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Barbara Kux and Frans van Daele nominated to join Umicore's Board of Directors

Upon proposal by the Nomination and Remuneration Committee, Barbara Kux and Frans van Daele have been nominated to join Umicore's Board of Directors.

Barbara Kux, who is 59 years old and of Swiss nationality, is a member of the Managing Board at Siemens AG since 2008, where she is Head of Supply Chain Management and Chief Sustainability Officer, responsible for the overall sustainability strategy and the marketing of the company's environmental technologies. She also is a member of the Board of Directors of Total S.A. France. Between 2003 and 2008 she was member of the Group Executive Committee at Royal Philips Electronics. Prior to that she held management positions in leading global companies and was a management consultant at McKinsey. Mrs Kux serves as business representative in the Resource Efficiency Platform of the European Commission. She has a Master's Degree in Business Administration with Distinction from INSEAD and is a member of the INSEAD Advisory Board. Wall Street Journal and Fortune have recognized her as one of the leading international women in business.

Frans (baron) van Daele, who is 65 years old and of Belgian nationality, joined the Belgian diplomatic corps in 1971. His most recent post prior to retirement in 2012 was as Chief of Staff to Herman Van Rompuy, the President of the European Council. Between 2007 and 2009 he served as Belgium's permanent representative to NATO and between 2002 and 2006 he was Belgium's ambassador to the United States. His diplomatic career also included postings to the United Nations, Greece, Italy and a period as Director General of Political Affairs at the Belgian Foreign Ministry. He has a Master's Degree in Philosophy and Arts from the Catholic University of Leuven (KUL) where he is currently a Board member and President of the Alumni Association. He advises Deloitte as Senior Advisor for International and Government Affairs and holds Board positions in several cultural organizations and think tanks.

Thomas Leysen, Chairman of the Board, commented: "I am delighted that Barbara Kux and Frans van Daele have accepted to join Umicore's Board. Each of them brings a wealth of experience in a number of fields. Barbara has deep experience in industrial sectors that are served by Umicore and an in-depth understanding of complex global supply chains and sustainability issues. Frans has a very distinguished track record in international relations and has great experience of how global trends shape industry and the economy. Both will bring additional strength and expertise to the Umicore board."

The nominations will be presented for approval by Umicore's shareholders at the Annual General Meeting on 30 April. Should the nominations be accepted by shareholders, Frans van Daele's mandate would start immediately while that of Barbara Kux would start on 1 January 2014.

Umicore Group Communications



For more information

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Umicore profile

Umicore is a global materials technology and recycling group. It focuses on application areas where its expertise in materials science, chemistry and metallurgy makes a real difference. Its activities are centred on four business areas: Catalysis, Energy Materials, Performance Materials and Recycling. Each business area is divided into market-focused business units offering materials and solutions that are at the cutting edge of new technological developments and essential to everyday life.

Umicore generates the majority of its revenues and dedicates most of its R&D efforts to clean technologies, such as emission control catalysts, materials for rechargeable batteries and photovoltaics, fuel cells, and recycling. Umicore's overriding goal of sustainable value creation is based on an ambition to develop, produce and recycle materials in a way that fulfils its mission: materials for a better life.

The Umicore Group has industrial operations on all continents and serves a global customer base; it generated a turnover of \in 12.5 billion (\in 2.4 billion excluding metal) in 2012 and currently employs some 14,400 people.