

EIOPA Towards a European Supervisory Culture

Gabriel Bernardino Chairman of EIOPA AEIP General Assembly

Wiesbaden, 17 June 2011

What is **EIOPA**?



- Union body with legal personality as well as administrative/financial autonomy
- Can be a **party to legal proceedings**
- Represented by its Chairperson
- Autonomous budget revenues from national authorities and EU Budget
- Accountable to EU Parliament and EU Council

EIOPA's scope of action



- ✓ EIOPA shall act within the scope of the EU legislation applicable to:
 - Insurance undertakings
 - Reinsurance undertakings
 - Financial conglomerates
 - <u>Institutions for occupational retirement provision</u> (IORP's)
 - Insurance intermediaries
- ✓ **Including** matters of:
 - Corporate governance
 - Auditing
 - Financial reporting

Key objectives of EIOPA



- Stable/effective **financial system**
- Sound regulation/supervision
- Transparent, efficient and orderly **markets**
- International supervisory co-ordination
- No regulatory arbitrage
- Equal conditions of competition
- Appropriate regulation/supervision of risks
- Enhanced **customer protection**

Some of EIOPA's tasks...



- High-quality **regulatory standards/practices**
- Consistent application of **legally binding acts**
- Co-operate closely with ESRB
- **Peer review** analyses
- Monitor and assess **market developments**
- Undertake economic analyses of markets
- Foster protection of policyholders

EIOPA's powers



- Develop draft technical standards
- Issue guidelines and recommendations
- In certain cases, **remedy emergency situations**
- Settle disagreements in cross-border situations
- Monitor correct **application of EU law**
- Methodologies for **products and distribution**

EIOPA's tools



- Working Groups
- Colleges
- Stakeholder Groups
- Impact Assessment/Consultation
- Peer Reviews
- Stress Tests
- Sectoral/Cross-Sectoral Training

Governance





Challenges and opportunities



- The main decision-making organ of EIOPA is the Board of Supervisors which is composed of the heads of the national supervisors
- Members of the Board of Supervisors should act independently and only in the Union's interest
- This reform is a clear evolution and represents a major step towards a more integrated regulation and supervision in the EU
- EIOPA should use it's powers
- EIOPA will act in a **transparent, efficient and consistent** manner
- EIOPA needs **appropriate own resources** but also continues to use its members knowledge and experience
- EIOPA will act with **vision** and **ambition**

External engagement



- Stakeholder input a legal requisite, but also fundamentally important
- EIOPA will be an institution **open to the society**
- Regulation and supervision is a **public good** and should be dealt with **transparency**
- Pension panel at EIOPA Annual Conference on 16
 November 2011
- **EIOPA "Consumer Day"** planned for 6 December 2011

European supervisory culture



- Creation of a truly **European supervisory culture** that:
 - > Promotes stability
 - > Enhances transparency
 - Fosters consumer protection
- A culture based on **intelligent and effective regulation**
- A culture that adds credibility and promotes good practices



Thank you

Gabriel Bernardino, Chairman