

Quarterly Statement: 2019 starts well for Munich Re – Quarterly profit of €633m

- April renewals once again result in growth (10.3%) and rising prices (1.4%)
- Greater expenditure for claims from previous years and medium-sized events
- Profit guidance for 2019 remains unchanged at around €2.5bn



“Munich Re has begun 2019 with a good first quarter. Munich Re continues to grow organically in its core business of property-casualty reinsurance. The April renewals were the sixth consecutive round of renewals in which we are able to expand our business robustly in some areas. Prices for reinsurance coverage have continued to rise following the high losses in previous years. In primary insurance, the implementation of the ERGO Strategy Programme is making good progress.”

Christoph Jurecka, Chief Financial Officer

Summary of the Q1 figures

In the first quarter of 2019, Munich Re generated a profit of €633m (827m). Higher basic losses and greater expenditure for claims from previous years prevented a repeat of the extraordinary result in the same quarter last year, which was practically free of major losses. The first-quarter operating result fell year on year to €875m (1,283m). The other non-operating result remained nearly constant at –€122m (–125m); the currency translation result amounted to €58m (–68m). Taxes on income totalled €122m (212m). At €28,990m, equity was up on the start of the year (€26,500m) – primarily due to value increases in the share portfolio and fixed-interest securities. Compared with the same quarter last year, gross premiums written rose by 1.9% to €13,375m (13,126m).

The annualised return on risk-adjusted capital (RORAC) in Q1 amounted to 9.9%, and the overall return on equity (RoE) totalled 9.1%.

Moreover, the solvency ratio rose from 245% at the beginning of the year to about 250% at the end of Q1.

Thus far in 2019, Munich Re has repurchased shares worth €303m as part of its active capital management.

Reinsurance: Result of €548m

The reinsurance field of business contributed €548m (750m) to the consolidated result in Q1. The quarterly operating result amounted to €633m (1,059m). Compared with the same quarter last year, gross premiums written rose by 2.4% to €8,380m (8,183m).

Life and health reinsurance business generated €128m (159m) in profit; premium income rose slightly to €2,896m (2,865m). The technical result, including the result from business with non-significant risk transfer, totalled €105m (155m) in Q1. This figure was impacted by reserving effects owing to a reduction in the durations of investments in Canada and the fall in interest rates in Australia. Overall, claims experience was in line with expectations. For the year 2019, Munich Re still projects that the technical result, including the result from business with non-significant risk transfer, will come to approximately €500m.

In Q1, property-casualty reinsurance business contributed €420m (591m) to the consolidated result. Premium volume rose to €5,484m (5,317m). The combined ratio was 97.9% (88.6%) of net earned premium, which is on track to achieve the Munich Re target level of around 98% for the full year.

In Q1, total expenditure for major losses in excess of €10m each amounted to €479m (62m). These figures include run-off profits and losses for major claims from previous years, including additional expenditure of €267m for losses from Typhoon Jebi. Major-loss expenditure is equivalent to 9.7% (1.4%) of net earned premium for Q1. Major-loss expenditure from natural catastrophes amounted to €195m (–49m) in Q1. Man-made major losses amounted to €283m (112m).

Given that claims expenditure for basic losses in previous years remained appreciably below the expected level, it was possible to release reserves – adjusted for commissions – of about €200m. This equates to 4.0% of net earned premium. Munich Re also still seeks to set the amount of provisions for newly emerging claims at the very top end of the estimation range, so that profits from the release of a portion of these reserves are possible at a later stage.

The renewals at 1 April 2019 saw price increases in the markets and risks affected by natural catastrophes. Price stabilisation with a slightly upward trend was also observed in the third-party liability markets. With regard to all April renewals, prices rose by 1.4%. Munich Re was able to grow organically once again. Premium volume rose by 10.3% to some €1.8bn (1.7bn). It

was possible to selectively tap growth opportunities in certain markets, especially in India and Japan. These two markets account for a third of the business renewed in April.

ERGO: Result of €85m

In the ERGO field of business, Munich Re generated a profit of €85m (77m) in Q1. Of this amount, €63m (36m) was contributed by the ERGO Life and Health Germany segment. The main reasons for this segment's good result were the realisation of investments for financing the additional interest reserve and a good technical result in health insurance. The ERGO Property-casualty Germany segment boosted its profit to €14m (0m) thanks to its sound underwriting – despite losses caused by Winter Storm Eberhard in Germany. The ERGO International segment generated a quarterly profit of €8m (41m). This drop in profit was due largely to the sale of relatively small subsidiaries outside Germany. ERGO's operating result rose to €241m (224m).

The combined ratios developed favourably. In the Property-casualty Germany segment, the combined ratio improved to 98.1% (101.7%) despite the losses from Winter Storm Eberhard. The combined ratio in the International segment amounted to 95.4% (95.3%).

Overall premium income across all lines of business was largely unchanged at €5,165m (5,156m) in Q1. Gross premiums written rose slightly by 1.1% to €4,995m (4,943m).

Investments: Investment result of €1,741m

The Group's investment result (excluding insurance-related investments) dropped slightly to €1,741m (1,796m) in Q1. Regular income from investments increased to €1,611m (1,493m).

The investment result in Q1 represents an overall return of 2.9% on the average market value of the portfolio. The running yield was 2.7%, and the yield on reinvestment 2.1%. The equity-backing ratio, including equity-based derivatives, rose to 6.0% as at 31 March 2019 (31 December 2018: 5.2%).

Total investments (excluding insurance-related investments) as at 31 March 2019 were up on the year-end 2018 figure, with the carrying amount rising to €223,927m (216,852m) and the market value to €240,484m (231,876m).

Outlook: 2019 profit target remains unchanged at around €2.5bn

All expectations for 2019 remain unchanged compared with the figures presented in the 2018 Annual Report published in March. For the 2019 financial year, Munich Re still forecasts a consolidated result of approximately €2.5bn.

Münchener Rückversicherungs-Gesellschaft

Aktiengesellschaft in München
Group Media Relations
Königinstrasse 107, 80802 Munich

www.munichre.com

LinkedIn: <https://de.linkedin.com/company/munich-re>

Twitter: @MunichRe

Media contact

Group Media Relations
Jörg Allgäuer
Tel.: +49 89 3891-8202
Mobile: +49 171 8384838
jjallgaeuer@munichre.com

Media Relations North America
Jodi Dorman
Tel.: +1 609 243-4533
Mobile: +1 908 391-2427
jdorman@munichreamerica.com

Media Relations Asia Pacific
Faith Thoms
Tel.: +65 63180762
Mobil: +65 83390125
ftthoms@munichre.com

Munich Re

Munich Re is one of the world's leading providers of reinsurance, primary insurance and insurance-related risk solutions. The group consists of the reinsurance and ERGO business segments, as well as the capital investment company MEAG. Munich Re is globally active and operates in all lines of the insurance business. Since it was founded in 1880, Munich Re has been known for its unrivalled risk-related expertise and its sound financial position. It offers customers financial protection when faced with exceptional levels of damage – from the 1906 San Francisco earthquake to the 2017 Atlantic hurricane season and the California wildfires in 2018. Munich Re possesses outstanding innovative strength, which enables it to also provide coverage for extraordinary risks such as rocket launches, renewable energies, cyberattacks, or pandemics. The company is playing a key role in driving forward the digital transformation of the insurance industry, and in doing so has further expanded its ability to assess risks and the range of services that it offers. Its tailor-made solutions and close proximity to its customers make Munich Re one of the world's most sought-after risk partners for businesses, institutions, and private individuals.

Disclaimer

This press release contains forward-looking statements that are based on current assumptions and forecasts of the management of Munich Re. Known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors could lead to material differences between the forward-looking statements given here and the actual development, in particular the results, financial situation and performance of Munich Re. The Company assumes no liability to update these forward-looking statements or to conform them to future events or developments.