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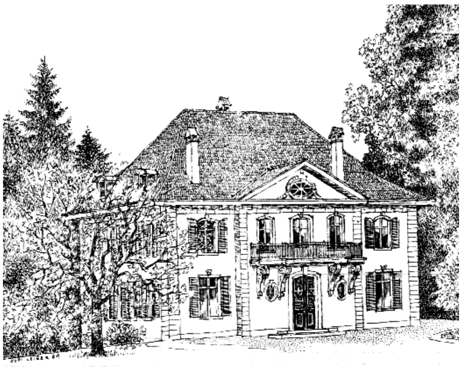

<u>PRESS RELEASE (No 131)</u>

(Free translation)

<u>Bondpartners SA, Lausanne</u>: The first half-year under review was ineluctably dragged down by the Covid-19 pandemic. The valuation of securities held in proprietary positions and the reinforcement of the Swiss franc weighted on the global result of dealing activities and investments, while trading operations generated an income and revenue rose strongly.

- ***Moderately negative net result in view of the current exceptional circumstances and the worldwide exogenous shock***
- ***Resilience of the base business which did not experience any disruption***
- ***Doubling of net revenues issued from trading and increase by 40% of turnover***
- ***Stability in the balance sheet structure and weighting of assets***
- ***Still robust capital base and further improving of solvency ratios***

BPL registered a net accounting loss of CHF 0.32m for the first six months of 2020, compared with a net profit of 2.2m at the end of June 2019. The strengthening of the Swiss franc against most currencies, as well as the resolutely negative trend, during the first quarter, of securities portfolios held for own account, have noticeably affected the global income of financial activity, while trading operations have improved, enjoying higher margins and increased turnover. Operating expenses were contained (-7%). Shareholder's equity, after distribution, slightly fell to CHF 81.1m (-1%), still representing a large share of the total assets (58.5%). The solvency ratio (CET1) moved ahead and reached 55% (+14%).

The first semester under review needs no epilogue, the extraordinary circumstances that have prevailed, whether health, economic or social, as the news have been monopolized by the erratic evolution of the new Coronavirus. It should be remembered however, that the historic mobilization caused by this pandemic came a time when global growth was already weakened, against a backdrop of societal challenges, the trade war and a tense geopolitical situation to say the least (without mentioning those linked to the ecological transition).

This conjunction of events, both endogenous and exogenous, acknowledged or unprecedented, initially had an adverse impact on the markets and their participants. Then, as the crisis continued to expand, the behavior of indexes and business segments have admittedly experienced more or less pronounced recoveries, depending on their resistance, their respective industry involvement, or even more promising prospects. The fact remains that the convalescence period promises to be long and volatility will persist. In a context of global recession, rates have for their part remained acutely low and indebtedness sharply increased, as the interventionism of central banks has further been amplified, while urgent budgetary measures have reached unequalled levels. Finally, the Swiss franc has remained firm and continues to penalize an entire part of domestic activity.

For Bondpartners (and more particularly in terms of revenues generated), a certain dichotomy took shape during this period of great uncertainties. Trading, which is the company's core business, has strengthened and improved, whether it be in the field of bonds or structured instruments dealing. On the other hand, securities held for own account suffered from the vagaries of the markets in the same way as assets held in foreign currencies which have dealt the further consolidation of our national currency. This, however, to a limited extent only, the stockmarkets recovery and the currency hedging transaction having helped to mitigate accounting losses. The balance sheet structure has for its part changed little, much like current assets and own equity. The solvency ratios remained firmly in surplus.

Up to and as of now, the Company has not endured any interruption in activity due to the various measures and directives related to Covid-19, thanks to the sanitary provisions of the business continuity plan, as well as the spatial distribution of employees, which proved to be adequately assessed and implemented. The Company is on the job and ready in the event of a worsening confinement.

In this highly difficult environment, any prediction as to the end of the year is arduous. The reasons behind the markets instability are manifold and profound, inciting caution even when BPL presents a strong financial situation that will allow it to withstand and preserve its operativeness.

(NB. Comparative figures June 2020/June 2019)
Bondpartners posted, for the first half of 2020, a net accounting loss of CHF 0.32m (vs a net gain of CHF 2.2m for the first 6 months of 2019).
Still comparing to the first half of 2019, the statutory balance sheet total increased by about 12% to CHF 138.8m, primarily due to the rise in pending/overlapping transactions at the end of June.

The balance sheet was composed by 93% of current assets (a regularly stable figure compared with previous periods), namely cash and bank receivables (CHF 61.7m +19%), customer and non-bank receivables (CHF 20m +102%) and investment/trading portfolios excluding own shares and precious metals (CHF 46.7m -9%). Total liabilities for their part, reached 57.8m (+38%). Total commitments, irrespective of their maturity, are covered more than two times by current assets (CHF 128.9m), a ratio also very stable in comparison to prior periods.

Turning to shareholders' equity on a stand-alone basis, its total amounted to CHF 81.1m (-1%) and represents 58.5% of the balance sheet total after deduction of reserve for own shares (CHF -4m). In this regard, reserves for general banking risks reached CHF 40m (+0.15%), whereas other reserves amounted to CHF 37.75m (unchanged). Open capital and reserves per share (calculated on the entire capital) amounted therefore to CHF 1'474,-. It should be noted that the latest price paid on BEKB's OTC-X electronic platform was CHF 820,-.

The Company's capital adequacy (solvency ratio/CET1) reached 55%, an increased percentage when compared with previous figures. Required capital is covered nearly 8 times by eligible capital.

Concerning profit and loss accounts, net income from interest differential business amounted to CHF 1m (-3.5%) and net income from commission business and services came to CHF 0.23m (+4.25%). Net income on trading operations (CHF +4.5m) progressed 94%, whereas results from own portfolio evaluation registered a significant decline (CHF -2.78m vs +2.66m); while foreign exchange results posted also a negative result of CHF -1.13m (vs a slight gain of CHF +0.1m for the first half of 2019). Finally, operating expenses remained contained at CHF 2.8m (-7%). Therefore the operating result recorded a loss of CHF 1m (vs +3.3m), before adjustment of reserves amounting to CHF 0.65m.

About Bondpartners: BPL is a Swiss financial company founded in 1972 in Lausanne, whose business hinges on three main axes: the inter-professional dealing of securities, the market making and market keeping, and the execution of orders issued by institutional and independent managers. It is authorized and supervised by the Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority (FINMA) as a securities firm. Its ordinary registered shares are quoted on BEKB's OTC-X electronic platform.

Statutory half-year end yearly accounts as at 30.06.20/31.12.19/30.06.19
(Comparative and non-audited accounts according to rules BAG/FINMA)

Statutory income statement

	30.06.2020 CHF	30.06.2019 CHF
Net income from trading operations	4.514.078,-	2.324.363,-
Results from own portfolio evaluation	-2.780.227,-	2.666.219,-
Results from currencies and forex	-1.134.999,-	99.469,-
Net result from commission business and services	228.605,-	219.281,-
Net interest income	1.025.922,-	1.064.198,-
Total operating expenses	-2.830.208,-	-3.041.669,--
Operating result	-985.136,-	3.345.021,-
Changes in reserves for general banking risks	650.000,-	-869.000,--
Extraordinary results	24.0000,-	0,-
Net result of the period	-322.288,-	2.197.200,-

Statutory balance sheet

	30.06.2020 CHF	31.12.2019 CHF
ASSETS		
Cash and amounts due from banks	61.683.209,-	52.259.536,-
Amounts due from customers and non-banks	20.091.173,-	20.074.114,-
Trading portfolios assets	46.679.946,-	52.309.195,-
Financial investments and precious metals	472.450,-	472.450,-
Participations	1.152.500,-	1.152.500,-
Tangible fixed assets	7.900.000,-	7.900.000,-
LIABILITIES		
Amounts due to banks (trading operations)	19.3273467,-	18.950.968,-
Amounts due in respect to customer deposits and due to non-banks (trading)	37.566.950,-	31.396.603,-
Accrued expenses and deferred income	760.867,-	1.163.000,-
Reserves for general banking risks	40.065.000,-	40.715.000,-
Share capital	5.500.000,-	5.500.000,-
Own shares	-3.996.158,-	-3.945.143,-
Statutory capital reserve and voluntary retained earnings reserve	37.750.000,-	37.750.000,-
Total balance-sheet	138.833.743,-	134.933.258,-
Total current assets	128.926.778,-	125.115.795,-
Total shareholders' equity	81.079.137,-	83.352.915,-
Total liabilities	57.754.606,-	51.580.343,-
Total eligible capital (CET1)	75.627.000,-	74.795.000,-
Total required capital	9.778.000,-	10.741.000,-

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