

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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17th SIRC to press ahead with watchful eye on COVID-19

As the world continues to grapple with the devastating health and socio-economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, many international sporting, entertainment and business events have been cancelled or postponed.

Mindful of the immense responsibilities as one of the largest insurance industry events globally, the organising committee of the Singapore International Reinsurance Conference (SIRC) has been closely monitoring the COVID-19 developments globally and consulting stakeholders, whilst making contingency provisions with the health and safety of all our stakeholders at the very heart of its plans.

With the event just six months away, the decision at the moment is to press ahead with preparations for the 17th SIRC, which will be held in Singapore from 2nd to 5th November, said Mr Marc Haushofer, Chairman of Singapore Reinsurers' Association (SRA) the organiser of the SIRC, adding: "These are unprecedented times and COVID-19 has significantly disrupted our way of life, how we interact socially and for work. It is inevitable that we will all have to adjust to new norms when we eventually break out of the COVID-19 shackles. Hence, the 17th SIRC will only go ahead if we are convinced that all precautionary measures can be put in place to ensure the health and safety of all our attendees."

Mr Sivam Subramaniam, Chairman of the SIRC organising committee, said: "We are mindful of the requests from many industry leaders and professionals that the industry needs a global platform to meet and network to spearhead its post-COVID-19 recovery and response. With some 3,000 industry professionals in attendance, the SIRC has indeed become a 'must attend' event that plays a crucial role ahead of the renewal season. Hence you have our assurance that any decision to cancel the event will not be taken lightly. But at the same time, the health and well-being of all our attendees will be foremost in our plans, and we will only go ahead if we are confident that all the utmost safety precautions can be put in place to safeguard all our attendees."

17th SIRC CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT

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The 17th SIRC is scheduled to take place from 2nd to 5th November 2020 at the Sands Expo and Convention Centre, Marina Bay Sands Singapore. Drawing prominent global and regional leaders and experts as speakers, the SIRC is more than a global networking rendezvous, but is also an important thought leadership platform, which will this year deliberate on strategic industry issues around the theme “The Art of Dissent – Reinsurance Reality Check”. Registrations and bookings open from 11 May 2020 at www.sirc.com.sg.

Launched in 1991, the SIRC, organised by the SRA with Asia Insurance Review as the official media partner, has established itself as one of the most important events on the global reinsurance calendar where leading insurers, brokers and reinsurers gather to take stock of the reinsurance market and set the tone for the renewal season while exploring new opportunities for business cooperation. Last year’s SIRC drew almost 1,100 delegates and nearly 1,900 meeting visitors from 52 countries, with over 200 industry organisations actively supporting the event as partners, exhibitors and meeting hosts.

About the Singapore Reinsurers’ Association

Established in 1979, the key objectives of the Singapore Reinsurers’ Association (SRA) are to represent members in matters affecting their business interests; to facilitate dialogue and encourage healthy market competition; to promote professional excellence through education and training; to foster strong social bonds within the industry and beyond; and to advance the reinsurance industry in Singapore and its diverse career opportunities.

As at 31st March 2020, the SRA has a total membership of 54, comprising 30 Ordinary, 19 Associate, 3 Affiliate and 2 Honorary members. All major non-life reinsurance companies with a presence in Singapore, as well as some direct insurance companies that write a substantial reinsurance portfolio are Ordinary members of the SRA. In addition, several major reinsurance broking firms as well as some regional reinsurers are Associate members.

More information can be found on the SRA website: www.sg-reinsurers.org.sg