

Frank Esser, Chairman of the SES Board of Directors

## LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

I am honoured to have been elected Chairman of the SES Board of Directors at this important and exciting time for our company and with the business in a great position to further develop. At the same time, it has also been, and continues to be, a challenging time for everyone around the world as we collectively face the challenges caused by the COVID-19 global pandemic.

I am delighted to report that, notwithstanding these exceptional circumstances and headwinds, our company has delivered a strong commercial and financial performance in 2020 and, on behalf of the Board, would like to thank everyone at SES for their unwavering dedication and execution.

Our Video business represents 59% of our total revenue and is responding to near-term challenges from our customers—the world's leading broadcasters, platform operators and content owners—who are adapting their own business models in the incredibly dynamic market of video consumption and distribution. The value and resilience of our prime video neighbourhoods is evidenced by the unparalleled audience reach with hundreds of millions of households around the world relying on SES to deliver news, sports and other premium entertainment content to billions of people.

Our Networks business has now grown to represent 41% of our overall business and delivers its own unique value proposition for our major commercial, government and institutional clients. Since 2017, our Networks business has grown by almost 30%, driven by the need for people to be connected no matter where they are. This continued growth, delivered despite the challenges in a number of segments introduced by the COVID-19 pandemic, provides a springboard for our new investments, SES-17 and O3b mPOWER, both of which will launch in the year ahead and will provide the basis for ongoing and sustained growth for our business going forward.

Our balance sheet is stronger now than it was a year ago, with leverage at the lowest level for 5 years. The Board is proposing a 2020 dividend of € 0.40 per A-share to be approved at our Annual General Meeting on 1 April 2021. This proposed dividend is consistent with last year and it is the Board's intention to maintain the dividend at a base level of € 0.40 per A-share going forward.

2020 has seen SES make great progress in driving a strategy to help repurpose C-band in the US to support the deployment of 5G networks while at the same time protect our broadcast customers and the 120 million US households that receive television programming across the C-band cable neighbourhoods. Our strong initiative here was instrumental in US FCC's landmark decision mandate accelerated clearing of a portion of the spectrum and allocate up to \$ 4 billion of pre-tax proceeds to SES. We now have a fully dedicated team working with our customers to deliver on the timelines laid down by the FCC and we are on track to achieve the first clearing milestone at the end of this year.

We will be eligible to realise \$1 billion of these proceeds at the end of 2021 to strengthen our balance sheet in the context of important growth investments being made in SES-17 and O3b mPOWER.

The remaining \$ 3 billion is tied to clearing milestone at the end of 2023.

Our purpose at SES—to do the extraordinary in space to deliver amazing experiences everywhere on Earth—is both inspiring and compelling and one of the main reasons that I was so excited to be a part of this story. SES has both the tools and the conviction to help make the world a better place for all, whether connecting the worlds under-connected populations, helping first responders following natural disasters or simply giving back in our local communities. This determination that SES will make a difference is captured in our overall approach to, and policy for, Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG). Our purpose and ambitions are closely aligned to the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals and, in 2021, we have submitted our application to join the UN Global Compact. 2020 has seen the world in the grip of a global pandemic and it has never been more important to be socially responsible make a contribution beyond the core of our business.

Finally, on behalf of everyone at SES, I would like to pay tribute to Romain Bausch who stepped down from the Board in July and who generously transitioned the role of Chairman to me. Romain was instrumental in building SES into everything that it is today and to the sustained success of the company over decades. Under his leadership, first as CEO and later as Chairman, SES now stands at the forefront of the satellite industry and I personally want to thank him for his contribution, commitment and service to SES.

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Frank Esser

Chairman of the SES Board of Directors