France Telecom’s Board of Directors asks shareholders to appoint three new Board members

The Board of Directors at France Telecom met on 23 March 2011 and, at the suggestion of the Governance and Corporate Social Responsibility Committee, will ask shareholders to vote on 7 June to appoint three new board members: Helle Kristoffersen, Muriel Pénicaud and Jean-Michel Severino.

The three have been selected to replace Henri Martre, Marcel Roulet and Jean Simonin whose terms come to an end on 7 June. The Board would like to congratulate the departing members on their major contributions to the Board and its committees over the past years.

The Board of Directors was keen to offer shareholders individuals with recognised skills in key areas for the company in the coming years. The choice of candidates is part of the company’s desire to renew and internationalise the Board and increase the presence of female members.

The Board also recommends reappointing Bernard Dufau.

If all the appointments are approved, the Board of Directors will be made up of 15 members headed by Stéphane Richard, Chairman and CEO.

Helle Kristoffersen, 47 years old, born in Denmark and a French citizen, became Deputy Vice-President for Strategy and Business Intelligence at Total in January 2011. She graduated from the École Normale Supérieure and the École Nationale de la Statistique et de l’Administration Économique (ENSAE). Starting in 1994, she spent most of her career at Alcatel (which then became Alcatel-Lucent), where she held various positions in the company. From 2005 to 2008 she served as Vice-President of Corporate Strategy, and from 2009 to December 2010 held the post of Senior Vice-President for Solutions and Marketing and Vertical Markets.

Since March 2008, Muriel Pénicaud, 56 years old, has been the Executive Vice-President, for Human Resources at Danone. She is also a member of the company’s Executive Committee, and is in charge of Social Innovation. After studying psychology and history, in 1985 she began working for the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Vocational Training, where she held various positions including advisor to the minister. From 2002 to 2008, she was Executive Vice-President of Dassault Systèmes, in charge of Organisation, Human Resources and Sustainable Development, and a member of the Executive Committee. She co-authored the Prime Minister’s report on well-being and efficiency at work (2010).

Jean-Michel Severino, 53 years old, who studied at ENA, the French school for elite civil servants, is General Inspector of Finances. Previously he was Vice-President for Asia at the World Bank, before directing the French Development Agency (AFD) for three consecutive terms until April 2010. Since then, he has been working on a project involving a fund management company which is set to launch in May 2011, called Investisseur et Partenaire (Investor and Partner), specialising in investment in SMEs and micro-finance institutions in Sub-Saharan Africa.
About Orange
France Telecom-Orange is one of the world’s leading telecommunications operators with 169,000 employees worldwide, including 102,000 employees in France, and sales of 45.5 billion euros in 2010. Present in 32 countries, the Group had a customer base of 209.6 million customers at the end of 2010, including 139.7 million customers under the Orange brand, the Group’s single brand for internet, television and mobile services in the majority of countries where the company operates. At 31 December 2010, the Group had 150.4 million mobile customers and 13.7 million broadband internet (ADSL, fibre) customers worldwide. Orange is one of the main European operators for mobile and broadband internet services and, under the brand Orange Business Services, is one of the world leaders in providing telecommunication services to multinational companies.

With its industrial project, "conquests 2015", Orange is simultaneously addressing its employees, customers and shareholders, as well as the society in which the company operates, through a concrete set of action plans. These commitments are expressed through a new vision of human resources for employees; through the deployment of a network infrastructure upon which the Group will build its future growth; through the Group’s ambition to offer a superior customer experience thanks in particular to improved quality of service; and through the acceleration of international development.


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