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## **Continued stable development:**

### **Vienna Insurance Group with solid premium performance<sup>1</sup> again in its core markets for the first quarter of 2009**

Preliminary figures on the development of **Vienna Insurance Group** companies in the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Poland and Romania again confirm the market potential of Central and Eastern European insurance markets. Seen overall, premium growth was maintained at stable levels for the first quarter of 2009, with some segments registering very good growth rates.

*"We continue to be ideally positioned in our core markets and are able to demonstrate good premium growth even in a difficult economic environment", says **Günter Geyer, CEO of Vienna Insurance Group**. "In my view, these mostly stable results, to which our newly acquired companies have made a significant contribution, can be considered a great success. In addition, we have also made the decision to restructure our product portfolios in several countries to continue our positive performance in the future."*

#### **Czech Republic**

With **unconsolidated premiums written** of approximately **CZK 11.99 billion** (approx. EUR 434.4 million), in the first quarter of 2009 Vienna Insurance Group's Czech companies achieved excellent **growth of 20.2 percent** in both **life** and **non-life segments**. Approximately **CZK 8.49 billion** (approximately EUR 307.8 million) in **premiums** were generated by the **non-life insurance segment**, which represents an **increase of 8.4 percent** as compared to the previous year's period.

Mostly as a result of the acquisition of **Pojišťovna České spořitelny (PČS)**, **life insurance** also generated very good results for Vienna Insurance Group in the Czech Republic during the first three months of this year. With **premiums of approx. CZK 3.50 billion** (approx. EUR 126.7 million), the companies achieved **impressive growth of 63.1 percent** in this segment.

In the Czech Republic Vienna Insurance Group is represented by the **Kooperativa**, the **ČPP** and the **Pojišťovna České spořitelny (PČS)**, which was acquired in September 2008.

#### **Slovakia**

Based on preliminary figures, the Slovakian companies of Vienna Insurance Group also generated solid growth in the first quarter of 2009. With **unconsolidated premiums written of EUR 193.7 million** they attained overall **growth of 4.1 percent**.

In the **non-life** segment, performance remained mostly stable with **premiums of EUR 121.9 million** (minus 2.0 percent).

<sup>1</sup> Preliminary figures according to local standards, unconsolidated, average currency exchange rate as at 1<sup>st</sup> quarter. S-Versicherung companies are not included in comparative figures for 2008.

At the same time, the **life insurance** segment generated very good growth for Vienna Insurance Group in Slovakia. In this segment, first quarter **premiums** amounted to **EUR 71.8 million**, which represents an **increase of 16.5 percent** compared to the previous year's period.

On the Slovakian market, Vienna Insurance Group is active with a total of four insurance companies: **Kooperativa, Komunálna, Kontinuita** and the newly acquired **Poist'ovňa Slovenskej sporiteľne**.

#### **Poland**

With total **unconsolidated premiums written** of **PLN 707.7 million** (approx. EUR 157.3 million) for the first quarter of 2009, Vienna Insurance Group's Polish companies grew at **5.2 percent**.

During that period, **Vienna Insurance Group's** performance in the **non-life** segment was particularly positive. This segment generated **premiums** in the amount of **PLN 441.1 million** (approx. EUR 98.0 million), resulting in good double-digit **growth of 14.8 percent**.

With **premiums** of **PLN 266.6 million** (approx. EUR 59.3 million), the **life insurance** segment registered a decline of 7.5 percent for the first quarter of this year - a development that can be traced back to the uncertain situation on capital markets.

Vienna Insurance Group's presence on the Polish insurance market consists of six group companies. They include **Compensa Non-life and Life, Benefia Non-life and Life**, as well as non-life insurers **InterRisk** and **TU PZM**.

#### **Romania**

Romania also generated stable results for Vienna Insurance Group during the first quarter of 2009. This country generated total **unconsolidated premiums written** of **RON 752.7 million** (approx. EUR 176.4 million), an **increase of 2.5 percent**.

In the Romanian **non-life segment**, Vienna Insurance Group generated **premiums** of **RON 681.4 million** (approx. EUR 159.7 million), which represents a slight decrease of 1.6 percent. Similar to Slovakia and Poland, this development has been the result of a conscious restructuring of the portfolio.

On the other hand, the **life insurance** segment registered **premiums** of **RON 71.3 million** (approx. EUR 16.7 million), which amounts to an **excellent growth of 71.7 percent**. This development can be traced back to the first time consolidation of the newly acquired BCR Life; at the same time, the figures also demonstrate the continued demand for life insurance products in Romania.

Five companies represent Vienna Insurance Group on the Romanian insurance market. They are **Omniasig Non-life and Omniasig Life, Asirom** and **BCR Non-life** as well as **BCR Life**.

The listed Vienna Insurance Group (VIG) is one of the leading insurance groups in CEE headquartered in Vienna. Outside of its home base in Austria, Vienna Insurance Group is also active, through subsidiaries and insurance holdings, in Albania, Bulgaria, Germany, Estonia, Georgia, Croatia, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Macedonia, Poland, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Turkey, Hungary, Ukraine and Belarus. It also has branches in Italy and Slovenia.

On the Austrian market, the Vienna Insurance Group (VIG) positions itself with Wiener Städtische Versicherung, Donau Versicherung and Sparkassen Versicherung.

Contact:

VIENNA INSURANCE GROUP (V.I.G.)

Barbara Hagen-Grötschnig

Head of Public Relations

Schottenring 30, 1010 Vienna

Tel.: +43 (0)50 350-21027

Fax: +43 (0)50 350 99-21027

E-Mail: [barbara.hagen@vig.com](mailto:barbara.hagen@vig.com)

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