 2.7%, to EUR 9,087 million in 2006 from EUR 8,844 million in 2005. Excluding divestments, operating expenses increased by EUR 420 million or by 4.9%, from EUR 8,612 million in 2005 to EUR 9,032 million in 2006. The increase is in large part attributable to EUR 202 million higher expenses to support the growth of the ING Direct activities, EUR 27 million higher expenses at the fast growing ING Real Estate and EUR 164 million compliance-related costs in 2006. Releases from employee benefit provisions decreased by EUR 53 million from EUR 119 million in 2005 to EUR 66 million in 2006, while the reclassification of payment expenses from operating expenses to funds transfer commission lowered total operating expenses by EUR 74 million.

### The addition to the provision for loan losses

The total addition to the provision for loan losses in 2006 was EUR 103 million compared to EUR 88 million in 2005, an increase of 17.0% or EUR 15 million. The increase by EUR 50 million in Retail Banking, from EUR 90 million in 2005 to EUR 140 million in 2006, due to lower releases outside the Netherlands which was partly offset by a EUR 10 million increase in net release in Wholesale Banking and a EUR 25 million lower addition at ING Direct, from EUR 106 million in 2005 to EUR 81 million in 2006. As a percentage of average credit-risk weighted assets, the addition to the provision for loan losses in 2006 equaled 3 basis points, similar to 2005.

### Profit before tax and net profit

Total profit before tax increased 1.8%, or EUR 89 million to EUR 5,005 million in 2006 from EUR 4,916 million in 2005. Divestments had a negative impact on profit before tax in 2006, including EUR 112 million realized losses on divestments compared with gains of EUR 379 million in 2005. Divested units contributed EUR 45 million to profit before tax in 2006 compared to a loss of EUR 17 million in 2005. Net profit from banking declined 5.1%, or EUR 202 million from EUR 3,942 million in 2005 to EUR 3,740 million in 2006. This decrease is related to the effective tax rate for ING s banking operations which increased from 18.8% (EUR 924 million) for 2005 to 24.1% (EUR 1,205 million) for 2006, mainly due to tax-exempt gains on divestments, a release of EUR 35 million from the tax provisions in 2005, and the establishment of a EUR 148 million deferred tax asset related to net operating losses in the U.S. in 2005.

### Underlying profit before tax

ING s banking businesses benefited from a strong increase in profit in 2006 driven by strong income growth in all three business lines and continued low additions to the provision for loan losses, offset by a 4.9% increase in expenses, including EUR 176 million in additional compliance-related costs. Underlying profit before tax rose 11.4%, or EUR 518 million to EUR 5,072 million in 2006 from EUR 4,554 million in 2005. Growth was driven by increased

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savings and strong demand for mortgages at both Retail Banking and ING Direct.

## **GROUP OVERVIEW**

## Year ended December 31, 2005 compared to year ended December 31, 2004

Total profit before tax increased EUR 1,154 million, or 14.9% from EUR 7,740 million in 2004 to EUR 8,894 million in 2005 and total underlying profit before tax increased EUR 1,439 million or 20.3% from EUR 7,090 million in 2004 to EUR 8,529 million in 2005. The increase in total profit before tax and total underlying profit before tax was driven by strong growth from Retail Banking and ING Direct as well as from Insurance Americas and Insurance Europe due to growth in retirement services and favorable results from non-life insurance. The increase in total profit before tax was also impacted by the decrease in special items, from EUR 342 million in 2004 to zero in 2005. Special items in 2004 included a gain of EUR 287 million related to the U.S. dollar hedge, a EUR 96 million gain on old reinsurance business and restructuring provisions of EUR 41 million at Wholesale Banking.

Net profit rose by EUR 1,455 million, or 25.3% from EUR 5,755 million in 2004 to EUR 7,210 million in 2005. This higher growth compared with the increase in profit before tax was due to a lower effective tax rate in 2005. The effective tax rate declined to 15.5% in 2005 from 22.1% in 2004 due to a lower statutory tax rate in the Netherlands in 2005, tax-exempt gains on divestments (such as Baring Asset Management, CenE Bankiers and the IPO of ING Canada), EUR 148 million from the creation of deferred tax assets, related to net operating losses from the banking operations, and net releases from tax provisions of EUR 435 million in 2005 compared with EUR 161 million in releases in 2004.

Earnings per share attributable to equity holders of the Company increased to EUR 3.32 in 2005 from EUR 2.71 in 2004.

### Currency impact

Currency rate differences had a positive impact of EUR 81 million on net profit and EUR 116 million on total profit before tax, mainly due to the strengthening of the Canadian and Australian dollars, Polish zloty and South Korea won. *Capital Ratios* 

ING calculates certain capital ratios on the basis of adjusted capital, which differs from total equity attributable to equity holders of the Company in that it excludes unrealized gains on fixed-interest investments and includes hybrid capital. On this basis, the debt/equity ratio of ING Group improved to 9.4% in 2005 compared with 11.9% at January 1, 2005 supported by growth in equity. The capital coverage ratio of ING Verzekeringen N.V. increased to 255% of E.U. regulatory requirements at the end of December 2005, compared with 204% at January 1, 2005. The Tier-1 ratio of ING Bank N.V. was 7.32% at the end of 2005, up from 6.92% on January 1, 2005, as growth in capital was partially offset by strong growth in risk-weighted assets. Total risk-weighted assets of the banking operations increased by EUR 45.6 billion, or 16.6%, to EUR 319.7 billion at December 31, 2005 from EUR 274.1 billion as of December 31, 2004, driven by growth in all three banking business lines.

## Return on Shareholders equity

The net return on shareholders equity increased to 26.6% in 2005 from 25.4% in 2004. The insurance operations reflected a 21.1% net return on equity in 2005, down from 27.0% in 2004, due to an increase in shareholders equity in 2005. The banking operations reflected an increase to 24.2% in 2005 from 15.8% in 2004.

## **INSURANCE OPERATIONS**

### Income

Total premium income increased 4.9%, or EUR 2,141 million from EUR 43,617 million in 2004 to EUR 45,758 million in 2005, mainly driven by a strong growth of life premiums which increased by 5.7%, or EUR 2,154 million to EUR 39,657 million in 2005 from EUR 37,503 million in 2004, primarily related to growth in South Korea and Japan. Premium growth was partially offset by divestments and the reclassification of some life products to investment contracts from the beginning of 2005 under IFRS 4, notably in Australia, the U.S. and Belgium, which had a total negative impact of EUR 2,053 million. Non-life premiums decreased slightly by 0.2%, or EUR 13 million, from EUR 6,114 million in 2004 to EUR 6,101 million in 2005, as lower premiums in the Netherlands and Mexico offset higher premiums in Canada following the acquisition of Allianz Canada in December 2004.

Investment income and Other income declined 4.5%, or EUR 488 million to EUR 10,299 million in 2005 from EUR 10,787 million in 2004, reflecting the impact of divestments in both periods and the gain on the U.S. dollar hedge in 2004, which offset higher profit from associates. Commission income increased 12.4%, or EUR 148 million to EUR 1,346 million in 2005 from EUR 1,198 million in 2004, mainly driven by a reclassification of products from life insurance to investment products under IFRS 4 and by the impact of divestments

#### Underwriting Expenditure

Underwriting expenditure increased by EUR 1,736 million, or 3.8% from EUR 45,384 million in 2004 to EUR 47,120 million in 2005. The underwriting expenditure of the life insurance operations increased by EUR 1,880 million, or 4.7%, primarily attributable to an increase in profit sharing and rebates and an increase in technical provisions. The underwriting expenditure of the non-life insurance operations decreased by EUR 144 million, or 2.8%, related to lower net premiums earned and partially offset by higher claims paid. These factors resulted in an overall lower non-life claims ratio of 62.7% in 2005 compared with 63.0% in 2004, primarily attributable to the improvement in the claims ratios from the Automobile and General Liability product lines.

#### Expenses

Operating expenses from the insurance operations increased 9.4%, or EUR 448 million to EUR 5,194 million in 2005, from EUR 4,746 million in 2004, due to increased costs to support the ongoing growth of the business, particularly in Asia, as well as the impact (EUR 30 million) of a new collective labor agreement in the Netherlands, investments in IT infrastructure, and start-up costs for a new distribution channel in Canada. The efficiency ratios for the life insurance operations improved as both premium and asset growth outpaced the growth in expenses. Expenses as a percentage of assets under management for investment products improved to 0.82% in 2005 compared with 0.86% in 2004. Expenses as a percentage of premiums for life products improved to 13.28% in 2005 from 13.52% in 2004. The cost ratio for the non-life operations deteriorated slightly to 31.9% in 2005 from 30.6% in 2004, driven by higher costs related to the purchase of Allianz Canada in December 2004.

#### Profit before tax and net profit

Total profit before tax from insurance declined 8.0%, or EUR 344 million, to EUR 3,978 million in 2005 from EUR 4,322 million in 2004. This decline was impacted by the divestments which resulted in a loss of EUR 13 million in 2005 and a gain of EUR 221 million in 2004. Divested units contributed EUR 16 million to profit before tax in 2005 and EUR 151 million in 2004. Results in 2004 also included a gain of EUR 290 million from the U.S. dollar hedge and a gain of EUR 96 million from old reinsurance activities as special items while no special items were recorded in 2005. Net profit from insurance decreased by 2.4%, or EUR 81 million to EUR 3,268 million in 2005 from EUR 3,349 million in 2004. This decrease is related to an increase in third-party interests in 2005 to EUR 255 million from EUR 123 million in 2004, partially offset by the decrease of the effective tax rate from 19.7% in 2004 to 11.4% in 2005 due to tax-exempt gains on divestments, a lower statutory tax rate in the Netherlands and releases of tax provisions of EUR 435 million, primarily related to the conclusions of the tax administration on reviews of certain provisions in the Netherlands and the results of an IRS audit in the Americas.

#### Underlying profit before tax

Underlying profit before tax from the insurance operations increased by 11.5%, or EUR 411 million to EUR 3,975 million in 2005 from EUR 3,564 million in 2004. ING s insurance operations continued to benefit from strong growth in retirement services and life insurance in developing markets, higher investment results and a favorable claims environment for the non-life insurance businesses. Underlying profit before tax from life insurance increased 7.6%, or EUR 196 million from EUR 2,572 million in 2004 to EUR 2,768 million in 2005, driven by the U.S., Central Europe, South Korea and the Netherlands, supported by higher sales, growth in assets under management and investment gains. This growth was somewhat offset by the reserve strengthening in Taiwan, and lower capital gains on equities in 2005 compared to 2004, EUR 388 million and EUR 590 million, respectively. The non-life operations in the Netherlands, Belgium and Canada continued to benefit from a historically low claims ratio, which helped to drive underlying profit from non-life insurance up 21.7%, or EUR 215 million from EUR 992 million in 2004 to EUR 1,207 million in 2005.

Embedded value

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The embedded value of ING s life insurance operations increased 22.9%, or EUR 5,135 million to EUR 27,586 million in 2005 from EUR 22,451 million in 2004, including net dividends of EUR 474 million and EUR 1,049 million paid to the Group in 2005 and 2004, respectively. The figures are calculated in accordance with European Embedded Value principles issued by the CFO Forum, a group representing the chief financial

officers of major European insurers. In addition to the value attributable to new business and the unwinding of the discount rate, significant contributions to the increase in embedded value came from favorable experience variances and currency movements, changes to discount rates, and the investment return on free surplus. These positive factors were partially offset by changes in economic assumptions, particularly in Asia/Pacific, due to revised new money assumptions in Taiwan. Continued focus on value creation led to a 27.4%, or EUR 173 million increase in the value of new business to EUR 805 million in 2005 from EUR 632 million in 2004, driven by improved pricing margins, higher sales, and a more profitable product mix in the U.S. and Asia/Pacific. Central Europe and Asia/Pacific both generated particularly strong growth in 2005, indicating the strong future earnings potential of the businesses in both regions.

# **BANKING OPERATIONS**

### Income

Total income from banking increased 9.2%, or EUR 1,170 million to EUR 13,848 million in 2005 from EUR 12,678 million in 2004, mainly due to strong growth in savings and mortgage lending as well as increased investment income.

Total interest result increased 5.3%, or EUR 463 million to EUR 9,162 million in 2005 from EUR 8,699 million in 2004, driven by strong growth in savings and mortgage lending at Retail Banking and ING Direct, as well as increased prepayment penalties as customers refinanced their mortgages to take advantage of low interest rates. This increase was partially offset by lower interest results in Wholesale Banking due to margin pressure and a decline in volumes as the business focused on cross-selling fee products and limiting growth in risk-weighted assets. The implementation of IAS 32 and IAS 39 in 2005 had a negative impact of approximately EUR 70 million on the interest result in 2005. Investment and Other income increased sharply to EUR 2,285 million in 2005 from EUR 1,398 million in 2004, primarily due to EUR 379 million in gains recognized on divestments in 2005 and a loss of EUR 166 million recognized from divestments in 2004, gains recognized on equity investments mainly in Belgium and the Americas in 2005, and EUR 60 million of realized gains recognized on the sale of bonds, which was partially offset by decreased income earned from investment properties, The increase was also due to a EUR 226 million positive valuation result on non-trading derivatives in 2005. The proportional (50%) consolidation of Postkantoren BV in the Netherlands starting in 2005, which had no impact on total profit, added EUR 168 million. The share of profit from associates increased by EUR 106 million from EUR 34 million in 2004 to EUR 140 million in 2005, mainly due to associates at ING Real Estate. The result of the trading portfolio decreased by EUR 205 million or 32.7% from EUR 626 million in 2004 to EUR 421 million in 2005, partly due to a reclassification of interest-related components from trading results to interest results.

Commission income declined 7.0%, or EUR 180 million to EUR 2,401 million in 2005 from EUR 2,581 million in 2004, primarily related to the impact of divestments, which was partially offset by higher management fees (mainly at ING Real Estate) and higher commission fees from the securities business, funds transfers and brokerage and advisory fees.

### Expenses

Total operating expenses increased 0.6%, or EUR 49 million to EUR 8,844 million from EUR 8,795 million in 2004 due to increased labor costs and one-off expenses and divestments which largely offset the impact of consolidations (Postkantoren B.V. and Mercator Bank) in 2005. One-off expenses of EUR 255 million include EUR 47 million for restructuring the Operations and IT activities in the Benelux, EUR 27 million for accelerated software depreciation, EUR 78 million for impairments on development projects at ING Real Estate and EUR 103 million for reorganization and reallocation provisions, mainly related to Williams de Broë, recorded in Belgium. An additional EUR 168 million is related to the consolidation of 50% of Postkantoren BV in 2005. The remaining increase was driven by continued strong growth of ING Direct, the acquisition of Mercator Bank in Belgium, investments to expand the retail banking activities in Romania, Poland and India, as well as higher IT costs. Personnel expenses increased, particularly in the Netherlands as a result of the new collective labour agreement; however that was largely offset by a net release of EUR 119 million in provisions for employee benefits following healthcare and pension legislative changes in the Netherlands. The total cost/income ratio of the banking operations improved to 63.9% in 2005 from 69.4% in 2004. *Addition to the provision for loan losses* 

The total addition to the provision for loan losses in 2005 was EUR 88 million compared to EUR 465 million in 2004, a decrease of 81.1% or EUR 377 million. The additions to the provision for loan losses were

exceptionally low due to an improvement in the credit portfolio, the release of loan loss provisions previously recorded, the absence of new large defaults and improvements in risk management. As a percentage of average credit-risk-weighted assets, the addition in 2005 equalled 3 basis points compared with 18 basis points in 2004.

#### Profit before tax and net profit

Total profit before tax increased 43.8%, or EUR 1,498 million to EUR 4,916 million in 2005 from EUR 3,418 million in 2004. Divestments had a positive impact on profit before tax in 2005, including EUR 379 million in realized gains on divestments compared with a loss of EUR 166 million in 2004. Divested units contributed a loss of EUR 17 million to profit before tax in 2005 and a gain of EUR 102 million in 2004. Net profit from banking rose 63.8%, or EUR 1,536 million from EUR 2,406 million in 2004 to EUR 3,942 million in 2005. This increase was related to the change in the effective tax rate which declined to 18.8% in 2005 from 25.1% in 2004 due to tax-exempt gains on divestments, a lower statutory tax rate in the Netherlands, non-taxable gains on equities mainly in Belgium, a release of EUR 35 million from the tax provisions, and a EUR 148 million deferred tax asset related to net operating losses in the U.S. in 2005.

#### Underlying profit before tax

ING s banking businesses had a strong increase in profit in 2005 driven by solid growth in income at ING Direct and Retail Banking and historically low additions to the provision for loan losses. Underlying profit before tax rose 29.2%, or EUR 1,028 million to EUR 4,554 million in 2005 from EUR 3,526 million in 2004. Growth was driven by increased savings and strong demand for mortgages at both Retail Banking and ING Direct. Profit was also supported by the sale of equity investments and a positive impact on balance from the implementation of IAS 32 and IAS 39. Underlying profit before tax in 2004 included special items related to a restructuring provision of EUR 41 million for the International Wholesale Banking network, compared to no special items reported in 2005.

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#### CONSOLIDATED ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

The following table sets forth ING Group s consolidated assets and liabilities for the years ended December 31, 2006, 2005 and 2004:

	2006 (EUI	2005 R billions, excep	2004 t
	,	ounts per share)	
Investments	311.6	324.6	276.3
Financial assets at fair value through the profit and loss account	310.9	260.4	157.3
Loans and advances to customers	474.4	439.2	330.5
Total assets	1,226.3	1,158.6	876.4
Insurance and investment contracts Life			
Life	237.9	232.1	205.5
Non-life	10.1	12.8	11.4
Investment contracts	20.7	18.6	
Total insurance and investment contracts	268.7	263.5	216.9
Customer deposits and other funds on deposits <sup>1)</sup>	496.7	465.7	349.2
Debt securities in issue/other borrowed funds	107.8	113.5	102.7
Total liabilities (including third-party interests)	1,188.0	1,121.9	852.3
Shareholders equity	38.3	36.7	24.1
Shareholders equity per Ordinary share (in EUR)	17.78	16.96	12.95

1) Customer

deposits and other funds on deposits consists of savings accounts, other deposits, bank funds and debt securities privately issued by the banking operations of ING.

# Year ended December 31, 2006 compared to year ended December 31, 2005

Total assets increased by 5.8% in 2006 to EUR 1,226.3 billion, mainly due to increased fixed income investments, loans and advances to customers and customer deposits and other funds on deposits. Investments decreased by EUR 13.0 billion, or 4.0%, to EUR 311.6 billion in 2006 from EUR 324.6 billion in 2005, representing a decrease of EUR 4.0 billion in insurance investments and a decrease of EUR 9.0 billion in banking investments. Loans and advances to customers increased by EUR 35.2 billion, or 8.0%, rising to EUR 474.4 billion at the end of December 2006 from EUR 439.2 billion at the end of December 2005. Loans and advances to customers of the insurance operations decreased EUR 0.9 billion. Loans and advances of the banking operations increased by EUR 34.7 billion. The Netherlands operations increased by EUR 18.4 billion and the international operations by EUR 16.3 billion, for EUR 16.4 billion negatively influenced by the sale of Deutsche Hypothekenbank. ING Direct contributed EUR 20.0 billion to the increase, of which EUR 16.4 billion was due to personal lending. Shareholders equity increased by 4.2% or EUR 1,530 million to EUR 38,266 million at December 31, 2006 compared to EUR 36,736 million at December 31, 2005. Net profit from the year 2006 added EUR 7,692 million to equity and

unrealized revaluation shares added EUR 1,726 million, partially offset by unrealized revaluations debt securities of EUR 2,901 billion, exchange rate differences of EUR 1,335 million and a cash dividend of EUR 2,681 million.

# Year ended December 31, 2005 compared to year ended December 31, 2004

Total assets increased by 32.2% in 2005 to EUR 1,158.6 billion, mainly due to increased fixed income investments, loans and advances to customers and customer deposits and other funds on deposits. Investments increased by EUR 48.3 billion, or 17.5%, to EUR 324.6 billion in 2005 from EUR 276.3 billion in 2004, representing an increase of EUR 32.0 billion in insurance investments and an increase of EUR 15.9 billion in banking investments of which EUR 9.4 billion was attributable to ING Direct.

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Loans and advances to customers increased by EUR 108.7 billion, or 32.9%, rising to EUR 439.2 billion at the end of December 2005 from EUR 330.5 billion at the end of December 2004. Loans and advances to customers of the insurance operations rose EUR 2.2 billion. Loans and advances of the banking operations increased by EUR 104.4 billion, of which approximately EUR 40 billion was due to the effects of IAS 32 and IAS 39 in 2005. The increase was also impacted by the Netherlands operations (increase of EUR 25.7 billion) and the international operations (increase of EUR 37.6 billion). ING Direct contributed EUR 24.7 billion to the increase, of which EUR 21.0 billion was due to personal lending.

Shareholders equity increased by 52.6% or EUR 12,667 million to EUR 36,736 million at December 31, 2005 compared to EUR 24,069 million at December 31, 2004. Net profit from the year 2005 added EUR 7,210 million to equity, revaluations added EUR 1,626 million, exchange rate differences added EUR 2,067 million and adjustments related to the implementation of IAS 32 and IAS 39 and IFRS 4 added EUR 4,103 million, partially offset by EUR 657 million in realized capital gains that were released through the profit and loss account and the cash dividend of EUR 2,461 million.

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# SEGMENT REPORTING

ING Group s segments are based on the management structure of the Group, which is different from its legal structure. The following table sets forth the contribution of our six business lines to our underlying profit before tax for each of the years 2006, 2005 and 2004:

<b>2006</b> (EUR millions) Total income	Insurance Europe 16,170	Insurance Americas 29,779	Insurance Asia/ Pacific 13,378	Wholesale Banking 5,818	<b>Retail</b> <b>Banking</b> 6,002	ING Direct 2,373	<b>Other</b> <sup>(1</sup> 101	<b>Total</b> <b>Group</b> 73,621
Total expenditure	13,808	27,787	12,742	3,337	4,070	1,679	258	63,681
<b>Profit before tax</b> Gains/losses on	2,362	1,992	636	2,481	1,932	694	(157)	9,940
divestments Profit/loss before tax from divested	(34)		(15)	89		23		63
units				(45)				(45)
Special items								
Underlying profit before tax	2,328	1,992	621	2,525	1,932	717	(157)	9,958
<b>2005</b> (EUR millions) Total income	Insurance Europe 16,033	Insurance Americas 28,034	Insurance Asia/ Pacific 13,191	Wholesale Banking 5,957	<b>Retail</b> Banking 5,796	<b>ING</b> <b>Direct</b> 2,119	<b>Other</b> <sup>(1</sup> (10)	<b>Total</b> Group 71,120
Total expenditure	14,002	26,093	12,713	3,358	3,919	1,502	639	62,226
<b>Profit before tax</b> Gains/losses on	2,031	1,941	478	2,599	1,877	617	(649)	8,894
divestments Profit/loss before	(10)	50	(27)	(317)	(62)			(366)
tax from divested units		(12)	(4)	17				1
Special items								
Underlying profit before tax	2,021	1,979	447	2,299	1,815	617	(649)	8,529
<b>2004</b> (EUR millions) Total income	<b>Insurance</b> <b>Europe</b> 16,041	Insurance Americas 28,084	Insurance Asia/ Pacific 10,490	Wholesale Banking 5,871	<b>Retail</b> <b>Banking</b> 5,062	<b>ING</b> <b>Direct</b> 1,709	<b>Other</b> <sup>(1</sup> 902	<b>Total</b> Group 68,159

Total expenditure	14,418	26,392	9,734	3,926	3,887	1,274	788	60,419
<b>Profit before tax</b> Gains/losses on	1,623	1,692	756	1,945	1,175	435	114	7,740
divestments Profit/loss before		(2)	(219)	166				(55)
tax from divested units		(89)	(62)	(95)	(7)			(253)
Special items	(11)			41			(372)	(342)
Underlying profit before tax	1,612	1,601	475	2,057	1,168	435	(258)	7,090
<ol> <li>Other mainly includes items not directly attributable to the business lines and intercompany relations</li> <li>Refer to Note 2.1, note</li> </ol>	e 50, of the cor	nsolidated fina	uncial stateme 46	ents for furthe	er disclosur	e of our se	gment repo	orting.

#### **INSURANCE EUROPE**

	Insurance Europe			
	2006	2005	2004	
	(EUR millions)			
Premium income	10,552	10,702	11,369	
Commission income	348	303	299	
Investment and Other income	5,270	5,028	4,373	
Total income	16,170	16,033	16,041	
Underwriting expenditure	11,458	11,644	12,327	
Other interest expenses	544	481	322	
Operating expenses	1,805	1,869	1,768	
Other impairments	1	7	1	
Total expenditure	13,808	14,001	14,418	
Profit before tax	2,362	2,032	1,623	
Gains/losses on divestments	(34)	(10)		
Special items			(11)	
Underlying profit before tax	2,328	2,022	1,612	

# Year ended December 31, 2006 compared to year ended December 31, 2005 *Income*

Total premium income declined by 1.4%, or EUR 150 million to EUR 10,552 million in 2006 from EUR 10,702 million in 2005, through a decrease of 1.4% in Life premium and 1.6% in Non-life premium. Life premium declined especially in the Netherlands (increase of 4.1%) and Belgium (increase of 11.5%) and was partially offset by Central and Rest of Europe which showed an increase of 18.0%. Non-life premium income declined also in the Netherlands (decrease of 2.1%) but Belgium and Rest of Europe showed premium growth of 0.6% and 2.2% respectively.

Commission income increased by 14.9%, or EUR 45 million to EUR 348 million in 2006 from EUR 303 million in 2005, mainly due to increased assets under management in Central and Rest of Europe. Commission income in the Netherlands remained stable at EUR 113 million compared to EUR 105 million in 2005. Investment and Other income increased by 4.8%, or EUR 242 million from EUR 5,028 million in 2005 to EUR 5,270 million in 2006, supported by the life operations in the Netherlands, which increased by EUR 153 million, due to higher dividend income, increased capital gains on equities, revaluations of real estate and private equity and Belgium which increased by EUR 44 million as well as higher gains on divestments (Piraeus in 2006 against Freeler in 2005).

# Expenses

Operating expenses declined by 3.4%, or EUR 64 million to EUR 1,805 million in 2006 from EUR 1,869 million in 2005 primarily due to a decrease of 6.7% or EUR 99 million in the Netherlands mainly due to a decrease in the work force resulting from reorganizations, especially at Nationale-Nederlanden and higher releases from employee benefit provisions. Operating expenses in Belgium increased by 4.2% or EUR 6 million (due to a release of a legal claim provision in 2005) and in Central and Rest of Europe by 11.4% or EUR 29 million due to growth of business and the developing of greenfields (business in new countries). Expenses as a percentage of assets under management improved from 0.93% to 0.76% and expenses as a percentage of life premiums improved from 23.38% to 22.50%. *Profit before tax* 

Profit before tax included a gain of EUR 34 million from the unwinding of Piraeus (Greece) in 2006, and a gain of EUR 10 million from the sale of the internet provider Freeler in 2005. Including those items, total profit before tax rose 16.2%, or EUR 330 million to EUR 2,362 million in 2006 from EUR 2,032 million in 2005.

# Underlying profit before tax

Underlying profit before tax from Insurance Europe rose by 15.1%, or EUR 306 million from EUR 2,022 million in 2005 to EUR 2,328 million in 2006, mainly driven by strong underwriting results at the non-life businesses in the Netherlands, which increased by 49.7% or EUR 184 million, primarily due to an increase in underwriting results for especially loss of income / accident and motor risks. In addition life insurance in the Netherlands increased by 11.2%, or EUR 137 million, due primarily to favorable investment results and lower expenses. Belgium however showed a decrease of EUR 44 million or 34.9% in underlying profit from life insurance mainly caused by a new commission agreement, which is expected to stimulate the sale of insurance policies, with ING Bank Belgium.

 Belgium includes underlying profit before tax from Luxembourg.

- Central and Rest of Europe includes Poland, Hungary, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Romania, Bulgaria, Greece and Russia.
- 3) Underlying profit before tax by segment in 2006 was as follows: Netherlands: life EUR 1.357 million and non-life EUR 554 million, Belgium: life EUR 82 million and non-life EUR 55 million. Central Europe and Spain: life EUR 240 million and non-life EUR 40 million.

# 4)

Underlying profit before tax by geographic region in 2005 was as follows: Netherlands EUR 1,589 million (life EUR 1,220 million and non-life EUR 370 million), **Belgium EUR** 174 million (life EUR 126 million and non-life EUR 48 million), Central and Rest of Europe and Spain EUR 258 million (life EUR 217 million and non-life EUR 41 million).

#### Netherlands

In the Netherlands, underlying profit before tax increased by 20.2%, or EUR 321 million to EUR 1,911 million in 2006 from EUR 1,590 million in 2005 due to higher investment and other income and lower expenses. Underlying profit before tax from the life insurance businesses rose by 11.2%, or EUR 137 million from EUR 1,220 million in 2005 to EUR 1,357 million in 2006 driven by higher investment income largely due to higher dividends received, gains on equity, gains and revaluations on real estate investments and private equity, and were partly offset by lower reduction in Nationale-Nederlanden s guaranteed separate account contracts (contracts with a guaranteed yield for the customer regardless of the realized yield on the investments). In addition expense and actuarial provision releases were higher in 2006. Life premium income declined by 4.1%, or EUR 221 million from EUR 5,451 million in 2005 to EUR 5,230 million in 2006, mainly due to fewer acquired group life contracts and lower addition (through premium income) to buffer regarding certain group life contracts (positive product experience).

Underlying profit before tax from the non-life insurance businesses increased by 49.7%, or EUR 184 million from EUR 370 million in 2005 to EUR 554 million in 2006, driven by better claims ratios following higher one-off claims provision releases on previous underwriting years. Non-life premiums declined by 2.1% to EUR 1,606 million, a decrease of EUR 35 million compared to EUR 1,641 million in 2005 which was attributable to all branches, but primarily to loss of income/accident insurance due to the new long-term disability act and fierce competition in short-term disability insurance.

#### Belgium

In Belgium, underlying profit before tax from insurance declined by 20.8%, or EUR 36 million from EUR 173 million in 2005 to EUR 137 million in 2006, mainly due to a decrease in results from life insurance of EUR 44 million, or 34.9% to EUR 82 million in 2006 from EUR 126 million, which was primarily due to the new commission agreement with ING Bank Belgium. Life premium income decreased by 11.5%, to EUR 1,442 million in 2006 from EUR 1,630 million in 2005, due to lower sales of single premium investments products through the bank channel. Underlying profit before tax from non-life insurance increased by 17.0%, or EUR 8 million to EUR 55 million in 2006

from EUR 47 million in 2005 due to improved claims ratio from 66.8% in 2005 to 65.0% in 2006. Non-life premium income increased by 0.6% to EUR 321 million in 2006 from EUR 319 million in 2005.

# Central and Rest of Europe

In Central and Rest of Europe, underlying profit increased by 8.5%, or EUR 22 million to EUR 280 million in 2006 from EUR 258 million in 2005, driven by a 7.5% or EUR 19 million increase in life results due to higher assets under management and increased sales in Greece, Poland and the Czech Republic, partly offset by start-up costs for greenfields in Russia and Bulgaria and expenses for a project to determine the required economic capital. Life premium income rose by 18.0%, or EUR 289 million from EUR 1,617 million in 2005 to EUR 1,906 million in 2006 within all countries, primarily in Spain and Hungary.

# US GAAP

US GAAP profit before tax is EUR 830 million lower than IFRS-EU profit before tax of EUR 2,362 million in 2006. The difference between US GAAP and IFRS-EU profit before tax in 2006 is primarily attributable to EUR (797) million in 2006 compared to EUR 686 million in 2005 for the reversal of IFRS-EU hedge accounting; EUR 91 million in 2006 compared to EUR (112) million in 2005 related to differences in debt securities valuation; EUR 155 million in 2006 compared to EUR 73 million in 2005 related to differences in the deferred acquisition costs and provision for insurance liabilities and EUR (256) million in 2006 compared to EUR (290) million in 2005 primarily related to the underlying IFRS-EU and US GAAP differences in real estate and the associates accounting for real estate, which became a significant reconciling item in 2005 due to a change in the scope of consolidation of property investment funds; EUR 0 million in 2006 compared to EUR 147 million in 2005 related to the alignment of the US GAAP reporting with the change in loan loss provision estimation process on adoption of IFRS-EU in 2005. For an explanation of the differences between IFRS-EU and US GAAP please refer to Note 2.4. of the consolidated financial statements

#### Year ended December 31, 2005 compared to year ended December 31, 2004 Income

Total premium income declined by 5.9%, or EUR 667 million to EUR 10,702 million in 2005 from EUR 11,369 million in 2004, due to the reclassification of some products from life insurance to investment contracts under IFRS 4, which had a negative impact of EUR 761 million, as well as a decline in non-life premiums in the Netherlands. Non-life premium income declined by 2.8%, or EUR 57 million to EUR 2,007 million from EUR 2,064 million in 2004, due to premium refunds resulting from the new long-term disability laws in the Netherlands

# which took effect in 2006.

Commission income increased by 1.3%, or EUR 4 million to EUR 303 million in 2005 from EUR 299 million in 2004 and Investment and Other income increased by 15.0%, or EUR 655 million from EUR 4,373 million in 2004 to EUR 5,028 million in 2005, supported by pre-payment penalty fees, capital gains on bonds and private equity investments. **Expenses** 

Operating expenses rose by 5.7%, or EUR 101 million to EUR 1,869 million in 2005 from EUR 1,768 million in 2004 primarily due to an increase of EUR 30 million related to the new collective labor agreement in the Netherlands, EUR 39 million in severance costs at Nationale-Nederlanden and EUR 23 million for streamlining the IT organization at NN and RVS, the Dutch tied agents company of ING. This increase was partially offset by a release of EUR 47 million from provisions for employee benefits following healthcare and pension legislative changes in the Netherlands. Operating expenses in Belgium and Central Europe declined as a result of cost containment programmes. Expenses as a percentage of assets under management improved from 1.06% to 0.93% and expenses as a percentage of life premiums deteriorated from 20.99% to 23.38%.

# Profit before tax

Profit before tax included a gain of EUR 10 million from the sale of the internet provider Freeler in 2005, and a gain of EUR 11 million on old reinsurance business in 2004. Including those items, total profit before tax rose by 25.2%, or EUR 409 million to EUR 2,032 million in 2005 from EUR 1,623 million in 2004.

# Underlying profit before tax

Underlying profit before tax from Insurance Europe rose by 25.4%, or EUR 410 million from EUR 1,612 million in 2004 to EUR 2,022 million in 2005, driven by life insurance in the Netherlands and Central Europe as well as strong underwriting results at the non-life businesses in the Netherlands and Belgium. Underlying profit from life insurance rose by 22.3%, or EUR 291 million to EUR 1,598 million in 2005 from EUR 1,307 million in 2004, led by a 48.3%

increase in life results from Central Europe, primarily in Poland and Hungary, and a 20.0% increase in the life results in the Netherlands. Underlying profit from non-life insurance rose by

39.0%, or EUR 119 million from EUR 305 million in 2004 to EUR 424 million in 2005, supported by strong underwriting results and releases of provisions caused by the introduction of a new long-term disability act in 2006.

- Belgium includes underlying profit before tax from Luxembourg.
- 2) Central Europe includes Poland, Hungary, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Romania, Bulgaria, Greece and Russia.
- 3) Underlying

profit before tax by geographic region in 2004 was as follows: Netherlands EUR 1,290 million (life EUR 1.017 million and non-life EUR 273 million), **Belgium EUR** 143 million (life EUR 122 million and non-life EUR 21 million), Central Europe and Spain EUR 179 million (life **EUR 168** million and non-life EUR 11 million).

# Netherlands

In the Netherlands, underlying profit before tax increased by 23.2%, or EUR 299 million to EUR 1,589 million in 2005 from EUR 1,290 million in 2004, as higher investment income more than offset growth in expenses related to the new collective labor agreement and actions to improve customer satisfaction and efficiency. Results included a

EUR 151 million revaluation of non-trading derivatives, EUR 83 million higher results from real estate investment from EUR 419 million in 2004 to EUR 502 million in 2005 and EUR 94 million higher results from private equity from EUR 37 million in 2004 to EUR 131 million in 2005, as well as a EUR 98 million release of disability provisions triggered by the introduction of a new long-term disability act in 2006.

Underlying profit before tax from the life insurance businesses rose by 20.0%, or EUR 203 million from EUR 1,017 million in 2004 to EUR 1,220 million in 2005 driven by higher investment income and an improved morbidity result due to the release of disability provisions. Life premium income declined by 6.4%, or EUR 374 million from EUR 5,823 million in 2004 to EUR 5,449 million in 2005, mainly due to lower acquisition of group life contracts, the reclassification of insurance contracts to investment contracts under IFRS 4, and lower single-premium sales due to enhanced pricing discipline to improve profitability.

Underlying profit before tax from the non-life insurance businesses increased by 35.2%, or EUR 96 million from EUR 273 million in 2004 to EUR 369 million in 2005, driven by higher results from real estate and private equity investments as well as actuarial provision releases. Non-life premiums declined by 3.0% to EUR 1,642 million, a decrease of EUR 51 million compared to EUR 1,693 million in 2004 largely attributable to premium refunds in loss of income/accident insurance due to the new long-term disability act. This decrease was partially offset by higher fire insurance premiums following a premium rate adjustment.

# Belgium

In Belgium, underlying profit before tax from insurance rose by 21.7%, or EUR 31 million from EUR 143 million in 2004 to EUR 174 million in 2005, mainly due to a sharp increase in results from non-life insurance, which rose by EUR 27 million, or 128.6% to EUR 48 million in 2005 from EUR 21 million, driven by favourable claims development, primarily in fire, health and loss of income/accident insurance, as well as decreased operating expenses. Underlying profit before tax from life insurance, including Luxembourg, increased by 3.3%, or EUR 4 million to EUR 126 million in 2005 from EUR 122 million in 2004, as a decline in operating expenses compensated for higher lapses and lower management/entrance fees. Excluding the reclassification of products from life insurance to investment products under IFRS 4, which had a negative impact of EUR 761 million, life premium income increased by 20.4%, to EUR 1,630 million in 2005 from EUR in 1,354 million in 2004, due to strong sales of universal life products.

# Central and Rest of Europe

In Central and Rest of Europe, underlying profit increased by 44.1 %, or EUR 79 million to EUR 258 million in 2005 from EUR 179 million in 2004, driven by a 48.3% increase in life results in Central Europe to EUR 251 million. Poland, Hungary, Greece, Spain and Romania all showed strong growth in life and pensions, driven by higher premiums and lower operating expenses. Life premium income rose by 18.3%, or EUR 250 million from EUR 1,367 million in 2004 to EUR 1,617 million in 2005 driven by high sales of unit-linked products in Hungary and universal life products in Poland and Greece.

# US GAAP

US GAAP profit before tax was EUR 446 million higher than IFRS-EU profit before tax of EUR 2,032 million in 2005. The difference between US GAAP and IFRS-EU profit before tax in 2005 is primarily attributable to EUR 147 million for the alignment of the US GAAP reporting with the change in loan loss provision estimation process on adoption of IFRS-EU in 2005; EUR 686 million in 2005 compared to EUR 185 million in 2004 for the reversal of IFRS-EU hedge accounting; EUR (112) million in 2005 compared to EUR 17 million in 2004 related to differences in debt securities valuation; and EUR (290) million in 2005 primarily related to the underlying IFRS-EU and US GAAP differences within the associates accounting for real estate, which became a significant reconciliation item in 2005 due to a change in the scope of consolidation of property investment funds. For an explanation of the differences between IFRS-EU and US GAAP please refer to Note 2.4. of the consolidated financial statements. **INSURANCE AMERICAS** 

	Insurance Americas			
	2006	2005	2004	
	(EUR millions			
Premium income	24,118	22,744	22,761	
Commission	984	785	798	
Investment and Other income	4,677	4,505	4,525	
Total income	29,779	28,034	28,084	
Underwriting expenditure	24,981	23,597	24,058	
Other interest expenses	316	98	118	
Operating expenses	2,490	2,397	2,202	
Other impairments		1	14	
Total expenditure	27,787	26,093	26,392	
Profit before tax	1,992	1,941	1,692	
Gains/losses on divestments		50	(2)	
Profit before tax from divested units		(12)	(89)	
Underlying profit before tax	1,992	1,979	1,601	

# Year ended December 31, 2006 compared to year ended December 31, 2005 *Income*

Premium income rose by 6.0%, or EUR 1,374 million, from EUR 22,744 million in 2005 to EUR 24,118 million in 2006. Excluding currency effects premium income rose by 5.8%, due to an increase in Life premium of 6.9% primarily attributable to the US (increase of 6.5%) driven by fixed and variable annuities and retirement services; Latin America (increase of 17.7% following strong production in group life contracts in Mexico and Chile) and in Non-life premium of 2.3%, primarily attributable to Canada (increase of 2.2%) due to an increase in the number of insured risks and Latin America (increase of 2.5%) through higher motor and health sales in Mexico and higher health

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premium in Chile.

Commission income increased by 25.4%, or EUR 199 million to EUR 984 million in 2006 from EUR 785 million in 2005, primarily as a result of higher assets under management, which were due to sales, persistency and higher fund performance. Investment and Other income increased 3.8% or EUR 172 million from EUR 4,505 million in 2005 to EUR 4,677 million in 2006, mainly due to higher fixed margins and favorable DAC unlocking partly offset by investment related losses resulting from the rising interest rate environment and lower private equity gains.

#### Expenses

Operating expenses increased by 3.9%, or EUR 93 million from EUR 2,397 million in 2005 to EUR 2,490 million in 2006, due to normal business growth and increased sales agents in the competitive pension market in Mexico. Expenses as a percentage of assets under management for investment products improved from 0.75% to 0.72%, while expenses as a percentage of premiums for life products deteriorated from 13.76% in 2005 to 14.33% in 2006.

#### Profit before tax

Divestments resulted in a loss of EUR 50 million in 2005 (mainly due to the disposal of Life of Georgia) and divested units generated a profit before tax of EUR 12 million in 2005. Including these items, total profit before tax increased 2.6%, or EUR 51 million from EUR 1,941 million in 2005 to EUR 1,992 million in 2006.

#### Underlying profit before tax

Underlying profit before tax from Insurance Americas increased by 0.7%, or EUR 13 million from EUR 1,979 million in 2005 to EUR 1,992 million in 2006. Underlying profit before tax in the U.S. grew by 5.0%, or EUR 57 million from EUR 1,147 million in 2005 to EUR 1,204 million in 2006, despite investment related losses resulting from the rising interest rate environment. The Canadian business had a 10.0%, or EUR 67 million decrease in underlying profit before tax from EUR 671 million in 2005 to EUR 604 million in 2006, due to less favorable developments in prior-year reserves and lower investment-related gains. In Latin America underlying profit before tax increased 14.3%, or EUR 23 million to EUR 184 million in 2006 from EUR 161 million in 2005, mainly due to life operations which rose 16.8% or EUR 17 million as higher results in Chile were partly offset by lower results in Mexico as the pension market continued to be highly challenged by competitive market conditions.

1) Latin America

includes Argentina, Chile and Peru.

 United States is only life insurance; Canada and Latin America are mainly non-life

#### insurance. *United States*

Premium income increased 5.8%, or EUR 1,043 million to EUR 19,130 million in 2006 from EUR 18,087 million in 2005 mainly due to higher fixed and variable annuity sales and higher sales in retirement services but was partially offset by lower premium income from individual life products. Operating expenses were almost flat as they increased only by 1.1%, or EUR 16 million, despite the sales and the portfolio growth. Underlying profit before tax rose by 5.0%, or EUR 57 million from EUR 1,147 million in 2005 to EUR 1,204 million in 2006, despite investment-related losses. Excluding these losses, underlying profit before tax increased 12.6% to EUR 1,252 million due to higher fee income from growth in assets under management, higher interest margins and favourable equity-related deferred acquisition cost unlocking in 2006.

# Canada

Premium income rose by 8.5%, or EUR 221 million, from EUR 2,585 million in 2005 to EUR 2,806 million in 2006, primarily attributable to currency impacts as well as to an increase in the number of insured. Operating expenses rose by 14.2% or EUR 68 million, mainly due to currency impact, expenses of brokerage acquired, higher pension costs, higher premium taxes and increased salary and benefits expenses. Underlying profit before tax decreased 10.0%, or EUR 67 million from EUR 671 million in 2005 to EUR 604 million in 2006; excluding currency impact the decrease is 15.5%, due to less favorable developments in prior-year reserves and lower investment-related gains. The claims ratio deteriorated to 59.2% in 2006 from 56.3% in 2005,

but the expense ratio improved to 29.9% from 30.5%. The combined ratio deteriorated to 89.1 % in 2006 from 86.8% in 2005.

# US GAAP

US GAAP profit before tax is EUR 34 million higher than IFRS-EU profit before tax of EUR 1,992 million in 2006. The difference between US GAAP and IFRS-EU profit before tax in 2006 is primarily attributable to EUR (19) million in 2006 for the depreciation of goodwill related to management rights compared to EUR (326) million in 2005 for the write-off of goodwill related to Sul America, the reversal of goodwill on disposals and the depreciation of goodwill related to management to EUR (17) million in 2005 related to differences in debt securities valuation; EUR (28) million in 2006 compared to EUR 203 million in 2005 for the reversal of IFRS-EU hedge accounting; EUR 150 million in 2006 related to deferred acquisition costs and provision for life policy liabilities, compared to EUR (82) million in 2005; and, EUR (30) million in 2006 compared to EUR (89) million in 2005 primarily related to the underlying IFRS-EU and US GAAP differences within the associates accounting. For an explanation of the differences between IFRS-EU and US GAAP please refer to Note 2.4. of the consolidated financial statements.

# Year ended December 31, 2005 compared to year ended December 31, 2004 *Income*

Premium income was flat at EUR 22,744 million as higher non-life premiums were partially offset by lower life premiums. Non-life premium income rose by 6.2%, or EUR 235 million from EUR 3,804 million in 2004 to EUR 4,039 million in 2005, driven by a 16.8%, or EUR 372 million increase from EUR 2,213 million to EUR 2,585 million in 2005 in Canada, primarily due to the acquisition of Allianz Canada in December 2004. That growth was partially offset by lower non-life premium income in Mexico related to the auto business and from the non-renewal of certain large property and casualty contracts as the company focuses on more profitable retail market segments. Life premium income declined by 1.3%, or EUR 252 million from EUR 18,957 million in 2004 to EUR 18,705 million in 2005, as a slight decline in individual life single premium and lower fixed annuity sales was partially compensated by higher sales in retirement services.

Commission income decreased by 1.6%, or EUR 13 million to EUR 785 million in 2005 from EUR 798 million in 2004 and Investment and Other income declined by 0.4%, or EUR 20 million from EUR 4,525 million in 2004 to EUR 4,505 million in 2005, as 2004 included the EUR 249 million gain on the ING Canada IPO as well as EUR 157 million in investment income from divested businesses. Excluding those items from 2004, Investment and Other income increased by 9.4% driven by higher yields, prepayment penalty income on fixed income investments, investment gains from sales of fixed income securities, and higher private equity gains.

#### Expenses

Operating expenses increased 8.9%, or EUR 195 million from EUR 2,202 million in 2004 to EUR 2,397 million in 2005, due to the acquisition of Allianz Canada in December 2004 and expenses in the U.S. related to strategic initiatives and higher incentive-related benefit costs. Expenses as a percentage of assets under management for investment products were unchanged at 0.75%, while expenses as a percentage of premiums for life products improved from 13.99% in 2004 to 13.76% in 2005.

# Profit before tax

Divestments resulted in a loss of EUR 50 million in 2005 (mainly due to the disposition of Life of Georgia) compared with a gain of EUR 2 million in 2004. Divested units generated a profit before tax of EUR 12 million in 2005, compared with EUR 89 million in 2004. Including these items, total profit before tax increased by 14.7%, or EUR 249 million from EUR 1,692 million in 2004 to EUR 1,941 million in 2005.

#### Underlying profit before tax

Underlying profit before tax from Insurance Americas increased by 23.6%, or EUR 378 million from EUR 1,601 million in 2004 to EUR 1,979 million in 2005. Profit growth was driven by a 27.4%, or EUR 247 million in 2005, led by higher results from retirement services and annuities due to higher asset levels, improved investment performance and higher margins. The Canadian business had a 35.8%, or EUR 177 million increase in underlying profit before tax from EUR 671 million in 2005, driven by continued strong underwriting

results in the non-life business, increased investment income and the operations of Allianz Canada which was acquired in December 2004. Growth in the region was moderated by losses in Latin America, underlying profit before tax declined by 22.4%, or EUR 46 million to EUR 159 million in 2005 from EUR 205 million in 2004, including claims and expenses related to recent

hurricanes in Mexico and the related costs to extend reinsurance coverage after the storms and reserve strengthening in the health business in Chile. Currency movements had a positive impact of EUR 46 million due to the strengthening of the Canadian dollar, and the Mexican and Chilean pesos against the euro.

- Latin America includes Argentina, Chile, Peru and Brazil through September 30, 2005.
- 2) Underlying

profit before tax by geographic region in 2004 was as follows: United Sates EUR 902 million, Canada EUR 494 million, Mexico EUR 122 million and Latin America EUR 83 million.

 United States is only life insurance; Canada and Latin America are mainly non-life insurance.

#### United States

Premium income declined by 1.2%, or EUR 221 million to EUR 18,087 million in 2005 from EUR 18,308 million in 2004 as lower individual life single premium and fixed annuity sales were largely offset by higher sales in retirement services. Operating expenses increased by 8.0%, or EUR 109 million, to EUR 1,468 million in 2005 from EUR 1,359 million in 2004, due to spending on strategic initiatives such as enhancements to web capabilities, costs related to implementing Sarbanes-Oxley, and higher incentive-related benefit costs and EUR 16 million of restructuring costs for the insurance and investment management businesses to enhance future profitability.

#### Canada

The strong underwriting results were driven by a historically low claims ratio coupled with an increase in volume from the Allianz Canada acquisition. The claims ratio improved slightly to 56.3% in 2005 from 56.6% in 2004. The cost ratio was higher in 2005 due to expenses related to the integration of the Allianz Canada business. The combined ratio deteriorated to 86.8% in 2005 from 85.1% in 2004. Premium income rose by 16.8%, or EUR 372 million to EUR 2,585 million in 2005 from EUR 2,213 million in 2004 primarily due to the acquisition of Allianz Canada. *US GAAP* 

US GAAP profit before tax is EUR (410) million lower than IFRS-EU profit before tax of EUR 1,941 million in 2005. The difference between US GAAP and IFRS-EU profit before tax in 2005 is primarily attributable to EUR (326) million in 2005 for the write-off of goodwill related to Sul America and the reversal of goodwill on disposals compared to EUR (147) million in 2004 for impairment of goodwill in Latin America and the reversal of goodwill on disposals; EUR (17) million in 2005 compared to EUR 111 million in 2004 related to differences in debt securities valuation; EUR 203 million in 2005 compared to EUR 176 million in 2004 for the reversal of IFRS-EU hedge accounting; EUR (82) million in 2005 for deferred acquisition costs and provision for life policy liabilities, compared to EUR 23 million in 2004; and, EUR (89) million in 2005 primarily related to the underlying IFRS-EU and US GAAP differences within the associates accounting for real estate, which became a significant reconciliation item in 2005 due to a changes in the property investment portfolio. For an explanation of the differences between IFRS-EU and US GAAP please refer to Note 2.4. of the consolidated financial statements.

#### **INSURANCE ASIA/PACIFIC**

	<b>Insurance Asia/Pacific</b>			
	2006	2005	2004	
	(EUR millions)			
Premium income	12,136	12,286	9,469	
Commission	298	254	107	
Investment and Other income	944	651	914	
Total income	13,378	13,191	10,490	
Underwriting expenditure	11,745	11,838	9,003	
Other interest expenses	22	8	8	
Operating expenses	965	867	727	
Other impairments	10		(4)	
Total expenditure	12,742	12,713	9,734	
Profit before tax	636	478	756	
Gains/losses on divestments	(15)	(27)	(219)	
Profit before tax from divested units		(4)	(62)	
Underlying profit before tax	621	447	475	

# Year ended December 31, 2006 compared to year ended December 31, 2005 *Income*

Premium income decreased by 1.2%, or EUR 150 million to EUR 12,136 million in 2006 from EUR 12,286 million in 2005. Higher sales in South Korea, due to high persistency, in Taiwan, particularly due to higher unit-linked premiums and Australia, were more than offset by lower single-premium variable annuity (SPVA) sales in Japan following tougher competition and new product launches by key competitors. Double-digit growth rates in premium income were recorded in local currency terms in most of Asia/Pacific s other markets.

Commission income increased by 17.3%, or EUR 44 million to EUR 298 million in 2006 from EUR 254 million in 2005, due to a joint venture in Australia driven by the increasing value of assets under management because of the strength of investment markets and improved net flows and retention, Japan through the sale of mutual funds and SPVA products and investment management fees of ING Funds.

Investment and Other income increased by 45.0% or EUR 293 million to EUR 944 million in 2006 from EUR 651 million in 2005, mainly due to Japan, especially from the SPVA business., Korea, supported by growth in assets under management and Taiwan where higher direct investment income on bonds was only partly offset by lower fair value changes in bonds.

#### Expenses

Operating expenses increased by 11.3%, or EUR 98 million to EUR 965 million in 2006 from EUR 867 million in 2005, reflecting the increase of business volumes and the focus in building organizational capabilities and investing in greenfield operations. Expenses as a percentage of assets under management for investment products improved from 0.94% in 2005 to 0.83% in 2006 and expenses as a percentage of premiums for life products improved from 8.33% in 2005 to 8.24% in 2006.

# Profit before tax

A divestment gain of EUR 27 million from the IPO of 90% of the shares in Austbrokers Holdings in Australia impacted profit before tax in 2005. Following the sale of Australia s non-life business in 2004, provisions were made for claims experience of several lines of business. As claims experience was favorable, the hold-back provision was

released in 2006 resulting in a profit before tax of EUR 15 million. Including those gains and profit from the divested unit, profit before tax increased by 33.1 %, or EUR 158 million to EUR 636 million in 2006 from EUR 478 million in 2005.

# Underlying profit before tax

Underlying profit before tax increased by 38.9%, or EUR 174 million to EUR 621 million in 2006 from EUR 447 million in 2005, driven by a 44.5% increase in South Korea due primarily to strong sales, 110.8% increase in Japan due primarily to hedging gains and 105.0% increase in Rest of Asia driven by Malaysia and Hong Kong. Underlying profit before tax in Australia showed a decrease of 5.8% because of lower investment earnings and one-off software write-off in 2006 of EUR 7 million. As in 2005 Taiwan recorded zero profit in 2006 due to further measures taken to strengthen reserves in what continues to be a low interest rate environment.

Rest of Asia includes China, India, Thailand, Indonesia, Hong Kong and Malaysia.

2) Underlying

1)

profit before tax by geographic region in 2005 is as follows: Australia and New Zealand EUR 169 million. South Korea **EUR 181** million. Taiwan EUR 0 million, Japan EUR 74 million and rest of Asia EUR 23 million

3) Asia/Pacific is mainly life insurance.

# Australia and New Zealand

Underlying profit before tax decreased 5.8%, or EUR 10 million to EUR 161 million in 2006 from EUR 171 million in 2005. Life premium income rose by 27.1%, or EUR 49 million to EUR 230 million in 2006 from EUR 181 million in 2005, driven by the success of the OneCare product launched in the fourth quarter of 2005. Operating expenses were 4.0% lower, but excluding currency impact only 1.8% lower as in 2005 a provision of EUR 7 million was booked regarding a doubtful debts.

# South Korea

In South Korea, underlying profit before tax rose by 44.5%, or EUR 81 million to EUR 263 million in 2006 from EUR 182 million 2005, driven by higher margins due to increased volume as well as strong sales. Premium income rose by 41.5%, or EUR 945 million to EUR 3,224 million in 2006 from EUR 2,279 million in 2005, driven by sales of variable and universal life products as well as continued high persistency on existing contracts. Operating expenses rose by 44.1%, or EUR 60 million, from EUR 136 million in 2005 to EUR 196 million in 2006 due to the support provided for the growing and future business.

# Taiwan

As in 2005, ING recorded zero profit for Taiwan in 2006 due to further measures taken to strengthen reserves in what continues to be a low interest rate environment. A total charge of EUR 182 million was taken in 2006 to strengthen reserves, compared with EUR 220 million in 2005. For the reserve adequacy position we refer to page F-125 of the Notes to the consolidated financial statements.

#### Japan

In Japan, underlying profit before tax increased by 110.8%, or EUR 82 million to EUR 156 million in 2006 from EUR 74 million in 2005 largely due to hedging gains. Sales momentum slowed down after an exceptional 2005 year as domestic competition increased. Meanwhile assets under management continued strong growth with 36% in 2006. Growth in the corporate-owned life insurance (COLI) market slowed down. However sales were up in the more protection driven COLI products. Premium income declined by 22.1% due to lower sales of SPVA (Single Premium Variable Annuity). Operating expenses increased by 7.8%, mainly due to higher staff expenses and higher IT expenses.

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#### US GAAP

US GAAP profit before tax is EUR 166 million lower than IFRS-EU profit before tax of EUR 636 million in 2006. The difference between US GAAP and IFRS-EU profit before tax in 2006 is primarily attributable to the premium deficiency loss recognized in relation to the Taiwan reserves under US GAAP of EUR (315) million in 2006 compared to EUR (386) million in 2005, offset by the reversal of certain reserve strengthening in the business line under IFRS-EU of EUR 238 million in 2006 compared to EUR 179 million in 2005 which is not allowed under US GAAP; EUR (76) million in 2006 for differences in debt securities valuation compared to EUR (106) million in 2005. For an explanation of the differences between IFRS-EU and US GAAP please refer to Note 2.4. of the consolidated financial statements.

# Year ended December 31, 2005 compared to year ended December 31, 2004 *Income*

Premium income rose by 29.7%, or EUR 2,817 million to EUR 12,286 million in 2005 from EUR 9,469 million in 2004, led by a 32.6% increase in life premiums. The increase was driven by sharply higher sales of single-premium variable annuities in Japan, tied agency products in South Korea and short-term savings products in Taiwan. Strong premium growth rates were recorded in local currency terms in Japan (87.8%), South Korea (27.9%), Taiwan (11.3%), Malaysia (13.8%), India (141.8%), Thailand (42.6%), Hong Kong (10.8%) and China (27.2%). A reclassification of products in Australia from life insurance to investment products under IFRS 4 reduced premium income by EUR 1,051 million in 2005. Excluding the IFRS 4 change, total life premiums increased by 49.7%. Non-life premium income fell by 82.7% from EUR 237 million in 2004 to EUR 41 million in 2005, reflecting the sale of the Australian non-life business in the second quarter of 2004.

Commission income increased by 137.4%, or EUR 147 million to EUR 254 million in 2005 from EUR 107 million in 2004 due to higher fee income on wealth management products in Australia as a result of growth in assets under management and the reclassification of most products in Australia from life insurance to investment products under IFRS-EU. Investment and Other income declined by 28.8% or EUR 263 million to EUR 651 million in 2005 from EUR 914 million in 2004. However, excluding the realised gains on divestments in both years, Investment and Other income declined by 10.2%, primarily related to losses on derivatives in Japan that are used to hedge minimum-benefit guarantees on single-premium variable annuities, as well as an unrealized loss on non-trading derivatives in South Korea. These losses were partially offset by growth of the investment portfolio in the region.

# Expenses

Operating expenses increased by 19.3%, or EUR 140 million to EUR 867 million in 2005 from EUR 727 million in 2004, reflecting staff and salary increases to support the continuing growth of the businesses across the region, primarily in Japan and South Korea. Expenses in 2004 also benefited from the release of a EUR 30 million provision for a wage-tax assessment. Adjusted for the release of the wage-tax provision, expenses as a percentage of assets under management for investment products improved from 1.13% in 2004 to 0.94% in 2005 and expenses as a percentage of premiums for life products improved from 9.03% in 2004 to 8.33% in 2005.

#### Profit before tax

Divestments had a significant impact on Insurance Asia/Pacific s total profit before tax. In 2004, ING realized a gain of EUR 219 million on the sale of its 50% stake in a non-life insurance joint venture in Australia. Results in 2005 included a gain of EUR 27 million from the IPO of 90% of the shares in Austbrokers Holdings as ING focuses on the funds management and life insurance businesses in Australia. Including those gains and profit from the divested units, total profit before tax from Insurance Asia/Pacific declined by 36.8%, or EUR 278 million to EUR 478 million in 2005 from EUR 756 million in 2004.

# Underlying profit before tax

Underlying profit before tax from Insurance Asia/Pacific declined by 5.9%, or EUR 28 million to EUR 447 million in 2005 from EUR 475 million in 2004, primarily related to the reserve strengthening in Taiwan due to the continued low interest rate environment. Excluding Taiwan, underlying profit before tax in the rest of the region increased by 15.8%, or EUR 61 million to EUR 447 million in 2005 from EUR 386 million in 2004, driven by a 52.1% increase in the South Korea operations. Results in 2004 were favored by the release of a EUR 29 million reserve for capital-guaranteed products in Australia and a EUR 30 million release of reserves for a wage-tax assessment.

- Rest of Asia includes China, India, Thailand, Indonesia, Hong Kong and Malaysia.
- 2) Underlying profit before tax by geographic region in 2004 was as follows: Australia and New Zealand EUR 163 million. South Korea **EUR 119** million. Taiwan EUR 89 million, Japan EUR 71 million and Rest of Asia EUR 33 million
- 3) Asia/Pacific is mainly life insurance.

#### Australia and New Zealand

Total underlying profit before tax increased by 3.7%, or EUR 6 million to EUR 169 million in 2005 from EUR 163 million. Life premium income declined by 85.2%, or EUR 1,042 million, to EUR 181 million in 2005 from EUR 1,223 million in 2004, reflecting the reclassification of the majority of products from life insurance to investment products in 2005. Operating expenses were 9.6% higher, due to provisions to resolve unit-pricing issues following an enforceable undertaking agreed with ASIC, a local regulator.

# South Korea

In South Korea, underlying profit before tax rose by 52.1%, or EUR 62 million to EUR 181 million in 2005 from EUR 119 in 2004, driven by higher margins due to increased volume as well as strong sales. Premium income rose by 42.6%, or EUR 680 million to EUR 2,278 million in 2005 from EUR 1,598 million in 2004, driven by sales of variable and universal life products as well as continued high persistency on existing contracts. Premiums were boosted by the introduction of new products, expansion of the tied agency network and new bancassurance partnerships.

#### Taiwan

Underlying profit in Taiwan decreased by 100% from EUR 89 million in 2004 as a result of measures taken to strengthen reserves in 2005, due to a continued low interest rate environment and assumption changes in 2005. A total charge of EUR 220 million was recorded in 2005 to strengthen reserves, compared with EUR 100 million in 2004. *Japan* 

In Japan, underlying profit before tax increased by 4.2%, or EUR 3 million to EUR 74 million in 2005 from EUR 71 million in 2004. Profits from the single-premium variable annuity and mutual fund businesses increased due to strong growth in premiums resulting in higher fee income. Despite growth in new business and higher premiums,

profits from the corporate-owned life insurance business decreased mainly due to lower investment yields from the continuing low interest rate environment and higher levels of early surrenders.

# US GAAP

US GAAP profit before tax is EUR (277) million lower than IFRS-EU profit before tax of EUR 478 million in 2005. The difference between US GAAP and IFRS-EU profit before tax in 2005 is primarily attributable to the premium deficiency loss recognized in relation to the Taiwan reserves under US GAAP of EUR (386) million in 2005, offset by the reversal of certain reserve strengthening in the business line under IFRS-EU of EUR 179 million in 2005 compared to EUR 241 million in 2004 which is not allowed under US GAAP; and, EUR (106) million in 2005 for differences in debt securities valuation compared to EUR (23) million in 2004. For an explanation of the differences between IFRS-EU and US GAAP please refer to Note 2.4. of the consolidated financial statements.

#### WHOLESALE BANKING

	Wholesale Banking			
	2006	2005	2004	
	(EUR millions)			
Interest result	2,742	2,928	3,272	
Commission and other income	3,076	3,029	2,599	
Total income	5,818	5,957	5,871	
Operating expenses	3,455	3,466	3,734	
Additions to the provision for loan losses	(118)	(108)	192	
Total expenditure	3,337	3,358	3,926	
Profit before tax	2,481	2,599	1,945	
Gains/losses on divestments	89	(317)	166	
Profit before tax from divested units	(45)	17	(95)	
Special items			41	
Underlying profit before tax	2,525	2,299	2,057	

# Year ended December 31, 2006 compared to year ended December 31, 2005

#### Income

Total income decreased by 2.3%, or EUR 139 million, to EUR 5,818 million in 2006 from EUR 5,957 million in 2005. The decrease was mainly attributable to EUR 89 million realized losses on divestments in 2006, Williams de Broë and Deutsche Hypothekenbank, compared with EUR 317 million in gains recognized on divestments in 2005, NMB Heller and Baring Asset Management. Excluding the impact of divestments income rose 7.4% or EUR 398 million. Interest income declined by 6.4%, or EUR 186 million, to EUR 2,742 million in 2006 from EUR 2,928 million in 2005, due to divestments and pressure on margins. Commissions and other income rose by 1.6%, or EUR 47 million, to EUR 3,076 million in 2006 from EUR 3,029 million in 2005. Excluding divestments the increase was 20.3% or EUR 524 million, of which ING Real Estate contributed EUR 325 million or 47.9%, driven by growth in the investment management activities following the strong demand for property funds among institutional investors and a sharp improvement in results from the development activities.

#### Expenses

Operating expenses decreased slightly by EUR 11 million, to EUR 3,455 million in 2006 from EUR 3,466 million in 2005. Excluding the impact of divestments, in 2006 of Williams de Broë and Deutsche Hypothekenbank, operating expenses rose by EUR 166 million or 5.1%, next to EUR 15 million lower releases from employee benefit provisions (EUR 21 million in 2006 compared with EUR 36 million in 2005) due to EUR 79 million in compliance-related costs and the growth of ING Real Estate. The cost/income ratio was almost flat 64.0% at the end of 2006 compared with 63.9% in 2005, excluding the impact of divestments, the cost/income ratio improved to 58.6% from 59.8% in 2005. The addition to the provision for loan losses was a net release of EUR 118 million in 2006 compared with a net release of EUR 108 million in 2005, due to the continued benign credit environment and the limited inflow of large new problem loans. Belgium was the only region which recorded an addition to loan loss provisions in 2006 of EUR 16 million, which was more than offset by releases in other regions. The net release equalled 7 basis points of average credit-risk-weighted assets in 2006, similar to 2005.

# Profit before tax

Divestments in 2006 (Williams de Broë and Deutsche Hypothekenbank) resulted in losses of EUR 89 million, while gains on divestments in 2005 contributed EUR 317 million to profit before tax due to the sale Baring Asset

Management, as well as the gain on the NMB Heller transaction and Wholesale Banking s part on the sale of ING Bank Slaski shares. Divested units contributed EUR 45 million to profit before tax in 2006, compared with a loss of EUR 17 million in 2005. Profit before tax decreased by 4.5%, or EUR 118 million, to EUR 2,481 million in 2006 from EUR 2,599 million in 2005.

#### Underlying profit before tax

Underlying profit before tax from Wholesale Banking rose by 9.8%, or EUR 226 million, to EUR 2,525 million in 2006 from EUR 2,299 million in 2005, driven by higher profits from General Lending/Payments and Cash Management, Leasing and Factoring and at ING Real Estate. Structured Finance continued to perform strong. Underlying profit before tax from Financial Markets declined to EUR 509 million from a very strong EUR 665 million in 2005. Despite the decline in profit, Financial Markets remains one of the biggest generators of profit within the Wholesale Banking line of business.

1) Other, which

reported a loss of 26 million in 2006 and a loss of EUR 53 million in 2005, is excluded from the above table

#### 2) Asset

management primarily relates to ING Real Estate

#### Netherlands

In the Netherlands, underlying profit before tax declined by 3.8%, or EUR 30 million, to EUR 760 million in 2006 from EUR 790 million in 2005, as the decrease in income and higher operating expenses could not be offset by lower additions to the provision for loan losses. Total income decreased by 5.4%, or EUR 101 million, to EUR 1,775 million in 2006 from EUR 1,876 million in 2005 and operating expenses increased by 1.5%, or EUR 15 million, to EUR 1,049 million in 2006 from EUR 1,034 million in 2005, fully attributable to lower releases from employee benefit provisions. The addition to the provision for loan losses improved from a net addition of EUR 52 million in 2005 to a net release of EUR 34 million in 2006. The decline of underlying profit before tax was fully attributable to a lower profit in Financial Markets, only partly offset by higher profits in Structured Finance, Leasing and Factoring and General Lending / Payments and Cash Management.

# Belgium

In Belgium, underlying profit before tax declined by 9.0%, or EUR 55 million, to EUR 553 million in 2006 from EUR 608 million in 2005, as higher income was more than offset by slightly increased operating expenses and higher additions to the provision for loan losses. Total income increased by 2.9%, or EUR 38 million, to EUR 1,330 million in 2006 from EUR 1,292 million in 2005, while operating expenses increased by 1.7%, or EUR 13 million, to EUR 761 million in 2006 from EUR 748 million in 2005. The addition to the loan loss provisions changed from a net release of EUR 64 million in 2005 to a net addition of EUR 16 million in 2006. The decline of underlying profit before tax was mainly attributable to lower profits in Structured Finance and General Lending / Payments and Cash Management, only partly offset by a higher profit in Financial Markets.

# **Rest of World**

In the Rest of the World, underlying profit before tax slightly increased to EUR 607 million from EUR 605 million, as higher income was largely offset by increased operating expenses and slightly lower releases from the provision for loan losses. Total income rose by 2.8%, or EUR 40 million, to EUR 1,487 million in 2006 from EUR 1,447 million in 2005, while operating expenses increased by 3.4%, or EUR 34 million, to EUR 982 million in 2006 from EUR 948 million in 2005. The addition to the loan loss provisions showed a net release of EUR 102 million in 2006 compared to a net release of EUR 106 million in 2005. The slight increase of underlying profit before tax was the result of higher profits in General Lending / Payments and Cash Management, partly offset by a lower profit in

in 2006 from EUR 349 million in 2005, due to a very strong rise in income. Total income rose by 40.2%, or EUR 317 million, to EUR 1,106 million in 2006 from EUR 789 million in 2005, while operating expenses increased by 6.0%, or EUR 27 million, to EUR 476 million from EUR 449 million in 2005. Underlying profit before tax of the development activities improved from a loss of EUR 124 million in 2005, primarily related to impairments on development projects in Poland and the Czech Republic of EUR 78 million, to a profit of EUR 112 million in 2006, supported by high results on the sale of finished projects. Underlying profit before tax of the investment management activities increased by 57.5%, or EUR 50 million, due to strong growth of assets under management following the strong demand for property funds and the purchase of portfolios in 2005, including the Gables Residential Trust in the U.S. and the Abbey National portfolio in the U.K.

## US GAAP

US GAAP profit before tax is EUR 291 million lower than IFRS-EU profit before tax of EUR 2,481 million in 2006. The difference between US GAAP and IFRS-EU profit before tax in 2006 is primarily attributable to EUR (125) million in 2006 compared to EUR (15) million in 2005 for differences in investment property valuation; EUR 11 million in 2006 compared to EUR (115) million in 2005 for differences in debt securities valuation; EUR (73) million in 2006 compared to EUR (3) million in 2005 for the reversal of IFRS-EU hedge accounting; EUR (30) million in 2006 compared to EUR 57 million in 2005 for the reversal of IFRS-EU fair value option; EUR (24) million in 2006 compared to EUR (6) million in 2005 for differences in expenses on employee benefits; and, EUR (30) million in 2006 compared to EUR (45) million in 2005 primarily related to the underlying IFRS-EU and US GAAP differences within the associates accounting for real estate. For an explanation of the differences between IFRS-EU and US GAAP please refer to Note 2.4. of the consolidated financial statements.

## Year ended December 31, 2005 compared to year ended December 31, 2004

## Income

Total income increased by 1.5%, or EUR 86 million, to EUR 5,957 million in 2005 from EUR 5,871 million in 2004. The increase was driven by the International Wholesale Banking activities in the U.K., the Americas and Central and Eastern Europe, growth of the leasing business as well as the 16.2% increase in income from ING Real Estate, which offset the impact of divestments. Excluding divestments income rose by 4.8%. Interest income declined by 10.5%, or EUR 344 million, to EUR 2,928 million in 2005 from EUR 3,272 million in 2004. due to divestments and pressure on margins. Commissions and other income rose by 16.5%, or EUR 430 million, to EUR 3,029 million in 2005 from EUR 2,599 million in 2004, due to higher management fees at ING Real Estate and supported by gains on the sale of equity investments and fair value changes on non-trading derivatives.

## Expenses

Operating expenses declined by 7.2%, or EUR 268 million, to EUR 3,466 million in 2005 from EUR 3,734 million in 2004, due entirely to the divestments of the Asian cash equities business, CenE Bankiers, portions of BHF-Bank, and Barings Asset Management. Operating expenses excluding divestments and special items increased by 12.1%, due in part to non-recurring items reported in 2005, such as EUR 103 million in provisions recorded in Belgium, EUR 12 million in restructuring costs for initiatives to improve efficiency in the IT organisation as announced in July and November of 2005 and EUR 78 million in releases of provisions for employee benefits.

The addition to the provision for loan losses declined from EUR 192 million in 2004 to a net release of EUR 108 million in 2005, due to improvements in the credit environment and the limited inflow of large new problem loans. The Netherlands was the only region which recorded an addition to loan loss provisions in 2005 of EUR 52 million, which was offset by releases in other regions. The net release equalled a negative 7 basis points of average credit-risk-weighted assets in 2005 compared with an addition of 12 basis points in 2004.

#### Profit before tax

Gains on divestments contributed EUR 317 million to profit before tax in 2005 (sale Baring Asset Management, as well as the gain on the NMB Heller transaction and wholesale banking s part on the sale of ING Bank Slaski shares), while divestments in 2004 (sale Asian cash equities business, CenE Bankiers and parts of BHF-Bank) resulted in a loss of EUR 166 million. Divested units contributed EUR 6 million to profit before tax in 2005, compared with EUR 60 million in 2004. Results in 2004 also included a restructuring provision of EUR 41 million for the International

Wholesale Banking network. Including those items, total profit before tax increased by 33.6%, or EUR 654 million, to EUR 2,599 million in 2005 from EUR 1,945 million in 2004.

## Underlying profit before tax

Underlying profit before tax from Wholesale Banking rose by 11.8%, or EUR 242 million, to EUR 2,299 million in 2005 from EUR 2,057 million in 2004, driven by higher income from Structured Finance, Leasing and ING Real Estate businesses, as well as a net release of loan loss provisions due to an improved credit environment and improved risk management.

- Other, which reported a loss of 50 million in 2005 and a loss of EUR 47 million in 2004, is excluded from the above table
- 2) Underlying

profit before tax by geographic region in 2004 was as follows: The Netherlands EUR 826 million, **Belgium EUR** 665 million, Rest of the World EUR 313 million and Asset Management EUR 335 million.

## Netherlands

In the Netherlands, underlying profit before tax declined by 4.4%, or EUR 36 million, to EUR 790 million in 2005 from EUR 826 million in 2004, as growth in income was more than offset by higher operating expenses. Total income rose by 3.7%, or EUR 67 million, to EUR 1,876 million in 2005 from EUR 1,809 million in 2004, driven primarily by Structured Finance and Leasing activities, and partially offset by decreased income from the Payments & Cash Management and General Lending businesses resulting from lower margins and decreased income from the Financial Markets business. Operating expenses increased by 11.8%, or EUR 109 million, to EUR 1,034 million in 2005 from EUR 925 million in 2004 due to increased expenses resulting from the collective labour agreement, the growth of the leasing business and higher IT expenses, including EUR 12 million of restructuring costs for initiatives to improve efficiency in the IT organisation as announced in 2005. The impact of the increased expenses was partly offset by the EUR 36 million release from employee benefits provisions following healthcare and pension legislative changes in the Netherlands. The addition to the provision for loan losses declined to 10 basis points of average credit-risk-weighted assets in 2005 from 12 basis points in 2004.

## Belgium

In Belgium, underlying profit before tax declined by 14.4%, or EUR 57 million, to EUR 608 million in 2005 from EUR 665 million in 2004, due to lower results from the Financial Markets businesses, as well as increased operating expenses primarily related to provisions. Total income declined by 11.8%, or EUR 173 million, to EUR 1,292 million

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in 2005 from EUR 1,465 million in 2004 as decreased Financial Markets results more than offset increased income from Corporate Finance and Equity Markets and Structured Finance businesses in 2005 compared to 2004. Operating expenses increased by 5.3%, or EUR 42 million, to EUR 748 million in 2005 from EUR 790 million in 2004, due to EUR 103 million in provisions in 2005 mainly related to Williams de Broë. The addition to the loan loss provisions declined from 3 basis points of average credit-risk-weighted assets in 2004 to negative 17 basis points in 2005, due to a net release of EUR 64 million.

## **Rest of World**

In the Rest of the World, underlying profit before tax nearly doubled to EUR 605 million from EUR 313 million, driven by releases of debtor provisions as well as increased income following the successful implementation of a programme to improve profitability by focusing on key clients and products. Total income rose by 5.5%, or EUR 76 million, to EUR 1,447 million in 2005 from EUR 1,371 million in 2004, due to increased income from Structured Finance and Financial Markets businesses in the U.K., increased income from all product groups in the Americas, and increased income from Financial Markets businesses in Central and Eastern Europe. Operating expenses decreased slightly to EUR 948 million in 2005 compared to EUR 949 million in 2004. The addition to the loan loss provisions was a negative 24 basis points of average credit-risk-weighted assets in 2005 compared to 23 basis points due to a release of EUR 106 million in 2005 and an addition of EUR 109 million in 2004.

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## ING Real Estate

Total underlying profit before tax of the asset management activities, primarily related to ING Real Estate, was EUR 346 million in 2005, an increase of 3.3% or EUR 11 million compared to EUR 335 million in 2004. Underlying profit before tax of ING Real Estate decreased by 4.4%, or EUR 16 million to EUR 349 million in 2005 from EUR 365 million in 2004 primarily related to impairments on development projects in Poland and the Czech Republic of EUR 78 million, offset by higher profit from the real estate finance and investment management activities. The real estate financing activities benefited from growth in the lending portfolio and lower additions to the provision for loan losses in 2005 compared to 2004. Underlying profit before tax of the investment management activities increased due to strong growth of assets under management following the purchases of portfolios, including the Gables Residential Trust in the U.S. and the Abbey National portfolio in the U.K. and fair value property revaluations.

US GAAP profit before tax is EUR 8 million higher than IFRS-EU profit before tax of EUR 2,599 million in 2005. The difference between US GAAP and IFRS-EU profit before tax in 2005 is primarily attributable to EUR 190 million for the alignment of the US GAAP reporting with the change in loan loss provision estimation process on adoption of IFRS-EU in 2005; EUR (3) million in 2005 compared to EUR 206 million in 2004 for the reversal of IFRS-EU hedge accounting; EUR (115) million in 2005 compared to EUR (190) million in 2004 for differences in debt securities valuation; and, EUR (45) million in 2005 primarily related to the underlying IFRS-EU and US GAAP differences within the associates accounting for real estate, which became a significant reconciling item in 2005 due to a change in the scope of consolidation of property investment funds. For an explanation of the differences between IFRS-EU and US GAAP please refer to Note 2.4. of the consolidated financial statements.

	Retail Banking		
	2006	2005	2004
		(EUR millions)	
Interest result	4,489	4,397	3,928
Commission and other income	1,513	1,399	1,134
Total income	6,002	5,796	5,062
Operating expenses	3,930	3,829	3,703
Additions to the provision for loan losses	140	90	184
Total expenditure	4,070	3,919	3,887
Profit before tax	1,932	1,877	1,175
Gains/losses on divestments		(62)	
Profit before tax from divested units			(7)
Underlying profit before tax	1,932	1,815	1,168

## Year ended December 31, 2006 compared to year ended December 31, 2005 *Income*

Total income increased by 3.6%, or EUR 206 million, to EUR 6,002 million in 2006 from EUR 5,796 million in 2005, due to strong growth in almost all products, higher asset management fees and a capital gain on the sale of the stake in Banksys in Belgium. This was partially offset by the effect of the capital gain of EUR 62 million in 2005 on the sale of part of our stake in ING Bank Slaski, the impact of flattening yield curves, the continued low interest environment putting pressure on investment returns and a reclassification of payment expenses from operating expenses to funds transfer commission which had an effect of EUR 59 million.

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## Expenses

Operating expenses increased by 2.6%, or EUR 101 million, to EUR 3,930 million in 2006 from EUR 3,829 million in 2005, primarily due to EUR 85 million in compliance-related costs, EUR 38 million lower releases

from employee benefit provisions and continued investments in Poland, India and Romania. The cost/income ratio improved to 65.5% in 2006 from 66.1 % in 2005.

The addition to the provision for loan losses increased by 55.6%, or EUR 50 million, to EUR 140 million in 2006 from EUR 90 million in 2005, mainly due to Belgium where in 2005 a net release of EUR 11 million was performed while, in 2006 an addition of EUR 15 million was made and Poland where in 2005 a net release of EUR 16 million was performed while in 2006 a net release of EUR 5 million was made. The addition equalled 15 basis points of average credit-risk-weighted assets in 2006 compared with 11 basis points in 2005.

## Profit before tax

Divestments in 2005 contributed EUR 62 million to profit before tax, representing Retail Banking s portion of the gain on the sale of a 12.8% stake in ING Bank Slaski in Poland, reducing ING s stake to 75%. Including that item total profit before tax rose by 2.9%, or EUR 55 million, to EUR 1,932 million in 2006 from EUR 1,877 million in 2005.

## Underlying profit before tax

Underlying profit before tax from Retail Banking increased by 6.4%, or EUR 117 million to EUR 1,932 million in 2006 from EUR 1,815 million in 2005, despite EUR 85 million compliance-related costs in 2006 and EUR 38 million lower releases from employee benefit provisions, driven by strong growth in most products, though partly offset by the impact of flattening yield curves.

Mainly ING 1)

> Vysya Bank, **Private Banking** rest of the world and the Kookmin Bank stake

#### **Netherlands**

In the Netherlands, underlying profit before tax rose by 1.7%, or EUR 23 million, to EUR 1,410 million in 2006 from EUR 1,387 million in 2005, as volume growth in almost all products was largely offset by the impact of a flattening of the yield curve and high compliance related costs in 2006. The residential mortgage portfolio in the Netherlands grew by 8.5% to EUR 99.3 billion. Operating expenses increased by 1.3% from EUR 2,360 million in 2005 to EUR 2.390 million in 2006, as EUR 85 million in compliance-related costs and the effect of EUR 38 million lower releases from employee benefit provisions were largely offset by lower pension costs and the reclassification of payment expenses to commission income. The addition to the loan loss provisions was 17 basis points of average credit-risk-weighted assets in 2006 compared with 18 basis points in 2005.

## Belgium

In Belgium, underlying profit before tax increased by 41.8%, or EUR 141 million, from EUR 337 million in 2005 to EUR 478 million in 2006, driven by 9.7% higher income and 2.6% lower operating expenses, partly offset by EUR 26 million higher additions to the provisions for loan losses due to lower releases. The increase in income was related to a EUR 44 million capital gain on Banksys, as well as driven by higher volumes and increased fees from securities brokerage, insurance brokerage and asset management, mitigated by the flattening of the yield curve and higher client rates on savings. Operating expenses declined by 2.6%, or EUR 29 million, to EUR 1,071 million in 2006 from EUR 1,100 million in 2005, due to the reclassification of payment expenses and some small divestments in 2005. The addition to the loan loss provisions increased from a net release of 8 basis points of average credit-risk-weighted assets in 2005 to a net addition of 8 basis points in 2006.

## Poland

In Poland, underlying profit before tax from the retail banking activities of ING Bank Slaski increased by 19.5%, or EUR 8 million, to EUR 49 million in 2006 from EUR 41 million in 2005, despite substantial lower releases from debtor provisions. In 2006, ING Bank Slaski achieved, in local-currency, growth in mortgages, savings and current accounts. There was also growth in mutual funds sales. Total income rose by 20.4%, partly offset by 12.7% higher operating expenses, including investments in the branch network, and lower releases from the loan loss provisions. *US GAAP* 

US GAAP profit before tax is EUR 80 million lower than IFRS-EU profit before tax of EUR 1,932 million in 2006. The difference between US GAAP and IFRS-EU profit before tax in 2006 is primarily attributable to EUR 3 million in 2006 compared to EUR (76) million in 2005 for differences in debt securities valuation; EUR (28) million in 2006 compared to EUR 6 million in 2005 for the reversal of IFRS-EU hedge accounting; EUR (21) million in 2006 compared to EUR (21) million in 2005 for the reversal of IFRS-EU fair value option; and, EUR (40) million in 2006 compared to EUR (25) million in 2005 for differences in expenses on employee benefits. For an explanation of the differences between IFRS-EU and US GAAP please refer to Note 2.4. of the consolidated financial statements **Year ended December 31, 2005 compared to year ended December 31, 2004** 

## Income

Total income increased by 14.5%, or EUR 734 million, to EUR 5,796 million in 2005 from EUR 5,062 million in 2004, driven mainly by increased income from mortgages and savings in the Netherlands and growth from savings, current accounts and structured notes in Belgium. Income growth in 2005 compared to 2004 was also affected by the proportional (50%) consolidation of Postkantoren BV in the Netherlands from January 2005 (which had no impact on total profit) adding EUR 168 million to total income and the EUR 48 million loss recorded in the first quarter of 2004 on a unit-linked mortgage product in the Netherlands

## Expenses

Operating expenses increased by 3.4%, or EUR 126 million, to EUR 3,829 million in 2005 from EUR 3,703 million in 2004, primarily related to the consolidation of Postkantoren BV, EUR 33 million in one-off costs related to the announced efficiency programme for the Operations and IT activities in the Benelux, EUR 27 million in accelerated software depreciation in the Netherlands and the impact of the new labour agreement in the Netherlands was partially offset by a release of EUR 83 million from provisions following healthcare and pension legislative changes in the Netherlands. The cost/income ratio improved to

66.1% in 2005 from 73.2% in 2004.

The addition to the provision of loan losses declined by 51.1 %, or EUR 94 million, to EUR 90 million in 2005 from EUR 184 million in 2004, mainly due to releases in Belgium and Poland of EUR 27 million in 2005 compared with an addition of EUR 53 million in 2004. The addition equalled 11 basis points of average credit-risk-weighted assets in 2005 compared with 25 basis points in 2004.

## Profit before tax

Divestments in 2005 contributed EUR 62 million to profit before tax, representing Retail Banking s portion of the gain on the sale of a 12.8% stake in ING Bank Slaski in Poland, taking ING s stake to 75%. The divested retail banking activities of BHF-Bank contributed EUR 7 million to profit in 2004. Including those items total profit before tax rose by 59.7%, or EUR 702 million, to EUR 1,877 million in 2005 from EUR 1,175 million in 2004.

## Underlying profit before tax

Underlying profit before tax from Retail Banking increased by 55.4%, or EUR 647 million to EUR 1,815 million in 2005 from EUR 1,168 million in 2004, driven by strong growth in savings and mortgages in the home markets of the Benelux and the impact of increased prepayment penalties on mortgages as clients refinanced to take advantage of low interest rates. The addition to the loan loss provisions declined as a result of the improved credit environment and releases in Belgium and Poland. Cost containment measures and strong income growth resulted in an improvement in the cost/income ratio in 2005 to 66.1% from 73.2% in 2004.

- 1) Mainly ING Vysya Bank, Private Banking Rest of the World and the Kookmin Bank stake
- Underlying 2) profit before tax by geographic region in 2004 was as follows: The Netherlands EUR 1.091 million. **Belgium EUR** 55 million. Poland EUR 19 million and Other Retail **Banking EUR** 3 million

## Netherlands

In the Netherlands, underlying profit before tax rose by 27.1%, or EUR 296 million, to EUR 1,387 million in 2005 from EUR 1,091 million in 2004, driven by growth in mortgage lending and savings and increased income received from prepayment penalties on mortgages. The total interest margin stayed almost flat in 2005 compared to 2004 supported by the increased prepayment penalties and offset by decreased interest margins on savings and current accounts resulting from the low interest rate environment. Income increased by 15.9%, or EUR 531 million, to EUR 3,866 million in 2005 from EUR 3,335 million in 2004, primarily related to the consolidation of Postkantoren BV beginning in 2005 and the inclusion of the EUR 48 million loss on the unit-linked mortgage product at Postbank in the first quarter of 2004. Operating expenses increased by 11.2%, or EUR 237 million, to EUR 2,360 million in 2005 from EUR 2,123 million in 2004 due to the consolidation of Postkantoren BV, EUR 2,123 million in 2004 due to the consolidation of Postkantoren BV, EUR 27 million in accelerated software depreciation, the new collective labour agreement, and partially offset by the release of EUR 83 million from provisions for employee benefits following the healthcare and pension legislative changes. The addition to the loan loss provisions was 18 basis points of average credit-risk-weighted assets in 2005 compared with 21 basis points in 2004.

## Belgium

In Belgium, underlying profit before tax increased by 512.7%, or EUR 282 million, from EUR 55 million in 2004 to EUR 337 million in 2005, driven by increased income due to strong growth of savings and current accounts and high sales of structured notes, as well as lower expenses and releases of loan loss provisions. Total income rose by 11.9%, or EUR 152 million, to EUR 1,426 million in 2005 from EUR 1,274 million in 2004. Operating expenses declined by 7.0%, or EUR 83 million, to EUR 1,100 million in 2005 from EUR 1,183 million in 2004, due to high non-recurring expenses in 2004, including provisions for litigation issues and impairments on real estate. The impact in 2005 of the acquisition of Mercator Bank in the fourth quarter of 2004 was largely offset by the sale of ING Securities Bank France and Banque Baring Brothers Suisse in 2005, which were reported under ING Belgium. The addition to the loan loss provisions was negative 8 basis points of average credit-risk-weighted assets in 2005 compared to 34 basis points in 2004 due to a EUR 11 million net release of provisions in 2005.

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## Poland

In Poland, underlying profit before tax from the retail banking activities of ING Bank Slaski more than doubled from EUR 19 million in 2004 to EUR 41 million in 2005 due to releases from loan loss provisions following an improvement in the quality of the lending portfolio. Risk costs turned from EUR 17 million in 2004 to a net release of EUR 16 million in 2005. Adjusted for exchange rate changes, income rose by 2.0% as the growth in savings and deposits was largely offset by narrower margins and lower lending volumes. Operating expenses increased by 13.1% due to investments to upgrade the branch network and higher marketing costs.

#### US GAAP

US GAAP profit before tax is EUR 78 million higher than IFRS-EU profit before tax of EUR 1,877 million in 2005. The difference between US GAAP and IFRS-EU profit before tax in 2005 is primarily attributable to EUR 191 million for the alignment of the US GAAP reporting with the change in loan loss provision estimation process on adoption of IFRS-EU in 2005; EUR (36) million in 2005 compared to EUR (8) million in 2004 for the reversal of goodwill on disposals; and, EUR (76) million in 2005 compared to EUR 216 million in 2004 for differences in debt securities valuation. For an explanation of the differences between IFRS-EU and US GAAP please refer to Note 2.4. of the consolidated financial statements.

## ING DIRECT

	2006	ING Direct 2005 (EUR millions)	2004
Interest result	2,190	1,947	1,608
Commission and other income	183	172	101
Total income	2,373	2,119	1,709
Operating expenses	1,598	1,396	1,185
Additions to the provision for loan losses	81	106	89
Total expenditure	1,679	1,502	1,274
Profit before tax	694	617	435
Gains/losses on divestments	23		
Underlying profit before tax	717	617	435

## Year ended December 31, 2006 compared to year ended December 31, 2005

## Income

Total income rose by 12.0%, or EUR 254 million, to EUR 2,373 million in 2006 from EUR 2,119 million in 2005, mainly driven by a 12.5% increase in the interest result due to the continued strong growth in funds entrusted and residential mortgages. The total interest margin in 2006 narrowed to 0.89% from 0.93% in 2005, mainly due to the flattening of the yield curves and the strategic decision to maintain competitive rates offered to clients across all markets.

#### **Expenses**

Operating expenses rose by 14.5%, or EUR 202 million, to EUR 1,598 million in 2006 from EUR 1,396 million in 2005, reflecting investments to support long-term value creation of the business. The cost/income ratio increased from 65.9% in 2005 to 67.3% in 2006, mainly as a result of a lower income margin and additional staff being hired to keep pace with commercial growth, particularly in mortgages. The operational cost base (excluding marketing expenses) in 2006 was 0.41 % of total assets compared with 0.40% in 2005, due to investments in mortgages. Marketing expenses increased 15.6% to support the strong growth in both savings and mortgages. The number of full-time employees at the end of the year 2006 rose to 7,638 from 6,964 at the end of the year 2005, to keep pace with strong commercial growth, especially in Italy, the U.S. and Spain.

The addition to the provision for loan losses decreased by 23.6%, or EUR 25 million, to EUR 81 million in 2006 from EUR 106 million in 2005. The addition equalled 10 basis points of average credit-risk-weighted assets, down from 17 basis points in 2005 due to an improvement in loss given defaults.

Profit before tax

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Profit before tax from ING Direct rose by 12.5%, or EUR 77 million to EUR 694 million in 2006 from EUR 617 million in 2005, primarily driven by the continued strong growth in the euro zone (Germany, France, Spain and Italy) and in the United Kingdom. This increase was partially offset by declines in the US and Canadian operations profit before tax mainly due to the flattening of the yield curves and the strategic decision to maintain competitive rates offered to clients.

ING Card had a loss of EUR 6 million in 2006 compared to a loss of EUR 16 million in 2005, fully attributable to lower operating expenses, as income and addition to the provision for loan losses were at the same level as in 2005. *Underlying profit before tax* 

Profit before tax from ING Direct in 2006 includes a net loss on the divestment of Degussa Bank. Excluding this net loss of EUR 23 million, ING Direct s underlying profit before tax increased by 16.2%, or EUR 100 million, to EUR 717 million from EUR 617 million in 2005.

## **Country developments**

ING Direct s overall profit growth was driven mainly by the business-units in Germany, UK which posted profits for the first time in the first quarter of 2006, France, Italy and Spain. This reflects the impact of client rate adjustments in most of these countries and continued strong commercial growth. In the UK, ING Direct saw a slow down of growth in savings after its rates dropped below the official interest rate of the Bank of England. ING Direct s German business-unit ING-DiBa sold Degussa Bank at the end of 2006, in line with its strategy to focus on its core direct banking activities. Excluding the net loss of EUR 23 million resulting from the divestment of Degussa Bank, ING DiBa s underlying profit before tax increased to EUR 339 million from EUR 254 million in 2005. In the U.S., profit before tax declined to EUR 85 million from EUR 156 million in 2005, and in Canada profit before tax declined to EUR 62 million from EUR 73 million last year, in both cases due to an environment of higher interest rates for clients, inverse yield curve developments and increased competition.

## US GAAP

US GAAP profit before tax is EUR 40 million higher than IFRS-EU profit before tax of EUR 694 million in 2006. The difference between US GAAP and IFRS-EU profit before tax in 2006 is primarily attributable to EUR 206 million in 2006 compared to EUR 20 million in 2005 for differences in debt securities valuation; and, EUR (181) million in 2006 compared to EUR (98) million in 2005 for the reversal of IFRS-EU hedge accounting. For an explanation of the differences between IFRS-EU and US GAAP please refer to Note 2.4. of the consolidated financial statements.

## Year ended December 31, 2005 compared to year ended December 31, 2004 *Income*

Total income rose by 24.0%, or EUR 410 million, to EUR 2,119 million in 2005 from EUR 1,709 million in 2004, mainly driven by a 21.1 % increase in the interest result due to the continued strong growth in funds entrusted. The total interest margin in 2005 narrowed to 0.86% from 0.98% in 2004, mainly caused by a flattening of the yield curve and the strategic decision to maintain competitive client rates in favour of stimulating business growth.

## Expenses

Operating expenses rose by 17.8%, or EUR 211 million, to EUR 1,396 million in 2005 from EUR 1,185 million in 2004, reflecting investments to support the continued growth of the business, notably in mortgage

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distribution. The cost/income ratio improved to 65.9% in 2005 from 69.3% in 2004, and the operational cost base (excluding marketing expenses) improved to 0.40% of total assets compared with 0.44% in 2004. The average number of full-time employees in 2005 rose to 6,500 from 5,300 in 2004, mainly due to expansion in Germany, the U.S. and the U.K.

The addition to the provision for loan losses increased by 19.1%, or EUR 17 million, to EUR 106 million in 2005 from EUR 89 million in 2004. The addition equalled 17 basis points of average credit-risk-weighted assets, down from 22 basis points in 2004 as the probability of default diminished.

## Profit before tax

Profit before tax from ING Direct rose by 41.8%, or EUR 182 million to EUR 617 million in 2005 from EUR 435 million in 2004, primarily driven by the continued strong growth in the euro zone Germany, France, Spain and Italy. This increase was partially offset by a slight decline in the US operations profit before tax in 2005 compared to 2004, due to increases of deposit rates related to increases in the Federal Reserve rate and an unfavourable yield curve development.

ING Card had a loss of EUR 16 million in 2005 compared to a loss of EUR 6 million in 2004, mainly due to increased additions to loan loss provisions and increased marketing and IT expenses.

- Other includes: Spain, Italy, UK, France and ING Card.
- 2) Underlying

profit before tax by geographic region in 2004 was as follows: Canada EUR 66 million, Australia EUR 60 million, United States EUR 170 million, Germany EUR 151 million and Other EUR (12) million.

## US GAAP

US GAAP profit before tax is EUR 10 million higher than IFRS-EU profit before tax of EUR 617 million in 2005. The difference between US GAAP and IFRS-EU profit before tax in 2005 is primarily attributable to EUR 95 million for the alignment of the US GAAP reporting with the change in loan loss provision estimation process on adoption of IFRS-EU in 2005; and, EUR (98) million in 2005 compared to EUR (237) million in 2004 for the reversal of IFRS-EU hedge accounting. For an explanation of the differences between IFRS-EU and US GAAP please refer to Note 2.4. of the consolidated financial statements.

## LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

ING Groep N.V. is a holding company whose principal assets are its investments in the capital stock of its primary insurance and banking subsidiaries. The liquidity and capital resource considerations for ING Groep N.V., ING Insurance and ING Bank vary in light of the business conducted by each, as well as the insurance and bank regulatory requirements applicable to the Group in the Netherlands and the other countries in which it does business. ING Groep N.V. has no employees and substantially all of ING Groep N.V. s operating expenses are allocated to and paid by its

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operating companies.

As a holding company, ING Groep N.V. s principal sources of funds are funds that may be raised from time to time from the issuance of debt or equity securities and bank or other borrowings, as well as cash dividends received from its subsidiaries. ING Groep N.V. s total debt and capital securities outstanding to third parties at December 31, 2006 was EUR 12,376 million, December 31, 2005 EUR 11,095 million and at December

31, 2004 EUR 10,570 million, respectively. The EUR 12,376 million of debt outstanding at December 31, 2006 consisted of EUR 1,132 million principal amount of 8.439% perpetual debt securities issued in December 2000, EUR 591 million principal amount of 7.05% perpetual debt securities issued in July 2002, EUR 811 million principal amount of 7.20% perpetual debt securities issued in December 2002, EUR 669 million principal amount perpetual debt securities with a variable interest rate issued in June 2003, EUR 368 million principal amount of 6.20% perpetual debt securities issued in October 2003, EUR 926 million principal amount perpetual debt securities with a variable interest rate issued in June 2003, EUR 368 million principal amount of 6.20% perpetual debt securities issued in 2004, EUR 497 million principal amount of 4.176% perpetual debt securities issued in 2005, EUR 515 million principal amount of 6.125% perpetual debt securities issued in 2005, EUR 752 million principal amount of 5.775% perpetual debt securities issued in 2005, EUR 885 million principal amount of 5.14% perpetual debt securities is as follows:

Interest rate (%)	Year of issue	Due date	<b>Balance</b> sheet value
	(EU	R millions)	
variable	2006	June 28, 2011	746
variable	2006	April 11, 2016	995
4.125	2006	April 11, 2016	746
6.125	2000	January 4, 2011	997
6	2000	August 1, 2007	750
5.5	1999	September 14, 2009	996

5,230

At December 31, 2006, 2005 and 2004, ING Groep N.V. also owed EUR 35 million, EUR 991 million and EUR 606 million, respectively, to ING Group companies pursuant to intercompany lending arrangements. Of the EUR 35 million owed by ING Groep N.V. to ING Group companies at December 31, 2006, EUR 35 million was owed to ING Insurance companies, EUR 0 million was owed to ING Bank companies and EUR 0 million was owed to direct subsidiaries of ING Group companies, as a result of normal intercompany transactions.

At December 31, 2006, 2005 and 2004, ING Groep N.V. had EUR 103 million, EUR 5 million and EUR 460 million of cash, respectively. Dividends paid to the Company by its subsidiaries amounted to EUR 3,450 million, EUR 2,296 million and EUR 1,446 million in 2006, 2005 and 2004, respectively, in each case representing dividends declared and paid with respect to the reporting calendar year and the prior calendar year. Of the amounts paid to the Company, EUR 1,650 million, EUR 1,595 million and EUR 629 million were received from ING Insurance in 2006, 2005 and 2004, respectively; EUR 1,800 million, EUR 700 million and EUR 817 million were received from ING Bank in 2006, 2005 and 2004 respectively, and for 2006 EUR 0 million was received from other ING Group companies. Repayments to ING by its subsidiaries amounted to EUR 563 million, EUR 0 million and EUR 2,303 million in 2006, 2005 and 2004, respectively, of the amounts paid to the Company, EUR 0 million and EUR 2,303 million were received from ING Bank in 2005 and 2004, respectively and EUR 563 million in 2006 from other ING Group companies. ING and its Dutch subsidiaries are subject to legal restrictions on the amount of dividends they can pay to their shareholders. The Dutch Civil Code provides that dividends can only be paid by Dutch companies up to an amount equal to the excess of a company s shareholders equity over the sum of (1) paid-up capital and (2) shareholders reserves required by law. Further, certain of the Group companies are subject to restrictions on the amount of funds they may transfer in the form of cash dividends or otherwise to ING Groep N.V. In addition to the restrictions in respect of minimum capital and capital base requirements that are imposed by insurance, banking and other regulators in the countries in which the Group s subsidiaries operate, other limitations exist in certain countries. For example, the operations of the Group s insurance company subsidiaries located in the United States are subject to limitations on the payment of dividends to their parent company under applicable state insurance laws. Dividends paid in excess of these limitations generally require prior approval of the Insurance Commissioner of the state of domicile.

#### **ING Group Consolidated Cash Flows**

#### Year ended December 31, 2006 compared to year ended December 31, 2005

Net cash provided by operating activities amounted to EUR 9,750 million for the year ended December 31, 2006, a decrease of 71.3% compared to EUR 33,996 million for the year ended December 31, 2005. This decrease was mainly due to a lower cash flow from customer deposits and other funds on deposit as well as on balance from amounts due to/from banks not available on demand. The cash flow generated through the provisions for insurance and investment contracts of EUR 17,689 million and through the customer deposits and other funds on deposit of the banking operations of EUR 47,521 million was to a large extent used for the lending and investment portfolios. The cash flow employed in lending decreased from a cash flow of EUR 62,709 million in 2005 to a cash outflow of EUR 59,800 million in 2006, reflecting the growth of the mortgage portfolio and corporate lending both inside and outside the Netherlands, partly offset by a decline of loans to public authorities.

Net cash used in investment activities in 2006 was EUR 31,320 million, compared to EUR 50,305 million in 2005. The decrease was mainly caused by higher disposals and redemptions of available-for-sale investments.

Net cash flow from financing activities was EUR 16,825 million in 2006, compared to EUR 7,064 million in 2005. The increase of EUR 9,761 million in net cash flow from financing activities is mainly due to a higher balance of proceeds from repayments of borrowed funds and debt securities.

The operating, investing and financing activities described above resulted in net cash and cash equivalents at year-end 2006 of EUR (1,795) million, compared to EUR 3,335 million at year-end 2005, a decrease of EUR 5,130 million from 2005 levels, mainly reflected in a decrease in amounts due from/to banks, as well as higher balances of borrowed funds and debt securities.

#### Year ended December 31, 2005 compared to year ended December 31, 2004

Net cash provided by operating activities amounted to EUR 33,996 million for the year ended December 31, 2005, an decrease of 54.7% compared to EUR 75,102 million for the year ended December 31, 2004. This decrease was mainly due to a reclassification of mortgage backed securities under IFRS-EU from investments to loans and advances to customers as well as a higher cash flow employed in trading assets/liabilities. The cash flow generated through the provisions for insurance and investment contracts of EUR 21,250 million and through the customer deposits and other funds on deposit of the banking operations of EUR 62,709 million was to a large extent used for the lending and investment portfolio. The higher increase in the provisions for insurance and investment contracts of EUR 13,244 million in 2004 mainly reflects the growth of the life business. The cash flow employed in lending, including the reclassification of mortgage backed securities, increased from a cash flow of EUR 34,737 million in 2004 to a cash outflow of EUR 62,709 million in 2005, reflecting the growth of the mortgage portfolio and corporate lending both inside and outside the Netherlands.

Net cash used in investment activities in 2005 was EUR 50,305 million, compared to EUR 72,265 million in 2004. The decrease was mainly caused by the reclassification of mortgage backed securities from investments to loans and advances to customers, included in the cash flow from operating activities. Excluding this impact both available-for-sale investments and investments for the risk of policyholders increased, reflecting the growth of the life insurance operations.

Net cash flow from financing activities was EUR 7,064 million in 2005, compared to EUR 1,079 million in 2004. The increase of EUR 5,985 million in net cash flow from financing activities mainly reflects an increase in the growth of borrowed funds and the insurance of debt securities.

The operating, investing and financing activities described above resulted in net cash and cash equivalents at year-end 2005 of EUR 3,335 million, compared to EUR 11,588 million at year-end 2004, an increase of EUR 8,253 million from 2004 levels, mainly reflected in a decrease in amounts due from/to banks.

#### **ING Insurance Cash Flows**

The principal sources of funds for ING Insurance are premiums, net investment income and proceeds from sales or maturity of investments, while the major uses of these funds are to provide life policy benefits, pay surrenders and profit sharing for life policyholders, pay non-life claims and related claims expenses, and pay other operating costs. ING Insurance generates a substantial cash flow from operations as a result of most premiums being received in advance of the time when claim payments or policy benefits are required. These positive operating cash flows, along with that portion of the investment portfolio that is held in cash and highly liquid securities, have historically met the liquidity requirements of ING Insurance s operations, as evidenced by the growth in investments. Reference is made to Note 2.2 Risk Management of Notes to the consolidated financial statements.

## Year ended December 31, 2006 compared to year ended December 31, 2005

Premium income and Investment and Other income totaled EUR 46,834 million and EUR 11,172 million in 2006, EUR 45,758 million and EUR 10,299 million in 2005. Uses of funds by ING Insurance include underwriting expenditures (reinsurance premiums, benefits, surrenders, claims and profit sharing by life policyholders) and employee and other operating expenses, as well as interest expense on outstanding borrowings. Underwriting expenditures, employee and other operating expenses and interest expense for ING Insurance totaled EUR 48,188 million, EUR 5,275 million and EUR 1,233 million in 2006 and EUR 47,120 million, EUR 5,195 million and EUR 1,100 million in 2005.

ING Insurance s liquidity requirements are met on both a short- and long-term basis by funds provided from insurance premiums collected, investment income and collected reinsurance receivables, and from the sale and maturity of investments. ING Insurance also has access to commercial paper, medium-term note and other credit facilities. ING Insurance s balance of cash and cash equivalents was EUR 3,017 million at December 31, 2006 and EUR 2,745 million at December 31, 2005.

Net cash provided by operating activities was EUR 13,949 million in 2006 and EUR 18,058 million in 2005. Net cash used by ING Insurance in investment activities was EUR 12,798 million in 2006 and EUR 20,554 million in 2005.

Cash provided by ING Insurance s financing activities amounted to EUR (665) million and EUR 2,887 million in 2006 and 2005, respectively.

## Year ended December 31, 2005 compared to year ended December 31, 2004

Premium income and investment income and other income totaled EUR 45,758 million and EUR 10,299 million in 2005, EUR 43,617 million and EUR 10,787 million in 2004. Uses of funds by ING Insurance include underwriting expenditures (reinsurance premiums, benefits, surrenders, claims and profit sharing by life policyholders) and employee and other operating expenses, as well as interest expense on outstanding borrowings. Underwriting expenditures, employee and other operating expenses and interest expense for ING Insurance totaled EUR 47,120 million, EUR 5,195 million and EUR 1,100 million in 2005 and EUR 45,384 million, EUR 4,746 million and EUR 1,140 million in 2004.

ING Insurance s liquidity requirements are met on both a short- and long-term basis by funds provided from insurance premiums collected, investment income and collected reinsurance receivables, and from the sale and maturity of investments. ING Insurance also has access to commercial paper, medium-term note and other credit facilities. ING Insurance s balance of cash and cash equivalents was EUR 2,745 million at December 31, 2005 and EUR 1,967 million at December 31, 2004.

Net cash provided by operating activities was EUR 18,058 million in 2005 and EUR 17,636 million in 2004. Net cash used by ING Insurance in investment activities was EUR 20,554 million in 2005 and EUR 19,530 million in 2004.

Cash provided by ING Insurance s financing activities amounted to EUR 2,887 million and EUR 2,061 million in 2005 and 2004, respectively.

## Capital Base Margins and Capital Requirements

In the United States, since 1993, insurers, including the companies comprising ING Insurance U.S. operations, have been subject to risk-based capital ( RBC ) guidelines. See Item 4. Information on the Company Regulation and Supervision Insurance ING Americas.

## **ING Bank Cash Flows**

The principal sources of funds for ING Bank s operations are growth of the retail funding, which mainly consists of current accounts, savings and retail deposits, repayments of loans, disposals and redemptions of investment securities (mainly bonds), sales of trading portfolio securities, interest income and commission income. The major uses of funds are advances of loans and other credits, investments, purchases of investment securities, funding of trading portfolios, interest expense and administrative expenses. Reference is made to Note 2.2 Risk Management, of notes to the consolidated financial statements.

## Year ended December 31, 2006 compared to year ended December 31, 2005

At December 31, 2006 and 2005, ING Bank had EUR (4,352) million and EUR 969 million, respectively, of cash and cash equivalents.

The EUR 19,495 million decrease in ING Bank s operating activities, consisting of EUR 2,454 million cash outflow for the year ended December 31, 2006, compared with a EUR 17,041 million cash inflow for the year ended December 31, 2005, was largely attributable to the stronger increase in cash outflow related to the loans and advances compared to a lower increase of the cash inflow from savings and was also attributable to the divestment of the Deutsche Hypotheken Bank and Degussa bank.

Net cash generated from investment activities was EUR 19,132 million cash outflow and EUR 29,754 million cash outflow in 2006 and 2005, respectively, mainly reflecting the investment in interest-earning securities exceeding the dispositions and redemptions of interest-earning securities. Investment in interest-earning securities was EUR 106,902 million and EUR 95,905 million in 2006 and 2005, respectively. Dispositions and redemptions of interest-earning securities was EUR 65,964 million in 2006 and 2005, respectively. Net cash flow from financing activities amounted to EUR 16,372 million and EUR 2,759 million in 2006 and 2005, respectively.

The operating, investment and financing activities described above resulted in a negative net cash flow of EUR 5,214 million in 2006 and a negative net cash flow of EUR 9,954 million in 2005.

## Year ended December 31, 2005 compared to year ended December 31, 2004

At December 31, 2005 and 2004, ING Bank had EUR 969 million and EUR 10,318 million, respectively, of cash and cash equivalents.

The EUR 40,012 million decrease in the ING Bank s operating activities of EUR 17,041 million cash inflow for the year ended December 31, 2005, compared with a EUR 57,053 million cash inflow for the year ended December 31, 2004, was largely attributable to the increase of the loans and advances caused by the reclassification of the mortgage backed securities from the net cash flow from investing activities to the net cash flow from operating activities as well as the decrease of banks available on demand and the decrease of the reverse repurchases.

Net cash generated from investment activities was EUR 29,754 million cash outflow and EUR 52,726 million cash outflow in 2005 and 2004, respectively, mainly reflecting the investment in interest-earning securities exceeding the dispositions and redemptions of interest-earning securities. Investment in interest-earning securities was EUR 95,905 million and EUR 105,004 million in 2005 and 2004, respectively. Dispositions and redemptions of interest-earning securities was EUR 53,999 million in 2005 and 2004, respectively. Net cash flow from financing activities amounted to EUR 2,759 million and EUR (89) million in 2005 and 2004, respectively.

The operating, investment and financing activities described above resulted in a negative net cash flow of EUR 9,954 million in 2005 and a positive net cash flow of EUR 4,238 million in 2004.

## **Capital Adequacy**

Capital adequacy and the use of capital are monitored by ING Bank and its subsidiaries, employing techniques based on the guidelines developed by the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision and implemented by the EU and the Dutch Central Bank for supervisory purposes. See Item 4, Information on the Company .

The following table sets forth the risk-weighted capital ratios of ING Bank N.V. as of December 31, 2006, 2005 and 2004.

	Year ended December 31		
	2006 2005		
	(EUR millio	n, other than pe	rcentages)
Risk-Weighted Assets	337,926	319,653	274,138
Consolidated group equity:			
Tier 1 Capital	25,784	23,408	20,000
Tier 2 Capital	12,367	11,605	10,533
Tier 3 Capital	330	363	357
Supervisory deductions	(1,250)	(650)	(534)
Total qualifying capital	37,230	34,726	30,356

Tier 1 Capital Ratio					7.63%	7.	32%	7.30%
Total Capital Ratio (7	Tier 1, 2 and 3	3)			11.02%	10.	86%	11.07%
	. 1 . 1		 	00			11 0	1 1

ING Group s management believes that working capital is sufficient to meet the current and reasonably foreseeable needs of the Company.

#### **Adjusted Capital**

ING calculates certain capital ratios on the basis of adjusted capital . Adjusted capital differs from Shareholders equity in the consolidated balance sheet. The main differences are that adjusted capital excludes unrealized gains and losses on debt securities and the cash flow hedge reserve and includes hybrid capital. Adjusted capital for 2006 is reconciled to shareholders equity as follows:

## (EUR million)

Shareholders equity (in parent)	38,266
Group hybrid capital	7,606
Revaluation reserves debt securities and other	(3,352)

## Adjusted capital

Group hybrid capital comprises subordinated loans and preference shares issued by ING Group, which qualify as (Tier-1) capital for regulatory purposes, but are classified as liabilities in the consolidated balance sheet.

Revaluation reserves debt securities and other includes unrealized gains and losses on available-for-sale debt securities EUR (1,709) million, the cash flow hedge reserve EUR (1,357) million and capitalized goodwill EUR (286) million. ING uses adjusted capital in calculating its debt/equity ratio, which is a key measure in ING s capital management process. The debt/equity ratio based on adjusted capital is used to measure the leverage of ING Group and ING Insurance. The target and actual debt/equity ratio based on adjusted capital are communicated internally to key management and externally to investors, analysts and rating agencies on a quarterly basis. ING uses adjusted capital for these purposes instead of Shareholders equity presented in the balance sheet

42.520

principally for the following reasons:

adjusted capital is a measure used by ING in its capital management process, and forms the basis for calculating the debt/equity ratios which are used internally by ING to manage the equity leverage on a Group basis and at the ING Insurance level;

adjusted capital is calculated based on the criteria in the capital model that is used by Standard and Poor s to measure, compare and analyse capital adequacy and leverage for insurance groups, and the level of our adjusted capital may thus have a direct impact on the S& P ratings for the Company and its operating insurance subsidiaries;

ING believes its Standard and Poor s financial strength and other ratings are one of the most significant factors looked at by our clients and brokers, and accordingly are important to the operations and prospects of our insurance operating subsidiaries, and a major distinguishing factor vis-à-vis our competitors and peers; and

adjusted capital is also a measure used by regulatory authorities to measure and monitor the safety and soundness of our insurance subsidiaries, and in the event that our adjusted capital levels are insufficient we can expect regulatory scrutiny, including requirements for additional capital or restrictions on our business.

To the extent our debt/equity ratio (based on adjusted capital) increases or the components thereof change significantly period over period, we believe that rating agencies and regulators would all view this as material information relevant to our financial health and solvency. On the basis of adjusted capital, the debt/equity ratio of ING improved to 9.0% in 2006, from 9.4% in 2005. The debt/equity ratio of ING Group between December 31, 2002 and December 31, 2006 has been in the range of 19.9% to 9.0% and has declined consistently during this period as a result of capital management action and favorable equity markets. Although ratings agencies take many factors into account in the ratings process and any of those factors alone or together with other factors may affect our rating, we believe that an increase of our debt/equity ratio significantly, and for an extended period of time, above 20% could possibly result in actions from rating agencies including a possible downgrade of the financial strength ratings of our operating subsidiaries. Similarly, although regulatory authorities do not currently set any explicit leverage requirements for ING Group, an increase of our debt/equity ratio significantly, and for an extended period of time, above 20% could also likely result in greater scrutiny by regulatory authorities. ING currently targets a 10% debt/equity ratio for ING Group. This target is reviewed at least once a year and approved by the Executive Board. During the yearly review many factors are taken into account to establish this target, such as rating agency guidance, regulatory guidance, peer review, risk profile and strategic objectives. During the year, the ratio is managed by regular reporting, forecasting and capital management actions. Management has full discretion to change the target ratio if circumstances change.



## **Off-Balance-Sheet-Arrangements**

Reference is made Note 2.1.4, Off-Balance-sheet arrangements, of the consolidated financial statements.

		Less than	More than
	Total 2006	one year (EUR millions)	one year
Insurance operations			
Commitments concerning investments in land and buildings	235	150	85
Commitments concerning fixed-interest securities	2,482	2,132	350
Guarantees	319		319
Other	1,919	1,036	883
Banking operations			
Contingent liabilities in respect of:			
- discounted bills	3	3	
- guarantees	17,297	10,335	6,962
- irrevocable letters of credit	8,456	7,483	973
- other	623	521	102
	31,334	21,660	9,674
Irrevocable facilities	90,384	39,276	51,108
Total	121,718	60,936	60,782

#### **Contractual obligations**

The table below shows the cash payment requirements from specified contractual obligations outstanding as of December 31, 2006:

	Payment due by period				
		Less than	1-3	3-5	More than
	Total	1 year	years EUR millions)	years	5 years
2006					
Operating lease obligations	1,247	198	383	334	332
Subordinated loans of Group Companies	13,591	34	566	3,503	9,488
Preference shares of group companies	1,132				1,132
Debenture loans	78,133	54,329	5,040	8,661	10,103
Loans contracted	8,900	4,927	793	2,326	854
Loans from Credit Institutions	6,0163	3,749	1,460	444	363
Insurance obligationsprovisions <sup>1)</sup>	227,879	12,960	16,030	14,646	184,243
Total	336,898	76,197	24,272	29,914	206,515

1) Amounts included in the table reflect best estimates of cash payments to be made to policyholders. Such best estimate cash outflows reflect mortality, retirement, and other appropriate factors, but are undiscounted with respect to interest. As a result, the sum of the cash outflows shown for all years in the table differs from the corresponding liability included in our consolidated financial statements at December 31, 2006. Furthermore, the table does not include insurance or investment contracts for risk of policyholders, as these are products where the policyholder bears the investment risk.

# Item 6. Directors, Senior Management and Employees SUPERVISORY BOARD

#### Appointment and dismissal

Members of the Supervisory Board are appointed by the General Meeting of Shareholders from a binding list to be drawn up by the Supervisory Board. This list shall mention at least two candidates for each vacancy, failing which the list will be non-binding. The list will also be non-binding pursuant to a resolution to that effect of the General Meeting of Shareholders adopted by an absolute majority of the votes cast which together represent more than one-third of the issued capital.

Candidates for appointment to the Supervisory Board must comply with the reliability requirements set out in the Dutch Financial Supervision Act.

Members of the Supervisory Board may be suspended or dismissed at any time by the General Meeting of Shareholders. A resolution to suspend or dismiss members of the Supervisory Board which has not been brought forward by the Supervisory Board may only be adopted by the General Meeting of Shareholders by an absolute majority of the votes cast that together represent at least one-third of the issued capital. *Function of the Supervisory Board and its committees* 

The function of the Supervisory Board is to supervise the policy of the Executive Board and the general course of events in the company and its business, as well as to provide advice to the Executive Board. The Supervisory Board has three standing committees: the Audit Committee, the Remuneration and Nomination Committee and the Corporate Governance Committee. The organisation, powers and modus operandi of the Supervisory Board are detailed in the Supervisory Board Charter. Separate charters have been drawn up for the Audit Committee, the Remuneration and Nomination Committee and the Corporate Governance Committee. These charters are available on the ING Group website (www.ing.com). A short description of the duties for the three Committees follows below.

The Audit Committee assists the Supervisory Board in monitoring the integrity of the financial statements of ING Group, ING Verzekeringen N.V. and ING Bank N.V., in monitoring the compliance with legal and regulatory requirements, and in monitoring the independence and performance of ING s internal and external auditors. The Remuneration and Nomination Committee advises the Supervisory Board amongst others on the composition of the Supervisory Board and Executive Board, on the compensation packages of the members of the Executive Board and on stock-based compensation programmes for top senior management, including the Executive Board. The Corporate Governance Committee assists the Supervisory Board in monitoring and evaluating the corporate governance of ING as a whole and the reporting thereon in the Annual Report and to the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders, and advises the Supervisory Board on improvements.

Profile of members of the Supervisory Board

The Supervisory Board has drawn up a profile to be used as a basis for its composition. The profile was submitted for discussion to the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders in 2005. It is available at the ING Group head office and on the ING Group website (www.ing.com).

In view of their experience and the valuable contribution that former members of the Executive Board can make to the Supervisory Board, it has been decided, taking into account the size of the Supervisory Board and ING s wide range of activities, that such individuals may become member of the Supervisory Board of ING Group. There is, however, a restriction in that only one in every five other members of the Supervisory Board may be a former member of the Executive Board. In addition, this member must wait at least one year after resigning from the Executive Board before becoming eligible for appointment to the Supervisory Board. Former members of the Executive Board are not eligible for appointment to the Supervisory Board.

After being appointed to the Supervisory Board, a former member of the Executive Board may also be appointed to one of the Supervisory Board s committees. However, appointment to the position of chairman of a committee is only possible if the individual in question resigned from the Executive Board at least four years prior to such appointment.

#### Reappointment of Supervisory Board members

Members of the Supervisory Board will resign from the Supervisory Board at the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders held in the calendar year in which they will complete the fourth year after their most recent reappointment. As a general rule, they shall also resign at the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders in the year in which they attain the age of seventy and shall not be reappointed. The schedule for resignation by rotation is available on the ING Group website (www.ing.com). Members of the Supervisory Board may as a general rule be reappointed for two periods of four years, based on a proposal from the Supervisory Board to the Shareholders Meeting. *Ancillary positions/Conflicting interests* 

Members of the Supervisory Board are asked to provide details of any other directorships, paid positions and ancillary positions they may hold. Such positions are not permitted to conflict with the interests of ING Group. It is the responsibility of the individual member of the Supervisory Board and the Supervisory Board s Corporate Governance Committee to ensure that the directorship duties are performed properly and not affected by any other positions that the individual may hold outside the group.

## Details of transactions involving actual or potential conflicts of interest

Details of any relationships that members of the Supervisory Board may have with ING Group subsidiaries as ordinary, private individuals are not reported, with the exception of any loans that may have been granted to them. *Independence* 

Annually, the Supervisory Board members are requested to assess whether the criteria of dependence of the Tabaksblat Code do not apply to them and to confirm this in writing. On the basis of these criteria, all members of the Supervisory Board are to be regarded as independent as of December 31, 2006. Members of the Supervisory Board to whom the dependence criteria of the Tabaksblat Code do not apply and members of the Supervisory Board to whom the criteria do apply but who can explain why this does not undermine their independence, are deemed to be independent.

Remuneration and share ownership

The remuneration of the members of the Supervisory Board is set by the General Meeting of Shareholders and is not dependent on the results of the company.

Members of the Supervisory Board are permitted to hold shares and depositary receipts for shares in the company for long-term investment purposes. If any members of the Supervisory Board were granted ING option rights during their previous membership of the Executive Board, these option rights will be part of the ING option scheme. Transactions by Supervisory Board members in ING Group shares and depositary receipts for shares and ING option rights held by Supervisory Board members are subject to the ING regulations for insiders. These regulations are available on the ING Group website (www.ing.com).

Set forth below is certain information concerning the members of the Supervisory Board and the Executive Board of ING Groep N.V.

## MEMBERS OF THE SUPERVISORY BOARD OF ING GROEP N.V.

#### Cor A.J. Herkströter, chairman

(Born 1937, Dutch nationality, male; appointed in 1998, term expires in 2010)

Chairman of the Remuneration & Nomination Committee and the Corporate Governance Committee. Former president of Royal Dutch Petroleum Company and chairman of the Committee of Managing Directors, Royal Dutch/Shell Group. Other business activities: chairman of the Supervisory Board of Koninklijke DSM N.V. (listed company). Member of the Advisory Committee, Robert Bosch GmbH. Chairman of the Social Advisory Council, Tinbergen Institute. Emeritus Professor of International Management, University of Amsterdam. Chairman of the Advisory Committee Royal NIVRA (Netherlands Institute of Chartered Accountants). Member Committee Capital Market, Authority Financial Markets, Amsterdam.

## Eric Bourdais de Charbonnière, vice-chairman

#### (Born 1939, French nationality, male; appointed in 2004, term expires in 2008)

Member of the Remuneration & Nomination Committee and the Corporate Governance Committee. Former managing director of JP Morgan and Chief Financial Officer of Michelin. Other business activities: chairman of the Supervisory Board of Michelin and member of the Supervisory Board of Thomson (listed companies).

## Luella Gross Goldberg

#### (Born 1937, American nationality, female; appointed in 2001, last term expires in 2009)

Member of the Remuneration & Nomination Committee and the Corporate Governance Committee. Former member of the Board of Directors of ReliaStar Financial Corp. Other business activities: member of the Supervisory Board of each of TCF Financial Corporation, Hormel Foods Corporation and Communications Systems Inc. (listed companies). Member of the Advisory Board of Carlson School of Management, University of Minnesota. Member of the Supervisory Board of the Minnesota Orchestra. Member (emerita) of the Board of Trustees, Wellesley College. Member of the Board of Trustees, University of Minnesota Foundation.

## Paul F. van der Heijden

(Born 1949, Dutch nationality, male; appointed in 1995, last term expires in 2007)

Appointment also on the recommendation of the Central Works Council. Member of the Remuneration & Nomination Committee and the Corporate Governance Committee. Rector Magnificus and President of the Executive Board of Leiden University, the Netherlands. Professor of International Law. Other business activities: Member of the Supervisory Board of NUON N.V. and Buhrmann Nederland B.V. Crown-appointed member of the Social and Economic Council of the Netherlands. President of the ILO Governing Body, Committee on Freedom of Association (United Nations).

## **Claus Dieter Hoffmann**

## (Born 1942, German nationality, male; appointed in 2003, term expires in 2007)

Member of the Audit Committee. Former Chief Financial Officer of Robert Bosch GmbH. Other business activities: managing partner of H+H Senior Advisors, Stuttgart. Chairman of the Supervisory Board of EnBW AG (listed company). Member of the Supervisory Board of each of Bauerfeind AG and Jowat AG. Chairman of the Charlottenklinik Foundation (hospital). Chairman of the Board of Trustees (Vereinigung der Freunde) of Stuttgart University.

## Jan H.M. Hommen

#### (Born 1943, Dutch nationality, male; appointed in 2005, term expires in 2009)

Chairman of the Audit Committee. Former vice-chairman and CFO of the Board of Management of Royal Philips Electronics. Other business activities: chairman of the Supervisory Board of each of Reed Elsevier and TNT N.V., member of the Supervisory Board of Ahold N.V. (until May 2007) (listed companies). Chairman of the Supervisory Board of each of Academisch Ziekenhuis Maastricht (hospital) and TiasNimbas Business School. Member of the Supervisory Board of Campina BV.

## **Piet Klaver**

## (Born 1945, Dutch nationality, male; appointed in 2006, term expires in 2010)

Former chairman of the Executive Board of SHV Holdings N.V. Other business activities: Member of the Supervisory Board of SHV Holdings N.V. Member of the Supervisory Board of Jaarbeurs Holding B.V. Member of the Board of Stichting Maatschappij en Onderneming (SMO). Chairman of the African Parks Foundation. Chairman of the Utrecht School of the Arts.

#### Wim Kok

## (Born 1938, Dutch nationality, male; appointed in 2003, term expires in 2007)

Member of the Audit Committee. Former Minister of Finance and Prime Minister of the Netherlands. Other business activities: non-executive member of the Board of Directors of Royal Dutch Shell plc. Member of the Supervisory Board of Stork N.V. and TNT N.V. (listed companies). Member of the Supervisory Board of KLM Royal Dutch Airlines. Chairman of the Supervisory Board of the Anne Frank Foundation, Amsterdam. Chairman of the Supervisory Board of the Dutch National Ballet. Member of the Supervisory Board of Het Muziektheater, Amsterdam. Member of the Supervisory Board of the Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam. Chairman of the Supervisory Board of the Netherlands Cancer Institute - Antoni van Leeuwenhoek Hospital. Member of the Board of Start Foundation.

## Godfried J.A. van der Lugt

(Born 1940, Dutch nationality, male; appointed in 2001, term expires in 2009)

Member of the Audit Committee. Former chairman of the Executive Board of ING Group (retired in May 2000). Other business activities: chairman of the Supervisory Board of each of Siemens Nederland N.V. and Stadsherstel

Amsterdam NV. Vice-chairman of the Supervisory Board of Universitair Medisch Centrum Groningen (hospital). Treasurer of Vereniging Natuurmonumenten (Dutch foundation for nature conservation). Member Siemens Group Pension Advisory Board München.

## **Karel Vuursteen**

(Born 1941, Dutch nationality, male; appointed in 2002, term expires in 2010)

Former chairman of the Executive Board of Heineken N.V. Other business activities: Member of the Supervisory Board of each of Akzo Nobel N.V. and Henkel KGaA (listed companies). Member of the Board of Directors of Heineken Holding N.V. Member of the Advisory Board of CVC Capital Partners. Chairman of World Wild Life Fund Netherlands and The Concertgebouw Fund Foundation.

Changes in the Supervisory Board composition

Paul van der Heijden will retire after the 2007 Shareholders Meeting as he reached the end of the third and last term of four years. Claus Dieter Hoffmann and Wim Kok will be nominated for reappointment to the Supervisory Board in the Shareholders meeting on April 24, 2007 after their first term of four years. Mr. Kok will reach the age of 70 in 2008. At the 2007 Shareholders meeting three new candidates will be proposed for appointment: Mr. Henk W. Breukink (born 1950, Dutch nationality, male), Mr. Peter A.F.W. Elverding (born 1948, Dutch nationality, male) and Mr. Piet Hoogendoorn (born 1945, Dutch nationality, male).

The proposed appointment of Henk Breukink per April 24, 2007 is based on his broad international experience in both finance and human resources.

The proposed appointment of Peter Elverding per August 1, 2007 is based on his broad experience as chairman of an international, listed company and his extensive knowledge of human resources.

The proposed appointment of Piet Hoogendoorn per June 1, 2007 is based on his broad international experience and knowledge of audit, tax, consultancy and financial advisory services.

From the candidates for appointment, Mr. Hoogendoorn is considered to be not independent, because of his position with Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu until June 1, 2007 and considering the important relationship with ING.

Cor Herkströter and Luella Gross Goldberg would retire from the Supervisory Board reaching the age of 70 in 2007. Both agreed to stay one more year to ensure a balanced composition of the Board.

## **EXECUTIVE BOARD**

## Appointment and dismissal

Members of the Executive Board are appointed by the General Meeting of Shareholders from a binding list to be drawn up by the Supervisory Board. This list shall mention at least two candidates for each vacancy, and if not the list will be non-binding. The General Meeting of Shareholders may declare the list non-binding by a majority resolution supported by at least one-third of the issued capital.

Candidates for appointment to the Executive Board must comply with the expertise and reliability requirements set out in the Dutch Financial Supervision Act.

Members of the Executive Board may be suspended or dismissed at any time by a majority resolution at the General Meeting of Shareholders. A resolution to suspend or dismiss members of the Executive Board that has not been introduced by the Supervisory Board needs the support of at least one-third of the issued capital.

## Function of Executive Board

The Executive Board is responsible for the day-to-day management of the company and its business lines (Insurance Europe, Insurance Americas, Insurance Asia/Pacific, Wholesale Banking, Retail Banking and ING Direct). The organisation, powers and modus operandi of the Executive Board are detailed in the Executive Board Charter, which was approved by the Supervisory Board. The Executive Board Charter is available on the ING Group website (www.ing.com).

## Profile of members of the Executive Board

The Supervisory Board has drawn up a profile to be used as a basis for selecting members of the Executive Board. This Executive Board Profile was submitted for discussion to the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders in 2005. It is available at the ING Group head office and on the ING Group website (www.ing.com).

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#### Remuneration and share ownership

Members of the Executive Board are permitted to hold shares and depositary receipts for shares in the company for long-term investment purposes. Transactions in these shares are subject to the ING regulations for insiders. These regulations are available on the ING Group website (www.ing.com).

## Ancillary positions/Conflicting interests

To avoid potential conflicts of interest, ING Group has a policy that members of its Executive Board do not accept corporate directorships with listed companies outside ING. The only exception is currently Jacques de Vaucleroy, who is on the Board of Directors of Delhaize Brothers & Co in Belgium. Mr. De Vaucleroy held this position prior to his appointment to the Executive Board of ING Group.

Transactions involving actual or potential conflicts of interest

Details of relationships that members of the Executive Board have with ING Group subsidiaries as ordinary, private individuals are not reported, with the exception of information on any loans that may have been granted to them. In all these cases, the company complies with the best-practice provisions of Dutch Corporate Governance.

## MEMBERS OF EXECUTIVE BOARD OF ING GROEP N.V.

## Michel J. Tilmant, chairman

(Born 1952, Belgian nationality, male;, appointed in 1998, contractual retirement date 2012)

Michel Tilmant graduated from Louvain University with a Licence in Business Administration. He is also a graduate of Louvain School for European Affairs. He started his career with Morgan Guaranty Trust Company in New York. In 1992 he joined Bank Brussels Lambert, where he was appointed chairman of the Executive Board in 1997. After the acquisition of BBL by ING in 1998, Michel Tilmant was appointed vice-chairman as of May 2000. He was appointed chairman in April 2004. Four Group staff departments report directly to Michel Tilmant: Corporate Human Resources, Corporate Development, Corporate Communications & Affairs and Corporate Audit Services.

## Cees Maas, vice-chairman and CFO

# (Born 1947, Dutch nationality, male; appointed in 1992, retirement following the 2007 General Meeting of Shareholders)

After completing his degree in engineering physics and economics at the Erasmus University of Rotterdam in 1976, Cees Maas joined the Ministry of Finance of the Netherlands. From 1986 to 1992 he was Treasurer-General. In July 1992, he joined ING Group and became a member of the Executive Board. In July 1996, he was appointed Chief Financial Officer. He was appointed vice-chairman of the Executive Board in April 2004. The following departments directly or indirectly report to Cees Maas: Corporate Control & Finance, Capital Management, Corporate Tax, Investor Relations, Risk Management and Corporate Legal. At the 2007 General Meeting of Shareholders, he will retire from the Executive Board in accordance with the contractual retirement age of 60 years.

## Eric F. Boyer de la Giroday

## (Born 1952, Belgian nationality, male; appointed in 2004, term expires in 2008)

After completing his degree in commercial engineering at the Free University of Brussels and a Master in Business Administration at the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, Eric Boyer started his career with Citibank in 1978. In 1984 he joined Bank Brussels Lambert, which was acquired by ING Group in 1998, where he held various management positions in the fields of capital markets, treasury and corporate and investment banking. He was appointed a member of the Executive Board of ING Group in April 2004. He is responsible for Wholesale Banking and ING Real Estate.

## Dick H. Harryvan

## (Born 1953, Dutch nationality, male; appointed in 2006, term expires in 2010)

Dick Harryvan graduated from the Erasmus University Rotterdam with a master s degree in Business Economics, majoring in finance. He joined ING as a management trainee at Nationale-Nederlanden in 1979. Before his appointment to the Executive Board in 2006, he held various management positions in the USA, Canada and the Netherlands, where he was lastly chief financial officer/chief risk officer and member of the Global Management Team of ING Direct. Dick Harryvan is responsible for ING Direct.

#### Eli P. Leenaars

## (Born 1961, Dutch nationality, male; appointed in 2004, term expires in 2008)

Eli Leenaars studied civil law at the Catholic University of Nijmegen and received an LLM from the European University Institute in Florence, Italy and attended the Harvard Graduate School of Business in Boston. After a traineeship at ABN AMRO, he joined ING in 1991, where he held various management positions, including chairman of ING Poland and of ING Latin America. He was appointed a member of the Executive Board of ING Group in April 2004. He is responsible for Retail Banking and Private Banking. He is also in charge of Operations/IT and Corporate Operations and Information Services.

## Tom J. McInerney

## (Born 1956, American nationality, male; appointed in 2006, term expires in 2010)

Tom McInerney has a bachelor s degree from Colgate University (Hamilton, New York) and an MBA from the Tuck School of Business, Dartmouth College (Hanover, New Hampshire). He started his career in 1978 with Aetna Financial Services, which was acquired by ING in 2000. Before his appointment to the Executive Board in 2006, he has been CEO of ING s insurance activities in the US, which position included the responsibility for ING Mexico. Tom McInerney is now responsible for Insurance Americas, ING Investment Management Americas and the global coordination of ING Investment Management.

## Hans van der Noordaa

## (Born 1961, Dutch nationality, male; appointed in 2006, term expires in 2010)

Hans van der Noordaa graduated in Public Administration at the University of Twente, the Netherlands. After a career in retail banking at ABN AMRO, he joined ING in 1991, where he held various management positions. He was CEO of the Retail Division of ING Netherlands, responsible for Postbank, ING Bank and RVS, before his appointment to the Executive Board in 2006. Hans van der Noordaa is responsible for Insurance Asia/Pacific and ING Investment Management Asia/Pacific.

## Jacques M. de Vaucleroy

## (Born 1961, Belgian nationality, male; appointed in 2006, term expires in 2010)

Jacques de Vaucleroy graduated from Louvain University with a degree in Law. He also has a master s degree in Business Law from the Free University of Brussels, Belgium. In 1986 he joined Bank Brussels Lambert, which was acquired by ING in 1998. Before his appointment to the Executive Board in 2006, he was Group president ING Retail at US Financial Services. Jacques de Vaucleroy is responsible for Insurance Europe and ING Investment Management Europe.

#### Changes in the Executive Board composition

Cees Maas will retire from the Executive Board after the annual General Meeting of Shareholders on April 24, 2007. The Supervisory Board will propose appointing two new members to the Executive Board as of the annual General Meeting of Shareholders on April 24, 2007:

John C.R. Hele (born 1958, Canadian nationality) joined ING in 2003. He has been Deputy Chief Financial Officer of ING Group since 2006. Prior to assuming this role, he was the General Manager and Chief Insurance Risk Officer responsible for global insurance risk management and also functioned as the Group Actuary.

Koos J.V. Timmermans (born 1960, Dutch nationality) joined ING in 1996. Since March 2006 he has been Deputy Chief Risk Officer of ING Group, responsible for Risk Management including credit, insurance, market and operational risks. Prior to this he was Head of Corporate Market Risk Management in ING and responsible for market risk management of the banking activities.

## **REMUNERATION REPORT**

The remuneration policy was adopted by the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders (AGM) on April 27, 2004. In 2006, the Executive Board pension scheme was revised in alignment with the approved AGM amendment to the remuneration policy. There were no other changes to this policy in 2006 and therefore, the approval of the AGM still applies for 2006. The chapter starts with the general policy for senior-management remuneration, followed by the Executive Board compensation for 2006 and the compensation structure for 2007. In addition, information is included on loans and advances to the Executive Board and Supervisory Board members as well as ING shares held by members of both boards.

## GENERAL POLICY SENIOR-MANAGEMENT REMUNERATION

#### Background

The prime objective of the remuneration policy is to enable the company to recruit and retain qualified and expert leaders. The remuneration package supports a performance-driven culture that aligns ING s objectives with those of its stakeholders. ING rewards performance on the basis of previously determined, challenging, measurable and influenceable short-term and long-term targets.

ING s remuneration policy is based on five key principles that apply across ING. These principles are:

Total compensation levels are benchmarked against relevant markets in which ING competes for talent.

ING aims for total compensation at the median level in the relevant market, allowing only for above-median compensation in the event of outstanding performance.

The remuneration package includes variable-pay components (short-term and long-term incentives) to ensure that executive remuneration is linked to ING s short-term and long-term business performance.

To enhance the effectiveness of the short-term incentive plan, clear, measurable and challenging targets are set at the beginning of each year.

Long-term incentives ensure a focus on longer-term strategic targets and create alignment of management with the interests of shareholders. A broad selection of ING s senior leaders participate in the plan to ensure a common focus on ING s overall performance.

#### Remuneration structure

Total compensation throughout ING consists of three basic components:

Fixed or base salary, which represents the total guaranteed annual income.

Short-term incentive (STI) in cash, which compensates for past performance measured over one year;

Long-term incentive (LTI) in stock options and/or performance shares, compensates for performance measured over multiple years and is forward-looking.

In addition to the base salary and incentive plan participation, Executive Board members enjoy benefits similar to most other employees of ING Group. These include benefits such as private medical insurance, the use of company cars and, if applicable, expatriate allowances.

#### Base salary

The base salaries of the Executive Board should be sufficient to attract and retain high calibre management needed to achieve our business objectives. The Supervisory Board assesses the experience, background, responsibilities, performance and leadership competencies of the CEO, CFO and the members of the Executive Board when making decisions on base-salary levels.

To ensure that base-salary levels are in line with the relevant market for talent, the Supervisory Board reviews the base-salary levels of the Executive Board on an annual basis.

#### Short-term incentive plan

The short-term incentive plan (STIP) is a key component of ING s performance-driven culture. The short-term incentive is paid in cash. The at target bonus opportunity is expressed as a percentage of base salary. The target levels are based on benchmarks reflecting external market competitiveness as well as internal objectives. Three financial parameters were used in the 2006 STIP for the members of the Executive Board and top senior management across the organisation (the top-200 executives) to measure performance at Group level. These financial parameters are: operating net profit, total operating expenses and return on economic capital. The quantitative elements of the targets are considered stock price sensitive and competition sensitive; accordingly these are not disclosed.

By combining a profit, a cost and a return parameter, the overall performance of ING is properly reflected. Each element is weighted equally to determine the final award. The three performance targets are set by the Supervisory Board at the beginning of the performance period. Under the short-term incentive plan, the actual payout in any year may vary between 0% and 200% of the target level.

In addition to the financial targets, part of the short-term incentive award is based on individual performance, assessed over predefined measurable targets set for each senior executive. These targets depend on the specific responsibilities of the individual Executive Board members and are determined and assessed by

the Supervisory Board. The Executive Board sets the targets for senior management. For this layer directly reporting to the Executive Board, the emphasis is on individual performance in their primary business-related responsibility. **Short-term incentive: relative weight of Group and individual performance** 

	Group performance	Individual performance
Executive Board	70% of total bonus	30% of total bonus
Top senior management	15% of total bonus	85% of total bonus

Long-term incentive plan

The long-term incentive plan (LTIP) at ING includes both stock options and performance shares. LTIP awards are granted to ensure alignment of senior management with the interests of shareholders, and to retain top management over a longer period of time. The LTIP awards will be granted with a total fair value split between stock options and performance shares. The LTI plan was tabled and approved during the General Meeting of Shareholders on April 27, 2004.

The ING stock options have a total term of ten years and a vesting period of three years. After three years, the options will only vest if the option holder is still employed by ING (or retired). The exercise price of the stock options is equal to the Euronext Amsterdam opening price of the ING depository receipts on a specific date during the first open period after the General Meeting of Shareholders.

Performance shares are conditionally granted. The number of ING depository receipts that is ultimately granted at the end of a 3-year performance period depends on ING Total Shareholder Return (TSR) performance over three years (return in the form of capital gains and reinvested dividends that shareholders receive in that period) relative to the TSR performance of a pre-defined peer group. The criteria used to determine the performance peer group are: a) considered comparable and relevant by the Supervisory Board, b) representing ING s current portfolio of businesses (e.g. banking, insurance and asset management) and ING s geographical spread, c) global players, d) listed and a substantial free float.

On the basis of these criteria the performance peer group is composed as follows:

Citigroup, Fortis, Lloyds TSB (bank/insurance companies);

ABN Amro, Bank of America, BNP Paribas, BSCH, Credit Suisse, Deutsche Bank, HSBC (banks);

Aegon, AIG, Allianz, Aviva, AXA, Prudential UK, Hartford Financial Services, Munich Re (insurance companies);

#### Amvescap PLC (asset manager).

ING s TSR ranking within this group of companies determines the final number of performance shares that vest at the end of the three-year performance period. The initial number of performance shares granted is based on a mid-position ranking of ING. This initial grant will increase or decrease (on a linear basis) on the basis of ING s TSR position after the three-year performance period as specified in the table below.

#### Number of shares awarded after each three-year performance period related to peer group

	Number of
ING Ranking	shares
1 3	200%
	Between 200% and
4 8	100%
9 11	100%
12 17	Between 100% and 0%
18 20	0%
	84

The Supervisory Board reviews the peer group before each new three-year performance period. The performance test itself will be carried out at the end of every three-year performance period by an independent third party. The Executive Board members are not allowed to sell depository receipts obtained either through the stock-option or the performance-shares plan within a period of five years from the grant date. They are only allowed to sell part of their depository receipts at the date of vesting to pay tax over the vested award. Depository receipts obtained from exercised stock options may only be sold within a period of five years from the grant date of the options to pay tax over the vested award.

# Remuneration levels

Every year a compensation benchmark analysis is performed based upon a peer group of companies. This peer group, established in 2003, is a mix of European financial services companies and Dutch-based multinationals. The peer group reflects ING s business structure and environment. ING competes with these companies for executive talent. The following companies are part of this compensation peer group: ABN Amro, Aegon, Ahold, AXA, BNP Paribas, Credit Suisse, Fortis, KPN, Royal Bank of Scotland, Société Générale.

In line with ING s overall remuneration policy, the Supervisory Board has focused on increasing variable (performance-driven) pay components which has resulted in a gradual convergence of the Executive Board total compensation to the European/Dutch median benchmark over a period of four years. This has been achieved by raising the target levels of both the short-term and long-term incentives. This ensures that future payouts more directly reflect short-term and long-term performance. As a result, the mix of total target compensation (in case of at-target performance) is divided equally between each component (i.e. 1/3rd base salary, 1/3rd short-term incentives, and 1/3rd long-term incentives). This balance of variable remuneration provides the right amount of focus on both the short and long term.

# Pensions Executive Board members

At the General Meeting of Shareholders on April 25, 2006, it was agreed to amend the Executive Board remuneration policy with respect to pensions. This revised pension plan applies to all members of the Executive Board regardless of the time of appointment to the Executive Board except for Cees Maas and Tom McInerney. The revised pension plan does not apply to Cees Maas, who was born before January 1, 1950, thus he continues to participate in the previous Executive Board defined benefit pension scheme and Tom McInerney as he participates in the US pension plans. The pensions of the Executive Board are now based on a defined-contribution plan, which are insured through a contract with Nationale-Nederlanden Levensverzekering Maatschappij N.V. Starting in 2006, members of the Executive Board are required to pay a portion of their pension premium. The Employment Contract will terminate by operation of law in case of retirement (Standard Retirement), which will take place on June, 1 of the year that the individual has reached or will reach the age of 65. The retirement age has been changed from previous years (age 60) as a result of the change in the Dutch tax reform.

# Employment contract for newly appointed Board members

The contract of employment for Executive Board members appointed after January 1, 2004 provides for an appointment for a period of four years (the appointment period) and allows for re-appointment by the General Meeting of Shareholders.

In the case of an involuntary exit, Executive Board members will be entitled to an amount which has been set at a multiple of their Executive Board member base salary, preserving their existing rights. These rights slightly exceed the exit-arrangement provision in the Dutch Corporate Governance Code, i.e. no more than two times base salary (first appointment period) or one time base salary (all other situations).

As existing contracts cannot be adapted unilaterally, Executive Board members appointed before 2004 remain appointed for an indefinite period of time and, in case of an involuntary exit remain entitled to an exit payment of three years base salary.

The term of notice for Executive Board members is three months for the employee and six months for the employer.

#### **REMUNERATION EXECUTIVE BOARD 2006**

#### Executive Board Base salary 2006

The base salary of the Executive Board members has been frozen for 2006, as was the case in 2004 and 2005. The Executive Board received a 7.5% increase in their base salary in 2003. Prior to 2003, the EB members base salary had been effectively frozen since 1999. Michel Tilmant and Cees Maas received a standard promotional increase in their base salary as of April 28, 2004 as a result of their appointment as chairman and vice-chairman of the Executive Board, respectively.

# Executive Board Short-term incentive plan 2006

The target STI payout over 2006 was set at 100% of the individual Executive Board member s base salary. The final award is based on the achievement of a set of common Group financial targets and specific individual qualitative and quantitative objectives for each Executive Board member. Specifically, 70% of the total award is based on the Group s operating net profit, total operating expenses and return on economic capital, while the remaining 30% is based on individual objectives set at the beginning of the year by the chairman of the Executive Board and approved by the Remuneration and Nomination Committee of the Supervisory Board.

Early in 2007, the Remuneration and Nomination Committee reviewed the actual results of ING against the 2006 targets. Over 2006, ING exceeded on average the three Group financial targets set, resulting in a score of 169% of target on this component. The individual performance of the Executive Board members was on average 171%. ING s external auditor has reviewed to which extent the objectives, both the group and the individual, have been met. The Audit Committee was involved in the review of the underlying financial data.

# Executive Board Long-term incentive plan 2006

Under the long-term incentive plan (LTIP) for the Executive Board, two instruments are used: stock options and performance shares. As mentioned earlier, an identical plan has been adopted by the Executive Board for the top senior managers across ING. As a result, approximately 7,000 senior leaders participate in a similar plan. The target level for the 2006 LTIP was set at 100% of base salary for each EB member. The final grant level depends on the Group STIP performance and will vary between 50% of the target level (if Group STI would be 0%) and 150% (if Group STI would be 200%).

As the Group STIP performance outcome over 2006 was 169%, the resulting LTIP award is 134.5% of target. The number of options and performance shares is determined based on a reference price set at the end of 2006 (EUR 33.83) and a fair value calculation of options and performance shares (based on an option-pricing model). The grant is subject to shareholder approval of the maximum number of stock options, performance shares and conditional share awards to be granted to the Executive Board pursuant to the 2006 LTIP.

Tom McInerney will receive a conditional share award on the same grant date as the other long-term incentive awards. The conditional share award will be 100% vested four years after the grant date and the condition being an active employment contract at the date of vesting. This award is part of Tom McInerney s employment contract to align his total remuneration with the market practice of senior executives in the United States. The LTIP grant table on page 89 shows the number of the conditional share.

The exercise price of the options will be fixed at the Euronext Amsterdam Stock Market opening price of the ING share on May 17, 2007. The performance shares are granted provisionally at the beginning of 2007; the final number will depend on the ranking within the performance peer group after the three-year period (2007 2009) based on the performance/payout scale as indicated above.

The performance shares granted in 2004 had a three-year performance period of 2004 2006 and will vest in 2007. The actual results of 200% are based upon ING s TSR ranking of 2 within the designated peer group. The results were determined by an independent third party. ING s external auditor has reviewed the calculations performed. For members of the Executive Board who received an award as an Executive Board member in 2004, such award will vest in the final number of performance shares in May 2007. For the other senior leaders who participated in the 2004 2007 performance share award, such award vested in March 2007.

# Pension costs

The table on page 91 shows the pension costs of the individual members of the Executive Board.

# Compensation in cash of the individual members of the Executive Board

	2006	2005 (EUR thousands)	2004
Michel Tilmant <sup>1)</sup>	1.000	1.000	1
Base salary	1,289		1,250
Short-term performance-related bonus	2,299	1,520	866
Total cash compensation	3,588	2,809	2,116
Cees Maas <sup>1)</sup>			
Base salary	697	697	677
Short-term performance-related bonus	1,244	806	530
Total cash compensation	1,941	1,503	1,207
Eric Boyer de la Giroday <sup>2)</sup>			
Base salary	850	850	574
Short-term performance-related bonus	1,477	945	445
Total cash compensation	2,327	1,795	1,019
Dick Harryvan <sup>3)</sup>			
Base salary	423		
Short-term performance-related bonus	710		
Total cash compensation	1,133		
Eli Leenaars <sup>2)</sup>			
Base salary	634	634	428
Short-term performance-related bonus	1,102	705	321
Total cash compensation	1,736	1,339	749
Tom McInerney <sup>3,4)</sup>			
Base salary	690		
Short-term performance-related bonus	1,157		
Total cash compensation	1,847		
Hans van der Noordaa <sup>3)</sup>			
Base salary	423		
Short-term performance-related bonus	710		
Total cash compensation	1,133		
Jacques de Vaucleroy <sup>3)</sup>			
Base salary	423		
Short-term performance-related bonus	710		

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Total cash compensation	1,133		
Fred Hubbell <sup>4,5)</sup>			
Base salary Short term performance related horus	556 908	,	1,121 855
Short-term performance-related bonus	908	1,270	833
Total cash compensation	1,464	2,390	1,976
Alexander Rinnooy Kan <sup>5)</sup>	270	(2)	
Base salary	370		634
Short-term performance related bonus	604	705	493
Total cash compensation	974	1,339	1,127
		,	,
Hans Verkoren <sup>2,5)</sup>			
Base salary	370	634	428
Short-term performance-related bonus	604	705	335
Total cash compensation	974	1,339	763
i otar cash compensation	88	1,339	705
	00		

- The increase in base salary for Michel Tilmant and Cees Maas reflect a 10% increase, effective April 2004, related to their promotions to chairman and vice chairman respectively
- 2) Eric Boyer de la Giroday, Eli Leenaars and Hans Verkoren were appointed to the Executive Board on 28 April 2004. The figures for these members reflect compensation earned in their capacity as **Executive Board** members. Thus, the figures for 2004 reflect the partial year as **Executive Board** members.
- Dick Harryvan, Hans van der Noordaa, Jacques de Vaucleroy and Tom McInerney were appointed to the Executive Board on 25 April 2006. The figures for these members reflect compensation

earned in their capacity as Executive Board members. Thus, the figures for 2006 reflect the partial year as Executive Board members Tom McInerney and Frad

and Fred Hubbell get their compensation in US dollars. For each year the compensation in US dollars has been translated to euros at the average exchange rate for that year.

4)

5) Fred Hubbell and Hans Verkoren retired and Alexander Rinnooy Kan resigned from the Executive Board on 25 April 2006. The figures for these members reflect compensation earned in their capacity as **Executive Board** members. Thus, the figures for 2006 reflect the partial year as **Executive Board** members.

Compensation in cash of former members of the Executive Board amounted to nil in 2006 and 2005 and EUR 681,000 in 2004.

# Long-term incentives of the individual members of the Executive $Board^{1)}$

	2006	2005	2004
Table of Contents			4 5 4

		(EUR thous	ands)
Michel Tilmant			
Number of options	132,1		
Number of performance shares	27,6		
Fair market value of long-term incentive <sup>2</sup> )	1,7	1,16	60 661
Cees Maas <sup>3)</sup>			
Number of options		0 58,60	51,200
Number of performance shares		0 10,50	9,300
Fair market value of long-term incentive <sup>2)</sup>	9	938 62	28 410
Eric Boyer de la Giroday <sup>4)</sup>			
Number of options	87,1	138 71,40	00 43,400
Number of performance shares	18,2		
Fair market value of long-term incentive <sup>2)</sup>	1,1		
Dick Harryvan <sup>5)</sup>			
Number of options	43,3	847	
Number of performance shares	9,0		
Fair market value of long-term incentive <sup>2)</sup>		569	
-			
Eli Leenaars <sup>4)</sup>	( <b>7</b> )	52.0	22 400
Number of options	65,0		
Number of performance shares	13,6		
Fair market value of long-term incentive <sup>2)</sup>	8	353 57	71 259
Tom McInerney <sup>5,6)</sup>			
Number of options	70,6	595	
Number of performance shares	14,7	790	
Number of conditional shares	37,6	533	
Fair market value of long-term incentive <sup>2)</sup>	2,2	201	
Hans van der Noordaa <sup>5)</sup>			
Number of options	43,3	347	
Number of performance shares	9,0		
Fair market value of long-term incentive <sup>2)</sup>		569	
C C	89		

	2006	2005 (EUR thousands)	2004
Jacques de Vaucleroy <sup>5)</sup>			
Number of options	43,347		
Number of performance shares	9,069		
Fair market value of long-term incentive <sup>2)</sup>	569		
Fred Hubbell <sup>7)</sup>			
Number of options		0	84,700
Number of performance shares		0	15,400
Fair market value of long-term incentive <sup>2)</sup>		1,008	678
Alexander Rinnooy Kan <sup>7)</sup>			
Number of options		0	48,000
Number of performance shares		0	8,700
Fair market value of long-term incentive <sup>2)</sup>		571	384
Hans Verkoren <sup>4,7)</sup>			
Number of options		0	32,400
Number of performance shares		0	5,900
Fair market value of long-term incentive <sup>2)</sup>		571	259
<ol> <li>Long-term incentives         <ul> <li>are granted in the year             following the             reporting year. The             long-term incentive             plan provides for a             combination of share             options and             provisional             performance shares             based on a 50/50 split             in value. The ratio of             options to             performance shares             varies each year as a             result of the fair value             calculation and the             50/50 split in value.             The fair value             calculation for the             performance year             2006 resulted in a             ratio of options to             performance shares of             4.78 : 1 (2005: 5.6 : 1,             2004: 5.5 : 1). The</li> </ul> </li></ol>			

maximum number of stock options and performance shares to be granted to the **Executive Board** members will be tabled for approval at the annual General Meeting of Shareholders. The vesting period for the performance shares is 3 years. The costs of the performance shares are expensed pro-rata over the 3-year period.

- 2) Fair Market Value of Long-term Incentive reflects the estimated fair market value of the long-term incentive award on the date of grant based on a fair value calculation. The valuation is calculated annually for grants made to the Executive Board members for performance over the year specified.
- As a result of Mr. Maas retirement from the Executive Board in 2007, he will receive the fair market value of his 2006 long-term incentive award in cash instead of options and performance shares.
- Eric Boyer de la Giroday, Eli Leenaars and Hans Verkoren were appointed to the Executive Board on April, 28 2004. The

figures for these members reflect compensation earned in their capacity as Executive Board members.

- 5) Dick Harryvan, Hans van der Noordaa, Jacques de Vaucleroy and Tom McInerney were appointed to the Executive Board on April 25, 2006. The figures for these members reflect compensation earned in their capacity as Executive Board members.
- Tom McInerney will 6) receive conditional shares on the same grant date as the other long-term incentive awards. The conditional shares will be 100% vested four years after the grant date and the condition being an active employment contract. The conditional shares are provided to align Tom McInerney s total remuneration with the US market practice.
- 7) As a result of their resignation/retirement from the Executive Board in 2006, Fred Hubbell, Alexander Rinnooy Kan and Hans Verkoren received the fair-market value of their 2005 long-term incentive award in cash instead of options

and performance shares.

The fair market value of long-term incentives of former members of the Executive Board amounted to nil in 2006, 2005 and 2004.

# Pension costs of the individual members of the Executive Board<sup>1)</sup>

	2006	2005	2004
	(E	UR thousands	)
Michel Tilmant	689	685	467
Cees Maas	448	482	345
Eric Boyer de la Giroday <sup>2)</sup>	439	482	260
Eli Leenaars <sup>2)</sup>	270	255	102
Dick Harryvan <sup>3)</sup>	206		
Hans van der Noordaa <sup>3)</sup>	170		
Jacques de Vaucleroy <sup>3)</sup>	170		
Tom McInerney <sup>3,5)</sup>	297		
Fred Hubbell <sup>4,5,6)</sup>	2,282	395	462
Alexander Rinnooy Kan <sup>4,7)</sup>	2,105	483	346
Hans Verkoren <sup>2,4)</sup>	119	306	109

- 1) For reasons of
- comparison, the company pension expenses are recalculated under IAS 19 with general assumption setting for 2004 to 2006.
- 2) Eric Boyer de la Giroday, Eli Leenaars and Hans Verkoren were appointed to the Executive Board on 28 April 2004. The figures for these members reflect pension costs in their capacity as Executive Board members.
- Dick Harryvan, Tom McInerney, Hans van der Noordaa and Jacques de

Vaucleroy were appointed to the Executive Board on 25 April 2006. The figures for these members reflect pension costs in their capacity as Executive Board members.

4) Fred Hubbell

and Hans Verkoren retired and Alexander Rinnooy Kan resigned from the Executive Board on 25 April 2006. The figures for these members reflect pension costs for the partial year as Executive Board members.

# 5) Tom

McInerney s and Fred Hubbell s pension costs have been translated from US dollars to euros at the average exchange rate for that year.

6) Fred Hubbell s historical annual pension valuation used the standard assumption of retirement age of 65. The US pension plan allows for early retirement beginning at age 55 with 5 years of service. The pension cost shown is the additional IFRS cost related to the funding of US early retirement pension rights which must be fully realized by the Company in the same year he retired.

7) The early

retirement pension benefit is paid up until age 65 and during the early retirement benefit period the plan provides for additional pension rights earned towards the old age pension plan, which begins at age 65. The pension cost shown is the additional IFRS impact and cost related to the funding of Alexander Rinnooy Kan s old age pension rights earned during the early retirement pension period which must be fully realized by the Company in

the same year he

has resigned.

Pension costs of former members of the Executive Board amounted to nil in 2006 and 2005 and EUR 887,000 in 2004.

Loans and advances to Executive Board members

The table below presents the loans and advances provided to Executive Board members and outstanding on December 31, 2006, 2005 and 2004. These loans were concluded in the normal course of business and on terms applicable to Company personnel as a whole and were approved by the Supervisory Board.

# Loans and advances to members of the Executive Board

	Amount outstan- ding	Average interest rate	Repay- ments	Amount outstan- ding	Average interest rate	Repay- ments	Amount outstan- ding	Average interest rate	Repay- ments
				( <b>E</b>	UR thousan	ds)			
	Dece	ember 31,		Dec	ember 31,		Dec	ember 31,	
		2006			2005			2004	
Cees Maas	446	4.0%		446	4.0%		446	4.0%	
Eric Boyer de la									
Giroday	28	4.3%	3	31	4.3%	3	34	4.3%	3
Dick Harryvan	427	3.9%							
Hans van der									
Noordaa	930	4.4%							
Jacques de									
Vaucleroy	192	5.5%	17						
2									
	2,023	4.3%	20	477	4.0%	3	480	4.0%	3
				91					

ING depositary receipts for shares held by Executive Board members

Executive Board members are permitted to hold ING depositary receipts for shares as a long-term investment. The table below shows the holdings by members of the Executive Board.

# ING depository receipts for shares held by members of the Executive Board

	Nu	Number of shares		
	2006	2005	2004	
Michel Tilmant	7,764	7,764		
Cees Maas	7,764	7,764		
Tom McInerney <sup>1)</sup>	64,527			

 Tom McInerney also holds 940 Units in a Leveraged Stock Fund.

Information on the options outstanding and the movements during the financial year of options held by the members of the Executive Board as at 31 December 2006

	Outstan- ding as at			Waived	Outstan- ding as at	]	Exercise price	
	31			or	31	Exercise	in	
						price		
	December	GrantedEx		Expired	December	in	US	
	• • • •		in	in				Expiry
Number of options	2005	in 2006	2006	20061)	2006	euros	Dollars	date
	20.000			20.000	0	25.26		15 Mar
Michel Tilmant	30,000			30,000	0	35.26		2006
	20.000			20.000	0	25.00		15 Mar
	20,000			20,000	0	35.80		2006
	<b>01</b> 000				<b>21</b> 000	20.20		11 Mar
	21,000				21,000	29.39		2012
	14,000				14,000	20.50		11 Mar
	14,000				14,000	29.50		2012
	21.000				21.000	10 (5		3 Mar
	21,000				21,000	12.65		2013
	14,000				14,000	10.55		3 Mar
	14,000				14,000	12.55		2013
	41 250				41.250	17 (0		14 May 2014
	41,250				41,250	17.69		13 May
	82,600				82,600	21.67		2015
	82,000				82,000	21.07		12 May
		108,200			108,200	32.75		2016
		108,200			108,200	52.75		15 Mar
Cees Maas	50,000			50,000	0	35.26		2006
CCCS Maas	50,000			50,000	0	55.20		11 Mar
	35,000				35,000	29.39		2012
	35,000				35,000	12.65		2012
	55,000				55,000	12.05		

							3 Mar
							2013
	41 250				41 250	17.60	14 May 2014
	41,250				41,250	17.69	13 May
	51,200				51,200	21.67	2015
	51,200				51,200	21.07	12 May
		58,600			58,600	32.75	2016
Eric Boyer de la		20,000			20,000	0200	28 May
Giroday	2,000				2,000	26.10	2009
	,				,		3 Apr
	10,000				10,000	28.30	2010
							15 Mar
	4,000				4,000	35.80	2011
							27 May
	3,000				3,000	28.60	2012
							3 Mar
	4,000				4,000	12.55	2013
							14 May
	17,800				17,800	17.69	2014
							13 May
	53,400				53,400	21.67	2015
						~~ ~ ~ ~	12 May
		71,400			71,400	32.75	2016
D' 1 II	10.000			10.000	0	25.26	15 Mar
Dick Harryvan	10,000			10,000	0	35.26	2006 11 Mar
	13,125				13,125	29.39	2012
	15,125				15,125	29.39	03 Mar
	12,250				12,250	12.65	2013
	12,250				12,230	12.05	15 Mar
	6,000				6,000	18.71	2014
	0,000				0,000	10.71	30 Mar
	8,800				8,800	23.28	2015
	-,				-,		23 Mar
		13,060			13,060	32.77	2016
			92				

	Outstan- ding as at 31			Waived or	Outstan- ding as at 31	Exercise	Exercise price in	
	December	GranteÆx		Expired	December	price in	US	
Number of options	2005	in 2006	in 2006	in 2006 <sup>1)</sup>	2006	euros	Dollars	Expiry date
Eli Leenaars	3,300				3,300	25.25		1 Apr 2009
	10,000				10,000		27.28	3 Apr 2010
	22,400				22,400		31.96	15 Mar 2011
	31,000				31,000		25.72	11 Mar 2012 2 Mar
	7,850				7,850	12.55		3 Mar 2013 15 Mar
	9,654				9,654	18.75		2014 15 Mar
	6,436				6,436	18.71		2014 13 May
	41,700				41,700	21.67		2015 12 May
		53,200			53,200	32.75		2016 15 Mar
Tom McInerney	40,000				40,000		31.96	2011 11 Mar
	91,400				91,400		25.72	2012 3 Mar
	125,200				125,200		13.70	2013 15 Mar
	153,550				153,550	18.71		2014 15 Mar
	260,425				260,425	23.28		2015 23 Mar
Hans van der		213,325			213,325	32.77		2016 15 Mar
Noordaa	14,000			14,000	0	35.26		2006 11 Mar
	13,125				13,125	29.39		2012 3 Mar
	8,900				8,900	12.65		2013 15 Mar
	6,000				6,000	18.71		2014 30 Mar
	15,000	11,195			15,000 11,195	23.28 32.77		2015

							23 Mar 2016 28 May
Jacques de Vaucleroy	7,000			7,000	26.10		2009
	20,000			20,000	28.30		3 Apr 2010
	7,634			7,634		13.70	3 Mar 2013
	61,110			61,110	18.71		15 Mar 2014
	114,950			114,950	23.28		30 Mar 2015
		100,352		100,352	32.77		23 Mar 2016
Fred Hubbell	50,000		50,000	0	35.26		15 Mar 2006
	35,000			35,000	29.39		11 Mar 2012
	35,000			35,000	12.65		3 Mar 2013
							14 May 2014
	41,250			41,250	17.69		2014 13 May
	84,700			84,700	21.67		2015
Alexander Rinnooy Kan	50,000		50,000	0	35.26		15 Mar 2006
	35,000			35,000	29.39		11 Mar 2012
	35,000			35,000	12.65		3 Mar 2013
	41 250				17.60		14 May
	41,250			41,250	17.69		2014 13 May
	48,000			48,000	21.67		2015
Hans Verkoren	20,000		20,000	0	35.26		15 Mar 2006
	20,000		20,000	0	55.20		11 Mar
	23,000			23,000	29.39		2012
	20.000		10,000	12 000	10.65		3 Mar
	30,000		18,000	12,000	12.65		2013 15 Mar
	17,800			17,800	18.71		2014
	12 000			10 000	21.67		13 May
	42,800			42,800	21.67		2015
<ol> <li>Waived at vesting date or expired at</li> </ol>							
expiry date.			93				

#### **REMUNERATION SUPERVISORY BOARD**

#### Remuneration

As of July 2006 the remuneration of the Supervisory Board members was increased as follows: chairman EUR 75,000 (was EUR 61,260), vice-chairman EUR 65,000 (was EUR 61,260), other members EUR 45,000 (was EUR 36,300). For the committees the remuneration was increased as follows: chairman of the Audit Committee EUR 8,000 (was EUR 1,360), members of the Audit Committee EUR 6,000 (was EUR 1,360), chairman of other Supervisory Board committees EUR 7,500 (was EUR 1,360), members of other Supervisory Board committees EUR 5,000 (was EUR 1,360). In addition to the fixed remuneration, committee members receive a fee for each meeting they attend. For AC members this fee is EUR 1,500 per meeting and for its chairman EUR 2,000. For the chairman and members of other committees the attendance fee amounts to EUR 450 per meeting. The remuneration and the attendance fee for the membership of a committee is not applicable to the chairman and vice-chairman of the Supervisory Board if they are on one of the committees.

In addition to the remuneration each member receives an expense allowance. For the chairman and vice-chairman the annual amount is EUR 6,800. For the other members the amount is EUR 2,270.

The table below shows the remuneration, expense allowances and attendance fees per Supervisory Board member for 2006 and previous years.

# Compensation of the members and former members of the Supervisory Board

	2006	2005 (EUR thousands)	2004
Members of the Supervisory Board			
Cor Herkströter	75	68	68
Eric Bourdais de Charbonnière <sup>1)</sup>	70	65	29
Luella Gross Goldberg	52	44	44
Paul van der Heijden	52	43	44
Claus Dieter Hoffmann	56	49	46
Jan Hommen <sup>2)</sup>	57	24	
Piet Klaver <sup>3)</sup>	33		
Wim Kok	51	39	39
Godfried van der Lugt	56	40	39
Karel Vuursteen	43	39	39
	545	411	348
Former Members of the Supervisory Board			
Aad Jacobs <sup>4</sup> )	17	51	49
Paul Baron de Meester <sup>5)</sup>	16	58	57
	33	109	106
	578	520	454

 Member as of April 2004; vice-chairman as of February 2005.

- 2) Member since June 2005
- 3) Member since April 2006
- 4) Retired in April 2006
- 5) Retired in April 2006. Compensation includes payment to match his former remuneration as a member of the BBL Supervisory Board.

#### Loans and advances to Supervisory Board members

As at 31 December 2006, there were no loans and advances outstanding to members of the Supervisory Board. As at 31 December 2005, the amount of loans and advances outstanding to the Supervisory Board was EUR 1.6 million at an average rate of 4.7%. This amount concerns a loan to Aad Jacobs. As at 31 December 2004, the amount of loans and advances outstanding to the Supervisory Board was EUR 1.6 million at an average rate of 4.7%. This amount concerns a loan to Aad Jacobs. As at 31 December 2004, the amount of loans and advances outstanding to the Supervisory Board was EUR 1.6 million at an average rate of 4.7%. This amount concerns a loan to Aad Jacobs.

# ING Depositary Receipts for shares and options held by Supervisory Board members

Supervisory Board members are permitted to hold ING depositary receipts for shares as a long-term investment. The table below shows the holdings by members of the Supervisory Board. Supervisory Board members did not hold ING options at year-end 2006, with the exception of Mr. Klaver as indicated in note 2 to the table.

# ING (depositary receipts for) shares held by members of the Supervisory Board<sup>1)</sup>

	Number of (depositary receipts for) shares		
	2006	2005	2004
Members of the Supervisory Board			
Cor Herkströter	1,616	1,616	1,616
Luella Gross Goldberg	6,814	6,814	6,701
Paul van der Heijden			1,716
Piet Klaver <sup>2)</sup>	5,430		
Karel Vuursteen	1,510	1,510	1,510
	15,370	9,940	11,543

- ING (depositary receipt for) shares of direct family included; members of the Supervisory Board (including direct family) not mentioned in this table did not hold ING shares.
- Piet Klaver also holds 20 call options (Exercise price: EUR 15.00; Expiry month: December 2008).

**EXECUTIVE BOARD REMUNERATION STRUCTURE 2007** 

# Policy for 2007

With regard to the remuneration policy for 2007, the Supervisory Board continues to build upon the remuneration policy initiated in 2003, which supports the performance-oriented culture. Over the past five years, the Executive Boards total remuneration package has gradually converged to the European benchmark through increases in the short-term and long-term incentive target levels (as a percentage of base salary). The results of the market-competitive

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analysis indicate overall increases in the market that may put pressure on compensation levels. *Executive Board Base salary 2007* 

The plan is to keep base-salary levels flat in 2007. A market-competitive analysis is conducted on an annual basis to ensure market competitiveness.

Executive Board Short-term incentive plan 2007

The 2007 short-term incentive target at 100% of base salary will remain the same as 2006. The actual payout may vary between 0% and 200% of the target level (e.g. between 0% and 200% of base salary).

The mix for the 2007 short-term incentive award will remain the same as in 2006: 70% will be determined by pre-defined ING Group financial performance measures and 30% will be based on individual performance objectives set for each Executive Board member and agreed by the Supervisory Board.

The Supervisory Board has concluded for 2007 that the Executive Board s short-term incentive award for the Group performance will be changed slightly to replace the return on economic capital measure with economic profit/embedded value profit. The three financial criteria that will be used for 2007 will be: operating net profit, total operating expenses and economic profit/embedded value profit. This slight adaptation to shift from return on economic capital to economic profit/embedded value profit is in line with the publication of the economic profit and embedded value profit as of 2007.

# Executive Board Long-term incentive plan 2007

The Supervisory Board will keep the LTI target value at 100% of base salary (same target percentage as the STI). The range may vary between 50% and 150% of the target level (e.g. between 50% and 150% of base salary). The structure for the 2007 long-term incentive award will remain the same as the 2003 structure (the total nominal value at grant will be split between stock option and performance shares).

As was the case in 2006, the total LTI value in stock options and provisional performance shares to be granted to the Executive Board members will be determined by the Supervisory Board at the end of 2007, based on the achievement of the three pre-defined financial objectives set out in the 2007 short-term incentive plan.

# **EMPLOYEES**

The number of staff employed on a full time equivalent basis of ING Group averaged 118,243 in 2006, of which 32,572 or 28%, were employed in the Netherlands. The geographical distribution of employees with respect to the Group s insurance operations and banking operations over was as follows (average full time equivalents):

	Insurance operations		<b>Banking operations</b>			Totals			
	2006	2005	2004	2006	2005	2004	2006	2005	2004
The Netherlands	9,688	11,191	11,207	22,884	22,946	22,262	32,572	34,137	33,469
Belgium	1,215	1,289	1,293	11,277	11,272	11,246	12,492	12,561	12,539
Rest of Europe	3,767	3,616	3,391	18,026	18,010	19,817	21,793	21,626	23,208
North America	15,016	14,920	14,700	3,032	2,689	2,402	18,048	17,609	17,102
Latin America	13,614	12,155	10,626	386	442	475	14,000	12,597	11,101
Asia	8,206	6,985	6,833	8,748	7,579	6,684	16,954	14,564	13,517
Australia	1,507	1,403	1,397	815	757	681	2,322	2,160	2,078
Other	57	70	23	5	4	2	62	74	25
Total	53,070	51,629	49,470	65,173	63,699	63,569	118,243	115,328	113,039

In addition, the number of staff employed by joint ventures included in the Group s consolidated accounts averaged 1,709 in 2006, 1,584 in 2005 and 1,783 in 2004. The Group does not employ significant numbers of temporary workers. The percentage of the Group s employees allocated to the six business lines was as follows for each of the years 2006, 2005 and 2004:

	2006	2005	2004
Insurance Europe	13%	14%	14%
Insurance Americas	24	24	23
Insurance Asia/Pacific	9	7	7
Wholesale Banking	17	18	21
Retail Banking	31	31	30
ING Direct	6	6	5
Total	100%	100%	100%

Substantially all of the Group s Dutch employees are subject to collective labor agreements covering the banking and insurance industries. The Group believes that its employee relations are generally good.

# Item 7. Major shareholders and related party transactions

As of December 31, 2006, Stichting ING Aandelen (the Trust ) held 2,204,400,319 Ordinary shares of ING Groep N.V., which represents 99.9% of the Ordinary shares outstanding. These holdings give the Trust voting control of ING Groep N.V. The following is a description of the material provisions of the Articles of Association (Statuten) and the related Conditions of Administration (Administratievoorwaarden) (together the Trust Agreement ), which governs the Trust, and the applicable provisions of Netherlands law. This description does not purport to be complete and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the Trust Agreement and the applicable provisions of Netherlands law referred to in such description.

As of December 31, 2006, there were 135,170,568 ADSs outstanding, representing an equal number of bearer receipts. The ADSs were held by 920 record holders. Because certain of the ADSs were held by brokers or other nominees and the bearer receipts are held in bearer form and due to the impracticability of obtaining accurate residence information for all such shareholders, the number of holders of record or registered holders in the United States is not representative of the number of beneficial holders or of the residence of the beneficial holders. Bearer receipts, which are negotiable instruments under Netherlands law, are issuable by the Trust pursuant to the terms of the Trust Agreement. Each bearer receipts (including those bearer receipts for which ADSs have been issued) do not have any voting rights with respect to the Ordinary shares underlying the bearer receipts owned by the Trust. Such rights belong only to the Trust and will be exercised by the Trust pursuant to the terms of the Trust Agreement. Bearer receipts are also issued by the Trust for preference shares.

All bearer receipts are embodied in one or more global depositary receipts which are held in custody by Euroclear Nederland (the Central securities Depository (CSD) of the Netherlands, formerly known as NECIGEF) in exchange for which every bearer receipt holder is credited in the books of Euroclear Nederland and its participants pursuant to the Netherlands Act on Book-Entry Transactions (Wet giraal effectenverkeer). Each bearer receipt holder shall nominate a Euroclear Nederland participant, through which the global depositary receipts are to be held in custody on his behalf. Return of the global depositary receipts to a party other than the Trust shall not be permitted without the Trust s consent. Administration of the global depositary receipts is assigned to Euroclear Nederland which is authorised to perform any necessary act on behalf of the bearer receipt holder(s) in respect of the relevant depositary receipts, including acceptance and transfer, and to cooperate in making additions to and deletions from the relevant global depositary receipts in accordance with the provisions of the Act on Book Entry Transactions.

Transfer of title in the bearer receipts in the form of CF Certificates together with the dividend sheet is effected by book-entry through the facilities of Euroclear Nederland and its participants pursuant to the Netherlands Act on Book-Entry Transactions. Owners of bearer receipts participate in the Euroclear Nederland system by maintaining accounts with Euroclear Nederland participants. There is no limitation under Netherlands law on the ability of non-Dutch citizens or residents to maintain such accounts that are obtainable through Dutch banks.

# Voting of the Ordinary shares by holders of bearer receipts as proxy of the Trust

Holders of bearer receipts are entitled to attend and speak at General Meetings of Shareholders of ING Groep N.V. but do not have any voting rights.

However, the Trust will, subject to certain restrictions, grant a proxy to a holder of bearer receipts to the effect that such holder may, in the name of the Trust, exercise the voting rights attached to the number of its Ordinary shares that corresponds to the number of bearer receipts held by such holder of bearer receipts.

On the basis of such a proxy, the holder of bearer receipts may vote according to his own discretion. The requirements with respect to the use of the voting rights on the Ordinary shares that apply for the Trust (set out in the paragraph below) do not apply for the holder of bearer receipts voting on the basis of such a proxy.

The restrictions under which the Trust will grant a voting proxy to holders of bearer receipts are:

the relevant holder of bearer receipts must have announced his intention to attend the General Meeting of Shareholders observing the provisions laid down in the articles of association of ING Groep N.V.;

the relevant holder of bearer receipts may delegate the powers conferred upon him by means of the voting proxy; provided that the relevant holder of bearer receipts has announced his intention to do so to the Trust observing a term before the commencement of the General Meeting of Shareholders, which term will be determined by the Trust.

#### Voting instructions of holders of bearer receipts of Ordinary shares to the Trust

Holders of bearer receipts are entitled to give binding instructions to the Trust, concerning the Trust s exercise of the voting rights attached to its Ordinary shares. The Trust will follow such instructions for a number of Ordinary shares equal to the number of bearer receipts held by the relevant holder of bearer receipts.

#### Voting of the Ordinary shares by the Trust

The Trust will only determine its vote with respect to the Ordinary shares of ING Groep N.V., held by the Trust, that correspond with bearer receipts:

the holder of which does not, either in person or by proxy, attend the General Meeting of Shareholders;

the holder of which, did not give a voting instruction to the Trust.

The Trust has discretion to vote in respect of shares for which it has not issued proxy votes to holders of depositary receipts and has not received any voting instructions. Under the Trust Agreement, the Trust is required to promote the interests of all holders of depositary receipts, irrespective of whether they attend the General Meetings of Shareholders, also taking into account the interests of ING Group, the businesses of ING Group and its group companies and all other ING Group stakeholders in voting such shares, so as to ensure that all these interests are given as much consideration and protection as possible.

# Intention to abolish ING Trust Office

It is the intention of the Executive Board and the Supervisory Board to abolish the Trust Office and depositary receipts once the number of votes on ordinary shares and depositary receipts of ordinary shares, including proxies at a General Meeting of Shareholders (GMS) is at least 35% of the total votes that may be cast for three consecutive years. In 2005, 26% of total votes were cast and in 2006, the figure was 28%. The Executive Board is committed to achieving the 35% requirement and will encourage depositary receipt holders, particularly institutional investors, to participate in voting at the General Meeting of Shareholders.

# Administration of the Trust

The Management Board will determine the number of its members itself, subject to the restriction that there may be no more members than seven and no less than three. Managing Directors will be appointed by the Management Board itself without any approval from ING Groep N.V. or any of its corporate bodies being required. Members of any corporate body of ING Groep N.V. are not eligible for appointment as a Managing Director. Managing Directors are appointed for a term of four years and may be re-appointed for two terms without any requirement for approval by ING Groep N.V.

Valid resolutions may be passed only if all Managing Directors have been duly notified, except that in a case where there is no such notification valid resolutions may nevertheless be passed by unanimous consent at a meeting at which all Managing Directors are present or represented. A Managing Director may be represented only by a fellow Managing Director who is authorized in writing. All resolutions of the Management Board shall be passed by an absolute majority of the votes.

The legal relationship between holders of Bearer receipts and the Trust is governed entirely by Netherlands law.

#### **Termination of the Trust**

Should the Trust be dissolved or wish to terminate its function under the Trust Agreement, or should ING Groep N.V. wish to have such function terminated, ING Groep N.V. shall, in consultation with the Trust and with the approval of the meeting of holders of Bearer receipts, appoint a successor to whom the administration can be transferred. The successor shall have to take over all commitments under the Trust Agreement. Within two months of the decision to dissolve or terminate the Trust, the Trust shall have the shares which it holds for administration transferred into its successor s name. For a period of two months following notification of succession of the administration, holders of bearer receipts may elect to obtain free of charge, shares of type of which they hold bearer receipts. In no case shall the administration be terminated without ING Groep N.V. s approval.

The Executive Board and the Supervisory Board remain committed to abolish the bearer depositary receipts and the Trust structure once representation including proxy voting of holders of Ordinary shares and depositary receipts thereof has reached at least 35% of the total number of votes that may be cast on Ordinary shares during three consecutive years.

#### Holders of Bearer receipts with a stake of 5% or more

According to filings under the former Dutch disclosure of Major Holdings in listed Companies Act 2006 (as of January 1, 2007 integrated in the Dutch Financial Supervision Act), two shareholders held more than 5% of the Bearer receipts as of December 31, 2006. These were ABN AMRO and Fortis. To the best of our knowledge, there are no other shareholders who own a more than 5% interest in bearer receipts.

The following table sets forth the share ownership of each 5% holder of ING issued capital.

	% of Issued
Shareholder	capital <sup>1)</sup>
ABN AMRO Holding N.V.	5.72
Fortis Utrecht N.V.	6.15

1) This

information is based upon filings made under the Dutch disclosure of Major Holdings in Listed **Companies Act** 2006 as of the respective filing dates and may not be accurate as of the date hereof. The **Dutch Financial** Supervision Act requires investors to file their ownership as a percentage of the company s issued capital rather than as a

percentage of the class of securities. For more information regarding this act and the filings based on it, please visit the website of the Dutch Authorities for the Financial Markets at www.afm.nl

On March 21, 2006 ING announced that it had reached a conditional agreement with Aegon to purchase 24,051,039 (depositary receipts for) preference A shares in ING at a price of EUR 3.72 per share, or EUR 89.5 million in total. The agreement was approved by ING s annual general meeting of shareholders on April 25, 2006. On April 25, 2006, Aegon filed that it had reduced its stake in ING from 6.25% to 0.48%.

None of these major shareholders possesses voting rights different from those possessed by other shareholders. The voting rights of the majority of Ordinary shares are held by the Trust. As of December 31, 2006, shareholders in the Netherlands held approximately 392 million bearer receipts, or 18% of the total number of bearer receipts then outstanding. As of December 31, 2006, shareholders in the United States held approximately 265 million bearer receipts (including ADSs), or 12% of the total number of bearer receipts then outstanding.

As of December 31, 2006, other than the Trust, no other person is known to the Company to be the owner of more than 10% of the Ordinary shares or bearer receipts. As of December 31, 2006, members of the Supervisory Board held 15,370 bearer receipts and 20 Call options. If Supervisory Board members hold ING options that were granted in their former capacity as Executive Board member, these options are part of the ING Stock option plan described in Note 2.1 to the consolidated financial statements.

# **Related Party Transactions**

As of December 31, 2006, the amount outstanding in respect of loans and advances made to members of the Supervisory Board was zero. The amount outstanding in respect of loans and advances, mostly mortgages, to members of the Executive Board was EUR 2.0 million, at an average interest rate of 4.3%. The largest aggregate amount of loans and advances outstanding to the members of the Supervisory Board and the Executive Board during 2006 was EUR 2.0 million.

The loans and advances mentioned in the preceding paragraph (1) were made in the ordinary course of business, (2) were granted on conditions that are comparable to those of loans and advances granted to people in peer groups and (3) did not involve more than the normal risk of collectibility or present other unfavorable features. For members of the Executive Board this means that the conditions have been set according to the prevailing conditions for ING personnel.

As described under Item 6. Directors, Senior Management and Employees, some members of the Supervisory Board are current or former senior executives of leading multi-national corporations based primarily in the Netherlands. ING Group may at any time have lending, investment banking or other financial relationships with one or more of these corporations in the ordinary course of business on terms which we believe are no less favorable to ING than those reached with unaffiliated parties of comparable creditworthiness.

# **Item 8. Financial information**

# Legal Proceedings, Consolidated Statements and Other Financial Information

See Item 18. Financial Statements on pages F-1 through F-165.

# **Legal Proceedings**

ING Group companies are involved in litigation and arbitration proceedings in the Netherlands and in a number of foreign jurisdictions, including the United States, involving claims by and against them which arise in the ordinary course of their businesses, including in connection with their activities as insurers, lenders, employers, investors and taxpayers. In certain of such proceedings, very large or indeterminate amounts are sought, including punitive and other damages. While it is not feasible to predict or determine the ultimate outcome of all pending or threatened legal and regulatory proceedings, management does not believe that their outcome will have a material adverse effect on the Group s financial position or results of operations.

These legal proceedings include a dispute over certain hurricane damages claimed by a Mexican fertilizer producer Grupo Fertinal (Fertinal) against ING Comercial América (now known as Seguros ING S.A. de C.V. and referred to hereinafter as Seguros), a wholly owned subsidiary of ING Group. Fertinal claims USD 300 million, the maximum coverage under the insurance policy of their mining operations. A judge in Mexico ruled in favour of Fertinal. This decision was appealed to a Mexican Court of Appeal, which reduced the judgment to USD 94 million plus interest. This decision has been appealed by all parties involved. Fertinal has also made criminal complaints alleging fraud against certain Seguros current and former employees. In addition to the claim by Fertinal, Seguros also has been the subject of complaints and suits concerning the performance of certain interest sensitive life insurance products. Both the claim by Fertinal and these matters are being defended vigorously; however, at this time, we are unable to assess their final outcome.

Recently, the issue of amongst others the costs charged by the insurance industry to customers in respect of universal life insurance products (commonly referred to as *beleggingsverzekeringen*, *beleggingspolissen or beleggingshypotheken*) has received attention both in the Dutch public media and from the Dutch regulator for the insurance industry and consumer protection organisations. The Dutch insurance industry (including subsidiaries of ING Groep N.V., primarily Nationale-Nederlanden) sold these products to customers either directly or through intermediaries. The concern being publicly voiced in respect of these products is that the Dutch insurance industry has not been sufficiently transparent towards its customers as to the costs charged to the customers, and that costs in respect of certain of these products may have been unfairly high. If, in the future, legal proceedings would be lodged individually or collectively, against Dutch insurance companies in relation to these products, such legal proceedings could also be lodged against Nationale-Nederlanden or other subsidiaries of ING Groep N.V. involved. No legal

proceedings have as yet been

lodged against any subsidiary of ING Groep N.V. Discussions are ongoing between the insurance industry and consumer organisations.

Like many other companies in the mutual funds, suppliers of brokerage and investment products and insurance industries, several of our companies have received informal and formal requests for information from various governmental and self-regulatory agencies or have otherwise identified issues arising in connection with fund trading, compensation, conflicts of interest, anti-competitive practices, insurance risk transfer and sales practices. ING is responding to the requests and working to resolve issues with regulators. We believe that any issues that have been identified thus far do not represent a systemic problem in the ING businesses involved and in addition that the outcome of the investigations will not have a material effect on ING Group.

# Dividends

ING Groep N.V. has declared and paid dividends each year since its formation in 1991. Each year, a final dividend in respect of the prior year is generally declared at and paid after the annual General Meeting of Shareholders generally held in April of each year. An interim dividend is generally declared and paid in September, based upon the results for the first six months. The declaration of interim dividends is subject to the discretion of the Executive Board of ING Groep N.V., whose decision to that effect is subject to the approval of the Supervisory Board of the Company. The Executive Board decides, subject to the approval of the Supervisory Board of ING Groep N.V., which part of the annual profits (after payment of dividends on Preference shares and Cumulative Preference shares) will be added to the reserves of ING Groep N.V. The part of the annual profits that remains after this addition to the reserves and after payment of dividends there from and/or add additional amounts to the reserves of ING Groep N.V. A proposal of the Executive Board with respect thereto is submitted to the General Meeting of Shareholders. The declaration and payment of dividends and the amount thereof is dependent upon the Company s results of operations, financial condition, cash requirements, future prospects and other factors deemed relevant by the Executive Board in determining the appropriate amount of reserves and there can be no assurance that the Company will declare and pay any dividends in the future.

Since the beginning of 2005 ING has a dividend policy of full cash dividends starting with the final dividend 2004. Following the introduction of IFRS-EU which is expected to increase volatility in net profit ING intends to pay dividends in relation to the longer-term underlying development of profit.

ING Groep N.V. made dividend payments of EUR 14 million, EUR 14 million and EUR 14 million on its Preference shares and declared dividends of EUR 2,681 million, EUR 2,461 million and EUR 2,057 million on its Ordinary shares, in 2006, 2005 and 2004, respectively. Both the final dividend 2005 and the interim dividend 2006 were fully paid in cash

Cash distributions on ING Groep N.V. s Ordinary shares and bearer receipts are generally paid in euros. However, the Executive Board may decide, with the approval of the Supervisory Board, to declare dividends in the currency of a country other than the Netherlands in which the bearer receipts are trading. Amounts payable to holders of ADSs that are paid to the Depositary in a currency other than dollars will be converted to dollars and subjected to a charge by the Depositary for any expenses incurred by it in such conversion. The right to cash dividends and distributions in respect of the Ordinary shares will lapse if such dividends or distributions are not claimed within five years following the day after the date on which they were made available.

If a distribution by ING Groep N.V. consists of a dividend in Ordinary shares, such Ordinary shares will be held by the Trust, and the Trust will distribute to the holders of the outstanding bearer receipts, in proportion to their holdings, additional bearer receipts issued for the Ordinary shares received by the Trust as such dividend. In the event the Trust receives any distribution with respect to Ordinary shares held by the Trust other than in the form of cash or additional shares, the Trust will adopt such method as it may deem legal, equitable and practicable to effect such distribution. If ING Groep N.V. offers or causes to be offered to the holders of Ordinary shares the right to subscribe for additional shares, the Trust, subject to applicable law, will offer to each holder of bearer receipts the right to subscribe for additional Bearer receipts of such shares on the same basis.

If the Trust has the option to receive such distribution either in cash or shares, the Trust will give notice of such option by advertisement and give holders of bearer receipts the opportunity to choose between cash and shares until the fourth day before the day on which the Trust must have made such choice. Holders of bearer receipts may receive an equal nominal amount in Ordinary shares

There are no legislative or other legal provisions currently in force in the Netherlands or arising under ING Groep N.V. s Articles of Association restricting the remittance of dividends to holders of Ordinary shares, bearer receipts or ADSs not resident in the Netherlands. Insofar as the laws of the Netherlands are concerned, cash dividends paid in Euro may be transferred from the Netherlands and converted into any other currency, except that for statistical purposes such payments and transactions must be reported by ING Groep N.V. to the Dutch Central Bank (De Nederlandsche Bank N.V.) and, further, no payments, including dividend payments, may be made to jurisdictions or persons, that are subject to certain sanctions, adopted by the Government of the Netherlands, implementing resolutions of the Security Council of the United Nations, or adopted by the European Union. Dividends are subject to withholding taxes in the Netherlands as described under Item 10. Additional Information - Taxation - Netherlands Taxation .

Since December 31, 2006, until the filing of this report, no significant changes have occurred in the financial statements of the Group included in Item 18. Financial Statements of this document.

# Item 9. The offer and listing

Bearer receipts representing Ordinary shares (nominal value EUR 0.24 per share) are traded on Eurolist by Euronext Amsterdam N.V., the principal trading market for the bearer receipts. The bearer receipts are also listed on the stock exchanges of Euronext Brussels, Euronext Paris, Deutsche Börse as well as on the Swiss Exchange. As of December 31, 2006, ING Group was the second largest company quoted on Eurolist by Euronext Amsterdam, based on market capitalization. ING Bank is one of the principal market-makers for the bearer receipts on Eurolist by Euronext Amsterdam.

Since June 13,1997, American Depositary Shares ( ADS ), each representing one bearer receipt in respect of one Ordinary share, have traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol ING, and are the principal form in which the bearer receipts are traded in the United States. Prior to June 13, 1997, there was no active trading market for the ADSs. The ADSs are issued by JP Morgan Chase Bank, as Depositary, pursuant to an Amended and Restated Deposit Agreement dated March 6, 2004, among the Company, The Trust (Stichting ING Aandelen), as trustee, such Depositary and the holders of ADSs from time to time. The Trust holds all voting rights over the Ordinary shares, and pursuant to the Trust Agreement, the Trust will grant proxies to holders of the bearer receipts. See Item 7. Major shareholders and related party transactions . Under the Amended and Restated Deposit Agreement holders of ADSs may instruct the Depositary as to the exercise of proxy voting rights associated with the ADSs. As of December 31, 2006, there were 135,170,568 ADSs outstanding, representing an equal number of bearer receipts. The ADSs were held by 920 recordholders. Because certain of the ADSs were held by brokers or other nominees and the bearer receipts are held in bearer form and due to the impracticability of obtaining accurate residence information for all such shareholders, the number of holders of record or registered holders in the United States is not representative of the number of beneficial holders or of the residence of the beneficial holders. As of December 31, 2006, approximately 18% of the bearer receipts were held by Dutch investors, approximately 33% by investors in the U.K. and approximately 12% by investors in the United States and Canada (including as represented by ADSs). The following are the high and low sales prices of the bearer receipts on the Euronext Amsterdam Stock Exchange, and the ADSs on the New York Stock Exchange, for the period 2002 February 28, 2007:

			Trading			Trading volume
	Furonext A	Amsterdam	volume in millions	New Vo	rk Stock	in millions
		ange (EUR)	of bearer		ge (USD)	of
Calendar period	High	Low	receipts <sup>1)</sup>	High	Low	ADSs <sup>1)</sup>
2002	31.20	13.29	2,033.3	25.95	13.07	78.0
2003	19.06	8.70	2,863.5	23.41	9.96	124.9
2004	22.28	16.73	2,403.5	30.32	20.28	106.4
2005						
First quarter	23.96	21.75	500.2	31.69	28.18	25.1
Second quarter	23.37	20.99	509.4	30.21	26.94	28.1
Third quarter	25.12	22.63	565.3	30.99	28.02	25.5
Fourth quarter	29.75	23.56	556.8	35.40	28.16	34.5
2006						
First quarter	32.79	27.82	584.1	39.71	33.61	25.8
Second quarter	33.38	28.10	632.3	42.59	34.74	27.5
Third quarter	34.80	29.56	510.0	44.37	37.22	20.9
Fourth quarter	35.96	31.50	593.0	45.35	41.74	33.4
2006 and 2007						
September 2006	34.80	33.02	184.6	44.37	42.07	7.7
October 2006	35.96	34.57	171.4	45.35	44.03	11.8
November 2006	35.52	32.09	225.2	45.26	42.05	12.0
December 2006	34.00	31.50	196.4	44.74	41.74	9.6
January 2007	34.31	33.15	190.4	44.65	43.15	9.1
February 2007	34.69	32.27	213.1	45.78	42.65	8.6

1) Aggregate of purchases and sales.

# Item 10. Additional information

# Memorandum and Articles of Association

ING Groep N.V. is a holding company organized under the laws of the Netherlands. Our object and purpose, as set forth in Article 3 of our Articles of Association, is to participate in, manage, finance, provide personal or real security for the obligations of, and provide services to other business enterprises and institutions of any kind whatsoever, but in particular business enterprises and institutions which are active in the field of insurance, banking, investment and/or financial services, and to do anything which is related to the foregoing or may be conductive thereto. ING Groep N.V. is registered as number 33231073 in the Company Registry of Amsterdam and our Articles of Association are available there.

# Certain Powers of Directors

The Supervisory Board determines the compensation of the members of the Executive Board within the framework of the remuneration policy adopted by the General Meeting of Shareholders and the compensation of members of the Supervisory Board is determined by the General Meeting of Shareholders. Neither members of the Executive Board nor members of the Supervisory Board will vote on compensation for themselves or any other member of their body.

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During their office, members of the Supervisory Board are not allowed to borrow from ING Group or any of its subsidiaries. Loans that already exist upon appointment as a Supervisory Board member however, may be continued. ING Group subsidiaries however, may in the normal course of their business and on

terms that are customary in the sector, provide other banking and insurance services to Supervisory Board members. These may include services in which the granting of credit is of a subordinate nature, e.g. credit cards and overdrafts in current accounts. Members of the Executive Board are empowered to exercise all the powers of ING Group to borrow money, subject to regulatory restrictions (if any) and, in the case of the issuance of debt securities, to the approval of the Supervisory Board.

Our Articles of Association do not contain any age limits for retirement of the members of the Executive Board and members of the Supervisory Board. Nevertheless, it has become standard practice for Executive Board members to retire at the age of 60. By mutual agreement the retirement date can be extended to the end of the month in which they reach the age of 61 or 62.

Following the amendments of the Articles of Association in 2003, members of the Executive Board appointed in 2004 and later have been and will be appointed by the General Meeting of Shareholders for a term of four years and may be reappointed. Members of the Supervisory Board are appointed for a term of four years and may be re-appointed for two terms subject to the requirement in the charter of the Supervisory Board that Supervisory Board members retire from the Board in the year in which he or she turns 70. Both members of the Executive Board and members of the Supervisory Board are appointed from a binding nomination by the Supervisory Board.

Members of the Executive Board and the Supervisory Board are not required to hold any shares of ING Groep N.V. to qualify as such.

## Capital structure, shares

The authorised capital of ING Group consists of Ordinary shares, preference A shares, five series of preference B shares and cumulative preference shares. When we refer to shares herein, we mean both our Ordinary shares and our preference shares, unless otherwise specified. Currently, only Ordinary and preference A shares are issued, while a right to acquire cumulative preference shares has been granted to the ING Continuity Foundation. The purpose of the cumulative preference shares is to protect the independence, the continuity and the identity of the company against the acquisition of control by third parties, including hostile takeovers, while the Ordinary shares and the preference shares are used solely for funding purposes. These shares, which are all registered shares, are not listed on a stock exchange. *Description of Shares* 

A description of our securities, and other information with respect to shareholders, annual meetings, changes in capital and limitations on changes in control can be found in our registration statements filed with the Commission on Form F-1 on June 12, 1997 and in this Annual Report under the heading Item 7 Major Shareholders and Related Party Transactions .

#### **Material contracts**

There have been no material contracts (outside the ordinary course of business) to which ING is a party in the last two years.

#### **Documents on Display**

We are subject to the informational requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. In accordance with these requirements, we file reports and other information with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). These materials, including this Annual Report and its exhibits, may be inspected and copied at the SEC s public reference room located at 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549 or on the SEC s website at www.sec.gov. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for more information about the public reference room and the copy charges. You may also inspect our SEC reports and other information located at the New York Stock Exchange, Inc., 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005, or on our website at http://www.ing.com.

#### **Exchange controls**

Cash distributions, if any, payable in euros on Ordinary shares, bearer receipts and ADSs may be officially transferred from the Netherlands and converted into any other currency without violating Dutch law, except that for statistical purposes such payments and transactions must be reported by ING Groep N.V. to the Dutch Central Bank and, further, no payments, including dividend payments, may be made to jurisdictions or persons subject to certain sanctions, adopted by the government of the Netherlands, implementing resolutions of the Security Council of the United Nations or adopted by the European Union.

#### **Restrictions on voting**

The ADSs represent interests in the bearer receipts of the Trust, which holds the Ordinary shares for which such bearer receipts are issued. See Item 7. Major Shareholders and Related Party Transactions . The Trust is the holder of all Ordinary shares underlying the bearer receipts. Only holders of shares (including the Trust) may vote at General Meetings of Shareholders.

Holders of bearer receipts are entitled to attend and speak at General Meetings of Shareholders of the Company; however holders of bearer receipts (including the Depositary on behalf of the holders of ADSs) as such are not entitled to vote at such meetings. However, as set out in Item 7. Major Shareholders and Related Party Transactions , the Trust will grant a proxy to the effect that such holder of bearer receipts may, in the name of the Trust, exercise the voting rights attached to a number of its Ordinary shares that corresponds to the number of bearer receipts held by him. On the basis of such a proxy the holder of bearer receipts may vote according to its own discretion.

Holders of bearer receipts may surrender the bearer receipts in exchange for Ordinary shares. The Trust charges a fee for exchanging bearer receipts for Ordinary shares. Such fee, in each case, is a minimum of EUR 25.00, but varies based on the number of bearer receipts so exchanged.

#### **Obligations of shareholders to disclose holdings**

Section 5.3 of the Dutch Financial Supervision Act (the Major HoldingsRules ) applies to any person who, directly or indirectly, acquires or disposes of an interest in the voting rights and/or the capital of a public limited company incorporated under the laws of the Netherlands with an official listing on a stock exchange within the European Economic Area, as a result of which acquisition or disposal the percentage of voting rights or capital interest acquired or disposed of reaches, exceeds or falls below 5%, 10%, 25%, 50% or 66 2/3%. With respect to ING Groep N.V., the Major Holdings Rules would require any person whose interest in the voting rights and/or capital of ING Groep N.V. reached, exceeded or fell below those percentage interests, whether through ownership of bearer receipts, Ordinary shares, ADSs, Preference shares, options or warrants, to notify in writing the Dutch Authority for the Financial Markets (*Autoriteit Financiële Markten*) immediately after the acquisition or disposal of the triggering interest in ING Groep N.V. share capital.

The notification will be recorded in the register which is held by the Authority for the Financial Markets for that purpose, which register is available for public inspection.

Noncompliance with the obligations of the Major Holdings Rules can lead to criminal prosecution. In addition, a civil court can issue orders against any person who fails to notify or incorrectly notifies the Authority for the Financial Markets or ING Groep N.V., in accordance with the Major Holdings Rules, including suspension of the voting right in respect of such person s Ordinary shares.

### Voting rights

Each Ordinary share entitles the holder to cast a vote at the General Meeting of Shareholders. By Dutch law, voting rights are proportional to the nominal value of the shares. In other words, each Ordinary share (nominal value: EUR 0.24) gives the right to one vote, while each preference A share (nominal value: EUR 1.20) gives the right to five votes.

On the basis of the closing price of the shares on December 31, 2006, the ratio of market price to voting rights on depositary receipts for Ordinary shares was EUR 29.30 : 1, while the ratio for depositary receipts for preference A shares was EUR 3.29 : 5. There is an element of disequilibrium in this respect. Forthcoming legislation will be necessary to link the voting rights for preference shares to the market value of the shares.

### Proposals by shareholders/holders of depositary receipts

In view of the size and market value of ING Group, proposals to put items on the Shareholders Meeting agenda can be made by shareholders and holders of depositary receipts representing a joint total of 1 per mille of the share capital or representing together, on the basis of the stock prices on the Euronext Amsterdam Stock Exchange, a share value of at least EUR 50 million. Given the periods of notice required for proxy voting, proposals have to be submitted in writing at least 50 days before the date of the meeting. Properly submitted proposals will be included on the agenda for the General Meeting of Shareholders.

#### **Issue of shares**

The company s authorised capital is the maximum amount of capital allowed to be issued under the terms of its Articles of Association. New shares in excess of this amount can only be issued after amendment of the Articles of Association. For reasons of flexibility (an amendment to the Articles of Association has to be passed by notarial deed if it is to become effective, and this in turn requires a declaration of no objection to be issued by the Minister of Justice), the authorised capital in the Articles of Association of ING Group has been set at the highest level permitted by law.

Share issues have to be approved by the General Meeting of Shareholders, which may also delegate its authority. Each year, the General Meeting is asked to delegate authority to the Executive Board to issue new shares. The powers thus delegated to the Executive Board are limited:

- in time: powers are delegated for a period of 18 months;

- to specific types of shares: only Ordinary shares and preference B shares may be issued;
- by number: (1) Ordinary shares may be issued up to a maximum of 10% of the issued capital, or 20% in the event of a merger or takeover; (2) preference B shares may be issued up to a maximum which is equal to the total number of preference B shares that is necessary to convert all outstanding ING Perpetual Securities III issued in 2004 in the amount of 1 billion euros (and similar instruments that are or may be issued) into preference shares if and when required pursuant to the conditions thereof;
- as regards the issue price of the preference B shares: the issue price must at least be equal to the stock price of the Ordinary shares at the Amsterdam Stock Exchange;
- in terms of control: resolutions by the Executive Board to issue shares require the approval of the Supervisory Board.

Approval by the General Meeting of Shareholders would be required for any share issues exceeding these limits. **Shareholders** structure

See Item 7 for details of investors who have reported their interest in ING Group pursuant to the Financial Supervision Act (or the predecessor of this legislation). As at December 31, 2006, ING Group subsidiaries held an interest of 11.55% in the capital of ABN AMRO, mainly in preference shares. The interests held in the capital of Fortis was below 1%. These interests are held as investments. There are no shareholders or other agreements between ING Group and ABN AMRO or Fortis on the exercising of voting rights.

Under the terms of the Dutch Financial Supervision Act, declarations of no objection from the Dutch Minister of Finance are to be obtained by anyone wishing to obtain or hold a participating interest of at least 10% respectively in ING Group or to exercise control to this extent via a participating interest in ING Group. Similarly, on the basis of indirect change of control statutes in the various jurisdictions where subsidiaries of ING Group are operating, permission from or notification to local regulatory authorities may be required for the acquisition of a substantial interest in ING Group ING Group is not aware of investors with an interest of 10% or more in ING Group.

#### TAXATION

The following is a summary of the Netherlands tax consequences, and the United States Federal income tax consequences, of the ownership of bearer receipts or American Depositary Shares ( ADSs ) by U.S. Shareholders (as defined below). For purposes of this summary a U.S. Shareholder is a beneficial owner of bearer receipts or ADSs that is:

an individual citizen or resident of the United States,

a corporation organized under the laws of the United States or of any state of the United States,

an estate, the income of which is subject to United States Federal income tax without regard to its source; or

a trust if a court within the United States is able to exercise primary supervision over the administration of the trust and one or more United States persons have the authority to control all substantial decisions of the trust.

The summary is a general description of the present Netherlands and United States federal income tax laws and practices as well as the relevant provisions of the present double taxation treaty between the Netherlands and the United States (the Treaty ). The information provided below is neither intended as tax advice nor purports to describe all of the tax considerations that may be relevant to prospective investors. It should not be read as extending to matters not specifically discussed, and investors should consult their own advisors as to the tax consequences of their ownership and disposal of bearer receipts or ADSs. In particular, the summary does not take into account the specific circumstances of any particular investors (such as banks, insurance companies, dealers in securities, traders in securities that elect to mark-to-market their securities holdings, investors liable for alternative minimum tax, investors whose functional currency is not the U.S. dollar, investors that actually or constructively own 10% or more of the voting stock of ING Groep N.V. or investors that hold bearer receipts or ADSs as part of a straddle or a hedging or conversion transaction), some of which may be subject to special rules. Moreover, if the holder of bearer receipts or ADSs:

1. holds a substantial interest in ING Groep N.V.; or, in case such holder is an individual,

2. receives income or capital gains derived from the bearer receipts and ADSs and this income received or capital gains derived are attributable to the past, present or future employment activities of such holder,

the Dutch tax position is not discussed in this summary.

Generally speaking, an interest in the share capital of ING Groep N.V, should not be considered a substantial interest if the holder of such interest, and, in case of an individual, his or her spouse, registered partner, certain other relatives or certain persons sharing the holder s household, alone or together, does or do not hold, either directly or indirectly, the ownership of, or certain rights over, shares or rights resembling shares representing five percent or more of the total issued and outstanding capital, or the issued and outstanding capital of any class of shares, of ING Groep N.V. With respect to U.S. Shareholders, this summary generally applies only to holders who hold bearer receipts or ADSs as capital assets. The summary is based in part upon the representations of the Depositary and the assumption that each obligation in the Deposit Agreement and any related agreement will be performed in accordance with its terms. Furthermore, this summary is based on the tax legislation, published case law, and other regulations in force as at the date hereof, without prejudice to any amendments introduced at a later date and implemented with or without retroactive effect.

In general, for United States federal income and Netherlands tax purposes, holders of bearer receipts will be treated as the owners of the Ordinary shares underlying the bearer receipts, holders of American Depositary Receipts ( ADRs ) underlying ADSs will be treated as the owners of the Ordinary shares evidencing the ADSs, and exchanges of Ordinary shares for bearer receipts and then for ADSs, and exchanges of ADSs for Bearer receipts and then for Ordinary shares, will not be subject to United States federal or Netherlands income tax.

It is assumed, for purposes of this summary, that a U.S. Shareholder is eligible for the benefits of the Treaty and that a U.S. Shareholder s eligibility is not limited by the limitations on benefits provisions article 26 of the Treaty.

# NETHERLANDS TAXATION

## Withholding tax on dividends

The Netherlands imposes a withholding tax on a distribution of a dividend at the rate of 15%. Stock dividends paid out of ING Groep N.V. s paid-in share premium recognized for Netherlands tax purposes as such are not subject to the above withholding tax.

The Treaty provides for a complete exemption from withholding for dividends received by exempt pension trusts and other exempt organizations, as defined in the Treaty. Qualifying exempt pension trusts may claim the benefits of a reduced withholding tax rate pursuant to article 35 of the Treaty. Qualifying exempt pension trusts normally remain subject to withholding at the rate of 15% and are required to file for a refund of the tax withheld. Only if certain conditions are fulfilled, such pension trusts may be eligible for relief at source upon payment of the dividend. Qualifying exempt organizations (other than qualifying exempt pension trusts) are subject to withholding at the rate of 15% and can only file for a refund of the tax withheld.

On August 29, 2002 dividend-stripping rules were introduced in Netherlands tax law. These rules have retroactive effect as of April 27, 2001. The rules provide that in the case of dividend-stripping, the 15% dividend withholding tax cannot be reduced or refunded. Dividend-stripping is deemed to be present if the recipient of a dividend is, different from what has been assumed above, not the beneficial owner thereof and is entitled to a larger credit, reduction or refund of dividend withholding tax than the beneficial owner of the dividends. Under these rules, a recipient of dividends will not be considered the beneficial owner thereof if as a consequence of a combination of transactions a person other than the recipient wholly or partly benefits form the dividends, whereby such person retains, whether directly or indirectly, an interest in the share on which the dividends received from qualifying non-Netherlands subsidiaries, credit taxes withheld from those dividends against the Netherlands withholding tax imposed on certain

qualifying dividends that are redistributed by ING Groep N.V, up to a maximum of the lesser of

3% of the amount of qualifying dividends redistributed by ING Groep N.V. and

3% of the gross amount of certain qualifying dividends received by ING Groep N.V.

The reduction is applied to the Dutch dividend withholding tax that ING Groep N.V. must pay to the Dutch tax authorities and not to the Dutch dividend withholding tax that ING Groep N.V. must withhold. Both, the European Free Trade Association Court of Justice as well as the European Court of Justice (ECJ) issued judgments concerning outbound dividend payments to foreign shareholders. According to both courts, it is in breach with the European freedom of capital and the freedom of establishment to treat outbound dividend payments less favourably than dividend payments to domestic shareholders. As of January 1, 2007, in general, dividend payments to certain qualifying EU resident corporate shareholders are treated the same as dividend payments to certain qualifying Dutch resident corporate shareholders. Dividend payments to certain qualifying Dutch resident corporate shareholders. The above stated court cases may have significant implications for certain non-EU resident shareholders that receive dividends that are subject to Netherlands dividend withholding tax (i.e. the aforementioned different treatment may be a breach of the European freedom of capital).

Although the freedom of capital generally also applies to capital movements to and from third countries, such as the United States, it cannot be ruled out that the freedom of capital movements to and from third countries must be interpreted more stringent as opposed to the freedom of capital movements to EU member states.

Furthermore, the freedom of capital movements to and from third countries is generally subject to grandfathering (stand-still) provisions in the EC-Treaty (i.e. the restriction of the freedom of capital movements is allowed if these stand-still provisions apply). However, based on case law of the ECJ it may be held that these stand-still provisions do not apply in the specific case of claiming a refund of the Netherlands dividend withholding tax by a shareholder who did not acquire the shares in ING Groep N.V. with a view to establishing or maintaining lasting and direct economic links between the shareholder and ING Groep N.V. which allow the shareholder to participate effectively in the management of the company or in its control.

Especially the following non-EU resident shareholders may be affected and may as a result be entitled to refund of Netherlands dividend withholding tax.

- Legal entities that could have invoked the participation exemption with respect to the dividends received in case they would have been a resident of the Netherlands for tax purposes. In general, the participation exemption applies in case of shareholdings of 5% or more. In case of legal entities resident in the Netherlands, in effect no Dutch dividend withholding tax is due with respect to dividends on shareholdings that apply for the participation exemption exemption.
- Individuals if the shares do not belong to the assets of a business enterprise or do not belong to a substantial interest. In case such a natural person would have been a resident of the Netherlands, the dividend as such would not be subject to individual income tax. In stead, the individual would be taxed on a deemed income, calculated at 4% of his net equity, whereas the dividend tax withheld would have been credited in full against the individual income tax due.

- Legal entities that, if they had been based in the Netherlands, would not have been subject to corporate income tax (such as a pension fund), or would have qualified as an investment institution for the purposes

of this tax, and that would, because of this, be eligible for a refund of dividend withholding tax withheld at their expense.

#### Taxes on income and capital gains

A U.S. Shareholder will not be subject to Netherlands income tax or corporation tax, other than the withholding tax described above, or capital gains tax, provided that:

such shareholder is not a resident or deemed resident and, in the case of an individual, has not elected to be treated as a resident of the Netherlands; and

such shareholder does not have an enterprise or an interest in an enterprise, which in its entirety or in part carries on business in the Netherlands through a permanent establishment or a permanent representative or deemed permanent establishment to which or to whom the bearer receipts or ADSs are attributable; and

such shareholder is an individual, and income from a bearer receipt or ADS is not attributable to certain activities in the Netherlands performed by such shareholder other than business activities (for example, by the use of that individual s special knowledge or activities performed by that individual with respect to the bearer receipts or ADSs as a result of which such individual can make a return on the bearer receipt or ADS that is in excess of the return on normal passive portfolio management).

## Gift, estate or inheritance tax

No Netherlands gift, estate or inheritance tax will be imposed on the acquisition of bearer receipts or ADSs by gift or inheritance from a holder of bearer receipts or ADSs who is neither resident nor deemed resident in the Netherlands, provided that the ADSs or bearer receipts are not attributable to an enterprise which in its entirety or in part is carried on through a permanent establishment or a permanent representative in the Netherlands. Furthermore, Dutch gift and inheritance tax is due if the holder of bearer receipts or ADSs dies within 180 days of making the gift, and at the time of death is a resident or deemed resident of the Netherlands. A non-resident Netherlands citizen, however, is still treated as a resident of the Netherlands for gift and inheritance tax purposes for ten years after leaving the Netherlands. An individual with a non-Dutch nationality is deemed to be a resident of the Netherlands for the purposes of Dutch gift tax if he or she has been resident in the Netherlands at any time during the 12 months preceding the date of the gift.

## UNITED STATES TAXATION

#### Taxes on income

For United States federal income tax purposes, a U.S. Shareholder will be required to include in gross income the full amount of a cash dividend (including any Netherlands withholding tax withheld) as ordinary income when the dividend is actually or constructively received by the Trust in the case of bearer receipts, or the Depositary in the case of ADSs. For this purpose, a dividend will include any distribution paid by ING Groep N.V. with respect to the bearer receipts or ADSs, but only to the extent such distribution is not in excess of ING Groep N.V. s current and accumulated earnings and profits as defined for United States federal income tax purposes. A dividend will constitute income from sources outside the United States. A dividend will not be eligible for the dividends received deduction generally allowed to U.S. corporations in respect of dividends received from other United States corporations. If you are a noncorporate U.S. Shareholder, dividends paid to you in taxable years beginning before January 1, 2011 that constitute qualified dividend income will be taxable to you at a maximum tax rate of 15% provided that you hold the bearer receipts or ADSs for more than 60 days during the 121 -day period beginning 60 days before the ex-dividend date and meet other holding period requirements. Dividends we pay with respect to the bearer receipts or ADSs generally will be qualified dividend income.

Subject to the limitations provided in the United States Internal Revenue Code, a U.S. Shareholder may generally deduct from income, or credit against its United States federal income tax liability, the amount of any Dutch withholding taxes under the Treaty. The Netherlands withholding tax will likely not be creditable against the U.S. Shareholder s United States tax liability, however, to the extent that ING Groep N.V. is allowed to reduce the amount of dividend withholding tax paid over to the Netherlands Tax Administration by crediting withholding tax imposed on certain dividends paid to ING Groep N.V. ING Groep N.V. will endeavour to provide to U.S. Shareholders

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information concerning the extent to which it has applied

the reduction described above with respect to dividends paid to U.S. Shareholders. In addition, special rules apply in determining the foreign tax credit limitation with respect to dividends that are subject to the maximum 15% tax rate. Since payments of dividends with respect to bearer receipts and ADSs will be made in euros, a U.S. Shareholder will generally be required to determine the amount of dividend income by translating the euro into United States dollars at the spot rate on the date the dividend distribution is includable in the income of the U.S. Shareholder. Generally, any gain or loss resulting from currency exchange fluctuations during the period from the date the dividend distribution is includable in the income of the U.S. dollars will be treated as ordinary income or loss. Such gain or loss will generally be income or loss from sources within the United States for foreign tax credit limitation purposes.

#### Taxes on capital gains

Gain or loss on a sale or exchange of bearer receipts or ADSs by a U.S. Shareholder will generally be a capital gain or loss for United States federal income tax purposes. If such U.S. Shareholder has held the bearer receipts or ADSs for more than one year, such gain or loss will generally be long term capital gain or loss. Long term capital gain of a non-corporate U.S. Shareholder that is recognized in a taxable year beginning before January 1, 2011 will generally be subject to a maximum tax rate of 15%. In general, gain or loss from a sale or exchange of bearer receipts or ADSs by a U.S. Shareholder will be treated as United States source income or loss for United States foreign tax credit limitation purposes.

#### Passive foreign investment company

ING Groep N.V. believes it is not a passive foreign investment company (a PFIC ) for United States federal income tax purposes. This is a factual determination that must be made annually and thus may change.

If ING Groep N.V. were to be treated as a PFIC, unless a U.S. Shareholder makes an effective election to be taxed annually on a mark-to-market basis with respect to the bearer receipts or ADSs, any gain from the sale or disposition of bearer receipts or ADSs by a U.S. Shareholder would be allocated rateably to each year in the holder s holding period and would be treated as ordinary income. Tax would be imposed on the amount allocated to each year prior to the year of disposition at the highest rate in effect for that year, and interest would be charged at the rate applicable to underpayments on the tax payable in respect of the amount so allocated. The same rules would apply to excess distributions , defined generally as distributions exceeding 125% of the average annual distribution made by ING Groep N.V. over the shorter of the holder s holding period or the three preceding years.

A U.S. Shareholder who owns bearer receipts or ADSs during any year that ING Groep N.V. is a PFIC would be required to file Internal Revenue Service Form 8621.

#### Item 11. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosure of Market Risk

Refer to Note 2.2 Risk Management of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements for these disclosures, including disclosures relating to operational, compliance and other non market-related risks.

#### Item 12. Description of Securities Other Than Equity Securities

Not applicable.

### PART II.

**Item 13. Defaults, Dividend Arrearages and Delinquencies** None.

**Item 14. Material Modifications to the Rights of Security Holders and Use of Proceeds** None.

#### Item 15. Controls and Procedures

On February 6, 2007, an evaluation was performed under the supervision and with the participation of the Company s management, including the CEO and CFO, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of the Company s disclosure controls and procedures. Based on that evaluation, the Company s management, including the CEO and CFO, concluded that the Company s disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of the end of the period covered by this Annual Report. There have been no significant changes in the Company s internal controls or in other factors that could significantly affect internal controls over financial reporting subsequent to February 6, 2007.

## MANAGEMENT S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING

Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting. ING s internal control over financial reporting is a process designed under the supervision of our principal executive and principal financial officers to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Our internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that:

Pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of ING;

Provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that our receipts and expenditures are being made only in accordance with authorizations of our management and directors; and

Provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use or disposition of our assets that could have a material effect on our financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

Management assessed the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2006. In making this assessment, management performed tests based on the criteria of the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO) in Internal Control-Integrated Framework. Based on management s assessment and those criteria, management concluded that the company s internal control over financial reporting is effective as of December 31, 2006.

Our independent registered public accounting firm has audited and issued their report on management s assessment of ING s internal control over financial reporting, which appears below and which expresses an unqualified opinion on management s assessment and on the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2006.

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#### Item 16A. Audit Committee Financial Expert

ING Group s Supervisory Board has determined that ING Group has three audit committee financial experts serving on its Audit Committee. These three audit committee financial experts are Messrs. Hoffmann, Hommen and Van der Lugt. All have gathered their experience by serving as executive officers and on the Boards of international conglomerates, Mr. Hoffmann serving as the CFO of Robert Bosch GmbH, Mr. Hommen serving as vice-chairman and CFO of Philips Electronics and Mr. Van der Lugt serving as CEO of ING Group

#### Item 16B. Code of Ethics

ING Group has adopted a code of ethics, called the ING s Business Principles, which apply to all our employees, including our principal executive officer, principal financial officer and principal accounting officer. These Business Principles have undergone minor changes to adapt them to the requirements of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 as a code of ethics for certain officers. The Business Principles are posted on ING Group s website at www.ing.com, under the heading Corporate Responsibility followed by ING in Society . During the most recently completed fiscal year no waivers, explicit or implicit, from these Business Principles have been granted to any of the officers described above.

#### Item 16C. Principal Accountant Fees and Services (Ernst & Young) (and KPMG)

Ernst & Young Accountants (Ernst & Young) and KPMG Accountants N.V. (KPMG) are the appointed auditors of ING Group. Ernst & Young is responsible for auditing the financial statements of ING Group and ING Verzekeringen N.V, while KPMG is responsible for the audit of the financial statements of ING Bank N.V.

At the General Meeting of Shareholders on April 27, 2004, Ernst & Young were appointed to audit the financial statements of ING Group for the financial years 2004 to 2007 inclusive, to report about the outcome of these audits to the Executive Board and the Supervisory Board and to give a statement about the truth and fairness of the financial statements of ING Group

The Supervisory Board evaluates the performance of the external auditors on an annual basis, based, in particular, on their independence and on the findings of the Executive Board and the Audit Committee. In addition to the annual evaluation, the Audit Committee and Supervisory Board will review the auditors performance in 2007, prior to a proposal to the General Meeting of Shareholders for the next auditor s appointment. The proposal will include the main conclusions of the assessment of the functioning of the external auditor.

The external auditors, both Ernst & Young and KPMG, attend the meetings of the Audit Committee.

After a maximum period of 5 years of performing audit services to ING Group or ING Verzekeringen N.V. or ING Bank N.V, the lead audit partners of the external audit firms and the audit partners responsible for reviewing the audits, have to be replaced by other partners of the respective external audit firms. The Audit Committee makes recommendations to the Supervisory Board regarding these replacements, among others, based on an annual evaluation of the provided services. In line with this agreement, the lead audit partner of KPMG has been succeeded in 2006. The lead audit partner of Ernst & Young will be succeeded after the year-end audit 2006. The rotation of other partners of Ernst & Young and KPMG involved with the audit of the financial statements of ING are subject to applicable independence legislation.

The external auditors may be questioned at the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders in relation to their statements on the fairness of the annual accounts. The external auditors will therefore attend and be entitled to address this meeting.

Both Ernst & Young and KPMG may only provide permitted non-audit services to ING Group and its subsidiaries with permission of the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee separately pre-approves the type(s) of audit, audit-related and non-audit services to be provided by ING s external audit firms on an annual basis. The Audit Committee also sets the maximum annual amount that may be spent for such pre-approved services. Throughout the year the external audit firms and Corporate Audit Services monitor the amounts paid versus the pre-approved amounts. The external auditors provide the Audit Committee with a full overview of all services provided to ING, including related fees, supported by sufficiently detailed information. This overview is semi-annually evaluated by the Audit Committee.

In addition to the pre-approval procedure each audit-related and non-audit engagement that is expected to generate fees in excess of EUR 100,000 and all further audit-related and non-audit related engagements over and above the pre-approved amounts have to be pre-approved on a case-by-case basis. More details on ING s policy regarding external auditor s independence are available on the website of ING Group.

#### Audit fees

Audit fees were paid for professional services rendered by the auditors for the audit of the consolidated financial statements of ING Group and statutory financial statements of ING s subsidiaries or services provided in connection with the audit of Form 20-F and other filings for regulatory and supervisory purposes as well as the review on interim financial statements.

#### Audit related fees

Audit-related fees were paid for assurance and related services that are reasonably related to the performance of the audit or review of the consolidated financial statements and are not reported under the audit fee item above. These services consisted primarily of IT audits, work performed relating to comfort letters issued in connection with prospectuses, audit of SEC product filings, advice on accounting matters and progress review on IFRS and Sarbanes-Oxley projects.

#### Tax fees

Tax fees were paid for tax compliance, tax advice and tax planning professional services. These services consisted of: tax compliance including the review of original and amended tax returns, assistance with questions regarding tax audits, the preparation of employee tax returns under the ING s expatriate tax services program and tax planning and advisory services relating to common forms of domestic and international taxation (i.e., income tax, capital tax and value added tax).

#### All other fees

Fees disclosed in the table above under all other fees were paid for products and services other than the audit fees, audit-related fees and tax fees described above, and consisted primarily of non-recurring support and advisory services.

In 2006,100% of each of the audit-related, tax and other services have been pre-approved. In line with ING s policy on external auditors independence, the Audit Committee has pre-approved the proposed services.

	Year ended December 31, 2006 (E	Year ended December 31, 2005 UR millions)
<i>Ernst &amp; Young</i> Audit fees Audit-related fees Tax fees All other fees	35 2 2 1 <b>40</b>	21 7 2 1 <b>31</b>
<i>KPMG</i> Audit fees Audit-related fees Tax fees All other fees	28 2 2 2	22 6 1 2

	34	31
Total		
Audit fees	63	43
Audit-related fees	4	13
Tax fees	4	3
All other fees	3	3
	74	62
	113	

## Item 16E. Purchases of Registered Equity Securities by the Issuer and Affiliated Purchasers

		Number X 1000	Average price in euros	Purchased as part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs	Maximum number of Shares that may be purchased
Purchases:					1
January	1/1/06 - 1/31/06	10,329	28.91	NA	NA
February	2/1/06 - 2/29/06	1,530	31.41		
March	3/1/06 - 3/31/06	4,591	31.47		
April	4/1/06 - 4/30/06	963	32.17		
May	5/1/06 - 5/31/06	6,172	31.48		
June	6/1/06 - 6/30/06	181	29.65		
July	7/1/06 - 7/31/06	334	30.72		
August	8/1/06 - 8/31/06	1,441	32.77		
September	9/1/06 - 9/30/06	1,317	33.98		
October	10/1/06 - 10/31/06	887	34.99		
November	11/1/06 - 11/30/06	4,938	33.92		
December	12/1/06 - 12/31/06	12,419	30.76		
Total <sup>1)</sup>		45,102	31.14		
Purchases:					
January	1/1/05 - 1/31/05			NA	NA
February	2/1/05 - 2/29/05	998	22.62		
March	3/1/05 - 3/31/05	3,054	22.98		
April	4/1/05 - 4/30/05				
May	5/1/05 - 5/31/05	3,000	22.45		
June	6/1/05 - 6/30/05				
July	7/1/05 - 7/31/05				
August	8/1/05 - 8/31/05	5,422	23.63		
September	9/1/05 - 9/30/05				
October	10/1/05 - 10/31/05				
November	11/1/05 - 11/30/05	539	26.97		
December	12/1/05 - 12/31/05				
Total <sup>1)</sup>		13,013	23.26		

 This table excludes market-making and related hedging

purchases by ING Group. The table also (i) excludes ING Group shares purchased by investments funds managed by ING Group for clients in accordance with specified investment strategies that are established by each individual fund manager acting independently of ING Group, and (ii) includes share purchases under ING Group s delta hedging activities in respect of its employee option plans.

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#### PART III.

#### Item 18. Financial Statements

#### See pages F-1 to F-165 and the Schedules on F-177 to F-180

#### SELECTED STATISTICAL INFORMATION ON BANKING OPERATIONS

The information in this section sets forth selected statistical information regarding the Group s banking operations. Information for 2006, 2005 and 2004 is set forth under IFRS-EU. Information for years prior to 2004 is set forth under Dutch GAAP, which differs in significant respects from IFRS-EU. Unless otherwise indicated, average balances, when used, are calculated from monthly data and the distinction between domestic and foreign is based on the location of the office where the assets and liabilities are booked, as opposed to the domicile of the customer. However, the Company believes that the presentation of these amounts based upon the domicile of the customer would not result in material differences in the amounts presented below.

		Year Ended	
		December 31	
	2006	2005	2004
Return on equity of the banking operations	19.4%	24.2%	15.8%
Return on equity of ING Group	23.5%	26.6%	22.9%
Dividend pay-out ratio of ING Group	37.0%	35.5%	39.5%
Return on assets	0.6%	0.5%	0.4%
Equity to assets	3.1%	2.6%	3.0%
Net interest margin	1.1%	1.2%	1.4%

#### AVERAGE BALANCES AND INTEREST RATES

The following tables show the banking operations, average interest-earning assets and average interest-bearing liabilities, together with average rates, for the periods indicated. The interest income, interest expense and average yield figures do not reflect interest income and expense on derivatives and other interest income and expense not considered to be directly related to interest-bearing assets and liabilities. These items are reflected in the corresponding interest income, interest expense and net interest result figures in the consolidated financial statements. A reconciliation of the interest income, interest expense and net interest result figures to the corresponding line items in the consolidated financial statements is provided on the next page.

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## ASSETS

				Interest	-earning a	ssets			
		2006			2005			2004	
	Average		0	eAverage		0	eAverage	Interest	0
	balance	income	•	balance	income	•	balance	income	yield
	(EUR n	nillions)	%	(EUR n	nillions)	%	(EUR n	nillions)	%
Time deposits with banks									
domestic	17,868	670	3.8	3,654	172	4.7	4,845	113	2.3
foreign	57,616	1,990	3.5	30,023	1,147	3.8	32,959	968	2.9
Loans and advances									
domestic	243,306	9,566	3.9	222,459	8,331	3.7	157,457	7,184	4.6
foreign	273,383	13,520	4.9	247,444	11,035	4.5	183,458	7,736	4.2
Interest-earning securities <sup>1)</sup>									
domestic	38,310	1,248	3.3	35,423	1,031	2.9	31,221	616	2.0
foreign	185,411	8,003	4.3	176,247	6,773	3.8	165,173	5,922	3.6
Other interest-earning assets									
domestic	1,180	17	1.4	747	16	2.1	527	30	5.7
foreign	3,679	142	3.9	2,524	99	3.9	2,941	158	5.4
-									
Total	820,753	35,156	4.3	718,521	28,604	4.0	578,581	22,727	3.9
Non-interest earning assets	52,824			45,054			22,276		
Total assets <sup>1)</sup>	873,577			763,575			600,857		
					() 50				
Percentage of assets		63.6%			63.5%			66.5%	
applicable to foreign									
operations									
Other interest income:									
amortized results								157	
investments <sup>2)</sup>									
lending commission								96	
adjustment for interest on								(84)	
non-performing loans <sup>3)</sup>									
Interest income on		23,521			19,253			2,223	
derivatives <sup>4)</sup>									
other		585			485			352	
Total interest income		59,262			48,342			25,471	

1) Substantially all interest-earning securities held by the banking operations of the Company are taxable securities.

2) Includes

amortization of premiums and discounts and deferred realized gains and losses on sales of investments in debt securities on a straight-line basis over the estimated average remaining life of the portfolio.

 Interest on non-performing loans is included when calculating the average yield in this table but excluded from interest income reported in the consolidated profit and loss account.

4) In 2004, includes amortization of deferred realized gains and losses on off-balance sheet hedging instruments on a straight line basis over the estimated average remaining life of the portfolio and interest

accrued on hedging instruments, primarily on interest rate swaps.

## LIABILITIES

	Interest-bearing liabilities 2006 2005							2004		
	Average balance		Average yield %	balance		Average yield %	balance		Average yield %	
Time deposits		mmons)	70		liiiioiis)	-70		lillions)	70	
from banks										
domestic	48,002	2,145	4.5	33,044	958	2.9	26,131	590	2.3	
foreign	38,576	1,419	3.7	46,379	1,419	3.1	50,522	1,111	2.2	
Demand	50,570	1,117	5.1	10,577	1,117	5.1	50,522	1,111	2.2	
deposits <sup>5)</sup>										
domestic	92,488	1,293	1.4	78,030	595	0.8	32,210	176	0.6	
foreign	32,533	692	2.1	27,930	502	1.8	26,992	423	1.6	
Time deposits <sup>5)</sup>	52,555	072	2.1	21,950	502	1.0	20,772	125	1.0	
domestic	27,983	1,167	4.2	16,764	485	2.9	14,432	371	2.6	
foreign	31,160	1,205	3.9	29,976	901	3.0	29,995	727	2.4	
Savings deposits <sup>5)</sup>		-,••		_,,,,,,						
domestic	66,845	1,562	2.3	63,157	1,494	2.4	58,277	1,504	2.6	
foreign	228,656	7,682	3.4	198,855	6,208	3.1	150,428	4,422	2.9	
Short term debt	- )	- )		,	-)		) -	,		
domestic	4,153	182	4.4	2,815	88	3.1	4,992	102	2.0	
foreign	35,786	1,849	5.2	28,203	1,269	4.5	29,879	696	2.3	
Long term debt	)	)		-,	,		- )			
domestic	14,050	798	5.7	13,971	675	4.8	15,645	670	4.3	
foreign	40,291	1,532	3.8	47,443	2,037	4.3	40,394	1,751	4.3	
Subordinated	,	,		,	,		,	,		
liabilities										
domestic	18,713	1,023	5.5	16,702	920	5.5	13,061	732	5.6	
foreign	2,229	119	5.3	2,605	153	5.9	2,802	160	5.7	
Other	·									
interest-bearing										
liabilities										
domestic	44,534	1,078	2.4	37,562	775	2.1	18,468	158	0.9	
foreign	65,824	2,226	3.4	45,158	1,234	2.7	32,470	971	3.0	
C										
Total	791,823	25,972	3.3	688,594	19,713	2.9	546,698	14,564	2.7	
Non-interest										
bearing liabilities	60,021			54,592			36,299			
	851									
Total Liabilities	,844			743,186			582,997			
Group Capital	21,733			20,389			17,860			
Total liabilities and capital	873,577			763,575			600,857			
		61.1%			62.1%			64.9%		

Percentage of liabilities applicable to foreign operations Other interest expense: interest expenses on derivatives other	23,243 712	18,836 631	2,078 130
Total interest expense	49,927	39,180	16,772
Total net interest result	9,335	9,162	8,808
5) These captions do not include deposits from banks.			
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#### ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET INTEREST INCOME

The following table allocates changes in the Group s interest income and expense and net interest result between changes in average balances and rates for the periods indicated. Changes due to a combination of volume and rate have been allocated to changes in average volume. The net changes in interest income, interest expense and net interest result, as calculated in this table, have been reconciled to the changes in interest income, interest expense and net interest result in the consolidated financial statements. See introduction to Average Balances and Interest Rates for a discussion of the differences between interest income, interest expense and net interest result as calculated in the following table and as set forth in the consolidated financial statements.

		2006 over 2005 Increase			2005 over 2004		
		(decrease)		1	Increase (decrease)		
	Average volume	due to changes in Average rate (EUR	Net change	Average volume	due to changes i Average rate (EUR	n Net change	
		millions)			millions)		
Interest-earning assets							
Time deposits to banks	(())	(171)	40.9	( <b>20</b> )	07	50	
domestic	669 1.054	(171)	498	(28)	87 265	59 170	
foreign	1,054	(211)	843	(86)	265	179	
Loans and advances	701	454	1 0 2 5	2.000	(1, 0, 1, 0)	1 1 4 7	
domestic	781	454	1,235	2,966	(1,819)	1,147	
foreign	1,157	1,328	2,485	2,698	601	3,299	
Interest-earning securities							
Domestic	84	133	217	83	332	415	
	84 352	878		85 397	332 454	413 851	
foreign Other interest coming	552	8/8	1,230	397	434	831	
Other interest-earning assets							
domestic	9	(8)	1	12	(26)	(14)	
foreign	46	(3)	43	(22)	(37)	(14)	
Interest income	40	$(\mathbf{J})$	45	(22)	(37)	(39)	
domestic	1,543	408	1,951	3,033	(1,426)	1,607	
foreign	2,609	1,992	4,601	2,987	1,283	4,270	
loteigh	2,007	1,772	4,001	2,907	1,205	7,270	
Total	4,152	2,400	6,552	6,020	(143)	5,877	
Other interest income			4,368			16,994	
Total interest income			10,920			22,871	
		11	8				

		2006 over 2005 Increase			2005 over 2004			
		(decrease) due to changes in			Increase (decrease) due to changes in			
	Average volume	Average rate	Net change	Average volume	Average rate	Net change		
Interest-bearing liabilities		(EUR millions)			(EUR millions)			
Time deposits from banks								
domestic	434	753	1,187	156	212	368		
foreign	(239)	239	0	(91)	399	308		
Demand deposits								
domestic	110	588	698	250	169	419		
foreign	83	107	190	12	64	79		
Time deposits								
domestic	324	358	682	60	54	114		
foreign	36	268	304	(1)	175	174		
Savings deposits	07	(10)	69	126	(126)	(10)		
domestic foreign	87 930	(19) 544	68 1,474	126 1,423	(136) 363	(10) 1,786		
Short term debt	930	344	1,474	1,423	303	1,780		
domestic	42	52	94	(44)	30	(14)		
foreign	341	239	580	(39)	612	573		
Long term debt								
domestic	4	119	123	(72)	77	5		
foreign	(307)	(198)	(505)	306	(20)	286		
Subordinated liabilities								
domestic	111	(8)	103	204	(16)	188		
foreign	(22)	(12)	(34)	(11)	4	(7)		
Other interest-bearing liabilities								
domestic	144	159	303	164	453	617		
foreign	565	427	992	379	(116)	263		
Interest expense	000	,	<i>,,,</i>	517	(110)	200		
domestic	1,256	2,002	3,258	844	843	1,687		
foreign	1,387	1,614	3,001	1,981	1,481	3,462		
Total	2,643	3,616	6,259	2,825	2,324	5,149		
Other interest expense			4,488			17,259		
Total interest expense			10,747			22,408		

Net interest

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domestic foreign	287 1,222	(1,594) 378	(1,307) 1,600	2,189 1,006	(2,269) (198)	(80) 808
Net interest	1,509	(1,216)	293	3,195	(2,467)	728
Other net interest result			(120)			(265)
Net interest result			173			463
		119	9			

### INVESTMENTS OF THE GROUP S BANKING OPERATIONS

The following table shows the balance sheet value under IFRS-EU of the investments of the Group s banking operations.

	2006	Year ended December 31 2005 (EUR millions)	2004
Debt securities available for sale		(2011 11110115)	
Dutch government	6,106	6,052	5,688
German government	8,076	9,664	9,403
Central banks	213	159	180
Belgian government	14,225	15,711	14,829
Other governments	27,959	32,001	27,192
Corporate debt securities			
Banks and financial institutions	26,791	29,418	34,530
Other corporate debt securities	9,900	3,815	15,867
U.S. Treasury and other U.S. Government agencies	322	1,424	1,953
Other debt securities	57,941	60,808	53,408
Total debt securities available for sale	151,533	159,052	163,050
Debt securities held to maturity			
Dutch government		452	
German government	790	792	
Central banks			
Belgian government			
Other governments	564	767	
Corporate debt securities			
Banks and financial institutions	13,970	14,375	
Other corporate debt securities	40	40	
U.S. Treasury and other U.S. Government agencies	233	361	
Other debt securities	2,063	2,150	
Total debt securities held to maturity	17,660	18,937	
Shares and convertible debentures	1,898	2,147	546
Land and buildings <sup>1)</sup>	5,005	3,205	3,398
Total	176,096	183,340	166,994

1) Including commuted ground rents

### **Banking investment strategy**

ING s investment strategy for its investment portfolio related to the banking activities is formulated by the Asset and Liability Committee ( ALCO ). The exposures of the investments to market rate movements are managed by modifying the asset and liability mix, either directly or through the use of derivative financial products including interest rate

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swaps, futures, forwards and purchased option positions such as interest rate caps, floors and collars. See Note 2.2 Risk Management of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

The investment portfolio related to the banking activities primarily consists of fixed-interest securities. Approximately 19% of the land and buildings owned by ING Bank are wholly or partially in use by Group companies.

## Portfolio maturity description

	1 year or					1.40
	less Book value		Between 1 and 5 years Book value		Between 5 and 10 years Book value	
	(EUR millions)	Yield <sup>1)</sup> %	(EUR millions)	Yield <sup>1)</sup> %	(EUR millions)	Yield <sup>1)</sup> %
Debt securities available						
for sale						
Dutch government	275	5.8	858	5.1	4,973	4.2
German government	190	4.7	2,783	4.7	5,103	4.2
Belgian government	1,802	6.8	7,113	5.3	5,141	4.4
Central banks	83	2.0			130	4.1
Other governments	6,505	4.3	10,024	4.5	10,195	4.1
Banks and financial						
institutions	4,665	4.0	14,109	3.8	7,367	3.8
Corporate debt securities	843	4.5	3,970	4.3	4,984	4.0
U.S. Treasury and other						
U.S. Government agencies	196	3.8	124	3.7	1	4.8
Other debt securities	4,699	4.7	14,348	4.6	9,302	5.0
Total debt securities	10.050	1.6	52 220			1.2
available for sale	19,258	4.6	53,329	4.4	47,196	4.2

	Over 10 years Book value (EUR Yield <sup>1)</sup> millions) %		Total Book value (EUR millions)	
Debt securities available for sale				
Dutch government			6,106	
German government			8,076	
Belgian government	169	4.8	14,225	
Central banks			213	
Other governments	1,235	4.4	27,959	
Banks and financial institutions	650	4.6	26,791	
Corporate debt securities	103	6.5	9,900	
U.S. Treasury and other U.S. Government agencies	1	4.7	322	
Other debt securities				
Total debt securities available for sale	29,592	5.2	57,941	
	31,750	5.2	151,533	

investment securities held by the banking operations of the Company are taxable securities, the yields are on a tax- equivalents basis.

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	1 year or less		Between 1 and 5 years		Between 5 and 10 years	
	Book value (EUR millions)	Yield <sup>1)</sup> %	Book value (EUR millions)	<b>Yield</b> <sup>1)</sup> %	Book value (EUR millions)	Yield <sup>1)</sup> %
Debt securities held to	,				)	
maturity						
Dutch government			240	2.5	541	4 1
German government Belgian government			249	3.5	541	4.1
Central banks						
Other governments			155	4.6	409	4.7
Banks and financial						
institutions	688	4.4	6,143	4.0	7,039	3.6
Corporate debt securities					40	3.4
U.S. Treasury and other	21	5.0	114	5.2	0.0	
U.S. Government agencies	31	5.0	114	5.2	88	4.4
Other debt securities Total debt securities held						
to maturity	85	2.8	1,022	3.6	956	3.8
	804	4.3	7,683	3.9	9,073	3.7
			Во	Over 10 years ok value (EUR hillions)	Yield <sup>1)</sup> %	Total Book value (EUR millions)
Debt securities held to matur	ritv		11	iiiii0iis)	70	minons)
Dutch government German government Belgian government Central banks						790
Other governments						564
Banks and financial institution	S			100	4.5	13,970
Corporate debt securities		_				40
U.S. Treasury and other U.S. C	Government age	ncies				233
Other debt securities Total debt securities held to a	maturity					2,063
				100	4.5	
				100	4.5	17,660

1) Since

substantially all investment securities held by the banking operations of the Company are taxable securities, the yields are on a tax-equivalent basis.

On December 31, 2006, ING Group also held the following securities for the banking operations that exceeded 10% of shareholders equity:

		20	2006	
		<b>Book value</b>	Market value	
		(EUR m	(EUR millions)	
Dutch government				
Belgian government		6,106	6,106	
German government		14,225	14,225	
		8,866	8,857	
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#### LOAN PORTFOLIO

#### Loans and advances to banks and customers

Loans and advances to banks include all receivables from credit institutions, except for cash, current accounts and deposits with other banks (including central banks). Lending facilities to corporate and private customers encompass among others, loans, overdrafts and finance lease receivables. The following table sets forth the gross loans and advances to banks and customers as of December 31, 2006, 2005 and 2004 under IFRS-EU. **IFRS-EU** 

	Year ended December 31		
	2006	2005 (EUR millions)	2004
By domestic offices: Loans guaranteed by public authorities	16,450	13,907	